

GUERNSEY VELO CLUB LBG
2024 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
AGENDA

1. Appointment of Chair
2. Apologies for absence
3. Minutes from the previous AGM
4. Matters arising
5. General updates from Committee Members
6. Matters requiring ordinary resolutions:
 - a. Election of Board Members:
 - i. President;
 - ii. Secretary
 - iii. Treasurer
 - iv. Safety Officer
 - v. Non-Executive Chair
 - b. Election of Committee Members;
 - i. Club Welfare Officer
 - ii. Communication Officer
 - iii. Road Co-ordinator
 - iv. MTB Co-ordinator
 - v. Cyclocross Co-ordinator
 - vi. Flyers Co-ordinator
 - vii. Junior Co-ordinator
 - viii. U18 member of Junior Committee
7. That the annual accounts for the year ended 31 October 2024, together with the Director's report on those accounts, be received
8. Any other business

Guernsey Velo Club AGM Minutes

Monday 27 November 2023

Venue: RAFA Club, Guernsey

Time: 19.30

Present

Attendees: See attached register

Directors:

Alex Margison	President	AM
Adrian Tourtel	Treasurer	AT
Richard Saunders	Independent Chair (Online)	RS
James Duguid	Safety Officer	JD

Apologies:

Philip Reid
Alex Wilson
Helena Duguid
Paul Brehaut
Sam Culverwell

Key Summaries

AM stated that AGM papers including end of year summaries from board members, the Cycling Development Officer (CDO) and Committee representatives had been circulated to members before the AGM and that he did not intend to go through these in detail.

President

In summing up the 2023 season, AM stated that it had been a busy first year in office with an emphasis on ensuring that club governance is in place, largely due to external factors impacting upon LBGs. This has included establishing a board and appointing directors and empowering the Road and MTB committees and ensuring clear separation between the two.

Treasurer

AT shared that this has been as steady year with one highlight being that the club vans required replacement.

Safety Officer

JD confirmed that it had been a good and incident free year of racing.

Gary Walbridge (GW) asked how the club were carrying out RA's. JD explained that the Club had initially sought to risk assess the venue rather than go into the level of detail that had been done for the Island Games. All road events had been pre-ridden and risk assessed, although notably no RA's

had been forthcoming for DH and only a handful for XC. Paul de Garis has been doing a more detailed RA for CX.

There was some further debate on this around liability and it is acknowledged that most of our venues are known and are mostly on private land. It was agreed that the RA's will be put on a shared drive to enable access for the committee members. Further guidance will be provided as required. GW offered his support to complete RA's.

Independent Chair

RS acknowledged that this is a very diverse club with many competing interests. A lot of the focus for 2023 was establishing a board of directors and sub-committees for the various disciplines with an emphasis on robust governance.

The Island Games brought additional complexity, however we managed to put on a strong calendar of domestic racing.

In 2024 there will hopefully be less focus on governance aspects and more on communication as it is clear that this an area for improvement.

Elections

Board

AM called the elections for Directors who had all agreed to stand for another year with the following results:

Independent Chair	Richard Saunders	All in favour
Club President	Alex Margison	All in favour
Club Secretary	Philip Reid	All in favour
Treasurer	Adrian Tourtel	All in favour
Safety Officer	James Duguid	All in favour

Committee

AM explained that sub-committees will be formed and these will co-opt willing members in to ensure full support. This is a very busy club with 70-80 races each year.

AM stated that Mark Smith (MS) was stepping down from the Road Committee, but will continue to help out with timing. AM also noted that Gary Robert (GR) is stepping down from MTB.

AM gave a vote of thanks to MS and GR.

AM read the names of people who had come forward and were proposed to take on committee roles and they were voted for as follows:

Road	Matt Osborn & Leon Ogier	Seconded by Adrian Tourtel
MTB	Steve James	Seconded by Gary Robert
CX	Paul de Garis	Seconded by Rob Randall
Flyers Academy	Frankie Middleton	Seconded by Pete Miller
Welfare Officer	Lisa Eyre	Seconded by Adrian Tourtel

Press Officer

No nominations or volunteers

The Press Officer role will be advertised outside of the meeting.

Frankie Middleton (FM) emphasised the amount of work with Flyers and the Academy and that support will be required as well as dialogue between the different committees as well as involvement from the CDO.

Reported Accounts

AM asked if there were any questions on these and asked for their adoption which was by Mark Smith and seconded by Rob Randall.

Any Other Business

Pump Track

MS provided an update on this and confirmed that planning consent had been achieved and that the focus was now on raising C£250K for the track to be built. Applications are being submitted to various charitable organisations and more fund raising will be organised.

Le Mont Saint garage had kindly offered a hybrid car for raffle which could net around £25K of funding.

Sponsors

Donna Smith (DS) enquired about where the club are with confirming sponsors. AT confirmed that two out of the four are continuing with and of the remaining two, one is not continuing and the fourth needs to be spoken to.

AT it was highlighted that as opportunities arise members need to talk to each other to avoid conflicts or confusion.

Club Welfare

Lisa Eyre (LE) confirmed that she has done the full DBS course and asked for people to share their DBS certificates with her on the email address – welfare@gvc.gg

Event Timing

MS will continue to run the timing equipment again, but will happily show anyone who wants to learn how to operate the kit.

Communication

Dan Thwaite said that it was a shame that some key events had not happened in 2023 and observed that communications are not always effective. This was always going to be the case in an Island Games year.

MS felt that GVC did communicate effectively particularly in relation to Jingle Cross, but that many factors had resulted in the low numbers including clashes with other popular events but most fundamentally the very wet weather.

Pete Miller enquired whether we could pay someone to come up with a marketing and communications strategy and ensure effective communications between the committees.

AT stated that Rod Smith had produced 30 event reports including races in the UK and noted that the challenge is how we communicate with members.

AM stated that he will take this away, but reminded those present that as a club we have back SportMember as our comms platform.

MS advised that now SportMember is established it is straightforward to set up an event or news which goes straight onto the GVC web page.

Steve James said that other clubs use SportMember but perhaps the issue is the sheer number of events?

RS reiterated that this brings us back to the need for a clear comms strategy which is something that the Board will work on this.

JD asked how social events will be organised going forward in the absence of a Social Secretary. AM confirmed that this would be at Committee level.

Event Guidance

RR asked if there are clear instructions for various events. AM confirmed that the handbook would be updated by the Board.

E-MTBs

Glen Irven asked a question about the use of e-bikes in events. AM confirmed that if someone is willing to step into the role then we would support this.

Island Games

GW offered a massive thanks to key members of the club who had put a lot of effort into making the IGs a resounding success, namely Gary Robert, Alex Margison, Mark Smith and Adrian Tourtel. Other members also helped in a variety of ways.

GW also asked if there was going to be any racing in Jersey. AM confirmed that a CX race in February had been mooted but this is dependant upon Jersey coming back to us.

The AGM was declared closed at 20.35.

**Alex Margison
Chairman**

Guernsey Velo Club

President's Report

This AGM brings down the curtain on my three year term as President. Having served on the Board for the last 7 years it is time to step back and let someone else take the Club forward, and the Board are proposing Gary Wallbridge to replace me as President. I hope that you will all get behind him in a role that he has previous experience of.

As I have highlighted at previous AGMs, the regulatory regime that the Club now has to comply with means that simply meeting these corporate requirements takes up a significant amount of time, whilst at the same time there has been a noticeable downturn in the volunteers willing to help us put on events. The Board therefore appointed Steve Sharman of the Guernsey Sports Commission to review the current structure of the Club to ensure that it can continue to function on a sustainable basis, and a copy of his report is included in this AGM pack.

The Board is committed to undertaking a review of the Club's purpose to ensure it remains relevant as well as encouraging younger members to join the Committee or shadow members of the Board. The latter however requires people to commit to volunteering to help the club deliver it's strategy, something that has been noticeably lacking this year at Committee, Flyers and other race duty levels. I have always said that people will only get out of this Club what they are willing to put in, and if there is not a wider pool of helpers willing to help then next year's calendar will reflect this.

Once again we are asking for a Communications Officer to join the Committee, a position for which nobody was willing to volunteer for last year, but which many of you see as an important role for the Club. If, once again, nobody is willing to fulfil this role then the Board will look to pay somebody to undertake this role which will be paid for by an increase in your membership fees.

The news of no road or MTB cycling being including at the 2026 Commonwealth Games is a big disappointment. With the uncertainty surrounding the future of the Games, I have spent a lot of time over the last two years exploring the possibility of associate membership of the UCI that would allow us entry to other international competitions. Unfortunately, this requires permission from British Cycling in order to progress, and their Board has made clear that they would not grant permission for us to join the UCI so the door for international competition beyond the Island Games seems shut for now.

Finally I would like to thank our sponsors for their continued support - Utmost, Ian Brown's Cycle Shop, Adventure Cycles, CycleWorld, Zürcher Kantonalbank and Martyn Guille Silversmiths.

Alex Margison
President

Guernsey Velo Club

Treasurer's Report

2024 income for the Club was at a similar level to 2023. Membership fees for adult are in line with 2023, Juniors there was a reduction of around £1,000

The only notable changes are the purchase of a replacement club van for £7000.00 and an increase in Sponsorship for 2024 through our new Junior Sponsor Utmost who have agreed a 3-year contract to support our juniors and Academy alongside Ian Browns. We also benefited from support from the Ray Lowe Foundation and Sports Commission for our Academy trip to France.

Expenditure saw a slight increase when compared to 2023 but this is to be expected with the current cost increases with insurance etc.

- The club have given some support for the coaches travel to the island games in 2025 with more funding required in 2025;
- Junior travel support amounted to £9'832.00 with £5'712.00 being paid directly to riders for travel with parents etc. There was a larger spend this year with group travel to the UK and France, but the latter was mostly covered by donations;
- £775.00 was spent in supporting Senior riders attending the Cyclocross inter insular in Jersey;
- Within the Junior rider support total is the Development Officer's wages, £10k which has been in line with previous 2 years of his contract. Paul is now at the end of his 3-year contract and external factors will see a change in how Paul is employed and how he is deployed. Part of this is a 50% reduction in funding from Sports Commission;
- There was a large cost on Junior and Academy kit purchases but this is expected to be spread out over the 3 year term of our new sponsorship with minimal costs going forward.
- 2024 there was no expenditure British Cycling coaching courses and other training I expect this to increase in 2025 with most qualifications needing attention these include First Aid, Coaching etc.; and
- This year we have seen many venues and organisations requesting payment for use of land and facilities. This could affect the club's running costs in future years as expect this to become the normal practice.

Overall, the club's financial balance is close to that of the previous period although we don't have the 2024 annual awards evening and trophies or any training costs for 2024 if these were included then it may paint a different picture with a sizable deficit.

Given the current solid position and bank balance along with the future sponsorship secured for the junior section I don't see the need to currently increase subscriptions although we must appreciate that these have not changed for a few years.

My only caveat is that should the club decide that we need to employ someone in an admin or communications role through a shortage of volunteers then I would look to come back to the Board to increase subscriptions for 2025.

The Club is currently developing Paul de Garis future role and agreed that £10k is committed over the next year in relation to the Cycling Development Officer's wages. This will be topped by the reduced contribution from the Sports Commission, The club will also seek to secure more funding in 2025.

I think 2025 may see an increase in Academy and Junior rider support with many Academy riders attending Island Games so will be looking at UK events to prepare. We also hope to replicate the

successful France trip along with other opportunities in multiple disciplines to keep momentum in our Junior section.

Through a lot of hard work securing various funding packages the Club has ended the year in a relatively strong position. There will need to be investment in the next few years with training and timing equipment etc. Our 2 largest costs are currently CDO wages and also Junior Rider support but these are mostly covered by the incoming sponsorship.

Adrian Tourtel
GVC Treasurer

Guernsey Velo Club

Safety Officer's Report 2024

2024 has been quite a lean year in terms of racing, however, we have had a spike in the number of reportable accidents. These are summarised as follows:

- A senior rider coming off on a rooted section on the first MTB XC of the season and being treated for a fractured wrist in A&E;
- A less experienced rider taking a tumble during the first gravity event of the season and sustained an ankle injury and was treated at A&E for soft tissue and tendon damage;
- An experienced rider going over the bonnet of a car at Perelle during a TT where the driver admitted liability and the rider was taken to A&E;
- Three riders were involved in a crash during a road race which resulted in some major injuries to one rider and a lengthy recovery period and soft tissue injuries to the other two riders; and
- A sport rider taking an awkward tumble during the Tour of Guernsey resulting in on-site first aid and a trip to A&E where fractures to one arm were treated.

Accident reports are retained in the club drive for record keeping and nothing was found wanting from the risk assessments and members stepped up to help ensure that injured riders were treated swiftly.

There were one or two minor 'spills' at Flyers and at Jnr Crits, but these were dealt with by on-site first aiders. There are no reports of any riders attending A&E.

All road, MTB and gravity events have been risk assessed including pre-riding or course walking and these forms are stored on the club drive and we have seen a heightened awareness from race organisers to review and amend these and sign them off on the day. This has required some chasing of organisers and members are again reminded of the importance of sending these back.

This year's Tour of Guernsey was a huge success with a lot of hard work put in by the organising team. There were a couple of 11th hour changes to ensure rider safety and these underlined the need for joined up communication between the organising team, the MTB Committee and the Safety Officer.

A number of crit events were cancelled due to inclement weather or a damp track particularly at Delancy Park and this underlines the need for a more suitable all weather cycling venue.

A couple of events did not have the necessary signage placed by Traffic & Highways, but measures were put in place to mitigate against any future issues.

Rider behaviour on the whole has been good and road riders have clearly heeded previous requests to avoid crossing the centre of the road and junctions and there are no reports of any issues here. No formal complaints were made against another club member.

Again, it was good to see new faces taking on race organisation and a big thanks goes to them as well as marshals and course set-up crews and hopefully members are now more familiar with all the resources that are readily available on the GVC web page.

Thanks for all your support and we look forward to a safe and enjoyable race season in 2025!

James Duguid
Safety Officer

Guernsey Velo Club

Cycling Development Officer's Report

In what is now my 3rd year in my position as Development Officer. This last 12 months itself has proven to be the most challenging one but how do you follow the highs of the Island Games being one of the big standouts in local Sport in recent years. Trying to match those highs it was Inevitable heading in 2024, there would be a 'burnout' and this would be tough with trying to continue to build on the momentum the Games brought us.

As I reflect again on the year the same question, I ask myself each year has it been productive in the same way as previous year? In answer I would say "Yes but also No. We have had some positives in what we've done but the Games year in any year would be hard to match".

One of the main goals is increasing participation within the sport but also to help existing members fulfil their journey of what can be achieved out of the sport. I have been striving to do this by offering additional coaching and support on top of our racing schedule the same as previous years.

We continue to have representation in the sport of Cycling on Island with strong representation and performances across most, if not all disciplines, both locally and off Island. With Junior Zach Smith being one of the main standouts with his consistently strong performances in the Nationals MTB XC.

We have seen the talented Kylie Vaudin move Disciplines to try Downhill at National Level putting in some brilliant performances. As well as several Club riders competing across the Southern enduros. We also supported the first Cyclocross Inter Insular in Jersey back in January with group of 10 riders travelling across to the sister Isle.

Club Coaching / Education

The Aim with Club coaching this year was to strive for consistency and an area I continue to work on. Strength & Conditioning sessions and its importance within the sport, we've continued offering from October to April. The popularity within these sessions have proven it to be a great addition to the Calendar.

Other sessions again have been difficult to deliver due to the nature of our race schedule and coach availability although sessions that have been put on have been well attended.

The Road Coaching program saw Club President Alex, assisted by James Duguid and supported by myself, deliver a weekly progressive program mainly attended by our Academy Riders held at GO Kart Track between May and August. We had aimed at bringing in new faces and helping novice riders build all important race skills, but this had proven difficult even when the sessions were advertised as FREE. We saw some great improvements though within Academy riders who did attend, and this proved great preparation for some when racing in France at the end of August.

Cyclocross Coaching, these sessions have been well attended at Delancey Park with an 8-week program lead into the First race of the series. We have had some new faces, but we've seen a good group build on previous years in these sessions, who are all now regularly racing.

MTB Coaching – again we offered an 8-week program during the summer to members with some great adult and children sessions being delivered and attended.

Out of 38 clubs in the UK , we are currently trialling a New Coaching framework module designed for Young riders to help them on their Youth Cycling Pathway.

We hope to include this over the next month with the regular Sunday morning coaching sessions we are offering and continue to run. More news on this to come out in the coming weeks.

With the BC Education Framework now changed we have plans to run a new course in first Q1 in 2025 and another course in late 2025. We hope this will start the next generation of coaches on their journey.

We hope BC Education framework will allow better access to specific discipline coaching.

Education

As part of my roles, I provided Coaching Sessions across several schools including Elizabeth College, La Murier, St Sampsons High, Vale Primary / Infants and before it closed Le Mare De Carteret High. A highlight being able to support a couple of our Academy riders, who used Cycling for their GCSE Sport.

Academy

The way I see the Academy is maybe not through the same lens as some. The Academy is big, with Flyers being the Feeder. In my first year we put together a rider pathway so everyone could understand what path they had in front of them. This year we have been able to change the Travel Policy for the Club to allow us to take a group of riders off Island to Race.

The first time was Southern MTB XC in Clanfield back in June, which proved a very successful weekend and certainly confirmed to us the change made was a positive one.

Our 2nd Trip was at the end of August, included Velodrome practice plus 2 Town Crit races being the Highlights. Great experiences all round for our Riders and perfect to help aid their Development.

With new sponsors We have continued to offer those Academy riders that wanted to attend a Coaching structure throughout the year, which would allow them the opportunity to develop as a rider. This included:

- S&C sessions,
- MTB evenings Rides (Severely hampered by the Weather)
- Coached Turbo's
- Education Webinars / with Tobyn Horton/ Ric Jamieson BC

All these around other races and commitments (School/Sport/and importantly being a Child)
The numbers in our Junior Crits for the younger groups have boosted which is a positive for the future. We have tried to create a team culture and slowly but surely, we can see that starting to develop. Going forward making sure these riders have a Fun but a challenging Race program ahead to keep them focused.

Individually we have seen riders compete like Charlie Tourtel and Zach Smith (mentioned earlier and more recently Seth Davey emerge as being the standout riders on the MTB.

Our Flyers Summer Program also saw some very good numbers in attendance throughout the 12 weeks it was on.

The Academy has been made possible thanks to the sponsorship of Utmost Guernsey and Ian Browns Cycle Shop

Para Cycling

Very much a work in progress still but we have now received two Tandems to use
The club continues to be classed as a Focus Limitless Club under the BC Banner. Our biggest challenge here being finding a venue with Delancey Park not being fit for purpose

Outlook for 2025

This was my first point in 2024 and remains the same today. To continue to grow as a club we need to try and make improvements in all areas – communication being Key. Recruitment of volunteers/Coaches is critical to the way the club is structured and run.

Female Riders – with have seen a decrease in senior Female riders which has been a growing concern over the last 12 months from being in such a solid position in 2023. This is area that must be a focus going forward to increase again.

Coaching Course for Coaches. We need this for the Club for many reasons.

Working with Landowners to find more Suitable Race / Coaching Venues.

A Full Race program for Academy Riders both on and off Island.

Specsavers Youth Games (June)

Paul de Garis
Cycling Development Officer

Guernsey Velo Club

Road Committee Report

The 2024 Road season has not been without it's challenges.

The Road committee initially planned a slightly reduced calendar of events. This was partly due to feedback from riders and partly to reduce the marshalling burden on members. Road Races were planned in conjunction with the Triathlon club to avoid clashes on the courses. The season started well, with a 10TT in early March and at 15TT later in the month. With Easter happening earlier this year the first major road races were the PVK Easter Festival – this was well attended with several non members taking part over the 3 of the races of the weekend, unfortunately stage 2 had to be cancelled due to States Works failing to deliver the road closure signs for the Night Time Hill Climb, it was felt it would be too dangerous to run the event on the open road on a Saturday night. The presentation at Sausmarez Park Tea rooms was well attended with the car raffle also taking place on the same day.

The planned Inter Insular failed to take place, with Jersey showing no interest in sending any riders to take part, despite races being scheduled to suit the boat timetables. Alex had been in regular contact with the JCA to promote the races, however Jersey riders chose to complete in other events.

The remainder of the season's races suffered from low attendance, several courses had to be changed due to road closures which meant that the trophy for the 100km road race was not contested. Low attendance amongst the women riders is particularly concerning, with only one rider consistently riding and 2 others riding sporadically, and this is something that the road committee will take steps to address in the 2025 season.

In terms of Time Trials, all 6 planned 10TTs and the 2 5TTs took place, but the prolonged road works at Grandes Rocques resulted on only 1 25TT, the cancellation of the 50TT and a change of course for the planned Inter Insular TT. TTs were fairly well attended, although still down on entries compared to previous years for Senior riders, however an increase in the number of U16 riders was seen.

We had planned a series of crits at Delancey – however every single one was cancelled due to wet weather, consequently none of the crit series trophies were awarded. It was noted that the condition of the track at Delancey is deteriorating and members had undertaken some work to cut back the overgrowing grass. We will continue to monitor the condition of the track and arrange for repairs as necessary. We have been in dialog with the constables of Delancey concerning the proposed café/kiosk in the existing toilet block. The club has been left out of any discussions regarding this and the potential impact on the road circuit. However we have been reassured that no changes will impact the circuit but we will continue to monitor.

The hill climb series was well attended again, particularly from the U16's, and despite some pretty awful weather (strong wind and sideways rain at the Fairyring) and challenges with road surfaces the overall feedback was positive.

Mark has assisted Matt Osborn this year on the Road Committee and is happy to stand as Road Racing Secretary for the 2025 season. Any feedback or suggestions regarding the numbers and type of events is welcomed and we will take steps to increase the number of riders in road events and

would like to plan a Women's only racing series to boost the number of women riders taking part in the sport. This series will also be coupled with Women's only coaching sessions.

Mark Smith

Road Committee