

# AGM 2023 – President's Report

Good morning. Due to a technical problem, we have been unable to contact our delegates via zoom. This is really unfortunate as this is the forum for delegates to come together to voice their opinions and thoughts.

Our five 2-day country tournaments this year have all gone off very well. The VWGA has travelled all over NSW to give members a chance to catch up with friends from afar or make new ones and to play on some great courses. Every country course we have visited and played on has been more than generous and welcomed us with open arms. It isn't just the lovely home baked morning teas that go on forever, but much, much more.

2023 turned out to be a good year, golf wise. The commitment of the VWGA committee has kept our office open Monday – Thursday for 11 months of the year. It is a small but very busy working office. The VWGA committee work well together and do a great job in keeping the work flowing. The office will be closed over the festive season starting from Monday 16 December to the 8 January. You can still send emails and bank money, but the phones will not be manned.

Our finances are in the capable hands of Nancye Cullen. Nancye has been the VWGA Treasurer for many years and is extremely confident in this position. We are receiving more EFT transfers these days than cheques, which is a good thing as it looks like cheques are going to be phased out next year some time. It has been trying times with the increase in all running costs and the decline in membership income. The decision to increase the fees was not taken lightly. Nancye will bring us all the figures later.

The VWGA membership has taken a battering over the last couple of years. Closures of golf courses and an aging population are definitely not helping. Virginia Hewitt, the membership Co-ordinator and the current VWGA Vice President, oversees the database.

Jenni Brown runs the metropolitan tournaments programme as well as being the VWGA Secretary. Running the tournaments is a difficult job. More and more courses are becoming reluctant to spare time for us or we are being priced out of the market. We again have a full programme for 2024. So, no fires or floods please. We are keeping everything crossed for a successful year. Susie Davies helps Jenni by taking and preparing the minutes for our meetings, including the AGM.

The three additional competitions we play are:

1. Challenge Brooch: A Metropolitan competition handled by Vanna Mutton
2. Country Championships: A Country competition handled by Susie Davies
3. Mabel Mackenzie Brooch: A Country competition handled by Lucy Minehan.

Thank you to these three ladies for getting these results out with efficiency. These and other results are on the web site. The 2024 forms are now on our web site and have been emailed out to all delegates.

We were able to get out 6 issues of the Vets News in 2023. We are kept busy by the constant news being sent into us from around NSW. Keep those special birthdays and photos coming in. It keeps everyone in the loop. I would like to give a very big thank you to the editor, Lyn Walker.

The VWGA website is the source of all our information and is constantly being updated. The tournament programme, entry forms and more are just a click away, thanks to Barbara Evennett, our IT guru.

## Page 2

Our Facebook page has been growing over the last couple of years and now has 453 followers. Vanna Mutton oversees this and does a great job. She gets great delight in seeing the numbers grow. So please join us.

Vanna has also put a lot of work into getting the archives up to date. A majority of the documents have been copied and saved to Drop Box and is an ongoing job.

This year has seen some of our committee members on the sick list but now are all back on board. I do hope that our VWGA members who have also been on the sick list are able to get back onto the golf course soon. One of our life members, Beverley Everett, had a very nasty fall at home and was hospitalised for quite a while. She then went to rehab and is now recovering well. It may be a while before we see Bev back on the course.

Our thoughts are with them any of our VWGA members who have suffered the loss of family members or friends.

We have given out 108 Hole in One Badges. Clever ladies!

We have issued 269 80-year-old badges and 21 90-year-old badges. No 100<sup>th</sup> birthdays celebrated this year.

The VWGA have continued to send out Delegate Packs to new Delegates with all sorts of useful information in. This task is handled by Lilian Ong.

To the delegates I have a couple of messages:

Please keep up the good work in promoting the VWGA tournaments in your clubs. The tournaments are such an important part of our organisation as they bring us all together.

We are always calling for more members to join us on the committee. If this doesn't suit, then join us a volunteer. This would mean helping with general duties in the office, to assist at tournaments, etc. In other words, time. If any of your lady members are newly retired or just have some time to spare, why not give some of those hours back to the VWGA? You do not have to be a delegate to be on the committee. Just a willing member of the VWGA.

In saying that we have welcomed back to the committee Lesley Paradine after a small break.

In closing, I must again acknowledge the work put in by the committee this year. They have all made my job a lot easier. Thank you and well done.

I wish you all good health and good golfing for 2024.

*Jacky Parsons*

**PRESIDENT**

Friday 24 November 2023