

INFORMATION PACK BMC PRESIDENT

VOLUNTARY POSITION



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**ADVENTURE.
COMMUNITY.
ACTION.**
FOR EVERY
HILL WALKER,
CLIMBER AND
MOUNTAINEER.



THE BRITISH MOUNTAINEERING COUNCIL

OUR STORY

Formed by clubs in 1944, we are a membership organisation, established to be open to all and speak on behalf of mountaineers, climbers, and hill walkers, protecting spaces and supporting members in their activities.

Nearly 80 years later, more and more people are experiencing the enjoyment of climbing and being in the outdoors and recognising the benefits of active lifestyles for mental and physical health and wellbeing. Activities that can be shared across generations, in groups or individually.

We have always had a clear purpose: to make the climbing and outdoor experience of the people we represent as good as it can be, by removing barriers to participation to be more inclusive and have a more diverse audience. And while these activities have changed and participation has grown immeasurably over the years, this purpose holds as true as ever.

We campaign for freedom of access and the right to roam, we fund footpath repairs and run campaigns to clean up our hills and we are continually working for improved access to and the conservation of places we love.

WHAT WE DO

We protect the future of hill walking, climbing, and mountaineering so people can embrace adventure, both now and for generations to come. The freedom that adventure brings, should be available to all - so we support and prepare people, share vital knowledge, and give our community a strong voice.

WHERE WE DO IT

From rugged peaks to coastal cliffs, the BMC protects and repairs our wild places, collaborates to keep access open for all, and develops emerging climbing talent to create Olympic stars of the future.

WHO WE DO IT FOR

The more people we can inspire, the better.

WHY WE DO IT

We relish challenge in all its forms; from taking part, to performing at the highest level. Challenge enriches lives, provides mental and physical well-being and unifies our community.

THE BMC TODAY

Through all our activities we support and enable people to challenge themselves. We believe in the power of hill walking, climbing and mountaineering to change and improve lives and we are here to support, encourage and inspire you in these fantastic pursuits.

Representing a growing number of participants across ever evolving disciplines and activities, we fight to protect the outdoor environment of the places we love and tackle the impact of climate change so that people can pursue their passion, with our values woven through our every action.

OUR MISSION AND VALUES

COMMUNITY | SUSTAINABILITY | ADVENTURE | ASPIRATION | RESPECT

Our mission is to support our passionate community and inspire those curious about our activities to get out and enjoy them. We support and prepare you to be safe and responsible, whilst campaigning to ensure access to the great outdoors. We are custodians of these spaces and our environment for future generations.

As we grow towards 100,000 members, so does the strength of our voice on behalf of these important issues. We proudly live and breathe our values.

On your behalf we proudly:

- ▶ **Work behind the scenes** to negotiate improved access to crags and countryside in England and Wales
- ▶ **Influence and lobby government** and decision makers, and work with sector partners on key policy issues and future legislation
- ▶ **Protect your safety through advice**, training and support. Finding practical solutions and demanding the highest standard of safety for kit and equipment
- ▶ Establish numerous projects to **restore trails**, protect fragile environments and **help conserve endangered wildlife**
- ▶ **Support people** to get the most out of their activities through **world-class advice**, training and development
- ▶ **Produce inspirational content**, keeping the spirit of climbing, hiking and mountaineering alive while motivating you to take on your next adventure

AND THERE'S MORE

For climbers who venture onto our amazing boulders, outcrops, mountain crags and sea cliffs, we have and continue to champion your rights to access the places you love. We work tirelessly to care for these places and inspire you towards greater adventures.

We also organise events, support clubs and communities, and promote opportunities for people from all walks of life to experience the positive effects of the mountains on our physical and mental wellbeing.



GB CLIMBING

The BMC runs GB Climbing, the home of competition climbing in the UK. GB Climbing manages the GB Climbing teams, talent and performance pathways, national and international competition events in the UK, and proudly promotes the future of our sport.

In the summer of 2021 in Tokyo, climbing became an Olympic sport for the first time. Climbers competed in the combined event of three disciplines: Lead, Boulder and Speed climbing. Looking ahead to Paris 2024, and beyond, speed climbing will now be a medal event of its own, separated from a combined Lead and Boulder.

In September 2022 we hosted an IFSC World Cup in Edinburgh and have ambitions to regularly host events on the world series.

IF CLIMBING FOR YOU IS HANGING OUT AT YOUR LOCAL WALL, TRAINING HARD OR KEEPING IN SHAPE WITH YOUR FRIENDS THEN WE ARE THERE FOR YOU TOO

By supporting indoor climbing, we:

- ▶ **Develop coaches** with our Fundamentals of Climbing courses
- ▶ **Support clubs** to help provide a great learning environment
- ▶ **Create skills and training content** to set you off on the ideal route for you
- ▶ **Work with partners** to promote safe and inclusive climbing spaces

On top of that we are involved in producing top quality guidebooks, we organise climbing festivals, and act as a voice for everyone in this amazing **community**.

PRESIDENT & EX-OFFICIO DIRECTOR INFORMATION PACK



ROLE DESCRIPTION

Position	President and Ex-Officio Director for the BMC's Board of Directors
Duration	Initial term of 3-years from appointment; subject to ratification at the June 2024 AGM; possibility for second 3-year term
Remuneration	Voluntary position – travel and accommodation expenses only
Frequency	<p>Members Council have 4 main meetings per year; 2 of which are virtual and 2 of which are face to face; shorter meetings take place regularly throughout the year.</p> <p>The Board is scheduled to meet 8 times during 2024, with a mixture of evening virtual meetings and full day face to face meetings which most often will take place at the Manchester office.</p> <p>In addition, there will be additional business between meetings (email, correspondence / conference calls / relevant reading) and in total the role is expected to require a minimum of 20 days a year</p>
Reporting to	Chair, Board of Directors & the BMC membership
Head office location	BMC, The Old Church, 177-179 Burton Road, West Didsbury, Manchester, M20 2BB



PRESIDENT & EX-OFFICIO DIRECTOR INFORMATION PACK



ROLE OUTLINE

The BMC is inviting applications from its membership, for candidates to be presented to the members at the 2024 AGM, for election as BMC President.

The President is the members' champion, and their role is to act as a conduit and sounding board for the membership, ensuring the views of individual and club members are fed into the BMC's strategic planning and policy-making processes to improve the efficiencies of day-to-day operations.

The President develops consensus, promotes transparency, inclusivity, open debate and mutual understanding across the BMC, chairing important meetings, most notably the Members' Council, as well as committee and working groups, playing a key role in resolving conflicts. They are a practitioner, enthusiast and a strong advocate for climbing, hill walking and mountaineering and all the benefits they offer.

The President is an ex-officio Director of the BMC, who, alongside the Council Nominated Directors, plays a key role in ensuring that the Board of Directors operates in accordance with the wishes and priorities of the membership.

The successful candidate will require the necessary skills and understanding to comply with their legal duties as a Director, whilst balancing the needs of the role of President in terms of representing members views and transparency in communication to the members.

The President works in partnership with the Chair of the Board and CEO to ensure the smooth running and good reputation of the BMC.

The full extent of the commitment is very much up to the individual and will be closely aligned to their skills and experience. The candidate's understanding of how membership organisations work, combined with broader experience, is essential to the innovative delivery of the BMC vision.

However, most fundamentally the scale of the role will depend on the President's ability to collaborate with and involve the many volunteers, who are enthusiasts that come with a wide range of abilities and experience.

There is a base load, of around one day per week.

PRESIDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

- Act as the chair of Members' Council.
- Stimulate an effective and inclusive Members' Council which is representative of the demographic and interests of the membership; to support new and existing members in their understanding of the role of Members' Council representatives.
- Ensure Members' Council contributes to key organisational decisions and policy development in accordance with the Reserved Matters set out in the Articles of Association; to work with the Chair to agree and promote a Memorandum of Understanding between National Council and the Board.
- Chair General Meetings and AGMs of the BMC in a fair, inclusive, and transparent manner; to work closely with the Chair and CEO to ensure General Meetings and AGMs are conducted in accordance with the technical and legal requirements of the Articles of Association.
- Support and promote the dual roles of President and Chair; to work in partnership with the Chair for the greater good of the BMC; to ensure the Chair and the Board are kept well-informed about the views and desires of members.
- Build consensus with the Chair, the Board, and key stakeholders; to work with the Board to develop strategic aims and ensure members' views are fully taken into account in the BMC's decision-making processes.
- Be a public face of the BMC across the membership, attending and supporting relevant activities and events (including Area meetings, seminars, competitions, and international meets), seeking views, responding constructively to queries and being a public advocate for the organisation.
- Chair ad hoc sub-committees and sub-groups as appropriate.

PRESIDENT & EX-OFFICIO DIRECTOR INFORMATION PACK



This position will appeal to those who recognise the well-being benefits of active participation in outdoor activities and who share our care and concern for the natural environment. It provides an opportunity to gain satisfaction from contributing to decision-making and scrutiny at a time when the BMC is seeking to grow its membership and enhance its services, whilst championing the environment in the context of increased outdoor participation.

DIRECTOR RESPONSIBILITIES

The successful candidate will be an Ex-officio Director on the Board of Directors and expected to analyse plans and strategic options in a constructive way and help lead the future development of the BMC.

Following a period of constitutional change to ensure compliance with the Code for Sports Governance, the BMC is structured as follows:

- ▶ the Board: responsible for the overall direction and organisational policy of the BMC and ensuring its financial viability and meeting legislative requirements.
- ▶ Members' Council: acts as the representative body for the membership; consults, checks and challenges the Board, on behalf of the members.
- ▶ CEO and staff: responsible for the day-to-day operation of the BMC.
- ▶ Members: required to approve major decisions of a constitutional nature at an AGM.

We have five core values: community, adventure, sustainability, aspiration and respect. Within the latter, we celebrate the rich variety of British climbing, hill walking and mountaineering, build inclusive relationships and respect each other.

We are passionate about finding the right people to help us develop and thrive.

The Board aspires to be both diverse and inclusive; encompassing a wide range of perspectives, approaches and experiences, which we believe are essential to driving further innovation, challenge and creativity within our sporting environment – mountain, crag and indoor. In line with this we are keen to achieve a more diverse Board and we encourage applications from under-represented groups, in particular people from ethnic minorities, people with disabilities and women.

As a representative organisation, working across England and Wales, we welcome those who can read and speak the Welsh language.

ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for appointment, candidates must have been a voting member of the BMC for at least 12 months prior to 12 June 2024.

The appointment will be decided by vote at the 2024 AGM, which is being held on Wednesday 12 June 2024.

Applicants are expected to have a strong affinity for the work and responsibilities of the BMC.

PRESIDENT & EX-OFFICIO DIRECTOR INFORMATION PACK



HOW TO APPLY

The closing date for applications is Tuesday 30 April 2024 at 9.00 am. To submit your expression of interest please include the following:

1. A 500-word statement about your interest, relevant experience, and motivation for the role.
2. Provide the full name and BMC membership number of two BMC members, who support your application for BMC President.
3. Provide a brief up-to-date CV with details of two referees to support the director role on the Board. The support of two BMC members who propose and second your President application do not have to be the two referees noted here.
4. Please send the above information to agm@thebmc.co.uk

Your application will be acknowledged within 2 business days of receipt.

Should you have any questions about the application process itself, or would like more information about the role, please email agm@thebmc.co.uk

All applicants who meet the criteria will be presented to the BMC Members for election at the AGM on Wednesday 12 June 2024 at 6.30 pm

Diversity is valued within the BMC. More than just encouraging your application, we're committed to conscious inclusion that (we hope) cultivates an ethos of belonging, connection, and shared purpose. It's this philosophy that drove us to shape our values and behaviours and we open our doors to those who share those values.

It would be appreciated if you could complete the [BMC's Equality & Diversity Monitoring Form](#) at the time of application.

HELP US PROTECT OUR WILD PLACES FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS



RESPECT
THE WILD

RESPECT
THE ROCK

THE CLIMATE
PROJECT

MEND
OUR MOUNTAINS

WE ARE THE BMC

YOUR COMMUNITY FOR ACTION AND ADVENTURE

MEND OUR MOUNTAINS

This is a vital BMC Access and Conservation Trust campaign to repair footpaths throughout Great Britain. It's a fantastic opportunity to join us in delivering a sustainable, ethical future for our most treasured wild landscapes in partnership with the people who use them and love them.

- ▶ Over £1.4 million raised
- ▶ 544 miles of upland repaired, equivalent to over 67,000 double decker buses
- ▶ 600 litter picking events and over 50 clean ups in 2022 in partnership with YHA

THE CLIMATE PROJECT

Another essential campaign to support the work of Moors for the Future.

Out on wild moorlands grows an amazing plant called sphagnum. When growing healthily, this little plant powerhouse takes as much carbon out of the atmosphere as a tropical rainforest.

We've helped to transform and restore over 8,000 acres of peat moors across the Peak District and South Pennines, to actively fight climate change.

OUTDOORS FOR ALL

We have the opportunity to create a lasting legacy: a natural health service that is accessible to all.

We believe this starts by expanding the opportunities to access more of our green and blue spaces, so everyone can enjoy the outdoors, more often, closer to home – that's what we are lobbying for.



JOIN US

PRESIDENT

Closes: 30 April 2024