

The Arizona Backpacking Club Charter

I. Mission Statement:

- A. The Arizona Backpacking Club is a volunteer member co-op that provides backcountry adventures for those that enjoy backpacking and outdoor fun. Our experienced and fit members organize and lead safe backpacking trips to scenic and fun destinations. We strive to enrich people's lives through exceptional and fun experiences at spectacular backcountry destinations and to contribute to the conservation of these special places.

II. Membership:

- A. Anyone over the age of 18 can be a member of the club, provided they comply with club guidelines and pay the required dues.
- B. To participate in the club's RSVP system, membership in the meetup.com website is also required.
- C. **Members** may invite guests to club events at the discretion of the **Hike Leader**.
- D. The **Membership** of the Arizona Backpacking Club shall not be personally liable for debts, liabilities, or obligations. The Arizona Backpacking Club shall not be responsible for damages or injuries suffered by a member or guest at any Club activity.

III. Leadership:

- A. The club leadership positions shall be the **Organizer** (1), **Leadership Council** (5), and **Hike Leaders**.
 - i. **Organizer**
 - a. The Organizer is elected by a majority vote of the **Leadership Council** from amongst its seated members. The seated Organizer's vote is needed only to break a tie.
 - b. The term of the **Organizer** is 1 year. There is no limit to the number of terms an **Organizer** may serve.
 - c. Upon election, there will be a 1 year term as **Organizer Elect**. The purpose of this term is to become familiar with the duties and responsibilities of the **Organizer's** position and to ease the transition for the club.
 - d. The **Organizer** and the **Organizer Elect** will serve simultaneous terms.
 - e. The **Organizer** may nominate members to the **Leadership Council**.
 - ii. **Leadership Council**
 - a. **Leadership Council** decisions (elections and approvals) will be by a **majority vote** of the Leadership Council.
 - b. Five **Leadership Council Members** are nominated and approved by the seated members of the Leadership Council.
 - c. To serve as a **Leadership Council Member**, individuals must be members in good standing for at least 12 consecutive months.
 - d. Leadership Council Member's term is not limited. A Leadership Council Member may be removed from the **Leadership Council** by a vote of the remaining members and the **Organizer**.
 - e. The **Leadership Council** must approve all expenditures of club funds.
 - f. The **Leadership Council** must approve removal of any Club **member** for any reason.

- g. The **Leadership Council** and **Organizer** will conduct Quarterly meetings. Participation in these meetings is required.
- h. Among the five Leadership Council Members are these rotating positions: **Treasurer** and **Secretary**.
 - i. The **Treasurer** is responsible for club funds, including the club bank account.
 - ii. The **Secretary** is responsible for keeping written record of Leadership Council decisions, club guidelines and Leadership Council meeting minutes.
- iii. **Hike Leaders**
 - a. **Hike Leaders** are elected by the **Leadership Council**. The meetup.com equivalent for Hike Leader is Event Organizer.
 - b. To serve as a **Hike Leader**, individuals must be members in good standing.
 - c. **Hike Leaders** are nominated by other **Hike Leaders**, **Leadership Council** or the **Organizer**.
 - d. New **Hike Leaders** may be subject to a mentorship period before they are given full Event Organizer status at the discretion of the Leadership Council.
 - e. **Hike Leaders** have full control over their trips in terms of member participation.
- B. The **Leadership** of the Arizona Backpacking Club shall not be personally liable for debts, liabilities, or obligations. The Arizona Backpacking Club shall not be responsible for damages or injuries suffered by a member or guest at any Club activity.

IV. Dues

- A. Members are required to pay the one-time membership fee in order to participate in backpacking activities. The membership fee may be waived temporarily at the discretion of the **Hike Leader**, **Leadership Council** or **Organizer**.
- B. Any changes to Club dues must be approved by the Leadership Council.

V. Amending the Charter

- A. Any Amendments to the Club Charter require the full approval of the Leadership Council.
- B. Members must be notified within 2 weeks of Charter amendment.

The Arizona Backpacking Club (ABC) Leadership as of 11/20/2011

Organizer:

Wendy Lotze – wrae.lo@gmail.com

Leadership Council:

Fred Gerten – fgerten@cox.net

Sarae Hoff – (Treasurer) – sarae13@gmail.com

Rockne Taylor – (Secretary) - rockne.taylor@yahoo.com

Gary Lee – garytonilee@hotmail.com

Bill Hayes - aztrailblazer@gmail.com