

Minutes of Executive meeting of NSWVGA on Wednesday 24th February, 2021 Zoom Meeting Due to Covid Restrictions

Meeting Opened at: 9.34am by President Ian Vidler.

Ian thanked everyone for their best wishes while he was in Hospital. A special mention to Les Knox and John Daley for all the work that they completed while Ian was covering. He also appreciated Dick Farrant, who made contact with Ian every second day and this really helped to keep Ian spirits up during his hospitalisation. Ian also thanked Peter Guy for attending to the process of making sure everyone was able to proceed with the process of a zoom meeting.

Attendees: Ian Vidler (Pres), Les Knox (Clr), John Daley (Clr), John Dixon (Clr), David Gunner (Clr), Stu Dossetor (Clr), Peter Guy (Clr), Gary Mason (Clr), Lance Fredericks (Clr), Gerry Cox (Clr), Jim Shadlow (Clr) and Aileen Williams (Clr)

Obituaries: John Wilson, Dubbo Vets, John Oldfield, Dubbo Vets and David Knox, Wallacia Vets

Apologies: Nil

Minutes previous NSWVGA Executive meeting of Wednesday 2nd December previously circulated are accepted on motion Clr Jim Shadlow seconded Clr Les Knox - carried

Business Arising: Nil

Correspondence In

4.1.21 Email received from G Smith, change to contact details for Port Macquarie

5.1.21 Email received from John Daley amendment to Policy No 2

22.1.21 Email received from Peter Stephenson Group 11 – Non acceptance of Sponsorship opportunity

24.1.21 Email received from Mike Hedditch Group 27, Griffith Secretary thanking NSWVGA

28.1.21 email received from Cabramatta Vets Kevin Connell- non acceptance of Sponsorship opportunity

28.1.21 Email received from Dick Van Burren Group 27 - non acceptance of Sponsorship opportunity

2.2.21 Email Inverell WOG Tournament Director thank you for the one off grant for Cancelled WOG Grant.

10.2.21 Email received from President Port Macquarie Vets

10.2.21 email received from David Peel Group 8 Secretary

18.2.21 Ongoing SVGA insurance wording concerns.

24.2.21 President Far South Coast Vets, Herb Muriwai invitation to attend a delegate meeting of the Far South Coast Vets

Out::

21.1.21 Email sent out to all Group Secretaries regarding NSWVGA Shields

21.1.21 Email out to all Group Secretaries on Sponsorship opportunity

29.1.21 Reply email sent to Ross Selleck

29.1.21 Reply email sent to Dick Van Burren

12.2.21 Reply email sent by Ian Vidler to Port Macquarie Vet

24.2.21. Email to Herb Muriwai accepting his invitation to attend the next delegate meeting of the Far South Coast Vets.

Motion to accept all correspondence moved Clr Jim Shadlow seconded Clr Les Knox - carried

Reports:

President & Sponsorship:

Welcome to 2021, hopefully an uninterrupted year with the NSWVGA Programme played in full and local veteran competitions returning to resume their normal places in the golfing calendar. I must congratulate all members of NSWVGA for their patience, perseverance and good sense during the 2020 year of the pandemic. It seems that we have survived the challenges thrown at us during last year and 2021 is looking much brighter than previously predicted.

1. Inside Golf advertising. You should have received information from me on the costing etc of this proposal. A final decision on whether NSWVGA is to use this magazine as a way of advertising our product should be reached at this meeting.
2. Sun Blessed Pty Ltd offer of 1st Tee Golfers Sunscreen. It appears that there is not much interest in this offer. My understanding is that some golf clubs and professionals have their own suppliers and are commercially contracted to them. The Cancer Council also supplies clubs with sunscreen, free of charge for the first large bottle and a cheap rate for any other bottles purchased. Perhaps Sun Blessed has too much competition in the market. I should mention here that Sun Blessed have offered \$1000 in sponsorship for the Match Play and NSWVGA sincerely thanks them for that.

Suggestion: Notify Group Secretaries again and highlight the offer from Sun Blessed of the commercial opportunity to raise funds for their groups or clubs. NSWVGA also benefits from any sales so try promoting this offer in your areas.

3. NSWVGA Medal. The Medal and the Medley Fourball will be played again in 2021. Group Secretaries/ group Captains should be preparing for this event, the Conditions of Play for which will appear on the NSWVGA website in coming weeks. In an effort to get more members involved the Executive Council will be conducting Eastern and Western Finals. The Eastern Final will be held at Nambucca Heads in November and the western Final at Forbes in October. Groups which are organising this competition will be able to choose the venue to which their successful players may attend. More information will be placed on the website when it becomes available. ALL Group Secretaries are encouraged to make members aware of this event support the competition. Dates for these events are in the programme.

4. Sponsorship from Ingenia Communities. This organisation has generously offered sponsorship for Match Play at Port Stephens, NSWVGA Medal finals at Nambucca Heads and some Weeks of Golf on the north coast. I have had many conversations with Mark Leonard, Business Development Manager for Ingenia, and he is keen for his company to become involved in a relationship with NSWVGA as he can see the benefits available to both organisations.
5. AVGU Championships 2021. It has been proposed that this championship will proceed as planned unless there is COVID intervention. The programme for the week may have to be amended but such amendments will appear on NSWVGA website as soon as notified.
6. Grass Roots Scheme. In 2020 NSWVGA distributed more than \$20 000 to Group Secretaries for that money to be passed on to individual veteran clubs on a pro rata basis. Retired Vice President, Richard Doyle, offered to oversee this complicated task. I am certain these funds were appreciated by all members but there has been very little feedback as to how the money was used.
Richard has graciously volunteered his services in 2021 and it would be gratifying if he were to receive recognition of his efforts from Group Secretaries by way of a brief email with an explanation of how the funds were spent.
NSWVGA Executive Council would like to express its sincere gratitude to Richard for his work in 2020 and 2021.
7. Grants for cancelled Weeks of Golf 2020. NSWVGA Executive Council, because of the cancellation of many Weeks of Golf due to COVID, decided to recognise the time and effort Tournament Directors and their committees put into pre-tournament organisation by way of a one - off grant of \$300. This grant was intended to be used to benefit the veterans of each of the clubs. Feedback on this grant has been negligible and it would be helpful if the Executive Council was made aware of how the money was used.

Finally, NSWVGA Executive Council wishes all members good health, safe travels and a successful golfing journey in 2021.

Ian Vidler

President NSWVGA

February 2021

To receive President report moved Clr Ian Vidler seconded Clr Les Knox - carried

Treasurer's Report:

BALANCE SHEET for NSWVGA from 26.11.20 to 15.2.21

Opening Balance as at	26.11.20	\$67,783.35
<u>Income</u>		
Affiliation Fees	\$17,005.00	
Registration fees W.O.G.	\$378.00	

directives to Veterans Groups, information that must be passed on to the secretaries of our veteran's clubs.

2021 Program.

Our Veterans year has commenced with Hawkes Nest and Shoalhaven Heads.

There have been anomalies with the running of these events in as much as handicapping and eligibility is concerned. Aileen can outline this for Hawks Nest.

There is a need to once again ensure that Tournament Directors implement Policy No2 which is not the case at present.

With this in mind I would like to include a copy of the Policy with the distribution of the 2022 draft program.

The Western State Medal to be held at Forbes is scheduled for 3-5 October. I am still awaiting information that can be passed to Forbes re possible numbers. To date I have only heard back from David Gunner.

It is unfortunate to see Tenterfield running an event for veteran golfers in opposition to the dates allocated to Armidale. I have had discussions with Bill Eastgate re the clash but as his event is not a sanctioned event he can't see anything wrong with their staging this event.

I feel that their staging of this event is not in the spirit of veterans golf in the New England area especially if his event takes away numbers from Armidale.

I would like to get the feelings of other councillors re this occurrence.

2022 Program.

This program has been sent to Councillors, thank you to those who have responded.

We are now at Draft No 5 which only has one modification to be made, that of the Western State Medal date for that year. This date is dependent on the information from Councillors re the date that the Groups in their areas play their championships.

You will note that the early part of the program has been pushed back one week because of accommodation costs.

You will also note the Anzac Day will affect two weeks of golf which cannot be helped . Maybe those involved may have a Tuesday – Friday event so as players can attend services at those venues.

As this is a ZOOM meeting this covers the necessary items to allow us to proceed.

John Daley
Program Co ordinator

NSWVGA

The WOG programm for 2022 has been put back a week to accodomate Myall Coast peak season accodomatation issues.

Clr John Daley has concerns with Tournament Directors not following NSWVGA WOG policy No 2. To help address this he would like to send all TD at WOG a copy of policy No 2 with the 2022 Programm, this will insure that all TD our aware and understand the requirements of the NSWVGA Policy No 2.

A discussion took place on how we educate Tournament directors to follow NSWVGA policy with the WOG. Clr John Daley suggested that he and Clr Peter Guy monitor the WOG Flyers, conditions of play are following guidelines prior to them going on the web and if not then a phone call may be need to the TD.

Motion to adopt Program Co-Ordinators report moved Clr John Daley seconded Clr Peter Guy - carried

Website Co-Coordinator's Report:

1. WEBSITE REPORT FOR EXEC COUNCIL – 24 FEB 21

1.1 Public Website

Most of the points that were raised at the December meeting have been settled and the website is now well bedded down.

- I apologise for not removing the 2020 Program yet – I will get round to actioning this shortly.
- I think we should record which Life Members are deceased. Can anyone confirm who is deceased and what year they died?

- Dick Farrant has passed to me a document that records the names and service dates of all TDs and GSs. I think these records should have a place on the website and propose two new pages under the About Us menu with similar formats to the Office Bearers section.

MiClub has quoted a charge of \$200 for each new page. Can we agree to go ahead with this?

I would be happy to receive any other comments or suggestions regarding the Public website.

1.2 Membership Register

It has become clear that many users are having difficulties with searching and updating the register.

The current method for updating the register is to directly update the underlying database, with apparently very little validation being done – evidenced by the occurrence of erroneous data.

I propose that the following enhancements are required:

- The less computer-savvy users should be presented with an interface that gives a menu of actions, with each action then managed through a dialog box which guides the user as to what is required and fully validates the input before any update is made.
- The larger scale ‘power’ users should be provided with ‘batch’ facilities whereby they present a file of actions which are validated by the system before making updates and returning a file with the results.
- The search facilities should be made much simpler – not relying on a highly technical interface.

These enhancements could be made as extensions to the existing database, or could be provided by a new development.

If the Council agrees that we should proceed with investigating these enhancements, I suggest that we should announce to all GSs and TDs that we are considering improving the website and inviting comment on what issues they have and any suggestions on what they would like to see.

At the start of discussions with Golf NSW and MiClub, I drew up a specification for a Membership Register in order to clarify my thoughts as to our requirements. This is a fairly technical document but describes the facilities that I would like to see. I would be happy to share this with any Councillor who wishes.

Peter Guy
20 Feb 21

Clr Peter Guy moved his report be accepted Clr David Gunner seconded Motion - carried

2. WEBMASTERS REPORT ADDENDUM

I was looking at preparing a report as in the past but was pleased that Peter has beaten me to it. Peter and I did have a lengthy discussion prior to him preparing the report. However, I offer the additional comments for consideration in any discussion.

Public Website

I have received little comment one way or the other. The comments I did receive related to [1] where can I find the Program and [2] one Group found the site difficult to navigate eg try finding the Policy documents. We would benefit from a survey to attempt to find out what is and is not working. Most golfers down this way still do not know of its existence. Why not ask the TD to have WoG attendees answer a short [say 5 question] survey.

The Members Register.

At present we have only 9,279 showing as being financial for 2021 of a total listing of 15,505. However as of 1 Jan 21 the Treasurer had received payment for 12,777. This to me is a major problem for NSWVGA and has much to do with how Clubs and Groups operate. I have raised this on a number of occasions.

When this website was set up following the change from Paul Horton the requirement was for a simple site to record our membership, record whether members were financial and provide a means for Tournament Directors to check eligibility for NSWVGA sponsored events. With its warts, this is what we have. Most difficulties in using this site I have found over the past couple of years to be user related. Once this is explained the general user has little difficulty. It can be time consuming and frustrating if the user is 'kicked' out of the site and has to re Sign In.

I consider that any data in the Register that is found to be wrong can be traced to bad entry. The database will not accept duplicate Golf Link numbers. This with the listing of Clubs and the alignment to Groups provides an acceptable level of validation. I am at lost to know what else we would be authenticating. In this aspect Peter and I fundamentally disagree.

I agree that membership updating might benefit from a bulk updating option. This was in place previously under Paul Horton. But he and not the user did it. I do not support collecting historical data as Peter recommends.

Summary

Like all systems there is always room for improvement hence I support the proposal to seek user input and once this has been received only then decide what improvements/changes to make.

Stu Dossetor

Web Master

21 Feb 21

Clr Stu Dossetor moved that his report be accepted seconded Clr Les Knox Motion - carried

Match Committee Report: No report

Matters on notice:

- 1 .Eligibility - Policy No 2 NSWVGA Shields, _Female membership
Amendment to Policy No 2 Eligibility
Ian has suggested that there are 4 ways to address this.

- a. Members join through their own Veterans Club
- b. Group Secretaries accept members from other clubs
- c. Councillors carry a receipt book and join them up
- d. Tournament Directors when compiling their entry forms have provisions for members to join if they are not already members of NSWVGA when attending a week of golf. These members then are listed on the members web site under ungrouped clubs.

Eligibility for Females to join NSWVGA - A pathway to membership of NSWVGA.

All members including Females are able to join NSWVGA through their own home Club if available, directly through their group secretary from another club, or via Tournament Director at the week of golf, or NSWVGA representative. Then these members are listed on the member's web site as financial members under the ungrouped clubs register. Clr John Daley moved a motion seconded Clr Stu Dossetor Motion – Carried

Clr Peter Guy moved a motion to accept the amendment to Policy No 2 - Eligibility seconded Clr Les Knox – motion – carried

Clr Les Knox moved a motion that the motion passed at the December meeting concerning the eligibility for winning a NSWVGA Shield or vouchers implantation be deferred until the 1st of August 2021.seconded Clr Stu Dossetor- motion carried –

Clr John Daley moved a motion that all players participating in NSWVGA Championships from the 1st of August 2021 must be a member of NSWVGA. Seconded Clr Aileen Williams – motion - carreid

2. Affiliation Payments and Currency of Membership.

Amendment to Policy 7:

Amendment of the NSWVGA Finanical year to Calendar year

Clr Peter Guy moved a motion to change the start of NSWVGA financial year to 1st January until 31st of December that year. Associated with that if a member pays after the 30th September they are deemed financial until the 31st of December the following year. Seconded Clr John Dixon- motion -carried

3. Week of Golf Roster 2021.

Clr John Daley checked with councillors as to who will be attending which up coming weeks of golf. Casino AND Coffs Harbour have both cancelled their WOG

4. 2022 Program.

5. NSWVGA State Finals at Nambucca Heads Golf Club and Forbes Golf Club

6. Sponsorship.
Clr John Dixon suggested that when looking for sponsorship for a event contacting the local council's in your area may produced a favourable response.

NSWVGA Trophy Sponsorship for NSWVGA events.

Clr Peter Guy will liaise with Clr Les Knox on Policy trophy structure on all NSWVGA events and report back.

7. Proposed changes to web site:
Web site: Both Stu and Peter have concerns with the web site. Group secretaries are unable to update members with ease. Bad data in the website and still is been entered as the system does not validate. Peter will send out to all councillor's what he would like to see improved.

Councillors as well as group secretaries are experiencing significant issues with the current website form. Clr Aileen Williams moved a motion that Clr Stu Dossetor and Clr Peter Guy liaise with each other to talk with Barry on how to make the members register on the web site more accurate and user-friendly seconded Lance Fredericks motion- carried

Group Secretaries are experiencing issues when searching for our Public Website, the first website they come across is often an alternate site.
Clr Peter Guy will discuss with MiClub on how to get priority for our website.

Clr Peter Guy would like to set up two extra pages to recognise the past history of NSWVGA Group Secretaries and Tournament Directors. This would be at a cost of \$200.00 per page - a total of \$400.00.

Clr Peter Guy moved a motion to set up two extra pages, One for Group Secretaries and one for Tournament Directors. Seconded Clr Lance Fredericks motion- carried

8. Set NSWVGA Executive Council Meeting dates for 2021 and location suggested dates are as follows
Wednesday 14th April will be a Zoom meeting, Wednesday 16th June, Wednesday 4th August, Thursday 7th October Zoom meeting, A.G.M. on Thursday 8th December followed by a General Committee Meeting. These meetings will be held at Bankstown Golf Club unless a Zoom meeting is stated.

Matters without Notice:

NSWVGA 4BBB Championship will be held at Wagga Wagga Country Club Sunday 28th March- Thursday 1st April. Due to entries being slow in coming forward there is a link for on-line entry on the Program page and in a News entry. Clrs to promote the event while attending WOGs.

There may be some changes made to the Eurobodalla Week of Golf due to the withdrawal of Moruya Golf Club.

General Business:

After receiving an invitation from President Herb Muriwai of the Far South Coast Vets, for a member of the executive council of NSWVGA to attend a delegate meeting of the Far

South Coast Vets. Clr Stu Dossetor will attend the next delegate meeting of Far South Coast Vets.

David Peel has resigned from his position of group Secretary for GROUP 8 Hunter River, he is unable to find a replacement for this position. Clr John Daley will make contact with the President of Branxton Vets.

Clr Lance Fredericks has spoken to our insurer and the wording in the liability policy is the exact wording in the policy and does not need adjusting. The fraud and ransom policy has had 4 words added to it and then will be identical. The policy covering voluntary workers is still be investigated as the insured is the Vets Voluntary workers and not the groups and clubs.

Inside Golf has given us a quote for ½ page add/article for 1 issue only at a cost of \$1250.00 + gst.

Clr Stu Dossetor moved a motion to accept the quote and take out a ½ page add in the Inside Golf Magazine seconded Clr Garry Mason- carried

Clr Gerry Cox will do a letter to NSWVGA group Secretaries as well as all clubs in NSW to follow up on the editorial/ add/ article in Inside Golf Magazine. Clr Peter Guy suggested that the group secretaries are informed that the web site is where the members will be looking for contact details of the clubs and that the information there is correct and up to date.

Sun Blessed Pty Ltd 1st Tee Golfers Sunscreen Sponsorship opportunity- Most clubs professionals have their own suppliers and are commercially contracted to them and such felt that this offer would not be of a advantage to them at this time. Sun Blessed have generously offered \$100.00 in sponsorship for the Match play which NSWVGA sincerely thank them.

NSWVGA Medal and 4BBB Finals- Western Final will be held at Forbes Golf Club and the Northern Final will be held at Nambucca Heads Golf Club. Members that qualified last year and were not able to play due to Covid restrictions will be able to play this year. Ingenia Communities have generously donated \$1,000.00 for the naming writes of the Medal and 4BBB Final at Nambucca Heads Golf Club as well, Watson Caravans at Coffs Harbour have also donated \$800.00 in sponsorship for the final.

Clr John Daley requested that all club captains let Lynn Roberts at Forbes and Ian Vidler at Nambucca know as soon as they have held their event at club level as to how many will be attending the finals.

AVGU Championship: The AVGU championship will go ahead but it may be in a reduced format due to Covid restrictions. Possibly there will not be a dinner. If so the cost will be reduced.

Grass roots Scheme and Grants: For weeks of golf that were cancelled due to weather or Covid restrictions;

Ian thanked Richard Doyle for all the work that he did in getting these vouchers out to all the clubs.

President Ian would like Tournament directors let NSWVGA know as to how they used the money that NSWVGA granted to the Tournament directors and clubs in recognition of the work that they had completed prior to Covid restrictions.

The start of the WOG program for 2022 has been put back a week to accommodate Myall Coast peak season accommodation issues.

There are concerns with TD not following the Policy No 2 for Tournament Directors set down by NSWVGA. To help address this Clr John Daley would like to send all TDs along

with the program for 2022 a copy of the NSWVGA policy No 2, this will ensure that all TDs are aware and understand their responsibilities at WOG.

A discussion took place on how we educate TD to follow NSWVGA policy with the WOG. Clr John Daley moved a motion that he and Clr Peter Guy monitor the WOG Flyers prior to them going on the web and if need be a phone call to the TD to clarify their intent seconded Clr Peter Guy- motion- carried

The 54 Holes Men's Stroke Play Championship been held in Dubbo from the 1st of November until the 4th of November also in conjunction will be a 54 Holes Ladies Stableford Championship this will attract more couples to enter.

Clr Gerry Cox moved a motion that we hold a 54 Holes Ladies Stroke Play Championship seconded Clr Garry Mason –motion – carried. It will be a tier 3 event.

Meeting Closed at:12.55pm

Next meeting: Wednesday 14th April by Zoom

Matters of Action

1. John Daley to source position of Group Secretary for Group 8, after David Peel unable to find replacement.
2. Lance Fredericks to reply to Rob Bannon email regarding insurance concerns, as well as a copy to Bob Valk.
3. Gerry Cox to send a follow up letter from the article in Inside Golf Magazine to all group secretaries of NSWVGA as well as all clubs in NSW.
4. Clrs to inform Ian what they would like to have in the ad and get back to him by Wednesday 3rd March.
5. Ian to speak with Michael Sharp Sun Blessed and inform him of the clubs' decisions while he is at Tocumwal.
6. Ian will write something for the web site in regards the NSWVGA Medal and 4BBB Finals. A Eastern Final at Nambucca and a Western Final at Forbes. When he has completed that secretary to send out to group secretaries.
7. The contact person for Forbes Final to liase with Lynl Roberts will be Clr Garry Mason. Clr John Daley to send Clr Garry Mason all information that he has already started work on for the finals at Forbes.
8. Secretary to send out to all NSWVGA group secretaries a request that the executive committee would like to hear back from clubs as to how they used the \$300.00 grant for cancelled weeks of golf due to covid restrictions that was given to TD.
9. Clr John Daley and Clr Peter Guy to monitor WOG Flyers, TD are following NSWVGA policy N02.
10. Clr Peter to contact Mi club see if we can get our website priority raised in search engines.
11. Clr John Daley to resend out to Councillors who is attending what WOG.
12. Clr Peter Guy will liase with Clr Les Knox to update Policy 7.
13. Clr Garry Mason to send to Clr Peter Guy a list of sponsors for the 4BBB Championship to go on the website.