

The Mountaineers Facebook Moderation Guidance

Introduction

The Mountaineers, as an organization, maintains one Facebook page. However, we recognize that many committees, courses and groups use Facebook Groups to stay connected. While The Mountaineers does not explicitly endorse any of the groups, we do provide guidance to those wishing to host a group specifically for a subset of Mountaineers members. The below guidance is intended to help groups adhere to the core values and spirit of The Mountaineers.

Moderators: 3 individuals, at least 2 of whom are not in leadership positions relative to the subject of the FB group. (ex. A Basic Climbing FB group should have two moderators who are not committee or course chairs) The best practice is for Facebook groups to be moderated entirely by individuals not in leadership positions relative to that group, thereby creating a separation of power that supports a trusted environment.

Transparency: The content below should be written in the Facebook Group

- Name & Description - this content is important legal disclaimer
 - Group Rules - we recommend the below group rules, and listing them in the “Group Rules” section. (Note that these are written to adhere to Facebook’s character limit)
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Name & Description

A group for [enter group description]. Members may join if [enter requirements]. On this page, we will cross post trips organized through the Mountaineers, talk about gear, techniques, or other topics related to [activity] within our community. Members can also use this page to organize informal practice sessions or trips with one another. Legal disclaimer: This group is NOT an official Mountaineers Facebook group, and not everything you'll read here is official Mountaineers content. Only trips, courses, and events with a [mountaineers.org](https://www.mountaineers.org) registration link are official programs sponsored by The Mountaineers.

Group Rules

1. The Mountaineers Code of Ethics

All posts and comments are expected to follow [The Mountaineers Member Code of Ethics](#). This includes treating others with dignity, respect, and compassion to foster a trusting environment.

2. Engage Respectfully

All members of this page must remain civil and respectful of other members. Blatant disrespect for other members will not be tolerated.

3. Treat Content with Discretion

The content shared in this group should be treated with respect and reasonable discretion, including keeping these discussions within this group.

4. Posts should be relevant to this group.

Posts and questions about local beta, Mountaineers trips and courses, photos, trip reports, conditions, techniques, ethics, equipment, training, educational resources, and other related content¹.

5. Non-Mountaineers Content

Allowed if presented by a Mountaineers member and directly relevant to this community, such as open events, technical studies, or other reliable information that can improve safety in this activity.

6. Incidents & Accidents

Allowed with permission of all members of the party involved. Incidents pending investigation, misrepresentation of facts, and/or sharing incidents for the purpose of shaming are prohibited.

7. External Advertisements and Promotions

Allowed for activity-related products or services, and must be honest and transparent. Frequent or spam-like posts may be removed. Members should do their own research on products presented on this page.

8. Unrelated or false content

Posts & comments from non-Mountaineers about things that are not Mountaineers-related, or false or misleading information, will be deleted.

9. Inappropriate Content

The following posts/comments will be deleted: direct attacks on individuals or groups; "R-rated" content including but not limited to nudity, violence, or gore; posts/comments that shame others

10. Accounts Flagged for Removal

Members whose posts or comments need to be deleted more than three times in a year; Members who fail to use discretion in sharing content in other groups; fake or unaffiliated accounts

¹ The Mountaineers believes that Equity & Inclusion topics are a relevant facet of every part of our lives, including Mountaineers activities.