

N

ORTHERN RIVERS

VETERANS GOLF ASSOCIATION

THE FIRST TWENTY YEARS

1975 - 1995

BY
Reg Manning

NORTHERN RIVERS VETERANS GOLF ASSOCIATION

THE FIRST 20 YEARS - 1975 TO 1995

The venue Coolangatta Tweed Heads Golf Club - 5th June 1975.

Present at the inaugural Meeting was Frank Payne, Jim Henry, Bill Wallace of Ballina Club. Reeve Mitchell, Reg Hudson and Keith Hatcher of Coolangatta/Tweed.

R Mitchell moved "That an Association be formed and the name be "Northern Rivers Veterans Golfers Association", and that the other Golf Clubs in the NRDGA be asked to form a Club within their Club and to affiliate with us". Seconded F Payne.

J Henry moved R Mitchell seconded that Frank Payne be elected as President. Carried.

F Payne moved that Len Priddle be elected as Secretary Treasurer. Seconded R Mitchell. Carried.

R Hudson moved that a Committee be elected consisting of three from each of the Clubs present. Seconded F Payne. Carried.

Ballina representatives elected were F Payne, L Priddle and J Henry. Coolangatta/Tweed representatives elected were R Mitchell, R Hudson and K Hatcher.

It was decided that the next meeting to be held would be at Tweed Heads after golf on 3rd July and during the Australian Veterans visit to Coolangatta/Tweed Golf Club.

EDITORS NOTE: The Report of the Inaugural Meeting is printed exactly as recorded. There is no record of the Meeting held 3rd July - however the next record confirms the Minutes of the Inaugural Meeting - One can presume they got caught up in the activities of that day and forgot to hold the Meeting.

The next records are of Meeting held at Golf Club House Ballina 24th February 1976. The Association was joined by Lismore and Byron Bay.

Extracts:- President Frank Payne occupied the chair. Minutes of Inaugural Meeting were read and confirmed on motion of J Henry seconded R McGrath and carried.

Affiliation Fees - Moved R Mitchell, seconded R Hudson that this fee be \$5-00 per annum and if required that a levy of 10 cents per member be made to cover initial expenses. Fee payable 30th June each year.

Open Veterans Day - Moved R Mitchell seconded R McGrath that we hold our first Association Day on 1st April at Ballina, that we invite all Clubs to send players. That they do not have to be members of a Veterans Club or Association, Nomination Fee \$1-50 competition to be 18 Hole Stableford played in age grades 55-65, 66-100. The Secretary to arrange a suitable time with Ballina Club for starting preferably about 12 noon.

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING NORTHERN RIVERS VETERANS ASSOCIATION HELD AT
BYRON BAY GOLF CLUB ON WEDNESDAY 8TH DECEMBER 1976.**

Ocean Shores were represented at this meeting.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

President - Reeve Mitchell

Secretary/Treasurer - Phil Kennedy.

Business - The following programme was arranged for the forthcoming year.

Ballina	Wednesday 25/05/1977	Byron Bay	Wednesday 17/08/1977
Ocean Shores	Wednesday 16/02/1977	Cool/Tweed	Wednesday 10/11/1977

It was resolved that each Club arrange its own programme for the day and make charges to its own requirements. That Clubs not represented and requiring a date that this be allocated by Secretary.

Affiliation Fee. Moved F Payne that we charge each Club a fee of 50 cents per Member for the next 12 months, seconded J Henry - Carried.

Membership Cards. Moved F Payne that we procure a suitable Membership Card for each Member for use when visiting and when required, seconded J Kelly - Carried.

ANNUAL MEETING.

It was resolved that the next Annual Meeting be held at Coolangatta/Tweed Heads on 10th November 1977.

The next report is of a meeting held at Byron Bay Golf Club 17th August 1977.

Reeve Mitchell was President.

The attendance sheet has the names of:- R Mitchell, P Kennedy Coolangatta/Tweed. J Kelly, A Towle Ocean Shores. S Cook, G Devlin Lismore. J Elliot Murwillumbah. R Pullman, R McGrath, W Buton, S Creighton Byron Bay.

The Secretary Treasurer reported a balance of \$64-64. Current Membership is 331, making the NRVGA the largest region outside Sydney.

1,000 Letterheads ordered from Australian Veterans Association.

General - It was resolved on the motion of G Devlin and P Kennedy that each Club be responsible for the conduct of its Open Day, arranging events and supplying trophies. A flat fee of \$2-00 to include some refreshments at half way.

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING to be held at Ocean Shores on 6th December 1977 at 10am.

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING WAS HELD AT OCEAN SHORES ON 6TH DECEMBER 1977.

Reeve Mitchell - President.

Present:- R Mitchell, P Kennedy, A Cowdell, R Hudson (Coolangatta/Tweed). R McGrath, A Blair (Byron Bay). S Cook, G Devlin (Lismore). J Kelly, A Towle (Ocean Shores). F Payne (Ballina). W Renehan, J Elliott (Murwillumbah).

Membership Report 341.

Ballina 49, Byron Bay 24, Coolangatta/Tweed 190, Lismore 26, Murwillumbah 34, Ocean Shores 18.

Credit Balance \$27-90.

Fees - Resolved on the motion of S Cook and W Renehan that the following scale of fees apply:-

Up to 20 Members	\$ 5-00
Up to 50 Members	\$10-00
51 - 100 Members	\$20-00
Over	\$40-00

General - Resolved on motion of A Cowdell and J Elliot that the region use the AVGA programme as a means of identification. Motion - F Payne and A Cowdell that we purchase name tags from AVGA.

1978 had two Meetings. The first at Lismore Golf Club on 4th July.

R Mitchell - Chairman.

Present - R Mitchell, P Kennedy, J Elliot, G Devlin, S Cook, N Smith, J Price and J Willis.

The Secretary (P Kennedy) made enquires as to cost of printing own programme book - cost of \$80-00 for 500 - G Devlin thought he could get it cheaper.

The fee scale was again amended to:-

1 - 25 Members	\$10-00
26 - 50 Members	\$15-00
51 - 100 Members	\$25-00
Over	\$50-00

AGM to be held as close as possible to 31/10/1978 so all Office Bearers could be advised to AVGA.

AGM AT MURWILLUMBAH GOLF CLUB ON WEDNESDAY 25TH OCTOBER 1978.

R Mitchell - Chairman, P Kennedy (Secretary/Treasurer).

Finance - The bank balance had increased to \$98-03. Terranora and Casino had joined and Woodburn /Evans Head advised they had formed a Club with 12 members. Nine Clubs now in

Northern Rivers Veterans Golf Association, total 463. Coolangatta/Tweed 221, Lismore 48, Ballina 47, Terranora 44, Murwillumbah 35, Byron Bay 20, Casino 18, Ocean Shores 18, Woodburn/Evans Head 12.

Affiliation fees remained as set at last meeting.

Motion - G Cartwright - M O'Hara that Members endeavour to attend AGM of AVGA as it was felt that the district needed representation.

G Devlin failed to get a cheaper rate for programme cards.

This year saw the introduction of sponsors with the NRDGA picking up the tab.

It was also the first mention of Veteran Championship - The Championship was to be played at Coolangatta in conjunction with the Handicap Championship on Thursday 12th April 1979.

The matter of conducting Pennant Matches within the Association as discussed - The matter was to be decided at a Special Meeting to be held at Coolangatta/Tweed on 16th November.

Phil Kennedy gave a short resume of his recent participation in the World Seniors Championship at Broadmoor U.S.A.

Next Meeting at Ocean Shores 23rd October 1979.

R Mitchell (Chair) was an apology. Stan Cook was elected President, Phil Kennedy Secretary/Treasurer, Jim Kelly Vice President.

The year finished with a profit of \$38-52.

P Kennedy and C Grimstone attended the AGM of NSWVGA (although at that time it was listed as AVA. The Club that we now know as Sydney Vets).

The Pennant issue was rejected. Kyogle joined and the total membership had climbed to 561.

General: A vote of thanks to Reeve Mitchell, and hope that he would soon recover from his illness.

Apparently the NRVGA had settled into having Annual Meetings only as the next **AGM WAS SET DOWN FOR 22ND OCTOBER 1980.**

It was reported at this meeting the sad passing of Reeve Mitchell.

Stan Cook President, other to attend R McGrath, W Oldmeadow, A Armstrong, V Roberts, F Marsh, C Underwood, W Renehan, J Elliot, J Conley, M O'Harah.

Apologies - F Payne, S Gardner, C Wright and J Fawcett.

Joe Elliot joined the ranks as Vice President.

The Finance had increased to \$123-86. Jim Kelly resigned from V.P. as he was leaving the district.

The AVGA conducted an Association week in Sydney - 16 of NRVGA attended and several won Trophies.

Messrs Cook and Kennedy attended the AGM of the AVGA - where it was confirmed an International Tournament would cover three venues, Sydney, Gold Coast and Port Macquarie in March/April 1981.

Fees were adjusted again:

Up to 25 Members	\$10-00
26 to 50 Members	\$20-00
51 to 100 Members	\$40-00
Over	\$80-00

The next AGM was set down for October 1981 at Ballina.

SEVENTH AGM OF NRVGA HELD AT BALLINA GOLF CLUB ON WEDNESDAY 21ST OCTOBER 1981.

Stan Cook and Phil Kennedy still at the helm. However at the election of Officers Phil stepped down in favour of W.E. Renahan.

Frank Marsh joined Joe Elliott as Vice President.

The income for the year was \$311-90. Expenses \$273-60, profit of \$38-30. Jim Willis, President of Casino since inception passed away.

Phil Kennedy advised he had attended several AVGA Meetings in Sydney where it was decided to form an Australian Council to conduct International and Major Affairs of the AVGA.

Phil was elected as Queensland Representative and charged with the object of forming a Queensland Veteran Golfers Association.

The next International Australian Veterans Championship will be held at Coolangatta/Tweed Golf Club from March 24 to April 2 1982. Fees: Men \$125, Ladies \$80.

Mullumbimby joined with 41 Members. Total Membership now 847. Fees will remain as last meeting.

It was requested that all Clubs adhere to the Official age limits for Open Days, these are:- 55-61, 62-65, 66-69, 70 plus.

Note: As we are getting older and still playing Golf in the 80's some Clubs adjust these figures to get equal fields in age groups.

Next AGM 20th October 1982 - the first of the "Office Bearers" of Affiliated Clubs as at 30th September 1982 shows the following:

President	Stan Cook
Vice President	Joe Elliott
Vice President	Fran Marsh
Secretary	Bill Renehan
Ballina	Frank Payne - Len Priddle
Byron Bay	Ross Poolman - Reg McGrath
Casino	Ron Sweeney - Alex Armstrong
Coolangatta/Tweed	Gerry Fitzgerald - Ted Wigram
Coraki	George Orchard - Jim Ormond
Kyogle	Frank Marsh - Ray Riordan
Lismore	Gordon Devlin - Cliff Underwood
Murwillumbah	Bill Renehan - Joe Elliott
Ocean Shores	John Acton - John Russell
Mullumbimby	Ken Jones - Len Walboom
Terranora	Mick O'Hara - Dick Wood
Woodburn/Evans Head	Charlie Wright - Jack Fawcett

It is interesting to note O.W. (Bill) Sidwell was Secretary of AVGA - What this man has achieved for his Club is remarkable. Phil Kennedy was then given the title of "Queensland Delegate to AVGA National Council".

20TH OCTOBER 1982 A.G.M. N.R.V.G.A. HELD AT MULLUMBIMBY GOLF CLUB.

Some new names, ones that we know are still active in the Group, appear in this Report - Harry Thornhill, A Jones, C Underwood, F Marsh, R Riordan, J Gardiner, J Russell, S Greene, G Orchard, G Fitzgerald, D McPhee, J Fitzhardinge, R Bathgate, J Fawcett, R Sweeney, H Armstrong, J Elliot, W Renehan and S Cook.

Frank Marsh took over as President. Vice Presidents Joe Elliott and John Clunne. Secretary Treasurer Bill Renehan.

In the last year two members passed on - Gordon Devlin of Lismore, and John McManus of Kyogle.

Coraki joined and Yamba/McLean looked like joining with Woodburn/Evans Head.

Phil Kennedy reported the Qantas International Event held at Coolangatta/Tweed had been an outstanding success. Phil also tripped off to USA and representing Australia won the Event.

Our first Veterans Champion is H Douglas (72) on Murwillumbah Course.

The Fees remain the same!

Life Membership was bestowed on Stan Cook and Phil Kennedy.

Motorised Buggies came under notice. First draft of NRVGA Constitution. AVGU Constitution accepted NSWVGA was born and Constitution adopted. This is a new Association to replace A.V.G.A.

The First of the Half Yearly Meetings appeared in 1983. Held at Ocean Shores on 18th July 1983.

Frank Marsh - President.

Maclean joined. Maclean, Clarence Heads and Yamba with a single executive, requested one day per year on a rotation of Courses.

Motorised Carts accepted in ALL N.R.V.G.A. Events.

On the sick list was Alex Armstrong and Len Priddle.

John Clunne outlined a proposal to divide the Association into North and South Zones, the record reads "After very exhaustive discussion, causes and possible remedies, it was decided to form a Committee of five to work it out".

NOTE: Things have not changed, if it is too hot to handle - form a Committee! That Committee was John Clunne, Jack Fawcett, George Orchard, John Russell and Cliff Underwood.

An A.V.G.A. (that man again Bill Sidwell) provided an A.V.G.A. Golf Shirt at \$13-00.

17TH OCTOBER 1983 OCEAN SHORES GOLF CLUB THE NINTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF NORTHERN RIVERS VETERANS GOLF ASSOCIATION.

A few more names this year. Keith Ruttle (Casino), Sid Fincham, O Cooke (Terranora), F Montague, J O'Keefe and J Sheehy (Maclean). The Zoning Committee was thanked for their effort - and continue with their investigation.

Len Priddle, Inaugural Secretary, passed on also John Gibson, Kyogle.

The Committee continued with the addition of Harry Thornhill as Assistant Secretary Treasurer. The Finance was on the up. Receipts \$408-43 with a balance of \$312-45 in the Bank.

Championships - Championship to be run in conjunction with host Club Open Day.

Ballots - The basis of elimination be the order of Nomination.

Constitution - This Association adopt a simple Constitution as provided by N.S.W.V.G.A.

Patron - L Melvaine - Stan Cook moved that Mr Allan Bond be invited to accept the Office of Patron N.R.V.G.A.

(Note): See what you missed out on Stan. You could have shared his cell.

The Fees remain as is.

Delegates to N.S.W.V.G.A. - I. Taylor, H Thornhill that the President be the delegate.

Honorarium - This is the first mention - the President be granted \$50-00.

BYRON BAY GOLF CLUB 4TH JUNE 1984 HALF YEAR MEETING N.R.V.G.A.

Frank Marsh in accident.

Zoning - Discussion continued - details to each Club - take home - discuss at A.G.M.

Ballina raised the Pennant Competition again - South Zone to play North Zone. No decision at this meeting.

MINUTES OF ANNUAL MEETING N.R.V.G.A. HELD AT OCEAN SHORES 8TH OCTOBER 1984.

Alex Armstrong passed over. Inclusion of Publicity Officer. Changes to Committee.

President John Clunne

Vice Presidents Joe Elliott - J Russell

Secretary/Treasurer H Thornhill

Publicity J Elliott

Patrons S Cook - P Kennedy - F Marsh

Delegates to N.S.W.V.G.A. - J Clunne - H Thornhill.

Finance - Credit \$212-98.

Fees to remain the same.

Ace Groups 55-59, 60-64, 65-69, 70 +.

Zoning scheme to be introduced next year for a trial period.

Pennants - Proposal withdrawn.

Start sheets introduced on Open Day and Championship. "Walk Up Start" not acceptable anymore.

We hit headlines in Queensland Golfer 1984!!

VETERAN GOLFERS FACE SPLIT

An Ocean Shores motion to split the Northern Rivers Veteran Golfers Association was carried at the associations annual general

meeting recently, despite opposition from Lismore and Ballina.

For the past two seasons courses have not been able to

accommodate all the veterans eager to participate in Open Invitation Days.

At most open days this year whole club nominations lodged in good time have been rejected because the field was already full.

In 1985, for a 12 month trial, the association will divide into two zones and four groups.

The first half of the year will be devoted to intra-zone invitation days, and the latter half to inter-zone and inter-group invitation.

However, no obstruction has been imposed to prevent individual veterans playing outside their group or zone for personal reasons.

Fifteen clubs were

represented at the meeting from Yamba to Coolangatta - Tweed Heads.

Officers elected for 1985 are: President, John Clunne (Coolangatta-Tweed); vice-presidents Joe Elliott (Murwillumbah) and John Russell (Ocean Shores); secretary-treasurer, Harry Thornhill (Lismore).

Patrons elected are: Phil Kennedy (Coolangatta-Tweed); Stan Cook (Lismore) and Frank Marsh. All are founding stalwarts of an association now approaching a membership of 1500 active veteran golfers.

MONDAY 3RD JUNE 1985 BYRON BAY HALF YEARLY MEETING N.R.V.G.A.

Money for Open Day required with nominations. Twin Towns application to join.

NOTICE OF MOTION FOR A.G.M. - (Ballina) That the present system of collecting Affiliation Fees from Member Clubs of the NRVGA on fixed charge basis per number of Members be discontinued, and replaced by a Capitation Fee of 50 cents per member payable annually on a given date as directed by the NRVGA.

Bank Balance - \$228-44.

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING FOR 1985 WAS HELD ON 21ST OCTOBER AT OCEAN SHORES GOLF CLUB.

Committee - President John Clunne, Vice President Joe Elliott, Vice President W Sommerville, Secretary Treasurer H Thornhill, Patrons S Cook, P Kennedy, F Marsh.

Twin Towns was accepted although they advised that under the conditions laid down by the Parent Club, an Open Day may not be available. The Veteran Membership was 212, with a 2 hour limit of Tee Time.

St. George Building Soc entered the Veteran movement.

The notice of motion from the previous meeting was discussed, the mover and seconder accepted the addition to the original motion "Such fees be charged at the Club where Member is handicapped". The motion was carried unanimously.

Possible sponsorship by St George Building Society of fixture cards statewide being incorporated into one sheet. At a cost of approximately \$3,000. It was decided to continue with the N.R.V.G.A. fixture card and send a copy to N.S.W.V.G.A. for inclusion with St George sponsorship if and when ratified.

Zoning - General opinion Zoning had not received a fair trial - Trial continue.

Life Membership - bestowed on Joe Elliott and Bill Renehan.

The meeting was given information of the cost of skirts, shirts and name badges.

NOTE - I know some of us play like old women, but do we have to wear skirts?

2ND JUNE 1986

MINUTE OF THE 4TH HALF YEARLY HELD AT BYRON BAY GOLF CLUB WAS A MARATHON MEETING.

Inclement weather cancelled the round of Golf. The Meeting was opened at 10.15 a.m. and closed at 12.45 p.m.

John Clunne was still President.

Interesting points are:- Les Johns, Sports Liaison Officer of Terranora Lakes Country Club, was available to organise T.V. coverage of the Open Day for Terranora Lakes Country Club.

The President in answering aspects raised by correspondence again stated the Association does not wish to direct or impose directives on any Club.

All Clubs to make recommendations to improve Open Days.

The President indicated the desirability of waiving the Honorarium.

Public Risk - Sid Fincham explained the Golf Club Insurance and emphasised the desirability of Members pursuing their coverage as a Club Member.

The Secretary, H Thornhill, said N.R.V.G.A. was unique wherein each Veteran Club functioned within their respective Club.

Affiliation Membership of N.S.W.V.G.A. exceeded 5,600.

Golfers playing in Veteran Open Days must be financial members of a Veterans Golf Club.

Note: Remember the first association day at Ballina invited non Veteran Members.

OCEAN SHORES WAS AGAIN THE VENUE OF THE 12TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - 27TH OCTOBER 1986.

My first thoughts on reading the apology list that this was to be a heated meeting. Thirteen apologised, thirty three attended and represented fourteen Clubs.

The first item was the re-introduction of the President Honorarium (\$50).

Other items discussed - playing standards, Open Day support and role of Associates, inaugural day at Twin Towns.

Overload on Open Days.

The Election followed:-

President	John Clunne
Vice Presidents	Stu Gardner, Pat Moller
Secretary/Treasurer	Harry Thornhill
Patrons	Frank Marsh, Stan Cook, Phil Kennedy

Balance of Divisions. It was resolved that the host Club determine the age grouping.

Zoning to continue on trial.

Programme Cards. A Sponsor was to be sought, in the meantime each Club was to be charged proportionally and the programme printed by N.R.V.G.A.

HALF YEARLY, BYRON BAY 1ST JUNE 1987.

That man again, Bill Sidwell, sent a raffle book for Sydney Vets. It is interesting to note that a Member, I Taylor, questioned Bill Sidwell's identity, being Sydney Vets or Australian Vets.

Financial Report shows a balance of \$375-85. The winners of the 9 hole event were presented with 2 puddings, valued \$5 each.

Fees to N.R.V.G.A. to be reviewed at each Annual General Meeting and payable by 31st January the following year.

"Litigation referred to in Minutes 1986 by J Cleary, Twin Towns Services Veteran Golfers. The Secretary informed the meeting that N.S.W.V.G.A. was researching those circumstances whereby injury to a player occurred during a Golf round and compensation available". I have written this exactly as it is in Minutes because the 1986 Minutes made no mention of this.

Zoning Report - Poor response of 9 Hole Clubs to Northern Zone.

Should Open Days be a source of revenue for Host Club.

Keith Ruttley suggested all Clubs hold meeting for Election of Officers before the Annual General Meeting of Northern Rivers Veteran Golfers Association. Note - where did I hear that before?

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 26TH OCTOBER 1987 - OCEAN SHORES GOLF CLUB.

Following nine holes of Golf the Meeting was under way at 1.15 p.m.

No alteration to Committee - Ballina commented upon the brevity of the Minutes - The Secretary replied that the Delegates should be supportive by attending Meetings, otherwise the length of the Minutes could become burdensome.

Motion - Moved Pat Moller, seconded R Donovan, that the Inter Zone dates be abandoned for 1988.

Fees - To remain at 50 cents per member.

Resolved and confirmed that Championship operate in conjunction with Club Open Day, and that in 1988 the Championship be played at Byron Bay. Carried.

Coolangatta Tweed Heads had been requested to consider hosting a Bi-Centennial Tournament in 1988. Ian Taylor informed the Meeting of the agreement by Coolangatta Tweed Heads Veteran Golf Club Committee, in principal, to the conducting of a Tournament in 1988.

The President requested each Delegate present to indicate his response in simple form by choosing one of the three words namely; enthusiastic, moderate or nil. The collective response was such that a Tournament would not be supported by Members of N.R.V.G.A.

Other matters - Entitlement of Life Members. Result - Life Members be exonerated from Annual Subscription.

Instead of age grouping - use handicap grouping. The motion failed to get a seconder.

THE HALF YEARLY MEETING AT BYRON BAY ON 6TH JUNE 1988 was hit with an increase in Affiliation Fees to N.S.W.V.G.A. in total 30 cents per Member. The increase to cover Administration costs - (does that have a familiar ring to it?).

The meeting discussed the increase and in particular the healthy financial position of N.S.W. \$3,427-77.

Floods took their toll in 1988, members failing to indicate non-attendance at Open Days. Nominations through Secretaries only to be discussed at 1988 A.G.M. Most Clubs advised they were conducting weekly competitions at their own club.

Queensland Veterans Golf Association had withdrawn from Australian Veterans Golf Union.

THE 1988 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AT OCEAN SHORES - 24TH OCTOBER 1988.

John Clunne stepped down and Stuart Gardner accepted the challenge. Many glowing words were spoken of John Clunne. Vice Presidents - Pat Moller and Neville Mercer. Patrons - F Marsh, S Cook, P Kennedy and J Clunne. Secretary Treasurer - H Thornhill.

It was suggested zoning be given another chance. With Open Days of two Clubs being played on same day. Ballina got a mention for having too many home Members play their Open Day.

After a lot of work and talk F Bell moved, P Spence seconded, that the formation motion for 1989 previously passed be rescinded - carried unanimously - it was further moved that 1989 be as for 1988. Carried unanimously.

Mullumbimby was granted a Mixed Foursome on Monday 22nd May 1989.

Kyogle granted Open Mixed Medley 13th July 1989.

Fees - 50 cents per Member.

R Molloy won the nine hole with 23 points.

1989 HALF YEARLY AT BYRON BAY 5TH JUNE 1989.

Mr Reg Gardiner was elected President of N.S.W.V.G.A.

National Championship and St George qualifying rounds would be played at Murwillumbah and Lismore.

Life Member badges purchased to cover expected requirements to year 2000 and beyond.

Note. Better stop handing out LM Medals, only one N.R.V.G.A. LM Medal left with six years to go.

Mullumbimby withdrew the Mixed Foursome Championship.

Life Members have full voting rights.

Separate age group 80 +, up to host Club.

Notice of the Fifteenth Annual General Meeting listed the following Notices of Motion:

1. Recision Motion "Affiliation Fees within NRVGA be reviewed at each AGM and payable by January 31st the following year on Membership as at 31st December following the AGM (H Thornhill - C Underwood).
2. That each Member receive a NSWVGA Membership Card for an Affiliation fee set by NRVGA at its AGM payment to be made by respective Club Secretaries within one month of receipt. (H Thornhill - C Underwood).
3. That Life Members have full voting rights Annual, Half Yearly and any special or extra ordinary meeting as called by the Executive of the Association. (P Moller, H King)".

Harry Thornhill advised he was not standing for nomination.

AT THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD AT OCEAN SHORES ON 16TH OCTOBER 1989 -
All Notices of Motion were carried.

Life Membership was bestowed on John Clunne.

Sleeveless tops with Veteran monogram was discussed - further information required.

President Stuart Gardner continued as President. Pat Moller, N Mercer Vice Presidents. A Secretary did not come from the Meeting so Harry Thornhill continued, providing an assistant was elected and take over at next A.G.M. Keith Whelan accepted.

A motion to move the Championship around the 18 hole courses was defeated.

Motion was carried to have each Club conducting an Open Day be requested to allocate at least four positions to each Club in the N.R.V.G.A.

It was noticed the poor attendance at presentation time. Sponsors not impressed. Tee and coffee to be available along with "Tooheys" after Open Day Competition.

It was agreed that Age Groupings was the best way to conduct Open Days.

THE HALF YEARLY HELD AT BYRON BAY ON JUNE 18TH 1990.

N Mercer resigned the position of Vice President.

Bank Balance \$469-70.

Notice Of Motion for A.G.M.

"Open Day Charges - Sponsors - Profits - Payment for Open Days - Mail and Phone contacts."

Samples of sleeveless top and shirts were shown. The comment was satisfying.

Twin Towns applied to conduct Australian Veteran Golfers Championship 1992.

N.R.V.G.A. reject the proposal re the Qantas International Senior Golfers Championship.

Ballina queried the reason for residential address on nomination for Coolangatta/Tweed Heads Open Day. The reply - St George, the sponsor, wished to thank the players for participating in the days Golf.

Note - "That's a sneaky way to get you on their mailing list".

The vacant Vice President position held over to A.G.M.

1990 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AT OCEAN SHORES - 22ND OCTOBER 1990.

Twin Towns awarded the Championship 1992.

Election:-	President	Stuart Gardner
	Vice Presidents	P Moller, J Cleary
	Secretary Treasurer	Keith Whelan
	Patrons	S Cook, J Clunne, F Marsh and P Kennedy.

Of all the foreshadowed notices of the Half Yearly, only one is recorded. That is, the Secretary use the most convenient means for distributing any notices.

THE HALF YEARLY MEETING AT BYRON BAY 3RD JUNE 1991.

N.S.W.V.G.A. hinted in their A.G.M. Minutes 1/3/1991 that affiliation fees could rise to 60 cents in 1992.

Stuart Gardner reported that capacity fields have been experienced at all Open Days. Despite the drought conditions, Golf was good.

Pat Moller spoke on his proposal for an alternate format for our Open Days. The suggestion was considered to have merit but no action taken. Pat was thanked for his input.

John Clunne submitted a paper but because of the wide range of subjects it was to be tabled and brought up at a future meeting.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OCEAN SHORES 21ST OCTOBER 1991.

N.S.W.V.G.A. advised the 100% increase would be dealt with at the 1992 A.G.M. of N.S.W.V.G.A.

It was resolved "All Club affiliated with N.R.V.G.A. conducting a programmed Open Day adopt payment of monies on player nomination".

Harry Thornhill was made a Life Member.

Election -	President	Stuart Gardner
	Vice Presidents	Pat Moller and Jim Cleary
	Secretary/Treasurer	Keith Whelan
	Patrons	S Cook, F Marsh, J Clunne and P Kennedy

Motion - H Thornhill, P Spence - That in view of the proposed increase to Affiliation Fees to NSWVGA, our Affiliation Fees rise to \$1-00 per head to take effect from January 1992.

1992 HALF YEARLY MEETING AT BYRON BAY - 1ST JUNE 1992.

Coolangatta Tweed Heads expressed dissatisfaction with the method used at the National Titles conducted by Cobram/Barooga. Only those Veterans with a handicap of 11 and under could participate in the Stroke Event - others played Stableford - At Banora Point the National Veterans Golf Championships will encompass the three grades.

N.S.W.V.G.A. pointed out that Merv Bourke, the Honorary Secretary of the above had omitted to advise all Associations the Affiliations Fees for 1992 should be 50 cents but that it is to continue to be 30 cents, however it was proposed and seconded the 1993 fee be 50 cents. Carried.

Bank Balance \$1743-00.

N.R.V.G.A. Meeting times be at 10.00 a.m. Golf game after meeting.

Open Day Nominations indicate which of their members possess either golf buggy or bike. Open Day Nominations sheets be sent out at least one month prior to Event.

John Clunne mentioned his discussion paper. To be brought up at another meeting.

Ocean Shores propose to have two day Open in 1993.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD AT OCEAN SHORES 19TH OCTOBER 1992.

Arising from Minutes - It was agreed to rescind the motion re meeting times. The following was carried: "The times of the half yearly and Annual Meeting be 1.30 p.m."

Letter to Merv Bourke suggesting all Correspondence be sent to N.R.V.G.A. Secretary only.

Kyogle suggested the Championship be spread between Ballina, Byron Bay, Mullumbimby and Ocean Shores. No action taken. Refer to half yearly meeting 1993.

President Stuart Gardner congratulated Twin Towns on conducting the Australian Veterans Championship.

Bank Balance \$1625-28.

Election -	President	Stuart Gardner
	Vice Presidents	Pat Moller and Jim Cleary
	Secretary/Treasurer	Keith Whelan
	Patrons	S Cook, J Clunne, F Marsh, P Kennedy and H Thornhill.

Ocean Shores Open Days 18th and 25th February 1993.

Presidents Honorarium \$75-00.

Jim Cleary complained that Club Secretaries were not passing Tournament information to Members.

The A.V.G.A. suggested that the title "Veteran Golfers" be altered to "Senior Golfers" - Clubs gave this the thumbs down.

Membership of N.R.V.G.A. 1925.

1ST JANUARY 1993. Merv Bourke relinquished the position of Secretary/Treasurer of NSWVGA and was replaced by Reg Gardner. Des Cody was elected President.

MINUTES OF HALF YEARLY MEETING HELD AT BYRON BAY 7TH JUNE 1993.

Vice President Pat Mollier in chair. Stuart missed his first meeting since taking the chair.

Arising - The letter, from the previous meeting, to Merv Bourke, was intended as a means of saving money for N.S.W.V.G.A. No reply had been received.

Mullumbimby entered the contest for the right to hold the N.R.V.G.A. Championship. decision - Byron Bay by its central position would host the Championship each year.

Meeting times - It was resolved to commence Annual and Half Yearly Meetings at 10.00 a.m. with 9 holes of Golf after the meeting.

Ocean Shores declared their Two Day Open a huge success and will continue with Two Day Opens.

Iluka was accepted into N.R.V.G.A.

Terranora mentioned lack of recognition by N.R.V.G.A. to anyone getting a hole in one during Open Days. It was resolved N.R.V.G.A. will provide trophy for hole in one at any Open Day and Championship. Trophy - Bottle of Scotch, certificate and ball mount.

Some Members nominating for Open Days are getting younger - (aren't we all) - it was suggested secretaries check age of members.

A suggestion (source unknown) that 25 cents per member be levied and given to A.V.G.U. As the A.V.G.U. conducts one championship per year, sponsorship and entrance fees will ensure a reasonable return. No action taken.

Secretaries to ensure nominations for N.R.V.G.A. Championship comply with requirements. That is - must have played in three Open Day events prior to Championship.

Bank Balance - \$2564-69.

THE 19TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD AT OCEAN SHORES 19TH OCTOBER 1993.

The Secretary explained he read all correspondence from N.S.W.V.G.A. and A.V.G.A. And considered a lot of them to be of no interest to Northern Rivers Club. It was resolved that all N.R.V.G.A. Clubs should receive copies.

Note - This is a great move, we save money for N.S.W.V.G.A. and transfer the expense of photo copying (10 cents each) and postage (45 cents each) to ourselves.

Election - Stuart did not accept nomination.

President	Pat Moller
Vice Presidents	Jim Cleary and Jim Ormond
Secretary/Treasurer	Keith Whelan accepted but indicated other duties required a new Secretary be found.

Stuart was thanked for his contribution to Veterans Golf.

As the bank balance was in excess of \$2000 it was decided to appoint an auditor. Ian Homfray accepted.

Presidents Honorarium \$75-00.

The maximum handicap in Veterans Open and Championship is 27.

Bruce Sanders suggested that perhaps those Clubs further down the Coast should form another Association - No action taken.

Coolangatta/Tweed advised three wheel Golf Buggies are not allowed on their course.

The Secretary to purchase a tape recorder for meetings.

6TH JUNE 1994 MINUTES OF HALF YEARLY MEETING.

During the period between meetings the position of Secretary/Treasurer was filled by Reg Manning, also Secretary/Treasurer of Terranora Lakes Country Club Veterans.

President Pat Moller requested the appointment of Reg be endorsed.

Jim Cleary resigned from Vice President due to illness.

N.S.W.V.G.A. Annual report advised affiliation fees in 1995 will increase from 30 cents to 50 cents. This matter was fully discussed plus the fact N.R.V.G.A. was not represented at the NSW AGM. However the AGM Report shows that the motion was carried without comment.

It was moved that we write and request justification of a 60% increase.

An Amendment from Peter Lawrence and Ron Lewis was carried "As we have an organisation such as the NSWVGA and it consists of responsible people, I would feel that at time to time the President of that Association should go around and meet the member organisation. It is the feeling of this Committee that we should invite the President of the NSWVGA to attend a Special Meeting and talk to us about the functions of that Association and also the relationship of the Members of that Association".

Note - This motion was part of a letter sent to NSWVGA. The President Mr Des Coady replied and met delegates at Twin Towns Sports Complex on 9th September 1994.

The Meeting concluded with a reflection of Veteran Golf in Australia where overseas, interstate and NSW Open Events plus State Championships are available in a network of Golf we should be proud of and it should be safeguarded.

It was resolved that dual membership of Veteran Golf Clubs nominate for Open Days from the Club that holds their Handicap.

Casino went to Two Days Open.

Iluka spoke on the proposed new group. Some Clubs rejected the move, others undecided.

Pat Moller gave notice that at the AGM he will move for Stuart Gardner to be made a Life Member.

The filling of the vacancy for Vice President held over until A.G.M.

MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF NORTHERN RIVERS VETERAN GOLFERS ASSOCIATION HELD AT OCEAN SHORES COUNTRY CLUB MONDAY 17TH OCTOBER 1994.

Pat Moller spoke of the Meeting with Des Coady and the success it achieved.

Peter Lawrence spoke on two letters from Terranora re Open Day nominations from dual Club Members. 30 to 40 Southern State Golfers spend three to four months in our area each year. These people are fully paid up Members of Terranora Lakes Country Club. After much discussion it was agreed interstate members should be considered as members outside the NRVGA and eligible to nominate in Veteran Events. Dual Membership within the NRVGA, the decision was that as there is only one Veteran Organisation in this area (NRVGA) Members can nominate from any Club that they are a financial member of.

Woodenbong was accepted into NRVGA, Club number 16, making our total membership 2,000. It was suggested we are the largest Group in the Veteran movement.

Bank Balance \$3,013-22.

Stuart Gardner was presented with his Life Membership Badge. Stuart thanked the Delegates and promised his continued support.

Pat Moller - John Clunne, that the name of Stan Cook be submitted to NSWVGA for Life Membership of that Association for his service to Veteran Golf in NSW.

Election - Pat Moller withdrew because of illness.

President	Bruce Sanders
Vice Presidents	Jim Ormond and Tom Carney
Secretary/Treasurer	Reg Manning
Auditor	Ian Homfray
Patrons	Stan Cook, Frank Marsh, John Clunne, Harry Thornhill and Stuart Gardner.

Stan Cook - Stan Creighton moved that a special day be arranged in 1995 to commemorate 20 years of NRVGA. It was decided to hold this day at Coolangatta/Tweed Heads Golf Club on Thursday 8th June 1995 in conjunction with their Open Day.

Honorarium - An amendment by Jim Ormond - John Twentyman was carried making the Honorarium equivalent to the Entrance Fee of each Open Day that the President participates in.

General Business - Suggestion that gross scores be considered in Open Days. Delegates to discuss with own Clubs.

Question - Can Members with less than three Open Day Events played, enter the Championship? The printed matter on the programme card was read advising three Open Days must be played to be eligible for nomination to the Championship.

I hope this Report on the first 20 years of Northern Rivers Veteran Golf Association is enjoyed as much as I have enjoyed compiling it. If it solves some of the mysteries of past motions then it was worth the time.

Reg Manning
The Secretary
Veterans Golf Club
Terranora Lakes Country Club
Marana Street
BILAMBIL HEIGHTS NSW 2486

LIST OF PRESIDENTS FROM 1975

Frank Payne	-	1975 - 1976
Reeve Mitchell	-	1976 - 1979
Stan Cook	-	1979 - 1982
Frank Marsh	-	1982 - 1984
John Clunne	-	1984 - 1988
Stuart Gardner	-	1988 - 1993
Pat Moller	-	1993 - 1994
Bruce Sanders	-	1994

LIST OF SECRETARIES FROM 1975

Len Priddle	-	1975 - 1976
Phil Kennedy	-	1976 - 1981
Bill Renehan	-	1981 - 1984
Harry Thornhill	-	1984 - 1990
Keith Whelan	-	1990 - 1993
Reg Manning	-	1993 -

LIFE MEMBERS

**STAN COOK
BILL RENEHAN
STUART GARDNER**

**PHIL KENNEDY
JOHN CLUNNE**

**JOE ELLIOTT
HARRY THORNHILL**