

Victorian Veteran Golfers Association Inc.

Reg No A0023016N

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Wednesday 05th February 2025

At the Mt Derrimut Golf Club

The President: Ern Kraulis opened the meeting at 10.25 am and welcomed all serving Councillors present.

1/. Present: President Ern Kraulis. Vice President Geoff Cook. Secretary John Robertson. Treasurer Greg Bennett. Captain Peter Turner. Councillor Ann Dickinson. John Raven, Geoff Cohen. John Roberts. Brian Smith. Steve Preston. Neil Fowler.
David Waters, President of East Suburban Veteran District, was welcomed as a guest to the meeting by VVGA President Ern Kraulis.

Northern Zone Councillor

VVGA President Ern Kraulis read the nomination for the Northern Zone Councillor position. Nominee John Roberts was duly elected to the position of Northern Zone Councillor and was presented with his name badge. **Carried.**

2/. Apologies received.

No apologies were received.

3/. *"If any Executive Member or Councillor has any pecuniary interest in any subject or matter to be discussed at VVGA Council meetings. Please advise VVGA President Ern Kraulis of your interest."*

4/. To receive minutes of the previous Council meeting held at the Mt Derrimut Golf Club on 04/09/2024.

Moved by Geoff Cook and seconded, by Peter Turner that these minutes should be received and carried. **Carried.**

5/. Business arising. None

4/. Correspondence In: as included in the agenda.

5/. Correspondence Out: as included in the agenda.

Moved, Brian Smith, Seconded Geoff Cook that all inwards and outwards correspondence be dealt with and received. **Carried.**

Business for discussion arising from correspondence.

Moved, Greg Bennett and seconded Geoff Cook. **Carried.**

5/. Financial Report: Treasurer Greg Bennett

Treasurer Greg Bennett reported the current financial position of \$4,045.58 in the Savings Account, and \$15,000.00 and \$5000.00 in our Term Deposit Accounts.

Moved by Greg Bennett, seconded by John Raven that the Treasurer's report be accepted, and accounts already paid be approved. **Carried.**

6/. Captains Report:

Captain Peter gave a written report, and this is included in these minutes.

The captain's report was received. Moved Peter Turner seconded by Ann Dickinson.

Carried.

Councillor's Reports:

Written Councillor reports from Geoff Cohen Eastern Zone, Geoff report on the Interzone Challenge, South Gippsland vs East vs West Gippsland, visits to all three Eastern Zone Districts AGMs, Geoff also raised at council various matters that were raised at these meetings, Geoff's asked on whether Council would be able to sponsor a tournament in the Eastern Zone. The council is not able to offer district financial help through sponsorship for tournaments.

Stephen Preston Southern Zone; reports on his visits to Ballarat and Corangamite districts.

Ann Dickinson Western Zone: Ann spoke about the Portland G.C Teams Championship event progress.

Ann also reported that the Wimmera District restarted veteran's Golf on the 10th of February 2025

Also reported on enjoying the Governance Workshop.

Greg Bennett also visited the Portland G.C. and spoke with officials about the upcoming VVGA Team's Championship Event.

John Roberts Northern Zone: John spoke on his progress as a new Councillor and his visit to the Goulburn Valley District AGM.

VVGA Vice President Geoff Cook reported on his visit to Barham Golf Club. Geoff also spoke briefly on the visit and meeting with officials along with VVGA President Ern. Geoff also spoke about the VVGA Governance Workshop held in Bendigo in December.

John Raven Bayside Zone: Councillor, Bayside Zone, and how the challenges that are facing veteran golfers with the cost of games, average costs of \$90.00 They have applied to the local Council for sponsorship and are looking at further sponsorship. Holding Shotgun starts for their events.

Neil Fowler Metropolitan Zone: held talks with Northwest District officials

Brian Smith Loddon Zone: has nothing to report currently.

Greg Bennett Treasurer/Webmaster, Tier 1 Some districts are looking for assistance on how tier one will operate.

Recommendation from V.P Geoff Cook that Council Governance season be held at the next council meeting.

Moved Geoff Cook and seconded Greg Bennett **Carried.**

Moved Geoff Cook seconded Peter Turner those Councillors reports be accepted. **Carried.**

GENERAL BUSINESS.

1/. Changes to the fair and reasonable expenses document line item 3 has been deleted.

2/. A review of last year's VVGA Tournaments has been referred to the VVGA match committee.

3/. The council discussed the VVGA Sand Green event, and it was decided that our original decision not to continue with this event stands.

4/. The formation of an event or the renaming of one of our existing events to honour the VVGA past life member Malcolm Macpherson Memorial Challenge Individual Stableford or 4BBB Stableford event will be introduced in 2026. Moved Geoff Cohen and seconded John Raven **Carried.**

Council would like feedback from VVGA Districts on this proposal. Before the Council's next meeting to be held on Wednesday 14th May 2025.

5/. The age for joining veteran golf was raised by Metropolitan Neil Fowler as it is currently 55 years of age and is in all AVGU and States' Constitution/Rules. The age limit of fifty-five for joining will stay.

6/. VVGA delegate to the AVGU Daryl Dunford has resigned from his position effective 28th February 2025. VVGA is seeking a new delegate.

Moved Geoff Cook seconded Stephen Preston that we accept Daryl's resignation. VVGA Secretary John will contact Daryl and thank him for his representation as AVGU Delegate of the VVGA. **Carried.**

The current VVGA Secretary was in the interim nominated for this position.

Moved Stephen Preston and seconded Ann Dickinson **Carried.**

7/. AVGU State Teams Event. The Council will support this event in principle but not financially. Council will wait until we are told this event will go ahead for further information.

8/. AVGU branding council will support AVGU on their changes, from Union to Association. VVGA will keep its current logo.

9/. The council is looking at buying council shirts for all Councillors for the new year. John Raven and Greg Bennett to look at and source.

10/. **District Memberships.**

Central District: Brian Smith indicated that their district approaches all golfers over 55 years of age and has had some success with this approach. Central District has delegates at each club to ask prospective new members.

Mornington Peninsula District: John Raven: they are looking at sponsorship for their events to keep costs down and have someone from each club support the district in getting new veteran members. Having brochures to distribute to new members.

Hume District: Peter Turner. Any two new members introduced by a current member that member gets the next game free.

Metropolitan District: Neil Fowler reported that all districts are looking at ideas for new and retaining old members.

Corangamite District: Stephen Preston looking at getting more ladies involved. Now approximately eighteen veteran ladies have joined.

Dalhousie District: John Roberts. They are finding that ladies have other commitments.

Geelong District: Greg Bennett: Suggestion to look at all male members, their partners that join get free membership the first year they play. Would be a minimal cost to districts. Brochure ideas have a generic one for all districts.

Bendigo District: Geoff Cook looks for sponsorship ideas, such as Bendigo Bank, retirement villages, and funeral parlours.

Glenelg District: Ann Dickinson sent out flyers to all clubs to current members to encourage new members to join.

Eastern Zone: Geoff Cohen. Suggested for councillors to contact local members of parliament to promote veteran's golf and get vets golf VVGA program into the festival of golf.

VVGA Teams Event Moved Greg Bennett seconded Ann Dickinson that Portland Golf Club host the Teams Event September 15th & 16th 2025 **Carried.**

VVGA Secretary John has announced that the year 2025 will be his last year as VVGA Secretary and will not be nominated for Secretary at the next AGM in September.

If any district secretary has any candidates for this position John would be interested in speaking with them.

Moved Peter Turner seconded John Raven that Social Golf Members and future Golf members who hold an official G.A Handicap are eligible to play in VVGA golf events.

Carried.

President Ern presented his VVGA Sub-committee structure 2025 (included with these minutes). Moved Ern Kraulis seconded Ann Dickinson. **Carried.**

The Challenge Seminar flyer as presented is attached to go to all district secretaries and they then can follow up on whether they wish to act on it.

The question of Zoom or face-to-face meetings or phone-ins was discussed with President Ern to organize and hold a Zoom meeting with the Executive as a trial.

Next Meeting 14/05/2025 at Mt Derrimut Golf & Country Club

The meeting closed at 2.37 pm.

Signed; President.....

Dated.....