

# 2017 **ANNUAL REPORT**



**UIAA**

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



FOR THE CLIMBERS. FOR THE WORLD.

CONTENTS

<b>PRESIDENT</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>2. MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>3. ACCESS COMMISSION</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>4. ANTI-DOPING COMMISSION</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>5. ICE CLIMBING COMMISSION</b>	<b>35</b>
<b>6. MEDICAL COMMISSION</b>	<b>45</b>
<b>7. MOUNTAINEERING COMMISSION</b>	<b>51</b>
<b>8. MOUNTAIN PROTECTION COMMISSION</b>	<b>61</b>
<b>9. SAFETY COMMISSION</b>	<b>73</b>
<b>10. YOUTH COMMISSION</b>	<b>79</b>
<b>11. INTERNATIONAL SKYRUNNING FEDERATION</b>	<b>85</b>
<b>12. MARKETING &amp; COMMUNICATION</b>	<b>89</b>
<b>13. UIAA OFFICE REPORT</b>	<b>95</b>
<b>14. FINANCIAL REPORT</b>	<b>99</b>
<b>15. SPONSORS AND PARTNERS</b>	<b>103</b>



## PRESIDENT

*2017 was another diverse and busy year for the UIAA with strong progress made across the three pillars – safety, sport and sustainability – of our Strategic Plan 2017-2020. It was a pleasure to meet with our delegates, partners and above all member federations on a number of occasions throughout the year, most notably during the UIAA General Assembly in Shiraz, Iran in October. Many challenges and targets lie ahead for the coming year which we look forward to conquering together.*

### SAFETY

The UIAA global safety standards continue to prove their value to the climbing and mountaineering community. During 2017, the UIAA published a new Standard, the 23rd in total, dedicated to avalanche rescue shovels. This will be followed in the near future by a new Standard related to corrosion on bolts.

The number of UIAA safety label holders is increasing most notably in Asia. The Chinese Mountaineering Association is committed to Safety in the manufacturing of climbing and mountaineering gear and are building a UIAA testing laboratory outside Beijing, China to cater specifically for the expanding Asian market. This new facility will join Jiangsu Zhongzheng Testing Co., Ltd, a newly-accredited testing laboratory in Jiangsu, testing four UIAA Standards, as well as, an existing UIAA-accredited lab in Guangzhou.



At the ISPO and Outdoor tradeshows in Germany this year we met with many existing and potential UIAA safety label holders, an important opportunity to network and exchange ideas with climbing and mountaineering equipment manufacturers. We ask for the help of our members to encourage national retailers and consumers to request our safety standards. In 2018, we will work even harder on promoting the [Safety Label](#) and working with existing Safety Label holders to provide them the best service possible.

The [UIAA Training Qualifications](#) are one of our main assets and of great value for our members. With the support of the Petzl Foundation, the Training Qualifications Panel, part of our Mountaineering Commission, continues expanding and implementing qualifications around the globe. The UIAA Alpine Skills handbook is currently available in English, French, Turkish and recently Korean. We expect to have additional translations available very soon. A digital version will be available worldwide in early 2018 and will be promoted in parallel with a dedicated Skills communication campaign. The Near Miss Survey project has started, with the support of the Japanese Mountaineering & Sport Climbing Association (JMA), and Camp to Camp from France.

The tremendous source of knowledge and experience of our [Medical Commission](#) is of great importance for all involved in climbing and mountaineering and is promoted actively through our communication channels. Our information on preventing altitude sickness is one of most searched-for topics. Furthermore, the Diploma in Mountain Medicine is a highly-appreciated qualification in the medical world.

## SUSTAINABILITY

The list of applicants for the [UIAA Mountain Protection Award](#) continues to grow with a record number of 26 projects from 16 countries applying in 2017. The winner was the [Mount Everest Biogas Project](#). Award winners, and nominated projects, are great examples of both preserving and protecting mountain areas and encouraging people to enjoy spending time in the mountains, particularly climbing and mountaineering, in a sustainable manner. We continue to raise the voice of the mountains at the annual COP climate change conferences. Our goals are to support and defend the protection and access of mountain areas around the world. With this in mind, the UIAA continues to develop partnerships with other major players in this field and enjoys United Nations recognition. More information is available in the Mountain Protection Commission chapter. The annual [UIAA Respect the Mountains](#) campaign supported by KEEN, extended beyond Europe for the first time in 2017 with an event in Canada. Since its implementation in 2016, over 1,500 volunteers have collected 7.5 tonnes of waste. In the coming seasons, the UIAA will focus more

on the project's educational component. Preserving unbolted climbing areas as presented in our paper '[UIAA Recommendations on the Preservation of Natural Rock for Adventure Climbing](#)' is another project the UIAA continues to promote and this year the document was translated into Catalan.

## SPORT

Each of our member federations is active in recreational climbing and [mountaineering](#), and most are also active in competitive climbing and mountaineering, including many in ice climbing and in skyrunning. For all of us it is about enjoying the outdoors in all seasons, the beauty of the mountain landscapes, the great experience we have when climbing on rocks or on ice. [Our youth programme](#) is set up to meet the Strategic Plan's goals of international global youth events for climbing and mountaineering in the winter and summer months. The increased interest in the recreational climbing, bouldering and ice climbing camps is a positive development. The [UIAA Rock Climbing Awards](#), created to reward safety and environmentally-conscious rock climbing festivals organised in collaboration with our members, is well received. The 2017 winner was the [International Climbers' Festival](#) (United States). The focus of next year's Awards is Central and South America. Meanwhile, the UIAA Climbers' Manifesto developed with our [Access Commission](#) is a valuable instrument in our communication as it represents the UIAA's true spirit of climbing and mountaineering. The cooperation with our unit member [Skyrunning](#) continues to develop. This summer the Youth Skyrunning World Championships were held in Andorra. Most of the medals were won by athletes from our Spanish member federation FEDME.

The 2017 winter season featured a very successful [UIAA Ice Climbing World Tour](#). We organized World Cups on three continents with the highlight the biennial World Championships in France. The new World Cup in Beijing, venue of the 2022 Olympic Winter Games, was well exceptionally organized by the Chinese Mountaineering Association (CMA) and attended by several high-ranking Chinese sport officials. The World Championships in Champagny-en-Vanoise was watched live by over 250,000 people via our broadcasting channels. The season as a whole attracted in excess of three million unique views. We continue the strong development of the UIAA Ice Climbing competitions, supported by long-term partner, The North Face Korea. An important next step is to increase the number of member federations participating in our World Cups and Youth World Championships and for this we need your support. And with the election of three active athletes as full members of the UIAA Ice Climbing Commission during the 2017 UIAA General Assembly we will lend an even bigger voice to our athletes.

The UIAA is a fully WADA-compliant organization and we continue our successful anti-doping educational programme, titled '[Clean Climbing](#)'.

## FINANCES

Our financial position remains quite healthy and stable. We again had a positive result in 2017. We keep our expenses and incomes within the agreed 5% margin of our profit and loss forecast and anticipate potential financial risks. Regular financial reports give us an overview about the financial situation and allow us to take actions if the budget should deviate. Thanks to the improved financial management the UIAA reserves are now on an acceptable level. To continue and expand our income stream through additional marketing efforts is one of the focus tasks of the EB together with the UIAA Office in Bern.

## COMMUNICATION AND MARKETING

The partnership with the [Olympic Channel](#) to broadcast the 2017 UIAA World Championship Ice Climbing proved to be even more successful than we anticipated. With over 250,000 combined live viewers we exceeded expectations. We have the common goal of expanding our presence in the international media as a global body for climbing and mountaineering. We use several tools to communicate with the world, the climbing and mountaineering community, and with our members. We provide information for both our members and wider community through our fully upgraded [website](#), social media, video content and monthly newsletter and regular news releases. Increasing the number of UIAA media partnerships around the globe is one of the next steps we are embarking on.

## ORGANISATION AND MANAGEMENT

The number of new countries showing an interest in becoming a UIAA member continues to grow. At the [2017 UIAA General Assembly](#) we welcomed the Malta Climbing Club. It is a very positive development and we work with developing long-term relationships in mind. To ensure the great work of our Commissions remains at a high level it is important to maintain the quantity and quality of our Commission talents. I ask all federations to support their Commission members and encourage new ones to join.

The Office is one of our key support elements and we are very thankful for the great efforts of Stephanie Stettbacher, Agnes Semelet, Carol Kahoun (replaced in October 2017 by Rob Adie), Peter Bourne and Gloria Scarano. Early in 2017 Sophie Gerard, Office Manager, decided to leave the UIAA. We have found a successor in Nils Glatthard, a very experienced manager who joined the UIAA as Director of Operations in July 2017. Our Office is supported very well by the Swiss Alpine Club.

We continue to enjoy a strong cooperation with all our Asian members, organised collectively as part of the Union of Asian Alpine Associations (UAAA). In 2017, several of our members helped form the European Union of Mountaineering Associations (EUMA). The UIAA and EUMA have a strong interest in regular, efficient and close collaboration and on establishing common working principles with the best interests of UIAA and EUMA member federations at heart.

Our regular meetings with the global sports governing organizations like the IOC and SportAccord are very useful, both in developing our competition sports and for recreational climbing and mountaineering as sport for all. The UIAA has a unique and appreciated position in the international sport community because we not only look after sporting activities but are also engaged in mountain protection and the promotion of the beauty of mountains around the world.

Looking at the achievements of the past year, I am proud of the progress we have made. Since 1932, we have helped unite the global community of climbers and mountaineers and together with you we set our goals as we climb routes or peaks. Climbing and mountaineering is more than a passion or a sport activity, it is a way of live. I am very thankful to my fellow Board members, the members of the Management Committee, the Commissions, the Office staff, and above all our members for their continued support.

## UIAA EXECUTIVE BOARD

**Frits Vrijlandt**



**Frits Vrijlandt**

*UIAA President*

*President*

**Peter Farkas**

*Vice President & Treasurer*

**Helène Denis**

*General Secretary*

**Pier Giorgio Oliveti**

*Sustainability*

**Thomas Kähr**

*Sport*

**James “Marc” Beverly**

*Safety*

**Wang Yongfeng**

*Executive Board Member*

**MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP**

as confirmed by the UIAA General Assembly (October, 2017)

**Members Executive Board**

*See above*

**Largest Federation Representatives**

Lucia Foppoli, Italy

Juan Garrigos I Toro, Spain

Francoise Jaquet, Switzerland

**Continental Representatives**

Africa: Greg Moseley, Republic Of 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

**Representative Members**

Georges Elziere, France

Josef Klenner, Germany

Yagihara Kuniaki, Japan

Zumba Zangbu Sherpa, Nepal

Reza Zarei, Iran





## 2. MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

*The UIAA closed 2017 with 63 Active Members, 19 Associate Members, seven Observer Members and one Unit Member, making a total of 3,134,895 individual members. Membership comes from 68 different countries.*

At the 2017 General Assembly in Shiraz, Iran, the UIAA accepted the following federation as active member as of January 1, 2018:

- Malta Climbing Club MCC President Simon Alden

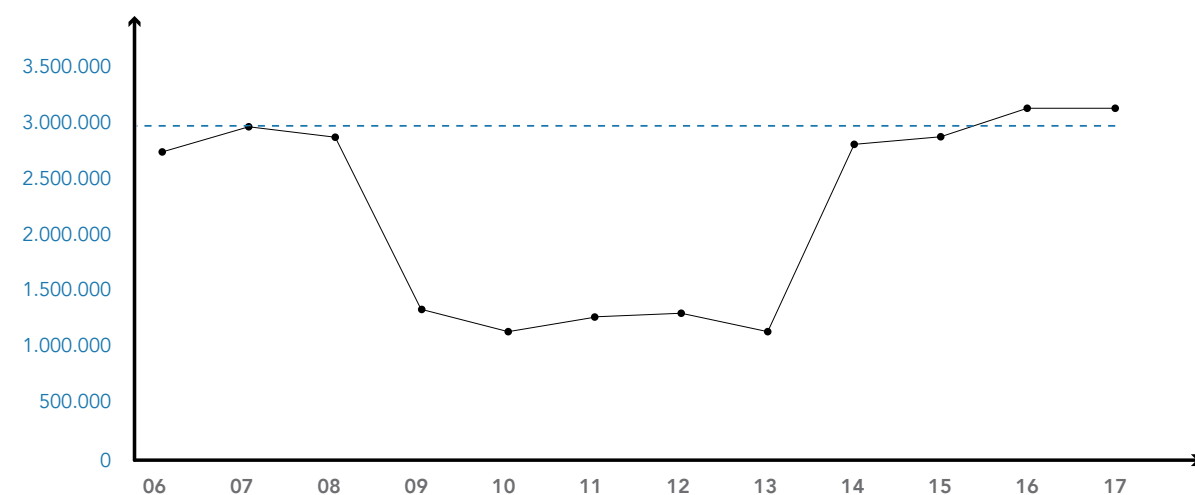
The UIAA is actively looking for new federations in South America and Asian continents. We hope to keep the numbers rising with more applicant federations in 2018.

For full details on UIAA member federations please visit:

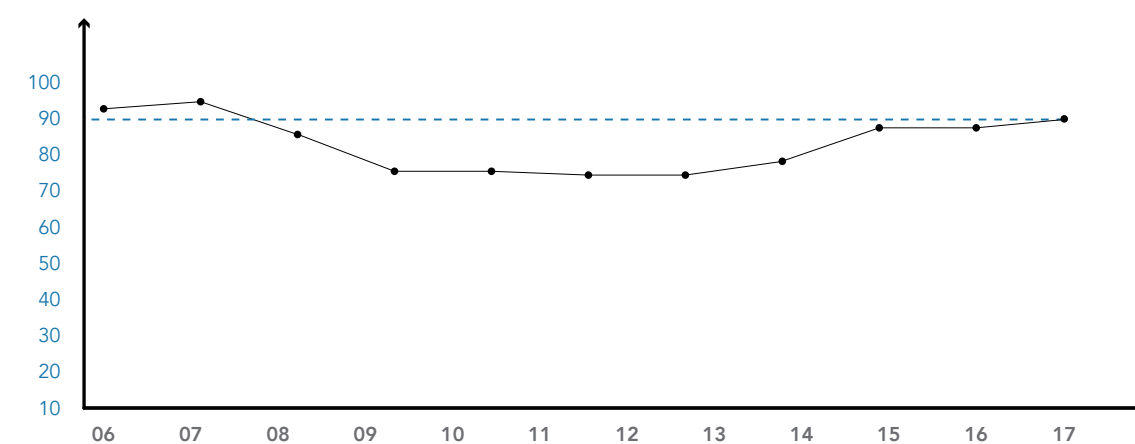
<http://www.theuiaa.org/members/member-federations>



UAAA MEMBERSHIP 2006 - 2017



UIAA MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS 2006 - 2017





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

	NAME	CODE	COUNTRY	JOINED UIAA	MEMBERSHIP
15	Vereinigung der Akademischen Alpen-Clubs der Schweiz	VAAC	Switzerland	1985	Associate Member
16	Chinese Taipei Mountaineering Association	CTMA	Taiwan	1993	Associate Member
17	Zirve Mountaineering Club	ZIRVE	Turkey	2011	Associate Member
18	The Alpine Club	AC	United Kingdom	2003	Associate Member
19	Alaskan Alpine Club	ALAC	United States	1985	Associate Member
	NAME	CODE	COUNTRY	JOINED UIAA	MEMBERSHIP
1	Afghanistan Climbing & Mountaineering Federation	ACMF	Afghanistan	2017	Full Member
2	Albanian Mountaineering Federation	FSHALTM	Albania	2017	Full Member
3	Federación Argentina de Ski y Andinismo	FASA	Argentina	1951	Full Member
4	Verband Alpiner Vereine Österreichs	VAVOE	Austria	1951	Full member
5	Air and Extreme Federation of Azerbaijan	FAIREX	Azerbaijan	2011	Full member
6	Bangladesh Mountaineering Federation	BMF	Bangladesh	2013	Full Member
7	Climbing & Mountaineering Belgium	CMBEL	Belgium	1932	Full Member



	NAME	CODE	COUNTRY	JOINED UIAA	MEMBERSHIP
8	Mountaineering Union of Bosnia - Herzegovina	PSBH	Bosnia and	1977	Full Member
9	Confederação Brasileira de Montanhismo e Escalada	CBME	Brazil	2005	Full Member
10	Bulgarian Climbing and Mountaineering Federation	BCMF	Bulgaria	1935	Full Member
11	The Alpine Club of Canada	ACC	Canada	1947	Full Member
12	Federación de Andinismo de Chile	FEACH	Chile	1955	Full Member
13	Chinese Mountaineering Association	CMA	China	1985	Full Member
14	Croatian Mountaineering Association - Hrvatski Planinarski Savez	HPS	Croatia	1991	Full Member
15	Mountaineering and Climbing Federation of Cyprus	CMCF	Cyprus	2007	Full Member
16	Czech Mountaineering Federation - Cesky Horolezecky Svaz	CMF	Czech Republic	1932	full Member
17	Dansk Bjergklub - Danish Alpine Club	DB	Denmark	1977	Full Member
18	Finnish Climbing Association	FCA	Finland	1994	Full Member
19	Fédération française des clubs alpins et de montagne	FFCAM	France	1932	Full Member
20	Macedonian Mountain Sport Federation	MMSF	FYR Macedonia	1999	Full Member
21	Mountaineering and Climbing Association of Georgia	MCAG	Georgia	1933	Full Member

	NAME	CODE	COUNTRY	JOINED UIAA	MEMBERSHIP
22	Deutscher Alpenverein	DAV	Germany	1932	Full Member
23	Hellenic Federation of Mountaineering and Climbing	EOOA	Greece	1936	full Member
24	Federacion nacional de Andinismo de Guatemala	FNAG	Guatemala	2017	Full Member
25	China Hong Kong Mountaineering and Climbing Union	CHKMCU	Hong Kong	1988	Full Member
26	Mountaineering and Sport Climbing Federation	MHSSz	Hungary	1932	Full Member
27	Indian Mountaineering Foundation	IMF	India	1981	Full Member
28	Indonesia Sport Climbing and Mountaineering Federation	FPTI	Indonesia	2016	Full Member
29	I.R. Iran Mountaineering and Sport Climbing Federation	IMSCF	Iran	1972	Full Member
30	Mountaineering Ireland	MI	Ireland	2004	Full Member
31	Israel Climbers\' Club (Former Israeli Alpine Club)	ILCC	Israel	2009	Full Member
32	Club Alpino Italiano	CAI	Italy	1932	Full Member
33	Japan Mountaineering and Sport Climbing Association	JMSCA	Japan	1967	Full Member
34	Mountaineering & Sport Climbing Federation of the Republic of Kazakhstan	MSCRFK	Kazakhstan	2017	Full Member
35	Korean Alpine Club	KAC	Korea	1969	Full Member



	NAME	CODE	COUNTRY	JOINED UIAA	MEMBERSHIP
36	Kosovo Mountaineering and Alpinist Federation	KMAF	Kosovo	2011	Full Member
37	Liechtensteiner Alpenverein	LAV		1959	Full Member
38	Lithuanian Mountaineering Association	LMA	Lithuania	2015	Full Member
39	Luxembourg Federations FLERA	FLERA		1938	Full Member
40	Club Alpin Monégasque	CAM	Monaco	1994	Full Member
41	Mongolian National Sport Climbing Federation	MNSCF	Mongolia	2010	Full Member
42	Federation Royale Marocaine de Ski et Montagnes	FRMSM	Morocco	2017	Full Member
43	Nepal Mountaineering Association	NMA	Nepal	1975	Full Member
44	Royal Dutch Mountaineering and Climbing Club	NKBV		1932	Full Member
45	New Zealand Alpine Club Inc.	NZAC	New Zealand	1932	Full Member
46	Norwegian Alpine Club - Norsk Tindeklub	NTK	Norway	1965	Full Member
47	Alpine Club of Pakistan	ACP	Pakistan	1979	Full Member
48	Polish Mountaineering Association	PZA	Poland	1932	Full Member
49	Clube Nacional de Montanhismo	CNM	Portugal	1955	Full Member

	NAME	CODE	COUNTRY	JOINED UIAA	MEMBERSHIP
50	Clubul Alpin Român - Romanian Alpine Club	CAR	Romania	1934	Full Member
51	Russian Mountaineering Federation	RMF	Russia	2007	Full Member
52	Mountaineering Association of Serbia - Planinarski Savez Srbije	PSS	Serbia	2002	Full Member
53	Slovak Mountaineering Union JAMES - Slovensky Horolezecky Spolok	JAMES	Slovakia	1932	Full Member
54	Alpine Association of Slovenia	PZS	Slovenia	1991	Full Member
55	The Mountain Club of South Africa	MCSA	South Africa	1992	Full Member
56	Federación Española de Deportes de Montaña y Escalada (FEDME)	FEDME	Spain	1932	Full Member
57	Swedish Climbing Federation - Svenska Klätterförbundet	SKF	Sweden	1973	Full Member
58	Schweizer Alpen-Club SAC	SAC	Switzerland	1932	Full Member
59	Chinese Taipei Alpine Association	CTAA	Taiwan	1989	Full Member
60	Türkiye Dağcılık Federasyonu - Turkish Mountaineering Federation	TDF	Turkey	1967	Full Member
61	Ukrainian Mountaineering and Climbing Federation	UMCF	Ukraine	1991	Full Member
62	British Mountaineering Council	BMC	United Kingdom	1932	Full Member
63	The American Alpine Club	AAC	United States	1932	Full Member



	NAME	CODE	COUNTRY	JOINED UIAA	MEMBERSHIP
1	Czech Mountain Leader Association	CMLA	Czech Republic	2010	Observer
2	Jordan Tourism Board		Jordan	2013	Observer
3	National Adventure Association of Malaysia	NAA	Malaysia	2015	Observer
4	Clube de Actividades de Ar Livre	CAAL	Portugal	2011	Observer
5	National Mountaineering & Climbing Association Sri Lanka	NMCA	Sri Lanka	2015	Observer
6	International Federation of Mountain Guides Associations	IFMGA/ UIAGM	Switzerland	1987	Observer
7	Armenian Alpine Club	SNGO	Armenia	2015	Observer

	NAME	CODE	COUNTRY	JOINED UIAA	MEMBERSHIP
1	International Skyrunning Federation	ISF	Italy	2016	Unit Member





### 3. ACCESS COMMISSION

*The mission of the UIAA Access Commission is to internationally promote the idea of responsible free access of mountain environments to mountain users. The UIAA Access Commission is also available to support requests for action and assistance from UIAA member associations, especially requests from new members. Its mission, objectives and action for the coming years were approved during 2017's Commission meeting.*

#### 2017: ACHIEVEMENTS

Since our last report, we highlight the following major developments regarding mountain access.

##### Argentina

- An Argentinian Law to protect and promote the Mountaineering was presented to the national council under the initiative and support of Federación Argentina de Ski y Andinismo (FASA) (May 2017)
- A training course about Access is developing under the leadership of FASA, supported by the UIAA and Accesopanam to facilitate knowledge and common action lines for clubs, regions and bordering countries.

##### Chile

- The government has promoted a national council to develop a National Mountaineering Policy.

##### Greece

- Regulations to climb in the area of Meteora are developing.



**Spain, Andalusia**

- In April 2017, the Andalusian parliament approved the Paths of Andalusia law. The law, unanimously approved, recognizes the values of the paths as spaces and natural facilities of public utility for the practice of sport, tourism and the enhancement of environmental heritage that are compatible with all traditional uses such as agriculture, cattle raising and hunting. In addition, it emphasizes its contribution to social change and diversification of economy activity in rural areas, and in the end is a decisive contribution to rural development.

**Spain, Tenerife (Canary Islands)**

- Tenerife Walking Festival hosted a week of intensive activity of trekking and hiking across the mountain area with activities to show and develop the rural history, traditional jobs and rural economy.

**Tibet**

- After an illegal ascent from a Polish climber, the authorities have closed the whole area until next year.

**BRUSSELS CONFERENCE**

In June, the European Union organized the “[Cohesion Policy in Mountain Areas](#)” conference. The UIAA Access Commission President attended the meeting, invited by the EU.

**ACCESS ARTICLES**

A series of articles with clear and significant information related to access in different countries, and produced by Commission members, was shared on the UIAA website and social media:

[Poland](#), [Brazil](#), [Argentina](#), [Belgium](#) and [Spain](#).

**REPORT FROM ANNUAL COMMISSION MEETING**

Communication among members of the Access Commission continued through Skype [annual Commission meeting](#) was held in August in Bern, Switzerland with the support of the UIAA Office.

The decisions made covered:

- To obtain more involvement from larger UIAA member associations in Access Commission activities, (key action to continue).
- To continue the Access stories shared on the UIAA website with a clear timetable: November, February, May, August and highlighting why and how the related story is serving the objective of responsible free access.

- All national and regional federations where a local Access Commission exists are kindly invited to send a copy of their local Access Commission reports to the full members of the UIAA Commission, ([secretarianaturaleza@fedme.es](mailto:secretarianaturaleza@fedme.es))

**ACCESS COMMISSION AND THE UIAA STRATEGIC PLAN 2017-2020**

Mission of the Access Commission:

- The mission of the UIAA Access Commission is to regularly promote on an international scale the idea of responsible access of mountainous environments to practitioners of mountain sports.
- The mission of the UIAA Access Commission is also to be reactive to requests for action and assistance by UIAA member associations, especially to requests by new member associations.

Objectives for the Access Commission:

1. Improve the available information on ever-increasing restrictions to responsible free access and on remedies and action guidelines on how to code effectively.
2. Encourage the formation of Access Commissions and Access-related working parties among all UIAA member federations.

Actions by the Access Commission:

1. Increase the number, and enhance the level, of the UIAA Access Commission full members by encouraging Access Commission membership among the larger UIAA federations, and by having full members from each continent or broad geographical area.
2. Strategically participate in conferences, seminars, and working groups dealing with responsible free access, -and obtain a UIAA budget to carry this out.
3. Aim at ongoing cooperation with the Mountain Protection Commission by providing constructive comments, by supporting joint activities, and by considering judicious cross-membership of both commissions.
4. Quarterly publish a Responsible Free Access story in the UIAA newsletter/website and divulge information on local RFA initiatives such as recently in Latin America.



Skyrunning suggestion: to develop a UIAA Statement on sky-running in consultation with the Mountain Protection Commission and the Access Commission.

## 2018: THE YEAR AHEAD

- The Access Seminar will look for more involving members from larger member associations.
- The UIAA will support the Access Seminar in Argentina to offer knowledge and guidelines on Access to local clubs, regional federations and border areas.
- The UIAA will produce access articles to share relevant information on access from different UIAA member associations.
- The 2018 Access Commission will meet in Canmore, Alberta, Canada in August thanks to the kind invitation received from the Alpine Club of Canada (ACC).

## ACCESS COMMISSION MEMBERSHIP

As confirmed by the UIAA Management Committee in Shiraz, Iran (October 2017)

### MEMBERS

Juan JESUS IBANEZ MARTIN (President), Spain (FEDME)

Lode BECKERS, Belgium (CMBEL)

Milosz JODLOWSKI, Poland (PZA)

Mehdi SOHEIL FARID, Iran (I.R.ISMF)

### EXPEDITIONS WORKING GROUP

Jose BARRACHINA, Spain (FEDME)

Ulrike KIEFER, South Africa (MCSA)

Lucia FOPPOLI, Italy (CAI)

### CORRESPONDING MEMBERS

Ismayil ASGAROV, Azerbaijan (AMF)

Hussein BAGIROV, Azerbaijan (FAIREX)

Jim BARTLE, USA (AAC)

Jack BERGIN, Republic of Ireland (MI)

Nelson BRUGGER, Brazil (CBME)

Esteban DEGREGORI, Argentina (FASA)

Dr Catherine FLITCROFT, UK (BMC)

Hank HWANG, Taipei (CTMA)

Roy KENDALL, South Africa (MCSA)

Hitoshi ONODERA, Japan (JMA)

Boyan PETROV, Bulgaria (BCMF)

João PAULO QUEIROS, Portugal (FCMP)

Richard Grant SHERRY, South Africa (MCSA)

Brian STEPHENSON, New Zealand (NZAC)

### UIAA EXECUTIVE BOARD LINK

Hélène DENIS

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Report by

### UIAA Access Commission President

*Juan Jesús Ibáñez Martín*

For more information about the UIAA Access Commission please visit:

<http://www.theuiaa.org/the-uiaa-mountain-sustainability/mountain-protection-access>

## 4. ANTI-DOPING COMMISSION

*The UIAA promotes Clean Climbing by adopting and implementing the World Anti-Doping Code. Through its Anti-Doping Commission, the UIAA manages an anti-doping programme, including in-competition and out-of competition testing, and results management processes. 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. The UIAA is one of the few international federations which makes it mandatory for every athlete to pass an anti-doping education test before registration. The UIAA contributes to the advancement of clean sport through scientific research and outreach initiatives under the name of Clean Climbing.*

### 2017: ACHIEVEMENTS

#### DOPING CONTROLS

As was the case in previous years the Anti-Doping Commission conducted four doping controls per competition and four doping controls out of competition.

For the first time since UIAA doping controls were implemented, a positive test was recorded. On 28 January, 2017, during the UIAA Ice Climbing World Cup event in Rabenstein, Pavel Batushev (Russia) provided a urine sample that had Adverse Analytical Finding for prohibited substance



Meldonium. The athlete used his right to have the B Sample analysed and results from A sample was confirmed. Following a subsequent hearing on 10 April 2017, the athlete was found to have committed an anti-doping rule violation, namely article 2.1 of the Rules. This resulted in an:

- imposed period of suspension of four (4) years from the date of the provisional suspension (29 March 2017) and disqualified results in the competition which produced the positive Sample and in all other competitions between this events. The official UIAA Statement on the subject can be found [here](#).

## EDUCATION

Commission President Dr Marija Andjelkovic and Commission member Dr Nenad Dikic, former President, created an [online anti-doping education test](#), completed by 160 competitive ice climbers. This is a great tool for athletes and one which helps strengthen the UIAA's commitment to clean climbing.

## ADAMS DATABASE

Among the most important accomplishments of Dr. Andjelkovic and Dr. Dikic has been the extensive work in checking and registering all the doping controls performed by UIAA in ADAMS (world data base of athletes of WADA) which is an important step in recognition by WADA and the IOC.

## WADA QUESTIONNAIRE

Dr Nenad Dikic completed and fulfilled a very demanding WADA questionnaire in order for the UIAA to be qualitatively checked for WADA Code Compliance.

## REPORT FROM ANNUAL COMMISSION MEETING

The Anti-Doping Commission meeting took place during the WADA seminar in Lausanne, March 2017 in the presence of Borja Osés Garcia , Marija Andjelkovic and Nenad Dikic. The accomplishments and targets of the Commission were discussed during this meeting. The expertise of the UIAA Anti-Doping Commission is regularly sought-after by other bodies and federations.

Additionally, Dr Dikic and Dr Andjelkovic were present at the TUE (Therapeutic Use Exemption) meeting organised by WADA in Helsinki in September. This is an important meeting, organised biennially, where rules and regulations regarding TUEs are discussed.

## 2018: THE YEAR AHEAD

The Anti-Doping Commission will continue to insist that each competitor completes the UIAA anti-doping educational questionnaire. Doping controls will be conducted as usual both in, and out, of competition.

## UIAA ANTI-DOPING COMMISSION

As confirmed by the Management Committee – Shiraz, Iran, (October 2017)

### MEMBERS

Marija ANDJELKOVIC (President), Serbia (PSS)

Nenad DIKIC, Serbia (PSS)

Borja Osés GARCIA, Spain (EMF)

Jaladin SHAHBAZI, Iran (I.R.IMF)

### CORRESPONDING MEMBERS

Enrico DONEGANI, Italy (CAI)

Rakesh VERMA, India (IMF)

### UIAA EXECUTIVE BOARD LINK

Thomas KAHR

Report by

**Dr Marija Andjelkovic**

*UIAA Anti-Doping Commission*

For more information about the UIAA Anti-Doping Commission please visit:

<http://www.theuiaa.org/anti-doping/>



## 5. ICE CLIMBING COMMISSION

*Ice Climbing is the core competition sport of the UIAA. It connects mountaineering/climbing with the competition environment and provides an excellent platform to promote climbing and mountaineering to the wider public and younger audiences.*

### 2017: ACHIEVEMENTS

Excellent viewing statistics were achieved during the 2016/17 UIAA Ice Climbing season. Over the three-month period three million unique views of video content were generated, totally reaching eight million people, a number surpassing any previous engagement. The increase is partly due to hiring one centralized livestream partner, QTV Sports. Along with this, the IOC Olympic Channel streamed the biennial World Championships, assuring a new audience and additional interaction. This investment in marketing shows promise in hunting for additional sponsors. In summary, these were some figures achieved this year:

- 5 World Cups, in 5 countries, 2 new locations (Durango, USA and Beijing, China)
- 1 World Championships
- 1 Youth World Championships
- 207 elite athletes, 71 youth (29 of which participated in World Tour), an increase of youth participation by +8.45 % compared to previous season
- Participation of 28 nations, important additions of Norway, Germany and China
- Out of 22 gold medals, 13 different winners
- More ice on structures
- Successful delivery of all competitions



## REPORT FROM ANNUAL COMMISSION MEETING

The last ice climbing commission meeting was held from the 8-9 April 2017 in Paris, France. FFCAM kindly hosted the get-together in their headquarters. A number of regulation changes were discussed, continuing to frame the sport as fair and clear as possible. Although livestreaming figures proved very promising, the commission decided to decentralize livestream, due to financial reasons, while potentially continuing the partnership with QTV, or a single company, in terms of global distribution. Further, a few new venues were inspected during the 2016/17 season, notably Oulu, Finland and Oulaanbatar, Mongolia but both were not ready to meet the standards of a UIAA World Cup location yet. The commission will be more strict in implementing its guidelines to allow hosts to carry the name of an international UIAA competitions after the experience of the 2017 season. Next season's calendar was discussed, as well as an option of a new combined format, where lead and speed results count for the final ranking.

The Ice Climbing Commission (ICC) launched the bidding campaign for the 2019 UIAA World Championships – interest seems to come from Switzerland, Russia and China. The winner will be decided at the next in-person meeting in Busteni, Romania in April 2018. A new European Cup series will be instituted.

In the nearer future, the commission is looking to collaborate more with the Safety commission to further establish the presence of the UIAA Safety Label in the sport of ice climbing.

Urs Stöcker (SUI) stepped down as Commission President. Carlos Teixeira (POR) took over initially on an interim basis before becoming officially endorsed as Commission President. Pavel Shabalin (RUS) continues in his role as vice president.

## 2017 EVENTS

### UIAA Ice Climbing World Cup Durango, CO, USA

Organized by a private committee led by Marcus Garcia, this event opened the 2017 UIAA Ice Climbing World Tour. The speed structure was deemed inappropriate for competition upon arrival of the jury president, mainly because of lack of ice. The organizers were highly motivated and provided as many services to athletes as possible.

- December 16-17, 2016
- New location
- Lead only

- 47 athletes
- 60'594 views of livestream
- 627'960 views of video content
- Total reach: 688'554 people worldwide

### UIAA Ice Climbing World Cup Beijing, CHINA

Organized by the Chinese Mountaineering Association (CMA) with Li Guowei as the main contact point, the UIAA was very happy to add Beijing to the 2017 UIAA Ice Climbing World Tour. Lead and speed took place in different venues, where the latter was a stunning frozen waterfall. From the opening to the closing ceremony, the event was excellently organised, owing to the CMA's expertise from sport climbing competitions.

- January 7-9, 2017
- New location, 2 venues
- Lead and speed (dual-format)
- 70 athletes
- 445'835 views of livestream
- 264'227 views of video content
- Total reach: 710'062 people worldwide

### UIAA Ice Climbing World Cup Cheongsong, SOUTH KOREA

One of the most established organizers, the Korean Alpine Federation (KAF) with Aron An as the main office link, put on a tremendous show once again. The competition site resembles a small village with entertainment, local crafts and markets, and a large ice climbing structure. Competitors thoroughly enjoy coming to South Korea as they are truly treated like international athletes. Local shops and community are involved where possible. The community is incredible.

- January 14-15, 2017
- Well-established location, addition of ice barrels this season
- Lead and Speed (dual-format)
- 83 athletes (same as last year)
- 18'101 views of livestream (Mountain TV)

- 662'995 views of video content (highest of the season)
- Total reach: 681'096 people worldwide

### **UIAA Ice Climbing World Cup Saas-Fee, SWITZERLAND**

Organized by a private committee lead by Kurt Arnold, and in collaboration with the Swiss Alpine Club (SAC), this event took the World Tour to the European continent. The site inside a parking lot is unique and attracts thousands of spectators over the weekend. Nowhere can athletes feel the proximity and excitement of the crowd like in Saas-Fee. The combination of ice climbing action together with musical entertainment in the evening make this a well-known local event. Athletes speak of the unpredictable outcomes in Saas-Fee – everyone's curiosity is guaranteed.

- January 20-21, 2017
- Well established location
- Lead and Speed (single-format)
- 104 athletes (-0.95 % from last year)
- 232'664 views of livestream
- 109'112 views of video content
- Total reach: 341'776 people worldwide

### **UIAA Ice Climbing World Cup Rabenstein, ITALY**

Reinhard Graf, head of organizing committee, under the wing of AVS (Alpenverein Südtirol) have operated this yearly event for many years. The climbing structure with its many arms and legs provides countless possibilities for routesetters to challenge athletes throughout the competition. With a demonstration event in Merano the night before qualifications, spectators are encouraged to join the spectacle unfolding over the weekend. Competitors particularly like this stage of the World Tour, as the climbs take them vertically but also horizontally across the structure.

- January 27-29, 2017
- Well-established location
- Lead and Speed (single-format)
- 103 athletes (-16.5 % from last year)
- 186'442 views of livestream

- 41'230 views of video content
- Total reach: 227'672 people worldwide

### **UIAA ICE CLIMBING WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS**

#### **Champagny-en-Vanoise, France**

Under the umbrella of the Fédération française des clubs alpins et de montagne (FFCAM), Nils Guillotin, head of the local organizing committee, was given the opportunity to organize the peak of the season and crown the world champions. Champagny's climbing tower is high and versatile and the event was rounded with a memorable award ceremony with fireworks. From catering to transport shuttles to the nearest village, everything was thought of. Despite difficult weather conditions, the event was well executed and gave the athletes an excellent farewell to the 2017 UIAA Ice Climbing season.

- February 4-5, 2017
- Established location
- Lead and Speed (dual-format)
- 116 athletes
- 342'703 views of livestream
- 73'177 views of video content
- Total reach: 415'880 people worldwide
- Presence of IOC Olympic Channel (150,000 views)

### **UIAA ICE CLIMBING WORLD YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS**

#### **Champagny-en-Vanoise, France**

The weekend after staging the elite World Championships, Champagny took it upon itself to organize the World Youth Championships, giving young athletes the opportunity to compete and measure themselves in three age categories; U16, U19 and U22. Accommodation and meals were provided for all teams and the atmosphere around this annual youth event was fantastic.

- February 10-11, 2017
- Established location
- Lead and Speed (dual-format)



- 71 athletes (+8.45 % from last year)
- No livestream provided

## 2017: OTHER PROJECTS

Training Camp for Youth climbers in Kirov (RUS)

Technical course for Routesetters and Judges Beijing (CHN)

Technical course for Routesetters and Judges Champigny (FRA)

Presence at ISPO Munich (GER)

Presence at ISPO Beijing (CHN)

Presence at the Outdoor in Friedrichshafen (GER)

## 2018: THE YEAR AHEAD

- Establish relationship with the American Alpine Club and the Alpine Club of Canada to assure high-quality events on the North American Continent
- Test a new (potentially Olympic) format of combined disciplines in China
- Assure at least five World Cups across the globe
- Increase participation in the World Youth Championships
- Develop ice climbing in not established countries while supporting the national federations with ambassadors from the commission as well as a solidarity fund
- Strengthen the UIAA brand across the World Tour
- Start a European Tour to engage countries and venues at a lower level of competition, encouraging more nations to participate in ice climbing

The strategic roadmap for ice Climbing reads:

- Increase global movement by organizing a top level ice climbing World Tour with six (6) events every year, World Championships in 2019 and 2021 and a yearly World Youth Championships
- Increase athletes' participation to 250 for adult competitions and to 100 for youth competition (from three (3) different continents)
- Increase attractiveness of ice climbing with more exciting, easier to organise, broadcast-friendly formats

## 2017 UIAA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

A significant development in the sport of ice climbing saw the election of Kendra Stritch (AAC, United States), Nikolai Primorev (RMF, Russia) and Gordon McArthur (pictured above, ACC, Canada) to the Ice Climbing Commission during the 2017 UIAA General Assembly. All three are current ice climbers whose involvement in the Commission demonstrates the UIAA's desire for athletes to have an even stronger voice in the future of the sport.

## UIAA ICE CLIMBING COMMISSION

As confirmed by the UIAA Management Committee in Shiraz, Iran (October 2017)

### FULL MEMBERS

Carlos TEIXEIRA, Portugal (FCMP) (President)

Andrej PECJAK, Slovenia (PZS) (Vice President)

David DORNIAN, Canada (AAC)

Byeong GOO KIM, Korea (KAF)

Nadezhda LAUNITES, Russia (RMF)

Pavel SHABLIN, Russia (RMF)

Urs STÖCKER, Switzerland (SAC)

Luc THIBAL, France (FFCAM)

### LINK TO UIAA EXECUTIVE BOARD

Thomas KAHR

### CORRESPONDING MEMBERS

Israfil ASHURLY, Azerbaijan (AAF)

Zoljargal BANZRAGCH, Mongolia (MNMF)

Bharart BHUSHAN, India (IMF)

Pranav RAWAT, India (IMF)

Mohammad Amin HAVALENDAR NEJAD, Iran (IMSCF)

Hamid REZA SHAFAGHI, Iran (IMSCF)

Masoud ZEYNALI, Iran (IMSCF)

## **ATHLETES**

Gordon McARTHUR, Canada (ACC)

Nikolay PRIMEROV, Russia (RMF)

Kendra STRITCH, United States (ACC)

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Report by

**Carlos Teixeira**

*UIAA Mountain Protection Commission President*

**and**

**Carol Kahoun**

*UIAA Sports Event Coordinator (until October 2017)*

Contact: [iceclimbing@theuiaa.org](mailto:iceclimbing@theuiaa.org)

For more information about the UIAA Ice Climbing Commission please visit:

<http://www.theuiaa.org/ice-climbing>

Videos from the UIAA Ice Climbing World Tour:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/uiaabern>

Photos from the UIAA Ice Climbing World Tour:

[https://www.flickr.com/photos/uiaa\\_mountains](https://www.flickr.com/photos/uiaa_mountains)





## 6. MEDICAL COMMISSION

*The importance of sound mountain-oriented medical advice for health care professionals and lay-mountaineers alike has never been greater as increasing numbers of people around the world participate in climbing and mountaineering adventures. The mission of the 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 papers, translated into over ten languages.*

### 2017: ACHIEVEMENTS

Thomas Kupper (DAV, Germany) continues to lead the work on our advice papers. All are published on the UIAA website and are available free in many languages. Many are now available in Chinese and another group have just been translated into Czech and Polish by MedCom members. During 2016 our Zika advice sheet for mountaineers was fast track published by the respected journal High Altitude Medicine and Biology and the same journal has recently published our drug use/misuse in the mountains paper intended for a medical audience.

During 2015, we formalised our co-operation with our sister organisation ICAR MedCom. The President of each MedCom is now an official observer member of the other organisation. They can appoint a deputy to attend our respective meetings. In the near future we will attempt to formalise co-operation with the International Society for Mountain Medicine (ISMM). As in the case



of the agreement with ICAR MedCom, this new proposed agreement would allow the President of the ISMM and the UIAA MedCom President to be an official Observer Member of the other organisation.

## 2017 CHALLENGES

As was the case last year, Peter Bourne is saving us expenditure on an independent person to raise our profile on social media and we find the interest in our advice papers is leading to more chances for publication in peer reviewed medical journals as well as on our website. According to Peter, the UIAA MedCom advice and recommendations page is the sixth most visited page on the entire website, and seventh most frequent direct entry point into site. And with Peter's help, we have been promoting the advice papers over the past year. Since April 2017, we have produced six dedicated news articles promoting individual papers as part of a wider series focusing on the UIAA MedCom's Advice and Recommendations. The aim is to now take this groundwork to the next level, working with the MedCom and member federations in developing our medical database so promotion of the papers reaches more people outside of the existing UIAA mailing lists and community.

Additionally, we continue to be aware that the work of the UIAA commissions has yet to fully penetrate some countries in the world where climbing and mountain-going activities are becoming popular. Africa and India are two outstanding examples. The Medical Commission will continue to attempt to increase its "penetration" of such countries with sound mountain-oriented medical advice. Toward this end, there is also a plan - looking toward 2018 - for MedCom members to be involved in running a short (3-4 day) basic course in mountain medicine for non-medical mountaineers in India (with the organisational assistance of India's Himalayan Club).

## REPORT FROM ANNUAL COMMISSION MEETING

### 27 March 2017 - Kathmandu, Nepal

- DiMM Administrative Group: Rianne van der Spek will join George Rodway and David Hillebrandt as UIAA MedCom representatives.
- David Hillebrandt proposes Kathmandu as a location for the next MedCom meeting on 20 November 2018 in conjunction with the ISMM meeting (pending the final dates for the ISMM meeting, 99% certainty), backed by Buddha Basnyat. All voted in favour.
- Enrico Donegani to represent the UIAA MedCom at the 2017 ICAR MedCom meeting in Italy.

- "Diabetes in the Mountains" paper being circulated in draft form, with final draft to be submission-ready (for submission to a medical journal) by late 2017.
- Dedicated news articles as mentioned above in Section 2 promoting individual MedCom papers as part of a wider series focusing on the UIAA MedCom's Advice and Recommendations, initiated in April this year (facilitated by Peter Bourne).
- A mini biography with personal remembrances of friends and colleagues of former UIAA MedCom President Bruno Durrer (who passed away in December 2016) has been written with help of many, amongst others his widow Susie. This was published in the journal Wilderness and Environmental Medicine in the summer 2017 issue.
- We celebrated the massive success of the MedCom Drug Use/Misuse in the Mountains paper published in High Altitude Medicine and Biology late 2016. It was downloaded over 10,000 times in the first four months after publication.

## OTHER EVENTS

Most of our members run courses for physicians and lay climbers on all aspects of Mountain medicine in their own countries. Full details are available in the minutes of our annual meeting.

Three of our members work with ICAR MedCom and the International Society of Mountain Medicine to administer the international UIAA/ICAR/ISMM Diploma of Mountain Medicine.

## 2018: THE YEAR AHEAD

- We shall continue to reach out to, and cooperate with, other mountain medicine groups around the world
- We shall endeavour to continue the success we have achieved with further publication of our MedCom advice papers. We will also continue to endeavour to expand readership of the advice papers with the helpful efforts of Peter Bourne finding new ways to shed light on these resources
- We shall continue to attempt to increase the penetration of our commission's message to countries around the world that are in great need of sound mountain-oriented medical advice.



## MEDICAL COMMISSION MEMBERSHIP

As confirmed by the UIAA Management Committee in Shiraz, Iran (October 2017)

### MEMBERS

George RODWAY (President), USA (AAC)

David HILLEBRANDT (Vice President), UK (BMC)

Jae Yong AHN, Korea (KAF)

Buddha BASNYAT, Nepal (NMA)

AliReza BEHPOUR, Iran (I.R.IMSCF)

Pierre BOUZAT (FFCAM)

Sundeeep DHILLON, UK (BMC)

Enrico DONEGANI, Italy (CAI)

Anil GURTOO, India (IMF)

Urs HEFTI, Switzerland (SAC)

Johan HOLMGREN, Sweden (SKF)

Piotr KONCZAKOWSKI, Poland (PZA)

Jana KUBALOVA, Czech Republic (CMF)

Anna MALLADA CARCELLER, Spain (FEEC)

Shigeru MASUYAMA, Japan (JMA)

John MCCALL, Canada (ACC)

Ludomir MLADENOV, Bulgaria (BCMF)

Didier MOENS, Belgium (CMBEL)

Patrick PETERS, Luxembourg (FLERA)

Giulio Sergio ROI, Italy (ISF)

Jaladin SHAHBAZI, Iran (I.R.IMSCF)

Nima Namgyel SHERPA, Nepal (NMA)

Sonam Zangbu SHERPA, Nepal (NMA)

Halvard STAVE, Norway (NTK)

Rianne VAN DER SPEK, Netherlands (NKBV)

Marieke VAN VESSEM, Netherlands (NKBV)

Eduardo Garrigos VINHALES, Brazil (CBME)

Emma Linnea WICHARDT, Norway (NTK)

### CORRESPONDING MEMBERS

Boldoo ADIYA, Mongolia (MNMF)

Giancelso AGAZZI, Italy (CAI)

Corrado ANGELINI, Italy (CAI)

Johann BOGG, Sweden (SKF)

Yasser EL-SHEIKH, Canada (ACC)

Mercedes GALLINDEZ, Argentina (FASA)

Tomaz GOSLAR, Slovenia (PZS)

Thomas KUEPPER, Germany (DAV)

Emin MAMMADOV, Azerbaijan (AMF)

Audry MORRISON, UK (BMC)

Michiro NAKASHIMA, Japan (JMA)

Aleksey OVCHINNIKOV, Russia (RMF)

Miguel REIS E SILVA, Portugal (FCMP)

Ivan ROTMAN, Czech Republic (CMF)

Volker SCHOEFFL, Germany (DAV)

Eckardt VON DELFT, South Africa (MCSA)

### UIAA EXECUTIVE BOARD LINK

Peter FARKAS

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Report by

**George W Rodway**

*UIAA Medical Commission President*

<http://www.theuiaa.org/mountain-medicine>



## 7. MOUNTAINEERING COMMISSION

*The expansion and development of the Training Panel programme is still a key priority for the Mountaineering Commission. This includes work on the implementation and diffusion of the digital version of the Alpine Skills Summer Guide and a new administration system for UIAA members. In addition, the Commission was involved in a number of topics including ethics in climbing, liability insurance, and advancements in the Near Miss project and accidents survey database.*

### 2017: ACHIEVEMENTS

#### 1) AGREEMENT BETWEEN UIAA, C2C AND PETZL FOUNDATION, UIAA/PETZL ALPINE SKILLS GUIDE

MountCom has held two meetings in Petra and in Brixen with representatives of Petzl Foundation (Olivier Moret and Stephane Lozac’hmeur) to discuss developments of the “UIAA Petzl Memento/Alpine Skills” (summer, and also winter) and the “Near Miss Survey” project. Agreements have been taken about next steps for both activities.

In particular, Petzl is looking forward for the digital version of the Alpine Skills Summer Guide and some guidelines have been defined for associations willing to use (part of) the material of the guide (at least a formal recognition of both Petzl and UIAA should be given in the material).



Regarding the “Near Miss Survey”, the Mountaineering Commission has agreed to cooperate with Camp to Camp in analyzing the different cases and providing, in case, suggestions/advice on the best practices in place.

## 2) DIALOGUE WITH UIAGM - INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF MOUNTAIN GUIDES ASSOCIATIONS

The dialogue with the professional mountain guides, which commenced in 2016, is increasing. They see in the UIAA Mountaineering Commission activities, and in particular in those of the Training Standards, a possibility for cooperation and mutual development of our impact on mountaineering communities worldwide. They hope to increase the level cooperation with us, and participate in our upcoming meetings.

## 3) LEWG - LEGAL EXPERT WORKING GROUP

The new chair of the LEWG, Klara Dvorakova from the Czech Republic, provided a separate report on the activities of the Legal Expert Working Group ahead of the 2017 UIAA General Assembly.

## 4) TRAINING PANEL

Please see the dedicated report from Training Panel Chair Steve Long. A general comment which can be made in respect of these activities is that they are gaining more and more interest from many UIAA associations and at the moment are the “core business” of the Mountaineering Commission activities.

## 5) ACCIDENT STATISTICS

This year the activities have been delayed due to some technical aspects, as reported by Chiaki Aoyama in the spring meeting.

## 6) ETHICS

The UIAA document ‘[Preservation of Natural Rock for Adventure Climbing](#)’ recognizes the value and benefits of adventure (trad) climbing and the need to ensure that areas of natural rock are preserved. This document has been well received by a number of federations, including Norway, France, South Africa, Turkey and Catalonia. As a result, MountCom has made a series of recommendations, and will connect with groups set up in France, Switzerland and South Africa who are concerned about the steady loss of adventure climbing areas and are encouraging adventure/trad climbing. MountCom is actively looking at ways and means of enabling developing countries to obtain self-protection/trad equipment direct from climbers and climbing organisations in developed countries, as well as from manufacturers. It also aims to connect with climbing festivals in order to highlight

and promote the values of adventure climbing.

## 7) MOUNTCOM MEMBERS

In 2017, MountCom welcomed three new members from Croatia, Norway, and Cyprus. No representatives from India (IMF) have participated in the activities of the Commission. This situation has lasted several years. MountCom would welcome a representative from India.

## 2017 COMMISSION MEETINGS

### SPRING MEETING

21-22 April, 2017, Keswick England, hosted by the BMC; 13 participants, as well as UIAA Executive Board member Peter Farkas. [Report here](#).

### AUTUMN MEETING

Held in Cyprus, from 11-12 November 2017, hosted by KOMOAA (Cyprus Mountaineering, Climbing and Orienteering Federation). Nine members of the commission attended the meeting, where several issues were discussed.

## 2018: YEAR AHEAD

Objectives are finalizing Training Standards activities related to the database; increasing cooperation with IFMGA; establishing new activities for the LEWG.

## TRAINING

The UIAA Training Panel is a sub-commission within the Mountaineering Commission. In addition to delivering seminars, the panel manages the Mountain Qualification Label (MQL); an internationally recognised accreditation and certification scheme which examines and evaluates the training and assessment programmes of UIAA member federations. 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 federations include representatives from over twenty countries on all six continents.

Our aim is to secure improved access for mountain lovers to safe and inspiring leadership and instruction; safety, enjoyment and fulfilment in the world’s wildest places and encouragement for sustainable mountaineering and climbing practices.

## 2017: ACHIEVEMENTS

UIAA Training is on its way to meeting key goals set out in the Strategic Plan (2017-2020), Key achievements this year include:

Successful validations of: French and Swedish ice climbing instructor qualifications; Cyprus multi-pitch rock climbing instructor (trad and sport); Croatian multi-pitch climbing instructor and Nepalese Mountain Leader Qualification (along with support on delivering a new winter training element).

Also, with the support of key partner, The Petzl Foundation, the Training Panel has continued to develop the Alpine Handbook and to encourage more language versions. Korean and Turkish translations have been delivered and work has begun on new sections, languages as well as a dedicated winter handbook.

## 2017: CHALLENGES

The main challenges faced were (1) slow progress on the new database (2) a number of training panel members being busy with other commitments (3) membership of multiple federations within certain countries has led to delays in progress due to the necessity of brokering agreements between different parties. Fortunately, we have recently been quite successful in these processes.

## TRAINING PANEL EVENTS & VISITS

In addition to the several accreditation inspections, the following seminars were delivered:

### (a). Series of training courses in Jordan (JTB)

With financial support from the Petzl Foundation, another series of canyoning, climbing and trekking leadership courses were delivered in Jordan. Since then however a change in personnel at the tourist board and a successful funding application to USAid has resulted in a cash injection and a tendering for commercial delivery of training.

### (b). Winter training course (+ new summer assessment) in Nepal(NMA)

With financial support from the Petzl Foundation, the training panel chair worked with trainers from the Nepal Mountaineering Association to help design and deliver training in winter trekking skills (including snow-shoeing, cold injuries and avalanche awareness) above the snow line plus summer assessment below the snowline, conducted on a mobile course that trekked through Langtang, over the Ganja La and down through Helambu in winter conditions.

### (c). 2-day Seminar for Federation trainers - Turkey (TDF)

The Training Chair delivered a 2-day seminar for trainers, in Ankara.

## 2018: THE YEAR AHEAD

### (a). Programme expansion

Work on the database continued throughout 2017. Following a rigorous testing process early in 2018, we will be able to start actively marketing the Mountain Qualification Labels.

### (b). Personal skills training

We hope to launch the long-anticipated Personal Skills training franchising programme. In short, instructors holding accredited qualifications (including IFMGA members) will be empowered to deliver UIAA branded training courses in personal skills, provided they follow various Quality Assurance conditions including minimum contact hours and outline syllabus. A short induction process will be required in order to become a provider, as well as a small fee to be paid per student.

(c) A digital version of the UIAA Alpine Handbook will be launched early in 2018. This will be available worldwide. This can be purchased online for a small fee, proceeds of which will be shared to between UIAA Training and the federation that serves the country of residence of purchasers, to help reduce the costs of delivering training. More language versions are in production following interest expressed by members at the GA.

(d). A hill walking leadership seminar will be delivered in Cyprus, to coincide with the next Mountaineering Commission meeting.

### (e) Accreditations

Until the database is fully operational, there is a considerable administrative burden for each application, requiring several emails and/or internet conversations. Therefore, we are not yet actively seeking new applications, simply servicing requests as they come in – and come in they do! Since the 2017 General Assembly we have inspected courses delivered by the Czech Republic and Macedonia. We have also received a strong request for accreditation from the UIAA, as well as significant interest from Iran. We have piloted a skills training course in Cyprus, which was very well received: an assessment day has also been requested by this federation.



## MOUNTAINEERING COMMISSION MEMBERSHIP

As confirmed by the Management Committee in Shiraz (Iran), October 2017

### MEMBERS

Claudio MELCHIORRI (President), Italy (CAI)  
 Patrick LAMARQUE (Vice President), France (FFCAM)  
 Mike GALBRAITH (Secretary), Canada (ACC)  
 Chiaki AOYAMA, Japan (JMA)  
 Alberto BECHET PEREZ, Chile (FEACH)  
 Roman BRYK, Russia (RMF)  
 Andron COSMIN, Romania (CAR)  
 Pedro CUICA, Portugal (FCMP)  
 Debraj DUTTA, India (IMF)  
 Kiara DVORAKOVA-HAVLIKOVÁ, Czech Republic (CMLA)  
 Xabier EZEIZABARRENA SAENZ (LEWG), Spain (EMF)  
 Pavlos GEORGIADIS, Cyprus (KOMOAAP)  
 Pierre HUMBLET, Belgium (CMBEL)  
 Nona KALADADZE, Georgia (MCAG)  
 Ajay KOTHIYAL, India (IMF)  
 Krishan KUMAR, India (IMF)  
 Steve LONG (TS), UK (BMC)  
 Jordi MAGRINA GUELL (TS), Spain (FEEC)  
 Cristina MARTI UBEDA, Spain (FEDME)  
 Darko MRSNIK, Croatia (HPS)  
 Signar Andre NILSEN, Norway (NTK)  
 Laza POPARA, Serbia (PSS)  
 Laura SAMSO, Spain (FEDME)  
 Doug SCOTT, UK (BMC)  
 Matjas SERKEZI (TS), Slovenia (PZS)  
 Prem SINGH, India (IMF)  
 Rehmat ULLAH, Pakistan (ACP)  
 Jiri VOGEL, Czech Republic (CMF)

Phil WICKENS, UK (BMC)

### CORRESPONDING MEMBERS

Aupar AHMED, Bangladesh (BMF)  
 Rafael GRIBEL, Brazil (CBME)  
 Najat HUMBATOV, Azerbaijan (AMF)  
 Jan ZRANEK, Czech Republic (CMF)

### UIAA EXECUTIVE BOARD LINK

Peter FARKAS

### LEGAL EXPERTS WORKING GROUP MEMBERS

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 Xabier EZEIZABARRENA SAENZ, Spain (EMF)  
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 James MCCARTHY, USA (AAC)  
 Jim MOSS, USA (AAC)  
 Damjan OMERZU, Slovenia (PZS)  
 Edward EVERETT VAILL, USA (AAC)

### CORRESPONDING MEMBERS

Anna GILLOLY, New Zealand (NZAC)  
 Pablo HEUSER SOMMER, Chile (FEACH)  
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### UIAA EXECUTIVE BOARD LINK

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## TRAINING STANDARDS PANEL MEMBERS

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Patrick LAMARQUE, France (FFCAM)

Jordi Guell MAGRINA, Spain (FEEC)

Claudio MELCHIORRI, Italy (CAI)

Phil POWER, USA (AAC)

Matjaž ŠERKEZI, Slovenia (PZS)

## UIAA EXECUTIVE BOARD LINK

Peter FARKAS

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Mountaineering Report by

**Claudio Melchiorri**

*UIAA Mountaineering Commission President*

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Training Report by

**Steve Long**

*UIAA Training Panel Chair*

For information about the UIAA Mountaineering Commission please visit:

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

For more information about the UIAA Training qualifications please visit:

<http://www.theuiaa.org/mountain-qualification-label>





## 8. MOUNTAIN PROTECTION COMMISSION

*Our mission is to contribute to maintaining mountains ecosystems as wild and free as possible, for the benefit of nature and indigenous communities and the enjoyment of mountaineers and humankind. Mountain areas are the last natural, relatively unspoilt and free spaces on earth that provide important ecosystem services.*

We seek:

- To provide leadership and encourage partnerships by inspiring, informing and promoting good practice in mountain protection throughout the world.
- To promote environmentally aware behaviour and education amongst mountaineers, climbers together with mountain communities.
- To support actions to restore and protect nature and culture in the mountains.
- To design mountain protection (MP) activities and initiatives so that they are consistent and coherent with the UIAA's Climbers Manifesto and principles.

### 2017: ACHIEVEMENTS

- Re-orient a vision for the MP Commission's future by specifying planned activities and revising targets and indicators to be consistent with the UIAA Strategic Plan 2017-2020.
- MPA: despite funding and sponsorship not secured in time for 2017 activities, the Mountain Protection Award went ahead with the support of the UIAA Executive Board. A total of 26 projects were submitted for the Award in 2017. The winning project was the [Mount Everest Biogas Project](#).



- RtM: funding was secured through the principal sponsor KEEN for activities in 2017, with nine events organised in Europe, and for the first time, also outside of Europe in Canada, plus a series of youth camps in China.
- Showcased MP Commission's MPA and RtM projects at key conferences and forums, such as ISPO Munich (Germany, February 2017) and OutDoor Friedrichshafen (Germany, June 2017), the two biggest outdoor trade shows in Europe. In these events many companies, brands and organisations got to know the RtM and MPA concepts and we could establish relationships with sponsors.
- Outreach and collaboration with external organisations like Mountain Partnership and The Mountain Institute, as well as continuing our contacts with the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN).
- The UIAA, under the leadership and initiative of the UIAA MP Commission, was accepted as an official partner of the UN World Tourism Organisation's Sustainable Tourism for Development Program, a ten-year program that will see the UIAA lead efforts to promote sustainable mountain tourism and recreation.
- Continued participation in international forums like the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)'s, and advocacy side events at the Conference of Parties (CoP) conference in November, in Germany, through the advocacy work of the Mountain Partnership. UIAA's observer status as a non-governmental organisation (NGO) under the UNFCCC was upheld into 2017.
- Participation at UN workshop for the Sustainable Development Goals (October 2017)
- In November, the UIAA took part in a panel discussion at Sport Accord's International Federation Forum (IF) in Lausanne, Switzerland discussing the relationship between sport and biodiversity and the role of the sporting community. To mark the occasion, a dedicated document was produced by the IOC highlighting case sustainability case studies by International Federations. The UIAA was the subject of two case studies (one of only two federations to do so). They were dedicated to the federation's core projects in mountain protection – [Respect the Mountains](#) and the [Mountain Protection Award](#).  
IF Sustainability Case Study: [Mountain Protection Award](#)  
IF Sustainability Case Study: [Respect the Mountains](#)

## CHALLENGES

- Sustaining continued funding is a substantial challenge, limiting further development and scaling of key projects, thereby reducing capacity to fulfil stated targets and goals in MP Commission's Strategic Plan through to 2020. This was particularly felt with the withdrawal in 2017 of the two principal sponsors for the MPA to date, as well as

reduced grant money from the RtM series sponsor, KEEN.

- MPA: Recruiting additional experts for pool of external assessors, as well as finding effective communication strategies to solicit projects in less-represented categories of the MPA, such as biodiversity and climate change, as well as withdrawal of sponsors in 2017.
- RtM: the organisation and implementation of events has proven to be very resource intensive (human, time, finances), emphasising the need for securing more and sustained sponsorship.
- Lack of more substantive active participation from some MP Commission members for key MP Commission activities and the UIAA more generally, creating a burden for the few active participants that do respond.
- Given capacity and resources constraints, a challenge is balancing the need for better networking and additional presence in international experts' groups and forums with mountain protection needs of member federations.

## REPORT FROM ANNUAL COMMISSION MEETING

The MP Commission annual meeting was held on Saturday 20 of May 2017, in Bern. Key discussions and resolutions raised at the annual meeting are detailed in the final minutes (subject to official endorsement and sign off at the annual meeting in 2018). A summary of key outcomes follows:

- Delegates concurred with previous calls made on a need to diversify revenue to continue to fund and expand current and proposed projects, in line with stated goals and targets in Strategic Plan.
- Agreed with previous calls for better representation of the MP Commission and its key projects and activities on the UIAA website, also linking and cross-referencing with other UIAA sustainability-related initiatives and material such as the Climber's Manifesto principles.
- Regarding social media, there was a general recommendation to also publish UIAA posts in other languages such as Spanish for better outreach.
- On RtM, the commission agreed on the need to develop and expand the campaign in regions where waste in mountain areas is a chronic issue, such as Asia, Africa and South America. Delegates also concurred that funding and resources should be focused to support federations, rather than private companies. Therefore, agreed on the need to encourage federations to organise future RtM events. Regarding the events themselves, delegates also proposed that there could be other activities on offer, not only waste collection, for instance weeding and/or removing invasive species, or other education event.



- Finally, delegates agreed on the need to review and provide a draft for an update of the Environmental Guidelines 2002, and start working on a more elaborate syllabus on environmental guidelines to be included in the Mountain Qualification Labels (former Training standards).
- It was highlighted the need of the MPC's expansion in terms of members, to include more delegates from continents not represented yet and from larger Member Federations.

## 2017 RESPECT THE MOUNTAINS (RTM) EVENTS

A total of eight were organised this year in Europe (plus one in North America and several youth camps in China), in countries that included: Spain, UK, Italy, Germany, France, Romania and Canada. A total of 2,5 tonnes of waste was collected, with the participation of 813 individuals. Details of these events follows:

### 1. "7 LADDERS" CANYON, DAMBU MORII, ROMANIA, 13 MAY 2017:

The event this year took place near Brasov, the most famous mountain area in Romania. It is very close to Dracula Castle and Busteni, in a beautiful mountain area called Piatra Mare (with the maximum altitude of 1844 m), starting from Dambu Morii. On the way up to the mountain's summit there is one of the most famous canyons in Romania, the 7 Ladders Canyon, a popular tourist destination. Because the canyon is quite accessible to the public, waste is a pertinent issue. In the past, the clean-up campaign event was organized by Floare de Colt Brasov, this year celebrating its 10th edition of the event. Through the RtM, and the local support from UIAA member federation, the Romanian Alpine Club, the event now has an international reach and promotion. A total of 300 participants attended the event in 2017 - kids, and volunteers from schools of Brasov and Sacele, the two cities around the Piatra Mare mountain. They received the RtM t-shirts, food and water and, after collecting bags and gloves, they started to clean up the routes starting from Dambu Mori. Around 50 adult volunteers, including teachers, which coordinated the teams, prepared the packages for kids and covered also other difficult routes. Despite the fact that rain took the participants aback, many activities were organised: games prepared by the volunteers such as mountain running, educational tests; also, many of the participants received prizes. The average distance covered by each participant was 10 km and the amount of waste collected was 300 kg.

[Image Library](#)

### 2. SCHAUISLAND, FREIBURG, GERMANY, 28 MAY 2017:

The RtM event in Freiburg im Breisgau, Germany, is now a must for the community of the area. The event has become more popular every year, and in 2017 a total of 123 people joined us to clean the Schauinsland hills and enjoy a wonderful day together. After the 2017 Romanian record, this is the second best result ever for the RtM series, gathering a large number of mountain enthusiasts on the topic of waste. The Schauinsland is a well-known place for Freiburgers and tourists alike, and it is easily accessible by bus and cable car. The accessibility allowed this RtM event to focus especially on the topic of "Travel Wise", one of the 7 ways to respect the mountains that the UIAA promotes, encouraging visitors to use lower carbon-intensive transportation options. All 123 participants took public transportation to attend the event, therefore we are really proud to say that our volunteers embody our principles and travel wise. There were four groups of mountain cleaners: one oriented towards families, one for particularly fit and athletic people and two for the other participants. This way, every side of the mountain has been accessed for clean-up! The "weirdest finding" competition awarded Mattis, a 12 year old boy who won a pair of Keen shoes thanks to the 30 kg woman statue he found in the forest. The second and third prize went to the participants who found a complete uniform and helmet from a WWII soldier and an accounting calculator. After lunch, a geocaching activity, one of three activities on offer, was unfortunately cancelled due to an imminent storm. Fortunately, we could still enjoy the afternoon going for a hike and head downhill by bike. The successful day was organised by the UIAA with the Freiburg forest department and the local section of the DAV.

[Image Library](#)

### 3. GOOSENECK CLIFFS, ONTARIO, CANADA, 24 JUNE 2017:

The third UIAA RtM event of 2017 was a significant one. For the very first time the UIAA's flagship mountain clean-up project – partnered by KEEN – took place outside of the European mountains. The Manitoba province, Canada, provided the setting for this landmark occasion. Conceived as a project to encourage mountain visitors to unite and clean areas affected by waste, the UIAA RtM Series has grown in both its geographical reach and scope in 2017. Following on from the event in Canada, more non-European programmes, organised in collaboration with UIAA member federations are being conceived, while the events themselves increasingly focus on an educational message around the projects governing 7-Ways to Respect the Mountains.

The event in Canada, which took place on 24 June, was organised by the Alpine Club of Canada (AAC), the Alpine Club of Canada Manitoba Section (ACCMB), and was held in conjunction with the 150th anniversary of Canada, an event celebrated on Canada Day, 1 July. The local organiser was Peter Muir, UIAA Management Committee and Alpine Club of Canada member.

[Full report](#)

## 4. CHAMPORCHER, AOSTA, ITALY, 16 JULY 2017:

Even if the area of Champorcher is very well taken care of and there is no mass tourism presence as in other places of the Aosta Valley region, the volunteers managed to collect considerable amounts of waste. The participants split in two groups for two different hikes, one a little bit longer (ca 4 hours) and the other one easier and with a smaller slope. Among the waste collected, were: flower vases, huge plastic and rubber pipes, old cans, hairpins. 5-6 volunteers took care of the separation of the waste and personally brought the waste to the collecting point of the village. "Support" is one of the UIAA 7 Ways to Respect the Mountains, and it was very well embodied by this fourth RtM event. Indeed, in the afternoon, to get to know the local mountain communities and support the local traditional activities, the volunteers also visited the old village of Champorcher and attended a hemp weaving workshop. The almost 50 participants covered an average distance of 7 km. each, with a difference in altitude of 500 m.

[Image Library](#)

[Event Video](#)

## 5. OROPA, BIELLA, ITALY, 18 JULY 2017:

Also in Oropa the area was relatively clean, however there was plenty of the usual waste (tissues, paper, broken glass bottles, etc.). This was a RtM event, which focused extremely on the educational point of view: 75 of the 86 participants were students from ITIS Quintino Sella High School. Quintino Sella was a noted 19th century Italian politician, economist and alpinist who hailed from the region. He founded CAI in Turin in 1863. Following an introduction to the 7-Ways and a three-hour hike, students were introduced to the local geological site of Monte Mucrone by UIAA Mountain Protection Commission delegate Mattia Sella, a descendant of Quintino Sella. The educational element continued in the afternoon with a visit to a local botanical garden, a WWF area, one renowned for its support for the preservation of local flora. In accordance with one of the 7-Ways – Reduce, Reuse, Recycle – students then helped sort through the waste collected in the morning.

[Image Library](#)

## 27 AUGUST: FIASTRA, ITALY

For the third Italian event of the 2017 season, Respect the Mountains landed in the Marche region, specifically in the Monti Sibillini National Park on 27 August. The day was a significant one as it marked a year since an earthquake hit the region. Fiastra, the closest village to the starting point, had been the epicentre.

After registration on the breathtaking panoramic viewpoint over the Fiastra lake, 72 participants led by the local section of the CAI, the Italian Alpine Club, challenged the very hot weather and very little shade along a 7km path called the "Lame Rosse". The destination of the clean-up action was a red-looking canyon. The theme promoted during the day was 'Being Respectful' one of the UIAA's 7-ways to Respect the Mountains, focusing on educating ourselves about local mountain conditions, and in this case all the participants had to be thoroughly prepared and have enough water to carry and hats to shelter from the 41° heat. After lunch, the group moved to the nearby village of Visso in order to visit the ruins of the earthquake, a local farm and a sanctuary.

[Image Library](#)

## 31 AUGUST: TIGNES, FRANCE

The Savoy region of the French Alps, is well known location for RtM. After the success of a meet in 2016, the ski resort area of Tignes was again the scene of a collaboration between the UIAA and the local tourism office. The event was originally planned for 31 August but it had to be delayed 24 hours due to bad weather conditions. Even the rain on the morning of the new date did not discourage all the tourists who happily cleaned-up the area in front of the lake and on the Palafour ski-run.

[Image Library](#)

## 22-23 SEPTEMBER: TENERIFE, SPAIN

The event in Tenerife was organized as part of the [Tenerife Walking Festival](#) project and held over two days; the first evening dedicated to a talks from different speakers focusing on the 'Zero footprint' concept. The UIAA Respect the Mountains Series is governed by the 'Seven Ways to Respect the Mountains' with the event in Tenerife therefore focusing on the subject 'Leave No Trace'. The following day, volunteers engaged in direct action in the UNESCO-protected area of Anaga Rural Park on the north of the island. Nearly a hundred volunteers were split into two groups collecting waste as diverse as a foam mattress, a toaster, kitchen knives, chairs and a discarded backpack. Participants were also give the chance to experience the local environment from boat rides to taking part in traditional culture celebrations.

The event was supported by [Tenerife Tourism](#) and the [Cabildo Insular de Tenerife – IDECO, Santa Cruz Sostenible Foundation](#).

[Image Library](#)



## 30 SEPTEMBER: CAPEL CURIG, NORTH WALES

A week later, incessant rain made the event in the Snowdon region of Wales very challenging for the 30 participants. Despite the elements playing havoc, the volunteers – comprising many families – doubled their efforts collecting waste as diverse as a torch, a bow tie, a grill and an abandoned shovel. This event was partnered by [Outdoor Partnership](#) and [Keep Wales Tidy](#).

**PROJECTS HEADED, OR PARTNERED, BY THE COMMISSION**

## MOUNTAIN PROTECTION AWARD 2017

26 projects were submitted, distributed among the five categories as follows: five in culture and education, eight in waste management, four in sustainable use of resources and consumption of energy, one in biodiversity conservation and eight in at least two of the above-mentioned overlapping categories. The pool of assessors included ten members of the MP Commission and seven external experts from diverse organisations. Compared to 2016, there were more projects submitted to the platform, with most projects submitted under waste management and multidisciplinary ones, i.e. corresponding to more than one category. There is a need to focus future communication to include and showcase projects from other continents (Africa, Oceania) and other themes of the Mountain Protection Award. It is also important to have additional external experts as assessors. In Bern, it was recommended to secure additional sponsors.

The winning project was the Mount Everest Biogas Project. The dedicated press release can be found [here](#).

The runner-up project was [Community Action Nepal](#).

The best new initiative was [Wildlife Alliance](#).

For both the RTM Series and the 2017 MPA, the UIAA published promotional videos to showcase the projects. These are designed to be screened at conferences, trade shows and across the UIAA's social media channels.

[MPA video](#)

[RTM video](#)

Furthermore, for the MPA, the promotional flyer was available in five languages.

## UNFCCC OBSERVER STATUS

The UIAA application to the UNFCCC as a NGO Observer Status was accepted in late 2016, and upheld in 2017. At November's 23rd United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) – COP23 and in collaboration with Mountain Partnership, the [Government of Kyrgyzstan](#), the UIAA took part in a side panel discussion exploring common challenges and solutions for addressing climate change impacts in mountains, supporting concrete actions, putting in place long-lasting processes and establishing policies that strengthen the resilience of mountain peoples and environments. The UIAA was represented by Mountain Protection Commission delegate Joop Spijker (NKBC, Netherlands). He addressed the subject of mountaineering and climate change. UIAA Honorary Member Ang Tshering Sherpa also presented during the Panel introducing 'Community Experience of the Climate Change in the Himalayas and Solutions'.

## COLLABORATION WITH IFMGA

The UIAA's MP Commission President was also present at the IFMGA's annual general spring meeting held in Slovenia in May 2017, to present a small update on the UIAA's own MP Commission activities on Mountain Protection and to discuss prospects for a future collaboration which will see the mountain guides own standards and curricula content include more elaborated content on mountain environmental awareness and training.

In Kathmandu in early December, the UIAA and [IFMGA](#) (International Federation of Mountain Guides Associations) formalised their willingness to collaborate by signing a Memorandum of Understanding to exhibit their commitment to collaborating on environmental matters, such as the development and review of environmental and sustainability guidelines and events to address waste and pollution management in mountaineering. This also comes in direct response to the recommendations made in a report on mountain waste published last year by UN Environment, in which an appeal was made to both global representative bodies for mountaineering to join forces and help address some of the key and pressing issues in mountains all the over the world, such as waste from tourism and recreation activities.

**2017: OTHER ACTIVITIES**

UIAA's MP Commission President, Dr Carolina Adler, was appointed as the new Executive Director at the Mountain Research Initiative, hosted by the Swiss Academies of Sciences in Bern. This presents a unique opportunity to link with the mountain research community, both for access to key information, studies and networks relevant for mountain protection, but also potentially participate in research collaboration efforts relevant for the UIAA MPA, such as waste management in mountain regions.

The UIAA, under the leadership and initiative of the UIAA MP Commission, was accepted as an official partner of the UN World Tourism Organisation's Sustainable Tourism for Development Program, a ten-year program that will the UIAA lead efforts to promote mountain tourism and recreation, with the potential to also seek funding with other partners to formalise the process of updating the UIAA's own sustainability guidelines from 2002.

Another key activity is the MP Commission's participation in the planning processes of the next Sustainable Summits Conference, to be held in June 2018 in Chamonix, France. Under the leadership of the Petzl Foundation, the UIAA MP Commission has been accepted as a Steering Committee member of the organising body for this activity, also joining the French federation (FFCAM) in that planning process. The UIAA MP Commission President will be present at this conference to deliver a keynote presentation on the topic of mountain protection.

MP Commission members participated at the 6th International Symposium for Research in Protected Areas 2017, held in Salzburg Austria in November 2017, where UIAA MP President Carolina Adler joined forces with UNEP and GRID-Arendal to present a research poster on the recently published report on Waste in Mountains Regions, which all three had co-authored together with other partners. The UIAA was also invited to participate at the high-level mountains conference hosted by the Mountain Partnership in Rome, from 11-13 December 2017. Full report here.

Finally, MP Commission also contributed to, and published, fourteen articles during the year, including "United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Waste Management Outlook for Mountain Regions. Sources and Solutions".

## 2018: THE YEAR AHEAD

On a more personal note, I take this opportunity to call upon and invite all UIAA member federations to reach out and contact us at the UIAA MP Commission with any ideas, proposals, comments, suggestions or support for mountain protection related initiatives or projects in your specific regions. We'd be happy to help and support you in this shared vision.

## UIAA MOUNTAIN PROTECTION COMMISSION MEMBERSHIP

As confirmed by the Management Committee in Shiraz (Iran), October 2017

### MEMBERS

Dr Carolina ADLER (President), New Zealand (NZAC)

Hussein BAGIROV, Azerbaijan (FAIREX)

Stephen GOODWIN, UK (AC)

Linda MCMILLAN, USA (AAC)

Michael MAUNSELL, Ireland (MI)

Mattia SELLA, Italy (CAI)

Mahmood Almad SHAH, India (IMF)

Joop SPIJKER, The Netherlands (NKBC)

### CORRESPONDING MEMBERS

Maretha ALANT, South Africa (MCSA)

Ahmed AUPAR, Bangladesh (BMF)

Lode BECKERS, Belgium (CMBEL)

Jan IVAR BOE, Norway (NKT)

Valeska BUCHEMI OLIVEIRA, Brazil (CBME)

Mihai CONSTANTINESCU, Romania (CAR)

Amin MOEIN, Iran (I.R IMSC)

Irena MRAK, Slovenia (PZS)

### EXPERTS

Ang TSHERING SHERPA, Nepal (NMA)

Mandip SINGH SOIN, India (IMF)

### UIAA EXECUTIVE BOARD LINK

Pier Giorgio OLIVETI, Italy (CAI)

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Report by

UIAA Mountain Protection Commission President

**Dr Carolina Adler**

[mountainprotection@theuiaa.org](mailto:mountainprotection@theuiaa.org)

For more information about the UIAA Mountain Protection Commission please visit:

<http://www.theuiaa.org/the-uiaa-mountain-sustainability/mountain-protection>



## 9. SAFETY COMMISSION

*To support climbers and mountaineers in their goal of managing the inherent risks of these activities. This objective will be achieved by establishing excellent equipment Standards, together with recommendations concerning the correct use of this equipment.*

To achieve these objectives, the tasks of the Safety Commission include:

- To review mountaineering and climbing accidents, to determine if the existing UIAA equipment Standards are adequate. To identify any examples of poor technique or equipment misuse.
- To develop technical Standards for all mountaineering and climbing equipment, in order to minimize accidents caused by equipment failure due to inadequate design or inadequate quality control. To periodically review these Standards, updating and improving them as this becomes necessary.
- To monitor any new types of mountaineering or climbing equipment becoming available, and update or add new Standards as may be needed.
- To ensure that the laboratories that are used to test mountaineering and climbing equipment are competent. These laboratories must be accredited, so they properly complete the equipment testing as stipulated by the UIAA Standards.
- To contribute to the UIAA programme that provides information and advice regarding best practice when people participate in mountaineering or climbing.
- To collaborate with the other UIAA Commissions, and other worldwide external

organizations, to achieve these objectives.

- To provide information to equipment manufacturers which will promote improved climbing and mountaineering equipment.

## 2017: ACHIEVEMENTS

- Anchor corrosion research
- Avalanche rescue shovel standard
- Continued work on the helmet rim impact test
- Changing of “text required” wording in standards to permit the text to be provided on the internet
- Continued support of safety label & lab management
- Plans made for promotion of the Safety label to labs, manufacturers and climbers in Asia.

## 2017: CHALLENGES

- Budget limitations resulted in some deficiency in funding for corrosion testing.
- Feedback indicates concerns over increased label fees
- Inspections of UIAA certified laboratories needs to be structured and backed by a budget.
- Global promotions needed to reinforce the value of the UIAA Safety label

## ANNUAL SAFETY COMMISSION MEETING

The Safety Commission met at Woerden, the Netherlands, 31 May & 2 June, 2017. Seven national delegates, 19 manufacturers and five test labs attended. Most discussions concerned new or revised UIAA Standards for mountaineering equipment. Key points minuted were:

- Anchor corrosion. Alan Jarvis (MCSA, South Africa) reported progress & data on how existing anchors perform in standardized tests.
- Avalanche shovels. Data from the year’s testing was reported and the new standard has been approved.

- Helmet rim impact testing has been carried out, funded solely by manufacturers as SafeCom has had reduced funding for research.
- Dynamic lanyards. No progress has been made in this year.
- Hangtag review. The UIAA will no longer require hangtags; however, per CEN regulations, hangtags continue to be mandatory in Europe.
- Updates regarding CEN standard revisions (avalanche air bags, Via Ferrata EAS and construction.)

In addition, the internal meeting on 7 June discussed:

- SafeCom 4-year plan and priorities.
- Test Lab Accreditation. Increasing numbers of Far East test labs who seek UIAA Accreditation.
- Problems funding SafeCom meetings, and the budget.

## OTHER EVENTS

Safety Commission delegate Vittorio Bedogni, expert Manuel Genswein and Administrator Stephanie Stettbacher participated, on behalf of the UIAA, at the 2017 Friedrichshafen outdoor show, where they promoted the new UIAA Avalanche Rescue Shovel standard.

At the UIAA General Assembly in October 2017, Amit Chowdhury (IMF, India) succeeded Dave Custer (AAC, USA) as Commission President.

## 2018: YEAR AHEAD

The Safety Commission is sharply focussed on recognition of the value of the safety label globally. Towards this end, an outreach into Asia in order to bring manufacturers and labs in the region to actively participate in working groups and encouraging greater participation from North and South America is on the cards.



## SAFETY COMMISSION MEMBERSHIP

As confirmed by the UIAA Management Committee in Shiraz, Iran (October 2017)

### MEMBERS

Amit CHOWDHURY, (President), India (IMF)  
 Lionel KIENER, (Vice President) Switzerland (SAC)  
 Vittorio BEDOGNI, Italy (CAI)  
 Jean-Franck CHARLET, France (FFCAM)  
 Dave CUSTER, USA (AAC)  
 Rob FOSTER, UK (BMC)  
 Florian HELLBERG, Germany (DAV)  
 Alan JARVIS, South Africa (MCSA)

### CORRESPONDING MEMBERS

Aljaz ANDERLE, Slovenia (PZS)  
 Donald BOGIE, New Zealand (NZAC)  
 Jan HOLEC, Czech Republic (CMF)  
 Dimitrios KARALIS, Greece (EOOA)  
 Hitoshi ONODERA, Japan (JMA)  
 Hans RAUSCHMAYER, Brazil (CBME)  
 Agustin UNSAIN, Argentina (FASA)  
 Andrei VASILIEV, Russia (RMF)  
 Thomas WEDLICK, USA (AAC)

### HONORARY MEMBER

Carlo ZANATONI, Italy (CAI)

### UIAA EXECUTIVE BOARD LINK

James 'Marc' BEVERLY

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Report by

**Dave Custer** (until October 2017), **Amit Chowdhury** (from October 2017)

*UIAA Safety Commission Presidents*

For more information about the UIAA Safety Label please visit:

<http://www.theuiaa.org/uiaa-safety-label>

For more information about the UIAA Safety Standards please visit:

<http://www.theuiaa.org/safety-standards>



## 10. YOUTH COMMISSION

*The Youth Commission will provide safe and exciting opportunities for young people to experience mountains and wild places. We focus not only on the technical requirement of our sports but also the environmental, cultural and ethical aspects of the areas we are working 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. Our events will therefore have not only a technical focus but also an environmental and cultural emphasis.*

### 2017: ACHIEVEMENTS

The Youth Commission (YC) has facilitated the successful organisation of a number of events for young people from UIAA member associations worldwide. These events have given young people valuable experiences and training in various aspects of walking, climbing, ice climbing and mountain activities.

### 2017: CHALLENGES

The main challenges for the youth commission for the coming year are:

- to maintain and encourage members of the Commission to be active within the Commission and to urge their federations to hold events in their mountainous regions that can be open to all UIAA members.
- to ensure that all planned, events run by member federations, comply with the basic principals as detailed in the Youth Commissions guidance notes for planning and



holding an event.

- to work with the UIAA office to secure ARISF funding for the period 2017 – 2020, the bid process has still not commenced for the next period although a draft bid has been completed by the Youth Commission – the UIAA Office are monitoring the ARISF process.

## REPORT FROM ANNUAL COMMISSION MEETING

In addition to reporting on the events facilitated by the Commission, the Youth Commission held an interim meeting in Turin, Italy in April – the propose of the meeting was to refocus the Commission following its period of transition following the departure of the previous president and the introduction of the new president, Mark Dennison.

The meeting set out the vision and mission for the Commission for the period 2017 – 2020 and also discussed how this fit in with the UIAA strategic plan.

The key points from the discussion were to identify the main objectives for the coming four years which include:

- Attract more member federations to participate in the activity of the Commission;
- Establish cooperation between YC and other UIAA Commissions;
- Organise events in at least three different continents per year; and
- Enhance the promotion and publicity level of the Commission within each member federation.

The meeting also discussed the ARISF funding programme and a plan of events for the next four years was discussed – a draft plan has been produced but at present the process to submit this plan to ARISF has not yet begun (even though it was originally thought that the process would commence in May 2017).

A further meeting of the Commission has hosted by the Portuguese Mountaineering Federation (FCMP) in Lisbon – this was well attended and in addition to discussions related to ongoing matters, a decision was reached about how budget funding would be allocated to GYS events and the criteria and bid process that would be adopted.

It was also the last meeting to be attended by Miguel Sanchez Canovas, Miguel has been a long standing member of the Commission but has decided that as his re-nomination is due in 2018 he has decided that he is no longer able to commit time to the ongoing work of the Commission. I would like to take this opportunity to thank him for his work during his 12 years with the Youth Commission and wish him well in future ventures. The Youth Commission is therefore keen that FEDME nominate a new member to attend the Commission and we look forward to receiving a nomination.

## YOUTH COMMISSION EVENTS

### International Youth Ice Climbing Camp Valle Varaita, Italy 2017

The CAI Central School of Alpinism provided a good number of instructors so they could organise small groups of two youth and one instructor for each rope. This event was a great opportunity for all the participants to learn the basics of ice climbing. They were enthusiastic about this experience and asked to have the opportunity to repeat this in the future.

### International Youth Ice Climbing Camp (Guillestre Hautes Alpes), France 2017

The main goal of this youth ice climbing camp was to learn the many forms of ice climbing – one pitch or routes with many pitches. Whatever participants' level there was something for everyone including a chance to meet young climbers from around the world. For several years this camp has been regrouping many different participants/camps and this time there were around 50 participants visiting the camp for various elements.

### International Youth Mountaineering School – Gran Paradiso, Italy 2017

The 2017 International Youth Mountaineering Camp took place in July on Gran Paradiso.

### International Youth Climbing Camp Ariege, France 2017

The main goal of this youth climbing camp is to practise many forms of climbing – cliffs with one pitch or routes with many pitches on different types of rock – granite and limestone.

### International Youth Climbing Festival Iran 2017

UIAA Global Youth Summit (GYS) event took place on Mount Damavand (5671m) and Mount Alam kuh (4848m), Iran from 7-19 July. Introduction and philosophy: As a result of the collaboration

between the UIAA and the I.R Iran Mountaineering & Sport Climbing Federation (IMSCF).

## 2018: THE YEAR AHEAD

The Youth Commission has a programme of GYS events for the coming year 2018 and with a new President has a new focus.

The Commission has, in the last quarter of 2017, focused primarily on organising events and although work has been done on producing documentation and handbooks, to ensure these events run safely, it has a bigger role to play within the core activities of the UIAA. Future plans include the development of new international camps and grass route development within federations.

We will see a greater focus on facilitating the longer term development of programmes and sharing experiences between member federations. Some member federations have great programmes and much experience working with young people and I would like to see more of these programmes and information shared with developing member federations.

We will also work towards greater synergy with other UIAA Commissions, looking at their plans for the coming years and link these programmes with young people.

## UIAA YOUTH COMMISSION

As confirmed by the Management Committee – Shiraz, Iran, (October 2017)

### MEMBERS

Mark DENNISON (President), UK (BMC)

Israfil ASHURLY, Azerbaijan (AAF)

Mohammad NASIR AWAN, Pakistan (ACP)

Barbara BAJCER, Slovenia (PZS)

Christian BIARD, France (FFCAM)

Rosella CHINELLATO, Italy (CAI)

Mahmoud HASHEMI, Iran (I.R.ISMF)

Marcus GARCIA, USA (AAC)

Youngsik KIM, Korea (KAF)

Alexander KLENOV, Russia (RMF)

Michele MANNA, Italy (CAI)

Iraj MAANI, Iran (I.R.ISMF)

Neda MILOSEVIC, Serbia (PSS)

Keerthi PAIS, India (IMF)

António RAMOS, Portugal (FCMP)

Mahmud AI RUBIYEATT, Bangladesh (BMF)

Jordi MAGRINA GUELL, Spain (FEEC)

Miguel CANOVAS SANCHEZ, Spain (FEDME)

### CORRESPONDING MEMBERS

Edgardo ABREU, Brazil (CBME)

Zurab KUTCHAVA, Georgia (MCAG)

Batsaikhan OCHIRBAT, Mongolia (MNMF)

Jenny PATERSON, South Africa (MCSA)

### HONORARY MEMBER

Alexander ZAIDLER

UIAA EXECUTIVE BOARD LINK

Peter FARKAS

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Report by

**Mark Dennison**

*UIAA Youth Commission President*

For more information about the UIAA Youth Commission please visit:

<http://www.theuiaa.org/youth-events>





## 11. INTERNATIONAL SKYRUNNING FEDERATION

*The International Skyrunning Federation represents the governing authority of skyrunning – mountain running above 2,000m over extremely technical trails. Three disciplines define the sport which are not just based on distance, but vertical climb and technical difficulty: Sky, Ultra and Vertical. The principal aims of the Federation are the direction, regulation, promotion, and development of skyrunning on a worldwide basis. The ISF today counts 41 Member nations, five Associate Members and four Aspirant Members. The Federation is a Unit Member of the UIAA.*

### ISF 2017 SEASON REPORT

In 2017 Skyrunning activities were completed and competitions took place all over the world through national events and international circuits, promoting the sport everywhere.

As is custom, the first part of the year was dedicated to the preparation of the season, with the schedule of calendars, evaluation of annual reports by member federations and the promotion of an anti-doping campaign, following the first case of a positive finding after a competition.

Unfortunately this occurred at the 2016 World Championships and the automatic disqualification was promptly decided, following the advice by the then UIAA Anti-Doping Commission President Nenad Dikic.



During the summer, activity was focused on the following events:

#### 2017 YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIP, ANDORRA

The second official edition of the Youth Skyrunning World Championship took place in Andorra. It was a great event thanks to the local organizers and to FEDME - Federación Española de Deportes de Montaña y Escalada. The participation to the championships of 18 junior teams was very successful, despite the small budget available. Seven nations were on the podium for 54 medals with Spain, Japan and Czech Republic at the top.

#### 2017 ISF GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The ISF GA took place in conjunction with the Youth World Championships and it was very important for the items on the agenda, which included also changes in the Articles of Association. The UIAA Executive Board member, Thomas Kahr, attended the event.

Among the decisions, the Skyrunning technical rules were modified with improvements, in particular introducing a time limit of 16 hours and the criteria for qualification of international courses for competitions was introduced. Also the exclusion of non-paying members for two years was approved.

#### 2017 CONTINENTAL CHAMPIONSHIP

They were introduced in order to offer a good opportunity for promotion in new areas (Japan & Hong Kong). The EU Championship took place and held in three different nations with good participation: in France for the Ultra, in Spain for Sky and in Italy for the Vertical Kilometer.

#### 2017 SKYRUNNER WORLD SERIES & ACTIVITIES

New steps were taken in the collaboration with the Sky World Series management and SkyMan SA with the inclusion of new races and improvement of athlete participation. The final prizes were distributed at the end of the season in Limone, Italy. Anti-doping tests during competitions were conducted in Italy, Scotland and Spain without any positive cases.

For the National Series - the program for competitions held within a country - the first season showed some difficulties for which there is a need for more support, with benefit and ranking connection to improve skyrunning in many nations.

#### 2018 SKYRUNNING WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

For the first time next World Championship will reach UK and Ben Nevis, iconic highest mountain of Scotland, on September 2018.

#### ISF MEMBERS & SKYRUNNING VISION

Five new members were approved by the Management Committee and the General Assembly during the season (two voting members and three aspirant)

At the end of 2017, the ISF has 48 members (34 voting members, five associates, nine aspirants) representing 46 nations.

The goal is to improve the mountaineering vision (as decided for instance by the Italian Olympic Committee) versus the athletic vision of trail running.

The update of the features rules with the classification of the level of the course (incline average, technical course and altitude factors) will be the main points of skyrunning identity.

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Report by ISF President

**Marino Giacometti**

*ISF President*

Image credit: Ian Corless

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

<http://www.skyrunning.com>



## 12. MARKETING & COMMUNICATION

*UIAA communication and marketing efforts are united by the twin goals of finding and exploring new opportunities that align with UIAA activities so that the organization's finances are stable and to ensure that UIAA members and the wider climbing and mountaineering community have easy access to key information related to the UIAA's activities and projects. With the scope of improving its communication output, over the past eighteen months, the UIAA has redeveloped its website, begun producing more video content, been increasingly active on social media, created targeted newsletters and news releases and set up more channels to grant members, partners, media and the general public easier access to key resources.*

### MARKETING

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

For the Sport pillar, revenues continue to be stable, mainly due to a long term contract with The North Face Korea. Negotiations for a renewal of the contract started in 2017 and will take shape early in 2018. Negotiations with potential technical partners for UIAA's sport activities are ongoing.

For the UIAA Sustainability pillar, the collaboration with KEEN continued throughout 2017, although on a significantly lower level than in the previous year. Our Mountain Protection Award partners from Azerbaijan decided to cooperate on a project-basis only.

The Bern office is continually exploring new sponsorship opportunities and means of approaching potential sponsors. In 2017, the UIAA signed a new contract with an independent sponsoring agent. The UIAA office prepared new documentations and sponsoring partnership proposals. Members of the Executive Board and the office staff were present at major international trade shows to represent the UIAA and to build relationships with partners.

## COMMUNICATION

### 2017: ACHIEVEMENTS

The past year has been a significant one in terms of the UIAA's focus in communication. Some of the achievements include the significant revamping of [www.theuiaa.org](http://www.theuiaa.org) in October 2016; improved distribution service for newsletters and news releases; the creation of new graphic guidelines/ templates (revised in the autumn of 2017) and the implementation of a more considered communication plan across all three pillars. The UIAA is also producing more video content – not only during the competition sport season – but across all of its pillars. This is with the aim of engaging more people with UIAA content through social media and to have more visual elements available for trade shows, conferences, film festivals and as UIAA-produced content as part of livebroadcasts.

[www.theuiaa.org](http://www.theuiaa.org)

Shortly after the 2016 UIAA General Assembly, the UIAA launched a revamped website. The feedback related to the new website has been positive; results likewise. The website is structured according to the UIAA Strategic Plan 2017-2010 and provides a much clearer navigational journey for all visitors. A dedicated area has been curated for UIAA members, comprising access to key information related to member benefits and information. Furthermore, a password-protected portal has been created for easy access to key UIAA documents. Upgrades based on user feedback are planned for the first quarter of 2018.

Comparing the ten-month period before the revamp of the UIAA website with the ten months since its launch:

The number of sessions have increased by 22%

There has been a 7% increase in unique users

There has been a 21% rise in page views

Visitors are spending more than 25% on the site during each visit

### OLYMPIC CHANNEL

The UIAA launched the start of its collaboration with the IOC's Olympic Channel. During the 2017 UIAA Ice Climbing World Championships, a biennial event, and most important juncture of the recent season, the IOC shared the UIAA's livestream of the event. This attracted an additional audience of 150,000 viewers (the season as a whole attracted eight million views). Further collaboration is being discussed for projects both during the 2018 season and the off-season.

### SOCIAL MEDIA

The UIAA currently operates on the following social media platforms:

- Facebook, 31K followers (x2 audience rise over the past 12 months)
- Twitter, 12K followers
- Instagram, 2k (launched in 2016)
- Flickr, for all photo downloads
- Vimeo & YouTube for all video

The UIAA uses social media as a tool to communicate its news to both members and the wider climbing and mountaineering world. Over the past 12 months, the UIAA has doubled the size of its Facebook audience primarily through the creation of more video content. The UIAA encourages its members to follow these channels for the latest news and updates.

### COMMUNICATION STRATEGY

Between 2015-2016, the UIAA ran an audit of its entire communication output. Following the results of this audit, over the past twelve months it has worked on developing its communication tools (website, social media channels, new Corporate Identity guide, presentation documents). More recently the UIAA has focused on creating a more structured, consistent and wide-ranging communication plan ensuring it regularly focuses on all aspects of its work across the three pillars of the Strategic Plan while increasingly highlighting specific benefits to its members.

Recent, and ongoing, communication campaigns include:

**Access/Dedicated** series in collaboration with the UIAA Access Commission on access and mountain protection-related issues in different countries

**Commissions/Regular** interviews with UIAA Commission Presidents providing an insight into the



current projects being undertaken

**Ice Climbing**/Dedicated press releases throughout 2017 ice climbing season; more sophisticated video plan and distribution (live, highlights, social media); off season articles.

**Medicine**/Regular features promoting UIAA medical advice and recommendations related to high altitude climbing and mountaineering

**Members**/Dedicated articles about UIAA members, and projects, initiatives which may interest other Member Federations

**Mountaineering**/Passion for mountaineering series, inspirational stories about people's love for the mountains.

**Safety**/Series profiling the past, present and future of the UIAA's work in mountain safety

**Sustainability**/Regular articles dedicated to both the Mountain Protection Award and Respect the Mountains and the UIAA's role and work with partners in the field. Initiatives for International Mountain Day, 11 December.

In 2018, plans are in place to develop a Skills area of the website promoting advice given in the UIAA Alpine Skills handbook. Furthermore, the UIAA will develop international calendars for worldwide rock and ice climbing events and festivals.

## NEWSLETTERS AND PRESS RELEASES

The UIAA issues a dedicated monthly newsletter, primarily for its members, but also available to all subscribers. This is a key recap of monthly news and member-specific information. The UIAA also issues 15-20 news releases on specific topics each year.

To subscribe, please [click here](#) or follow the prompt on the UIAA website.

## VIDEO

Following the production of videos for the MPA, RTM, the Safety label, the UIAA plans on increasing its video output over the next 12 months, particularly in the fields of safety and sustainability, with the aim of raising more awareness about its key messages and being able to amplify this message across social media.

All videos can be found on the UIAA YouTube Channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/uiaabern>

## MEMBER FEDERATIONS

The UIAA Communication team is always keen to share information about member federation activities. Please email [news@theuiaa.org](mailto:news@theuiaa.org) to share content. Likewise, any content 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.

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Report by

**Nils Glatthard**

*UIAA Director of Operations*

**Peter Bourne**

*UIAA Communication Manager*

For more information about the UIAA's Media activities please visit:

<http://www.theuiaa.org/media-centre>





## 13. UIAA OFFICE REPORT

### THE UIAA OFFICE

The UIAA Office is based next to the SAC, Swiss Alpine Club's Office in Bern, Switzerland. The UIAA is most grateful for the well-established operational and financial cooperation with the SAC.

The staff working in the UIAA Office in Bern, Switzerland are responsible for running the daily operations of the UIAA. It is the entire staff's duty and commitment serve our members and to support, coordinate, plan and implement the activities and decisions of the Executive Board, the Management Committee and the UIAA Commission Presidents.

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

### OFFICE STAFF

NILS GLATTHARD

*Director Of Operations*

Nils, a Swiss national, joined the UIAA in July 2017. As Director of Operations, he manages and coordinates the UIAA Office in Bern; assists the work of the UIAA Commissions in implementing the projects identified in the UIAA Strategic Plan 2017-2020; acts as the principal liaison between core UIAA entities – staff, Executive Board, Commission Presidents and the Management Committee as well as with member federations; cooperates with the accountant and treasurer in the preparation of budgets and financial reports; prepares and delivers sponsor proposals.



STEPHANIE STETTBACHER

Office Coordinator & Safety Label Administrator

Stephanie coordinates the UIAA daily office work and acts as first and main contact for our member federations. She coordinates between the UIAA staff and the various organisational levels. Stephanie administrates the UIAA Safety Label and the Safety Commission, as well as the Executive Board and the Management Committee and organises core UIAA events and meetings.

PETER BOURNE

Communications Manager

Peter is responsible for the UIAA's communication strategy and content production, comprising website, newsletters and social media.

ROBERT ADIE

(as of October 2017, prior to then Carol Kahoun)

Rob is responsible for the smooth running of the UIAA Ice Climbing World Tour, while managing projects in Youth, Anti-Doping and Rock Climbing.

GLORIA SCARANO

Mountain Protection Coordinator & Project Manager

Gloria coordinates the UIAA's portfolio of mountain protection projects. This involves the planning and organizing of the Respect the Mountains events and the Mountain Protection Award, liaising with sponsors and the MP commission.

AGNÈS SEMELET

Accountant

Agnès prepares budgets and financial reports in cooperation with the treasurer and the Director of Operations. She is in charge of accounting and UIAA's financial transactions.

Report by

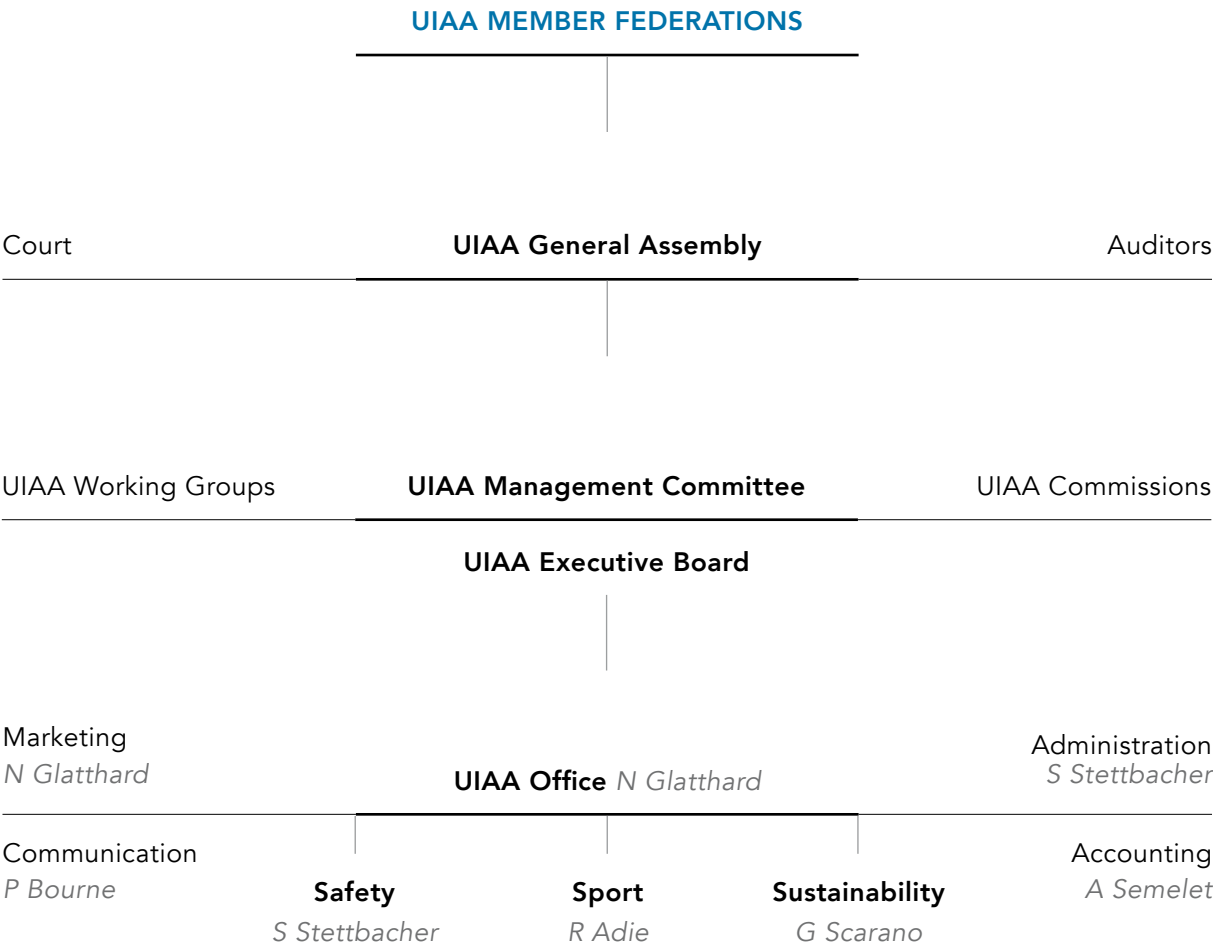
**Nils Glatthard**

UIAA Director of Operations



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

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART





## 14. FINANCIAL REPORT

*As statutory auditor, we have examined the financial statements (balance sheet and income statement) of UIAA - International Climbing and Mountaineering Federation for the financial year ended December 31st, 2017.*

These financial statements are the responsibility of the association board. Our responsibility is to perform a limited statutory examination on these financial statements. We confirm that we meet the licensing and independence requirements as stipulated by Swiss law.

We conducted our examination in accordance with the Swiss Standard on the Limited Statutory Examination. This standard requires that we plan and perform a limited statutory examination to identify material misstatements in the financial statements. A limited statutory examination consists primarily of inquiries of company personnel and analytical procedures as well as detailed tests of company documents as considered necessary in the circumstances. However, the testing of operational processes and the internal control system, as well as inquiries and further testing procedures to detect fraud or other legal violations, are not within the scope of this examination.

Based on our limited statutory examination, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the financial statements do not comply with Swiss law and the articles of association.

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Report by

**Matthias Hildebrandt**

*Licensed Audit Expert*

**pp Laurence Ouwehand**

*Licensed Audit Expert*



**ASSETS**

CURRENT ASSETS/ CHF	12/31/2017	12/31/2016
Liquid Assets: Cash and Bank	695,792	517,260
Liquid Assets: Accounts receivable	2,119	334
Liquid Assets: Prepaid expenses	3,947	25,862
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<b>701,858</b>	<b>543,456</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>701,858</b>	<b>543,456</b>

**LIABILITIES & FUNDS**

LIABILITIES/ CHF	12/31/2017	12/31/2016
Current Liabilities: Creditors	25,786	45,619
Accrued Liabilities	247,336	99,547
General Provision	93,598	65,223
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>366,720</b>	<b>210,389</b>

FUNDS	12/31/2017	12/31/2016
Solidarity Fund	8,820	8,820
Access and conservation fund	2,763	2,763
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<b>11,583</b>	<b>11,583</b>

Capital of the association as per Jan. 1	321,485	309,139
Profit for the year	2,070	12,345
Capital of the association as per Dec. 31	323,554	321,483
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; FUNDS</b>	<b>701,858</b>	<b>543,456</b>

**PROFIT AND LOSS STATEMENT**

INCOME/ CHF	12/31/2017	12/31/2016
Membership fees	315.832	336.740
Safety label	127.290	106.813
Other income	27.447	31.164
Grants	51.384	60.388
Partnerships	193.689	243.140
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>715.642</b>	<b>778.245</b>

EXPENSES/ CHF	12/31/2017	12/31/2016
Staff	296.203	316.853
Service	42.789	33.465
Office & Administration	39.469	45.964
Meeting expenses	48.567	39.914
Commissions' projects	276.363	307.327
Marketing & Communication	23.731	21.112
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>727.122</b>	<b>764.635</b>

Financial income	13.550	-1.265
<b>PROFIT FOR THE YEAR</b>	<b>2.070</b>	<b>12.345</b>



15. SPONSORS AND PARTNERS

SPONSORS



Ice Climbing

The North Face Korea



Mountain Protection

Keen



Training Standards

Petzl Fondation

PARTNERS



Ice Climbing Livestreaming

Olympic Channel



Mountain Medicine

ICAR



Mountain Sustainability

United Nations





Mountain Sustainability

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**United Nations 10YFP Sustainable Tourism Programme**



Mountain Protection Award

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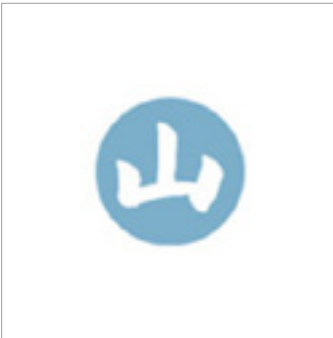
**Mountain Institute**



Mountain Protection Award

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**World Conservation Union (IUCN)**



Mountain Protection Award

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**Mountain Research Initiative (MRI)**



Youth

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**ARISF**



Sport

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**Peace and Sport**

2017  
Annual Report

**FOR THE CLIMBERS. FOR THE WORLD.**

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