



A GUIDE TO THE
2019 UIAA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Larnaca, Cyprus



UIAA

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

GLOBAL MOUNTAIN NETWORK

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Dear friends, Welcome to the 2019 UIAA General Assembly in Cyprus

The GA is always our most important annual gathering and a vital opportunity for the global world of climbing and mountaineering to reconvene. Following the popularity of the revised GA format implemented in Mongolia last year, we hope that this year's programme - which includes numerous networking and workshop opportunities - is equally engaging.

We thank the [Cyprus Mountaineering Climbing & Orienteering Federation \(C.M.C.O.F.\)](#) for its hosting of the event and for the many initiatives they have put in place to ensure delegates have the opportunity to enjoy themselves when exploring this beautiful island.

The UIAA is the global mountain network for climbing and mountaineering and fully focused on all aspects of these activities whether rock climbing, ice climbing or mountaineering. Our work in continually advancing standards in climber safety continues to evolve while our projects and advocacy in sustainability and mountain protection have a global impact. We must continue

to be at the forefront of conversations and work with our partners on all matters related to the future of the mountain environment.

I invite all delegates to read the [2018 UIAA Annual Report](#) and hope the material provided in this magazine aides your preparations for the GA. This is the first time we have provided our members with a dedicated document in advance of the GA. It is a product of our commitment to continually improving member services, addressing member feedback and the many benefits UIAA membership can provide. Supporting you, our members, remains the UIAA's number one objective.

Kind regards,

Frits Vrijlandt
UIAA President

UIAA General Assembly

PROGRAMME & AGENDA DETAILS

UIAA Executive Board, Management Committee & 2019 General Assembly meetings
Larnaca, Cyprus

Majority of the meetings will take place at the accommodation venue:

Sentido Sandy Beach Hotel

<https://goo.gl/maps/fXyVCxD8Ari4ReUz5>

The General Assembly will take place at:

Olympic Lagoon Resort Agia Napa

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/i7qBLwdTpA26R8VK9>

To access the latest information about the General Assembly, including all supporting documents, please access the Member’s Portal:

<https://www.theuiaa.org/members/members-only-area/>

(*) Passwords available from
UIAA Office

office@theuiaa.org

FRIDAY, 1 NOV 2019

Report and workshop on
UIAA Communication, ISO
Certification/Accreditation

17:00 – 19:00

SATURDAY, 2 NOV 2019

GA Registration

07:30 – 08:30

GA Session 1

08:30 – 10:30

GA Session 2

10:30 – 12:30

13:30 – 15:30

Workshop on Commissions and
Projects

15:30 – 18:00

PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

2019 UIAA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

WEDNESDAY, 30 OCT	THURSDAY, 31 OCT	FRIDAY, 1 NOV	SATURDAY, 2 NOV	SUNDAY, 3 NOV
Delegate Arrivals	Executive Board Meeting 08:30 – 12:30	Management Committee Meeting Strategy – UIAA of the 21st Century, AoA amendments 08:00 – 12:30 Commission Presidents’ Meeting 08:30 – 12:30	GENERAL ASSEMBLY Olympic Lagoon Resort (*) Registration 07:30 – 08:30 GENERAL ASSEMBLY Session 1: Part 1: AoA agenda items 08:30 – 10:30 Part 2: Strategy, review and status 10:30 – 12:30	Executive Board Meeting Wrap-up 08:00 – 10:00 Meetings Activities
	Lunch Break 12:30 – 13:30	Lunch Break 12:30 – 13:30	Lunch Break 12:30 – 13:30	Lunch 12:30 – 14:00
Delegate Arrivals	Management Committee/ Commission Presidents’ Meeting Reports and Commission inputs for strategy discussions 15:00 – 17:00 Management Committee Meeting Executive Session: AoA items 17:00 – 19:30	Management Committee Meeting Strategy – UIAA of the 21st Century, AoA amendments, conclusions, plan of implementation and timelines 13:00 – 17:00 Report & Workshop · UIAA Communication · ISO Certification/ Accreditation for UIAA UIAA General Assembly participants Management Committee (optional) and Commission Presidents 17:00 – 19:00	GENERAL ASSEMBLY Session 2: Strategy, AoA amendments, MC inclinations and preliminary plan of implementation and timelines 13:30 – 15:30 Projects/Commission Forum 15:30 – 18:00 Media Conference 18:15 – 18:45	Activities and Departures
Arrival Dinner (*) at Plori Seafood Restaurant 20:00 -22:00	Dinner (*) at Miloi Tou Daliou 20.30 – 22:00	Opening Ceremony (*) & Welcome Dinner at Larnaca Castle 20.30 – 23:00	Awards Ceremony & Gala Dinner (*) at Iguana, Makenzie Beach, Larnaca 20:00 – 22:30	(*) Denotes transport available

Please note this programme is subject to change. Exact locations of meetings will be confirmed onsite. The latest programme is always available on the UIAA Members' Portal and the General Assembly page of the UIAA website.

Session 1

ITEM		TYPE	WHO	DOCUMENTS
1. 1.1 1.2	Welcome and opening remarks by the UIAA President Members present and apologies for absence Declaration of voting members present and majority	Information	Frits Vrijlandt	
2.	Approval of the Agenda	Vote	Frits Vrijlandt	Agenda
3.	Approval of the minutes of the 2018 General Assembly in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia	Vote	Frits Vrijlandt	Minutes
4.	UIAA President's report (Commissions, Office, Marketing, Communication reports: refer to UIAA 2018 Annual Report and Project/Commission Forum)	Vote	Frits Vrijlandt	Annual Report
5. 5.1. 5.2. 5.3. 5.4.	Finance Result 2018, auditor's report and discharge to the Executive Board Result 2019 forecast UIAA Membership fees for associate members Budget 2020	Vote Information Vote Vote	Peter Muir Stein Tronstad	Annual Report Forecast NKF Proposal Budget
6.	UIAA Initiative on climate change	Vote	Josef Klenner	DAV Motion

ITEM		TYPE	WHO	DOCUMENTS
7.	Everest and Kilimanjaro – UIAA policies and actions for sustainable and responsible climbing and mountaineering	Information	Greg Moseley	WG Proposal
8. 8.1. 8.2. 8.3.	UIAA Membership New applicants, change of membership category Good governance: conflict of interest, signing of declaration Non-payment of membership fees	Vote Information Information	Peter Muir	Applications List
9. 9.1. 9.2. 9.3.	Elections and Nominations Executive Board members Management Committee members Profile and procedures for the election of a new UIAA President	Vote Vote Information	Peter Muir	List of nominees and re-nominees documents
10.	Honorary Membership Dr. Lee, In-Jeong, UAAA President, KAF	Vote	Thomas Kähr	Letter UAAA/ KAF, CV
11.	UIAA Court and Code of Ethics report	Information	Pierre Humblet	Annual Report
12	UIAA Unit member report	Information	Silvio Calvi	Annual Report
13. 13.1. 13.2.	Future General Assemblies GA 2020, 24 October 2020: Antalya, Turkey GA 2021: Malta	Information Vote	Peter Muir	Candidate files

Workshop on Commission Work
& Projects

ITEM		TYPE	WHO	DOCUMENTS
14.	<p>The UIAA of the 21st Century Report/Strategy: MC inclinations, preliminary plan of implementation and timeline</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Introduction• UIAA profile definition – DISCUSSION• Strategic segments and priorities – DISCUSSION• Structure/organisation of Ice Climbing, options – INFORMATION• Future UIAA organisation –DISCUSSION• Introduction of MC committees – INFORMATION• Future UIAA commission structure/organisation, tasks and goals – INFORMATION• AoA: intentions for future amendments – DISCUSSION• AoA Annex 1, membership fee structure: revision, creation of a new category for small members – VOTE• Commission Regulations amendments - INFORMATION• Mid-term/short-term reporting/planning processes, execution plan - INFORMATION	Information Discussion Votes	Thomas Kähr Peter Muir Nils Glatthard	Report AoA amendments
15.	Other Business		all	

ITEM		TYPE	WHO	DOCUMENTS
1.	<p>WORLD CAFÉ FORMAT: COMMISSION WORK AND PROJECTS 3 x input and discussion rounds x 25 minutes, 8 tables, 8 topics, 8 x 5 minutes feedback, 3 point summary</p> <p>1. UIAA Global Advocacy – Policies and campaigning (Everest – mass mountaineering, UIAA's role in responsible access and risk management; Kilimanjaro – a model case for UIAA's global advocacy role? <i>Greg Moseley (lead), Nils Glatthard</i></p> <p>2. UIAA Safety Label – Development and marketing perspectives, how to increase manufacturers' and customers' benefits <i>Amit Chowdhury (lead), Stephanie Stettbacher</i></p> <p>3. UIAA Safety Management System for Climbing and Mountaineering ISO 21101 - new opportunities for the UIAA and UIAA member federations <i>Pavlos Georgiades (lead), Steve Long, ISO representatives</i></p> <p>4. UIAA Training Standards – development, promotion, certification and generating additional income <i>Steve Long (lead)</i></p> <p>5. Learning from members - what are member federations currently expecting from the UIAA? What should be the response from the UIAA management structures and the UIAA Office? <i>Lode Beckers (lead)</i></p> <p>6. UIAA Ice Climbing – Options for future competition sports structure and organisation <i>Carlos Teixeira (lead), Rob Adie</i></p> <p>7. UIAA Awards – Supporting and learning from winners and candidates - and how to support and develop platforms and initiatives <i>Mike Maunsell (lead), Anne Arran, Peter Bourne</i></p> <p>8. Good Governance – GAISF report and consequences for the UIAA and member federations <i>Peter Muir (lead)</i></p>	Input and Feedback Workshop	All, including GA participants	UIAA AR Project overview Question set per topic



UIAA General Assembly Information

WELCOME TO CYPRUS

The 2019 UIAA General Assembly, held on 2 November in Larnaca, Cyprus, is hosted by the Cyprus Mountaineering Climbing & Orienteering Federation (C.M.C.O.F.).

“It is a great pleasure and honour for the Cyprus Mountaineering Climbing & Orienteering Federation to host the 2019 UIAA General Assembly in Larnaca,” explains the association’s President Pavlos Georgiades. “The C.M.C.O.F. is proud to have been

given the privilege to host this very important annual meeting of the UIAA. I’m positive that all delegates will have a tremendous experience attending the GA as we discuss serious matters shaping the future of our beloved sport.”



Cyprus, also known as the “Island of Aphrodite” is an island rich in history and culture and full of wonderful experiences. Whatever the season, Cyprus provides ample opportunities to experience something new, interesting and exciting including activities and events, customs and places that are unique and special to the island.

Founded in 2000 C.M.C.O.F. has made great strides in its 19 years of existence. Georgiades, also Vice President of the UIAA Mountaineering Commission, was one of the pioneers in the creation of the federation and explains how it came to life.

“The history of climbing and mountaineering in Cyprus started in 1997 and at that time there was nothing available to help us. There was only one club founded in 1995 and focused on hiking.”

To rectify this situation, Georgiades and some associates made steps to create a climbing and mountaineering federation. It had a clear vision. “Youth was one of the cornerstones in the federation’s creation,” explains Georgiades. “Everything started with the 400 youngsters who used to come to the country’s first indoor climbing wall.”

Climbing walls provided the perfect opportunity for young people to enjoy an introduction to climbing and eventually mountaineering. Cyprus is also a fertile region

in terms of outdoor opportunities. The climate is agreeable, among the best in Europe, providing the opportunity to climb all year round with the optimum times being the spring and the autumn. Furthermore, the federation works closely with the country’s tourist board to entice foreign climbers. “We have about 250 rock climbing routes many of them are single pitch with a range of difficulties, from 5 to 8b+,” continues Georgiades. The island is also popular with cyclists, orienteers and water sport enthusiasts.

Along with youth participation, improving skills and safety are two of the federation’s pillars. With this in mind, since 2017 they have certified the country’s sport and traditional climbing instructors to meet UIAA training standards and have applied to the government to introduce a law to regulate (sport/bolted) climbing routes to improve climber’s safety. The federation also runs dedicated rock and indoor climbing courses, a search and rescue operation and is trying to create a network of hiking huts for its members. C.M.C.O.F. has been a full member of the UIAA since 2007.

Delegates will have the opportunity to enjoy the culture, climbing and wider outdoor scene in Cyprus through the special holiday package put in place by the organisers. This includes visits to the Troodos mountains, Paphos, ancient monuments and villages. Troodos, home to Mount

Olympus the country’s highest peak at 1952m, provides excellent opportunities for traditional climbing and hiking. It also has four ski slopes as well as a number of resorts, Byzantine monasteries and churches. “It is no secret that the Mediterranean diet is considered to be one of the healthiest and adding to this the favourable climate, I assure you that your stay in Cyprus will be enjoyable, exciting and an unforgettable experience for all of you,” closes Georgiades.



CANDIDATES

The following candidates have been put forward for election at the
2019 UIAA General Assembly

Nominees for UIAA Executive Board



Simon Alden
Malta Climbing Club



Zoljargal Banzragch
Mongolian National Climbing Federation



Lode Beckers
Climbing and Mountaineering Belgium



Santa Bir Lama
Nepal Mountaineering Association



Pavlos Georgiades
Cyprus Mountaineering Climbing & Orienteering Federation



Mahmood Hashemi
Iran Mountaineering & Sport Climbing Federation



Michael Maunsell
Mountaineering Ireland



Simon Alden
Malta Climbing Club



Zoljargal Banzragch
Mongolian National Climbing Federation



Amit Chowdhury
Indian Mountaineering Foundation



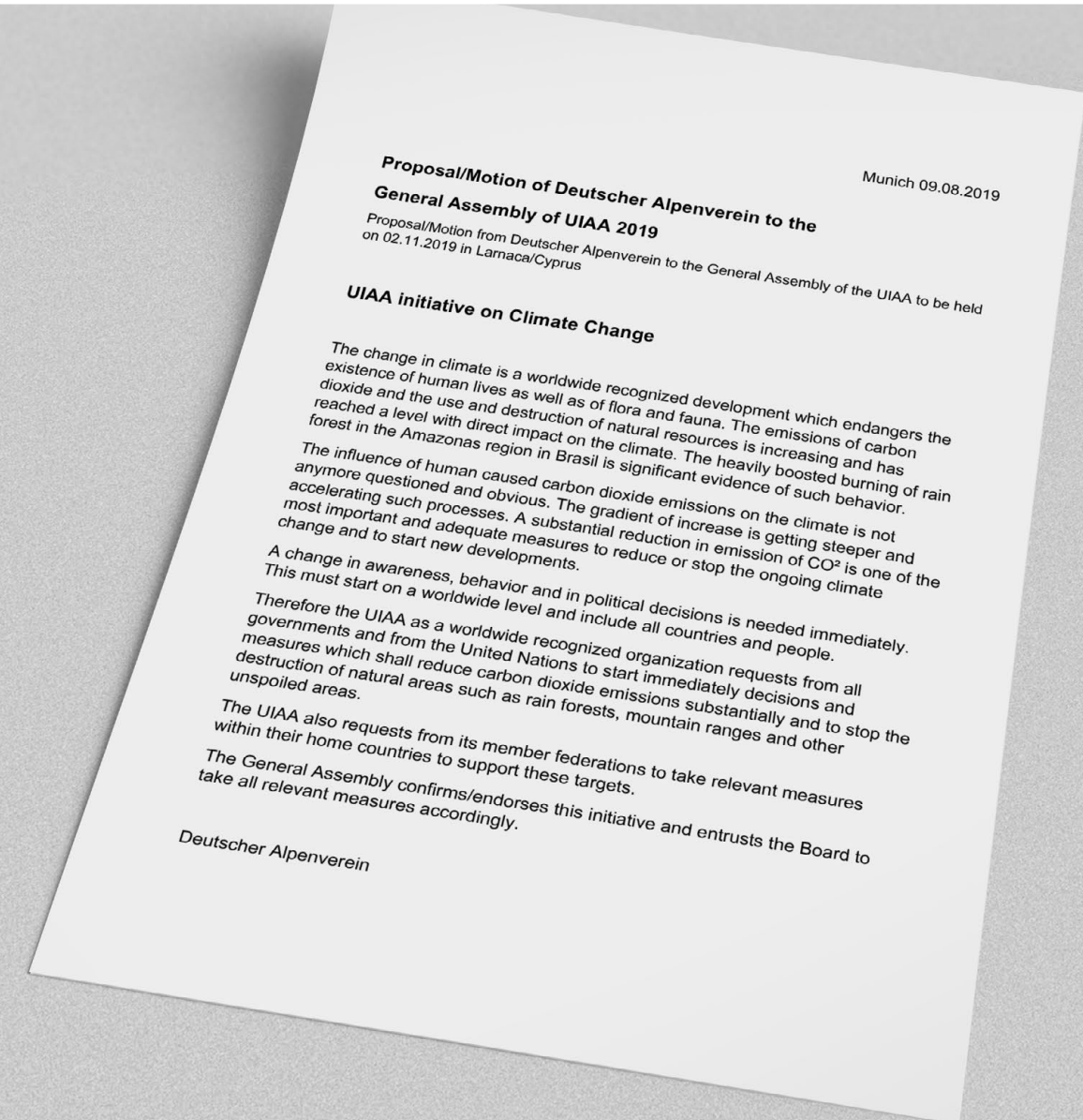
Kul Bahadur Gurung
Nepal Mountaineering Association



Seiichiro Simon Maru
Japan Mountaineering & Sport Climbing Association

INITIATIVE ON CLIMATE CHANGE

The DAV Motion will be presented during Session 1 of the General Assembly



Dr Lee In Jeong

HONORARY MEMBERSHIP

Born in 1945, Dr Lee In Jeong has dedicated his life's work to developing climbing and mountaineering throughout Korea and Asia. A highly respected and admired figure within the mountaineering community, Dr Lee has played an instrumental role in raising awareness about access, cultural, environmental and mountain protection issues primarily through his roles as President of both the Korean Alpine Federation and the UAAA – Union of Asian Alpine Associations.

In parallel to a successful business career, Dr Lee has committed enormous time and energy to mountaineering, a passion which reached new heights when he was appointed team leader for the Korean Manaslu expedition in 1980. This continued throughout the 1990s when he led a number of high-profile expeditions including ones to Gasherbrum I & II.

Among the many educational and community projects he has led include the founding of the Taein scholarship, conceived to support the development of young athletes and the creation of both the Korean Alpine Museum and the Korean Alpine Library.

In 1997, Dr Lee was awarded the Gumsung Grand Prize from the Pusan Alpine Federation, before becoming Vice President of the Korean Alpine Federation a year later, a role he served with distinction until 2005, when he became President, a role he still serves. Between 1999 and 2003 he was General Secretary of the UAAA, becoming President from 2010 until the present day.



Dr Lee served for nearly 15 years on the Directing Board of the Korean Olympic Committee as well as serving as an advisory member of the 2014 Incheon Asian Games Organising Committee. Dr Lee continues to be heavily involved in all aspects of mountaineering in Korea. He serves as the Chairman of Man and Mountain Magazine, as Honorary member of the Korean Student Alpine Federation and as Director of Climate Change Foundation.

Dr Lee has long enjoyed a close association with the UIAA, playing a huge role in Cheongsong holding its annual UIAA Ice Climbing World Cup and through his tireless work and in promoting the UAAA and helping foster close relationships between Asian-based federations and the UIAA. Dr Lee's company at UIAA General Assemblies is always sought-after. Fitting that at this General Assembly, he is nominated for the highest honour the UIAA can bestow.

Discover more: [UIAA Honorary Members](#)



2018 ANNUAL REPORT

theuiaa.org/members

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

Rock Climbing

UIAA ROCK CLIMBING FESTIVAL AWARD 2019

Rock festivals from India, Kazakhstan and Korea have been shortlisted for the 2019 UIAA Rock Climbing Festival Award.

The Award which shines its spotlight on a different continent each year has been open to applications from festivals from Asia throughout 2019. This follows its four previous editions which saw victors from Africa, Europe, North America and Central/South America.

The 2019 UIAA Rock Climbing Festival Award nominees are:

- [India: Suru Boulder Fest](#)
- [Kazakhstan: Almaty International Rock Climbing Festival](#)
- [Korea: Trad Climbing Festival](#)

All three of this year's nominees are supported by UIAA member associations, a mandatory requirement of the Award. To qualify, festivals must also demonstrate a commitment to climber safety, environmental protection, climber diversity, foster a sense of community between local and international climbers and encourage youth development. The Award is recognition for their efforts in implementing these measures.

Each of the nominated festivals is held annually and the 2019 editions have already taken place.

Further Information:

[About the UIAA Rock Climbing Festival Award](#)

The winning festival will be announced at the 2019 UIAA General Assembly and receive 2,500 USD in prize money. They will also receive the support of the UIAA Rock Climbing Award panel in developing safety and sustainability measures – in accordance with UIAA guidelines – for future festivals.

Application for the 2020 Award will open in November. The nominated continent is still to be confirmed.

Rock festivals worldwide are invited to promote themselves on the [UIAA's dedicated international calendar](#). Likewise climbers can use the resource to discover festival taking place in their region.

Past Winners:

2018

[Festival de Boulder de Mar del Plata \(Argentina\)](#)

2017

[International Climbers' Festival \(United States\)](#)

2016

[Kalymnos Climbing Festival \(Greece\)](#)

2015

[Original Climbing Festival \(South Africa\)](#)

[Aggtelek Climbing Festival \(Hungary\)](#)

UIAA Mountain Protection Award

TWELVE PROJECTS IN CONTENTION

Following a six-month application and assessment process, the UIAA Mountain Protection Commission published the list of projects to be showcased as part of the 2019 UIAA Mountain Protection Award. This year marks the seventh running of the annual prize.

The final list of nominees comprises 12 high-quality projects operational across all corners of the globe. Projects include those supported, or run, by UIAA member associations or by for profit and non-profit organisations. Most of the nominees are currently ongoing

projects and two have previously been showcased. All have a commitment to protecting the future of the mountain environment and engaging climbers and mountaineers as part of that process.



There will be four prizes offered this year. The Award winner, granted 5,000 USD, will be announced together with the runner-up and best new initiative at the Award Ceremony held as part of this UIAA General Assembly. A fourth prize is the new Community Award which ran through the [UIAA Facebook channel](#) and recognised the project which created the

highest engagement. All projects were showcased on the UIAA website and social media channels with the winner confirmed as **High Altitude Mountain Cleaners**. The UIAA thanks the [UIAA Mountain Protection Award Assessment Team](#) for their diligence and commitment in reviewing all submissions as well as all projects who applied for the Award.

2019 UIAA MOUNTAIN PROTECTION AWARD NOMINEES

www.theuiaa.org/mountain-protection-award/2019-uiaa-mountain-protection-award

University of Colorado at Boulder

Sustainable Waste Management in the Sagarmatha (Mt Everest) National Park

Nepal

Clean Climber

Clean Climber

Worldwide

Fundacion Acceso Andino

Sustainable Andes

Ecuador

High Altitude Mountain Cleaners

Ama-Dablam 2020

Nepal

Protect Our Winters Switzerland

Towards climate-neutral mountaineering

Switzerland

Pure Project

Protecting Uplands and Rural Environments

Ireland

Swiss Alpine Club

Alpine Learning project weeks

Switzerland

Mujer Montaña

Construyendo Vidas 2019 – Bolivia

Bolivia

Alpine Club of Iran

Mountain Sports Center with the approach of Environmental Sustainability by Passive Solar Energy

Iran

Biosphere Expeditions

Mountain protection worldwide through citizen science and volunteering
Kyrgyzstan, Romania, South Africa, Spain, Russia, Oman, Poland

Gandaki Urja

Converting organic waste to Compressed biogas and organic fertilizer
Nepal

PSD Nepal

PSD Nepal plastics upcycling & recycling in Langtang National Park, Rasuwa, Nepal
Nepal



Ice Climbing

LAUNCH OF 2019-2020 UIAA ICE CLIMBING WORLD TOUR

Four World Cups across three continents headline the provisional 2019-2020 UIAA Ice Climbing World Tour calendar, partnered by Outdoor Research.

The season again features a mix of urban locations (Moscow) as well as Alpine Classics (Saas-Fee). The new entry is the Chinese leg which after previous events in Hohhot and Beijing will move to Changchun City. A new venue but with organisation again expertly led by the Chinese Mountaineering Association (CMA). The calendar is completed by the popular event in Cheongsong, South Korea. In total, the season comprises 14 international events.

2020 will see the expansion of the UIAA Youth Ice event programme. Next generation climbers will have two opportunities to excel - a combined format World Youth Championships (lead & speed together with one combined champion) will feature as part of the programme during the World Cup opener in Moscow. Russia is also the venue for the annual

World Youth Championships (champions in lead and speed disciplines) with Kirov playing host. The UIAA is hopeful that the World Tour will return to North America for the 2020-2021 season.

The season also includes Continental Cups and Championships across Asia and Europe. Many of these are integrated as part of World Cup events.

Ice climbers, expert or beginner, are also reminded about the UIAA's dedicated online festival and event calendar. Organisers are also encouraged to share details of their events. Full details at:

www.theuiaa.org/rock-ice-climbing-event-calendar

Three of the venues featured as part of the 2018-2019 season ensuring familiarity for athletes and the opportunity to build on relationships and experiences. "We are delighted with the shape of the calendar for the upcoming season," explains UIAA Sport Events Coordinator Rob Adie.

"Working with established organisers ensures we can focus on improving events in terms of the athlete experience and ensuring greater consistency from competition to competition. The season will also witness an expansion of our livestreaming and broadcast offering ensuring the sport continues to attract new audiences."



Livestreaming from all World

Cup semi-finals and finals will

again be provided.

A new Results service

integrated with the livestream

will also be launched.

Attracting crowds in excess of 25,000 (considered the largest ever for a competitive climbing event) Denver broke records during the 2018-2019 **UIAA Ice Climbing World Tour.**



2019-2020 Calendar **UIAA Ice Climbing World Tour**
<https://youtu.be/HcsePx5IsU0>

Provisional
2019-2020 UIAA Ice Climbing World Tour Calendar

	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
NOVEMBER 2019	22	European Cup, Difficulty Bern, Switzerland 23	24
	29	European Cup, Difficulty Brno, Czech Republic 30	1
DECEMBER 2019	6	European Cup, Difficulty Žilina, Slovakia 7	8
	13	14	15
	World Cup & WYCCH 2019 Moscow, Russia 20	World Cup & WYCCH 2019 Moscow, Russia 21	WYCCH 2019 Moscow, Russia 22
	27	28	29
JANUARY 2020	World Cup Changchun City, Jilin Province, China 3	World Cup Changchun City, Jilin Province, China 4	World Cup Changchun City, Jilin Province, China 5
	World Cup & Asian Champs Cheongsong, Korea 10	World Cup & Asian Champs Cheongsong, Korea 11	World Cup & Asian Champs Cheongsong, Korea 12
	17	18	19
	World Cup & Euro Champs (Reg. on 23 Jan) Saas-Fee, Switzerland 24	World Cup & Euro Champs Saas-Fee, Switzerland 25	26
	31	1	2
FEBRUARY 2020	7	Asian Cup – Difficulty Iran 8	9
	14	Asian Cup Ulaan Baatar, Mongolia 15	16
	21	22	23
	29	European Cup Oulu, Finland 1	2
MARCH 2020	World Youth Champs Kirov, Russia 7	World Youth Champs Kirov, Russia 8	World Youth Champs Kirov, Russia 9

PURCHASE: ALPINE HANDBOOK



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

Prices correct as of January 2019 but subject to change/exchange rates.

UIAA Future: Strategy

PROGRESS

Following the 2017 UIAA General Assembly in Shiraz, the UIAA Executive Board gave the green light for a Strategic Working Group (SWG) to conduct a root and branch overview of the association, its objectives, priorities, activities and structure. The SWG is made up of existing Executive Board and Management Committee members, Commission Presidents, representatives from both large and small UIAA member associations and UIAA Office staff.

Background

The last two attempts to reform UIAA's structures and organisation were started between 2004-2005 and later from 2009-2010. In the aftermath of the 2004-2005 reform discussions, parts of competition sports (Sports Climbing, Ski Mountaineering) left the UIAA forming their independent organizations. Today, the UIAA is sometimes perceived as a rather inefficient organisation focusing too much on internal politics rather than on creating value for its stakeholders. Discussions with a series of representatives, mainly Commission Presidents and members, have shown a sluggish and hierarchical structure hindering decisions to be taken at the appropriate level and time. This situation is not only damaging the UIAA's ability to achieve results and provide

benefit. It is also de-motivating volunteers and professional staff who are fully focused on delivering services and solutions.

The situation as described above, and accelerated by a number of external factors, called for a significant structural change aimed at clarifying roles, tasks, responsibilities and competencies through the entire UIAA organisation structure. This change should increase decision speed and quality at different levels. It shall mainly be achieved by a systematic delegation of decision power from top to bottom. The last report published by the SWG ahead of this 2019 UIAA General Assembly, which details its objectives, proposals, findings and timelines can be downloaded from the UIAA Members' Portal.



TIMELINE

Change	Acknowledgment	Approval	Deadline
Strategy Report	MC recommendation to GA		MC: 1/11/2019 GA: 2/11/2019
Articles of Association		MC recommendation to GA	MC: 1/11/2019, spring 2020 GA: 2020
AoA Annex 1		EB recommendation to MC	EB: 21/09/2019 MC: 1/11/2019 or spring 2020 GA: 2020
MC, EB Elections		Member Federations recommendation to GA	MC: 1/11/2019 and spring 2020 GA: 2/11/2019 and 2020
Commission Regulations		EB recommendation to MC	EB: 21/09/2019 MC: 1/11/2019
Commission and new Committee Presidents Elections		Member Federations recommendation to GA	MC: 1/11/2019 and spring 2020 GA: 2/11/2019 and 2020
Expenses Regulations		EB recommendation to MC	EB: 2020 MC: Spring/autumn 2020
Meeting Regulations		EB recommendation to MC	EB: 2020 MC: Spring/autumn 2020
Execution/ Implementation Plan		EB recommendation to MC	MC: 1/11/2019

Current Status

After more than 18 months of discussions and preparation by the assigned Strategy Working Group, the UIAA Management Committee met in the spring to discuss the UIAA’s future positioning, its strategic core areas of activities and the proposed structural changes.

Furthermore, proposals to amend the existing Articles of Associations (AoAs) were presented. The intention was to prepare all relevant documents and decisions to be voted at the 2019 UIAA GA.

Progress

Following a first meeting hosted by the Alpine Club in London in January 2018, the SWG has met on several occasions presenting its findings, ideas and reports. Last year’s UIAA General Assembly in Ulaanbaatar provided the wider UIAA family the opportunity to offer ideas an input during the World Cafe session. This was a valuable exercise especially as a core focus of the SWG is ensuring that the ‘UIAA of the 21st Century’ offers greater benefits to its members. More recently, the SWG presented its findings to the MC in Malta.

However, for the time being, consensus within the MC regarding the proposals is split, for some the changes are too radical, others not far-reaching enough. Further clarification and discussions are required at MC level to create a working consensus which can be voted at the GA 2020 and initially presented at this year’s GA in Cyprus. Key areas such as organisational changes, Commission framework and regulations, member association fees and changes to the AoAs need further discussion. **Significant time will be dedicated to Strategy during both the morning and afternoon of the GA programme.**





Departing Vice President

MESSAGE FROM THOMAS KÄHR

A message from Thomas Kähr who is stepping down as Vice President of the UIAA to become elected President of the International Ski Mountaineering Federation (ISMF). The UIAA thanks Thomas for the commitment, passion and enthusiasm he brought to the UIAA during his various roles across the Executive Board.

A few weeks ago, I was elected President of the International Ski Mountaineering Federation. The vote at the Plenary Assembly was unanimous. This is a great honour to me and also an obligation which entails a lot of work and responsibility. I'm ready and willing to offer my time, my energy and my experience in favour of the mountain sport I'm most passionate about. For obvious reasons my election will mean that I will step down from all my functions after the UIAA General Assembly in Cyprus.

I'll leave the UIAA with mixed emotions. On the one hand, there are many friends that I had the privilege to make during the past seven years. Through these friendships I was able to learn and to enrich my life. I'm deeply grateful for the manyfold cultural, personal and professional experiences I had through these relationships. I sincerely hope that we'll continue crossing paths knowing that we're acting in a small world. I certainly will meet some of you again in my new function at ISMF.

My aspiration during my seven years at the UIAA was always to contribute actively to the fruitful development of the climbing and mountaineering community via a modern, strong and proud UIAA. It was based on my firm conviction that the world needs such a global body that - at the GA 2017 - I proposed to launch a review of the UIAA's strategic direction as well as of its structures. A tremendous amount of work has been done by the members of the Strategy Working Group, and its report proposes numerous ways to add more focus to the organisation and to improve the

structure and the quality of decision making. Already at various occasions you had the opportunity to discuss these proposals and to take action. In this regard - I must observe - not enough has been done so far. And after more than a year of discussions it is still not clear what the future of the UIAA will bring and how it will tackle the various internal and external challenges. Many times this was and still is a bit frustrating to me, and I sincerely hope that the Executive Board and Management Committee will get into a much more active mode. Please do not forget that nothing else

than the reputation and the future of the UIAA will be at stake.

Anyway, dear friends and colleagues, much will depend on the people who will be able and willing to take responsibility and to move the UIAA forward. Important elections to the Executive Board and the Management Committee have to be executed at the forthcoming General Assembly. And I sincerely hope that the members will choose the right people with the right spirit as their leaders of

the future.

I wish all of you the very best, whilst thanking you again for the trust you placed in me. I will be happy to enjoy my last General Assembly together with you and to clink glasses for a prosperous UIAA.

Yours truly

Thomas Kähr

On the other hand, there is this unique opportunity for me to help shaping the future of MY mountain sport. I hope that all of you understand that I had to seize this opportunity! Life at ISMF will not be a rose garden, as it wasn't at UIAA. However, I feel a great support as well as the spirit to move forward jointly as a team. This provides the energy needed to develop a sport and every organisation.

UIAA LAUNCHES WORLDWIDE DONATE PROJECT

The UIAA - International Climbing and Mountaineering Federation - has launched a Donate initiative to help raise funds for mountain-related projects worldwide.

A dedicated Donate page on the UIAA website was one of the ideas put forward by a number of member associations and partners during the most recent UIAA General Assembly. Many members expressed a desire to directly support the UIAA on specific projects.

The Donate scheme provides the opportunity to promote projects and causes run by UIAA members and partners. It also allows the UIAA to react more proactively in creating fundraising opportunities following natural disasters or unexpected events.

Each quarter, the UIAA will change the identity of its seasonal causes, including one run by a UIAA member. Member associations interested in having a specific project promoted on the page are invited to contact Carol Kahoun, carol.kahoun@theuiaa.org. The UIAA Donate Team will select a project from the shortlist.

Through the platform, donators can choose to make both one-off or ongoing contributions to the UIAA - and in the process identify areas where the contribution should be assigned -as well as support specific projects.

For its launch, the [Donate page](#) offers people the chance to support the following causes and projects:

- 2019 UIAA Mountain Protection Award (seasonal)
- UIAA Anchor Corrosion Research (seasonal)
- UIAA Partner Support: ClimbAID (seasonal) & Climbers Against Cancer (permanent)
- UIAA Member Association Support: Malta Climbing Club (seasonal)

For full details on the projects, and to directly support them, please visit the [Donate page](#).

Love the Mountains?, Love Climbing?

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



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

2019 HIGHLIGHTS

Throughout 2019, the UIAA has made a number of refinements to its communication channels. Many of these innovations are a result of member association feedback provided at the 2018 General Assembly in Mongolia.

2018 Annual Report

Significant resources went into the production of the 2018 Annual Report. The scope was to create a more interactive and interesting document which provided access to additional stories and material and a more compelling showcase for the work of its Commissions. Continental Reports were introduced for the first time.

https://www.theuiaa.org/documents/members/UIAA-Annual-Report-2018_Digital.pdf

Donate Page

A fundraising page where the UIAA can raise awareness about specific projects and causes led by the UIAA, its members and partners. The page provides people and organisations with the opportunity to support the UIAA on a regular or one-off basis and to decide where their donation should be spent.

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

UIAA Member Associations Page

A new UIAA member associations' directory was launched in September 2019. Designed to provide more information about UIAA members, related articles and information specific to each member country. Members are invited to actively contribute to this page to provide accurate information and for the page to grow into become a networking resource:

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

Climber Safety Page

Still under development, the Climber Safety page is primarily designed to provide the end user with a one-stop area to access UIAA-led intelligence and information on all matters related to climber and equipment safety.

<https://www.theuiaa.org/climber-safety/>

Digital Magazine GA

To support delegates with their planning and preparations for Cyprus, this dedicated Digital Magazine has been produced for the GA.

Newsletter

Distributed on the first day of each month, the UIAA newsletter provides subscribers with a monthly snapshot of key UIAA stories and messages. It is also a forum to share news from members.

2019: MAJOR UIAA NEWS STORIES

MOUNT EVEREST

- [Statement on 2019 Climbing Season](#)
(article picked up by several global media titles)
- [Lure of the Himalaya by Doug Scott](#)

KILIMANJARO

- [Statement on Proposed Cableway](#)

STARS ON ICE

- [Review of 2018-2019 UIAA Ice Climbing World Tour](#)

SPRING MEETINGS

- [Comprehensive review](#)

UIAA AND DAV SAFETY COLLABORATION

- [Belaying video project](#)

CLIMBER ADVICE

- [Ten UIAA tips when buying climbing gear](#)
- [Is your equipment really certified?](#)

UIAA ADOVOCAY AND ACCESS SUPPORT

- [Tatra Mountains](#)
- [Grampian Mountains](#)

PARTNERSHIP WITH FREE SOLO

- [Premiere of Academy Award winning film in Switzerland](#)

INCREASED COVERAGE OF MEMBER ACTIVITIES (examples)

- [DAV celebrates 150 years](#)
- [Anniversary of Chinese Taipei Mountaineering Association](#)
- [FQME marks 50 years](#)

UIAA TRAINING SERVICES

- [Continued growth in work of UIAA Training Panel](#)

COMING SOON

Communication projects currently being undertaken include:

- Adaption of communication priorities and channels around new **UIAA Strategy**
- Reworking of **UIAA website** homepage and site structure
- **Ice climbing-specific** channels
- Launch of **dot.sport** campaign for UIAA members
- Reworking of **UIAA Member Benefits** page

Delegates will have the opportunity

to follow more about the UIAA's

Communication channels, updates

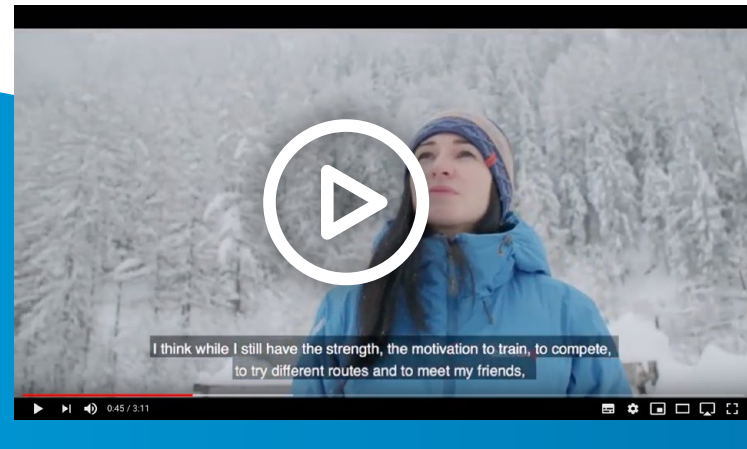
and progress during the Workshop

held between 17:00-19:00 on Friday 1

November.

CALENDARS

- Global rock climbing festivals and ice climbing events/festivals
<https://www.theuiaa.org/rock-climbing/>
- International calendar for youth events (in association with UIAA members)
<https://www.theuiaa.org/youth-events/>
- Respect the Mountains Series
<https://www.theuiaa.org/theuiaa-mountain-sustainability/respect-the-mountains/>



ICE CLIMBING: VIDEO PROFILE SERIES OF ATHLETES

Maria Tolokonina – One of the Greats
<https://youtu.be/Cfwd9h3T-7s>

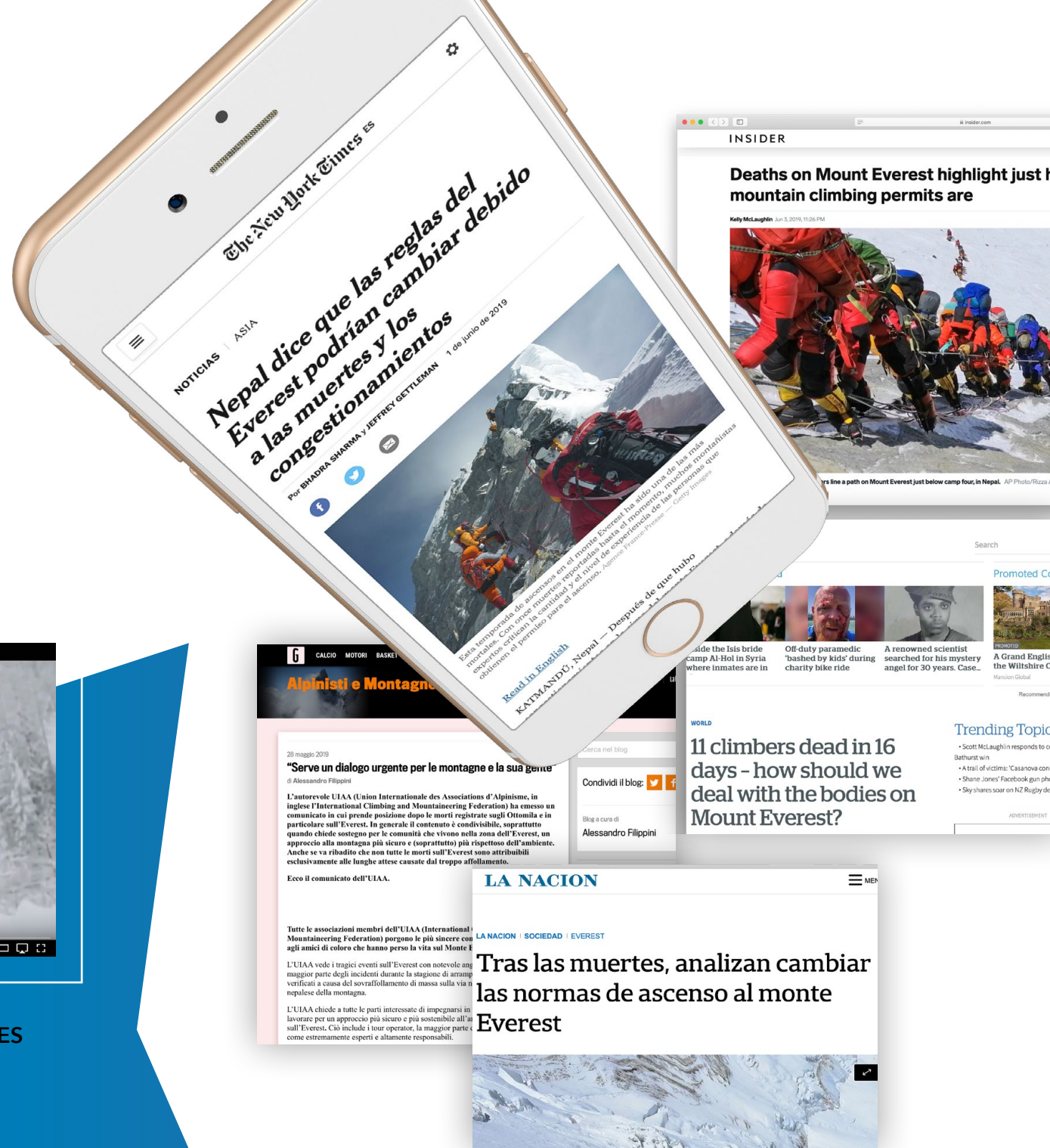


Photo credit: Steve Long

UIAA & CLIMBER SAFETY

LEADING THE WAY

The UIAA Safety Commission through its equipment testing, Standards creation and refinement, research and development, continues to be at the forefront of Climber Safety.

The following pages detail the progress made by SafeCom in its important anchor corrosion research and presents pertinent regarding purchasing climbing gear and equipment.



A dedicated Climber Safety page is under development and can be accessed via the QR code.



IDENTIFYING THE WORLD'S CORROSION LOCATIONS

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

The UIAA has recently coordinated this analysis to create a Google Map of known corrosion locations. This map is intended only as a reference to identify areas where examples of corrosion have been logged. It is designed only as an informative guide based on data received and assessed. It is not intended as a complete reference and is subject to changes beyond the UIAA's control.

To support SafeCom with its analysis and to help add more areas to the map thereby improving the information available to climbers about dangerous or potentially dangerous areas to climb, a dedicated form is available to share information about corrosion or failed anchors.

In particular, SafeCom requires support with its research in following areas:

Environmental degradation: With respect to stress corrosion cracking and other types of corrosion: SafeCom is working on revising the environmental degradation aspects of the Standard 123 for rock anchors. SafeCom requires examples of anchor failures made of stainless steel. If you have any samples of failed anchors (either with cracks, and/or corrosion, or even suspected cracks) that have been used either indoors or outdoors, SafeCom would be very interested in more information. And ideally to examine them.

2019 UIAA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The map can be viewed [here](#).



You can supply information via the dedicated [form](#).

Top anchors: SafeCom is working on revising its rock anchor Standard to make specific provision for top anchors, including how to test them, and what strength levels they should have. Top anchors are of specific interest because they usually include chains or links with welds or other joints, which could increase the risk of corrosion. SafeCom would like to see how these have performed in use in order to address these issues as part of the revision.

For more information about the stainless steel rock anchors corrosion, please refer to the UIAA paper on 'Corrosion and Stress Corrosion Cracking Failure of Climbing Anchors', produced in late 2015. The document is available in [English](#), [French](#) and [German](#).



IS YOUR EQUIPMENT REALLY CERTIFIED?

In recent months the UIAA – International Climbing and Mountaineering Federation – has been inundated with queries from climbers regarding the validity of equipment they have purchased.

It has been drawn to the UIAA's attention that an increasing number of online retailers are selling products falsely bearing the UIAA Safety Label. A significant portion of these retailers are using popular online shopping sites. Very often products online are advertised as being UIAA-certified meaning they have been tested to the most exacting of international standards.

Beware, when a price seems too good to be true, become suspicious! Just because you see the UIAA name and logo advertised on a product doesn't mean it is true.

All pictures displayed show equipment from verified UIAA Safety Label holders.

Buying climbing gear over the internet is becoming increasingly complex and risky. And the risks of using counterfeit equipment can have severe and dire consequences.

Many websites do not verify descriptions sellers apply to their ads. And unfortunately, the UIAA does not have the resources to scan every single advertisement. In the near future, the UIAA plans on releasing a database regarding the mis-use of the UIAA Safety Label, a project climbers will be able to contribute to. The UIAA is also investigating establishing a closer relationship with some large online shopping websites to better police how products are advertised.

However, some help is at hand. You are able to verify all products which bear the UIAA Safety Label by visiting the dedicated [UIAA database](#). This is updated every time a new product is approved.

There are also three supporting articles which will assist you when buying climbing gear. These make essential reading. The first is the [UIAA guide to buying climbing gear](#), the others articles produced by the [British Mountaineering Council \(BMC\)](#) and [UK Climbing](#) on the perils of purchasing gear online.

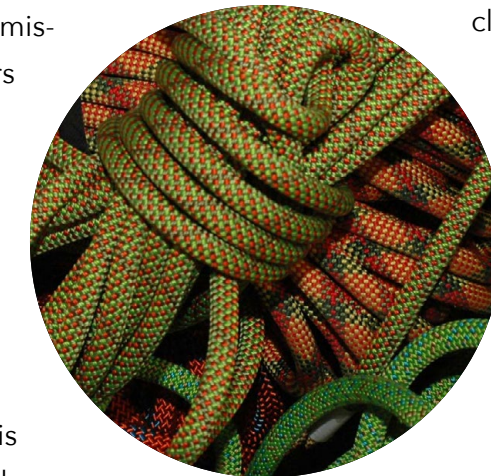
The UIAA Safety Commission is the only developer for international standards for climbing and mountaineering equipment. The

Commission unites independent experts, national accredited laboratories and leading manufacturers working together to define a baseline for the performance of climbing equipment, developing and updating standards to minimise accidents caused by equipment failure or unsafe design.

The UIAA Standards were developed by mountaineers and climbing experts in the field of engineering for the global mountaineering community. They remain dynamic and are reviewed annually. The UIAA remains invested in the world of climbing and mountaineering, as a non-profit federation. The money earned from the UIAA Safety Label goes back into the continuing research and development of Standards, including other fields of safety within the UIAA including high-altitude medical advice and training standards.

When a manufacturer's gear conforms to a UIAA Standard, it signals that the company is supporting their mountain community, in more ways than simply providing a safe piece of gear. Look for the UIAA Safety Label when purchasing gear from certified manufacturers, it ultimately helps prevent injuries and save lives!

A full list of brands and manufactures whose products are UIAA Safety Label subscribers can be found [here](#).



Members

2018 UIAA MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

The UIAA currently has 88 member associations, comprising 63 full members, 16 associate members, 9 observer members and one unit member, making a total of approximately 2,977,085 individual members from 67 countries.

NEW MEMBERS CONFIRMED AT GA 2018

On 2 October 2018 at the General Assembly in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, the UIAA accepted the following federations as Observer Members as of January 1, 2019:



Union of
International
Mountain Leaders
Association



International
Slackline
Association



Federacion Costarricense
de Deportes de
Montaña (FECODEM),
Costa Rica

Content by: Peter Bourne, UIAA Communications Manager
Design by: Jaykay Designs S.C.

JOHN PRICE
CHINA



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

for the journey ahead



OR OUTDOOR
RESEARCH





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

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