

MINUTES OF 41ST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF NSWVGA INC.

Meeting held Bankstown Golf Club Wednesday 2nd November 2016 commencing at 9.33 a.m.

Chairman: Dick Farrant (life member) welcomed those present & read out names & designations of those present. Those eligible to vote are retiring Councillors & official delegates, the three observers Bill Poole, Bob Coulson & Ken Judd) are ineligible to vote. Under 9.6 those eligible proxies are Les Mann who has written permission from John Daley (Gp14 delegate) & Clr.Col Darley who has written permission of Clr.Stuart Dossetor. The Chairman ruled the proxy vote of Ronnie Johnston (Ballina) ineligible. This made 18 eligible to vote.

Attendees: Dick Farrant (President), Ian Vidler (V/Pres.),John Dixon (V/Pres.),David Gunner (Treasurer), Paul Horton (Webmaster), Len Payne (Secretary), Bill Poole (Observer Gp6), Lance Fredericks (Delegate Gp3),John Sullivan (Delegate Gp5),Richard Doyle (Clr),Kel Pearce (Clr),Les Knox(Delegate Gp20), Col Darley (Clr), Les Mann(Delegate Gp 31),Bob Coulson (Observer Gp5),Bob Smith (Delegate Gp3),Brian Graham (Delegate Gp21),Ken Judd(Observer Gp21).

Apologies: Stuart Dossetor (Clr), Chris Evans (Clr), John Buttle (Gp2). Apologies accepted on motion of Clr. Col Darley seconded Clr. Richard Doyle – carried.

Tributes: President Dick called for a standing minutes silence as he read the following obituaries received during the year. Doug Wastle (Secretary Gp 26),Bob Pratten (Dubbo),Bill Lees (Dubbo),Norm Leffler (Callala),Ali Graziano (Broken Hill),Bob Harrison (Pt. Kembla), David Henry DFC (Gp6), Ron Simmons (Clr),Bob Parsons (Lachlan Valley),Graham Forman (Kew),Col Ferguson (Gulargambone),Brian White (Cootamundra),Mike Newell (Secretary Gp1),David Taylor (Tallwoods),Darcy Kristensen (Taree), John Guyer (Taree),Brian Croxon (Taree), Lionel Bloomfield (Harrington Waters).

Minutes of 40th AGM of NSWVGA Inc. held Bankstown G.C 11th November, 2015, as circulated, were confirmed on motion of Clr. David Gunner, seconded Clr. Ian Vidler – carried.

Matters arising: President Dick referred to the Tied voting issue at the previous AGM, stating advice from Dept. Fair Trading was that in case of a future tie, Candidates would convene to try to resolve the tie, if unsuccessful, then matter resolved by a draw from hat. This was confirmed on motion of Clr. Richard Doyle , seconded Clr. Col Darley – carried.

Correspondence for AGM: Secretary advised that no correspondence pertinent to the AGM had been received.

President's Report to the 41st Annual General Meeting of the New South Wales Golfers Association Inc.

Veteran Members,

I have great pleasure and satisfaction in presenting my eighth and final report to the NSW Veteran Golfers Association as your President. The past twelve months has seen a continuance and further development of golfing activities throughout the state designed to follow the basic principles of supporting and developing veteran golf in New South Wales. This has occurred through the professional commitment of many administrators around the state including members of the Executive and Governing Councils, Group Secretaries and Tournament Directors, right down to the officials within the many club committees.

The golfing activities are headed up by the weeks of golf, including championships, but also importantly are comprised of regular veterans events at club level, inter club visits, conduct of extensive shield events at Group level and participation in events leading to the awarding of the NSWVGA medals.

This year has seen further progress in groups and clubs incorporating their women NSWVGA members into medley veteran competitions at club and group level.

2016 Executive Council Members: (Years of continual service in parentheses)

President:	Richard Farrant	Group 3	Illawarra	(20)
Vice Presidents: (2)	John Dixon	Group 29	Western Districts	(4)
	Ian Vidler	Group 13	Mid North Coast	(7)
Secretary:	Len Payne	Group 6	Brisbane Water	(4)
Treasurer:	David Gunner	Group 22	Central West	(5)
Webmaster:	Paul Horton	Group 19	Blue Mountains	(15)
Councillors: (6)	Col Darley	Group 2	Mid South Coast	(9)
	Stuart Dosseter	Group 2	Mid South Coast	(1)
	Richard Doyle	Group 4	Sydney	(10)
	Chris Evans	Group 20	Western Sydney	(6)
	Kel Pearce	Group 14	Northern Rivers	(4)
	Ron Simmons	Group 22	Central West	(13)*

*Unfortunately in early August Councillor Ron Simmons passed away at home just shy of his 91st birthday. His funeral service at Blayney was well attended by past and present members of the Council. Ron was a great supporter of veteran golf in this state and his contribution will be missed.

Six Council meetings have been held since the last AGM at roughly 2 month intervals, planned with emphasis on availability of Councillors to attend such meetings. However with commitments to veteran golf events and health issues affecting attendances maximum attendance is not always achievable.

Attendance at the six meetings shown in parentheses is – Richard Farrant (5), John Dixon (6), Ian Vidler (5), Len Payne (6), David Gunner (6), Paul Horton (3), Col Darley (6), Stuart Dosseter (4), Richard Doyle (5), Chris Evans (5), Kel Pearce (6) and Ron Simmons (4 out of a possible 5).

For the first time in four years a meeting in a country area was not considered possible and all meetings were held at Bankstown Golf Club to which the Association is indebted.

There was only one change in the makeup of the Council this year with Stuart Dosseter replacing Life Member Les Mann who retired after 15 years service. The three subcommittees of Communication, Match and Finance continued with their efforts to cater for NSWVGA requirements and I must thank

Col Darley, Richard Doyle, Len Payne, Kel Pearce, Ian Vidler, John Dixon and Stuart Dosseter for the work that they did in their role as Zone representatives.

The next twelve months however will see changes with Chris Evans, myself and possibly Col Darley not seeking re-election and of course the need arises to fill the position left by the late Ron Simmons. I would like to thank Chris for his 5 years on Council and the effort he has put into the development of Group 20. If Col Darley does not seek re-election I must thank him also for the dedication he has shown in his position of Councillor, Zone rep, tournament representative and caricaturist extraordinaire.

Membership

During the financial year from October 1st 2015 to September 30th 2016 membership built up to a total of 15,414 financial affiliates, including 1250 women. This figure is based on the affiliation fees received in that period, most of which were collected before the end of 2015 as payment in arrears for membership numbers as at September 30th 2015. Since that period additional members have joined the Association with fees mostly being held at Group level. Membership lists however have been forwarded to the Webmaster and he reports that currently there are over 16000 member's details in the data base. Fees payable for the current period will be forwarded to the Treasurer before the end of the current calendar year and the above mentioned increase should be reflected in the membership figures presented at the next AGM. It is noted that Group 32 Albury and District has chosen not to affiliate with the NSWVGA in 2017.

Communication

Secretary Len Payne continues to effectively record and distribute minutes of Council meetings to all Councillor and Group outlets and I thank him for the time taken in carrying out his duties. These extensive minutes include correspondence, all submitted reports and decisions taken as the result of discussion and subsequent voting on issues that arise, as well as listed matters requiring attention. The Association is also indebted to the Group Secretaries who distribute these minutes to their member clubs. Len's work in assembling the annual handbook should also be mentioned and I am sure all would join with me in thanking him for his work in the role of Secretary.

A most important tool addressing communication is of course the website. This feature, under the administration of Webmaster Paul Horton, continues to be developed and offers an important window through which all manner of interested people can read about the activities within the Association. Sponsors at State, Group and Club level are represented by logos throughout reports and entry forms and visitors to the site can click on these logos to find out more about the respective sponsors. The time that Paul has put in over the years is way above the call, and certainly warranted the acknowledgement of the awarding of life membership to him at last year's AGM, but his work this year has been marred in the last month or so by his insistence in using the website to bestow unwarranted criticism upon fellow Councillors without prior referral of content to any Council member. This action resulted in public comment by him without redress that reflected an approach by the writer that is prejudicial to the interests of all veteran golfers and certainly negates objective 2.20 of the Association which is "to further and safeguard the interest of the Association and its Members".

Sponsorship

I would like to make special reference to all sponsors who in some way have greatly assisted in the promotion of veteran golf throughout NSW. At Club and Group level local business houses have

assisted in the sponsoring of weeks of golf, as well as individual group and club activities. These sponsors can be identified by looking at the website and also reading carefully the various entry forms to tournaments around the state. At the Association level great support has come from GolfNSW, Go Golfing, Frasers Property, the Greater Bank, Teed Up Tours, the AVGA travel group, Warren Saunders Insurance Brokers, Niagara and Watson's Caravans. Mention must also be made of the clubs and groups who supplied a paid for page for the annual book together with input from Distinctive Products, Electric Vehicles Oceania and the ACTVGA. The cost of the production of the book was met by these generous sponsors and it seems that the input for the 2017 book will follow similar lines with increased club and group usage together with significant input from Go Golfing, AVGA and QOD Golf International.

Finance

On behalf of the Association I must thank Treasurer David Gunner once again for all his work in relation to the control of finances. In his report David will mention that for the financial year ending September 30th 2016 total income was \$68753.43 as against expenditure of \$67164.90 leaving an excess of income over expenditure of \$1588.53. David's work does not stop though with working within the budget as he is responsible for distribution of vouchers and presentation folders to all weeks of golf, championships and Groups conducting NSWVGA medal events.

The first listed objective of this Association is to be deemed as a non-profit organisation. Over the past eight years the total financial transactions show a net loss of \$1685 for that long period which certainly addresses that objective. This has been achieved without any need to increase the annual affiliation fee of \$3 and is a tribute to David and former treasurer Alan Neems.

Championships

Six NSWVGA championship events were again programmed for the year in a very busy calendar. My thanks go to Vice President Ian Vidler for once again putting the week of golf program together. It is a most time consuming task and at times quite frustrating. But Ian sticks to the guidelines and makes every effort to keep all Tournament Directors happy. Ian in his report as Chairman of the Match Committee will more fully address this program together with the weeks of golf and the NSWVGA medal.

The 54 holes strokeplay championships were conducted in Western Sydney using Richmond, Penrith and Stonecutter's Ridge courses. The event was again very successfully run under the guidance of Director Les Knox and for the second year in a row was listed as a NSW Seniors Order of Merit event. The champion for 2016 was Dennis Dale from Twin Creeks with a mighty score of 215, just one over par for the three rounds. The mixed Sandgreens 4BBB Championship at Grenfell, under the direction of Peter Mawhinney, was won by Graham and Helen Snodgrass from Kurri Kurri. This event continues to struggle for numbers but remains in the program for 2017. The men's 4BBB Sandgreens Championship at Narromine, directed by Norm Lewis, was won by Bruce Mitchell and Neil Ashdown from the home club.

The third sandgreens event, the single championship, was decided at Walcha in a combined event with NSWGolf. A good field played on an excellently presented course but there were a few teething problems in the administration of the event with regard to the veteran entrants. The veteran champion was Phil Ledgerwood from Murrurundi. Walcha Golf Club President Allan Green must be mentioned here in that \$1550 was raised from the club, and sponsor Bridges Financial Services, ensuring a worthy set of prizes for the successful veteran players.

The Mixed 4BBB championships at Tenterfield, directed by Bill Eastgate, went to Trevor Carson (Uralla) and Amanda Carr (Armidale) and it is worth noting that this was the twentieth successive year that Tenterfield had hosted this event.

The final championship to be decided was the Matchplay held in the Newcastle district using the courses at Belmont, Waratah, Muree and Charlestown. The defending champion Wayne Gill (Charlestown) defeated Grahame George (Charlestown) in the final on their home course. The Association is indeed fortunate to have a dedicated tournament director at Newcastle in the form of John Mason.

Australian Veterans Golf Union

The 2015 AVGU Championships were reported on at last year's AGM as the event was held earlier in the year because of climate considerations in Darwin. The 2016 Championships commence next Sunday in the Adelaide Hills district using courses at Flagstaff Hill, Blackwood and Vines of Reynella. The event has attracted 216 male entrants, 70 female entrants and 60 non playing companions resulting in some 360 patrons attending the presentation dinner on the last night. NSW entries number 40 men and 30 women which overall is a quarter of the field.

Next year it is Queensland's turn and the event will be conducted at the Gold Coast using resort courses at The Glades, Palm Meadows and Royal Pines in the week commencing October 16. Go Golfing have been contracted to oversee much of the golfing administration and because carts are compulsory the entry fee includes cart costs for the four days. That fee is \$495, providing a deposit of \$100 is lodged before December 11 this year, increasing to \$545 thereafter.

In 2018 it is the turn of NSW to host the event and it will be conducted in the Port Stephens region. Tournament Director Dave Flatt heads up a very active committee. They have attained Regis as the naming sponsor and are also negotiating with Go Golfing to work on some administrative matters. The courses being used are Nelson Bay, Horizons and Pacific Dunes with Muree to be used as a backup course. David reports that the committee hopes to keep the entry fee around the \$350 mark as the courses are not as dependent on cart use as those on the Gold Coast.

Conclusion

While conscious of the fact that this report should only cover the past twelve months I cannot help but review in my mind the last twenty years or so. I still vividly recall Des Coady approaching me at the start of 1997 to consider taking on the role of Secretary. I accepted and so began the long journey which ends today. The satisfaction gained is immeasurable as well as the many life experiences I have had in meeting veteran golfers and administrators around NSW, and indeed Australia, as next week's national championships will be my 21st appearance in that event. Since 1997 I have worked with 29 other personnel on state council which for that period of time does not seem many but probably reflects the commitment of those people to the task of fostering veteran golf in this state.

Finally I would again like to thank every member of the outgoing Council, as well as all Group and Club administrators, for their work and support in the promotion of veteran golf. My best wishes go to the incoming Council and I trust that all veteran members enjoy a safe, healthy festive season. Remember whatever hiccups that may occur on and off the course, just keep on the right side of the grass.

Richard Farrant
President NSWVGA
November 2nd 2016

President then added a report on health of David Dale, the current NSWVGA Strokeplay Champion, who suffered a serious illness recently, but he will still win the NSW Seniors Order of Merit award.

Motion to adopt President's 8th and final Annual Report moved Clr. Richard Doyle, seconded Clr. Ian Vidler , carried.

Webmaster's Annual Report: This will be brief. The Great Lakes/Manning Week of Golf has suffered in recent years from declining numbers, & Peter Miller was coerced back into the role of Tournament Director to resuscitate the event. I attempted to discuss this on a number of occasions but was swiftly put in my place & told "This is the Tournament Co-Ordinators role, leave it to him". In May 2016, another person was listed as Tournament Director & I was told Peter Miller has nothing to do with this event. Well, Peter Miller did conduct the event with an increased field, it will be back next year with attendance expect of some 170. There was much further in the report, however the Webmaster later asked that only the Manning Valley matter be considered his report.

Clr. Len Payne then moved "That the report not be received or accepted as it contains personal attacks, it is not relevant to his annual duties & is dissociative, disruptive & despicable". Clr. Col Darley said that it must be received as it is the Webmaster's report , whether we agree with it or not.

President then asked for the adoption of the Report, moved Clr. Col Darley ,seconded Les Knox, Clr. Ian Vidler stated that "I feel the whole report was out of order & not what we expect of a Webmaster's Report". Delegate Bob Smith asked if the report could be amended, Webmaster responded "that is the report as I have written it. I wish the first part regarding Manning Valley to be considered as the report.'

President then put the motion to the vote, which resulted in 4 for & 4 against, as no one else wished to vote, President Dick used his casting vote to declare the report received.

Treasurer's Annual Report:

Detailed Profit and Loss Statement for the year ended
30/09/2016

Income.	2016	2015
Affiliation Fees Received	\$46,247.50	\$46,176.00
Week of Golf Player Registration Fees	\$13,014.00	\$14,256.00
Interest Received	\$950.93	\$1,418.49
Sponsorship Income	\$8,000.00	\$7,950.00
Administration Income	\$541.00	\$189.00

Total Income	\$68,753.43	\$70,200.71
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Expenses		
Administration fees	\$3,054.00	\$4,870.00
Affiliation fees	\$2,400.00	\$2,400.00
Audit fees	\$350.00	\$350.00
Depreciation		\$300.00
Donations	\$800.00	\$570.00
Insurances	\$7,691.48	\$6,863.68
Printing of Program Books	\$6,622.00	\$5,170.00
Postages, Printing & Stationery	\$2,479.63	\$2,174.32
S/Ship	\$2,000.00	\$1,000.00
Telephones	\$600.00	\$600.00
Tournament Expenses	\$7,990.50	\$10,084.50
Travel Expenses to attend NSWVGA	\$13,209.42	\$11,574.80
Trophies, Shields & Presentation folders	\$18,055.70	\$18,522.40
Website	\$1,912.17	\$1,779.00

Total Expenses	\$67,164.90	\$66,258.70
Net gain for year ending 30th September 2015		\$3,942.01
Net gain for year ending 30th September 2016	\$1,588.53	

Balance Sheet for NSWVGA year ending 30th September 2016

Current Assets.

Bank	\$20,972.30
Term Deposit at The Greater at 3.0%	\$38,000.00
Stock of Vouchers	\$1,050.00
Total Current Assets	\$60,022.30
Non-Current Assets @written down value	nil
Total Assets	\$60,022.30

Members Funds

Accumulated Members Funds	\$58,091.57
Retained gain for this year	\$1588.53.
Total Equity	\$59,680.10

Motion to adopt Treasurers annual Profit & Loss report for year & Balance Sheet as presented moved Len Payne seconded Richard Doyle – carried.

A further motion to roll-over the current Term Deposit with Greater on 6th November, 2016 moved Clr. Col Darley, seconded Les Knox – carried.

Tournament Co-ordinator's Annual Report:

Match and Programme Coordinators report.

The 2016 Week of Golf programme is almost complete with all events being conducted with the exception of Fossickers Way, Junee and Lower South Coast, all forced to cancel their events for different reasons. Unfortunately some events have been affected by inclement weather but the veteran golfers have battled on in spite of the elements. Attendances at these tournaments have remained similar to 2015. However it should be noted that the events held at smaller, more isolated clubs such as Broken Hill, Leeton and Junee struggle to attract players to their events. I urge all members to consider these events when planning 2017. The hospitality offered at these events is as good as you will get anywhere else in the state.

While mentioning Weeks of Golf I must pay tribute to the hard working Tournament Directors and their committees who provide the opportunity for a large number of veteran golfers to travel the state and play the game they so obviously love. Their role in keeping so many people active in latter years is of inestimable value to the community of retirees.

While the financial benefits to the local community of a Week of Golf have not been assessed recently there is no doubt that they certainly are of great value to the area and

that, in itself, is a positive selling point when seeking sponsorship. Another group of veterans throughout the state who deserve recognition are those who volunteer for roles within their local Groups. Without their efforts Veterans golf would grind to a halt so to all those Group Secretaries, Captains, Treasurers and other volunteers who keep golf running I offer my congratulations and, on behalf of the veteran community, our gratitude.

The 2017 Programme has been on the Website since June and yet I am still receiving calls on dates for next year. I would encourage all golfers to use the NSWVGA website as their first reference to discover what is happening in our world of golf. There are still some Tournament Directors who seem reluctant to take advantage of this resource to advertise events, recognise sponsors and post results and it is all free of charge.

The 2018 Programme, currently in its first draft stage, will be sent to Tournament Directors in December for review by them and their committees. I would ask all TDs to respond to this document so I then know that you have received it. Should you have any issues with the positioning of your event then contact me immediately.

During October the Sand Green Championships were conducted in a joint venture with Golf NSW at Walcha Golf Club. The event could be considered a success in terms of the number of players but the incoming Match Committee will need to look at some organisational issues before a decision is reached concerning the event in 2017.

Both the Men's 4 Ball Sand Green Championship and the Mixed 4 Ball Sand Green Championships were conducted at Narromine and Grenfell respectively. Both events struggled for numbers which must be disappointing for the organisers who really need the support of local and nearby clubs for a successful tournament. Narromine, unfortunately, was reduced to an 18 hole event as the second round on Sunday was cancelled due to heavy early morning rain which flooded the greens.

To the organisers of these events I offer my congratulations for persevering and continuing to promote golf on Sand greens.

The NSWVGA Medal has been successfully conducted in many groups throughout the state. It certainly is achieving its aim of providing a competition for those golfers not attending Weeks of Golf and played at local clubs. At the time of writing there are only about 5 names on the Honour Board on the website but I am certain that more groups have finalised this event by now and I ask Group Secretaries to forward results to the website as soon as possible. The incoming Match Committee have been tasked in 2017 to investigate the possibility of taking the Medal to another level of competition. What form this takes is open for discussion but keep a look out for future developments.

The Stroke Play Championships, under the management of Les Knox and his Committee, has been a resounding success in 2016 with approximately 130 starters. I know Les and his Committee have put in a lot of hard work to reach this level of success and the event is now held in high esteem by the veteran golfers of NSW.

The Match Play Championship, being held in Newcastle this week, has suffered a down turn in numbers, probably due to the unavoidable clash with other events on the

Programme. John Mason, the Tournament Director has also been heavily involved in activities at his home club, Charlestown, this week so has been a busy man. Reports to hand suggest that those playing this week are enjoying the "match play" experience on golf courses in excellent condition.

Congratulations to Les and John for your contribution to Veterans golf in NSW.

To those retiring councillors I thank you for your time and effort in contributing to the management of Vets golf in this state. In addition I thank you for your cooperation and support at all levels within Executive Council. May your golf, like a good wine, improve with maturation.

Finally, I would like to pay tribute to retiring President, Dick Farrant. I have worked closely with Dick for 7 years on the Executive Committee now and can only marvel at his work output, his professionalism and his calm, reassuring demeanour in "tight" situations. His years of experience in the administration of Veterans golf and the knowledge accumulated in that time will be missed but his number will remain in my phone. On behalf of all veteran golfers in NSW I thank you for your massive contribution to Veterans golf in NSW. I know you will enjoy your retirement but you can now spend more time with Marie and the grandchildren which should take your mind off "constitutional matters." Lyn and I wish you all the best for the future.

Ian Vidler

Vice President and Programme coordinator.

Motion to adopt Programme Co-ordinator's Report moved Clr. Col Darley seconded Clr. John Dixon – carried.

Group Annual Reports received:

The following Group Annual reports have been received at time of Minutes printing:

Group 11 – Manning Valley.

Group 11 continues to grow. We have weeks of Golf at Gloucester & Great lakes/Manning valley with Harrington Waters planning for another Over B.... Eighty Week of golf.

These tournaments continue to grow & have good support from local businesses.

Fellowship amongst our group is strong and Club Open days are well supported. All clubs enjoy a good relationship with their golf club & many are the support staff & get done maintenance for members; clubs acknowledge this.

However, we are sad to report the loss of Krambach Golf Club. We understand that the once keen now elderly golfer who owns the land has given (Royal) Krambach golf Club notice that he will withdraw use of the course from late June 2017. This picturesque course features fenced greens, cattle & stock roam at will not caring about golfers or

coloured golf balls. We will miss their open days which always featured the best in country hospitality.

Deceased golfers: Tallwoods David Taylor, Club Taree Darcy Kristensen, Big John Guyer, Brian Croxon, Harrington Waters Lionel Bloomfield.

Keith Gibbs, Group 11 Secretary.

Group 14, Northern Rivers.

NRVGA Secretary's Report for 2016 Season

The Northern Rivers Veteran Golf is alive and well here on the Far North Coast. Our Association, Group 14 finished the year with over 1900 Veterans out enjoying themselves playing golf. We certainly promote the NSWVGA primary goal *"To promote golf for our veteran community"*. Held this year, were five Weeks Of Golf, played consecutively at Maclean, Ballina, Murwillumbah, Coolangatta Tweed and Yamba. All clubs had very good fields with visiting Veterans enjoying the hospitality, the camaraderie and the challenging golf that these Courses demand. There have been 16 Veteran Open Days played this year – one at each of our Member Clubs. Next year, in September, our 17th Club, Pottsville, will host their inaugural Vet Open Day.

Our NSWVGA Veteran Medal and our NRVGA Runner-Up Medal is calculated on the participation of these Open Days with extra points being allocated (for ability) to the first five placegetters at each of these days. This year the NSWVGA Medal again went to John Lowe from Lismore Veterans. John attended every Open Day and was placed in the top 5 at a couple of them. This is the second year in a row that John has won this medal. Our Runner-Up this year was Cliff Clothier from Murwillumbah Veterans. Cliff attended all but two Open Days and was also successful in being placed in the top five at a couple of Vet Open Days. There were two other Veterans who played at every Vet Open Day throughout the year.

Our year culminated on 24 October with our Veteran Championships being hosted, this year, by Casino Veterans. All participants had to meet the qualifying criteria of a minimum of playing in a minimum of three Veteran Open Days throughout the year.

2016 Champion is **John Quirk** from Casino, with Runner-Up, **Frank Knudson** from Ballina.

2016 Nett Winner is **Trevor Wood** from Casino, with Runner-Up, **Robert Ellison** from Lismore

2016 4BBB Champions are **John McCaffery** and **Denis Crowley** from Lismore on a countback from **Garry Brown** and **Bruce Waterson** from Coraki.

2016 Single Stableford Winner is **Noel Kinsley** from Casino, with **Ron Porter**, from Casino, as Runner-Up.

Barry Patch, from Casino, had a Hole-In-One on the 17th ... Congratulations.

Next year the NRVGA Championships will be played at Ocean Shores Country Club.

A sincere vote of "Thanks" was extended to our outgoing President, Bruce Walsh, at our AGM held on the 14 October, this year. Our elected Executive for 2017 is ...

President ... **John Watt** (Coraki)

Vice President North ... **Michael Cook** (Ocean Shores)

Vice President South ... **John Lowe** (Lismore)

Secretary / Treasurer ... **Ray Kent** (Murwillumbah)

Patron ... **Jim Kelly** (Lismore)

In closing, I would like to thank firstly, Kel Pearce, our Councillor to NSWVGA, who keeps me regularly informed of NSWVGA business, which is then passed on to all Clubs. Secondly, to all of our Veteran Clubs' executive for their promotion of Veteran Golf in the Northern Rivers and, especially the Secretaries of each Club who support me in my role of Association Secretary.

We look forward to another great year in 2017

Ray Kent ... Secretary
October 2016

Group 30 Annual Report:

NSW VGA Group 30 Report for 2016 .

1) Membership :-

a) Moree -----	100 members . (109)
b) Bingara -----	17 “ (14)
c) Goondiwindi --	50 “ (50)
d) Warialda -----	45 “ (39)
Total	212 “ (212)

2) Moree Week of Golf :- The thirteenth edition of this tournament was a great success . 226 players (198) from about 50 Clubs played 864 (764) rounds of golf over the 4 days . We again had very good support for the A Grade Mens competition with 42 players . Results have already been posted on the website .

3) Moree Open Day was held on 1st September and saw 74 players from ours and neighboring clubs enjoy a very pleasant day . This year we ran the day as a Memorial Day for Passed Veterans . The Vickers family provided a Wall Clock for the best score of the day . This was won by Edith Kabel from Moree with 39 pts . Harborne Financial Services / Colonial First State , Campbell's Fuel and Suncorp Bank were very good sponsors of the day .

4) Regular Thursday fields average of 34.2 (18 to 47) [34.2] . The Fourth Group Championship was conducted in November over 2 rounds . Brad O'Mullane won A grade and John Reynolds won B grade . The nett winners were Peter Cobb and George Kabel in A & B grades respectively .

5) Warialda reported another good year .

6) Goondiwindi reported another successful year . Their membership has remained at 50 . The Open Day on 3rd August attracted a field of 95 on a showery day . The winner was David Heath (Goondi) 37 pts . The Club had players from Tenterfield , Glen Innes , Inverell , Narrabri & Moree .

7) Bingara reported that the “ Fossickers Way “ Week of Golf had to be cancelled due to poor support .

8) The Group 30 Medal . This new innovation by the NSW VGA was contested for the first time this year . The winner was determined by addition of players scores from the Warialda , Goondiwindi and Moree Open Days . The result was that Ian Treloar (Moree) defeated John Reynolds (Moree) by one point . 91 to 90

P.A.Gough (Secretary Group 30)

Motion to receive Group Annual Reports moved Clr. Kel Pearce, seconded Clr. Richard Doyle – carried.

Notices of Motion of which due notice received:

- 1. Notice of motion to appoint a Patron. Motion reads “That the NSWVGA amend the current Constitution to create the position of Patron of NSWVGA with appropriate conditions”. Motion carried.**

This notice of motion was formally moved for adoption by Clr. Col Darley seconded Les Knox – declared carried, with 1 vote recorded against.

- 2. Notice of motion to amend the Constitution at the AGM by amending clauses 1.6, 1.7, 4.3, & inserting a new clause 1.8. The purpose is to allow eligible veteran golfer members of “Ungrouped Clubs” to be accepted as members of NSWVGA & to clarify the meaning of a Registered Golf Club. Motion was “To request the Executive Council at the next AGM to approve these Constitutional Amendments & additions”. Motion carried.**

Following an explanation from Clr. Richard Doyle & debate, the notion of motion was formally moved for adoption by Clr. Richard Doyle seconded Clr. Len Payne & declared – carried.

Life member Bob Coulson then provided a warm letter of appreciation from Past President Des Coady, detailing President Dick Farrant’s long & distinguished service to Veteran’s Golf & wishing he & Marie best wishes for the future. The letter was received on motion of Clr. David Gunner, seconded Clr. Ian Vidler – carried unopposed.

The issue of the Tournament Co-Ordinators position not being listed in the Constitution was raised, the President confirmed this was so & that position was filled by a member of the Executive Council currently, & that it will be up to the incoming Executive Council to deal with this.

President then thanked Secretary Len for his work preparing for the election, that there was an “irrational” comment on the website claiming that it was all wrong, however that Secretary had done everything right as per the Constitution, nominations closed at 5p.m Wednesday 26th October & were subsequently released for publication.

He then reminded voters of items 1.3 & 9.3.2 of the Constitution & read out those items. Under these conditions no one can hold two positions listed, he had checked this out with Dept. Fair Trading who stated that the Constitution must be abided by.

The election of a Returning Officer was then called, Life member Bob Coulson (non-voting) was nominated by Clr. Richard Doyle seconded Les Knox & endorsed.

The appointment of scrutineers was called & Bill Poole & Ken Judd (non-voting observers) were endorsed.

Clr. Col Darley then announced his withdrawal of his nomination & read out his views on role of a Councillor.

The Webmaster then challenged the President's ruling that a person could only hold one listed position on the Executive Council; After the President re-iterated that advice was sought & gained from Dept. of Fair Trading, Clr. Len Payne then moved "that the President's ruling be upheld based on the Constitution", seconded Richard Doyle, declared carried with 2 voting against .

President then declared all positions vacant & left the chair.

Bob Coulson then assumed the chair & called for nominations, as submitted, for all positions. The results of the election were:

PRESIDENT OF NSWVGA INC. FOR 2017: Ian Vidler declared elected (unopposed).

Vice-Presidents (2): with 3 nominees a ballot was held & resulted in:

Richard Doyle & Kelvin Pearce, being declared elected.

Secretary: declared elected, Len Payne (unopposed).

Treasurer: declared elected, David Gunner (unopposed).

Webmaster: declared elected, Paul Horton (unopposed).

As the counting of votes for Councillors was lengthy, the Returning Officer moved to the election of Auditor. Current Auditor Hans Juerken (Orange) was nominated by Clr. David Gunner, seconded Clr. Len Payne. With no other nominations, he was declared elected.

Then the nomination of NSWVGA Delegate to AVGU for 2017 was called, Incoming President Ian Vidler was nominated by Clr. Len Payne seconded Col Darley- With no other nominations Ian Vidler was declared elected unopposed.

Councillors: With now 8 nominees for 6 positions a ballot was held & result was:

Declared elected Councillors for 2017: John Dixon, Stuart Dossetor, John Daley, Lance Fredericks, Leslie Knox & Garry Mason.

Motion to destroy all ballot papers was moved By Clr. David Gunner seconded Clr. Ian Vidler –carried.

Clr. Ian Vidler was then invited to take the chair as President of NSWVGA Inc.

He commenced by thanking outgoing Executive members & expressed the wish

That this support would continue.

General Business (pertinent to AGM):

1. Clr. Les Knox raised the issue of appointment of a Patron. He moved that we take nominations for this position today. Following discussion, it was agreed that it be taken from this meeting to the next meeting for determination.
2. Treasurer Clr. David Gunner advised of the requirement for new cheque signatories to be determined and names recorded in the minutes for the Greater Building Society. He then moved that President Clr. Ian Vidler, Secretary Clr. Len Payne, & Treasurer Clr. David Gunner be recorded as new cheque signatories, seconded Les Mann – carried.

3. Following further discussion the following motion was moved “that a further clause 13.1 be added to the Constitution stating” that the Governing Council shall establish a position of Patron, the role of will be determined by the Executive Council from to time” this motion was moved by Clr. Richard Doyle, seconded by Bob Smith and declared - carried.

Webmaster Paul Horton then expressed wish to outgoing Clr. Col Darley be thanked for his excellent caricatures of various people over the years & his work on the Executive. This was received with applause. The President added his thanks & hoped that his caricatures would continue. Col. responded.

4. Secretary Len Payne then tendered to the President his letter of resignation, which was read out by the President. In it he expressed the wish that it bring about a more harmonious working environment within the Executive Council. He advised that due to the amount of work required prior to the next meeting, he would continue to act in the role till then. President expressed his sadness, had to accept it , but understood the situation & expressed the hope that the matter could be resolved.
5. President then called for any further general business & the following was moved:

Proposal to shut down NSWVGA Website

Newly elected Vice President, Richard Doyle, moved a motion, Seconded by former Vice President, John Dixon, that the Governing Council, using its powers under clause 8.1 of the Constitution, give a direction to the Executive Council for the immediate shut down of the NSWVGA Website on the grounds that:

- the website is under the total control of the Webmaster who has caused it to be used in recent weeks as a vehicle to cause gross embarrassment to the Executive Council and to individuals within that Council, and, by implication also to the Governing Council, and
- moreover, the extent of such control has denied persons so criticised and maligned any right of reply on the website, in itself a denial of natural justice, and
- the website is far too complicated in its operation for easy use by the floating population of Veteran aged officials, some of whom have also been criticised over time for their non-compliance or inability to grasp the complexities of its operation, and
- the system is far too dependent upon the Webmaster who is grossly overworked to maintain the level of delivery it requires and is incapable of being taken over by another veteran volunteer beyond the current Webmaster. and

that the Council support the Executive Council to appoint a Website Committee to investigate, if required, the

development of a new Website and appropriate protocols for its operation..

[The Proposer and Secunder *acknowledged the many years of tireless work contributed by the Webmaster, Paul Horton, in the creation and maintenance of the NSWVGA Website.*]

A vigorous debate followed, during which the Webmaster stormed out of the meeting. At this time the President asked that it be recorded that the Webmaster left the meeting of his own volition at approximately 12.35p.m.

The Council noted in the circumstances there was no-one else within the voluntary membership who could take over the existing Website and that several Councillors were finding it extremely difficult to work with the Webmaster, who had not offered any form of apologies to-date.. Council also noted the exceptional hard work put in by the Webmaster over many years and that he is well deserving of his past award of Life Membership of the Association.

In the insurmountable circumstances of this situation the Governing Council by overwhelming majority, directed executive Council to close the Website and to establish a search for another more easily managed site. Council also **Resolved**, pursuant to clause 8.1 of the Constitution, to direct the Webmaster not to put any further personal or editorial comments on the website.

As noted, this motion was moved by Clr. Richard Doyle, seconded by Clr. John Dixon and declared –carried.

With no further business , the President declared the 41st Annual General Meeting closed at 1.05 p.m.

Following this, a presentation was made to retiring President, Dick Farrant & his wife Marie & light refreshments were then served.

Ian Vidler , President

Len Payne, Acting Secretary