

Slackline U.S. (SlackUS, slackline.us)

Purpose:

The primary focus of Slackline U.S. is to support the slackline community. We do this by assisting with access management, consolidating gear and rigging knowledge and providing rigging educational resources, promoting Leave No Trace ethics, publishing conservation guidelines, organizing clean-ups and trail building projects, 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.

Current Slackline U.S. Projects

- Hosting community events around the country
- Hosting Highline Access and Anchors in America meetings to spread knowledge
- Organizing and promoting environmental projects (#trashbagchallenge, etc.)
- Informing community of changes in access to major locations
- Coordinating efforts of local slackline coordinators

Individual Member Benefits: (\$25 annual membership)

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

Resources available to non-members as well as members:

- Consolidated information
- Highline Rigging Case Studies archive
- Incident Reporting Form and Compiled Incident Data
- Distribution of useful knowledge, status updates about access and environmental issues
- Assistance with cleanup programs, trail building, event organization
- Access Management support and materials (example AUPs, etc.)

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

Faith Dickey

Scott Rogers

Libby Sauter

Terry Acomb

Damian Cooksey

Josh Beaudoin

Mickey Wilson

Chelsea Magnus

Dakota Collins

Matt Ritter (botanist, Biology professor at Cal Poly, SLO Tree Committee Chair)

International Cooperation:

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

Non-Profit Status:

Slackline U.S. is a 501(c)3 tax-exempt nonprofit organization and a Montana state tax-exempt nonprofit corporation.

Board of Directors:

Tim Ross - Director of Access Rights Management

Sara Kaiser - Director of Communications

Ben Plotkin-Swing - Director of Information and Safety Education

Sonya Iverson - Director of Infrastructure and International Cooperation

Hayley Percy - Director of Organization

Director of Access Rights Management (Tim)

- Organize materials and contacts related to access rights
- Coordinate with local groups and city/state officials
- Environmental impact community liaison

Director of 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)

Director of Information and Safety Education (Ben)

- Rigging training materials
 - Highline Case Studies
- Slackline information/gear knowledge base
- Rigging courses/certification (long term plans)

Director of Infrastructure and International Cooperation (Sonya)

- Overall organizational structure
- Membership management
- Organize SlackMap development / Slackliner database
- Graphic/Web design (at least initially)
- Interactions with International Slackline Association and other groups

Director of Organization (Hayley)

- Input on legal issues
- Assisted with writing bylaws
- Assist with adhearing to bylaws
- Liaison with AAC and Access Fund
- Assist with access rights support

Currently looking to add 2-3 more board members focused on Conservation, Media, and internal coordination.