

AGENDA

NDCXL General Meeting

7.30pm on Tuesday 14th June 2022

Register to attend this meeting:

<https://www.ndcxl.org.uk/register-for-an-on-line-league-meeting/>

- 1) **Apologies**
- 2) **Minutes of the general meeting held on 29th March 2022**
- 3) **Matters Arising from the General Meeting (29.3.22) and AGM (26.4.22)**
- 4) **Team Updates**
 - a) Admin
 - b) Logistics
 - c) Officials
 - d) Results
 - e) Events
 - f) Communications
 - g) Finance
- 5) **Sponsorship update**
- 6) **Suppliers**
 - a) First aid
 - b) Chip timing
 - c) Trophies
- 7) **Provisional calendar**
- 8) **Volunteer recruitment**
- 9) **Proposal to reinstate the Women's categories within a standalone event (see attached)**
- 10) **Any other business**
- 11) **Date of next meeting**

Item 9

PROPOSAL

Proposer: Helen Dussek (Nottingham Clarion Cycling Club)

Proposal: Amend the race day schedule (Appendix C of the NDCXL Rules) to reinstate the standalone women's-only event (the women's event was merged with the vet 50 men's category by a vote at the AGM held on 26 April 2022).

Rationale:

The decision to merge the women's adult categories with the vet 50 men was met with significant opposition from the wider NDCXL membership. It was felt that this was a backward step for the League and the standalone women's event should, therefore, be reinstated. This proposal aims to achieve this by returning to the race day schedule that was in place during the 2021-2022 season.

The standalone female event was introduced following a successful proposal at the AGM held on 10 April 2019. The arguments to introduce a standalone women's event still stand:

- To strengthen women's racing at NDCXL
- Successful precedents prove that there is value in introducing a standalone women's-only event at regional leagues.
- The introduction of a national level veterans' women's race at national level has increased participation.
- A number of in-region club riders indicated that they would be keen to take part.
- Indications suggest that racing with men is a restrictive factor for novice women.

The 2019-2020 season, the first with a standalone women's event, saw female rider participation grow, with up to 56 female riders per event and regularly over 50 throughout the season. The aim of creating an environment attractive to new riders was achieved, with riders travelling from other leagues and more women from member clubs participating.

Unfortunately, due to COVID-19, the 2020-2021 season included only one NDCXL event. While there were more events over the 2021-2022 season affiliations were down with lower rider numbers across male and female categories. In other words, after a promising start for the new standalone event the last two seasons have been atypical. Consequently, a decision to remove the women-only event based on rider numbers from the 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 is not valid.

In fact, the experience of MTB racing during this summer (2022), in which participation in women's racing appears to be climbing back to somewhere near pre-COVID numbers, suggests that rider numbers may increase during the next CX season.

Other considerations:

- Removing the NDCXL womens race would put the NDCXL out of kilter with other leagues that have introduced standalone events.
- Running a standalone women's event is in line with BC's strategy to develop women's racing.
- NDCXL has a reputation for being forward thinking and it needs to maintain this.