

PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO THE 16th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE WESTERN SYDNEY REGION VETERAN GOLFER'S ASSOCIATION.

I am pleased to present my 13th annual report on the activities of WSRVGA during 2024 for your consideration and adoption.

WSRVGA has again achieved one of our core objectives to encourage golf to be played in a spirit of keen competition and good fellowship with a strong emphasis on social interchange.

The conclusion of the interclub event at Stonecutters Ridge brought down the curtain on another very successful year for WSRVGA.

Congratulations to the winners of Players of the Year and Club of the Year:

Players of the Year

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

Ladies.

Winner	Lynette Luttringer (Richmond G.C.)	107
Runner up	Jean Paterson (Penrith G.C.)	105

Men.

Winner	Paul Fairbrother (Dunheved G.C.)	114 C/B
Runner up	Gary Willett (Richmond G.C.)	114

Club of the Year

Glenmore Heritage Valley	1135
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Dunheved ran a close second on 1132 points.

Many thanks to Vice President Kim Stockbridge for collating these scores throughout the year.

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 other clubs have been able to fill most vacancies.

Congratulations to all members who played in some or all of the 8 Interclub Events conducted throughout the year. Well done to all winners at those events whether it was in Singles, 2BBB or Interclub Team Event.

Generally, the awarding of trophies ran smoothly with the one exception being the naming of the winning team. As results of team events are not computer generated

and have to be done manually, in an attempt to avoid inaccurate results being announced the Executive strongly recommend that the Association adopt a policy of NOT declaring a winner on the day but notifying club representatives at a later date. There would be no objection to a provisional winner being announced should the results be available.

Membership of WSRVGA in 2024 remains strong with 563 members compared to 580 in 2023. It would be nice to see membership increased to the levels achieved in 2020, 2021 when membership stood at 700, 766 respectively.

It is interesting to note that participation rates at all NSWVGA events are down. Whilst it has not been established the reasons behind this fall, it would be reasonable to assume the current cost of living is a major factor.

In an attempt to encourage more interest and participation in interclub events WSRVGA will continue to sponsor an event held along similar lines to the events held at Richmond (2023) and Penrith (2024). Next year it will be held at Springwood Country Club on Friday, 17th January, 2025. We have extended an invitation to veteran members of Windsor, Lynwood and Fox Hills to play in the event at Springwood.

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.

The Association is indebted to the generous **sponsorship** provided by The Richmond Club, who have been long term major sponsors of the Association. Thanks also goes to Noel Hoppe who has gained sponsorship from St. Johns Bowling Club.

It is only through sponsorship that we can support the 8 interclub events (\$500 each) and support the Western Sydney Veteran Open held in January each year to the tune of \$2,000. Thanks, must also go to the many sponsors who support Member Clubs when hosting interclub events.

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 by Michelle and Russ with the assistance of Judy Jordan. Updating and maintaining the website is still a work in progress.

PUBLICITY.

Congratulations to Vice President Noel Hoppe for the incredible results he has obtained throughout the year since taking over the role of Publicity Officer, following the retirement of Noel Rowsell.

We have seen Noel's stories appearing on the Australian Senior Golfer and NSWVGA websites as well as in local newspapers. Fantastic effort Noel.

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 2025 brings some enjoyable rounds of golf, but above all good health and friendship with fellow veteran golfers.

Les Knox
President WSRVGA.