# Foothills Branch Climbing Committee Charter[[1]](#footnote-1)

The Foothills Branch Governing Document empowers the branch council to create activity and program committees to conduct the ongoing activities of the branch. The Foothills Branch Climbing Committee is responsible for administering climbing trips, events, seminars, and courses under the auspices of Foothills Branch and the Mountaineers, including administering the recruitment, training, certification, and ongoing oversight of new Climbing leaders, and the development and oversight of the committee budget.

The Foothills Branch Climbing Committee shall consist of a chairperson, selected by the participating members of the committee, and other committee members. Participation in the Foothills Climbing Committee is open to all current Mountaineers members and any Mountaineers member may request to be added to the committee roster. Ad-hoc committees and standing sub-committees may be established by the chair and committee as the need arises.

The Committee shall meet at least once a year, and more often as necessary under the discretion of the chair or as called for by members and/or subcommittees. Motions may be forwarded by any committee member, and the required quorum for approval of a motion shall consist of the Chairperson or designee and at least four other committee members. The Committee may forward motions and conduct votes by email between meetings to speed up the decision making process; however, if two or more committee members vote NO or have a reservation, then the vote should go to the next scheduled committee meeting or may be used as justification to call a special meeting to discuss the vote. For a special meeting a quorum is required.

Activities listed by the Foothills Climbing Committee must comply at a minimum with the latest approved Minimum Clubwide Standards for Climbing. Programs may exceed the minimum standards but they may not be less stringent than the clubwide standard.

## Climbing Committee Responsibilities

* Advance the overall mission of the Foothills Branch and The Mountaineers organization.
* Strive to present a program of activity, event, seminar and course offerings that are welcoming and inclusive to people from diverse backgrounds, experience levels, and fitness levels.
* Ensure that all climbing activities are conducted within the specifications of the Climbing Minimum Standards.
* Conduct climbing courses and seminars that foster an environment of safety and continuous improvement of participant and leader preparedness and capability. This includes establishing eligibility requirements for the courses as well as their equivalency.
* Set fees for branch climbing seminars and courses that are aligned with fees for similar courses and seminars by other branches, and consistent with policies set by the clubwide Pricing Committee. In setting prices we will consider pricing for similar offerings by commercial entities operating in our geography, charge what we believe that the market will bear, and offer scholarships (administered at the club level) for people who seek them. When consistent waitlists exist for a particular course, the committee or responsible subcommittee will strive to expand availability of that course with more sessions and/or greater capacity to meet the demand to the extent that this is possible with available volunteer leaders, capacity on routes and places, and permit days, all without compromising the quality of instruction.
* Develop and oversee annual budgets for climbing activities, events, and courses, and oversee spending within that budget and within financial policies of The Mountaineers. Advance to the Branch Treasurer any proposals involving material new spending incremental to budget, with approval required by the branch chair and treasurer (and the Branch Council as appropriate) before spending can begin.
* Maintain or replace ropes or other climbing equipment managed by the Committee
* Approve or reject climbing course graduation and equivalency petitions.
* Establish leader and instructor qualifications, oversee and coordinate semi-annual New Leader Seminars, facilitate annual offerings of all other required courses, receive and review applications from prospective leaders, arrange mentored climbs for leader candidates, oversee the final certification of new leaders, and maintain current Climbing Leader lists including periodic contact with inactive leaders to determine if they want to continue on the leader list.
* Coordinate with the Foothills Branch representative on the clubwide Safety Committee to review accidents and near misses that occur on any trips sponsored by the Foothills Climbing Committee, and share information about any safety-related learnings with Foothills Climbing Committee Members.
* Oversee and administer prompt review and documented resolution of complaints by members related to other members or leaders associated with Climbing activities, including resolution of Problem Behavior complaints according to the club’s Problem Behavior policy when they arise. Complaints and their resolution shall be handled confidentially and with care, compassion and understanding for all parties.
* Amendments to this Activity Charter may be proposed by petition by any Committee Member or Activity Member. A two-thirds vote of the Committee is required to enact an amendment.

1. Draft put forward on 1-8-20 [↑](#footnote-ref-1)