

## Application to become a St Cuthbert's Warden



Name of Applicant:	
Caving Club (if any) Membership No:	
BCA Insurance No:	
Date Form Submitted:	
Date of Acceptance	

Anyone wishing to become a warden must initially apply to the Caving Secretary ([caving@bec-cave.org.uk](mailto:caving@bec-cave.org.uk)) of the Bristol Exploration Club Ltd. A St Cuthbert's Warden must accompany all visits.

A prospective warden, having received an application form, will need to familiarise themselves with the cave while accompanied by a St Cuthbert's Warden. The prospective warden will be expected to show a good knowledge of the cave, particularly the three main routes detailed below:

### Old Route

In via: Arete, Wire Rift, Mud Hall, Pillar Chamber, Boulder Chamber, Curtain Chamber, Everest Passage, entrance to Cerberus series, Main Stream, entrance to Dining Room, Stal Pitch Bypass, Sewer Passage, Plantation Junction, the Beehive, Great Gour, Gour Hall and Sump 1.

Out via: Plantation Junction, Rabbit Warren, Railway Tunnel, Harem Passage, Upper Traverse Chamber, Boulder Chamber, Pillar Chamber and Wire Rift.

### New Route

In via: Arete, Pulpit Pitch, Water Chute, Lower Traverse Chamber, Bypass Passage, Sentry Passage, Main Streamway, Stal Pitch Bypass, Plantation Junction, the Beehive, Great Gour, Gour Hall, Sump 1 and Sump 2.

Out via: Plantation Junction, Rabbit Warren, descend into the streamway above Stal Pitch Bypass, Everest Passage, Boulder Chamber, Pillar Chamber and Wire Rift.

### September Series

Arete, Wire Rift, Mud Hall, Pillar Chamber, Boulder Chamber, Upper Traverse Chamber, High Chamber, September Chamber, Nelson's Column and Victory Passage.

The following two routes are expected to have been visited at least once:

### Catgut & Rabbit Warren Extension

Route in/out as required visiting Catgut & Rabbit Warren Extension. Numbers in Rabbit Warren Extension are restricted to **three** on this route.

### Coral & Rocky Boulder Series

In via: Arete, Wire Rift, Mud Hall to Pillar Chamber, the Rocky Boulder Pitch, Chockstone Rift, (or via Rescue Pitch), Coral Chamber, Fracture Rift, Annexe Chamber, Long Chamber, Boulder Chamber. Route out as required.

The prospective warden is expected to have climbed the entrance rift in wet conditions.

The prospective warden is expected to be aware of and ideally visited the following areas:

- Maypole Series.
- Rocky Boulder Central Route.
- Lower Mud Hall route to Rocky Boulder Series & Marble Pot.
- The Slabs & Long Chamber Extensions.
- Cerberus Series, including the connection between Stafford's Boulder Problem and the Main streamway.
- Fingers Traverse: Connection between Everest Passage and Railway Tunnel.
- Strike Passage: Connection between Railway Tunnel and Everest Passage.
- Connection between Mud Hall and the streamway, upstream of the Water Chute.
- Entry point to Canyon Series.
- Struggle Passage.

The prospective Warden needs to have become fully acquainted with the following:

- The cave's conservation plan.
- Knowledge of the cave's rules and guidelines.
- Knowledge of the routes, and short cuts in the event of cutting the trip short, or in the event of a rescue in the cave.
- The location of the First Aid and Rescue Kits.
- Knowledge of the surface dam control system and the time constraints on parties in wet conditions.
- The need to limit water contamination from sediments in the cave, which contain high levels of Lead (Pb) from ancient mining activities.
- The need to advise all visitors to the cave to wash **ALL** caving gear thoroughly after each caving trip in Cuthberts due to high levels of lead in the cave.

The prospective warden should accompany at least four different wardens. After each trip, the prospective warden should make a note of the trip date, route taken and accompanying warden in the training log. This will be ratified against the St Cuthbert's logbook when submitted for assessment by the BEC Caving Secretary.

A prospective warden may accompany any tourist party, even if the allowed number of cavers plus warden has already been reached.

Once the prospective warden feels they have fulfilled all the requirements, they shall apply to the BEC Caving Secretary for a confirmation trip. The BEC Caving Secretary will review the application and if satisfied, organise a confirmation trip which shall be carried out by a BEC St Cuthbert's Warden. Ideally, this confirmation trip will be carried out as part of a pre-arranged tourist trip, booked through the BEC Caving Secretary.

Following the confirmation trip, the nominated warden shall advise the Caving Secretary if the prospective warden has fulfilled the requirement to become a St Cuthberts Warden.

This completed form shall then be presented to the BEC Committee for ratification.