

CERN Games Club

Annual General Meeting 2026

The AGM of the CERN Games Club was held in Restaurant 1 on Sunday 15 February 2026. There were 14 members in attendance.

1. Welcome and introduction

Michi welcomed everyone and declared the meeting quorate.

2. Summary of 2025 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 and miniature wargamers 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.

One of this year's innovations was to have open gaming in the evening after Connecting the Dots. Please volunteer if you can help to organise this in future.

The summer BBQ event has now been established as an annual tradition, representing the one time in the year when all the various sub-groups of the club get together. It is planned to continue this in 2026.

Overall, the club has had another very successful year.

Secretary (Michael)

Everyone is reminded that they do not need to be a signed-up member to play games with the club, you just have to just show up. Membership is a way of supporting the club, as membership fees are used to fund the purchase of new games. Members can suggest games and vote on which ones to buy. Attendees should also 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 52 signed-up members in 2025 (a significant increase, from 28 in 2024 and 32 in 2023). 15 were members of the Staff Association and 23 members were external. The ratio of external members to CERN members has increased slightly from 40:60 to 45:55.

The membership form on the club [website](#) has worked well, but with increased membership, the manual/cash-only method of collecting payments is becoming harder to manage and track.

The club website will have to be migrated off from Drupal during 2026. It was hoped this could be an opportunity to create a searchable database of the club's board games on the site. The recommended migration path to Wordpress may not allow this however.

Since 2022, the club's main communication channel has been [Mattermost](#). There are currently 951 people registered, up +173 in 2025 (778), +229 in 2024 (549), +184 in 2023 (365): 369 in the Board Games channel, 220 in the RPGs channel, 158 in the Chess channel, 25 in the Miniature Wargames channel.

A new Game Design channel was created on Mattermost (currently 27 members). There are some professional game designers in the CERN orbit as well as a few people working on self-published indie games.

There are a number of Role-Playing Games groups active in the club, who meet during the week at various times and locations. Campaigns running in 2025 included : 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 frequency of the RPG meetup was increased to two events in 2025, on Friday 9th May and Friday 26th September, with participation from the SwissRPG association. It was well attended by players and GMs, including many people who had never player a RPG before. The last event had 40 external attendees including five external GMs and an estimated 30 CERN attendees. A big thanks to James Bradford for organising and promoting these events.

Treasurer (Chris)

Chris presented the club's accounts (see Treasurer's report). The balance is CHF 370. The main expenditures were the BBQ and chess sets/clocks.

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 second games locker in R1 was replaced with one the same size as the main locker.

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.

Chess (Konstantinos)

There are around 10-15 chess players in the club. There has been a steady increase in casual games at lunchtime and Friday after work, as well as occasional tournaments.

In 2025, the club bought several new chess sets and clocks. One chess set is left on top of the games locker for open use.

3. Election of the 2026 committee

Proposed and unanimously voted: create a Chess Master committee position for 2026.

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

Chess Master: Konstantinos Tsiaras

4. AOB

A Mattermost channel was created for players of Magic the Gathering (73 people are signed up).