Constitution of Mid Tipp Hillwalkers

1. **TITLE**

1.1 The club shall be called Mid Tipp Hillwalkers, hereinafter referred to as “the club”

**2.0 OBJECTIVES**

2.1 To facilitate and encourage people to enjoy the outdoors safely by participating in hillwalking, outdoor activities and events organised by the club.

2.2 To encourage members to develop their mountaineering skills and to become leaders, having attended training organised by the training officer or other organisations.

2.3 To encourage members to respect the terrain, obey signage and not leave litter of any description after them, and also to encourage awareness of the Mountaineering Ireland guidelines in relation to the environment.

**3.0 EXPENSES**

3.1 All personal expenses incurred by people participating in club activities shall be their own responsibility.

**4.0 MEMBERSHIP**

4.1 The club shall consist of (in order of importance) walkers, leaders, officers and a steering committee.

4.2 Membership of the club shall be open to adults who display an active interest in and appreciation for hillwalking and related activities.

4.3 Only adults (18 years and over) can be members of the club. In certain, limited circumstances members may bring under 18s on walks. This can only be done in accordance with our Policy on the Participation of Children in walks.

4.4 Members must recognise that hillwalking and climbing are activities with a danger of personal injury or death. Members shall be aware of and accept these risks and agree to be responsible for their own safety.

4.5 Members, and those wishing to participate in club activities, shall satisfy the activity leader/s that they have the required level of fitness to attempt the activity and that their footwear and clothing is in the opinion of the leader/s adequate for the activity. The leader/s reserve the right to permit or deny participation in an activity. Leaders are not responsible for the personal safety of participants in activities.

4.6 Membership fee is €10, or such fee as shall be determined at the AGM. Members are required to pay the membership fee by the 30th November each year. New members who join during the year should pay the membership fee once they have participated in 3 club walks or activities.

**5.0 ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE / RUNNING THE CLUB**

**5.1 STEERING COMMITTEE**

* The steering committee is responsible for the day to day running of the club.
* The steering committee should comprise of the chairperson, secretary, treasurer, PRO and 2 other club members.
* The steering committee should be representative of the range of walks organised by the club.
* The committee should meet regularly to discuss pertinent issues relevant to the ongoing running of the club and make changes which they deem necessary.
* Changes made by the committee to club procedures, and proposals from the committee for future policy should be discussed for ratification at the next AGM.
* The committee may invite additional club members to attend committee meetings, to provide assistance or expertise with particular club activities, during the course of the year.

**5.2 CLUB OFFICERS**

* The AGM elects officers to take charge of particular areas of club activities.
* At present the club has a Chairperson, a Secretary, a Treasurer, a Walks organiser, a PRO, a Children’s Officer, an Environmental Officer and a Training Officer.

**6.0 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

6.1 The AGM of the club shall be held in September each year or within a 2 week period immediately prior to or immediately after September.

6.2 The secretary shall notify members one month in advance of the date and venue for the AGM.

6.3 To be eligible to vote at AGM/EGM a member must have paid his/her membership fee prior to May 1st in the current year.

6.4 Motions or items for inclusion on the agenda should be submitted to the secretary at least 15 days prior to the AGM.

6.5 The agenda for the AGM shall be communicated to the members at least 7 days before the AGM.

6.6 Nominees for positions as an officer, or member of the steering committee, must be formally proposed and seconded at the AGM.

6.7 Alterations to the constitution may only be made at an annual general meeting or extraordinary general meeting.

6.8 The AGM shall be chaired by the chairperson. If the chairperson is unavoidably absent the meeting shall be chaired by another member of the steering committee, nominated by those present.

6.9 The secretary shall keep minutes of the AGM. If the secretary is unavoidably absent minutes for the meeting should be taken by another officer or member of the steering committee, nominated by those present.

6.10 Decisions shall be taken by a simple majority vote and the Chairperson shall have a second or casting vote in the event of there being an equal number of votes in favour as there is against.

6.11 A quorum shall consist of 4 elected officers or steering committee members and 6 members.

6.12 The business of the AGM shall include:

* + Reading and adoption of the minutes of the previous AGM.
  + Matters arising from the minutes.
  + Chairperson’s address
  + Treasurer’s report
  + Reports from other officers as necessary
  + Steering Committee report and review of steering committee decisions.
  + Motions to be considered.
  + Election of chairperson, secretary and treasurer
  + Election of training officer, environmental officer, walks organiser, PRO/s and any alteration to existing officer positions plus the addition of any new officer/s.
  + Election of steering committee
  + Review of last year’s activities and activities planned for the next year
  + Review of the membership fee

6.13 The officers and steering committee members are not normally expected to hold such position for more than 4 consecutive years.

An exception to this will arise where a current committee member is elected as a designated officer. In this case they may serve for 4 years from the date of their election.

6.14 Having completed their term as officer of the club, a member may not be elected to another officer position for a minimum of 1 year.

**7.0 EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING**

7.1 An EGM of the club can be called by the steering committee if they deem it necessary.

7.2 The secretary shall notify members at least 2 weeks in advance of the date, venue and agenda for the EGM.

7.3 The EGM will be conducted as an AGM but the only item on the agenda will be the issue in question.

**8.0 DISSOLUTION**

8.1 A motion to dissolve the club must be signed by 50% of the membership and submitted in advance to the secretary in accordance with 6.4 above

8.2 If the resolution is passed, the chairperson, secretary and treasurer or others agreed at the general meeting must discharge all liabilities of the club and any remaining assets must be given to a charity/ies nominated at the general meeting.

**Ratified at AGM 5/10/2022**