

Minutes of Special General Meeting of NSWVGA held Bankstown Thur. 28th Jan 2016

Chair: Meeting opened by President Dick Farrant at 9.30 a.m.

Attendees: Ian Vidler(V/Pres),John Dixon(V/Pres),David Gunner(Treasurer),Kel Pearce(Clr),Stuart Dossetor(Clr),Chris Evans(CI),Richard Doyle(Clr),Ron Simmons(Clr),Col Darley(Clr),Bob Coulson(Life Member & Gp5 Rep),Bob Koppman(Gp7 Delegate),Les Knox(Gp20 delegate),Brian Graham(Gp21 Delegate),Les Mann(Life member),Len Payne(Secretary).

Apologies: John Fogarty (Gp31 Delegate), John Buttle (Gp 2 delegate).Motion to accept Apologies moved Kel Pearce seconded John Dixon – carried.

Minutes of Special General Meeting of Thursday 3rd December 2015 held at Bankstown, as circulated , were confirmed on Motion of David Gunner seconded Col Darley –carried.

Business arising:

Attendance roster for Weeks of Golf – Due to medical reasons, Len Payne to attend & play in Illawarra Week of golf in place of Dick Farrant, all other attendees listed were confirmed. President will e-mail all relevant Tournament Directors with names.

The issue of “The Ridge” vets.golf club formation, no further information received as yet.

Communications & Sponsorship Committee Reports:

Correspondence in:

- 1. 8.01.2016 – e-mail from President to Councillors re various items for consideration at this meeting.**
- 2. 12.01.2016 – E-mail from Eric Cooper, Gp 26 (Southern Riverina VGA) advising of the death of Doug Wastle on 11/1/2016, long-time Group Secretary.**
- 3. 19.01.2016 – E-mail from Mike Jury, Tasmanian delegate to AVGU, to President, response to request for access to membership data base.**
- 4. 28.01.2016 – Late letter received from Leo Mackinlay G 24 re listing in 2017 handbook.**

Motion: “That secretary write & inform Leo of outcome of discussion Moved Col Darley seconded Kel Pearce – carried.

Re item 2 – Secretary informed meeting that Rand Wilson, Finley, would replace the late Doug Wastle as secretary of Gp26; also that Dick Van Buuren ,Hay, had agreed to succeed Denis Moran as Group Secretary of Gp 27.

Out:

- 1. 15.12.2015 – E-mail from President to AVGU detailing our response to request by T/D for 2017 AVGU C/ships Gold Coast for access to state data base & sponsorship issues.**
- 2. 12.01.2016 – E-mail from President to convenor of OBE golf event at Harrington Waters in 2016 & offering support.**
- 3. 21.01.2016 - E-mail from President to NSW Dept. Fair Trading seeking advice to resolve issue of Tied Voting & casting vote.**

Motion to accept all Correspondence moved Ron Simmons seconded Stuart Dossetor – carried.

Sponsorship Committee Report:

President's Report:

President's Report to the NSWVGA Special General Meeting Thursday January 28th 2016 at Bankstown Golf Club

Dept of Fair Trading

As a result of the voting at the 2015 AGM the following email was forwarded to NSW Fair Trading: "Details of Enquiry: I am the President of the New South Wales Veteran Golfers Association Inc. whose constitution is modelled on the Model Constitution as listed by the Dept of Fair Trading. My query relates to the annual election of officers at the AGM of the Association. The constitution states that a President, two Vice Presidents, Secretary, Treasurer, Webmaster and six Councillors must be elected at the AGM. At our most recent AGM the vote for the two Vice Presidents resulted in one nominator clearly elected, but a tie was recorded for the second position between the only other two nominations. As I understand it the Chairman does not have a casting vote in this instance, our constitution referring to the Chairman only having a casting vote in the event of a tie in voting on a motion which is part of the normal business at the meeting. What do you recommend to overcome the "tie" situation for the second Vice President?"

Firstly in reply I received a phone call from Fair Trading in Sydney. The person said "I was dead right in the Chairman not having a casting vote in the election".

He then referred me to Registry Services at Bathurst whose number is 1800 502 042. After explaining the situation again I was informed that the solving of the deadlock is a matter for the committee. Methods suggested were draw out of hat, toss of a coin, referral back to the two nominators to decide between themselves etc. But the emphasis was on "it is up to the committee".

As a result of this the decision of Paul Horton to withdraw his nomination in order to address the tied situation certainly falls within the context of the answer received by Fair Trading.

Travel Groups

As members around the state receive their 2016 membership books it will be noticed that there are references to three golfing travel groups viz. AVGA, Teed Up tours and Go Golfing. Full contact details are provided in their ads and if any member decides to apply for one of these tours please mention NSWVGA to gain personal benefit and reward for the Association.

Frequent reference is also made on the website to Teed Up and Go Golfing. Just click on their logos to get full information about their tours.

2016 Meeting Dates

The following meeting dates have been circulated to all Councillors and no major objections have been received. The dates are Thursday January 28, Thursday March 31, Thursday May 19, Wednesday July 27, Thursday October 6 and the AGM on Wednesday November 2. These dates will be ratified at the January meeting.

OBE Tournament

Peter Budden, the President of Harrington Waters Golf Club on the lower north coast of NSW, has been responsible with the setting up of the inaugural Australian OBE (Over Bloody Eighty) golf championship. He first mooted this idea in June last year contact Golf NSW and the NSWVGA. The event will be 27 holes stroke over 3 days, from March 15 to 17, with 9 holes played each day at Harrington Waters. There will be scratch and net events for both men and women. Paul Horton has agreed to place information on our website when it becomes available. While not being a Veterans event conducted under the auspices of NSWVGA it certainly attracts a special demographic group from around the nation. It is not thought to interfere greatly with the Veterans week of golf at Muswellbrook which shares these dates.

Financial Considerations

It will be necessary at this coming meeting to consider the following matters relating to finances:

Decision on nominated charity for \$500 donation for 2016

Decision on donation to Bankstown Golf Club for 2016

Decision on financial support of each of the three 2016 Sandgreen championships

It is to be noted that the Sandgreen Strokeplay championships at Walcha will be a joint venture with Golf NSW.

Dick Farrant

January 22nd 2016

Business Arising:

1. Issue of "tied voting resolvment ". After debate following motion was put, "In the event of tied voting, candidates converse & if then no result achieved, that a draw from a hat type method would be utilised to secure a result", Moved Richard Doyle seconded Col Darley – carried.
2. Travel Groups advertising: President that it was important that attendees at Weeks of Golf mention that benefits from this would apply both to users & the Association.
3. Meeting dates as listed were confirmed, with exception of December 2016 meeting date yet to be confirmed.
4. The issue of Annual Donations was then considered .At the suggestion of John Dixon the following was moved in respect of our Annual Donation " That \$500 be donated to provide hay bales to needy drought – affected western farmers , in consultation with NSW Farmer's Federation " moved Ian Vidler seconded Stuart Dossetor – carried. It was also moved "that our annual donation to Bankstown Golf club be increased to \$300, with suggestion that it be utilised to sponsor club events of behalf of NSWVGA "moved Chris Evans seconded Ian Vidler – carried.
Motion to accept President's report moved John Dixon seconded Richard Doyle – carried.

Webmaster's report:

Webmaster's Report January 2016

Weeks of Golf & 2016 Program PDF

In 2015 fifteen (15) Tournament Directors failed to supply any program or entry form data for their WOG event and I proposed a **review** of the existing situation as there is a lot of maintenance involved! Regardless, since December I have had to *email Tournament Directors* and request information for the website. Some whom I got to eventually supplied barely enough data to create any interest; no program information but plenty of ink consuming hi-res *colour* images, with no thought toward the end user.

On the positive side some major clubs utilise their own website and published their program and entry forms there so I can *point to those files* directly.

Of course there is the other issue of TD's not being conversant with the NSWVGA website, along with a few members of the *state executive*. When I advise TD's their information has been published and request them to check it out and advise ASAP, many don't do that and it is only when someone else identifies a problem many weeks later, that they take action. They contact the secretary, president or tournament coordinator who in turn passes the information on to me, immediately, and three-four times out of ten *there will be no problem* at all. Only the users **check the content** of the WOG webpage and all they want to do is line up a game of golf! Usually there are observers checking the WOG Information page regularly, but not in recent memory!

In view of the above and the effort involved in maintaining both versions, one has to go, so again I ask the question – *feedback required!*

NSWVGA Medal

Congratulations to Ian for his initiative, the success of this event continues to grow and create *lots of interest* across the board. For those groups involved so far I do need the results from each group who participated and as yet *do not* have their winner(s) on the honour board.

Sand Green Events

The frustration of the organisers is generally caused by the organisers themselves by not being available for enquiries either via email or telephone. Some use golf club emails and phones which limit's access, in particular to those places like Walcha where the club is open only on a limited basis. The tournament director was away leading up to their event in 2015 and contact with anybody took an inordinate amount of time. We need to know *for sure* who is running the event and reliable contact details, let me tell you having the Golf Club *email & phone number* is extremely unreliable!

Ron Simmons and I will be travelling to Grenfell next week to offer our support to Peter Mawhinney in an effort to increase attendance. We would appreciate *feedback* from any sand green golfers that might assist us get this event on the road for 2016!

Update on Membership List Management

Despite policy on Membership updating and the fact that annual fees are due from October 2015 we are still short 5,000 names and payment, fees for 2016 are **now overdue** and those members will not be eligible to participate in WOG or any other veteran golf events until that is rectified. Our biggest groups Northern Rivers, Mid North Coast & Illawarra may have paid the Treasurer but not one word of explanation regarding *who has paid!*

Our policy guidelines mean absolutely nothing, especially if we have our larger groups refusing to toe-the-line and what this means is; despite having paid their fees they will not be eligible to participate in the early 2016 weeks of golf.

This is a terrible position to be in and the webmaster has to cover every year for those *slack group secretaries* who treat the parent body with disdain, they have plenty of warning and now *they* have let their local members down. The question now is *what will the NSWVGA executive* do about it?

Probably nothing as usual and despite all the policy guidelines *that are clearly demonstrated as meaningless* at this time each year – *the deadline of 31 December is past!* As no group has made written explanation it is presumed they are aware of the position, so they must face the consequences.

Finally

The next *new member* will be **number 44,570** – that is a lot of extra duplicate names that have had to be entered because of mismanagement by some group secretaries *who insist in doing it their way*.

With the Xmas break over the website continues on its successful rise in the ratings and exposure on the internet. The webmaster continues to be bombarded with material from on-line developers and that means we are really out there in the marketplace. This is not because of our intrinsic value but because of positioning in the overall scheme of things. Another very pleasing result and our very first successful Xmas break!

At this point I have checked and updated the 2016 WOG pages up to and including Grafton Winterfest - May 9th –***all have program & entry forms available.***

Paul R Horton ADipJA

Webmaster – January 2016

Due to absence of Webmaster, issues raised were held over, noting the need “for a review of the existing situation with some Tournament Directors.” Report received on motion of John Dixon seconded Kel Pearce – carried.

FINANCE:

Treasurer’s Report

BALANCE SHEET for NSWVGA from 27.11.15 to 22.1.16

Opening Balance as at 27.11.15 \$37,627.65

<u>Income</u>	
Affiliation Fees	\$24,774.00
Registration fees W.O.G.	\$1,122.00
Interest	\$28.13
Sponsorship	\$600.00
Adm Income	\$121.00

Total income \$26,645.13

<u>Expenses</u>	
Councillors to meetings	\$2,901.01
Councillors to Tournaments	\$412.00
Vouchers	\$250.00
Web Site	\$219.73
Meeting Exp	\$126.00
Shields	\$40.00
Postage	\$72.75
Printing of Handbooks	\$6,622.00

Total Expenses \$10,643.49

Closing Balance as at 22.1.16 \$53,629.29

Cash Assests as at 22.1.16

Greater Building Society \$38,000.00
matures on 6.5.16 at 2.80%

Vouchers for Weeks of Golf \$3,300.00

Total Assets \$41,300.00

Treasurer advised that about 3 advertisers have yet to pay for advertising in the 2016 handbook, President & Richard Doyle to follow-up. Secretary advised that handbooks had all been distributed with the exception of Group 32 & most clubs in group 27. Cost of postage to date is \$1093 which is comparable to last year, thanks to Councillors.

Motion to accept Treasurer's Report moved Col Darley seconded Ian Vidler – carried.

Match Committee Reports:

Tournament Co-ordinator's Report:

NSWVGA Match Report. January 2016

1. Chris Evans reported early in January that entries were rolling in for the NSWVGA Stroke Play Championships and he is anticipating a field of 144 players, the quality of which should be boosted by the fact that the event holds Senior Order of Merit status. Congratulations to Les Knox and Chris who have worked tirelessly over the last couple of years to build this event to Championship status.
2. The NSWVGA Medal in 2015 exceeded my expectations in the manner in which it was received throughout the state. I know we are committed to retaining the same format in 2016 but I think we should look to expanding the scope of the event in 2017 and beyond. To do so we will require the input of those groups who showed their interest by their participation in 2015 and I recommend that a survey be sent to Group Secretaries seeking ideas/recommendations. Perhaps as a finale we could organise a State Final towards the end of the year for all winners, and place getters.
3. The 2017 Programme is still in its draft form. Of the 52 Tournament Directors issued with Draft No 1 only 7 responded, so I think I can safely assume that all the others have no issues with the allocated dates. This, however, may not be the case so I will be sending out a slightly revised Draft in the near future and requesting feedback from all involved.
4. Sand Green Championships have suffered from a shortage of players over the years hence our initiative to combine with Golf NSW for the Stroke Play Championship for 2016. Joint ventures for the remaining championships have not been discussed as yet but I look forward to your submissions on how to improve these important events.
5. Lower South Coast informed me by email late last year that they had decided to cancel their event for 2016. That information was passed on to Paul and the website was amended at the time. Thank you to those who contacted me recently on this issue.
6. Addendum: Have just 2.00pm taken a phone call from David York from Barraba Vets expressing interest in conducting the Sand green Championships (Stroke) in 2017

depending on what decisions are taken after Walcha this year. In the past they have successfully held the event prior to Fossickers Way W.O.G and are keen on doing so again.

Good Golfing and safe travels to all Veteran golfers in 2016.

Ian Vidler, Chairman Match Committee.

NSWVGA Medal winners for 2015, names to be ascertained & listed on a table on the website.

Tournament Co-Ordinator advised of a late item , that Tumut/Gundagai Week of golf wish to be advanced into April 2017, further consultations with parties to take place. Assuming continuing sponsorship from Golf NSW Of \$1,000, Narromine are seeking an increase in current sponsorship of their Sandgreen Championships. The following motion was moved "That \$500 be allocated each to the Mixed 4ball Sandgreen & the Men's Sandgreen 4ball championships with a re-evaluation after the next events this year". Moved Ian Vidler seconded Chris Evans – carried.

Advice received that Narrandera Vet. Golfers club now disbanded.

Continuing support of the 3 Sandgreen Championships was expressed; due to a clash with a local show, Grenfell asked that the Mixed 4 ball championship dates be changed to 14/15 May, as no conflict with any other tournament this was agreed.

Acceptance of Tournament & Match Committee reports moved Ian Vidler seconded David Gunner – carried.

Matters on Notice:

- 1. Determination of role descriptions of Vice-Presidents. At the previous Special General Meeting of NSWVGA Inc. of 3/12/2015 the following notice of Motion was moved by Kel Pearce seconded Chris Evans that" Clause 14 of Constitution covering the duties of Secretary & Treasurer be amended to include duties of Vice-Presidents', Secretary & Treasurer. That, if carried at this further Special General Meeting, the guidelines for the roles of Vice-Presidents' then be determined". This notice of motion which had already been duly been moved & seconded was then put to the meeting & carried.**
In respect of the "guidelines issue" it was clearly understood that the President retain ability to delegate tasks as necessary. It was then further moved that "It is anticipated that Vice-Presidents' will take on additional responsibilities in areas such as sponsorship/marketing, administration, programming, membership & insurance but not be limited to these only " moved Richard Doyle, seconded John Dixon – carried.

2. **Matter on Notice no.2 in respect to resolution of matter when tied voting occurs. Motion accepted to defer this till President is present to report on this. On this matter, as the President has reported about this in his report & a motion was subsequently adopted, then no further action was required.**

The meeting then adjourned at 12.30 for lunch, resuming at 1 p.m.

3. **Matter on Notice no.3. How to cater for eligible players wishing to join NSWVGA but who cannot under the present structure. Also, do Constitutions of Groups allow for “non-active memberships” so as to allow participation in Weeks of Golf? This motion was moved Richard Doyle seconded Col Darley “that due to the complexity of this matter & the need to establish if Group Associations are separately incorporated, that it be referred to a committee for consideration & report back” This motion was carried.**

President firstly detailed the current structures & advised that Group 6 (Brisbane Waters), indicated that they would accept membership from eligible golfers in the Newcastle Region, & that they could play in GP6 local games also; this was seen as a short-term solution.

Secretary then advised that in respect of “non-active memberships in their constitution that Group 7 Secretary had stated “no” when asked.

The Group 7 (Newcastle) delegate, Bob Koppman, then advised of the constraints that they faced & their wish to ensure that current members were not disadvantaged, he also spoke of efforts to encourage Waratah golf club Veterans to form a Vet. Golfers club, but they are reluctant. He also felt that a division of Newcastle into two groups was a future possibility.

The difficult position of Group 7 was acknowledged. It was also suggested that clubs such as Waratah be encouraged to form a vet. golfers club & play on a different day to Gp 7 , as Charlestown do now.

Stuart Dossetor then advised that issues at Catalina club were being resolved & they were confident that the Vet. Golfers club there would resume competition & hopefully be a part of the Lower South Coast W.O.G in 2017.

Richard Doyle then spoke of the problems within the Metropolitan Sydney area & that it may be necessary to split Gp5 into two areas i.e. north & south. He also spoke of seeking formation of a vets. club at Rosnay (Auburn).To assist Richard in his efforts it was agreed to form a sub-committee comprising Richard, Bob Coulson & Len Payne to seek further contact with Metropolitan to facilitate opportunities for Vet players within these clubs. This was moved by Richard Doyle seconded Stuart Dossetor –carried.

4. **NSWVGA Public Liability Insurance Policy renewal due 14/2/2016, & issuance of Certificate of Currency.**

Motion “To effect renewal & increase coverage to 15,500” Moved John Dixon seconded Kel Pearce – carried.

Matters without Notice:

1. **Certificate of Appreciation – President had one for John Ebrill (Len Payne to give); one for Denis Moran (Gp27) – Secretary to contact & advise President.**

General Business:

Zone Representatives changeover – Stuart Dossetor to be Rep. for zone 1 & Col Darley to be rep. for zone 7.

With no further business President closed meeting at 1.51 p.m.

Next Meeting date: Thursday Mar 31st Bankstown.