

# Veterans Golf Club of Victoria

Established 1949

ABN 54 147 171 969 E

<b>President:</b>	Bernie Coyle	0411418759	<b><u>Honorary Secretary</u></b>
<b>Vice President:</b>	Gary Finnis	0419377492	Stan Odachowski
<b>Captain:</b>	Donald MacDonald	0414446636	10 Kimber Court
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## FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER – 02/2013

On Monday 4 February 2013, 49 members played golf at Rossdale Golf Club. Our game on the day was Stableford and we played for the Royce Hollingworth Trophy.

### **PRESIDENT**

**President Bernie** welcomed all members to Rossdale GC. He thanked the Club for the use of their excellent facilities and the chef for a wonderful BBQ lunch.

### **Apologies:**

Apologies were received from Reg Davey, Kelvin Tyler, Alan Bill Dooley, Geoff Cohen and George Giles.

### **Sick List:**

George Giles remains on our sick list. He is improving every day and is expected to rejoin us in 3-4 months time.

### **Guest:**

Bernie welcomed Peter Charlewood to our Club.

Peter was invited by Ray Desmond and joined the Club on the day.

**Starters today:**

Bernie thanked John Currie and Ken Gangell for being our starters for the day.

**Special Achievements:**

There were two known special achievements in the past month:

- (1) On 21 January – Ian Martin – won at Long Island GC – 41pts;
- (2) On 21 January – Geoff Cohen – won at Northern GC – 39pts;

**Golf Fees 2013:**

Bernie reminded members that Golf Fees were now \$40 per game.

**Annual Subscription:**

Members were also reminded that their \$30 Annual subscription is now due. The last day for payment was at the Long Island game on 8 April 2013.

He asked that all payments be given to Treasurer, David Vine.

**Golf Hats/Club Jumpers:**

See Daryl Edwards if you would like to buy a Club Hat - \$10 or Club Jumper - \$75.

**Resignations:**

Lindsay Quennell and Bill Rigby have resigned from the Club.

**Question Time:**

Bernie advised those present that a new procedure had been introduced by the incoming Committee for 2013 - Question time.

Bernie asked members if there were any issues that they wished to raise. There were none.

Members were then asked to think about any matters they may like to ask and to ask them at the Keysborough game.

**2013 Committee Phone Numbers.**

Members are reminded that Phone numbers for all Committee members are listed on the Header of our Newsletter. Please keep these numbers in case you need them at some point during the year.

### **Life Member Badge presentation:**

Bernie asked Life member Ray Underwood to come forward and be presented with his Life Member badge.



'Ray joined the Veterans Golf Club in 2000 and is now in his 13<sup>th</sup> year of membership.

In 2007 he was elected Vice President and in 2008 became President.

Ray was Club Champion in 2008.

He also won the Captains Trophy in 2003 and 2011. He was Runner up in 2004.

For the past 5 years Ray has been an outstanding President and Leader, hard working and very passionate as to the long term future of our great Club.

He has been a wonderful Ambassador for the Club at the many VVGA Championship events he played in when representing our Club over the past 12 years and is very highly respected by all within the Veteran golf community in Victoria.

Thank you Ray for a wonderful contribution to our great Club' – extract from a speech by Lance Bolam at the January 2013 Annual General Meeting.

Ray thanked all present and said that he was honoured to be joining an esteemed group of Life Members in our Club.

### **Captain's presentations:**

Bernie handed the meeting over to Donald MacDonald for the presentation of prizes.

### **CAPTAIN:**

**Captain Donald** welcomed members to Rosedale GC for today's event.

He advised members that the CCR for the day was 38pts.

**Winners on the day were:**

**Royce Hollingworth Trophy:**

Bill Frey (27) was our winner with 42 points on c/b.



**A Grade:** David Vine (18) 42 points

**B Grade:** Gerry O'Connor (28) 40 points

**C Grade:** Robin Miller (41) 42 points

**Nearest to the Pin:**

3rd Hole: Ken Griffiths

12th Hole: Alan Millard

**Balls down the line:**

Alan Millard 41 pts; Ken Griffiths 41pts;

Alan Baker 40pts;

Ian Martin 39pts; John Farrow 39pts;

Bernie Coyle 38pts; Terry Colpo 38pts;

John Sutherland 38pts;

**NAGA Award:**

Alex Johnson was our lucky winner.

**Raffle Winner:**

Bernie thanked Daryl for looking after the raffle and asked our Guest, Peter Charlewood, to draw the winning ticket. The raffle was won by Ken Smith.

**Keysborough GC - Special Raffle:**

Members are asked to dig deep at the Keysborough GC game for this special raffle prize – kindly donated to the Club by Gerard L’Huillier.



PS: Raffle prize donations would be greatly appreciated.

**Birthday Boys for March 2013:**

Congratulations and best wishes to our member whose birthday falls in March:

8th	Brian Guinane	79;		
11th	Colin Wiseman	65;		
14th	David Vine	70;		
18th	Geoff Cohen	56;		
25th	Ken Smith	77;		
27th	Harold Hayes	68;		
31 <sup>st</sup>	Bill Frey	77;	Daryl Edwards	71;

**Social Function in June:**

There will be an informal gathering of members, wives, partners and friends at Rossdale GC on Thursday the 6<sup>th</sup> of June. Please diary the date if you are interested in attending.

Cost will be \$15 a head for a choice of parmagianas, spaghetti bologniase, pot of beer, or a glass of house wine or soft drink. Dinner at 6.15pm or there about.

### **Amended starting times for May, June and July:**

Members are requested to note that starting times for our games in May, June and July have been put back to 7.30am. Please record this in your diaries.

### **Dress Code Guidelines:**

Members are reminded to adhere to Club dress code requirements. These are fairly standard amongst golf clubs and are as follows:

#### **NOT PERMITTED ON COURSE**

- \* NO clothing with large or excessive logos
- \* NO tee shirts unless worn under open neck shirts with turned down collars
- \* NO trousers and shorts with elasticised or draw string waist (trousers must not be rolled up or tucked into socks)
- \* NO track and leisure suits, sports shorts
- \* NO denim clothing or jeans
- \* NO gym style or sport shoes, sandals, boots, thongs, scuffs

#### **PERMITTED ON COURSE**

- \* Neat and clean golf attire
- \* Shirts with fitted ribbed band may be worn outside trousers and shorts.
- \* Round neck golf shirts are acceptable
- \* Trousers and tailored shorts with belt
- \* Socks and sockettes predominantly white if worn with shorts
- \* Golf style shoes with soft spikes only

#### **NOT PERMITTED IN CLUBHOUSE**

- \* NO hats, caps and visors
- \* NO clothing with large or excessive logos
- \* NO tee shirts unless worn under open neck shirts with turned down collars
- \* NO trousers and shorts with elasticised or draw string waist
- \* NO track and leisure suits, sports shorts
- \* NO work boots or thongs

#### **PERMITTED IN CLUBHOUSE**

- \* Neat and clean casual attire including neat & clean denim
- \* Round neck golf shirts are acceptable, all other shirts to have a collar
- \* Trousers and tailored shorts with belt
- \* Socks and sockettes predominantly white if worn with shorts
- \* Dress and walking style casual shoes
- \* Leather sandals; Golf style shoes with soft spikes
- \* Boat shoes with or without socks on the Veranda

## Next Event:

<u>Monday:</u>	4th March 2013 at Keysborough Golf Club
<u>Stableford:</u>	Thord Lorich Trophy – be there by 7.00am
<u>Starters:</u>	Peter Ross and Barry Pollock

Learn from yesterday, live for today, hope for tomorrow.

Good health and happy golfing.

Stan Odachowski

Secretary

## **PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS TO MEMBERS - AGM 2013**

I would ask all the members of the new committee to come forward and join me upfront and I offer them my congratulations on their election.

Gentlemen, thanks for the honour of being elected to be your President for the next year – I hope that I can discharge the responsibilities as well as the previous occupant has.

In that regard, I would particularly like to thank our retiring President, Ray Underwood, for all his work over the years and would ask that you show your appreciation in the usual way.

I would also like to thank the outgoing committee for a great job and for the diligence in which they undertook their various duties. I believe that you would have found 2012 to be a great year. Please show your appreciation in the usual way.

From my perspective I found 2012 to be a enjoyable year with two new courses and a fun committee to work with, but I, and many of the committee, also found it to be a testing year, with a few of our members persistently challenging what we did and the goals and Objectives of our group!

From this perspective, it is important that we are all aware of the Objectives of our group, so I ask you to bear with me for a few minutes.

We are the oldest Vets group in Victoria - 63 years old and we were established to look after returned war veterans, who needed a social environment and also wanted to play golf. We have been in existence far longer than any other Vets group in Victoria and are fully autonomous with our own Constitution, which gives us great flexibility. We are not subject to the rules of any other group, including the Victorian Vets Golf Association, which was established in 1982 to bring together the various districts and groups such as ours, for joint golf competitions. Again, it is important to note that the VVGA does not control our objectives, which in some cases differ from theirs. As an example, when I tried to join the Vets, I did not belong to a golf club as I had just returned to Melbourne from Canberra. The Vets Club I tried to join, insisted that I could not, because I was not a member of a local golf club. I said that, at that time, I had not decided which golf club I would join, so the secretary of that Vets group recommended that I join the Veterans Golf Club of Victoria – our Vets group, as it did not insist on members being tied to a golf club with AGU handicaps. I would not be a vets player today if this club did not exist. In fact, to help those who want to be a member, we have even allowed a person to join when he was not even 55 yrs old, in fact he was 52– so you can see we are very flexible as a result of the clubs ongoing policies and Constitution, which are well known throughout the Vets organisation and the VVGA.

Briefly, I want to re-iterate our Objectives.

The first two are to “promote good fellowship and companionship among Veteran Golfers and “to promote dinners or other entertainment”. These two Objectives strongly push us down the line of a **social vets group**, as opposed to other groups within the VVGA, who promote only golf **without the social aspect**. This is an important difference between us and other Vets golf groups who often book online and their members rarely meet – hardly social golf groups! Drinks after each game and our annual dinner are important for fellowship and companionship, especially as we get older and may



not be able to be members of local golf clubs. We are one of the few Vets golf groups that look after the older golfers amongst us – a fact that I am very proud of.

The third and fourth Objectives talk about playing golf and these are only mentioned after the issues of good fellowship and companionship.

So, from these Objectives, your new committee will continue to be active in the role of managing an autonomous and effective social golf group, which will continue to participate in those events that the VVGA organises.

I do not see our group as one that promotes activities outside our Objectives and that includes actively seeking ongoing commercial sponsorship to promote commercial enterprises or promoting particular golf professionals for their gain. Members are always free to pursue these matters outside this organisation – we are here to organise an annual program of golf for our members at a range of different courses, with social fellowship after each game.

As I said earlier, fellowship and companionship are an important part of our culture, especially as we all get older. To achieve these goals, we need to provide a basis for those members who choose, for one reason or another, not to belong to a golf club. This includes a handicap system that meets all our needs and those of our Constitution and that is what our handicapper has done with the system that he has been widely published over the last few years. This system meets all our needs and will be religiously applied over the coming year after each and every game. By maintaining this system, our handicapper has pre-empted one of the major elements of the Slope system that recognises that we cannot all play to our home course handicaps at different courses.

These matters must be understood by all of us and we must realise that our committee members are all volunteers, who are helping to provide you with a good game each month and a great social environment, in which to play those games. We are not playing for sheep stations, we are playing for enjoyment. We are not just an online booking agency for our members – we are a true social golf group. That is the basis of our club and the way your new committee will develop plans for the coming years. I hope that all our members take note of these important aspects, that you all work with us to move ahead in an enjoyable way that looks after all our members both young and old and that we do so in a stress free way. If anyone has trouble identifying with these objectives and our policies, then they should consider whether they are in the right Vets golf club.

As President, I am aware of my responsibilities to you all and hope that your committee and I can fully meet our Constitution's Objectives. I ask for your support.

Thank you.

(Bernie Coyle - President)