

2021 **ANNUAL REPORT**



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

GLOBAL MOUNTAIN NETWORK

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The digital version of
this Annual Report is
available at:



PART 1: THE UIAA

About the UIAA/Mission Statement

THE GLOBAL MOUNTAIN NETWORK

*The **International Climbing and Mountaineering Federation (UIAA)** was founded in 1932 and has a global presence on six continents representing 90 member associations and federations in 67 countries.*



The UIAA, supported by over 250 volunteers, promotes the growth and protection of mountaineering and climbing worldwide by:

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

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

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

Further Reading: theuiaa.org/about

PLEDGE

The UIAA is the International Climbing and Mountaineering Federation. As the leading global network, we promote climbing and mountaineering and advocate for access to climbing areas and mountain ranges. While looking to our future, we value our heritage and care for the mountains, their fragile ecosystems, vulnerable communities and cultures. We serve the best interests of our member federations and of our worldwide community. **For the climbers. For the mountains. For the world.**



theuiaa.org/members

This Annual Report is best viewed in digital format. To view or download the document please scan the QR code. *All information contained in this Annual Report refers to events which took place before 1 January 2022.*

HONORARY MEMBERS

1964 Charles-Egmond d'ARCIS (SAC)

1968 Edouard WYSS-DUNANT (SAC)

1969 Hans von BOMHARD (DAV)

1975 Ugo di VALLEPIANA (CAI)

1980 Guido TONELLA (CAI)

1983 Franz HIESS (VAVOE)

1987 Fritz WIESSNER (AAC)

1990 Jaromir WOLF (CHS)

1992 Sir Edmund HILLARY (NZAC)

1995 Walter BONATTI (CAI)

Dr. Pietro SEGANTINI (SAC)

2000 Robbert LEOPOLD (NKBV)

2001 Dr. Carlo SGANZINI (SAC)

2002 Georges MOISSIDIS (EOOA)

William Lowell PUTNAM (AAC)

2003 Dr. Fritz MÄRZ (DAV)

2003 Nassos TZARTZANOS (EOOA)

2007 Jordi PONS SANJINES (FEDME)

2008 Pit SCHUBERT (DAV)

2010 Kazuo SAITO (JMA)

2012 Ang Tshering SHERPA (NMA)

2013 Claude ECKHARDT (FFCAM)

2014 Tamotsu NAKAMURA (JAC)

2016 Reinhold MESSNER (AVS)

2019 Injeong LEE (KAF)

2020 Doug SCOTT (BMC)

President's Report WELCOME

In my report last year, I emphasised opportunity and the future within my term as a measure of UIAA progress.

Did we know that the challenges of 2020 with the pandemic would continue as they did? Perhaps not, but the use of "new" modes of communication and staying connected did provide the Executive Board and Management Committee with the opportunities for in depth reviews of UIAA internal processes and we have made much progress.

The Executive Board met 11 times over 2021, all online, and adopted new practises of using designated and time limited working groups for special projects.

Early in the year the Commissions Working Group, chaired by Amit Chowdhury, presented its review of the Commissions. The report confirmed much of what we sensed and has facilitated steps to improve internal communication among the Executive Board, Management Committee, and the Commissions such as Commission Presidents attending substantial portions of Management Committee meetings.

In 2022, the Management Committee will consider further changes that should increase the profile and efficiency of effective UIAA programmes such as training, contributions from the Legal Experts Working Group and global access advocacy.

We also used the working group concept to deal with important matters too large in scope for individual units of the UIAA. The Covid-19 Taskforce, chaired by General Secretary Lode Beckers, created a tremendous online resource for members and contributed in many ways to UIAA planning.

[As 2021 ended the Executive Board mandated a Climate Change Taskforce, co-chaired by myself and Mountain Protection Commission President Carolina Adler, with four main goals. For further details please refer to the dedicated chapter.](#)

The Climate Change Taskforce will work through 2022 and beyond on this existential question with particular focus on climate change consequences for climbing and mountaineering.

Overall, the UIAA had a successful 2021 thanks to our members continued allegiance to the organisation even as they navigate their way through their own challenges from external forces beyond their control. In this 2021 Annual Report,

you will find much evidence of this success – certainly in renewed organisational capability and in continued financial strength - but also in other noteworthy events, including an impressive number of Mountain Protection Award applications supported by the Bally Peak Outlook Foundation, the launch of the UIAA Mountain Network Series of webinars, and a generous financial contribution of Covid support from Dr Lee, President of the Union of Asian Alpine Associations (UAAA).

2022 is lining up as busy but encouraging. As always, I encourage you to join our journey as your time allows.

Mind yourselves,



Welcome Message by

Peter Muir
UIAA President

UIAA Presidents

1932-1964	Count Charles Egmond d'Arcis
1965-1968	Edouard Wyss-Dunant
1968-1972	Albert Eggler
1973-1976	Jean Juge
1976-1984	Pierre Bossus
1985-1989	Carlo Sganzi
1990-1995	Pietro Segantini
1995-2004	Ian McNaught-Davis
2004-2005	Alan Blackshaw
2005-2006	Pierre Humblet (acting)
2007-2011	Mike Mortimer
2011-2012	Jordi Colomer (acting)
2012-2020	Frits Vrijlandt
2020-	Peter Muir

UIAA Executive Review 2021

JANUARY

At the turn of the year, UIAA member associations provided an update to the UIAA Covid-19 Taskforce on the prevailing situation in different areas of the world. A group of Nepalese climbers led by Nirmal Purja become the *first successful winter summiters on K2*. UIAA member, the Alpine Association of Slovenia, published a comprehensive guide to modern *multi-pitch routes* in the country. With international travel impacted by Covid-19, the UIAA supported a *'festival of ice climbing'* weekend with the UIAA Ice Climbing European Championships held in the French Alps and the historical Ouray Ice Festival taking place in Colorado.

FEBRUARY

Explored in more detail in this Annual Report, the UIAA creates a *Mountain Worker Initiative* to support the trekking industry. Following its first meetings, the newly-formed UIAA Executive Board *reflected* on its progress so far. Federación

Mexicana de Deportes de Montaña y Escalada A.C (Mexican Federation of Mountain Sports and Climbing A.C), re-elected as a UIAA member association in 2020, *celebrated* its 90th anniversary. Through its popular Q&A series answering common queries from climbers, SafeCom tackled the subject of *Figure8 knots*. UIAA full member, the Mountaineering Federation of North Macedonia (FPSM), with the support of the *UIAA Access Working Group, shared details* of access restrictions imposed on climbers visiting the Galičica National Park. Following a series of online meetings, the UIAA Mountain Protection Commission *underlined its objectives* for the year ahead.

MARCH

The UIAA *hosted* the first of four 2021 Mountain Network Series *webinars*. The subject of the webinar was the Mountain Worker Initiative inspired by the film *The Porter: The Untold Story at Everest*. The UIAA Covid-19 Taskforce *reported* from its latest meeting with a specific focus on the

situation in the Himalaya. The UIAA Ice Climbing season closed with the sole *World Cup* hosted. The UIAA Medical Commission launched a *video* promoting safe access to water in the mountains.

APRIL

Earth Day, created in 1970, is an annual event held on 22 April to raise awareness about the importance of *environmental protection*. It is a global movement with initiatives and events taking place internationally. To mark the occasion, the UIAA Mountain Protection Commission contributed to several events including *a mountain women webinar*. The latest SafeCom Q&A looked into the topical subject of *disinfecting climbing equipment*.

MAY

During the *spring UIAA Management Committee meeting*, Commission Presidents shared progress from their areas of expertise and significant discussion was spent on the roadmap of the UIAA

Strategic Plan. The life of *Ueli Steck* was the subject of the second UIAA Mountain Network Series webinar. The UIAA Medical Commission published a paper dedicated to *adventure travel* during the Covid-19 pandemic. The UIAA Anti-Doping Commission contributed to a *study* comparing the endurance and flexibility of elite ice climbers and elite sport climbers. The UIAA Covid-19 Committee published a *statement* advising climbers to avoid certain high-altitude parts of the world where medical infrastructures are under extreme pressure.

JUNE

A study supported by the UIAA and published on World Environment Day confirmed that plastic is the most common type of *waste* found at altitude. The UIAA Safety Commission reported on the progress of delivering new Standards particularly those dedicated to *Load Sharing Devices and Avalanche Probes*. A total of 24 projects active in over 30 countries were nominated for the *2020-2021 UIAA Mountain Protection Award*. Following

a few years development, the upgraded *UIAA Training Management System* goes live. Through this platform member federations can register for training qualifications, apply for accreditations and administer their accounts.

JULY

The UIAA Safety Commission released its *Load Sharing Devices Standard*. UIAA Unit Member International Skyrunning Federation *hosted* the World Championships postponed in 2020. UIAA member association The Alpine Club organised an exhibition to commemorate the *centenary* of the first Everest expedition.

AUGUST

The American Alpine Club translated its *annual Accidents Guide* into Spanish for the first time. The UIAA *confirmed* that for the second year

running its General Assembly will be held online. Two anniversaries are celebrated – the *Slovak Mountaineering Union (JAMES)* marked 100 years and the *Compagnie des Guides de Chamonix*, its bicentenary.

SEPTEMBER

MedCom announced details of its next two projects – *updates* to its existing papers on women and children. SafeCom continued its impressive work in delivering another new Standard, this time on *avalanche rescue probes*. The Ice Climbing Commission *published* the calendar for the 2021-22 season. Static and semi-static ropes was the subject of the *latest* SafeCom Q&A.

OCTOBER

October is dominated by the annual *General Assembly*, full details on pages 12-15. The

Macedonian translation of the UIAA Alpine Summer Skills Handbook is published. The UIAA Office shared *details* about the second version of the English language version due in 2022.

NOVEMBER

The UIAA contributed to several events organised as part of the *26th UN Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP26)*. During the event, the UIAA aligned with other sector leaders to *sign* the Glasgow declaration on climate action in tourism. In the build up to the announcement of the 2020-21 UIAA Mountain Protection Award (MPA) winner, *Zéro Déchet Mont Blanc (France)* and *MacGillycuddy Reeks European Innovation Partnership Project* (Ireland) are announced as best new initiative and runner-up. The third UIAA MNS webinar of 2021 is dedicated to inspirational stories of *mountain women*. SafeCom reported

on the progress of its work on *anchor corrosion*. It also paid tribute to *Carlo Zanantoni*, Honorary Member, who passed away aged 91. The UIAA Medical and Anti-Doping Commissions contributed to a *paper* analysing acute and chronic overstrain injuries of World Cup ice climbers.

DECEMBER

As part of the build-up to the annual *International Mountain Day*, the UIAA hosted a *webinar* dedicated to the announcement of the 2020-2021 MPA winner: *Giroparchi Nature Trail by Fondation Grand Paradis (Italy)*. The UIAA published its annual *carbon footprint report* and 2022 meetings *calendar*. The Covid-19 Taskforce released a *statement* advising climbers to continue following the advice of member associations and competent authorities.

UIAA Executive Board Members

As confirmed by the UIAA General Assembly (October, 2021)

EXECUTIVE BOARD



Zoljargal BANZRAGCH

(Vice President)

Mongolia

Mongolian National
Climbing Federation



Lode BECKERS

(General Secretary)

Belgium

Climbing & Mountaineering
Belgium



Amit CHOWDHURY

(Board Member)

India

Indian Mountaineering
Foundation



Mahmood HASHEMI

(Board Member)

Iran

Iran Mountaineering and
Sport Climbing Federation



Françoise JAQUET

(Treasurer)

Switzerland

Swiss Alpine Club



Martin LASCANO

(Board Member)

Argentina

Federación Argentina de
Ski y Andinismo



Peter MUIR

(President)

Canada

Alpine Club of Canada

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE CONTINENTAL REPRESENTATIVES



Africa: Paul CARSTENSEN

Republic of South Africa

Mountain Club of South Africa



Asia: Christine PAE

Korea

Korean Alpine Federation



**Central & S. America:
Willy MONTENEGRO**

Chile

Federación de Andinismo de Chile



Europe: Anne ARRAN

United Kingdom

British Mountaineering Council



North America: Phil POWERS

United States

American Alpine Club



Oceania: Stuart GRAY

New Zealand

New Zealand Alpine Club

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE LARGEST FEDERATION REPRESENTATIVES



Jean MICZKA

France

Fédération française des clubs
alpins et de montagne



Josef KLENNER

Germany

German Alpine Club



Juan JESÚS IBÁÑEZ MARTÍN

Spain

Federación Española de
Deportes de Montaña y Escalada



Simon ALDEN

Malta

Malta Climbing Club



Joachim DRIESSEN

Netherlands

Royal Dutch Climbing
and Mountaineering Club



Kul Bahadur GURUNG

Nepal

Nepal Mountaineering
Association



Steve LONG

United Kingdom

British Mountaineering
Council



Stein TRONSTAD

Norway

The Norwegian
Climbing Federation



Silvio CALVI

Italy

International Skyrunning Federation

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE UNIT MEMBER REPRESENTATIVE (NON-VOTING)

The 2021 UIAA General Assembly was held online, the 2022 GA is scheduled to be held in Banff, Canada

UIAA General Assembly

The UIAA held its annual General Assembly from 22-23 October. For the second year running the event was held online. A total of 128 delegates from over 71 member associations representing 56 countries attended.

The 2021 General Assembly marked a year since Peter Muir (Alpine Club of Canada) became the federation's 14th President. Muir, head of a seven-strong Executive Board (EB), assessed the progress made over the past twelve months:

"As I wrote in my annual President's message, I believe that the UIAA is based on sound principles and a common passion. Over the last year, the Executive Board has been assessing where we are at and what issues we have in order to establish a baseline to measure our progress over the next three years. These assessments are always work in progress. During the General Assembly we will address some common themes. These are – communication, our aim is to be smoother across our various levels and structures and introduce new ways of approaching meetings; an increased focus on the Strategic Plan in particular its goals. It is a very ambitious Plan, so the focus is on narrowing down key goals, and focusing on two-three priority tasks per Commission; assigning responsibilities and clearly defining who is carrying out tasks and ensuring a good pace in our activities while guided by our Articles of Association to take the time required when needed."

ELECTIONS

The main election activity was confined to representatives of the Management Committee.

Management Committee newly-elected:

- [*Juan Jesús Ibáñez Martín*](#), FEDME (Spain), Largest Continental Representative
- Paul Carstensen, MCSA (South Africa), Continental Representative – Africa. Paul succeeds Greg Moseley whose term with the Management Committee came to an end. Greg's work with the UIAA is the focus of a recent [*volunteer series article*](#).
- Willy Montenegro, FEACH (Chile), Continental Representative – Central & South America

The UIAA congratulated all new MC members on their elections and thanked Greg Moseley for his support.

Management Committee re-elected:

- Stuart Gray, NZAC (New Zealand), Continental Representative – Oceania
- [*Pierre Humblet*](#) re-elected as Court President
- All existing Court members re-elected – Franz Stämpfli, Marco del Zotto and Denis Poncelin.

[*In terms of membership, the UIAA continues to represent 90 member associations in 67 countries.*](#)

Guests at the GA included representatives from the UIAA's international observer members – the International Slackline Association, the International Skyrunning Federation and the International Federation of Mountain Guides Associations, as well as The Petzl Foundation and former UIAA President Frits Vrijlandt.

EXECUTIVE BOARD WORKING GROUPS

One of the first accomplishments of the current EB was the creation of a number of Working Groups (WGs) to guide the UIAA in the

following areas: Commissions, External Relations, Internal Relations, Governance, Finance & Audit and Communication. Below is a brief overview of their findings to date:

Commissions WG

This Working Group has met with all Commission Presidents and attended several Commission meetings. On the basis of these meetings, it has produced a report making a number of recommendations to the Management Committee.

These include:

- The need to improve communication and strengthen the two-way relationship between the Executive Board, Management Committee and Commissions
- Consider granting independent Commission status to the Access WG
- Consider granting independent Commission status to the Training WG
- Proposing that the Legal Experts WG has an independent status outside of the Mountaineering Commission in order to more closely support the UIAA as a whole

Its next steps include consultation with Commissions, developing a menu of activities, defining specific task list descriptions for each Commission and presenting findings for MC approval.

External Relations

This WG has identified and evaluated the UIAA's 50+ external relationships and is in the process of determining which ones are a priority and further developing partnerships in adventure tourism/travel, sustainability and other multinational federations.

Internal Relations WG

Work is underway with Continental Representatives (CRs) to create a task description for CRs and to work at CR level to strengthen relationships with existing and future members on each continent, with the goal of further developing the UIAA's continental structures.

Governance

This WG is in a process of assessment. Its role is to be a watchguard for governance and ensure that the UIAA is properly equipped to deal with any issues and implement changes where required.

Finance

Activities have focused on closing out the 2020 accounting year, the implementation of accrual accounting and a new accounting software as well as developing the forecast for 2021 and budget for 2022. This active group has also set budget planning guidelines to standardise the budgeting process of Commissions as well as developing more defined Standard Operating Procedures.

Communication

Is primarily focused on the distribution of information to members and the wider climbing community. Plans include the further development of communication channels, upgrades to the UIAA website, enhancements to the UIAA Annual Report, supporting Commissions in developing their own publications and scoping potential new information products to offer UIAA members.

STRATEGIC PLAN

The [2021-2024 UIAA Strategic Plan](#) (SP) was approved at last year's GA. UIAA General Secretary Lode Beckers presented an update twelve months on. *Please refer to page 16 for full details.*

PANEL DISCUSSIONS

On the first day of the GA, a number of panel discussions were held to tackle subjects close to the UIAA's Strategic Plan and membership.

These included:

Panel 1: Sustainability, Sport & Safety Panel on Climate Change discussing:

- The role of UIAA advocacy on the international stage
- UIAA Strategic Plan synergy with the [UN framework on climate change](#)
- Annual [UIAA Carbon Footprint Reports](#): method, results, tools and recommendations
- Examples from member federations: how to tackle climate change, how to measure, limit, offset impact?
- Impact of climate change on climbing and mountaineering practices, notably in the fields of access, safety, equipment, routes and mountain medicine

Panel 2: Safety & Sport Panel on Commission Projects and Covid-19 Committee Activities:

- Safety: ongoing [UIAA anchor corrosion testing](#), details of the [safety standards in development](#)
- Anti-doping: Continued success in WADA

compliance and recent management of a positive test case

- Medical: 2021 release of a [UIAA water safety video](#), [Covid-19 travel paper](#) and in [2022 projects on women's health in progress](#)
- Covid-19 Crisis Consultation Committee: Update from recent meetings and the support this group offers UIAA members

Panel 3: Sustainability & Sport Panel on Commission Projects:

- 2020-2021 UIAA Mountain Protection Award: A reveal of the [24 candidates](#), an explanation of the Award evaluation process and presentation of the Award ceremony to be held as a webinar, in conjunction with the project's main partner Bally Peak Outlook Foundation on 3 December.
- [UIAA Mountain Worker Initiative](#): A project launched by the UIAA this year to support mountain workers, an update on its progress and the release of dedicated guidelines.
- [UIAA Alpine Handbook new editions](#): An overview of the work underway on a new English edition, how members can order copies and on the continued translations.
- Youth Innovation Panel: An overview of the UIAA's future projects in the field of youth development.
- UIAA Access Database: Details on the progress of the launch of a UIAA Access Database. This initiative follows the successful launch of the new UIAA Training database earlier this year. [Members are invited to register for accreditations and create their own accounts.](#)

The panel discussions can be viewed as part of a YouTube replay of the GA here:



UPCOMING GENERAL ASSEMBLIES

The 2022 UIAA General Assembly is scheduled to be held on Saturday 29 October in Banff, Canada and hosted by the Alpine Club of Canada. Trabzon, Turkey (Turkish Mountaineering Federation) is set to host the GA in 2023 and Malta (Malta Climbing Club) in 2024.

List of Past General Assemblies

YEAR	VENUE	COUNTRY
1934	Pontresina	Switzerland
1935	Barcelona	Spain
1936	Geneva	Switzerland
1937	Paris	France
1938	Prague	Czechoslovakia
1939	Zermatt	Switzerland
1947	Geneva	Switzerland
1948	Geneva	Switzerland
1949	Chamonix	France
1950	Milano	Italy
1951	Bled	Yugoslavia
1952	Zell am See	Austria
1953	Delphi	Greece
1954	Grenoble	France
1955	Munich	Germany
1956	Madrid	Spain
1957	Trento	Italy
1958	Lugano	Switzerland
1959	Amsterdam	Netherlands
1960	Jahorina	Yugoslavia
1961	Vienna	Austria

YEAR	VENUE	COUNTRY
1962	Corfu	Greece
1963	Interlaken	Switzerland
1964	Munich	Germany
1965	Utrecht	Netherlands
1966	Courmayeur	Italy
1967	Madrid	Spain
1968	London	UK
1969	Prague	Czechoslovakia
1970	Crete	Greece
1971	Zakopane	Poland
1972	Montreux	Switzerland
1973	Tbilisi	USSR
1974	Delnice	Yugoslavia
1975	Obertauern	Austria
1976	Barcelona	Spain
1977	Mexico City	Mexico
1978	Lagonissi	Greece
1979	Pinkham Notch	USA
1980	Geneva	Switzerland
1981	Lugano	Switzerland
1982	Kathmandu	Nepal

YEAR	VENUE	COUNTRY
1983	Brussels	Belgium
1984	Seoul	Korea
1985	Venice	Italy
1986	Munich	Germany
1987	Marrakech	Morocco
1988	Banff	Canada
1989	New Delhi	India
1990	Kerkrade	Netherlands
1991	Budapest	Hungary
1992	Matsumoto	Japan
1993	Santiago	Chile
1994	Istanbul	Turkey
1995	Cape Town	South Africa
1996	Thun	Switzerland
1997	Kranjska Gora	Slovenia
1998	Malacca	Malaysia
1999	Olympia	Greece
2000	Paris	France
2001	St. Johann	Austria
2002	Flagstaff	USA

YEAR	VENUE	COUNTRY
2003	Berchtesgaden	Germany
2004	New Delhi	India
2005	Singapore	Singapore
2006	Banff	Canada
2007	Matsumoto	Japan
2008	Teheran	Iran
2009	Porto	Portugal
2010	Bormio	Italy
2011	Kathmandu	Nepal
2012	Amsterdam	Netherlands
2013	Pontresina	Switzerland
2014	Flagstaff	USA
2015	Seoul	South Korea
2016	Brixen	Italy
2017	Shiraz	Iran
2018	Ulaanbaatar	Mongolia
2019	Larnaca	Cyprus
2020	-	Online
2021	-	Online



Photo credit: © Turkish Mountaineering Federation

UIAA Strategy

A key component of the UIAA Executive Board and Management Committee's work is implementing the Strategic Plan 2021-2024. At the 2020 GA, agreement was reached on its guiding principles and structure (safety, sport, sustainability). A road map has since been defined to create an executive plan while working with UIAA Commissions to identify priority projects.

The current Strategic Plan, 2021-2024, can be downloaded [here](#).

The overarching focus of the SP is the question of providing the right benefits to members and ensuring the UIAA is clear on identifying what those benefits are.

This will be guided by the SP's **three key objectives**:

1. Provide information and guidance

The UIAA has a proven track record in this area. Examples include the work of the [UIAA Covid-19 Committee](#); support through solidarity schemes and throughout numerous Commission projects (such as [mountain medicine advice papers](#)).

2. Set and maintain standards in certain defined areas

Examples include the UIAA's respected work in [training qualifications](#), [safety standards](#), [anti-doping](#) and creating international [declarations](#).

3. Representing the interests of the climbing and mountaineering community on a global level

The UIAA is involved in representing the climbing community on subjects related to [access](#), [climate change](#) and [mountain protection](#).

A survey was conducted ahead of the 2021 General Assembly among EB/MC members to help define priorities and eliminate any confusion on objectives.

From the survey's findings, the areas of high consensus were:

- The SP's objectives are adequately defined
- There is a need for the EB/MC provide clearer guidance to Commissions
- Mountain safety is a core responsibility of the UIAA
- Offering guidance on global access is a key task of the UIAA
- The UIAA has a role in advocating on behalf of its members
- Unit member status should be considered for competition sports

Low consensus:

- Definition of SP values could be improved
- The role of the UIAA in organising competition sports

The UIAA Strategic Plan remains an ongoing process and further updates will be continue to be communicated following future Management Committee and Executive Board meetings.

Mountain Network Series Webinars

While spending time in the mountains, exploring new rock faces and peaks and even climbing indoors has been severely restricted for most people over the past two years, the climbing community has been able to engage more frequently and actively online. Although no substitute for being outdoors, technology has made it possible for creative projects and collaboration to flourish.

The UIAA has worked almost exclusively online since March 2020. Harnessing some of the experiences and feedback the federation has absorbed in that period, the UIAA launched a Mountain Network Series (MNS) of webinars early in 2021 focusing on a range of topics from climbing heroes to ethical climbing to women in mountaineering.

The webinars are streamed on YouTube and made freely available to the public to watch and ask questions live or to view at their leisure. Details of the four webinars held to date can be found below.

If you would like to submit ideas for a webinar in 2022 please contact the [UIAA Office](#). Details on webinars to be held in 2022 will be communicated in due course. The full YouTube playlist can be found [here](#).



WEBINAR #1

Mountain Worker Initiative & The Porter: The Untold Story at Everest

The first webinar centred on the creation of a Mountain Worker Initiative, a project guided by the UIAA Mountaineering Commission which aims to help support and improve the conditions of the trekking industry.

Centred initially on Nepal, the Nepal Mountaineering Association (NMA) and the Trekking Agencies' Association of Nepal (TAAN) will lead the initiative's first in-country working group. The idea to form this initiative is inspired by the agency behind the film *The Porter: The Untold Story at Everest*.



WEBINAR #2

Ueli Steck: Memories of an Exceptional Mountaineer

The webinar was dedicated to a documentary on the late Ueli Steck. The 'Swiss Machine' was one of the climbing world's most emblematic figures.

A two-time Piolet d'Or winner, Steck was venerated for his speed records. The film is written by Jacqueline Schwerzmann who accompanied Ueli Steck throughout his career and in this biographical film she puts the person behind the well-known mountain climber in the foreground.



WEBINAR #3

Mountain Women

The topic of 'Mountain Women' was built around content from *Herstory*, a series of short films about the lives of inspirational female climbers.

The panel discussions covered the following topics:

The making of Herstory
Women Mountain Guides
Women's Health in the Mountains
Global Sports Mentoring programme



WEBINAR #4

UIAA Mountain Protection Award 2020-2021

A special UIAA Mountain Network Series webinar was held ahead of International Mountain Day to announce the winner of the 2020-2021 UIAA Mountain Protection Award (MPA).

Contributions came from the overall winner, the runner-up and best new initiative.

This chapter provides details on the UIAA member associations on all six continents, the organisations and associations who partner and sponsor the federation and details on the 2021 financial performance.

Information is also provided on the UIAA Office and communication deliverables.

PART 2: FINANCE & MEMBERSHIP

Membership List

The UIAA closed **2021** with **90** Member Associations, comprising **66** full members, **1** unit member, **17** associate members and **6** observer members from **67** different countries, making a total of approximately **3.2** million individual members. There were no membership changes at the **2021** UIAA General Assembly.

FULL MEMBERS

	NAME	CODE	COUNTRY	JOINED UIAA
1	Afghanistan Climbing & Mountaineering Federation	ACMF	Afghanistan	2017
2	Albanian Mountaineering Federation	FSHALTM	Albania	2017
3	Federación Argentina de Ski y Andinismo	FASA	Argentina	1951
4	Verband Alpiner Vereine Österreichs	VAVOE	Austria	1951
5	Bangladesh Mountaineering Federation	BMF	Bangladesh	2013
6	Climbing & Mountaineering Belgium	CMBEL	Belgium	1932
7	Mountaineering Association of Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina	PS FBIH	Bosnia - Herzegovina	1997
8	Confederação Brasileira de Montanhismo e Escalada	CBME	Brazil	2005
9	Bulgarian Climbing and Mountaineering Federation	BCMF	Bulgaria	1935
10	Alpine Club of Canada	ACC	Canada	1947
11	Federación de Andinismo de Chile	FEACH	Chile	1956
12	Chinese Mountaineering Association	CMA	China	1985
13	Costa Rican Federation of Mountain Sports	FECODEM	Costa Rica	2019
14	Croatian Mountaineering Association - Hrvatski Planinarski Savez	HPS	Croatia	1991
15	Cyprus Mountaineering Climbing & Orienteering Federation	CMCOF	Cyprus	2007
16	Czech Mountaineering Federation - Cesky Horolezecky Svaz	CMF	Czech Republic	1932
17	Danish Alpine Club - Dansk Bjergklub	DBKK	Denmark	1977

Credits: Left, Alpine Club, first Everest Expedition · Above, - Danish Climbing Federation (Sara Jensen at Carstens Rende)

	NAME	CODE	COUNTRY	JOINED UIAA
18	Finnish Climbing Association	FCA	Finland	1995
19	Fédération française des clubs alpins et de montagne	FFCAM	France	1932
20	Mountaineering and Climbing Association of Georgia	MCAG	Georgia	1933
21	German Alpine Club - Deutscher Alpenverein	DAV	Germany	1932
22	Hellenic Federation of Mountaineering and Climbing	EOOA	Greece	1936
23	Federacion Nacional de Andinismo de Guatemala	FNAG	Guatemala	2017
24	China Hong Kong Mountaineering and Climbing Union	CHKMCU	Hong Kong	1988
25	Hungarian Mountaineering and Sport Climbing Federation	MHSSz	Hungary	2001
26	Indian Mountaineering Foundation	IMF	India	1981
27	Indonesia Sport Climbing and Mountaineering Federation	FPTI	Indonesia	2016
28	I.R. Iran Mountaineering and Sport Climbing Federation	IMSCF	Iran	1972
29	Mountaineering Ireland	MI	Ireland	2004
30	Israel Climbers' Club	ILCC	Israel	2009
31	Japan Mountaineering and Sport Climbing Association	JMSCA	Japan	1980
32	Mountaineering & Sport Climbing Federation of the Republic of Kazakhstan	MSCRFK	Kazakhstan	2017
33	Korean Alpine Club	CAC	Korea	1969
34	Kosovo Mountaineering and Alpinist Federation	KMAF	Kosovo	2011
35	Liechtensteiner Alpenverein	LAV	Liechtenstein	1959
36	Lithuanian Mountaineering Association	LMA	Lithuania	1991
37	Luxembourg Federations	FLERA	Luxembourg	1938
38	National Adventure Association of Malaysia	NAA	Malaysia	2015
39	Malta Climbing Club	MCC	Malta	2018

	NAME	CODE	COUNTRY	JOINED UIAA
40	Federación Mexicana de Deportes de Montaña y Escalada A.C	FMDMyE	Mexico	2020
41	Club Alpin Monégasque	CAM	Monaco	1994
42	Mongolian National Sport Climbing Federation	MNSCF	Mongolia	2010
43	Federation Royale Marocaine de Ski et Montagnes	FRMSM	Morocco	2017
44	Nepal Mountaineering Association	NMA	Nepal	1975
45	Royal Dutch Climbing and Mountaineering Club	NKBV	Netherlands	1932
46	New Zealand Alpine Club	NZAC	New Zealand	1932
47	Norwegian Alpine Club - Norsk Tindeklub	NTK	Norway	1965
48	Mountaineering Federation of North Macedonia	FPSM	North Macedonia	1999
49	Alpine Club of Pakistan	ACP	Pakistan	1974
50	Polish Mountaineering Association	PZA	Poland	1932
51	Clube Nacional de Montanhismo	CNM	Portugal	1955
52	Romanian Alpine Club - Clubul Alpin Român	CAR	Romania	1938
53	Russian Mountaineering Federation	RMF	Russia	1994
54	Saudi Climbing & Hiking Federation	SCHF	Saudi Arabia	2020
55	Mountaineering Association of Serbia - Planinarski Savez Srbije	PSS	Serbia	2002
56	Slovak Mountaineering Union - Slovensky Horolezecky Spolok	JAMES	Slovakia	1932
57	Alpine Association of Slovenia	PZS	Slovenia	1991
58	The Mountain Club of South Africa	MCSA	South Africa	1992
59	Federación Española de Deportes de Montaña y Escalada	FEDME	Spain	1932
60	Swedish Climbing Federation - Svenska Klätterförbundet	SKF	Sweden	1973
61	Swiss Alpine Club	SAC	Switzerland	1932

	NAME	CODE	COUNTRY	JOINED UIAA
62	Chinese Taipei Alpine Association	CTAA	Chinese Taipei	1989
63	Turkish Mountaineering Federation - Türkiye Dagcilik Federasyonu	TDF	Turkey	1967
64	Ukrainian Mountaineering and Climbing Federation	UMCF	Ukraine	1991
65	British Mountaineering Council	BMC	United Kingdom	1947
66	American Alpine Club	AAC	United States	1932

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

	NAME	CODE	COUNTRY	JOINED UIAA
1	Mountain Club of Western Caspian University, Azerbaijan	MCWCU	Azerbaijan	2020
2	Ecole Nationale d'Escalade du Québec	ENEQ	Canada	
3	Fédération Québécoise de la Montagne et de l'Escalade	FQME	Canada	1975
4	Danish Climbing Federation	DCF	Denmark	1998
5	Nehru Institute for Mountaineering	NIM	India	2011
6	Alpenverein Südtirol	AVS	Italy	1974
7	Korean Alpine Federation	KAF	Korea	1970
8	The Norwegian Climbing Federation - Norges Klatreforbund	NKF	Norway	1993
9	Federação de Campismo e Montanhismo de Portugal	FCMP	Portugal	1992
10	Federação Portuguesa de Montanhismo e Escalada	FPME	Portugal	2004
11	Centre Excursionista de Catalunya	CEC	Spain	1932
12	Basque Mountaineering Federation - Euskal Mendizale Federazioa	EMF	Spain	2002
13	Federació d'Entitats Excursionistes de Catalunya	FEEC	Spain	2000
14	Vereinigung der Akademischen Alpen-Clubs der Schweiz	VAAC	Switzerland	1985

	NAME	CODE	COUNTRY	JOINED UIAA
15	Chinese Taipei Mountaineering Association	CTMA	Chinese Taipei	1993
16	The Alpine Club (*)	AC	United Kingdom	1934
17	Alaskan Alpine Club	ALAC	United States	1985

(*) Alpine Club first joined UIAA in 1934, rejoined in 2003

OBSERVER MEMBERS

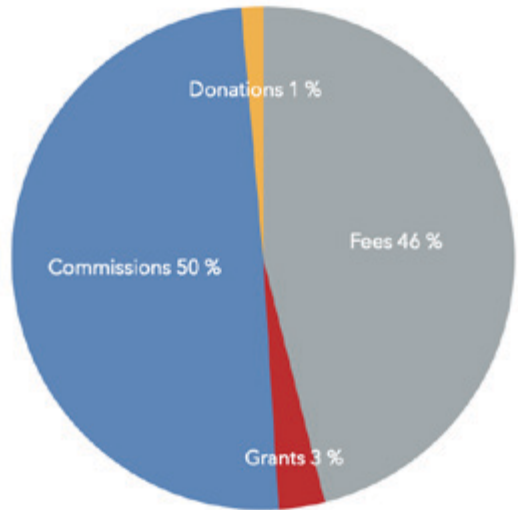
	NAME	CODE	COUNTRY	JOINED UIAA
1	Czech International Mountain Leader Association	CZIML	Czech Republic	2011
2	Union of International Mountain Leaders Association	UIMLA	France/ International	2019
3	International Commission for Alpine Rescue	ICAR	International	2020
4	Clube de Actividades de Ar Livre	CAAL	Portugal	2011
5	International Federation of Mountain Guides Associations	IFMGA/ UIAGM	Switzerland/ International	1987
6	International Slackline Association	ISA	Switzerland/ International	2019

UNIT MEMBER

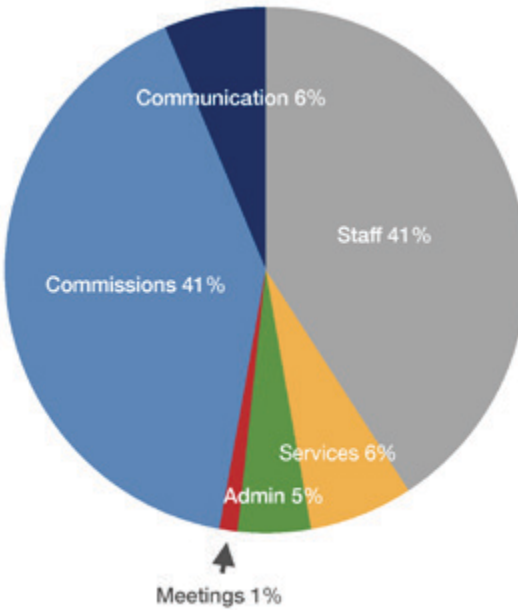
	NAME	CODE	COUNTRY	JOINED UIAA
1	International Skyrunning Federation	ISF	Switzerland/ International	2016

Finance

Income



Expenses



Profit and Loss Statement 2021

CHF	BUDGET 2021	RESULTS 2021	NOTES	BUDGET 2022
INCOME				
Fees	295,000	309,700	1	305,000
Grants	52,000	20,000	2	20,000
Commissions	477,600	333,600	3	510,500
Donations, others		9,400	4	
TOTAL INCOME	824,600	672,700		835,500
EXPENSES				
Staff	295,000	269,700	5	295,000
Services	41,200	42,500	6	39,200
Administration, Office	25,600	29,800	7	25,600
Meetings - GA, MC, EB, Office	41,500	7,400	8	59,500
Commissions	384,100	265,500	9	392,500
Communication	26,000	41,800	10	31,000
TOTAL EXPENSES	813,400	656,700		842,800
RESULT OF THE YEAR				
Allocation to Reserve		-10,000	11	-7,300
NET RESULT	11,200	6,000		-7,300

Profit and Loss Statement 2021 - Notes

NOTES	INCOME 2021	CHF	COMMENTS
1	Membership fees	310,000	15,000 higher than budget. UIAA membership fees were paid almost in full by member federations.
2	SAC contribution	20,000	As per contract
3	IOC ARISF	30,000	18,000 Ice Climbing, 3,000 Youth, 9,000 Anti-Doping
3	Ice Climbing	142,000	177,000 under budget due to reduced event calendar and less service fee and license income. 117,600 sponsorship cash received. 80,000 in accruals - to be used for 2022 season. No in-kind received and distributed. With the splitting of the sponsorship income between 2021 and 2022, the UIAA is temporarily exceeding the 10% portion of membership fee income used for Ice Climbing (as per MC decision).
3	Safety	133,000	Safety Label fees and lab certification fees - 9,600 higher than budget
3	Medical	6,800	Non-budgeted income from sponsors for water video
3	Training	13,400	4,000 higher than budget due to training activities in Saudi Arabia and Alpine Handbook publication
3	Mountain Protection	27,000	Sponsorship income as budgeted
4	Donations	9,400	USD 10,000 donation from Dr Lee, UIAA Honorary Member

Remark concerning accrual accounting (Expenses 2021):

The following amounts for unfinished projects, based on the concept of accrual accounting, should appear on the balance sheet. Instead, because of the solid financial situation, the Finance and Audit WG recommends the inclusion of these amounts in the 2021 profit and loss statement:

NOTES	EXPENSES 2021	CHF	COMMENTS
9	Safety	20,000	Testing of products to new corrosion standards
9	Medical	5,000	Print publication of medical recommendations
9	Training	13,000	Rework/re-design of the Alpine Handbook
10	Digital/Comms	25,000	Website update/re-launch

NOTES	EXPENSES 2021	CHF	COMMENTS
5	Staff	270,000	25,000 lower than budget and previous years, no salary increases, 25,000 insurance compensation received, reduced employment % due to reduced Ice Climbing calendar
6	Services	40,000	4,000 higher than budget - additional freelance expert hired in November and December to replace project manager (maternity leave)
7	Administrative exp.	7,200	2,200 higher than budget, includes 4,300 for VAT (value added tax) for 2019, 2020 and 2021
8	General Assembly	2,200	13,000 lower than budget - no in-person GA due to Covid-19
8	MC meetings	0	10,000 lower than budget - no in-person meetings
8	Executive Board	1,000	11,000 lower than budget - no in-person meetings
9	Mountaineering	2,500	Budgeted amount spent on Mountain Worker Initiative
9	Youth, Rock Climbing	0	6,000 lower than budget - no in-person meetings, no Rock-Climbing Festival award
9	Ice Climbing	149,000	120,000 lower than budget due to reduced calendar; additional 93,000 included in staff budget; no in-kind support for local organisers; includes social media intern, new iceclimbing.sport website and additional organiser support - 20,000 budget re-allocation total
9	Anti-Doping	5,600	3,500 lower than budget due to reduced calendar
9	Safety	40,000	15,000 lower than budget due to delayed projects; includes budget re-allocations: 8,000 for Safety Label video and 20,000 for testing of products to new corrosion standards
9	Medical	23,000	17,000 higher than budget; includes budget re-allocations for water and high-altitude video productions, print publication of medical recommendations (see note 11)
9	Training	28,000	19,000 higher than budget, includes 25,000 for rework/re-design of the Alpine Handbook and expenses for training activities in Saudi Arabia
9	Mountain Protection	17,000	10'000 lower than budget due to delayed projects (sustainability guidelines, RTM workshop, conference attendance) and MPA online award ceremony
10	Communication	38,000	20,000 higher than budget, includes 25,000 budget re-allocation for website update/re-launch
NOTES	RESULT 2021	CHF	COMMENTS
1 1	Surplus	16,000	5,000 better than budget

Balance Sheet

ASSETS - CHF	31 DECEMBER 2020	31 DECEMBER 2021	NOTES
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	567,945	636,055	A
Receivables	5,814	4,052	B
Prepayments and accrued income	13,009	13,790	C
Inventory	5,000	5,000	
Non-current assets			
Intangibles	0	0	
TOTAL ASSETS	591,768	658,897	

LIABILITIES - CHF	31 DECEMBER 2020	31 DECEMBER 2021	NOTES
Current liabilities			
Accounts payable	2,545	2,450	
Other short term liabilities	0	0	
Accrued expenses and deferred income	191,766	242,949	D
Total current liabilities	194,311	245,399	
Non-current liabilities			
Funds of the association			
Solidarity fund	3,621	33,621	E
Access and conservation fund	2,763	2,763	
Total funds	6,384	36,384	
Equity accounts			
Capital of the association as per 1 January	277,049	342,084	
General provision	48,989	78,989	F
Increase of reserves and provision		-60,000	
Result of the year	65,035	16,041	
Capital of the association as per 31 December	342,084	298,125	
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUNDS	591,768	658,897	

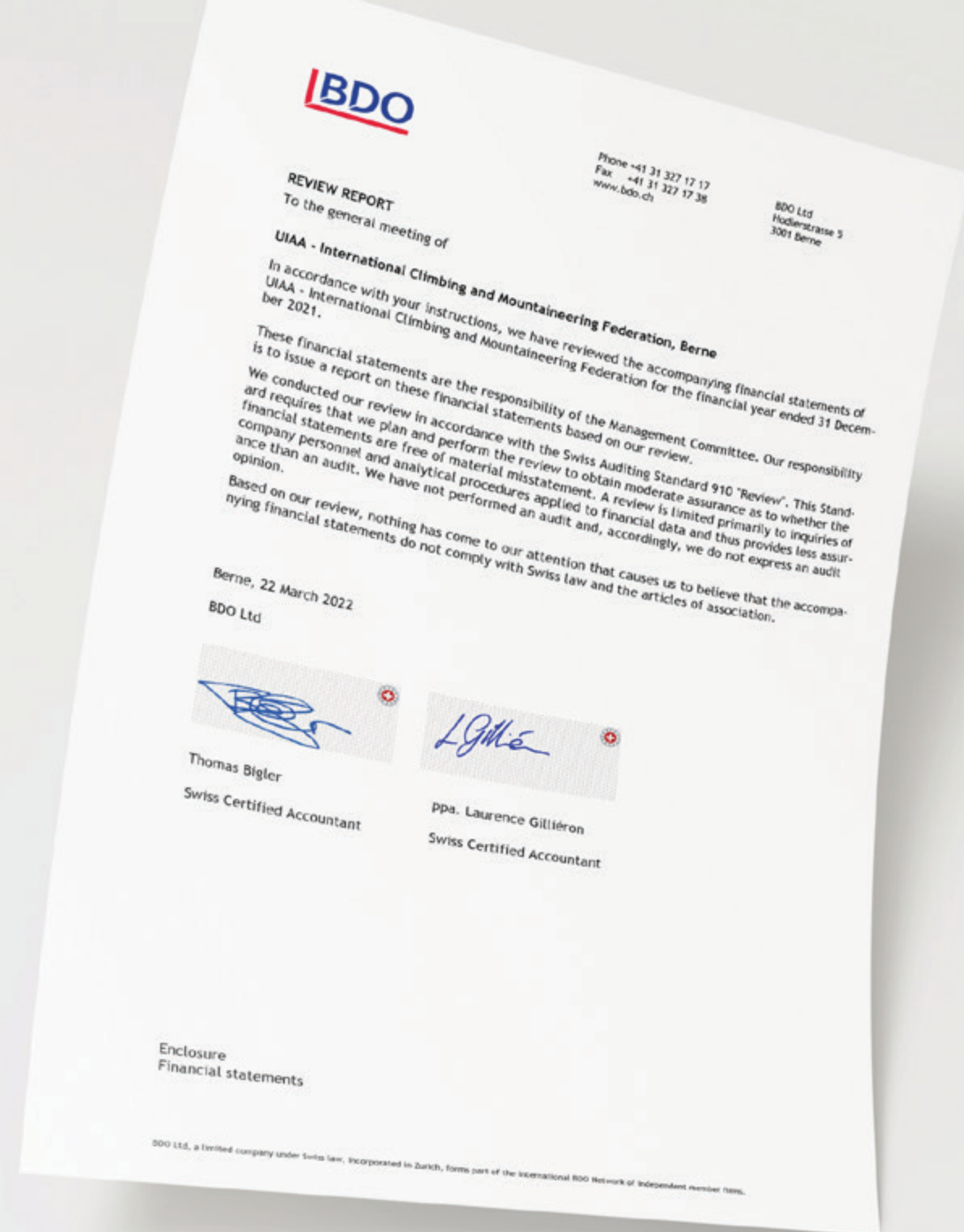
Notes

	ASSETS	CHF	COMMENT
A	Cash and cash equivalents	+68,000	Due to lack in-person meetings and reduced/ delayed commission activities and projects
B	Receivables	-1,700	Balance in favor of UIAA resulting from SAC services, SAC grant and social charges
C	Prepayments and accrued income	+700	Pre-payments for 2022 Ice Climbing season and accrued income for membership 2021 and Training Standard fees

	LIABILITIES, FUNDS	CHF	COMMENT
D	Accrued expenses and deferred income	+51,000	2022 sponsoring portion for Ice Climbing and Mountain Protection Award; some prepayed Safety Label fees
E	Solidarity Fund	+30,000	As decided by the 2021 General Assembly
F	General provision	+30,000	As decided by the 2021 General Assembly

Proposal to the UIAA General Assembly 2022 regarding allocation of the result of the year 2021

	CHF
General provision	10,000
Net result	6,000



Finance & Membership Reports by

Françoise Jaquet

UIAA Treasurer

Lode Beckers

UIAA General Secretary

Nils Glatthard

UIAA Director of Operations

Agnes Semelet

UIAA Accountant



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UIAA Office Report

The UIAA Office is located in Bern. The staff working in Switzerland are responsible for running the daily operations of the UIAA.

It is the staff's duty and commitment to serve UIAA members and to support, coordinate, plan and implement the activities and decisions of the Executive Board, the Management Committee and UIAA Commissions. On an operational level, the UIAA continues to benefit from a close collaboration with the Swiss Alpine Club (SAC).



NILS GLATTHARD

DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS

nils.glatthard@theuiaa.org

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



STEPHANIE STETTBACHER

OFFICE COORDINATOR &
SAFETY LABEL ADMINISTRATOR

office@theuiaa.org

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



ROBERT ADIE

SPORT EVENTS COORDINATOR

rob.adie@theuiaa.org

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

www.theuiaa.org · office@theuiaa.org



CAROL KAHOUN-KAUER

PROJECT MANAGER

carol.kahoun@theuiaa.org

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



PETER BOURNE

COMMUNICATION MANAGER

peter.bourne@theuiaa.org

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



AGNÈS SEMELET

ACCOUNTANT

agnes.semelet@theuiaa.org

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



NATHANIEL MENNINGER

MWI LEAD & PROJECT MANAGER

n.menninger@theuiaa.org

- Nathaniel will support Carol Kahoun-Kauer throughout 2022 on projects related to Mountain Protection and Mountain Medicine.
- Project management of the Mountain Worker Initiative in collaboration with the Mountaineering Commission.



TOM TUSHAW

SOCIAL MEDIA

tomtushaw@theuiaa.org

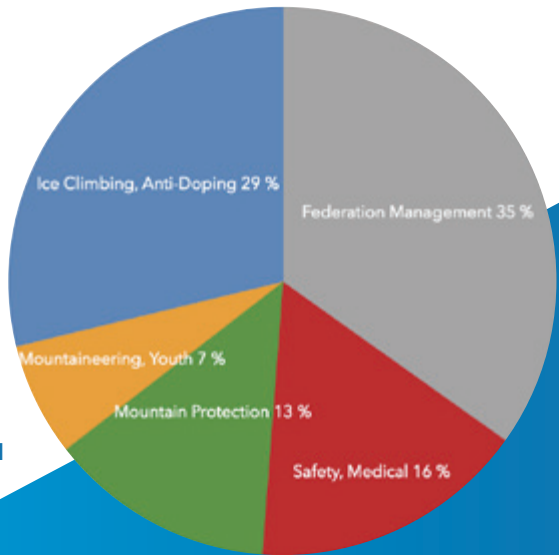
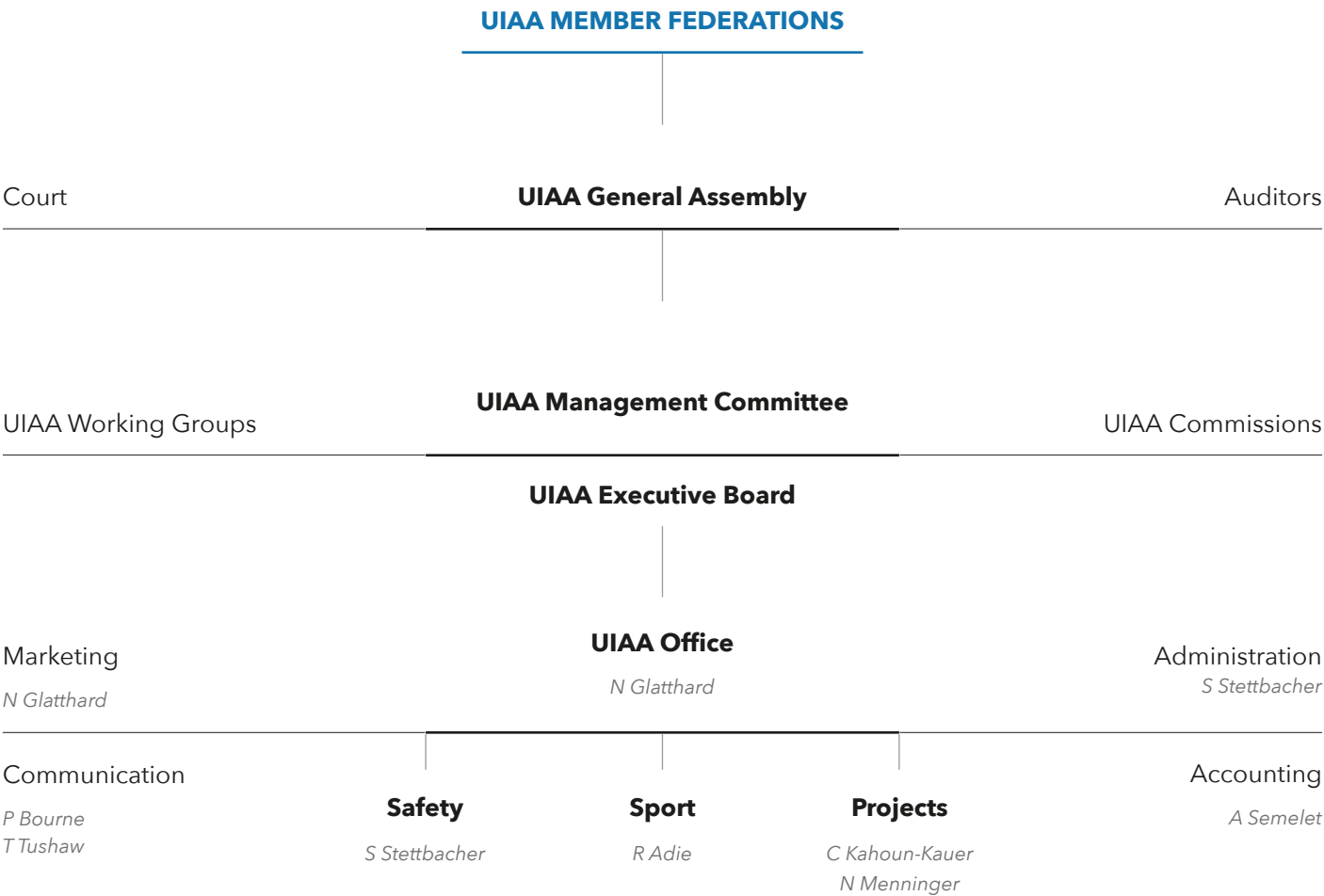
- Initially supporting the UIAA as social media strategist for the UIAA Ice Climbing World Tour.
- In 2022, assisting the UIAA Communication Manager with planning and delivery of the UIAA social media strategy (TBC).

In 2021, the UIAA Office was composed of eight paid (part-time) staff members, including independent freelance experts.



UIAA

Organisational chart



UIAA Volunteer Profiles

A UIAA communication series focuses on the backgrounds of some of the hundreds of volunteers who dedicate precious time and considerable expertise to the federation each year.



Buddha Basnyat

Medical Commission
HRA, Nepal



Harshwanti Bisht

Mountain Protection
Commission
IMF, India



Klara Dvorakova

Legal Experts
Working Group
CMLA, Czech Republic



Stephen Gladieux

Safety Commission
AAC, United States



Pierre Humblet

Court
CMBEL, Belgium



Juan Jesús Ibañez Martín

Management Committee
FEDME, Spain



Lionel Kiener

Safety Commission
SAC, Switzerland



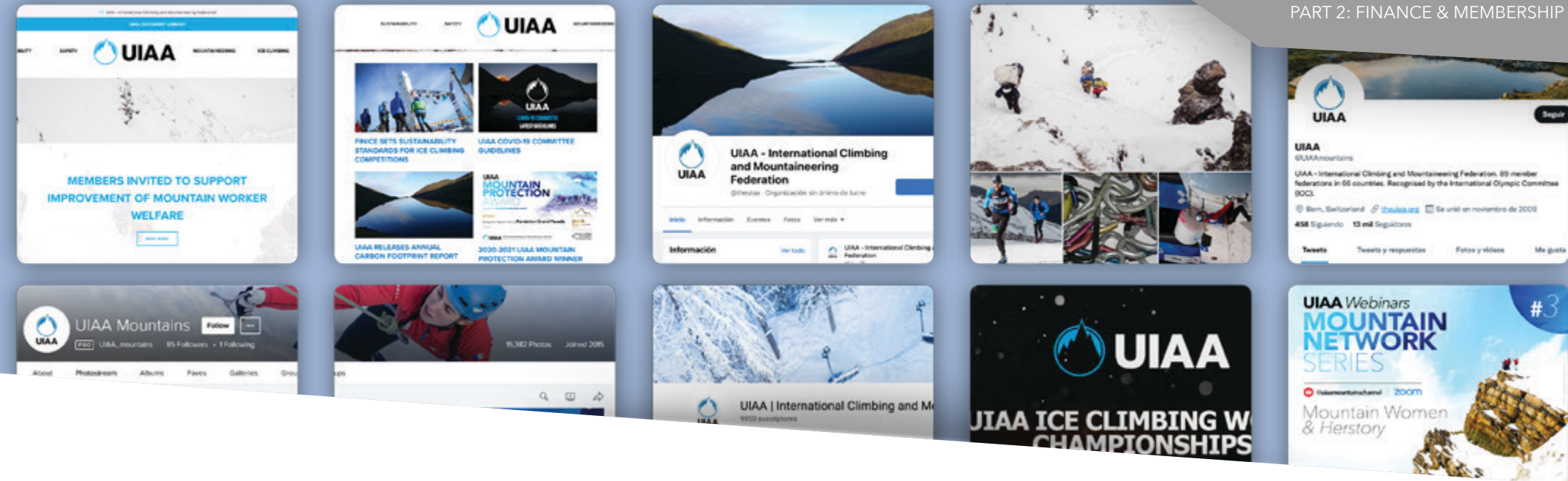
Greg Moseley

Management Committee
MCSA, South Africa



Mrika Nikci

Youth Commission
KMAF, Kosovo



Communication

The UIAA's communication services are delivered both to its membership and to the wider climbing and mountaineering community.

STRATEGY & WORKING GROUP

The UIAA communication strategy is built around collaboration with all of its Commissions, member associations, partners as well as events and projects. The strategy put in place ensures all aspects of the UIAA's activities are promoted throughout the year.

From the beginning of 2021 and as one of the directives of the Executive Board elected at the 2020 UIAA General Assembly, several working groups were created to oversee the UIAA Strategy in different areas.

This includes a Communication Working Group (WG) comprised of UIAA Communication Manager Peter Bourne, UIAA Director of

Operations Nils Glatthard and Executive Board member Lode Beckers.

The Communication Working Group has investigated a number of areas including the evolution of the Annual Report, upgrades to the UIAA website and digital tools, the drafting of UIAA statements on key issues and addressing improvements to internal and external communication tools. Towards the end of 2021, the Communication WG conducted a survey amongst UIAA members and delegates on communication preferences.

A summary of the results and conclusions to be implemented in 2022 are included in the final part of this chapter.

ANNUAL REPORT

One of the key deliverables to its members is the UIAA Annual Report (AR). The AR continues to be well received. A print version of the report was distributed to member associations in July 2021.

An archive of Annual Reports dating back to 2009 can be viewed [here](#).

WEBSITE

The UIAA website was last overhauled in 2016 and has undergone incremental updates ever since. At the most recent General Assembly, a budget was agreed for a more comprehensive upgrade of the website. This is scheduled to take place in 2022. One of the more significant updates to the current UIAA website is the creation of a one-stop document library of key [resources](#). In November 2021, the UIAA created a new website for everything related to its involvement with the sport of [ice climbing](#).

In 2020, and due to the pandemic, UIAA website figures were down. Contributing factors included the absence of a full UIAA Ice Climbing World Tour and the postponement of events like the UIAA Mountain Protection Award. Despite the pandemic being a significant factor in 2021, website figures returned to 2019 levels (a record year) and in some areas recorded even higher statistics.

2021 website statistics compared to 2020:

- The number of unique users increased by 16% (this saw a return to the figures of the last pre-pandemic year, 2019)
- The number of new users increased by 17% (an increase also on 2019)
- The number of visits increased by 10%
- The number of page views increased by 4% (still down 15% on 2019 records)
- The average session duration decreased by 25%

Most viewed pages on UIAA website in 2021(*):

- 1) Certified Equipment =
- 2) Safety Standards (up one place from 2020)
- 3) Ice Climbing (down one place)
- 4) Safety landing page (new entry)
- 5) Rock Climbing Grades (down one place)
- 6) Mountaineering (down one place)
- 7) About the UIAA (new entry)
- 8) Mountain Qualification Label (new entry)
- 9) Mountain Protection (new entry)
- 10) Mountain Medicine (=)

(*) Excludes home page






NEWSLETTERS

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

SOCIAL MEDIA

The UIAA is active on social media as a means of engaging with the climbing community and ensuring a wide distribution of UIAA information.

The UIAA is present on:

-  Facebook 47,000 followers
-  Twitter 13,000 followers
-  YouTube 10,000 subscribers
-  Instagram
- (the UIAA has created a new account uniquely for the UIAA Ice Climbing World Tour)
-  Flickr - 15,000 photos

In 2021, the UIAA hired a social media intern to help amplify coverage of the UIAA Ice Climbing World Tour. In 2022, the UIAA is aiming to work more closely with a social media specialist to help develop the UIAA's presence on these platforms.

VIDEO CONTENT

The UIAA continues to explore ways of creating more video content. In 2021, the first medical advice paper to be given the video treatment was the subject of [drinking safe water in the mountains](#). Thanks to the endeavours of MedCom members, the video is now available with subtitles in Basque, Catalan, Japanese, Lithuanian and Spanish. Additional videos are set to be published in the near future. The UIAA was also active in supporting prize winning Mountain Protection Award winning projects in promoting video material about their initiatives.

- In 2022, the UIAA is working on a video project for the promotion of its Safety Label.
- In 2021, the UIAA also hosted its first webinars. *Further details can be found on page 17.*

CORE GLOBAL RESOURCES

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

- Climber safety advice
- Training and skills
- International calendars
- Medical advice
- Member associations directory
- Declarations and advice papers

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

MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS

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

2022 OBJECTIVES

The Communication Working Group, taking into account results of the aforementioned 2021 survey, is proposing the following innovations:

- Newsletters:** Publishing more frequent newsletters, although make them a little 'lighter' in terms of content
 - To support the preference for slightly more regular content.
 - To provide reminders about key information in case subscribers missed a newsletter.
 - On a regular basis, the newsletter will include a dedicated section on 'Global News' from UIAA members, fulfilling the desire for more member news.
- Annual Report:** Consider it a 'digital first' document and further develop its functionality as a digital product.
- Website:** Significant upgrades to website scheduled for 2022.
- Social media:** Should be a platform for the UIAA to engage more with new audiences, with climbers/mountaineers and less with members/delegates who more rely on newsletters and internal communication tools.



Report by

Peter Bourne

UIAA
Communication Manager

- Invest more resources and time in developing Commission-led products such as the forthcoming MedCom advice paper book (see MedCom chapter).
- Global Member News:** The Communication WG intends to work with the Continental Representative WG and find a workflow with the Continental Representatives to ensure members provide stories on a regular basis. Continental Representatives will help submit a list of article links from their members, as well as highlight significant news and projects.



Want to receive the latest news from the UIAA?

SIGN UP TO THE UIAA NEWSLETTER!

 SIGN UP

PART 3: SPECIAL REPORTS

UIAA Covid-19 Taskforce

In the spring of 2020 and shortly after the outset of the Covid-19 pandemic, the UIAA Executive Board unanimously decided to create a Covid-19 Taskforce. Its mission was to provide fast responses to queries and Covid-19-related issues which may arise in the coming months.

The CCC enabled the UIAA to have a dedicated structure in place. When approached, the UIAA would be able to provide swift answers and leadership, mainly by promptly referring the question for consultation to a government authority, to a crisis management body, to a competent national federation or to a relevant UIAA commission.

In 2020, the CCC Taskforce held five online meetings. With the support of experts from different UIAA areas (EB, MC, Commissions and well as medical professionals), this group has been able to provide information on a number of subjects as the nature of the pandemic evolved. Each meeting addressed the situation across a number of different countries with reports and findings shared on the [UIAA Covid-19 portal](#).

Throughout 2021, the Covid-19 Taskforce has continued to meet regularly and offer the

international climbing community information. As the pandemic has become more complex with the prevailing situation changeable across the world and factors such as vaccination programmes, lockdowns, boosters, travel restrictions and new variants to contend with.

During meetings in [January](#), [March](#) and [April](#), the Taskforce offered updates from members around the globe on the situation in their different regions. This information share was well received by UIAA members who could harness experiences and use positive experiences of other climbing bodies in their own countries. On occasions, UIAA support and statements helped climbing clubs in the implementation of measures and discussions with authorities within their own countries.

Subsequent meetings focused less on the picture in individual countries and more on general guidance the UIAA could offer as well as interesting feedback on the economic and social impact of the pandemic. Following its meeting in May, the Taskforce released a [statement](#) advising climbers not to travel to high mountain regions particularly the Himalaya and South America. At the close of the year more general [guidance](#) was provided, encouraging mountaineers to keep climbing while continuing to respect rules and regulations.

The Taskforce has also supported the UIAA Management Committee and Executive Board in



Report by

Lode Beckers

UIAA General Secretary

Peter Bourne

UIAA Communication Manager

2021 CCC Taskforce Members

Anne Arran (UIAA MC)
Buddha Basnyat (UIAA MedCom)
Paul Carstensen (UIAA MC)
Amit Chowdhury (UIAA EB)
Nils Glatthard (UIAA Office)
Mahmood Hashemi (UIAA EB)
Urs Hefti (UIAA MedCom)
Carol Kahoun (UIAA Office)
Françoise Jaquet (UIAA EB)
Josef Klenner (UIAA MC)
Martin Lascano (UIAA EB)
Greg Moseley (UIAA MC)
Peter Muir (UIAA President)
Phil Powers (UIAA EB)

The section promotes the work of a number of UIAA projects, independent bodies and Unit Member, the International Skyrunning Federation. In focus is the work of the UIAA Covid-19 Taskforce, role of the UIAA Court and Legal Experts Working Group, creation of a Mountain Worker Initiative and Climate Change.

UIAA Court

In every structured and democratic organisation, there are normally three separate powers: legislative, executive, and judicial.

The UIAA Court is this internal and independent judicial body of the UIAA (AoA 23). Its task is to solve, when requested, any possible disputes between the UIAA, UIAA members and UIAA bodies, and between UIAA member organisations. This is a first instance internal arbitration court where possible disputes must be brought before any appeal to an external one, in this instance the Court of Arbitration for Sport at Lausanne ([AoA 23 3\) and 24\)](#).

This is not the sole mission assigned to the UIAA Court. It is also the independent judicial body founded to decide upon the alleged violations of the UIAA Code of Ethics ([Article 4](#)). Additionally, the UIAA Court is also the Ethics Panel in charge of conflicts of interests, should the Executive Board be unable to reach a decision.

No case of any kind was filed in 2021. The main role of the Court over the past twelve months has been to offer advice about AoAs and UIAA regulations.

At the 2021 UIAA General Assembly, Pierre Humblet, Court President, as well as Denis Poncelin, Franz Stämpfli and Marco del Zotto, Court members, agreed to stand for re-election and all were voted in for a second four-year term.

The UIAA Court is looking to recruit the expertise of more arbitrators. Any federations who have experienced arbitrators, lawyers or managers, are invited to propose candidates to the UIAA Court.

Photo:
MacGillicuddy
Reeks Mountain
Access Forum,
UIAA Mountain
Protection Award
Best New Initiative
2020-2021



Report by

**Pierre Humblet
(CMBEL, Belgium)**

President, UIAA Court

As confirmed by the UIAA Management Committee (October 2021)

Court Members

Denis PONCELIN (FFCAM, France)

Franz STÄMPFLI-GLATTARD
(SAC, Switzerland)

Marco DEL ZOTTO



Main photo: 2016 UIAA Mountain Protection Award winner, Mountain Wilderness France

Legal Experts Working Group

The Legal Experts Working Group (LEWG) provides assistance to any UIAA body or working group which requires its support.

The LEWG is formed of lawyers from national mountaineering associations whose expertise ranges from environmental and public law, professional liability and insurance, commercial litigation, sports or travel law. In 2021 the LEWG expanded by welcoming new members from Argentina, Iran, North Macedonia and South Africa. The LEWG is therefore slowly recruiting members from all continents and legal systems.

Several members of LEWG were interviewed by Alpinist which led to the publishing of the article "[Litigating the Mountains](#)" in this respected US climbing magazine. Members of the LEWG explained the doctrine of voluntary assumptions of risk, which applies nearly worldwide, and also that jurisdictions differ in the assessment of the breach of law during climbing and in civil or criminal outcomes of such cases. Criminal prosecution against a partner for climbing accident in US is unheard of, explained Jim Moss, one of the US representatives in the LEWG.

The LEWG has provided legal guidance for the UIAA's [Mountain Workers Initiative](#) project whose goal is to set minimum standards to improve the life conditions of porters and their families. The LEWG has also initiated a closer cooperation with the Mountain Protection Commission and the Access WG, which is going to start in 2022 by LEWG members participating on different projects organised by these groups. LEWG chair, Klara Dvorakova, believes, that similar cooperation can be established also with other UIAA Commissions.

The LEWG is also considering reviving the idea of creating a database of case-laws related to accidents in mountains. This is something it will investigate in 2022.



Report by

Klara Dvorakova

(Chair), Czech Republic (CMLA)

As confirmed by the UIAA Management Committee (October 2021)

Full Members

**Klara DVORAKOVA (Chair),
Czech Republic (CMLA)**

Bénédicte CAZANAVE,
France (FFCAM)

Xabier EZEIZABARRENA, Spain (EMF)

Damjan OMERZU, Slovenia (PZS)

Juliana STOJANOVSKA,
North Macedonia (FPSM)

Edward EVERETT VAILL, USA (AAC)

Getulio RAINER VOGETTA,
Brazil (CBME)

Corresponding Members

Mohammadali ABDOLLAHI, Iran (IMSCF)

Anna GILLOOLY, New Zealand (NZAC)

Pablo HEUSER, Chile (FEACH)

Juan Igancio INZA, Argentina (FASA)

Dr Dominik KOCHOLL

Gerald LANNING, New Zealand (NZAC)

Matt MAKGILL, New Zealand (NZAC)

Jim MOSS, United States (AAC)

International Skyrunning Federation

2021 PRESIDENT'S REPORT & ISF STRATEGIC PLAN

The ISF is the governing authority of skyrunning – mountain running above 2,000m altitude over technical terrain. Not just based on distance, the vertical climb is fundamental. Skyrunning races now carry the Certified Course (CC) Label certifying the parameters. Three disciplines define the sport: Sky, SkyUltra and Vertical. The ISF became a Unit Member of the UIAA at the 2015 UIAA GA.

2020 RECAP

In 2020 activities were very challenging - Covid-19 took its toll and prohibited many sport competitions. Almost all ISF events were cancelled by organisers or national federations.

However, there was continuity in skyrunning communication and promotion and the launch of the #MYSKYRACE plan with a unique algorithm that provided athletes' individual projected course times, in advance and a means to plan training and nutrition as well as train on the actual course. The project is also linked to the CC label which has continued to gain in numbers.

2021 - ISF CURRENT SITUATION

2021 was still a "difficult time" but signalled the beginning of a restart.

The main events were held and the ISF Skyrunning World Championships and European Championships achieved solid results with the participation of member association teams exceeding expectations as well as excellent media and social media coverage.

The ISF would like to thank the national teams again for their participation, despite financial difficulties and international travel restrictions due to the pandemic.

2020-21 ISF CERTIFIED COURSE LABEL

In order to identify and differentiate skyrunning from other sports like trail running and mountain running, both currently under World Athletics, the CC Label programme continues to grow, despite many race cancellations.

In 2021, the ISF received requests for very technical courses even in countries where the federation is not yet well represented. The CC Label has doubled since 2019 counting approximately 110 courses.

2021-22 ISF EVENTS

After the cancellations in 2020, three main events took place in 2021 (World, Youth and European Championships). Furthermore, the VK OPEN Championship was launched to highlight the very popular VERTICAL discipline based on the Vertical Kilometer®.

The VK OPEN, which consisted of eight races, had a good level of participation and encouraging results overall so it will be repropose for 2022 and beyond. The ISF 2022 events calendar is expected to be robust.

In February, 2022, the first SkySnow World Championships will take place in Spain, this new discipline was approved and introduced at the last GA. In July, the Youth Championships are confirmed in Andorra and in September, the

Skyrunning World Championships will be held in Italy.

The VK OPEN Championship will be repropose. The possibility of holding an Asian Championships will be explored if travel restrictions are eased and if Asian member federations agree to participate.

Other circuits and/or promotional events to be sanctioned are under discussion.

2022-2025 ISF STRATEGIC PLAN

The ISF Strategic Plan structure is already prepared and includes future ISF activities. This matter is already a specific point on the agenda to be discussed during the next GA.

As ISF President, I wish to thank the MC and those who have contributed and will contribute over the next three years.

It's time to look to the future, to be flexible and to adapt to the global situation and actively affirm the skyrunning discipline at all levels.

Photo credit: ©Alexander Vasev



Report by

Marino Giacometti

ISF President

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

www.skyrunning.com



Photo credit: Stock Library

Mountain Worker Initiative

In February 2021, the UIAA launched the [Mountain Worker Initiative \(MWI\)](#), guided by its Mountaineering Commission, to promote ethical trekking and mountaineering practices worldwide with a focus on the lives of mountain workers.

The idea to form this initiative is inspired by the agency behind **The Porter: The Untold Story at Everest**. In March, a dedicated [webinar](#) was held to kick-off this new project.

Throughout the remainder of 2021, meetings took place between the founders of the MWI project, the UIAA, national UIAA member associations and stakeholders. The Initiative will seek to answer the following three main questions:

- Are mountain workers getting a fair day's pay for a fair day's work?
- Are adequate working and living conditions in place?
- Do organisers provide insurance or are adequate compensation arrangements for mountain workers?

A general outline of principle questions and checklists has been produced in the document [UIAA Mountain Worker Initiative](#). The Initiative aims to begin efforts in Nepal in collaboration with the Nepal Mountaineering Association and others. The idea being that a set

of national-specific guidelines for Nepal can be created using this framework as a guide. Efforts in Nepal are intended to begin in January 2022 and regular updates will follow.

The UIAA offers a set of relevant questions to all UIAA members as the Initiative's goal is to improve mountain worker welfare worldwide. The UIAA is committed to working with national governments and stakeholders to develop the project further.

Further details about the project can be found [here](#). This page also offers the option to support mountain workers through a fundraising link. All funds will directly support the MWI's efforts to help create a system that will improve the lives of mountain workers. Complete transparency is offered and regular updates will follow.

BACKGROUND

The UIAA has always acknowledged that the inhabitants of mountain areas all over the world have made a decisive contribution to the development of mountaineering and mountain tourism. This has been the case from the initial development of mountain sports in Europe and North America right through to the current situation in Asia, Oceania, Africa and Central and South America. On the other hand, adventurers, climbers, mountaineers and travellers have generated income and have contributed to improved living conditions in mountain areas ever since.

Unfortunately, and too often, mountain workers are not treated fairly when it comes to remuneration, safety and living/hygiene standards, although their role is an essential part of climbing, mountaineering and mountain tourism. Furthermore, they have enormous responsibility towards their clients, the environment, their own and their client's safety.

Consequently, the UIAA has initiated a process in an effort to improve fair treatment of mountain workers on a global level. With this in mind, the UIAA is proposing and promoting a set of principles, questions and checklists for climbers, mountaineers, member associations and the mountain tourism industry.

The basic idea is to **encourage self-responsibility at all levels** and to help national and regional authorities and stakeholders develop a set of norms to ensure and improve ethical and fair treatment of mountain workers globally.

MISSION

To create **awareness** for authorities, travellers, climbers and mountaineers, clubs, member federations and the mountain tourism industry of problems related to local support workers' fair treatment, compensation and workplace health and safety.

To offer **guidance** through a general framework of principles, questions and checklists around which individuals, organisers and authorities can assure themselves that good ethical principles are applied for local support workers. That they are treated fairly and equitably and are able to

make a decent living for themselves and their families.

To **motivate** all parties to continuously **monitor and improve** the mountain workers' situation in all parts of the world.

To regularly **communicate** on best practice and progress on UIAA communication platforms, through UIAA's member federations and through international media.

UIAA MEMBERS INVOLVEMENT

If a UIAA member is interested in aiding the process in their country, please contact the [MWI group](#).



Report by

Peter Farkas

President, Mountaineering Commission

Nathaniel Menninger

MWI Project Manager

Resources

Mountain Worker Initiative [website](#)

General outline of principle questions and [checklists](#)

Climate Change Taskforce

The mountain environment is home to some 800 million people representing around 12% of the world's population. Mountains provide freshwater for billions of people across the planet in every continent. They are powerful and imperious. Yet at the same time incredibly and increasingly fragile.

Global warming and climate change has made the weather unpredictable and is changing our landscape. It has a critical impact on the biodiversity of mountain regions, on the lives of mountain communities and ultimately on the future of the planet.

Through its presence at major international conventions and its projects in sustainability, the UIAA aims to encourage all mountain stakeholders to engage in concrete measures to mitigate and adapt to climate change effects. Towards the close of 2021, and to be developed throughout 2022, the UIAA bolstered its commitment to countering climate change by setting up a Climate Change Taskforce.

UIAA President Peter Muir provides an overview of its inception:

"Thanks to the initiative and expressed interest of many members and the fruitful and broad based discussions held on the topic at the last Management Committee meeting and the 2021 General Assembly, it is the right time to take steps on the review of the UIAA's position and operational actions for climate change as advocated for some time by the Mountain Protection Commission. As a result the Executive Board has resolved to create a Climate Change Taskforce and created a terms of reference for said taskforce."



**TOGETHER
FOR OUR
PLANET**



Glasgow Declaration Climate Action in Tourism

Muir continued: *"Climate change, and its related effects on the human and natural environment, are existential threats and the UIAA must define its role and actions in response, with clarity and as a priority."*

In addition to the UIAA's own acceptance of its responsibility to take constructive steps, the UIAA, through the Mountain Protection Commission:

- is a signatory to The Glasgow Declaration on Climate Action in Tourism, signed in November 2021;
- is a signatory to the "Sports for Climate Action Initiative" of the United framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), signed in January 2020; and
- is expected to confirm by May 2022 its pledge to the UNFCCC "Sports for Climate

Action Initiative" to reach Net Zero by 2040 and reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 50 per cent by 2030.

The Climate Change Taskforce's initial brief is to:

- Conduct a review of the UIAA's current carbon footprint including recommendations of defining the included elements and recommending steps to the MC for reducing the footprint to meet the UIAA's undertakings and reflect its own responsibilities. Based on this analysis, confirm the UIAA's position in signing the UNFCCC pledge,
- Develop a resource of existing climate plans and environmental guidelines issued by UIAA member federations as foundation for the UIAA's own use in development and for the information and use of UIAA members,
- Develop a plan of UIAA participation and

advocacy strategy in the world climate change dialogue to define when, where, who and how the UIAA will effectively advocate its positions on climate change, and;

- Formulate ideas on how to motivate and assist all UIAA members and Commissions to develop action-oriented climate change and sustainability plans.

The Taskforce will be comprised of members from the Executive Board, Management Committee (including Continental Representatives), Legal Experts Working Group and Commissions (including Ice Climbing and Mountaineering) with consultation and support from the Mountain Protection Commission.

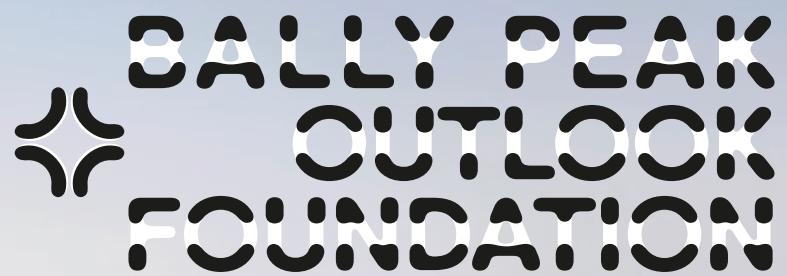
Please refer to the chapter on the [UIAA Mountain Protection Commission](#) for further details on the UIAA's projects in the field of sustainability.



Report by

Peter Muir
UIAA President

Dr. Carolina Adler
Mountain Protection
Commission President



Bally is a Swiss luxury brand with an alpine heritage and pioneering legacy dating back to 1851.

Since 2020, the Bally Peak Outlook Foundation has proudly partnered with the UIAA and its annual Mountain Protection Award, celebrating and supporting innovation and the desire of climbers to make a positive difference through transformative mountain projects.

Part 4: Commissions

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

The UIAA operates through the following Commissions:

Anti-Doping • Ice Climbing • Medical • Mountaineering
(including Access & Training) • **Mountain Protection • Safety • Youth**

PART 4: COMMISSIONS

Safety

Throughout its history, mountain safety has been at the forefront of the UIAA's activities. The UIAA Safety Label, and associated safety standards, have been in operation since the 1960s. The UIAA Safety Commission (SafeCom) is formed of experts with engineering backgrounds from different UIAA member federations, as well as international manufacturers with certified UIAA Safety Labels and accredited testing laboratories. SafeCom meets annually and is responsible for developing the UIAA Safety Standards and consequently working to help minimise accidents related to climbing and mountaineering gear.

SAFECOM IN NUMBERS

- **2,322** Active Safety Label certificates
- **91** Active Safety Label Holders
- **26** UIAA Safety Standards

Global Manufacturers (Certified Label Holders)

- **42** from Europe
- **23** from the Americas
- **26** from Asia

PART 1: ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2021



Release of the update of the UIAA standard for rock anchors including corrosion and Stress Corrosion Cracking resistance.

After 15 years of scientific research with the help of a laboratory specialised in corrosion, and significant funding from the UIAA, SafeCom approved the update of the [Rock Anchor Standard 123](#) with the introduction of three classes of resistance to general corrosion and stress corrosion cracking.

The supporting guide in English, and further details, on the work behind, and findings from, the [revised 123](#) can be found [here](#). It is also translated into: [Chinese](#), [French](#), [German](#), [Italian](#), [Japanese](#), [Portuguese](#) and [Spanish](#).

Photo credit: Lionel Kiener

New UIAA standard for avalanche probes.

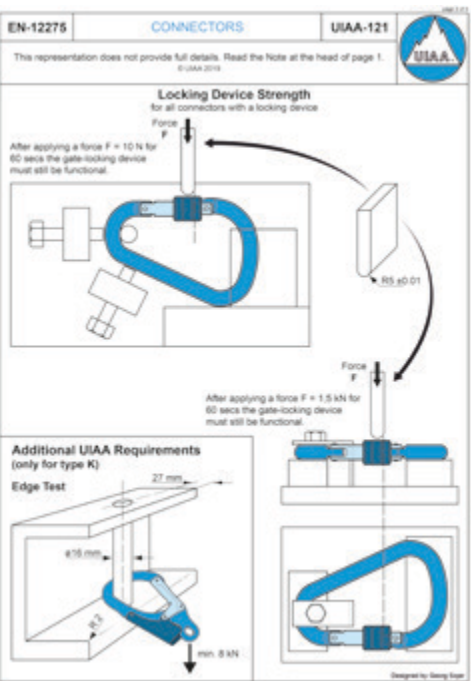
Following the 2017 release of the UIAA standard for snow shovels, SafeCom approved [UIAA 157](#) on avalanche probes. This standard specifies the minimum requirements for the rescue probes used for companion research as well as for rescue teams. This is the first internal standard for this kind of equipment and is complementary to the snow shovel UIAA 156 to ensure reliable research devices.

Photo credit: Manuel Genswein collection

New UIAA 130 standard for [load sharing devices](#).

This equipment is used mainly to connect several connectors to a central anchor point. This new standard specifies the safety requirements and test methods for all types of load sharing devices commonly used in climbing and rescue. This standard increases the visibility of the UIAA Safety Labels on newer devices and confirms the advance of the UIAA in international climbing safety standardisation.

Photo credit: Kong Archive



Pictorials

In November 2021, SafeCom released a number of new pictorials for its Safety Standards. They can be viewed [here](#).



Photo credit: Stock Library

PART 2: SAFECOM IN 2021

Commission

After the nomination of the former President Amit Chowdhury to the Executive Board of the UIAA, Vice President (VP) Lionel Kiener (Switzerland) was elected as President after twelve years in SafeCom as delegate of the Swiss Alpine Club. Alexis Mallon (France) succeeded Kiener as VP.

SafeCom welcomed new delegates Gebhard Barbisch from the International Commission of Alpine Rescue (ICAR) and Artiomas Kuranovas from Lithuania (LMA). Julia Janotte (DAV) replaced Christoph Hummel as German delegate and Andrew A. Havics, United States (AAC), joined SafeCom as a corresponding member.

Annual Meetings

Substituting the annual two day in-person meeting, two plenary meetings were held online with more than fifty participants in attendance. Delegates, manufacturers and laboratory representatives reviewed the progress of each working groups (WG) and voted to release new or updated UIAA standards.

Four internal virtual meetings were held with delegates and corresponding members. Many WGs demonstrated sound progress in the pursuit of improving existing standards, either at the test method stage or in the adaptation for new usage or gear innovations. The release of more new standards is expected in the coming years.

Ongoing Projects

Static ropes

Complementing the standard on low-stretch ropes, a future standard is currently being drafted to create a UIAA international standard on static ropes. This would allow several products already in use to be certified by the UIAA.

Headlamps

A new working group is dedicated to establishing the requirements for a future standard on portable lights and headlamps.

Rope cutting on sharp edges

Significant work is being performed by several laboratories and manufacturers to better understand the abrasion and cutting phenomena of a rope sliding over an edge.

Canyoning harnesses

Following a [warning from manufacturers](#), a working group is currently testing the effect of multiple cycles of UV exposure, humidity and drying on textile products.

PART 3: BENEFITS FOR UIAA MEMBERS

UIAA Safety Label

The UIAA Safety Label logo is a registered trademark of the UIAA.



The official logo of the UIAA Safety Label

The UIAA Safety Label on a piece of climbing gear means that samples of the equipment have been tested by an accredited, independent third party and shown to satisfy the requirements set forth in the UIAA Standard. However, no lab testing can ever truly reflect the range of situations encountered in practice.

Purchasing climbing and mountaineering equipment bearing the UIAA Safety Label supports the UIAA and its global mission to promote safety, one of the key pillars of the UIAA. The Safety Commission's WG research is fully funded by the UIAA Safety Label.

In ensuring its standards are always relevant, the SafeCom regularly studies the market and analyses accidents to determine if existing standards should be revised or upgraded. Furthermore, it accredits laboratories that test mountaineering and climbing equipment to ensure that the test results are in accordance with UIAA standards.

Benefits for UIAA Members/Climbing Community Outreach

Research conducted by the Commission has a direct benefit for all climbers worldwide. For example, the scientific findings on [rock anchor corrosion](#) are now integrated in the updated standard and will drastically improve safety when the certified products will be in place.

The UIAA issued many of first international standards such as belay lanyards, snow pickets, snow shovel and avalanche probes, crash pads. These standards are set by an expert team of skilled engineers from national climbing and mountaineering federations, from manufacturers and testing laboratories.

In parallel to standardisation work, SafeCom, in cooperation with the Training Panel, is also offering the general climbing community with advice and expertise, such as through its [online Q&A online series](#) and advice articles such as tips for [purchasing climbing equipment](#).

PART 4: THE YEAR AHEAD, 2022

In addition to the ongoing projects (see above), the UIAA Mountaineering and Safety Commissions are working together to collect and share information on incidents/accidents databases.

In Memory



Tribute to SafeCom Honorary Member, Carlo Zanantoni, 1930-2021

<https://www.theuiaa.org/uiiaa/a-tribute-to-carlo-zanantoni/>

Key Links



Certified Equipment

<https://www.theuiaa.org/safety/safety-standards/certified-equipment/>



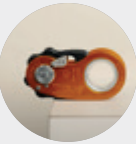
Safety Standards

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



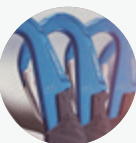
Misuse Database

<https://www.theuiaa.org/safety/uiiaa-safety-label/misuse/>



Recalls & Warnings

<https://www.theuiaa.org/safety/safety-standards/recalls/>



List of UIAA Safety Label Holders

<https://theuiaa.org/safety/uiiaa-safety-label/safety-label-holders/>



Report by

Lionel Kiener

Safety Commission President

[UIAA & Safety](#)

Safety Commission

As confirmed by the UIAA Management Committee - October 2021

Full Members

Lionel KIENER, Switzerland (SAC), President

Alexis MALLON, France (FFCAM), Vice President

Gebhard BARBISCH (ICAR)

Per FORSBERG, Sweden (SCF)

Nicholas GALPIN, United Kingdom (BMC)

Stephen GLADIEUX, United States (AAC)

Julia JANOTTE, Germany (DAV)

Artiomas KURANOVAS, Lithuania (LMA)

Ali SAHIN, Turkey (TDF)

Alexandre VELHINHO, Portugal (FPME)

Corresponding Members

Vittorio BEDOGNI, Italy

Marc BEVERLY, United States

Frederico CAMPOS MARTINS DOS SANTOS, Brazil (CBME)

Dave CUSTER, United States (AAC)

Andrew HAVICS, United States (AAC)

Alan JARVIS, South Africa (MCSA)

Hitoshi ONODERA, Japan (JMCSA)

Da Chai WANG, Chinese Taipei (CTMA)

Medical

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

PART 1: ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2021

Advice and Recommendations

Translations and the updating of [MedCom recommendations](#) remain at the centre of MedCom’s work. This includes: Continuation and progress on papers about eye problems; drug use and misuse in mountaineering; alpine helicopter rescue and travel to altitude with neurological disorders.

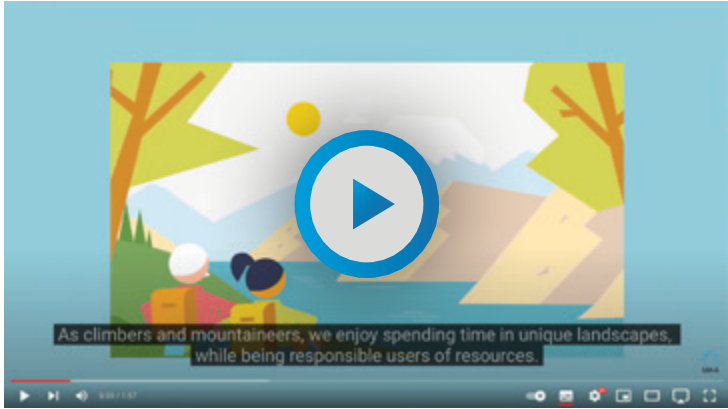
For the revision of two specific papers, [Women Going to Altitude](#) and [Contraception and Period Control at Altitude](#), an all female-led group has been formed to come up with a recommendation.

First video release

Water-borne diseases are amongst the most common and important health issues affecting mountain visitors. In most cases the responsibility for obtaining and purifying water will be the mountain goer’s responsibility, because safe community based water resources are not always available.

MedCom first published a medical advice paper related to water disinfection in the mountains in 2012. In April 2021, the [English](#) language version was updated with respective translations to be published in due course.

However, not only has the UIAA MedCom revised its advice paper, together with international partners, it has also produced a dedicated video



Drinking clean water in the Mountains

UIAA Medial Commission recommendation

<https://youtu.be/OX06NpPIMxQ>

Subtitles: English, Basque, Catalan, Japanese, Lithuanian, Spanish

on water safety. The idea to offer advice as video content will make important messages more accessible for different audiences and ultimately help prevent injuries and illnesses. MedCom plans on releasing more advice videos in due course.

Covid-19 Taskforce

Several MedCom members joined the [UIAA Covid-19 Crisis Consultation \(CCC\) Taskforce](#). Doctors with international experience contribute to the Taskforce in discussing the escalating issues in certain countries, the impact and progress of vaccination programmes, as well as the effects of the virus on mountain related sports.

Furthermore in May 2021, Commission member David Hillebrandt (former President) and guest author Piotr Szawarski published an advice paper titled [‘Adventure Travel and the Covid-19 Pandemic’](#). It is intended for persons and organisations who are planning trips in the Covid era.

PART 2: COMMISSION IN 2021

Online meetings

In 2021 MedCom met in dedicated working groups, such as the Women’s Health group, rather than as a whole Commission. This allowed for specific and targeted discussions around a topic and to collaborate on separate projects of the Commission.



Photo credit: [Grajales Expeditions](#)

Challenges

Providing advice to a global community of outdoor enthusiasts is challenging, given the different situations around the world. For MedCom’s recommendation papers, it remains a challenge to bridge the gap between physicians/experts and the general public in terms of sound advice and recommendations.

Ongoing Projects

- [International Diploma of Mountain Medicine](#)
As part of the International Diploma Administrative Group, three of the UIAA MedCom members work with ICAR (International Commission for Alpine Rescue) MedCom and the International Society of Mountain Medicine (ISMM) to administer the international UIAA/ ICAR/ISMM Diploma of Mountain Medicine

- Continuous updating of recommendation and advice papers
- Translation of papers still in progress
- Informative video(s) on expedition related topics in progress

PART 3: SUPPORT FOR UIAA MEMBERS

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

Translated into 13 languages they are a valuable resource which can be shared through member association communication channels. This expertise provides a broad range of mountain users – gap year travellers, novice climbers, experienced mountaineers and those with specific medical considerations and conditions – with potentially life-saving information.

Furthermore, the UIAA International Diploma in Mountain Medicine helps improve knowledge and increase expertise amongst medical practitioners across the world. UIAA members are reminded to reach out to UIAA MedCom with requests or topics they wish to be covered.

MedCom in Numbers



PART 4: 2022, THE YEAR AHEAD

MedCom would like to offer the climbing community further video content related to medical advice in the mountains and is seeking funding to support such projects. To partner the production of any videos or make a donation to support this valuable work please visit the dedicated [Donate page](#) or contact [Nathaniel Mennenger](#) at the UIAA Office.

A summary of upcoming MedCom deliverables is provided below:

Women’s Health Advice Paper

MedCom has two current recommendation papers specifically targeted at women, namely to address [Women Going to Altitude](#) (Vol 12) and [Contraception and Period Control at Altitude](#) (Vol 14).

Towards the close of 2021 and through the work of MedCom members in association with external experts in the field, a Working Group (WG) has been revising these two papers considering the most up-to-date research.

The female-led WG spent countless hours in 2021 reviewing and discussing various aspects of women’s health in the mountains with the aim of providing updated reference information about female-specific health concerns. Topics range from physiology and performance to Acute Mountain Sickness (AMS) and from pregnancy to post-menopausal issues to only name a few. Two new chapters are intended to round up the advice, namely on psychology and nutrition.

A first draft will be circulated within the Commission by the end of the year and should be available for the climbing and mountaineering community in 2022.

Pediatrics Paper

Back in 2008, and around the same time the papers targeted at women were released, MedCom published a recommendation on [Children at Altitude](#) (Vol 9).

While altitude travel is without incident for most, some children develop symptoms that may be attributed to altitude exposure. The paper provides recommendations that should be helpful for mountaineers and physicians who are required to offer advice about ascent to high altitude with children.

In recent discussions of MedCom and due to international interest in the topic, delegates and experts are looking to provide an updated version of the recommendations in the coming years.

As part of the first step and throughout 2022, it will be important to review the most recent research available in the field to provide helpful advice and guidance to travelling to the mountains with children.

This MedCom WG is looking to kick-start the project before the year ends and provide updated advice towards the end of 2022.

Training Course in South Africa

Many countries offer regular courses in mountain medicine. The medical commissions of the UIAA and [ICAR](#), together with the [International Society for Mountain Medicine \(ISMM\)](#) established minimal requirements for a formal diploma course in August 1997 (Interlaken, Switzerland).

A number of course organisers adopted these standards and the resulting [Diploma in Mountain Medicine \(DiMM\)](#) has become a widely respected qualification. The regulations have been updated to reflect developments in mountain medicine, and to ensure that the high standard of the

DiMM is maintained. It is the intention of the UIAA Medical Commission to bring these courses and training opportunities to all parts of the world, and possibly where such courses are not on offer yet.

In 2023, MedCom is planning on running a dedicated course alongside its annual meeting, scheduled to be held in South Africa. It is due to take place in Stellenbosch with the intent to cover topics specific to the needs of the country.

Mountaineering practice and thus mountain medicine widely depends on local traditions and customs. Fully qualified UIAGM/IFMGA guides will oversee the content of the mountaineering elements of the diploma, while UIAA Medical Commission delegates will lead the sessions on medical practices.

Topics usually cover basics from altitude and its illnesses, to exercise physiology, hypothermia and frostbite, but range all the way to heat and solar radiation, infection control, water safety and more. The Diploma in Mountain Medicine qualification can only be awarded to health care professionals registered with a national professional regulatory body (physicians, paramedics, nurses, etc.).

An exact date, syllabus and degree of the qualification have yet to be determined and will be communicated as soon as possible.

Photo credit: © Grajales Expeditions



Report by

Urs Hefti
Medical Commission President
[UIAA & Mountain Medicine](#)

As confirmed by the UIAA Management Committee (October 2021)

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Vice President

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Mountain Protection

Since it was founded in 1969, the UIAA Mountain Protection Commission (MPC) has worked to guide action and be the voice of the UIAA for advocacy on mountain protection – the mountains being one of the last natural and free spaces of significance on Earth. The MPC's goal is to ensure that the mountain's unique environment and cultures will still be there for the benefit of future generations of mountaineers and wider humanity. The MPC also promotes the work of UIAA members and the broader mountaineering community that contribute positively to sustainable mountain development.

ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2021

2020-21 UIAA Mountain Protection Award

A total of 24 projects operational in more than 30 countries and on six continents were nominated for the 2020-2021 UIAA Mountain Protection Award. The 2020-2021 Award proved to be the most global in terms of applicants and second highest in terms of numbers since the Award's launch in 2013. The UIAA Mountain Protection Award recognises sustainability-focused projects supported by UIAA member associations which engage mountaineers and climbers directly in their initiatives. Nominated projects were fully scrutinised by the [Award Assessment Team](#).

The winning project – [Giroparchi Nature Trail by Fondation Grand Paradis](#) – was crowned at a [award ceremony held virtually](#) on 3 December and received a trophy as well as EUR 10'000 to support the organisation's efforts. The runner up – [MacGillycuddy Reeks Partnership Project \(Ireland\)](#), and the best new initiative – the No Bins Project by [Zéro Déchet Mont Blanc \(France\)](#) – also got their spotlight in the lead-up to International Mountain Day.

Carbon Footprint Calculation

The UIAA continues to assess its carbon footprint, notably from office infrastructure and airplane travel of delegates, athletes, officials and staff, for 2020.

With three years' worth of calculations, the MPC together with a newly created cross-UIAA Climate Change Taskforce can now begin to look into reduction measures and make suggestions on climate action to the UIAA as a whole.

Further details on the UIAA Climate Change Taskforce can be found on page 40.

Carbon Footprint Reports

[2020](#)

[2019](#)

[2018](#)

SUSTAINABILITY GUIDELINES FOR ICE CLIMBING EVENTS

Various Commission members provided input on Sustainability Guidelines for sports events, specifically the UIAA Ice Climbing World Tour. As a result, event organisers received a document explaining why and how to run their events more sustainably for the 2022 season and beyond. Organisers will from now on assess their event's environmental impact in order to collaborate with the UIAA to avoid, minimise, reduce and offset any green house gas emissions.



[Zéro Déchet Mont Blanc](#)

(France)



[MacGillycuddy Reeks European Innovation Partnership Project](#)

(Ireland)



[Fondation Grand Paradis](#)

(Italy)



COP26 & 2021 EVENT ATTENDANCE

Since COP21 in Paris in 2015, the UIAA has enjoyed a regular presence at the conference. Spearheaded by its Mountain Protection Commission, this forms part of the UIAA's active involvement in international events and initiatives related to climate change and the mountain environment. This includes activities related to the [MoU between the UIAA and the United Nations Environment Programme signed in 2020](#).

During 2021, the UIAA MPC participated in the following events:

- **Snow and ice in climate change - how to create resilience against worsening impacts of disasters and changing water availability**

1 November, Glasgow UK and online

Carolina Adler (Mountain Research Initiative & UIAA Mountain Protection Commission President) presenting (virtually) as a panellist

- **A Fragile Future: Can mountain communities adapt to climate change?**

8 November, Glasgow UK and [Geneva Cryosphere Hub](#) (COP26 satellite venue) and live streamed online

Carolina Adler chaired the session in Geneva and presenting in-person on climate change adaptation

- **Transforming our World: Childrens' Voices for 2050**

4 November, University of Glasgow and online (virtual)

Carolina Adler presented virtually on "The UIAA Mountain Protection Award: engaging the next generations for action on sustainability through climbing and mountaineering"

- **Glasgow Declaration on Climate Action in Tourism**

On 4 November, the UIAA [announced](#) that it has become a signatory and launch partner of the [Glasgow Declaration on Climate Action in Tourism](#).

Mountain Protection Award in Numbers

142

number of **projects hosted** on Mountain Protection Award platform

49

number of **countries MPA projects** have been operational in

8

number of **different countries** winning projects have come from

PART 2: COMMISSION IN 2021

The Commission is spearheaded by:

- **President - Carolina Adler**, New Zealand (NZAC) – first nominated as President in May 2016.
- **Vice-President - Mike Maunsell**, Ireland (MI) – nominated as VP in May 2019.

The MPC welcomed two new corresponding members in May 2021, Raluca Ana, Romania (CAR) and Zuleyma Berenice Rincon Saucedo, Mexico (FMDMYE). They both participated in the May meeting and continue to show high interest in contributing to the Commission.

Two new full members joined the Commission in October 2021, namely Miyoung Jeong, South Korea (KAF) and Dave Turnbull, UK (BMC)

The MPC would like to express its sincere gratitude to Steve Goodwin who represented the Alpine Club as a full member of the Commission for a number of years and was an invaluable asset. His contributions were always very welcome. Steve left the Commission in May 2021.

Annual Meetings

The Commission reconvened virtually a number of times in 2021. Among the main discussion points in those five meetings were national updates from delegates, such as a new via ferrata project in Norway; advocacy requests in Cochamo, Chile; and waste and overcrowding issues on K2.

Regarding its own key projects, the MPC actively debated on how to improve the UIAA Mountain Protection Award, develop the Respect

the Mountains movement and kick-start the review of the UIAA Environmental Objectives and Guidelines.

The UNFCCC Sports for Climate Action Framework and set out targets were presented and the need for the UIAA as a whole to reduce its carbon footprint highlighted.

ONGOING PROJECTS

Respect the Mountains (RtM)

The Respect the Mountains initiative forms part of the UIAA's longstanding commitment to sustainability and mountain protection. It is governed by the 7 Ways to Respect the Mountains, and aims at:

- Raising awareness about sustainable environmental and socio-cultural practices;
- Setting an example and spreading the word within the outdoor community;
- Preserving mountain ecosystems and cultures for future generations;
- Promoting sustainable mountain recreation, sports and related tourism activities;
- Supporting all generations – young and old – through education and empowerment to be effective sustainable mountaineers now and in the future.

Before Covid impacted the hosting of events, the UIAA Mountain Protection Commission announced that the project would focus more on educational subjects and become an international movement which likeminded projects from across the world could join. *Further details will be communicated in due course.*

PART 3: BENEFITS FOR UIAA MEMBERS

The MPC continues to ensure that in the design of the two key mountain protection and sustainability projects at the UIAA – the MPA and the RtM global movement – are explicit provisions and mechanisms in place to prioritise, support and encourage the participation of UIAA members to not only showcase their initiatives, but also participate and be eligible for the prizes, resources and exposure on offer to promote their work.

The current joint work with the IFMGA in updating the Environmental Objectives and Guidelines ensures that the MPC also responds to the priorities and stated needs that member delegates expressed in a survey conducted in 2018.

Given the Commission delegates' extensive and active engagement in several global platforms and initiatives on mountains and sustainability as part of its daily professional work, the MPC also offers the UIAA and all its members ample representation and opportunity to "carry their voices" at these important spaces for advocacy, able to present their ideas and concerns on their behalf.

As always, the MPC is also available to provide all UIAA members and other Commissions professional advice on environmental sustainability issues or concerns, as the need or request arises, for example in the advice provided to the Ice Climbing Commission on sustainability guidelines for the hosting of competition events.

PART 4: 2022, THE YEAR AHEAD

UIAA Environmental Objectives and Guidelines

Adopted at the 1997 UIAA General Assembly in Kranjska Gora, Slovenia, the UIAA declaration on Environmental Objectives and Guidelines will be reviewed and updated to reflect the needs and issues of today.

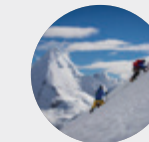
Together with UN Environment and the IFMGA Environmental Commission, the MPC is looking to host a workshop to kick-start the project and gather input from UIAA members and relevant stakeholders. The MPC will present the reviewed version at the 2022 UIAA General Assembly.

2022 Mountain Protection Award

Partnered with the Bally Peak Outlook Foundation, the MPC will launch the application process for the 2022 edition of the award on 1 March.

Projects from developing countries are particularly welcome to apply and will receive valuable input from members of the assessment team, as well as benefit from the global mountain network.

Key Links



Mountain Protection

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



Respect the Mountains

<https://www.theuiaa.org/mountain-protection/respect-the-mountains/>



Mountain Protection Award

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

Report by

Dr. Carolina Adler

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As confirmed by the UIAA Management Committee - October 2021

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Harshwanti BISHT, India (IMF)

Ganesh GURUNG, Nepal (NMA)

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Dave TURNBULL, UK (BMC)

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Lode BECKERS, Belgium (CMBEL)

Jan Ivar BOE, Norway (NTK)

Valeska Buchemi OLIVEIRA, Brazil (CBME)

Toba DYSION, Indonesia (FPTI)

Irena MRAK, Slovenia (PZS)

Zuleyma Berenice RINCON SAUCEDA, Mexico (FMDMYE)

Mary SANSEVERINO, Canada (ACC)

Mountaineering

MountCom is one of the largest Commissions within the UIAA, and houses the Training Panel (TP), the Legal Experts Working Group (covered in Section 3 - Special Reports) and the Access Working Group, formerly an independent Commission. Most of the Commission activities are now carried out within these three groups.

EXECUTIVE REVIEW OF 2021

While the main activities of Mountcom are related to training, the Commission also runs various projects that focus on subjects like ethics, mountain culture and best practices.

Achievements in 2021

Perhaps the most important project last year was the MWI – the Mountain Worker Initiative. Within this project, inspired by the film *The Porter: The Untold Story at Everest*, MountCom supported the preparation of guidelines aimed at the improvement of working conditions of porters. The Commission formed an international working group, a team of seven people from four different continents. The guidelines have been prepared on time despite a very tight deadline. They will be distributed globally through UIAA member federations who, in turn, will help in adopting these guidelines to the cultural, legal and administrative framework of their own country. The local implementation of the guidelines may also result in further projects that MountCom could lead. Please find further information in the dedicated MWI Special Report (Chapter 3).

MountCom has also prepared a proposal to update the *Tyrol Declaration*. Over the past twenty years, the UIAA has issued several statements, charters and declarations but none has made such an impact on the global mountaineering community as the original Tyrol Declaration, published in 2002. Even if it was prepared and

issued for an international conference where the UIAA was represented by the Mountaineering Commission, the Tyrol Declaration is widely regarded as a UIAA document.

The decades since the Tyrol Declaration's release have developed much as expected, with many more people visiting the mountains, and in percentage, noticeable fewer are breaking new ground, though some in very good style. To help all mountain people and the public to understand the nature of climbing and climbers, MountCom has revisited the 2003 Declaration and proposed a new Annex (Annex 3) whose purpose is to define the different styles of climbing mountains. This was created as while 'style' is mentioned in other areas of the Tyrol Declaration, but in itself was not actually defined. This is particularly important since the style adopted by a climber may have ethical and environmental implications, and style is key to the future of our activities and their perception by the public.

Apart from the two major projects, MountCom has also responded to various requests from the public. The Commission has provided information and advice to journalists on via ferratas as well as the eternal question on when can a summit be considered an independent peak and when a secondary peak.

MountCom continues to work on a compilation of the results of the extensive study on accidents and near misses, with the intention of publishing them as advice papers on the UIAA website.

Challenges in 2021

The pandemic has severely affected the work of the Commission (most training programmes had to be cancelled or at least postponed and meetings were held online, which is generally less efficient in terms of practical operations). While the Commission is hoping for the best, it is also preparing proposals for new projects that can be implemented by remote work.

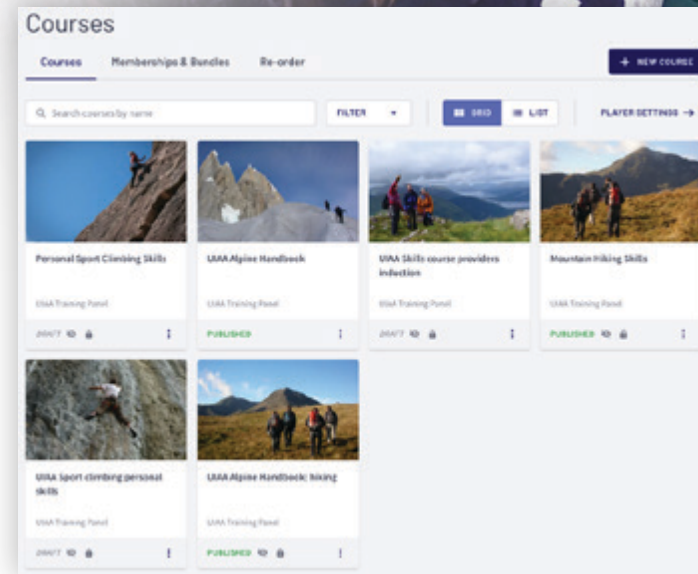
Training Panel

Achievements in 2021

Skills Certificates

After many years of challenges over database development, the TP discovered that technology has caught up with its training goals though the unprecedented rise of online Learning Management Systems during the pandemic. Following in-depth testing through colleagues in several countries, the TP now has a *system* in place that will allow the UIAA to issue skills certificates to students who have completed a course delivered by an instructor holding a UIAA accredited qualification (this also includes IFMGA and UIMLA-qualified teachers).

There is no compulsion for either member organisations or individual instructors to participate; it is simply a service to provide increased kudos to bona fide training courses delivered by suitably qualified instructors, and to help set them apart from the mass of self-qualified experts and social media influencers. Participating federations will provide the UIAA with a list of accredited instructors that have been approved to deliver skills training. These instructors will be invited to complete a short online induction course. That's the course listed under the blue "GRID" button



Visual from the UIAA Training Management System

in the screenshot above. After completing a skills course delivered on a crag or mountain students can be enrolled on the online graduation course if they wish to gain a UIAA skills certificate.

The instructor (or federation) will collect enrolment fees and send a list of students. The students need to complete a short course, which includes knowledge about the pillars of UIAA strategy: safety, sport, sustainability. The course has an expiry date to ensure currency and minimise overheads. This system requires more administrative input than an integrated database, but on the plus side the entire knowledge learning structure

is built-in; even including access to the appropriate sections of the Handbook for the duration of the graduation course. Students can share certificates through social media, building further kudos and demand.

Finances

Cost to federation

This is a free service to member organisations that have committed to the UIAA Mountain Qualifications Label process and successfully

Key Numbers

24

Number of **UIAA personal skills certificates issued**

46

Number of **current Mountain Qualification Labels**

completed it. Only these organisations will be permitted to participate. Federations that volunteer to collate course details and bulk enrol candidates on the system will be able to collect an additional fee per person if they choose. The UIAA will welcome any offers to translate the course materials (particularly the graduation test) into other languages.

For skills courses delivered in countries that have not already developed their own qualifications, a premium of an additional €10/student is proposed.

Cost to instructors

A nominal annual subscription fee of €10 is proposed. This includes an online induction presentation and test, and access to a digital copy of the complete UIAA Alpine Handbook and other course materials.

Cost to students

An enrolment fee of €10 is proposed (or total of €20 – see above), giving a fixed term access to the graduation course. There is scope for varying fees according to national GDP. Subsequently, students can optionally subscribe to the course at €1.20/year (to cover online hosting costs) if they wish.

Benefits of the system

To summarise: there is more kudos for all involved, a material benefit for federations post-accreditation, a “Unique Selling Point” for qualified trainers, improved training standards, the possibility of negotiating reduced insurance premiums for certificate holders and more. There is also potential for all Commissions to produce courses and communities within the system. This is a much more effective platform for hosting videos than the likes of YouTube because it does not compete for attention with social media “Influencers”.

Instructors and trainers holding UIAA accredited qualifications are welcome to view or test the system and obtain the personal skills certificate free of charge: please email [Steve Long](mailto:Steve.Long@uiiaa.org) to request an enrolment.

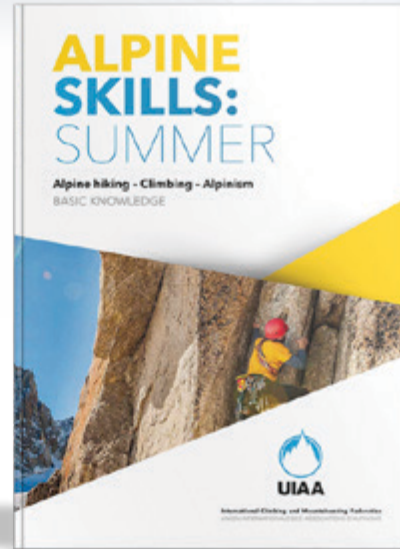
TRAINING PROJECTS IN 2021

Although most projects are on hold due to the pandemic, the TP was able to deliver one course in December to the Saudi Climbing and Hiking Federation. Students were carefully selected by the federation and represented the country's most experienced leaders. The course provided another opportunity to pilot the skills course syllabus, followed by an introduction to leadership strategies, knowledge, and skills. The federation hopes to develop its own leader and coach training programme using this core intake.

Validation requests

When possible, the TP tries to arrange a mentor and/or validator who shares a language, and ideally lives reasonably close; obviously this is not always possible but as the panel of validators increases, availability will also increase. The TP received various requests for validation inspections for MQL labels. These include the following:

- 1) Denmark (DKF) – multi-pitch climbing
- 2) Czech Republic (CMLA) – hiking
- 3) Japan (JMSCA) – hiking
- 4) Mexico (FMDMYE) – climbing
- 5) Sweden (SKF) – revalidation



UIAA ALPINE HANDBOOK

The UIAA Alpine Handbook (Summer Skills) is now integrated into the Skills graduation courses.

Work is currently well underway on a new edition of the English language version of the Handbook. This has seen some quite substantial improvements and additions and is currently undergoing a “facelift” to match UIAA branding. Member federations are *invited* to pre-order printed copies in order to minimise shipping costs. In 2021, the Handbook was *translated* into Macedonian and Mongolian. It is now available in 12 languages. Eight additional language translations are in progress.

Access Working Group

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

The UIAA Access Working Group is also reactive to requests for action and assistance by UIAA member federations, especially to requests by new member federations.

WG in 2021

After completing his maximum tenure as Access WG (formerly Commission) President/Chair, Juan Jesús Ibáñez Martín was succeeded by Milosz Jodlowski (PZA, Poland). Ibáñez Martín reflected on his time as President in an *interview* as part of the UIAA volunteer series.

Early in 2021 the Access WG supported the *Mountaineering Federation of North Macedonia (FPSM)* in raising awareness about access restrictions (namely a peak fee) imposed on climbers visiting the Galičica National Park.

Due to its natural beauty and rich flora and fauna, the Macedonian section of the mountain was declared a National Park in 1958. The Park covers an area of approximately 227km. The natural and cultural heritage of the Ohrid region in 1979 were inscribed on the UNESCO world heritage list.

Ongoing and 2022 Projects

As underlined at the 2021 UIAA General Assembly, access remains an important topic for the UIAA. ‘Offering guidance on global access is a key task of the UIAA,’ according to feedback received as part of a Strategic Plan survey.

The Access WG continues to develop its **database project**, aimed at highlighting the many restrictions which impact access (environmental restrictions, land ownership as well as political, economical and cultural issues). The Access WG offers advice to UIAA member federations and local access groups on the relationship between mountaineering and climbing and these issues as well as encouraging best practices in challenging such restrictions.

With this in mind, the Access WG is creating a tool, essentially an online library of case studies and guidelines, designed to help to address these issues. Supplementing this will be an access infoline for federations to request support from the Access WG.

Kilimanjaro cable way: The WG is active in working with the Mountain Club of South Africa in monitoring the situation regarding a *proposed cable way* project on Kilimanjaro. The Access WG is seeking more information and will lead any UIAA response to the plan, which takes into account the mountain's iconic status and that since 2019 Alpinism is an activity with the status of UNESCO Intangible World Heritage.

The Access WG will host its 2022 meeting as part of the UIAA Management Committee and spring conference in Skopje, North Macedonia.



Above: UIAA Training course in Saudi Arabia/Credit: Steve Long
Main photo: Adam Ondra at Mavrovo Cave (Credit – Dimitar Popov/FPME)

As confirmed by the UIAA Management Committee - October 2021

MOUNTAINEERING

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Alfredo PEREA, Mexico (FMDMYE)

Gomez PONCE DE LEON, Mexico (FMDMYE)

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Ron FUNDERBURKE, United States (AAC)

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Jordi MAGRINA GUELL, Spain (FEEC)

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Jack BERGIN, Ireland (MI)

Nelson BRUGGER, Brazil (CBME)

Alexandru COMAN, Romania (CAR)

Esteban DEGREGORI, Argentina (FASA)

Hamidreza IZADI, Iran (IMSCF)

Hitoshi ONODERA, Japan (JMCSA)

Joao Paulo QUEIROS, Portugal (FCMP)

Zuleyma Berenice RINCON SAUCEDA, Mexico (FMDMyE)

Richard Grant SHERRY, South Africa (MCSA)

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Ulrike KIEFER, South Africa (MCSA)

Corresponding Members

Ilina ARSOVA, North Macedonia (FPSM)

Alfredo PEREA, Mexico (FMDMYE)

DONATE: Financial support for climbing

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



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

Reports by

Peter Farkas

Mountaineering
Commission President

Steve Long

Training Panel President

Milosz Jodlowski

Access Working Group Chair

Ice Climbing

MISSION STATEMENT

Create a fun and fair, sustainable and spectacular annual UIAA Ice Climbing World Tour with a focus on the athletes, fans and organisers - developing each event, every season.

Build a financial structure that creates a sustainable future for the UIAA Ice Climbing World Tour, as well as allowing the financing of the development of the sport following the UIAA's Strategic Plan.

Develop the sport of ice climbing in the areas of youth inclusion, gender equality and accessibility to bridge the gap between the mountains and urban environments across the winter sporting nations of the world.

WORLD TOUR IN NUMBERS



1,003,200

total views from 2020-21 UIAA Ice Climbing World Tour livestreams



190

athletes who took part in the 2020-21 UIAA Ice Climbing World Tour



18

member federations who registered athletes for the 2020-21 UIAA Ice Climbing World Tour

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

- In 2021 the UIAA organised a successful, if reduced, season of events. Initially World Cups were planned in Korea, France, Switzerland, Canada and Russia with unfortunately only the French and Russian events surviving the wave of cancellations due to Covid-19. Continental Cups in Switzerland, Netherlands, and Iran also had to be cancelled, leaving a three-round European Cup season in Slovakia, Czech Republic and Finland.
- The future direction of the UIAA Ice Climbing World Tour was discussed in view of its continued development and the ambition for the sport of competition ice climbing to one day become part of the Olympic Winter Games competition programme. A working group will be created to take these developments further.
- Following the guidance of the UIAA Anti-Doping Commission, ice climbing competitions met full compliance with the new WADA regulations which came into force in 2021. Please refer to the Anti-Doping Commission chapter for further details.
- The UIAA Office developed an event carbon footprint calculator and this was distributed to all the events with guidance on how to complete it, with a view to using the data collected to set base line figures for carbon footprint reductions in the future for the UIAA Ice Climbing World Tour.
- A new ice climbing website was developed and launched in October to give more exposure to and interactivity with the sport

- [iceclimbing.sport](#). The new site is fully linked with the UIAA registrations and results system with new athlete profiles, real-time results and startlists and livestream all embedded.

- The UIAA continues to develop its registration and results system with local organisers successfully using the system to coordinate their events at a continental level and also its new integration with the [iceclimbing.sport](#) website were major developments for this season.
- A recruitment drive for new members with specific skillsets required by the Commission was launched. Five new members were recruited who will bring fresh motivation and expertise.
- The UIAA applied, via the Korean Alpine Federation, for inclusion as a medal sport in the 2028 Youth Winter Olympic Games in Korea - this application was ultimately unsuccessful due to a lack of participating nations at a youth level, a need for increased uniformity, improved development plans and structures. Thanks go to the KAF and the local organising committee for their support.
- The UIAA EB set-up a working group to look into the further development of the sport and the issues that the Ice Climbing Commission are dealing with, including the conflicts of interest within the Commission. This group is made up of Martin Lascano - UIAA EB, Andy Syme - BMC President, Phil Powers - UIAA MC and Jean Miczka - UIAA MC.

2020-21 UIAA ICE CLIMBING WORLD TOUR CALENDAR

2021 UIAA ICE CLIMBING WORLD CUP

Kirov, Russia	5-7 March 2021	Lead & Speed
---------------	----------------	--------------

2021 UIAA ICE CLIMBING EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

Champagny-en-Vanoise, France	22-24 January 2021	Lead & Speed
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2021 UIAA ICE CLIMBING WORLD YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS

Tyumen, Russia	6-8 March 2021	Boulder & Speed
----------------	----------------	-----------------

2020/21 UIAA ICE CLIMBING CONTINENTAL CUPS

Zilina, Slovakia	5 December 2020	Lead
------------------	-----------------	------

Brno, Czech Republic	12 December 2020	Lead
----------------------	------------------	------

Oulu, Finland	20 February 2021	Lead
---------------	------------------	------



2020-21 SOCIAL MEDIA STATISTICS

YOUTUBE

- 137,380 unique views
- 8,951 subscribers up by 763
- Watch time – 37.2k hours
- Impressions - 1.8 million
- Average watch time – 16.15 minutes
- Top audience – USA, Germany, UK, Canada, Russia
- 25-34 years largest demographic

TWITTER

- 46,000 impressions on UIAA Tweets about UIAA Ice Climbing World Tour

FACEBOOK

- 4,535 new followers gained (from 41,013 to 45,548)
- Reach for season posts 194,582 (only video content)
- 42,563 total video views
- 99k minutes viewed
- 204,761 impressions (videos only)

INSTAGRAM

- 6,715 followers as of the end of March – up 25% on 2019
- 6,938 total post likes
- 13,550 total story reach

FLICKR

- 909 photos posted
- Combined photo views 256,200

UIAA WEBSITE

- 82,000 page views between 1 November and 1 April
- 59,000 unique visitors
- 117,000 sessions

2021

658k

658k unique views of video content from three events

1.1M

Total reach of nearly 1.1 million people from just three events from UIAA YouTube and Facebook platforms only

Speaker icon

Dedicated media distribution partners – Extreme Media, EpicTV, Swisscom TV, Swiss-Sport TV, beIn Sport, Extreme Russia and other new broadcasters

TV icon

Television reach of 477 million households with over 1800 minutes of terrestrial TV broadcast

Headphones icon

3 events livestreamed

FOCAL POINTS FOR FUTURE OF UIAA ICE CLIMBING WORLD TOUR

With the restrictions caused to the UIAA Ice Climbing World Tour by Covid-19 this season was an unusual one and therefore the aims for the UIAA Ice Climbing World Tour for the future remain largely the same as last season.

The UIAA aims to host 5-6 World Cups plus a World Youth Championship every year, with the World Senior Championship every other year, alongside a full calendar of Continental Cups with further collaboration with ice festivals and urban events.

- A big focus on developing Continental Cups in Asia and North America and the established European Cups will be encouraged to develop youth events to be run in conjunction with their existing events. Youth development will be a top priority moving forward.
- More UIAA support for federations in order to develop their ice climbing teams at a senior and junior level is required to improve event universality – top ranking federations should be at a level to stop single nation domination.

- Increase the use of ice on lead routes in order to conform to the Winter Olympic Charter and increase the sport’s Olympic Games eligibility. Returning to the icier structures of World Cups past, but retaining the technical difficulty developed in recent modern route setting.
- Continued development of the registration, results and regulation and livestream production systems will increase efficiency, professionalism and the look and feel of all our events for all stakeholders and maximise athlete and spectator enjoyment.
- The UIAA will continue to work with event organisers who conform to the UIAA guidelines and regulations regarding deadlines, payments, sustainability and athlete focus. Policies will also be put in place to ensure a minimum number of participating nations and athletes must be

- present at each event to protect the credibility of UIAA World Championships and World Cup brand and titles.
- Continue to grow the worldwide reach of the UIAA Ice Climbing World Tour with increase in online viewership and the introduction of global TV distribution through many national television networks.
- Continue to implement improvements at every event on the UIAA Ice Climbing World Tour to add up to the perception of major gains – all lead via feedback from the athletes and fans through surveys and market research.
- The UIAA plans to develop its social media presence across all platforms in the next season – this can also include delivering bespoke advertising for partners and event organisers if required.

Designed for the Impossible. Trusted by the Experts.

Graham Zimmerman | 2020 Piolet d'Or Recipient
Outdoor Research Ambassador
Ouray, CO



Credit: Nils Paillard

SUPPORT FOR UIAA MEMBERS

The UIAA Ice Climbing Commission has plans to reach out to UIAA member federations in the future as part of its strategy to expand the number of participating nations and athletes competing in the UIAA Ice Climbing World Tour. This will include the conception of a development plan and the hosting of more training camps. The UIAA is also working on a multi-year competition calendar.

The Commission would also like to continue to widen its resources and skillsets by sourcing support from member federations in order to allow for motivated individuals to get more involved with the Commission and push forward its development targets for the future of the sport.



Report by

Carlos Teixeira

Ice Climbing
Commission President



Rob Adie

UIAA Sports Events
Coordinator

iceclimbing@theuiaa.org

As confirmed by the UIAA Management Committee - October 2021

Full Members

Carlos TEIXEIRA, Portugal (FCMP), President

Pavel SHABALIN, Russia (RMF), Vice President

David DORNIAN, Canada (AAC)

Mohammad HAVALEDAR, Iran (IMSCF)

Markus HUHTALA, Finland (FCA)

Byeong Goo KIM, Korea (KAF)

Nadezhda LAUNITS, Russia (RMF)

Alex PAUN, Romania (CAR)

Andrej PECJAK, Slovenia (PZS)

Corresponding Members

Nejat AKINCI, Turkey (TDF)

Prerna DANGI, India (IMF)

Farzam DAYYANI, Iran (IMSCF)

Zdrqavko DEJANOVIKJ,
North Macedonia (FPSM)

Benjamin GIGER, Liechtenstein (LAV)

Min GYUHYOUNG, Korea (KAF)

Mahdi SAMEI, Iran (IMSCF)

Kęstutis SKRUPSKELIS, Lithuania (LMA)

Ziga STER, Slovenia (PZS)

Kendra STRITCH, United States (AAC)

Bishnu TAMANG, Nepal (NMA)

Luc THIBAL, France (FFCAM)

Go YAMAZAKI, Japan (JMSCA)

Arezoo ZARBEHI, Iran (IMSCF)

Athletes - Full Members

Eimir MCSWIGGAN, Ireland, (MI)

Mohammad Reza SAFDARIAN, Iran
(IMSCF)

Athletes - Corresponding Members

Enni BERTLING, Finland (FCA)

Nikolay PRIMEROV, Russia (RMF)

Maria TOLOKONINA, Russia (RMF)

UIAA & Ice Climbing

Please note that this report covers the 2020-21 season only.



Credit: Christian Biard

Youth

MISSION STATEMENT

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

PART 1: ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2021

Activities in 2021 were severely impacted by Covid-19 but the Commission managed to achieve the following:

Youth Innovation Panel

The Youth Commission has created a Youth Innovation Panel with Jane Carney as the chair. This group held a number of meetings to determine the future structure and goals of the YC. This working group is:

- **Jane Carney**
Chair & Technical advisor, Ireland
- **Nikolaos Mangitsis**
Technical advisor, Greece
- **Cristina Cucu**
Technical advisor, Romania
- **Mircea Ignat**
Vice President Youth commission, Romania
- **Pavlos Georgiades**
President UIAA Youth Commission, Cyprus

- **Nektarios Vilanides**
Technical advisor, Cyprus
- **Anthony Kwok**
Technical advisor, Hong Kong
- **Das Bhaskar**
Technical advisor, India

Youth Camps

The YC was unable to organise its own events in 2021 owing to Covid restrictions relating to international travel. However Commission members, through their federations, organised the following national events:

Christian Biard from FFCAM helped organise a camp in *Ariege in France* in July, featuring sport climbing, multi-pitch climbing and canyoning. Approximately 20 young attendees from 12-19 years old participated. The camp ran for six days.

Cristina Cucu, Romania, *organised* a multi-pitch, rock climbing, hiking camp with 20 participants.

Future camps to be organised by the Youth Commission will be focus on personal skills development for youth. There was a discussion and a plan was agreed upon in collaboration with the UIAA Training Panel President Steve Long about

1957

Year that UIAA General Assembly agreed to form a Youth Commission

the syllabus and the certifications and what is the best way to create standards and best practice skills for UIAA youth camps.

PART 2: COMMISSION IN 2021

GLOBAL YOUTH SUMMIT (GYS)

Going forward, the UIAA Youth Commission will coordinate international youth events under the UIAA Global Youth Summit series. As such it is the body responsible for:

- Advising on best practices, technical and other aspects of the events.
- Receiving applications from UIAA member federations or other approved bodies to organise international youth events.
- Approving applications deemed to be in the interest of youth development, within the UIAA’s Strategic Plan and being organisationally and financially viable.

- Advising on best practices, technical and other aspects of the events.
- All UIAA approved youth events are organised and undertaken in strict accordance with the regulations and rules governing such events.

All future UIAA Youth events are set to follow the two-tier system explained in detail in the *2020 UIAA Annual Report*.

PART 3: BENEFITS FOR UIAA MEMBERS

SUPPORT FOR UIAA MEMBERS

The YC would like to extend its reach to work with several new federations in the near future to support them to give them the skills and information to organise their first youth camps, and hopefully this will pave the way to allow further integration with other federations in the future to really expand the number and global development of UIAA Youth camps.

PART 4: THE YEAR AHEAD, 2022

As some federations are increasingly focusing on youth development with the hosting of their own youth camps, the YC has decided to identify certain events to turn into UIAA camps and be open to international attendees. Currently, the federations that have agreed to collaborate are:

- Mountaineering Ireland
- China Hong Kong Climbing and Mountaineering Union
- Mountaineering Climbing & Orienteering Federation of Cyprus
- Hellenic Federation of Mountaineering and Climbing
- Romanian Alpine Club

Report by

Pavlos GEORGIADES
Youth Commission President



Youth Commission Membership

As confirmed by the Management Committee - October 2021

Full Members

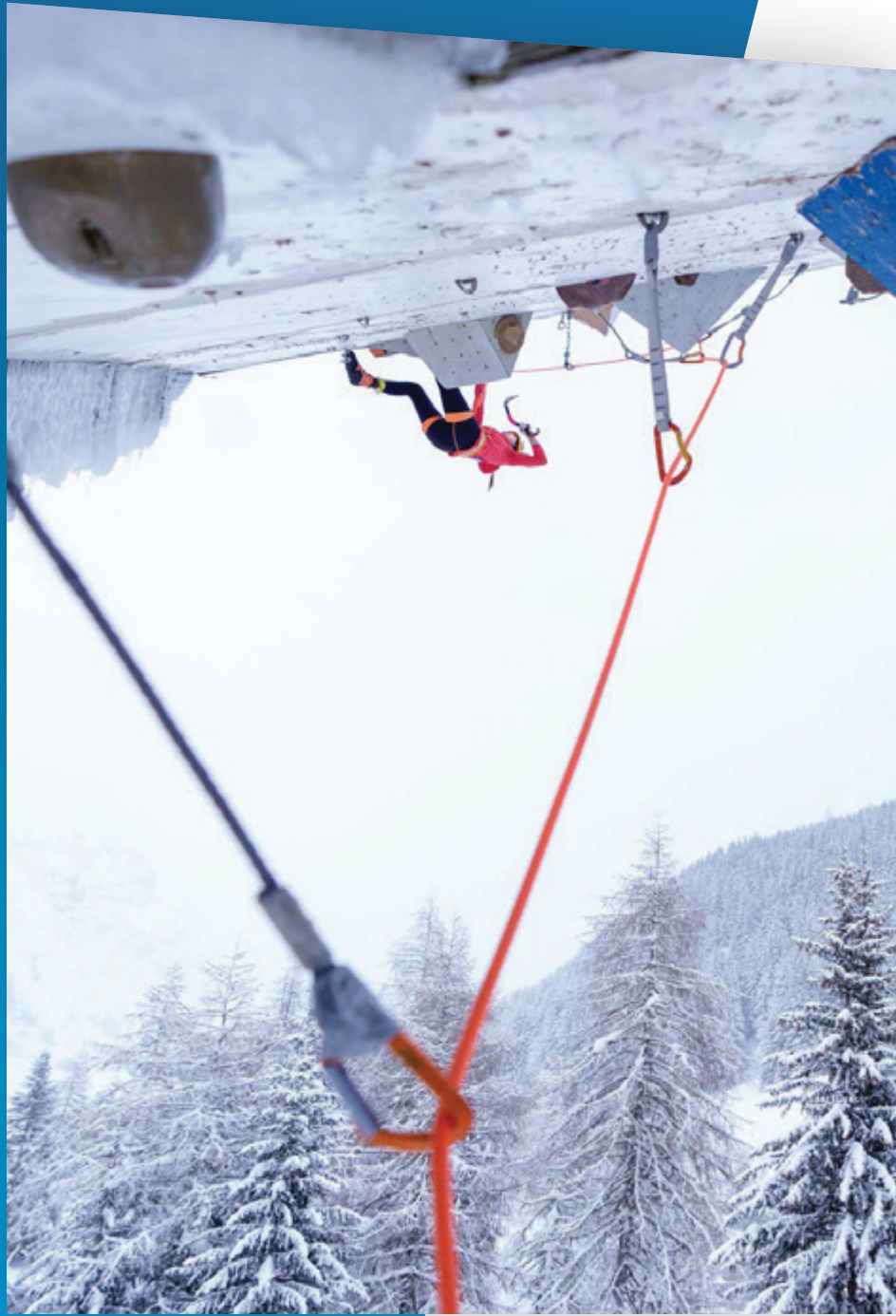
- Pavlos GEORGIADES**, Cyprus (CMCOF), President
- Dainius BABILAS, Lithuania (LMA)
- Barbara BAJCER, Slovenia (PZS)
- Christian BIARD, France (FFCAM)
- Jane CARNEY, Ireland (MI)
- Bhaskar DAS, India (IMF)
- David EVANS, United Kingdom (BMC)
- Magdalena HORŇÁKOVÁ, Czech Republic (CMF)
- Mircea IGNAT, Romania (CAR)
- Niki KAROULLA, Cyprus (CMCOF)
- Alexander KLENOV, Russia (RMF)
- Mrika NIKCI, Kosovo (KMAF)
- Batsaikhan OCHIRBAT, Mongolia (MNCF)
- Bojan STANIMIROVIKJ, North Macedonia (FPSM)
- Vladimir TRPOVSKI, North Macedonia (FPSM)

Corresponding Members

- Cristina CUCU, Romania (CAR)
- Zurab KUTCHAVA, Georgia (MCAG)
- Anthony KWOK, Hong Kong (CHCMCU)
- Jordi MAGRINA GUELL, Spain (FEEC)
- Gary VAN VUUREN, South Africa (MCSA)

Quick Links

UIAA Youth Commission



Credit: Nils Paillard

Anti-Doping

The UIAA promotes Clean Climbing by adopting and implementing the World Anti-Doping Code. The UIAA Anti-Doping Commission (ADC) manages the federation’s anti-doping programme, including in-competition and out-of-competition testing and results management process. In parallel, the UIAA is responsible for ensuring that all member associations and athletes respect and comply with all relevant International Standards and all the principles inherent to the World-Anti Doping Code, including education for successful prevention of doping in sport. The UIAA contributes to advancing a clean sport through scientific research and outreach initiatives under Clean Climbing.

PART 1: ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2021

This year was marked by the continued Covid-19 pandemic, naturally impacting the level of doping controls during ice climbing competitions. The number of tests was reduced for both the in and out of competition phase, as was the case in most other sport federations. An achievement that needs to be highlighted is the UIAA’s full compliance with the new World Anti-Doping Code from 2021.

The online education certificate that the UIAA AD Commission created a few years ago is now a mandatory component of WADA compliance - in 2021, the International Standard for Education was published.

In 2021, *one athlete from competition ice climbing* returned positive analytical findings in urine for meldonium, a prohibited substance from S4. Hormone and Metabolic Modulators. This athlete accepted the result of the doping control, and her sanction was consequently reduced from four to three years according to the new WADA code.

PART 2: COMMISSION IN 2021

Commission

Three full members represent the UIAA Anti-Doping Commission – Professor Nenad Dikic, lawyer Borja Oses, and President Professor Dr. Marija Andjelkovic re-elected for a new term until 2025. This Commission has been working together for more than 15 years and with great efficiency manages all anti-doping activities.

Annual Meetings

Anti-Doping Commission meetings were held regularly online and with two main subjects – adopting the new WADA Code as part of the UIAA’s rules and regulations and to discuss the positive case mentioned previously.

On several occasions, all three members were present during meetings and solved the ongoing issues, mainly in publishing the new [UIAA Anti-Doping Regulations](#).

Testing - Key Numbers

2021	Urine total	In competition, urine samples	Out of competition urine samples	Blood/ Growth Hormone	ESA in urine	GHRF in urine
Ice Climbing	10	10	0	0	1	0
Skyrunning	20	20	0	0	0	0
Total	30	30	0	0	1	0

Ongoing Projects

The AD Commission will continue to focus on education - evolving its online programme and producing a certificate of achievement.

PART 3: BENEFITS FOR UIAA MEMBERS

As a Unit Member of the UIAA, the International Sky Running Federation receives full support from the UIAA ADC regarding anti-doping activities. The ADC is onhand the support all areas of the UIAA and its members.

PART 4: THE YEAR AHEAD, 2022

In the current Covid climate, the biggest challenge will be to organise out-of-competition controls from the register testing pool of athletes and for this testing to be unannounced.

Besides this, testing during different competitions in Covid-19 will be challenging. The Commission will do its best to organise and adapt.



Report by

Dr. Marija Andjelkovic

Anti-Doping Commission President

UIAA & Anti-Doping

As confirmed by the Management Committee (October 2021)

Full Members

Marija ANDJELKOVIC (President), Serbia (PSS)

Nenad DIKIC, Serbia (ISF)

Borja Osés GARCIA, Spain (EMF)

KEY LINKS

[Further Reading](#)

PART 5: AROUND THE GLOBE

Africa

CONTINENTAL OVERVIEW

*As noted in previous Annual Reports, Africa is the smallest UIAA continental body in terms of membership but has potential to develop with almost 17% of the world's population and iconic mountains. The Mountain Club of South Africa (MCSA) is the longest standing member of the UIAA on the continent (the Mountain Club of Namibia is a member of the MCSA). Morocco is also represented within the UIAA through the *fédération royale marocaine de ski et sports de montagne*.*

AFRICA IN 2021

Whilst Covid dominated much of 2021, outdoor activities recommenced in South Africa with the easing of lockdown restrictions. The desire for outdoor activities and access to mountain areas led to a substantial demand for access to properties owned and/or controlled by the MCSA and translated in increased applications for membership. Organised "official" climbing and hiking meets started tentatively but attracted large participation and it is anticipated that this trend will continue in 2022.

In addition, the MCSA is in the process of assisting Mountain Club of Namibia to obtain access to a new climbing venue near Windhoek.

Achievements

The UIAA & MCSA have reached out to the mountain clubs of Zimbabwe, Malawi, Kenya, Uganda and Kilimanjaro. To date positive responses have been received from Kilimanjaro, Kenya, Malawi and Zimbabwe. Previously these clubs signed a memorandum of understanding with the Mountain Club of South Africa to form the Confederation of African Mountain Clubs ("CAMC") to allow African clubs who are not yet members of the UIAA access to the UIAA and to the wider world of climbing through the MCSA's membership of the UIAA.

Africa in Numbers

13

Regional members

(sections) of MCSA (14th member is the Mountain Club of Namibia)

5,000

MCSA members



The UIAA's Continental Representatives undertake valuable work in representing UIAA member federations in their respective regions at a Management Committee level. The various continental bodies recognised by the UIAA serve as networks helping to address issues, projects and interests at a regional level. Together these reports offer an insight into the global state of the mountains. Each one of the Continental Reports addresses updates from individual members and common trends and talking points.

The UIAA also recognises the following Continental organisations:

- **Asia:**
Union of Asian Alpine Associations, (UAAA)
- **Europe:**
European Mountaineering Associations (EUMA)
- **Latin America:**
Pan-American Union of Mountaineering and Climbing (UPAME)

Annual Meetings

During the first week of October 2021 the Paarl/Wellington Section of the MCSA held the National Minicamp at the Hawequas Scout Adventure Centre to celebrate the Section’s 125th anniversary (founded initially as the Wellington Section in 1895). The camp welcomed 16 hike leaders, 21-day visitors, 53 campers and three hut stay overs. The celebrations included 29 hikes (of which three were overnights), a tasting tour at Upland Organic Estate and five campfire evenings.

At the MCSA Annual Dinner, Dr Rik de Decker was a most entertaining guest speaker encouraging most delegates to reflect on the risks involved in extreme sports. The Club was also honoured by the attendance of Stephanie Stettbacher, UIAA Office, (in person), and the President of the UIAA, Peter Muir (via Zoom). They participated to honour past MCSA President Greg Moseley for his contributions to the UIAA (photo right).



Photo credit: Mountain Club of South Africa

2022, The Year Ahead

Projects for 2022 include cementing relationships with the Mountain Clubs of Zimbabwe, Malawi, Kenya, Uganda and Kilimanjaro who are (or were) all involved in the CAMC, and also to make contact with other national mountain clubs. Once this is in place the aim would be to encourage and/or facilitate more mountain clubs on the continent to join the UIAA.

The MCSA is collaborating with the Mountain Club of Malawi to arrange a Pan Africa Meet in the upcoming year and also investigating reciprocal agreements in respect of the use of mountain huts and equipment.

Finally, subject to Covid constraints, the plan is to reinstitute joint mountaineering meets with mountain clubs on the continent. To this end, discussions have commenced for a meet in Namibia to climb Spitzkoppe and other crags/mountains near Windhoek and Swakopmund.

Report by

PAUL CARSTENSEN

UIAA Management Committee,
Continental Representative for Africa

Mountain Club of South Africa, MCSA



Photo credit: UAAA



Asia

CONTINENTAL OVERVIEW

The Union of Asian Alpine Associations (UAAA, founded in 1994), the leading mountaineering and climbing organisation in Asia, represents climbers and mountaineers on one of the largest continents in terms of population, density of high mountains and surface.

The UAAA stands for friendship, development and promotion of responsible mountaineering activities and climbing for all in Asia. The UAAA promotes respect for mountains, climbers and culture on a global scale in keeping with the values of the UIAA. It has also pledged to reduce its carbon emissions and promote the International Mountain Museum in Pokhara, Nepal as a centre of mountain culture worldwide.

Asia in Numbers

21

Number of
**UIAA member
associations in Asia**

18

Number of
Countries represented

Asia in 2021

The outbreak of Covid-19 suspended the annual activities of Asian mountaineering community. There were no major projects to discuss, but members continuously exchanged news related to Covid-19, expeditions, supporting member news through social media.

As of late 2021 and early 2022, the UAAA was ready to restart its projects and meet again in person.

One of the first gatherings will be the traditional Asian rock climbing and joint expedition in 2022 (details below).

ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2021

Some Presidential changes were confirmed across the continent.

The Indian Mountaineering Foundation (IMF) elected Dr Harshwanti Bisht, as its first female

president. Dr Bisht is a [full member of the UIAA Mountain Protection Commission](#). Mr Joong-ho Son is the new KAF President, Mr Ki-tae Byun is the new head of the Korean Alpine Club (CAC) while Mr Simon Maru was elected President of the Japan Mountaineering and Sports Climbing Association (JMSCA).

CAC has expanded and opened its second office in Seoul. The main office building will be used as a climbing academy with indoor climbing gym. The new facility is divided into three parts - office, library and cinema and is located at the foot of Mt. Bukhan and open for local people to experience mountain culture through mountain movie showing and the mountain book library. It is a noble initiative to communicate and educate mountain culture to local people and young people.

Due to Covid-19, no UAAA GA or council meetings were held in person. All matters was communicated online through the UAAA [website](#) and across the UAAA’s social media.

2022 THE YEAR AHEAD

The UAAA is pursuing a long-term goal of linking mountain museums across Asian members and building alliances that promote mountain cultural exchange, artifact preservation and mountain education through museum.

As alpinism is recognised as a [UNESCO's intangible cultural property](#), mountain museums must be expressed as part of this.

Scheduled meetings and projects include a council meeting in India by the IMF, a GA meeting in Nepal by the Nepal Mountaineering Association, an Asian joint expedition to Karly Tau Peak in Kazakhstan by MSFRK (Mountaineering & Sport Climbing Federation of the Republic of Kazakhstan) and a traditional rock-climbing festival in the same country.

[KAF \(Korean Alpine Federation\) celebrates its 60th anniversary in 2022.](#)

Report by

CHRISTINE PAE

UIAA Management Committee,
Continental Representative for Asia

General Secretary, UAAA
Korean Alpine Federation

Central & South America

CONTINENTAL OVERVIEW

Latin America and the Caribbean, as a macro-zone within the Americas, is presented as a geographical sector with great growth potential, since of more than 50 countries and territories that comprise it, only six are affiliated with UIAA (Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Guatemala and Mexico) which represents a clear opportunity for expansion in the region.

At this time, talks have been held with federations in Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru to encourage their incorporation into the UIAA within the year 2022. This would already double the number of associated members today.

Added to the above is the extensive work to reactivate the Pan American Confederation of Mountain and Climbing Sports - UPAME, which brings together countries from all over the continent and which has functioned, in the past, as a Continental Federation.

Activity in Latin America and the Caribbean In 2021

Sport activities suffered a great setback in 2021 throughout the region, given the high incidence of the Covid-19 pandemic and the restrictions on practicing sports outdoors or in public spaces.

This meant that many mountain projects scheduled for that year being postponed to 2022 or until such time as travel restrictions are more accessible.

Only towards the end of 2021 did some facilities start to reopen in line with Covid-19 countermeasures. This resulted in a true avalanche of people interested in mountain training and weekend sports outings in sectors close to their residences and cities of origin. This situation brought with it a substantial increase in mountain accidents,

creating stress throughout the emergency care system at the regional level, which has led to revisions of procedures and training of rescuers in several countries.

The interest in mountain sports extended to activities such as sport climbing, ski mountaineering and skyrunning, which has generated a whole new universe of enthusiasts of these disciplines.

Work must be done to channel this interest towards clubs and formal associations, to avoid accidents and mortality due to inexperience.

ACHIEVEMENTS AT A REGIONAL LEVEL

During 2021, it was possible to undertake some activities. At a sporting and administrative level, this very interesting for the region.

The Mountaineering Federation of Peru managed to organise important ascents in the “Cordillera Blanca” sector, most of them carried out by national climbers.

The Federation of Andinism and Climbing of Ecuador made several ascents to the sector of the Chimborazo Volcano, Cotopaxi and Pichincha, managing to reactivate a traditional mountaineering pole in that country.

The National Sports Federation of Mountain Sports and Climbing of Chile (FEACH) developed an online training process that allowed for a 1000% increase in the number of annual students graduating from the National Mountain School (ENAM), which made it possible to bring training to all regions of that vast country.

The Argentine Ski and Mountaineering Federation (FASA) also focused online training talks and ski mountaineering and climbing activities in the Chaltén area.

THE YEAR AHEAD, 2022

This year, FEACH of Chile celebrates 80 years since its foundation, being one of the oldest in Latin America and one of the oldest active members of the UIAA, since it joined in 1955.

To celebrate this significant event, FEACH has prepared a series of activities aimed across its clubs and associations, to be attended by members of other national federations and state authorities.

2022 Post-Pandemic Challenges

The challenge of the region is to return to the rich mountain activity that has characterised Latin America and the Caribbean, since there are so many great peaks and walls to climb, many of them still without open routes.

Work is being done on administrative projects (consolidation of UPAME, incorporation of new members at the regional level), sporting expeditions and projects (crossing the southern ice fields, climbing Mount Aconcagua through the Polish Glacier, crossings in El Chaltén, Huascarán, etc.) and to integrate Latin American regional development into mountain activity worldwide.

Report by

WILLY MONTENEGRO GARCIA

UIAA Management Committee,
Continental Representative for
Central & South America

FEACH, Chile

Central & South America in Numbers

6

Number of
**Member Associations in
Central & South America**

6

Number of
Countries represented

Europe

PART 1: CONTINENTAL OVERVIEW

Europe is the largest continental body in terms of UIAA membership. It houses some of the world's most diverse and iconic mountains and impressive rock faces with around three million federation members represented. Approximately 2.5 million come from alpine or mountainous countries in western Europe with a long history in climbing and mountaineering: Austria, France, Germany, Italy, Spain and Switzerland.



Map of EUMA membership.
Please refer to pages 19-21 for further details on the UIAA's membership in Europe

Europe in Numbers

55

Number of
UIAA member
associations

39

Number of
European
countries represented in the
UIAA

European Mountaineering Bodies

European Mountaineering Associations (EUMA) has grown impressively in stature since its creation in 2017, benefiting from Erasmus+ funding and offering a growing representation towards the European Union including collaboration with the EU Directorate.

EUMA has also become full member of the European Environmental Bureau. It has provided resolution to European Parliament MEPs regarding open borders and post-Covid support for mountaineering activities.



The Balkan Mountaineering Union founded in 2009 offers mutual collaboration, development and promotion of mountaineering and mountain sports in the Balkan region.



The Club Arc Alpin is the oldest of the three organisations and was formed in 1995 which represents eight alpine federations.

General Trends

Many European UIAA federations are interested and involved in competition sport, notably events organised by the UIAA (Ice Climbing), the International Federation for Sport Climbing (IFSC), the International Ski Mountaineering Federation (ISMF) and the International Sky Running Federation (ISF).

Mountains cover 36% of the European area. Probably the biggest issue in the mountains is climate change and the growing need at a policy level for mountains to be recognised as distinct from rural areas.

Many pan-European events, competitions and festivals were postponed due to Covid in 2021 and consequently a number of travel companies suffered with the lack of movement as well as mountain and outdoor workers taking the brunt of restrictions.

Generally speaking, and as noted in other Continental reports, a number of UIAA member associations experienced a rise in membership as more people visited their local hills and mountains in the era of international travel restrictions. This included federations in the Basque region, Denmark, Germany, Greece, the Netherlands and Romania.

PART 2: ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2021

Some European federations have had a particularly hard time with Covid. Credit to the UIAA Covid Taskforce for helping to provide travel and other information and to the EUMA Presidium for issuing a credit note for membership fees in 2022 for EUR 400 per member. An excellent gesture.

Despite the travel restrictions in 2021 there were many impressive ascents achieved on rock and in the mountain during the pandemic showing the strong character of climbers. But of course, the need for those not unnecessarily going on expeditions into fragile communities that could be affected by Covid was also important.

EUMA in 2021

The Erasmus+ flagship project on huts, trails and climbing areas was enthusiastically discussed by 21 member countries in workshops headed up by Andreas Aschaber, Secretary General of EUMA.

The Luxembourg Federation, Climbing, Rambling and Alpinism (FLERA) and the Mountaineering Federation of North Macedonia (FPSM) were welcomed as new members of EUMA which now has 25 full members and four associate members in 26 countries. EUMA also gained official observer status at the RUMRA and Smart Villages inter-group of the European Parliament.

Global warming, excessive tourism and landscape degradation require the very highest degree of multifaceted solutions. EUMA joined forces with the International Commission for the Protection of the Alps (CIPRA) and the Club Arc Alpin (CAA) at the end of November 2021. The three umbrella organisations committed themselves to strive for common activities on mountaineering and sustainability in European mountain regions.

EUMA, as a member of the European Environmental Bureau (EEB), started taking part in three EEB working groups: waste, water, climate and energy. The particular needs and interests of the EUMA members are represented actively in the regular working group meetings by Bojan Rotvnik and Andreas Aschaber who

also participated in the annual EEB conference in October 2021. Outreach Director Raul Cazan identified major tasks/goals achieved are establishing contacts with relevant members of the European Parliament, attending dedicated consultations, representation of EUMA in the EEB and more.

A 2022 Erasmus+ application has been made for an additional Project: Mountain sports activities in the realm of suitable development and the green deal. The long-term mission was presented by Bojan Rotovnik (PZS) and budget by meeting host Honza Bloudek (CHS). All existing EUMA Board members including President Roland Stierle (DAV) were elected for a further term.

BMU in 2021

Among noteworthy news from members of the BMU, the Croatian Mountaineering Association enriched its website with an Interactive Mountaineering Map of Croatia. A mountaineering lexicon of over 700 mountaineering terms was published too.



The UIAA Alpine Skills Summer handbook was translated into Macedonian by the Mountaineering Federation of North Macedonia (FPSM) with UIAA cooperation and technical support from The Petzl Foundation.



Credit: BMU/Ivan Bukvić

The [BMU photo award](#) was presented to winner Ivan Bukvić by a jury from four countries.

CAA in 2021

The CCA published the following guides and information:

[CAA Position on E-Mountain bikes \(Pedelces\)](#)

There is a rather general position paper taking into account the consensus of CCA members especially on electric mountain biking.

Safety recommendations for MTBs

This [document](#) has been updated to include a section on electric mountain bikes. It is intended for use by CAA member associations for their communication and publications.



In 2021 [posters on “climbing outdoors”](#) were finalised, and the CAA published the “wolf leaflet”.

A joint hut data interface is “under construction”, as well as a new “availability check for multi-day-tours” in the framework of the common online reservation system, both under leadership of the Austrian Alpine Club, but approved by the CAA GA, and for a good extent funded by the CAA.

EVENTS & NEWS INCORPORATING UIAA CONTINENTAL MEMBERS

[EUMA's Erasmus plus project put forward by Mountaineering Federation of North Macedonia \(FPSM\)](#)

As a partner, the FPSM is participating in the Erasmus+ project “EUMA – improvement of good governance of climbing and mountaineering in Europe”.

The analysis provided the FPSM with a deep insight of the situation with the mountain huts, trails and climbing sites, not only in North Macedonia, but in 13 other countries in Europe. FPSM has used the findings to approach the Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning and to request support for systematic solutions of problems concerning huts, trails and climbing sites.

[The British Mountaineering Councils \(BMC\) “The Climate Project” and “Climate checklists”](#)

The BMC put forward “The Climate Project” focusing on changing the environment with peat bogs.

[Your Climate Checklists from the BMC](#)

Want to know more about how you can reduce your own personal carbon footprint and lessen your impact on the environment? The BMC has tried to make it simple for its members by producing three separate checklists:

- [Your Day to Day Checklist](#)
- [Office & Organisational Checklist](#)
- [Events & Meetings Checklist](#)



In December 2021 [‘Irish Peaks’ won the Best Guidebook Award at the Banff Mountain Book Awards](#). Produced by Mountaineering Ireland in 2020 this guide to Ireland’s highest mountains includes an introduction from Mike Maunsell, UIAA Mountain Protection Commission Vice President, and a chapter on Ireland’s mountain environments covering geology, ecology and biodiversity.

The Basque Mountaineering Federation is very proud to have reached the milestone of 40,000 federal mountaineering licences out of 2,200,000 citizens in the Basque Country confirming the region’s rich heritage in mountaineering.

The Alpine Club (UK) highlighted two initiatives:

[Women Rise Up!](#)

An AC open meet for women to celebrate the first ascent of the Matterhorn by a woman, Lucy Walker [daughter of Horace W. of Walker Spur fame] in 1871. This meet, lead by Adele Long and organised jointly with Nick Smith was designed specifically for women alpinists from all over the globe. An amazing response of over 200 applications had to be whittled down to 12.

The initiative was sponsored by the host resort of Zermatt and supported by the town’s first lady mayor Romy Biner-Hauser. Also in attendance were Françoise Jaquet, who was the first female President of the Swiss Alpine Club and is a current

UIAA EB member, as well as Viola Amherd, the first female Defence, Civil Protection and Sport Minister of Switzerland.

[The Alpine Club Casts](#) (webinars) have been a phenomenal success. A range of international climbers including Mick Fowler, Simon Richardson, Jerry Gore, Rab Carrington, Rick Allen, Cathy O’Dowd, Chris Bonington, Stephen Venables and Conrad Anker, amongst many others have contributed.

ANNUAL MEETINGS

The CAA GA took place online on 11 September due to the travel difficulties associated with Covid. Here is a [resume](#) of their meeting.

The EUMA GA was also held in Prague. An excellent event was followed by climbing at Pratchov rocks and hiking in a warm, vibrant atmosphere hosted by the Czech Mountaineering Federation. The BMU GA also took place in Prague.

The Pan-Baltic hiking conference on 15 November followed up on the concept of [“Baltic Trails”](#), a newly created network of long-distance, cross boarder hiking trails connecting Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania supported by Interreg European Regional Development Fund.

[This is recognised as an excellent initiative with attendees from hiking tourism brands, trail planning specialists, municipalities, maintenance organisations and tourism organisations as well as EUMA represented.](#)

Participation in competition sports, such as Skyrunning, is becoming increasingly popular among European members. Photo credit: @jsaragossa



PART 3:**THE YEAR AHEAD, 2022**

The United Nations General Assembly has designated 2022 as the International Year of Sustainable Mountain Development.



The [Caucasus Environmental Outlook](#), to be published in 2022, will be a state-of-the-art report on the environmental status and trends of the Caucasus Mountain region, which encompasses parts of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Iran, Russia and Turkey.

2022 is FEDME's, UIAA founding member, centenary. A number of significant celebrations will be held across the year.

The next EUMA GA will be held in April 2022 in Skopje, North Macedonia, hosted by the Mountaineering Federation of North Macedonia (FPSM). The event will be held in conjunction with the UIAA Management Committee meetings.

European & World Championships

The UIAA Ice Climbing 2021-22 season has already run four European events in 2021 and 2022 with offer the UIAA European Championships from 18-20 February in [Oulu, Finland](#). The organisers, FINICE, are one of the first adopters of

the UIAA's [sustainability standards](#) for ice climbing competitions.

[SkySnow](#), the new Skyrunning discipline, will launch the first World Championships on 4-5 February, in Andalusia at the Sierra Nevada Ski and Mountain Resort, Granada, Spain.

The [IFSC European Championships](#) are to be held in Munich, Germany from 11-21 August.

The [European Ski Mountaineering Championships](#) will be held in the Pyrenees on 9-13 February.

In November 2021 it was confirmed that former UIAA Vice President Thomas Kähr stepped down as ISMF President. [Major achievements](#) at the ISMF include a new strategic direction, the successful application as an Olympic sport (for Milano Cortina 2026), the conclusion of the media partnership with Eurovision Sport, the set-up of captive marketing and sales resources, as well as the establishment of a sustainable collaboration with "La Grande Course".

Other Events

Key 2022 dates for the EUMA Erasmus+ project are as [follows](#).

The following events will also be held in 2022:

- Trails workshop: Bechyně, Czech Republic, 1-3 April
- Rock climbing areas: Osp, Slovenia, 8-10 April
- Huts workshop (subject to change): Skopje, North Macedonia, 1-3 May
- CAA meet: Ljubljana, Slovenia, 13-14 May



Credit: FINICE/Oskari Pajunpää

Report by**ANNE ARRAN**

UIAA Management Committee
Continental Representative for Europe
British Mountaineering Council



Credit: Rob Simon, Burst Marketing

North America**CONTINENTAL OVERVIEW****North America in 2021**

North America includes two full UIAA members: the Alpine Club of Canada (ACC) and the American Alpine Club (AAC) as well as three associate members. Both organisations are stable and continue to grow. Coincidentally, both are in search of new leaders for their staff teams.

The ACC produces the annual [State of the Mountains Report](#) to provide accessible, current and accurate information about the forces that affect Canadian mountain places, ecosystems and communities.

In January, 2022, the ACC announced that they had been selected by Parks Canada to operate the historic Twin Falls Tea House National Historic Site of Canada in Yoho National Park. Extensive renovations are planned and it will be a stellar addition to its network of [backcountry huts](#), the largest in North America.

The AAC continues to grow its climbing grants programme with the addition of the Dillon Blanksma Best Day of the Year Grant. Despite Covid difficulties, UIAA Ice Climbing programmes

continue to operate in the North America with a number of youth competitions and a [UIAA Ice Climbing North American Championships](#) scheduled for early 2022 in Ouray, Colorado.

Perhaps the most important initiative at the AAC is the creation of [Climb United](#) – an effort to welcome greater diversity to the climbing world. Alienating route names and access to teachers and mentors remain hurdles for many.

As the AAC explains: *Climbing culture is rich with traditions – some worth celebrating, and some that need reexamining. On one hand, we celebrate values such as perseverance, conservation, and community. On the other, we allow practices that lead to the exclusion of some. Discriminatory route names, underrepresentation in imagery and story, and practices that limit access to climbing are some of the ways that women, people with disabilities, Black, Indigenous, people of color, and LGBTQ+ individuals are made to feel unwelcome and unsafe in the climbing community.*

Climb United will work to provide principles and guidelines for publishing climbing route names, offer scholarships where appropriate to AAC programmes and affiliate networks.

Report by**PHIL POWERS**

UIAA Management Committee,
Continental Representative for North America
American Alpine Club

North America in Numbers**5**

Number of
**UIAA member
associations**

2

Number of
Countries represented



Photo credits: Stuart Gray (above), Stock Library (right)

Oceania

CONTINENTAL OVERVIEW

Oceania in 2021

Like other regions, Oceania in 2021 was deeply impacted by the Covid pandemic. In Australia, New Zealand and other parts of Oceania, facilities were closed or had strictly limited access, lockdowns of differing severity were enacted at a country, state or city level. Air travel between countries was much reduced with managed isolation periods on arrival for those small numbers travelling.

Despite this local climbers, when permitted, did manage to get out into the hills and onto the crags. A near complete lack of international tourists had the benefit of fewer people at popular locations, but badly impacted the local guiding community and local infrastructure such as accommodation which had developed on the back of growing international visitor numbers.

The latter half of 2021 (spring season) saw excellent ice conditions in the Southern Alps and there was much activity on classic snow and ice routes plus some new routes. The outstanding Darrans region saw activity by a dedicated group on hard multi pitch rock routes.

Access issues continued to be at the fore in both Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand. The engagement of the climbing community with traditional land owners and the building of trust and mutual understanding is fundamental to the future of climbing and mountaineering in these countries. This takes both time and capability which is challenging in a largely volunteer, independent minded sport.

Achievements

In New Zealand the Aotearoa Climbing Access Trust was established as a fundraising and advocacy body. It has enabled the purchase of a popular climbing crag in the North Island.

The Trust is a positive step forward as a mechanism for the NZ climbing community to purchase and manage private land that is threatened with closure and is modelled on the US Access Fund.

In Australia the threat of closed access became reality for many parts of Gariwerd (Grampian Ranges) as well as Djuritte/Mount Arapiles in the state of Victoria, following traditional owners concern at the impact of climbing on places of cultural significance.

Discussions have been ongoing for some years on the issues, including the use of chalk and bolting. Local climbing clubs and other groups such as Crag Stewards are working to educate local climbers on the cultural concerns and how to appropriately behave. Please refer to: <https://savegrampiansclimbing.org>

Covid and the inability to travel overseas has led to people turning towards their local environment. Both Australia and New Zealand are seeing large numbers of first-time outdoor users. This augurs well for the future.

The NZAC and other clubs are seeing growth in membership after an initial period of decline.

2022, THE YEAR AHEAD

The spread of Omicron in the first part of 2022 makes it hard to plan and forecast this coming year. Challenges that lie ahead include the likely start by the NZ government of a major review of conservation legislation including governance of iconic alpine National Parks.

For Australia continuing engagement with access issues will be challenging but essential, coupled with growing awareness by climbers of their environmental and cultural impact.

For both countries there is a re-evaluation underway of international tourism, including outdoor recreation, and how a rebuild of this industry should be centred on sustainable practices.

Report by

STUART GRAY

UIAA Management Committee,
Continental Representative for Oceania
New Zealand Alpine Club

Oceania in Numbers

1891

Year the **New Zealand Alpine Club** was founded

13

New Zealand Alpine Club sections
(including one in Australia)

PARTNERS



BALLY PEAK OUTLOOK FOUNDATION
theuiaa.org/mountain-protection-award/



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INTERNATIONAL
OBSERVER MEMBERS



ICAR
International Commission for Alpine Rescue



IFMGA
International Federation of Mountain Guides Associations



UIMLA
Union of International Mountain Leader Associations



ISA
International Slackline Association

MEMBERSHIPS AND
AFFILIATIONS



ARISF
Association of IOC Recognised International Sport Federations



GAISF
Global Association of International Sports Federations



MRI
Mountain Research Initiative



PEACE AND SPORT
peace-sport.org

PARTNERS & SPONSORS

The Bern office and Executive Board are continually exploring new commercial opportunities and means of approaching sponsors as well as increasing the UIAA's international network through partnerships with likeminded organisations.



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



The Bally Peak Outlook Foundation, partners of the **UIAA Mountain Protection Award**, was established in 2020, demonstrating the Swiss luxury brand's long-term commitment to mountain preservation. With a mission to safeguard fragile alpine environments from the adverse effects of global warming and excessive outdoor tourism, the Bally Peak Outlook Foundation aims to raise awareness around the issues threatening the future of these extreme landscapes and empowering local communities and reputable, on-the-ground partners to drive positive and sustainable change. To learn more, visit Bally.com/peakoutlook



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NOTES:

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.



UIAA

International Climbing and Mountaineering Federation

UNION INTERNATIONALE DES ASSOCIATIONS D'ALPINISME

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