



**Branch Leadership Committee**  
*Meeting Minutes for January 15, 2025*  
6:00pm to 7:30pm via Zoom

**Meeting Information**

Zoom Meeting [Link](#)

**Branch Leadership Members**

- ☒ ~~AJ Schuehle (BHAM)~~
- ☐ James P (BHAM)
- ☒ ~~Nick M (EVE)~~
- ☒ ~~Robert White (EVE)~~
- ☒ ~~Travis Vermeer (FH)~~
- ☐ Brad P (FH)
- ☐ John M (KIT)
- ☒ ~~Mel (KIT)~~
- ☐ Janette Z (OLY)
- ☐ Bob K (OLY)
- ☐ Curtis S (TAC)
- ☒ ~~Owen G (TAC)~~
- ☐ Natalia (TAC)
- ☒ ~~Kelsey Hoffman (SEA)~~
- ☐ Craig K (SEA)
- ☐ Cindy H (GA)
- ☐ Tess W (Safety)
- ☒ ~~Michelle S (Staff)~~
- ☐ Becca P (Staff)
- ☒ ~~Amanda Piro (VP of Branches)~~

**Agenda**

1. Welcome and Introductions – Amanda
2. Review and approval of the meeting agenda for January 15, 2025  
Motion to Approve: Nick; Second: Mel: Approved
3. No meeting minutes for December meeting due to VP of Branches absence at December meeting
4. Course Progress & Recruiting Ideas (focus on scrambling & basic) – Amanda, Group Discussion



*Discussion Notes:*

- Softness in scrambling for **Everett** (28 open spaces), though climbing is doing well → **please send any waitlisted scrambling students from FH or other branches to Everett! Students will be accepted up through close on Feb 1**
- **Foothills** has seen strong course registration for both Basic and scrambling; currently has a waitlist for scrambling (though overall cohort is slightly smaller)
  - i. Foothills has openings in their WFA course April 26-27 - course link in branch reports; feel free to share
- **Kistap** has only one seat open for scrambling, however this may be due to smaller class sizes as they have needed to cap climbing classes low to ensure there are enough trips posted / available for graduation
- **Seattle** course registration is doing OK - 80% full for scrambling, however, the compressed course is less than 50% registered
- **Tacoma** has also seen robust scrambling and climbing participation similar to FH. Alpine climbing filled quickly and was competitive with some spillover from Seattle courses
  - i. Note: Basic course was not visible on website; Michelle + Owen to follow-up
- **Bellingham** is having a particular strong year with basic + intermediate both fully registered, with a higher than normal number of intermediate students (16) - exciting for future instructor pipeline
  - i. Did have more cancellations than typical but there was enough waitlist pipeline to fill cancelled spaces
  - ii. Crag course has been difficult to manage with a long-term leader stepping away; integrating with Intermediate Rock II

5. Jacket Ordering Discussion – Amanda

- Existing Contacts
- Timing for Jacket Orders
- Typical Needs

*Discussion Notes:*

- **Everett** shared context for jacket needs in BLC Basecamp – have typically ordered for either (1) Climb Leader or (2) Executive Committee badges. The former is 1-2 at a time while the latter was a larger 10 jacket order. Badges could be further standardized
- **Kistap** has not ordered jackets in the past, but it has been a pain point (i.e. leaders have noted them from other branches); they've maintained budget specifically for this purpose by rolling over some appreciation gifts this year
- **Foothills** has also not recently ordered jackets / would need to collect this input from others in the branch that have managed this process
- **Bellingham** is not currently ordered jackets but they did do it in previous years and still see those jackets worn by members
- Next Steps: Amanda to create survey to better capture branch jacket needs & share with BLC; once we have a better sense of overall quantities / timing, we will



work with staff on next steps (incl. considering brands outside of OR given historical difficulty with deals, etc.). Questions to address based on conversation incl: quantity, seasons / timing, badge or embroidery types, preferred brands, etc.

6. Activity Charters & Standards

- *None to review for this meeting (note to follow-up on Sailing standards)*
- Updated Activity Council & Standards [Spreadsheet](#)

6. Branch Reports—Mountaineer Branch Chairs (See new [BLC Branch Reports](#) google doc for individual branch updates & notes)

- Open leadership positions
- Relevant Updates
- Status of Branch Charters

7. Committee & Organizational Reports

- Safety – Tess
- Global Adventures – Cindy
- Operations – Michelle
  - Some drop in activities for Mountaineers at large - are currently investigation a decrease in trips and activities across branches

- Adjourn

- Motion to Adjourn: Mel, Second: Nick - Adjourned
- Next BLC Meeting: March 19, 2025
- Spring Board Retreat: March 15, 2025