

# **Cascade Backcountry Alliance**

## **BYLAWS**

### **ARTICLE I – MISSION AND GOALS**

#### *Section 1.1: Mission:*

The Cascade Backcountry Alliance (CBA)'s mission is to protect and improve access for winter backcountry users in the Pacific Northwest.

#### *Definition:*

Throughout this document, when we refer to “user group” or “users”, we are referring to human-powered winter backcountry users: skiers, snowboarders, climbers, winter hikers, and snowshoers.

#### *Section 1.2: Goals:*

##### **Representation**

- Represent the needs, preferences, and concerns of winter backcountry users in discussions with land management agencies and other relevant groups.
- Develop relationships with ski areas and represent our users in discussions about parking, backcountry access, and avalanche management.
- Represent backcountry users when communicating with other recreational user groups. Create partnerships and work effectively in these partnerships.
- Engage in dialogue with community members about access issues. Empower community members to be advocates.

##### **Access**

- Advocate for the expansion of strategic winter recreation access points with land management agencies. Explain user needs and access issues facing backcountry winter recreators.
- Work with ski areas, land managers, and private landowners to protect access. Develop solutions to conflicts arising from increased user demands for winter recreation on public lands.
- Propose and execute terrain improvements that improve access for backcountry users while being respectful of the environment.
- Advocate for public transportation that benefits winter backcountry users.

##### **Education**

- Inform the public about winter backcountry recreation opportunities and access points.
- Promote safe enjoyment of the winter backcountry.
- Educate users about proper backcountry etiquette to reduce user conflict.

- Keep the community informed about current land management planning decisions affecting winter recreation.
- Provide resources for entry level backcountry users that encourage responsible backcountry access.

## **ARTICLE II – MEMBERSHIP**

*Section 2.1:* The CBA is currently not a membership based organization.

## **ARTICLE III – BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

*Section 3.1:* CBA is a Washington non-profit organization, governed by an elected Board of Directors (“Board”) consisting of no less than four, nor more than thirteen, duly elected members in good standing.

*Section 3.2:* A quorum (over 50%) is required at each Board Meeting to conduct business.

*Section 3.3:* Within the Board, there is an Executive Committee, consisting of no less than four, nor more than six, elected members.

*Section 3.4:* The responsibility of the Executive Committee includes: meeting logistics, decision making, governance, and finances. The Executive Committee should seek consensus on all decisions.

*Section 3.5:* Members of the Executive Committee should not have any conflict of interest that could incentivize the member to make decisions that do not benefit the greater organization.

*Section 3.6:* The responsibility of the greater Board includes: fundraising, membership management, volunteer coordination, ensuring transparent and ethical behavior, and external relationship management. The greater Board acts as consultants to the Executive Committee for making decisions.

*Section 3.7:* Board Election: The President will appoint the initial Board Members. From thereon, Board Members are elected for a two-year term. There will be two Board cohorts. Board terms should be staggered so half of the Board is up for reelection each year. Board elections will generally occur in October each year. A Board Member is elected if a majority of existing Board Members in the opposite cohort approve. A Board Member may stand for reelection and serve more terms if duly elected. There are no term limits to the Board. They can be elected to the Board at any monthly meeting, but if they are not elected at the October meeting, their term will terminate at the October meeting that is less than two years but greater than one year away.

*Section 3.8:* Executive Committee Election: The Executive Committee members are elected by the greater Board for a two year term. At the October Board Meeting, after the Board Election (and after Officer Elections on even calendar years - see Section 3.12), newly elected or reelected Board Members may be nominated for the Executive Committee by another member of the Board. An Executive Committee Member is elected if the majority of the Board approves of them. An Executive Committee Member may stand for reelection and serve more terms if duly elected. There are no term limits to the Executive Committee. If a person is elected to the Board at a different monthly meeting, then they can be considered for the Executive Committee at that moment. If elected, their term would end when their Board term ends.

*Section 3.9:* Board members are expected to attend monthly Board Meetings during the active season (September through May) and other Board meetings as scheduled by the Board President.

*Section 3.10:* A Board Member who misses four consecutive meetings may be removed. A Board Member can voluntarily withdraw. If that Board Member was an Officer, then there should be an Officer election for that position at the next Board Meeting.

*Section 3.11:* A Board member may take a leave of absence when needed from their position. If the leave is longer than one month, the Executive Committee must approve of the leave, and may ask for a temporary replacement to fulfill duties needed. An Officer may take a leave of absence when needed; however if the leave is longer than one month they must find a replacement to fulfill their duties.

*Section 3.12:* The officers of the Board; the President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer, are elected by the Board Members to a two year term. Elections will occur at the October meeting on even calendar years. Candidates must be nominated by another Board Member. Each Board Member can vote for only one candidate for each position. If there are multiple candidates for a position, the candidate that receives the most votes will win. An Officer may stand for reelection and serve more terms if duly elected, but a Board Member can only serve two consecutive terms in a position before stepping down for at least one term. After stepping down for one term, they may run again.

*Section 3.13:* In cases of a tie in voting, no decision can be made. The voting members need to re-vote until there is not a tie.

*Section 3.14:* Officers are by default part of the Executive Committee. If an Officer term overlaps with the timed reelection of the Board Member (i.e. they are in the odd year cohort) then they get automatic reelection to the Board so that they can finish their term as an Officer.

*Section 3.15:* As of April 02 2023, the current Board Members and Executive Committee Members are:

President: Kyle McCrohan

Vice President: Madelynn Scherrer

Secretary: Daniel Bolliger

Treasurer: Jerome Drescher

## **ARTICLE IV - VOTING**

*Section 4.1:* Within the Board, only the Executive Committee has voting power on topics outside of elections.

*Section 4.2:* The Executive Committee votes by Consensus vote.

*Section 4.3:* Votes on decisions can be made in person, or on a virtual video call. Votes on decisions can not be made by any other method.

*Section 4.4:* When voting people into their positions (Board, Executive Committee, or Officers), the vote can be made in person, on a virtual video call, or via email.

## **ARTICLE V – OFFICER DUTIES AND TERMS**

*Section 5.1:* The President shall hold office for a two-year term with a term limit of two consecutive terms. The President shall direct and administer the affairs of the CBA as its executive head. The President shall supervise all phases of organization activity in cooperation with the Board.

*Section 5.2:* The Vice-President assists the President to carry out organization activities. They hold a two year term with a term limit of two consecutive terms. In the absence of the President, the Vice-President carries out the duties and responsibilities of the President.

*Section 5.3:* The Secretary shall keep a record of CBA proceedings, minutes, and noteworthy activities. They hold a two year term with a term limit of two consecutive terms.

*Section 5.4:* The Treasurer shall have custody of CBA funds. They hold a two year term with a term limit of two consecutive terms. Duties of the Treasurer include disbursement of such funds as instructed by the Executive Committee and/or included in the annual budget, preparation and distribution of periodic treasurer reports, preparation and distribution of an annual report, and supervision of the development of an annual budget. The Treasurer works closely with the President and the Executive Committee to meet the report requirements.

The President, the Vice-President, the Secretary, and the Treasurer are authorized to sign checks.

## **ARTICLE VI – STANDING COMMITTEES**

*Section 6.1:* CBA will have Standing Committees and ad-hoc committees as determined by the Board for specific purposes. The Executive Committee will appoint standing Committee Chairpersons. There must be at least one Board member in the Committee Chairpersons. A Committee Chair can be removed by the Executive Committee. Committees can include other volunteers not part of the Board.

## **ARTICLE VII – MEETINGS**

*Section 7.1:* Unless changed by the Executive Committee, the Board meetings will be held each month during the active season (September through May).

*Section 7.2:* The board meeting in October is deemed the annual Fall meeting for the purpose of Board Election, Officer Election (on even calendar years), and Executive Committee Election.

*Section 7.3:* Special meetings may be called by the Executive Committee.

## **ARTICLE VIII – COMMITMENTS**

*Section 8.1:* CBA shall not enter into any legally binding commitment without authorization to do so from the Executive Committee.

## **ARTICLE IX – AMENDMENTS**

*Section 9.1:* The bylaws may be amended by a consensus of the Executive Committee after following the process outlined in Section 9.2.

*Section 9.2:* The bylaws amendment approval process shall consist of three steps:

- The Executive Committee will develop the contents for one or more amendments or revisions;
- The proposed changes will then be discussed at the next Board Meeting with solicitation for comments and suggestions from Board Members and additional revisions will be made if needed;
- The bylaws amendments or revisions become effective on the date of the final vote of approval from the Executive Committee.

**Effective Date:** These bylaws shall become effective as of 4-08-23.

**Signed by:**                     *Kim*                     President

                    *[Signature]*                     Vice-President

                    *[Signature]*                     Secretary

                    *[Signature]*                     Treasurer