

Minutes of the NSWVGA Special General Meeting & Executive Meeting held at Bankstown Golf Club commencing at 9.25 a.m. Wednesday 31/01/2018

Meeting opened by President with a warm welcome to our invited guests.

Attendees: Clr Les Knox (V/Pres), Brian Graham (Delegate Gp21), Stuart Dossetor (Clr), Garry Mason (Clr), Les Mann (delegate Gp31), Lance Fredericks (Clr), Clr Richard Doyle (V/Pres), Clr David Gunner (Treasurer), Clr Ian Vidler (President), Clr John Daley (Tournament Co-Ordinator), Peter Taylor (Clr), Clr Len Payne (Secretary).

Invited Guests: Lyn Walker (President NSWVGA), Nancy Cullen (Treasurer NSWVGA), Jacky Parsons (Program Co-Ordinator NSWVGA), Andrew Robb (Golf NSW Manager, Game Development & Rules Co-Ordinator).

Apologies: John Dixon (Clr), Col Darley (delegate Gp2) Norm McInnes (delegate Gp31). Motion to accept apologies moved Les Knox seconded Garry Mason – carried.

Motion to suspend Standing Orders to convene a Special General Meeting of which due notice has been given moved John Daley seconded Stu Dossetor – carried.

Business to be determined by Special General Meeting:

Consideration & determination of any change(s) to our current Constitution to deal with the issues of “remote & Social golf club memberships”.

Following input from Andrew Robb (Golf NSW) & debate, V/Pres Les Knox then moved the following motions: 1. “That Paragraph 1.17 of our Constitution be deleted & replaced with the insertion of new paragraph at 1.6 to read: A Golf Club, for the purpose of this Constitution, is a club which is recognised by Golf NSW, including Affiliated and Associated Golf Clubs, but does NOT include a Social Golf Club”. Motion moved by Clr. Les Knox seconded Clr. Garry Mason – carried.

Current Paragraph 1.6 becomes 1.7, 1.7 becomes 1.8. The issue of including “ungrouped clubs “within our definition of a playing Member was then dealt with by a motion to further amend the Constitution with a new Paragraph 1.9.

V/Pres. Les Knox then moved that Paragraph read “A Playing Member “ is a financial member of a Golf Club but not a Social Golf Club,& is recognized by Golf NSW , who has attained the age of fifty five years, and has a Golf Australia handicap, and is a financial member of a Veteran Golfers Association or an Ungrouped Club affiliated with the New South Wales Veteran Golfers Association. “, Motion seconded By Clr. Garry Mason – carried.

The following paragraphs in section 1 then require re-numbering except Para 1.17 which has been deleted.

Motion to revert to Standing Orders moved Lance Fredericks seconded Peter Taylor - carried

Minutes of previous NSWVGA Executive Meeting of Wednesday 6th December 2017, as previously circulated were then confirmed on motion of Clr. John Daley seconded Clr. Stuart Dossetor – carried.

Business Arising: Treasurer David Gunner reported that donation made to Bankstown G.C. for premises use but the one for “carry on” he was awaiting further advice.

Correspondence:

In: 1. 6.12.2017 E-mail from V/Pres. Les Knox detailing proposed Constitutional Changes to be dealt with at next Special General meeting.

2. 11.12.2017 E-mail from Gp. Sec Group1 (Max Gee) to NSWVGA Treasurer regarding affiliation fees payable. Treasurer David Gunner advised that he had separately received affiliation fees from Moruya club.

At this time, President Ian Vidler again suspended Standing Orders to officially welcome our guests noting the linking of the three Associations at this meeting.

Lyn Walker President (WVGA) then introduced her team & spoke of seeking to work closer together for our members. One issue was \$3 fee for insurance cover; Clr. Lance Fredericks then responded & it was felt this was not widespread, if at all. Lance agreed to liaise with their Treasurer & our Insurance Brokers to confirm coverage, & to consider a possible joint coverage & also coverage for volunteers.

Their next issue was that some women who wished to play in the normal veteran's club events were asked to join the NSWVGA. NSWVGA policy does not enforce this. Further, that some veteran's clubs won't allow women to play in their regular veteran club events. This latter one is considered a "local domestic issue" for determination by individual clubs, although our policy is that of non-discrimination we cannot force local clubs to comply.

Whilst the NSWVGA feel that any amalgamation will not occur, it is felt that some affiliation may be considered at a later date. Golf NSW feels that any action in this could benefit the chances of receiving Government Funding in future. Andrew also suggested that possible co-sanctioning of events may overcome any insurance cover problems, subject to Broker acceptance.

Clr. John Daley then raised the issue of checking the validity of women's membership of NSWVGA when registering for W.O.G events. The response was that their members have a card which is updated each year with a year sticker, but they don't have an available database for online checking; however, any issues should be referred to Jacky Parsons or Nancy Cullen for confirmation.

The issue of proposed Rule Changes was raised & referred to Andrew Robb, a training session will be held for Rules officials in each state. Golf NSW have ordered adequate new rules handbooks which are due out towards the end of 2018; two versions one is for players & one for officials. A communication process will be undertaken by Golf NSW from end of April to inform of what the new rules will be. It is hoped this will be supplemented by on-line information.

The issue of handicapping with reference to course ratings (slope system) was also raised, if some clubs are re-rated why not all. Andrew advised that they don't have the facility to do it for all, but State bodies will soon have the facility to do so. The issue of "world handicapping" was next & Andrew advised it could not occur in conjunction with the new rules system, although it may be introduced just after.

The invited guests were then thanked by President Ian & the meeting reverted to standing orders at 11 a.m.

3 2.1.2018 – E-mail from Secretary Queensland VGU detailing their position in respect of “remote memberships”.

4. 8.1.2018 – E-mail from President Bingara Sporting Club detailing their response to our decision to delete Bingara from our Weeks of Golf program. It was resolved to deal with this in the T/Co-Ordinator’s Report segment.

5. 9.1.2018 – E-mail from Chairperson Parkes Veteran Golfers Committee detailing their response to our decision to delete Parkes from our Weeks of golf program. President ruled that this would be dealt with now. Clr. John Daley advised that despite several requests for information on this event, nothing was received, however, a full report was published in the Inside Golf Magazine Following further advice & consideration, the following motion was moved by Clr. Richard Doyle seconded Clr. Stuart Dossetor “That we re-confirm our decision to delete Parkes from our Week of Golf Program with a list of reasons” motion declared carried unanimously.

Secretary advised of a flyer received re “Golden Oldies Tournament in NZ”.

Out: 1. 8.12.2017- E-mail & mail letter to Veteran Golf Clubs in Far South Coast Group as requested at our last meeting, detailing the concerns of the NSWVGA Executive at lack of communication & information from this area.

2. 9.12.2017 -E-mail to Tournament Directors Bingara & Parkes Weeks of Golf advising of NSWVGA Executive decision to delete them from the Weeks of Golf Program.

3. 12.12.2017 -E-mail response to David York, Barraba Veterans Secretary, detailing our determined response to his e-mail re Sandgreen Championships.

4. President received a letter from David Lyle, member of Charlestown Veteran’s G.C. re duplicate affiliation payments. President responded that we do not want duplicate affiliation payments & he should check with his Treasurer, as we are unable to check member’s duplicate payments.

Motion to receive Inward Correspondence & endorse Outward correspondence moved Clr. Len Payne seconded Clr. David Gunner – carried.

Reports:

NSWVGA President's Report

Special General Meeting January 2018.

Present at this meeting will be four special invitees.

Lyn Walker. President VWGA of NSW

Jacky Parsons. Vice President. VWGA of NSW and Head of Tournaments

Nancye Cullen. Treasurer. VWGA of NSW

Andrew Robb. Golf NSW.

I offer a warm welcome to these representatives of the two major Golf organisations in NSW. It is my hope that this meeting of the three bodies will lead to closer and on-going communication links in the future.

1. AVGU Championships. Dave Flatt, Tournament Director informs me that he has received 460 nominations as of 24 January. The field will be restricted to 540 players. With the venue for the Presentation Dinner only able to cater for 650 persons and there being already 550 registered for the dinner the nominations should soon reach the maximum number and a waiting list started.

David also informed me that he is running "line ball" with the budget and is not expecting to show a profit near the one shown by the Gold Coast event in 2017. In light of this he has requested that the repayment of the \$2000, borrowed from NSWVGA, to cover initial set up costs, be waived. Should there be a substantial profit, the funds would be shared among the six veteran clubs in Group 9 and the \$2000 repaid to NSWVGA.

2. Recently I had a long discussion with Barry Reimer, AVGU President, and member of Queensland Veterans Golf Union relating to two issues, one with which we have been recently dealing. Executive Council members have been issued with an email from QVGU Secretary highlighting their solution to "country or other remote based membership" and I feel NSWVGA will reach a similar position with the proposed amendments to the Constitution. Discussions at the AVGU AGM in November showed that most states are having to respond to this issue.

The second item in our discussion related to "membership cards" for all AVGU members. Some Groups in NSWVGA already issue cards but Barry would like to see, in his term, that all members carry an identifying card. All Queensland members are now issued with one and the Handbook has been archived, saving them a substantial amount of money. Perhaps it is something we could revisit in the future, given the number of changes we have had to make since December.

3. NSWVGA Website. I have had several calls recently from players trying to find the nomination forms for the Nambucca Week of Golf on the website. In trying to direct them I discovered the difficulty involved. Because the Weeks of Golf are critically important to our organisation I would like to see the information appear on the Menu Bar on the Home page and not hidden away in Members Area. Additionally, the fact that the 2017 programme is still on the website is causing confusion. Could this be removed?
4. Other Issues. The most pressing issues in the last month will have been dealt with in Correspondence, namely Bingara and Parkes Weeks of Golf. In my term as Tournament

Coordinator I always informed Directors of new events that the permanency of their event was dependent on the impact it had on other events. Broken Hill Week of Golf has experienced opposition from Bingara, previously Fossickers Way, and Parkes in the same week for, I think, three years now and has struggled to draw the numbers of previous years. Three events in one week is too many and Broken Hill should be given the opportunity to conduct an event free from that opposition. Executive Council may have to reconsider the decision on Bingara and Parkes but now that more information from both events has been forthcoming that decision should be final.

Ian Vidler

President NSWVGA

January 2018

Business arising from President's Report:

Re Item 1 -Repayment of \$2,000 borrowed from NSWVGA – Clr. Richard Doyle moved& Clr. Les Knox seconded that “We note the position & will review it at conclusion of Tournament & tournament Report, “ motion declared – carried.

Website Co-Ordinator agreed to have 2017 Week of Golf Program removed.

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

There was no Sponsorship report presented to the meeting.

Treasurer's Report:

BALANCE SHEET for NSWVGA from 29.11.17 to 23.1.18

Opening Balance as at 29.11.17 \$35,087.71

Income	
Affiliation Fees	\$17,604.00
Registration fees W.O.G.	\$1,228.00
Interest	\$22.07
Adm income	\$120.00
Sponsorship	\$2,475.00

Total income \$21,449.97

Expenses		total expenses to date	total expenses for last year
Councillors to meetings	\$2122.84	\$4,215.80	\$10,293.90
Councillors to Tournaments	\$2,140.06	\$2,618.20	\$8,404.75
Meeting Exp	\$175.00	\$130.00	\$1,068.50
Postage	\$1,370.70	\$93.70	\$1,687.76
Web Site		\$250.00	\$4,017.99
Shields	\$194.61	\$292.84	\$1,522.48
Vouchers	\$4,370.00	\$200.00	\$11,350.00
Handbooks	\$6,842.00		\$6,864.00
Donation	\$500.00		\$800.00
Adm.exp	\$420.00		\$4,851.50

Total Expenses \$18,435.21

Closing Balance as at 23.1.18 \$38,102.47

Cash Assests as at 23.1.18

Greater Building Society \$30,000.00
matures on 6.3.2018 at 2.35%

Vouchers for W.O.G events \$3,350.00

Total Assets \$33,350.00

Treasurer advised that our I.B.D investment requires renewal by 6.3.2018.

Motion to renew I.B.D investment by due date at best available rate & receive Treasurer's Report moved David Gunner seconded Peter Taylor – carried.

Tournament Co-Ordinator's Report:

NSWVGA Program Co Ordinators Report January 2018

Overview.

The last months have been very interesting , if not eye opening considering decisions the the Executive made concerning certain weeks of golf. The lengths some committee's have gone to to state cases and in one case promote their event in the monthly golf magazine was totally unexpected..

The Program

The program for 2018 kicks off next month at Hawks Nest and by years end we will have completed 53 weeks of golf and 6 championships and 2 trial weeks.

Accessing the website is becoming easier with practice but there are still many tournament directors reluctant to use this tool to promote their event. The main reasons are lack of knowledge and computer skills.

As part of my role I have no problems chasing up information regarding weeks events and placing them on the website as does Stuart and Barry.

Bingara Week of Golf.

During the Christmas break I visited Bingara and met with the Bingara week of golf committee(see report and recommendations attached).

Parkes Week of Golf

At this stage I have had no contact with anyone from Parkes week of golf. This is an item on this months agenda an will be discussed then.

Trial Weeks.

This year there will be trial weeks at Casino and Brisbane Waters.

Casino are well on their way with a nomination pack prepared and sent out, sponsors in place and a committee led by John Weaver,working very hard bringing it all together.

Brisbane Waters , I believe have met and a committee formed .Our secretary , Len , will tell us more on this event.

John Daley

NSWVGA Program Co Ordinator.

NSWVGA Council

Bingara Reinstatement

On 28th December 2017 I met with the Tournament Director, Tim Cox, and committee of the Bingara Week of Golf. This meeting was organised as I was travelling back from Broken Hill after Christmas and was in response to a letter received by President Ian Vidler concerning the decision to withdraw Bingara from the week of golf program.

Background.

Bingara Sports Club -the venue for their week of golf.

Bingara Sports Club comprises a nine hole golf course with 2 bowling greens, 8 tennis courts and a 24 hour gym. It is a typical country NSW community club that is the hub of the sporting needs for a country town. All positions at the club are voluntary of which Tim is the President.

The initial week of golf consisted of a three town event namely Bingara, Barraba and Warialda.

Barraba and Warialda lost interest in the event but Bingara pressed on as a stand alone because of what the event brought to the club and the town.

Tim works for the council and has held the position as tourism officer so was well aware of the importance of the event.

The main points of the meeting were as follows:

****Lack of communication***

The lack of communication between Bingara and the NSWVGA was because of ill health, a death in the family and other family health problems. The TD was in hospital and the secretary had lost her mother at the time the correspondence was sent by the NSWVGA.

Each thought that the other was dealing with the correspondence and I had to admit that dealing with our emails would not have been the furthest thing on my mind at the time.

****Falling Numbers***

Bingara was in the middle of a rebuilding program as far as numbers were concerned. While 29 players played two days or more the actual daily totals were forty plus on single days. Players came from local areas, no Bingara vets played, and as far afield as Queensland and Southern NSW.

There was a move to contact Tournament Directors who's tournament precede and follow the Bingara event with a view of expanding their mailing list and to promote their Tournament.

It was pointed out that help was offered by NSWVGA in this area but was ignored.

Tim went on to say those who attended this year's week enjoyed the week to the extent of returning next year with more players for the week. He said letters of support for the Tournament had been sent to the NSWVGA and asking for the event to be reinstated.

****Recommendation***

Due to lack of communication, I feel the NSWVGA has made the correct decision as far as removal from the WOG program, but on closer inspection this week of golf and in particular the committee of this event are working hard to resurrect it for the coming years.

While it is a council's decision to reinstate or not I would recommend this matter be revisited and that Bingara be given another year and the event be monitored.

We need a councillor to attend this event and report their findings.

John Daley

Week of golf Co Ordinator.

NSWVGA

Business arising from Program Co-Ordinator's Report:

The issue of Bingara's Week of Golf cancellation was raised & following extensive consideration of all the factors, Clr. John Daley moved & Clr. Peter Taylor seconded that we write & advise Bingara that "We rescind the cancellation of Bingara Week of Golf Tournament in light of the business case & the marketing & promotion strategy proposed to grow this tournament as outlined in their letter. We will re-instate only a "Trial Event" to proceed on the dates listed in the 2018 program with no vouchers from NSWVGA." Motion put & declared carried. Clr. Peter Taylor then undertook to represent us at the event & report back on it's outcome so that a decision can be made for the future.

Clr. Les Knox then raised with Golf NSW the concern at the programming of two championship events which are Senior Order of Merit events close together, Andrew agreed to look at this. He also informed that Chinderah Golf Club (near Tweed Heads) have just affiliated with Golf NSW & with their large membership there may be an opportunity for veteran's membership with NSWVGA.

Motion to receive Program Co-Ordinator's Report moved Clr. John Daley seconded Clr. David Gunner – carried.

Match Committee Report:

Clr. Garry Mason provided a verbal report on the NSWVGA medal survey he had sent out, advising that the feedback was positive. He felt that we should continue as we are with this for this year, & we need to make a decision on a final this year. For a separate women's Medal they need to be members of NSWVGA & have a minimum of 10 women who play regularly. Secretary Len Payne confirmed that he had forwarded a photo plus information on the medal to all Group Secretaries. He also suggested that consideration be given to starting the championship medal initiative off as a zone one firstly.

He also said that the initiative of a 4BBB event needed more work this year, so that a decision could be made later this year if the event was to commence in 2019.

Re the Weeks of Golf review Garry asked for more information from Treasurer, whilst he appreciated the information already provided by David Gunner. President Ian suggested that Councillors attending Weeks of Golf needed to collate information such as number of players each day, number of men/women & number of visitors with their clubs named. Garry was tasked to develop a format for Councillors to secure this information.

Clr. Garry Mason then gave an update on the progress of the review of Guidelines 2 & 4.

Some views expressed on the awarding of trophies were “that any variations to our one trophy per player except for the NSWVGA Medal must be approved by NSWVGA prior to an event”.

Another one was “It is the view of Council that travelling Veteran players expect that only one trophy be awarded with the exception of the NSWVGA Medal per person”. It was also expressed that if this was included in the conditions of play that competitors signed up for then that covered it. Garry was asked & agreed to further progress changes to guidelines 2 & 4.

Information was received that the Great Lakes/Manning Valley Tournament would proceed but no Tournament Director had been appointed yet.

Motion to receive Match Committee Report moved Clr. Garry Mason seconded Clr. John Daley – carried.

Website Co-Ordinator’s Report:

A verbal report was provided by Clr. Stuart Dossetor that the website was progressing with over 15,000 members now listed on the database. Some problems still existed with Group 7 (Newcastle) with work continuing.

Motion to receive Website Co-Ordinator’s report moved Clr. Stuart Dossetor seconded Clr. Garry Mason - carried

Matters on Notice:

- 1. Report by Chairman Match Committee Clr. Garry Mason on review of attendances, conduct & management of all current Weeks of Golf & consideration of statistics provided by Treasurer David Gunner.**

This item was dealt with in Match Committee Report.

- 2. Report by Matchplay Committee on their review of the NSWVGA Medal, options for its expansion.**

Again, this item was extensively canvassed in Match Committee Report with further action to be carried out by Chairman, Match Committee.

- 3. Report on Matchplay Committee review of Guidelines 2 & 4 (conduct of Weeks of Golf & prize-giving).**

As this item was also extensively dealt with in the Match Committee Chairman's report no further action was required.

Matters without Notice:

- 1. Consideration of filling casual vacancy on NSWVGA Executive.**

As a prospective one has declined this will necessitate further canvassing in the South-west of the state.

General Business:

It was raised that whilst NSWVGA assists financially with the conduct of its Sandgreen Championships, no financial support is provided to the Grass green Championships we conduct, leaving them to struggle.

To assist them to raise their profile & increase promotion of their events, Clr. Len Payne moved & it was seconded by Clr. Richard Doyle" that \$500 be offered to the NSWVGA Grass green Strokeplay, NSWVGA Grass Green Mixed 4BBB Championships & NSWVGA Grass green Matchplay championships to aid their conduct & marketing ". Motion was put & declared carried.

It was advised that not all the money allocated for prizes to Holbrook for the Sandgreen championship in 2017 had not been spent. Clr. Les Knox agreed to

follow-up and advise. It was later advised by Golf NSW that all vouchers had been awarded but Trophies were still held, & disposal arrangements sought.

With no further business President then adjourned meeting for sub-committee deliberations.

Meeting closed by President at 2.45 p.m. Next meeting Wednesday 4th April,2018 at Bankstown G.C.