

## Secretary's Report ... 27 October 2017

It gives me great pleasure to write this report for NRVGA AGM 2017.

It has been a very productive year with a strong presence of veterans travelling to the various Veteran Open Days. Pottsville Veterans held their inaugural Veteran Open Day in September, and from all those who participated, they were very surprised at the quality and difficulty of the Course. There were 47 visitors who tested their skills. Congratulations Pottsville. Congratulations must also go to Woodenbong, who with only 10 Veteran members attracted 73 visiting Veterans to play at their two Time Slot Start. (80 played on the day)

At this meeting, this year we formally welcome Grafton back into Northern Rivers, Zone 4, Group 14. Trevor Townsend, CEO of Grafton Golf Club, is to be thanked for ensuring that Grafton Veterans have access to the benefits afforded to Veterans of NSWVGA. Trevor has ensured that all the criteria set down by NSWVGA has been met and, although not continuing in the role of Veteran Contact, Trevor has made sure that Grafton Veterans have re-established a working committee.

Our veteran Open Day Program concluded on 10 October at Woodburn Evans Head. After inputting final data into my computer, I can announce that Paul Giles from Lismore Veterans is the recipient of the NSWVGA Veteran Medal, with John Lowe, also from Lismore Veterans, as Runner-Up. John was the only veteran to have played in every Veteran Open Day. Congratulations to both Paul and John. Medals will be presented at the Championship Presentation at Ocean Shores.

On my computer, I have 1434 Veteran Names who have played at Veteran Open Days over the last 3 years. This year there were 2184 games played at the 17 veteran Open days. 264 Vets have qualified to play in our Championships, meeting the 3 game criteria for play. The Championships move from Ocean Shores this year back to Byron Bay, next year, to complete the Four Year Rotation – how fast has this quadrennial gone!

Whilst on Championships, I want to remind Secretaries with winners from last year's Championships at Casino, to remind winners to return their trophies to Ocean Shores for Presentation:

Gross Winner – John Quirk (Casino)

Nett Winner – Trevor Wood (Casino)

4BBB Shield Winners – John McCaffery / Denis Crowley (Lismore)

There are a number of issues, that as Secretary, I would like to raise to strengthen our Veteran Association.

1. NRVGA Open Day Vouchers – These must be given in the form of Plastic Gift Cards from one of the multi-national food groups – NOT CASH. By giving cash, Clubs are contravening NSWVGA guidelines and endangering amateur status of participants.

2. Two Non-Winning, non-local Vouchers will only be given when more than 26 or more visitors are playing in the Veteran Open day. When there are only 25 Visitors or fewer, only one \$25.00 Voucher will be given.
3. Secretaries are to ensure that Nomination Forms being sent to the host veteran Open Day Club are legible and with correct full Golf Link Number. Do not just photocopy nomination sheet that has been posted on your Vet Open Board at your Club. Please type nominations out with appropriate information.
4. All Clubs are to ONLY use email and Direct Depositing for communicating and transfer of monies to NRVGA and Clubs

Our Website has been a great step forward and will continue to be an integral part in the growth of Northern Rivers Veterans Golf. Please use this medium to promote the ideals of Veteran Golf.

In closing I would like to congratulate and acknowledge the work of all the hard-working Secretaries of the Northern Rivers Veteran Golf Clubs for the work they do in making my job that little bit easier. I would also like to acknowledge an outgoing Secretary – Ted Browning of Coraki. His work over the many years has been recognised by his Club by being bestowed Life Membership of the Veterans at Coraki. Congratulations!

We move forward with 2016 Veteran Members registered with NSWVGA. These numbers, once again, has Group 14 as the largest group of Veterans in New South Wales. In 2018, we will only get better.

Have a good year.

Ray Kent  
Secretary  
NRVGA  
27 October 2017