

Meeting of the BMC Clubs' Committee,

Thursday, 3rd February, 2011

Notes on the main points of discussion.

1. We felt that one year was not long enough for a Chair to become effective and that National Clubs ought to be able to vote for a candidate from their own clubs. These would need changes to the Operating Procedures agreed by the National Council in June 2009. Proposed changes will be produced for discussion at the next meeting on 31st March. Agreed proposals would be passed to the National Council for ratification.
2. We intend to carry out a survey of clubs with the intention of finding out how the BMC in general and the Clubs' Committee in particular can bring benefits to clubs. We expect to complete the drafting by the time of our next meeting, send out the survey soon afterwards and have results for the meeting after that. These results will inform and guide much of our work for the remainder of the year and into the future.
3. The company providing the travel insurance for the BMC does not wish to continue and a new company, ACE, is in the process of taking over. Premiums will be increased in any case because of inflation but examination of the claims record has led to some greater increases in some areas. These include policies for those aged 65 upwards and heavy weighting for activities with a poor claims record. It is appreciated that many people join the BMC as Individual Members only so that they can access the insurance policies which are far cheaper than most on the market. Attempts are being made to ensure that policies are only bought by those with a genuine interest in hills and climbing. This might reduce the number of Individual Members and insurance income but should also reduce the losses.
4. A proposal to allow loans to clubs for use on property has been agreed by the Executive Committee and the Finance Committee and is now to go to the next meeting of the National Council for approval.
5. The Executive Committee decided recently not to increase subscriptions for the year starting on 1st January, 2012. This is to be tabled for the National Council at its next meeting for ratification.
6. We discussed ideas for the 2011 Huts / Clubs Seminar and expected needs to become apparent from the survey. Apart from this, it was thought that the agenda might include
 - o Administration problems with payments,
 - o Problems with Club Rules,
 - o Legal problems, and
 - o Insurance issues.

Paul Exley 4th February, 2011