

**Minutes of the NSWVGA Executive Meeting held Bankstown G.C. Wednesday
2nd August commencing 9.00 a.m.**

Chair: President Ian Vidler.

Attendees: Clr. Richard Doyle(V/pres),Clr. John A Daley(T/Co-Ord),Clr. Stuart Dossetor, Clr. Les Knox, Clr. John Dixon Clr. Len Payne (Secretary), Clr. Garry Mason.

In Attendance: Les Mann(Gp 31), Brian Graham(Gp 21).

Apologies: Clr. David Gunner (Treasurer),Clr. Kel Pearce (V/pres), Clr. Lance Fredericks. Motion to accept apologies moved Clr. Richard Doyle , seconded Clr. Stuart Dossetor – carried.

Obituaries; A.W (Bill) Poole, past Vice President 1998-2012. Klaus Fox (Dubbo).

A minutes silence was observed in tribute to deceased Members.

Minutes of previous Executive Meeting held Bankstown G.C. Thursday 8th June, 2017 as previously circulated ,were confirmed as accurate & accepted on motion of Clr.Garry Mason seconded Clr. Les Knox - carried

Business Arising:

- 1.. Awarding of Meritorious Service Awards: Clr. Stuart Dossetor offered to present these at the next meeting of Group 2.
- 2..Clr. Les Knox advised of contact with Ian Robb, Golf NSW re over 55s golf tuition courses & our offer to be involved.
- 3.. Councillor shirts: As President was unsuccessful with Maclean supplier, Clr's Stuart Dossetor & Les Knox offered to contact their local suppliers.

Reports:

President's & Sponsorship Report, with **Special Report** on outcome of Forums:

President's report on NSWVGA Seminars. June 2017

Venues & Attendance:

Orange. (Wentworth Golf Club): 9 June. 16 attendees including VP Richard Doyle, Councillors John Dixon & John Daley. Chaired by Ian Vidler NSWVGA President.

Cootamundra: Cootamundra Country Club. 13 June. 12 attendees including President Ian Vidler and Councillor Garry Mason

Catalina Country Club: 15 June. 20 attendees including President Ian Vidler, Secretary Len Payne and Councillor Stu Dossetor.

Coffs Harbour Golf Club: 21 June. 24 attendees including President Ian Vidler, VP. Kel Pearce, Secretary Len Payne and Councillor John Daley.

The seminars were conducted in an informal manner concentrating primarily on the exchange of ideas on all the issues represented on the Agenda.

Executive Council members at each venue were given the opportunity to outline their experience in Golf/Sport/Business administration giving those present an idea of the quality of those representing them and responsible for the administration of Veterans golf in NSW. President Ian then gave a brief history of the veterans' organisation in NSW illustrating the growth in member numbers and activities since inception in 1985.

Communication within NSWVGA and the vital role of those within the communication chain was discussed at length, with emphasis on Group/Club Secretaries. NSWVGA Guideline 1 was used as a reference for those unaware of this document. The importance of those accepting positions of Group/Club Secretaries to the running of NSWVGA was stressed on many occasions. Attendees expressed their reliance on Secretaries to "spread the word throughout the group."

The NSWVGA Website was presented in its new form and the feedback was very positive. Most understood the issues involved and the problem of membership numbers. Once again the important role of Group Secretaries became evident and their role in record keeping of membership was even more critical. It was suggested that Secretaries should look for new ways, more suitable to their skills, support and knowledge of the group, to collect the data required by NSWVGA. Garry Mason, at Cootamundra, demonstrated by Power point, how to access and use the website. At other venues hard copies of that presentation were distributed. It was made known at each meeting that Group Secretaries and Tournament Directors would have direct access to the website to carry out their relevant tasks without assistance from the website manager.

The issues of Finance and Proposed Initiatives were linked at each meeting as the future of one is dependent on the other. At Orange it was agreed **unanimously** that the fee to NSWVGA be increased from \$3 to \$5. It was further moved by Barry Harvey, Dubbo and seconded by Jeff Williams that the Constitution be amended to reflect that fees be increased annually at the same rate as NSW CPI.

The idea of the increase in fees was supported **unanimously** at each venue. At the same time the Executive Councillors gave a guarantee that should this fee increase be passed at NSWVGA level, the increase would not take effect until October 2018. The additional funds raised would be directed to the proposed Initiatives being:

- Relief fund for Veterans clubs suffering the results of natural disaster or similar, affecting the club.
- Updated NSWVGA Medal to include 2nd and 3rd vouchers/medals.
- NSWVGA 2BBB Statewide competition.
- Mixed NSWVGA 2BBB Statewide competition.
- Finals of the above competitions to be held at a central venue but moved around the state.
- Vouchers for women at Week of Golf events to be of the same value as men's vouchers.

NSWVGA Guidelines were discussed. The main point of discussion was handicapping and it was agreed that handicaps should be adjusted on a daily basis and the practice of "freezing" handicaps be discontinued.

Additionally, the factors affecting future Week of Golf programming, were presented, giving attendees an insight into the complications of this task and the difficulties faced by the Programme Co Ordinator.

There was a healthy exchange of ideas between Tournament Directors at Coffs Harbour. This discussion was based on questions from Tournament Directors and/or committee members and received positive responses from all present. It was obvious that everyone was willing to contribute to a healthy Week of Golf programme for the benefit of the golfers of NSW.

Catalina indicated a positive view to re-starting their Lower South Coast Week of Golf Tournament.

The issue of boundary changes & re-grouping was discussed at Orange & Clr. John Dixon is working with those groups affected to achieve a solution.

Agenda items such as Future Planning, Eligibility to nominate for local committees and NSWVGA Council and Expectations of NSWVGA Executive Council were discussed in brief. It can be safely said that, **"without exception, attendees at each forum were satisfied with the direction in which the NSWVGA is heading and the role it plays in the organisation of golf activities for its members."**

Summary: This exercise, the first of its kind, was an outstanding success in terms of Councillors meeting members involved in the management of Veterans golf throughout NSW and those members getting to better know Councillors. Each session gave those present the opportunity to share ideas, discuss problems and resolve issues with the support of colleagues and everyone benefitted from the exercise. While the numbers indicated positive interest it was rather disappointing to note that Group Secretaries, the very people the meetings were aimed at, were represented in small numbers. Hopefully those present will pass on to the Secretaries the vital role they must play in communication with NSWVGA.

To all those who attended and supported this initiative I offer my thanks for your involvement and contribution to the success of this venture. Special thanks go to David Gunner, Garry Mason, John Plummer and Ron Carney, who organised the venues and catering at each. Some Councillors travelled many kilometres to attend these meetings and I thank them for their contribution and support.

We at NSWVGA look forward to conducting more of these seminars throughout the state in the future, should the need arise. In the meantime we thank all those volunteers who accept management positions & responsibilities to ensure that Veterans golf in NSW continues to succeed & grow. I am sure that the over 15,000 veteran members in NSW appreciate your efforts.

Motion to accept President's report moved Clr. Ian Vidler seconded Clr. Richard Doyle – carried.

Business arising from President's & Sponsorship report:

*****Motion ;" That NSWVGA raise the affiliation levy from \$3 annually to \$5 annually effective from 1st. October, 2018 with periodic review thereafter"**, motion moved President Clr. Ian Vidler seconded Clr. Richard Doyle – declared carried unanimously.

Correspondence: In –

1. 12.6.2017 – E-mail from Clr. John Dixon (zone 6 Co-ordinator) re issue of regrouping of clubs / Groups.
- 2.. 13.6.2017 _ E-mail from Clr. Les Knox re Golf NSW golf promotion to seniors & positive response from Andrew Robb.
3. 17.7.2017 – E-mails from Chris Goodwin , T/Dir. Illawarra re NSWVGA Trophy awarding.
4. 23.7.2017 – E-mail from Treasurer , David Gunner, advising of recuperation setback , inability to attend next meeting & enclosing NSWVGA Voucher details.

Out –

1. 16.7.2017 – E-mail to T/Dir. Illawarra with suggestions from Pres. & Sec. NSWVGA on conduct of NSWVGA Trophy.

Business arising from Correspondence:

Re item 1 boundary adjustment – it was agreed to await results of further discussions between clubs/groups & bring back to a future meeting.

Secretary advised that both he & the President had contacted the Illawarra T/Dir.& suggested solution which the T/Dir. Has agreed & will implement.

In respect of major sponsor advertising being placed on website , the Website Co-ordinator agreed to contact T/Dirs. to obtain details of sponsors over \$500.

Motion to adopt Correspondence moved Clr. John Daley seconded Clr Les Knox – carried.

Treasurer's Report:

BALANCE SHEET for NSWVGA from 29 31.5.17 to 26.7.17

Opening Balance as at the 31.5.17 \$30,112.01

<u>Income</u>	
Affiliation Fees	\$291.00
Registration fees W.O.G.	\$244.00
Interest	\$21.08
Group 5	\$424.86
Donation	\$100.00

Total income \$1,080.94

<u>Expenses</u>	
Councillors to meetings	\$2,571.54
Vouchers	\$4,200.00
Web Maintence	\$3,105.00
Meeting Exp	\$123.50
Postage	\$128.40
Forum	\$3,512.80
Printing/Stationary	\$32.00
Councillors to Tournaments	\$443.50
N.S.W.VGA Medals	\$660.00
Computer	\$657.00

Total Expenses \$15,433.24

Closing Bank Balance as at 26.7.17 \$15,759.91

Cash Assests as at 26.7.17

Greater Building Society \$38,000.00
ma tures on 6.10.17 at 2.55%

Vouchers for W.O.G events \$4,000.00

Total Assets \$42,000.00

Closing Book Balance as at 26.7.17 \$14,335.91

Consider reducing IBD by \$8,000 as recommended by Treasurer & approve re-investment with Greater Building Society when due. Treasurer also advised that he has un-presented cheques from Orange & Coffs. Harbour forums.

Motion to accept Treasurer's Report moved Clr. Stuart Dossetor seconded Clr. Richard Doyle – carried.

Business arising:

Motion : "That the Treasurer be authorized to re-invest the IBD when due (6/10/2017), with a reduction of \$8,000 in amount re-invested, this amount to be placed in the working account" , moved Clr. Les Knox seconded Clr. Richard Doyle – carried.

In respect of utilizing the Economic Hardship Fund, Councillors were asked to acquaint potential qualifying Clubs & advise them of this availability & criteria.

Tournament Co-Ordinators & Match Committee's Reports:

Week of Golf Co ordinator and Match Committee Report – AUGUST 2017

Week of Golf Report

Next year's program is on the website.

It is located on the back of this years program and as the weeks conclude this year the 2018 program moves towards the front of the file.

Week of Golf Access

How tournament directors are coping with checking the validity of players is beyond me. As a tournament director I cannot access certain groups such as Brisbane Waters, Lower North Coast Illawarra.

The information or lack of information makes it impossible to carry out this check and you have to revert to emails to group secretaries to obtain this information.

This indicates that either the information being in putted isn't correct or it is not being in putted at all.

I thought that we had an understanding from the forums with this , obviously it needs to be revisited.

Non Financial Veteran Members.

There are unfinancial players taking part in Vets Week's of Golf.

What is more concerning , they are winning daily and 36 hole events.

Tournament Director's must check the validity of all players prior to the commencement of their weeks.

There are contacts both intrastate and interstate to carry out these checks.

Veterans Club Affiliation

There is a growing concern that players fronting up each week do not belong to a local club but rather to a Howlong or Esk or Lightning Ridge.

I have fielded several calls in the last weeks as to what should these players be charged for a game of golf. While I am not in a position to speak on behalf of NSWVGA I did indicate that I would bring this up at the next meeting as a discussion point.

MATCH COMMITTEE

The sand green singles championship in October at Holbrook needs some fine tuning . There are some suggestions as to the trophies to be given and their dollar value .(see attachment)

NSWVGA also needs to be represented on this weekend.

I have been in contact with the President of Holbrook Golf Club and the President of Holbrook Veterans , the latter not being interested in any association with the event other than the preparation of the course.

If this is the direction the vets are taking you have to ask yourselves if it is worth while continuing to support this event or do we insist that part of the acceptance to hold this event must include a veterans section for the week end events.

NSWVGA MATCHPLAY NEWCASTLE.

I have spoken to John Mason re the format and trophy allocation for this event.

John would like to see it continue under the present format for next year to enable the new people running the event to get a feel for it.

There are rumblings that not every one can contest the Coulson Shield as it is only for the top 16 qualifiers by handicap.

John A. Daley,

Tournament Co-ordinator.

A further report was presented by Clr. Daley in respect of an issue with prize money spread for NSWVGA Matchplay Championships at Newcastle. Following discussion Motion was moved Clr. John Daley seconded Clr. Garry Mason "that we leave the format as it is for this year & review it for next year", motion carried.

A further issue was raised re the conduct of the Sandgreen Strokeplay championships at Holbrook in conjunction with Golf NSW. Disappointment was expressed that the local Veterans' golf club apparently is not supporting it wholeheartedly. The allocated prizemoney was confirmed as a total of \$650, including Nett winners & net runner-up prizes daily. Kevin Jacobson (Junee) has volunteered to represent NSWVGA as no Councillor is available to attend.

After further debate, the following motion was moved Clr. Les Knox, seconded Clr. Stuart Dossetor "that we adopt the proposal for Trophies to the value of \$650 for the NSWVGA Sandgreen Strokeplay championships at Holbrook" – motion carried. A further motion was then proposed by Clr. John Dixon, seconded Clr. Les Knox "That trophies for all Sandgreen Championships be in line with the above motion", - this motion was also carried.

A further report was received that Casino Vets. Club are interested in conducting a week of Golf. Further discussions are to be held & a report then submitted.

Week of Golf Reports (as provided): Blue Mountains, Macquarie Challenge, Sawtell (Inaugural) & Maclean.

Website Committee report:

Clr. Stuart Dossetor provided a verbal report, stating that in general it is going well, people are starting to use it, the access issues with Group Secretaries may need some fine tuning. One issue is that with some clubs/Groups having their own website there may need to be worked out a link between these & the NSWVGA Website later. Week of Golf daily draws should be on the club website with perhaps a "drop-down" box on the NSWVGA site may assist.

President Ian commented that the feedback he is getting is all positive & they say that we now "own" it.

Matters on Notice:

(A) Consideration of items to be presented by President to AGM of AVGU.

Following debate President Ian advised that he will again raise the issue of equality of status for women in the AVGU Annual National Championships.

(B) Determine method of equalizing NSWVGA Vouchers.

Following debate, President Ian moved the following motion "That, as the intent of the original motion was to raise the value of women's prizes to the same value as the men's were at the time of the motion, that this be restored, effective immediately", Motion seconded Clr. Richard Doyle – carried.

Matters without Notice:

Clr. Richard Doyle circulated a discussion paper on a proposed draft wording of item 1.8 of the constitution. This matter was deferred for further consideration.

General Business:

President Ian raised the issue of members nominating for positions on the NSWVGA Executive Council should have their nomination endorsed by their Group. Secretary was asked to include Mrs/Ms on the nomination form & to ensure that the form is sent to Group Secretaries in a timely manner. It was further confirmed that the AGM will be held on Wednesday 1st. November, 2017.

A further motion was moved that future meetings would be held on Wednesdays to enable Councillors who are attending Weeks of Golf to attend, exempt the next meeting, set for Thursday 5th October, 2017. Motion moved President Ian Vidler seconded Clr. Les Knox – carried.

As a result of this motion, the ordinary meeting in December 2017 will be held on Wednesday 6th December, 2017 with meetings thereafter being held on the respective first Wednesday of the month set down.

President Ian reported on the pleasure of presenting an Appreciation Certificate to Mr. Jim Bartlett a 100 year old NSWVGA Veteran Golfer of Urunga G.C.

Clr. John Dixon reported that at present his numbers for Dubbo W.O.G were down & that Parkes had reported a similar situation.

Brian Graham reported that Southern Highlands numbers were looking good.

Clr. Richard Doyle advised that Blue Mountains suffered from lack of numbers due to adverse weather at that time of the year; also that whilst Oberon was going well that Bathurst also suffered from a lack of welcome. He suggested that we review their play dates to seek to improve numbers attending W.OG's there.

It was emphasized that the tournaments that are successful are those where local members work hard to ensure that visitors are made welcome & that the tournaments are properly conducted.

Meeting closure:With no further business, President Ian Vidler declared meeting closed at 12.30p.m.

Next Meeting Date/time: Thursday 5th October, 2017.