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Cover photo: Receding Mer de Glace glacier, French Alps.

Cover image: Credit: Stock Library.
**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)
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)

[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 2023.

**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 94 member associations and federations in 69 countries.

**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 our worldwide community.

For the climbers. For the mountains. For the world.

**Further Reading:**
[theuiaa.org/about]
We have been very busy in 2022. You will recall and bridge for the UIAA – mountaineering is a human dynamic that brings remaining convinced that the interpersonal interaction of meetings, such as our to the many projects and tasks we have worked on over the past year. But I hope that you will assist us in that work. An Ice Climbing Working Group (ICWG) was set up as an advisory agent to help ice climbing. I am still convinced that the UIAA is based on conversion – both in governance and development of Commission task descriptions which are and the Commissions and Commission project commitments to ensuring that sustainability pillar: the UIAA’s latest strategic plan, the 2022-2023 Strategic Plan and the general goals underlying this strategic plan, communicate our sport, safety and sustainability, and the pillar aims general goals. The pillar aims same. We have had a busy year of projects and programmes designed to help with the flow of information, clarify paths of processes and steps to ensure responsibility, and make the best from the Commissions required attention. The Commissions’ WG highlighted key needs; the Ice Climbing Commission and the Alpine Club of Canada. The Alpine Club of Canada. Both our Safety and our Medical Commissions the sport we love is under much of what we do would not be possible. We hope that you will assist us in that work.

CLIMATE CHANGE TASKFORCE

It was for this reason that in early 2022, I asked the UIAA to discuss the future of the UIAA and the Commissions, the MC and the EB. And of course, we have taken big steps in ice climbing. I have had concern for some time continue to be a strength of our organisation. And of course, we have taken big steps in ice climbing. I have had concern for some time have asked the UIAA to present to the MC a plan for renewed development – both in governance and development. I hope that you will assist us in that work. And, we have encouraged and are happy to have received (continued)
UAM Executive Review 2022

JANUARY 2022
- Members invited to support Mountain Worker Initiative
- Ice Climbing World Champions crowned in Saas-Fee
- Skyrunning: Inaugural SkySnow World Championships
- Safety: Guidance on retiring carabiners

FEBRUARY 2022
- UIAA Commissions outline priorities for 2022
- Reminder: Access to mountain huts for UIAA members

MARCH 2022
- Sustainability standards set for UIAA Ice Climbing events

APRIL 2022
- UIAA commissions in Sydney and the Redoser
- First UIAA Global Members Newsletter released

MAY 2022
- Spring meetings held in Rome
- Medical video: How to prevent altitude sickness
- Release of 2021 Annual Report

JUNE 2022
- SafeCom outlines progress on guidelines
- SafeCom launched a training event

JULY 2022
- Statement on Hong Kong’s place of honour
- Work continues on new guidelines

AUGUST 2022
- High-altitude mountain rescue simulation
- First international youth camp in Kyrgyzstan
- UIAA Global Mountain Protection Award released
- Review: UIAA Management Committee meeting

SEPTEMBER 2022
- Statement from French mountaineering community
- Women at high confirmations
- UIA outline: UIAA Safety Label Mountain Protection Award. 16 nominees confirmed

OCTOBER 2022
- Review: 2022 UIAA General Assembly
- Commissions outline priorities and projects for 2023
- 2022 UIAA Mountain Protection Award winner announced
- UIAA & Policy brief on keeping mountains plastic waste free
- Calendar: 2022-23 UIAA Ice Climbing World Tour

NOVEMBER 2022
- Review: First UIAA Climate Change Summit
- UIAA & the UNFCCC Sports for Climate Action Framework
- Update to Environmental Objectives and Guidelines

DECEMBER 2022
- Club Alpino Italiano re-admission to the UIAA
- Review: First UIAA Climate Change Summit
- UIAA & the UNFCCC Sports for Climate Action Framework
- Update to Environmental Objectives and Guidelines

All stories detailed in this section are covered in this Annual Report, notably in the Commissions chapter.
The 2022 UIAA General Assembly (GA) was held in Banff, Canada on Saturday 29 October and hosted by the Alpine Club of Canada (ACC). It marked the UIAA’s 82nd GA and the third in Banff following meetings in 1988 and 2006.

PLENARY SESSION

Over a hundred delegates from 40 different countries and as many different international climbing organisations attended the first in-person UIAA GA since 2019.

Among the invited guests were: former UIAA President Frits Vrijlandt; Marco Scolaris, President of the International Federation of Sport Climbing (IFSC); Jan Bloudek representing the European Union of Mountaineering Associations (EUMA); Stéphane Lozachmèra from The Petzl Foundation; Pier Giorgio Oliveti, representing the Club Alpino Italiano (CAI), and François Masse from Parks Canada. The UIAA also received a message from International Olympic Committee (IOC) President Thomas Bach: “The UIAA has been at the forefront to promote responsible mountaineering practices. From protecting the precious alpine environments, to advancing sustainable mountaineering sports like climbing, to raising young people with a respect for nature, you have led the way to demonstrate how the sporting community can contribute to promote the Olympic values.”

Peter Muir, able to lead in his first in-person GA as President, opened the Plenary Session. Muir detailed the progress of the UIAA Strategic Plan, noting the closer collaboration between the UIAA Management Committee and Commissions and confirmed the recent decision to create two new UIAA Commissions – Legal Affairs and Training. Muir also highlighted the UIAA’s ambition to diversify its membership.

In a special vote, Club Alpino Italiano, a founding member of the UIAA, was re-elected as a full member. Its membership will take immediate effect on completion of the submission of its membership requirements. Once this process is complete, it will mark a significant development which sees one of the world’s most prominent Alpine clubs return to the UIAA family.

There were no Executive Board (EB) elections meaning the composition of the seven-strong UIAA EB remains the same.

UIAA Management Committee elections:

- Josef Klenner (DAV, Germany) was re-elected as a Largest Federation Representative
- Young Hoon Oh (KAF, Korea) was elected as Continental Representative for Asia, replacing Christine Pae (KAF) whose term came to an end.
- Joachim Driessen (NKBV, Netherlands) was re-elected as a General Representative

In addition to the return of CAI, the UIAA welcomed three new member federations. This included the election of two new full members from South America:

- Ecuador: Federación Ecuatoriana de Andinismo y Escalada
- Peru: Federación Deportiva Peruana de Escalada

A new associate member from India was also elected:

- India: Atal Bihari Vajpayee Institute of Mountaineering and Allied Sports (ABVIMAS)

From 1 January, 2023, the UIAA will represent 94 member organisations from 69 countries on six continents. They are comprised of 69 full members, one unit member, 18 associate members and six international observer members.

The election of the two new full members is particularly significant, extending the UIAA’s presence in Central and South America to seven countries.

Three panel discussions addressed principally the progress the UIAA Commissions are making in view of the federation’s main projects and alignment with current Strategic Plan, a topic further addressed by UIAA General Secretary Lode Beckers. During the GA, the UIAA also presented the new edition of the Alpine Summer Skills Handbook, produced in partnership with The Petzl Foundation.

Both the UIAA budget results for 2022 and forecast for 2023 were approved. The GA also agreed to waive the 2022 membership fee for the Ukrainian Mountaineering and Climbing Federation. Piotr Pustelnik, President of the Polish Mountaineering Association, also addressed the initiatives his federation has set up to support Ukrainian youth climbers. Further details can be found here.

Further details on the focus of each Commission and Strategic Plan projects are provided here and in the Commission chapters of this Annual Report.
CLIMATE CHANGE WORKSHOP

The UIAA is committed to helping combat the impact of climate change. Earlier this year the UIAA reconfirmed this commitment by creating a Climate Change Task Force. Furthermore the federation recently signed the UNFCCC Sports for Climate Action Declaration committing itself to action on climate change.

The Workshop took place in Geneva, Switzerland and was the first major mountain site in Canada lost to climate change, and then森林公园 Colin McCallum from the University of Calgary, gave a presentation titled ‘The implications of warmer winters for mountain huts?’. McCallum detailed on the ed information on the Abbot Pass Refuge Cabin, including: ade the famous Banff Mountain Film and Book Festival and Climbing Klim prepared to discuss topics related to mountain and mountaineering activities now and in the for Climate Action’. The GA host was Larry Shiu (Executive Director), for their hospitality and excellent hosting of the event. A photo library from the General Assembly can be found here.

CLIMBING AND OUTDOOR RECREATION INVOLVES

Lots of travel. How can it be avoided and/or reduced in a climber’s role as (a) a mountain guide? (b) an event organizer? (c) a federation diplomat? (d) an athlete?

How could member federations specifically support the UNFCCC S4CA Framework? Are members supporting UIAA’s commitments to sustainability and climate change in an informal format, to learn and to better understand needs and expectations of member federations.

The UIAA General Assembly is held in Lisbon, Portugal, at the Intercontinental Hotel, from November 19th to 22nd, 2023. The Assembly will cover topics relating to mountaineering, alpinism, and the environment, and will be attended by representatives from member federations around the world. The event will include a range of sessions, including plenary meetings, workshops, and networking events. The UIAA is committed to helping combat the impact of climate change and this Assembly is an opportunity for member federations to discuss and develop strategies to address climate change. The event will also celebrate the achievements of mountaineers and climbing guides.

The UIAA General Assembly is the premier event for the international mountaineering community. It is held every year to bring together member federations from around the world to discuss important issues and initiatives related to mountaineering, alpinism, and the environment. The Assembly is a key opportunity for members to network, share ideas, and develop strategies to address the challenges facing the mountaineering community.

List of Past General Assemblies

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PART 2: WHO’S WHO

UIAA Executive Board Members

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Zoljargal BANZragch (Vice President)
Mongolia
Mongolian National Climbing Federation

Muriel BECKERS (General Secretary)
Belgium
Climbing & Mountaineering Belgium

Françoise JAQUET (Treasurer)
Switzerland
Swiss Alpine Club

Martin LASCANO (Board Member)
Argentina
Federación Argentina de Ski y Andinismo

Amit CHOWDHURY (Board Member)
India
Indian Mountaineering Foundation

Mahmood HASHEMI (Board Member)
Iran
Iran Mountaineering and Sport Climbing Federation

Peter MUIR (President)
Canada
Alpine Club of Canada
Dear Colleagues:

I wish to apply for a place on the UIAA Management Committee. I have been the chair (now president) of the Training Panel for 14 years (since 2006) and have taken a strong role in developing the aims and objectives of this very active group. We have found that training has become an increasingly important factor in the motivation for joining the UIAA expressed by new members. I intend to continue leading this group for a few more years, and also to continue working on training projects when international travel becomes viable again.

I would like to take a more active role in the management of the UIAA goals and delivery. I believe that as an active climber and mountaineer I have a good understanding and connection with "grassroots" participants and their needs. I also believe that the UIAA needs to develop more tangible services that climbers and mountaineers will value, and thereby empower both the member organisations and the UIAA itself. The UIAA can collect information from its member organisations and use this data to filter and analyse information that is otherwise virtually impossible to collect. It can also increase its visibility to grassroot members and reassert its position as the foremost world authority on mountaineering values, protection of the mountain environment and development of sport by working in close harmony with partner organisations in both the voluntary and professional sectors.

Yours Sincerely,

Steve Long
Mountaineering Instructor and British Mountain Guide
The UIAA Office is located in Bern. The staff working in Switzerland are responsible for running the daily operations of the UIAA. In the staff’s daily commitment, they strive 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). Detailed profiles of the Office staff will be available on the updated UIAA website (as of summer 2023).

UIAA Experts

UIAA Office

A UIAA communication series focuses on the backgrounds of some of the hundreds of experts who volunteer precious time and considerable dedication to the federation each year. Below are a selection of profiles covered to date. For further details on how to volunteer for the UIAA, or join a UIAA Commission, please contact the UIAA Office.

UIAA Experts

Staff Allocation 2022

For further details on how to volunteer for the UIAA, or join a UIAA Commission, please contact the UIAA Office.
PART 3: FINANCE & MEMBERSHIP

Membership List

The UIAA closed 2022 with 94 Member Associations, comprising 69 full members, 1 unit member, 18 associate members and 6 observer members from 69 different countries, making a total of approximately 3.2 million individual members.

Please note these figures reflect the four membership changes at the 2022 UIAA General Assembly:

- **Readmission as full member:**
  - Club Alpino Italiano, Italy

- **New full members:**
  - Federacion Ecuatoriana de Andinismo y Escalada, Ecuador
  - Federación Deportiva Peruana de Escalada, Peru

- **New associate member:**
  - Atal Bihari Vajpayee Institute of Mountaineering and Allied Sports, India

Promoting and encouraging solidarity between its member associations has always been a core principle of the UIAA. A recent example has been the support that the Polish Mountaineering Association (PZA) has offered Ukrainian climbers ever since the Russian invasion of Ukraine. The PZA has created a project to offer Ukrainian climbers accommodation, training and coaching support, participation in international competition, medical assistance and emergency relief. To discover more and financially support the project click [here](#).

### FULL MEMBERS

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RESULTS 2022

INCOME 2022

- Ice Climbing 31%
- Safety Label 17%
- Commissions 8%
- Grants 3%
- Project Support 24%
- Staff UIAA 15%
- Meetings 9%
- Admin 5%
- Services 9%

EXPENSES 2022

- Ice Climbing 23%
- Safety 3%
- Commissions 9%
- Meetings 9%
- Admin 5%
- Services 9%
- Project Support 24%
- Staff UIAA 15%

NOTES

- Fee invoices were paid by our member federations, 10'000 outstanding.
- Additional freelance expert at 20% for social media to temporarily replace project manager (maternity leave).
- Staff - Federation: 4'100 were included in the 2021 PLS, 6'000 spent, pending project, execution 2023.
- Mountaineering, Access: 22'500 higher than budget – additional freelance expert hired.
- General Assembly: 19'000 lower than budget due to revised allocation of travel and accommodation for Office and WG Support.
Balance Sheet

31 DECEMBER 2021 31 DECEMBER 2022 NOTES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ASSETS - CHF</th>
<th>2021</th>
<th>2022</th>
<th>COMMENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash and cash equivalents</td>
<td>636'055</td>
<td>489'441</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Receivables</td>
<td>4'052</td>
<td>1'669</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepayments and accrued income</td>
<td>13'790</td>
<td>74'078</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inventory</td>
<td>5'000</td>
<td>5'000</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL ASSETS</strong></td>
<td><strong>658'897</strong></td>
<td><strong>570'188</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LIABILITIES, FUNDS</th>
<th>CHF</th>
<th>COMMENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<tr>
<td>Accounts payable</td>
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<td>Accounts payable and accrued income</td>
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<td>Total third party liabilities</td>
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<td>Cash and cash equivalents</td>
<td>636'055</td>
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<td><strong>570'188</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes

A - Cash and cash equivalents (*)
B - Receivables (*)
C - Prepayments and accrued income (*)
D - Solidarity fund
E - Accounts payable (*)
F - Accounts payable and accrued income (*)
G - Cash and cash equivalents (*)
H - Receivables (*)

Part 3: Finance & Membership

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

General provision: 31 December 2022 87’136
Conditional vote for general provision 2’000
General provision after new allocation 85’136
Net result 7’511
PART 4: Continental Reports

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. As of 2022, the UIAA in collaboration with the Continental Representatives, produces a global member’s newsletter designed to share the latest information from the UIAA’s 94 member associations from 69 countries.

The UIAA also recognises the following Continental organisations:

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

**Achievements**

Progress has been made on forming closer relationships with the Uganda, Kenya, Malawi, Zimbabwe, Kilimanjaro Mountain Clubs. The positive news is that the Zambia Climbing Federation has recently joined the Confederation of African Mountain Clubs (CAMC) and is interested in joining the UIAA. Regular communication now occurs with the members of the CAMC and includes UIAA news and MCSA newsletters. Following on the proposal of Maggie O’Toole for a Pan-African meet, the MCSA received the proposal for a climbing/hiking meet at Mt Mulanje: Africa’s Island in the Sky. There is a strong possibility that a Pan-African meet will be held in 2023. This would build on the 2022 joint meeting between the MCSA (Johannesburg and Magaliesberg sections) and the Namibia Mountain Club (which is also a MCSA section). Johannesburg section expeditions committee member, Marthinus Swart, has become involved in this initiative.

A joint meet was held in August 2022 between the MCSA (Johannesburg and Magaliesberg sections) and the Namibia Mountain Club to climb the iconic, granite Spitzkoppe and to explore the climbs in the Erongo Mountains at Omandumba. A further meet at Spitzkoppe will be held in July 2023.

The MCSA continues to grow, develop and evolve. To this end, the federation is excited to welcome a new section: Limpopo. It was created in November with approximately 73 members, nine of whom are existing MCSA members.

**Climate Change Taskforce (CCTF)**

An initial meeting of an informal MCSA CCTF was held during 2022 National Camp. Maretha Alant who is also part of the UIAA Mountain Protection Commission chaired the meeting. The members who volunteered for this vital committee are Norman and Margie Owen-Smith, Ed Kay-Shuttleworth, Marietjie Louw, Lesley McGwynn, Christa van Schalkwyk, Hanlie Schmidt, Chris Tobler, Colleen Flanegan, Morgan Griffiths and Bronwyn Eagan. The aim is that each section will nominate at least one representative to serve on the sub-committee.
Asia

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

In 2023, many member federations in Asia completed more than 1000 events that had been initially postponed or cancelled, following the worst specific year.

China

The Chinese Mountaineering Association (CMA) organised 74 mountain climbing competitions across China and other regional level events, such as the International Mountaineering Climb Competition, held in Lijiang, Yunnan Province. The CMA also organised a number of its large national and regional level events, such as the International Mountaineering Climb Competition, held in Lijiang, Yunnan Province. The CMA also organised a number of its large national and regional level events, such as the International Mountaineering Climb Competition, held in Lijiang, Yunnan Province. The CMA also organised a number of its large national and regional level events, such as the International Mountaineering Climb Competition, held in Lijiang, Yunnan Province.

Secondly, China is getting ready to organise the Everest Platinum Summit of Mt. Seoraksan. In November, as anticipated, the Chinese Alpine Club (CAC) will host the first traditional Rock Climbing Festival of Mt. Seoraksan. In an official statement that staunchly condemned the cancellation of the 2021 event, the CAC noted the UAAA’s continued efforts against the cancellation and the decision of the CAC’s president to organise the event in September was a notable achievement in environmental conservation and also to describe how many high mountains.

Finally, the Chinese Alpine Club (CAC) has organised the 15th Mountain Festival at the 30th anniversary of the UAAA, the representatives of local students enjoyed themselves at the quiz and environmental awareness session.

Korea

The Korean Alpine Federation, KAF, re-elected as President. He will be in charge until 2024.

Among other major decisions made was that the 2022 UIAA Ice Climbing World Cup events are one of the top events in the UIAA calendar; the 2023 UIAA Ice Climbing World Cup will be held in Japan – where the organisation was inaugurated in 1994.

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In Nepal, the NMA will be busy organising several events, including the 20th Anniversary of International Mountaineer’s Day (IMM) in Pokhara, 10-11 December, with a variety of programmes, including documentary screenings, an exhibition of traditional mountaineering gear, and in particular several interesting sessions particularly for students, tourism entrepreneurs, and academics.

ANNUAL CONTINENTAL MEETINGS

UAAA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The UAAA General Assembly took place in Delhi, India, on 27 November, at the home of the Indian Mountaineering Foundation. The meeting format was hybrid with both online and offline presence. Representatives from the IMF, IMHSA (Malaysia), IMHSA (Japan), IMHSA (India) took part. The Summit of Mt. Seoraksan, in November, as anticipated, the Chinese Alpine Club (CAC) will host the first traditional Rock Climbing Festival of Mt. Seoraksan. In an official statement that staunchly condemned the cancellation of the 2021 event, the CAC noted the UAAA’s continued efforts against the cancellation and the decision of the CAC’s president to organise the event in September was a notable achievement in environmental conservation and also to describe how many high mountains.

2023: THE YEAR AHEAD

Planning is underway between members of the executive board of the MCSA and the continent as a whole.

REPORT BY

PAUL CARSTENSEN

UAAA Management Committee, Continental Representative for Africa

Mountain Club of South Africa, MCSA
Central and South America

The Central and South American region has maintained a constant growth over the past decade, which was only halted during the height of the Covid-19 pandemic. Currently, the efforts of UAAs members in the region have focused on returning to normality, encouraging the development of competition sports, expeditions, technical training and seminars. This process has been slow and demanding, but there is great confidence in returning to momentum built up to 2019 during the year 2023.

EXPANSION IN 2022

At the 2022 UAA General Assembly, the longstanding ambition of the UAA to welcome more regions from the continent to its family was realized with the inclusion of new members from Ecuador (Federación Andina de Escalada), Chile and Argentina (Federación de Ascensores de Escalada). In this recovery work, the local mountaineering federations contributed with their knowledge as a valuable asset to the development of mountain rescue specialists. This programme aims to provide the necessary tools for the safe practice of climbing in the mountain environment. This programme will be extended and will be carried out in collaboration with the Chilean Association of Mountain and Rescue Specialists (El Chalten). FASA will also work on the logging of mountain accidents, in conjunction with the assistance commissions of the clubs that contain such areas within their administrative sphere.

 achievEs A regionAL leveL

SPORTS AND INSTITUTIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS IN CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA IN 2022

During 2022, the focus of the federations was on returning to normality, encouraging the development of competition sports, expeditions, technical training and seminars. The good news is that 2022 showed the beginning of the process of restructuring of competition and sport departments, in order to re-establish the clear vision of the club in this aspect. During 2022, the region was able to welcome new full members from Ecuador (Federación Andina de Escalada), Chile and Argentina (Federación de Ascensores de Escalada). In the continental level, the UAA has begun discussions with federations in Bolivia, Colombia and Paraguay, regarding the future incorporation in the UAA in the near future. During these advances, it is worth mentioning the Federación de Escalada Venezuela (FEAVE), which brings together countries from all over the continent and which was made up of countries from Mexico in the north, to Chile and Argentina in the south. The re-establishment of FEAVE will ensure closer collaboration between Pan American federations and will yield many results already in the short term.

ARTIFICIES IN CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA IN 2022

An important event in the region was the inauguration of the UIAA in the Central and South American region. This event was held in the context of the crisis caused by the Covid-19 pandemic, which required the leadership of the UAA to reinforce the UIAA training programme, which aims to provide the necessary tools for the safe practice of climbing in the mountain environment. This programme will be extended and will be carried out in collaboration with the Chilean Association of Mountain and Rescue Specialists (El Chalten). FASA will also work on the logging of mountain accidents, in conjunction with the assistance commissions of the clubs that contain such areas within their administrative sphere.

ACHIEVEMENTS A regionAL leveL

sports and institutional achievements

During the year 2022 it was again possible to host a number of interesting activities at a sports and administrative level. The good news is that 2022 showed the beginning of the process of restructuring of competition and sport departments, in order to re-establish the clear vision of the club in this aspect.

ACTIVITYs IN CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA IN 2022

During 2022, the UAA Annual Report, sport activities suffered a setback due to the Covid-19 pandemic, which required the leadership of the UAA to reinforce the UIAA training programme, which aims to provide the necessary tools for the safe practice of climbing in the mountain environment. This programme will be extended and will be carried out in collaboration with the Chilean Association of Mountain and Rescue Specialists (El Chalten). FASA will also work on the logging of mountain accidents, in conjunction with the assistance commissions of the clubs that contain such areas within their administrative sphere.

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During 2022, FEDPE developed an extensive programme of activities including: "Mountaineering Training Programme": This programme aims to provide the necessary tools for the safe practice of climbing in the mountain environment. This programme will be extended during 2023 and 2024 to continue with its High Mountains and Climbing of Greatness (FEDPA) awards to the most outstanding athletes; a Pedra Racing and Youth Mountaineering (Pantone) awards to the most outstanding Ecuadorian climbers in the 8000 m summits of the Cordillera Blanca.

Projected Activities for 2023: the Cerro Castillo Circuit to be carried out in 2023. In the same way, FEDPA continued with its High Summits programme, which aims to open new courses in the most important summits of the Cordillera Blanca. Projected activities for 2023: the Huaraz expedition, which was expanded in 2022 due to a lack of funding, maintaining its sports training and programme. The good news is that 2022 showed the beginning of the process of restructuring of competition and sport departments, in order to re-establish the clear vision of the club in this aspect.

During 2022, FEDPE developed an extensive programme of activities including: "Mountaineering Training Programme": This programme aims to provide the necessary tools for the safe practice of climbing in the mountain environment. This programme will be extended during 2023 and 2024 to continue with a number of mountain and rescue professionals from the region. In sport, one witnessed the presence of several outstanding athletes. The region is facing a new reality, which is an opportunity to support the training of new converts to the sport. An important event in the region was the inauguration of the UIAA office in the region to in order to attract new clients to the federation. This office will be done to channel this interest towards clubs and formal associations, in order to avoid accidents and mortality due to inexperience. Where to find us to support the training of new converts to the sport.

Central and South America

As the UAA closed its 2022 General Assembly, the longstanding ambition of the UAA to welcome more regions from the continent to its family was realized with the inclusion of new members from Ecuador (Federación Andina de Escalada), Chile and Argentina (Federación de Ascensores de Escalada). In this recovery work, the local mountaineering federations contributed with their knowledge as a valuable asset to the development of mountain rescue specialists.

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North America

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.

The Alpine Club of Canada (ACC)

The ACC in 2022

The year was characterised by a gradual return to the South Pole explorations. Its membership renewed itself pre-pandemic levels, and the ACC was able to welcome guests back to its hostel and back-country huts from late spring onwards.

The appointment of a new President, Daisey Englebright and两张 Court in Medicine (a mountain guide in the Southern Alps), as well as the election of various initiatives to reconnect with its members and modernise its operations.

The ACC Board approved a three-year strategic plan focused on: ensuring safety, equity, diversity and inclusion; and the development of an environmental strategy.

The ACC runs a annual mountaineering camp at International Basin in the Central Ranges of the Purcell Mountains and its Girls of the Year Program that is open to all female students of ecotourism and mountaineering.

The ACC has been offering a High Mountain Diploma with a Winter Mountaineering Certificate, which means that these graduates can count on a robust training programme in the most demanding environments.

The ACC will be developing its system of country huts from late spring onwards. The ACC in 2023, the year ahead

The Alpine Club of Canada will focus on pursuing its environmental strategy; diversity and inclusion; and the development of an environmental strategy.

The ACC is also looking at financing requirements and seeking to diversify its funding sources. The ACC is also looking at how it can contribute to the future of mountain environments.

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Oceania

Oceania covers a very large area, much of it ocean, and includes Australia, New Zealand and the South Pacific. The region offers climbers outstanding opportunities to stop for climbing as well as an array of remote wilderness. The region includes only one UIAA member, the New Zealand Alpine Club (NZAC), which includes an active Australian Section. The NZAC was one of the founding members of the UIAA.

Oceania in 2022

This year saw the opening of new routes and a resurgence in climbing of alpine types in Oceania by both new and older climbers. Climate change has continued to dramatically impact alpine and non-alpine climbing frequencies of extreme winter events and associated Park Management tasks required around the region.

As the result, the climbing community is facing some challenging physical access issues and some increased danger from a greater frequency of rock and ice collapses in unstable landscapes. For instance the Prime Climb Climbing session at Ayres Rock, the mountain area in the Northern Territory, has moved earlier by at least two months compared to 20 years ago to avoid open creeks and glacier access issues.

For Australia, access issues large and well known rock climbing areas have also been under threat for cultural reasons and consequent changes to the area. As a result the climbing community is facing some challenging physical access issues and some increased danger from a greater frequency of rock and ice collapses in unstable landscapes.

Elsewhere climbing activity on Australia’s outer islands continues to grow as the climate changes.

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of National Parks and associated legal con-
straints is rejected by some Māori tribes as being
a concept imposed on them that runs counter to
traditional ways of living with the land. Different
models for the management of parks and tribal
land are being explored.

The new Aotearoa Climbing Access Trust,
supported by the NZAC has worked to negotiate
access and on occasions to even purchase crags.
The establishment of the substantial Tūpiki
Trust in late 2022, to support climbing and the
climbing environment, received generous foun-
dation support from the estate of the late
John Nankervis, a prominent New Zealand mountain-
eer and much loved UIAA continental represent-
vative. Tūpiki means “to climb, to ascend” in the
Māori language. This trust has already enabled
a number of significant projects to proceed
including a major renovation of the iconic NZAC
1949 “Aspiring Hut” in the Matukituki Valley,
pest control programmes and introducing at-risk
youth to the life changing world of climbing and
mountains.

The NZAC itself has continued to build its
strong reputation as a leader amongst NZ sports
bodies, with fully subscribed alpine instruction
courses, a popular sport climbing competition,
high usage of its alpine hut network and contin-
uing support for mountaineering guidebooks
and literature.

The NZ Alpine Journal, now
produced four times a year, continues to impress
with the quality of writing and photography. The
NZAC Australian Section continues to provide a
valuable link between the two countries given
the absence of a national federation in Australia.

2023: THE YEAR AHEAD

As elsewhere uncertainties about inflation and
the current world economic situation within
leisure organisations abound about major inves-
tment and initiatives in 2023.

The resurgence of tourism post-Covid, both
domestic and international, has caught many
by surprise and in placing pressure on facilities
across the country. Outdoor recreation in all its
forms has become more popular, in part when
this is a safe alternative to the travel and social
change. The positive physical and mental health
benefits of being outdoor, in the hills and mountains, and
during climbing, are seeing more fully rec-
novated but funding to meet demand continues
to fall short of what is required.

2023 will also see further debate and learning
by climbers in both Australia and Aotearoa New
Zealand around how climbing fits with, and can
work with, an indigenous view and respect for
landscapes and place. This ongoing discussion
has wide implications for access and potential
new legislative directions on managing land and
future proofing of environmental protection.

Report by
STUART GRAY
UIAA Management Committee,
Continental Representative for Oceania
New Zealand Alpine Club, NZAC.

Europe is the largest continental body in terms of UIAA membership with
39 full UIAA member countries in this geographical area. It has some of the
world’s most diverse and iconic mountains and long rock faces with around
three million federation members represented. Approximately two and a half
million come from alpine or mountainous countries in Western Europe
and a long history in climbing and mountaineering: notably in Austria, France,
Germany, Italy, Spain and Switzerland.

Europe in Numbers

- Number of UIAA member
  associations
- Number of European
  countries represented

Europe in Numbers

56
39
EUMA ANNUAL REPORT 2022

This year started with a meeting with IPA, the International Commission for the protection of the Alps, where possible joint activities were discussed. Joint visibility was a major topic.

In February, the world was shaken by the attacks in Russia in Ukraine and, in turn, with the UAA, ERA, CHS, DAV, PZS, FPSM, EOOA, CUNI, ÖAV, and many other EUMA members.

Within the ERASMUS+ project "EUMA - Improvements of good governance of climbing and mountaineering in Europe," four Multiplier events were held: in March on mountain biking and mountaineering in Europe; "Nobody Needs Meteorologists" and "How to reduce your CO2 footprint with the help of the GoCaroom action;" the Ecotourism and Trails Symposium in Innsbruck; EUMA presented its project on achieving goals on mining trials; mountain trails and rock climbing in particular is an important audience.

During the traditional Christmas meeting the draft of the new Articles of Association was presented, discussed, and commented upon by members. Anders Arctur prepared a summary paper annual report to be presented in the forthcoming EUMA General Assembly to be held in Leeds, May 2023.

In 2022, EUMA also offered two webinars: "Rock climbing area manager" and "How to reduce your CO2 footprint with the help of the GoCaroom action;" the Ecotourism and Trails Symposium in Innsbruck; EUMA presented its project on achieving goals on mining trials; mountain trails and rock climbing in particular is an important audience.

In the autumn EUMA had five physical project meetings in April on rock climbing in Osp (Slovenia) and in hiking trails in Bechyne (Czech Republic), in May on rock climbing in Osp (Slovenia) and in Gaspé (North-Wales) for mountain trails; with 30 of 217 participants from 128 associations.

In June, EUMA had five physical project meetings in addition to several online meetings. Highlighted was the presentation of the forest strategy paper; details on the model of how regional strategies were included the presentation of the forest strategy of a manufacturer VAUDE.

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Roland Stierle (photo above) will be standing for re-election at the forthcoming EUMA General Assembly to be held in Leeds, May 2023. Roland has been greatly appreciated by EUMA. He will leave a big gap in the BMU and he will be sorely missed as a true mountaineer, no ordinary member. Under his leadership the BMU will continue to develop.

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Roland Stierle (photo above) will be standing for re-election at the forthcoming EUMA General Assembly to be held in Leeds, May 2023. Roland has been greatly appreciated by EUMA. He will leave a big gap in the BMU and he will be sorely missed as a true mountaineer, no ordinary member. Under his leadership the BMU will continue to develop.

In June, EUMA had five physical project meetings in addition to several online meetings. Highlighted was the presentation of the forest strategy paper; details on the model of how regional strategies were included the presentation of the forest strategy of a manufacturer VAUDE.

In February, the world was shaken by the attacks in Russia in Ukraine and, in turn, with the UAA, ERA, CHS, DAV, PZS, FPSM, EOOA, CUNI, ÖAV, and many other EUMA members.

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The quote assigned to ski mountaineering is 36 athletes equally divided between females and males.

**PART 4: CONTINENTAL REPORTS**

**Europe - Continental Championships (EBL) - Munich (GER) 9-11 August, Munich**

This was a large event with 6,000 competitors, with a mix of cross-country, boulder and speed as reported. A total of 250 athletes were present from 26 countries and territories competing in eight medal events. This joint European-based Cup in Meiringen, Brixen, Innsbruck, Villars, Chamonix, Briançon, Koper and Edinburgh. The EIS is focusing on strength and heading towards its second European Championships in September 2023. A Kids Zone will be travelling to the UK for coaching in September 2023. A Kids Zone is planning a Maltese national bouldering meet and activities including the coaching of local instructors planned for June 2023. The Malta Climbing Club holds a Kids Zone interview that over the last year more local climbing clubs are joining.

**Support for Ukrainian climbers and mountaineers**

SOME UIAA EUROPE MEMBERS

In cooperation with the umbrella of the Mountaineering Association of Slovenia, ERA and the Slovenian mountaineering associations, ERA and Charles University in Prague. A new management of FPSM was elected in June 2022 and in 2023, a new management of Mountaineering Federation of North Macedonia, FPSM, will improve the professionalism and quality of the sport climbing infrastructure. One of the goals is to introduce young climbers to trad climbing in the village of Durpa. In addition, the Polish Mountaineering Association is working with the development NGO RIDS (rids-nepal.org), with support from former ClimbGB coach Ian Dunn in April. This was a large event with 6,000 competitors, with a mix of cross-country, boulder and speed as reported. A total of 250 athletes were present from 26 countries and territories competing in eight medal events.

**Climate change action**

Roeland van Oss, former IFSC President 2016-2020, is focusing on strength and heading towards its second European Championships in September 2023. A Kids Zone will be travelling to the UK for coaching in September.

**UIAA Sport Climbing Commission**

UIAA President of the Academic Alpine Club of Zurich (AACZ) reports that the UIAA Executive Committee allocated €5,000 to support mountain people as an expedition as a tool for fundraising with carbon offsetting. Action will be furthered on the EU Forest strategy and water directives and the new UIAA homepage and database. Foundations like the UIAA Executive Committee is planning an expedition to the Changla Pass in Tibet in 2023. In 2022, when the climbing expedition was not allowed, they were able to assist the national medical NGO Ek Ek Palia (paila.org) in restoring the sight of 180 blind people. In 2022, they raised 12,200 euros for restoration of the sight of 170 blind people. Although Covid-19 still affected its activities in 2023, new mountain expeditions were started in the spring and autumn seasons, giving the opportunity to work on their new vision for the year ahead. The mountaineering programme has become very successful, and each year more local climbing clubs are joining.

**Supporting mountain people - an expedition as a tool for fundraising with carbon offsetting**

**Gorazd Žekš, President of the Norwegian Climbing Federation**

Stein Tronstad, President of the Norwegian Mountaineering Federation of North Macedonia, FPSM, highlights the importance of the UIAA Executive Committee’s new project "EUMA - Improvement of good governance and climbing and mountaineering". The project is financed by the EU Erasmus + project “EUMA - Improvement of good governance, mountaineering and climbing in Europe” in which FPSM was one of eight partner countries among Czech, Dutch, Estonian, German, Austrian, Slovenian mountaineering associations, ERA and University of Koper. In August 2022, the new management of FPSM was elected in 2022 and in 2023, a new management of Mountaineering Federation of North Macedonia, FPSM, will improve the professionalism and quality of the sport climbing infrastructure. One of the goals is to introduce young climbers to trad climbing in the village of Durpa. In addition, the Polish Mountaineering Association is working with the development NGO RIDS (rids-nepal.org), with support from former ClimbGB coach Ian Dunn in April.

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PART 5: SPECIAL REPORTS

Strategic Plan

The UIAA continues to fulfil the objectives of its Strategic Plan 2021-2024. At the 2020 GA, agreement was reached on its guiding principles and structure (safety, sport, sustainability). During subsequent years, a road map has been developed to create an executive plan while working with UIAA Commissions to deliver priority projects.

The Strategic Plan is guided by three key objectives:

1. PROVIDE INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE

   Progress in 2022:
   - Included the publication of UIAA international statements (such as the ban on Russian officials and athletes)
   - Delivery of new medical (high altitude sickness) and safety (role of Safety Label) guidance videos, as well as confirmation that the UIAA is to update its environmental objectives and guidelines

   Furthermore, the UIAA created its first global members’ newsletter to focus specifically on providing greater access to information and guidance from UIAA member associations.

2. SET AND MAINTAIN STANDARDS IN CERTAIN DEFINED AREAS

   Progress in 2022:
   - In the field of training, the UIAA continues to offer members world-class skills courses for mountain leaders with the delivery of a new database rendering access more efficient.
   - The UIAA maintains high standards in its programmes for anti-doping/clean climbing and across its work in safety. New and revised safety standards are being developed for corrosion and stress corrosion of rock anchors as well as guidelines for canyoning harnesses and eventually a new standard for headlamps.
   - In the field of mountain medicine, the UIAA is leading updates to advice papers for women and children. Furthermore, the UIAA has committed to deploying more resources and a working group to manage its collection of data on accidents and near misses.

3. REPRESENTING THE INTERESTS OF THE CLIMBING AND MOUNTAINEERING COMMUNITY ON A GLOBAL LEVEL

   Progress in 2022:
   - Significant strides were made with the creation of a Climate Change Taskforce to spearhead the UIAA’s commitment to tackling climate change. This includes reviewing the federation’s own impacts, creating resources for climate plans and environmental guidelines, developing a plan of UIAA participation and advocacy strategy and formulating ideas on how to assist UIAA members and commissions in developing action-oriented sustainability plans.

   Other developments include the decision to create a working group to place recommendations for the Open Climbing and UIAA Climbing World Tour, as well as for the UIAA Ice Climbing World Tour.

The Strategic Plan, 2021-2024, can be downloaded here.
Climate Change Taskforce

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, the UIAA bolstered its commitment to countering climate change by setting up a Climate Change Taskforce. The Taskforce’s role will continue to evolve, will lead the way in climate action, and offer members a platform to share and exchange best practices.

CLIMATE CHANGE TASKFORCE IN 2022

The most significant work of the Taskforce was the hosting of the second ever UIAA Climate Change Summit in September 2022. UIAA Spring Meetings, May 2022

The first task up for the UIAA Spring Meetings in Sošpe, North Macedonia in May, hereinafter referred to as the Sošpe Summit and the Balkan Mountaineering Union, and the UIAA—European Union of Mountain Associa-tions—Balkan Division (UMBDA) had an agreement to take a concerted action about their own commitment to tackling climate change.

During this workshop, a number of themes were addressed:

- Peter Muir, UIAA President, addressed:
  - The first took place at the UIAA Spring meeting in Sošpe, North Macedonia in May. Herein referred to as the Sošpe Summit and the Balkan Mountaineering Union (Balkan Mountaineering Union) provided up in Skopje, North Macedonia in May.
  - The second took place at the UIAA Spring meeting in Sošpe, North Macedonia in May. Herein referred to as the Sošpe Summit and the Balkan Mountaineering Union (Balkan Mountaineering Union) provided up.

- The aim of the Summit was to provide an opportunity to discuss topics related to sustainability and climate change, the role of the mountain environment and a deeper understanding of the challenges that the UIAA and its members face under the current climate.

- The mountaineering world must adapt to climate change (climbing techniques, equipment development, awareness of travel, route choices, access), and mitigate its impact wherever possible.

- Hayek also detailed the work the Austrian Alpine Club has undertaken in measuring the impact of climate change on glaciers in Europe.

- In October, the UIAA held its first ever Climate Change Summit in Banff, Canada. The aim of the Summit was to provide an opportunity to discuss topics related to sustainability and climate change, the role of the mountain environment and a deeper understanding of the challenges that the UIAA and its members face under the current climate.

- The mountaineering world must adapt to climate change (climbing techniques, equipment development, awareness of travel, route choices, access), and mitigate its impact wherever possible.

- The UIAA’s Climate Change Taskforce is co-chaired by Ingrid Hayek, the Austrian Alpine Club has undertaken in measuring the impact of climate change on glaciers in Europe.

- Ingrid Hayek, representing EUMA as Vice-President, raised a passionate speech identifying the youngest women to complete the ‘Seven Summits’ currently calculate their greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions footprint.

- Resources of the UIAA and member federations are working towards coordination of action-oriented climate change and sustainability initiatives.

- Work closely with other federations, in 2022, coordination began with the International Federation of Sport Climbing (IFSC). The two federations exchanged construction and best practices on the field of climate change.

- A comprehensive review of the Climate Change Summit can be viewed here.

- Watch: Climate Change Summit

HEADLINE CONCLUSIONS

- Climate action is a priority for mountain stakeholders and for mountaineers, and changes are sustainable.

- The mountaineering world must adapt to climate change (climbing techniques, equipment development, awareness of travel, route choices, access) and mitigate its impact wherever possible (avoid, reduce and compensate for greenhouse gas emissions).

- Only a handful of UIAA member federations currently calculate their greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions footprint.

- Resources of the UIAA and member federations are working towards coordination of action-oriented climate change and sustainability initiatives.

- Work closely with other federations, in 2022, coordination began with the International Federation of Sport Climbing (IFSC). The two federations exchanged construction and best practices on the field of climate change.

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UIAA COMMITMENT

The UIAA:

- Is a signatory to the “Sports for Climate Action Initiative” of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), signed in March 2019; and

- Is a signatory to the World Tourism Organization’s “Sports for Climate Action” pledge.

- Has also confirmed its support to the UNEP “Sports for Climate Action Initiative” to reach Net Zero by 2050 and reducing greenhouse gas emissions associated with core activities carried out as follows:

- Provided a passionate speech identifying the youngest women to complete the ‘Seven Summits’ currently calculate their greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions footprint.

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PART 5: SPECIAL REPORTS
### Communication

#### STRATEGY

The UIAA communication strategy is built around collaboration with all of its Commissions, member associations, partners as well as events and projects. The strategy puts in place ensures all aspects of the UIAA’s activities, and all priorities of the UIAA as deemed by the Strategic Plan (SP), are covered throughout the year.

The UIAA’s communication strategy is overseen by the Communication Working Group comprised of UIAA Communication Manager Peter Bourne, UIAA Director of Operations Nils Glatthard and Executive Board member Lode Peter Bourne, UIAA Director of Operations Nils Glatthard, and Executive Board member Lode Peter Bourne.

### Annual Report

One of the key deliverables to its members is the UIAA Annual Report (AR). A digital-first product, the AR continues to be well received, scoring over 480,000 page views in 2022. A print version is available on demand. An archive of Annual Reports dating back to 2009 can be viewed here. A full audit, brief and curation and the first sign-off on the design development plan was created together with the chosen external communication tools.

#### Website

The UIAA website was last overhauled in 2016 and has undergone incremental updates ever since. A major revamp of the UIAA website is currently taking place. A full audit, brief and plan was created together with the chosen development team in 2022. The website is being coded and tested from January 2023. Furthermore, a number of new database elements (such as a new members’ platform and new training system) will be integrated into the new website.

- **UIAA website figures in 2022**
  - **+480K** page views
  - **+320K** sessions
  - **+170K** new users
  - **+250k** unique users

The UIAA Communication team is always keen to share information about member association activities. Please email news@theuiaa.org to share information about member association news and work could be amplified on the various social media channels. Working together we can provide the climbing and mountaineering world with the information important to them.

### Social Media

In 2022, the UIAA began a full review of its social media strategy. This was guided by the communication manager and social media specialist. The result of the review, an independent report was created for social media, designed to cater for the specific audiences and nature of each platform, while ensuring synergy with objectives of the overall UIAA communication and strategic plans.

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
- Twitter
- YouTube
- Instagram

As of 2022, the UIAA revived its LinkedIn channel with the aim of engaging with UIAA delegates as well as other international and national federations.

### Member Associations

The UIAA Communication team is keen always to share information about member association activities. Please email news@theuiaa.org to share information about member association news.

### Newsletters

As of 2022, the UIAA produces two newsletters. The traditional monthly newsletter reaches the UIAA’s 94 member organisations in 69 countries on six continents. The idea behind this concept is to provide a regular platform for information from UIAA members and to draw a spotlight on the main global headlines and stories. This helps the UIAA in fulfilling its role as the Global Mountain Network.

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UIAA Court

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

The UIAA Court is the internal and independent judicial body of the UIAA (AoA 23). When requested, its task is to solve any possible disputes between the UIAA, UIAA Members and UIAA locals, and between UIAA members 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 2022. The main role of the Court over the past twelve months has been to offer advice about AoAs and UIAA regulations.

In Banff, the General Assembly voted to elect a new arbitrator: he is Mohammadali Abdollahi, an Iranian lawyer, from the Iran Mountaineering and Sport Climbing Federation. The UIAA Court continues to look to recruit the expertise of a female arbitrator. Any federations who have experienced female arbitrators, lawyers or managers, are invited to propose a candidate to the UIAA Court.

Report by
Pierre Humblet
President, UIAA Court

Court Members

Mohammadali ABDOLLAHI (IMSCF, Iran)
Denis PONCELIN (FFCAM, France)
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Youth Skyrunning World Championships

23-24 July saw the seventh edition of the Youth Skyrunning World Championships take place in Andorra. Participants aged between 15 and 23 competed in the Vertical and Sky disciplines where they fought for the 57 medals. For many, it was their first experience of running at altitude, where the highest summit reached 2,749m. This strong-growing Championship represents an occasion where young talent can test their skills on the international stage and emerge as future skyrunning champions.

Skyrunning World Championships

The biennial Skyrunning World Championships held in Ossola, Piedmont, Italy was a welcome return to full-on top-level competition with the participation of no less than 35 countries in three disciplines from 9-11 September. Overall 27 medals were at stake with a record of ten countries taking a share. Italy, Spain and Japan headed the list.

VK OPEN Championships

Closing the 2022 events season on 15 October, was the Grand Finale of the VK OPEN Championships with the Vertical discipline. An annual event, the second edition featured ten races in nine countries stretching across the world from China to Brazil to land in Limone sul Garda, Italy. Underlining the international appeal of the Vertical Kilometer®, the VK OPEN winners were from Slovenia and Chile.

ISF General Assembly

The 15th International Skyrunning Federation General Assembly was held on 9 September, coincident with the 2022 Skyrunning World Championships in the ancient town of Domodossola. The Assembly was held in person, after last year’s Zoom meeting. The ISF counts a total of 48 nations, between full members, associate members and aspirant members. Twenty-four voting members, either direct or by proxy, were represented out of the federation’s 42 voting members.

Looking towards 2023 and beyond, General Secretary Alexander Kien announced the Skyrunner® World Series has a new management which will focus on expanding the circuit outside Europe with 15-20 races.

More important novelties to emerge at the GA included the introduction of a Skyrunning card (see photo, top right) and a performance-based ranking for early 2023. The ranking is based exclusively on races carrying the Course Certified Label – attesting it fits within skyrunning parameters. The technical difficulty is also listed. The objective of these initiatives is to clearly define the sport to the community, fans and outsiders, to create revenue, and to offer benefits to athletes and organisers on a single platform.

Unit Member
International Skyrunning Federation

SkySnow

With no less than four world championships, the rich 2022 season kicked off with the new SkySnow discipline on 4-5 February, where twenty-one medals were at stake across the Vertical and Classic disciplines, the Combined title, and the country ranking. SkySnow embraces the traditional concept of skyracing – in this case, during the winter and exclusively on snow wearing micro crampons.

Despite a difficult post-pandemic situation, fifteen ISF Member countries took part from across the world: Andorra, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Norway, Peru, Portugal, Russia, Spain, Sweden, USA.
The UIAA fulfills its mission to advocate 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 (currently a Working Group)
- Legal Affairs
- Medical
- Mountaineering
- Mountain Protection
- Safety
- Training
- Youth

**PART 6: COMMISSIONS**

**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 mountains’ 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.

**2022: A SIGNIFICANT FOCUS**

Supporting the UIAA in celebrating 2022 as the UN-proclaimed International Year for Sustainable Mountain Development (IYM 2022). In December 2021, and with the support of over 90 sponsoring countries, the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) proclaimed 2022 as the International Year for Sustainable Mountain Development.

In the adopted resolution, countries and stakeholders from civil society institutions and organisations were invited to observe the IYM2022 by raising awareness of the importance of sustainable mountain development and the conservation and sustainable use of mountain ecosystems.

UIAA MPC delegates participated in the Open-ended Scientific Committee (OESC) set up via the Mountain Partnership to support the collective advocacy efforts around the IYM2022 observance, thereby ensuring that the UIAA, its members and mountaineering community at large were actively represented as part of these key messages and outreach.

Key contributions made by UIAA MPC delegates included inputs to policy briefs that were produced by the OESC.

- **Policy Brief on Keeping Mountains Plastic Waste Free**, which was presented at a side event as part of the Mountain Partnership’s Global Meeting held in September 2022 in Aspen, Colorado (USA).
- **Policy Brief on Mountain and Heritage-making**, which was presented at the ninth session of the General Assembly of the States Parties to the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage, held at UNESCO Headquarters, Paris, from 5-7 July.

As the UIAA is a member of the Mountain Partnership, MPC delegates also participated in the Mountain Partnership’s Global Meeting with inputs in formal proceedings, as well as side events such as “Keeping our Mountains Waste-Free.”
At the 2022 General Assembly, the UIAA announced the Establishment of Self-Managed Climbing Parks project by Association 7a Escalada, Peru. It was the ninth winner of the UIAA Mountain Protection Award (MPA). In doing so, it became the first project from South America to be awarded.

The ‘Self-Managed’ principle primarily focuses on the development of new and existing job opportunities, including the enhancement of social and cultural aspects for the local communities. The projects we support are selected for their need to be led and managed by the community members themselves.

The MPA has become very important for UIAA users and observers along the mountain corridors. Furthermore, UIAA places particular importance on using the money awarded to the projects for the advancement of the surrounding areas and in promoting the importance of conservation. In turn, a number of projects are strategic in creating greater datasets for specific complex environmental impacts and engaging new users through environmental education and sports.

The project is an initiative of the Leave Good Trace, an initiative that supports the transformation of mountain regions through carefully planned training and employment support. Furthermore, the project has been an idea and priority for some years and was an invaluable asset. It was supported by the UIAA members in 2022.

The MPC would like to express its sincere gratitude to Raluca Ana, Romania (CAR) who ended her term in the lead up to the UIAA’s GA in 2022. Ms. Ana was, without a doubt, a key member of the Commission for a number of years and was an invaluable asset. Her role in the MPC was, in essence, to lead by example as we put them into practice.”

Benefits for UIAA Members on the updating of the Environmental Guidelines and Objectives:

• A relevant and up-to-date framework for prioritizing climate change action
• Implementation support for member unions to improve on the outcomes from the MPC

The MPC welcome communication outreach materials addressing key UIAA sustainability topics, and encourage the use of a mountain with an option to subtitle in different languages.

For further details please refer to the dedicated Climate Change chapter.

In 2022, the MPC welcomed six new delegates:

• Jan Cools (CMBELL)
• Ton Lembregts (NTK)
• Doma Sherpa (NMA)
• Dora Stepan (MWA)
• Altasvárn Zsuzsa (HUF)

As always, the MPC is also available to provide professional advice on environmental sustainability issues or concerns, as the need or request arises.

Support for Climbing Community/ UIAA members

Given the Commission delegates’ extensive and active engagement in several global UIAA activity groups and initiatives on mountains and sustainability, as part of our professional work, the MPC shares with the UIAA and all its members ample representation and opportunity to “own their voice” on these important issues, and to participate in these important conversations, to foster and advance the discourses on translating the UIAA and all its members ample representation and opportunity to own their voice” on these important issues, and to participate in these important conversations, to foster and advance the discourses on translating the UIAA and the International Community for Mountain and Climate Action’s (ICIAMCA) set of principles into practice.

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2023: 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. The MPC is looking to improve these guidelines and finalise the drafting of the final version, to be presented at the UIAA GA in 2023.

2023 UIAA Mountain Protection Award

Partnered with the Bally Peak Outlook Foundation, the MPC will launch the application process for the 2023 edition of the award on 1 March. It marks the Award’s tenth year and 10th edition. 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. A dedicated MPA working group, spearheaded by Commission member Mary Sanseverino (Canada, ACC), is focusing specifically on the continued evolution of the Award.

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
2022: RETURN OF EVENTS

The year 2022 was all about re-establishing UIAA youth events again following the pandemic. The UIAA managed to coordinate six youth camps in 2022 with two events in France, two events in Romania, and one each in Cyprus and in Switzerland (run by Mountaineering Ireland). These events were generated by the newly-created Youth Innovation Panel whose purpose is to develop and approve camps. The other main achievement of the year was the development of the skills system that the YC is planning to implement in 2023. This involved working in conjunction with the newly-established Training Commission to set up syllabuses for each of the different activities/skills that organisers should adhere to in running their events. The camp organisers can use the off-the-shelf courses and syllabus to ‘build’ their camp programmes and at the end of it there will be a UIAA approved certification process and online testing. This project is still ongoing and will be implemented throughout 2023.

OTHER PROJECTS

The Commission developed a five-year post-Covid strategy with targets and development projects for the coming years—these included the numbers of camps per year as well as developing the training pathway and certification for the events the Commission is involved with.

The target for youth camps in 2022 was seventeen events with the YC managing to deliver six. The Commission has also been working on developing its section of the new UIAA website, with information on how federations can apply for camps and how they can use the new syllabus and certification system.

COMMISSION IN 2022

The Commission met several times online and also in person at the UIAA Spring Meetings in North Macedonia. The Commission has new members in the Innovation panel from Hong Kong and Italy. The collaboration with the Training Commission and especially its President—Steve Long has been invaluable. Steve has been assisting the YC with the development of the new tier of youth events for the commission. This collaboration will continue well into 2023.

Youth

The Youth Commission (YC) provides safe and exciting opportunities for young people to experience climbing and 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. UIA Youth Commission events therefore have not only a technical focus but also an environmental and cultural emphasis.

SUPPORT FOR CLIMBING COMMUNITY/ UIAA MEMBERS

The YC would like to extend its reach to work with several new federations in the near future to support them and offer the skills and information needed to organise their first youth camps. Hopefully we will join the way to allow further integration with other federations in the future to really expand the number and global development of UIAA youth camps. Furthermore, the YC is seeking to partner with larger UIA federations to encourage youth exchange programmes and tap into the impressive work being done.

2023: THE YEAR AHEAD

The Youth Innovation Panel has set a target of ten events for 2023 and is creating its calendar for the year with regular events in France and Romania already confirmed. The Panel has received interest in events from Chile and Italy. The new certification system put in place for camps and procedures will be clarified in terms of how camps can use the syllabus the UIAA provides, how the certificates will be issued, how the costs will be dealt with and what they are. Other areas to be addressed are how the information will be dealt with at a YC level and what will be done with the income from the certification and how that will be used to develop events and federations in the future.
Safegear throughout its history, mountain safety has been at the forefront of the UIAA's activities. The UIAA Safety Label, and its 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. SafeCom meets annually to discuss to decide if an update of the standard should be asked or if safeCom. SafeCom paid tribute to Carlo Zanantoni, a long-time delegate and Honorary Member of SafeCom, who passed away in November 2021. He was born in 1930 and was the CAI delegate within the UIAA from 1980 until 2009. Discussion are ongoing.

2022: MAIN PROJECTS

Release of UIAA Safety Label video
The UIAA Safety Label is the only UIAA can be found on climbing and mountaineering gear worldwide. The label is designed to signify that the piece of climbing equipment has been accredited to the UIAA global safety standard. The video will be released in early 2022 alongside the development of the UIAA Safety Label.

2022: OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS

Textile degradation analysis
SafeCom has become aware of drastic decrease in strength of specimens exposed to artificial weathering. With multiple samples, SafeCom has become aware of the influence of factors such as washing machine cycles. Results are in accordance with UIAA standards.

Helmet rim impact
Thanks to some surplus budget, this WG could start again with inter-lab testing and comparison. Results are expected in 2023, and will be followed by discussions to decide if an update of the standard is meaningful.

Future standard for headlamps
Discussions are ongoing.

COMMISSION IN 2022

The first in-person meeting since 2019 was held in May in Skopje, North Macedonia. SafeCom had a strong presence of its members, with a hybrid option for those who were not able to join. Hybrid meetings will continue to be held in the future.

The UIAA Safety Label logo is a registered trademark of the UIAA. The Safety Commission’s WG research is fully funded by the UIAA. In ensuring its standards are always relevant, the SafeCom regularly studies the market and analyzes accidents to determine if existing standards should be asked or if new safety standards are needed. SafeCom promotes safety, one of the key pillars of the UIAA. SafeCom decided to make a second analysis on welded areas. This is an ongoing investigation that will be updated as necessary. SafeCom will be responsible for the standard and will drastically improve safety and climbing equipment to ensure that the test results are in accordance with UIAA standards.

BENEFITS FOR UIAA MEMBERS

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

SUPPORT FOR CLIMBING COMMUNITY

UIAA MEMBERS

The UIAA Safety Label video animation: What is the UIAA Safety Label?

For over 25 years, UIAA mountain safety has been at the forefront of the UIAA’s activities. The UIAA Safety Label, and its 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. SafeCom meets annually and is responsible for developing the UIAA Safety Standards and consequently working to help minimize accidents related to climbing and mountaineering gear.

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 testing can ever truly reflect the range of situations encountered in practice. The UIAA issued every first international standard as these for belay lanyards, snow poles, snow shovels, avalanche probes and crash pads. These standards are set by expert teams of skilled engineers from national climbing and mountaineering federations, from manufacturers, and testing laboratories.
SAFECOM IN NUMBERS

- 2,271 Active Safety Label certificates
- 185 Active Safety Label Holders
- 26 UIAA Safety Standards

Global Manufacturers (Certified Label Holders)
- 42 from Europe
- 23 from the Americas
- 36 from Asia

2023: THE YEAR AHEAD

Priorities in 2023 include:
- Assessing viability for a future standard on very low elongation ropes.
- Assessing viability for a future standard on headlamps.
- Avalanche beacon improvements.
- Laboratory accreditation: updating regulations for certified UIAA testing authorities.
- Edge test on dynamic ropes.
- Close collaboration with CEN, to avoid doubling respective working group projects and find greater synergy.

Legal Affairs

The Legal Affairs Commission (LAC) emerged in spring 2022 from the Legal Working Group. The Commission’s goal is to provide legal assistance in support of other UIAA bodies in the delivery of their projects. It is important to state that the LAC is not an UIAA attorney.

MOUNTAINEERING CASE-LAW DATABASE

In 2022, the LAC started working on the creation of a legal database of judgements related to accidents in the mountains and climbing facilities all over the world.

From the perspective of the end user, the database will be publicly accessible from the UIAA website and will enable a user to search for cases based on different criteria: country of accident, country of judgement, mountaineering activity involved, and more. As a search result the user will see both the summary of the judgement as well as the original judgement in its original language. Each summary will contain comments from the LAC which will emphasise the important takeaways.

Only authorised members will be allowed to add a case to the database; however, national associations, climbers or general public are encouraged to report a case to LAC so that it can be assessed, summarised and listed in the database. Full details on how to do this will be communicated in 2023 on the delivery of the database.

LAC IS ONBOARDING NEW MEMBERS

LAC has members across different continents, but it is always looking for new recruits. For example, German speaking countries are currently not represented, and there is no member from the United Kingdom or Canada, which should be changed.

If any UIAA member association wants to nominate a member to LAC, the simple requirements for a LAC member are: to be a lawyer; English speaking and writing at a level sufficient to prepare and review legal texts; cooperation with UIAA member associations; preferably knowledge of legal problems of national associations; experience with applying law in mountains/mountaineering in their practice; willingness to spend at least 15-30 hours a year volunteering for the LAC (online meetings and other remote work).

The Legal Affairs Commission (LAC) emerged in spring 2022 from the Legal Working Group. The Commission’s goal is to provide legal assistance in support of other UIAA bodies in the delivery of their projects. It is important to state that the LAC is not an UIAA attorney.
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.

In-competition doping controls

Controls for in-competition doping were only conducted at the World Championships held in January 2022 in Saas-Fee.

Out of competition doping controls

Out-of-competition controls were performed on ice climbers in the registered testing pool who fulfilled in-season reporting requirements and subsequently tested positive to a prohibited substance. In 2022, and to be continued in 2023, the UIAA Anti-doping Commission has been supporting the International Skyrunning Federation (ISF) reporting their doping controls because they are under UIAA custody on that level.

Therapeutic Use Exemptions (TUEs)

Four TUEs (Therapeutic Use Exemptions) were approved for medications that climbers used in their therapy/treatment. These had to be approved as they contained prohibited substances.

There were no positive doping cases in 2022.

The online education programme for ice climbers is still active and ongoing. Many athletes have already successfully completed it.

2022: OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS

Dr Marija Andjelkovic, President of the UIAA Anti-Doping Commission, has been part of the USA Women’s Health Project since 2050. Led by eminent experts in the field of mountain medicine, this project provides up-to-date information about women-specific health concerns in the mountains and at high altitudes. Dr Andjelkovic wrote about recommendations regarding nutrition. In 2023 this document is scheduled for publication by the UIAA Medical Commission.

COMMISSION IN 2022

The Anti-Doping Commission, which for years has been an expert in the field of anti-doping, will continue to ensure all requests from WADA (World Anti-Doping Agency).

Close cooperation was again established in respect of the Anti-Doping Agency (ADA) (ADA) and the UIAA Anti-Doping Commission (UIAA). The ADA has implemented all actions regarding Russian member federation participation in the UIAA Ice Climbing World Championship(s) (including junior and masters events) and to the local organisers.

With the full support from the UIAA Office, the Anti-Doping Commission successfully submitted all requirements and documents to WADA.

Commission member Professor Nenad Dikic officially became in charge of the ISF (International Skyrunning Federation) Medical and Anti-Doping Commission. The ISF is a full Member of the UIAA.

2023: THE YEAR AHEAD

The year ahead will be challenging because the UIAA will receive WADA’s Code Compliance Questionnaire (CCQ) for the first time in March 2023, which was established in 2016. International Federations (IFs) and the UIAA, in this case, will receive the second Code Compliance Questionnaire (CCQ) in WADA’s history. The purpose of the CCQ is to assess the implementation of the 2020 Code and International Standards by Code Signatories to strengthen and harmonise the global anti-doping system. Therefore, completion of the CCQ is a mandatory requirement for each Signatory.
The mission of the UIAA Medical Commission is to give the best possible advice on its network of medical and high-altitude rescue experts, the International Diploma in Mountain Medicine, and the dissemination of advice, translated into over ten languages. All MedCom members are doctors and many are active teachers in their respective countries.

The first UIAA Medical Commission meeting was held in Pontresina, Switzerland. It brought together the UIAA and ICAR. The Medical Commission paid tribute to its former member and longstanding associate, Jim Milledge, who passed away on 16 February aged 81.

The UIAA Medical Commission provided a venue for projects led by leading experts in their respective fields. The commission hosted over ten language translations and is still being developed for specific projects.

The Medical Commission represents a unique opportunity to bring together medical professionals from around the world. UIAA members are always welcome to join the Medical Commission and contribute to its work.

Support for Climbing Community/ UIAA Members

UIAA MedCom provides a range of services for both UIAA members and the wider mountain and rescue community. The MedCom website, including its advice papers, is internationally respected and provides a broad range of mountain users – mountaineers and those with specific medical requirements. Its high-altitude medicine advice provides a broad range of mountain users – mountain climbers, expeditioners across the world. UIAA members are always welcome to join the Medical Commission and contribute to its work.

2023: THE YEAR AHEAD

Throughout 2023, individual chapters on Women’s Health at High Altitude will be published over several issues of the MAR journal. Lay versions of these recommendation papers will be made available on the UIAA website.

A working group is dedicating its time to updating existing papers on specific peaks, notably Denali, K2, Kilimanjaro, Aconcagua, and Mont Blanc. A new working group is reviewing the latest available science on altitude-related illness, with a focus on female climbers and those with specific medical concerns. A new working group will be dedicated to the challenging process of being updated with a working group on hypoxia at altitude.

Women in mountaineering topic remains a high priority for the Commission, with additional working groups dedicated to the topic. The Commission continues to welcome new members from all backgrounds and experiences to join its efforts.

Furthermore, the UIAA International Diploma in Mountain Medicine helps improve knowledge among mountain climbers and those with specific medical requirements. The Commission is always looking for new members to join its efforts.

The update of the operating recommendation on Children (2018) is ongoing. A working group in WMS is reviewing the latest available literature and funding to update recommendations as a result of it. UIAA MedCom is looking to join the ISMM/ICAR conference held near Salt Lake City, Utah, USA in May-June 2023. The exact format is still being discussed.

Medical Commission in Numbers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Medical &amp; high-altitude advice papers</th>
<th>High-altitude papers in total</th>
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<td>33</td>
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Different languages

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<th>2022: SIGNIFICANT ADVANCES</th>
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- Following an advice video on water treatment requests or topics they wish to be covered.
- The UIAA advice paper on Acute Mountain Sickness (AMS) and High-Altitude Pulmonary Oedema (HAPO) is penned for 2024.
- Another working group is reviewing the latest available science on altitude-related illness, with a focus on female climbers and those with specific medical concerns. A new working group will be dedicated to the challenging process of being updated with a working group on hypoxia at altitude.
- Seven Summits, Mont Blanc and mountain ranges of high interest.
- The update of the standing recommendation on Children (2018) is ongoing.
- A working group in WMS is reviewing the latest available literature and funding to update recommendations as a result of it.
- UIAA MedCom is looking to join the ISMM/ICAR conference held near Salt Lake City, Utah, USA in May-June 2023. The exact format is still being discussed.

Medical working group projects are supported by a dedicated number of individual members bringing expertise from a range of different fields. To discover who is working on each of the projects please visit this page. The Medical Commission thanks everyone for their commitment and passion.
Mountaineering

The restructuring of the UIAA commissions in 2022 had a significant impact on the Mountaineering Commission (MountCom). The Training Panel, which included a high number of MountCom members, became an independent commission just like the former Legal Experts Working Group.

Until the restructuring, a majority of MountCom’s activities were related to training. In some years this equated to up to 60-70% of the focus. In recent times the role and definition of the Commission has not always been clear and in this vacuum MountCom has often handled projects which did not naturally fit the profile of other Commissions.

MountCom now has a more defined focus, presented to and agreed by the Management Committee during the last General Assembly in Banff.

The centre of MountCom’s activities is the promotion of best practices in climbing and mountaineering, including but not limited to:

- the proper use of equipment
- climbing in good style
- promoting and strengthening women’s role in mountaineering
- accident analysis and advice papers to avoid them
- working conditions of mountain workers

Consequently, the Commission’s new projects have been designed along this line:

- Accident analysis and reporting - MountCom is a partner in this cross-commission project
- Advice on the impact of climate change on route grades and/or safety
- Review of UIAA declarations, updating the most important one - the Tyrol Declaration

The latter is the only declaration in mountaineering that has achieved global attention and is associated with UIAA, even if it was drafted by the participants of an international conference where UIAA was represented by MountCom. In the 20 years that passed since the creation of the Tyrol Declaration, many things have changed, new disciplines (e.g. canyoning) have appeared, necessitating the updating of the declaration.

- Awarding the ten best-style first ascents
- Hiking and trails - a new project initiated by the Italian Alpine Club (CAI).
ICE CLIMBING IN 2022

The UIAA released the following statement on the future of competitive ice climbing in September 2022:

The UIAA Management Committee is working to advance the fundamental aims of the UIAA Strategic Plan 2021-2024, including focus on the sport pillar and the management, progress and development of ice climbing as a competitive sport.

While there have been many years of hard work through dedicated volunteers and staff, competition ice climbing has not developed to the reasonable expectations of members federations, athletes, stakeholders, sponsors and partners.

Last year, the UIAA Executive Board formed an Ice Climbing Working Group (ICWG) made up of a member from each of the Executive Board, the Management Committee, the Athletes’ Commission and the general membership to review the ice climbing situation.

The Ice Climbing Working Group prepared a report for the Management Committee. Based on the report, the Management Committee concluded that the current situation is untenable with significant and increasing impact on the athletes and the entire sport if not addressed in a timely manner. Therefore, on 27 August 2022, the Management Committee resolved to:

1) immediately dissolve the Ice Climbing Commission; and
2) put in place an interim governance solution for the immediate future and to work on a new governance structure to be presented to the Management Committee as soon as possible, but no later than in May 2023.

In addition, the Ice Climbing Working Group was entrusted with a mandate to exercise preparations and running of the 2022-23 competition season and to propose a new governance structure for ice climbing.

UIAA President Peter Huzar explained:

“These decisive first steps demonstrate the UIAA’s strong and renewed commitment to the sport of ice climbing. We are confident they will lead to a sustainable development and annual competition programme of which the UIAA will be justifiably proud. This will over the long term serve the interests of all stakeholders, most importantly the athletes, event organisers, member federations, officials, sponsors and other supporters of competitive ice climbing.”

IN NUMBERS

2021-22

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The UIAA invited YouTuber and sport climber Magnus Mitdbø to Saas-Fee where he made three videos for his channel.

1. Magnus has over a million subscribers on YouTube.

The videos (I Tried the World Championships, Women’s World Championships, Speed duel) have over 1.84 million views on YouTube.

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

Television reach of 270 million households with over 20,940 hours of terrestrial TV broadcast

PART 6: COMMISSIONS

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UIAA ICE CLIMBING WORLD TOUR CALENDARS

**2021-22 UIAA ICE CLIMBING WORLD TOUR CALENDAR**

**Chonggong, Korea**
- 14-16 January 2022
- Lead & Speed

**Seon-Fen, Switzerland**
- 26-29 January 2022
- Lead & Speed

**Oulu, Finland**
- 4-6 March 2022
- Lead & Speed

**Tyumen, Russia**
- 6-9 March 2022
- Lead & Speed

**Krasnaya Polyana, Russia**
- 11-13 March 2022
- Lead & Speed

**2022-23 UIAA ICE CLIMBING WORLD TOUR CALENDAR**

**Chonggong, South Korea**
- 11 January 2023
- Round 1 - Lead & Speed

**Champéry, Switzerland**
- 23 January 2023
- Round 1 - Lead & Speed

**Saas-Fee, Switzerland**
- 30 January 2023
- Round 1 - Lead & Speed

**Oulu, Finland**
- 20 February 2023
- Round 4 - Lead & Speed

**2022-23 UIAA ICE CLIMBING WORLD CUPS**

**Oulu, Finland**
- 24-26 February 2023

**2022-23 UIAA ICE CLIMBING WORLD YOUTH COMPETITIONS**

**Zilina, Slovakia**
- 16 November 2022
- Lead

**Brez, Czech Republic**
- 3 December 2022
- Lead

**Glasgow, UK**
- 18 February 2023
- Lead

**Oulu, Finland**
- 25 February 2023
- Lead

**2022-23 UIAA ICE CLIMBING EUROPEAN CONTINENTAL COMPETITIONS**

**Zilina, Slovakia**
- 26 November 2022
- Lead

**Brez, Czech Republic**
- 3 December 2022
- Lead

**Glasgow, UK**
- 18 February 2023
- Lead

**Oulu, Finland**
- 25 February 2023
- Lead

**NEW UIAA WEBSITE**

- Facebook: @uiaaiceclimbingworldtour
- Instagram: @uiaaiceclimbingworldtour
- Twitter: @uiaaiceclimbingworldtour
- Youtube: UIAA Ice Climbing World Tour
- Flickr: uiiaa_mountains

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**2021-22 UIAA ICE CLIMBING WORLD TOUR SUMMARY**

- Fantastic headline event in Seon-Fen with the World Championships and Youth Championships being contested in the same weekend for the first time allowing young climbers to compete alongside their role models.
- Good relationships strengthened between the UIAA and the event organisers even when certain events had to be cancelled at short notice due to global issues.
- The ice climbing community were very excited to be back at competition events after a very short season in 2020-21.
- Continued development of the digital side of the sport with a new uiaaiceclimbing.worldtour was setup and now stands at over 4,000 followers.
- Without any explanation or warning, Instagram shut down the existing uiaamountainworldtour account down at the beginning of the season. A new account - @uiaaiceclimbing.worldtour was setup and now stands at over 40,000 followers.
- Accounts reached - 450,999
- Accounts engaged - 15,590
- Posts - 2,126
- Reels - 2,126
- Comments - 124,500
- Total views 1,102,510
- Total unique visitors 198,000
- Average watch time - 1 minute
- Impressions - 1.3 million
- Video content - 33,700 unique views
- Accounts followed - 124,000
- Accounts reached - 90,000
- Posts - 1,102
- Comments - 31,342
- Unique visitors - 19,291
- Total page views - 20,000
- Total video views - 569,000

**2022-23 SOCIA MEDIA STATISTICS**

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**PART 6: Commissions**
REPORT FROM
UIAA ICE CLIMBING WORKING GROUP

Since its creation in September 2022, the Ice Climbing Working Group conducted the following:

• An in-depth assessment of the current situation.
• Broad first evaluation of future governance models.
• Confirmed its presence at all 2023-24 World Cup events.
• Supported renewal of presenting sponsorship agreement until 2025 competition season.
• Fostered strong athlete involvement into process.
• Ensured a continued smooth collaboration with operational level.
• Helped lay the foundations for the 2023-24 UIAA Ice Climbing World Tour with a projected total of 800 athlete event entries from 21 nations across three World Cups, four European Cups and a World Youth Championships.

2023 AND NEXT STEPS FOR THE ICE CLIMBING WORKING GROUP

• Continue to serve as interim governing body for ice climbing.
• Develop and propose models for a future governance body/structure, working with a Swiss lawyer (SAC legal commission).
• Populate a pool of future officials and WG members (survey/application process).

WORLD TOUR IN NUMBERS

| Total views from 2021-22 UIAA Ice Climbing World Tour livestreams | 400,000 |
| 224 athletes who took part in the 2021-22 UIAA Ice Climbing World Tour |
| 26 member federations who registered athletes for the 2021-22 UIAA Ice Climbing World Tour |

GALLERY: 2022 UIAA ICE CLIMBING WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS AND WORLD YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS

[Credit: Kaspar Kellerhals/UIAA]
Training

Training, which officially became an independent Commission in 2022, is one of the core services offered by the UIAA. In particular, the UIAA Mountain Qualification Label (MQL) is an internationally recognized accreditation and certification scheme which examines and evaluates the training and assessment programmes of UIAA member federations.

GENERAL PURPOSE OF UIAA TRAINING COMMISSION:
• To support climbers and mountaineers gain access to high quality training, leaders and instructors.
• To develop and apply international standards for qualifications and personal skills training courses.
• To advise member organisations on how to develop training programmes and small publications.
• To accredit qualifications that meet the standard of the UIAA Mountain Qualification Label.

2022: TRADEMARK LOGO
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• To advise member organisations on how to develop training programmes and small publications.
• To accredit qualifications that meet the standard of the UIAA Mountain Qualification Label.

2022 OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS
• In the second year of its operations, the Training Commission delivered hiking and rock climbing training courses in Saudi Arabia, and a mountaineering leadership course in Mongolia. A self- rescue workshop was delivered in Cyprus, in collaboration with a meeting of several member federations. UIAA certified skills courses were attended by almost one thousand students, spread across several countries. An interim new edition of the Alpine Handbook ‘Summer Skills’ was published and distributed to attendees at the General Assembly in Banff. Work has also begun on a new handbook to cover winter activities.
• A self-rescue workshop was delivered in Cyprus, in collaboration with a meeting of several member federations. UIAA certified skills courses were attended by almost one thousand students, spread across several countries. An interim new edition of the Alpine Handbook ‘Summer Skills’ was published and distributed to attendees at the General Assembly in Banff. Work has also begun on a new handbook to cover winter activities.
• Several successful validations and renewals were requested and successfully accredited.
• Echoes of the ‘Alpine Handbook’ project have found that skills certification has assisted in demonstrating completion of basic training to an approved standard, and some organisations have found that skills certification has assisted in negotiating accident insurance, and partnership with sponsors.

COMMISSION IN 2022
Training became a full Commission in 2022, following a significant period as a panel within the Mountaineering Commission. Several new members joined the commission, representing a broad range of national backgrounds. Criteria for approving mentors and validators have been produced for accrediting qualifications. The skills examination system has also allowed the development of other teaching materials and can also be used for webinars and community chats.

SUPPORT FOR CLIMBING COMMUNITY/ UIAA MEMBERS
UIAA training initiatives aim to educate and support the climbing and mountaineering community, as well as the climbing and mountaineering community, as well as the climbing and mountaineering community, as well as the climbing and mountaineering community. The skills graduation system is a practical and effective way to ensure that skills are being transferred to the next generation of climbers. The skills graduation system is a practical and effective way to ensure that skills are being transferred to the next generation of climbers.

2023: THE YEAR AHEAD
In 2023 the Training Commission plans to complete the ongoing work on a new database, which will be integrated with the UIAA membership facility and the world map of current and ongoing activities. A full print run is planned for the Alpine Handbook, which will be divided into two publications, hiking and climbing. The digital online version will probably remain as a single volume. The third phase of qualification development will be delivered in Mongolia in May. The focus in 2023 will be on rock climbing instruction, and several other requests have been received for teaching or training input from both existing and prospective UIAA member organisations. A review of current guidance and administrative documents is also planned.

Report by

Steve Long
Training Commission President

Full Members
Steve Long (United Kingdom (BMC), President)
Andrew ANDREOU, Cyprus (CMCF)
Karin BACH, Switzerland (AMA)
Rudi BUCIJA, Portugal (FCF)
Ron FUNDREBURKE, United States (AAC)
Marianne GANDOIS, Belgium (FBE)
Tull Singh GURUNG, Nepal (NMA)
Jean HASE (BROY), North Macedonia (FPSM)
Radu LUKARIC, Croatia (FCU)
Jordi MAGRINA GUELL, Spain (FEEC)
Pavel GEORGIADES, Cyprus (CMCF)
Jan BLAZEJ, Slovakia (JAMES)
Perino FERRAZ, Brazil (AMCA)
Pedro CUIÇA, Portugal (FCMP)

PART 6: COMMISSIONS
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 until 2025.

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.
BALLY PEAK OUTLOOK FOUNDATION

BALLY PEAK OUTLOOK FOUNDATION COMMITTED TO CLEANING MOUNT EVEREST THROUGH 2020.

In 2019 the Swiss luxury brand will also usher a special capsule commemorating the 70th anniversary of the first successful ascent, with 100% of the proceeds supporting mountain communities.

NOTES: