Board Policy: Activities

Policy Statement

It is the policy of The Mountaineers to offer activities to further its purposes and mission. Activities include, but are not limited to, trips, courses, events and seminars.

Application

1. The Mountaineers shall provide a variety of human-powered activities.
   A. Activities may be initiated by volunteer leaders, branches, divisions, committees, or staff.
   B. Activities shall be selected based on the interests and needs of the members.
   C. Activities should foster camaraderie and provide an atmosphere of good fellowship.
   D. Activities should provide members the opportunity to learn and practice new skills and assume leadership roles.

2. Activities shall comply with applicable Mountaineers Activity Standards.

3. Branches, divisions, or committees who sponsor an activity covered by a Mountaineers Activity Standard shall maintain a list of leaders they have approved and:
   A. Have a written process for approving leaders.
   B. Have a written process for reviewing leader performance concerns and taking corrective action, including removing someone from the leaders’ list if necessary.

4. Branch, division, and committee chairpersons shall communicate expectations and responsibilities of both leaders and participants.

5. All organization-sponsored outdoor activities that are not part of a course shall be registered in the online database to: assist in securing compliance with land manager regulations regarding the extent of use of particular areas; not be in the same area in violation of land manager regulations.
   A. Ensure that the activity is covered by the organization’s insurance policy in accordance with its terms.
   B. Provide for appropriate action to be taken if an emergency occurs.

6. When fees are assessed for a course or seminar:
   A. The fee is due upon registration.
B. The fee will be refunded, less an administrative fee determined by the sponsor, if the student cancels before the first activity in the course or seminar.  
C. Course or seminar sponsors may authorize a refund or “rain check” in special circumstances.  

7. No new committee for an activity not previously offered by The Mountaineers shall be established without the prior approval of the Branch Leadership Committee. The approval process shall include the Branch Leadership Committee’s review of:  
   A. The proposed committee charter for the new committee/activity.  
   B. The need for an organization-wide activity standard for the new activity.  
   C. How well the activity supports the purposes of The Mountaineers. 

Policy Owner: Operations Director