

NRVGA Minutes of Half Yearly Meeting – 23 June 2017

Held at Ocean Shores Country Club

Meeting Opened ... 9.23am

Chair ... John Watt (Coraki) – President NRVGA

Attendance:

Ballina – David Fraser, David Maxwell
Byron Bay – Gary McCann, Brian Lee, Greg Hammond
Casino – Bob Betts, Keith Ruttley (Life Member), John Weaver
Club Banora – Dave Harrod
Coolangatta Tweed – Ross Lever, Nick Browne
Coraki – Graeme Bonamy, John Watt
Grafton – Trevor Townsend, Graeme Smith
Iluka – No representative
Kyogle – Peter Schipanski, Barry Little
Lismore – John Lowe, Col Fisher
Maclean – Peter Hamilton
Mullumbimby – Wayne Rogers, Alex Benham
Murwillumbah – Kel Pearce, Ray Kent
Ocean Shores – Bill Nichols
Pottsville – No representative
Woodburn Evans Head – John Frederiksen, Warren Woodcock
Woodenbong – No representative
Yamba – John Daley, Ted Tuchin
Patron – Jim Kelly (Life Member) Lismore

Apologies:

Byron Bay – Reg Wallis
Casino – Ron Porter
Club Banora – Dave Wallia, Wayne Martlew
Coolangatta Tweed – Bob Murdoch
Coraki – Ted Browning, Max Fairfull
Iluka – Garry Brown
Lismore – Noel Bell
Maclean – Bob Harvey
Murwillumbah – Bob Green
Ocean Shores – Michael Cook
Woodenbong – Eric Taylor
Yamba – Greg Starr

John Watt began meeting by welcoming Life Members – Keith Ruttle and Jim Kelly (Patron) and also our new 18th Club to NRVGA – representatives Trevor Townsend and Graeme Smith. John then asked everyone to stand for a minutes silence for NRVGA Members who had recently passed away – Barry Kearns (Casino), Allan Berry (Mullumbimby), Russell Marsden (Life Member Mullumbimby), Tom Swiney (Mullumbimby), Phil Rann (Yamba), Graham Stahnke (Coraki), Clive Hann (WEH), Geoff Heathcote (WEH), Ron Palmer (WEH), Rob Mortimer (Kyogle).

John acknowledged Rod Fayle (Ballina) for his recent prestigious Order of Australia award. Congratulations to be passed onto Rod.

Minutes of Previous Meeting:

These had been posted on NRVGA Website, but as many of the Delegates were unfamiliar with the Website, Secretary Ray Kent read the Minutes of the AGM held at Byron Bay on 14 October 2016.

Business Arising from Minutes:

- NSWVGA Banner – On View – Courtesy of Murwillumbah Vets
- Letter written to Paul Horton re: Appreciation for help and effort establishing WOG
- Information re: NSWVGA Website (to be dealt with in Reports)

Minutes / Business Arising - Moved and Seconded John Lowe and Wayne Rogers CARRIED

Correspondence: INWARD

- 27 Oct 2016 – Ballina Vets to NSWVGA re: Comments in WOG Report – Copy to NRVGA
- 27 Oct 2016 – Ballina Vets to NSWVGA re: Councillor Nominations – Copy to NRVGA
- 25 Nov 2016 – Grafton District re: inability to form Executive Committee Group 32
- 10 Feb 2017 – Casino vets re: Passing away for Barry Kearns

Correspondence: OUTWARD

- 27 Oct 2016 – To Paul Horton (see Business Arising)
- 07 Jan 2017 – To Grafton Vets – re: Information from NSWVGA and NRVGA about joining Group 14 Veteran Association
- 08 Jan 2017 – To Grafton Vets re: offer of assistance from NRVGA to strengthen Grafton Vets as an entity within NRVGA
- 02 Feb 2017 – To all NRVGA Clubs re: Grafton as 18th Club and information about new members and registration with NSWVGA

Correspondence Moved and Seconded Ray Kent and John Frederiksen - CARRIED

Financial Report: (Copy Attached)

Balance as at 23 June 2017 is \$5,449.72

Term Deposit ANZ – Matures 18 June 2018 - \$6,000.00

Business Arising from Financial Report:

Motion – To remove Bruce Walsh (ex-president NRVGA) as signatory to NRVGA Account held at the ANZ Bank, and replace John Lowe, Lismore Vets (current NRVGA Vice President), as the second Contact / Signature to the Account.

Moved and Seconded – Ray Kent and John Daley - CARRIED

President's Report:

John Watt gave a verbal report as is usual with a Half Yearly Meeting.

- Congratulations to Casino for running a successful NRVGA Championship in October 2016
- NRVGA Champion 2016 – John Quirk from Casino Veterans
- Veteran Open Days are going well with participation and camaraderie good at these days
- The way we conduct a Vet Open Program and subsequent Veteran Open Days is unique to NSWVGA. John congratulated all Vet Committees in organising these days
- Highlighted a perceived problem with Iluka Vets. There have now been two meetings that there has been no representative from Iluka Veterans. Coupled with this John related his experience at Iluka Vet Open Day where a number of Clubs were not able to gain entry to the day. Also, Presentation was not good with only an extremely small number of Veterans present. Reference was not given to NRVGA Trophy Winners. John said that he had discussed this situation with Vice President John Lowe and stated that they both would travel to Iluka on one of their home Veteran Days to discuss these issues.
- Further discussion amongst the Delegates stated how Iluka used to be a vibrant participating Club at Open Days but this has now stopped. Woodburn Evans Head, Coraki and Maclean stated that they do have an Inter-Club competition with Iluka but numbers being reciprocated from Iluka are always down

Report Moved and Seconded – John Watt and Brian Lee – CARRIED

Secretary's Report:

The full report is attached.

The report covered:

- Thanks for allowing Change of Date for Meeting
- Veteran Open Day – Half of year's program has been run
- Reminder to Clubs to use "Plastic Vouchers from the two big Supermarket Chains" as NRVGA Non-Winning, Non-Local winners. The winners must be present at Presentation
- Remember to expect NRVGA Flag to arrive for display on day. Send an email to the next Club to tell them that the Flag has been sent (either by Post or Vet Courier)
- NSWVGA Forum held in Coffs Harbour – Wednesday 21 June 2017
 - ❖ nswvga.com.au – website work in progress
 - ❖ Group Secretaries now have access to update and maintain Group's Veterans details
 - ❖ Increase in NSWVGA Registration Fee to \$5.00 due on 01 October 2018 and from then on will increase by accumulated CPI increase every 5 years.
 - Increase will allow NSWVGA to expend funds on special projects – viz Increase in funds for veteran medals. Offering 1st 2nd and 3rd
 - 4BBB Championship at a Zone and/or State Level
 - Mixed Championship
 - Increased vouchers at Weeks Of Golf
 - Establishment of a Hardship Fund for struggling Veteran Clubs
 - Advertising for NSWVGA Handbook closes 30 October 2017

- With Increase forecasted for 2018, NRVGA Clubs are being put on notice that an increase in NSWVGA Fees will necessitate an INCREASE in NRVGA fees as from 01 October 2018
- Len Payne, Secretary NSWVGA asked that all Clubs and Group Associations have a succession plan, and that all Group Secretaries have an Assistant Secretary so that important information can be conveyed.
- Due to projected increase in 2018 Fees to NSWVGA, a motion regarding NRVGA Fees was put to the meeting.

Motion ... "That NRVGA Fees be set at \$7.50 per player as at 01 October 2018"

Moved and Seconded – Ray Kent and John Frederiksen – CARRIED

- Change of Date: **Motion ... "Confirm change advertised date of AGM to 27 October 2017"**
 - Current rotation of Championship Hosting to be decided at AGM 2017
- Secretary's Report - Moved and Seconded Ray Kent and Greg Hammond ... CARRIED

A Handout of current Club details and Office Bearers was handed to each Club

Councillor's Report: Kel Pearce

- Over 2000 members of NRVGA
 - Four of Five WOG Events filled to capacity. Any extra entries can be forwarded to Ballina
 - Ray mentioned succession planning in he report – position of Assistant Secretary
 - Acknowledge John Daley as NSWVGA Councillor – In charge of NSWVGA Program
 - Barry Maloney from Bellingen is the new Webmaster employed by NSWVGA to create and maintain NSWVGA website – go to nswvga.com.au
 - Kel expanded the information regarding increase to \$5.00 for NSWVGA Registration fee
- NSWVGA has \$40,000 in Term Deposit which is to be used in case of emergency
Working funds coming in from current registration fees are expended each year

General Business:

- Ray talked about Website created for NRVGA and demonstrated how it works
Members were encouraged to visit the website and explore its possibilities

nrvga.com and follow the prompts

Two Motions were put –

Motion 1 ... "That NRVGA purchase Wordpress Premium Theme, Domain Registration and Mapping at a cost of \$129.00. This cost is to be paid by Webmaster when due and then be reimbursed. This will be a recurring cost to NRVGA each year (30 March)"

Moved and Seconded Ray Kent and John Lowe - CARRIED

Motion 2 ... "That NRVGA purchase Adobe Photoshop Annual Subscription. This cost in 2017 is \$275.88 and is to be purchased by Webmaster when due and will be reimbursed. This will be a recurring cost each year (Nov each year)"

Moved and Seconded Ray Kent and John Lowe – CARRIED

- Jim Kelly (life Member and Patron) spoke on behalf of Keith Ruttley and himself, as to how good it was to see the Veteran Group in such a strong position. From humble beginnings to now digitally enhanced, the NRVGA is moving forward. Jim congratulated the Executive.
- Trevor Townsend (Grafton Veteran Golf Club) spoke
 - Thanked NRVGA for accepting Grafton Vets into the Group 14
 - It will take time for Grafton Vets to “acclimatise” to the notion of belonging to an Association but progress can be made.
 - Working on strengthening the Veteran Committee. Since John Tibbs stepped down, no-one would step up. This has to change.
- Ross Lever (Coolangatta Tweed) spoke about Open Days and the rising costs of Play/Lunch and then Hiring of Cart. Put in the cost of petrol and we see a “drop” in numbers attending. These are all contributing factors to reduced numbers from some Clubs.
- WEH responded as to how they subsidise Members travelling to veteran Open Days.
- Discussion followed about NOT charging for lunch and that participants purchase their own. Jim Kelly spoke about how this was tried many, many years ago and was proved NOT to be a success. However, in this year’s climate, maybe it may work. Worth exploring
- Keith Ruttley thanked the NRVGA for their contribution of Life member Shields to the Life Member’s Home Club. These are much appreciated and promote the efforts and contribution of these Vets. Shields are rigorously contested.

With no further General Business John Watt CLOSED the Meeting at 11.10am and welcomed all Delegates to adjourn for Nibbles and Refreshments

Ray Kent
 Secretary NRVGA
 24 June 2017