

# USA Climbing Medical Committee

## Charter for Committee Organization and Operation (Effective July 29, 2020)

**Article 1. Name.** The name of this committee is the USA Climbing Medical Committee (the “Committee”).

**Article 2. Purpose.** The Medical Committee is an Advisory Committee whose members are appointed by the Board of Directors (the “Board”) of USA Climbing, in accordance with Article 9 of the USA Climbing Bylaws (the “Bylaws”).

**Article 3. Committee Duties and Responsibilities** Under the supervision of the Chief Executive Officer (the “CEO”) and the Board, the Committee shall assist and support the development, implementation, and evaluation of medical-related programs for USA Climbing, including, but not limited to, Paraclimbing classification and care, injury reporting protocol and review, athlete development protocols, and creation of policies and procedures for care of all USA Climbing athletes. The committee will use a multidisciplinary approach to develop and implement policies and protocols designed for athlete safety in all aspects of medical care.

Specifically:

1. The Committee will identify, solicit, and conduct research on medical related issues, including mental, dietary, environmental, injury prevention and analysis, paraclimbing, and gender issues.
2. The Committee shall recommend to the CEO and the Board any policies and procedures for athlete safety and well-being within USA Climbing.
3. The Committee will work with the Rules Committee and staff to assist in the creation of fair, equitable, and medically appropriate rules for the health and well-being of all athletes.
4. In conjunction with the Paraclimbing Classification Task Force work on the development and implementation of classification systems, processes, and procedures.
5. Work cooperatively with other Committees, Task Forces and Working Groups as needed.
6. The Committee may work collaboratively with other National Governing Bodies or International organizations in the advancement of medical guidelines for the sport.
7. Develop and implement a comprehensive climbing specific injury reporting and analysis system to obtain, analyze, and interpret scientific injury data to reduce risk through possible rules and guidelines.
8. Identify and train a robust pool of classifiers and support personnel to advance the paraclimbing movement.
9. In cooperation with USAC’s Education Manager provide current information on medical topics through the development of a medical handbook and distribution of medical newsletters, briefs, and updates.
10. Each Committee member must disclose to the full Committee the existence and nature of any conflicts of interest with respect to a matter being considered by the Committee (“Interested Member”), and Interested Members shall not participate in any consideration of, or vote regarding, such matter, and such matter shall be decided upon a majority vote, subject to a quorum, of those members present and participating who are not Interested Members.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Committee may request the participation of the Interested Member in discussions in order to obtain additional information from the Interested Member.

11. Each year, on or about June 1 or by such other date as requested by the Board, the Committee shall deliver to the Board an annual written report, outlining the Committee's accomplishments, plans, challenges, and suggestions.

#### **Article 4. Committee Meetings and Actions**

1. The Committee shall endeavor to have at least four meetings per year as scheduled by the Chair taking input from other members, and such other meetings as necessary to conduct the Committee's business. Meetings may be in person, via teleconference, or by other electronic means, with the Chair or the Chair's delegate circulating any necessary materials for review. The Committee shall endeavor that at least one meeting per year should be in person. Meetings dates when determined may be documented on USAClimbing.org.
2. When specific recommendations are required or asked of the Committee, decision on those recommendations may be made via email, teleconference, or other electronic means.
3. The quorum for transaction of business is more than half of the Committee members. Effort should be made for all Committee members to be present for the transaction of any business.
4. The Committee shall follow basic rules of parliamentary procedure in conducting meetings when practicable. The Chair, or the Chair's delegate, shall generally call to order each meeting, review past meeting's minutes, discuss unfinished business, followed by new business, endeavoring to welcome all members' voices and opinions.
5. A majority vote of those Committee members present or participating is necessary to transact any business brought before the Committee.
6. Minutes of Committee meetings documenting business discussed and any official Committee votes shall be submitted to the CEO or to the CEO's designee, who shall maintain them at USA Climbing. Votes taken electronically without a meeting should be memorialized in the same manner at USA Climbing, or should be ratified at the next Committee meeting and documented in the meeting minutes. At the request of the Committee, the CEO will post or cause to be posted this Charter and/or the approved minutes on the Coaching page on USAClimbing.org.

**Article 5. Committee Composition** The Committee shall be composed of up to fifteen (15) members. The designation of Committee Chair from among the Committee members shall be made by the Board. Two (2) members of the Committee shall be reserved for USA Climbing's official Medical Provider if named.

The members of the Committee shall be members of USA Climbing and shall meet the following criteria:

1. At least twenty percent (20%) of the members must be "Athletes" as defined under the Bylaws.
2. The remaining members shall be in medical fields (which may include medical, physical therapy, and psychological fields and may include clinicians and research professionals), preferably from a diverse range of specialties.

The Board and the CEO may designate for the Committee one or more non-voting Board Liaison(s) and Staff Liaison(s) to assist the Committee and to facilitate communication among the Committee, the Board, and USA Climbing staff.

**Article 6. Tenure**

The term of office for a member of the Committee shall be two (2) years, or such shorter term as desirable for a staggered set of terms. Procedures for the removal of USA Climbing Committee members are detailed in the Bylaws.

1. Membership Terms. Committee members shall be appointed to staggered terms to the extent practicable.
2. Term Limits. No member of the Committee shall serve more than three (3) consecutive terms but may be re-appointed after a one-term absence. If an appointment is for less than one year, that appointment shall not constitute a term for term limit purposes. If an appointment is for one year or longer, it shall be considered a complete term for term limit purposes.

**Article 7. Nomination and Recommendation of Committee Members**

1. Nominations for consideration for the Committee shall be solicited by the Committee, Executive Staff, the Nominating and Governance Committee (the "NGC") or the Board approximately two (2) months prior to the conclusion of any member's (or members') term(s) if practicable. The NGC will assist the Board and the CEO in recommending candidates for selection.

**Article 8. Amendments to Charter.** Amendments to this Charter may be made (1) by the Board, or (2) by the Board upon the recommendation of the Committee stating the proposed changes. A two-thirds majority vote of Committee members is required in order to propose any change(s) to the Board for approval.

**Article 9. USAC Commitment to Diversity.** USA Climbing encourages all to participate. Members of the Board, committees, working groups, and task forces are selected without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, or gender identity. USA Climbing is committed to providing equal opportunity to amateur athletes, coaches, trainers, managers, administrators, and officials to participate in climbing competitions without discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation or gender identity, or national origin. Diversity at all levels of USA Climbing is desirable, including among the membership of the Board, Committees, Task Forces and Working Groups, and among its athletes. Open discussion and the presentation of a diversity of views is encouraged.

**Article 10. Conflicts.** In the event of any conflict between this Charter and the Bylaws, the Bylaws shall control.