

GOLF NSW

Minutes of the *Meetings of the Council Members of Golf NSW*

from 30th August 2010 to 15th March 2011

<u>Date of Meeting</u>	<u>Page</u>
1. 30 th August 2010	2
2. 11 th November 2010	8
3. 15 th March 2011	15

GOLF NSW

Minutes of the first *Meeting of the COUNCIL*
held at Kogarah Golf Club, 19 Marsh Street, Arncliffe
on Monday 30th August, 2010 at 10:00am

Present:

Trevor Bartley (Metro Zone C/Windsor GC), Ray Bellamy (Lower North Coast DGA), Colleen Bennett (Far South Coast & Tablelands GA), Diane Boulton (North & North West District Ladies GA), Marcia Box (Western District Ladies GA), Peter Brien (Western DGA), Tony Briers (Murray DGA), Susan Brooks (Blue Mountain District Ladies GA), Gary Bryant (Mid North Coast DGA), Tony Busch (Blue Mountains DGA), David Byfield (Riverina DGA), Stuart Cox (Metro Zone A/Moore Park GC), Yvonne Day (Metro Nepean/Camden GC), Deanne Deitz (Newcastle Hunter District Ladies GA), Ian Elliott (Central Coast DGA), Jan Frater (New England DGA), Ian Fraser (Metro Zone C/The Coast GC), Robert Griffiths (Illawarra DGA), Grant Harding (South West DGA), Elsa Hocking (Metro West/Bankstown GC), Reg Johnston (Metro Zone C/Parramatta GC), Julie Jones (Metro North/Northbridge GC), Greg Kellett (Central North DGA), Brian Lanz (New England DGA), Ken Martin (Western Riverina DGA), John Lock (Metro Zone B/Carnarvon GC), John Miller (Central Western DGA), Verelle Miller (Women's Golf Central North Coast), Robyn Newey (Western Districts Ladies GA), Jann Pearson (Metro Peninsula/Mona Vale GC), Ellen Rae (Central Coast Women's GA), Jill Roach (Metro Central/Woollooware GC), Robert Scarr (Hunter River DGA), Jane Searle (Metro West/Ryde-Parramatta GC), Joy Slater (Women's Golf Northern Rivers), Colin Smith (Metro Zone B/Botany GC), Robert Soper (Far South Coast DGA), Denis Spillane (Metro Zone B/Fox Hills GC), Tony Steele (Metro Zone A/Oatlands GC), Paul Thomas (Lachlan Valley DGA), Lynne Townsend (Women's Golf Illawarra), Aileen Whiticker (Riverina Ladies GA)

Apologies:

Director: Carolyn Bloch (NSW GC);
Councillors: Ian Armour (Northern Rivers DGA);
Les Browne (Metro Zone A/Long Reef GC);
Michael Dodd (Newcastle DGA)
Jim Glenday (Metro Zone C/Georges River GC);
Judy Harris (Metro Nepean/Richmond GC);
Richard Hattersley (Metro Zone A/The Royal Sydney)
Jim Jackson (ACT-Monaro DGA)
Julie Jenkins (South West Ladies GA);
Diana Lindsay (Metro Central/NSW GC)
Bruce Nairn (Metro Zone B/Bexley GC);
Margaret O'Donnell (Newcastle Hunter District Ladies GA)
Lynne Robson (Metro Peninsula/Wakehurst GC);

In Attendance:

Directors: Chris Allen (Chairman), Sue Fabian (Deputy Chairman), John Waanders (Chairman Finance), Jean Moran, Lynne Ritchie, Darrell Watts, Alan Harrison and Frank Gal.

Others: Sandra Gillies (Chair - Women's Match Committee)

Staff: Greg Mills, Nicky Bethwaite, Graeme Phillipson, James Black, Denise Rogers, Donna Mitchell and Robyn Jones

Business:

1-1 Opening Comments from the Chairman

The Chairman welcomed Council members to the inaugural Council meeting of Golf NSW. He further welcomed five new members, Messrs. Ian Armour (Northern Rivers DGA), Michael Dodd (Newcastle DGA), Jim Jackson (ACT-Monaro DGA), Trevor Bartley (Windsor GC) and Tony Steele (Oatlands GC) elected to Council to replace those members appointed to the Board of Golf NSW.

The Chairman provided a brief history of the events leading to the amalgamation of Women's Golf NSW and the NSW Golf Association from the agreement to proceed with the merger in April, the election of Board members in June, the informal Board meetings held throughout June and the launch on 1 July 2010.

The first 2 months

- **Legal Issues**

It was noted that all legal issues had been completed in a timely manner by the 1 July launch date. The formal windup of Women's Golf NSW will be later in the year after all currently invested funds in term deposits mature. It was advised by the CEO that all women's clubs/committees will be required to formally resign from Women's Golf NSW in the coming weeks. It was further advised that all clubs have been offered membership with Golf NSW.

- **Sub Committees**

With the exception of the Match Committee which, for the immediate future will remain as two separate sub-committees (male and female), all other sub-committees would contain representatives from both genders and would be smaller in size by design. It was noted that the Match and Rules & Amateur Status Committee held external members not on Council.

Council were advised of the addition of a new sub committee, Audit & Risk to oversee and provide checks and balances on matters related to financial and governance issues.

- **Finances**

A draft budget for 2010-2011 is currently being developed. It was noted that Golf NSW was in a healthy financial position.

- **Branding and Image**

With only twenty seven (27) days to organise new branding and image, it was agreed the selected logo was fresh holding no relationship to the past organisations. However, it was noted that the Waratah had been retained for use on State player uniforms exclusively as recognition of their achievements.

- **Premises**

It was noted that remaining staff from Women's Golf NSW had approached their Board who agreed to their request to move to the Arncliffe offices immediately after July 1 despite having three months in which to move as per the Merger Implementation Agreement between the two former organisations.

As a result of this decision, the Homebush premises were vacated. Shortly thereafter, an unsolicited offer of \$800,000 was received to purchase the premises in the current condition. The Constitution of Golf NSW states that the Council must approve the disposal of assets and as such it was moved by Chris Allen and seconded by Reg Johnston that the sale of the Homebush premises be sold on that basis. A clear majority voted to agree with this motion as put.

Furthermore, discussions were ongoing with various organisations and or property owners regarding the possible relocation of the Golf NSW premises as and when they arise.

- **Casual Vacancy on Council**

It was noted due to the resignation of Herb James a casual vacancy existed on the Council. Nominations to fill this vacancy had been called for with all Zone B Clubs with a decision pending by the Board at its next meeting on September 24 assuming at least one nomination will be forthcoming.

Planning for next 12 months:

The Chairman advised the Board would be holding a full day of strategic planning on Saturday 25th September.

1-2 Introduction of Directors in attendance

Each Director was introduced to the Council.

Introduction of Staff in attendance

The Chairman introduced the staff in attendance.

1-3 Presentations by Chairpersons of Sub Committees

Frank Gal – Rules & Amateur Status

The Chairman advised that the rule changes for the next edition of the Rules of Golf will be known. Briefly he advised that there would be changes to rules 12 & 13, no changes to the long putter rule, the possibility of players lining up their caddies staying and the possible withdrawal of the Hole in One prize rule.

Sandra Gillies – Women’s Match Committee

The Chair welcomed and thanked Donna Mitchell for her tireless efforts in helping the Match Committee with events held and those approaching despite only being in the position for a few weeks.

It was noted that Metropolitan Grade had concluded despite having much interference from wet weather during the competition.

The Pewter Plate was the first Golf NSW event to be held with The Vintage Weekend Tournament just completed.

Alan Harrison – Men’s Match Committee

Alan Harrison provided a verbal report on the Men’s Match Committee in the absence of Chairman, Les Browne. Of particular note was the finalisation of the 2011 combined calendar. It was noted that many clubs did not meet requirements for Vardon events in 2011.

The finalisation of a Code of Conduct and Standard Conditions would occur shortly and wishes for a successful Interstate Series were conveyed to all three teams competing in Queensland in September.

John Waanders – Finance Committee

The Chairman advised that Golf NSW was financially healthy. He further advised that non current assets acquired by Women’s Country Associations currently noted on the balance sheet would be handed back to those Districts who have, or become incorporated.

The Council were advised that affiliation fees have already been notified to Women’s Golf members prior to amalgamation and that the Male members would be notified in October for payment by December 31. It was noted that this collection of fees was for a six month December – June period which will bring them into line with the new fiscal year of Golf NSW. It was further noted that the affiliation rates for this period are: Metro - \$16.50 plus GST for Adults and \$8.25 plus GST for Juniors; Country - \$13.20 plus GST for Adults and \$6.00 plus GST for Juniors. It was recommended that District Golf

Associations charge their district fee on a pro-rata basis to align themselves with Golf NSW.

Payment of affiliation fees for 2011-2012 would be notified in May 2011. These fees will be set by the Finance Committee and one account will be sent to each club for payment of both men and women members. Country fees will continue to be set at 80 percent of the metropolitan fee.

In reply to a question from the floor, the small club rebate, as offered previously by the NSW Golf Association would continue. The requirements of this rebate were explained to the Women Councillors.

It was noted that Women's Districts will be reimbursed 20 percent of fees in September to bring them into line with the Men's Districts.

The District Coaching Program was also explained to the Women Councillors with an invitation issued to Women's Districts to join the program.

Lynne Ritchie & Sue Fabian – Handicapping & Course Rating

The Chair of Handicapping & Course Rating provided the following updates:

- o Rolling averages introduced in April with six months to stabilise;
- o 3 metropolitan and 12 country seminars for Slope training had been held with 270 attendees trained. Of those only 20 withdrawals to date;
- o Those trainers wishing to withdraw were requested to contact Lynne Ritchie and to return any resources within their possession;
- o Golf NSW was responsible for approximately 400 courses many with two sets of tees;
- o The Chair thanked Colin Kaye for hosting the seminars and presentations as well as John Locke and Sue Fabian for their assistance;
- o NSW had been divided into 22 country zones and 7 metro zones with an average of 15 clubs in each zone for raters to rate;
- o Zone- Coordinators had been appointed to the majority of zones;
- o 10 metro clubs and 6 country courses have been rated;
- o New ratings will not be released until the Handicapping Committee is satisfied they are correct;
- o Adam Dransfield had been appointed the role of administration to assist the Handicapping and Course Rating Committee;
- o Clubs were asked to be patient as ratings will take time;
- o The review period for handicap adjustments will remain daily until further notice. However, it is believed that once the new Slope System is introduced in 2012, the review period will be fortnightly, unless otherwise agreed between GA and the USGA;
- o Golf Australia had taken up the most significant matters concerning the new system with the USGA;
- o No change to the current system of submitting three cards to obtain a handicap;
- o Clubs should begin setting up their own Handicap Committee with representatives from both genders and it was recommended the Committee be chaired by a representative other than the Captain;

Jack Newton Junior Golf

Khan Pullen and Peter van Wegen provided a brief update on the current programs being undertaken by JNJG including the State Talent Identification Camp at the Sydney Academy of Sport and Regional Talent Identification Days (TID).

The Chairman encouraged all juniors to join the JNJG as it is a free membership.

1-4 Communications

The COO advised that the new website should be launched in January 2011. A new fortnightly communication labelled Drop Zone is issued every two weeks and those not

receiving the publication should contact Nicky Bethwaite. Council were advised the August Bulk Mail was just issued and Women Councillors were requested to pass it onto the relevant male representative at their club.

It was noted that two annual reports would be issued this year – a commemoration edition for Women's Golf NSW and a six monthly report for the NSW Golf Association.

1-5 Councillor Apparel

All Councillors were issued with clothing and were requested to select a hat or cap before departing the meeting. Any requests for changes in size are to be directed to Nicky Bethwaite.

1-6 NSW Opens

The CEO advised the 2010 Men's NSW Open will be held from 25-28 November at The Vintage; the Women's NSW Open is scheduled for January at Oatlands Golf Club. Further information will be provided in due course.

1-7 Sale of Homebush Premises

This item was addressed in 1-1 the first 2 months.

1-8 Affiliation Fees

This item was addressed during the presentation by the Chairman of Finance.

1-9 Payments to clubs hosting State Events

It was noted that this item would be addressed at the next Finance meeting.

General Business:

2-1 Open forum from the floor:

- Handicapping

It was noted that it was a club matter to allocate handicaps;

- Meetings

It was requested to ensure where possible that all Board members and Chairpersons of Committees be present at Council meetings;

- Note of Recognition

The Board of Golf NSW and Staff were thanked for their efforts to date in ensuring the amalgamation process ran smoothly and continues to operate at a high standard.

- Re-Zoning of Metropolitan Areas

The re-zoning of the existing Men's and Women's metropolitan Zones would be re-distributed within the first quarter of 2011. Any suggestions Councillors may have would be welcome.

- Merging of Districts

There were no plans for the foreseeable future to merge current country Districts.

There being no further business the meeting was declared closed at 1.55pm.

Next meeting scheduled for Thursday, 11 November 2010

Date:

Chairman:

GOLF NSW

Minutes of the *Meeting of the COUNCIL*
held at Bonnie Doon Golf Club, Banks Avenue, Pagewood
on Thursday 11th November, 2010 at 3:05pm

Present:

Ian Armour (Northern Rivers DGA), Trevor Bartley (Metro Zone C/Windsor GC), Ray Bellamy (Lower North Coast DGA), Colleen Bennett (Far South Coast & Tablelands GA), Diane Boulton (North & North West District Ladies GA), Marcia Box (Western District Ladies GA), Peter Brien (Western DGA), Tony Briers (Murray DGA), Susan Brooks (Blue Mountain District Ladies GA), Les Browne (Metro Zone A/Long Reef GC), Gary Bryant (Mid North Coast DGA), Tony Busch (Blue Mountains DGA), David Byfield (Riverina DGA), Stuart Cox (Metro Zone A/Moore Park GC), Yvonne Day (Metro Nepean/Camden GC), Deanne Deitz (Newcastle Hunter District Ladies GA), Ian Elliott (Central Coast DGA), Jan Frater (New England DGA), Ian Fraser (Metro Zone C/The Coast GC), Robert Griffiths (Illawarra DGA), Judy Harris (Metro Nepean/Richmond GC), Grant Harding (South West DGA), Elsa Hocking (Metro West/Bankstown GC), Reg Johnston (Metro Zone C/Parramatta GC), Julie Jenkins (South West Ladies GA), Julie Jones (Metro North/Northbridge GC), Greg Kellett (Central North DGA), Diana Lindsay (Metro Central/New South Wales GC), Brian Lanz (New England DGA), Ken Martin (Western Riverina DGA), John Lock (Metro Zone B/Carnarvon GC), John Miller (Central Western DGA), Verelle Miller (Women's Golf Central North Coast), Bruce Nairn OAM (Metro Zone B/Bexley GC), Robyn Newey (Western Districts Ladies GA), Margaret O'Donnell (Newcastle Hunter District Ladies GA), Jann Pearson (Metro Peninsula/Mona Vale GC), Ellen Rae (Central Coast Women's GA), Jill Roach (Metro Central/Woollooware GC), Lynne Robson (Metro Peninsula/Wakehurst GC), Robert Scarr (Hunter River DGA), Jane Searle (Metro West/Ryde-Parramatta GC), Joy Slater (Women's Golf Northern Rivers), Colin Smith (Metro Zone B/Botany GC), Robert Soper (Far South Coast DGA), Denis Spillane (Metro Zone B/Fox Hills GC), Tony Steele (Metro Zone A/Oatlands GC), Paul Thomas (Lachlan Valley DGA), Lynne Townsend (Women's Golf Illawarra), Aileen Whiticker (Riverina Ladies GA)

Apologies:

Margaret Ashton (Metro West/Muirfield GC), Janet Bracken (Central Southern GA), Val Bronson (Metro Central/Woollooware GC), David Coulton (North West DGA), Michael Dodd (Newcastle DGA), John Dunkin (Metro Zone B/Cabramatta GC), Jim Glenday (Metro Zone C/Georges River GC), Richard Hattersley (Metro Zone A/Royal Sydney GC), Jeannie Henry (Metro North/Avondale GC), Jim Jackson (ACT-Monaro DGA), Olwyn Johnstone (Metro Peninsula/Bayview GC), Margaret Koeninger (Metro North/Cammeray GC), Robert Scott (Metro Zone A/Bankstown GC), Jo-Ellen Thorpe (Metro Nepean/Wallacia-Panthers GC),

In Attendance:

Directors: Chris Allen (Chairman), Sue Fabian (Deputy Chairman), John Waanders (Chairman Finance), Carolyn Bloch, Jean Moran, Lynne Ritchie, Darrell Watts, Alan Harrison and Frank Gal.

Others: Sandra Gillies (Chair - Women's Match Committee)

Staff: Greg Mills, Nicky Bethwaite, Graeme Phillipson, Mitsie Kent and Robyn Jones

**Confirmation of
Previous Minutes:**

The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 30th August 2010 were confirmed.
(Moved: Ian Fraser Seconded: Tony Steele)

Business Arising:

- 1-1 Update on Golf NSW's offer of membership to all clubs
The CEO advised that the offer of membership to Golf NSW had been extended to all country clubs and Women's Golf NSW clubs with responses arriving on a daily basis.
- 1-2 Update on resignations from WGNSW
The CEO advised that all clubs listed as a member of WGNSW had been sent a form resigning from WGNSW. These responses were arriving on a daily basis.
- 1-3 Update on sale of Homebush property
The COO advised that settlement on the Homebush property would occur on Monday 15th November.
- 1-4 Zone B Councillor Vacancy and Newcastle DGA replacement TBC by the Board
The Chairman advised that two vacancies existed on the Council; one in Zone B and one in the Newcastle District. The Chairman further advised that the Board had approved the nomination of John Benn from Chatswood Golf Club and Paul Cortaville from the Newcastle DGA.
- 1-5 NSW Open/ Update
The CEO advised that preparations were continuing for the Men's 2010 NSW Open which would be held in two weeks time at The Vintage Golf Club and that a quality field has been received for the Women's Open at Oatlands in January 2011.
- 1-6 Affiliation Fee notice and memo for male members (Jan – June 2011)
The CEO advised that a notice had been sent to all clubs for the collection of Affiliation Fees for the period Jan – June 2011. It was noted that this six months collection process was required to facilitate the Company moving from a calendar year to a financial year. Notices to all clubs for the period July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012 would be circulated during May 2011.
- 1-7 Zone re-allocations for Metropolitan Clubs
The Chairman advised that the zone re-allocation of metropolitan clubs would occur in the first quarter of 2011 with further discussion required amongst the Board as to the process this re-allocation would take.

Sub Committee Reports:

- 2-1 Women's Match Committee Report – Sandra Gillies
The Women's match Committee met on September 10th and October 13th. The following decisions were made:
- The Standard Conditions of Play and Code of Conduct for Golf NSW were reviewed, discussed and agreed in conjunction with the Men's Match Committee.
 - Following a meeting with grade and club captains the Metropolitan Grade conditions were revised and the draw for 2011 completed.
 - It was decided to combine the men's and women's foursomes Championships – to be played on August 28th, 2011 at Oatlands Golf Club. Therefore the Summer Foursomes will be expanded to include 3 divisions and play of the men's seniors' foursomes in conjunction trialled.
 - The handicap range for the Coronation Medal, Bronze Medallion and Pewter Plate will be extended to encourage club participation.
 - There will no change to the handicaps for the Golf NSW Women's Medal Competition.
 - A Women's Captains meeting will be held on Monday 31st January, 2011. Venue to be advised
- The following Events were conducted since the last Council Meeting.

September 6, 7 and 9 – NSW Country Meeting at Mona Vale, Asquith and Pymble Golf Clubs.

2 stroke rounds and Foursomes

140 Entries

Mabel McKenzie Cup: Julie Swanson (Newcastle)

Rose Payton Trophy – Julie Jenkins (Cootamundra) and Lorraine O'Connor (Muree)
Joint winners

Una Clift Bowl – Nicole Bruce (Lismore) and Julie Jenkins (Cootamundra)

Marie Chapman Trophy – Pattie Hoschke (Bellingen)

Vera Rankin Trophy: Joint winners – E. Graham (Griffith) and D. Tomlinson (Gosford)
and B. Driscoll and A. Jackson (Ballina)

September 13 – Coronation Medal at Concord and Long Reef Golf Clubs

44 club teams of 4 players – Nett Stroke

Winners: Concord Golf Club

Runners Up: NSW Golf Club

3rd Place: Ryde-Parramatta Golf Club

September 17 – Bronze Medallion at Asquith and Pymble Golf Clubs

52 club teams of 4 players

Winners: Cronulla Golf Club

Runners up: Wakehurst Golf Club

3rd Place: Concord Golf Club

October 1 – NSW Women's Foursomes Championship – Cromer Golf Club

41 pairs, 2 Divisions – Div 1 36 Holes, Div 2 18 Holes

Winners: Carly Beck and Chantal Hodson (The Australian)

Runners Up: Kim Burke (Shelly Beach) and Gemma Dooley (Moore Park)

Div 2: Karen Gibsen and Carol Jones (Kareela)

October 18 – 21 - Mountain Meeting – Blackheath, Katoomba, Leura, Springwood, Wentworth Falls

2 Individual rounds, Foursomes and Team event

Approximately 160 Players

Yallambee Cup – Kerry Davis (Wentworth Falls)

Blue Mountains Salver – Marj Davids (Wakehurst)

Megalong Valley Trophy – Suzanne Rees (Wakehurst)

September / October – 3BBB Classic

4 Metropolitan Play offs

13 Country Play offs

Final: 21 Teams to play at Twin Creeks next Monday November 15. Teams to stay at Penrith Panthers, dinner Sunday 14.

In 2011 this event will be aligned with the Keno and Sureshot events. Final will be played at Cypress Lakes in the Hunter Valley with two nights' accommodation, dinner and play on course.

November 4 and 5 – Gold Medal Playoff at Pennant Hills Golf Club, Silver Medal Playoff at Ashlar Golf Club, Bronze Medal Playoff at Strathfield Golf Club.

Gold Medal – 117 players

Metropolitan Gold Medal Winner – Sue Chin (North Ryde)

Country Gold Medal Winner – Judy Finkle (Cootamundra)

Silver Medal – 133 players

Metropolitan Silver Medal – Laura Prophet (Bonnie Doon)

Country Silver Medal - (3 way tie) Gael Andrews (Waratah), Clare Lee (Muree) and Sue Raynor (Mollymook)

Bronze Medal – 102 players

Metropolitan Bronze Medal – Mary Wahbe (Oatlands)

Country Bronze Medal – Nannette Childs (Yowani)

Other events since September 1:

- Open Interstate Series at McLeod Golf Club in QLD
- CSGA Annual Tournament – Goulburn GC
- SWLGA Annual Tournament – Gundagai GC
- WGI Annual Tournament – Wollongong GC
- CCWGA Annual Tournament – Everglades, Gosford, Morrisett,, Shelley Beach, Toukley and Wyong Golf Clubs
- NSW Sandgreens Tournament at Walcha GC – Championship Salver won by C. Larkworthy (Tamworth), Bronze Bowl won by J. Cox (Howlong) and N. Dant (Werris Creek)
- Australian Women’s Senior Championship at Commonwealth GC (Vic) 15 NSW players and 11 ACT players attended. Sylvia Donohoe (Narooma) #3 qualifier – both Sylvia and Lynne Townsend (Wollongong) reached Championship semi final. 12 of the NSW players qualified for the age division matchplay. NSW Team of Sylvia, Lynne and Brenda Chalmers (Elanora) finished 2nd in team event. ACT Team was Liz Smyth and Chris Taylor (Royal Canberra) and Nicky Moon (Federal)
- Australian Mid Amateur Championships being played now at the National GC – Victoria. 5 NSW players including Julie Swanson - defending champion and NSW State Player Kim Burke

Sandra Gillies commended the staff for their efforts and recommend reference to the website for results, photos and event reports.

2-2 Men’s Match Committee Report – Les Browne

The Chairman of the Men’s Match Committee reported the following:

- The revised Standard Conditions which consisted of a makeup of existing conditions from the Men, Women and Golf Australia, would be available on the website next week.
- An Elite Player Agreement was now in use with players.
- Policies and criteria for Teams and Squad selection will shortly appear on the website.
- 2011 events have been finalised. Some events did not retain their Vardon status as they did not fit the criteria.
- A Junior Squad of 14 had been selected with training commencing shortly and continuing until February when the team will be selected.
- Colts and State Teams finished 3rd in the recent Interstate Series.
- Squad and Team representatives will increase their involvement in country events.

2-3 Course Rating and Handicapping Committee Report – Lynne Ritchie

Generally the majority of feedback I have received from Clubs/people following the release of the Anne Lenagan GA Memo suspending the 2nd package of changes until further notice, has been positive and supportive. There continues to be complaints about the inconsistencies/variations in handicaps from day to day, perhaps this problem may be rectified when the fortnightly (or monthly) review period is introduced. For those people who are unhappy that they have increased their handicaps (some suggest an average of 4 strokes higher) this was always how it was going to be because now we are handicapped on the 10 best of last 20 scores whereas before it was **the** best score. There have also been numerous emails from golfers on low handicaps expressing the fact that they are unable to compete with the higher markers who are regularly shooting 40+ pts individually, this too was inevitable as the lower markers are more likely to play around their handicaps and not receive many strokes back.

To date we have not heard anything from GA about further implementations maybe they are on hold until after the GA AGM where there will be a change of Board Members. Although word has it that a USGA Representative may be coming to Australia to check out the differences between the way we play our golf and the way the US plays competitions.

Course Rating.

To date I have ratings returned from 16 Metropolitan and 12 Country Clubs, although more have been completed but the paperwork (which is extremely time consuming) has not been forwarded. The results will be released when the CR Committee has had the opportunity to "audit" the figures.

The CR Committee has identified the fact that more raters are required, mainly Newcastle, South West and Murray Districts. Further expression of interest letters have been sent to people identified as potential raters within those Districts. Adam Dransfield will also complete the training and will be the Office Support for Course Rating. Dates for Training Seminars have yet to be decided.

Zone Co-ordinator Conference – Concord Golf Club, 26th & 27th October.

My thanks to the Board of Golf NSW for agreeing to allow this conference to be held, I believe it was a great PR exercise and certainly a benefit to all by bringing the Metro and Country Co-ordinators together to discuss issues common to CR and the USGA system. Prior to the Conference a number of Country Co-ordinators had expressed concerns to me over various issues. They left far more confident about their ability to rate and also being able to complete the task at hand i.e. rating courses within their Zone by the end of 2011.

Thank you also to Adam Power for attending on the 2nd day to answer queries and allay some concerns and to reinforce as correct, the information that the NSW CR Committee has been releasing.

2-4 Rules & Amateur Status Committee Report – Frank Gal

The Chairman of Rules & Amateur Status reported the following items:

- Standard Uniform for State Level Rules Personnel had been finalised and would be worn by Personnel at the upcoming NSW Men's Open.
- The Committee is in the process of devising standard local rules to be used in State events.
- A total of 18 persons attended the recent State Level Rules Seminar.
- Rod Clark and Frank Gal attended Queensland's State Level Rules Seminar to assist them in their program.
- Improving the Club Level Rules Seminar program utilising excerpts of the R & A video throughout the slideshow to create a more interesting program.
- Golf Australia's recommendation to the R & A that when using both methods of scoring i.e. an autoscore and a written score, the higher score counts had been endorsed by the R & A.
- 2011 hard card had been finalised.
- Golf Australia was investigating the development of national guidelines to assist clubs with the roles of Office Bearers similar to what was currently available in Golf NSW's Club Management Manual.

General Business:

3-1 DGA Reports
Noted

3-2 Notice re Honorary Members
The Chairman advised the Board of Golf NSW had offered Honorary Membership to previous honorary members of Women's Golf NSW. The Chairman further advised that this offer of membership would also be extended to Messrs. Herb James and Gary Linford for their service to the golfing industry. These memberships would be endorsed at the next Board meeting.

- 3-3 Template Constitution for DGA's Progress Update
The CEO thanked those DGA's who had provided copies of their Constitutions to assist Thomsons Lawyers in the development of a Constitution template for use by the Districts which should be completed and available for use in January 2011.
- 3-4 Role of Council
After discussion amongst breakout groups the following points were raised in relation to the role of a Council and therefore Councillor within Golf NSW:
- Should be conduit for information to clubs;
 - Job descriptions/roles of Councillors not clearly defined;
 - Re-introduction of country zone meetings prior to Council meetings;
 - More country representation on sub committees;
 - Regular communications from Board/office to Council important;
 - A 2 hour Council meeting is unproductive – Some Council members travel a long way to attend the meeting and it should be longer than 2 hours – more time needed for General Business;
 - Sub Committee Reports should be shorter and briefer – no need to verbally repeat written report – simply ask for any questions from the floor;
 - Equal views regarding the current size of the Council;
 - Board should consider regionalising DGA's (4-5 to a region) and schedule meetings in the regions;
 - Council only gets to rubber stamp decisions and are not part of the decision making process;
 - A permanent venue for Council meetings should be established which has adequate parking and is close to airport and public transport;
 - Council meetings should be held quarterly;
 - Due to the differences in men's and women's DGA's perhaps a Men's Council and a Women's Council meeting should be held prior to a combined Council meeting with the main Council meeting beginning around 11.00am after men's Council and Women's Council meetings being held at 10.00am to discuss items relevant to the different sexes;
- 3-5 Club Management Manual
The CEO advised that an updated version was now available on the website for use by all affiliated clubs, districts and Councillors.
- 3-6 Golf NSW Road Show
The CEO advised that a mini road show would be incorporated into the next Council meeting.
- 3-7 MYGolf Program
Cameron Wade from Golf Australia gave a presentation on the MYGolf National Skills Challenge and Awards Program, the new national Junior Golf Program devised in collaboration with all State Golf Associations and Junior Foundations. Some of the features of the program include:
- Supported by ambassadors Greg Norman and Karrie Webb;
 - Provides extensive resources to support junior development at clubs, courses and driving ranges;
 - The skills challenge provides a framework for assessing the progress of individual juniors as their skills develop;
 - The program targets boys and girls aged 8-18 years;
 - Designed to develop the six key skills of the game;
 - Rip It – Long Shots;*
 - Roll It – Putting*
 - Chip It – Chipping*

Fly It – Pitching
Blast It – Bunker Shots
Bend It – Manoeuvring the Ball

- Skills tested across five graded levels in each of three main award categories named Bronze, Silver and Gold;
- Enrolments into the program receive a range of benefits including bag tag, membership card, skills challenge chart, posters, certificates, personal liability insurance to name a few;
- Program enrolment is a one off cost of \$33.00 to the MYGolf Centre and paid to Golf Australia. The MYGolf Centre then adds its own fee;
- Delivered by PGA members, Community Golf Coaches, Development Officers, PGA Trainees, School Teachers, Club Volunteers and Parents;
- Program runs over a number of weeks which is determined by the MYGolf Centre but recommendations are 8 to 10 weeks;
- Modelled on the very successful V Golf program created by Victoria Golf Association;
- Can fit into existing junior programs currently being run by clubs and/or districts;

3-8 Payments to Clubs to host State Events

The Chairman advised that payments to clubs to host State events were a work in progress with each situation being considered on an individual basis.

3-9 Fixtures Listings on the Website

A request was made to have the Women's events separated from the men's events.

4-0 Ladies Sandgreens Championships

Congratulations were extended to the Ladies New England DGA for the running of the Sandgreen Championships. In response to a question of whether they would continue the Deputy Chair advised that they would be continuing with the DGA's involvement.

4-1 Zone Metropolitan Re-allocation

The Chairman advised that a model for metropolitan zone re-allocation had been distributed and the Board invited comment from members to be directed to the CEO.

4-2 Reimbursement to Ladies Districts

A question was raised whether the reimbursement of 20 percent of affiliation fees had been paid to the Ladies Districts to bring them into line with the process of affiliation fee collection with the Men's districts. The CEO advised that this reimbursement would occur shortly.

4-3 Board visits to District Tournaments

The Chairman advised that there would be a greater representation of Board members at District tournaments in the coming year.

4-4 Development Grants to Ladies DGAs

The CEO advised that a six monthly pro rata rate would be delivered to Ladies DGA's in coming months to bring them into line with the men's districts. The CEO further advised that a complete review of the program was to be carried out with new policy/criteria to be advised to all Districts before the commencement of the next financial year.

There being no further business the meeting was declared closed at 5.22pm.

Next meeting scheduled for To be advised.

Date: Chairman:

GOLF NSW LIMITED

Minutes of the **Meeting of the COUNCIL**
held at Kogarah Golf Club, 19 Marsh Street, Arncliffe
on Tuesday 15th March, 2011 at 10.00am

In Attendance: **Directors:** Chris Allen (Chairman), Sue Fabian (Deputy Chairman) - PM, John Waanders (Chairman Finance), Carolyn Bloch, Jean Moran - PM, Darrell Watts, Alan Harrison and Frank Gal.

Council members in attendance – see attached

Others: Sandra Gillies (Chair - Women's Match Committee)

Staff: Greg Mills, Nicky Bethwaite, Mitsie Kent and Cherie Allan

Apologies: **AM:** Sue Fabian, Jean Moran, Lynne Ritchie and Graeme Phillipson – attending a Golf Australia USGA Handicapping forum being held simultaneously at Golf NSW office.

PM: Lynne Ritchie and Graeme Phillipson

Council members' apologies – see attached

1. Introduction & Welcome:

The Chairman made a special mention and welcome to two new Council members – John Benn, Chatswood (Zone A) and Paul Cortaville, Newcastle DGA.

He also stated that Sue Fabian and Jean Moran would be absent for the morning, attending a ladies only GA coordinated focus group and forum re handicapping with Kevin O'Connor USGA (Head of Handicapping globally) in attendance. Lynne Ritchie would also attend this and other sessions thus will miss the entire Council meeting.

2. Confirmation of Previous Minutes:

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 11th November 2011 were confirmed.

3. Business Arising:

- 3-1** Update on sale of Homebush property
Sale of the Homebush property has been finalised with all funds now residing in a dedicated Golf NSW fixed deposit account.
- 3-2** Payments to Clubs hosting Golf NSW events
Council members were notified that generally, clubs hosting Golf NSW events will now be paid a fee based on a per player amount of \$10. This does not exclude higher and or lower fees being negotiated under certain circumstances such as quality of course, amount and duration of access required and demand. There is no fixed ceiling placed on these negotiations and the GM - Golf being responsible for all such negotiations.
- 3-3** Networking opportunities for Council Members
Following Joy Slater's suggestion, it was decided to allocate half an hour of the lunchtime break to this exercise where Councillors could discuss relevant and common issues between themselves.

3-4 New Premises for Golf NSW

The task of earmarking a new home for Golf NSW continues. All recognised possibilities are investigated with three possible options currently being assessed. However, the notion of selling the Arncliffe premises whilst the property market is deflated will probably not be a realistic choice. The Board now has an agreed criteria to assist the assessment process as and when new prospects arise.

4. Staff Update:

- 4-1** The Chairman disclosed that all staff contracts have been renewed with no new staff employed (other than temporary engagements) at this time.

5. Administration and Programs:

5-1 Finance Report

Chairman of Finance, John Waanders presented a brief summary of the company's finances for the benefit of Council Members and focused on the following aspects:

- The main source of income:
 - Affiliation fees;
 - Sponsorship; and
 - Government grants.
- He also spoke about the recent history chart of affiliation fees that had been distributed to Member Clubs and Districts which illuminated the comparison of fees over the last six years including the portion paid to GA which represented approx. \$1.7m in 2010.
- The number of registered golfers continued to fall at the rate of 2-3% per year which has a direct negative impact on Golf NSW revenue.
- In the case of registered golfers who have multiple club memberships, their membership at each club must be included in the affiliation fee calculation at each club. It is not administratively possible to separately identify individuals who have multiple memberships without having access to the databases of all clubs.
- The projected loss for the 2010-2011 year relates to overheads such as new corporate structure, rebranding, new phone system and website upgrade, new tournament management, database and communications systems and legal fees associated with amalgamation and the one off fee paid to all Women's Country Districts to equalise the 20% discount that had previously only applied to men's DGA's. Almost all of these are one off expenses and totalled approx. \$231k.
- Cash investments totalling \$4.5m are sitting in term deposits.
- The Finance Committee has adopted a conservative approach with our investments noting we are using Australian banks only at this time, deciding to not use offshore facilities.
- The company can afford to run at a loss this year – very healthy business overall.
- No anticipated major expenses are expected between now and year end in June.
- It was also mentioned that the NSW Golf Foundation currently has \$1.7m in deposit accounts held on behalf of JNJG which represents funds received from the Kinghorn Foundation, but are yet to be drawn down.

The Chairman of Finance closed by thanking Denise Rogers, CFO for her extensive help with keeping us on track with our finances and making sure our investments are well placed.

5-2 Affiliation Fees

- The CEO sent a memo to all member clubs last week detailing the affiliation fee related information:
 - The fee for 2011-2012 for each category of registered player.
 - The definition of a registered player.
 - The small club rebate policy and new criteria and member numbers schedule that includes both genders. The no gambling restriction is no longer an exclusion but a club cannot apply if it is owned by another registered club.
- Council members were reminded that Clubs may apply for the rebate directly with Golf NSW, but they must notify their DGA as well to ratify their application.
- All Districts will be entitled to charge clubs within their DGA an annual fee. Prior to amalgamation, this action had been a function of men's DGA's only. All DGA's must now determine how much to charge their member clubs, if anything, and no percentage rebate need apply.
- The CEO also mentioned that not all fees paid to GA are on-charged. 50% of fees related to juniors are subsidised by Golf NSW.
- The CEO declared that too many clubs are tardy when it comes to paying their fees. However, the follow up on this is now the total responsibility of Golf NSW whereas the DGA's previously held this responsibility.
- Further to the small club rebate, Metro Clubs can also apply for the rebate directly with Golf NSW should they meet the criteria (Grose River/Wisemans Ferry/Kingswood may be such examples).

5-3 Golf Australia

- Australian Opens – From all reports the Men's came out at approx. break-even because of a deal with World Sports Group whilst the Women's was purported to be about a \$400-500k loss.
- There is a Presidents/CEO's Forum here on Thursday 17 March and another President's Forum scheduled for 6 May in Melbourne.
- A review of the Rules of Amateur Status will almost certainly see changes in the near future.
- Golf NSW is hosting a GA Forum with Kevin O'Connor from USGA here this Thursday afternoon to continue discussions re Australia's conversion to the Slope handicapping system.

5-4 Handicapping & Course Rating

John Lock provided a verbal report (below) on behalf of Chairman, Lynne Ritchie (Lynne's full report is attached)

- In excess of 100 golf courses have been rated thus far. Some issues are being experienced with country districts related to retaining the required number of raters.
- Some of the USGA rating materials including faulty calculation sheets is slowing progress and this information must be recorded accurately and checked before final ratings can be sent back to clubs. Lynne Ritchie will be talking to Kevin O'Connor on Friday 18 March and he will take some of our concerns back to the US.
- Sand green courses are still a problem, but this is not holding up the process of having those courses rated. More data is needed to determine if this is a mathematical calculation distortion or a green target adjustment.
- Sentiments were expressed by a few Council members about the way handicapping is progressing and it was hoped that some good comes out of the focus group discussions. The meeting heard that some courses were

restricting their maximum handicaps to 27, whilst others were going try the old ¾ system.

- The meeting was informed that John Hopkins was now on the GA Board and it was expected that there would be better communication and assistance in certain areas.
- Should scratch ratings be released (Julie Jones suggested this must be implemented immediately)? Does this still hold – audit process time consuming. Earlier ratings are of concern.
- The meeting was informed that Lynne Ritchie has been appointed to the National Course Rating & Handicapping Committee and Frank Gal has been appointed to GA's Rules and Amateur Status Committee.

5-5 Men's and Women's Match Reports by Les Browne and Sandra Gillies

Men's Match

Les Browne gave a verbal presentation based on his report which is attached. Other matters and comments included:

- A working group has been formed to discuss the High Performance Program and to assess what we are doing, how we are doing it and analyse whether we are getting value for the investment. Opportunities have been identified and some criticisms of our current practices have been observed. One is the NSWIS Golf Program which costs approx. \$140k per annum. Sixteen players (10M and 6W) currently in the program. Golf NSW is locked into the NSWIS program until December 2012. We do review the program and one option being considered is that we have less scholarship holders but demand greater focus and intensity on developing their skills. GA's Brad James will confirm on Thursday about where this is all going from a national perspective.
- Grant Harding from Young has been added to the Men's Match Committee.
- Cabramatta and Carnarvon will be hosting the upcoming Australian Boys Interstate Series and Championship. John Dunkin on behalf of Cabramatta extended honorary membership to members of the boy's team and Cabramatta was thanked for their generosity. Thanks were also extended to John Lock and Carnarvon.

Women's Match

A verbal report was delivered by Sandra Gillies who also provided the attached report.

- Marcia Box has been added to the Women's Match Committee.

5-6 Rules & Amateur Status by Frank Gal

A verbal report was given by Frank Gal who covered all that is included in his report which is attached.

6. New Communications, Initiatives, and Directions:

6-1 Website

- A mock-up of the home page of the new website was shown. The revised launch date is now in early April with more content yet to be loaded. The feedback amongst staff and others has been encouraging re the new site which has been based on the architecture of the Golf Australia website. This has meant cost savings for the project. All states except WA, QLD and TAS have adopted a similar approach.
- The private log-in section for Council Members will be far easier to navigate with secure access to minutes, documentation for meetings, sub-committee reports etc. New passwords will be issued to all concerned. It should prove to be an easier method of communication and will assist if you can't attend meetings, but also to be able to easily distribute documents to your Districts or Zones.
- The website is only one part of what we are doing overall in the IT upgrade project. A new tournament registration system is in test mode right now and will enable online entries to events in a more sophisticated but straight forward way than the previous system. The third part is the new database system. We are working hard to combine multiple databases, a real challenge to achieve, but it will take a little longer to complete, possibly the next couple of months.

6-2 Strategic & Business Plans

Version 1 of the Strategic Plan has been adopted by the Board for internal use at the moment, with the draft Business Plan almost ready for scrutiny by the Board.

6-3 OneGolf

- OneGolf is a new tournament registration system from MiClub. It will be available within a few weeks and is intended for smaller clubs to manage events and programs. OneGolf is an opportunity for clubs to buy into a system giving substantial benefits at a total one-off cost of \$250, plus a \$5 annual fee per player. OneGolf provides many of the Tier 3 benefits being enjoyed by larger clubs including online timesheets. Clubs can choose to upgrade with add-on options should they choose.
- This will be presented shortly by Golf NSW in a marketing exercise.

6-4 Proposed Board representative visit to Orange

Many Board members will be away in June when the proposed Council meeting in Orange was originally meant to occur. With this in mind and after further deliberation re the cost and logistics involved, the Board decided a different approach was needed. It has therefore been decided that a contingent of the Board and Greg Mills will visit the area to discuss issues that are relevant to them. It will be a good opportunity to discuss matters particularly related to a country environment, as opposed to city issues. It would be a two day exercise. Country people will be invited to assist with the formulation of the Agenda for the meeting.

6-5 Club Management Manual

The CEO reiterated with Council Members that the CMM is updated on a needs basis and includes information regarding legal compliance issues and many other matters associated with the management of a golf club. The latest updates that are about to be revealed include calling up on par 3 holes, lightning warnings, balls hit out of bounds. The CMM is easily accessible via the website – The CEO encouraged everyone to familiarise themselves with the manual's content but mentioned it will be most relevant for club managers and Directors. The 2010 revamp of the manual which embodies 238 pages of information is now published only in digital format (ie, on the web). There were two main reasons for adopting this new approach. Firstly, it was becoming out-dated far too quickly because of rapidly changing conditions in a number of sections and as importantly, the cost of updates/reproductions was becoming unsustainable. The added advantage of it

residing digitally on the web is that changes can occur in moments and there is only one version in the market at any one time.

6-6 Proposed New Legislation

The CEO informed Council that the previous day he had received a notice from Clubs NSW re the Federal Government's proposed legislation regarding their intention to introduce mandatory pre commitment by poker machine players and the limit of money that can be withdrawn from ATM's in licensed clubs.

He informed those present that he would be writing a letter of objection to the plan to every editor of local newspapers in NSW and requested Council to support the protest and the impact this would have on the viability of many golf clubs. If these matters were to be legislated, everybody coming into a club that wished to play the pokies will need to log their details of how much they intended to invest before being allowed to play.

Clubs would be required to invest thousands of dollars to comply with the legislation that will cost an estimated \$77m. Lost annual revenue in the vicinity of \$46m will result should all clubs comply which will be a double whammy outcome sending an unknown number of clubs to the wall.

Council indicated their support objecting to the Federal Government's plan.

The CEO asked Council Members to provide him with the names and contact details of editors of local papers where possible.

6-7 GA's Handicapping Forums with Kevin O'Connor

- The Chairman, Chris Allen mentioned at the beginning of the meeting that Kevin O'Connor USGA (Head of Handicapping) attended meetings in QLD yesterday and VIC on Sunday and has been playing golf here and he is interested to see how we conduct competitions. State Presidents and CEOs/handicap officials are coming to Sydney on Thursday to have a session with him at Golf NSW office to talk through preliminary findings from the sessions today. Sum up of that session is that all went well, they have a clear direction of position they wish to take re handicapping, rules, amateur status, course ratings and John Hopkins, the new member of the GA Board, mentioned there would be a new Technical Committee encompassing Rules and Amateur Status and Course Rating.
- Sue Fabian returned to the Council meeting in the afternoon having been at the GA convened handicapping forum that focussed on women's concerns. Free discussion with women contributing their views from both a metro and country district perspective and also on large and small clubs.

Kevin O'Connor said that he is now very conscious the slope system as is, will not totally satisfy the needs of Australian golfers. He also said he had come to the conclusion the USGA will need to develop a better understanding of the different golf cultures in other countries around the world, because Australians play a lot of competition golf, and this is a very different situation from the way it is in the US.

Sue said we could have spent more time on this subject and the agenda was very full, but we all felt we were listened to.

7 Governance and the Council:

7-1 Role of Council Members – Jean Moran

- Communication between the Board and Council is very important. Council members need to be pro-active in their communities. A document was circulated about the role of Council Members and gave some suggested strategies on the way this could be done.
- District and Zone Reports are very good – they give a good indication of what is happening in various areas and if there are discernible trends, then we can find ways to deal with that.

- These meetings are good for exchange of ideas, mixing country and city views and getting information from golf clubs and their Boards. Delivering, the message to and from these meetings is a big and very important part of the role. Think about ways of communicating as the information must be delivered appropriately. A problem that Council members need to deal with is inadvertent censorship. Whilst you are out in the districts, you may get views that are not your personal point of view and it is important that you bring back all views – keep personal opinions out of it. Look carefully at the way you may be censoring information.
- Communications or lack of it is the root cause of problems in organisations. If it is well done, it can be the difference between an ordinary organisation and an excellent one. Don't underestimate the value of the contribution you make to the development of Golf NSW. It is a state body that truly represents all stakeholders.

7-2 Val Bronson's resignation

The Chairman was very pleased to announce that Val's health had improved and she would be continuing as a Council Member which was good news all round.

7-3 Election Process for New Council and 2nd Board

- The summary provided in Council notes covers the material distributed to golf clubs and districts and also provides clear guidelines and timelines of the election process.
- Under the new Constitution, all affiliated clubs and country district associations are members of Golf NSW and they have the same rights to attend and vote at general meetings. Country district associations function as voting members in their own right. Votes by clubs and country district associations will be exercised by their appointed member delegates.
- Each club, metro zone and country District Golf Association is entitled to appoint a member delegate to exercise voting rights under the Constitution. One vote per member. All clubs need to confirm their member delegate to Golf NSW by June 1. There can be more than one appointed member delegate. It is a good idea to have more than one delegate, in case of absence, but only one can exercise a vote at any one time. The appointment continues until there is written notice from the Club Secretary to revoke an appointment.
- Golf NSW will write to all clubs informing them about the zone they are allocated to. Member delegates can vote by proxy.
- The principle for allocation of clubs to the three metro zones (A, B and C) is to reasonably balance the number of clubs in each zone. Each of the three metro zones will be represented by 10 council members (5 men and 5 women) making a total of 30 metropolitan Council members.
- Zone D comprises the twenty men's Country District Golf Associations. Each district is represented by one member delegate entitled to vote for their district
- Zone E comprises the thirteen women's Country District Golf Associations. Each district is represented by one member delegate entitled to vote for their district, except Hunter/Newcastle and Western District where each elect 2 because of their size.
- The member delegate from each club will exercise 2 votes, one for a male Council member and one for a female Council member. They are voting in 2 separate districts – men's and women's. Election of Council members is to be run centrally by Golf NSW.
- A Council member in a Metro Zone must be a registered player. They must be nominated by an office bearer of the affiliated club in the zone and seconded by same category of person. The same applies for nominations of country Council members but the nominator/seconded can be a member of a

club or DGA to make sure people who are nominated are actually known to their clubs and DGAs.

- Golf NSW will run a ballot for the election of all Council members. Thursday 6 October at 6pm is the next AGM – the Constitution specifies the timeframe. Wednesday 27 July nominations close (70 days prior). Clubs will then be notified about candidates and voting papers sent out. Voting closes Wednesday 24 August. Council officers take up office on the day the results are confirmed by the Secretary to the Board and will hold office until next year's election.
- Why do we need so many Council members? When the merger was agreed, two organisations were functioning. Reducing the numbers then would have caused distress, particularly in country regions because of the size of areas that they would be asked to look after. Later, it may be appropriate to reduce numbers, but for now Council Members are taking information out to the state and bringing information back and there is some advantages and great strength getting the message out. Some Council members just come along to these meetings and are not involved in other committees. Country people may be more active with clubs.
- The women had five Metro Zones with three Council members in each zone, each responsible for a small number of clubs. The Board would like to see Metro Council members more active in their roles - getting to know the clubs, being present for them, being their first port of call with problems or questions.
- Election of Directors – Nine Directors on rotational basis, five for an initial two year term, four Board members are up for re-election for a further two years in October this year. Candidates for positions on the Board must be a registered player of an affiliated club, proposed by an office bearer and seconded by an office bearer of an affiliated club or DGA. Their nomination must be in writing and signed by a proposer and seconder and received by the Secretary before the closing date and must include evidence of membership. Nominees must agree to be bound by the Code of Conduct for Directors and a CV of up to 200 words can be included. If a Council Member is elected to the Board they must resign from Council within 48 hours of being appointed a Director (pursuant to Rule 42 of the Constitution). Directors cannot be employees of any member club. Close of nominations for Director is 26 August. Ballot papers can be lodged by post or in person by 4pm on Tuesday 4 October or lodge by 6pm at AGM. Ballot will be counted and announced at AGM.

7-4 Corporate Governance – Audit and Risk

- The Audit and Risk Committee is new to Golf NSW – the difference between GA and how other companies may operate is we also have a Finance Committee. The main issues we are dealing with are the financials from an audit point of view, internal controls and the risk across the organisation. We are doing a stocktake of all our compliance obligations and looking at practice guidelines to make sure there are clear authorities, delegations and authorisations in place if auditors enquire.
- We have a charter which we expect to complete shortly and post on the website. The Audit and Risk Committee will have a relationship with the Finance Committee. The Audit and Risk Committee will have a look at audit statements prepared by external auditors and will have a say in regard to anything material found that may involve us in implementing an internal audit into issues and will look also at insurance coverage etc. The sign off of financial statements still rests with John Waanders (Chairman of Finance) and Denise Rogers (CFO).

7-5 New Metropolitan Zones

- This went out originally as a proposal to metro clubs. If a club has a particular problem with their allocation, they should contact the Board. Otherwise the zones are not up for general negotiation.

- The original model was based on a simplistic geographic split. To balance up the clubs/member numbers, some minor adjustments were made.
- It was suggested to rename Zones to letters or numbers rather than North, South and West to dampen any confusion as this is how they are referred to in the Constitution.
- These zones are a division for the purposes of election only.

7-6 Draft Template Constitutions for DGA's

- These are still a work in progress and will be complete and made available in the next month. There is no compulsion for DGA's to adopt them. It is just a guideline document to be used at the DGA's discretion.
- With regards to the Country Coaching Program, there was previous discussion about incorporating an option for the Ladies DGA to have access to some of these funds. The criteria is being rewritten to make it fresh and not have any duplication between DGA's. The Board has signed off on a dollar number. This will be done by Easter and ready to be implemented from 1 July.

7-7 NSW Golf Foundation

- There is a Board of six Governors – Chris Allen, John Robinson, Jim Glenday, Sue Fabian, Jane Buckley and Katrina Brown. Its purpose is to raise money to be distributed to worthy causes or individuals.
- We have a very successful annual Ladies Committee golf day to be held this year at The Lakes on 14 July and Concord will host the inaugural Men's Committee Day on the same day.
- Grants are made out of accrued interest each year. The current status on the financial side – there is \$700k in accumulated funds.
- Going forward, more money needs to be raised so more grants can be provided to individuals and organisations.

8 General Business:

8-1 Directors up for Re-election

The question was asked as to who the four Directors were that are up for re-election. They are Sue Fabian, Jean Moran, Carolyn Bloch and John Waanders. The four were also asked to give an indication as to whether or not they were prepared to be re-nominated. They all responded in the positive.

8-2 Unpaid Affiliation Fees

The question was asked about the status of the clubs who have not paid their fees and are their members' handicaps suspended? Where do we stand with this? The CEO responded by stating Golf NSW has always erred on the soft side as to when the fees are due. Privileges such as GolfLink can be removed, but club members are often unaware of the club's circumstances.

A number of clubs still have outstanding affiliation fees. Women Council members have been chasing up clubs that hadn't paid and this was very effective. There are only a handful of clubs involved. Men had a time payment option in the past re payment of fees. Resort courses can choose to be affiliated or not.

8-3 Junior Meeting

A meeting with stakeholder groups was held last week – JNJG convened meetings are being held 3-4 times per year.

8-4 Mudgee Golf Club fire

Marcia Box informed Council that Mudgee's clubhouse had been razed to the ground on 23 December 2010. She mentioned there was some good fortune because the ladies' captain had taken photographs of their trophies and stored

these off site which was now an excellent source of information to be able to replace them. This practice is something that all clubs could follow. Marcia provided a brief update on the situation - they currently have no temporary club house but there are 2 portable loos on site. The old clubhouse had a lot of asbestos and therefore it needs to be demolished.

There has been no insurance received to date, lots of golf clubs were lost, some records were retrieved, no income for four months, no profit made for the last 2 years, there is no insurance coverage on income lost and the phone isn't being answered. Help is needed to set up a temporary club house in the old squash courts so they can start operating again – but they would need \$30k to achieve this. Several temporary solutions have been looked at but the transport and set up costs are too expensive. A suggestion was made that a memo could be sent to clubs to donate something towards Mudgee temporary set up - \$4-5k each if possible, but this wasn't widely supported.

8-5 Australian Golf Heritage Society

Bruce Nairn talked about the Golf Heritage Society – it has a Museum on Parramatta Road. The Society conducts hickory shaft events and they have an historian's group.

Some funding is provided each year by Golf NSW, a little from the State Government and about \$5k from the PGA. There is an opportunity for clubs to join at \$100 per annum– this allows three memberships or it is \$30 for individual members to join. It is for a good cause. Only 15 clubs are currently members. If anyone is interested in golf history, please think about joining.

8-6 Round Table Sessions

John from Central West said the round table forum at the last meeting was good and suggested it be continued to get a common view of what clubs are thinking about. Chris Allen said this would be taken on board.

8-7 District Reports

More district reports were needed. Only ten came in for this period with a lot of good information presented in them.

8-8 Colts

With the knowledge that the Interstate Colts series had been dropped by GA, Les Browne made the comment that in his opinion it would be important to keep something going for this age group. Thus, he had approached VIC, TAS and QLD with the view to having an independent Colts series continue on an annual basis. QLD declined to be involved whilst TAS is unsure at this stage.

It was then formally moved that Golf NSW take this up again with GA. Chris Allen responded by saying, there was a Championship Committee at GA which made recommendations regarding the Colts to their Board who had rejected the proposal.

8-9 Next Council Meeting

It was asked if Council Members can be seated with zone or district counterparts for at least the opening session at the next meeting.

8-10 50+ Years Service

The question was asked about the criteria related to the 50+ year Service to Golf award? It was generally agreed that a person could have contributed in more than one state to be eligible. The meeting also discussed and accepted people could receive the award posthumously (ie, Ray Wilson (golf professional at Strathfield Golf Club for over 50 years before his death).

8-11 Mud Map

A request was made for a 'mud map' or checklist for the women's districts to be prepared to assist with their collection of DGA affiliation fees. A template to guide the women's districts who aren't used to being incorporated and issuing affiliation fee notices. The information to be covered should include who set the fees, how to get an ABN number, complying with GST, dealing with the Office of Fair Trading, etc.

It was decided a suitable template prepared and issued to the women's districts to assist in this regard. However, the women's districts were advised that it they who set the fees for the clubs within their precinct. This process should not be confused with the affiliation fees clubs pay to Golf NSW.

8-12 Course Rating

A request was made for feedback on how the rating of the districts were progressing and the systems that were being used.

Initial feedback provided noted that more than 100 courses have already been rated in to date. These ratings have not been issued to the clubs because the software program from GA is defective which has been producing inconsistent results.

Other comments from Council Members included, it would be useful if there was a mentoring system in place where a district starting out could contact and interact with metro raters with the view to speeding up the process. Meetings need to be held with the club, including the course superintendent, the men's and women's captains and the manager so as to set parameters and give guidelines about what is needed to start the rating. When the rating process begins, it was suggested to have someone go out and measure the course before you start.

These points and ideas were noted for courses yet to be rated.

8-13 Veterans

A short discussion took place regarding Veterans – and how Golf NSW interacts with them.

There being no further business the meeting was declared closed at 2.50pm.

Next meeting: Wednesday 13 July at Kogarah Golf Club.

Date: Chairman:

ACTION ITEMS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Item	Action	Responsibility	Due Date	Completed
Actions arising from Council Meeting 15 March 2011				
Supporting High Performance players overseas excursions GA budget of \$812k	Find out what direction they are heading in (at forum this Thursday) and where the \$12k is coming from	CA		
	Find out where this has come from	CA		
GA Committees	Send memo to all Council members about what committees have been formed with GA	CA		
Yearbook	Electronic version on website by end of week. Instructions on the use of the private login pages will be issued shortly	MK	Done	Done
Business Plan	Advise Council members about where we are heading	GM	12 April	
Club Management Manual	Send memo to clubs regarding CMM "updates"	GM		
Clubs NSW - Pokies	Send letter to every editor of all local papers in NSW to advise how hard this will affect our businesses	GM	16 March	Done
Council Members	Suggestions on how to reduce numbers on Council	All Council members		
Metropolitan Zones	Send out matrix to Council Members	GM		
NSW Golf Foundation	Advise clubs of Ladies' Committee Day at The Lakes and Mens' Committee Day at Concord both on 14 July	NB		
WG Resignations	Send email to clubs to resign from WGNSW	NB		
JPO Meeting	Advise Council members of meeting dates for 2011	GM		
Mudgee	Look at possible funding help from NSW Golf Foundation in respect to set up of temporary club house	CA		
Mud Map	Put together template for ladies country district association	CEO & GM Gov		

Present:

Ian Armour (Northern Rivers DGA)
Margaret Ashton (Muirfield)
Trevor Bartley (Windsor - Zone C)
Ray Bellamy (Lower North Coast DGA)
Colleen Bennett (Far South Coast & Tablelands GA)
Diane Boulton (North & North West District Ladies GA)
Marcia Box (Western District Ladies GA)
Janet Bracken (Central Southern GA)
Peter Brien (Western DGA)
Tony Briers (Murray DGA)
Les Browne (Long Reef - Zone A)
Gary Bryant (Mid North Coast DGA)
Tony Busch (Blue Mountains DGA)
David Byfield (Riverina DGA)
David Coulton (North West DGA)
Paul Cortaville (Newcastle DGA)
Yvonne Day (Camden - Zone C)
Deanne Deitz (Newcastle Hunter District Ladies GA)
John Dunkin (Cabramatta – Zone C)
Ian Elliott (Central Coast DGA)
Jan Frater (New England DGA)
Ian Fraser (The Coast - Zone B)
Jim Glenday (Georges River – Zone C)
Robert Griffiths (Illawarra DGA)
Judy Harris (Richmond - Zone C)
Grant Harding (South West DGA)
Jeannie Henry (Avondale - Zone A)
Jim Jackson (ACT-Monaro DGA)

Apologies:

Verelle Miller (WG Central North Coast)
Grant Harding (South West DGA)
Lynne Robson (Wakehurst – Zone A)
Sue Brooks (Blue Mountains LDGA)
Stuart Cox (Moore Park Zone B)
Val Bronson (Woolooware – Zone B)
John Benn (Chatswood - Zone A)

Reg Johnston (Parramatta - Zone C)
Julie Jenkins (South West Ladies GA)
Julie Jones (Northbridge - Zone A)
Olwyn Johnstone (Bayview - Zone A)
Margaret Koeninger (Cammeray - Zone A)
Greg Kellett (Central North DGA)
Diana Lindsay (New South Wales - Zone B)
Brian Lanz (New England DGA)
John Lock (Carnarvon - Zone C)
John Miller (Central Western DGA)
Bruce Nairn OAM (Bexley - Zone B)
Robyn Newey (Western Districts Ladies GA)
Margaret O'Donnell (Newcastle Hunter Distr. Ladies GA)
Jann Pearson (Mona Vale - Zone A)
Ellen Rae (Central Coast Women's GA)
Jill Roach (Woolooware - Zone B)
Robert Scarr (Hunter River DGA)
Robert Scott (Bankstown – Zone B)
Jane Searle (Ryde-Parramatta - Zone C)
Joy Slater (Women's Golf Northern Rivers)
Colin Smith (Botany - Zone B)
Robert Soper (Far South Coast DGA)
Denis Spillane (Fox Hills – Zone C)
Tony Steele (Oatlands - Zone A)
Paul Thomas (Lachlan Valley DGA)
Jo-Ellen Thorpe (Wallacia-Panthers – Zone C)
Lynne Townsend (Women's Golf Illawarra)
Aileen Whiticker (Riverina Ladies GA)