

NOTTS & DERBY

CYCLO-CROSS LEAGUE



Summary of the NDCXL Annual General Meeting 2026

The most important thing is that we had a great 2025/26 season of racing which included the return to a much loved venue. Thank you to the organising clubs:

- Nottingham Clarion (HPP)
- Derby Mercury (Markeaton)
- Matlock CC (Afreton)
- University of Nottingham CC (Broxtowe)
- Gritty Racing (HPP)
- Derby Mercury with Zepnat (Sinfin)

We had slightly fewer rounds compared to the 24/25 season and rider numbers were slightly down too, however they were higher than the 23/24 season, so we can't read too much into that. Organisers are now used to re-using tape which helps keep costs down and is the right thing to do from an environmental point of view. Talking of costs, we are still in a reasonable financial position but the League has had to subsidise events for the third year in a row out of a buffer built up over several years. We need to look at doing things differently in future especially as we also need to find a new chip-timing company now Smart-Timing has finished.

At the AGM we had 13 attendees from 8 clubs/teams, one independent rider and one member of the Commissaire team. We have the committee roles filled now but my closing comment is that we need more people and clubs to get involved with running events and running the League. We cannot rely on the goodwill of a small number of people, it is not good practice in any organisation. So please, if you can help, or can rally your club mates to put on an event, then please let us know.

Here's to a successful 26/27 season!

Rob Hardisty

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NDCXL Annual General Meeting 2026

Date: Monday 23rd March 2026 at 7:30pm

Venue: Zoom

Present:

Rob Hardisty (Nottingham Clarion)	Voting	John (Bolsover & D)	Voting
Caroline (Gritty Racing)	Voting	Darren (Sherwood Pines / Comms)	Voting
Chris (Matlock CC)	Voting	Mike C (Nottingham Clarion)	Voting
Nick (Derby Mercury)	Voting	Andy H (Comms)	Not
Christine (Derby Mercury)	Voting	Tim (Empella)	Voting
Ian (Private)	Voting	Tina (Matlock CC)	Voting
Tony (Ilkeston)	Voting		

1) It was noted that **apologies** had been received from:

- Gary Strickland (Long Eaton CC)

2) The **minutes of the last AGM held on 31 March 2025** are to be agreed.
Caroline and Tony confirmed that they are correct.

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3) Matters arising from the last AGM

PROPOSAL SPECIAL: New voting rights

Proposer: Nick

Check Constitution 7.9 amendments

Reason: With the move away from club affiliation, clarity is offered below on eligibility to vote at the AGM. This opens up the voting to more riders whilst keeping a benefit to the organising clubs.

Voting protocol

Racers eligible for a league position in the previous year have one vote. This includes Youth U16 and U14 categories.

NDCXL Committee team members (see below) or nominated representatives, who are not also racers, (e.g. Commissaire team members) will also have one vote.

Two representatives attending or voting by proxy from each Organising club/team from the previous season will have an additional vote each. If only one representative attends then that club/team only has one additional vote.

Please note that Under 9's and under 12's are invited to have their voice through their club.

FYI There were 5 lead organising clubs in the 2025/26 season: Nottingham Clarion, Derby Mercury, Matlock CC, UoNCC, Gritty Racing with Zepnat supporting Derby Mercury at Sinfin. Committee members are listed below in sections 5 and 6.

If accepted then this will be used for the following proposals.

Vote: Unanimously agreed

Quoracy: interpretation

Extract 7.5. The quorum for all general meetings is 6 members present or 10% of the total current membership (those eligible for a League position) whichever is greater.

We had 112 racers last season were eligible for a league position so to be quorate we need 11 or more people attending the 2026 AGM.

We have 13 attendees, 12 eligible to vote.

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4) Annual reports

- **Admin – Chair**

- I think it's fair to say that the 25/26 season was quite challenging in terms of finding venues and race organisers. Having said that we had six great races, plus the Regional Champs (organised by Lincs), which included a return to Sinfin which proved to be a hit with the racers.
- Over the whole season we had 396 riders and 1,106 race finishers, so probably slightly more entries.
- Compared to the last two seasons it's comparable and other Leagues are similar. We should also remember that other Leagues in England cover entire regions whereas we are one of three in the East Midlands.

25/26 Season just finished	24/25 Season	23/24
6 races	8 races	7
396 riders	570 riders	253 riders
1,106 race finishers	1,725 <i>race entries</i>	970 <i>race entries</i>
184 finishers per race	216 <i>entries</i> per race	139 per race

- **Admin – Secretary**

- The mailing list is helping to improve communication but I'd like to send out a questionnaire using the mailing list, Facebook and word of mouth to get feedback on how we're doing communication-wise and for the Awards Night.
- We gave out medals instead of trophies this year which saved ~£1,000 compared to previous years. I personally think that the custom made wooden medals are nicer than the stock trophies.
- Question for the future: are the adults bothered about medals?

○

- **Logistics**

- Nick: Another year of trying to minimise equipment use and more re-use.
- Using part number sets which saves waste but also can top up with re-usable numbers as required.
- Thanks to Tim for providing the used tape from his Trophy event.
- Organisers are now getting used to re-using tape.
- The bike-stand which had been broken during the previous season has now been fixed.

- **Officials**

- Darren: some clashes early season but no major problems
- Organisers did a good job.
- Should be fine for next season.

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- **Results**
 - More of the league table generation is now automated
 - Early result issues mainly down to inconsistent names registered.
 - Might be useful to share the gridding sheets with the Results team so names can be checked.
- **Events admin**
 - Christine: a couple of mistakes corrected by Mark at BC; last change of venue was cutting it fine but hopefully a one off.
- **Communications**
 - Caroline: Facebook and Instagram need to be done at the same time
 - We need to drive more to sign up for emails
 - FB does not always make that visible for everyone
 - Andy: LCXL have introduced WhatsApp groups for selling and rider lounge
 - CM: we could have a broadcast only group but it is another channel to manage
 - MC: WhatsApp means sharing people's contact details too
 - Conclusion was to push the email channel.
- **Finance - Treasurer**
 - Tony: shared 25-26 accounts, see appendix;
 - Key expense items (approximately)
 - Chip timing ~£3,500
 - First aid ~£2,500
 - BC levies ~£3,400
 - Cash prizes ~£2,100
 - The League had to subsidise £1,900 for the 25/26
 - We've had a great deal on chip timing for the last few years so we need to be aware of the impact on the finances in future.
 - Approx £9,000 remaining in the bank
 - The cash prizes issued was roughly the same as the deficit. So this could be an area to amend or we need to increase prices again.
 - CK: Be aware that this is the third year in a row that we've had to subsidise
 - Let's aim to have the accounts audited before any change of Treasurer

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5) Election of League Chair, Treasurer and Secretary

Proposals:

Chair: Rob Hardisty - Nottingham Clarion

10 votes in favour

Treasurer: Steve Oakes - Ilkeston

9 people voted in favour; 3 abstaining as Steve was not available to answer questions

however Steve was not here to represent himself

Secretary: Mike Cooke - Nottingham Clarion

Mike replaces Rob

10 in favour

6) Confirm volunteer team leaders

Prior to the meeting the following confirmed their continued involvement in volunteer teams or stepped forward to do the role (highlighted yellow):

Logistics	Nick Chilton - Derby Mercury
Officials	Darren Toplis / Andy Humberston
Gridding	Stuart Reeves - Pedal Power
Results	Claire Ciana - Nottingham Clarion
Event admin	Christine Kelly - Derby Mercury
Web admin	John Dixon - Bolsover & District
Communications	Caroline - Gritty Racing
Awards Night Co-ordinator	Tina Farr - Matlock CC

7) Appointment of auditor

The auditor does not need to be an accountant.

Christine will audit again this year, aiming to complete before the end of March.

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8) Proposals to vote on

PROPOSAL 1: Gridding for the first round of the season

Proposer: **David Backhouse**

Existing Rule: Yes APPENDIX C - in 3 places

Detailed description of the item to be discussed:

The current gridding rules for the first event of the season aren't clear, as they only refer to "average points" without specifying which events should be included in that calculation.

This season, the average points from the previous season were used for gridding at round 1.

However, the pages <https://www.ndcxl.org.uk/gridding/> and

<https://www.ndcxl.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/2024-09-09-NDCXL-Gen-Meeting-Minutes.pdf> both appear to indicate that Round 1 gridding should be based on the final standings from the previous season.

The rules also do not explicitly state that on-the-day entries are excluded from priority gridding and are placed behind advance entries.

To remove ambiguity in the rules, I propose that the gridding rules be updated as follows:

Gridding Order

Advance entries only (i.e. not entered on the day) will be gridded in the following order, at the discretion of the Officiating Commissaires:

1. National Top 50 – In order of current season's national ranking (highest first).
2. Outside National Top 50:
 - o Round 1: By previous season's final League position (riders moving up an age category placed behind returning riders in that category).
 - o Rounds 2+: By current League standings based on average points. League Leader Jersey wearers will automatically be gridded first.
3. Non-scoring / Unranked riders – Outside National Top 50 with no current-season League points.

On-the-day entries will be gridded last.

For	Against	Abstaining
11		

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PROPOSAL 2: Encouraging volunteers

Proposer: **Mike**

Suggested change: Amend rule 4.6 to add:

Add 4.6.3 Riders in categories U23 or above must organise, officiate or carry out a league job in order to be eligible for a final league position.

Reason: Obtaining enough volunteers for both League positions and supporting events has become more of a struggle since the affiliation rules were changed. To help resolve this issue, in order to be eligible for a final league position riders from categories U23 and above must help at a minimum of 1 round, or carry out a league job. Such a rule exists in other leagues and could also help the NDCXL.

Results team would record who had marshalled for average points currently.

AH: Concerned that this will put people off.

TD: Also, how to ensure all riders can actually volunteer.

NC: would prefer not having to manage unknown riders wanting to volunteer

CG: make people aware that they can claim average points by marshalling

For	Against	Abstaining
	10	

PROPOSAL 7: Remove the minimum number of rounds to qualify as a League

Proposer: **Mike**

Change Rule 2.1 The League competition shall comprise a minimum of 6 rounds each season, run over a number of rounds, will consist of races for the following groups:....

Reason: specifying a minimum number causes unnecessary discussion and we will always want to put as many races on as possible but as the National Trophy has found that sometimes having fewer rounds is inevitable.

CK: does BC specify a minimum number?

TB: min 6 may have been driven by a previous sponsor

For	Against	Abstaining
10		1

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PROPOSAL 4: League competition prize rules

Proposer: Mike

Proposal: Amend rule 5.1 to read:

“To be eligible for a league prize, a rider must have raced a minimum of 4 NDCXL hosted rounds.”

Reason: Currently riders can use the regional championship as 1 of the 4 rounds required to be eligible for a league prize*. People should be encouraged to ride more NDCXL rounds by removing this.

** prizes meaning trophy, medal and/or cash prizes*

For	Against	Abstaining
9	1	2

Any serious concerns will be discussed at a monthly committee meeting.

PROPOSAL 3: Change average points for Regional Championships

Proposer: Mike

Proposal: Change rule 4.7 to:

Riders competing in the East Midlands Regional Championships will be awarded average points unless the Championship is hosted by NDCXL, in which case normal points scoring will apply.

4.7.1. Riders from outside the East Midlands region may claim average points if they have ridden their respective Regional Championships.

Reason: As all riders are eligible for NDCXL league points, it would make sense for regional championships hosted by NDCXL to be scored as a standard round, thereby minimizing the impact of average points awards.

For	Against	Abstaining
10		1*

**but really would have voted “for” but had misunderstood until we discussed 3a below*

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PROPOSAL 3a: Normal place points for Regional Championships

Proposer: David Backhouse

Proposal: Change rule 4.7 to:

Riders competing in the East Midlands Regional Championships will be awarded normal points scoring will apply.

4.7.1. Riders from outside the East Midlands region may claim average points if they have ridden their respective Regional Championships.

Reason: Currently the average points means riders who attend will always benefit regardless of their actual finishing position which seems unfair to those who cannot attend Sunday races.

Concern over how to process the results for races with different formats.

For	Against	Abstaining
1	10	

PROPOSAL 5: League competition prizes

Proposer: Mike

Proposal: Remove rules 5.3 and 5.4 and 5.6.3 and replace with:

“Permanent trophies or medals will be awarded at the discretion of the NDCXL committee based on league finances.”

Reason: Currently the league positions that require award of a permanent trophy (along with engraving of the perpetual trophy) are mandated by the league rules. Given the increased costs of engraving/purchasing trophies this requirement should be revised and to be at the discretion of the NCDXL committee (on a cost basis)

For	Against	Abstaining
11		

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PROPOSAL 6: Eligible rounds when low numbers of races

Proposer: **Rob**

Proposal: only drop one round if six or fewer races. This affects Rule 4.8.1

4.8.1.1 If there are 10 or more League events in The League programme, the 3 lowest scores will be disregarded.

4.8.1.2 If there are 7-9 League events in The League programme, the 2 lowest scores will be disregarded.

4.8.1.3 If there are fewer than 7 League events in The League programme, the single lowest score will be disregarded.

Reason: Currently dropping two rounds doesn't reward those attending all rounds. Especially when average points can be claimed too.

For	Against	Abstaining
11		

PROPOSAL 6a: Average points claims when low numbers of races

Proposer: **Rob**

- 4.6 Riders who organise or officiate at an event (and do not also ride that race) shall score their average points, **providing rule 2.11 is complied with.**

- 4.6.1 Riders in categories Junior or above may be allocated average points (as per 4.6) for up to a maximum of:

- 3 events per season when 10 or more races
- 2 events per season when 7-9 or more races
- 1 per season when 6 or fewer races

- 4.6.2 Any rider in the U9, U12 or Youth leagues will only be allocated average points (as per 4.6) once per season.

For	Against	Abstaining
	10	1

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PROPOSAL 6b: Calculate average points before dropped rounds are removed

Proposer: David Backhouse

Move the calculation of average points to before dropped rounds are taken into consideration.
Reason: Currently the average points means riders who attend will always benefit regardless of their actual finishing position which seems unfair to those who cannot attend Sunday races.

4.8.1. Calculation of average points

Where average points are awarded, the average will be calculated from all completed (points scoring) rounds.

Averages are not rounded up or down during calculation of final scores.

4.8.2. Dropped scores

To avoid penalising riders due to other unavoidable commitments, such as Saturday shift working or family events:

The lowest scores (including any zero points from any rounds not completed) are disregarded.

4.8.2.1 If there are 10 or more events in the League programme (including the Regional Championships), the three lowest scores will be disregarded.

4.8.2.2 If there are 6–9 events in the League programme (including the Regional Championships), the two lowest scores will be disregarded.

4.8.2.3 If there are 4 or 5 events in the League programme (including the Regional Championships), the single lowest score will be disregarded.

4.8.2.4 If there are three or less events in the League programme (including the Regional Championships), all scores will be included.

No vote required as no rule change but the process documented could be clearer.

ACTION: re-number the rules and provide an example

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9) Any other business

Point of clarification: Event Surplus

Nick Chilton

The ultimate aim of NDCXL is to minimise the cost of racing while delivering a consistent entry fee across the season.

Due to the variation in costs, events may find themselves with surplus. It is expected if the surplus is significant, that the majority (70%) of any surplus be returned to the riding community in the form of prizes either on the day or at season end.

The league commits to support organisers that make a deficit. This should be discussed with the league prior to the event.

Prize profiles are provided in appendix F and event costs and this logic is embedded in the event organisers spreadsheet.

Move to a Regional League

Raised by: Jonathan Lamont

All leagues for the youths appear to be losing numbers and this just is not sustainable long term and such I feel there needs to be and better regional approach taken.

I would propose each league keeps their format, perhaps 7 races each but with 5 to count, so as not to lose tradition and allows those who wish to compete in only one league.

Coordinate races, and develop an over all East Midlands league with 15 races to count out of 21. 5 from each league.

Have a central control that coordinates this and helps promote, arrange sponsors and catering, they can also bulk buy and negotiate on prizes and medals etc.

I understand the distances between races may cause some problems, especially the ones in Corby for Leicestershire and Louth in Lincs, however with the 5 from each to score, this may help as both of those courses are actually really good ones. I would be happy to talk further on both.

NB we would also need to agree gridding across all areas too.

Rob: conversations with the other League Chairs have started regarding sharing rounds and a EM League was mentioned but no firm decisions yet. This is not a NDCXL AGM proposal but an interesting discussion point. We will gauge interest in this but would be a significant change and obviously needs the buy-in from all the Leagues in the area.

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Design tougher courses for U12s

Raised by: Jonathan Lamont

These vary too much in the younger age groups, and I know it can be a problem with such ability and age ranges. Perhaps clearer guidance can be given as in what to include and what not to include. For example the U12 nationals in Ireland and they had steps, and overhead ramps, small hurdles and off camber sections, but not overly hilly. I think the same should be possible in the league.

Lap lengths for U12s should be enough so that for the good riders they are getting circa 3 mins and not as in some races 1:20. Small laps create more issues and don't help work the skills, rather just create traffic problems. Even for the U9s they could be around 2 mins minimum per lap.

Rob: Can be discussed at the next monthly meeting and invite Jonathan to discuss. However guidance states that U12s should not have obstacles that cannot be ridden or rolled over. Perhaps there is an opportunity for new clubs/teams to organise an event with different layouts under the guidance of the Commissaire team.

10) Dates of next meetings

Monthly meeting: 20-April

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Appendix

Treasurer's Report

NDCXL ACCOUNTS SUMMARY 2025-26																	
revised following 2025 audit comments																	
INCOME				OUTGOINGS				notes									
ITEM	DETAIL	UNIT COST	TOTAL	ITEM	DETAIL	UNIT COST	TOTAL										
Funds from previous account close	Current a/c	£ 1,758.78															
			£ 1,758.78					1 Opening balance from 1/4/2025.									
Sponsorship		£ -		sponsorship			£ -	2 no cash sponsorship for 25/26									
NDCXL event income plus prize fund	R1 holme pierrepo	£ 1,265.00		Chip Timing	total for 6 rounds	£ 3,437.10											
	R2 alfreton park	£ 2,370.81		first aid	total for 6 rounds	£ 2,550.00											
	R3 broxtowe park	£ 2,308.97		commissaires	total for 6 rounds	£ 239.40											
	R4 markeaton par	£ 1,998.50		barrier tape	total for 6 rounds	£ 226.08											
	R5 holme pierrepo	£ 1,411.77		numbers	total for 6 rounds	£ -											
	R6 sinfin moor	£ 1,872.50															
						total event costs	£ 6,452.58										
				sum up transaction charges and costs for unit		106.87		3 sum up unit cost £95.78									
				sum up			£ 106.87	4 Even income includes BC levies, NDCXL levies and £1849.78 prize fund.									
	total event income		£ 11,227.55														
				BC charges	levies	£ 3,376.50		5 approx 50% increase from 2024/5 season due to increased levy rates									
					event registration	£ 240.00		6 6x30 for 25/26 plus underpayment from 24/25 season									
						total	£ 3,616.50										

