



NORDIC CYCLING

MINUTES

Nordic Cycling Annual meeting 2026 in Avignon, France

07.03.2026 at 14.00-15.00

Palais des Papes - room "CUBICULAIRE"

Representatives:	Morten Anderson (Denmark), Raivo Rand (Estonia), Arnfinnur Helmsdal (Faroe Island), Katariina Laakkonen (Finland), Bjarni Már Svarvarsson (Iceland), Toms Markss (Latvia), Roberta Vainauskienė (Lithuania), Heidi Stenbock-Haakestad (Norway), Leif Karlsson (Sweden)
UCI-UEC representative:	Henrik Jess Jensen, Raivo Rand
Invited guests:	Enrico Della Casa, UEC President, David Lappartient, UCI President
Participants:	Jarmo Lindberg (Finland), Kjersti Størset (Norway), Malin Lindgren (Sweden), Avely Austa (Estonia), Jorma Paakkari (Finland)
Executive Committee:	Henrik Jess Jensen (Denmark), Raivo Rand (Estonia), Katariina Laakkonen (Finland)
Coordinator:	Estonia

Agenda

1. Opening of the Meeting by the Chair of the Board

Raivo Rand welcomed all participants and opened the meeting. He thanked the representatives of the Nordic and Baltic federations for their active cooperation within Nordic Cycling. Participants introduced themselves briefly.

2. Welcoming UEC president Mr. Enrico della Casa and UCI president David Lappartient

UEC President Enrico Della Casa welcomed the Nordic Cycling initiative and thanked the federations for their cooperation and presence at the UEC Congress.

He emphasised the importance of regional cycling organisations such as Nordic Cycling in strengthening cooperation between neighbouring countries and creating development opportunities for riders.

UCI President David Lappartient highlighted the importance of regional cycling structures alongside national and international competitions.

He noted that regional championships and cooperation initiatives help athletes progress from national to international level and create more racing opportunities, particularly for young riders.

He also reaffirmed the UCI's support for regional organisations such as Nordic Cycling and encouraged continued collaboration between Nordic federations.

3. Confirmation of voting delegates

Voting delegates for Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway and Sweden were confirmed.

4. Deciding on a Chair for the Annual General Meeting

Raivo Rand was elected as the Chair and Evelin Idarand as recording secretary.

5. The Board's Annual Report for the past operating year

The Annual Report had been circulated to the board prior to the meeting.

Coordinator Evelin Idarand presented a short overview of Nordic Cycling activities in 2025. The main focus of Nordic Cycling activities continued to be the organisation of Nordic Championships and cooperation between the member federations through discipline-based commissions.

During 2025 a total of five Nordic Championships were organised and 107 sets of Nordic Championship medals were awarded.

Events organised during the year included:

- Nordic XCO Championships in Denmark with participation from four Nordic countries and 241 riders.
- Nordic Paracycling Championships (road bike and handbike) organised in Sweden for the first time with 22 participants.
- Nordic Gravel Championships, where seven Nordic Cycling countries participated with a total of 409 riders.
- Nordic Masters Road Championships in Sweden with 207 participants from five countries.
- Nordic BMX Racing Championships in Denmark with approximately 300 riders representing seven countries.

In addition to championships, Nordic Cycling organised two international practical commissaire training courses in cooperation with the UEC Solidarity programme:

- BMX Commissaires Training in Sweden
- Cyclo-cross Commissaires Training in Sweden

Both courses were well received and provided practical experience for commissaires preparing for international events, including World Championships. The Commissaires Commission expressed interest in organising similar courses again in 2027.

6. The Board's Accounts for the past operating year

The Board's accounts were presented by the coordinator.

It was explained that the costs for medals exceeded the originally planned budget because additional Nordic Championships were added to the calendar during the year.

The UEC Solidarity Project for commissaires training was originally planned with a budget of 10,000 €, but due to only two courses taking place during the year the approved funding amounted to 6,841.43 €.

Additional revenue sources included:

- Income from Nordic Championships participation fees, which was introduced for the first time in 2025 and generated 1,629 €.
- Revenue from the Nordic Cycling bank account, which contributed approximately 2,991 € towards operational costs.

The strategy meeting held in Tallinn was partly financed through these revenues.

After reviewing the accounts, the meeting noted that the final balance between revenues and expenses for the year was -2.61 €.

DECISION: The board confirmed accounts for the past operating year.

7. Auditor's Report

Katariina Laakkonen reported that she had reviewed the financial documents and confirmed that the accounts correspond with the presented activities and documentation.

DECISION: The accounts were reviewed and approved by the auditor.

8. Decision on NC membership fees for the following fiscal year

The Executive Committee proposed that no membership fee would be collected for 2026, as Nordic Cycling still has sufficient financial reserves.

During the discussion it was noted that Nordic Cycling currently has approximately 47,500 DKK (around 6,300 €) remaining in the account held by the Danish Cycling Federation. These reserves should allow the organisation to operate for several years without introducing membership fees.

DECISION: It was agreed that no membership fee will be applied for 2026.

9. Establishing the budget for the following fiscal year

The budget for 2026 was presented by Evelin Idarand.

It was noted that the budget for Nordic Championship medals was set at 2,000 €, as the deadline for Nordic Championships applications (1 December) now prevents additional events from being added during the year.

The medals for the 2026 championships had already been ordered and will be distributed to the organisers by the coordinator.

Other budget items remained similar to the previous year, including:

- Website maintenance
- Coordination and administrative costs

- Operational costs for meetings

Revenue estimates for 2026 include:

- Participation fees from Nordic Championships
- Contributions from Nordic Cycling bank account reserves

The meeting also discussed the intention to apply again for UEC Solidarity funding for a new commissaires project, with an application planned for October.

DECISION: The proposed budget for 2026 was approved.

Expenses	Budget 2025	Expenses 2025	Budget 2026
Medals	2 000,00 €	3 271,98 €	2 000,00 €
Nordic Cycling webpage	170,00 €	164,54 €	170,00 €
Coordination, meeting, adm.costs, etc.	1 000,00 €	1 186,65 €	1 000,00 €
Commissaires project	10 000,00 €	6 841,43 €	
	13 170,00 €	11 464,60 €	3 170,00 €

Revenues	Budget 2025	Revenues 2025	Revenues 2026
Income from competitions	930,00 €	1 629,00 €	1 100,00 €
Nordic Championships reg. fee gravel			100,00 €
Nordic Championships participant fee gravel			300,00 €
Nordic Championships reg. fee BMX			100,00 €
Nordic Championships participant fee BMX			300,00 €
Nordic Championships reg. fee XCO			100,00 €
Nordic Championships participant fee XCO			200,00 €
Revenues from Nordic Cycling bank-account (Denmark)	2 240,00 €	2 991,56 €	2 070,00 €
UEC Solidarity Project	10 000,00 €	6 841,43 €	
	13 170,00 €	11 461,99 €	3 170,00 €

REVENUES - EXPENSES	-	2,61 €	- €
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10. Deciding an Auditor for 2026

Raivo Rand proposed that Katariina Laakkonen continue as auditor for the next financial year.

DECISION: Katariina Laakkonen was approved as auditor for 2026.

11. Decision on the time and place for the next meeting and the Annual General Meeting

It was proposed that the next Nordic Cycling Annual Meeting will take place during the UEC Congress in Vienna.

Participants also discussed the possibility of holding an additional meeting during the UCI Congress in Montréal, depending on attendance.

DECISION: Next Annual Meeting will take place during 2027 UEC congress in Vienna.

12. Nordic Cycling coordination change

According to the rotation system of Nordic Cycling, the coordination role rotates between member federations.

Estonia has served as coordinator for the past term and the responsibility will now pass to Sweden for the next two-year period.

Malin Lindgren introduced herself as the new coordinator representing the Swedish Cycling Federation. She informed the meeting that she will contact all commissions and member federations to organise an introductory coordination meeting.

Raivo Rand also proposed that Finland could be considered as the next coordinator after Sweden, which the Finnish federation agreed to consider internally.

DECISION: Sweden will take over the Nordic Cycling coordination for the next term.

13. Deciding on a Chair of the Board for the next coordinators term

Following the rotation of the coordination role to Sweden, it was noted that according to Nordic Cycling practice the coordinating country also holds the position of Chair of the Board.

As Sweden will take over the coordination for the next term, Thomas Backteman (Swedish Cycling Federation) will serve as the Chair of the Board as their representative during the Swedish coordination period.

DECISION: Thomas Backteman (Swedish Cycling Federation) was confirmed as Chair of the Board for the next coordination term.

14. Choosing the Executive Commission for the next term

The composition of the Nordic Cycling Executive Committee was confirmed for the upcoming term.

According to the Nordic Cycling structure, the Executive Committee consists of representatives from the current coordinating country, the next coordinating country, treasurer, and one additional member federation.

The following members were appointed:

- **Sweden – Thomas Backteman** (Coordinator country, Chair)
- **Finland – Katariina Laakkonen** (Next coordinator)
- **Denmark – Henrik Jess Jensen** (Treasurer)
- **Estonia – Raivo Rand** (Member)

DECISION: The Executive Committee for the next term was approved with the above composition.

15. Additional discussion topics

15.1 Gravel calendar coordination

Katariina Laakkonen raised concerns about the growing number of UCI Gravel World Series qualifying events in Nordic and Baltic countries.

In 2026 there are five UCI Gravel World Series events scheduled in the region:

- Denmark
- Latvia
- Estonia
- Sweden
- Finland

These events take place mostly during August and September, often close to each other and sometimes on the same dates as national gravel championships.

It was suggested that Nordic federations should coordinate national gravel championship dates in future years (2027–2028) to avoid clashes with UCI Gravel World Series qualifiers.

Additionally, the UCI Gravel European Championships will be held in Lahti, Finland on 31 July – 1 August 2027, which should also be considered in future calendar planning.

The possibility of organising a meeting with event organisers and national federations to coordinate the calendar was discussed.

15.2 Proposal for UCI Junior Nations Cup event in Latvia

A proposal was presented by the Latvian Cycling Federation to host a UCI Junior Nations Cup event in 2027 in Valmiera.

The event would include both Junior Men and Junior Women races, supported by regional and national authorities. Valmiera was presented as a suitable location with experience in organising high-level cycling events and strong infrastructure.

Participants expressed support for the initiative and emphasised the importance of additional international races for junior development in the Nordic and Baltic region.

Closing remarks

Participants thanked Raivo Rand and Evelin Idarand for their work as coordinator during the previous term.

The meeting acknowledged the significant contribution made to Nordic Cycling development and cooperation between federations.