



SLACKLINE U.S.

NATIONAL SLACKLINE ASSOCIATION

Working Model

This document lays out in simple terms the general plans, goals, and organization of Slackline U.S. The full bylaws can be found [here](#).

Mission Statement:

Slackline U.S. aims to protect access for the slackline community and foster safe practices in all forms of slacklining through education and community development.

Goals and vision:

The goal of Slackline U.S. is to support the slackline community by assisting with access rights management, consolidating gear and rigging knowledge and providing rigging educational resources, coordinating efforts of local groups and providing organizational support, developing youth outreach programs, and connecting with the International Slackline Association.

Slackline U.S. is being modeled after the American Alpine Club (AAC) and the Access Fund (AF) to provide both direct member benefits (rescue benefits, gear discounts, networking capabilities, small adventure grants, cool t-shirts) as well as community benefits (public resource for slacklining information, assistance with local access issues, etc.).

To that end, we have some great contacts within the AAC and AF who have been fantastic at providing assistance and insight on our formation.

Individual Member Benefits: (\$25 annual membership)

- *Rescue Benefits (\$10,000 domestic, \$5,000 international with Global Rescue)
- Highline Rigging Case Studies (early access)
- **Discounts with outdoor gear companies (and possibly slackline companies)
- Member database with slackcouch option
- Access to small grants for slackline related projects (depending on funding)
- T-shirt/swag
- Annual publication highlighting new lines, new achievements

*Rescue Benefits will require we have upwards of 1000 members to make the cost affordable.

**We're in the process of setting up these discounts. Anyone able to provide connections to people in outdoor industry, please let us know.

Resources available to non-members as well as members:

- Consolidated information

SlackMap with beta
Records recording
Highline Rigging Case Studies archive
Incident Reporting Form and Compiled Incident Data
Access Rights Management support and materials (example AUPs, etc.)

Notes on membership fee: Part of this fee will be contributed to the International Slackline Association which is coordinating the development and activities of national groups (creating and translating safety guidelines, organizing teaching certification programs, etc.). The remaining portion of the fee will cover membership expenses/benefits and help to fund Slackline U.S. projects. Membership fees are not being used to pay any of the people involved in developing Slackline U.S.

Membership Management:

Members can cancel membership at the time of payment renewal. Failure to pay membership upon expiration results in the loss of member benefits until such time as membership fees are paid. Renewed membership paid before the expiration will add one year to the membership term. Memberships renewed after expiration will provide one year of membership beginning upon the payment date. Prorated refunds are not provided except in exceptional circumstances.

Corporate Partnerships:

Slackline U.S. aims to develop partnerships with outdoor gear companies and other relevant groups. We are in the process of developing these relationships currently.

In the case of partnerships with slackline manufacturers and resellers, while companies are allowed to contribute financially if they wish to do so, care will be taken to ensure no bias exists. Being listed as a "Partner" on our website does not require any financial contribution on the part of the company, only endorsement of Slackline U.S. mission and projects.

Media partners:

Media partners are photographers, videographers, and other media professionals who endorse the cause of Slackline U.S. and are willing to allow free use of their materials to the association in exchange for being listed as a Media Partner online and receiving public credit for their works.

International Cooperation:

Slackline US will be a member of the International Slackline Association and work to develop connections between national groups worldwide. Published materials produced by Slackline U.S., especially as related to gear and rigging safety, will be shared with ISA and made available for translation.

Non-Profit Status:

Slackline U.S. is a non-profit corporation in the state of Montana. We are currently filing as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

Slackline.US Advisory Board (SAB):

Collection of community recognized professionals and experts and regional representatives to serve as public supporters of Slackline US, to provide input on relevant topics, and to help promote the association.

The SAB exists to promote Slackline US, act as ambassadors and offer expert advice on specific topics as required.

Expectations of SAB members:

- * Promote Slackline US through social media by passing on links/posts, by word-of-mouth, etc.
- * Inform on specific topics as requested by the board
- * Pass on useful connections within the community

Advisory Board Members

Jerry Miszewski - Owner, Balance Community. Previous record holder.
Faith Dickey - Female record holder. Professional slackliner.
Scott Rogers - Adventure photographer & highliner.
Libby Sauter - First woman to walk Lost Arrow Spire.
Mickey Wilson - Accomplished highliner and competitive trickliner.
Terry Acomb - Established many of the Moab area highlines. BLM liaison.
Damian Cooksey - Owns Bridges Rock Gym. Previous record holder.
Josh Beaudoin - Extensive experience establishing local/college clubs and teaching.
Chelsea Magnus - Yogaslackers, Pioneer in Yogaslacking/Acro Yoga
Dakota Collins - Owner of Rocky Mountain Slackline LLC.
Matt Ritter - Botanist, Biology professor at Cal Poly, SLO Tree Committee Chair

Board of Directors

The board of directors came together from individuals looking to get a national organization started. In order to initiate the development of Slackline U.S., we have assigned board positions and executive offices. Directors are volunteers and are not paid positions. However, a non-profit organization developed for the community should be made up of elected board members. As such, the initial terms are set to expire in December 2015 and December 2016 with the potential for additional board positions at those times as well. These dates have been chosen to allow time for a member base to develop and to allow for staggered elections to ease transitioning of board members. Upon election, terms will last for 2 years.

Executive Committee & Board

Sonya Iverson - President, Development Director
Tim Ross - Treasurer, Access Rights Management Director
Ben Plotkin-Swing - Vice President, Education Director
Sara Kaiser - Secretary, Communications Director
Hayley Percy - Organizations Director

Access Rights Management (Tim)

Organize materials and contacts related to access rights
Coordinate with local groups and city/state officials
Environmental impact community liaison
Manage incoming Access Issue Reports

Education (Ben)

Rigging training materials
Highline Case Studies
Slackline information/gear knowledge base

Rigging courses/certification (long term plans, will have a committee)

Communications (Sara)

Grant applications

Youth and Community Outreach

Organize educational programs

Building local slackline parks, facilities

Publication writing

Media contact

Social media marketing (with Sonya)

Organization (Hayley)

Coordinate with legal advisors

Assisted with writing bylaws

Assist with adhering to bylaws

Liaison with AAC and Access Fund

Assist with access rights support

Development (Sonya)

Overall organizational structure

Membership management

Corporate partnership management (w/ Hayley)

Collaborate on SlackMap development / Slackliner database

Graphic/Web design (at least initially)

Interactions with International Slackline Association and other groups