

PRESIDENT'S REPORT to NRVGA Annual General Meeting 6th November 2020

The 2020 Northern Rivers Veteran Golf year draws to a close and it will be remembered as the one of disruption and change due to Covid19 that has crippled the world.

The NRVGA Open Day program got off to a shaky start, Iluka was held then Byron Bay was washed out, Ballina held theirs then came the start of Covid19 and the introduction of restrictions. Woodenbong had to cancel due to lack of numbers. All Open Days were then cancelled until the 13th July when Mullumbimby held theirs which included a 4BBB qualifying round, held under strict Covid19 rules. Kyogle was able to hold their Open Day under the same Covid Safe protocols and everything looked as if our Open Day program would continue with Coraki and Lismore scheduled, only to be cancelled due to further Covid restrictions introduced by the QLD Government with a Border Bubble then NSW Health recommended that Golf travel should be restricted to Local area of the Golf Club for a period of six weeks, this was supported by Golf NSW. Following the expiry of these travel restrictions Woodburn Evans Head held their Open Day and the NRVGA Championships at Casino on 2nd November proceeded under strict Covid19 rules and changed conditions of play due to lack of qualifying Open Days and a 4BBB qualifying round.

Congratulations to the 2020 Champions:

Stroke: Winner Robert Marangon (Ballina) 78, Runner-up, John Quirk (Casino) 80

Nett : Winner Robert Smith (Ballina) 68, Runner-up Ron Dowell (Lismore) 69

4BBB: Winners Steve Oliver/ Rod Wade (Ocean Shores) 47pts

Runners-up Robert Irvine/ John Needham Pottsville) 45pts

Stableford: Winner Ken Davey (Lismore) 39pts Runner-Up Bruce Towner (Lismore) 38pts

Congratulations to Kim Keane from Woodburn Evans Head who Aced the 12th

NRVGA Weeks of Golf were cancelled due to Covid 19 along with most in NSW and Events Nationally.

The NRVGA membership is in great shape with 2082 financial members, the highest of any Veterans Group in NSW.

All Clubs were rewarded by NSWVGA again this year with a double issue of the Grass Roots Golf \$25 gift vouchers made possible due to funds not used on cancelled Weeks of Golf.

This meeting will finalize the 2021 NRVGA Golf program. The Covid19 Virus will be with us for some time. As a group we have to live with restrictions placed on us until a Vaccine is widely available. While complying we must not be spooked by them and make the 2021 Golf year as normal as possible.

The Woodenbong Veterans Golf Club is struggling to survive during these difficult times and sadly I advise that their leader for many years Eric Taylor is very unwell. The Golf Club are in the process off re organizing their operating plan. I propose to discuss their situation and look at a survival plan with the help of NRVGA clubs at this meeting.

I wish to thank Secretary / Treasurer Ray Kent for his professional and diligent approach to his position, especially this year as we attempted to keep abreast of Covid19 restrictions and temporary rules, thanks also to the Executive Committee for your input this year

Thank you to our Auditor Peter Hamilton for running your eye over the books so capably presented by Secretary / Treasurer Ray

I wish all Veteran members a joyous, happy and safe festive season and hope travel restrictions are eased so we can spend time with our love ones.

John R Lowe

NRVGA President

6 November 2020