

# News 4 Clubs



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## **MCoS General Meetings**

The EGM held on 5 September saw members approve the special resolution which introduced new Articles of Association for MCoS. The Articles provide for an expanded board of directors (from the previous 6 to 8 members). At the subsequent AGM, Brian Linington, Ron Payne and Martin McCallum were duly elected.

The draft minutes of the EGM & AGM may be found at <http://www.mcofs.org.uk/agm2008.asp>

## **Club Member Subscription Renewal and Information Return**

The above packs were posted to club secretaries this week. Please look out for these.

This link explains the changes to the club membership renewal system:

<http://www.mcofs.org.uk/club-renewal-and-fees.asp>.

## **Club Talks**

Just a quick reminder to clubs that MCoS officers are available to give club talks over the winter season.

Our Access and Conservation Officer Hebe Carus is able to travel out to give club talks on any aspect of her work. To make arrangements with Hebe please send an e-mail to [hebe@mcofs.org.uk](mailto:hebe@mcofs.org.uk).

Also, for any club staying on a club meet in the Strathspey area, our Mountain Safety Adviser Heather Morning is offering to visit your club at your accommodation and provide an educational and entertaining 45 minute presentation on winter mountain safety. The presentation will include advice on winter skills, equipment and where to access essential information. She will also talk about Scottish mountain rescue and Search and Rescue dogs. Milly her fully qualified SARDA dog will accompany her on her visit. Contact Heather on [heather@mcofs.org.uk](mailto:heather@mcofs.org.uk).

### **Weblinks to the MCofS website**

We are currently seeking to increase the number of websites linking to the MCofS site. Could you, or someone in your club, have a look at our "Find a Club" page at: <http://www.mcofs.org.uk/clubs-list.asp> and check whether your club's details are how you would like them to be and also check your link to our site. Some clubs still have a link to our old website, so could you check this please and update your link to our new website if your link is out of date.

- Our new / current address is: [www.mcofs.org.uk](http://www.mcofs.org.uk).
- The previous address was: [www.mountaineering-scotland.org.uk](http://www.mountaineering-scotland.org.uk).

If we don't have a link to your website, and you would like us to create one, then please let me know by sending an e-mail to [mike@mcofs.org.uk](mailto:mike@mcofs.org.uk) and we will get one set up ASAP.

### **Climbing Rocks Festival – Ratho – 10<sup>th</sup> October**

MCofS in conjunction with Club Member, The Quickdraw Climbing Club, is organising the Climbing Rocks Festival for young climbers at the Edinburgh Indoor Climbing Arena (EICA) at Ratho on Saturday October 10<sup>th</sup>.

Climbers aged 18 and under wishing to participate should check out the MCofS website: <http://www.mcofs.org.uk/kids-events.asp#Climbingrocks>.

Any adult members with children who fancy trying climbing should come along to sample what the Festival has to offer. As well as chances to try out climbing the day will consist of workshop sessions, lectures and a range of other activities. The emphasis will be on fun and a celebration of climbing, so come along and see what's in it for you.

We are looking for people to volunteer on the day - helping out with keeping the day running as smoothly as possible. We have jobs that will need doing indoors as well as some outdoor tasks like acting as car park attendants. If you would like to help out on the day please drop an e-mail to [kev@mcofs.org.uk](mailto:kev@mcofs.org.uk).

### **The Clubs Advisory Group (by Ron Payne, Chair)**

At the recent AGM I was elected to the Board as the Director for Club Affairs and Development. I would like to thank you for your support and I look forward to working with you in the Clubs.

I took the opportunity at the Gathering to hold the inaugural meeting of the Clubs Advisory Group (CAG). I outlined to group members on how we can influence the work of the MCofS and provide new services to you.

First we need to establish some facts and in the near future we will carry out some research with you in clubs. It will take the form of a short and simple, electronic questionnaire.

Next year we intend to hold a Club Seminar. It will be a whole day devoted to issues of interest to Clubs. Suggested topics are media, legal, insurance, technical, equipment, huts, child protection, and lottery bids. Please let us know what you want, it is your seminar and needs to reflect your interests.

An issue that will not go away is the Club Block Vote. True to form it was raised again at the AGM. As promised there the Board have announced that a Voting Review Working Group (VRWG) has been established to examine the Club Vote.

The remit and membership of the VRWG is detailed in the News section of the MCofS website at:

<http://www.mcofs.org.uk/news.asp?s=2&id=MCS-N10322&nc=>

Membership includes representation from Individual Members and the SMC as well as members of the CAG. As chair of the VRWG I intend to present a paper, in the near future, to the group to lead the debate. I hope we can achieve a consensus on the way forward. Assuming we can, at that stage we will open up for consultation to the membership. The only way to achieve a lasting settlement of this issue is to command the widest possible support among our members.

Finally we have a page on the MC of S website for the Clubs Advisory Group. I hope it will be of interest to Clubs and their members. See:

<http://www.mcofs.org.uk/cag.asp>

**Mike Dales**