

C.O.B.R.A. (Cavers Of the Batesville Region of Arkansas) Grotto
of the National Speleological Society

Membership Application

Name: _____ Birthdate: _____ NSS#: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip code: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Membership type: _____

I am knowledgeable about the caving guidelines of the National Speleological Society (NSS), Federal and State cave protection laws, and the Constitution and By-laws of the COBRA Grotto and the NSS. I agree to abide by these policies and regulations.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/guardian signature (if under 18): _____

If this is an application for a family membership, please list the family members (and e-mail addresses as appropriate) below.

All members must sign the "Statement of potential caving hazards" and "Waiver of liability."

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Statement of potential caving hazards

A normal caving trip requires hiking, crawling, squeezing through constrictions, climbing, skirting pits and canyons, walking on loose rocks and through slippery mud. Wild caves are totally dark. Cave floors, walls and ceilings sometimes contain loose rock, which may fall. Caves contain extensive, complex, confusing, mazelike and sometimes restrictive passages. There is some risk of becoming lost, disoriented, or trapped in a cave. Harmful animals and other organisms, and toxic gases may be present in caves. Caving involves extreme and abnormal physical and psychological stresses. Cavers are exposed to extremes of wet and dry conditions. Temperatures in some caves are below 40°F. Cavers could be trapped in a cave due to improper use or mechanical failure of the gate, lock and/or caving equipment. Cave rescue is difficult, dangerous, and expensive. The cost of the rescue may be borne by the rescued individual. A caving trip may subject an individual to other unknown hazards and risks. This document attempts to list the most commonly encountered hazards and risks. However, it should not be considered as an all-inclusive listing.

Waiver of liability

Be it known that the undersigned, being a participant in C.O.B.R.A. Grotto activities, for and in consideration of a grant of permission to such participant from the C.O.B.R.A. Grotto to engage in activities, under the auspices of, or on behalf of said organization, does hereby and for his/her heirs, executors, administrators, successors and assigns release, acquit and forever discharge the C.O.B.R.A. Grotto, its agents, affiliates, officers, directors, and members from any and all claims, actions, causes of action, demands, rights, damages, costs, loss of service, expenses and compensation whatsoever which the undersigned participant may have or which may hereafter accrue on account or in any way growing out of any and all negligence, bodily and personal injuries and property damages and consequences thereof resulting or to result from any accident, casualty or event occurring in preparation for or during the course of any activity.

The undersigned has read the "Statement of potential caving hazards" (above), and further agrees to assume any risk that such activities may present and to indemnify and hold harmless the C.O.B.R.A. Grotto and its members for any and all liability for bodily and personal injuries and/or property damage suffered by the undersigned and resulting from such event.

The undersigned further declares that no promise, inducement or agreement not herein expressed has been made to the undersigned, and that the undersigned fully understands this agreement, and that this release contains the entire agreement between the parties hereto, and that the terms of this release are contractual and not a mere recital. If the undersigned is the primary member of a family C.O.B.R.A. Grotto membership, this release applies to his/her family members as well.

Signature _____

Date _____

Printed name _____

Parent/guardian signature (if under 18) _____