

Minutes of NSWVGA Executive Council Meeting held Wednesday 5th April ,2017 at Bankstown Golf Club.

Meeting opened: By President Ian Vidler at 9.15 a.m.

Attendees: John Dixon(Clr), Kel Pearce(V/Pres), David Gunner(Treasurer), Richard Doyle(V/Pres), Les Knox(Clr), Graeme Phillipson(Golf NSW Rep), Stuart Dossetor(Clr), Len Payne(Secretary).

Apologies: Gary Mason(Clr), John A Daley(Clr), Les Mann(Gp31 delegate), Brian Graham(GP21 delegate). Apologies accepted on motion of Les Knox seconded Stuart Dossetor – carried.

Obituary: Mike Newell (ex- Gp 1 Group Secretary).

Suspension of Standing Orders to enable discussion of various important mutual issues with representative from Golf NSW, Graeme Phillipson.

Issues raised: 1. Joint venture with Golf NSW of Sandgreen Strokeplay championships at Holbrook on Oct 14-15, 2017. A number of issues were prize-giving consistency, local support, & a possible competition for women concurrently (subject to availability of places), and assistance from local vet. golfers. Holbrook are planning a competition on Friday Oct 13th to assist visiting golfers to familiarise themselves with the course. All these matters were resolved to the satisfaction of both parties.

2. Future of Golflink, handicapping & course rating: Graeme advised that although Golf Australia is taking back Golflink this is only to allow the expansion of “commercial opportunities” & Golflink will continue to maintain the handicapping function. Golf NSW does carry out its’ own course rating at times & will continue this. There is currently no search function on Golflink which allows handicappers to check for golfers who do not put a Golflink no. on their scorecard; however he offered for anyone to send him an email if the matter could not be resolved locally.

3. The flourishing of “Social golf clubs” now that Golf Australia provides them with a handicap & “el cheapo” golf club memberships. On this Graeme advised that whilst he acknowledged our position of opposing their membership within our organisation, that they were a fact of life. Golf NSW feels that they are an “entry point” for many social golfers into future full golf club membership.

President Ian then raised the issue of certain ethnic golfers playing who seemingly are unaware of the playing rules & changes in Australia, & asked if this was also the experience of Golf NSW. Graeme responded that they largely play within their own ethnic groups; however, Golf NSW have provided a lot of rules translation for these groups through their associations. These have been well received. He agreed to provide some copies so that Tournament Directors who have these ethnic groups playing in their Tournaments can access these copies of rules translations.

At the conclusion, he was thanked & agreed to offer future contact opportunities.

Meeting then reverted to Standing Orders.

Minutes of previous meeting of 2nd February 2017, as previously circulated, were adopted on the motion of David Gunner, seconded Les Knox – carried.

Business arising: Nil.

Correspondence: In;

1. 11.2.2017 – Letter from member Bob Koppman re clubs charging \$10 fee for members who utilise own carts.

2. 23.2.2017 – e-mail from Website manager providing list of Clubs who have members in Gp 4.
3. 21.2.2017 – e-mail from Secretary, ACT Veteran Golfers re error in handbook.
4. 24.2.2017 – Further e-mail from Secretary, ACT Vets .expressing appreciation & acceptance by their Committee of actions taken to ameliorate the error.
5. 29.3.2017 – e-mail from Secretary, Gp2 enquiry re 9-hole players paying affiliation fees.

Out:

Out:

1. 7.2.2017 - E-mail to Group Secretaries & Executives, advising of the proposed Forums, dates & venues & seeking responses & confirmation of potential attendees.
2. Letter from President to Paul Horton, thanking him for co-operation shown with Website Manager on transfer of information, & expressing appreciation for his work on behalf of NSWVGA over the years.
3. 22.2.2017 – E-mail to President & Committee, ACT Vets offering my sincere apologies for this error & taking responsibility for it & advising that correct 2017 Calendar would be circulated to Groups in NSWVGA.

Business arising: A.C.T Handbook error. Executive endorsed secretary's action in this matter moved Richard Doyle seconded Kel Pearce – carried

Email from Gp2 – Reply as follows: As **ALL** who participate in Veterans golf events are covered under our paid Insurance policies & also pay an affiliation levy to AVGU, it is essential that they be included in our membership list. Many play only 9-hole golf, especially in summertime, but the affiliation fee paid to NSWVGA pays for Insurance, AVGU levy & also assists with costs incurred in our handbook & other necessary operating costs.

Item 1 -Complaint from member, resolved that no action be taken as it is a matter for local clubs.

Motion to receive all correspondence moved Len Payne seconded Stuart Dossetor – carried.

Reports:

1. President's & Sponsorship Reports:

NSWVGA President's Report. April 2017

1. During the Myall Coast WoG I took the opportunity to meet up with David Flatt, Tournament Director for AVGU Championships 2018 to be held at Port Stephens. I offered David access to our website to promote the event when he has information available. We also discussed the role of Go Golfing in the running of the event and how their infrastructure will assist the Tournament Committee. Planning is well ahead of schedule and David's attendance at the AVGU Championship in Adelaide has given him an awareness of some of the problems he may encounter for which he is now well prepared.
 2. In February I attended Myall Lakes, Shoalhaven and Illawarra Weeks of Golf. The latter two events will require some fine tuning to come up to expectations and I know Shoalhaven committee is already in the process of planning for 2017. Myall Lakes was again an outstanding success due to the efforts of Bob Macklinshaw and his energetic committee and supporters. Reports on these events will be published in the minutes.
 3. I also visited Barry Maloney during my time back in Nambucca Heads to support the work of the website committee led by Stu Dosseter. The site is becoming more attractive by the day and is receiving good reviews in the veteran community. There are still some issues with navigation on the site but the committee is aware of them and changes are being made on a regular basis. Congratulations to Stu, Garry and John on their input.
 4. I received several emails from Michael Reynolds requesting to join NSWVGA through Social Golf Australia, the organisation which owns Bushrangers. As he was not a member of a registered club, as dictated by our Constitution, he was ineligible to become a member of NSWVGA. Despite his protestations and threats to take the matter further he eventually decided he would join a club in NSW and join through the correct path. I would like to support Richard Doyle's efforts on this matter by suggesting that we amend the constitution to "tighten" the definitions for membership and of a registered golf club.
 5. Rick Murphy is the Tournament Director for Sand Green Championships to be held in Holbrook later in the year. I spent an hour or so in discussions with him re this joint venture event with Golf NSW, the organisation of which will be discussed with Graeme Phillipson when he attends our April meeting.
 6. While attending the Murray River Weeks of Golf Len and I had fruitful discussions with Don Stuart of Corowa Veterans and Chris Rebecchi, Rob Forrest, Tim Cameron and Ray Reid from Howlong Veterans and club management team. While there seems to be some issues at Corowa, which Don hopes to address in the coming year, Howlong veterans are continuing to do exceptional work in the organisation and running of this joint event.
 7. Kris Watson from Watson's Caravans and RVs has agreed to continue his sponsorship of NSWVGA with an amount of \$800. I will be meeting with Kris when before Easter to discuss this sponsorship but, as he supports four local events, I would like to see the business logo appear in a prominent position on our website as should any major sponsor.
 8. Grafton Veterans have recently been in contact with Northern Rivers VGA with the intent of becoming part of Group 14. I have asked Ray Kent, Group Secretary, to email us confirmation of that arrangement, including the conditions that NRVGA has imposed.
 9. Policy Guideline 7. Should be updated if there is a change in the Constitution re 'registered golf club...' and it should also include the fact that Group Secretaries will be required to update membership lists on the website.
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Business arising from Presidents' & Sponsorship Report: Re item 4 Clr. Richard Doyle advised he is working on a revision of Constitution to further tighten it, & Presidents' actions were endorsed on motion of Richard Doyle seconded Les Knox – carried.

Re item 7 Sponsorship, it was considered that a “rolling list of major sponsors for tournaments “similar to the photos currently depicted on the website would be very attractive & beneficial to these major supporters. The Website Committee will review & advise. Motion to receive moved Richard Doyle seconded Kel Pearce – carried.

2. Treasurer's Report & 2017 Budget presentation:

BALANCE SHEET for NSWVGA from 26.1.17 to 29.3.17

Opening Balance as at 26.1.17 \$34,465.18

<u>Income</u>	
Affiliation Fees	\$8,282.25
Registration fees W.O.G.	\$1,608.00
Interest	\$26.54
Sponsorship	\$4,400.00
Banner	\$150.00

Total income \$10,466.79

<u>Expenses</u>	
Councillors to meetings	\$2,568.18
Vouchers	\$260.00
Web Maintenance	\$290.00
Meeting Exp	\$117.00
Postage	\$1,163.50
Printing/Stationary	\$40.00
Shields/Medals	\$228.18
Refund	\$342.00

Total Expenses \$5,008.86

Closing Balance as at 29.3.17 \$39,923.11

Cash Assests as at 29.3.17

Greater Building Society \$38,000.00
matures on 06.05.2017 at 2.55%

Vouchers for W.O.G events \$970.00

Total Assets \$38,970.00

NSW VETERAN GOLFERS ASSOC. [Inc]
Budget for year ending 30th September 2017

<u>Income</u>	<u>2017</u>
Affiliation Fees Received	\$46,248.00
\$2 Player Registration Fees	\$13,500.00
Interest Received	\$900.00
Sponsorship Income	\$8,000.00

total income	\$68,648.00
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<u>Expenses</u>	
Affiliation Fees-AVGU	\$2,400.00
Audit Fees	\$350.00
Councillor-Car Allowance to Meetings	\$13,000.00
Councillor Allowance to Tournaments	\$12,000.00
Dept Fair Trading Annual Return	\$54.00
Donations	\$1,800.00
Insurances	\$7,800.00
Meeting Expenses	\$550.00
Printing & Stationary	\$1,000.00
Printing of Program Books	\$6,864.00
Postage of Program Books	\$1,100.00
Postage	\$500.00
Presentation Folders	\$420.00
Trophies Awarded to Tournaments	\$15,500.00
Honorariums	\$1,600.00
Shields & Engraving	\$500.00
Website Internet	\$3,000.00

Total Expenses	\$68,438.00
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Year End Profit	\$210.00
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Motion to receive Treasurers Profit & Loss Report, approve the re-investment of our I.B.D account when due, include a list of W.O.G's held but which have not remitted registration fees, & accept the Budget Report as presented, moved Ian Vidler seconded John Dixon – carried.

Following further debate, the following motion was moved Len Payne, seconded by Richard Doyle “That the honorarium of \$600 p/annum which was previously paid to the Webmaster be now paid to the President” motion –carried.

3. Tournament Co-Ordinators Report:

WEEK OF GOLF PROGRAM AND MATCH REPORT

Firstly please accept my apologies for my absence but health comes first.

WEEK OF GOLF PROGRAM

This years program is under way with some additions added to the website program. My thanks to Barry who completed the adjustments .There is a late inclusion of Deniliquin who are keen to run week of golf but more on this later.

June

Unfortunately June has been cancelled due to lack of numbers. Only 25 nominations so the move to a new time slot was not successful and I don't believe it will be viable in the future .

The tournament director, Kevin Jacobson, has worked tirelessly but for one reason or another it is just too big a burden to be the tournament director, course superintendant and golf club manager. It has effected his health and I feel he had made the right decision to call it a day.

Next years program is ready to go. I canvassed all the clubs conducting a week of golf on the central tablelands, Uralla, Armidale , Tenterfield, Inverell, Moree, Narrabri and Tamworth after receiving a request to reverse their order to miss the colder weather.

All clubs couldn't agree to the changes put forward therefore their dates will remain as is. Easter and Anzac Day are the problems but we will work around this.

I have drafts of 2019-2021 and once again Easter will cause some heartache for some clubs as it falls late in April then early in April and then the middle of April.

Deniliquin

At the last meeting I indicated I had approached Coomealla to see if they would conduct a week of Golf but their Board declined the invitation.

Our next option was to go further along the Murray .I have approached Deniliquin who expressed keen interest to host the week.

While it is early days yet it appears the week will slot in nicely after the Deniliquin's Ute Muster and Mildura's country and western week.

Our contact Mr Norm Purtill has been given an outline of how a week of golf works, has a copy of Policy Guideline No 2 and mailing list from other WOG's along the Murray and Riverina. My thanks to the Tournament Directors for your help in this area.

President Ian ,by the time he presents this report will have visited Norm and have a further update. There is a possibility of visiting Deniliquin after the Grenfell weekend of golf.

Match Committee

At our last meeting President Ian expressed a view that we should look at returning as much as possible to our grass roots members in the way of golf participation.

After speaking with Gary Mason on this matter I have approached some groups as to their set up for championships ,medals etc.

Secretary Len has canvassed all groups as to how they play their group championships with minimal response.

If we have group champions then the logical next step would be for the group winners play off for the state title at a neutral venue.

This needs discussion at board level before it proceeds further.

John Daley
Counsellor
Northern Rivers

In absence of Tournament Co-ordinator, President Ian further advised that he has met with the representative of Deniliquin Vets Golf Club (Graham Willoughby) & that are very keen to conduct a Week of Golf, commencing with a trial to assess support.

Motion to receive Tournament Co-ordinators' Report moved Len Payne seconded Richard Doyle – carried.

4. Website Management Committee Report:

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To the executive committee of the New South Wales Veteran Golfers Association Inc.

A short report from the Web Administrator

Memberships:

The receipt of memberships lists has come to a stop with just over ten thousand, five hundred entries. There are a few duplicates that require attention.

These duplicates result from mainly golfers registering with several clubs. This is easily rectified by deleting all entries except the one that matches the GolfLink number. Other duplicates are where one partner/spouse uses the other's GolfLink number. And there are others who just boldly use the wrong number.

To attempt to combat duplicates I have made the GolfLink Number a unique field. Therefore, a GolfLink Number can only be entered once. The aim is to have members registered in their home club/group.

Databases:

The database is closed as far as editing. I am the only one who can make additions and alterations. I hope by the end of April designated members will be permitting to make additions and alterations within their areas of responsibility.

At this moment, the executive committee and the group secretaries have viewing rights. To gain access click the "Members' Area" button, then select the green "Sign in" button at the top left of the screen. You will then see "Forgot your password? Click here". Use your email address that is in the hand book and wait for an email with the login details.

Clubs and Groups:

I believe for the database to function appropriately, that members belong to a club and that club is part of a group. Therefore, I need to have a full list of which clubs are attached to what group. I realise the situation of Group 4 Sydney VGA, but realistically there are clubs within Group 4's region that do not belong to another group that could be designated to Group 4. If a club is within the designated area of a group other than Group 4 it may not belong to Group 4 for the purpose of a NSWVGA registration. Members may belong to as many clubs as they wish but for the requirements of membership to the NSWVGA they must be registered within their home club's group. Without the above requirements, the system will not function correctly.

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A verbal supplementary report was presented by Stuart Dossetor & John Dixon that Good progress was being made on the website re-establishment with an aim of providing ease of navigation. Good photos of courses are welcomed for the rolling display, they should be forwarded direct to Website manager Barry. There is a large discrepancy between the list that Barry has put on the website & the list of paid up

memberships held by the Treasurer, which is the number as at 30th September 2016. It is hoped to reduce this discrepancy substantially before the end of April.

It was moved by Stuart Dossetor seconded John Dixon that Barry be thanked for his comprehensive excellent report & he be invited by the Secretary, at our expense, to our next meeting to provide a visual update on the progress of the website – carried.

Listing of Week of Golf Reports received: Week of golf reports received to date from Myall Coast, Shoalhaven, Orange, Corowa-Howlong, Tocumwal & Upper Hunter. They will be published as an addendum to these minutes. Motion to note this moved John Dixon seconded Kel Pearce – carried.

Matters with/without Notice:

1. Special reminder from Secretary to all Tournament Directors of the need to closely check validity of nominations to ensure that only “bona-fide” veteran golfers accepted, & that the website continues to be a “work in progress & they will soon be given access”. Secretary was asked to separately email Tournament Directors with this information.
2. The Weeks of Golf Councillor attendance roster for the second half of 2017 was then considered & attendees confirmed.

Meeting then considered the issue of Initiatives new & outstanding from the previous meeting.

President raised the issue of awarding women competitors same value NSWVGA prizes in Week of golf & championship competitions. Following debate, it was moved by Ian Vidler seconded Richard Doyle that NSWVGA award same value vouchers for our NSWVGA prizes to men & women competitors – carried.

The issue of adding a 4-ball medal & voucher from 2018 to groups who play at more than one venue (exempt Broken Hill) was raised & it was agreed that it be referred to the Match Committee for consideration & report back.

Secretary raised an issue that whilst we encourage Week of golf participants to try & play & assist those golf clubs which have suffered economic hardship arising from flooding inundation & bushfire in recent times NSWVGA has not provided any assistance to date. Following debate the following motion was moved “That the NSWVGA Executive Council agree in principle to establish a “Support Fund” to provide a “one-off” NSWVGA Voucher(s) for NSWVGA Veterans clubs which have suffered economic hardship arising from disastrous flooding or Bushfire occurrences. This is to assist these clubs raise funds to aid their economic recovery via “Open Days” (annual or special) .The fund have an initial budget of \$5,000 provided from current funds.” The Secretary was asked to provide a suggested criteria for eligibility & process for provision of this support Motion was moved Len Payne seconded Stuart Dossetor – carried.

Criteria :

- (A) That NSWVGA Golf Clubs which have a reasonable veteran membership & have suffered genuine economic hardship from flood inundation or bushfire since June 2016 are offered a one-off offer to support them in economic recovery.
- (B) They can conduct their usual annual ‘Open Day’ with additional prizes from NSWVGA, or (if already held), conduct a special “Open Day”, with these prizes added.

(C) This offer is designed to supplement their own fundraising efforts on their "Open Day".

Process:

- (A) Eligible clubs advise NSWVGA of their hardship, causes & effects, & planned event & request support.
- (B) NSWVGA assess eligibility & approve.
- (C) Minimum amount of support is \$200 in vouchers, or more, dependent on numbers nominating to play, but is limited to a maximum of \$500 (M & F).
- (D) Clubs approved are urged to communicate their event widely to adjacent, nearby & especially to other clubs within their group.

President Ian then raised the initiative of adding a 4-ball event to the current NSWVGA Medal & voucher, with same prizes. It was agreed that this issue be referred to the Match Committee to consider & suggest implementation method & report back.

Meeting then adjourned for lunch at 12.45 p.m. resuming at 1.15p.m.

Other General Business:

Les Knox reported that preparations for the NSWVGA Strokeplay Championships were proceeding well, entries good, almost full-field. He is in contact with publicity person of Veterans' golf website.

Discussion then ensued on the merits of having a luncheon with presentation for Weeks of golf versus a night-time dinner presentation. Consensus was luncheon was preferable as all players were in attendance, whereas a lot of players did not pay & return for a dinner presentation. However, it is up to Tournament Directors.

Next Meeting & Meeting closure: Thursday 8th June. President closed meeting at 1.30 0.m.