



Life members

Bruce Cummins
Jim Earl
Barry Ewert
Ron Kirby
Alan Potts



**NEW SOUTH WALES SUPER SENIOR GOLF ASSOCIATION(Inc)
MINUTES OF THE 17th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD AT ASQUITH GOLF CLUB
ON TUESDAY 21st FEBRUARY 2023**

Meeting opened at 10.35a.m.

- 1. Apologies:** Barry Ewert (Patron), Linden Pleffer (Stonecutters Ridge), Leigh Brydson (Waratah) and Ian Jordan (Richmond).

In Attendance:

Nominated voters:- Martin Gallagher (Chairman - Gosford), Stephen Farr (Asquith), Dennis Marr (Shortland Waters), Eddie Hoskins (Kooindah Waters), Steve Pryor (Belmont), Ian Cochrane (Castle Hill), Ross Patten (Castle Hill), Les Sainty (Hawks Nest), Alan Potts (Newcastle), John Warwick (Ryde Parramatta), Peter Richardson (North Ryde), Neil Warren (Monash), Peter Bonfield (Camden), Dennis Roy (Muirfield), Gary Cush (Forster Tuncurry), Ian Cowper (Bankstown).

Non voters:- David Hyland (North Ryde), Brian Pearce (Belmont), Mark Woodward (Asquith), Barry Hopkins (Forster Tuncurry), Geoff Vial (Forster Tuncurry).

- 2. Approval of the Minutes of the 16th Annual Meeting:-** there were no questions. Moved by E Hoskins, seconded by Ian Cochrane that the minutes be approved – carried.

- 3. Correspondence:-**Correspondence has been dealt with by the Committee as received during the year. Since the last committee meeting correspondence has been received from Les Sainty, requesting that Hawks Nest (HN) be included within divisions 7 or 8. These clubs, as is HN, are mostly members of the Newcastle District Golf Assn (NDGA), and travel for HN would be reduced from an average of 2 hours per game, to a little over 1 hour. Martin Gallagher indicated that he had already had discussions with HN to this effect. This would leave 6 clubs in Division 9 which would not be ideal. However negotiations are already underway with Bob Maggs from Wauchope GC who is hopeful of forming a composite team with Wauchope, Bulahdelah and Gloucester clubs to make a seventh team. Moved by John Warwick, seconded by Barry Hopkins that correspondence be accepted and passed – carried.

4. Captain's and Treasurer's reports:-

Captain's report - Copies of the Captain's report were distributed to the meeting with a copy displayed on the website. M Gallagher also mentioned that for 2023 we already have entries for 32 teams with two weeks left until entries close. The Captain then asked for comments/suggestions from the floor.

Peter Bonfield (Camden) has questioned the seeding system – his team won Division 3 with 5.5/6 games+32/48 matches, but in the South Zone were seeded behind Castle Hill who finished second in Division 4 with 5/6 games+37/48 matches. [Although not mentioned at the meeting a similar occurrence happened in the North Zone where Pacific Dunes won

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Division 7 but were seeded behind Charlestown who finished second, albeit on a count-back, in Division 8]. Peter suggested that Camden should have been seeded above Castle Hill as Camden had won their division, plus had won more games than Castle Hill. Peter recommended that the divisional winners should be seeded 1 to 5 based on games won with the divisional runners-up being seeded 6 to 10 (a problem here is that in a 6 team division, the winner of that division can win a maximum of 5 games only – this is where the seeding formula attempts to overcome this anomaly). After discussion attendees have agreed generally to the concept that divisional winners should always be seeded 1 to 5 for their Zone finals series. There was also a consensus that the two Zone system should be retained with one of the Sydney based divisions to go into the North Zone, preferably on a rotational basis (possibly Division 2 for 2023).

Ian Cowper (Bankstown) also suggested that the pennant teams be reduced from 8 to 6 players. This could assist the smaller clubs who do not have the depth of competitive players. On the other hand this would result in the larger clubs having players miss out on participating. It was suggested that the larger clubs could field a second team (in a different division – probably more travel) but the problem would then arise would those “second” teams would be competitive. The 6 player team has been raised on several occasions over the years and will be again, however for 2023 it would be too late to facilitate a change.

Steve Pryor (Belmont) has indicated that, with only 3 nominations for the 2023 committee, there could/will be a problem with the running of the 2023 program. He has asked if the committee has only three members, will it be capable of managing the workload? Martin Gallagher indicated that the workload for 3 people would be overly onerous and ideally we need 3 more volunteers from the Sydney basin plus 1 other from north of the Hawkesbury. Suggestions to overcome the problem included having North & South sub-committees, having result sheets checked and uploaded by Team Managers/volunteers/Hosts/Convenors (updating our software to enable access to Excel spreadsheets) and/or asking Golf NSW to take over the SS Pennant. The latter was rejected bearing in mind the debacle in the running of the Master Pennant by Golf NSW. The Captain will look into the requirements and costs of upgrading our website to allow external access. Martin also mentioned that it has been difficult to get volunteers for the convenors positions with committee members needing to fill these positions on top of their other commitments.

Treasurer’s Report:- Copies of the Treasurers report for 2022, explanatory notes and Independent Audit Report were distributed at the meeting. The Association started the 2022 year with a healthy bank balance of \$12,097.14 due to having received entry fees and the NSW Golf grant (\$2,500) for the 2021 Pennant, which had to be abandoned due to the Covid19 lockdowns. The bulk of the 2021 entry fees were carried over to the 2022 Pennant. Therefore it was expected/budgeted that the Association would record a deficiency of \$4,097 for 2022 on the assumption that Golf NSW would again provide their annual grant of



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\$4,097 for 2022 on the assumption that Golf NSW would again provide their annual grant of \$2,500. This grant was not received prior to the end of the financial year (possibly due to the fact that the 2021 Pennant was cancelled), but we are hopeful of receiving both the 2022 and 2023 grants during the 2023 financial year. The end result was that the Association recorded a deficiency of \$5,672.73 with the main variances to the budget being the Golf NSW grant (-\$2,500) and catering for the finals matches (up by \$1,467.80). It should be noted that the SSChampionship postponed to November last year recorded a net profit of \$2,206 (budget \$1,200) mainly due to the efforts of the committee in obtaining Gift vouchers to give out as prizes.

For 2023 it is intended that the Association only cater for the Zone finals and the Grand Final (\$1,500) with a budgeted net surplus of \$427, on the basis that we only receive one grant of \$2,500 from Golf NSW.

Stephen Farr mentioned that we are looking to have the 2023 SSChampionship in Sydney and the committee would appreciate any offers from clubs in the metropolitan area. As a backup we have reserved Toukley course on Monday 26th June 2023.

Moved by Brian Pearce, seconded by Ian Cowper that both the Captain's and Treasurer's reports be adopted – carried.

5 Election of Committee, including positions of Captain, Treasurer and Patron:

Three nominations were received by the due date for the seven positions on Committee from Martin Gallagher, Eddie Hoskins and Dennis Marr. Further nominations were sought from other attendees. None were forthcoming. Nomination forms were made available but if no further nominations are received in the next few weeks the elected committee will look for additional members, preferably from the greater Sydney area.

By a show of hands the 3 nominees were elected onto the committee.

Nominations were then called for the position of captain. Martin Gallagher, being the only volunteer for the position, was duly elected by a show of hands.

Nominations were then called for the position of treasurer. Dennis Marr was nominated by Martin Gallagher, seconded by Eddie Hoskins and being the only nomination was duly elected by a show of hands.

Nominations were then called for the position of Patron. Barry Ewert was nominated by Martin Gallagher, seconded by Peter Bonfield and being the only nomination was duly elected by a show of hands. Martin had given a brief history of Barry's contribution to the Association, being a founding member, and his continuing participation in the sport at 87 years of age.

Martin Gallagher mentioned that should there be no further nominations for the committee by 7th March he would be considering his own position with the Association, bearing in mind the expected workload for the 3 electives during 2023, and the desire to spend more time with his partner after almost 6 years as Captain.

Steve Pryor then thanked Stephen Farr for his work as both a committee member and Treasurer with the hope that he will return in 2024.

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6. Notices of Motion received in writing 21 days prior to Annual General Meeting:

1) Geoff Vial (Forster Tuncurry) – the following is to be inserted into Rule 8 of the Rules of Play of the Super Senior Pennant:- “All games in the Finals Series -

1) Be played on neutral courses, being a course that the two opposing teams have not played on during the Divisional rounds or Finals Series; and

2) The travel distances to the neutral course be as equal as possible for each team.”

After discussion it was generally agreed that the part 1) of the motion is already in Rule 8 with the exception that the words “or Finals Series” needs to be included in the brackets, after “Divisional Rounds”.

Geoff Vial indicated that, as the mover of this motion, he was satisfied with this wording. Moved by Peter Bonfield and seconded by Mark Woodward that the above amendment to Rule 8 be approved – carried by show of hands.

As for part 2) of this motion there were contributions from a number of attendees with the general consensus being, that regardless of who wins the Zone finals, there will be travel involved and that this travel should be shared between the two teams competing in the Grand Final. By a show of hands it was agreed that the wording proposed by Forster Tuncurry also be added to the opening sentence of Rule 8 which will now read:-

“Ideally Games are to be played on neutral courses, (one that the two opposing teams have not played on during the Divisional Rounds and Finals Series), however the Committee has the right to vary this decision should circumstances arise that cause it to do so, and the travel distances to the neutral course be as equal as possible for each team.”

2) Eddie Hoskins (Kooindah Waters & NSWSSGA committee member) –

“The Order of Play in the Divisional rounds and Finals Series be discussed” (Rules 2 & 3) –

The current rule of playing order of 1 to 8 in the Finals Series was brought in as an experiment. Opinion was sought from the attendees as to whether they wished to continue with this experimental rule as it stands. After discussion and contributions from several attendees it was agreed that the order of play should be the same for both Divisional Rounds and the Finals Series. By a show of hands it was agreed that the order of play should be 8 to 1 (as against an order of play of 1 to 8) throughout the Pennant. Secondly it was suggested that Team Order of Play (Rule 2) be strictly in GA handicap order. Bearing in mind the work involved in “policing” this arrangement, it was agreed (again by a show of hands) that Rule 2 remain unchanged.

There being no further business on the agenda the meeting was closed at 12.40 pm.

Martin Gallagher - Chairman/Captain

Stephen Farr - Treasurer (2022)