

# NOTTS & DERBY

## CYCLO-CROSS LEAGUE



## NDCXL Annual General Meeting - 31-March-2025

We had a successful 24/25 season with more riders than the previous season over 8 races, including the return of the Twixmas Cross. Unfortunately, due to increased costs, we ran at a loss, which is not sustainable. Changes need to be made to reduce costs and to encourage more riders through more accessible races or more exciting races. With this in mind a number of proposals were discussed and voted upon, see the main minutes for the full detail but the key changes are:

- The Female race to be moved earlier in the day (essentially swapping the timeslots of the Masters Open) to benefit from better course conditions
- The Masters 40 Open category will race with the Juniors and Seniors Open to both balance the field sizes and to make for a more exciting Senior race.
- Entry fees will be reviewed as part of the changes to improve the financial stability of the league
- All the Trophies awarded will be reviewed by the committee with some potentially removed. *FYI Engraving perpetual trophies and purchasing individual trophies costs around £1,200 each year.*

Finally, we have a great team of enthusiasts who want the League to be a success and are continuing in their roles along with a few new faces but we would ideally have a Chairperson recruited, along with someone to organise the awards evening in 2026. If you think that could be you or you know of someone then please get in touch. Equally if you would like to help in the running of the League in an informal capacity please come along to the committee meetings.

The next committee meeting is **Monday 28th April** on Zoom.

Thank you to all involved in helping to make this season great fun and roll on the 25/26 season, regards,

*Rob Hardisty*

NDCXL Secretary (and temporary Chair)

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### NDCXL AGM Minutes 31-March-2025

**Present:**

Rob Hardisty (Nottingham Clarion) (Temp Chair and Secretary)	Voting		
Nick Chilton (Logistics & Event Support)	Voting	John Elwell	Voting
Ian Bradley (Event organiser)	Voting	Larissa Alexander	Voting
Bruce Dalton (Communications)	Voting	Ruth Shaw	Voting
Tim Berry (Event organiser)	Voting	Mike Cooke (Results)	Voting
Gary Strickland	Voting	Tina Farr (Event organiser)	Voting
John Dixon (Web management)	Voting	Tony Donaldson (Treasurer)	Voting
Darren Toplis (Officials team)	Voting	Caroline Mansfield (Social Media)	Voting
Stefan Partridge	Voting	Christina Burns (dropped connection?)	Voting

- 1) It was noted that **apologies** had been received from Helen D, Andy H
- 2) The **minutes of the last AGM held on 28 March 2024** were accepted as a true reflection of the discussions that took place. Proposed by Nick Chilton and seconded by Bruce D.
- 3) **Matters Arising from the last AGM held on 28 March 2023.**
  - Review of race entry fees was carried out following the 2024 AGM and prices adjusted.

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### 4) Annual reports

#### a. Admin – Chair

We had 8 races in the 24/25 season with 556 riders and 1725 race entries, up from 970 previous season(23/24), although we did have more rounds.

On the day entries seem to be helping with rider numbers and seems to have gone smoothly.

Nick: two new event organisers, Bruce and Tilly; back at Broxtowe too, even three times at Darley Moor worked OK.

#### b. Admin – Secretary

I'm still getting to grips with this and aware that the agendas and minutes need to be shared more widely. Moving to a mailing list should help with that.

#### c. Logistics

More single use tape and scavenged BC Trophy tape was used at multiple events which minimised tape costs and is more env friendly.

The numbers blocks could be used.

One bike stand needs repairing.

#### d. Officials

Darren: re-worked youth race gridding was well received, 3 comms, 4 ideally

Nick: when the events teams are small, ie at the end of the season, a 4th experienced comms was a big help

#### e. Results

Mike: encourage on the day entries to check their name matches what is on their BC licence, that was the biggest source of the issues but nothing major.

#### f. Events

Ian: venue cost has doubled so the date is provisional; club changes may affect people available

Bruce: well supported, finances covered by the League (Tony), was quite straightforward!

Nick: went well but numbers are down from a few years ago 400 → 220; one the day entries don't change the prize pot

Tina: weather kind; that was the last planned event at the Middlehills site, looking to Alfreton for the 25/26 season instead

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### g. **Communications**

John: still some website updates to do but we should also look at doing a website refresh; website provider service has been good

Caroline: need to acknowledge that it takes a reasonable amount of time; are people looking at Facebook as much? Instagram is good for resharing media content.

### h. **Finance - Treasurer**

£2,400 spent on events more than we bring in from those events

£1,500 spent on trophies (and engraving) that isn't covered by income

£6,500 loss over the year partly due to levy payment from the season before

~£10,750 balance

Club affiliation income has ended which was ~£2,000 plus independent affiliation of ~£250

The Awards evening costs were covered by ticket sales but not the trophies themselves

Options:

Reduce event costs - not felt to be realistic if we want the same level of service

Reduce award costs - to be discussed below

Increase entry fees - needs further investigation

Increase numbers - but how?

### 5) **Appointment of auditor**

Tony suggested this last time as we ought to have the accounts independently checked.

The auditor does not need to be an accountant.

### 6) **Election of League Chair, Treasurer and Secretary**

Chair: Keep as is but ask for volunteers...re-visit in 2026!

Treasurer: Tony

Secretary: Rob

### 7) **Confirm volunteer team leaders**

Prior to the meeting the following confirmed their continued involvement in volunteer teams:

Logistics	Nick Chilton
Officials	Darren Toplis
Results	Steve Oakes / Michael Cooke
Event Posting	Christine Chilton
Organiser Liaison	Simon Severn (TBC)
Web admin	John Dixon
Communications/Social Media	Caroline plus Stefan
Awards Night Co-ordinator	Needs recruiting
Auditor	Paul D

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### 8) Proposals

#### PROPOSAL #1

**Proposer:** Rob H

**Proposal:** Change Constitution wording so that voting is carried out by all present but only if there is a minimum of five people and keeping the max of 2 voting attendees per club.

**Rationale:** now that we don't have affiliated clubs the current wording in the constitution is out of date.

**Revision:** the Constitution only mentions member clubs, not affiliated, so this proposal may not be needed; however we will make it clear that member clubs are those that organise events or directly support one or more events.

**Discussion:**

<b>FOR</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>AGAINST</b>	
<b>ABSTENTIONS</b>	
<b>PROPOSAL CARRIED</b>	

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*Relating to trophies: currently the individual trophies are provided out of League funds and is not sustainable and each season several go unclaimed as the riders aren't interested so should we reduce the number handed out. Note that these apply to Junior and above only; we believe the trophy reward is a good incentive for the youth riders.*

### **NEW PROPOSAL A**

**Proposer:** AGM attendees  
**Proposal:** Review all trophies handed out, particularly for the older categories.  
**Rationale:** Perceived to have less interest and is an unnecessary cost to the league  
**Discussion:** to be given to the committee to action taking into account proposals 2, 3 and 4 below

<b>FOR</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>AGAINST</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>ABSTENTIONS</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>PROPOSAL CARRIED</b>	

### **PROPOSAL #2**

**Proposer:** Helen D  
**Proposal:** Stop awarding 2nd and 3rd individual and team trophies for Junior and above categories.  
**Rationale:** Perceived to have less interest and is an unnecessary cost to the league  
**Proposed amendments:** *the rules do not mention these prizes so this would be a change to practice rather than rules so should be considered with proposal 4*

### **PROPOSAL #3**

**Proposer:** Mike C  
**Proposal:** Change the minimum team number to two for the Juniors, U23s and Seniors \*or\* allow a composite team of Junior/U23/Senior  
**Rationale:** Encourage the team aspect allowing the teams in the smaller categories to have 2 members only which is inline with the Female category.

### **PROPOSAL #4**

**Proposer:** Rob H  
**Proposal:** Change the rules around the awarding of individual team trophies to be purchased at the committee discretion, if funds do not allow then these could be dropped or replaced with something other than a trophy e.g. a medal  
**Rationale:** Reduce cost to the League  
**Proposed amendments:** change from "trophy" to "trophy, medal or other prize"

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*Prize money*

### PROPOSAL #5

**Proposer:** Ian

**Proposal:** Change the rules around the Prize money so that it is paid out at the end of the season rather than at each race.

**Rationale:** To make the on the day logistics easier and to encourage racing entries throughout the season and more racers benefit.

**Proposed amendments:**

- **Reword Rule 3.4:** "It is mandatory to award prizes in the following categories **at the end of the season based on league position:**"
- **Change Appendix F** to reflect top riders receiving a proportion of the prize pot as per the existing spreadsheet.

**Discussion:** The event prize pot will need transferring to the League. Younger riders find it motivating. Out of area riders who only do a few races may not get anything.

We may need to track the sub-pots for each eligible age category although not all race organisers did use that model and some gave the same prize amounts to all eligible categories.

An end of season prize pot could also make use of on the day entry money.

The vote for proposal 5 also includes proposal 6 below too.

LCXL and others do similar. Although there is still work to do organising the prizes it does not need to be done by each and every event organiser.

<b>FOR</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>AGAINST</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>ABSTENTIONS</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>PROPOSAL CARRIED</b>	

### PROPOSAL #6

**Proposer:** Mike C

**Proposal:** Change the rules so that prize money is handed out at the end of the season based on finishing League position, rather than podium finishes, and allow more places to win prize money. The same proportion of the money is set aside but apportioned differently at the end of the season.

**Rationale:** To encourage racing entries throughout the season and more racers benefit.

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### PROPOSAL #7

**Proposer:** Helen D

**Proposal:** Combine Masters 40/50/60+ **Open** with Juniors and Seniors **Open** so that we have one less race.

**Rationale:** The racing day will then be shorter and will have a more exciting and well attended final race. Rider numbers will still be less than we used to have in the NDCXL pre-2020. Committee meeting decision was against this as it was felt that the speed differential would be too great and some races would have field sizes too large for the courses now.

**Discussion:** speed differential is thought to be too great - rejected out of safety grounds and not voted on

**PROPOSAL REMOVED**

### PROPOSAL #8

**Proposer:** John D

**Proposal:** Combine only Masters 40 **Open** with Juniors and Seniors **Open** following review of the numbers

**Rationale:** Should have a more exciting and well attended final race. The race day will be shorter too. The downside is that the Masters 40 riders with children will have a longer day.

**Discussion:** This needs to be well communicated.

<b>FOR</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>AGAINST</b>	
<b>ABSTENTIONS</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>PROPOSAL CARRIED</b>	

### PROPOSAL #9

**Proposer:** Claire Lise

**Proposal:** Move the Female race after the Youth race in place of the current Masters Open i.e. swap the Female and Masters race times.

**Rationale:** The Female racers do not have to race the course after it's been torn up during the Masters race.

**Proposed amendments:**

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**Discussion:**

<b>FOR</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>AGAINST</b>	
<b>ABSTENTIONS</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>PROPOSAL CARRIED</b>	



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### 9) Any other business

- John Elwell: have separate whistles for 50s and 60s; Nick: with the accepted proposals then this is more do-able; Darren: Comms usually ask what the riders prefer but the new change will make things more straightforward.
- Levy and Price increases to be discussed at the next committee meeting, does not need a AGM vote as such but we do encourage all to attend
- Mailing List - not a rule change but we would like to let everyone know that we are looking to introduce a mailing list to better inform the League members rather than relying on Facebook which is becoming more and more unsuitable. All email marketing solutions do far more than we need so the free or cheaper versions (around £10 pcm allowing for multiple admin users) would be a more reliable way of managing communications. Examples:
  - (1) OctopusMail: Free (1,500 contacts / 1 admin user); Or £10pcm; UK based, EU hosted
  - (2) MailChimp: Free (500 contacts / 1 admin); Or £8.50pcm assuming not for profit; US based and hosted but with EU-US Data Privacy Framework certification in place

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### 10) Date of next meeting

Monday 28th April

May or June to be in person

Provisional calendar so far

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	NDCXL	National	Other and notes
13-Sep	HPP		13/14/17 Hope Supercross
20-Sep	Shipley TBC		20th Hope Supercross
27-Sep	Alfreton TBC		
4-5-Oct		Derby National Trophy 1	
11-Oct			
18-19-Oct		Falkirk National Trophy 2	
25-Oct			
1-2-November		Clanfield National Trophy 3	
8-Nov			
15-16-Nov		Bradford National Trophy 4	IR Youth races???
<b>Sunday 23-Nov</b>	<b>EM Regional Champs</b>		Hosted by Lincs
29-Nov			
6-7-Dec		Sandwell National Trophy 5	
13-Dec			
20-Dec			

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27-Dec			
2-3-Jan		Irvine National Trophy 6	
10-11-Jan		South Shields National Champs	
17-Jan			
24-Jan			
31-Jan			