

## **Minutes of Meeting (MOM) – NECC AGM**

**Meeting Title:** NECC Annual General Meeting (AGM)

**Date:** February 11, 2026

**Time:** 7:00 PM – 8:29 PM

**Location:** Virtual (online meeting)

**Chair:** Ron Rehel

**Attendance:** 22

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### **1) Review of 2025 Season – Chair’s Report (Ron Rehel)**

#### **Highlights**

- 2025 season largely similar to the prior year; overall a **successful and steady year**.
  - **Cafe social rides** were well attended.
  - **Tuesday night rides** were a “big hit.”
  - **Destination rides on long weekends** had strong participation.
  - Membership level generally stable (detailed report provided later by Michael Chong).
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### **2) Tony Osborne Fund / OCA Update**

- **Robyn** to obtain an update for the Tony Osborne Fund / OCA-related report (potentially via Chris/CCN).
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### **3) Membership Report (Michael Chong)**

#### **Membership Levels & Trends**

- **2025 membership: 196 members.**
- Pre-lockdown membership was **~250**; post-lockdown membership has stabilized around **~190-200**.
- Club appears to be at a **new steady state around ~200 members**.

#### **New Member / Renewal Insights**

- Approx. **~50-56 new members per year**.
- About **25-30%** of annual membership tends to be new.
- Estimated renewal/retention rate discussed as approximately **~40%** over a multi-year view (context: ~530 people joined at least one year; ~200 are members this year).

#### **Demographics**

- Gender split discussed as roughly **~2/3 male, ~1/3 female** (female participation ~30%).
- Average age noted around **mid-50s** (increase attributed to elimination of youth members under 18).
- “Young members” defined as under 40: approximately **~30**.

### **Discussion**

- Question raised about membership turnover and whether the club should investigate reasons for non-renewal.

### **Decision / Direction**

- Strong support to run a **member survey** to learn:
  - Why members join
  - What they enjoy most
  - What improvements they want
  - What might cause them not to renew

### **Action Items**

- **Sarah Grimes** to draft survey questions and circulate to select members for input, then proceed to distribute.
  - **Michael Chong** to look for older survey templates (from past years) and share if available.
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## **4) Financial Report (Michael Chong)**

### **Key Financial Results**

- Total Revenue: **~\$8,500**
- Total Expenses: **~\$7,000**
- Annual Surplus: **~\$1,500**

### **Expense Overview**

- Fixed/overhead: registration/admin fees, Ontario Cycling affiliation, website, insurance.
- Majority of spend: social events (trial ride, cafe days, year-end social), awards, racing support (reduced vs past), and donations.

### **Donations**

- Annual donation of **\$500** to the **Tony Osborne Fund** continues.

### **Funds / Balance Sheet**

- Total club cash: **\$15,482**

- General Fund: **\$13,292**
- Youth Fund: **~\$2,200**
- Youth Fund is inactive; discussion held on whether to **fold Youth Fund into General Fund** since youth programming is no longer active.

#### **Membership Fee Spend Breakdown (per \$40 fee referenced)**

- Fixed overhead: **\$13.50**
- Social events spend: **\$16.32 per member**
- Donation: approximately **\$2.56-\$2.58 per member**
- Unspent portion: **\$7.61 per member** (due to lower spend this year)

#### **Discussion / Suggestions**

- Align spending so that **~55-60%** of fees go back to members via social events (target guideline).
- Consider future use of surplus for:
  - Website improvements
  - Larger one-time donation (e.g., to Tony Osborne Fund)
  - Enhanced club programming/events
- Maintain a reasonable reserve (suggested range: **\$5k-\$10k**, rather than holding too much).

#### **Action Item (Future Discussion)**

- Executive to revisit:
  - Youth Fund decision (keep vs merge into General Fund)
  - Strategy for use of surplus and reserve target

### **5) e-Gals Report (Mara Lippa & Robyn based on Tracey input)**

#### **Ride Highlights**

- **YRP ride** (noted as fun and challenging due to wind).
- **St. Catharines / Niagara Falls ride on September 6:**
  - Significant milestone: several participants completed **their first 130 km ride**.

#### **E-Gals Value to Club**

- Builds confidence gradually, strong social support, and community beyond cycling (social gatherings, weekend getaways, off-season activities).

- Supports **female participation and retention** (~30% of club).
- Provides a **safe and welcoming entry point** to road cycling.
- Helps riders “graduate” into broader club rides.

### **Try Rides (Women-focused)**

- Discussed repeating women-focused try rides and the need for stronger promotion.

### **Action Items**

- **Ron / Eddy:** Post e-Gals schedule on the website once provided.
  - **Mara & leaders:** Promote try rides strongly and earlier in season; consider “old school” outreach at bike shops.
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## **6) Marketing / Recruitment / Social Media / Strava Discussion**

### **Ideas Raised**

- Use club funds for **social media ads** (Facebook/Instagram).
- Create **printed materials with QR codes** directing to try rides, Instagram, or club info.
- Re-activate existing Facebook and Instagram pages (noted that activity dropped last year).

### **Offers / Support**

- **Tiago Souza** offered help creating/maintaining content planning and scheduled posts (safety, ride info, events, etc.).
- Discussed Strava group visibility; question raised about auto-sharing “rode with club” style activities.

### **Action Items**

- **Nick Lippa** to ask Park Run contacts how they enable “ran with group” Strava attribution and report back to Robyn.
  - **Tiago Souza** to help propose a posting plan/topics to keep social pages active.
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## **7) Time Trial (TT) Report (Ron Rehel; based on Bob Spencer info)**

- Bob Spencer to continue organizing TTs.
- Program reset planned.
- **Park Road course** likely dropped due to low attendance.
- Focus likely on **Tuesdays** (Saturday reduced except championships).
- Possible return of **Bathurst hill climb**.

## Note

- Club acknowledged loss of **Andrew** as a significant loss
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## 8) Race Team Report (Dan Lundenberg)

- Race team remains active (road + track; some MTB/cross participation).
  - Recent podium mentions shared (members encouraged to check club Facebook).
  - <https://www.facebook.com/NewmarketEaglesRaceTeam>
  - Highlights included:
    - - Mark Hopper won the Cat D Pursuit in Track O-Cup #2
    - - In the Kingston Stage Race, in Cat D JD Power was 2d in hill climb, was 1<sup>st</sup> in the TT and was 2d in the GC. Dan was 2d in TT.
    - - In Provincial TT, in Master D, Mark was 2d and Rick Clavir was 3d. In Master C, Dan was 3d.
  - Racing participation is declining across Ontario; high costs and event reductions noted.
  - 2026 schedule to continue; team remains open and supportive though new racers are limited.
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## 9) Group Rides Report (Sarah Grimes)

- Strong attendance overall; **Tuesday rides remain highly popular.**
  - Thursday night “SDINners” rebranded and showing positive growth.
  - Increased female participation observed across general club rides (anecdotal trend).
  - Appreciation expressed for:
    - **Mike Chong** for routes
    - **Eddy** for early season training for new members
  - Saturday morning C-group still developing; improved momentum with leadership support.
  - Spring plans: ride leader training + bike first aid.
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## 10) Gravel Report (Steve Barratt)

- Season considered successful with inclusive rail-trail progression:
  - Tottenham → Georgetown → Uxbridge → (planned but rained out) Chatham Hills → Lake Simcoe Loop
- **Lake Simcoe Loop** was best-attended and highly enjoyed.
- Future: continue inclusive approach; invite new ideas to avoid repetition.

- Suggestion: add a more challenging ride (e.g., **Durham Destroyer** route options).

#### **Action Item**

- **Steve Barratt** to consider adding Durham Destroyer route (small/medium/large options) and coordinate timing (noted September availability).
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### **11) Website / Training (Eddy)**

- Eddy will continue early season on-road training; requests ride leader support as done last year.
  - Club asked members to send updates/schedules (e.g., e-Gals schedule) for website posting.
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### **12) Elections (Executive Positions)**

- No new nominations volunteered.
- Motion made to re-elect current executive:
  - **Ron Rehel**
  - **Robyn**
  - **Michael Chong**
- Motion carried (hands raised in support; no objections recorded).

#### **Decision**

- Current executive to continue for another term.
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### **13) New Business**

#### **13.1 Club Kits**

- Plan to move club kits to **Jakroo** for easier ordering and fewer minimum/order management issues.
- Benefits: women's kit availability, direct shipping, good quality, faster turnaround.
- Nikola noted as helping with artwork transition; club-fit jersey selected initially.
- Consider offering additional items (race-fit, bibs, shorts, warmers, gloves, etc.).

#### **Action Item**

- **Ron Rehel** (with Nikola + Mark Hopper as resource) to progress kit artwork transfer, store setup, and initial product lineup.

#### **13.2 "Cycling App" / Ride Management Tools**

- Prior attempts to get a demo from the Peterborough-based app creators were unsuccessful.

- Oakville club experience shared: difficulty getting responses; app may not fit all club workflows.
- Dan exploring a Netherlands-based app called **CYQL** and will share details.
- Discussion acknowledged need for a single system, but concerns remain about complexity vs benefit.
- WhatsApp groups have been effective for day-of ride communication and weather-related attendance.

#### **Action Items**

- **Dan Lundenberg** to share CYQL details and learnings as Oakville evaluates options.
- Club to continue evaluating “single platform” options; WhatsApp seen as useful interim solution.

#### **13.3 Safety Video Project**

- Tracey provided raw data (and script exists).
- Ron will attempt AI-assisted compilation and narration, then finalize with help (if needed).

#### **Action Items**

- **Robyn** to provide the safety video script to Ron via email.
  - **Ron** to run AI draft and circulate for feedback, then finalize.
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#### **14) Member Feedback / Open Floor**

- **Mark Wolpert (newer member)** appreciated early-season training and learning club rotation style; supported continuation.
  - Positive feedback on communications and club updates (Kendra).
  - Suggestion: post ride videos to Instagram (Bruce).
  - Discussion about repeating Lake Simcoe Loop rides (with weather considerations).
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#### **15) Adjournment**

- Meeting adjourned by the Chair at approximately **8:29 PM**.
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#### **Action Items Summary (Quick List)**

1. **Robyn** – Obtain/update Tony Osborne Fund / OCA report info.
2. **Sarah Grimes** – Draft member survey questions; circulate for input; distribute survey.
3. **Michael Chong** – Find/share older survey templates (if available).
4. **Ron / Eddy** – Post e-Gals schedule on website once received.

5. **Nick Lippa** – Ask Park Run contacts how Strava “activity with group” attribution works; report back to Robyn.
6. **Tiago Souza** – Help propose a social posting plan/topics; support re-activating Facebook/Instagram presence.
7. **Steve Barratt** – Consider adding Durham Destroyer route option to gravel schedule.
8. **Ron Rebel** – Move club kits to Jakroo (artwork, store setup, product lineup).
9. **Dan Lundenberg** – Share CYQL app details and Oakville learnings with the club.
10. **Robyn** – Email safety video script to Ron.
11. **Ron Rebel** – Create AI-assisted safety video draft and circulate for feedback.