

# CERN Games Club

## Annual General Meeting 2024

The AGM of the CERN Games Club was held in Restaurant 1 on Sunday 3 March 2024. There were 18 members in attendance.

### **1. Welcome and introduction**

Michi welcomed everyone and declared the meeting quorate.

### **2. Summary of 2023 activities**

#### **President (Michi)**

The club's activities continue with strong attendance at Sunday Games and informal evening board games sessions, several RPG groups meeting during the week, and chess players who arrange ad-hoc games on Mattermost.

In February 2024, the club installed a second games locker in R1. This allows more games to be brought from R2 and makes them more accessible to club members.

Michi summarised the promotional activities that the club was involved in during 2023: a stand at the CERN Relay Race, and attendance at the HR "Connect the Dots" onboarding sessions for new people arriving at CERN. These activities will continue in 2024 and club regulars are encouraged to volunteer.

The club also published an article in the GAC-EPA bulletin (organisation for CERN/ESO retirees), see [https://gac-epa.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/BullGAC-EPA65\\_final.pdf](https://gac-epa.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/BullGAC-EPA65_final.pdf) p.14-16. Thanks to Marcel Aymon from GAC-EPA for facilitating this.

Later in 2024, the chair of the CERN Clubs Coordination Committee will pass from Rachel Bray to Michael Jaussi. This is not expected to have any major impact on the functioning of the club.

The committee proposes to organise a summer BBQ for everyone in the club. Details will be announced later on the website and Mattermost.

Overall, the club has had a very successful year.

#### **Secretary (Michael)**

Michael reiterated that everyone is welcome to play games with the club, without needing to be a signed-up member.

Membership is a voluntary way of supporting the club. Membership fees are used to fund the purchase of new games and members can vote on which ones to buy. We do ask that people join the club if they would like to have a key for the games lockers. Club membership costs CHF 10, with a discount of CHF 10 for members of the CERN Staff Association.

For people who do not have a CERN access card, the club uses lightweight Indico registration to issue one-day visitor passes. Visitors can enter the site on a visitor pass up to five times, after which they should apply for a CERN access card. CERN rules ([OC2](#)) stipulate that external visitors who need an access card must be club members.

The club had 32 signed-up members in 2023 (down from 37 in 2022, but the 2022 numbers included 14 active memberships carried over from the Covid years when the club was not active). 18 members were external (who needed a CERN access card). Overall, membership numbers are stable.

A new membership form has been integrated into the club [website](#), which has simplified the process of renewing memberships. Payments are still cash-only for now, because online transaction fees are disproportionately high.

For 2024 and going forward, the membership year will be aligned with the calendar year, to simplify the administration of the membership list. As a courtesy, members who joined in the last quarter of 2023 have had their membership extended until the end of 2024.

Besides the membership form, the website was used during the year for general announcements and to advertise new RPG groups. There is a desire to have a searchable database of the club's board games on the site. If there is a volunteer in the club who has time to integrate this, please step forward!

In terms of the website tech support, it was upgraded to the latest version of Drupal (v10) in December. The CERN IT department has announced that Drupal is to be deprecated in favour of WordPress, so the site will need to be migrated sometime in the next two years.

Since 2022, the club's main communication channel has been [Mattermost](#). There are currently 549 people registered (up from 365 in 2023): 229 in the board games channel, 162 in the RPGs channel, 100 in the chess channel.

There are a number of Role-Playing Games groups active in the club, who meet during the week at various times and locations: ShadowDark, Dungeon Crawl Classics, D&D 5<sup>th</sup> edition, Wolves upon the Coast. RPG groups are listed on the website and anyone who wants to start a new group can [post the details on the site](#).

The club organised a second RPG meetup in R1 in September 2023, which was well attended by players and GMs, including many people who had never player a RPG before. We plan to do this again in 2024.

### **Treasurer (Julian)**

Julian presented the club's accounts (see Treasurer's report). The balance has risen from CHF 332 to CHF 732, which means we need to spend some money and buy new games!

Julian has been taking requests for new game purchases. This will remain open for around one week after the AGM, after which we will vote on which games to buy.

## **Board Games Officer (Oscar)**

The club bought four new games in February 2023: Clank, Dune Imperium, Root, Sushi Go.

At the 2023 AGM, there was a request for a bigger games locker in R1. In response, we have added a second locker in R1. This will provide more space for the new games that we will buy. Besides, the two lockers in R1, there is the “cold storage” locker in the club rooms in R2. Games in cold storage can also be moved to the R1 locker if people want to play them (ask on Mattermost).

Club members can request a key for the R1 locker if they want to play games outside the normal Sunday afternoon timeslot. Key owners are asked to be responsible and to ensure that games are returned and care is taken that no pieces are missing.

There was an incident recently where the R1 locker door was forced open. Games were used and returned with some pieces missing, though the missing pieces showed up later. If anyone without a key wants to access the games outside normal club sessions, they should let us know and Oscar will be happy to arrange for the locker to be opened. The locker can be closed without a key, just agree with the keyholder who is responsible for returning games and locking the locker.

Some games were anonymously donated by leaving them on top of the locker, including a game in Japanese language. If anyone wants to donate a game, please talk to us first.

There is a box of Magic the Gathering cards in the games locker (in a whiskey box) which are available for anyone who wants to play MtG.

## **4. Election of the 2024 committee**

The committee was unanimously elected by a show of hands:

President: Michi Hostettler

Secretary: Michael Davis

Treasurer: Julian Wollrath

Board Games Officer: Oscar Gonzalez Lopez

## **5. AOB**

There was some discussion about chess. Chess boards are usually left on top of the locker, so anyone can use them. Some chess players have requested new boards and the club will buy these. Chess players are asked to take care of the boards and to return them in a good state.

Although chess players usually arrange on Mattermost to play games one-to-one, it would be good if a club member could take overall responsibility for coordinating chess, which would make it possible to have a league table, tournaments, *etc.*