

Foothills Branch Navigation Committee Chair

The **Navigation Committee Chair** helps guide the Foothills Branch's navigation programs by supporting course leads, volunteers, and branch-wide coordination. You do **not** need to be an expert navigator or lead every course. What matters most is having a solid understanding of the concepts, being comfortable with the curriculum, and providing steady, supportive leadership for the people who run the programs

Key Responsibilities

- **Lead the Navigation Committee**
Guide the committee's planning, priorities, and annual goals. Facilitate regular meetings and maintain clear communication with instructors, volunteers, and branch leadership.
- **Oversee Course Delivery**
Work with course leads as needed to coordinate the branch's navigation offerings—including Staying Found, Basic Navigation, and any advanced or specialty workshops. Ensure courses are well-staffed, consistent, and up to date with best practices.
- **Recruit, Support, and Mentor Instructors and Volunteers**
Welcome new volunteers, help them grow into teaching roles, and foster a positive, inclusive learning environment.
- **Collaborate Across the Branch**
Work with other committees (Hiking, Backpacking, Trail Running, Scrambling, Climbing, First Aid) to align navigation training with program needs.
- **Maintain Curriculum and Resources**
Coordinate with the Navigation Activity Committee (club wide) and Foothills Navigation course leads to keep course materials current, accurate, and accessible. Introduce improvements based on student feedback, instructor input, and evolving navigation tools.
- **Ensure Safety and Quality Standards**
Uphold Mountaineers policies, risk-management practices, and instructional guidelines.
- **Represent Navigation at Branch Council**
Provide updates, share needs or opportunities, and help shape branch-wide initiatives.

Ideal Skills & Qualities

- Strong interest in teaching navigation and helping others build outdoor confidence
- Clear communicator who enjoys organizing people and programs
- Collaborative, supportive leadership style
- Comfort with maps, compasses, and digital navigation tools (or willingness to learn)
- Ability to plan ahead, delegate, and keep programs running smoothly

Time Commitment

- Monthly committee meetings
- Seasonal planning and coordination
- Participation in some course sessions (teaching or observing)
- Bi-monthly Branch Council meetings

Impact of the Role

The Navigation Committee Chair plays a key part in helping members feel capable and safe in the outdoors. By leading this program, you help people build lifelong skills, explore with confidence, and connect with a supportive outdoor community.