

Minutes of the Twenty First Annual General Meeting

The Scottish Cyclists' Union

(Company Number SC261263)



16th November 2024 (12:45pm – 1:45pm)

The Inchyra Grange Hotel. Grange Road, Falkirk, FK2 0YB

1 Attendance

1.1 Board of Directors

Kathy Gilchrist; President, Chair (KG)
 John Watt, Chair, (JW)
 Nick Rennie, Chief Executive Officer (NR)
 Colin Allanach (CA)
 Diane Clayton-Chisholm (DCC)
 Fiona Cockburn (FC)
 Colin Edgar (CE)
 Mari Everett (ME)
 Michael Gill (MG)
 Nigel Holl (NH)
 Paula Ward (PW)

1.2 Past Presidents

Tom Bishop

1.3 Staff (non-voting)

Stuart McCue-Dick, Company Secretary & Head of Business Operations (SMD)
 Stephen Hilbourne, Finance and Business Operations Manager (SWH)
 Fraser Johnston, Head of Development (Clubs & Events) (FJ)
 Pete Matthews, Head of Marketing and Communications (PM)
 Graeme Maclean, Head of Developing Mountain Biking in Scotland (GM)
 Allan McKay, Head of Development (Participation & Coaching) (AMcK)
 David Somerville, Head of Performance and Coaching (DS)

Board (coopted)

Barry Edmondson (BE)

sportscotland

Barry Cook, Partnership Manager

1.4 Clubs, Associations & Groups

Club No.	CLUB NAME	Voting Strength	Proxy Room
63	Glasgow Gals Cycling Club	3	Room
130	Scottish Veterans T.T.A.	1	Room
68	Glasgow Riderz	11	Room
31	Discovery Junior Cycling Club	3	Proxy
46	Edinburgh RC	19	Room
164	West Lothian Clarion CC	11	Room
39	Dunfermline CC	14	Room
53	Fife Cycle Speedway	2	Room
113	Peebles CC	7	Room
169	Ythan CC	12	Room
43	Ecosse Northboats	2	Room
34	Dunblane Bike Club	1	Room

70	Glasgow Track Racing Club	3	Room
50	Falkirk Junior Bike Club	7	Room
29	Deeside Thistle CC	29	Room
140	Stirling Bike Club	16	Room

1.6 Notice of Meeting

The Chair of the Meeting, President – Kathy Gilchrist, welcomed the membership and read the notice of the meeting. Voting strength was confirmed as 141 (138 in the room and 3 by proxy) representing 16 clubs.

2 Apologies

Apologies were received from Alasdair MacLennan (Past President, Scottish Cycling) and Malcolm Gunnyeon (Director, Scottish Cycling).

3 President's Remarks

KG began with a moments reflection for those members who had passed away during the past year.

KG started by saying that after 13 years it was now time to step down and let others come forward to enrich and grow our sport.

KG noted the range of events she has attended over the past year and thanked everyone for the warm welcome she received whilst out representing Scottish Cycling.

KG reflected on the increasing success of Scottish athletes on the world stage over the past year. Be it at the Olympics/Para Olympics or in the peloton at major events.

KG tasked those women present to step up and get involved throughout the sport at a local, regional and national level and to encourage others to do the same.

In concluding KG thanked all those who had supported her over the past 13 year not least her husband Sandy and she wished Scottish Cycling well for the future.

4 Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting and any matters arising

The minutes of last year's meeting were proposed by Colin Allanach from Ythan CC and seconded by John Miroslaw from Peebles CC. The minutes were approved unanimously by a show of hands.

5 Consideration and approval of 2024 Annual Report

NR noted the recent devastating news from Sir Chris Hoy and noted what an inspiration he was to all. The meeting joined NR in send their thoughts and prayers to Sir Chris and his family.

Whilst the recent announcement that the Commonwealth Games would be returning to Glasgow in 2026 was fantastic news NR noted the disappointment that not all disciplines would be included due to cost constraints. It was hope that the new streamlined games format would encourage other cities to host future games and that more disciplines could once again be included.

A short video highlighting the achievements of the year was then played.

NR noted that our core purpose as the Governing Body for Cycle Sport in Scotland remains - to get people in clubs, get people racing bikes, and provide a performance pathway for those with the desire and ability to represent Scotland on the International stage. NR was pleased to note progress in all these areas whilst acknowledging the challenging landscape we face going forward.

NR apologised and noted the issue with data received from BC in relation to membership numbers noting the update earlier in the week to the AGM voting strength and a couple of membership numbers in the annual report.

NR noted that for Scottish Cycling to continue its growth trajectory in an increasingly challenging public sector financial climate, it will have to demonstrate how cycling can contribute to wider national and local government priorities such as net zero & transport, health & economic impact. Cycling is unique in that it is a sport, activity, mode of transport, and income generator.

NR highlighted that cycling is a sport where values and behaviours are important and he was delighted to report that Scottish Cycling is making good progress in what it has defined in its strategy, as the four golden threads. – Inclusion, Engagement, Safeguarding & Sustainability. NR noted in particular the progress with sustainability over the past year including launching the Scottish Cycling Sustainability plan, the completion of a carbon baseline exercise with support

from British Cycling and Think beyond whilst highlighting the Sustainable Events Fund available to event organisers via British Cycling.

NR concluded his address by thanking commissaries, event organisers, coaches and leaders, club officials and volunteers, all of whom are the life blood of the sport. Thanks were also expressed to the staff team at Scottish Cycling for all their efforts over the past year and to those who serve on the various committees and commissions in particular Board Directors for their help, support and guidance at a strategic level.

With no questions having been received in advance of the AGM NR invited questions from the floor.

Louise Smith from Clyde cycle Park asked if Scottish Cycling would be looking to engage during the Commonwealth Games with the various disciplines that has not been included in the programme. NR said discussions were at an early stage and whilst it was hoped to be able to run some form of activation programme it was too early to say what that would ultimately look like.

With no further questions the Annual Report was proposed by Sam Long from Deeside Thistle Cycling Club and seconded by Andy Massey from Stirling Bike Club. The Annual report was approved unanimously by a show of hands.

Financial Statements for 12 months ended 31st March 2024

SMD began his presentation by noting that a full set of the annual accounts had been included in the AGM pack circulated in advance of the meeting. SMD thanked the members of the Finance & Governance Committee and Board as well as the staff team for their help and support over the past 12 months.

SMD then gave a brief summary of the results for the year noting that Scottish Cycling was in a robust financial position.

SMD noted that the deficit of £35,012, whilst disappointing, was as a result of an exceptional charge for VAT that was no longer recoverable following a full VAT review carried out by our accountants Azets. Excluding the exceptional item the surplus for the year of £44,424 was in line with Board expectations.

Alastair Webb from Edinburgh RC asked two questions:

1. What was the make up of total income? SMD explained it was a combination of **sportscotland** funding, grants, project funding, membership subscriptions and event entry fees.
2. Given the deficit for the year does Scottish Cycling hold sufficient reserves? SMD explained it was a careful balance to ensure sufficient reserves were held without unnecessarily tying up funds that could be used to further develop the sport. In addition there was an ongoing piece of work looking at the current Reserves Policy and an update was due to be discussed at the next Board meeting.

The financial statements were proposed by Alastair Webb from Edinburgh RC and seconded by Pete Lowson from Ecosse Northboats. The financial statements were approved unanimously by a show of hands.

6 Announcements of the fees and contributions for the ensuing year

SMD outlined the changes to the fee structure for the next three years noting the simplification of the affiliation process for the coming year and also the ability for clubs, associations and groups to now retain 100% of all sponsorship income.

7 Resolutions relating to alternations to the Articles or Ordinary resolutions or announcements relating to amendments or additions to the rules, bye-laws and standing orders

No resolutions were proposed.

8 Appointment of person(s) responsible for certifying the accounts for the ensuing year

Scottish Cycling recommended to re-appoint Azets. This was proposed by Aidan Kerr from Dunblane Bike Club and seconded by Carol Thompson from Glasgow Gals Cycling Club. The appointment was approved unanimously by a show of hands.

9 Competent motions not affecting the Articles, Rules, Byelaws and standing orders.

No motions were received.

10 Badge of Honour

The Chair of the Meeting advised that the Board proposed Colin Houston as the recipient of the Scottish Cycling Gold Badge of Honour.

Colin Houston has been the driving force behind the Scottish Downhill scene over the last two decades, which continues to go from strength to strength. Chair of the Scottish Downhill Association, Colin has guided the association and its race series through the pandemic, and the rise of Enduro racing, which whilst complementary, is also a direct competitor.

The organisation is in a great place thanks to Colin's stewardship, the series boasting sellout events at most rounds. But perhaps just as importantly, he has created a fantastic culture which has attracted an army of regular dependable volunteers, many of whom are much younger than he is, and will continue to drive the sport forward as Colin has done for so long.

The key to developing that positive culture – and attracting volunteers from all over the UK – is the confidence he instils in people. Colin is a great leader, however it is never about him – Colin unifies people, and then gives them the freedom to do what they do best. Often found in the background, Colin is somewhat of an unsung hero, but someone who fully deserves this award.

The award was unanimously approved by a show of hands with the presentation made at the Scottish Cycling Awards Dinner later that day.

11 Election of President & Directors

SMD informed the meeting that no Directors fall due to be reappointed and there are currently no elected vacancies on the Board so no vote is required this year.

It was noted that, Paula Ward, an appointed Director was stepping down following the AGM. NR thanked her for all her efforts over the past 2 years and made a small presentation to recognise this.

SMD informed the meeting that as KG had now reached the end of her three year term as President she was stepping down. NR thanked KG for all her efforts over the past 13 years as Director, the first female Chair and latterly as the first female President noting the high regards she is held in within the sport. NR presented KG with an engraved quaich to mark her contribution to Scottish Cycling and the wider sport over not just the last 13 years noting she would be continuing as a Trustee of the Scottish Cycling Foundation.

SMD informed the meeting that only one nomination for President had been received, Alexander (Sandy) Gilchrist (SG), proposed by Gareth Pearson and seconded by John Miroslaw both from Peebles Cycling Club. A unanimous show of hand approved the appointment of SG as President for the next three years.

SMD invited SG to the stage to say a few words. SG paid tribute to KG and her commitment and dedication to Scottish Cycling over the past 13 years and thanked everyone for the honour of being elected President. SG thanked all those volunteers who give up their time every week to support the sport whilst also thanking the staff for their ongoing hard work.

SG thanked everyone for attending and officially closed the meeting at 1.45pm