

WEST GIPPSLAND VETERAN GOLFERS ASSOCIATION INC

MINUTES OF THE 42nd ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

November 18th 2024

Date: Monday 18th November 2024
Venue: Mirboo North Golf Club
Time: Start: 13:15 Closed: 13:45
Chair: Peter Bray & Geoff Cohen

Present:

64 members – Bill Estrada, Rod Leworthy, Glenn Hastie, Philip Thomson, Judy Lee, Geoff Cohen, John Woodall, Ray Allen, Luke Van der Meulen, David Saint, John Hurford, Ray Matthews, James Grant, Anthony Mafodda, Gavan Panozzo, Phillip Baling, Ron Seamer, Ron Parsons, Tony Hannon, Chris Kondarios, Jim Dimstas, Warren Arnot, Daryl O’Grady, Doug Veldman, Cliff Jamieson, Robert Edwards, John Curtin, Greg Donoghue, Earl Lansdown, Peter Pyle, John Soppe, Geoff Roberts, Ken Seeley, Ash Stephenson, Chris Bourke, Stefan Michalowski, Garry Sullivan, Brian Farley, John Cahill, Peter Draper, John McFarlane, Doug Anderson, Allan Logan, Rick Scurlock, Peter Smart, David Rash, Barry Atkins, John Hermes, Phil Wilkin, John Blair, Clyde Cumming, Steve Fuller, Peter Junker, Dot Atkins, Bill Rilen, Richard Gould, Andy McLellan, Denis Carmichael, Ian Kilgour, Kevin Way, Phil Macreadie, Daryl Henderson, Rob Bride, Rob Hill

Apologies: Effie Lau

1- Welcome by President Peter Bray

2- The minutes of the 2023 AGM meeting were posted on our website November 2023 for members to read; this fact was stated to the meeting.

Moved: Luke Van der Meulen; Seconded: Rob Hill Carried

Business Arising: None

3- Financial report- Presented by Cliff Jamieson; (See Treasurer Report)

Moved: Greg Donoghue; Seconded: Earl Lansdown. Carried.

4- Presentation of reports- Reports by Committee members were presented (Treasurer, President, Captain, Secretary) were read and are included in the minutes.

- **President**
- **Captain**
- **Secretary**
- **Zone Councillor** (by Geoff Cohen)

Acceptance of ALL REPORTS: Proposer: Daryl Henderson; Seconded: Barry Atkins. Carried.

5- Election of Office Bearers for 2025

All Committee positions were declared vacant and called for nominations for all positions were made. Geoff Cohen assumed the chair for nomination and election of President.

President: Peter Bray was re-elected as no other nomination was received.
Proposer: Daryl Henderson; Seconder: Phil Wilkin- Carried.

Vice-President: Daryl Henderson was elected to the position as no other nomination was received.
Proposer: John Curtin; Seconder: Peter Junker- Carried.

Captain: David Rash is re-elected as no other nomination was received.
Proposer: Anthony Mafodda; Seconder: Earl Lansdown- Carried.

Vice-Captain: Chris Kondarios is elected to the position as no other nomination was received.
Proposer: Anthony Mafodda; Seconder: Barry Atkins - Carried.

Treasurer: No nomination was received.
Peter Bray stated that Effie Lau would be prepared to perform the roll of Treasurer if no nominations were received. Effie Lau is therefore elected as no other nomination was received.
Proposer: Barry Atkins; Seconder: Phil Wilkin- Carried.

Secretary: Bill Estrada is re-elected as no other nominations were received.
Proposer: David Rash; Seconder: Anthony Mafodda- Carried.

Assistant Secretary/ Treasurer: Barry Atkins is elected to the position as no other nominations were received.
Proposer: Tony Mafodda; Seconder: Dot Atkins- Carried

District Delegate: Peter Bray is re-elected as no other nominations were received.
Proposer: Earl Lansdown; Seconder: Richard Gould- Carried.

All position nominations were accepted by nominees; the election of the committee was carried unanimously by members.

New Committee for 2025:

President: Peter Bray
Vice-President: Daryl Henderson
Captain: David Rash
Vice-Captain: Chris Kondarios
Treasurer: Effie Lau
Secretary: Bill Estrada
Assistant Secretary/Treasurer: Barry Atkins
District Delegate: Peter Bray

6- General Business

Sponsorship

4 Major sponsorships have been agreed for 2025 including:

- 1- **Latrobe Valley Village** has agreed to sponsoring 2 events (Yallourn & Moe) to the value of \$400 each
- 2- **Latrobe Valley Funeral Services** will sponsor 3 events to the value of \$400 each (**\$1200 total**).
- 3- **Traralgon GC** sponsorships for the events to be held at Traralgon GC (2 events)
- 4- **Drummonds Traralgon** has agreed to sponsor 3 events to the value of \$400 each
- 5- **Jeff Herdman** will sponsor the event scheduled for Warragul CC

Membership and Competition Fees for 2025

The Membership fee and competition fee will remain as follows:

Membership fee for 2025 is \$20.00 (\$15 for members joining after June).

Proposer: Daryl Henderson; Seconder: Cliff Jamieson- Carried

Competition fee \$30.00 except for the Christmas event which shall be \$35.00 and 100% of the fee will go to the host club of the event.

The cost for 2025 was discussed with most clubs and they are happy with the \$30 however a couple of clubs did question our fees. The Secretary will negotiate with clubs and endeavour to maintain the prices as low as possible.

2025 Schedule- will have a winter break as per the last few years and this is viewed as a positive move.

Membership cards will be arranged to help with the PROOF OF MEMBERSHIP if required.

The cost of cart hire has been negotiated with most clubs with a positive result. ensuring cost is as low as possible to our VETS.

Phil Wilkin presented a motion to the AGM to schedule the start of events to a later time in the morning eg 09:00. The suggestion was put to the vote the majority voted for the starting time to remain as it is now: 08:30 in summer and 09:00 in winter & spring time.

Ashley Stephenson asked the AGM about the bank account as currently we have over \$10,000 and what the Committee intended to do with the money. As per the incorporated association legislation, the Committee is obliged to do what is best for the members and this include making our events AFFORDABLE & ENJOYABLE so the Committee may come up with or accept suggestions from our members to make our events accessible and affordable to our members.

Meeting closed at 13:45 hrs

President's Report 2024

Once again, I am pleased to report that West Gippsland Veterans Golf Association has provided many enjoyable and affordable events in 2023/24 for our members at Clubs within West Gippsland and the Eastern Zone. A highlight for me was the Rainbow tees event at Mirboo North in October. Golf needs to be about having fun.

In addition to our district events, we also competed against East and South Gippsland Districts, as well as the Eastern (Gippsland) Zone Challenge. Unfortunately, they didn't all go our way.

The Association recognised two members who have made a significant contribution to veteran's golf. Life Memberships were awarded Alan Axford and Earl Lansdown.

Several new members joined West Gippsland Veterans. Welcome to you all and I hope you play with us for many years to come. Unfortunately, the membership numbers were 25 lower in 2023/24 and the number of women members has not improved much. I appeal to all members and delegates to seek out and encourage new members. If you want some assistance, please talk to Committee members for support or advice.

I want to thank everyone who has contributed to the smooth running of events in particular committee members, club delegates, volunteers and staff at the local clubs. Special thanks and congratulations to Secretary Bill Estrada and Captain David Rash who between them established and delivered our enjoyable annual program.

I also want to make special mention of Treasurer Cliff (Jamo) Jamieson who has maintained the district membership records and kept our finances healthy for many years. Jamo has decided not to renominate for the Treasurers position in 2024/25. He deserves a well earned break.

The Association received generous sponsorship from:

Latrobe Valley Village, Latrobe Valley Funeral Service, Drummond Golf, Jeff Herdman and Traralgon Golf Club.

I want to thank all our sponsors for their valuable support, which helps to keep our golf very affordable.

In February 2024, we were sorry to hear that Mirboo North suffered extensive damage from cyclonic winds. The Golf Course did not escape the damage and was closed for many months. I am pleased to report that WG Veterans raised more than \$1700 for Mirboo North

Golf Club at our May event in Traralgon. I want to thank our members and sponsors for their support.

West Gippsland veterans represented the district at numerous VVGA events during the year.

The 2023 State Championships were successfully hosted by Warragul Golf and Country Club. The event was a credit to the Club and to our Zone Councillor, Leigh Greening, WG veteran Warragul's Steven Porch won the State Championship and Rob Cusworth-Warner was C Grade Runner Up.

Unfortunately, we didn't have a lot of success at the Teams event at Benalla GC, the 4 Ball Best Ball event at Buninyong GC or the Country Championships at Riverside GC, Mildura.

However, the WVGA events are a great opportunity to socialise with veteran golfers from around Victoria, be challenged on different golf courses and generally have fun with our friends.

I look forward to another enjoyable West Gippsland Veterans golf program with you all again in 2024/25.

Peter Bray
President WGVGA

Treasurer's Report 2024

West Gippsland Veteran Golfers Association

2024 Financial Report Period: 20/11/2023 to 30/06/2024

Balance 20/11/2023	\$5,711.00
Income	
LV Funerals Sponsorship	\$1,200.00
Jeff Herdman Sponsorship	\$500
Bank Interest	\$3.20
Mirboo North Raffle	\$1,737.90
Latrobe Valley Village Sponsorship	\$800
Membership Fees	\$4,012.78
Drummonds Sponsorship	\$1,200
Xmas Fund Raiser	\$984.40
Traralgon GC Sponsorship	\$255
Total Income	\$10,693.28
Expenditure	
Affiliation Fees	\$840.00
Vouchers + Stationary	\$994.85
Drummonds Vouchers + Golf Balls	\$1,200
Awards Printing	\$110.00
Website Cost	\$370.00
Erroneous Transaction (reversed 23/9/24)	\$52.84
Consumer Affairs Victoria	\$413
Mirboo North Fund	\$1,737.90
Golf Balls	\$00
Total Expenditure	\$5,463.59
Balance 30/06/2024	\$10,685.69

Signatories:

Treasurer: _____

President: _____

Secretary: _____

Note: The members were given a signed financial report at the AGM

West Gippsland Veteran Golfers Association Treasurer Report 2024

- Membership numbers for 2024 are 193 (29 fewer than the previous year)
- For 2025 we are in a good financial position with over \$10000 in the bank
- I would like to thank the Delegates for their help in collecting the membership fees and passing them on to me as a club.
- I encourage members to pay membership this way as Delegates need to be aware who has paid the annual membership and keep a list of all renewals and new members.

Cliff Jamieson, Treasurer 2024

Captain's Report – 2023/24

This year, there was 199 different members who played in the events.

Events that have been conducted so far:

- December 23 Warragul 106 players Individual Stableford
- January 24 Morwell 96 players Individual Stableford
- February Yallourn 102 players Individual Stableford
- Garfield 118 players Individual Stableford
- March Trafalgar 105 players Individual Stableford
- April Foster 35 players Eastern Zone Challenge
- Traralgon 88 players Individual Stableford
- May Moe 94 players Individual Stableford

Winter Break (No Golf) - June, July & August

- September Warragul 94 players Individual Stableford
- October Garfield 89 players Individual Stableford
- Drouin 71 players South v West - Individual Stableford

After the winter break, a strong return at Warragul with 94 players.

West won the S v W contest this year. I would like to thank you the members for travelling to participate in these events. The numbers are encouraging for the committee.

I would also like to thank the Club Delegates for collating and forwarding players names so that the cards are ready to go at registration making it a lot easier for starters at the event club.

And lastly to my fellow volunteer committee members, for which without, the association would not happen.

Please don't hesitate to contact me with queries, issues/solutions and/or suggestions as to improving the veteran's golf experience for everyone.

Good golfing to you all.

David Rash

Mobile: 0428 992 745

Email: rashy54@hotmail.com

Secretary's Report 2024

2024 Events have proceeded as per schedule with the exception of PAKENHAM GC October 14th event due to the cost proposed by the new management. The event was moved to Garfield GC and the original date was kept. Thanks to Garfield GC for making the offer to host the event.

The WINTER break has served our district well in 2024 and it is an acceptable way of scheduling our calendar for future years.

A lot of work has been done to retain and attract sponsorship to help maintain prices down. Currently we have 5 sponsors committed to continue their sponsorship for the 2024 year:

- Latrobe Valley Village
- Latrobe Valley Funeral Services
- Drummond Golf Traralgon
- Traralgon Golf Club
- Jeff Herdman

The present cost structure will remain for 2025 and the local events will be \$30 and the XMAS event will be \$35 as per the current year.

Additionally:

- The 2025 CALENDAR will be available on our website; we encourage all our members to access our website for information.
- The committee has developed the 2025 calendar with a mid-winter break.
- Our WEBSITE is running well and is regularly updated with all the relevant information. Please use it
- My thanks to all DELEGATES for your help and input. I encourage all member clubs to assist delegates in running their allocated events.
- Thanks to other Committee members for their contribution and support.

Bill Estrada, Secretary West Gippsland Veterans Golfers Association.

Zone Councillor's Report

Hi Gippsland Vets.

I am pleased to have been elected as your new Eastern Zone Councillor at the recent AGM at Corowa in October. (for those who don't know the Eastern zone includes East Gippsland, West Gippsland and South Gippsland.)

In this role I will be visiting your districts on a number of occasions throughout my term and developing good ongoing relationships between not just the South, East and West committees but all veteran golfers in the zone.

My aim is to listen to your concerns about vets golf, understand why attendances from this region to VVGA tournaments listed below are low and develop ideas on how to increase attendances.

We also want to better promote Vets Golf in Gippsland and improve participation and develop more interaction by removing these artificial boundaries of districts and treating Gippsland as one region.

VVGA conduct 4 major tournaments each year, a 4bbb, teams event, Country Championship and State championship, these events are rotated through the 21 VVGA districts throughout the state.

This year 2024 the events were held as follows

- March 18 & 19th 4bbb at Buninyong
- May 6&7 Country Championship at Riverside Mildura
- September 16&17th Teams event at Bendigo
- Oct 7&8 State Championships at Corowa (Congratulations to Steve Porch from Warragul GC who won this event for the 2nd year in a row.)

On March 17th & 18th, 2025 Eastern zone will host the annual 4bbb tournament at the magnificent Lakes Entrance GC which is ranked 88 in Golf Australia's top 100 public access courses.

Planning is already underway for this event and the entry form will be out to your district secretaries in December or January.

Other VVGA events for 2025 are on VVGA website, but in summary

- Country Championship 5th & 6th May at Colac
- Teams event - 15th & 16th September at Portland
- State Championships 6&7th October at Belvoir Park.

We encourage all vets in this region to participate in these events, as it's a great way to meet and make friendships with other golfers from different districts around the state.

Also we are investigating holding an All Gippsland championship in 2025., and this will be developed further.

In 2026 Eastern zone is scheduled to host the VVGA country championship event, and I will be going to districts and asking them to suggest suitable courses we can use for this event.

At the recent AGM, VVGA elected new councillors to the VVGA council, and the VVGA is holding a workshop on governance for these new Councillors on 3rd December. I will report back the outcome of this workshop at my next meeting with you.

Regards and good Golfing

Geoff Cohen
Eastern Zone Councillor
VVGA. mobile: 0424454851