# BMC AGM 2017 Saturday 22 April

## Agenda item 6 - Re-elections

#### a) Rehan Siddigui - President & Director (2015 - 2018)

Rehan was born in Blackburn, where his parents had emigrated to in the early 1950's. As an early teenager he began hiking and rock climbing in Saddleworth and the gritstone quarries surrounding Manchester. He had a traditional climbing upbringing, learning from local climbers. He has held a lifelong passion for mountaineering, rock climbing and skiing and this love of the outdoors has taken him too many worldwide locations where he has enjoyed walking, bouldering, rock climbing, sports climbing and mountaineering.

He started working selling textiles to the outdoor trade before moving to finance and then setting up his current successful business which provides civil engineering and industrial rope access services globally. Rehan chaired the committee which devised and wrote the US national ASTM standard for the industry. His clients include Ivy League universities, NASA and numerous other Government and institutional clients in the public and private sectors.

Rehan was the first Chair of the BMC's Equity Steering Group and served as Vice-President of the BMC from 2008 – 2011. During his term, Rehan plans to provide strategic advice and leadership to the Executive Committee and assist the National Council in delivering quality representation and services to existing and new members. The BMC represents a diverse range of activities and interested groups and Rehan is very keen to help protect the special nature of British climbing whilst at the same time ensuring inclusion and encouraging participation in all aspects of our sport by the future generations.

## b) Nicholas Kurth CBE - Vice President & Director (2015-2018)

Nicholas finished his full RAF career in 2011 having been responsible for all of the Service's combat support operations, retiring as an Air Vice-Marshal. Following a brief stint running a rail project business, he is Chairman of Trustees / Executive Chairman of the Ulysses Trust, a charity that supports expeditions for Reserve and Cadet Forces.

Nicholas has been on the hills and crags since school. He was a 'badged' RAF Mountain Rescue Officer and President of the RAF Mountaineering Association (RAFMA), and is the Honorary Vice-President, following leaving the Service. He still climbs, mountaineers and hill walks with RAFMA. He was responsible for the highly successful British Services' Makalu Expedition 2008, which amongst a number of achievements, succeeded in putting 3 Service personnel on the summit of the World's 5th highest mountain.

During his term Nicholas plans to focus on the following 4 areas. Firstly, he would support and assist driving forward the direction agreed by the BMC Executive. Secondly, he would ensure that the BMC adds value to its membership. Thirdly, Nicholas would ensure that the direction taken by the BMC is inclusive, reflecting the spread of members and their activities. Lastly, he would assist ensuring that the BMC staff benefit from the leading appropriate people management practices.

### c) Emma Flaherty – Vice President & Director (2016-2019)

Emma is the Partnership Development Manager for a team of PE teachers, delivering high quality PE and training to primary schools. Emma manages a team of 10 as well as 30 casual coaches who deliver after school clubs and curriculum PE lessons. Emma's second role is as PE and School Sport Manager for the Local Authority in Sheffield. This is a city wide role providing quality opportunities for staff and pupils. In both jobs Emma works closely with many partners such as the county sports partnership (SYSport), NGB's across all sports, public health, head teacher groups, and many local clubs to ensure a joined up approach across the city. In addition to this Emma is one of the directors of the Women's Climbing Symposium, which she does in her spare time and loves!

In terms of climbing Emma is based in Sheffield so climbs a lot in the peak area. Emma got into climbing whilst working in an outdoor centre in Wales, after her A Levels. She loved going out and

having adventures with friends in the mountains and on sea cliffs and has been hooked ever since. Whilst living in Wales and subsequently the North East Emma mainly climbed trad (up to E4) and alpine (climbing in Chamonix, Ecrin, Gran Paradiso, Valais, Bernese Oberland, Lofoten, Southern Alps and new routing in Borneo). Since moving to Sheffield she has focused more on bouldering and has climbed up to font 8a.

Emma enjoys combining her skills and experience from her work and climbing backgrounds to contribute to the great work that the BMC does, at a time when it seems increasingly important that climbers and hill walkers have a strong and respected body behind their interests.

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