

Area Climbing Wall Rep Role and Responsibilities

Area Climbing Wall Rep Role Description

Welcome to the BMC's network of area volunteers. The BMC has been built by and depends on volunteers like you. Members, staff and other volunteers hugely appreciate your contribution of time, knowledge and enthusiasm as a Chair of one of the 10 BMC areas. Thank you for your interest in volunteering for this role on behalf of the organisation and the climbing and walking community.

What does an Area Climbing Wall Rep do?

The BMC represents over 80,000 members as well as many other climbers, hill walkers and mountaineers in England and Wales, split into 10 geographical areas. Each area has two elected officers, a chair and a secretary and numerous elected representatives including two volunteers which sit on National Council, access reps, club reps and hill walking reps. Every member of the BMC is assigned to an area which is usually based on their location and within that area they are eligible to vote on issues or at elections that take place at the area meetings. Each area holds 4 to 5 area meetings a year which act as a hub and a forum for local members to come together to discuss matters of local and national importance and have their say on the running and governance of the BMC.

In recent years there has been a substantial increase in the number of indoor walls and those that participate in indoor climbing, growth in this area continues especially with the inclusion of climbing in the Olympics. As an Area Climbing Wall Rep you will help to promote membership and the work of the BMC to those who climb indoors by engaging directly with participants and with the walls themselves. You should encourage the display of appropriate BMC literature (e.g health & safety notices, skills & techniques and product recall information) at climbing centres either by delivering printed materials or sending documents electronically which will require liaising with the BMC office to obtain appropriate literature and information on current campaigns.

As far as possible you should attend your local area meetings to communicate developments coming from the BMC Training, Youth & Walls Committee back to the area and relay opinions on priorities and issues from the area back to the Training, Youth & Walls Committee.

You will be a focus for users of indoor climbing centers in the area, helping them to find the right BMC staff or volunteer to assist them with their concerns or requests. Any matters that are brought to your attention should either be fed back to your Area Officers or a member of staff as appropriate.

You will play a key role in developing engagement within the area and promoting equity and fair representation and it is important all meetings, events and communications take place in an inclusive manner. To encourage wider engagement, each area has its own Facebook page which you can use in consultation with your Area Officers.

The position of Area Climbing Wall Rep is voted on by members during the elections at the Area AGM. Where a vacancy arises outside of the AGM a chair may be co-opted in accordance with Article 28 in the Articles of Association.

What can you expect from the BMC?

- Officer support to help you fulfil your role as well as advice on complex or difficult issues which can range from advice by phone/email to attendance at meetings.

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- The BMC is committed to ensuring that all people have an equal opportunity to participate in climbing, hill walking and/or mountaineering at all levels and in all roles. Our full Equity Statement can be found [here](#).
- You will be added to the BMC collaboration platform enabling you to communicate with other area officers and representatives.
- Further opportunities to get involved with the BMC's work.
- An opportunity to develop your skills and learn new skills.

What does the BMC expect from you?

As an Area Climbing Wall Rep, you will be representing the BMC to members, other climbers and walkers and external organisations. This means that it is important that you:

- Are a member of the BMC with your designated area the one in which you are standing to be Area Climbing Wall Rep.
- Are passionate about indoor climbing and an active participant.
- Behave in a respectful manner at all times, remembering that you are representing the BMC membership as well as the wider walking and climbing community (rather than just yourself as an individual) in the public domain. This includes posting on social media and internet forums in a BMC capacity.
- Keep well informed about area activities to develop appropriate and engaging meeting agendas.
- Be an advocate for the BMC. With regard to this it is helpful to develop some understanding of the BMC's specialist work areas, finances and structure.
- Be able to represent members' views in a fair and balanced manner at local, regional and national level.
- Ability to work collaboratively with other volunteers.
- If you have a conflict of interest whilst representing the BMC in any aspect of your voluntary role, declare it to a BMC staff members ASAP.

Benefits of volunteering for the BMC

- Contributing to the BMC's work representing climbers and walkers in the UK
- Becoming part of a community of committed volunteers, giving back to the mountaineering community
- Further opportunities to get involved with the BMC's work.
- An opportunity to develop your skills and learn new skills.

Appendix 1: useful resources for BMC Area Climbing Wall Rep

- [Articles of Association](#)
- [Volunteering Handbook](#)
- [Guidance on Volunteer Responsibilities](#)
- [BMC's Organisational Structure](#)
- [Volunteer Expense Claim Form](#)

Appendix 2: Expenses claims

- Area Climbing Wall Rep can claim for travel expenses (mileage/public transport costs/parking fees etc) incurred whilst carrying out their role using the BMC's standard volunteer expenses claim form.

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Staff Contact

The main staff contact for this role is Dan Middleton (Technical Officer also responsible for Climbing Walls) dan@thebmc.co.uk.

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