

Allied Climbers of San Diego, Inc. Membership Handbook

Adopted September 11, 2007

ACSD Handbook – 3 Pages

Who is the ACSD and why are we here

The ACSD is a group of individuals who were brought together to address closure proposals from the Cleveland National Forest (CNF). It soon became apparent that we would be in this for the long haul and decided to form a 501 (c)(3) non profit organization that would continue into the future. Our mission statement, “The Allied Climbers of San Diego is a local, environmentally responsible, non-profit organization dedicated to promoting and maintaining access to climbing and outdoor recreation,” is never taken lightly.

Our guiding question is always, “Does this action support our mission?” If you are or will be an ACSD member, it should guide your actions also. As an Access Fund affiliate, it is vital that we uphold their mission as well. We are, in essence, the Access Fund at ground zero, where we can exact change or have a voice on a very personal level. If you are not a member of the Access Fund, please consider joining, and become a member of a network that is already more than 15,000 strong, representing over 1.6 million climbers nation wide.

We, however, are different from the Access fund in that we give our members more of a voice. With that voice, comes responsibility. It is, at all times, your responsibility to remain up to date on our current issues, what ACSD’s position is regarding those issues, what your membership means according to the bylaws. At no time should you speak on behalf of ACSD officially, its members, officers or any other governing body. If you have something to share, please share it with a member of the board, or an officer, through the website or at a member meeting. The board and founders will then take any comments or suggestions under advisement and then let you know how we plan to act. It is vital to the integrity and strength of our organization that we remain professional and consistent in our language and in our actions.

Future access issues

In the future, access issues, whether they be on public or private land will be handled as the CNF issue is being handled: by looking at both the legal and environmental aspects of the situation. As for the CNF closure proposal, ACSD’s position is set and firm as stated on our website. What we need from membership is information about new access information on which we should take action. The action we will take will be based on sound legal and scientific data. If you have not yet read the Access Fund’s letters, the ACSD’s letters, or the proposals from the CNF, it is your responsibility to do so, in order to be an informed member making informed decisions about this or any other issue that may come up. Future issues are no exception and are

why the ACSD was formed. Its success rests on its membership and how well it stays informed regarding access issues in our region.

How member meetings are conducted

Most meetings will be informational in nature and run using Roberts Rules of Order, our adopted parliamentary procedure. Meaning that we will be letting you know the who, what, where, when, why and how in relation to events, closures, actions for you to take, or information we need from you. At times we may solicit a vote from the membership on certain motions posed by the President regarding where we need to spend allocated funds, where we may need to do a clean up, dates for events, or other topics as determined by the officers.

The President will always solicit for a specific motion, a second for the motion, discussion on the motion and then a vote. Only officers and Board Members are allowed to make a motion from the floor, but members can bring up a topic for discussion under new business. Such topics should include, access issues, suggestions for crag days and places for these, questions regarding member conduct, where allocated funds could be spent, ideas for fundraising, and other such topics. All questions or comments will be directed toward the President or Chair of the meeting. The President will either answer or redirect to the appropriate person. We should refrain from open debate, unless a debate has been called for, as it impedes progress at the meetings.

How to bring up a topic or get a topic on the agenda

After the motions and voting during the informational portion of the agenda, the President will ask if there is any new business. If you have an item that fits this category: something new to everyone that has not been discussed at a previous meeting or earlier in the current meeting, this is the time to raise your hand, be recognized by the President and bring it up.

If you know in advance that you have an item of this nature please email the President no less than one week before the meeting to have your item added under new business on the agenda. It is up to the President to determine whether the item is agenda material and he/she will let you know if your item will be on the agenda. You will be responsible for any and all information regarding this item at the meeting...be prepared to discuss it!

If action needs to be taken on a new business item, the officers or the board will determine what, if any, action will take place and at what time. If immediate, then the President will ask for a motion; otherwise, it will be taken to the next officer meeting or board meeting and we will let you know what action was taken. All motions made and carried at a member meeting are subject to final Board approval.

Who may speak on behalf of the ACSD

Only the ACSD Liaison can speak on behalf of ACSD in any official capacity. Board members approve all written or verbal communication to the public. Members are urged to ask questions and glean information on their own but should refrain, at all times, from speaking for or from the organization.

Member conduct at ACSD events

At all ACSD events, be it an adopt-a-crag, member meeting, fundraiser, membership drive, etc., members are expected to act in a courteous and professional manner at all times. AT NO TIME will the ACSD tolerate behavior that is intimidating, rude, threatening, harmful, etc. Participating in or starting such behavior will result in IMMEDIATE DISQUALIFICATION of your membership.

How can I be more involved

We have many committees that you can participate in if you wish to be more involved. If this is something you would like to do, please contact the Committee Overseer who will direct you to the appropriate committee chairperson.

Upholding the mission statement, acting as responsible stewards and staying informed on all sides of the issues, are the best ways members can represent ACSD in the public eye. ACSD needs your support to endure into the future. By being a responsible member who always acts in the best interest of the ACSD and the outdoor community at large, you help to ensure that we will be around for many generations to come.

Thank You!

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