



2019 **ANNUAL REPORT**



UIAA International Climbing and Mountaineering Federation
UNION INTERNATIONALE DES ASSOCIATIONS D'ALPINISME

THE GLOBAL MOUNTAIN NETWORK

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THE GLOBAL MOUNTAIN NETWORK

*The **International Climbing and Mountaineering Federation** (UIAA) was founded in 1932 and has a global presence on six continents representing 89 member associations and federations in 66 countries.*

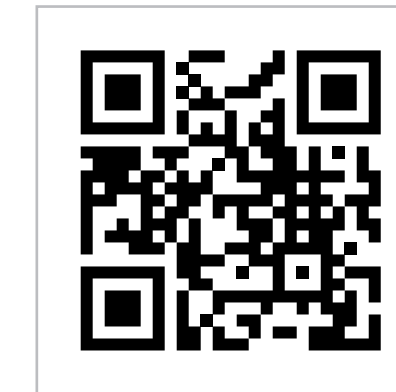
The UIAA, supported by over 150 volunteers, promotes the growth and protection of mountaineering and climbing worldwide by:

- **preserving** their spirit and traditions
- **advancing** safe and ethical mountain practices
- **promoting** responsible access, culture and environmental protection
- **supporting** youth participation and the Olympic movement

The UIAA fulfils its Mission Statement mainly through the work of its Commissions, which make recommendations, set policy and advocate on behalf of the international mountaineering community. UIAA Commissions are comprised of experts in their field.

The UIAA operates through the following Commissions: [Anti-Doping](#), [Ice Climbing](#), [Medical](#), [Mountaineering \(including Access & Training\)](#), [Mountain Protection](#), [Safety](#) and [Youth](#).

Further Reading: theuiaa.org/about



theuiaa.org/members

This document is best viewed in a digital format. To view or download the document online please scan the QR code.

UIAA MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEMBERS

As confirmed by the UIAA General Assembly (November, 2019)

Executive Board

Frits VRIJLANDT (President), Netherlands

Zoljargal BANZRAGCH (Vice President), Mongolia

Lode BECKERS (General Secretary), Belgium

Peter MUIR (Treasurer), Canada

Helène DENIS, France

Mahmood HASHEMI, Iran

Yongfeng WANG, China

Largest Federation Representatives

Juan Garrigos i TORO, Spain

Francoise JAQUET, Switzerland

Josef KLENNER, Germany

Continental Representatives

Africa: Greg MOSELEY, South Africa

Asia: Christine PAE, Korea

Central and South America: Martin LASCANO, Argentina

Europe: Anne ARRAN, United Kingdom

Oceania: Stuart GRAY, New Zealand

North America: Peter MUIR, Canada (interim)

Representative Members

Simon ALDEN, Malta

Amit CHOWDHURY, India

Jochem DRIESSEN, Netherlands

Georges ELZIERE, France

Reza ZAREI, Iran



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear member associations, partners and friends of the UIAA,

We are delighted to present you with the 2019 Annual Report. This document – available both in digital and print format – provides a valuable insight into the dedicated work of UIAA Commissions, our collaboration with partners and member associations, the current strategic direction of the UIAA, the role of the federation as the global network for climbing and mountaineering and the numerous benefits provided to UIAA members.

Our key gathering in 2019 was the UIAA General Assembly in Larnaca, Cyprus which was expertly hosted by the Cyprus Mountaineering Climbing & Orienteering Federation.

As communicated during the GA, the UIAA continues to represent the interests of its members on a global scale through close partnerships with numerous major organisations including the IOC, departments of the United Nations and Sport Accord.

Throughout this report you will read numerous examples of the outstanding work spearheaded by our Commissions and the progress made in key areas.

Led by the work of the Mountain Protection Commission, who celebrated its half century in 2019, both the Mountain Protection Award and the revamped Respect the Mountains campaign continue to go from strength to strength. The partnership recently announced with a prestigious sponsor, Bally, for the 2020 and

2021 MPAs, will add even greater exposure to the work showcased as part of this magnificent project. In 2019, the Commission also spearheaded the UIAA's first Carbon Footprint Report and produced a statement on Climate Change. The topic of climate change is a hugely significant subject at present. The UIAA has a longstanding history as a major player in the combat against global warming.

The UIAA leads the way in climber safety through the work of both its Safety Commission (SafeCom) and Medical Commission (MedCom). In 2019, significant time and resources have been invested by SafeCom into anchor corrosion testing.

The 2018-2019 UIAA Ice Climbing World Tour, partnered by Outdoor Research, was the largest and most viewed to date. Meanwhile, the UIAA Global Youth events continue to thrive with six events held in Europe and Asia helping to encourage and educate the next generation of mountain enthusiasts.

Our desire is to further strengthen the UIAA to become *the* global platform for all aspects of climbing and mountaineering. This can only be achieved by working together. Addressing our main concerns as a collective is essential whether related to free access, mountain protection, the development of mountaineering, youth engagement and promoting training and safe practices.

The UIAA also lobbied on a number of subjects including the issues surrounding the 2019 Everest climbing season and proposals to build a cableway on Kilimanjaro.

The UIAA family is made up of a number of talented and dedicated people who give valuable time and expertise to the federation, all because they believe in the organisation and what it represents. A significant amount of volunteer time across the Executive Board, Management Committee and Commissions is

dedicated each and every day. I take this opportunity to thank all our volunteers who with the support of the Office have ensured that the UIAA has made tremendous progress over the past twelve months.

Finally, 2020 marks the final year of my Presidency. It has been an honour and privilege to serve an organisation close to my heart. One thing that remains clear is that there is very much a need for the UIAA as a global organisation. We must continue to strive to work harder, address the concerns and promote the needs of our members and to reposition the UIAA as a progressive and modern organisation of the 21st century. I am proud of the work we have all achieved, together, and am positive that our new enthusiastic Board Members – elected at the recent GA – will embrace this philosophy.

To this end, dialogue is essential. The UIAA is always available to you, its members. We will continue to serve you and your interests.

Yours in climbing and mountaineering,



WELCOME MESSAGE BY

FRITS VRIJLANDT
UIAA President

UIAA PRESIDENTS

1932-1964	Count Charles Egmond d'Arcis
1965-1968	Edouard Wyss-Dunant
1968-1972	Albert Eggler
1973-1976	Jean Juge
1976-1984	Pierre Bossus
1985-1989	Carlo Sganzi
1990-1995	Pietro Segantini
1995-2004	Ian McNaught-Davis
2004-2005	Alan Blackshaw
2005-2006	Pierre Humblet (acting)
2007-2011	Mike Mortimer
2011-2012	Jordi Colomer (acting)
2012-	Frits Vrijlandt

Executive Review

THE UIAA IN 2019

A year delivering diverse projects, initiatives and events at the UIAA witnessed significant activity across the federation's three pillars of safety, sport and sustainability, thanks to the endeavours of its Commissions, Management Committee, Executive Board and Office based in Bern.

Highlights include the UIAA's increased commitment to global advocacy and supporting causes of concern to its member associations, the evolution of the Mountain Protection Award and Respect the Mountains projects, the continued success, and record breaking figures enjoyed by the UIAA World Ice Climbing Tour.

Given its current resonance, a particular highlight has been the UIAA's commitment and focus on the topic of climate change, with the publication

of the UIAA's first Carbon Footprint Calculation as well as the organisation being recognised by the IOC for its commitment to sustainability. The UIAA also continues to promote and lead the way in the issue of safety standards, where the current focus is dedicated to anchor corrosion research. While a new strategy is developed in 2020, the UIAA will continue to deliver tangible benefits to its members, and act on the valuable feedback received from delegates during the 2019 General Assembly.

JANUARY

ANCHOR CORROSION PROJECT GATHERS MOMENTUM

The year began with the publication of details related to the advancements made by the UIAA Safety Commission in terms of their [anchor corrosion project](#). This included the publication of a [Google Map](#) of known corrosion locations.

Commission members and external experts have invested significant time and resources into collecting data from climbers and running analysis of samples of faulty anchors. The map provides an informative guide and reference point for climbers as to the known current location of where corrosion has been logged. To aid this research, a dedicated form has been made available for climbers to share information regarding corrosion and failed anchors.

The 2019 UIAA [Ice Climbing Tour](#) began in earnest with a World Cup event in Cheongsong, South Korea. There were further competitions in Beijing, China and a special occasion in Saas-Fee, Switzerland, which celebrated its 20th anniversary of hosting the event. The competition in [Beijing](#), in particular proved enthralling. There were historic medals in women's lead event for Eimir McSwiggan of Ireland and Enni Bertling of Finland, while in the men's event, Nathan Clair of France claimed a silver medal.

A feature was published on mountain access in [South Africa](#) and the role of the Mountain Club Of South Africa (MCSA), the first UIAA member in Africa. The article covered the many hiking, mountaineering, rock

climbing and bouldering opportunities which can be enjoyed within the country.

Applications opened for the 2019 UIAA [Rock Climbing Festival Award](#) with a focus on the promotion of events in Asia. The Award offers 2,500 USD in prize money as well as the opportunity to work closely with the UIAA and benefit from the expertise of its different Commissions.

The UIAA published the latest in its line of articles promoting MedCom's high-altitude [Medical Papers](#) - focusing on information related to pre-existing medical conditions. The paper paid particular attention to a number of specific conditions, ranging from respiratory issues such as chronic bronchitis and other lung conditions.



FEBRUARY

RECORD CROWDS IN DENVER

The UIAA Ice Climbing World Tour concluded with an exhilarating event in [Denver](#) which was watched by record breaking crowds. The 25,000 fans who attended the two-day event represent not only the largest ever in the World Tour's history but also make it one of the most well-spectated climbing events of all time. The overall World Tour winners were Maria Tolokonina (RUS, women's lead), Ekaterina Koshcheeva (RUS, women's speed), Nikolai Kuzovlev (RUS, men's lead) and Anton Nemov (RUS, men's speed).

During January and early February, representatives of the UIAA visited both the Asian and European editions of the annual [ISPO trade shows](#). Mountain protection was the focus of the UIAA's visit to ISPO Munich.

At the 2018 UIAA General Assembly, the International Slacklining Association (ISA) was voted in as a member of the UIAA. In a dedicated [feature](#), the UIAA focused on the organisation's evolution, role and future aspirations.

The [UIAA Alpine Skills Series](#) returned with a guide on which knot to use when joining two ropes. This extract comes from the Climbing section of the UIAA Alpine Summer Skills Handbook.

MARCH

NEW FOCUS FOR RESPECT THE MOUNTAINS

The month began with applications opening for the UIAA's [Mountain Protection Award](#). Since 2013, the initiative has showcased 106 projects from over 30 countries. The platform has enabled initiatives to receive international recognition and much-needed funding.

The [2019 UIAA Ice Climbing World Youth Championships](#) were held in Oulu, Finland. Winners included Swiss athletes Yannick Glatthard and Sina Goetz, who took their impressive World Tour form into the Youth Championships claiming lead gold in the U22 age group. A total of 84 athletes from ten countries competed across three categories.

Meanwhile, the [UIAA Ice Climbing World Championships](#) were held in Kirov, Russia. Nikolai Kuzovlev added the world title to his overall lead World Tour victory. Vladislav Iurlov took the men's speed title, while in the women's event there were gold medals for Woonseon Shin of South Korea and Maria Tolokonina of Russia in the lead and speed events respectively.

There was the sad news to report - the death of British climber, and one-time UIAA Ice Climbing athlete [Tom Ballard](#) who died in Pakistan alongside Italian climbing partner Daniele Nardi.

The UIAA was one of number of international bodies who took part in a [climate change workshop](#) hosted by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) in Switzerland. All of those attending expressed their intention to

sign the Sports for Climate Action Framework.

The first event of the UIAA's [2019 UIAA Global Youth Series](#) was held in Guillestre, near Briançon in the French Alps.

There was an appeal – supported by the UIAA – from the [Slovakian Mountaineering Association](#) to help with its initiative to reject the new State Nature Conservation Authorities visiting policy for the Tatra Mountains which is increasingly restricting access with regards the activities of tourists, skiers and mountaineers.

APRIL

UIAA SUPPORTS PREMIERE OF FREE SOLO

The UIAA and the [German Alpine Club \(DAV\)](#) teamed up to produce a series of [ten videos](#) designed to help improve climber's belay technique. Originally produced by the DAV, the videos have been translated into English following collaboration with the UIAA Safety Commission and UIAA Training Panel.

The UIAA celebrated the [International Day of Sport for Development and Peace](#) on 6 April calling on the action and direct involvement of its member associations and their individual members, athletes, climbers and mountaineers. #WhiteCard, Champions for Peace and IOC Ambassador Programme for Climate Change were chosen as initiatives to support and explore.

The premiere of [Free Solo](#), winner of the Best Documentary at the 91st Academy Awards was held in Switzerland on 9 April. The documentary focuses on Alex Honnold's daring attempt to climb El Capitan free solo in June 2017. The UIAA partnered the Swiss release of the film.

The British Mountaineering Council (BMC) [launched](#) its Hills to Oceans Campaign which focused on litter picking to help reduce the amount of debris and rubbish in the oceans. The BMC launched a number of clean-up events throughout Britain.

The UIAA Mountaineering Commission met in [Serbia](#) on 30-31 March. The meeting, which was hosted by the Mountaineering Association of Serbia (MAS) and Sport and Tourism Faculty (TIMS), was attended by 18 delegates from 12 different countries. In response to the developing strategy of the UIAA, a number of new projects will be carried out by MountCom which will sustain and enhance its value within and beyond the UIAA.

MAY

UIAA HOSTS SPRING MEETINGS

Hosted by the Malta Climbing Club (MCC), the [UIAA held its spring meetings](#) which provided an opportunity for close collaboration between various organs of the UIAA – notably Management Committee, Commissions, Office as well as representatives from member associations. Three Commission meetings – Access, Ice Climbing and Safety – also took place.

The UIAA issued a [statement](#) regarding the recent fatalities on Mount Everest. The majority of incidents during the 2019 climbing season occurred due to mass overcrowding on the southern route on the Nepalese side of the mountain. The UIAA called for all stakeholders to engage in urgent dialogue to work towards a safer and more sustainable approach to climbing on Everest.

This year's Mountain Protection Commission meeting took place in Baku, Azerbaijan. Among other matters discussed were an environmental footprint calculation and sustainability guidelines for UIAA events. Confirmation of the UIAA signing of the [UNFCCC's Sports for Climate Action Framework](#) was communicated, with Dr Carolina Adler, MPC President, suggesting the idea of proposing a "mountain" working group in collaboration with other federations and organisations that have also signed up to this UNFCCC initiative.

This year marked the [40th anniversary](#) of the first Slovenian ascent of Mount Everest. The Alpine Association of Slovenia (PZS) celebrated these milestone achievements of Slovenian alpinism with a series of special events.

The latest in the series of Alpine Skills was published, featuring advice on to [how to secure the crux of a rope](#).

The UIAA attended the 2019 edition of [Sport Accord](#) in Queensland, Australia. Represented by President Frits Vrijlandt, the UIAA discussed a wide variety of subjects from competition ice climbing, global advocacy to the UIAA's projects in sustainability. The UIAA was also able to discuss steps for Ice Climbing to potentially become part of the Winter Olympics competition programme.

There was a comprehensive feature on what was another successful and highly entertaining [UIAA Ice Climbing World Tour](#).



JUNE

DONATE PROJECT LAUNCHED

The Chinese Taipei Mountaineering Association (CTMA) celebrated its [50th anniversary](#). The CTMA was founded on June 1969 in Taipei by General Yang Shen and some elite mountaineers of the time. Its original mission was to promote hiking, mountaineering and cross-country within the country and beyond, to study the science of mountaineering, and represent the individuals who engaged in these activities. The UIAA was honoured to be part of the celebrations and represented by Vice President Thomas Kähr.

The UIAA launched its [Donate Project](#) with the intended aim of helping to raise money for mountain related initiatives worldwide. The Donate scheme provides the opportunity to promote projects and causes run by UIAA members and partners. It also allows the UIAA to react more proactively in creating fundraising opportunities following natural disasters or unexpected events.

The UIAA expressed its [concern](#) about the proposal to build a cableway up Kilimanjaro, Africa's highest mountain.

It was brought to the attention of the UIAA that an increasing number of online retailers were selling products falsely bearing the UIAA Safety Label. The UIAA issued advice to climbers that all products can be verified by visiting the dedicated UIAA [database](#).

JULY

AWARD SEASON INTENSIFIES

Nominees for the [UIAA's Rock Climbing Festival Award](#) were announced - festivals from India, Kazakhstan and Korea.

Almost 15 organisations active in over 20 countries submitted details of their projects for the 2019 [Mountain Protection Award](#). The overall MPA winner stands to receive a 5,000 USD cash prize as well as an invitation to present at the UIAA General Assembly in Cyprus, 2 November 2019. [Twelve projects](#) eventually vied to compete for the Award.

The provisional calendar for the [2019-20 UIAA Ice Climbing Tour](#) was launched, with the announcement of a new Chinese venue - Changchun City.

The UIAA continued its regular presence at [ISPO](#) trade fairs attending the event in Munich. This year, a delegation from the UIAA took the opportunity to network with representatives of member associations, brands, sponsors and UIAA Safety Label holders. With an increasing number of manufacturers focusing on promoting sustainable values as well as sustainable products and production, the UIAA is well positioned to present its initiatives and expertise in this area, notably the new format of the worldwide Respect the Mountains Movement.

The month ended with the tragic news of the passing of Slovenian climber [Janez Svoljsak](#). Janez, who was just 25 years of age, died after falling ill at base camp while on an expedition to climb Tahu Rutum, Pakistan. He had been a regular competitor on the UIAA Ice Climbing World Tour.

AUGUST

DAV TURNS 150

[The UIAA published details of the German Alpine Club \(DAV\)'s 150th anniversary celebrations](#). Since it was founded in 1869, the DAV has gone on to accumulate around 1.3 million members in over 350 independent associations making it the world's largest national mountaineering association.

The latest in a series of articles exploring the [history](#) of the UIAA was published. Meanwhile, following the [UIAA's response](#) to the issues affecting Mount Everest and Kilimanjaro, the UIAA Executive Board endorsed the establishment of a Working Group (WG), which will work closely with UIAA Commissions and concerned members, and whose main objective will be to provide consulting services and advice on matters pertaining to the management of the high mountains of the world.

The Oregon-based and family owned outdoor company, [Sunday Afternoons](#) became an official partner for the UIAA's Respect the Mountains project. As an official partner, Sunday Afternoons is committed to raising awareness about the RtM movement and will offer sun-protective headwear for sale at events and tradeshow to raise funds for UIAA sustainability projects.

SEPTEMBER

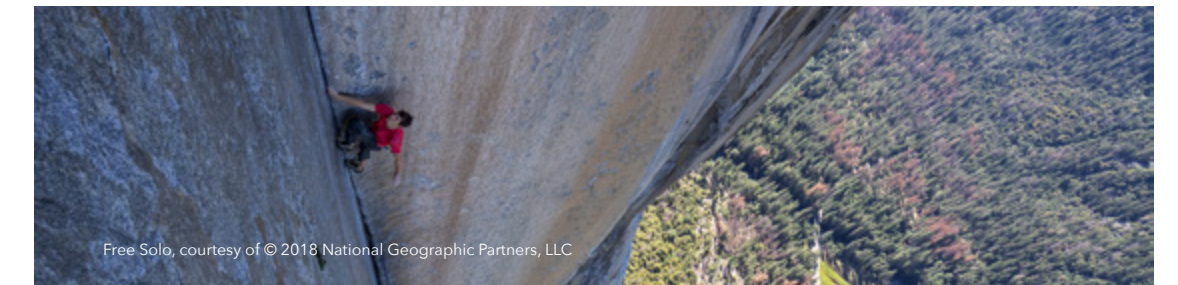
MEMBER NETWORKING PLATFORM

The UIAA created a new [members associations directory](#). The resource provides links to dedicated articles and features, contact information, member social media channels and information about climbing in different member countries.

Another association to enjoy an [anniversary](#) was the Fédération québécoise de la montagne et de l'escalade (FQME), established in Canada, who celebrated its 50th birthday.

The Indian Mountaineering Federation (IMF) announced that its government had agreed to open [137 Himalayan peaks](#) to foreign climbers. Until these new measures were announced, foreign climbers had to seek permission from the Ministries of Defence and Home to climb these peaks. Foreigners can now directly apply to the IMF for permits.

There was the sad news of the passing of another friend of the UIAA, the former vice president of the Climbing Federation of Russia (CFR), [Yuriy Skurlatov](#) aged 77. Yuriy was Vice President of the UIAA Youth Commission from 1987-1990 and played a key role in the hosting of several UIAA Commission meetings in Russia during the 1980s and 1990s.



Free Solo, courtesy of © 2018 National Geographic Partners, LLC

OCTOBER

COMMUNITY AWARD WINNER

The UIAA Office produced a [digital magazine](#) ahead of the General Assembly in Larnaca, Cyprus. The publication was created to support delegate's planning and preparations for the event. Content included the programme and agenda as well as a snapshot of key discussion points and progress made by the UIAA during the current calendar year.

[Ama Dablam](#) was announced as the inaugural winner of the UIAA's Mountain Protection Award Community prize. Their project High Altitude Mountain Cleaners received over 60% of the Facebook poll. Scheduled to run from March-May 2020, the Ama Dablam project is dedicated to cleaning and removing all old fixed ropes and abandoned garbage on the normal climbing route of Ama Dablam.

UIAA Mountaineering Commission President Peter Farkas was awarded a gold medal from the Mongolian National Olympic Committee for his 'contribution

to the development of Mongolian sport'. Farkas, a former UIAA Vice President was presented with the [award](#) at a ceremony in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia.

The UIAA produced an in-depth look at one its members, the [China Hong Kong Mountaineering and Climbing Union](#). The CHKMCU has been a UIAA full member since 1988.

The UIAA Mountaineering Commission met in [Hong Kong](#) in October 2019. The meeting hosted by CHKMCU was attended by 14 delegates from 11 different countries. Among the topics discussed were the management of high mountains, ISO certification for federations and clubs and UIAA training and mountain qualifications.

NOVEMBER

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The [2019 UIAA General Assembly](#), hosted by the Cyprus Mountaineering Climbing & Orienteering Federation, was held in Larnaca and Ayia Napa, Cyprus on Saturday 2 November. Delegates from 51 member associations and 42 countries were present.

The [Swiss Alpine Club's \(SAC\) AlpineLearning Project Weeks](#) was confirmed as the seventh winner of the annual UIAA Mountain Protection Award. Following the announcement, it was confirmed that the [2020 and 2021 UIAA MPAs will be partnered by Bally](#), the Swiss luxury fashion brand, founded in 1851, with a pioneering heritage in climbing and mountaineering. Meanwhile, the [Suru Boulder Fest](#) was announced as the winner of the 2019 UIAA Rock Climbing Festival Award.

The [UIAA Medical Commission](#) met for their annual meeting in Bolzano, Italy from 7-8 November 2019.

A respected figure within the mountaineering community, [Dr Lee In Jeong](#) was awarded honorary membership of the UIAA.

The UIAA World Tour 2019-2020, partnered by [Outdoor Research](#), began with Bern, Switzerland playing host to the opening European Cup event on 23 November. It proved a successful one for the home nation who claimed four medals. There was a further European Cup event and a new one at that in Brno, Czech Republic on 30 November.

DECEMBER

INTERNATIONAL MOUNTAIN DAY

The UIAA was [recognised](#) by the IOC for its commitment to sustainability and featured in the official [Sports for Climate Action](#) brochure as a dedicated case study.

The (IOC) launched the International Federation (IF) Sustainability Project in 2016 in order to obtain an overview of IF's sustainability initiatives, which are to identify common topics, challenges and good practices. One outcome was a series of cases studies demonstrating how IF's are contributing to a more sustainable world.

With the Mountain Protection Commission celebrating its 50th anniversary, the UIAA looked back at [ten key moments](#) from its proud history.

The UIAA, as part of its commitment to tackling climate change and reducing its own CO2 emissions, published its first annual [Carbon Footprint Calculation](#). This report, covering 2018, outlines the ongoing results of monitoring and reporting of the UIAA's carbon footprint, which is in response to its signed commitment in early 2019 and participation under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) [Sports for Climate Action](#). The impact of climate change was a key topic discussed at the General Assembly. The UIAA issued a [statement](#) providing a summary of the

UIAA's longstanding commitment to the protection of the mountain environment and climate action, and its future goals.

To mark the International Mountain Day (IMD) the IOC announced the launch of the [Mountain Summit](#) - a group of sports organisations concerned with the current state of the world's mountains and committed to protecting them. It currently includes 11 members, of which the UIAA is one. Their aim is to assess and minimise the negative impact of sports activities on mountain environments, and leverage the power of sport to raise awareness about the importance of these environments.

On IMD, alpinism was recognised by the United Nations as an [Intangible Cultural Heritage \(=ICH\) of outstanding and universal human and social value](#). The UIAA had supported this longstanding initiative, led by its honorary member Claude Eckhardt.

The UIAA closed the year by sharing a [statement](#) with a number of partners - the Alpine Club, the BMC, and the IFMGA - about the proposed changes in Mountaineering restrictions in Nepal.

MOST READ ARTICLES ON THE UIAA WEBSITE IN 2019

The UIAA published 133 website articles in 2019. Here are the ten most read:



ALPINISM GETS RECOGNITION FROM UNESCO AS INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE OF HUMANITY
<https://www.theuiaa.org/mountaineering/alpinism-gets-recognition-from-unesco-as-intangible-cultural-heritage-of-humanity/>



UIAA STATEMENT:
MOUNT EVEREST CLIMBING SEASON
<https://www.theuiaa.org/uiaa/uiaa-statement-2019-mount-everest-climbing-season/>



DOWNTOWN **DENVER**:
WORLD CUP CONCLUSION
<https://www.theuiaa.org/ice-climbing/downtown-denver-world-cup-conclusion/>



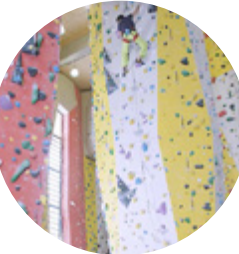
JOIN THE UIAA
RESPECT THE MOUNTAINS MOVEMENT
<https://www.theuiaa.org/uiaa/join-the-uiaa-respect-the-mountains-movement/>



LATEST UPDATES TO 2019-2020
UIAA ICE CLIMBING WORLD TOUR CALENDAR
<https://www.theuiaa.org/ice-climbing/2019-2020-uiaa-ice-climbing-world-updates/>



TEN THINGS TO CONSIDER WHEN
BUYING CLIMBING GEAR
<https://www.theuiaa.org/uiaa/uiaa-advice-ten-things-to-consider-when-buying-climbing-gear/>



UIAA AND DAV COLLABORATE ON
SAFETY VIDEO PROJECT
<https://www.theuiaa.org/mountaineering/uiaa-and-dav-collaborate-on-safety-video-project/>



SAFETY:
IS YOUR EQUIPMENT REALLY **CERTIFIED**?
<https://www.theuiaa.org/uiaa/is-your-equipment-really-certified/>



IDENTIFYING THE **WORLD'S CORROSION LOCATIONS**
<https://www.theuiaa.org/mountaineering/identifying-the-worlds-corrosion-locations/>



JOINT STATEMENT ON **PROPOSED KILIMANJARO CABLEWAY**
<https://www.theuiaa.org/uiaa/joint-statement-on-proposed-kilimanjaro-cableway/>



ARTICLE BY
PETER BOURNE
UIAA Communication Manager

QUICK LINKS

[theuiaa.org/ice-climbing](https://www.theuiaa.org/ice-climbing)

[uiaabern](#)

[theuiaa](#)

[uiaamountains](#)

[uiaa_mountains](#)

[UIAAmountains](#)

Durchstiege Kletterrouten und Gipfelerfolge treiben uns an - sie sind die Sahnehäubchen auf unseren Erlebnissen. Wir leben für die Momente, die unsere Reisen besonders machen; gemeinsam mit Freunden gelebte Herausforderungen, Abenteuer und High-Fives. Wir sind hier für diese besonderen Momente, die uns das Leben spüren lassen, und für die Vorfreude auf alle zukünftigen Trips.

JOHN PRICE
CHINA



for the journey ahead



OR OUTDOOR
RESEARCH

Photo: DAV Archives

MEMBERSHIP & ORGANISATION

Members

2019 UIAA MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

The UIAA closed 2019 with 89 Member Associations, comprising 63 full members, one unit member, 16 associate members and 9 observer members from 66 different countries, making a total of 3,049,510 individual members.

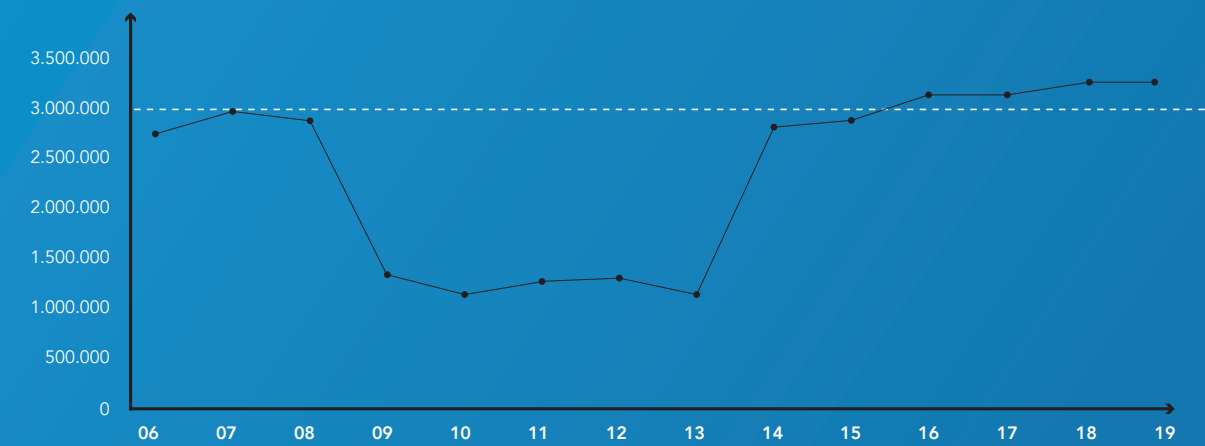
UIAA GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2019

No new members were elected at the 2019 UIAA General Assembly.

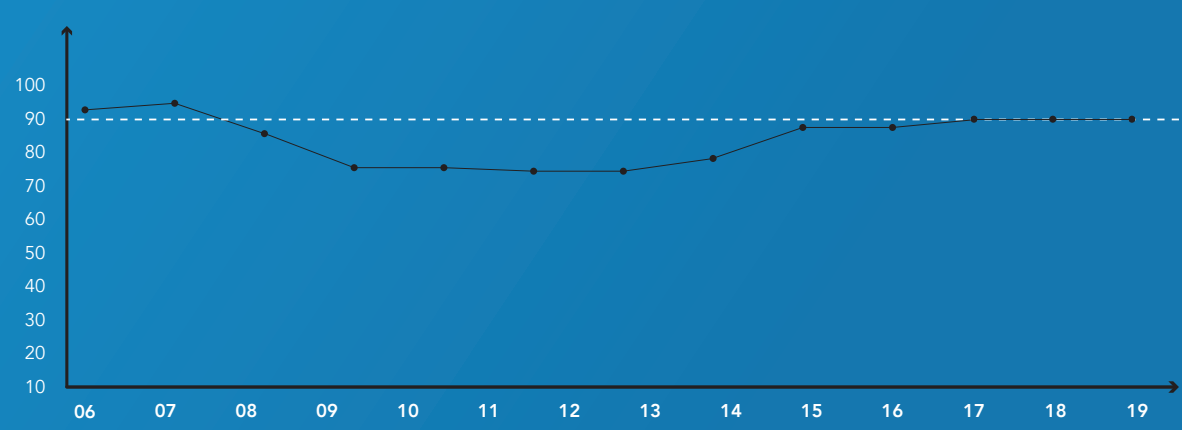
Photo: © DAV



UIAA MEMBERSHIP 2006 - 2019



UIAA MEMBER ORGANISATIONS 2006 - 2019



Associate Members

	NAME	CODE	COUNTRY	JOINED UIAA
1	Ecole Nationale d'Escalade du Québec	ENEQ	Canada	
2	Fédération Québécoise de la Montagne et de l'Escalade	FQME	Canada	1975
3	Danish Climbing Federation	DCF	Denmark	1998
4	Nehru Institute for Mountaineering	NIM	India	2011
5	Alpenverein Südtirol	AVS	Italy	1974
6	Korean Alpine Federation	KAF	Korea	1970
7	Norges Klatreforbund - The Norwegian Climbing Federation	NKF	Norway	1993
8	Federação de Campismo e Montanhismo de Portugal	FCMP	Portugal	1992
9	Federação Portuguesa de Montanhismo e Escalada	FPME	Portugal	2004
10	Centre Excursionista de Catalunya	CEC	Spain	1932
11	Euskal Mendizale Federazioa - Basque Mountaineering Federation	EMF	Spain	2002
12	Federació d'Entitats Excursionistes de Catalunya	FEEC	Spain	2000

MEMBERSHIP & ORGANISATION

	NAME	CODE	COUNTRY	JOINED UIAA
13	Vereinigung der Akademischen Alpen-Clubs der Schweiz	VAAC	Switzerland	1985
14	Chinese Taipei Mountaineering Association	CTMA	Chinese Taipei	1993
15	The Alpine Club	AC	United Kingdom	1934
16	Alaskan Alpine Club	ALAC	United States	1985

Full Members

	NAME	CODE	COUNTRY	JOINED UIAA
1	Afghanistan Climbing & Mountaineering Federation	ACMF	Afghanistan	2017
2	Albanian Mountaineering Federation	FSHALTM	Albania	2017
3	Federación Argentina de Ski y Andinismo	FASA	Argentina	1951
4	Verband Alpiner Vereine Österreichs	VAVOE	Austria	1951
5	Air and Extreme Federation of Azerbaijan	FAIREX	Azerbaijan	2011

					MEMBERSHIP & ORGANISATION				
	NAME	CODE	COUNTRY	JOINED UIAA					
6	Bangladesh Mountaineering Federation	BMF	Bangladesh	2013					
7	Climbing & Mountaineering Belgium	CMBEL	Belgium	1932					
8	Mountaineering Union of Federation Bosnia - Herzegovina	PS FBIH	Bosnia - Herzegovina	1977					
9	Confederação Brasileira de Montanhismo e Escalada	CBME	Brazil	2005					
10	Bulgarian Climbing and Mountaineering Federation	BCMF	Bulgaria	1935					
11	The Alpine Club of Canada	ACC	Canada	1947					
12	Federación de Andinismo de Chile	FEACH	Chile	1955					
13	Chinese Mountaineering Association	CMA	China	1985					
14	Croatian Mountaineering Association - Hrvatski Planinarski Savez	HPS	Croatia	1991					
15	Cyprus Mountaineering Climbing & Orienteering Federation	CMCOF	Cyprus	2007					
16	Czech Mountaineering Federation - Cesky Horolezecky Svaz	CMF	Czech Republic	1932					
17	Dansk Bjergklub - Danish Alpine Club	DBKK	Denmark	1977					
18	Finnish Climbing Association	FCA	Finland	1994					
19	Fédération française des clubs alpins et de montagne	FFCAM	France	1932					

	NAME	CODE	COUNTRY	JOINED UIAA					
20	Mountaineering and Climbing Association of Georgia	MCAG	Georgia	1933					
21	Deutscher Alpenverein	DAV	Germany	1932					
22	Hellenic Federation of Mountaineering and Climbing	EOOA	Greece	1936					
23	Federacion nacional de Andinismo de Guatemala	FNAG	Guatemala	2017					
24	China Hong Kong Mountaineering and Climbing Union	CHKMCU	Hong Kong	1988					
25	Hungarian Mountaineering and Sport Climbing Federation	MHSSz	Hungary	2001					
26	Indian Mountaineering Foundation	IMF	India	1981					
27	Indonesia Sport Climbing and Mountaineering Federation	FPTI	Indonesia	2016					
28	I.R. Iran Mountaineering and Sport Climbing Federation	IMSCF	Iran	1972					
29	Mountaineering Ireland	MI	Ireland	2004					
30	Israel Climbers' Club <i>(Formerly Israeli Alpine Club)</i>	ILCC	Israel	2009					
31	Japan Mountaineering and Sport Climbing Association	JMSCA	Japan	1967					
32	Mountaineering & Sport Climbing Federation of the Republic of Kazakhstan	MSCRFK	Kazakhstan	2017					
33	Korean Alpine Club	CAC	Korea	1969					

	NAME	CODE	COUNTRY	JOINED UIAA					
34	Kosovo Mountaineering and Alpinist Federation	KMAF	Kosovo	2011					
35	Liechtensteiner Alpenverein	LAV	Liechtenstein	1959					
36	Lithuanian Mountaineering Association	LMA	Lithuania	1991					
37	Luxembourg Federations	FLERA	Luxembourg	1938					
38	Malta Climbing Club	MCC	Malta	2018					
39	Club Alpin Monégasque	CAM	Monaco	1994					
40	Mongolian National Sport Climbing Federation	MNSCF	Mongolia	2010					
41	Federation Royale Marocaine de Ski et Montagnes	FRMSM	Morocco	2017					
42	Nepal Mountaineering Association	NMA	Nepal	1975					
43	Royal Dutch Mountaineering and Climbing Club	NKBV	Netherlands	1932					
44	New Zealand Alpine Club Inc.	NZAC	New Zealand	1932					
45	Norwegian Alpine Club - Norsk Tindeklub	NTK	Norway	1965					
46	Mountaineering Federation of North Macedonia	MMSF	North Macedonia	1999					
47	Alpine Club of Pakistan	ACP	Pakistan	1979					

	NAME	CODE	COUNTRY	JOINED UIAA					
48	Polish Mountaineering Association	PZA	Poland	1932					
49	Clube Nacional de Montanhismo	CNM	Portugal	1955					
50	Clubul Alpin Român - Romanian Alpine Club	CAR	Romania	1934					
51	Russian Mountaineering Federation	RMF	Russia	2007					
52	Mountaineering Association of Serbia - Planinarski Savez Srbije	PSS	Serbia	2002					
53	Slovak Mountaineering Union SMU - Slovensky Horolezecky Spolok	JAMES	Slovakia	1932					
54	Alpine Association of Slovenia	PZS	Slovenia	1991					
55	The Mountain Club of South Africa	MCSA	South Africa	1992					
56	Federación Española de Deportes de Montaña y Escalada	FEDME	Spain	1932					
57	Swedish Climbing Federation - Svenska Klätterförbundet	SKF	Sweden	1973					
58	Schweizer Alpen-Club - Swiss Alpine Club	SAC	Switzerland	1932					
59	Chinese Taipei Alpine Association	CTAA	Taiwan	1989					
60	Türkiye Dagcilik Federasyonu - Turkish Mountaineering Federation	TDF	Turkey	1967					
61	Ukrainian Mountaineering and Climbing Federation	UMCF	Ukraine	1991					

	NAME	CODE	COUNTRY	JOINED UIAA
62	British Mountaineering Council	BMC	United Kingdom	1947
63	The American Alpine Club	AAC	United States	1932

Observer Members

	NAME	CODE	COUNTRY	JOINED UIAA
1	Czech International Mountain Leader Association	CZIML	Czech Republic	2010
2	Costa Rican Federation of Mountain Sports	FECODEM	Costa Rica	2019
3	Union of International Mountain Leaders Association	UIMLA	France	2019
4	Jordan Tourism Board		Jordan	2013
5	National Adventure Association of Malaysia	NAA	Malaysia	2015
6	Clube de Actividades de Ar Livre	CAAL	Portugal	2011
7	National Mountaineering & Climbing Association Sri Lanka	NMCA	Sri Lanka	2015
8	International Federation of Mountain Guides Associations	IFMGA/ UIAGM	Switzerland	1987
9	International Slackline Association	ISA	Switzerland	2019

Unit Member

	NAME	CODE	COUNTRY	JOINED UIAA
1	International Skyrunning Federation	ISF	Switzerland	2015



WANT TO RECEIVE THE LATEST NEWS FROM THE UIAA?

SIGN UP TO THE UIAA NEWSLETTER!

 **SIGN UP**



REPORT BY

STEPHANIE STETTBACHER
UIAA Office

PETER MUIR
UIAA Executive Board

FURTHER READING
UIAA member associations

Photo: 150 years of the German Alpine Club
© DAV



REVIEW 2019: UIAA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The 2019 UIAA General Assembly, hosted by the Cyprus Mountaineering Climbing & Orienteering Federation, was held in Larnaca and Ayia Napa, Cyprus on Saturday 2 November. Delegates from 51 member associations and 42 countries were present.

Following opening addresses from the President of the Cyprus Olympic Committee, Mr. Dinos Michaelides, and the Sport Advisory of the Republic of Cyprus, Mr Phivos Zachariades, UIAA President Frits Vrijlandt presented key points from the 2018 Annual Report (AR). The full digital version of the AR can be viewed [here](#). Vrijlandt also introduced the final year of his Presidency. His second four-year term ends in October 2020.

UIAA General Secretary and Treasurer Peter Muir presented both the 2018 and 2019 budgets and the 2020 budget forecast. While confirming that current losses were not sustainable, Muir remarked that budgeting provisions for 2020 were encouraging.



Dr Ingeong Lee receives honorary membership of the UIAA

The UIAA EB (Executive Board) and MC (Management Committee) proposed new membership fee categories (Annex 1, AoA) for smaller national federations. This was approved and will open the possibility of UIAA membership to more federations worldwide.

No new applications for UIAA membership were received for GA 2019 meaning the current number of members - [89 associations from 66 countries](#) - remains the same.

Significant time was dedicated to UIAA Executive Board and Management Committee elections. Thomas Kähr, after seven years as an EB member, stood down from his position to take over Presidency of the International Ski Mountaineering Federation. The UIAA thanked the Swiss national for the energy and dedication he has brought to the role including the past year as Vice President. Three Board positions were filled. Zoljargal Banzragch (Mongolian National Climbing Federation), Mahmood Hashemi (Iran Mountaineering and Sport Climbing Federation) and Lode Beckers (Climbing and Mountaineering Belgium) join existing EB members – Vrijlandt, Muir, Helène Denis and Yongfeng Wang.

The new EB composition is as follows:

- *Frits Vrijlandt, President*
- *Zoljargal Banzragch, Vice President*
- *Lode Beckers, General Secretary*
- *Peter Muir, Treasurer*
- *Helène Denis, Member*
- *Mahmood Hashemi, Member*
- *Yongfeng Wang, Member*

Two vacant Management Committee seats were filled by Simon Alden (Malta Climbing Club) and existing UIAA SafeCom President Amit Chowdhury (Indian Mountaineering Foundation).

A motion by the German Alpine Club (DAV) on climate change was unanimously approved. Further details can be found [here](#). As well as fully supporting the DAV motion, the UIAA also stressed the longstanding work it has dedicated to the subject including signing MoUs with key international parties and UN bodies (UNEP and UNFCCC).

The [UIAA Mountain Protection Commission](#) is also working on Sustainability Guidelines related to climate change (guidelines will include travel/event planning advice, a UIAA internal climate change policy and an assessment of an acceptable carbon footprint baseline).

The UIAA was also a leading voice at COP21, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. Together with experts, the UIAA proposed a ‘Declaration on Mountain Change for COP21, ensuring the vulnerability of mountains is recognised in the final Paris Accord’. It can be viewed [here](#). The UIAA released a dedicated news statement on Climate Change on International Mountain Day, 11 December

(please refer to Mountain Protection Commission chapter).

Greg Moseley, Mountain Club of South Africa, presented details about the creation of a High Mountains Working Group, endorsed by the EB to focus on the issues facing the high mountains of the world. This group will continue to work with key stakeholders including member federations and local bodies to recommend policy. Please refer to statements published by the UIAA on [Everest](#) and [Kilimanjaro](#).

Injeong Lee, President of the UAAA and former President of the Korean Alpine Federation, was bestowed Honorary Membership. A profile of Dr Lee can be found [here](#).

For the first time, the UIAA GA was attended by a representative of the International Olympic Committee (IOC). Irina Gladkikh, IOC Associate Director Winter Sports and Recognised Sports and IF Relations, presented three topics – the Olympic Agenda 2020, Gender Equality, New Norms.

Thomas Kähr’s final act as UIAA Vice President was to provide updates on the progress of the Strategic Working Group (SWG), who released

the latest version of its proposals to revamp the UIAA ahead of the GA. The day before the GA, the UIAA Management Committee discussed a number of the proposals and made recommendations. Two areas of the report were voted on – and approved – during the GA. The first was the new UIAA profile which reads:

The UIAA is the International Climbing and Mountaineering Federation. As the leading global network, we promote climbing and mountaineering and advocate for access to climbing areas and mountain ranges. While looking to our future, we value our heritage and

care for the mountains, their fragile ecosystems, vulnerable communities and cultures. We serve the best interests of our member federations and of our worldwide community. For the mountains. For the World.

Members also agreed on the division of the following Strategic segments of the UIAA:

- *Mountaineering – including Access and Advocacy and Training programmes*
- *Safety – including Research and Gear testing, UIAA Safety Label, medical advice and documentation*
- *Mountain Protection – including global*

Advocacy and current projects led by the Mountain Protection Commission

- *Competition Ice Climbing – remains an important area of activity for the UIAA*

The GA concluded with the traditional Gala dinner and Award ceremony. During the Ceremony, Dr Lee’s honorary membership was celebrated; Thomas Kähr was commended for his commitment to the UIAA and two member federations received Awards for celebrating significant milestones in 2019: notably 50 years of the Chinese Taipei Mountaineering Association (CTMA) and 150 years of the German Alpine Club (DAV).



UIAA Mountain Protection Award

AlpineLearning Project Weeks run by the Swiss Alpine Club (SAC) was announced as the overall winner of the 2019 UIAA Mountain Protection Award. SAC President Françoise Jaquet collected the Award from UIAA Mountain Protection Commission Vice-President Mike Maunsell. A dedicated review of the 2019 MPA is available [here](#).

New UIAA Mountain Protection Award Partner: Bally

Shortly after the confirmation of the 2019 UIAA Mountain Protection Award winner an exciting announcement was made regarding the future of the project. The 2020 and 2021 UIAA MPAs will be partnered by Bally, the Swiss luxury fashion brand, founded in 1851, with a pioneering heritage in climbing and mountaineering.

Further details on the partnership are available [here](#).

UIAA Rock Climbing Festival Award

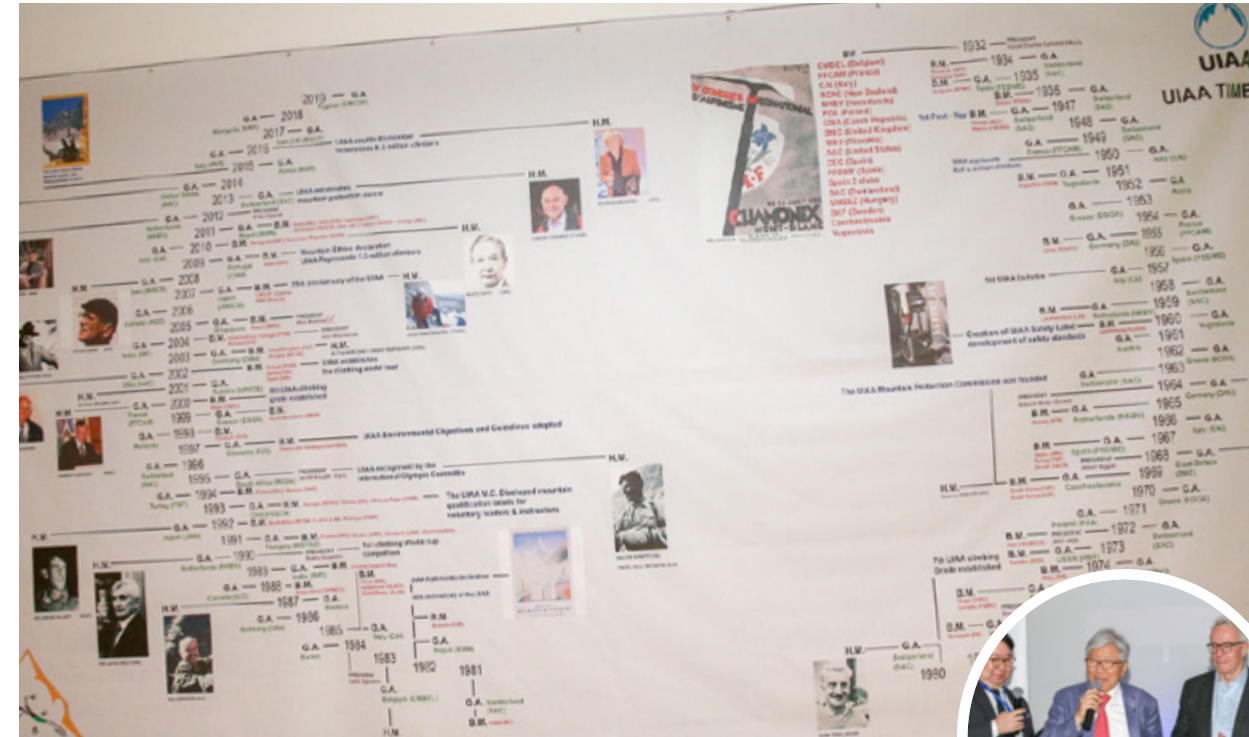
Suru Boulder Fest, India, was confirmed as the winner of the 2019 UIAA Rock Climbing Festival Award (RCFA). The festival is supported by UIAA member association, Indian Mountaineering Foundation, with the latter's Amit Chowdhury (also UIAA SafeCom President) accepting the Award on their behalf. The 2019 RCFA was only open to festivals from Asia. A full review, and details on the 2020 Award, can be found [here](#).

UIAA AND PETZL FOUNDATION: ALPINE SKILLS HANDBOOK

As has become tradition at the UIAA General Assembly, Stephane Lozach'meur, Petzl Foundation Project Manager, presented the progress made regarding the UIAA Alpine Skills Handbook. The project unites Petzl Foundation, the UIAA Training Panel, the UIAA Mountaineering Commission and UIAA members worldwide. Lozach'meur confirmed that a new chapter on Canyoning has been produced. New agreements regarding translations were signed with Federació d'Entitats Excursionistes De Catalunya (FEEC), Mountaineering Federation of North Macedonia (FPSM) and the Indonesia Sport Climbing and Mountaineering Federation (FPTI). Translation in the following languages are in progress: Albanian, Farsi, Greek, Japanese and Romanian. The following languages are currently available: English ([including digital version](#)), Chinese, French, Korean, Mongolian and Turkish. The following languages were printed for the first time in 2019: Czech and Serbian.

Purchase: Alpine Handbook

To purchase the **DIGITAL VERSION** of the UIAA Alpine Skills Handbook (in English), including any future updates to the digital version, click [here](#).



Plotted history of the UIAA produced by the CMCOF (above). Thomas Kahr bows out as Vice President and Dr Injeong Lee receives honorary membership (below)

UIAA Heritage Timeline

At every GA, the hosts find new ways of providing delegates a diverse and interesting cultural programme. As well as offering a captivating insight into Cypriot music and dance, a number of delegates also enjoyed the island's numerous rock climbing opportunities. Pavlos Georgiades, federation President, spearheaded a project focused on the history of the UIAA.

Following months of research, Georgiades created a visual graphic tracing the key moments in the federation's history. The end result was a giant banner which was also reproduced as a tablecloth gift for all delegates.

In the near future, the UIAA Office will work on amendments, updates and corrections to the visual following feedback received from delegates at the GA. The objective is to provide a visual version on the UIAA website. The UIAA thanks Georgiades for this initiative and hosts CMCOF for its excellent organisation of the 2019 GA.



OTHER MEETINGS

Ahead of the GA, the UIAA Executive Board, UIAA Management Committee and Commission Presidents all held meetings. A UIAA Communication workshop was presented by Communication Manager Peter Bourne.

FUTURE GENERAL ASSEMBLIES

*The 2020 GA will be held in **Antalya, Turkey** on **24 October** and hosted by TDF – Turkish Mountaineering Federation.*



2019 UIAA General Assembly, Cyprus. Photo: CMCOF



ARTICLE BY

PETER BOURNE

UIAA Communication Manager

FURTHER RESOURCES

Photos from the GA can be found [here](#).

Read more about UIAA General Assemblies [here](#).

Update

UIAA STRATEGY PROCESS

The current Strategic Plan of the UIAA, approved at the 2016 UIAA General Assembly (GA) in Brixen, was built around the three pillars of safety, sport and sustainability and covers the period 2017-2020. Throughout recent years, significant time has been dedicated to developing a new strategy for the UIAA, assessing every aspect of the federation, its activities and support for members. A Strategic Working Group (SWG) published their findings and recommendations 'The UIAA of the 21st century' ahead of the 2019 UIAA Management Committee and General Assembly in Cyprus.

Following meetings dating back to the 2019 General Assembly in Cyprus and involving the UIAA General Assembly and Management Committee, the Executive Board worked on realigning and reformulating the UIAA's vision, objectives and role. Taking elements from the expertise which went into the preparation of the 'UIAA of the 21st century', the resulting proposal includes a mission and three derived objectives.

The proposed reworded objectives (detailed below) were discussed at meetings of the Executive Board, and will be presented for further discussion and approval by the Management Committee and the UIAA GA in 2020. It serves as a draft Mission and Statement of Priorities intended to incorporate the Profile Statement (page 33), and other points, agreed by the GA in October 2019 in Cyprus. A group of MC/

GA representatives will review all documentation produced to date and work on a proposal for discussion at the 2020 GA.

RESTATED PRIORITIES FOR 2020 AND BEYOND: MISSION

The mission of the UIAA is to provide value-adding assistance to member federations in promoting practices of environmentally responsible, enjoyable and safe mountaineering. The UIAA intends to defend the interests of climbing and mountaineering federations and sports practitioners through rewarding relationships with international public and sports sector authorities, local entities and private sector operators.

STRATEGY PROCESS (CONTINUED)

Provide global guidance on nature and mountaineering climate risk

Preserve mountainous nature through responsible and respectful behaviour, while providing the UIAA members with reliable international guidance on the increasing climbing and mountaineering risks caused by climate change.

Setting and maintaining high standards

Through UIAA Commission activities, the UIAA has led the way in a diverse range of fields. The UIAA continues to set standards for climbing and mountaineering in areas such as safety, mountain protection, training, responsible access, sustainability, climbing and sky running sports and mountain medicine research.

Be a helpline to national federations and their members

The UIAA exists to serve its members. Its task is to assist national federations, to respond to member inquiries, to defend their interests, to advocate among international and Olympic associations the cause of just and sustainable mountaineering. *A pertinent example is the [work and support provided](#) during the Covid-19 crisis.*

Finances

FINANCIAL RESULTS 2019

In 2019, the UIAA significantly reduced meeting, travel and staff expenses. All projects continued, as proposed by the Commissions and approved, as part of the 2019 budget, by the 2018 General Assembly. On the income side, the UIAA failed to obtain the budgeted and anticipated additional sponsorship income of CHF 20'000.

Compared to 2018, staff costs were reduced by CHF 50'000.– (15% in total or 70% of a full-time employment). At the same time, the Office reduced accumulated overtime from a high of CHF 18'000.– in March 2019 to CHF 5'000.– by the end of the year. This could be achieved through:

- reduced Office availability in July, August and December
- no UIAA-organised "Respect the Mountains" events
- re-focusing of administrative processes

Due to a very full Ice Climbing World Tour

calendar and centralised services, the income from newly introduced organizer service fees was CHF 77'000.– over budget, while expenses for Ice Climbing related services were CHF 86'000.– higher than anticipated.

All other Commission projects were more or less in line with the budget. Due to some delayed projects, Mountain Protection and Safety Commissions' expenses were below budget.

Income as budgeted was generated from membership fees (loss of a large member compared to 2018), the UIAA Safety Label

and contributions, the Swiss Alpine Club and the International Olympic Committee. For some smaller federations, CHF 6'500.– membership fees were paid by the UIAA solidarity fund. The 2019 General Assembly decided to introduce two new membership fee categories for small members. The UIAA continues to benefit from a multi-pillar income structure (membership fees, contributions, Safety Label fees, partnerships and service fees).

The overall 2019 loss amounts to CHF 16'600.– (2018: CHF 29'900.–).

BUDGET 2020, FORECAST 2020

Keeping UIAA finances in balance remains a challenge for the Treasurer, the Executive Board and the UIAA Office.

The 2020 budget was prepared based on the results of 2019 and is conservative. With the introduction of the new membership categories and the expulsion of members resulting from non-payment, income from membership fees is expected to decrease by CHF 10'000.–.

Additional income will be generated from a new partnership with Bally for the UIAA Mountain Protection Award. On the expenses side, a continued reduction of travel is expected through increased use

of online meeting tools and a critical analysis of the value of UIAA participation in third party meetings including the number of attendees, and continuing to encourage commission meetings in conjunction with Management Committee meetings and/or General Assemblies, all with a view to protect main projects of the UIAA.

The 2020 UIAA budget shows a projected profit of CHF 7'500.– (including GA 2019 decisions with regards to membership fees and new Bally partnership).

Of course, future decisions on the Strategic Plan and UIAA structure will affect the budget but primarily into 2021. Based on the strategic priorities, a sustainable financial strategy needs to be developed.

PROFIT AND LOSS STATEMENT

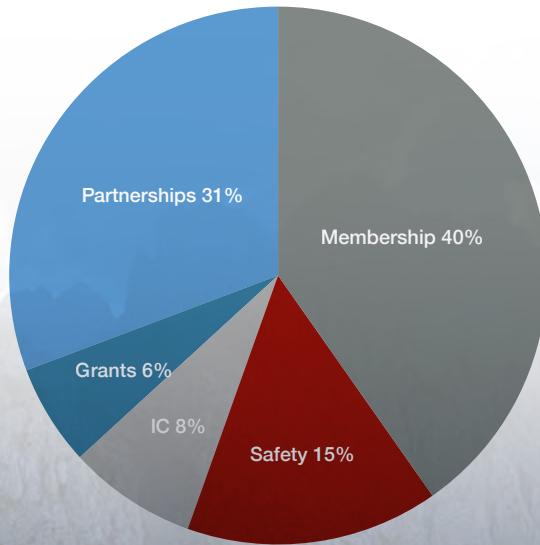
Income/ Expenses

CHF	Results 2018	Budget 2019	Results 2019	Budget 2020	Forecast 2020
				GA APPROVED	APRIL
INCOME					
Membership Fees	338'000	318'000	316'000	302'800	302'800
Safety Label Fees	127'100	130'000	132'400	122'800	123'200
Other Fees (IC Service, TS)	65'100	136'100	215'200	97'100	115'200
Grants	51'400	57'700	54'800	56'000	55'300
Partnerships	257'900	215'000	198'800	198'500	225'600
Total Income	839'500	856'800	917'200	777'200	822'100
EXPENSES					
Staff	341'200	290'000	292'000	290'000	295'000
Services	43'000	40'000	40'200	40'800	41'100
Office, Administration	41'600	30'000	30'300	28'100	28'000
Meeting Expenses	78'600	50'000	45'700	37'000	37'000
Commission Operative	17'000	18'300	14'500	20'000	20'000
Commission Projects	316'400	409'600	484'600	330'750	345'700
Marketing, Communication	31'600	28'000	26'500	20'000	29'200
Total Expenses	869'400	865'900	933'800	766'650	796'000
Reserve				10'000	20'000
Result	-29'900	-9'100	-16'600	550	6'100

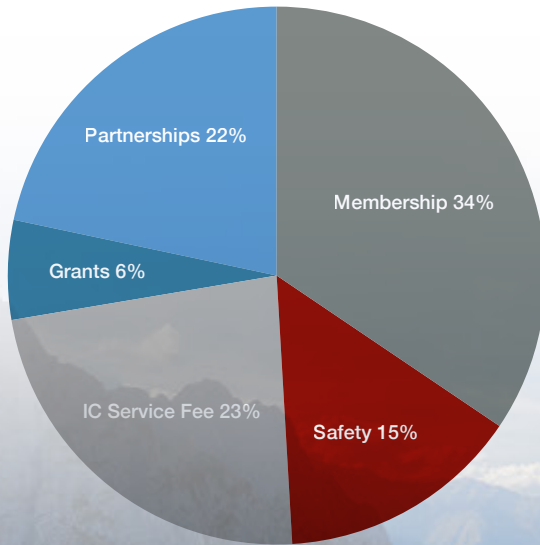
Income

CHF	Results 2018	Budget 2019	Results 2019	Budget 2020
Membership Fees	338'000	318'000	316'000	302'800
Safety Label Fees, TS	127'500	130'000	134'100	122'800
Service Fees, Licences IC	65'000	136'100	213'500	97'100
Grants	51'000	57'700	54'800	56'000
Partnerships IC	258'000	215'000	198'800	225'500
Total Income	839'500	856'800	917'200	804'200

Income Results 2018



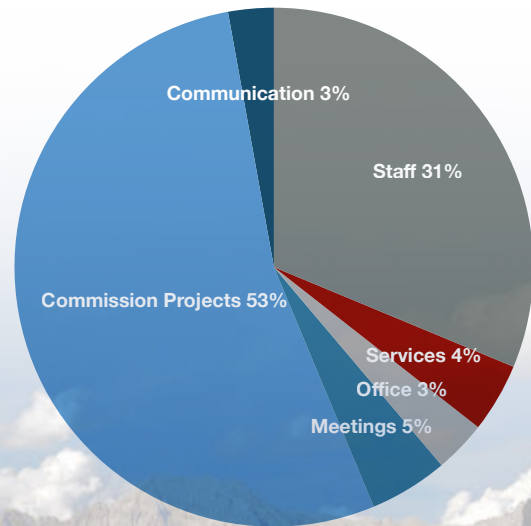
Income Results 2019



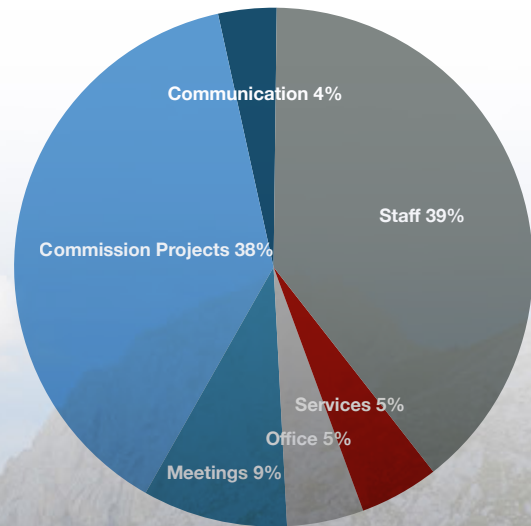
Expenses

CHF	Results 2018	Budget 2019	Results 2019	Budget 2020
Staff	341'200	290'000	292'000	295'000
Services	43'000	40'000	40'200	40'800
Office, Administration	41'600	30'000	30'300	28'100
Meeting Expenses	78'600	50'000	45'700	37'000
Commission Projects	333'400	427'900	499'100	362'750
Marketing, Communication	31'600	28'000	26'500	23'000
Reserve				10'000
Total Expenses	869'400	865'900	933'800	796'650
Result	-29'900	-9'100	-16'600	7'550

Expenses Results 2019

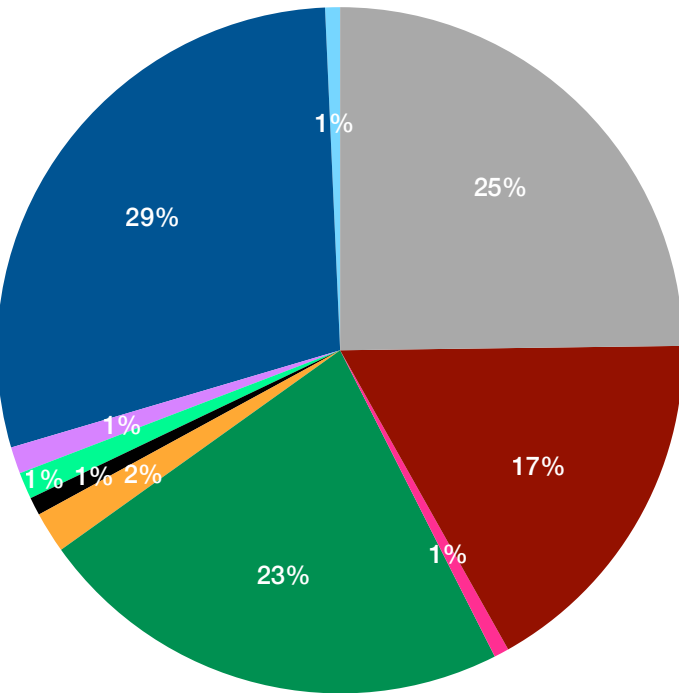


Expenses Results 2018

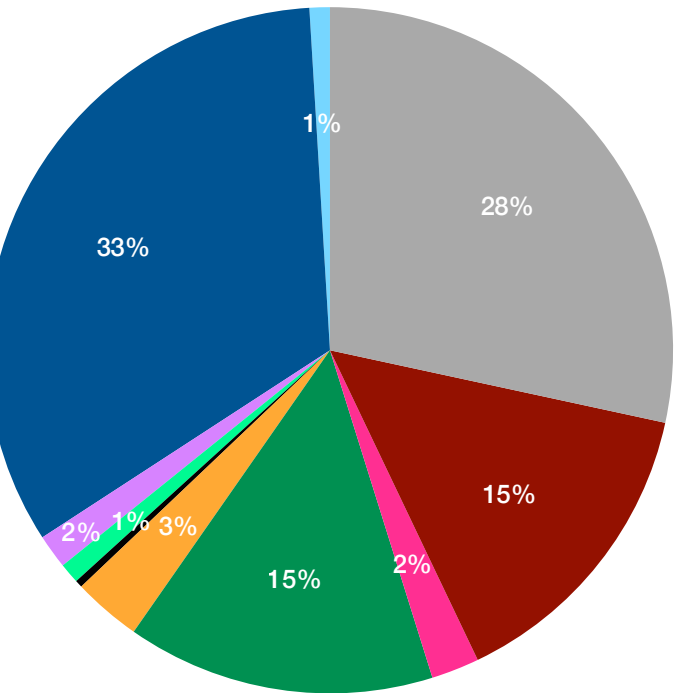


UIAA STAFF ALLOCATED TO COMMISSIONS 2019

Staff allocated to Commissions
Results 2018



Staff allocated to Commissions
Results 2019



- General Federation Management
- Safety Commission
- Medical Commission
- Mountain Protection Commission
- Mountaineering Commission Training Panel
- Access Commission
- Rock Climbing
- Youth Commission
- Ice Climbing Commission
- Anti-Doping Commission

UIAA	Results 2018	Budget 2019	Results 2019
General Federation Management	84'600	96'300	82'900
Safety Commission	58'200	52'300	42'400
Medical Commission	2'400	2'400	6'600
Mountain Protection Commission	77'000	40'800	42'400
Mountaineering Commission, TS	6'600	5'600	9'400
Access Commission	2'900	900	1'000
Rock Climbing	4'300	4'400	2'800
Youth Commission	4'300	4'400	4'700
Ice Climbing Commission	98'500	80'900	97'000
Anti Doping Commission	2'400	2'000	2'800
Total Staff	341'200	290'000	292'000

ARTICLE BY

PETER MUIR
UIAA Treasurer

NILS GLATTHARD
UIAA Director of Operations

UIAA
BALANCE
SHEET

Assets

UIAA	31 December 2018	31 December 2019
Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	531'329	427'299
Accounts receivables	0	8'700
Stock of goods	0	5'000
General provision	106'610	70'042
Total assets	637'939	511'041

Liabilities and Funds

UIAA	31 December 2018	31 December 2019
Liabilities		
Accounts payable	27'992	4'204
Other short term liabilities	215	5'192
Accrued expenses and deferred income	247'947	169'223
General provision	56'543	48'989
Total current liabilities	332'697	227'608
Funds		
Solidarity fund	8'821	3'620
Access and conservation fund	2'763	2'763
Total funds	11'584	6'383
Capital of the association as per 1 January	323'554	293'658
Profit/loss for the year	-29'896	-16'609
Capital of the association as per 31 December	293'658	277'049
Total liabilities and funds	637'939	511'041



Based in Switzerland

UIAA OFFICE REPORT

The UIAA Office is located in Bern. The staff working in Switzerland are responsible for running the daily operations of the UIAA. It is the staff's duty and commitment to serve UIAA members and to support, coordinate, plan and implement the activities and decisions of the Executive Board, the Management Committee and UIAA Commissions. On an operational level, the UIAA continues to benefit from a close collaboration with the SAC, Swiss Alpine Club.

In 2019, the Office is composed of six paid staff members, including one independent for communication, representing 4.2 full-time jobs in total.



ORGANISATIONAL CHART

UIAA MEMBER FEDERATIONS

Court

UIAA General Assembly

Auditors

UIAA Working Groups

UIAA Management Committee

UIAA Commissions

UIAA Executive Board

Marketing
N Glatthard

UIAA Office
N Glatthard

Office/Safety
S Stettbacher

Communication
P Bourne

Safety
S Stettbacher

Sport
R Adie

Projects
C Kahoun

Accounting
A Semelet



ROBERT ADIE
SPORT EVENTS COORDINATOR
rob.adie@theuiaa.org

- Support, coordination, planning and implementation of projects, activities and decisions of the UIAA Ice Climbing, Youth and Anti-Doping Commissions.
- Collaboration and development of relationships with sport organisations, stakeholders and partners: IOC, member federations, event organisers, sponsors, media, athletes and officials.
- Development and coordination of UIAA's international events such as UIAA Ice Climbing World Championships, UIAA Ice Climbing World Tour, UIAA Ice Climbing World Youth Championships and Continental Cup Series.
- Support and implementation of sport-related projects and decisions of the UIAA Executive Board, Management Committee, General Assembly and Commissions.



PETER BOURNE
COMMUNICATION MANAGER
peter.bourne@theuiaa.org

- Development and implementation of UIAA's communication strategy, plans and tools.
- Content producer and coordinator in general.
- Day-to-day website updates (coordination regarding website development which is managed by external webmasters) and social media management.
- Newsletters, press releases, member/partner/sponsor communications.
- Annual Report and GA Magazine creation.



NILS GLATTHARD
DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS
nils.glatthard@theuiaa.org

- General management and coordination of the UIAA staff in Bern and abroad;
- Management and implementation of UIAA projects.
- Coordination of internal and external communication.
- Preparation and presentation of budgets and financial reports in collaboration with the UIAA Treasurer.
- Link between staff, volunteers, EB, Commission Presidents, Management Committee and member associations.
- Development and presentation of partnership proposals and contracts.
- UIAA representation at events and on international platforms.



CAROL KAHOUN
PROJECT MANAGER
carol.kahoun@theuiaa.org

- Development of the "Global Mountain Network" through cooperation and exchange of information with relevant international organisations and partners.
- UIAA representation on relevant national and international platforms.
- Development and coordination of the UIAA Mountain Protection Award, Respect the Mountains Movement and other UIAA projects and partnerships.
- Evaluation and development of new funding opportunities, linked to UIAA or UIAA partner projects, such as donations and legacies.
- Office support and link for UIAA Medical Commission.



AGNÈS SEMELET

ACCOUNTANT

agnes.semelet@theuiaa.org

- Preparation of budgets, forecasts, profit and loss statements, balance sheet, in collaboration with the UIAA Treasurer and Director of Operations.
- Accounting, bookkeeping.
- Member surveys, invoices, reminders, payments.



STEPHANIE STETTbacher

OFFICE COORDINATOR & SAFETY LABEL ADMINISTRATOR

office@theuiaa.org

- Member services: first and main contact for UIAA member associations, General Assembly organisation, GA agendas and minutes.
- Management Committee services: MC meeting organisation, preparation of agendas and minutes, implementation of MC decisions.
- Commission services: commission member administration, preparation and coordination of Safety Commission meetings.
- UIAA Safety Label administration: standards, test labs, manufacturers, certificates, invoices.



UIAA Office representatives at the 2019 UIAA General Assembly in Cyprus



REPORT BY

NILS GLATTHARD

UIAA Director of Operations

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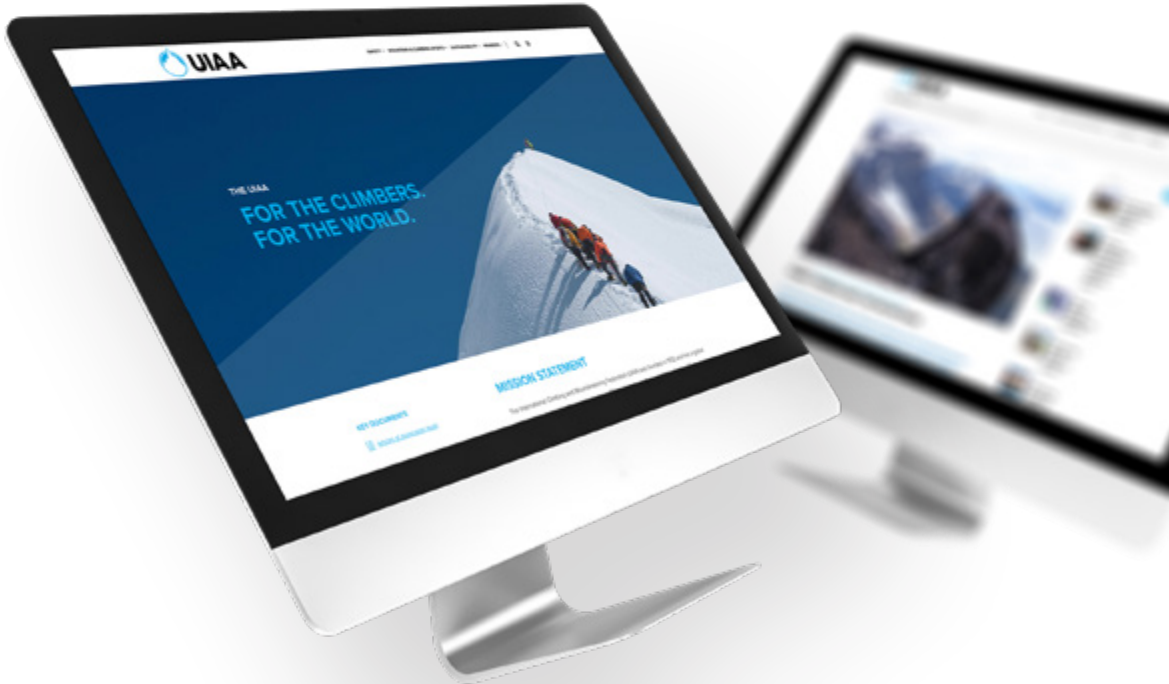


Photo Credit: Tom Nakamura

COMMUNICATION

The UIAA’s communication services are primarily delivered to its members and secondly, to the wider climbing and mountaineering community.

During the 2019 UIAA General Assembly, the UIAA conducted a dedicated Workshop which ran through its current Communication planning, tools, deliverables, future objectives and greater focus on member benefits. The presentation also tackled some feedback from the 2018 UIAA General Assembly:



‘The UIAA should communicate more the benefits to its members’

‘The UIAA should be an/the international reference point’

‘THE UIAA LACKS A CLEAR IDENTITY’

‘The UIAA should bring its members closer together’

‘The UIAA: is it B2B or B2C?’

Annual Report

One of the key deliverables to its members, the UIAA Annual Report was completely revised in 2018 to include dedicated areas on member benefits, greater access to digital material, links to key assets and presented in a more attractive, readable format.



Past Annual Reports
[theuiaa.org/members](https://www.theuiaa.org/members)

GENERAL ASSEMBLY – DIGITAL MAGAZINE

To facilitate delegate's planning for the 2019 General Assembly in Cyprus, the UIAA published a digital magazine. The resource proved useful as a guide to meetings and topics discussed during the GA. The UIAA will endeavour to publish the magazine for the GA a little earlier in 2020.

https://www.theuiaa.org/documents/members/UIAA_2019_GeneralAssembly_Guide_v1.pdf

NEW

News Articles

The UIAA communication strategy is built around collaboration with all of its Commissions, member associations, partners as well as events and projects. The strategy put in place ensures all aspects of the UIAA's activities are promoted in equal measure throughout the year. UIAA news articles are shared through newsletters, press releases and social media.

The top ten most viewed news articles from 2019 are listed in the [Review of 2019](#).

During 2019, the UIAA focused increasingly on global advocacy in relation to key issues, notably the Everest climbing season, proposals to construct a cableway on Kilimanjaro, climate change and Alpinism's recognition by UNESCO.

The UIAA also supported more regional advocacy, notably projects related to the Tatra Mountains and Grampian Mountains.



Website

The UIAA website was last redesigned in the autumn of 2016 and has undergone incremental updates ever since.

In 2019, developments included:

A revised [Member Associations Directory](#) which provides more details about individual UIAA members, their news, activities and serves as a resource for members to share details on climbing in their country. The idea is to provide Members with their own networking area.



A [Donate](#) page where businesses, partners, members and individuals – can support the UIAA on a one-off or ongoing basis by donating to specific projects or causes. The resource is

also open to UIAA member associations.

In 2020, new developments in the pipeline include:

- A new layout for the UIAA home page
- Simplification of the UIAA website
- Improvements to core pages and pages for core projects
- A global UIAA calendar
- A mis-use page for the UIAA Safety Label
- Greater mobile responsiveness

Website statistics compared to 2018:

- The number of unique users increased by 23%
- The number of new users rose by 21%
- The number of visits rose by 19%
- The number of page views increased by 12%
- The average session duration decreased by 7%

.sport

The UIAA has signed an agreement with GAISF - Global Association of International Sports Federations – in relation to its [.sport programme](#). The UIAA has been granted international rights for certain .sport domains. A number of these may be offered to UIAA members. The UIAA will publish details of how members can join the programme in 2020.

Newsletters

The monthly UIAA newsletter, primarily targeted at members, provides all subscribers with the latest, key news and updates from the UIAA. To subscribe to the newsletter please click [here](#).

Core Global Resources

The UIAA offers its members and the wider climbing and mountaineering community a significant array of global resources, notably:

- [Climber Safety advice](#)
- [Training and Skills](#)
- [International Calendars](#)
- [Medical advice](#)
- [Member Associations Directory](#)

Further details are provided in the dedicated chapters of this report.

Member Associations

The UIAA Communication team is always keen to share information about member association activities. Please email news@theuiaa.org to share content. Likewise, any material produced by the UIAA is free of restrictions for members to use and share in their own publications and across digital channels. Working together we can provide the climbing and mountaineering world with the information important to them.

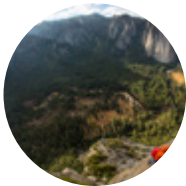
Below are some examples of close collaboration between the UIAA and its members in 2019:



LOVING THE MOUNTAINS SINCE 1869
GERMAN ALPINE CLUB (DAV) CELEBRATES ITS 150TH BIRTHDAY
<https://www.theuiaa.org/uiiaa/loving-the-mountains-since-1869-german-alpine-club-dav-celebrates-its-150th-birthday/>



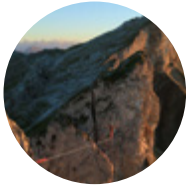
MEMBER PROFILE: CHINA HONG KONG MOUNTAINEERING & CLIMBING UNION
<https://www.theuiaa.org/mountaineering/member-profile-china-hong-kong-mountaineering-climbing-union/>



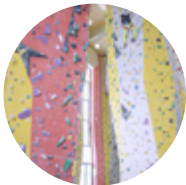
AAC TO HOST 12TH INTERNATIONAL CLIMBERS' MEET
<https://www.theuiaa.org/mountaineering/aac-to-host-12th-international-climbers-meet/>



FQME: 50 YEARS OF DISCOVERY AND EXCELLENCE
<https://www.theuiaa.org/uiiaa/fqme-50-years-of-discovery-and-excellence/>



SLACKLINERS JOIN THE UIAA COMMUNITY
<https://www.theuiaa.org/uiiaa/slackliners-join-the-uiaa-community/>



UIAA AND DAV COLLABORATE ON SAFETY VIDEO PROJECT
<https://www.theuiaa.org/mountaineering/uiiaa-and-dav-collaborate-on-safety-video-project/>

REPORT BY

PETER BOURNE

UIAA Communication Manager

THE UIAA ON SOCIAL MEDIA



BALLY

SPONSORING & PARTNERS

Revenues from sponsorship account for about 30% of all UIAA income.

In sustainability, the 2020 and 2021 UIAA Mountain Protection Awards will be partnered by Bally, the Swiss luxury fashion brand, founded in 1851, with a pioneering heritage in climbing and

mountaineering. Sunday Afternoons continues to support the UIAA Respect the Mountains Movement.



FULL STORY
UIAA AND BALLY ANNOUNCE PARTNERSHIP

<https://www.theuiaa.org/uiaa/uiaa-and-bally-announce-partnership/>

The Bern office is continually exploring new sponsorship opportunities and means of approaching potential sponsors. Members of the Executive Board, Commissions and Office staff were present at major international trade shows such as ISPO Beijing and Munich and Outdoor by ISPO to represent the UIAA and to build relationships with partners. Many of these meetings are detailed in individual chapters.

UIAA PARTNERS

The UIAA partners with a number of international organisations across its projects in **safety, sport** and **sustainability**.



Recognised since 1995

by the International Olympic Committee (IOC)

SPONSORS

BALLY

BALLY
theuiaa.org/mountain-protection-award/

OR OUTDOOR RESEARCH

OUTDOOR RESEARCH
theuiaa.org/ice-climbing

PETZL
Fondation

PETZL FOUNDATION
theuiaa.org/mountain-qualification-label

SUN DAY
AFTERNOONS™

SUNDAY AFTERNOONS
the-uiaa-mountain-sustainability/respect-the-mountains/

PARTNERS

ARISF

ARISF
Association of IOC Recognised International Sport Federations

GAISF

GAISF
Global Association of International Sports Federations

ICAR

ICAR
International Commission for Alpine Rescue

IFMGA

IFMGA
International Federation of Mountain Guides Associations

MRI
MOUNTAIN RESEARCH INITIATIVE

MRI
Mountain Research Initiative

PEACE AND SPORT
BE PART OF WHAT MATTERS

PEACE AND SPORT
peace-sport.org

sportaccord
INTERNATIONAL FEDERATIONS' UNION

SPORT ACCORD
sportaccord.sport

UNE

UNE
United Nations Environment

10YFP
Global Action for Sustainable Consumption and Production

10YFP
United Nations 10-Year YFP Sustainable Tourism Programme

OR OUTDOOR RESEARCH

Outdoor Research is dedicated to inspiring the journey ahead with innovative technical apparel and accessories designed for outdoor adventures. Outdoor Research is the Title Sponsor of the UIAA Ice Climbing World Tour 2019-2023.



UIAA Mountain Protection Award Winner 2019

The Swiss Alpine Club's (SAC) AlpineLearning Project Weeks

<https://youtu.be/CztvRRuYZVw>

The UIAA Mountain Protection Commission

MOUNTAIN PROTECTION

The protection of the mountain environment has always been a chief concern for the UIAA. Since it was founded in 1969, fifty years ago, the UIAA Mountain Protection Commission (MPC) has worked to protect the mountains – one of the last natural, unspoilt and free spaces on earth. The Commission's goal is to ensure that mountains will still be there to enjoy for future generations of mountaineers and mountain people.

The UIAA MPC believes all those who have a stake in the well-being of the mountain environment should collectively work to raise awareness about the fragile nature of the mountain ecosystems and encourage responsible and sustainable behaviour and practices.

FLAGSHIP PROJECT:

UIAA MOUNTAIN PROTECTION AWARD

One of the UIAA's principal activities in the field of mountain sustainability is its annual Mountain Protection Award - a platform designed to showcase, support and promote projects which strive to unite tourist, or other organisations to engage in protecting the mountain environment with mountain communities and mountaineers.

These initiatives support local people, encourage economic growth, provide improvements to infrastructure, education and health services, promote the practice of sustainable climbing and mountaineering and have mountain protection at their core.

SUPPORT FOR UIAA MEMBERS

The UIAA Mountain Protection Commission has ensured that in the design of the two key mountain protection and sustainability projects at the UIAA - the MPA and the RtM global movement - there are explicit provisions and mechanisms in place to support and encourage the participation of UIAA members to not only showcase their initiatives, but also participate and be eligible for the prizes, resources and exposure on offer to promote their work. The current joint work with IFMGA - International

Federation of Mountain Guides Associations - on the Sustainability Guidelines will ensure the UIAA also responds to the priorities and stated needs that member delegates expressed in the survey the UIAA MPC undertook in early 2018 that were reported in its findings in late 2018 ("Sustainability is one of our core values!" the UIAA & IFMGA 2018 Environmental Survey). Given the Commission delegates' extensive and active engagement in several global platforms and initiatives on mountains

Submissions for the 2019 UIAA Mountain Protection Award came from all corners of the globe, with 12 projects nominated. The assessment was conducted by eight full and corresponding members of the UIAA Mountain Protection Commission, together with eight external experts. Categories for prizes include the overall winner, runner up winner, best new initiative, and community choice award.



THE 2019 AWARD WINNER

The Swiss Alpine Club's (SAC) AlpineLearning Project Weeks was confirmed as the seventh winner of the annual UIAA Mountain Protection Award at the 2019 UIAA General Assembly.



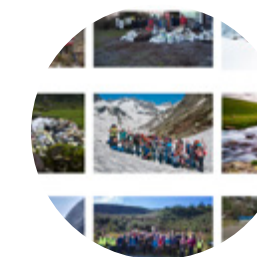
OFFICIAL PRESS RELEASE ON WINNER OF 2019 UIAA MPA

<https://www.theuiaa.org/members-area/general-assembly/alpinelearning-project-weeks-wins-2019-uiaa-mountain-protection-award/>



ABOUT ALPINELEARNING PROJECT WEEKS

<https://www.theuiaa.org/uiaa/alpinelearningproject/>



2019 AWARD SHOWCASE

<https://www.theuiaa.org/mountain-protection-award/2019-uiaa-mountain-protection-award/>



7

Editions

118

Projects

31

Countries

MPA ASSESSMENT TEAM

COMMISSION MEMBERS

Carolina Adler, Phd

Maretha Alant

Jan Ivar Bøe

Valeska Buchemi De Oliveira

Steve Goodwin

Mike Maunsell

Amin Moein

Joop Spijker

EXTERNAL EXPERTS AND UIAA PARTNERS

Björn Alfthan

Alton C. Byers, Phd

Stuart Gray

Matthias Jurek

Leif Inge Magnussen, Phd

Jorge Recharte

Marjorie Van Strien

Gabriela Wülser



Photo: Bally/Samir Jung Thapa

NEW PARTNERSHIP: BALLY AND THE UIAA

Shortly after the confirmation of the 2019 UIAA Mountain Protection Award winner – [Swiss Alpine Club's AlpineLearning \(AlpenLernen\) Project Weeks](#) – an exciting announcement was made regarding the future of the project.

The 2020 and 2021 UIAA MPAs will be partnered by Bally, the Swiss luxury fashion brand, founded in 1851, with a pioneering heritage in climbing and mountaineering.

Full story:

<https://www.theuiaa.org/uiaa/uiaa-and-bally-announce-partnership/>

RESPECT THE MOUNTAINS (RTM) GLOBAL MOVEMENT

For the RtM global movement, the Mountain Protection Commission initiated and advised the UIAA at the 2018 General Assembly that the concept needed to be changed in 2019 to accommodate better for limited resources and to also shift from a 'clean-up' reactive initiative, to a more proactive global movement that centres on education for waste minimisation and management.

The suggested approach for 2019 was to first focus on generating and providing an online calendar of events and initiatives that not only address waste management but also focus on education, providing an opportunity to inform the broader community about these events for their consideration and participation and also showcase the individual initiatives of those hosting events and projects.



A total of 19 initiatives were promoted, collectively 74 events worldwide. An estimated total of 5,000 participants were involved in these events in 2019.

The results based on this experience with this changed approach will be evaluated by the Commission who will seek feedback from those that participated by sharing their events online, in order to adapt and come up with new ideas for a new concept in the coming years. The support of Sunday Afternoons and the external experts in the MPA, as well as the partnerships with IFMGA and UN Environment, are also sources of important expertise and insights from whom the Commission can count on to improve and expand the RtM global movement concept in 2020 and beyond.

GLOBAL PARTNERSHIPS

In 2019, focus was directed to enhancing the existing collaboration with the IFMGA Environmental Commission, flagging the opportunity to continue to pursue the joint project on sustainability guidelines in 2020. The MPA 2019 also provided an opportunity for continued engagement and exchange with our network of external experts.

Other key partnerships created and fostered in 2019 include the MoU with UN Environment, which facilitates and ensures that the UIAA is supported in its efforts to pursue projects and initiatives on mountain protection, supported by the technical and global reach and legitimacy of organisations such as UN Environment.

ANNUAL COMMISSION MEETING

Other key partnerships have been supported and negotiated with key financial and in-kind donors such as Sunday Afternoons and Bally, the latter providing substantial financial support, details of which were unveiled at the GA in Cyprus, to support the development of the current MPA into a platform that offers broader incentive for participation and that adequately acknowledges and rewards initiatives and best practices.



This year's Mountain Protection Commission meeting took place in Baku, Azerbaijan on 9 May 2019, following an invitation from Commission member and FAIREX representative Hussein Bagirov.

The meeting took place at the new campus facilities of the Mountain Culture and Landscape Research Institute, Western Caspian University, with online connection to those members and UIAA Office staff who could not attend in person. Six delegates were present in Baku with another three joining online.

The meeting was chaired by Commission President Carolina Adler, recalling the minutes of the previous meeting held in 2018 in the UK. A report from Helene Denis, UIAA Executive Board link, updated the

Commission on discussions and decisions taken at Management Committee meeting held a week earlier in Malta. This included confirmation of the Vice President role for Michael Maunsell (Mountaineering Ireland, MI) and new full member Dr Ganesh Gurung (Nepal Mountaineering Association, NMA).

Other key discussion points centered on the assessment process for the MPA for 2019, as well as budget consideration for future work and projects such as the sustainability guidelines.

A key area of concern for the Commission, and discussion point at the meeting, was the perceived uncertainty and lack of strategic clarity and differentiated expectations expressed by the UIAA Board and MC versus

the General Assembly on the new UIAA strategy and the financial model to support Commissions, making this a difficult environment in which to prioritise and plan effectively for future work. A key conclusion reached by the Commission was to commit to find clarity at the General Assembly in Cyprus, when the full details and debate on the proposed future strategic direction should be decided with members.

Professor Bagirov, MPC delegate and host to the meeting, also presented on the state of mountain tourism and recreation in Azerbaijan, highlighting some of the key challenges regarding increasing tourism development in the country, while maintaining and aspiring towards environmental and cultural values that align with broader sustainable development.

INTERNATIONAL MOUNTAIN DAY: DEDICATED ARTICLES

For International Mountain Day, 11 December, the UIAA published a series of articles dedicated to its longstanding work on climate change.



HISTORY OF THE MPC

To celebrate the 50 years of the UIAA Mountain Protection Commission (MPC) in 2019, the UIAA took a trip through the archives to select ten stories from the Commission's proud history.

<https://www.theuiaa.org/home/fifty-years-of-the-uiaa-mountain-protection-commission/>



UIAA FOUNDER MEMBER OF SEA TO SUMMIT

The IOC announced the launch of the Mountain Summit – a group of sports organisations concerned with the current state of the world's mountains and committed to protecting them.

<https://www.theuiaa.org/uiaa/from-sea-to-summit-ioc-launches-sports-group-featuring-uiaa-to-protect-mountains/>

In December 2018, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the International Olympic Committee (IOC) co-launched the new Sports for Climate Action Framework and defined the role of sport in the worldwide fight for climate change. The UN Sports for Climate Action Framework aims to help sports organisations reduce emissions caused by their operations and leverage the worldwide popularity of sport to engage millions of fans in the effort.



UIAA STATEMENT ON CLIMATE CHANGE

The impact of climate change on mountain regions was one of the core topics discussed at the 2019 UIAA General Assembly (GA) in Cyprus. The UIAA issued a statement reflecting this. This scope of the statement was to provide a summary of the UIAA's longstanding commitment to the protection of the mountain environment and climate action, and its future goals.

<https://www.theuiaa.org/uiiaa/statement-uiiaa-and-climate-change/>



UIAA PUBLISHES FIRST CARBON FOOTPRINT CALCULATION

As part of its commitment to tackling climate change and reducing its own CO2 emissions, the UIAA has published its first annual [Carbon Footprint Calculation](#).

This report, covering 2018, outlines the ongoing results of monitoring and reporting of the UIAA's carbon footprint, which is in response to its signed commitment in early 2019 and participation under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) [Sports for Climate Action](#).

<https://www.theuiaa.org/mountaineering/uiiaa-publishes-2018-carbon-footprint-calculation/>

UIAA PROJECTS HELD UP AS SUSTAINABILITY MODELS

In December 2018, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the International Olympic Committee (IOC) co-launched the new Sports for Climate Action Framework and defined the role of sport in the worldwide fight for climate change. The UN Sports for Climate Action Framework aims to help sports organisations reduce emissions caused by their operations and leverage the worldwide popularity of sport to engage millions of fans in the effort.

Sport in all its forms is increasingly threatened by climate change. The increasing lack of snow during winter, unpredictable heatwaves and rising sea levels are among the issues seriously affecting athletes, event organisers and spectators.

The International Olympic Committee (IOC) launched the International Federation (IF) Sustainability Project in 2016 in order to obtain an overview of

IF's sustainability initiatives, which are to identify common topics, challenges and good practices. One outcome was a series of cases studies demonstrating how IF's are contributing to a more sustainable world.

The UIAA has been recognised by the IOC for its commitment to sustainability and features both in the official [Sports for Climate Action](#) brochure and as a dedicated case study paper about the [Respect the Mountains Movement \(RTM\)](#). The initiative, which started in 2015 forms part of the UIAA's longstanding commitment to sustainability and mountain protection. Initially an event based initiative that championed a clean-up operation alongside education and awareness (some 1,500 volunteers collected 7.5 tonnes of waste during its 18 events between 2016-2018) has since gone global as an international movement which likeminded projects from across the globe can join through an [international calendar](#).



UIAA PROJECTS RECOGNISED AS SUSTAINABILITY MODELS

<https://www.theuiaa.org/home/uiiaa-projects-held-up-as-sustainability-models/>



Carbon Footprint Calculation Report:

https://www.theuiaa.org/documents/sustainability/2018_UIAA_Carbon_Footprint_Calculation_Final.pdf



IF Sustainability Case Studies:

<https://www.theuiaa.org/documents/sustainability/IOC-SPORTS-FOR-CLIMATE-ACTION.pdf>



IF Sustainability Project RTM:

<https://www.theuiaa.org/documents/sustainability/IOC-UIAA-RESPECT-THE-MOUNTAINS.pdf>

2019: EVENTS ATTENDED

The Mountain Protection Commission was represented and participated at the following events, conferences and meetings in 2019:

- **MOUNTAIN PARTNERSHIP STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING**
26-27 March, Rome, Italy
- **4TH UNWTO EURO-ASIAN MOUNTAIN TOURISM CONFERENCE**
2-5 March, Berchtesgaden, Germany
- **UNESCO CHAIR MEETING**
29 April, Naters, Switzerland
- **INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON “MOUNTAINS: CULTURES, LANDSCAPES, AND BIODIVERSITY”**
10-12 May, Baku, Azerbaijan
- **IPCC SPECIAL REPORT ON THE OCEAN AND CRYOSPHERE IN A CHANGING CLIMATE**
September, Monaco
- **UNFCCC SPORTS FOR CLIMATE ACTION SIGNATORY MEETING**
18 September, IOC Lausanne, Switzerland
- **IF FORUM SUSTAINABILITY SESSION**
30 October, Lausanne, Switzerland, October
- **MOUNTAIN SUMMIT WORKING GROUP, FIRST MEETING**
31 October, Lausanne, Switzerland
- **COP25**
December, Madrid, Spain

2020: THE YEAR AHEAD

The Mountain Protection Commission looks forward to continuing to fulfil its commitment to the MPA and RtM projects as key priorities in its portfolio, not least given the support provided by Bally and the expected step change in evolving the concepts and their implementation. The MPC will look to the results achieved in 2019 and use these as basis for further development and improvement of the projects’ concepts and implementation in 2020.

In 2020, the MPC can also expect to participate at COP26 to be held in Glasgow, Scotland in November.



REPORT BY

DR CAROLINA ADLER

UIAA Mountain Protection Commission President
mountainprotection@theuiaa.org

KEY LINKS

[Mountain Protection](#)

[Respect the Mountains](#)

[Mountain Protection Award](#)

MOUNTAIN PROTECTION COMMISSION MEMBERSHIP

As confirmed by the UIAA Management Committee in Cyprus (November 2019)

FULL MEMBERS

Dr Carolina ADLER (President), New Zealand (NZAC)
Michael MAUNSELL, Ireland (MI) (Vice-President)
Hussein BAGIROV, Azerbaijan (FAIREX)
Stephen GOODWIN, UK (BMC)
Ganesh GURUNG, Nepal (NMA)
Amin MOEIN, Iran (IMSCF)
Mahmood Almad SHAH, India (IMF)
Joop SPIJKER, The Netherlands (NKBV)

CORRESPONDING MEMEBRS

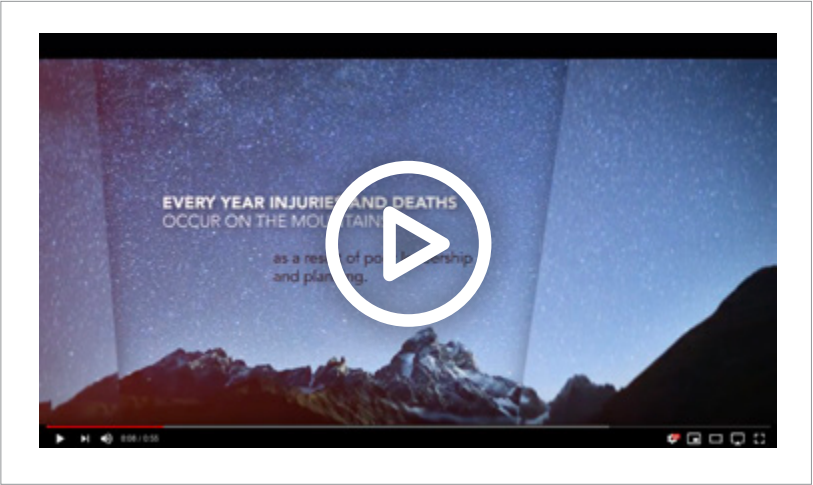
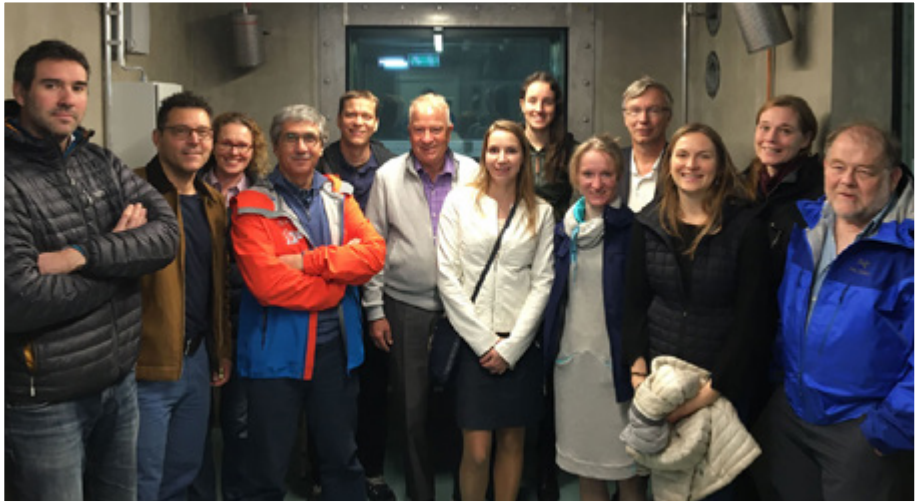
Maretha ALANT, South Africa (MCSA)
Ahmed AUPAR, Bangladesh (BMF)
Lode BECKERS, Belgium (CMBEL)
Jan Ivar BOE, Norway (NTK)
Irena MRAK, Solvenia (PZS)
Valeska Buchemi OLIVEIRA, Brazil (CBME)

UIAA Medical Commission

MOUNTAIN MEDICINE

The mission of the UIAA Medical Commission is to give the best possible advice through its network of doctoral-level mountain medicine experts, advice pages, the International Diploma in Mountain Medicine, and the dissemination of papers, translated into over ten languages. Many members are active teachers in their respective countries.

2019 UIAA Medical Commission Meeting



Promo: UIAA MedCom High-Altitude Papers
<https://youtu.be/ZzmU0cQ8psA>

Medical Advice Papers

- 31** Medical & high-altitude advice papers
- 13** Different languages
- 172** High-altitude papers in total

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF 2019

Achievements

Translations of MedCom recommendations are still ongoing. This includes:

Continuation and progress on papers about dental emergencies during trekking or expeditions; malaria prevention for climbers; the prevention of altitude illness; minimal standards for safety in artificial hypoxia; and diabetes and mountaineering.

Challenges

Among the major challenges and requests made to MedCom is the checking of the quality of a commercially organised trek or expedition. A paper has been published and updated, but it remains a topic of discussion at meetings. Bridging the gap between physicians/experts and the general public in terms of sound advice and recommendations made remains a challenge.

Furthermore, it would be helpful for MedCom to know what the UIAA and its members are interested in and what topics have yet to be covered.

Annual Commission Meeting

7-8 November 2019

Bolzano, Italy

The UIAA Medical Commission was hosted by EURAC Research. Alongside five invited guest speakers, 16 MedCom members met in Bolzano to discuss membership and involvement of the commission, while also planning and preparing future advice papers. The discussions highlighted the need to address advice and recommendations both to the general public and physicians/experts. Safety being a key topic for mountaineers, the UIAA through its work of MedCom plays an important role in making mountaineering even more interesting and especially safer.

Through the leadership of the newly elected Commission President, Dr Urs Hefti, and in collaboration with EURAC Research a joint symposium on "Altitude pre-exposure for inducing climbers' acclimation: is it effective, ethical and legal?" was held on the second day of the meeting.

The topic was discussed from viewpoints of a scientist, an expedition operator, a climber, a lawyer and a UIAA representative. The meeting

ended with an organized visit of the extreme environmental simulator "terraXcube".

The Commission will meet only briefly in 2020, alongside the ISMM Congress in Interlaken and plans to meet for several days again in 2021, gathering for the first time in Africa – a joint project with the University of Zurich, the local University in Kampala and UIAA MedCom. Work is in progress.

SUPPORT FOR UIAA MEMBERS

The UIAA MedCom provides a range of services for both UIAA members and the wider mountaineering community. Its high-altitude advice papers are internationally respected and the fruits of years of research compiled by Commission representatives from UIAA member associations worldwide.

Translated into 13 languages they are a valuable resource which can be shared through member association communication channels. This expertise provides a broad range of mountain users – gap year travellers, novice climbers, experienced mountaineers and those with specific medical considerations – with potentially life-saving information. Furthermore, the UIAA International Diploma in Mountain Medicine helps improve knowledge and increase expertise amongst medical practitioners across the world. UIAA members are reminded to reach out to UIAA MedCom with requests or topics they wish to be covered.

Projects

- International Diploma
- As part of the International Diploma Administrative Group, three of the UIAA MedCom members work with ICAR (International Commission for Alpine Rescue) MedCom and the International Society of Mountain Medicine (ISMM) to administer the international UIAA/ ICAR/ISMM Diploma of Mountain Medicine.
- Library of recommendations
- Translation of papers still in progress.

Partnerships

Momentarily, the closest cooperation is with [EURAC](#), less with [ISMM](#) (although many Commission members will attend their congress in 2020) and constant collaboration with [ICAR](#).

Events attended in 2019

Urs Hefti attended the 2019 UIAA Management Committee spring meeting in Malta, where he was officially elected President of MedCom. The joint meeting between Commission Presidents and especially with the Management Committee gave him a sound understanding of the value and contribution of MedCom to the UIAA and its members.



2020 THE YEAR AHEAD – PRIORITIES

The possibility of creating videos and/or e-learning manuals based on the advice papers was discussed during the in-person meeting in Bolzano. A key aim for the year ahead is to continue the success the Commission has achieved with further publication of MedCom advice papers most likely in the fields of dental emergencies during trekking and expedition, malaria prevention for climbers and the prevention of altitude illness. The Commission will continue to reach out and co-operate with other

mountain medicine groups around the world as well as increasing its efforts to spread the Commission's message to those areas of the world in most need of medical advice. A 2021 meeting in Uganda should provide an excellent opportunity. While the Commission has a close contact with the UIAA Office, it is of great importance that the UIAA supports MedCom more closely. It is becoming increasingly difficult for the MedCom to conduct professional work without greater financial and logistical support.

Furthermore, the UIAA must define which questions must be answered or processed by the UIAA MedCom. A clear strategy in this respect is missing.

On its side, MedCom must be more active in its core businesses such as prevention, training and education. A core team of a few very active members should be supported to fulfil these tasks.



REPORT BY

URS HEFTI

President, UIAA Medical Commission

MEMBERS

Urs HEFTI (President), Switzerland (SAC)

Thomas KUEPPER (Vice President), Germany (DAV)

Erhan ALEMDAR, Turkey (TDF)

Jae Yong AHN, Korea (KAF)

AliReza BEHPOUR, Iran (IMSCF)

Pierre BOUZAT, France (FFCAM)

Sundeeep DILLON, UK (BMC)

Anil GURTOO, India (IMF)

David HILLEBRANDT, UK (BMC)

Johan HOLMGREN, Sweden (SKF)

Kaste MATEIKAITE, Lithuania (LMA)

Shigeru MASUYAMA, Japan (JMSCA)

John MCCALL, Canada (ACC)

Ludomir MLADENOV, Bulgaria (BCMF)

Patrick PETERS, Luxembourg (FLERA)

George RODWAY, USA (AAC)

Giulio Sergio ROI, Italy (ISF)

Nima Namgyel SHERPA, Nepal (NMA)

Sonam Zangbu SHERPA, Nepal (NMA)

Rianne VAN DE SPEK, Netherlands (NKBV)

Marieke VAN VESSEM, Netherlands (NKBV)

Eduardo Garrigos VINHAES, Brazil (CBME)

Emma Linnea WICHARDT, Norway (NTK)

CORRESPONDING MEMBERS

Giancelso AGAZZI, Italy

Marija ANDJELKOVIC, Serbia, (UIAA Anti-Doping Commission)

Corrado ANGELINI, Italy

Buddha BASNYAT, Nepal (HRA)

Hermann BRUGGER, ISMM

Nenad DIKIC, Serbia, (UIAA Anti-Doping Commission)

Dominique JEAN, France (ISMM)

Alexandra KOUKOUTSI, Greece

Norihiro KAMIKOMAKI, Japan (JMSCA)

Hidenori KANAZAWA, Japan (DiMM)

Heleen MEIJER, Netherlands (NKBV)

Audry MORRISON, UK (BMC)

Peter PAAL, Austria (OGAHM)

Miguel REIS E SILVA, Portugal (FCMP)

Alison ROSIER, United States

Ivan ROTMAN, Czech Republic (CMF)

Volker SCHOEFFL, Germany (DAV)

Daniel TREVENA, Australia (NZAC)

Eckart VON DELFT, South Africa (MCSA)

Shih-Hao WANG, Taiwan (CTAA)

Jeremy WINDSOR, United Kingdom (BMC)

Key Links

[UIAA Medical Commission](#)

[UIAA High-Altitude Papers](#)

[UIAA Diploma in Mountain Medicine](#)



Ten things to consider when buying climbing gear

<https://www.theuiaa.org/uiiaa/uiiaa-advice-ten-things-to-consider-when-buying-climbing-gear/>



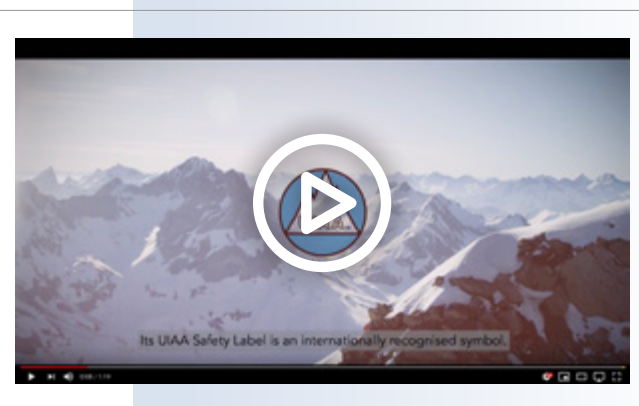
Is your equipment really certified?

<https://www.theuiaa.org/uiiaa/is-your-equipment-really-certified/>

SafeCom

MOUNTAIN SAFETY

The UIAA, through its Safety Commission, supports climbers and mountaineers in their goal of managing the inherent risks of their activities. This objective is achieved by establishing excellent equipment Standards, together with recommendations concerning the correct use of this equipment and the granting of Safety Labels to manufacturers whose products meet UIAA Standards.



A guide to the UIAA Safety Label
<https://youtu.be/Cfwd9h3T-7s>

24

Safety
Standards

71

Safety Label Holders
from **23** countries

+2000

Safety Labels
granted in 2019

ANCHOR CORROSION PROJECT

Over recent years the subject of corrosion has been a significant concern for the research arm of the UIAA Safety Commission (SafeCom). Commission members and external experts have invested significant time and resources into collecting data from climbers and running analysis of samples of faulty anchors.

The UIAA has coordinated this analysis to create a [Google Map of known corrosion locations](#). This map is intended as a reference to identify areas where examples of corrosion have been logged. It is designed only as an informative guide based on data received and assessed. There is an ongoing investigation by UIAA SafeCom into the reasons behind these multiple failures.

Two related articles were published in Corrosion, The Journal of Science and Engineering <https://corrosionjournal.org/doi/full/10.5006/3227> and <https://corrosionjournal.org/doi/full/10.5006/3242>. An update of the Standard is expected in 2020.

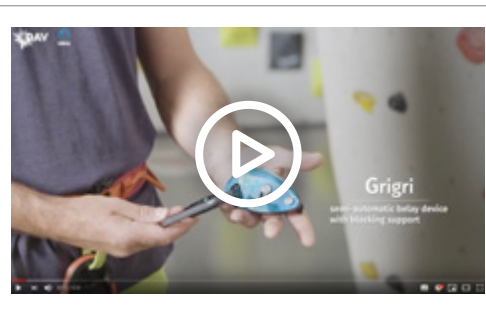
SUPPORT FOR UIAA MEMBERS

Resources provided by the UIAA Safety Commission, such as the development of international Standards, granting of UIAA Safety Labels, research into safety issues and publication of key advice messages are designed to improve climber safety and offer climbers greater access to information in

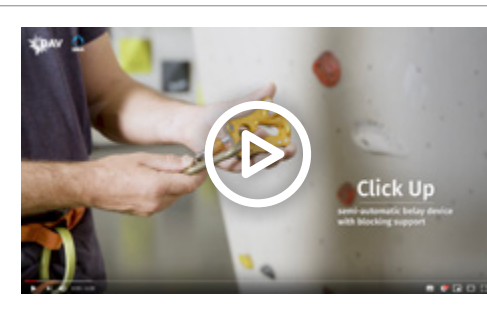
making choices about how they climb and the equipment they use. Resources are free for all members to share on their own channels. Research conducted by the Commission has a direct benefit for all climbers worldwide.



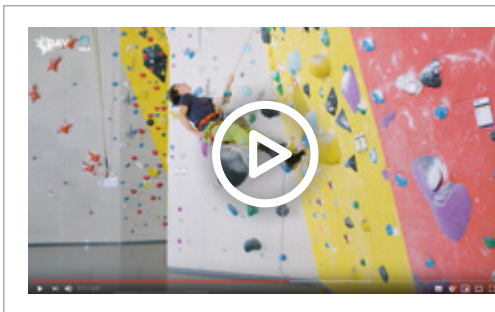
The official logo of the UIAA Safety Label



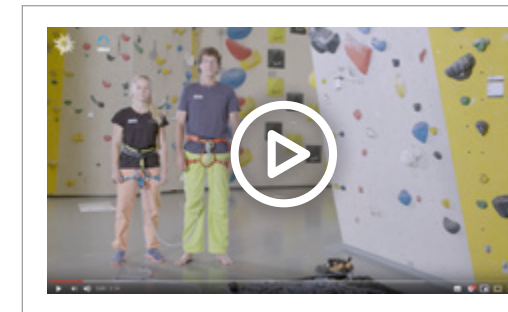
How to belay with the Grigri
<https://youtu.be/BAXY-BBSIGc>



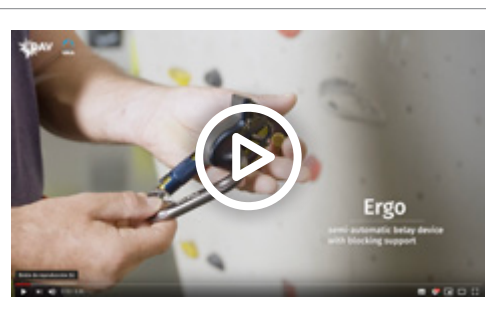
How to belay with the Click Up
<https://youtu.be/UiXADkRctrQ>



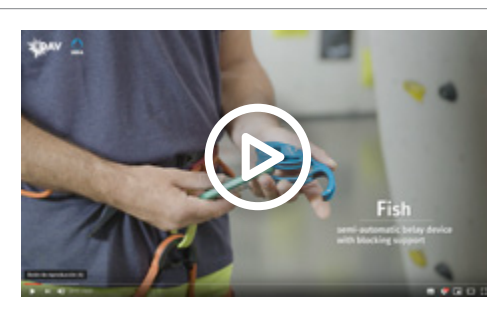
How to Handle Soft Belaying
<https://youtu.be/bO1DkxElavc>



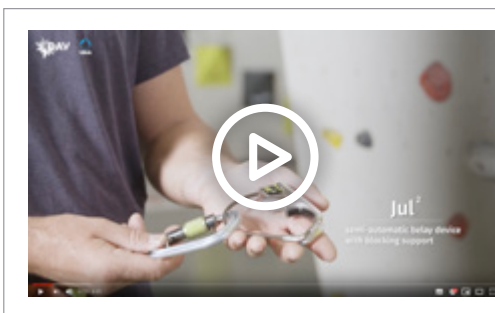
How to belay with weight difference
<https://youtu.be/06qEtYuUVq0>



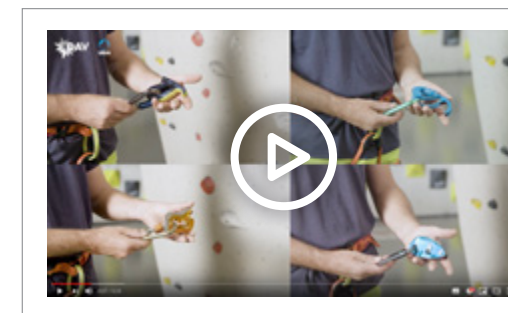
How to belay with the Ergo/ATC Pilot
<https://youtu.be/rKOLqBb5P1Q>



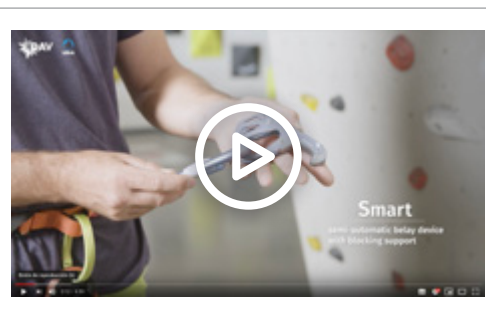
How to belay with the Fish
<https://youtu.be/KTMvVk5l-pU>



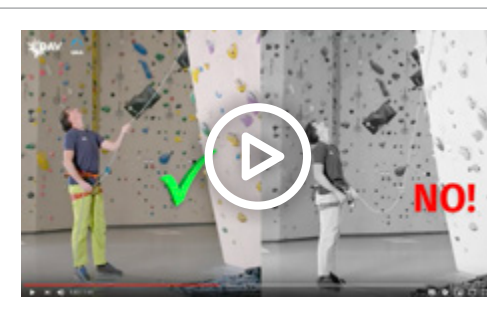
How to belay with the Jul²
<https://youtu.be/RpX8o8nAPN4>



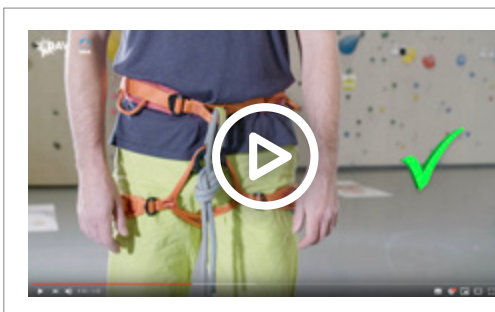
How to belay with the ATC (*)
<https://youtu.be/H1pjGl4gs0A>



How to belay with the Smart
<https://youtu.be/YxrKmGnRiHE>



Slack Rope
<https://youtu.be/5tsCbimxDnY>



Partner Check
<https://youtu.be/dSwb9RBG5TY>

(*) How to belay with the ATC

This video is also available but comes with an advisory. Please refer to the [UIAA website](#).

*“This project is the fruit of **excellent collaboration** between the UIAA and one of our largest member associations.”*

UIAA AND DAV COLLABORATION PROJECT

In 2019 UIAA and the [German Alpine Club \(DAV\)](#) teamed up to produce a series of twelve videos designed to help improve climber's belay technique. Originally produced by the DAV, the videos have recently been translated into English following collaboration with the UIAA Safety Commission and UIAA Training Panel.

The principal focus is different belaying techniques and the instructor in the video is Christoph Hummel, a member of both the DAV Safety Research department and Corresponding Member of the UIAA Safety Commission, who spearheaded the initiative.

and the important messages about safety covered in these features. Furthermore, the project has helped further discussions between a number of Commissions in the UIAA and the DAV about further collaboration.”

“This project is the fruit of excellent collaboration between the UIAA and one of our largest member associations,” explains Nils Glatthard, UIAA Director of Operations. “Making these videos available in English and through the UIAA's international network will help increase awareness

REPORT FROM ANNUAL COMMISSION MEETING

The Annual Commission meeting was held in Malta on 5 May hosted by the Malta Climbing Club.

The meeting opened with a review of the events attended by SafeCom: Friedrichshafen Outdoor 2018, ISPO Beijing 2019 and looking forward to Outdoor Munich ISPO July 2019.

The Plenary Commission, 6-7 May, welcomed 30 of the leading manufactures for climbing and mountaineering gear, five UIAA accredited laboratories and ten international experts to discuss Working Group research, updates to Standards, accident reports involving equipment failure and other current safety related topics.

Important work of the UIAA concerning the 'Alpin' Magazine article regarding new VF EAS sets (April 2018) was presented. The overall outcome of all the tests conducted by UIAA

test laboratories showed that the new type of EAS sets complied very closely with the new EN 958:2017 and UIAA 128.

Anchor corrosion is an important topic for all climbers, and a comprehensive update was given by Lionel Kiener, SafeCom Vice President. Kiener remarked that the problem was not confined just to stress corrosion cracking (SCC) but also 'environmental degradation'. Phase one of the corrosion tests on sample anchors has been completed. Work has now been started on the second phase, which uses a purpose-built titanium test tank (paid for by the UIAA) to subject samples to aggressive hot chemical salt tests. The bolt type test samples are mounted on granite blocks, to induce stresses. Complete anchors made of various materials are being tested. When this test work is finalised, it will offer the possibility to specify test procedures for the proposed five classes of anchor. This will help the end user choose the correct class of anchor for a particular location.

WORKING GROUPS

Current Working Group research includes helmet rim impact testing, where a maximum impact force of 8kN had been chosen. Continuing research is needed with test helmets including foam models, and results will be taken from round robin tests at laboratories. SafeCom welcomed two guest presentations, one from the International Commission for Alpine Rescue (ICAR) and one from International Slackline Association (ISA). A close relationship is developing with ICAR with representatives of the UIAA and ICAR regularly attending each other's annual meetings. ISA presented their activities and information on the types of equipment used in slacklining.

New Working Groups are set to propose future standards for the following areas; Prusiks, Static Ropes, Trekking Poles and Rigging Plates.

Work started by CAI (Italian Alpine Club) regarding avalanche probes is continuing. First stage work on the standard for Ice Climbing structures has been completed and feedback is pending from the Ice Climbing Commission. Meanwhile, SafeCom is beginning its collaboration with the International Federation of Canyoning.

2020: THE YEAR AHEAD

The Commission has set high standards in terms of its goals for the next four years. Their goals include revising all 24 UIAA standards, and setting ten new UIAA standards, as well as devising a marketing campaign to encourage UIAA member associations to spread awareness among their membership about the importance of the UIAA Safety Label, what the UIAA Safety Label represents, the research and collaboration of global experts, manufacturers, and accredited laboratories who work together to make equipment safer for the climbing community.



REPORT BY

AMIT CHOWDHURY

UIAA Safety Commission President

FURTHER READINGS

[UIAA Safety Label](#)

[Safety Standards](#)

[UIAA Safety Label Holders](#)

[Certified Equipment](#)

[Recalls](#)

[Accredited UIAA Laboratories](#)

SAFETY COMMISSION MEMBERSHIP

As confirmed by the UIAA Management Committee in Cyprus (November 2019)

MEMBERS

Amit CHOWDHURY
(President), India (IMF)

Lionel KIENER, (Vice President)
Switzerland (SAC)

Kevin BROWN, Canada (ACC)

Per FORSBERG, Sweden (SCF)

Nicholas GALPIN, UK (BMC)

Alan JARVIS, South Africa (MCSA)

Alexis MALLON, France (FFCAM)

Ali SAHIN, Turkey (TDF)

Alexandre VELHINHO, Portugal (FPME)

CORRESPONDING MEMBERS

Marc BEVERLY, USA

Frederico CAMPOS MARTINS DOS SANTOS, Brazil (CBME)

Christoph HUMMEL, Germany (DAV)

Augustin MOINAT, UK (ISA)

Hitoshi ONODERA, Japan (JMSCA)

Agustin UNSAIN, Argentina (FASA)

Da Chai WANG, Chinese Taipei (CTMA)

Thomas WEDLICK, USA (AAC)



DONATE: Financial support for climbing

Support the **UIAA**, its members and partners in delivering international projects which *make a difference*.



<https://www.theuiaa.org/donate>



The UIAA Mountaineering Commission

MOUNTAINEERING

The expansion and development of the Training Panel programme is a key priority for the Mountaineering Commission. This includes work on the implementation and diffusion of the digital version of the Alpine Handbook ([see chapter on Training](#)) and a new administration system for UIAA members. Throughout 2019, the Commission was engaged in a number of subjects including topics related to ethics and liability insurances. The Commission promotes best practices by identifying and addressing technical, training, legal, access and ethical issues of international importance. As of 2019, the Access Commission became integrated into Mountaineering Commission.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

MountCom is looking into the option of providing federations and their clubs with the option of acquiring ISO 21101 certification at a reduced cost.

This Standard outlines the requirements of a safety management system for adventure tourism activity providers and was established by private outdoor activity companies in Europe. The standard covers guidelines, procedures and good practices for all activities that clubs and federations undertake, with a view to preventing accidents and improved understanding and management of members' and group activities. The benefits include a demonstration of professionalism and commitment to safety, lower insurance premiums, and may prove extremely valuable in legal cases. As such, it will be a prized certificate for national federations, training

bodies and larger clubs – particularly those that provide training, coaching and mentorship.

In training (see dedicated pages), leadership and rescue training were provided in India and Mongolia, with the long-term aim to create qualifications that are eligible for UIAA accreditation, and personal skills training has been piloted in Indonesia, Kenya and Mongolia.

The second edition of the UIAA Alpine Summer Skills Handbook has just been completed, with a new section that covers traditional climbing and additions to Alpine skills.

The MountCom Annual Training Seminar, which was held in Hong Kong for club coaches and trainers, addressed training priorities and course design for hiking, climbing and canyoning. These seminars are a useful and valuable forum for sharing and discussing best practice, skills and safety with world experts and at an international level.

Other projects which continue to develop including a thorough study of mountaineering accidents and near misses. Documents and data are currently being analysed.

ETHICS

The Ethics and Values Working Group (formerly TVWG – Traditional Values Working Group) is investigating the definition of climbing and mountaineering styles and associated ethics, sustainability, best practice and environmental impact.

This is of value in other areas of MountCom's work, including the Tyrol Declaration, Management of the High Mountains of the World, and for the UIAA and federations to ascertain best and acceptable practice.

SUPPORT FOR UIAA MEMBERS

Training activities receive more and more interest from many UIAA associations and represent the "core business" of MountCom. They represent also a very effective way to involve new associations joining the UIAA and to spread awareness about safe practices concerning climbing and mountaineering.

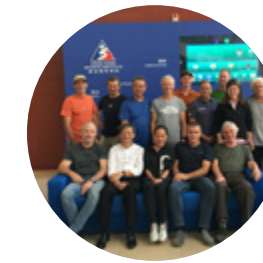
2019 MEETINGS



March

Novi Sad, Serbia , hosted by the [Mountaineering Association of Serbia](#) (MAS)

Full report [here](#)



October

Hong Kong, hosted by the [China Hong Kong Mountaineering and Climbing Union](#) (CHKMCU)

Full report [here](#)

PARTNERSHIPS

The UIAA continues to collaborate with the Petzl Foundation on the Alpine Handbook, who has also funded training in Mongolia. MountCom continues in partnership with SafeCom to produce training videos which are available on the UIAA website. There

is an agreement for future promotion of training courses and the handbook using the services of Red Wolf.

The Himalayan Club meanwhile, in coordination with the UIAA has funded training programmes in India.



ALPINISM AS AN INTANGIBLE UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE

On 11 December 2019, Alpinism was officially recognised by UNESCO as an Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.

The UIAA supported this initiative through its honorary member Claude Eckhardt and member associations in France, Italy and Switzerland.

The full article can be found [here](#).

LOOKING AHEAD

2020

The Commission plans to have a fully functioning database which will allow management of walking, climbing and mountaineering training, accreditation, courses and seminars.

The Personal Skills training programme will be launched as well as a promotional campaign for training and potentially the ISO Certification. The Commission will continue to promote safety and best practices amongst agencies in high mountain regions, while work will continue on the Alpine Handbook.

The Canadian Alpine Club has created an online directory and booking system for its mountain huts. MountCom is investigating how their system can be adopted to create a global booking system for mountain huts - like an AirBnB for climbers - and will be inviting federations to become part of this project.

PETER FARKAS RECEIVES OLYMPIC MEDAL

While there were still 290 days to go until the next summer Olympic Games in Tokyo take place - where 339 gold medals will be awarded - a member of the UIAA family attended his own Olympic medal ceremony on 2 October in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia.

UIAA Mountaineering Commission President Peter Farkas (pictured right), former UIAA Vice President, received a gold medal from the Mongolian National Olympic Committee as recognition for his 'contribution to the development of Mongolian sport'. This included his instrumental role in bringing the Mongolian National Climbing Federation (MNCF) into the UIAA. The MNCF hosted a very successful edition of the UIAA General Assembly in October 2018. ►

Access Commission Report

ACCESS AND EXPEDITION WG MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the UIAA Access Working Group is to globally promote the idea of responsible free access to mountains environments to mountain users.

The UIAA Access WG also supports requests for action and assistance by UIAA member federations, especially requests by new member federations.



ACCESS-RELATED MEETINGS

During the Malta MC meetings, it was decided that the Access Commission would be integrated into the Mountaineering Commission.

The Access members convened in Malta to define its future and directed the following topics to the Mountaineering President:

- How to develop future work
- Role of Access WG members of the Commission
- How to work together within the Mountaineering Commission

The Mountaineering Commission held its second meeting of 2019 in October and the Access President and Mountaineering President then met for a second time during the GA in Cyprus to coordinate future actions. This included:

- Setting a first Access WG meeting to prepare future, actions, projects
- Joining if possible, the EUMA Access Workshop and continuing UIAA Access meetings
- Joining future Mountaineering Commission meetings

SUPPORT FOR UIAA MEMBERS

Throughout 2019 the Access WG continued to support and provide information regarding issues in different regions:

Tatras NP, (Slovakia)

An important restriction was imposed by the authorities. The Access Commission worked with the UIAA member federation in

Slovakia (JAMES), to lobby against the measure. The authorities then agreed to a period of consultation and negotiation.

Mont Blanc, (France)

Due to overcrowding in the Mont Blanc region, authorities established a regulation to control summit attempts. The UIAA Access WG followed this subject closely.

Nepal regulations

The Government established a new set of rules for Everest summits (age, physical attributes, experience). Close contact was established with the Nepal Mountaineering Association. This is an ongoing situation.



REPORT BY

PETER FARKAS

Mountaineering Commission President

JUAN JESUS IBANEZ MARTIN

Access Working Group President

KEY LINKS

<https://www.theuiaa.org/mountaineering>

MOUNTAINEERING COMMISSION MEMBERSHIP

As confirmed by the UIAA Management Committee – Cyprus (November 2019)

MEMBERS

Peter FARKAS (President), Hungary (MHSSz)

Pavlos GEORGIADIS, Cyprus (CMCF), Vice-President

Mike GALBRAITH (Secretary), Canada (ACC)

Andreas ANDREOU, Cyprus (CMCF)

Chiaki AOYAMA, Japan (JMA)

Roman BRYK, Russia (RMF)

Debraj DUTTA, India (IMF)

Xabier EZEIZABARRENA, Spain (EMF)

Ron FUNDERBURKE, USA (AAC)

Nona KALADADZE, Georgia (MCAG)

Krishan KUMAR, India (IMF)

Patrick LAMARQUE, France (FFCAM)

Steve LONG, UK (BMC)

Jordi MAGRINA GUELL, Spain (FEED)

Darko MRSNIK, Croatia (HPS)

Signar Andre NILSEN, Norway (NTK)



Laza POPARA, Serbia (PSS)

Laura SAMSO, Spain (FEDME)

Doug SCOTT, UK (BMC)

Matjas SERKEZI, Slovenia (PZS)

Shirman SO, CHKMCU (Hong Kong)

Jiri VOGEL, Czech Republic (CMF)

Phil WICKENS, UK (BMC)

Frederick YU, CHKMCU (Hong Kong)

CORRESPONDING MEMBERS

Pedro CUICA, Portugal (FCMP)

Klara DVORAKOVA-HAVLIKOVÁ, Czech Republic (CMLA)

Rafael GRIBEL, Brazil (CBME)

Mahmood HASHEMI, Iran (IMSCF)

Hamed HAVALEHDAR NEJAD, Iran (IMSCF)

Seyed Mahmoud MIRNOURI LANGEROUDI, Iran (IMSCF)

ACCESS WORKING GROUP

MEMBERS

Juan Jesus IBANEZ MARTIN,

Spain (FEDME), President

Lode BECKERS, Belgium (CMBEL)

Hank HWANG, Chinese Taipei (CTMA)

Sudhir KRISHNANKUTTY, India (IMF)

Milosz JODLOWSKI, Poland (PZA)

Mehdi SOHEIL FARID, Iran (IMSCF)

CORRESPONDING MEMBERS

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Jack BERGIN, Ireland (MI)

Nelson BRUGGER, Brazil (CBME)

Esteban DEGREGORI, Argentina (FASA)

Hamidreza IZADI, Iran (IMSCF)

Hitoshi ONODERA, Japan (JMCSA)

Boyan PETROV, Bulgaria (BCMF)

Joao Paulo QUEIROS, Portugal (FCMP)

Richard Grant SHERRY, South Africa (MCSA)

Brian STEPHENSON, New Zealand (NZAC)

EXPEDITIONS

Mahmood HASHEMI, Iran (IMSCF)

LEGAL EXPERTS WORKING GROUP

MEMBERS

Klara DVORAKOVA-HAVLIKOVÁ (Chair),

Czech Republic (CMLA)

Xabier EZEIZABARRENA, Spain (EMF)

Damjan OMERZU, Slovenia (PZS)

Edward EVERETT VAILL, USA (AAC)

CORRESPONDING MEMBERS

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Dr Dominik KOCHOLL

Gerald LANNING, New Zealand (NZAC)

Matt MAGKILL, New Zealand (NZAC)

Carla MILIONI, Brazil (CBME)

2020

THE YEAR AHEAD

The 33rd Access Commission meeting will be held in 2020. The preference is to join an Access Workshop organised by EUMA in May. Topics will include:

- Integration into the Mountaineering Commission, relaunch of activities.
- Increase restrictions around the world, is a UIAA Strategy required?
- Access knowledge or guidelines to follow in case of restrictions.

TRAINING

Training is one of the core services offered by the UIAA. In particular, the UIAA Mountain Qualification Label (MQL), managed by the UIAA Training Panel (TP), is an internationally recognised accreditation and certification scheme which examines and evaluates the training and assessment programmes of UIAA member associations.

BENEFITS FOR UIAA MEMBERS

All UIAA members can apply for, and benefit from, MQLs. The process includes an independent assessment of the training provided to voluntary leaders and instructors by a UIAA expert, which is then endorsed by an international panel of experts. Accredited UIAA member associations include representatives from over twenty countries.

2019 IN REVIEW

PRACTICAL TRAINING PROJECTS

All programmes are open to any voluntary or professional candidate from an organisation in the regions served by the UIAA Panel or other highly qualified trainers.

Ladakh (India), June 2019

Sponsored by ALTOA, Leh Mountain Rescue and The Himalayan Club, the focus was on mountain trekking skills and leadership and mountain rescue for Leh and Zaskar rescue teams. The result was the successful qualification of 23 leadership trainees and ten rescue trainees. A pilot introduction course was also offered using UIAA personal skills programme trainers from Austria, Cyprus, India, Nepal and the UK. A contribution from sponsors amounted to €15,000. The long-term outcome was a sustainable guiding qualification for hiking, including glacial treks, as well as civilian rescue teams for the Leh and Zaskar regions.

Mongolia, September

Sponsored by the Petzl Foundation. Successfully trained ten Leadership candidates, including two trainees from the National Emergency Rescue team. A pilot introduction course using UIAA personal skills programme was also completed. Trainers came from Cyprus, Mongolia and the UK. This was phase one of a three-year project.

The contribution from sponsors amounted to €3,000 (€10,000 over three years).

There was also additional sponsorship from various Mongolian organisations amounting to €30,000 over three years. The long-term outcome will be the availability of a sustainable guiding qualification for hiking including glacial treks.

Kenya, October

Sponsored by James Savage. The successful venture resulted in the qualification of 48

Every year for more than a decade, the UIAA Training Panel (TP) has reported having experienced a busy year. However, 2019 eclipsed all previous years by some margin.

leadership trainees, as well as the creation of a pilot introduction course using the UIAA personal skills programme. Contribution from sponsorship amounted to €4,000. Trainers came from New Zealand and the UK.

Hong Kong, October

In addition to the voluntary training projects, the team also completed professional assignments requested by UIAA member organisation China Hong Kong Mountaineering and Climbing Union (CHKMCU).

In Hong Kong, the 'Train the Trainer' course resulted in the qualification of six senior coaches; advanced tutor training and induction into UIAA personal skills training concept. Delivered by trainers from Cyprus and the UK.

There was also a seminar for coaches, focusing on the topics of hiking, climbing and canyoning. This was delivered by trainers from Cyprus, Spain, the UK and the USA. The feedback from delegates was overwhelmingly positive.

A leading team of Training talent

The Training Panel now has a team of trainers in place with proven experience to deliver “cutting-edge” training on the mountain as well as in the classroom, anywhere in the world. Its network of trainers include individuals from IFMGA, UIMLA and many national associations, including the AMI (Association of Mountaineering Instructors),

Meetings

The Training Panel met twice in 2019, as part of the Mountaineering Commission. Thanks to its “filter” procedure of requiring MountCom membership as a pre-requisite for membership, the Training Panel has a dedicated team comprising senior trainers from Catalunya, the Czech Republic, Cyprus,

the AMGA (American Mountain Guides Association), and the NMLA (Nepal Mountain Leader Association). The Hong Kong seminar produced a cross-activity format that could potentially be delivered for any member organisation as a member service and showcased the work of several commissions.

France, Slovenia, Spain, the UK and the USA. It should be noted that this sub-commission already contains the maximum number of members proposed in the draft constitution document circulated prior to the GA and has several other aspirant members.

TRAINING RESOURCES AND SERVICES

Personal Skills (Good Practice) Training

All other services and resources are secondary to this concept, which the TP believe will revolutionise training worldwide. In some ways this scheme can be likened to the PADI scheme for diving, except that the UIAA scheme empowers member organisations and enhances rather than competes with existing training programmes.

The TP has successfully piloted courses using the syllabus and structure in several countries - including some countries that do not yet have a club or federation structure, but do have a growing interest in mountain activities. This is a service that only instructors holding UIAA accredited qualifications can deliver. It has been piloted in India, Indonesia, Kenya and Mongolia.



<https://www.theuiaa.org/skills/>

has been finalised ready for print. This includes a new section on avalanche, and substantial additions to the sections on GPS and trad climbing (at the request of Reinhold Messner and Doug Scott). A completely new section on canyoning is almost complete. This project has been sponsored entirely by the Petzl Foundation.

Demand for this book exceeds availability. The English language digital version has brought an income to UIAA training of approximately €500. Participating federations are contracted to pay a small fee for each copy sold of the printed version. It is estimated that worldwide sales to date are in the region of 5,000 copies: this represents a significant potential income to offset against UIAA commission running costs. Invoices will be submitted in 2020.

The dedicated UIAA Skills series has promoted extracts from the book with the aim of promoting sales of the digital version.

Purchase: Alpine Handbook



To purchase the **DIGITAL VERSION** of the UIAA Alpine Skills Handbook (in English), including any future updates to the digital version, click [here](#).



SPRING MEETING

HOSTED BY THE MOUNTAINEERING ASSOCIATION OF SERBIA

<https://www.theuiaa.org/uiiaa/uiiaa-mountaineering-commission-meets-in-serbia/>



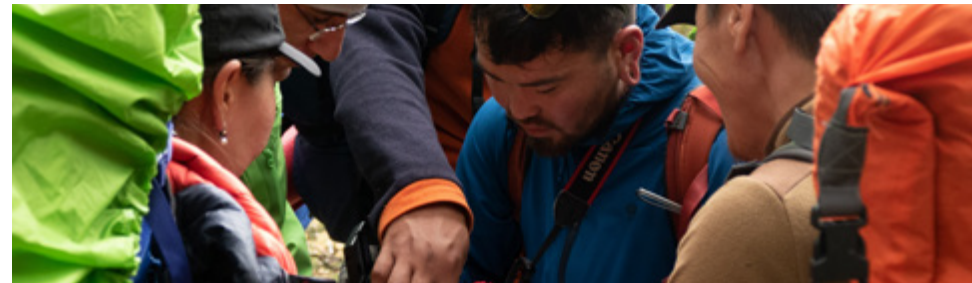
AUTUMN MEETING

HOSTED BY CHINA HONG KONG MOUNTAINEERING & CLIMBING UNION

<https://www.theuiaa.org/mountaineering/review-uiiaa-mountcom-autumn-meeting/>

Translation of DAV videos. This was a Safety Commission project; the Training Panel was asked to comment after the production of the English language versions. This was straightforward for eight of the videos, but the remaining video – belaying with an ATC/tube style device – generated considerable correspondence and also controversy within at least one federation. The Training Panel is keen to coordinate future

filming or post-production work on training videos in collaboration with the Safety Commission: two of the panel members have a professional background in directing successful training videos. This episode demonstrates that the climbing public expect UIAA videos to present internationally agreed techniques and is an important medium for potential future expansion.



Steve Long

FINANCE

The TP is effectively working on a shoestring budget. Total investment by the UIAA in the ambitious database and marketing work has been €2,000 to date. However, the funding for specific projects by the Petzl Foundation has enabled the TP to pilot, test and refine the service products described elsewhere in this chapter.

CHALLENGES AND SOLUTIONS

DATABASE DEVELOPMENT

This has taken two years longer to complete than the developers had originally anticipated. It should be noted that a database capable of handling every qualification for every mountaineering culture and environment is unprecedented: some would say impossible. The TP has paid €2,000 for what eventually required a ground-up rebuild – therefore the casualty has been timing, since the database developer naturally focusses on its fee-paying clients for developer time. In the meantime, the TP has successfully added all the CRM components for the skills training registrations, a fundamental expansion requirement

from single organisation representatives to potentially the entire online world – something which did not exist when the development work was commissioned. Therefore, this has required considerable groundwork and diplomacy, and many weeks of populating data fields by the Training Panel representative to avoid any accusation of “scope creep”. The accreditation part of the database is currently being tested by various heads of training. The system must work flawlessly before it (a) goes live and (b) subset data for skills training registrations are opened to the climbing and mountaineering public.



MARKETING

Peter Bourne, UIAA Communications Manager, has done a great job at promoting the UIAA Summer Skills Handbook through the website and newsletters, along with uploading meeting reports and papers. However, this is “preaching to the converted” – whereas there is a need to ensure that every climber and mountaineer worldwide knows and respects the UIAA brand and gains awareness of its training services. Since the budget request for investment in this crucial aspect of the development work was rejected when the business plan was first proposed in 2012, the Training Panel has recruited a professional marketing company on a “no-win, no fee” percentage income basis. This marketing drive will commence as soon as database testing is complete.

FUTURE PLANS

There are ongoing projects in India, Kenya and Mongolia.

As well as the revalidation of existing accreditations, there is a planned marketing drive for federation accreditations and individual climber registrations. There have been various additional training requests, including from the Mumbai region, Morocco and Thailand.

Plans are afoot to publish the second edition of the English-language Summer Skills Handbook, with worldwide distribution. There is also a desire to implement a Personal Skills/Good Practice training delivery by member organisations’ instructors, while there is also a Back-Country Snow Sport Seminar planned in the spring of 2020 in Canada.



REPORT BY

STEVE LONG

President, UIAA Training Panel

KEY LINKS

[UIAA Skills](#)

[UIAA Training](#)

[Map of Training Accreditations](#)

TRAINING PANEL

As confirmed by the Management Committee in Cyprus (November 2019)

MEMBERS

Steve LONG (President), United Kingdom (BMC)

Andreas ANDREOU, Cyprus (CMCF)

Patrick LAMARQUE, France (FFCAM)

Jordi Guell MAGRINA, Catalonia (FEED)

Laura Samso PERICON, Spain (FEDME)

Matjaž ŠERKEZI, Slovenia (PZS)

Ice Climbing

COMPETITION ICE CLIMBING

The UIAA has organised the sport of ice climbing for nearly twenty years and in that time has witnessed the incredible growth in popularity of the UIAA Ice Climbing World Tour. Ice climbing is a dynamic, exciting sport, rewarding determination, technique, speed and precision. The sport is increasingly appealing to young people both as a competition and as a way of developing core mountaineering skills.



The 2018 World Tour was one of the largest to date comprising five World Cups, four European Cups and a World Youth Championships. Events received signature exposure and coverage through the UIAA's livestreaming platform and relationships with partner channels, including [The Olympic Channel](#).

2018/2019

10

Countries

6

UIAA Ice Climbing World Cups

1

New UIAA Ice Climbing World Combined Championships

1

UIAA Ice Climbing World Championships

1

UIAA Ice Climbing World Youth Championships

4

UIAA Ice Climbing European Cups

178

Athletes

832

Event entries total

29

National federations represented



High-quality livestream



Increased livestream distribution



World Cup winners from Korea Russia, Switzerland + podiums for Canada, Finland, France, Ireland & Iran

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2018/19 UIAA ICE CLIMBING SEASON STATISTICS

SPORT

2019

4M

3.84 million UNIQUE views of all video content

3M

Over 2.9 million views of livestream + 94% on 2018

7M

Total reach of nearly 7.5 million people



Dedicated media distribution partners – Extreme Channel, Olympic Channel, EpicTV, Red Bull TV, TrekTV, & Swiss-Sport TV

2018/19 UIAA ICE CLIMBING WORLD TOUR CALENDAR

UIAA Anti-Doping Commission

The **UIAA Ice Climbing World Tour** is supported by the work of the UIAA Anti-Doping Commission who ensure competitions are fully WADA compliant from running a mandatory athlete questionnaire (athletes must complete this to receive their competition licence) as well as in and out of competition testing. Please refer to the dedicated chapter of this report. Further details: www.theuiaa.org/anti-doping

2019 UIAA ICE CLIMBING WORLD CUPS

CHEONGSONG, SOUTH KOREA	11-12 January 2019	Lead & Speed
BEIJING, CHINA	18-20 January 2019	Lead & Speed
SAAS-FEE, SWITZERLAND	24-26 January 2019	Lead & Speed
RABENSTEIN, ITALY	1-3 February 2019	Lead & Speed
CHAMPAGNY-EN-VANOISE, FRANCE	7-9 February 2019	Lead & Speed
DENVER, USA	22-23 February 2019	Lead & Speed

2019 UIAA ICE CLIMBING WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

MOSCOW, RUSSIA - COMBINED	14-15 December 2018	Lead & Speed
KIROV, RUSSIA - SINGLE DISCIPLINES	8-10 March 2019	Lead & Speed

2019 UIAA ICE CLIMBING WORLD YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS

OULU, FINLAND	1-2 March 2019	Lead & Speed
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Photo: UIAA/Levi Harrell

For results from the 2019 UIAA Ice Climbing **WORLD YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS** in Oulu, Finland please click here:

<https://www.theuiaa.org/ice-climbing/ice-climbing-resultscentre/>

DENVER: A HIGHLIGHT OF THE SEASON

The UIAA Ice Climbing World Cup in Denver, organised in conjunction with the American Alpine Club, was one of the highlights of the season. Here are just a few of the reasons:

- First UIAA Ice Climbing World Cup event held in a **major city centre** – event structure situated right outside city hall in the Civic Centre Park, downtown Denver.
- Event run in conjunction with a **large winter festival** organised by Barbegazi
- **25,000 spectators** over the two-day event – possibly the biggest climbing competition attendance ever worldwide
- **Over 10,000 spectators** attended the lead final on Sunday night
- **Voted best event** of the 2019 season by athletes

The UIAA plans to focus efforts on recreating this concept in other major cities worldwide to show competition ice climbing to a wider public.

2018/19 UIAA ICE CLIMBING WORLD TOUR MEDAL WINNERS

SPORT



WORLD CUP: CHEONGSONG, SOUTH KOREA

<https://www.theuiaa.org/ice-climbing/world-combined-champs-shine-in-south-korea/>

LEAD Men

- 🏆 N Kuzovlev (RUS)
- 🥈 H Park (KOR)
- 🥉 L Younggeon (KOR)

LEAD Women

- 🏆 M Tolokonina (RUS)
- 🥈 W Shin (KOR)
- 🥉 H Song (KOR)

SPEED Men

- 🏆 A Nemov (RUS)
- 🥈 N Kuzovlev (RUS)
- 🥉 V Iurlov (RUS)

SPEED Women

- 🏆 M Tolokonina (RUS)
- 🥈 E Koshcheeva (RUS)
- 🥉 M Filippova (RUS)



WORLD CUP: BEIJING, CHINA

<https://www.theuiaa.org/ice-climbing/new-medal-winners-in-beijing/>

LEAD Men

- 🏆 N Kuzovlev (RUS)
- 🥈 N Clair (FRA)
- 🥉 L Younggeon (KOR)

LEAD Women

- 🏆 M Tolokonina (RUS)
- 🥈 E McSwiggan (IRL)
- 🥉 E Bertling (FIN)

SPEED Men

- 🏆 V Iurlov (RUS)
- 🥈 V Kartashev (RUS)
- 🥉 A Sukharev (RUS)

SPEED Women

- 🏆 E Koshcheeva (RUS)
- 🥈 E Feoktistova (RUS)
- 🥉 M Tolokonina (RUS)



WORLD CUP: SAAS-FEE, SWITZERLAND

<https://www.theuiaa.org/ice-climbing/2019saasfeereview/>

LEAD Men

- 🏆 Y Glatthard (SUI)
- 🥈 N Kuzovlev (RUS)
- 🥉 N Primerov (SUI)

LEAD Women

- 🏆 W Shin (KOR)
- 🥈 S Goetz (SUI)
- 🥉 H Song (KOR)

SPEED Men

- 🏆 A Nemov (RUS)
- 🥈 V Iurlov (RUS)
- 🥉 N Kuzovlev (RUS)

SPEED Women

- 🏆 V Bogdan (RUS)
- 🥈 E Koshcheeva (RUS)
- 🥉 N Savitskaia (RUS)



WORLD CUP: RABENSTEIN, ITALY

<https://www.theuiaa.org/uiaa/live-from-rabenstein/>

LEAD Men

- 🏆 N Kuzovlev (RUS)
- 🥈 H Park (KOR)
- 🥉 N Clair (FRA)

LEAD Women

- 🏆 M Tolokonina (RUS)
- 🥈 W Shin (KOR)
- 🥉 H Song (KOR)

SPEED Men

- 🏆 A Nemov (RUS)
- 🥈 A Sukharev (RUS)
- 🥉 V Iurlov (RUS)

SPEED Women

- 🏆 E Feoktistova (RUS)
- 🥈 V Bogdan (RUS)
- 🥉 E Koshcheeva (RUS)



WORLD CUP: CHAMPAGNY-EN-VANOISE, FRANCE

<https://www.theuiaa.org/ice-climbing/live-from-champagny-en-vanoise/>

LEAD Men

- 🏆 N Kuzovlev (RUS)
- 🥈 H Park (KOR)
- 🥉 L Ladavant (FRA)

LEAD Women

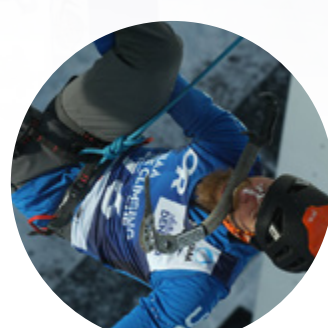
- 🏆 M Tolokonina (RUS)
- 🥈 W Shin (KOR)
- 🥉 P Klingler (SUI)

SPEED Men

- 🏆 A Nemov (RUS)
- 🥈 A Sukharev (RUS)
- 🥉 V Iurlov (RUS)

SPEED Women

- 🏆 N Savitskaia (RUS)
- 🥈 E Feoktistova (RUS)
- 🥉 V Bogdan (RUS)



WORLD CUP: DENVER, UNITED STATES

<https://www.theuiaa.org/ice-climbing/record-crowds-witness-world-cup-finale/>

LEAD Men

- 🏆 Y Glatthard (SUI)
- 🥈 N Kuzovlev (RUS)
- 🥉 V Sy pavin (UKR)

LEAD Women

- 🏆 M Tolokonina (RUS)
- 🥈 W Shin (KOR)
- 🥉 E McSwiggan (IRL)

SPEED Men

- 🏆 N Kuzovlev (RUS)
- 🥈 D Bouffard (CAN)
- 🥉 D Grebennikov (RUS)

SPEED Women




- 🏆 M Tolokonina (RUS)
- 🥈 C Jary (FRA)
- 🥉 M Thomas (FRA)



WORLD COMBINED CHAMPIONSHIPS: MOSCOW, RUSSIA

<https://www.theuiaa.org/ice-climbing/maria-tolokonina-and-nikolai-kuzovlev-win-combined-worlds-in-moscow/>

COMBINED Men

-  N Kuzovlev (RUS)
-  N Glazyrin (RUS)
-  M Safdarian (IRN)

COMBINED Women




-  M Tolokonina (RUS)
-  V Bogdan (RUS)
-  M Filippova (RUS)



WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS: KIROV, RUSSIA

<https://www.theuiaa.org/ice-climbing/new-world-champions-crowned-in-kirov/>




LEAD Men

-  N Kuzovlev (RUS)
-  M Tomilov (RUS)
-  A Marshalov (RUS)




LEAD Women

-  W Shin (KOR)
-  M Tolokonina (RUS)
-  M Filippova (RUS)

SPEED Men

-  V Iurlov (RUS)
-  A Sukharev (RUS)
-  A Nemov (RUS)

SPEED Women




-  M Tolokonina (RUS)
-  N Savitskaia (RUS)
-  V Bogdan (RUS)






WORLD TOUR, OVERALL (ALL WORLD CUPS)

<https://www.theuiaa.org/ice-climbing/2018-19-uiaa-ice-climbing-season-review-stars-on-ice/>




LEAD Men

-  N Kuzovlev (RUS)
-  H Park (KOR)
-  Y Glatthard (SUI)




LEAD Women

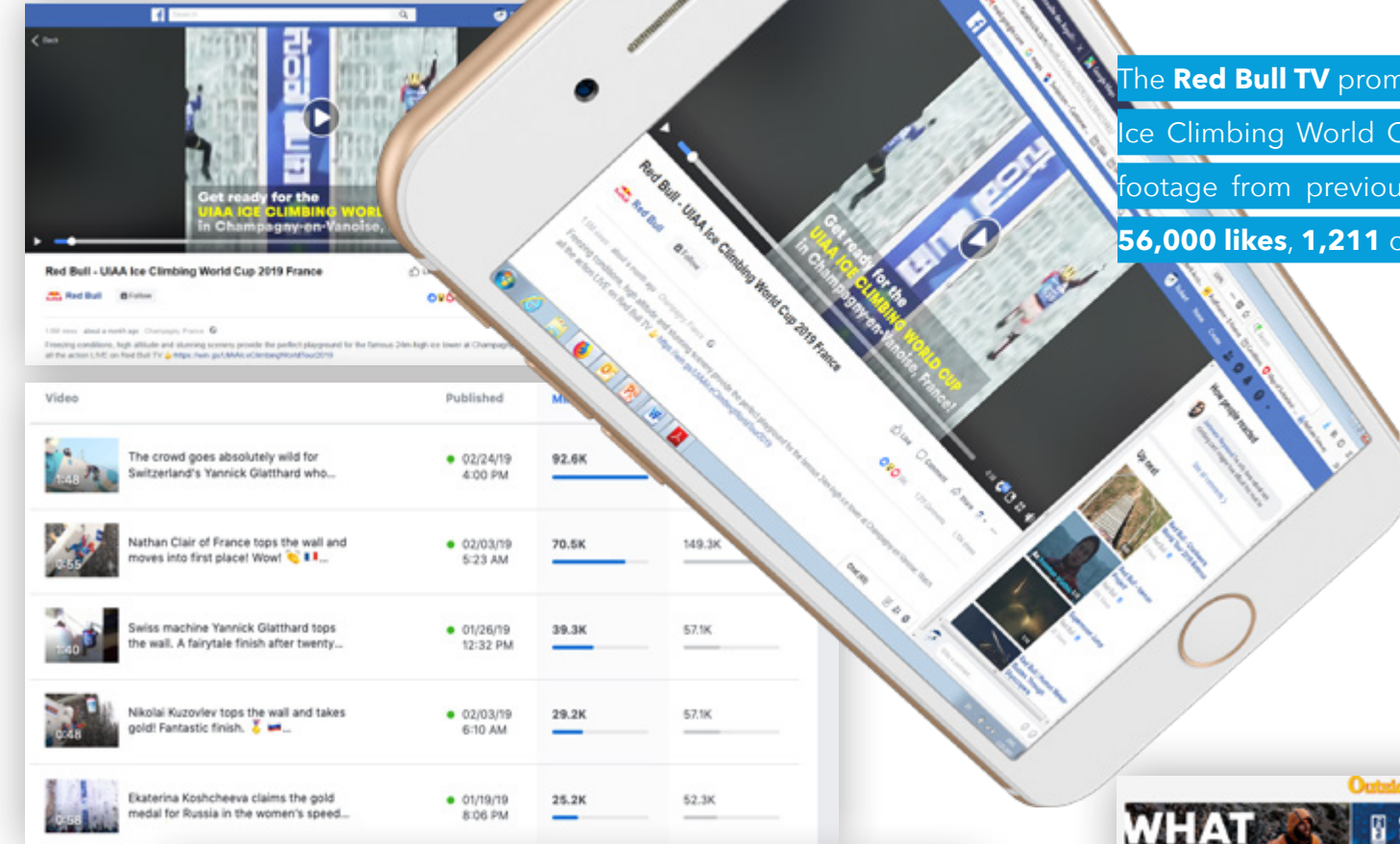
-  M Tolokonina (RUS)
-  W Shin (KOR)
-  E McSwiggan (IRL)

SPEED Men

-  A Nemov (RUS)
-  N Kuzovlev (RUS)
-  V Iurlov (RUS)

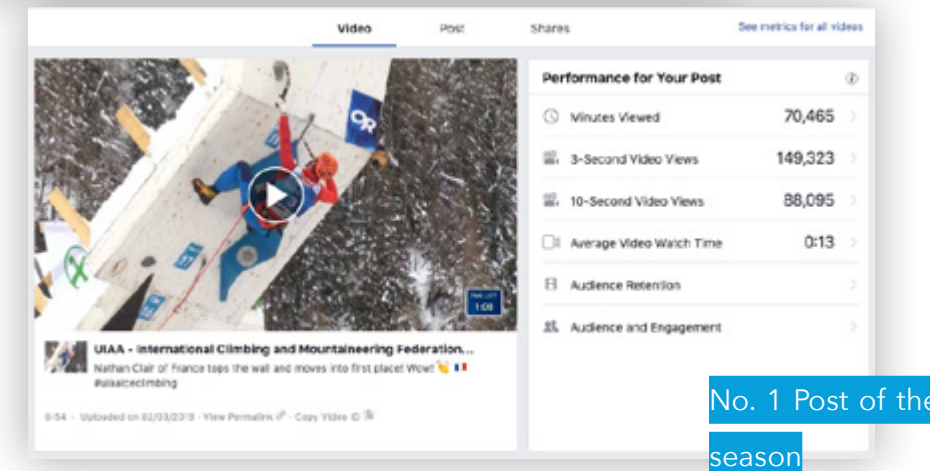
SPEED Women

-  E Koshcheeva (RUS)
-  M Tolokonina (RUS)
-  N Savitskaia (RUS)

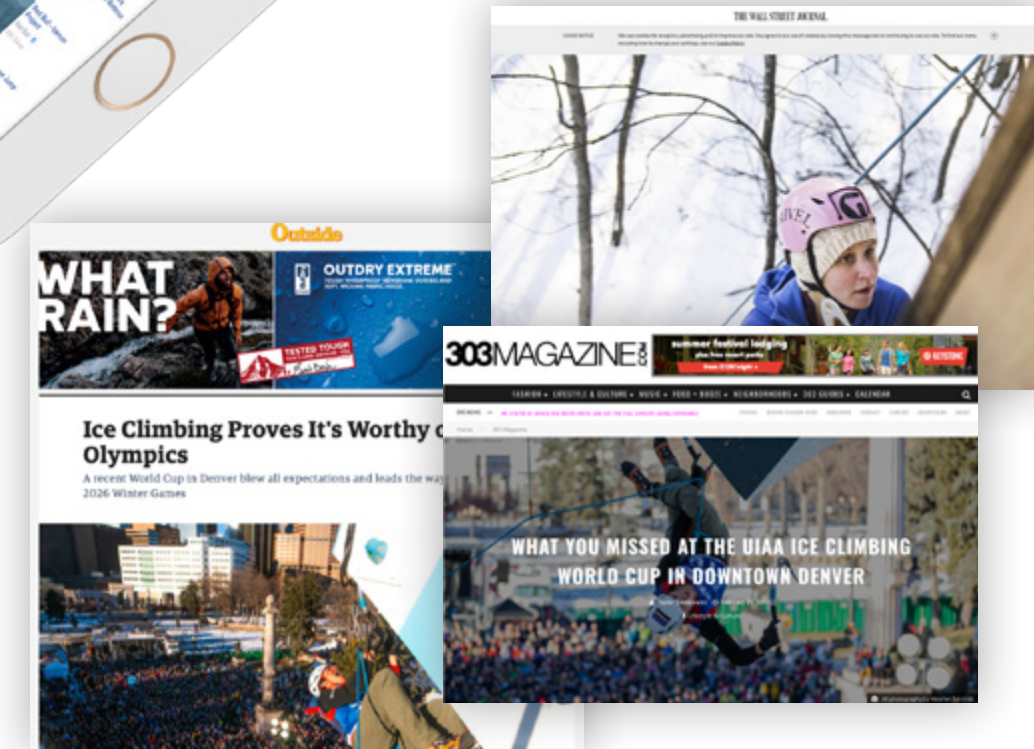


The **Red Bull TV** promotional video for the fifth round of the UIAA Ice Climbing World Cup Tour - Champagny-en-Vanoise - using footage from previous rounds - **1,500,000** views in 48 hours! **56,000** likes, **1,211** comments and **1,104** shares on Facebook!

MEDIA RETURN



No. 1 Post of the season



UIAA Ice Climbing World Tour

LIVESTREAM FIGURES

EVENT	NUMBER OF VIEWS*	TOTAL VIEWS
MOSCOW	<div><div></div>513,532 (UIAA & EXTREME)</div> <div><div></div>10,275 (UIAA)</div> <div><div></div>3,350 (UIAA)</div>	527,157
CHEONGSONG	<div><div></div>334,150 (UIAA & EXTREME)</div> <div><div></div>13,200 (UIAA)</div> <div><div></div>4,400 (UIAA)</div>	351,903
BEIJING	<div><div></div>268,900 (UIAA & EXTREME)</div> <div><div></div>12,200 (UIAA)</div> <div><div></div>16,500 (UIAA)</div>	297,701
SAAS-FEE	<div><div></div>423,044 (UIAA & EXTREME)</div> <div><div></div>16,500 (UIAA)</div> <div><div></div>5,000 (TWITTER)</div> <div><div></div>39,000 (RED BULL TV)</div>	423,044
RABENSTEIN	<div><div></div>662,700 (UIAA & EXTREME)</div> <div><div></div>10,500 (UIAA)</div> <div><div></div>4,700 (UIAA)</div> <div><div></div>22,000 (RED BULL TV)</div>	700,079

EVENT	NUMBER OF VIEWS*	TOTAL VIEWS
CHAMPAGNY-EN-VANOISE	<div><div></div>86,000 (UIAA & EXTREME)</div> <div><div></div>7,500 (UIAA)</div> <div><div></div>3,200 (UIAA)</div> <div><div></div>12,000 (RED BULL TV)</div>	109,871
DENVER	<div><div></div>150,100 (UIAA)</div> <div><div></div>18,200 (UIAA)</div> <div><div></div>3,800 (UIAA)</div>	172,242
KIROV	<div><div></div>108,000 (UIAA & EXTREME)</div> <div><div></div>6,300 (UIAA)</div> <div><div></div>2,200 (UIAA)</div>	116,500
OULU	<div><div></div>158,300 (UIAA)</div> <div><div></div>8,300 (UIAA)</div> <div><div></div>2,100 (UIAA)</div>	168,700

2,867,197 views on data collected so far

The *Outdoor Research* official UIAA Ice Climbing Trailer was played as part of all livestreams.

MEDIA PARTNERS

The **Extreme Channel** took fully embedded feeds of all the UIAA Ice Climbing World Tour, the **Olympic Channel** took the full World Cup series, **Red Bull TV** streamed the European World Tour legs which were available to watch on **AppleTV**, and will hopefully take the full season in 2020. **EpicTV** were present in Saas-Fee and Oulu and produced live and non-live content. **TrekTV**, the French television channel, also took the whole season’s livestream which the UIAA hopes to expand on in the future.



ATHLETE PROFILES

EMIR MCSWIGGAN:
A LIFE IN SOUTH KOREA

YANNICK GLATTHARD:
RETURN OF SWISS AIR

ENNI BERTLING:
HISTORIC FINNISH MEDAL

AMITY WARME:
NEWCOMER ON WORLD STAGE

KEVIN LINDLAU:
ROUTE ANALYSIS

MARIA TOLOKONINA:
ONE OF THE GREATS

SINA GOETZ:
RISING SWISS STAR

OLGA KOSEK:
MY FIRST FINALS

Throughout the recent season, the UIAA produced a number of features profiling individual athletes. These focused both on the individual athlete’s backstory and technique and performances. The videos proved very popular and provide the UIAA with a wealth of content to promote off-season. The UIAA would be keen to work closely with OR regarding both feature content and sponsored-content going forward.

WORLD TOUR COMMUNICATION

2019 UIAA ICE CLIMBING WORLD TOUR: **Social Media Statistics**

FACEBOOK

- 5,000 new followers gained (from 33,000 to 38,000)
- Reach for season posts 2.61 million
- Five posts with a reach of over 100K
- Two posts with over 100K unique viewers (Glattard/Denver; Clair/Rabenstein)
- 587,000 minutes viewed
- 819,400 3-second views
- Top audience: USA, Italy, India, UK, Spain
- Top reach: USA, UK, Canada, France, Italy

TWITTER

- 354,000 impressions on UIAA Tweets about World Cup Tour
- Top audience: UK, USA, Spain, Italy, France

INSTAGRAM

- The UIAA & QTV posted 64 videos to Instagram and regular picture posts
- +20,000 views of video content on Instagram were achieved

YOUTUBE

- 211,700 unique views up by 51% on 2018
- 6,096 subscribers, up from 4,300 in 2018
- Watch time – 2.5 million minutes
- Top audience – USA, Russia, UK, Switzerland, S. Korea
- 77% views from non subscribers
- 84% views from males
- 25-34 years largest demographic
- Top videos: Denver Lead Finals – 162K minutes; 12.3k views, Saas-Fee Lead Finals – 98.9K minutes; 5K views, Beijing Lead Finals – 79K minutes; 4.1K views

FLICKR

- 2,065 photos posted
- Combined photo views 613,305 up by 30% on 2018

PRESS RELEASES

- One preview and one review press release sent for every World Cup and World Championship.
- Preview usually 72 hours before the event; review within 24 hours of event finishing – 18 over the course of the season.

WEBSITE

- The Ice Climbing pages on the UIAA website between 1 November and 15 March had 253,328 page views (up 42% on 2018) from 89,307 (up 52% on 2018) unique visitors and 142,065 sessions.
- The event in Denver attracted the biggest audience by some margin – 36,887 page views, 24,267 sessions and 16,649 users.
- With livestreaming traffic not necessarily directed to the UIAA website, the increase in numbers are very high.
- The results section of the website had over 7.8million page views (up 105% from 2018) from 25,749 unique visitors! (up 57% from 2018)



REPORT BY

CARLOS TEIXEIRA

President, UIAA Ice Climbing Commission

ROB ADIE

UIAA Sports Events Coordinator

iceclimbing@theuiaa.org

ICE CLIMBING LINKS

[UIAA Ice Climbing page](#)

UIAA ICE CLIMBING COMMISSION MEMBERSHIP

As confirmed by the UIAA Management Committee in Cyprus (November 2019)

FULL MEMBERS

Carlos TEIXEIRA, President, Portugal (FCMP)

Pavel SHABALIN, (Vice President), Russia (RMF)

David DORNIAN, Canada (AAC)

Mohammad Amin HAVALEHDAR NEJAD, Iran (IMSCF)

Byeong GOO KIM, Korea (KAF)

Nadezhda LAUNITS, Russia (RMF)

Alex PAUN, Romania (CAR)

Ziga STER, Slovenia (PZS)

Luc THIBAL, France (FFCAM)

CORRESPONDING MEMBERS

Nejat AKINCI, Turkey (TDF)

Zoljargal BANZRAGCH, Mongolia (MNCF)

Bharat BHUSHAN, India (IMF)

Benjamin GIGER, Liechtenstein (LAV)

Li SHU, China (CMA)

Andrej PECJAK, Slovenia (PZS)

Pranav RAWAT, India (IMSCF)

Masoud ZEYNALI, Iran (IMSCF)

ATHLETES

Gordon McARTHUR, Canada (AAC)

Nikolay PRIMEROV, Russia (RMF)

Kendra STRITCH, United States (AAC)



© Skyrunning / Francesco Bergamaschi

Unit Member

INTERNATIONAL SKYRUNNING FEDERATION

The International Skyrunning Federation (ISF) represents the governing authority of Skyrunning – mountain running above 2,000m over extremely technical trails. Three disciplines define the sport and they are not just based on distance but also on vertical climb and technical difficulty: Sky, Ultra and Vertical.



© Skyrunning / Ian Corless

The principal aims of the Federation are the direction, regulation, promotion, and development of Skyrunning on a worldwide basis. Safety in the mountain, clean sport and respect of the environment are the federation's main goals. The ISF has been a Unit Member of the UIAA since 2015.

ISF REPORT 2018-2019

The General Assembly, held in Limone Sul Garda in October 2018 confirmed Marino Giacometti as ISF President for another term and many challenges were announced for this four-year period. Some goals are maybe too ambitious for now, but the first results from 2019 allow ISF to project a bright future.

In terms of internal structure, the ISF has enhanced the organisation and workflow of its staff. New staff members have enabled more time to be dedicated to the organisation and the promotion of ISF events worldwide, as well as for relations with member federations.

Contracts and external cooperation with the managers of the Skyrunner® World Series have also been updated with significant economic improvements and better management conditions.

ISF MEMBERS AND PROMOTION

The ISF has developed and sent new guidelines to all ISF Members to support, increase and stimulate activities and promotion of Skyrunning. 2019 saw the welcome addition of Bolivia, Korea Republic and North Macedonia.

At the same time, the ISF is working to annually verify the activities of each member federation in

terms of competitions/championships organised, participation of athletes at international events and, of course, to check the payment of membership fees. The GA in 2018 made a decision that non-paying members will be expelled after two years.

It is the ISF's intention to support the activity of each member, but also to protect the Skyrunning image in countries where there are defaulting members.



© Skyrunning / MRSWS

SKYRUNNING AT ALTITUDE

This year, ISF sponsored high altitude historical events, such as Monte Rosa SkyMarathon and Mount Elbrus, promoting the concept of “altitude” which was the main element at the start of our sport, together with scientific research at the birth of Skyrunning.

2019 Sporting Events

The 2019 Continental Championships is a good opportunity to involve new areas and finally this year the ISF had the chance to add championships in South America (Brazil) which were a remarkable media success and in North America (Colorado, US).

TECHNICAL CLASSIFICATION

The project announced at 2018 GA to hand out a “Course Certificate” for competitions has begun and has been integrated with the formula for technical classification of race routes. This planning work took up the first four months of 2019, so the real operational phase only started in May.

The first step was the certification of the 50 races of which ISF already had the technical data, but the objective is to apply the certification globally, giving priority to the more technical routes. This programme will lead to a better identification of Skyrunning as a sporting discipline, to inform athletes of actual difficulties, preparation, equipment and safety.

In Europe the participation in the three disciplines is remarkable, while the Asian Championships were held in Hong Kong in December.

The 4th edition of the Youth Skyrunning World

Championship took place in August 2019 and was another incredible success thanks to the participation of many young teams and the commitment of the Italian Federation. Young athletes came from 28 nations and 11 teams were on the podium with 36 medals.

ANTI-DOPING

In 2018 the Anti-Doping activity continued with sample tests at the World Championships, Youth Championships and a stage of the World Series. Obviously, there are limitations due to high costs but in 2019 the federation

will increase its testing to meet the new minimums imposed by WADA for each discipline. Therefore, the ISF also asks for the co-operation of national federations, as has already happened in Italy and Spain.

2020 AND NEXT STEPS

SKYRUNNING VISION AND PROMOTION

Globally Skyrunning competitions are increasing year by year and social media is also growing in terms of numbers and dedicated pages. The original Skyrunning Facebook page, which now mainly follows Skyrunner World Series (SWS) events, grew in one year from 115,000 to 128,000.

This year new accounts were created for the International Skyrunning Federation with a Facebook and Instagram page, dedicated exclusively to federation activities.

The following activities, events and projects will expand Skyrunning’s appeal and will also increase the resources to ISF budget for the

organization, anti-doping campaigns, security and youth promotion.

Skyrunning World Championship
(confirmed for Spain on July 2020):

- Youth World Championships (rules and location tbc at the next GA)
- Cooperation for SWS and National Series (update of the format)
- Vertical World Circuit (update of sky climb / vertical rules)
- Iconic Skyrunning Events at Altitude (Sky Summit Tour proposal)
- ISF Certification Course (second step for 200 Skyrunning races in 2020)



REPORT BY

MARINO GIACOMETTI

ISF President

To discover more about the International Skyrunning Federation, please visit:

www.skyrunning.com

UIAA and Clean Climbing

ANTI-DOPING

The UIAA promotes Clean Climbing by adopting and implementing the World Anti-Doping Code. The federation manages an Anti-Doping programme, including in-competition and out-of competition testing and results management processes in ice climbing and skyrunning.

In parallel, the UIAA is responsible for ensuring that all of its member associations and athletes respect and comply with all relevant international standards and all the principles inherent to the World-Anti Doping Code, including the education for successful prevention of doping in sport. UIAA contributes to the advancement of clean sport through scientific research and outreach initiatives under the name of Clean Climbing.

During the 2018/2019 season Anti-Doping Commission (ADC) conducted the highest possible number of doping controls - 33 in total.

Four doping controls per competition is consistent with the previous season. The difference this season was six out-of-competition doping controls on two athletes from the Registered Testing Pool and for the first time the ADC conducted blood testing.



Past and present UIAA Anti-Doping Commission Presidents - Nenad Dikic and Marija Andjelkovic

26

IN
COMPETITION
TESTS

6

OUT-OF-
COMPETITION
TESTS

1

OUT-OF-
COMPETITION
BLOOD
TESTING

VENUE	DATE	IN COMP. URINE CONTROL
Moscow	16.11.2018	2
Cheongsong	13.01.2019	4
Beijing	20.01.2019	4
Saas-Fee	25.01.2019	4
Rabenstein	02.02.2019	4
Denver	24.02.2019	4
Kirov	09.03.2019	4
TOTAL		26

The biggest challenge was finding two athletes who were available to be tested out of competition, having in mind cost implications.

Maria Tolokonina and Alexey Dengin (both from Russia) were included in the test group in 2018 and were informed about their obligations to be available for testing out-of-competition. Their co-operation was excellent and without that it would have been almost impossible to fulfil this request from the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA).



IN A UNIQUE POSITION

The UIAA makes it mandatory for every competition athlete in the UIAA Ice Climbing World Tour to pass an anti-doping education test before registration. The UIAA is one of few international federations to insist on this practice.

The Anti-Doping online education created by ADC members – Dr Dikic and Dr Andjelkovic – is still active and up until April 2019 (close of 2018-2019 season), more than 200 climbers successfully qualified for a certificate.

ADAMS database

All UIAA doping control forms/tests for Ice Climbing and Skyrunning are entered into ADAMS (world database of all WADA athletes). This action is important for recognition by WADA and the IOC.

WADA Code Compliance

Following communication from WADA regarding the Code Compliance Questionnaire (CCQ) review process, the UIAA received a Corrective Action Report (CAR). All non-conformities identified as part of the Code Compliance monitoring process are implemented. The UIAA can be proud to be recognised as Code Compliant. This was a very demanding process because it requires high level auditing of all ADC activities. Nevertheless, all amendments that WADA requested were undertaken. WADA was satisfied with the outcome.

REPORT FROM ANNUAL COMMISSION MEETING(S)

The Anti-Doping Commission meeting was held during the WADA seminar in Lausanne, 14 March 2019, in the presence of Borja Osés Garcia, Marija Andjelkovic and Nenad Dikic. The current anti-doping situation was discussed and all activities of the ADC were approved. A subsequent meeting was held in Katowice, Poland at the beginning of November because WADA is bringing in a new Anti-Doping Code which will have an impact on UIAA testing procedures.

EVENTS, CONFERENCES, MEETINGS

Event 1 – WADA Annual Meeting
Lausanne, March

This year's meeting concerned the new WADA Code and

International Standards that will come into effect from 2020. There will be changes that affect all stakeholders in the fight against doping. The major difference from last year is the establishment of ITA (International Testing Authority) as an organisation with roots in the IOC responsible for independent testing in all Olympic sports. Over the next few years the ITA will probably become a dominant testing authority in the world of sport.

Event 2 – WADA Conference
Katowice, October

This conference takes place every four years. In Katowice, the Anti-Doping Code that comes into effect in 2020 was detailed. The UIAA will adopt this new Code on all levels of its activity, as this is now mandatory.

2020: THE YEAR AHEAD

In this section ADC would like to put an emphasis on the very important issues that will impact UIAA WADA Code compliance in future.

On the level of anti-doping statistics that WADA monitors through information in the ADAMS database, the UIAA exists as a sport with two disciplines – Ice Climbing and through its Unit Member, Skyrunning. That means that all mandatory requests from TDSSA (WADA Technical Document for Sport Specific Analysis) gather these two disciplines into one total. In TDSSA it is written:

SPORT	DISCIPLINE	ESAs%	GHs%	GHRFs%
Mountaineering and Climbing	All	10	5	5

ESA, GH and GHRF are mandatory analyses that need to be done in urine or blood analyses. The percentage described in TDSSA refers to the total number of UIAA doping controls conducted during a calendar year. WADA monitors the total number of controls through reports from both the laboratory and the ADAMS database. In 2019, the UIAA conducted 33 controls, with Skyrrunning until November 2019 having 26 controls. That makes a total of almost 60 controls. According to that the UIAA needs to analyse 6 ESA, 3 GH and 3 GHRF.

In Ice Climbing, the UIAA ADC completed 3 ESAs, 1 GH and 1 GHRF. The International Skyrrunning Federation also needs to complete 2-3 ESAs, 2 GHs (from blood) and 2 GHRFs.

Skyrunning has started active communication regarding permission to conduct tests under the UIAA umbrella. Skyrrunning even conducted specific analysis in urine like ESA and GHRF.



REPORT BY

DR. MARIJA ANDJELKOVIC
President, UIAA Anti-Doping Commission

MEMBERS

Marija ANDJELKOVIC
(President), Serbia (PSS)
Nenad DIKIC, Serbia (ISF)
Borja Osés GARCIA, Spain (EMF)

CORRESPONDING MEMBER

Rakesh VERMA, India (IMF)

Rock Climbing

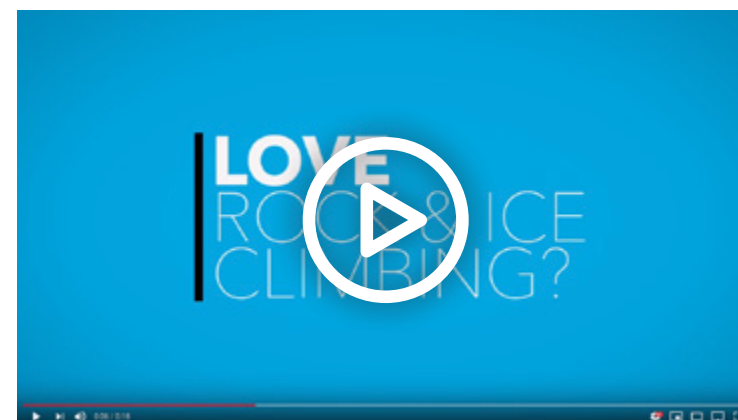
UIAA ROCK CLIMBING FESTIVAL AWARD

The UIAA is proud to reward those who promote responsible rock climbing. Ever since its foundation in 1932, the UIAA has supported and developed mountain sports and rock climbing in parallel with its commitment to protecting the environment in which they are practised.

High mountains, big walls, bouldering, ski mountaineering, ice climbing and rock climbing; these are all activities in the DNA of the UIAA and run in parallel to its commitment to sustainable practices. Since 2015, the UIAA has organised a dedicated annual Award for rock climbing festivals worldwide.

UIAA ROCK CLIMBING RESOURCE

As part of its commitment to supporting international rock climbing events, the UIAA recently launched a tool for organisers to showcase their festivals and for climbers to seek out festivals held near them. The calendar is available to view [here](#).



INTRODUCING: UIAA ROCK AND ICE FESTIVAL CALENDAR

<https://youtu.be/eKDoLz0gEGo>

2019 UIAA ROCK CLIMBING FESTIVAL AWARD

Suru Boulder Fest was confirmed as the winner of the 2019 UIAA Rock Climbing Festival Award (RCFA) during the Award Ceremony held as part of the UIAA General Assembly. The *Almaty International Rock Climbing Festival* and *Korea's Trad Climbing Festival*, both supported by UIAA member associations, were also nominated. Amit Chowdhury of the Indian Mountaineering Federation (also UIAA SafeCom President) accepted the award on their behalf.

The fourth edition of the Suru Boulder Fest (held between 25 August and 7 September) witnessed 150 climbers participating. The organisers are committed to raising awareness about rock climbing in India and in particular the area around Ladakh. Many international climbers visit the region each year and share experiences with the local community, most of whom are unable to travel and explore their passion for climbing. As a result, the festival succeeds in the development of the climbing community as well as awareness about the sport.

Given the quality of all three of the 2019 candidates, while Suru was confirmed as the overall winner and receives 1,500 CHF in prize money, the Panel decided to offer 500 CHF to the two other nominees. All candidates demonstrated excellent organisation and received positive feedback from attending climbers. Suru was chosen for a number of factors not least its involvement of women climbers, close relationship with local community, support for youth climbers and waste disposal programme. This year's Award was also supported by the UAAA - Union of Asian Alpine Associations - who kindly donated to the prizemoney pool.

In 2020 the award will focus on Australasia and South East Asia.

SUPPORT FOR UIAA MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS

Festivals recognised as part of the Award must be endorsed by a UIAA member association in that country. The Award provides an international platform for festivals run by, or supported by, UIAA members. Benefits not only include additional international exposure but the opportunity to collaborate with the UIAA and its different Commissions.



SURU FEST 2019 | PROMO VIDEO

<https://youtu.be/ALpG3kAXCUU>

PAST AWARD WINNERS



2015 - ORIGIN CLIMBING FESTIVAL, SOUTH AFRICA

<https://www.theuiaa.org/home/inaugural-uiaa-rock-climbers-award-south-africa/>



2016 - KALYMNOS CLIMBING FESTIVAL, GREECE

<https://www.theuiaa.org/rock-climbing/kalymnos-a-rock-climbers-paradise/>



2017 - INTERNATIONAL CLIMBERS' FESTIVAL, UNITED STATES

<https://www.theuiaa.org/home/a-true-commitment-to-all-aspects-of-rock-climbing/>



2018 - FESTIVAL DE BOULDER DE MAR DEL PLATA, ARGENTINA

<https://www.theuiaa.org/uiaa/2018-uiaa-rock-climbing-festival-award-nominee-mardelplata-2018/>



REPORT BY

ANNE ARRAN

UIAA Management Committee

UIAA Rock Climbing Festival Award Panel



UIAA Global Youth Series 2019, Guillestre (France)

Guiding the next generation

YOUTH

The Youth Commission provides safe and exciting opportunities for young people to experience the mountains. The Commission encourages not only an individual's technical development in a given discipline but also an appreciation for the environmental, cultural and ethical aspects of the areas the UIAA is engaged in. Young people are the future guardians of our wild spaces and it is our mission to teach respect for, and understanding of, these places. UIAA Youth Commission events therefore have not only a technical focus but also an environmental and cultural emphasis.

ANNUAL MEETINGS

The UIAA Youth Commission (YC) held meetings in Spain and in Cyprus.

A number of key topics were addressed. This included ways to increase engagement with national federations and their youth officers with the scope of organising more national and international camps. The ultimate goal is to encourage and inspire young people to begin their journey into climbing.

The meetings also set out the Commission's vision for its future and the Strategic Plan for the Global Youth Summit events for 2020.

The YC has facilitated the successful organisation of a number of events for young people from federations from across the globe. These events have given young people valuable experiences and training in various aspects of walking, rock climbing and ice climbing. An important aim of the Youth Commission is to continue to attract new members.



UIAA Global Youth Series Event, Ariège (France), 2019

2020: THE YEAR AHEAD

The Commission will continue to encourage more member federations to participate in its activities, seek to establish greater co-operation with other UIAA Commissions and enhance the promotion of the Commission among all member federations.

The Youth Commission has a programme of GYS events for the coming year, including well established events in France, Iran, North Macedonia and the UK. The Commission has focused primarily on organising events and although work has been conducted on producing documentation and handbooks, to ensure these events run safely it has a bigger role to play. Future plans include the development of new international camps as well a continuing to help with grass route development within federations.

There will be a greater focus on facilitating the longer-term development of programmes and sharing experiences between member federations. There are some larger UIAA members who run great programmes and have accumulated a lot of experience working with young people. It is hoped that such information can be shared with members with less established schemes.

BENEFITS FOR UIAA MEMBERS

One of the main roles of the Youth Commission is to provide a pathway and make it easier, especially for member associations in developing countries, to put together a youth programme. The Youth Commission not only organises and promotes youth events organised by members but encourages information sharing between federations. "For a lot of federations it is not about getting something out of the UIAA's work in

youth but what they can give", explains Mark Dennison, Commission President. **"Many federations have strong youth programmes in place and a clear pathway from when a young person first shows an interest in climbing or mountains to getting them to where they want to be."**



UIAA Global Youth Series Event, Ariège (France), 2019

GLOBAL YOUTH SUMMIT EVENTS

Six Global Youth Summit Events were held in 2019, in France (3), Georgia, Iran and the Czech Republic.



International Youth Ice Climbing Camp

Guillestre (Hautes Alpes), France

24 February- 2 March

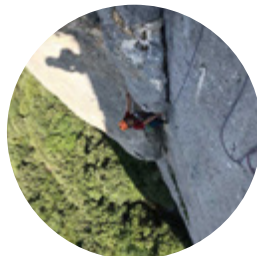
<https://www.theuiaa.org/youth/guillestre-2019/>



Discovering Bouldering in Fontainebleau Forest

Fontainebleau, France 29 May- 1 June

<https://www.theuiaa.org/youth/discovering-bouldering-in-the-french-fontainebleau-forest-camp4-19-bleau/>



Youth Climbing Camp

Ariege, France 6-11 July

<https://www.theuiaa.org/youth/ariege2019/>



International Youth Climbing Festival

Iran 20 July- 1 August

<https://www.theuiaa.org/youth/global-youth-summit-damavand-alam-kuh-summer-camp/>



Mountaineering Camp

Mount Kazbek, Georgia 23-30 July

<https://www.theuiaa.org/youth/global-youth-event-mount-kazbek-mountaineering-camp/>



Sandstone International Youth Climbing Camp

Ostrov u Tise, Czech Republic 11-17 August

<https://www.theuiaa.org/youth/register-for-sandstone-international-climbing-youth-camp/>

INTERNATIONAL CALENDAR

In 2019, the UIAA extended its online international calendar to provide access to information about Youth events, whether UIAA GYS events or national events organised by its members.

The calendar can be viewed from the [Youth Events page](#) of the UIAA website.

Members can supply details on the events through the dedicated form:

<https://theuiaa.typeform.com/to/Hy899t>



REPORT BY

MARK DENNISON

President, UIAA Youth Commission

MEMBERS

Mark DENNISON (President), UK (BMC)

Mohammad NASIR AWAN, Pakistan (ACP)

Dainius BABILAS, Lithuania (LMA)

Barbara BAJCER, Slovenia (PZS)

Christian BIARD, France (FFCAM)

Mahmood HASHEMI, Iran (IMSCF)

Marcus GARCIA, USA (AAC)

Magdalena JANCIKOVA, Czech Republic (CMF)

Alexander KLENOV, Russia (RMF)

Iraj MAANI, Iran (IMSCF)

Neda MILOSEVIC, Serbia (PSS)

Batsaikhan OCHIRBAT, Mongolia (MNCF)

Keerthi PAIS, India (IMF)

Tiberiu PINTILLE, Romania (CAR)

Mahmud AL RUBIYEATT, Bangladesh (BMF)

Quick Links

[UIAA Youth Commission](#)

CORRESPONDING MEMBERS

Edgardo ABREU, Brazil (CBME)

Zurab KUTCHAVA, Georgia (MCAG)

Jenny PATERSON, South Africa (MCSA)

Information correct as of the UIAA General Assembly in Cyprus, November 2019

CONTINENTAL BODIES

Africa, Asia, Europe, North America, Central and South America, Oceania.

This chapter is dedicated to the reports produced by the Continental Representatives of the UIAA Management Committee.

AFRICA

As the smallest continental body, in terms of number of member associations, Africa presents unique challenges and opportunities for the UIAA.

OPPORTUNITY

It was noted in the last Continental Reports, that Africa is a definite growth opportunity for the UIAA. Indeed, it comprises an enormous area with a huge population – approximately 17% of the world’s people live on the African continent, making it the second largest continent by population after Asia. It also has some of the world’s best-known mountains from the high peaks of East Africa to the Atlas Mountains in the north and Table Mountain in the far south.

However, currently there are only two member associations in Africa. The primary one is the Mountain Club of South Africa. The Fédération royale marocaine de ski et sports de montagne (Morocco) has been a member since 2017 and efforts have been made to engage more closely and gain a greater understanding of their

activities. There are other clubs in Africa with a long and distinguished history – the Mountain Club of East Africa, precursor to the clubs in Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania – dating back to the early 1930s. Of course, the presence of the high, glaciated peaks in those countries means that the climbing potential there is reasonably well-known to “outsiders” and are visited on a regular basis by climbers from all parts of the world.

ISSUES

This in itself, is generally a good thing but it does mean that there is tremendous pressure on Kilimanjaro, Mount Kenya and the Ruwenzori Mountains, which creates even more problems and opportunities both for the development of climbing in Africa and for an increase in tourism with all the ramifications that spring from that.

The UIAA has been at the forefront of efforts to optimise the various factors involved in

this relatively new wave of development. In much the same way that Mount Everest is experiencing tremendous pressures due to the number of people wishing to “tick off” the mountain, Kilimanjaro is under extreme pressure with some 30,000 people (plus 50,000 support staff) attempting to scale this iconic peak. Due to its lack of technical difficulty, it is increasingly popular, so much so that the Tanzanian authorities, seeing an opportunity, are considering the construction of a cableway to a point high on the mountain.

This would inevitably increase the pressure on the mountain and its environment – as well as increasing the likelihood of altitude-related conditions affecting tourists and potential climbers. The UIAA has put out a [statement](#) – similar to the statement concerning Everest – pointing out the opportunities and problems involved with such a development. It is a complex problem in a developing country such as Tanzania.

Last year, the Africa Report stated that it is imperative to support these (East African) countries as the high mountains are at significant risk owing to climate change and the loss of the tropical glacier systems. This

becomes more and more critical with the passing of time.

Elsewhere, the story is more encouraging with the Confederation of African Mountain Clubs continuing its progress. The second (hopefully) Annual Pan-African Meet was hosted this year by the Mountain Club of Malawi on Mount Mlanje. Reports are still coming in but we expect that it will be highly successful. Negotiations are on-going for the third meet and all UIAA member associations will be informed when plans solidify.

MEMBERSHIP

The Mountain Club of South Africa (MCSA) continues to excel. The MCSA currently boasts around 5,000 members and supports a number of activities, ranging from rock climbing (traditional, adventure, sport climbing and bouldering) to hiking, mountaineering and ice climbing.

South Africa has proved a popular destination for mountaineers, offering

excellent value for money for visitors. The MCSA has helped organize numerous climbing events and exchanges with climbers from other associations. This has seen exchange meets with The American Alpine Club (AAC) and the British Mountaineering Council (BMC) over the last couple of years. Other clubs are also on the programme for exchanges. The MCSA sees this as an excellent way to foster cross-pollination of climbing communities worldwide.

It is hoped that the other Clubs on the continent will be able to apply for membership of the UIAA in the near future but it will require a change in the thinking of both the various clubs concerned and the UIAA itself.

Report by

GREG MOSELEY

Mountain Club of South Africa,
UIAA Management Committee



ASIA

The Union of Asian Alpine Associations (UAAA) stands for friendship, unity and promotion of mountaineering activities in Asian members. It contributes to international mountaineering on a global scale related to the UIAA. The UAAA aims to promote and exchange mountain culture amongst Asian members. A great effort is made to maintain the mountain environment and support the International Mountain Museum as a centre of mountaineering worldwide.

The UAAA is pursuing a long-term goal of linking mountain museums in Asian member countries and building alliances that promote mountain cultural exchange, artefact preservation and mountain education through museums. As Alpinism is recognised by UNESCO as an Intangible Cultural Heritage, mountain museums must express

it as a tangible value. In 2019, IMM (Nepal) and KNMM (Korea) signed a MoU to take a step for alliance, and the programme of 'Visit Mountain Museums in Asia' began.

The UAAA Council meeting was held in Taiwan to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Chinese Taipei Mountaineering Association in June, with thirteen members participating. Thomas Kähr, EB member of the UIAA was invited which provided a perfect opportunity to discuss the latest workings of the UAAA.

The General Assembly meeting was held in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan in October. A total of 30 participants from 16 members attended. During the General Assembly, there were annual activity reports from each member and joint hiking programs to Ala-Archa national park and a visit to the climber's graveyard.

EVENTS

The 2019 Asian Joint Expedition organized by the UAAA was held on Paldor peak (5,896m) in Nepal. Twelve climbers participated and successfully reached the summit. The expedition was supported by the Nepal Mountaineering Association and provided a good opportunity to exchange ideas and develop friendships among the Asian climbing community.

SUPPORT FOR UIAA MEMBERS

As the 2019 UIAA Rock Climbing Festival Award was focused on the Asian region, to support the award, the UAAA, following its meeting in Taiwan in June, donated a total of \$500 prize money.

In January, the UAAA also donated \$5,000 to the International Mountain Museum in Nepal as part of the museum development fund.





EUROPE

SUMMARY OF 2019

The EU Commission has approved EUMA's ERASMUS+ project application for "Improvement of conditions of climbing and mountaineering sports". The project will start with a meeting in January 2020.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

British Mountaineering Council

The Changing Behaviours Conference was held in Manchester, England, on 14 November, 2019. <https://www.thebmc.co.uk/changing-behaviours-access-conference>

The aim of the Conference was to look at how climbers can influence positive behaviour in the outdoors in order to continue to care for the places they love. The conference focused on a range of issues that are currently affecting such places and landscapes from litter, wild fires and parking, to wild camping and human waste in

the great outdoors. The BMC explored how changing people's behaviour and highlighting these concerns can help minimise impact and conserve these spaces for future generations.

Club Arc Alpin

On 14 September, the CAA General Assembly elected Dr. Nicole Slupetzky, Vice-President of the ÖAV, as President of the CAA. The meeting decided on a "collaborative membership" of the CAA in the European Union of Mountaineering Associations EUMA <https://www.club-arc-alpin.eu/en/activities/alpine-convention-and-eusalp/>

There was also the adoption of updated joint rules on safe indoor climbing, new recommendations on bouldering outdoors and a new version of the position paper on mountain sports and risks involved.

Malta Climbing Club

Having successfully set up a UIAA approved training and certification programme for instructors and climbers in general, the MCC is in the process of applying for environmental development permits to regularise the bolting of sport climbing crags as well as identifying a supplier for liability insurance to instructors and guides.

Mountaineering Federation of North Macedonia

In December 2018 an agreement between MFNM, UIAA and the Petzl Foundation for the translation of the Alpine Skills Handbook into Macedonian was signed and the translation is almost done.

In March 2019, a UIAA Expert completed the evaluation of MNSF Voluntary Mountain Leaders trainings and accredited both trainings: Mountain Walking and Trekking (summer), Winter Mountain Walking and Snowshoeing.

The UAAA created a 'Sherpa of the year award' to recognise the world's best Sherpas. The prize was awarded to Mingma Gyabu, a sherpa who has participated in various rescue activities more than 50 times at over 7,000 meters.

PARTNERSHIPS

The UIAA Ice Climbing World Tour has a very strong relationship with UIAA members in Asia, in particular, China, Korea and Mongolia. The China Hong Kong Mountaineering and Climbing Union hosted the UIAA Mountaineering Commission meeting in August with great success and the federation was awarded a training standard accreditation.

2020

In June, a council meeting will be held in Tokyo, Japan, organised by the Japanese Workers Alpine Federation

marking its 60th anniversary. Organised by the Chinese Taipei Mountaineering Association (CTMA) and the Kyrgyz Alpine Club (KAC), the Mountain Spirit Project will be held in June and July. In August, organised by the Mountaineering and Sport Climbing Federation of Kazakhstan (MSFRK) there will be a joint expedition to Karly Tau Peak. The country will also hold the traditional rock-climbing festival (TRAD).

The General Assembly meeting will be held in Hong Kong in October.

REPORT BY

CHRISTINE PAE

Director of Korean Alpine Federation, International Relations; General Secretary, Union of Asian Alpine Associations; UIAA Management Committee



In May 2019, the 30-year anniversary of the first climb on Mount Everest by the Macedonian climber, Dimitar Ilievski-Murato was held on Baba Mountain, above Bitola, Dimitar's hometown. The anniversary was a joyous occasion, though one tinged with sadness, celebrating Dimitar's success but also mourning his death which occurred on the route down.

In June 2019, the symbol of mountaineering in North Macedonia and Balkan, the Titov Peak Tower was renovated and provides shelter to mountaineers and hikers.

At the beginning of October 2019, MFNM Mountain Orientation team participated in The Balkan Mountaineering Union's (BMU) Mountain Orienteering Competition in Bosnia and Hercegovina, together with teams from other BMU member countries.

Mountaineering Ireland

MI have appointed a Women in Sport Officer with the aim of increasing participation by women at every level of climbing including coaching. www.mountaineering.ie/aboutus/news/2019/?id=233

Mountaineering Ireland is awarding the 2019 Mountaineering Ireland 'Lynam Medal' to Sir Chris Bonington for his lifetime of achievement in Mountaineering, coinciding with the UN International Mountain Day in December.

Meanwhile, Mountaineering Ireland is in the process of publishing a book 'Irish Peaks', which will be of interest to anyone visiting Ireland's mountains. The Mountaineering Ireland affiliated Club Environmental Officer training continues to prove a success in educating mountaineering club members in the increasing fragility of the mountain environment.

Swiss Alpine Club

Key themes included the Glacier Initiative and the challenges for the SAC regarding climate changes (including mobility, energy supply huts, helicopter transports to huts). Delegates of the SAC decided in June to officially support the federal popular initiative for glaciers (The Glacier Initiative calling for net zero emissions by 2050, seeking to enshrine the goals of the Paris Climate Agreement in the constitution and put Switzerland on a climate change course).

The SAC began to work on a new strategy that will enter into force in 2022. Delegates will vote on the proposal in June 2021. Digitalisation and "[the route portal](#)" are two ongoing projects.

New Partnerships -

EUMA and other organisations

EUMA (European Union of Mountaineering Associations) was able to conclude a cooperation agreement with the European Ramblers Association (ERA), which will greatly assist its goals. The Tenerife Walking Festival has again issued an invitation to EUMA members for 2020. The leaders of the guided groups will receive very favourable conditions also in 2020.

EVENTS

UIAA members are supported through EUMA on many matters. This representation offers a platform for federations to inform others attending the GA of their news and areas of concern that they would like to share through UIAA channels and any projects they seek partnership.

Report by

ANNE ARRAN

British Mountaineering Council (BMC),
UIAA Management Committee



CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA

Latin America is a vast continent with large mountain ranges. Despite this, in general terms mountaineering is not widespread compared with other sports. The region is made up of twenty-four countries, with only Argentina, Chile, Brazil and Guatemala being full members of the UIAA.

The national federations and their clubs are working on the promotion of the activity and are great defenders of the mountains, the environment and mountain culture.

has become an Olympic sport, which has brought benefits for mountaineering and traditional climbing as well.

Government support remains poor, but it has changed substantially in some countries as Sport Climbing

MEMBERSHIP

ARGENTINA

<http://www.fasa.org.ar/>

Federación Argentina de Ski y Andinismo (FASA) focuses on mountaineering, sports climbing, mountain skiing, alpine skiing and snowboarding, so activities are very diverse, and its sports are grouped in the Ski Secretariat and Mountaineering Secretariat, the latter is the maximum authority of the mountaineering and climbing in the country.

The "National Mountaineering Promotion Law" has obtained preliminary approval in the National Chamber of Deputies and is about to become a national law where it is treated by the Senate in 2020. This Law, presented by FASA and several clubs in Argentina, will substantially change our sport, since it will make the practice of mountaineering friendly and non-restrictive and highlight its sporting, cultural, socio-recreational and historical character.

In the Provincial Reserve of Piedra Parada, an emblematic sector of rock climbing in South America, FASA along with Pan-American Access, have carried out conservation work

and the construction of toilets for climbers and visitors, repeating previous work in the Fitz Roy and Cerro Torre area.

EVENTS

In Sierra de los Padres the "Boulder Festival of Mar del Plata" was held as it has been every year since 1999. It brings together more than 500 climbers from all over the country as well as neighbouring countries. Festival celebrations were double this year, as the meet was awarded the UIAA Rock Climbing Festival Award in 2018.

The Argentine Federation successfully made its first edition of the "Escuela Juvenil de Montaña" (Mountain Youth School) where young climbers selected from all over the country were trained and made expeditions through different geographical regions of Argentina. These youngsters have been trained with the support of FASA with the aim of training future generations of Argentine mountaineers.

As in previous years, courses and trainings continue, the "National Course of Rock Route Setters" were given by the National Federation. The objective of the courses is to train rock route setters, create a quality standard in the

open lines and develop new climbing areas in the country. In 2019, four courses were held in different parts of the country, where four new climbing areas have been created.

BRAZIL

<http://www.cbme.org.br/>

The Brazilian federation - Confederação Brasileira de Montanhismo e Escalada - brings together 36 regional federations throughout the country and is one of the most active in terms of access and conservation issues.

EVENTS

The CBME together with Pan American Access, carried out the "Respect the Mountains" campaign throughout the year. Fifteen clean-up actions took place in different mountain sectors of the country.

The first lobby actions were carried out in the National Congress in favour of climbing and mountaineering. To improve access and conservation, climbing management was carried out in the Serra do Cipó, which consisted of a field day and discussion of solutions for

the place. The CBME also works intensively to consolidate a process of professional qualification of mountain guides. This year a new revision of the program has been established.

In 2019 was the fifth edition of the "Mosquetão de Ouro" (Golden Carabinier Award). These national awards had six categories across different mountain activities.

CHILE

<http://www.feach.cl/nuevo/>

The Chilean federation - Federación de Andinismo de Chile - also runs its mountain activities alongside competitive sport climbing. Its structure is made up of environmental, safety and cultural commissions. They have integrated

the National High Mountain School (ENAM).

EVENTS

The ENAM (National High Mountain School of Chile) has conducted numerous mountain training courses throughout the year. In 2019, FEACH made an important national expedition to the Himalayas, carrying out two "eight thousand" mountains in seven days without oxygen.

COSTA RICA

<https://www.facebook.com/FECODEMCR/>

The Costa Rican Mountaineering and Climbing Federation represents the Mountaineering, Climbing, Skyrunning, Hiking and High Mountain sports. The FECODEM holds the National Cup and the National Skyrunning Championship. In the area of Conservation, the "Environmental Days 2019" were organised, which consisted of planting native trees in mountainous areas of national importance.

EVENTS

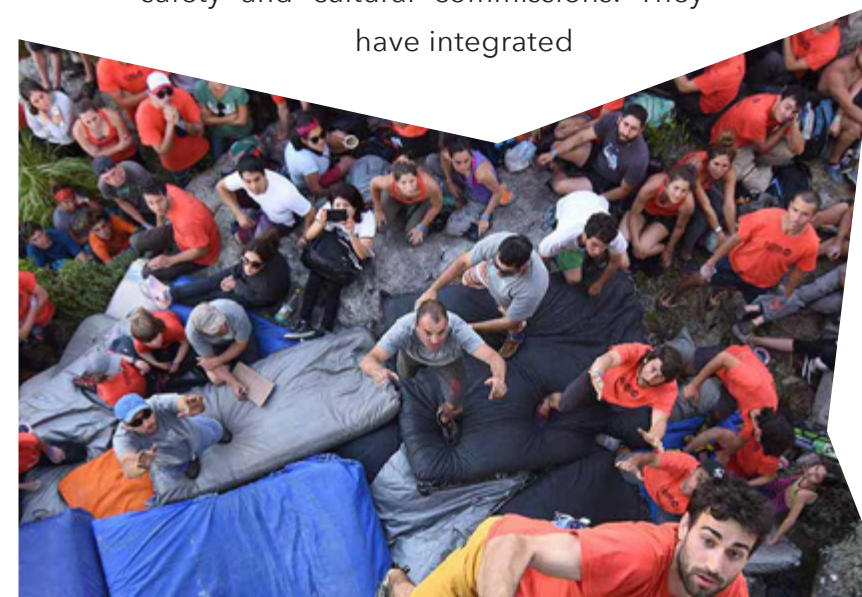
During the past year there have been different campaigns and training courses; an information campaign on National Anti-Doping Standards aimed at mountain sports as well as mountaineering, cartography, orientation and mountain navigation courses.

Two important national expeditions for FECODEM were made: the Mount Kilimanjaro National Expedition and the Mexican Volcanos Expedition.

GUATEMALA

<http://www.fedeandinismo.gt/>

This federation, like all national sports federations in Guatemala, is directly funded by the National Sports Ministry. It is formed by ten departmental associations and has activities including mountaineering, sport climbing, speleology and trekking. Its most impressive mountain-related activities are the Fellowship Meetings with neighbouring countries.



EVENTS

The Mexico-Guatemala Confraternity Meeting took place in March, as it has been for several years. It was held in Mexico, near the Tacaná Volcano. There was a large representation of mountaineers from both countries as well as from other Central American countries.

The Salvador-Guatemala Confraternity was also celebrated in the month of September in the Chingo Volcano region. Several countries from the region were represented.

The "Guatemala Mountain Awards 2019" were made to the most prominent summiters in the country. The prize is delivered in three different categories: the Maya Prize, Walter Peter Prize and Quetzal Prize. The awards seek to highlight the leading mountaineers and encourage sport among climbers.

OTHER COUNTRIES

Countries such as Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru have strengthened their mountain activities, but they remain distant from becoming

members of the UIAA due to economic problems and a lack of mountain sports leaders.

2020

As mentioned in previous years, there are numerous challenges for sport and its national federations in Latin America and these remain very large. These include the extension of the territory and its mountain ranges. The inaccessibility of certain areas due to political problems in some countries and/or the lack of transport and infrastructure in the most remote regions. There remains a shortage of mountaineers and local explorers, guides and mountain instructors. These factors create a lot of work for few people because, as mentioned, the national federations are very small and only five countries are currently members of the UIAA.

In recent years, the activity of the national federations has increased substantially and progress has been important. The main issues are legal, access and conservation, as well as training in mountain and climbing activities.

By 2020, the big challenge is to grow sports in all areas. Mountaineering in Latin America is not a massive sport, but it is already being considered of great importance linked to environmental activities and conservation, so the national federations increasingly relate to their governments as advisors. In addition, work with institutions such as Pan-American Access has increased, where the joint effort has yielded great results, so it will seek to advance further in this type of relationship.

Latin America is a continent where its mountains are relatively well preserved and have not negatively been impacted by human activities. The great challenge is that this situation continues, but that at the same time that mountaineering can develop whilst respecting nature, the inhabitants and the culture of each region.

REPORT BY

MARTIN LASCANO GONZALEZ

Central & South America Representative
UIAA Management Committee

NORTH AMERICA

North America's full UIAA members are the American Alpine Club (AAC) and the Alpine Club of Canada (ACC). UIAA associate members are Federation Quebécoise de la montagne et de l'escalade (FQME), Province of Quebec, Canada; L'École Nationale d'Escalade du Québec, Canada and the Alaskan Alpine Club (USA).

AAC - AMERICAN ALPINE CLUB

The American Alpine Club staged its annual and successful "Climb the Hill" advocacy campaign at Washington DC and were joined by notable climbers such as Steve House, Tommy Caldwell and Alex Honnold. More details are available at: <https://americanalpineclub.org/climb-the-hill>

The ACC in cooperation with the UIAA and its significant sponsor Outdoor Research staged

a tremendously successful Ice Climbing World Cup Denver, Colorado in February. The exciting event culminated in two rounds of quarter-finals and finals on Saturday and Sunday attended by the largest crowds in UIAA Ice Climbing World Cup history estimated to be in the range of 12,000 to 15,000 people each day.

On a disappointing note, AAC Executive Director Phil Powers announced his retirement for 2020. Phil leaves the AAC much invigorated with tremendous new initiatives and activity on all fronts. Phil has guided the AAC through its fantastic increase in membership and growing profile and influence in safe climbing educational programs and web presence. He is a powerful influence on climbing in North America, and his everyday presence will be missed but not less than his friendly American demeanour.

ACC - ALPINE CLUB OF CANADA

The ACC published its third volume of the State of the Mountains Report, this year concentrating on permafrost loss and landslides. The report is available to the public at https://www.alpineclubofcanada.ca/web/ACCMember/Community/Publications/State_of_the_Mountains.

On or near the Canada Day long weekend 2019, 19 of the ACC's 24 local sections across Canada held UIAA Respect the Mountains programmes. The well-attended events were fun for all while cleaning up many areas and providing education on various climbing and environmental topics.

As the year closed, the ACC added to its status as the operator of the largest number of backcountry huts in North America by acquiring the Shadow Lake Lodge in the backcountry of Banff National Park. Shadow Lake diversifies the ACC hut system's hiking options for club members and the public.

CONTINENTAL BODIES



FQME

As the provincial body organising climbing in the Province of Québec, the FQME celebrated 50 years as an organization and the UIAA was proud to send congratulations to this long-standing member.

Looking forward to 2020, the ACC and the AAC will partner with the University of Alberta (Edmonton, Alberta) for a climb and climate change study of Mount Logan, in the St. Elias range and Canada's highest peak. Details are available at: <https://www.theuiaa.org/uiaa/fqme-50-years-of-discovery-and-excellence/>

Report by

PETER MUIR

North America Management Committee Rep.
UIAA Treasurer



OCEANIA

Oceania includes Australia, New Zealand and the many island states scattered across the vast ocean of the South Pacific. The New Zealand Alpine Club (NZAC) with 4,500 members is the principal mountaineering organisation in the region, established in 1891 and with geographical sections in both NZ and Australia.

The NZAC operates both high and base huts, delivers instruction at all levels, publishes guidebooks and on-line route guides, a quarterly magazine and annual Journal, offers insurance and advocates on behalf of climbing with access and other issues. NZAC was a founding member of the UIAA.

SUMMARY OF 2019

GOVERNANCE

NZAC has undertaken a major reorganisation of its Governance structure and now has an elected Board in place with responsibility for governance, financial and strategic oversight. The quality of candidates, from within the membership, was high with an impressive range of skills and experience.

Three interrelated themes have been the focus of attention by the Oceania climbing community:

Climate Change Impact

Significant glacial recession in New Zealand is impacting physical access to traditional mountain areas & requiring mountaineers to reconsider when and where they climb.

Access Challenges

In the past year a number of well-known rock climbing areas have been closed or threatened with closure in both Australia and New Zealand. There are a variety of reasons for these closures. Traditional owners in both countries are increasingly asserting their right to manage and control access to their lands, which are often the very places that attract climbers. These issues are complex, heartfelt and grounded in the colonial histories of both countries. There are significant differences between Australia and New Zealand. In Australia the closure of much of the wellknown Grampians National Park to climbing (closing some 3,000 routes) was initiated by the state Park Service and supported by local Aboriginal owners who are concerned at disputed claims regarding damage to traditional rock art and landscapes by climbers. This is being legally challenged by a coalition of climbers.

In New Zealand, a number of well-known rock crags have closed while local protocols can hopefully be established. The NZAC is increasingly being asked to intervene and contribute to these discussions. In New Zealand the discussion often centres on interpretation and action based on the Treaty of Waitangi founding document signed between most Maori and the British Crown in 1840, coupled with differing world views of the central spiritual role of land.

In both countries these can be challenging discussions that outdoor users are increasingly having to confront, with changes in thinking, climbing ethics and behaviours.

Growth in Visitor Numbers

Rapid growth in backcountry visitors (tourism) is putting significant pressure on remote fragile environments and facilities. For example noise pollution from heavy use of helicopters and fixed wing aircraft for sightseeing is a major concern in the southern New Zealand glacier region. In the last year NZAC has been at the forefront in challenging management plans and policies for

National Parks which have proposed weakening the long standing principle that preservation of the environment comes first in National Parks. The NZAC has firmly objected to a range of proposals that would allow the expansion of commercial activity such as flights in remote parts of National Parks to meet ever growing tourist demand.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS

As always, there has been lots of activity in the Oceania mountaineering and climbing world. Much of this is not reported. People just get out and do it. It can be said that the popularity of climbing is growing as reflected in a number of new local Clubs being formed in both Australia and New Zealand.

The formation of the Australian Climbing Association Victoria, specifically to legally challenge the closure of climbing areas in the state of Victoria was a notable development. These closures attracted considerable media attention in Victoria, some of which was negative to climbers.

NZAC publishes a range of guidebooks. The federation was thrilled when the Aoraki- Tai



Poutini Guide for Mountaineers, by Rob Frost (covering the heavily glaciated heartland of NZ moutaineering) won the Guidebook section at the 2019 Banff Mountain Book Awards.

The NZAC goes from strength to strength as reported elsewhere. It is regarded as a model for NZ outdoor recreation clubs at a time when many established clubs are seeing declines in membership. As always there is a shortage of resources given the demands.

Events, Conferences, Meetings

The annual New Zealand Alpine Journal (NZAJ) has been digitised for the years 1892-2014, with 2015 & 2016 to be added shortly. This was a major project working with a team at Innsbruck University, Austria. NZAJ now joins many of the world’s other leading climbing journals in providing easy, free online access to past issues. See <https://www.nzaj-archive.nz/>

NZAC also maintains a large online database of climbing routes in New Zealand.

<https://climbnz.org.nz> provides free information on more than 12,000 routes, both crag and alpine.

In the same vein, the regionally based Canterbury Mountaineering Club has scanned its journal, Canterbury Mountaineer 1932-2013 which is freely available at <https://www.cmc.net.nz/mountaineer>

Bouldering meets are gaining popularity. The NZAC National Bouldering series is attracting a wide range of younger and talented climbers.

The Remarkables Ice and Mixed Festival was successfully held again by the Expedition Climbers Club in Queenstown, South Island, with cold weather delivering some excellent ice conditions.

2020: The Year Ahead

Climbers are increasingly asking the New Zealand Alpine Club and other regional climbing organisations to engage and advocate

on their behalf with issues facing the outdoor community such as access and the impacts arising from climate change and increasing tourist numbers. There is a need to step up NZAC’s advocacy capability as these challenges grow. In 2020 we can expect to see these issues become more pronounced.

NZAC members are involved in planning for the next Sustainable Summits Conference to be held in Kathmandu in June 2020.

Oceania supports the UIAA using its global reach to advocate selectively for climbers and mountaineers on issues such as access and protection of mountain environments. Its members expect this of the UIAA.

REPORT by
STUART GRAY
New Zealand Alpine Club (NZAC)
UIAA Management Committee



UIAA

International Climbing and Mountaineering Federation

UNION INTERNATIONALE DES ASSOCIATIONS D'ALPINISME

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