

VANDERBILT CLIMBING CLUB CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I – NAME

Section A: The name of this organization will be the Vanderbilt Climbing Club, hereafter referred to as “Vanderbilt Climbing”

Section B: All members of Vanderbilt Climbing as defined in the following document are hereafter referred to as “Members”.

Section C: The leading body entrusted with the operations and responsibilities of Vanderbilt Climbing, hereafter referred to as the “Executive Board”

ARTICLE II – MISSION STATEMENT

Section A: The overall mission of Vanderbilt Climbing is to develop an unstoppable competitive climbing community. Vanderbilt Climbing supports members who are interested in climbing, including first time climbers. We strive to improve accessibility to rock climbing for anyone interested in participating at Vanderbilt (Undergrad/Grad/Faculty etc.). We strive to produce climbers who act with good sportsmanship and conduct themselves in a safe and reasonable manner above all else. We will commit to holding regular indoor climbing practices throughout the year, as well as periodic outdoor climbing trips, with the overarching goal being to promote an engaged and inspired climbing community. For competitive indoor climbing, we strive to maintain and achieve the highest regional and national ranking possible.

ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP

Section A: Membership is open to all Vanderbilt University community members including students, staff, and faculty.

Section B: Each member shall attend at least 60% of semester meetings.

Section C: All Vanderbilt Climbing members must pay semesterly dues of \$400 or receive a specially assigned scholarship as mandated by the Executive Board.

1. These dues will be charged in two installments of \$200 throughout the semester; the first one will be charged no later than 30% into the semester.

Section D: Only eligible students at Vanderbilt University as defined by USA Climbing shall compete in the Collegiate Climbing Series. All members can compete in the American Bouldering Series and Sport Climbing Series when eligible. When possible Vanderbilt Climbing members should compete under the Vanderbilt Climbing Team affiliation.

Section F: Should a member violate the Standard of Conduct that is stated within the Vanderbilt Student Handbook or within this document, said member may be put up to a majority vote by the Executive Board to be removed from the team.

ARTICLE IV – EXECUTIVE BOARD

Section A: The officer positions that comprise the Executive Board shall be the following: President, Senior Vice President, Vice President of Outreach, Secretary of Executive Board Affairs, Treasurer, Travel Coordinator, Competition and Outdoor Trip Coordinator, and Director of Member Engagement. The position descriptions are listed below.

- I. President: Lead the Climbing Club Executive Board and help drive the development of the Climbing Club.

Responsibilities:

- Serve as the figurehead to USA climbing, Vanderbilt, all Sponsors, and outside organizations
- Post a weekly agenda for Climbing Club Executive Board meetings
- Make slides to organize the discussion in Climbing Club Executive Board meetings
- Publicly speak on behalf of the Climbing Club to outside groups and general body
- Proactively address all issues and responsibilities that arise involving the Climbing Club
- Hold veto power over all Climbing Club related actions if reasonably deemed unethical or unsafe
- The president must not be leaving the Vanderbilt community within six months of the end of their term.
 - This is to prevent the loss of the relationships and information they have for the next board.

- II. Senior Vice President: Ensure the ethical, reasonable management of the Climbing Club by working with the club sports department, dean's office and other oversight.

Responsibilities:

- Ensure the safety of everyone involved in Climbing Club
- Hold veto power over all Climbing Club related actions if reasonably deemed unethical or unsafe
- Manage Climbing Club's duties of compliance with oversight organizations

- Receive certifications required by oversight organizations
 - Fill in when Climbing Club Executive Board members are unable to perform the duties assigned to their position
- III. Vice President of Outreach: Engage with community partners for the betterment of the Vanderbilt Climbing and local climbing communities.

Responsibilities:

- Send monthly updates to climbing club partners with information about what the Climbing Club has been doing in the past month and how the Climbing Club has been serving our local communities.
 - Give monthly updates to the Climbing Club Executive Board on developments in partnerships.
 - Pursue new partnerships with the approval of the Climbing Club Executive Board through a majority vote
 - Work with Climbing Club Executive Board to coordinate partnership with Climb Nashville
 - When appropriate, attend partner meetings with President
- IV. Secretary of Executive Board Affairs:
Role: Document and publicize the Climbing Club Executive Board's decisions and initiatives.
Responsibilities:
 - Take notes at weekly Executive Board meetings
 - Send out weekly emails containing information about what the climbing club board discussed at the weekly meetings, and general happenings on the team
 - Keep an up to date Google Calendar with events for the Climbing Club.
 - Oversee the tracking of member attendance
- V. Treasurer: Responsibly allocate the Climbing Club's budget in the best interest of all Climbing Club members, and to actively seek to expand the Climbing Club's budget with fundraising, dues, and grants.
Responsibilities:
 - Develop and propose a semesterly budget to the Climbing Club Executive Board at the first meeting of every semester
 - Manage all club expenses, including reimbursements and payments to outside groups
 - Work with club sports department and other funding sources to remain in good standings

- Actively seek out fundraising opportunities to help offset club costs

VI. Travel coordinator: Coordinate details around traveling to practice, competitions, and other team events, including working with travel agents to book flights and accommodations for regionals (if needed) and nationals, organizing drivers and vans for practice, climbing trips, and competitions, and filing travel forms with the club sports department.

Responsibilities:

- Organize vans or carpools and drivers for practice, climbing trips, and competitions
- File all travel request forms with club sports department **on time**
- Book flights and accommodations for regionals (if needed) and nationals

VII. Competition and Outdoor Trip Coordinator: Coordinate climbing competitions and outdoor trips including, having an open dialog with USA Climbing, make sure all athletes that would like to compete attend prerequisite competitions and register on time for events, finding outdoor trip locations that are suited for all climbers in the club, organize climbing groups, and developing trip safety protocols.

Responsibilities:

- Make sure all climbers that would like to compete are registered for USA Climbing competitions
- Present a comprehensive list of competitions and at least three outdoor trips for the semester, at the beginning of every semester, to the board and club sports department, and register the events on Anchorlink.
- Work with USA Climbing to make sure that we are registered as a team
- Maximizing the Vanderbilt Climbing Team's national ranking
- Developing a trip safety protocol before outdoor trip and competitions
- Briefing the Climbing Club Executive Board on upcoming outdoor trips and competitions in the proceeding board meeting

VIII. Director of Member Engagement: Work with Travel Coordinator and Competition and Outdoor Trip Coordinator to organize, competition celebrations, movie nights, team dinners, and all other non-climbing social events.

Responsibilities:

- Help to facilitate competition celebrations
- Organize all other team social events
- Develop and propose a semesterly social event schedule to the Climbing Club Executive Board at the first meeting of every semester
- Organize end of year Climbing Club Banquet
- Manage Climbing Club's social media feeds

Section B: The climbing club executive board will meet once weekly to discuss ongoing efforts to achieve the mission stated above. Members of the board are also expected to dedicate their own time towards the success of the club, and attend regular climbing club meetings.

Section C: Should an officer relinquish his or her position on the Executive Board, a replacement shall be voted in by a majority vote of the Executive Board.

Section D: The election process will take place annually.

- I. Eligibility: Any member may run for an officer position
- II. Voting: Each member shall get one vote for each position. A member shall be elected to a position by a majority vote.
- III. The time of elections shall be announced to all members at least two weeks in advance
- IV. In December during a general Climbing Club body meeting candidates will have the opportunity to speak on their qualifications for the role which they are running for
 - At this time, other members may also endorse them in good faith and a positive manner
 - A digital poll will be sent out once all candidates have spoken and the candidate with the most votes will achieve the position
- V. Candidates may run for a maximum of two positions
- VI. Candidates elected in December will take over from their predecessor in the following May, unless their elected position is currently unoccupied in which case they will start immediately

Section E: Board decision making will be democratic

- I. Any member of the board may call for a vote on any current decision being made.
- II. No retroactive votes will be granted.
- III. During meetings where votes are held each member of board will have a 1 minute speaking period with the order of these periods reflecting the order positions are

listed in ARTICLE IV, Section A. After which the board can vote to continue discussion, or vote on a decision.

- IV. All votes will be won by a simple majority.
- V. If there is a split vote a digital poll will be collected from the general Climbing Club body.
- VI. Senior Vice President and President hold veto power over all Climbing Club related actions if reasonably deemed unethical, unsafe or against the interests of Vanderbilt Climbing.
- VII. The veto can only be overridden by the Club Sports Department if the action is not prohibited by Vanderbilt University.

Section F: Board members will have first priority on all team benefits, including but not limited to: financial aid, travel, competition registration, access to experts, community resources, etc.

Section G: The appearance of a unified executive board is pivotal to its success. Given such, it is the role of all board members to maintain all decisions and messaging from the board, as well as publicly display a positive, well intentioned manner towards all team members, particularly in regards to publicly facing board members. Excluding information that broadens individual understanding of climbing, any issues related to the climbing team and its success should be discussed within the confines of board meetings.

ARTICLE V – MEETINGS

Section A: The executive board will meet once a week during the academic school year.

Section B: All discussions within the confines of executive board meetings and other interactions that may reflect on the executive board are confidential and may not be made publicly available without first being discussed by the board.

Section C: Agendas for meetings will be sent to all members at least twenty-four hours before a meeting, and minutes will be sent to all members no more than twenty-four hours after a meeting.

Section D: Semi-Weekly meetings/practice will happen at Climb Nashville West or other climbing facilities. We will introduce new members and make announcements, when necessary. Meetings will also include skills workshops to improve climbing ability and expertise. Climb Nashville West has expressed availability of the climbing space and a dedicated coach for Vanderbilt climbing included in gym dues.

ARTICLE VI – ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHORITY

Section A: Executive Board of the organization may be entrusted with any administrative authority and responsibilities.

ARTICLE VII - QUESTIONS

Section A: Questions will be referred to the president to be decided by the Executive Board.

ARTICLE VIII – AMENDMENTS

Section A: Amendments to this constitution should be presented to the Executive Board. The Executive Board will decide via a two thirds majority to move forward with the amendment, or more than one third minority to sustain the status quo.

Sections B: Amendments to this constitution once passed will be made in the body of constitution and listed in the following format in Article VIII, section C

Amendment #: Article #, section # “___” was (was added, was changed to “___”, or was removed), (date), by (president overseeing)

Examples:

1. Amendment 5: Article X, section D “this is what the new text says” this was added May 13th 2020, by Michael Finn-Henry
2. Amendment 10: Article XI, section A “this is what the new text says” was changed to “this is what the old text said” May 13th 2020, by Michael Finn-Henry
3. Amendment 8: Article IX, section B “this is what the old text said” was removed May 13th 2020, by Michael Finn-Henry

Section C: Amendments

Amendment 1: Article IV, section E “III. During meetings where votes are held each member of board will have a 1 minute speaking period with the order of these periods reflecting the order positions are listed in ARTICLE IV, Section A. After which the board can vote to continue discussion, or vote on a decision.” this was added October 3rd 2020, by Michael Finn-Henry

Amendment 2: Article IV, section A “The president must not be leaving the Vanderbilt community within six months of the end of their term. This is to prevent the loss of the relationships and information they have for the next board.” this was added October 24th 2020, by Michael Finn-Henry