

Victorian Veteran Golfers Association Inc.

Reg No A0023016N

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Wednesday, 14th May 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. John Robert

2/. Apologies received.

No apologies were received.

Moved Brian Smith, seconded Steve Preston, **Carried.**

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 02/02/2025.

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

5/. Business arising. The Zoom meeting for the Council has not been organised yet.

4/. Correspondence is included in the agenda.

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

Business for discussion arising from correspondence.

Moved Greg Bennett that the council provide a new council shirt for all Executive and Councillors. Seconded, Geoff Cook. **Carried**

Perry Fletcher Award nomination for 2025 is Ray Henshall from the Northern District.

Moved President Ern Kraulis: VVGA President presents Ray Henshall with this award at the 2025 VVGA State Championship event at Belvoir Park Bendigo. Seconded, John Raven. **Carried.**

Moved, Greg Bennett, Seconded Ann Dickinson that all inwards and outwards correspondence be dealt with and received. **Carried**

5/. Financial Report: Treasurer Greg Bennett

Treasurer Greg Bennett reported the current financial position of \$11,582.73 in the Savings Account, and \$15,000.00 and \$5000.00 in our Term Deposit Accounts.

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

Moved, Greg Bennett, that, as Drummond Golf is no longer a sponsor of the VVGA for future tournaments, after discussion, VVGA will use Wish vouchers as part of our tournament trophies. Seconded, Steve Preston. **Carried.**

6/. Captains Report:

Captain Peter submitted a written report, which is included in these minutes.

Peter reported that the 4BBB event at Lakes Entrance was very well run and supported by veteran golfers, and the Country Championship event at Colac was also well supported and run.

"Captain's Items for discussion and resolution."

"Myrtleford Golf Club Tournament Application."

Myrtleford Golf Club was awarded the VVGA 4BBB Championship event, which will be played on Monday, March 22nd, and Tuesday, March 23rd, 2026.

Moved, Geoff Cook, seconded John Raven. **Carried.**

Captain Peter Turner moved, seconded by Steve Preston, that the 2026 VVGA 4BBB Championship Event be played as a 4BBB Stableford format. **Carried.**

Moved Geoff Cook, seconded Neil Fowler, that Captain Peter and the VVGA Match committee meet with Myrtleford personnel to check the course and facilities. **Carried.**

Council discussion on renaming the VVGA Country Championship event to the Malcolm "Macpherson Memorial Stableford Event."

Moved Geoff Cook, seconded Peter Turner; the Country Championship event will be replaced with a new event, the "Malcolm Macpherson Memorial Stableford Event" from 2026. This event will be played with three grades: A.B.C. Individual Stableford, and the winner of the Malcolm Macpherson Memorial event will be the player with the highest Stableford points to receive a medallion in Malcolm's honour.

Three applications were received to host the Malcolm Macpherson Memorial Event from Phillip Island, Traralgon, and Maffra Golf Clubs.

Moved Captain Peter Turner, seconded Greg Bennett, Phillip Island, to host the Malcolm Macpherson Memorial Event in 2026. **Carried.**

2026 State Championship at the Horsham Golf Club, David Baker, Wimmera District Captain, reported that all is progressing well for this event.

The VVGA State Championship Plate, which was previously played for and presented as a perpetual trophy to the state champion, will be reinstated and updated.

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

Moved, Captain Peter Turner, the captain's report received and be accepted, seconded by Ann Dickinson. **Carried.**

7/. Councillor Reports.

Bayside Zone.

John Raven's report is included in these minutes.

The cost of playing golf is getting more expensive in the Morning Peninsula district.

Looking at having combined events between districts to utilise a more efficient use of courses being played.

Western Zone.

Ann Dickinson's report is attached to these minutes.

Ann spoke of using a card-only payment method at the Colac Golf Club.

Ann asked how many teams each district can enter. (Each district may enter a maximum of three district teams.) District team event entries must use the VVGA official entry form, signed by the district secretary.

The VVGA Teams Event flyer for the Portland Golf Club was reviewed. Prize details and amounts were discussed for this event.

Eastern Zone.

Geoff Cohen. Geoff discussed a 4BBB Stableford event at Trafalgar Golf Club. A flyer is included with these minutes, \$30 per player, including lunch. The event is on Monday, June 30th. Participants should arrive by 9:00 a.m., with activities starting at 10:00 a.m. This invitation is for all veteran golfers from various districts. Everyone is welcome. Entries: rob.bride@hotmail.com

Metropolitan Zone.

Neil Fowler. No report

Southern Zone.

Steve Preston. Spoke about the VVGA Country Championship event held at the Colac Golf Club.

Northern Zone.

John Roberts. John is to inform Myrtleford Golf Club that its application to hold a VVGA 4BBB event in 2026 was successful.

John will inform Wangaratta and Jubilee Golf Clubs that the VVGA prefers to play all its tournament events at one location.

Loddon Zone.

Brian Smith. No report.

Vice-President Geoff Cook reported that Belvoir Park Golf Club has expressions of interest out for a club professional.

Moved, Geoff Cook, seconded Peter Turner, that all the Councillors' reports be accepted. **Carried.**

GENERAL BUSINESS.

President Ern has announced to the council that Western Zone Councillor Ann Dickinson will nominate for the position of VVGA Secretary on the current secretary John's retirement at our 2025 Annual General Meeting.

Suggestion that templates for generic tournament flyers, Policies, and procedures should be formatted.

Motion Moved by John Robertson and seconded by Brian Smith, all entrants to VVGA Tournaments must have played in one VVGA District event at least one month before each tournament in the previous twelve months. **Carried**

Amendment to the motion

Moved Greg Bennett, seconded Geoff Cook, the following to be included on VVGA Tournament entry forms/Conditions: "I declare that I am a financial member within my district and have played one district event in the past twelve months." **Carried**

Membership ideas and promotion ideas to be taken up by the sponsorship committee.
The Teams Event, at Portland G.C, VVGA Council, is entering three teams.
Neil Fowler congratulated Captain Peter, along with Councillor Steve Preston, on the running of the Country Championship event at Colac.
Ann suggested playing our lady veterans in separate groups, with men worked well at the Colac Country Championship event.

Next Meeting 13/08/2025 at Mt Derrimut Golf & Country Club

The meeting closed at 2.37 pm.

Signed; President.....

Dated.....

Reg No A0023016N



Captains Report

May, 2025

1. The 4BBB Championship - Lakes Entrance Golf Club – 17/18 March, 2025
2. The Country Championship- Colac Golf Club – 5/6/May, 2025
3. Pressing items for discussion and resolution.

000000000000-----000000000000

1.

VVGA 4BBB Championship
Lakes Entrance Golf Club. March 17th & 18th, 2025

Enduring the Sunday road trip to Lakes Entrance in persistent rain had participants of the VVGA 4BBB Championship wondering if conditions would improve to allow the event to proceed. Miraculously, Monday morning eventually came around and we were presented with a glorious day on a manicured course layout that had drained exceptionally well.

Player registrations proceeded smoothly and the field of 132 veterans made their way to their allocated tees for the 11:00am shotgun start having been welcomed by President Ern Kraulis and briefed on playing conditions and local rules by Lakes Entrance Golf Club stalwart David Murrell.

Each player was provided with a nutritious lunch pack to enjoy during their round.

The course proved challenging with the kikuyu fairways requiring an extra club or two; especially on the 400 metre plus par4's. Bunkers were constructed of both beach sand and natural sand so the variation required careful consideration before attempting a shot.

Volunteer spotters at known trouble spots ensured a reasonable pace of play was maintained. Afternoon tea and refreshments were enjoyed in the clubhouse before leaving to reunite for dinner at the Central Hotel who generously sponsored the event. Thanks kindly to them and all of the other sponsors.

Day 2

A brisk autumn Tuesday morning had players teeing off at 9:00 having consumed an egg & bacon roll to sustain them for the morning. The greens had been cut and rolled and were rolling beautifully. As the temperature slowly rose, you could sense that the kikuyu was having a growth spurt following the weekend rainfall. Players walking certainly found it a tougher walk than on Monday.

Once again, the pace of play was satisfactory and we all enjoyed an appetising cold meat and salad lunch and dessert. A heartfelt thanks to the ladies for providing a wonderful meal.

Following a welcome from Lakes Entrance Golf Club Captain, Ashley Chester, the raffle was drawn and presentations took place.

Results

Day 1 Best nett score: John Timmerman & Bernie Hoppe Nett 63.

Day 1 Ntp's

Hole 3: Rob Phillips.
Hole 6: Jeffrey Herdman.
Hole 11: Geoffrey Lawrence.
Hole 15: Carmel Cameron.

25% of the field received a ball in the rundown.

Day 2 Best nett score: Geoffrey Lawrence & Richard Jamieson Nett 63.

Day 2 Ntp's

Hole 3: Steve Preston.
Hole 6: Trevor Wathen.
Hole 11: Sue Burnett.
Hole 15: Richard Jamieson.

25% of the field received a ball in the rundown.

36 Hole nett results:

3rd:	David King and Janet King.	Nett 134 C/B
2nd:	Geoffrey Lawrence and Richard Jamieson.	Nett 134 C/B
1st:	Greg Gebhart and Graham Roberts.	Nett 130

25% of the field received a ball in the rundown.

A Grade Stableford leaders:	Ross McFarlane	35 Points
	David Baker	34 Points

B Grade Stableford leaders:	Stephen Rickard	40 Points
	Brian Farley	36 Points
	Bob Bates	36 Points
	Peter Turner	36 Points

C Grade Stableford leaders:	Rodger Bouette	39 Points
	Clyde Cumming	37 Points

Leaders in the Gross Country Championship:	Alf Jessup	77
	Ross McFarlane	77

25% of the field received a golf ball in the ball run down.

About 60 veterans returned to the golf club who hosted the evening dinner.

Day 2 Tuesday.

The 9:00am tee off provided players the opportunity to take advantage of the calmer conditions before the stiff breeze transformed into quite a strong wind. The greens had dried out considerably from Mondays wind and once again proved to be a challenge.

At the completion of play, players enjoyed a cold meat and salad lunch and refreshments in the clubhouse.

Following the raffle draw, presentations were made to all of the winners and place getters.

Day 2 results:

Day 1 Ntp's

Hole 3:	Ross McFarlane
Hole 7:	Ned Klemm
Hole 9:	Ron Taylor
Hole 16:	Ferdie Masiero

A Grade Stableford Winner:	Ross McFarlane	35 & 36	71 Points
A Grade Stableford Runner Up:	Russell Manning	27 & 40	67 Points
A Grade Third:	Gary Shepherd	31 & 35	66 Points
B Grade Stableford Winner:	Peter Turner	36 & 32	68 Points
B Grade Stableford Runner Up:	Stephen Rickard	40 & 28	68 Points C/B
B Grade Third:	Trevor Wathen	32 & 35	67 Points

C Grade Stableford Winner:	Elizabeth Novotny	36 & 36	72 Points
C Grade Stableford Runner Up:	Neil Fowler	36 & 34	70 Points
C Grade Third:	Tim O'Brien	29 & 40	69 Points
VVGA State Champion:	Alf Jessup	77 & 74	151 Gross
Runner Up:	Peter Cashmore	81 & 83	164 Gross

Congratulations Alf Jessup. The 2025 VVGA Country Champion

At the conclusion of presentations, President Ern Kraulis presented a plaque to Reg Dawes, President of the Colac Golf Club in appreciation of the success of the event. Ern went on to thank Zone Councillor Stephen Preston for his efforts facilitating the event. Thanks were also extended to Corangamite veteran Bob Bates for coordinating the carts. Finally, Colac Golf Clubs Kerrie Curtis was thanked for her mammoth effort managing MiScore throughout the event.

Congratulations to Corangamite District on delivering a great event.

Pete Turner
VVGA Captain.



3.

Pressing items for discussion and resolution

a) Venues to populate the 5 year event calendar. Urgent attention for 2026.

b) 2026 4BBB Championship. For consideration- Myrtleford Golf Club.

Discussion required regarding rescheduling the date to **23-24 March, 2026** to avoid a clash with the Alpine Classic Tournament.

c) 2026 Country Championship, 4-5 May, 2026.

To be replaced by the Malcolm Macpherson Individual Stableford Challenge. Council ratification is required to approve this name change and format based on feedback requested from district secretaries.

Consideration required regarding three applications to host the Malcolm Macpherson Individual Stableford Challenge (former Country Championship) in May, 2026

- Phillip Island hosting the event.
- Traralgon Golf Club
- Maffra Golf Club

Update required for the format document to reflect the changes.

d) 2026 Teams Championship-Southern Zone- September 14-15 September, 2026. No venue yet proposed.

e) 2026 State championship - Horsham Golf Club- 5-6 October, 2026.
Locked in and progressing well. District member David Baker is securing sponsorship to support the event.

f) 2027 and beyond, Zone Councillors are urged to investigate venues with a view to facilitating events.

g) 2027 Malcolm Macpherson individual Stableford Challenge. Broadford Golf Club has expressed interest.

h) Discussion required to confirm the format of the 2026 4BBB event. Stableford?

May 2025 Report Bayside Zone from John Raven

Challenge Event. After discussion timing of this event between Veterans Golf Group South Eastern Suburbs and Mornington Peninsula has been difficult but we should be ok next year.

The 3 groups report that numbers attending events are down again this year. This is a worry, and something will have to change if the groups are going to survive in the long run. At MPVGA it was only 5 years ago when most of our events cost around \$40 - \$50. The same would apply to ESVGA and Veterans Golf Club. Today most of the MPVGA events cost \$80 - \$100. This has impacted membership and event turnout. I have had it reported that the other two groups have experienced similar pressure on numbers.

Solutions seem difficult to find and perhaps we should be looking at combined events to increase numbers and consequently put pressure on clubs to give us a better deal. Sponsorship is an option but because we have no base promotion by our group is difficult.

I think the MPVGA is a little larger than the other two groups but average attendance is now 60 - 80 compared to a few years ago. One positive is the increased numbers attending VVGA events (15 at Lakes Entrance)

May be we need to organise events with country groups where more affordable events can be staged.

Reply from David Waters and Jeffery Stevens have been lodged with John Robertson

Your advice is welcome.

John Raven

VVGA Western zone report

From Ann D. <portland_dickos@vic.australis.com.au>

Date: Thu 01/05/2025 9:35

To: John Robertson <vvgasecretary@gmail.com>

Hi Robbo

my report from the Western Zone

David Baker from Wimmera feels VERY strongly that all VVGA host clubs should not be CASHLESS, as Colac Golf Club have indicated. He stated that he would not attend any other VVGA events that were Cashless only.

Glenelg District are hoping to provide at least a draft flyer for the VVGA Teams event at our upcoming VVGA meeting. I will forward this asap.

We are very happy with the number of Glenelg Vets who attend VVGA events.

The VVGA event at Lakes Entrance apparently had quite a few women who joined their District Vets so they could participate at the VVGA event. VVGA used to require a minimum number of District events in order to qualify for VVGA events. I have noticed even in our Glenelg District that some members at the VVGA Colac event have only played one event in the last 12 months. This needs to be addressed as a VVGA issue.

Ann Dickinson
Western Zone Councillor

SOUTH GIPPSLAND DISTRICT VETERANS GOLF ASSOCIATION

Event: Gippsland Classic 4BBB

Location: TRAFALGAR GC

(Gibsons Road, Trafalgar 3824)

(Trafalgar Golf Club is situated 5kms north of the township of Trafalgar, Victoria.
approx. 127 kms South East of Melbourne.)

Date: Monday 30th JUNE 2025

Registration from 9.00am for 10.00am Shotgun start.

Format: 4BBB Stableford

Cost: \$30 per player including lunch (pay on day)

Open to veteran golfers from all districts.

****Note** single player entries welcome as we will allocate you a partner.

Email entries to Rob Bride

rob.bride@hotmail.com

For cart booking call club direct 56331110

SG VETS TRAFALGAR 4BBB ENTRY FORM

PLAYER 1

Golf link

**

Player 2

Golf Link

District:

Contact email

phone

** Note single player entries welcome as we will allocate a partner for you

Walking

Y

Cart

own

hire (please circle)

HIRE CARTS ARE AVAILABLE CONTACT CLUB

56331110