Utah State University Climbing Team Constitution
Drafted 2016

ARTICLE I: Name
The name of this organization shall be the Utah State University Climbing Team.

ARTICLE II: Purpose
The purpose of this club shall be (a) to show appreciation for the sport of rock climbing while (b) actively practicing and competing in the USA Climbing Collegiate Climbing Series (CCS) and (c) fostering good climbing stewardship.

ARTICLE III: Members

Member Academics. Membership in the Utah State University Climbing Team is limited to currently enrolled Utah State University students pursuing undergraduate or graduate degrees. Members must meet Club Sport criteria by maintaining a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher, and must be registered for a minimum of twelve (12) academic credits (minimum of six (6) credits for graduate students).

Membership with USA Climbing. Students must be able to show valid student ID upon check-in/registration at USA Climbing (USAC) Collegiate Climbing Series (CCS) competitions. Members must register individually for CCS online through USAC to have their results tracked and to be eligible to compete. Members must check with officers and USAC to be certain they can compete before the competition season.

Member Attendance & Equipment. Members must attend at least 75% of all meetings, including practices and competitions, unless waived by the coaches due to injury or special exception. Members must compete in the proper number of competitions dictated yearly through USAC to be eligible to advance to the Regional and National Championships. Members must provide their own rock climbing gear and be previously knowledgeable of its safe and proper usage. This is a competitive team, not an instructional club, so team members are responsible for providing their own climbing gear and using it safely. Officers will enforce risk management and maintain a safe environment for rock climbing. T-shirts and/or tank tops will be designed by the team and purchased to be worn as a uniform at all competitions to represent the team.

Member Club Sports Requirements. USU requires members to follow a set of guidelines to participate in Club Sports, the specifics of which can be found in the USU Club Sports Manual, with which every member must be familiar. This manual will be reviewed as a team with all of the members at the beginning of each competition season. Rules include but are not limited to: maintaining high standards of sportsmanship, prohibiting hazing, following the proper team disciplinary procedures, meeting criteria to retain Club Sport status, etc. Each member must complete the required forms and waivers with USU Club Sports.
**Non-Discrimination Policy.** The Utah State University Climbing Team shall not discriminate against any individuals by refusing membership based upon age, race, color, sex, religion, national origin, physical or mental disability, or sexual orientation. All who meet the membership eligibility requirements are welcome to try out for the team.

**Number of Team Members.** For logistical purposes of practicing and competing, membership on the team will be limited to a maximum total of 20 individuals, male and female. These members will be chosen as outlined in Article VI: Try Outs. In the case of injury of a member deeming them unable to climb, a spot may open for another member to be selected if they are willing, able, and eligible to compete under these special circumstances. This substitute will be selected by the coach or president and allowed to practice and compete if approved by at least a 2/3 vote of all members.

**ARTICLE IV: Officers & Coach & Faculty Advisor**

**President.** The president ideally has experience with USA Climbing and preferably with the CCS competition system, and can also serve as a coach. The president will be one of the 20 members of the competition team and must meet the criteria for members. After the first year and once the team is established, a potential president will volunteer, be approved by the majority (more than 1/2) in a vote of all members, and be approved by the faculty advisor if applicable for that year. The president must meet the requirements outlined online by USAC, complete the proper certifications for coaching if applicable (including CPR and First Aid) and trainings with USAC, and be officially recognized by USAC before the required date in the competition season. The president must agree to attend practices and competitions, and to be easily reachable to communicate with the members. The president will work closely with the other officers and the faculty advisor (if there is one for any particular year) to enforce rules and make a practice schedule, along with planning travel for competitions. The president (who can also serve as coach as previously mentioned) is expected to be knowledgeable about rock climbing and safety, and to be able to effectively recognize any potential hazards. This officer should maintain a safe climbing environment for the team and foster good climbing stewardship, in addition to all other responsibilities outlined under the “President” position in the Club Sports Manual.

**Vice President.** The president will select an assistant from the 20 team members, who will then approve the vice president with a majority vote. The vice president must also be approved by the faculty advisor (if applicable). The vice president does not need to be approved by USAC for coaching, but is encouraged to be at least CPR and First Aid certified, along with any other requirements outlined under “Vice President” in the Club Sports Manual. This officer will help the president with any duties necessary and appropriate to run the team, such as scheduling practices and competitions, running training sessions, answering questions, and enforcing rules. If
the president cannot perform any duties, the vice president will step in as needed, in
addition to other responsibilities outlined in the Club Sports Manual.

**Treasurer.** The treasurer must be a volunteer from the team members who is
responsible, willing, and able to manage the team’s money. The treasurer must be
approved by a majority vote of the members, and be approved by the faculty advisor
(if applicable). The team can hold fundraisers to help offset the cost of travel and
competition fees. The treasurer will manage the team’s money and inform the team
whenever appropriate of financial updates. The treasurer will work closely with the
officers to plan fundraisers, and discuss competition travel in regards to money, in
addition to other responsibilities outlined in the Club Sports Manual.

**Secretary.** The secretary must be approved by a majority vote of the members, and
be approved by the faculty advisor (if applicable). The secretary shall attend Club
Sport Council meetings, handle correspondence in relation to the team, maintain
membership lists and contact information, maintain records of forms and files, and
maintain stats for the team, in addition to other responsibilities outlined in the Club

**Faculty Advisor (optional).** The faculty advisor will preferably be a faculty
member from the USU Climbing Wall or Outdoor Program located in the Aggie
Recreation Center. If no faculty there are willing or able, then the team can seek
candidates who are familiar with rock climbing and who have time to dedicate to
the team. The advisor must be approved by a majority vote of the members.
Paperwork must be submitted to USU Club Sports recognizing this advisor.

**ARTICLE V: Meetings & Facilities**

**Practices.** Practices will be held for two to three hours, two times weekly for the
team members, and will be run by the officers (particularly the president serving as
coach). The team will potentially meet once a week in the Aggie Recreation Center,
and once a week at Elevation Rock Gym in Logan, Utah. Specific scheduling will
occur each semester to coordinate with both of these walls. A team discount will be
discussed with the owners of Elevation Rock Gym so all team members can climb at
their facility.

**Competitions.** USAC frequently updates their requirements for competitions, but
generally (as of the time of this draft) a competitor must attend at least one Local
competition in their Region to be eligible for the Regional Championship. To
progress to the National Championship, a competitor must have competed in a Local
competition and the Regional Championship. These different levels of competitions
have varying fees and associated travel expenses. All team members must commit to
attend at least the Local and Regional competitions. These dates should be
announced by the time of try outs, so all members will know the dates of the
competitions. The Utah Region has grown significantly, so these competitions will
be within a relatively short drive typically to the Salt Lake City area, while Nationals
will be a more complicated and expensive trip since it is generally held in California. The Local and Regional competitions should not warrant any missed days of school, while Nationals may require around 3 days of missed school.

**ARTICLE VI: Try Outs**

Try outs will be held at the beginning of the fall semester as scheduled by the president in conjunction with the USU Outdoor Program's Climbing Wall in the Aggie Recreation Center (ARC). The specifics of try outs may change over time, but should fulfill necessary requirements for any competitor to succeed in the CCS through USAC. Try outs will be advertised in the ARC with flyers, and on Facebook as a shareable Event. Try outs will be scheduled by the officers, run mainly by the president, and supervised by the faculty advisor if applicable. Every student trying out must fulfill the academic requirements to participate in Club Sports and must be aware of the time commitment, safety expectations, etc. involved with being on the team.

Males and females will try out on different climbing routes at the wall. Each student trying out will climb two routes (approximately 5.11-5.12+) and two boulder problems (approximately V4-V6+). Depending on the number of people who try out, the final group of climbers who do the best on these climbs (e.g. ‘get the highest on the climbs’) will be interviewed individually by the president and/or officers. This interview will consist of questions regarding the student’s background in rock climbing competitions, their safety competence, and verification of their eligibility. The final members, including the officers, will become the climbing team. If there are more than 20 competent, eligible, strong climbers, substitutes will be considered to help cover the team in case of injury or other circumstances.

**ARTICLE VII: Budget & Fundraising & Dues**

The budget will be determined by the officers in coordination with an advisor. Members are responsible for their own climbing equipment. Fundraisers can be used to raise money for team T-shirts and/or tank tops, competition fees, USAC registration fees, Elevation Rock Gym memberships, and competition travel expenses. Specific fundraisers will be determined by the team members’ interests and time commitment abilities. Dues will be determined upon formation of the initial team with input on the members’ financial ability.

**ARTICLE VIII: Affiliations**

The Utah State University Climbing Team shall be affiliated with USA Climbing, and shall compete in the Collegiate Climbing Series. USA Climbing will only recognize a collegiate team once that team is official through their educational institution, which in this case is Utah State University Club Sports.

The Utah State University Climbing Team will follow the rules set forth by USA Climbing in regards to eligibility and climbing conduct.

The most current information available on team formation and CCS membership eligibility: [http://usaclimbing.net/ccs/CCS%20Team%20Formation%20Guide.pdf](http://usaclimbing.net/ccs/CCS%20Team%20Formation%20Guide.pdf)