



Participant Agreement, Release and Assumption of Risk

In consideration of the services of The Sierra Mountain Center, LLC, their agents, owners, officers, volunteers, participants, employees and all other persons or entities acting in any capacity on their behalf (hereinafter collectively referred to as "SMC"), I hereby agree to release, indemnify, and discharge SMC, on behalf of myself, my spouse, my children, my parents, my heirs, assigns, personal representative and estate as follows:

1. I acknowledge that hiking, backpacking, rock climbing, skiing, ski mountaineering and mountaineering entails known and unanticipated risks that could result in physical or emotional injury, paralysis, death, or damage to myself, to property, or to third parties. I understand that such risks simply cannot be eliminated without jeopardizing the essential qualities of the activity.

The risks include, among other things: the hazards of walking on uneven terrain and slips and falls; being struck by rockfall, icefall or other objects dislodged or thrown from above; the use of climbing ropes and equipment; the forces of nature, including lightning, weather changes and avalanche; the risks of falling off the rock, mountain or into a crevasse; the risks of exposure to insect bites; the risk of altitude and cold including hypothermia, frostbite, acute mountain sickness, cerebral and pulmonary edema; my own physical condition, and the physical exertion associated with this activity.

Furthermore, SMC employees have difficult jobs to perform. They seek safety, but they are not infallible. They might be unaware of a participant's fitness or abilities. They might misjudge the weather or other environmental conditions. They may give incomplete warnings or instructions, and the equipment being used might malfunction.

2. I expressly agree and promise to accept and assume all of the risks existing in this activity. My participation in this activity is purely voluntary, and I elect to participate in spite of the risks.

3. I hereby voluntarily release, forever discharge, and agree to indemnify and hold harmless SMC from any and all claims, demands, or causes of action, which are in any way connected with my participation in this activity or my use of SMC's equipment or facilities, including any such claims which allege negligent acts or omissions of SMC. However SMC is required to notify all participant that, to the extent a court determines National Park Service restrictions on waivers of liability apply to SMC as a matter of law, SMC's liability for negligence may not be waived while you are travelling on NPS administered lands.

4. Should SMC or anyone acting on their behalf, be required to incur attorney's fees and costs to enforce this agreement, I agree to indemnify and hold them harmless for all such fees and costs.

5. I certify that I have adequate insurance to cover any injury or damage I may cause or suffer while participating, or else I agree to bear the costs of such injury or damage myself. I further certify that I am willing to assume the risk of any medical or physical condition I may have.

6. In the event that I file a lawsuit against SMC, I agree to do so solely in the County of Inyo, the state of California, and I further agree that the substantive law of California shall apply in that action without regard to the conflict of law rules of that state. I agree that if any portion of this agreement is found to be void or unenforceable, the remaining portions shall remain in full force and effect. By signing this document, I acknowledge that if anyone is hurt or property is damaged during my participation in this activity, I may be found by a court of law to have waived my right to maintain a lawsuit against SMC on the basis of any claim from which I have released them herein.

I have had sufficient opportunity to read this entire document. I have read and understood it, and I agree to be bound by its terms.

Signature of Participant _____ **Print Name** _____

Address _____

Phone _____ **Date** _____

PARENT'S OR GUARDIAN'S ADDITIONAL INDEMNIFICATION (Must be completed for participants under the age of 18)

In consideration of (print minor's name) _____ ("Minor") being permitted by SMC to participate in its activities and to use its equipment and facilities, I further agree to indemnify and hold harmless SMC from any and all claims which are brought by, or on behalf of Minor, and which are in any way connected with such use or participation by Minor, in accordance with the above terms of this agreement.

Parent or Guardian Signature: _____ **Print Name:** _____