

Frequently Asked Questions

Thank you for your interest in serving on the Climbing Wall Association's Board of Directors. CWA's bylaws address the fundamental structure, duties, powers, offices, terms of office, and other details concerning the Board of Directors. The Board and/or staff establish the responsibilities, duties, and terms of office (if applicable) for other positions within the organization. The following is a less formal summary of information that is intended to answer frequently asked questions.

1. How many people serve on the Board of Directors?

Three to twelve people serve on the Board, but the board's size may be increased by voting on new members.

2. Who elects members of the Board?

The current Board of Directors elects new members to the Board. Anyone may be nominated to stand for board election provided the person meets the legal and other requirements.

3. How long are the terms of each appointment?

Each term is three years. Terms may be staggered.

4. What are the eligibility requirements of Board positions?

In general, members of the Board of Directors reflect the constituencies served by the CWA and also reflect areas of professional expertise needed for the Board to function effectively as a non-profit corporation.

5. What are Board members' responsibilities?

The Board provides the overall strategic direction for the CWA. Generally, the Board does its work through periodic meetings and delegates some functions to standing committees which may include Directors and staff persons as members. Board members are also responsible for fundraising, participation in events, promoting the organization, and recruiting new members. Operations are the purview of the CEO and the staff.

6. How many Board meetings are held each year, and where are they held?

There is at least one face-to-face Board meeting each year. Face to face meetings are typically held in Boulder, CO in the late summer. There are four quarterly teleconference meetings per year.

7. How long are the meetings and what other time obligations are there?

Regular Board teleconference meetings are generally no longer than one hour in length. Face-to-face board meetings generally occur once or twice per year and are generally no longer than one to two days in length (including travel). Committees of the Board will generally meet prior to the Board meeting in order to report progress to the board. An active Board member can expect to spend one to two hours per week on CWA business.

8. What about expenses for Board members?

All reasonable and budgeted travel, room, and board expenses connected with Board meetings or official CWA business may be reimbursed by CWA. Expenses must be budgeted and reimbursements must be pre-approved by the CEO. Board members are not paid for their services.

9. Are there any prohibitions regarding appointments?

No, however no person shall be appointed or continue to serve as a Director that cannot fulfill the legal, fiduciary or ethical duties and responsibilities of a Board member. The Board may remove members for violations of policy, such as our confidentiality policy. The Board may also remove members with a loyalty or economic conflict of interest. Any director with a loyalty or economic conflict of interest is obligated to disclose such conflict and abstain from voting on or deliberating in any action related to the conflict. For example, no director would be allowed to deliberate in any Board action which would result in that director becoming a contractor or financial beneficiary of the association.

10. How do I apply for a position on the Board?

You may fill out an application and submit it with a cover letter and resume at any time. Notices of vacancies will be announced to our membership, posted on our website, forwarded to prospective candidates, and announced in other media. Applications are due at least thirty days prior to consideration by the Board.

11. Where can I get more information?

Please feel free to contact Bill Zimmermann at the CWA office or a current member of the Board of Directors.