**AMA Off Duty Meet Policy**

**Date 27/1/25**

**Authors: Vice Chair AMA, Hd Safety AMA**

**Informed by the RMRMMA & RAFMA meets policy**

**What?**

All members of the AMA can attend, both serving and non serving. By allowing seasoned mountaineers and climbers who are retired from the forces to maintain an ongoing association and active participation within the club is extremely valuable for grass roots development, especially in activities for which there is no substitute for long years of experience.

**Who?**

The Meet will compose of a Meet Organiser and a Meet Technical Advisor for each meet.

The **Meet Organiser** is in charge of admin, logistics etc and sourcing a suitably qualified Meet Technical Advisor. The Meet Organiser and the Technical Advisor can be the same person if they meet both crtieria for the roles.

The **Meet Technical Advisor**, for summer meets, needs to hold a military or NGB qualification in multi pitch summer rock climbing and, if the area is mountainous, Summer ML.

**How?**

Off Duty Meets will be coordinated by the AMA Meets lead.

Off Duty Meets will not use the UAAT or JSATFA process and not use any MOD public money. Off Duty Meets will attract AMA non public funding in a similar fashion to AMA On Duty Meets.

**All AMA Off Duty Meets will be subject to a generic risk assessment that will be briefed to all attendees at an Off Duty Meet**

**Daily risk assessments, similar to the standard JSMTC ones, will be carried out by the MTA and Meet Organiser** jointly for proposed activity and the paperwork is completed and held for 3 years available if requested by the AMA Committee. **The aim of the daily risk assessments will be to ensure the MTA & MO know where all personnel are during the day, possess their contact details and also confirm that individuals operate as equals and the appropriateness of an activity** is professionally judged by the MTA on an individual basis according to logbook experience, ability and currency. Conversations usually happen the night before the activity based on forecasts and a quick confirmation is done the following morning to check nothing has changed overnight.

**Each climbing or walking team/pair are to have a first aid kit and means of communication to summon assistance if required.**

**There are no restrictions on mandated qualifications to qualify for attendance at summer meets.**

**All members of the club can climb together as equals, regardless of whether they are serving or civilian, and there will be no distinguishing between classes of membership providing everyone operates under the same.** In that way there is no risk of a serving member being regarded as in charge of the group by default as everyone operates as equals under the oversight of the MTA.

All attendees should be aware of the BMC [participant statement](https://jive.defencegateway.mod.uk/external-link.jspa?url=https%3A%2F%2Fservices.thebmc.co.uk%2Frisk-and-safety) “The BMC recognises that climbing and mountaineering are activities with a danger of personal injury or death. Participants in these activities should be aware of and accept these risks and be responsible for their own actions.”

The meet is only open to AMA Members over 18 due to safe guarding.

**AMA Event Cancellation Policy**

The following policy is necessary due to a recent spate of people withdrawing from AMA events at short notice, costing the AMA and disadvantaging other AMA members who could have attended with more notice.

**Cancellation by AMA Member**

All cancellations must be in writing and sent by email to the organiser of the AMA event. Correspondence by phone message is encouraged but does not replace an email being necessary. The event organiser will endeavour to acknowledge a cancellation within 5 days of receiving it. Until the AMA member has received confirmation it is to be assumed that the he/she is expected on the event.

The AMA understand that priorities and commitments can change. The email from the AMA member should explain the reason for the cancellation.

The SP may be charged on the following basis:

* Any deposits are non-refundable.
* If event fees are relevant, then 50% of the total event fee if cancellation takes place less than 4 weeks but more than 2 weeks before the commencement of the event; or
* 100% of the total event fee where cancellation takes place within the period of 2 weeks before the commencement date of the event or commencement date of the event.
* 100% of the total event fee if you book a course that has stated pre-requisites but you do not meet those pre-requisites or have failed to register for a awarding body despite the joining instructions or ticket information stating that you must pre-register.

**Cancellation by the AMA / Organiser**

It is extremely rare for the AMA to cancel events. Whilst every attempt is made to ensure that events actually run, the AMA will notify AMA members of cancellation as soon as practicable where it believes on reasonable grounds that cancellation is necessary due to a lack of numbers, dangerous and/or unsuitable conditions for the event, or any other reason. This will be at the earliest possible opportunity. In the event of cancellation by the AMA, members will be offered a full refund of anything paid.