

BRITISH ASSOCIATION OF MOUNTAIN GUIDES

CODE OF PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT

This Code of Professional Conduct outlines the roles and obligations of a Guide in the execution of his/her profession, and it forms the basis on which the Professional Standards Committee may act. Together with the BMG Guidelines to which it refers, it is on the BMG website under Members Area – Documents of the Association.

The term Guide refers to any category of BMG membership.

Article 1 Accident and Complaints Procedures. A Guide complies with the BMG's Accident and Complaint Procedures.

Article 2 Aspirants. When working with Aspirants, a Guide observes the BMG's Guidelines: Guides Working with Aspirants.

Article 3 Client's Objectives.

- Before starting an engagement, a Guide assesses the client's level of ability, previous experience and objectives
- A Guide tries to encourage a spirit of self-reliance in the client

Article 4 Contract. A Guide agrees a contract with the client, either in writing (preferably) or verbally.

Article 5 Duty of Care. A Guide has a legal duty of care to his/her clients, but also wider professional responsibilities and obligations to mountaineers and mountaineering in general, which in some circumstances may also constitute a legal duty of care.

Article 6 Employment of Others. A Guide observes the BMG's Guidelines on How Guides Employ Others.

Article 7 Environment. A Guide encourages respect for the environment through advice and personal example.

Article 8 Equipment.

- A Guide ensures that the client is appropriately equipped for the intended activity
- A Guide's own personal equipment is appropriate for the intended activity, is reliable, is periodically checked, and meets any manufacturers' maintenance guidelines

Article 9 Field of Competence.

- A Guide's Field of Competence includes the core skills of all mountain disciplines in all seasons, in all environments, worldwide; on foot, ski or snowboard; the climbing of rock, snow and ice indoors and out; and related activities carried out in other industries associated with and appropriate to a Guide's skills and training
- A Guide advises, coaches, instructs and leads clients
- Trainee and Aspirant Guides are limited to those activities for which they have successfully completed the relevant sections of the BMG Training and Assessment Scheme

Article 10 General Obligations. A Guide upholds the status of the profession and is mindful of the consequent obligations and issues of professional integrity at all times.

Article 11 Insurance. A Guide has civil liability insurance as required by the BMG.

Article 12 Logos. A Guide observes the BMG's Guidelines on the use of BMG and IFMGA logos.

Article 13 Other Mountain Users.

- A Guide is friendly and helpful to other Guides and mountaineers
- If asked for help or information from another mountaineer, a Guide is polite and helpful
- A Guide informs the relevant authorities of any abnormal events or hazards observed
- A Guide tries to have a friendly relationship with other mountain users (e.g. ski patrol, mountain rescue, lift operators, park wardens etc)
- A Guide respects the relationship between other guides and their clients, and between employing agencies and their clients

Article 14 Ratios. When working with clients, a Guide decides the appropriate number of participants taking into account safety, the terms of the engagement, any customs as to ratios, and any regulation or legislation observed by local guides. Where it exists, the established practice of local IFMGA guides is followed.

Article 15 Risk.

- A Guide recognises that, in mountain guiding, there is an element of variable risk
- A Guide makes sure that the client is aware of any likely risks
- A Guide is always careful and alert
- In matters of safety, all decisions are made by the Guide

Article 16 Rescue. Where others are injured, a Guide's primary responsibility is with his/her own clients. Subject to that, and where

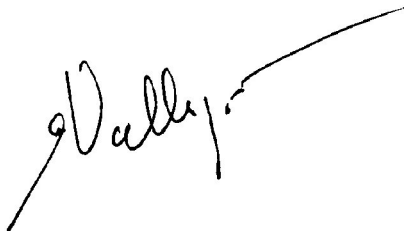
possible, a Guide helps other injured climbers and if necessary alerts Mountain Rescue.

Article 17 Snow + Avalanche and Weather Forecasts and Conditions.

- Where appropriate, a Guide obtains snow + avalanche and weather forecasts
- Where appropriate, a Guide assesses relevant snow + avalanche and weather conditions
- A Guide establishes the condition of the proposed route/itinerary as appropriate

Article 18 Young People. When working with young people, a Guide is fully aware of relevant legislation and guidelines, and adheres to them.

Revised 2011

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dally", with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right from the end of the signature.