

Victorian Veteran Golfers Association Inc.

Reg No A0023016N



**Minutes of Council Meeting
Wednesday 10th December 2025
At Mt Derrimut Golf Club
10.30am**

President Ern Kraulis opened the meeting at 11.20am and welcomed all present.

1/. PRESENT: Ern Kraulis, Geoff Cook, Peter Turner, Ann Dickinson, Bob Bates, Peter Novotny, John Raven, Brian Smith, Neil Fowler, Geoff Cohen (via phone)

2/. APOLOGIES: Treasurer Greg Bennett

Moved Geoff Cook Seconded Bob Bates Carried

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

4/. Receive minutes of the previous Council Meeting held at the Mt Derrimut Golf Club on 13/08/2025.

Moved Brian Smith Seconded John Roberts Carried

5/. Matters arising from these minutes:

Geoff Cohen queried possibility of Maryborough GC hosting 2026 Teams event. Will now be held at Buninyong. Confirmed.

6/. Correspondence IN: as included in the agenda

7/. Correspondence OUT: as included in the agenda

Business for discussion arising from correspondence to be dealt with in General Business.

Moved John Raven Seconded Neil Fowler Carried

7/. Financial Report: Treasurer. (As Attached to agenda and phoned in by Greg Bennett)

Treasurer Greg Bennett reported the current financial position of \$10,925.52 in the Savings Account, and \$15,000.00 and \$5000.00 in our Term Deposit Accounts.

\$530 AVGA Capitation fees have been paid.

Golden Square Hotel ran 2 raffles for State Champ event sponsorship.

Moved Greg Bennett Seconded Geoff Cook, that the Treasurer's report as presented be accepted and accounts already paid be approved. Carried

8/. Captains Report: (As attached to agenda)

As per Items for discussion"

#1 Peter moved a motion that we remove point ONE of our Procedures and Format document to allow for Pro Pins. Seconded Geoff Cook Carried

#2 All agreed

#3 Traralgon GC happy to host 4BBB 15-16 March 2027. Geoff Cohen to send them the paperwork.

John Roberts doesn't feel Broadford would be suitable for Malcolm Macpherson event. Will look at other courses.

Western Zone to look into courses for Teams event in 2027.

Discussion re: clash of District and VVGA events. Dates are flexible, however VVGA events take precedence.

Try to have 2027 dates locked in by June 2026.

#4 Procedures and Format document to be sent to Geoff Cook Myrtleford GC

#5 VVGA won't promote Great Alpine Classic, as would cause confusion with VVGA event. Myrtleford GC can promote it themselves however.

Moved Peter Turner Seconded Brian Smith Carried

9/. Vice Presidents report: (As attached to agenda).

Moved Geoff Cook Seconded Bob Bates Carried

10/. Councillors Reports:

Metropolitan Zone (Neil Fowler) None of my districts have contacted me with any problems or concerns

Northern Zone (John Roberts) I had productive discussions with key representatives from several clubs in our Northern Zone:

- **Rolf Weber, Secretary of Goulburn Valley Golf Club**: We touched base, and I'm pleased to report that there are currently no issues to address.
- **Ray Borscschmann from North Eastern Zone**: Our conversation was positive, with no concerns raised.
- **Dalhousie AGM Attendance**: I attended the Annual General Meeting and am happy to report a modest increase in memberships for 2025, which is encouraging for our growth.
- **Marysville Golf Club**: They have expressed interest in hosting a VVGA event in the future. I will follow up with them to explore this opportunity further.

I would also like to extend my heartfelt thanks to **Belvoir Park Golf Club** for hosting the 2025 State Championship. Their efforts have set a high standard for future events, and we appreciate their dedication.

Western Zone (Peter Novotny)

Issues

1. Issues have been identified to have occurred at the VVGA Teams event conducted at Portland in October, and are the subject of correspondence

to the VVGA by the female complainants and the Wimmera District. President Ern intimated to this issue during his welcome to the recent Bendigo State Championships.

2. An issue has been reported at a Sunraysia District veterans event involving the display of images of a young girl and which has been referred to Victoria Police. A senior Veteran member is understood to be involved. Whilst the investigation is yet to be concluded, the matter has potential to result in some discredit to an individual and our Association. **Update – this did not occur at a Veterans event.** Our Member Protection Policy (Code of Conduct) would be referred to if necessary.

Events & Activities

3. Short course format used for first time during wet weather and wet course conditions experienced during a regular Glenelg District event. Participants found it a very appropriate way of ensuring the continuity of veteran activities whilst dealing with unfavourable conditions.

4. Membership in Wimmera District on the rise during the past year.

5. Female membership remained at approximately 30% in Glenelg District during the past three years.

6. Glenelg District conducted its first “away” district golf trip to Rich River Resort over several days in June and has booked another trip in 2026. During this time competition and friendship prevailed with greater numbers participating in the next event.

Bayside Zone (John Raven) Peter Unkles (Captain) recently passed away.

Loddon Zone (Brian Smith) I had the pleasure of playing in the Northern Districts 2-day championship in May. I congratulate the team who ran it. It was a great 2 days of golf, and it had good fields playing both days.

The CVVGA AGM was held recently, and Brian Smith was again elected as president. Brian, with the help of life member Colin Green, presented a Life Membership to our captain Lindsey Kramer. The award was well deserved for Lindsey’s 22 years of dedicated service; Lindsay was our Official captain for 12 years. In those 12 years Lindsay has only missed one game.

Southern Zone (Bob Bates) Many thanks to Steve Preston for his prior work as Zone Councillor.

President Graeme Clifford was awarded a Life Membership

Gippsland Zone (Geoff Cohen)

**All 3 districts in Zone, EG, SG and WG have held AGMs in accordance with their constitutions and new committees elected.

**All 3 districts have co operated in preparing 2026 programs so there is minimum to no overlap, thus giving golfers across region chance to play in other districts event.(this is a key strategy of Gippsland vets golf development).

Major events on program to include.

Inter district SEW challenge in April.

(This will be re badged as Gippsland championship) .

2 way district challenges also key. S vs E S v W. E v W and E v S.

** SG will co share 2 events in 2026 with Eastern Suburbs vets in March and Peninsula districts vets in June.

These games will be played at Lang Lang.

** Gippsland 4bbb will take place at Trafalgar in June next year. This event attracted 108 golfers from 6 districts in 2025. The 2026 event be open to all VVGA golfers (discussions underway with local sponsor)

** Mirboo North Gc has moved from GWG to SGGI district and so vets have also moved to SGDVGA. Adding players to the list.

** All districts reported good attendances at there events in 2025 and aim to work with clubs who support vets golf.

** Planning well underway to host vvga 2026 Malcolm Mc Pherson award at Phillip Island GC on 4th and 5th May.. See Captain Peters report..

Moved Peter Turner Seconded John Raven Carried

11/. GENERAL BUSINESS for Council discussion

Geoff Cohen moved a motion that VVGA purchase 10 logo caps to give out as prizes at 2026 VVGA events. Seconded John Raven.

Discussion that would be an added cost to VVGA.

Geoff Cohen moved a motion that the VVGA Sponsorship committee look for sponsorship of 10 logo caps to give out as prizes at VVGA events. Seconded John Raven. Carried

Geoff Cohen moved a motion that the VVGA invest in a banner (s) for display at all VVGA events, and these are used as background for all website photos. Seconded Peter Turner
Carried

The Sponsorship and Membership committee will look into this.

Wimmera Veteran Golf re: VVGA teams event 2025 feedback from women

General business from correspondence:

16/10/25 – VVGA Teams event feedback from women

Ern Kraulis made a comment at beginning of VVGA State Championship reminding everyone about etiquette.

Issue has been addressed at VVGA Council. Etiquette will be addressed at all future VVGA events.

Moved Peter Novotny Seconded Geoff Cook Carried

21/09/25 – Bill Estrada re: VVGA AGM lack of documentation

Greg Bennett responded on 21/09/25.

Geoff Cohen advised today that there was no discussion at the West Gippsland AGM regarding leaving the VVGA

Moved Ern Kraulis Seconded Geoff Cook Carried

Outgoing Correspondence:

02/10/25 - Ern Kraulis to Geoff Cohen (Secretary for South Gippsland) re: VVGA 2025 AGM.

Geoff advised today the South Gippsland committee was unaware Rob Bride was going to protest the legitimacy of the AGM on his own volition. The South Gippsland Committee has reprimanded Rob, and he won't be nominated as a Delegate in the future.

Moved Ern Kraulis Seconded Ann Dickinson Carried

1/.Any other General Business as raised at meeting by Councillors.

Geoff Cook moved a motion that Item 3 on the agenda read "has a pecuniary and/or conflict of interest..." Seconded Bob Bates Carried

AVGA next event will be in Victoria in 2029. Ann Dickinson, as Delegate, to confirm year and any other relevant information.

VVGA sub committees:

John Raven (sponsorship and membership committee) Geoff Cohen and Peter Novotny

Peter Turner (match committee) John Roberts and Neil Fowler (Greg Bennett only as required to put items on website)

Geoff Cook (governance committee) Brian Smith and Bob Bates

Teams event trophy to be available prior to 2026 event at Buninyong.

Next Council Meeting : Wednesday 18th February 2026

As there was no further General Business VVGA President, Ern Kraulis, thanked all for their attendance and closed the meeting at 2:32 pm.

Signed (President).....

Dated.....