

## TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF USE OF THE “ELENA” SHELTER ACONCAGUA PROVINCIAL PARK

The current TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF USE OF THE “ELENA” SHELTER are established according to the following clauses:

**First: *Objective:*** the objective of the present regulation is to establish the terms and conditions of use of the “Elena” shelter located at “Colera” Base Camp at 6000mts of the Aconcagua Mountain in the Aconcagua Provincial Park, Mendoza, Argentina.

**Second: *Function:*** the use of the “Elena” Shelter will be solely and exclusively in case of emergency.

**Third: *Distribution, Compartments:*** the shelter has two independent sections. The first sector is designated for the entrance and immediate communication with the Park Authorities and the evaluation of the emergency. The second sector, situated at the back of the shelter, will be closed and locked so that it will be only used when the Park Authority considers necessary.

**Fourth: *Conditions of Use:*** People who are in serious and dangerous situations will be able to make use of the “Elena” Shelter to safeguard their physical integrity; respecting the norms that regulate the public use of the Aconcagua Provincial Park and the Natural Protected Areas from Mendoza.

**Fifth: *Access:*** To enter the “Elena” Shelter the users must break the door lock. Afterwards, they have to communicate immediately with Park rangers and / or the Rescue Patrol by using the radio system located in the shelter or with their personal handy by activating the Aconcagua Park official frequency on VHF (142800 MHz) to inform their identity and the attention needed.

By entering the shelter, the users are resigning the continuity of the expedition to the summit. And therefore when they are physically stabilized they must descend. Those who are descending the mountain and have to use the shelter for serious problems must proceed in the same way. If people are in danger or suffer some kind of injury, it will be corroborated by the Park Rangers, Rescue Patrol, Medical Service or any assigned person making possible the application of any sanction stated by the Regulation (Clause 10<sup>a</sup>) if any irregularity is detected.

**Sixth: *Supervision*:** The Park Rangers or the Rescue Patrol from Mendoza will supervise the people using the “Elena” Shelter with the purpose of verifying the physical and / or psychological conditions of the victim and assist them according to the current rescue protocol.

**Seventh: *Evacuation*:** when the victims are evacuated from the Elena Shelter, the Rescue Patrol and / or the Park Rangers will be responsible for:

- a) Conditioning the “Elena” Shelter for its next intervention.
- b) Stating the elements that have been used and / or damaged on the corresponding list so that the Direction of Natural Renewable Resources replace, maintain and / or repair them immediately.
- c) Closing the “Elena” Shelter with the corresponding locker/s to leave it ready for its next use.

**Eighth: *Inventory, Replacement*:** the Park should have an inventory with a detailed list of the security elements, communication and everything that is in the shelter. A copy of this list must be clearly posted. The replacement costs, repair or maintenance of the used elements will be managed by the person and / or persons who asked for help and use the “Elena” Shelter.

**Ninth: *Inspection*:** the Association of Mountain Guides from Argentina (A.A.G.M.) is authorized, through the Guide that the Institution assigned and qualified by the Park, to do the necessary inspections following the inventory, and also to do the corresponding reports; keeping a copy for the Aconcagua Provincial Park Headquarters, one copy for the Rescue Patrol from Mendoza and a copy for the A.A.G.M.’s archive.

**Tenth: *Sanctions*:** every sanction in the Fault Code and Penal Code will be punished according to the established in the Chapter XXI of the Provincial Law N° 6.045 and the Decree 2.819/90 with its modifications.

**Eleventh: *Enforcement Authority*:** the Direction of Renewable Natural Resources, through the head of the Aconcagua Provincial Park, will be the Enforcement Authority ensuring that the Regulation of the “Elena” Shelter is upheld and applied whenever necessary.