

CERN Games Club

Annual General Meeting 2025

The AGM of the CERN Games Club was held in Restaurant 1 on Sunday 23 February 2025. There were 15 members in attendance.

1. Welcome and introduction

Michi welcomed everyone and declared the meeting quorate.

2. Summary of 2024 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.

The promotional activities of the club included a stand at the CERN Relay Race and attendance at the HR "Connecting the Dots" onboarding sessions for new people arriving at CERN. A big thank you to everyone who volunteered to help at these events. These activities will continue in 2025 and all club regulars are encouraged to volunteer.

In 2024 the club organised a BBQ for members. As well as being a successful social event, this facilitated cross-over between the various game-playing communities. It is proposed to repeat this in 2025.

CERN has changed its system for issuing access cards, in particular the validation of identity documents is now handled by an external contractor. This led to some problems such as validation not being completed due to notification e-mails being flagged as spam. CERN has promised to address the problems, so it is hoped that the situation will improve in 2025.

Overall, the club has had another 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 suggest games and 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. The membership year is the calendar year.

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 28 signed-up members in 2024 (down from 32 in 2023). 5 were members of the Staff Association and 12 members were external. Overall, membership numbers are stable with a 60/40 split between CERN members and external members.

The membership form on the club [website](#) has worked well. Payments are still cash-only for now, because online transaction fees are disproportionately high.

The club website will have to be migrated from Drupal to Wordpress in the second half of 2025. We will endeavour to use this migration as an opportunity to create a searchable database of the club's board games on the site.

Since 2022, the club's main communication channel has been [Mattermost](#). There are currently 778 people registered, up +229 in 2024 (549), +184 in 2023 (365): 324 in the Board Games channel, 194 in the RPGs channel, 129 in the Chess channel. There is a small community (17) of miniature wargames players who are becoming more active.

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 5th edition, Mothership, Paranoia, Gumshoe, 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 third RPG meetup in R1 in September 2024, which was well attended by players and GMs, including many people who had never played a RPG before. There is enthusiasm to do two of these events in 2025.

Treasurer (Julian)

Julian presented the club's accounts (see Treasurer's report). The main expenditures were the BBQ and new games. The balance is CHF 551.

There are funds available to buy new games. Members should suggest games to the committee if there is a game that they would like to play that the club does not yet own.

Board Games Officer (Oscar)

The club bought several new games in 2024: Ark Nova, Brass Birmingham, Citadels, Coup, Secret Hitler, Terraforming Mars expansions (Prelude and Elysium).

The list of games on the website has been updated. If members would like to play a game that is not in the R1 locker, they can contact Oscar who can bring the game from storage in R2 (allow a few days' notice).

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.

The club is clearing out some games which are duplicated or which are old versions. If you would like to buy one of these games or have another idea of what to do with them, please contact the committee.

The club also owns several expansions for games but not the base game. If there is interest in playing these games, the club could obtain them. Otherwise they can also be disposed of.

Users of games in the R1 locker are reminded that the locker should be closed and locked after games are returned. Locking the locker does not need a key. Contact Oscar if you have any issue relating to the locker.

3. Election of the 2024 committee

The committee was unanimously elected by a show of hands:

President: Michi Hostettler

Secretary: Michael Davis

Treasurer: Chris Scheulen

Board Games Officer: Oscar Gonzalez Lopez

4. AOB

There was no other business.