

Wine Lands Cycling Club
Annual General Meeting
28 February 2028 @ 17:00
Bontevlei Venue, R310, Stellenbosch

Minutes of the meeting

Agenda

Welcome/Quorum verification.

Please feel free to ask questions at any time.

2022 Chairman's report

2022 Review:

Road, MTB, Parks, Development

Financial report 2022/Budget 2022

Management Structure

Election of Officers

General

Welcome.

The chairman, Paul de Klerk, welcomed the group. The members attending did not constitute a quorum. As per our constitution, we had to adjourn the AGM for 30 minutes, after which we could constitute the AGM with members present.

2022 Chairman's Report – Paul de Klerk.

Name change.

EMG.

Edventer

We changed the club's name from Wannabees to Wine Lands Cycling Club with very positive reaction.

Road groups.

Road groups are slowly picking up again. Paul Houghton worked hard at accelerate the road riding groups.

Local Trail Partners.

Local landowners are keen to open their farms to the club. Spier and Chaloner farms were used as examples of entities who invited us to open new trails on their property.

Regional Trail Partners.

Paarl Trails, MTO trails, STF, Bottelary Hills Conservancy and EGCA are now part of our regional partners.

We assisted the Elgin Grabouw Cycling Association with setting up their structures with Fruitways, Oak Valley and Grabouw Forrest Trails.

Club Growth.

Membership figures were presented, and club growth has grown from 1000 members in 2016 with an income of R431 910 to 3200 members in 2023 with an income of R4 500 000.

We saw an increase in members from the Stellenbosch area due to MTO and Bottelary Hills Conservancy joining as regional partners.

2022 Review.

MTB Review - Andrew Marsh.

Agreements and new routes.

New trail agreements were reached:

Local: R44 Somerset West / Stellenbosch, Chaloner / Eagles Nest, Spier, and Zetler connection to Ernie Els. The relationship with Spier was discussed briefly and Mtb management will embrace the relationship and work towards a sturdy agreement with less complaints.

Regional: EGCA, Bottelary and Java Trails.

Work in progress: Avontuur/Zelter (to connect Pink Valley with Long Ridge) and Meerlust loop (for the de Winjlanden connection)

Route Maintenance.

80% of the new signage has been rolled out.

Significant maintenance is planned on the Faure drop.



Appointment of trail rangers in the pipeline, with Aphiwe Ginyayo to start on the trails east of the R44. In time we will appoint workers for the West side trails and the R44 route.

Events.

We rolled out club shirts as subsidised prices and shirts are available at a discounted price this evening.

Spier and Chaloner trail openings were celebrated.

The 2022 Cape Epic came through our trails.

We have a wine tasting events at Spier on the 29th of March 2023.

We are looking for someone to own the 2023 Wine Lands Monster. Members were asked to get in contact with Andrew if they are interested in running with this event.

Marshalling.

Rob Selley has taken over the Marshalling and assist the MTB team. He will manage the blitzes, hacks, patrols, and camera traps.

It is the club members' responsibilities to hold your mates accountable – no not let them ride with you if they do not have their bike boards or permits displayed. Respect and preserve the privilege to access the trails we have – it can be removed in a flash.

Summery.

Dawie has handed over the Trail forks mapping to Kim Lord. Errol is a stalwart on the trails. A thank to you them for their work.

Questions that were raised.

A question was raised about the Stellenbosch influence on membership, and it was confirmed that if you exclude the new Stellenbosch members, we have more local members than regional members.

A discussion ensued about signed contacts with different Trail partners and it was confirmed that AJ and Paul started to work on these agreements some time ago and that Tom, Andrew and Paul have copies of the agreements. These agreements will be provided to the member who asked about it.

A question was raised about the Wine Lands South MTB board as opposed to Wine Lands Cycling Club name as well as the name Wine Lands South and North on the regional structure. Andrew indicated this will be discussed later in the presentation.

There was a brief mention of possible agreements with Tygerberg MTB and Simonsberg (Muratie) but at this stage it is only e-mail floating around.

Road review – Paul Houghton.

Paul mentioned it was great to see so many road riders attending the meeting.

There was a consistent growth in members joining the weekly club road rides with several younger riders joining. It is a busy time as riders are preparing for the Cape Town Cycle Tour. 4 groups ride every Saturday and 2 groups on Sundays. Some of the groups merge during the winter season.

Paul Houghton will be stepping down as Chairman of the Road and Giovannie Pantalone will take the helm. He is an experienced rider and the club was asked to please support him in this new venture

Gio quickly introduced himself. His aim is to slow riders down on training to be able to enjoy the ride. New ideas are coming forth, one of them the nutrition training meeting on Thursday.

The coffee rides on the first Saturday of the month was mentioned, as well as a growing appetite within the club to be represented at the WP Cycling League. The ASLA event last week was a great success.

Thanks were given for Horatius and Briandin for doing a superb job in keeping the riders safe – the club pays for providing the safety follow vehicles.

The Old Mutual Double Century took place in November 2022. We had 2 teams, and it was a great team building event for the riders.

Community and development – Kim Mussmann and Jaco van der Linde.

Kim took over from Tom who managed the portfolio during the first part of last year. Kim presented Jaco van der Linde from PedalProject who is guiding and working with her.

Mission.

The mission is to provide meaningful support to grassroot organisations in the Wine Lands Cycling Club region, using cycling as a transformative tool.

Objectives.

The objective is to support grassroot organisations to empower themselves, to collaborate with likeminded organisations within the Wine Lands Regional Network to enable them to grow and to encourage cycling as a form of transport amongst the Wine Lands Cycling Club community.

Focus for 2023.

Support for schools and young talent as well as continued support for Edunova and Raithby School.

The team will promote a cycling community hub and pilot a Bike Bus initiative with Beaumont primary school as well as assisting in establishing another PedalForGood programme.

Kim has created the Holy Tubes initiative where equipment can be donated. The kids will use these spares to maintain their bicycles.

Smiley was a stalwart in getting people on bikes but he now has to focus on ensuring a fixed income. Hence the Wine Lands Cycling Club development riders joined the Blue Skye Academy which the club will support.

Call to action.

A call was made to please support the Holy Tubes initiative, assist with ad hoc bike maintenance days, volunteer for the BikeBus initiative and assist in identifying CSI spend amongst the Wine Lands Cycling Club network.

Western Cape Schools Cycling.

Francois du Toit presented us with some information. Spur recalled their sponsorship and therefor the Southeys and Boland events were run by Paarl Valley High School.

Sue Kirk and Christhonie Geldenhuys kindly offered assistance with events. Southeys provides perfect viewing opportunities. An event on 6 May will be held with an entry fee of R150 per entry. WPCS need a cushion to provide other opportunities.

Raithby Primary School and Edunova.

Ruben Steyn the acting principal of Raithby primary school thanked the club for the support.

Sherwon Karelse, who works in the Wannabees IT room, gave a summary of the work they do. The kids with no previous experience of phones, laptops and computers are introduced to Microsoft, robotics, coding, and music. They are taught to read and are being upskilled in English and literate to understand better. It was found that kids learn faster on screen. Their CAP books are now virtual.

Paul explained to new members that we do not pay the landowners for access to our trails on their property. The Wine Lands Cycling Club and Graaff makes contributions to Edunova to support Raithby primary school.

Parks – Paul de Klerk.

Lyle manages Southeys Vines, the very popular bike park in town.

We have funds available for extension of the Riesling Park and work will start as soon as all the arrangements are in place.

We are planning a new community bike park at Poinsettia Park in collaboration with local government. It will provide a safe environment to learners to practice their biking skills. Plans are in place for a 4,5 km trail with an elevation of 110 meters. We are awaiting permission and are working towards funding from a private entity.

2022 Financial results – Tom Wittenberg.

Key points were discussed.

Growth – the club's financials reflected the growth and success of the regional permits system. We had higher revenue and higher expenses. Noteworthy was that membership revenue that grew by 88% in 2022. The original 2022 budget was prepared and presented to the club members in October

2021, but new MTB opportunities were presented during the year. By midyear it was found that the membership expectations were too optimistic and in July the budget was revised to reflect lower membership assumptions. Revenue target was cut by 15% and spending budget by 12%.

Budget figures were presented – see PDF document of the AGM presentation for details. Our deficit was higher than expected.

A question was raised about expenses that were upscaled and it was mainly contributed to the name change and the brand launching of Wine Lands Cycling Club.

Other financial questions were raised and answered, and a suggestion was made to urge members to attend the annual budget meeting held in September each year.

2023 Budget – Tom Wittenberg

Tom explained that membership assumptions are based on our “best guess”. In July we will review the actual membership and spending and adjust the budget accordingly.

Budget figures were presented – see PDF document of the AGM presentation for details. We hope for a small surplus.

Paul explained the payment approval process where payment requests are submitted with invoices/supporting documents and details to the treasurer. The treasurer will load the payment. Our FNB system requires online authorisation from two committee members for all payments to be released, hence Tom and one other committee members will load/authorise the payment.

Discussion about financials being available on the website pursued. The issue of it being open to the wider public not members were discussed.

Tom indicated that 2022 Financial statements are available, and members are welcome to contact the Treasurer by email treasurer@winelandscyclingclub.co.za or his personal telephone number for information.

Management structure – Paul de Klerk and Andrew Marsh.

Organigram – Paul de Klerk.

An organigram was presented about the management structure – see PDF document of the AGM presentation for details.

The steering committee at present exist of the Chairman, Vice Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary. Paul mentioned that this will increase to more members to prevent a locked decision process where the chairman has the final vote.

The main committee (steering committee and co-opted committee members) used to meet monthly but this last year we met quarterly. We will now meet every second month. A new subcommittee Wine Lands Trails (Regional partnership) will be incorporated.

New Regional Trail network and communication system – Andrew Marsh.

An organigram was presented that outline the Wine Lands Trails network – see PDF document of the AGM presentation for details.

We changed to a WhatsApp Chatbot. One of the great features of this App is the 24-hour ER response button.

There are 7 trail networks combined in the structure. It was explained that the reason for the “South” and “North” descriptions are in place to embrace the bigger vision for the trails. We also offer a Clip-on membership for riders of other entities to enable them CSA membership and racing applications. The bigger network is a way to get tourism involved and to embrace bigger structures.

A question was raised about the financial amount that the club received from the R1800 membership fee. Paul confirmed we keep R515 of the membership fee. The member felt the club is getting underplayed and was concerned about the affordability for local club members. Andrew answered that the Regional Trail Network will most probably lead to an affordable membership for local members next year.

An issue was raised about Trail Running. It was explained that the trail running is no longer part of our club and that our agreement with MTO is for cycling only. We will remove the mention of trail running from our local website and address the issue of MTO running on the winelandstrails.com website.

A Question from the floor was raised that about the new subcommittee and the Vice Chairman confirmed that the subcommittee will report to the main committee. It was asked if the Vice Chairman can reassure The Floor that our club will not be dictated by other Trail Members on the authority and control of our own trails, and we must have A Document of Understanding with safety clauses etc. Andrew responded by saying that they are working on that.

A concern was raised that other members might outvote us as all regional riders are members, but the concern was dismissed.

The Regional Trail Network discussion was concluded by explaining that the website is the destination platform to access all trails in the area and the sub-committee is working towards a Mecca trail network for Africa.

Election of officers

Nominations were received and voted in:

Chair – Paul de Klerk

Vice-chair – Andrew Marsh

Treasurer – Tom Wittenberg

Secretary – Esme Venter

Co-opted members:

Regional – Andrew Marsh

MTB – Rob Selley

Road – Giovanni Pantalone

Parks – Lyle Romanes

Development – Kim Mussmann

Media – Murray Williams

General.

Supplementary items

Shirts were sold after the meeting.

Attendance.

There were 160 members present at the Annual General Meeting

Signed on 29 March 2023, Somerset West



Chairman

Paul de Klerk



Secretary

Esme Venter