

PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO THE 15th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE WESTERN SYDNEY REGION VETERAN GOLFER'S ASSOCIATION.

It is with pleasure I present my 12th annual report on the activities of WSRVGA during 2023 for your consideration and adoption.

Can I start by thanking and congratulating my fellow Executive, Club Delegates and Tournament Organizers for their hard work and dedication throughout the year. Without your efforts WSRVGA would not be able to operate so successfully and be the envy of many other NSWVGA veteran Groups and Associations.

Once again, I would like to acknowledge and thank the management of Member Clubs for making their courses available to host interclub events. Thanks also must go to course and club staff for presenting their courses in the best possible condition and making all welcome. It would be appreciated if Club Delegates could convey my thanks to their respective General Managers.

Unlike previous years we have been blessed by fine weather and no event has had to be cancelled due to adverse weather or Covid.

Membership remains strong with 580 compared to 577 in 2022. It would be nice to see membership increased to the levels achieved in 2020 and 2021 when membership stood at 700 and 766 respectively.

Most events fielded capacity or close to capacity fields. Some clubs have not been able to nominate their full 18 players at interclub events, but fortunately some other clubs have been able to fill most vacancies.

In an attempt to create more interest in interclub events Noel Byles and his team at Richmond put on a special day to kick off the 2023 year. This event achieved everything it set out to do. It is proposed to continue running a similar event yearly with it being sponsored by the Association and rotated amongst the Member Clubs.

Our veteran members should be reminded that it is the aim of WSRVGA to encourage golf to be played in a spirit of keen competition and good fellowship with a strong emphasis on social interchange.

The Association is indebted to the generous **sponsorship** provided by The Richmond Club, who have been long term major sponsors of the Association. It is only through The Richmond Club sponsorship that we can support interclub events to the tune of \$500 each and keep yearly membership fees at such a low level. Thanks, must also go to the many sponsors who support Member Clubs when hosting interclub events.

Players of the Year

Winners of WSRVGA Player of the Year and also winners of the NSWVGA Medal and voucher are:

Ladies.

| | | |
|------------------|---|-----|
| Winner | Rita Gounder (Richmond G.C.) | 117 |
| Runner up | Lynette Luttringer (Richmond G.C.) | 109 |

Men.

| | | |
|------------------|---|-----|
| Winner | Michael Harrison (Richmond G.C.) | 118 |
| Runner up | John Brown (Penrith G.C.) | 110 |

Club of the Year

| | |
|---------------------------------|------|
| Glenmore Heritage Valley | 1152 |
|---------------------------------|------|

Richmond ran a close second on 1149 points.

WEBSITE.

Thanks to Michelle May and Russ Cruickshank for the work they are doing maintaining and updating the website.

Significant changes have been made to the website throughout the year by Michelle and Russ with the assistance of Judy Jordan. Updating of the website is still a work in progress.

Once again, I would like to remind you that our website is only as good as the information you supply. Photographs, stories etc., relative to your respective clubs can be placed on the site. Facebook is a wonderful tool for communicating stories, information etc., therefore all members of WSRVGA are encouraged to join.

PUBLICITY.

We are in need of a Publicity Officer which has been vacant since Noel Rowsell declined to seek re-election at the 2022 AGM.

Noel Rowsell is still actively involved with promoting and writing golf related articles so please keep sending your golf stories to Noel at: [**photoshoot@bigpond.com**](mailto:photoshoot@bigpond.com).

NEW SOUTH WALES VETERAN GOLFER'S ASSOCIATION (NSWVGA)

Membership of NSWVGA remains strong with approximately 16,000 members.

Whilst membership is strong it has been noted that participation rates at some weeks of golf have fallen off. NSWVGA is continually looking at ways to increase numbers at tournaments through programming, advertising etc., but it is difficult in these times where cost of living, travelling and accommodation costs are so high.

A new Members Register was developed during the year and is now fully operational with the old site closing down at the end of September. It is hoped that the new Members Registers will be more accurate than the old site.

Much work has been done to amend the Association's Constitution through the Constitution Sub-Committee who have consulted with Councillors, Groups and Directly Affiliated Clubs. The amended Constitution will be submitted as a Special Resolution to the NSWVGA AGM on 6th December, 2023 when it will hopefully be adopted.

I have been involved with NSWVGA for the last 13 years, firstly attending meetings as an observer, then as a Councillor before becoming Vice President and then President.

I have advised NSWVGA that I will not be seeking re-election at the December AGM in any capacity.

Amalgamation of Lady's and Men's Veteran Associations.

NSWVGA are keen for the two Associations to amalgamate but some further discussions need to take place before there is any hope of amalgamation occurring.

CONCLUSION.

A number of our members or family members have not enjoyed the best of health during the year. Our best wishes go to all for a full and speedy recovery.

In conclusion, on behalf of my wife and myself, I wish you and your respective families a very happy and safe festive season. Hopefully 2024 brings some enjoyable rounds of golf, but above all good health and friendship with fellow veteran golfers.

Les Knox
President WSRVGA.