

## **Captains Report 36 Hole State Championships, 2023**

A field of 104 Veteran golfers competed in the State championships at Warragul Country Club on October 23rd and 24th. A grade players on a daily handicap 0-12 played a stroke event to determine the Club Champion while B and C grades played stableford to determine their grade champions.

Due to the inclement weather on Sunday, only a handful of golfers took up the offer to test the course in the local Club event. Regardless, the hospitality in the clubhouse was appreciated by all with hot food provided for all in attendance.

From very early on Monday morning, it was obvious that a wet morning was in store. The Annual General Meeting took place between 9:00 and 10:00 and registrations followed while steady rain continued to fall. Delaying the start was being considered but fortunately there was a significant improvement that allowed the shotgun start to proceed as scheduled at 11:00am.

All players were welcomed to Warragul Country Club by President Ern Kraulis who reported the passing of Hume Veteran life member John Feehon and read a brief tribute acknowledging Johns service to the Veterans Golf Club and members observed a minutes silence to remember John and all other veteran golfers who have died during this past year.

Chief Operations Manager, Heath Jones briefed the field regarding general tournament and local rules and each player received a lunch pack prior to being sent on their way.

Fortunately, three or four holes in, the drizzle finally stopped and pleasant conditions were enjoyed for the rest of the afternoon. The course was magnificently presented and held up well considering all the rain that had fallen.

The course was certainly the winner with some fairly modest scores recorded. Anthony Bickley was rewarded with a club voucher for achieving the best score for the day with 38 stableford points, one of only 3 players to beat their handicaps. Nearest the pin recipients also received club vouchers and 25 balls were distributed in the ball run down courtesy of Warragul Country Club.

Tuesday morning's weather conditions were in complete contrast to those experienced on Monday; Warm temperature and only a slight zephyr of breeze early that did increase during the morning.

Play commenced and progressed at a satisfactory pace, however, better conditions didn't reflect on the scoreboard with only two players breaking their handicaps. Neil Fowler recorded the best score for the day having a creditable 39 stableford points.

Lunch and presentations followed with congratulations afforded to:

VVGA State Champion **Steven Porch.**

A grade Champion **Steve Preston.**

B Grade Champion **Neil Fowler.**

C Grade Champion **Wayne Kupke.**

**Peter Turner**  
**Captain**