

## MINUTES

Apologies for absence: Ian Poole, Steve Grimwood, Richard Miller, Mike Pears, Michaela Norfolk, Jo Denny, Karl Hale, Ailsa Duke, Dan Jones

24 members present

1. **Minutes of AGM held on 13<sup>th</sup> March 2025**

Signed as a true record. (D. Hales, J. Newstead)

2. **Matters arising**

U23 category introduced last year. Unfortunately we got the dates wrong which we will correct for this season but it does mean some riders may find themselves U23 when they thought they weren't and vice versa.

3. **Vice Chair's Report**

See new chairs report below

4. **Treasurers Report**

Accounts to date have been circulated by email. Our accounts run from August to August and as you can see from the Balance Sheet we made an overall loss of £3818.58 in 2025 and are currently running at an overall loss of £2701.54. We have very little activity from now until August so I would expect this loss to largely stay the same.

We split the profit/loss accounts into a League account and an Association account in order to understand how much it costs to run the league separately to the organisation as a whole. You can see that the league made a small profit of £77.15 in 24/25 and a slightly better £723.66 in 25/26 to date. This is largely due to a much lower judging team expenses but it should be noted that we had lower league registrations i.e. fewer league members, and the cost of numbers is roughly half what it should be due to the generosity of R&A Graphics who provide the numbers at cost in return for supported the young riders.

The Association made a loss of £3895.73 in 24/25 and a loss of £3425.20 so far in 25/26.

Things to note are that area levies have gone down by roughly £200 which means we had fewer adult riders especially as we had one more event this season. League event registrations are paid for by the association and have been increased by BC this season from £10 to £30. We've given no bursaries to young riders this season but we have paid for some early season coaching at Colchester and we also paid the inter region expenses. You'll also notice we have been bank charges for the first time ever! I have some proposals later in the AGM to address the year on year losses which hopefully will see us break even next season. Overall the bank balance stands at £17,550.83

5. **Coaching and Development Report**

Notable successes from the 25/26 season

Elizabeth Whall (CRCC) winning the Under 14 National Championships (and the National Trophy)

Benson Ho leading the Inter-Regional Youth Cyclocross team

National Trophy Update

Removal of requirement for Day 2 of National Trophy to be a UCI event (will reduce costs for organisers - it is understood only Derby round will have Day 2 as a UCI event)

Trialling a 'Double Header' weekend for Round 5 & 6

Moving Under 16 race from Saturday afternoon to Sunday morning (to support rider transition from Under 16 to Junior category)

Eastern Priorities from the 25/26 season

Eastern Priority last season was to support transition from Under 12 to Under 14; a series of training sessions and workshops were delivered pre-season. There was an increase in average rider numbers in Youth races.

Priorities for coming season

Continue to offer training sessions to support transition into Youth racing

Explore reasons why youth riders do not continue into junior categories (for the purpose of identifying appropriate actions to support transition)

Work towards staging a National Trophy race in the Eastern region

## 6. Election of Officers

Proposal of Daniel Doncaster as Chair: Proposed David Hales, Seconder Simon Wilson

I first came to cyclocross (in I think 2009) bringing my son to race and, like many parents, soon found I was on the start grid myself. Since then, I have raced for many years moving up the age categories to now be a proud member of the V60's. I have promoted races for my club Cycle Club Ashwell at Princess Helena College, Southill Estate and, most recently, Lannock Farm. I have observed that League Cyclocross races share similar characteristics; putting on the best race possible at the particular location, all age, inclusivity, good sporting attitude and with a wide range of committed volunteers. This is particularly true of the Eastern League. I have served on the Eastern Cyclocross League Committee for several years and now feel I have the time to commit to serve as Chair. With your support my aim is to maintain and grow our friendly community and continue to develop this exceptional sport.

Daniel

Proposal for remaining committee en-bloc: Proposer Lee Rowling, Seconder Peter Golding

Position	Current	Proposed
Honorary Vice President	Ian Poole	N/A
Chair	Vacant	Daniel Doncaster
Vice Chair	Steve Grimwood	Steve Grimwood
Secretary	Paul Moss	Paul Moss
Treasurer	Paul Moss	Paul Moss
Events Co-ordinator	Ian Poole	Ian Poole
League Co-ordinator	Dave Copland	Dave Copland
Rider Representatives 1 male 1 female	Lee Rowling Jo Newstead	Lee Rowling Jo Newstead
Coaching & Rider Development Co-ordinator	Simon Wilson	Simon Wilson
Committee Members	Benson Ho Daniel Doncaster Richard Miller Jo Denny	Benson Ho Russell Tribley Richard Miller Sean Marnier David Hales Peter Golding

## Chair's Report

First of all, thank you for attending this AGM. We enjoyed 11 rounds in the recently completed season. Courses used before have been improved demonstrating a commitment from organiser to continuous improvement. New courses have been well received. There is interest to introduce new courses, and this is most welcome. Many thanks to all the race organisers and their teams. The workload is high, but the motivation to do so is the shared success of our league. Numbers are a bit down. Lower numbers were also experienced at the National Trophy series; where ECXL was well represented. Ian Poole has been working hard to expand the number of commissaires available to us in the region. Competition has been as keen as ever. Congratulations to league winners, but not only those whose names are at the top of the list. For many riders their competitors are their immediate peers, so I congratulate those who finished

“ahead” and encourage those who finished “behind”. ECXL is, of course, enormously proud to have a National Champion amongst our midst, congratulations to Elizabeth Whall.

## 7. Proposals

### **Proposal from Daniel Doncaster**

**Secunder; Mark Wyer**

Permanent change to race schedule

9:20 U10s/U12s practice

9:40 Under 10s

10:00 Under 12s

10:30 Practice Session

11:00 Youth

11:45 Open Seniors, Juniors and Masters 40 (50 minute race)

12:50 Practice session

13:30 Women

14:30 Masters 50+ and Masters 60+

Concerns that the seniors will race for only 50 minutes.

Increase the Youth practise period by 10 minutes

Possibility to test the schedule and revert next season if it's a disaster

16 in favour

1 against

Proposal carried

### **Counter Proposal from Simon Wilson**

**Secunderd by Benson Ho**

Permanent change to race schedule

9am U12 Sighting lap

9:15 Under 10 race

9:35 Under 12 race

10:00 Youth & V50 sighting lap

10:30 Youth race

11:15 V50 race

Midday Sighting lap

12:45 V40 race

1:45 Women's race

2:45 Open Seniors and Juniors race

Withdrawn

### **Counter Proposal from Daniel Crichton**

**Secunder: Richard Miller**

Proposal To reduce the Junior race duration from 60 minutes to 40 minutes and reschedule accordingly.

1. Reduce the Junior race duration from 60 minutes to 40 minutes.
2. Schedule the Junior race earlier in the day.
3. Combine the Junior race with one of the Masters' categories, with appropriate capacity planning (e.g. reserving 15–20 places for Juniors).
4. Delegate to the committee the decision on which Masters' category is most suitable for combination, informed by participation data.

Withdrawn

### **Proposal from David Hales**

Revised Prize fund. As we are a league, rather than prize money at every event the prize money should be a league system based. Proposed funding at Appendix A. Each organiser to pay £250 to the end of season prize pot.

**Proposal from Peter Golding**

Scrap the prize money entirely

### Counter Proposals

Prize money only for Juniors and below (excluding U10/12) **24 for none against**

Prize money only for U23 and below (excluding U10/12) **8 for, 8 against. Discussion followed about Chair's casting vote but as there is no majority agreement was the amendment was not carried so event prizes will be for Juniors and below only.**

**Carried. Prize money for Juniors and below**

Category	1st	2nd	3rd
Under 14 Boys	£10	£7	£5
Under 14 Girls	£10	£7	£5
Youth Boys	£15	£12	£7
Youth Girls	£15	£12	£7
Junior Women	£20	£15	£10
Junior Men	£20	£15	£10
Under 8 Boys	Medal	Medal	Medal
Under 8 Girls	Medal	Medal	Medal
Under 10 Boys	Medal	Medal	Medal
Under 10 Girls	Medal	Medal	Medal
Under 12 Boys	Medal	Medal	Medal
Under 12 Girls	Medal	Medal	Medal

### Proposal from David Hales

Rider bursaries caveat that riders will attend each round of the league unless it clashes with a round of the National Championships.

**Withdrawn**

### Proposal from David Hales

Ranking: Current rule is "We take your average ranking score over your last 5 races in the current season and previous 2 seasons" I would like to see this altered to your last 5 races in the current season and the previous season ONLY. Those riders who continue to support the league year in and year out are penalised if a rider of 2 seasons ago decides he wants to race again.

**16 for. 1 against**

**Carried**

### Proposal from David Hales

Cessation planning for D Copland and Susannah. Is there anyone willing to share the load out there as at some point we should look to find suitable competent people to help run the back office function?

**Not really a proposal but a discussion point. Dave Copland advises that Gareth Smith already has a second set of equipment and can run the judging system without himself and Susannah being present.**

### Proposal from Mike Pears. Seconded Dave Hales

Propose to increase the fees to £20 for the adults, and if there are any additional categories added during the AGM which cause an additional prize fund then we go back to this item and consider if we need to up the entry fees further.

**13 for. 5 against**

### Proposal from Peter Golding

reduce the entry fee by £1, therefore rewarding every participant.

**Withdrawn**

### Proposal from Paul Moss (Treasurer)

Increase Area levies from £1 to £2

Increase U12 medals contribution from £25 to £50

Clubs have to pay their own event registration

Current accounts show that we are making significant losses year on year. Our only income for running the association is the area levy which is currently £1 and paid per over 16 rider i.e. the senior and masters races. With the proposal to revise or scrap the prize list this shouldn't affect an organisers profit margin.

The league currently subsidizes the U12 medals for each race and this has increase year on year to the extent that we now pay significantly more for medals than the clubs give us back.

Therefore I propose that we increase the club proportion to £50

Traditionally the association has paid the event registration fees for each race to BC. When BC stopped creating the events for us and got the clubs to do it themselves, the club has to pay the registration fee and effectively it gets claimed back from the association on the levy form. The fee has gone up from last season from £10 per race to £30 per race. I propose that we remove the association from paying the event registration and the clubs will pay it themselves.

Those three changes should bring the accounts much closer to breaking even as long as rider numbers stay roughly the same.

20 for. 0 against

### 8. AOB

Committee to write to the photographers Judith and Basil and thank them for their efforts. The YouTube footage has been well received so thank you for all those putting footage out there.

Season	Round		Open	Women	V40-49	V50/60/70	Youths	U12/10/8	Total
2025-26	Average	Entered:	30.5	19.6	34.4	84.7	38.1	60.4	267.7
2024-25	Average	Entered:	45.6	24.6	46.5	94.4	33.5	71.6	316.2
2023-24	Average	Entered:	51.9	25.9	53.5	97.7	31.6	56.3	317
2022-23	Average	Entered:	47.7	24.8	62	95.6	36.7	43.1	309.8
Average		Entered:	44	23.8	49.5	93.1	35	57.2	302.5