Newcastle University Mountaineering Club

NUMC

NUMC General Meeting

General Meeting for NUMC to receive up to date club information and to discuss upcoming trips, training and general club management.

When	29-03-2018 at 05:00
Location:	Glasshouse, Glasshouse
Chairperson	Cooper Walters
Minute taker	Felix Gifford
Present	Kara Agllias , Kara Agllias , David Birdsall , Matthew Blore , Steffen Broxtermann , Rob Butcher , Rob Butcher , Maxwell Cullen , Maxwell Cullen , Felix Gifford , Joe Gurr , Matthew johns , Charles Jones , Charles Jones , Arseniy Kurynyi , Emily Meagher , Trent Sheather , Daemon Smetanin , Cooper Walters , Lauren White , Benjamin Yen , Benjamin Yen
Apologies	Tristan Breteche-Lo , Angela Ebner , Liam Manning , Jack Tearle
Unconfirmed	Tristan Breteche-Lo

Minutes

1. Club Updates

Climbing Wall

- Regular tuesday climbing at the Forum wall has been successful.
- Runs from 17:30 to 20:00, harnesses and shoes are provided.
- Show your membership receipt at reception for access

Insurance Document from NUSport

- Insurance relating to the club has been ambiguous and an ongoing issue
- This document allows for clarity and reference to NUSport policy
- A copy of the document can be provided for personal reference by contacting the committee

Decision

2. Trips so far

Beginner Climbing

Two beginner trips have been run so far.

First was rained out and went to Pulse instead. Good turnout (28 people).

Second beginner climbing, good weather, all signups showed. Brown snake was spotted on the day.

Beginner Canyoning

Canyoning trip, multiple snakes, no other issues other than leaky dry-bags leading to losing a first aid kit. However some equipment was salvaged. Beta run for proposed annual trip.

Treetops trip

Treetops trip was paid for on C&S subsidy. Everyone who bought a ticket (except one) showed up and enjoyed the trip. Full subsidies cannot continue for this trip in the future but partial subsidies may be possible.

Trip Feedback Form

Attendees would like a trip feedback form after every trip.

Tasks

- [x] Trip Feedback form
  Assignee: Felix Gifford
  Due date: 05-04-2018
- [x] See to purchase of new first aid kit
  Assignee: Felix Gifford
  Due date: 04-04-2018

3. Training Nights

- We want to re-start and re-vamp training nights. This will involve skills training for all NUMC members, especially those who are interested in becoming trip leaders.
- We need to decide what skills to focus training sessions on, and we will discuss this with the NUMC Community along with NUMC Alumni and ex-Committee.
- Contact with previous presidents and Alumni to assist training (Pok Siwinski, Andrew Godwin, Michael Leong, Tom Gollan, Michael Davis)

Skills Discussed:

- Knots, Abseils, Basic Ropework, Anchor Setups, Lead climbing, Basic equipment familiarisation, Ropecare.
- Non-climbing skills: Navigation, General Camping, Hiking intuition/possibilities, Bushcraft, Survival, Outdoorsmanship, etc.
- Introduction to climbing theory/technique
- Self rescue skills
- Need to fill the gap between beginner climbing trip and more advanced level.
- Lead belay can be taught walking on stairs.

- Lead climbing requires more vocational experience
- Cleaning can be taught indoors
- Start with beginner skills to get the teaching methods organised

- Trad-climbing is too advanced to maintain a skills base in the trip and there is a lack of skilled alumni.
- Kayaking has similar issues, however trad and kayaking equipment doesn't expire, and could be used in the future.

- Need to consider the order of skills being taught – curriculum (working groups to develop this)
- Educating beginners on what skills there are to learn.
- Training is a good way to judge the character of beginners.
- Skill fade is an issue to be considered with trainers.

- We should provide training for trips we don't currently run but want to in the future, such as more advanced level trips.

- There are quarries in jesmond and glenrock that are good for vertical training.

Certification

- NUMC Training needs to mean something
- Logbook
- Skills night before trips

Timings

- Thursday clashes with external events.
- Tuesday clashes with NUDES and climbing nights.
- Need to consider when the trainers are free (outside 9-5)

Max Cullen is the most vocal part of the club, Cooper is glad he got a haircut.

Decision

4. Suggestions for Upcoming Trips

Suggestions for major trips (Mid year break)

- Warrumbungles trip (2016)
- NUMC/ANUMC Caving Wee Jasper (Pre-requisites)
- Blue Mountains climbing and hiking
- Wollemi NP Hiking
- Acacia Flat/Falls Canyons/Hikes
- Rocky Creek
- Six-Foot track near Jenolan
- Jenolan Caving (show caves)
- Barrington Tops
- Green Gully (assisted hikes)
- Hiking/Camping north coast
- Blue Gum forest (Blue Mountains)
- Canyoning Nymboida
- Point Perpendicular/Nowra - might be too technical

Hiking is easy to organise outside the club

Club can organise technical trips that require skill to organise

Trips to get people involved

Less technical trips can have more participants

External guides for some technical trips (kayaking)

Decision

Warrumbungles, Blue Mountains, Wee Jasper

5. NJ Dickinson Scholarship

NUSport (Primary funding source)

Sponsorship for up-skilling

First-Aid

Only a reimbursement not a fund

Treasurer needs to note remaining fund after first aid training

Trip leader requirements for first aid

Tasks

- [x] Budget report for NJD money
  Assignee: Rob Butcher
  Due date: 13-04-2018

6. Additional Committee Positions

Traditional executive roles (President, Secretary, Treasurer, etc)

Current exec is small (4 people)

We need additional help and are considering appointing new non-executive roles.

- Gear store officer
- Social Liason

Tasks

- [x] Verify Constitution
  Assignee: Felix Gifford
  Due date: 12-04-2018

6.1. Gear Guardian

Manage the gear store

- Amelia Fabian
- Matthew Johns

6.2. Social Liason

Feedback from the community and organise social events

- Lauren White

7. Upcoming Events

Attendees of meeting will get invited to caving/paintball

Carpool list – Need to assess the insurance handbook

Minors and motor vehicles are difficult to insure through the uni

Look into university cars/bus hire/mini van hire

Decision

Tasks

- [x] Look into University cars
  Assignee: Cooper Walters
  Due date: 20-04-2018
- [x] Review Insurance w.r.t. carpooling
  Assignee: Trent Sheather
  Due date: 20-04-2018

7.1. Paintball

40 Tickets for the year

Paintballs are not paintballs

10/10/20 ticket distribution

Dates aren't certain yet

7.2. Caving

Caving at timor caves (12/13 May)

Pending leaders and gear

8. Feedback

80% of people want more 'camping and chill' trips (survey)

Few people are satisfied

1. Club trips
2. Training
3. Social

Ambiguities on the form need to be fixed.

What incentives can we use to get more help and alumni? Skill retention is a big issue relating to this.

Decision

Publicise the results of the survey

9. Trip Leading and Alumni Retention

Alumni Retention

- Other clubs have alumni bases
- Trip levels are too basic and alumni are more interested in advanced trips.
- We dont hire tech gear due to nusport restrictions, alumni generally have their own gear

Last year the club started a risk assessment process for each discipline of activity the club runs.

Caving (Horizontal), Canyoning (Horizontal), and short bushwalking are complete. Climbing is half done (Top rope is done, Lead climbing is not).

These risk assessments are not intended as training documents yet but will be useful in the future.

Australian standards are good for trip planning and risk assessment

The issue with the risk assessment process is that trips cannot run until the paperwork is done. The club needs to keep running trips to stay alive.

Club needs to keep trips going to stay alive

Kara and Max can work on lead climbing risk assessment

Australian Standards require official certification, which we cannot provide.

There are issues with leaders using their own gear, however all gear used must meed Australian Standards.

We need a gear inspection policy for trips to deal with this, with a distinction between hard/soft and personal/shared gear.

Decision

Policy should be written w.r.t. gear use

Tasks

Organize risk assessment for Lead Climbing
Assignee: Cooper Walters
Due date: 30-04-2018

End of minutes.
Summary of matters arising are tabled on the following page.

Minutes of NUMC General Meeting on 29-03-2018

Summary of Matters Arising

Decisions

Item	Decision
1.	
3.	
4.	Warrumbungles, Blue Mountains, Wee Jasper
7.	
8.	Publicise the results of the survey
9.	Policy should be written w.r.t. gear use

Tasks

Item	Task	Assigned to	Due date
2.	Trip Feedback form	Felix Gifford	05-04-2018
2.	See to purchase of new first aid kit	Felix Gifford	04-04-2018
5.	Budget report for NJD money	Rob Butcher	13-04-2018
6.	Verify Constitution	Felix Gifford	12-04-2018
7.	Look into University cars	Cooper Walters	20-04-2018
7.	Review Insurance w.r.t. carpooling	Trent Sheather	20-04-2018
9.	Organize risk assessment for Lead Climbing	Cooper Walters	30-04-2018