

Minutes of NSWVGA Executive Council Special General Meeting held Bankstown G.C commencing at 9.30a.m. Thursday 2nd May, 2019.

Meeting opened:9.25 am by President Ian Vidler.

Apologies: Brian Graham (Gp21 delegate), Col Darley (Gp2 Delegate). Motion to accept apologies moved Clr. Richard Doyle seconded Clr. Knox – carried.

Attendees: Lance Fredericks (Clr),Richard Farrant(Delegate Gp3),Garry Mason(Clr),Len Payne(Secretary),David Gunner(Treasurer),Peter Guy(SVGA Delegate),Les Mann(Gp31 delegate),Gerry Cox(Clr),John Daley(Clr),Peter Taylor(Clr),John Dixon(Clr),Les Knox(V/pres),Stuart Dossetor(Clr),Richard Doyle (V/pres),Ian Vidler(President).

Obituaries: Ian Sneddon (Jerilderie), Allen Delamont (Highlands), Thomas Redmond (Macarthur), Phil Fogarty (Urunga).

It was then agreed to suspend Standing orders to open the Special General Meeting to debate the Notice of Motion listed in Matters on notice.

Notice of motion was initiated to insert word “Amateur” after the word “financial” in two instances in our Constitution item 1.9 to prevent Professional Golfers competing in NSWVGA auspiced tournaments. Motion to so do moved by Clr. Les Knox seconded Clr. Peter Taylor – carried.

Minutes of previous NSWVGA General Meeting of Wednesday 30th January ,2019 were confirmed on motion of Clr. Gerry Cox seconded Clr. Stuart Dossetor -carried.

Business Arising:1. The planned 2bbb championship event should be renamed as a 4bbb championship event to be correct. Clr. Garry Mason agreed to effect this & also to finalize the prizemoney allocation for this championship. An evaluation of this event will be conducted following it.

Correspondence:

In: 1..12.2.2019 – E-mail from Group 26 Secretary advising of events held recently by Group 26 & changes to their Executive with the retirement of two long-serving members Ian Sneddon (V/Capt.) & William Hidson (President) & of conferring of Life Membership on them. Note -following receipt of this advice President & Secretary NSWVGA agreed that they merited the award of our Appreciation Certificate for their service. This was subsequently given by President Ian to both. This action was agreed by meeting.

2.. 8.3.2019 – Letter from Secretary, Forbes Veteran Golfers Association seeking NSWVGA approval for a name change for the Lachlan Valley Week of golf Tournament to Forbes Veterans Week of Golf, continuing under the auspices of NSWVGA. Following consideration of both this & the e-mail from Parkes the following motion was moved “That approval is given for a name change from Lachlan Valley W.O.G. Tournament to Forbes Veterans W.O.G. Tournament, “moved Clr. Garry Mason seconded Clr. Peter Taylor- carried.

3.. 28.4.2019 – E-mail from Robert Lea, Parkes VGA, asking for permission to conduct a trial WOG in 2020 including Parkes, Condobolin, West Wyalong, Grenfell & Cowra Vets Clubs. Following the debate

above it was moved that Secretary write to Robert Lea seeking certain further information before agreeing to the trial, including the need to change dates due to conflict with long-established Tournaments, moved Clr. Richard Doyle seconded Clr. David Gunner – carried.

Out: 1..1.2.2019 – E-mail to “whom it may concern” letter of support from NSWVGA supporting the application of Hay Golf Club to seek funding under Move it Australia participation grants scheme. Following debate, it was realized that grants have already closed for 2019, so it was agreed we wait for 2020.

2.. 8.2.2019 – E-mail to Secretary Group 26 in response to concerns expressed in previous email by Group 26 re utilization of affiliation fees paid & also explaining operation of proposed NSWVGA 2BBB Medal competition.

Motion to endorse Secretary’s actions in outward correspondence & receive inward correspondence moved Clr. Richard Doyle seconded Clr. Les Knox – carried.

Reports:

1.. President & Sponsorship:

President's Report May 2019

Introduction: I have just completed 12 weeks "on the road" experiencing the hospitality of NSWVGA members in regional NSW, playing several drought affected courses and enjoying the social interaction at nine weeks of golf and more than enough "happy hours." The resilience of those affected by the drought and the attitude to the difficult times was uplifting. Those NSWVGA members who travelled to the weeks of golf to support the communities should be proud of their efforts as their attendance showed the locals that we care about them. I should also mention the large group of Queensland players, mainly from Bargara and Hervey Bay area, who joined in supporting the tournaments at Narrabri, Moree, Inverell and Uralla, with some success I might add.

During my trip I had the pleasure of presenting Bill Hidson, Yarrawonga, and Ian Sneddon, Jerilderie, NSWVGA Certificates of Appreciation. Both these men had recently been honoured with Life Membership by Group 26 Southern Riverina and proudly accepted their Certificates. Ian Sneddon had been suffering Motor Neurone Disease for almost 12 months and sadly passed away only one month after receiving his certificate. Prior to his diagnosis, Ian had been instrumental in organising a charity rally through the local area called the Two Rivers Run. This event is now named in his honour and will be known as the Ian Sneddon Two Rivers Run and donations this year, I believe, are going to MND research. I think it would be appropriate to make a donation from NSWVGA funds to this cause. I have attached newspaper clippings with more information on this event.

Whilst playing the Bill Mead event at Rich River Golf Resort in March I was alerted to the fact that Rich River, once affiliated with Golf Victoria had recently changed affiliation to Golf NSW. The few members of this club who play veterans golf are affiliated with Victorian Veterans in the Goulburn Valley Division. The Club has a large number of members of Veteran age who do not have access to veteran golf because Goulburn Valley restricts membership according to the numbers who can play each week on courses which employ shot gun starts. In an informal meeting with Rich River C.E.O. Shane Gloury, I offered membership of NSWVGA to these members and that they, because of the large numbers, could form their own Group rather than become part of Groups 26 or 27 which would commit them to long distance travel. Shane agreed to canvass members for interest following our meeting. As a follow up to this offer I suggest an official letter be sent to Rich River supporting the original offer and pointing out that NSWVGA have supported the Bill Mead event for 6 years.

In Forbes I had an informal meeting with Beryl and Linnie Roberts where we discussed the issues affecting Lachlan Valley Week of Golf. They informed me of the move by Parkes Veterans to initiate a four course Week of Golf. A letter has been received from Parkes on this matter and will be discussed in Correspondence.

In my presentations at Weeks of Golf I have been giving time to promoting the Watsons Leisure Centre Medley 4BBB and the NSWVGA Medal with finals of both events to be conducted at Port Macquarie Golf Club on Monday 30 September and Tuesday 1 October. I ask all Councillors, Group Secretaries and Group Captains to promote these events at every opportunity. NSWVGA look forward to this event being a major success.

In addition, I have been presenting a summary of the initiatives NSWVGA introduced in the last twelve months to inform members and interstate visitors of how NSWVGA has used the additional funds raised when fees were increased in 2018. A member of Queensland VGU Council asked for a copy to present to that body. He was impressed with what we are doing for our members and you, as Councillors, should take pride in your efforts. Keep up the good work and keep spreading the word.

At Inverell Week of Golf held recently, Col Darley, caricaturist extraordinaire, came up with amazing sketches of both Jim Shadlow, Tournament Director, and John Tom, retired committee man. Thank you, Col, for recognizing these two long- time supporters of Veterans golf.

It has come to my notice that some male members of our membership have chosen to ignore a long-standing dress code by wearing shorts to evening Presentation dinners. It has been accepted for some time that “smart casual” was the standard dress and for men that meant long trousers or “slacks.” The ladies, without exception, get dressed for the occasion and men should do so accordingly.

Finally, to those of you who enjoy the social fellowship, the fun, the camaraderie, the spirit and the wonderful opportunities provided by regional clubs, thank you for supporting those communities and Veterans golf in NSW.

Ian Vidler

President NSWVGA

In respect of the issue presentation of Appreciation Certificates to late Ian Sneddon & Bill Hidson, it was moved “That as an extraordinary grant that \$500 be given to the “Late Ian Sneddon charity tractor drive for MND research” Motion moved Clr. John Dixon seconded Clr. Ian Vidler – carried. Clr. Gerry Cox agreed to present this grant to Ian’s widow.

President Ian advised of the very sad condition of Berrigan golf course due drought & Clr. John Dixon added the condition of Coonamble course being similar.

Regarding Rich River Veteran golfers, following debate it was moved that “Secretary write to Rich River C.E.O & Barham C.E.O offering NSWVGA membership to eligible veteran golfers of both clubs with both being treated as ‘ungrouped’ clubs” motion moved Clr. John Dixon seconded Clr. Gerry Cox – carried.

President also asked Councillors to stress that players should be suitably attired at presentation functions, then asked that his report be adopted moved Clr. Ian Vidler seconded fClr. John Daley – carried.

2.. Treasurer’s:

BALANCE SHEET for NSWVGA from 22.1.19 to 24.4.19

Opening Balance as at 22.1.19 \$70,383.44

<u>Income</u>	
Affiliation Fees	\$1,062.00
Registration fees W.O.G.	\$3,526.00
Interest	\$70.10
Sponsorship	\$1,725.00

Total income \$6,383.10

<u>Expenses</u>	
Councillors to meetings	\$3,684.65
Councillors to Tournaments	\$410.00
Meeting Exp	\$213.50
Postage	\$1,369.69
Vouchers	\$6,590.00
Sponsorship	\$1,650.00
Printing/Stationary	\$72.45
Insurance	\$6,136.08
Adm Exp	\$250.00

Total Expenses \$20,376.37

Closing Balance as at 24.4.19 \$56,390.17

Assests as at 24.4.19

Greater Building Society \$30,000.00
matures on 6.6,19 at 2.40%

Vouchers \$3,110.00

Total Assets \$33,110.00

Treasurer confirmed that the total assets of NSWVGA at time of report was \$89,517.00, that as the I.B.D investment falls due for renewal on 6th June, 2019 (prior to our next meeting) & approval was requested to renew it & he also moved that his report be accepted seconded Clr. Stuart Dossetor – carried.

3.. Programme Co-ordinator:

Program Report May 2019

Overview

The 2020 program is ready to go and 2021 is in the draft stage.

There have been some changes to the last draft of 2020 with Hunter Valley, Northern Tablelands and some north Coast events having some date movements. It is of some concern there is still a free week between Armidale and Tenterfield although Tenterfield is prepared to wear the potential fall of player numbers who will not wait around for this free week. A positive is that after the number of weeks completed by this time a break is welcomed to recharge the batteries.

2021 Draft

This year will see Easter early in April and this affects the April/may movements. While in Uralla, Ian, Peter & myself held talks with Rohan Chandler with a view of moving Uralla to allow a better flow of tournaments. One event will have to be held in the week leading up to Easter. I will update all as the year progresses with updates.

NSWVGA Guidelines No 2/4

I am not sure if this report is the right conduit to bring up my concerns with the above guidelines.

These guidelines are not being followed. Checking results on the website it is evident that WOG's who do a daily trophy presentation cannot follow these guidelines and indeed they end up with multiple trophy winners. It is also notable that conditions of entry into tournaments do not follow these guidelines as well.

The above "Entry into" sees handicaps remaining the same for 36 & 54 hole events, Also the term, "win one trophy" instead of "receive one trophy" is also being used.

I know this has been discussed over a long period BUT if the guidelines aren't going to be followed why have them?

When you attend as many weeks of golf as I do you pick up how vets golfers perceive a particular week and the problems that will affect this week's future. The main concern is the continual presentation of trophies to the same people, mainly locals in smaller events and in some instances the locals are not present to receive their trophies which must be embarrassing to the organizers and the sponsors if they are present.

I would like to see the second paragraph under the heading of "Trophy Presentation" deleted and then "Conditions of Entry" monitored to ensure they reflect the guidelines.

John Daley

NSWVGA Co Ordinator.

Clr. Garry Mason spoke on this & presented survey results from his Cootamundra WOG Tournament, advising that his sponsors wished for a daily presentation. It was agreed that the guidelines are “guidelines” & that it is the responsibility of Tournament Directors to set the “Conditions of entry”. After further debate, Clr. John Daley moved & Clr. Garry Mason seconded “That the 2020 programme as presented be adopted & his report received” – motion -carried.

4.. Match Committee Chair clarified that the name of the 2BBB would change to 4BBB to ensure correctness. Further that golfers would still compete at their Group level for the current Medal plus voucher & that the winners of the Medal plus the winners & runners- up of the 4BBB would be eligible to compete for the “Medal of Medals” at Pt. Macquarie. He also agreed to email all Group Secretaries to ascertain participation numbers. Motion to accept Match Committee Chair report moved Clr. Garry Mason seconded Clr. Peter Taylor – carried.

5.. Website Co-ordinator: Clr. Stuart Dossetor advised the meeting that the website had been fairly quiet with only a few enquiries from T/Directors for assistance & also enquiries about posting “news” on the website. It appears they are awaiting the introduction of the new upgraded website. The main issue Stuart foresaw was whether we wished for two separate websites, one being an “administration” one with membership database details & Councillors & Group listings, while the other “public” one could contain W.O.G. information, news, joining advice & other relevant information of value to the public.

Matters without notice:

1.. Update report on website upgrading & associated issues. Clr. Stuart Dossetor, President Ian Vidler, V/Pres. Les Knox & Peter Guy (SVGA Delegate) had held communications with Golf NSW representative Piret Elmassian, who confirmed that Golf NSW would not allow their website to be used so as to protect its integrity but would assist NSWVGA to establish a new website via Miclub & suggested two websites as listed above. A proposed contract between NSWVGA & Miclub for a compact Golf club had been forwarded & an application for funding from Golf NSW was being processed. Following extensive input & discussion between several Councillors the following motion was moved Clr. Stuart Dossetor seconded Clr. John Dixon “That President seek a meeting at Golf NSW between Piret & Golf NSW technical advisor & representatives of Miclub & the four person NSWVGA sub-committee prior to 24/5 to thrash out issues & gain agreement on establishing a new website”. Motion -carried.

NOTE: Subsequent to the Executive meeting it was ascertained that we have gained funding assistance from Golf NSW, however, as Miclub is a Western Australian entity,

a face- to- face meeting was not feasible, further options are being pursued.

Due to time constraints, a working lunch was then held & business continued.

2.. Review of NSWVGA Strokeplay Championships venues & suitability, plus timing & format. This was listed as the current agreement with Western Sydney VGA finishes after 2020. Clr. Les Knox provided an overview of the running of this championship at Western Sydney venues & said that they would seek to

run it for the years 2021 & 2022 but were cognizant of the Council view of perhaps calling for expressions of interest from suitable country venues .However he also cautioned that low-markers did not travel to country areas in large numbers in his experience. The limited number of country areas which had multiple courses available is also a factor. After further debate it was moved by Clr. Les Knox seconded Clr. David Gunner “That Western Sydney VGA be granted the NSWVGA Men’s Amateur Strokeplay Championships for 2021 & 2022 & that expressions of interest be called for future venues interested in holding it “motion – carried.

3.. Review of allowances for Councillor attendance at Week of Golf events. The current allowances for travel & motel/caravan park/cabin accommodation were set in 2012 & Treasurer Clr. David Gunner submitted a new proposal. Following consideration, it was moved that the revised rates as submitted be approved, effective immediately, with a review in 12months time. Motion moved Clr. Stuart Dossetor seconded Clr.Les Knox – carried.

4.. Update report on finalization of “Grassroots support proposal”. Clr. Richard Doyle submitted a paper detailing two proposals for support. Clr. Richard Doyle presented his report on the proposed policy Following some clarification, it was felt that the second option listed was the more equitable method of ensuring a fair distribution of the support & was based on numbers of NSWVGA members listed on our website database. It was also agreed that to minimize workload on the Treasurer that cheques be sent only to Group Secretaries & secretaries of Ungrouped clubs for distribution, with the intention of ensuring monies are utilized locally. Motion was moved Clr. Richard Doyle seconded Clr. John Dixon – carried. Clr. Doyle as then asked to develop guidelines for the implementation of it with a target initiation date of the second half of 2019.

General Business:

1.. Consideration of moving the date of the NSWVGA Mixed Sandgreen Championships at Grenfell to occur between Cootamundra WOG & Forbes WOG to facilitate travel for competitors. This was agreed unanimously.

2.. Clr. Peter Taylor raised the issue of roster of Councillor attendances at W.O.G. for later this year. Clr. Len Payne agreed to represent at Manning Valley Oct 21-Oct 24 in lieu of Clr. Richard Doyle who will represent at Brisbane Waters Sept 23 – Sept 27th. Clr.Ian Vidler is doing Murwillumbah July 29- Aug 02 & Clr. Gerry Cox will do Corowa/Howlong Sept 16th – Sept 20th. Southern Highlands Nov 11 – Nov 15 Clr. Stuart Dossetor will endeavor to represent & will confirm later.

3.. Clr. David Gunner has spoken with Peter Crowder from Hinterland Caravans who has suggested the following allocation of sponsorships -\$250 to Buckets Way WOG,

\$500 to Toronto Classic, \$250 to Mudgee WOG, \$250 to Dubbo WOG, \$500 to Brisbane Waters WOG & \$500 to NSWVGA Matchplay Championships in Newcastle area.

This will make Hinterlands total sponsorship for the year to \$3,000.

4.. Clr. John Dixon raised the issue of possible long-term sponsorship of our NSWVGA Championship events. Following discussion, it was felt that it is a complex issue to resolve & it was deferred for future consideration.

With no further business, President Ian Vidler declared meeting closed at 1.15 p.m.

Date of next meeting. Wednesday 7th August 2019.