



WIDE BAY DISTRICT VETERAN GOLFER'S ASSOCIATION

MEETING MINUTES

Location: Isis Golf Club
Date: Friday 10th October, 2025
Time: 9.30 am

PRESENT

WBDVGA: Peter Cocking, Babs Beh,
QVGU: Hugh McLaughlin
Bargara: Don McKewen
Burrum: Marilyn Allen, Carol Bennett
Bundaberg: Valmai Mitchell, Peter Hughes
Hervey Bay: Wayne Goodwin, Sandra Kerley
Isis: Chris Fitzsimons
Maryborough: George Fallon,

APOLOGIES:

QVGU: Paul Bray
Bargara: Dennis Gaylard
Coral Cove: Jo Tyrell
Fraser Lakes: Wayne Taratoa
Gin Gin: Scott Cooper
Maryborough: Wendy Mathiesen

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes of the previous meeting held 13th June, 2025 were distributed via email and accepted as being correct

Moved: Wayne Goodwin Seconded: George Fallon CARRIED

MEMBERS REPORTS

❖ Bargara

Bargara membership is currently 358.

Vets AGM to be held Tuesday 14th October. Most of the current committee members will nominate for another year.

QVGU State Carnival at Bargara on 20th and 21st October. Close to 220 nominations.

Generally open days are very poorly supported by Bargara members even with emails to members with the nomination sheets and constant verbal communication.

Bargara currently has three interclub competitions -- Hervey Bay, Maryborough, and Bundaberg. The Bargara Golf Club changed to the Mi Score scoring system in July and has been well received and supported. Golf Australia has launched the new handicapping system—Golf Connect in early October.

The Bargara Golf club has become very busy in the last 12 months with almost a full field on Saturdays and up to 200 on weekday competitions plus green fee social players.

Concrete pathways continue to be constructed – labour by the volunteers.

Additional irrigation water has been purchased to ensure an adequate supply for the next 12 months.

The members of the Bargara Golf Club voted on 25th July to approve Stage A of the proposed development for buggy sheds, senior living apartments, and a new clubhouse. It is anticipated that work will commence in early 2026.

Don McKewen - Bargara Vets Captain.

❖ Biggenden

No Report

❖ Bundaberg

Our Spring carnival went well with good fields both days, the second day was not as nice as the first with the rain coming in. It was good to see one of our own veterans David Neill winning the overall A Grade.

Our golf course has had the greens renovated and they are coming back nicely. We have finally got a toilet on the golf course which comes in nice and handy. We have a couple of new paths also one around to the toilet on the 4th behind the green and the other one behind the 18th green.

The Veterans Committee donated new distance markers for the practice fairway which really look good.

Julie Wilson (Captain)

❖ Burrum

We have a small Committee who are as hard-working a Committee as you can get.

Totally committed to our Veterans and it is reciprocal.

Our numbers have increased over the past few months, which is a good sign that all is going well.

We have been fortunate to have sponsors coming to us to donate for an average of one a month which looks like continuing next year also.

We are also having inter club games with Maryborough, Isis and now Hervey Bay has asked us to join too.

These games are a boon to all, they are both friendly and competitive, all that is conducive to a fun day.

Our Captain Kevin Leader started something big with these events.

Our members have been going away to games both near and far.

We would like to retain Our Open Day on Tuesday 28th July 2026.

Our course management is excellent and according to most, the greens are very friendly.

Many thanks our entire Committee for the great job they are doing.

Many hands make light work!

Carol Bennett - Secretary

❖ Coral Cove

Coral Cove Vets is still strong in numbers as per ongoing subscription - 71, but this is sadly not reflected in the playing numbers, where the average is around 30 – 35 per week. Why.... I do not know – despite numerous attempts to discover the cause. Too hot, too cold, too wet, too windy, in sickness and health! greens cored, stroke or other games....

However, we are persevering despite the small numbers.

More concerning for our present committee is the likelihood that there will be no one to stand in the 2026 year, again despite numerous attempts to encourage others onto the committee. We are not thinking too disastrously at present and live in hope.

But on a brighter note – our course is benefiting from a huge downpour last night - 22nd Sept – it was sorely in need of the rain as the lakes and ponds were very quickly drying out and with the greens coring only a week or so old, it was well timed.

We have had a debrief on the recent Spring Carnival – which for CC we think was a complete success, and trust other clubs felt we lived up to expectations. Our problem with the number of carts available is our major drawback, and we are now hearing that the management is also of the opinion that further carts would mean more revenue via social players, which in turn would mean more available for Spring Carnival. I shall keep everyone abreast of developments should this turn into a reality.

We are also seeking clarification from the owners that we can cap our 2026 green fees for Spring Carnival at \$20. Again, I will update when advised.

Our course is now had new signs installed at each hole, an upgrade on our previous old wooden ones, and, also directional signs to various holes. As anyone who has played at CC knows it is very easy to get lost. Some of the individual hole signs, however, require some tweaking as many are presently facing the wrong way. But a good start. Our renovated club rooms, now has the restaurant open Friday and Saturday.

The countdown to year end is nigh – medal of medals for our 2025 winners in November, and closing day on the 9th December.

I shall be unavailable for the October meeting, but Teeny Patterson will be present, to add any further information re the course and also add more feedback on the Spring Carnival.

Jo Tyrrell Club Captain, Coral Cove Vets

❖ Fraser Lakes

There is not a lot that I can file by report. We are continuing to operate as an affiliated Club within a privately owned complex. Administration, competitions etc. have not changed and our members have supported a couple of VET events at other Clubs. Unfortunately, the issues related to our hosting of a VETS Open Day have not changed - the competition fee would be far too expensive as we would have to rely on normal retail pricing from the facility.

I cannot attend the meeting, I am a little restricted with movement and a 20-minute drive one way is about all I can handle so I am pretty much restricted to the local area.

Wayne Taratoa

❖ Gayndah

Gayndah Veterans Golf Club continues with our regular weekly games every Tuesday. To cater for the majority of our members, we offer 9 hole games and 18 hole games alternating between the two formats.

The course is unfortunately feeling the effects of the continuing dry conditions, with the only advantage in the greater ball run, helping out with our distance shots.

On verification of the dates for the Kingaroy Peanut Festival Golf Week, we ask that the Gayndah Veterans Open Day be considered for Tuesday 10th March 2026, followed by a 4BBB competition on the following day Wednesday 11 March 2026. Here's hoping that our nominations for this will be greater than the previous year.

Jill Seeley – Secretary Gayndah Veterans Golf Club

❖ Gin Gin

The 2025 winter session has triumphed for our veterans with attendance weekly increasing and overall fun for the group.

Our open day in June was a huge success for everyone. Many returned from last year and new faces as well. Our 3 lovely lady veterans returned and many new lovely lady veterans attended this year, a total of 11 for this year. Very exciting and hope to see more lady veterans in attendance next year.

Veteran members have been attending as many carnivals as possible in the region of which is great to see. And of course, the members have been assisting when they can with the greens director with course maintenance.

Leading into the summer months the members are more keen to play so our Tuesdays should see our full group weekly of which is fantastic. We also have our Xmas party in December coming up as well.

I look forward to seeing the committee and other representatives again soon.

Scott Cooper President

❖ Hervey Bay

Hervey Bay membership has continued to grow with current membership 314. This is the best result for Hervey Bay Vets membership. We have closed our financial year on 30/9/25. New memberships will now be for 2026 in line with our accounting system. However, membership will still be January to December in line with QVGU. We will hold membership fees for 2026 at the current rate \$10.

Our use of buses for interclub days is back on track with the RSL buses back in action. One of the main obstacles to this is several of these clubs have early tee off times which discourage our members from going.

Our Secretary Babs has been working hard at promoting other clubs' events and as a result we have had good attendance by our members at such events. The introduction of a new email and SMS service has significantly improved communications with our members.

The HBGC has recently appointed a new greens Superintendent, and his input is already showing signs of course improvement. The course is already in good condition, and the new staff management will further enhance the Hervey Bay Course.

Thanks to all involved with the Spring Carnival. It was a great success, and we look forward to next year. Also next year we will be hosting the QVGU Carnival on 19/20-10-26 (Monday/Tuesday). Please add it to your programs.

We hold our Vets competitions on a Monday. All are welcome. With the increase in membership we have seen a growth in competition players, but we have extended our timesheet to cater for this and to allow visitors to come and join us.

We look forward to joining with you for a game in 2025/6.

Good Golfing,

Wayne Goodwin President HBGVeterans.

❖ Isis

The current Vet's membership is 64. Our Tuesday games are having fields of between 40 and 50. The course is in great condition, and we have added a fairway bunker on the 3/12.

The clubhouse and toilets have had new flooring, and it looks terrific.

In August we hosted the Vets Wide Bay 4BBB Stableford event, and it was a great success.

As far as inter club events the Childerborough Cup against Maryborough went to us for the third time in a row. In October we have the Burrum/Isis Shield which will be hosted by Burrum this year.

Our AGM was held on the 16th September. I have been captain for seven years and I needed a break.

Our vice-captain Chris Sheppard will be doing some travelling so didn't nominate. The new Committee is as follows:

President:	Chris Fitzsimons	0402 838 982
Captain:	Rob Blows	0401 444 790
Vice-Captain:	Carlos Ruiz	0403 531 959
Secretary/Treasurer:	Vicki McAulay	0417 738 092

Thanks to all the committee for all the work and time they put in.

The Isis Vets Open sounds fine for the 24th March.

It was also reported that the club will be purchasing a further six golf buggies and will be building a new shed to store them.

Regards from

Harry Zawacki

Isis Vets Captain.

❖ Maryborough

Introduction

During this reporting period of June to September initial aims and goals for the Maryborough Veterans Golfers (MVG's) have continued to be met:

- ✚ Members have enjoyed Tuesday golf with varied, competitive and enjoyable rounds.
- ✚ We have hosted two home Inter-club matches and one away match, these completing our 2025 home and away Inter-club program. As Captain of a Vets group not having one any of our 'Home & Away' challengers this year I could feel disappointed – but no, most events were won, or rather lost by the narrowest of margins and from feedback from our and other club's members 'actual participation' was the winner.
- ✚ MVG's have continue to enhance great relationships with each other as well as other Clubs and players, in doing so one outcome was enjoyment and much fun in participating in events. Our 2025 Program continues to draw weekly fields of 70-90 participants.
- ✚ Members had requested 'away' games against Tin Can Bay and Cooroy. These are continuing to be investigated, with the catalysts of just experiencing playing a different course and meeting others (diversity) and simple enjoyment I will be attempting to make these events happen next year.
- ✚ During September we hosted the final leg of the WBVGA Spring Carnival with daily fields of 151 and 138 respectively. We hosted 41 players from South Burnett Veterans Association of the 02nd of September and during preceding three month we had no less than 200 visiting Veteran golfers participate in events at MGC.

- ✚ Catering - MGC remains without an ability to appropriately provide catering. Other Clubs visiting had shown respect, consideration and acceptance to our lot and their understanding is greatly appreciated.
- ✚ During 2025 good feedback on the conditions of course and our club's hospitality had been reported. Our committee aim that this continues and our members are continually being asked to show respect to each other and the game by how we interact with each other.
- ✚ Good conditions have supported course condition, availability and numbers attending. Very few days play was lost during reporting period due to weather. The Course has remained playable with excellent management by MGC Committee, the Pro Shop and grounds Staff, as well as members utilising areas of play appropriately. Weather will always remain a major catalyst affecting course conditions, and our conduct in presenting and competing in matches.

Maryborough Veterans Golfer's membership has surpassed 130 members. Our 2025 program consisted of 50 programmed events with attendance numbers remaining high. Our Membership continually support others Vet clubs by participation, all leading to the conclusion that 2026 may also be as an enjoyable and memorable year.

In closing this report, I on behalf of all our members wish all Clubs, Committee's and Vet golfers and their families the greatest of happiness, health and safety during 2026.

George Fallon – Captain

It was AGREED that all Club reports be accepted

Moved: Don McKewen Seconded: Peter Hughes CARRIED

[PRESIDENTS REPORT](#)

Wide Bay District Veteran Golfers' Association

Presidents Report

Meeting date: Friday October 10, 2025

Welcome Delegates and Executive to our end of year meeting for 2025.

Congratulations to the Clubs who hosted events in the Spring Carnival for 2025. Players provided very positive feedback regarding their games and experiences at all of the Clubs. Thank you to the Captains, Volunteers and Committee's at each of the host venues for the enormous work undertaken to make the event another wonderful success. A special mention to our Convenor, Wendy Mathiesen, as well as the Wide Bay Treasurer, Babs Beh, for their professional and effective management of the event.

As the Wide Bay Veteran Golfers' Clubs finalise their schedules for the year, we look forward to another confident golfing year in 2026. Thank you to the delegates who have contributed to our positive golfing year within the Wide Bay.

Peter Cocking

President WBDVGA

It was AGREED that the Presidents Report be accepted

Moved: Peter Cocking Seconded: Hugh McLaughlin CARRIED

TREASURERS REPORT

Attached are the accounts for Wide Bay as 30th September, 2025. Now that the Spring Carnival is done and dusted the net result for us so far is \$ 3,942.12 and increase over last year of about \$ 3,135.72

Perhaps we should open a discussion of how we can effectively use the increased funds to assist the clubs in the district. We must keep in mind that the Australian Championships are in Queensland next year and that may take a few of our regular players.

Below is a detailed account of the Spring Carnival for 2025.

SPRING CARNIVAL RECONCILIATION 2025

Total Entry Fees Received		\$	65,335.00
Refunds Made Prior Distribution to Clubs		\$	5,620.00
		\$	<u>59,715.00</u>
Distribution to Clubs (1,601 games)			
Bargara	\$	9,936.00	
Bundaberg	\$	9,612.00	
Coral Cove	\$	7,776.00	
Hervey Bay	\$	8,019.00	
Maryborough	\$	7,884.00	\$ 43,227.00
			\$ <u>16,488.00</u>
Payments to;			
Carriers Arms Hotel	\$	5,660.00	
Total Carnival Prize Money	\$	5,700.00	\$ <u>11,360.00</u>
Surplus for the Carnival		\$	<u><u>5,128.00</u></u>

According the final Spring Carnival spreadsheet there was 210 entries. Of that number 126 were carnival players. We lost a few when the carnival eventually started. The Carnival was contested by 71 men and 48 ladies. This equates to about 59.66% men and 40.33 % ladies. That is a great result which I think points to the number of husbands and wives travelling and playing golf.

Just think that this carnival played well over 1600 + games of golf over a two week period. That is a lot of golf – well done to all the clubs involved.

The Term Deposits brought us in \$ 635.00 in interest for the short period the funds were invested. We will keep this practice up for next year as well.

I will be sending out invoices to all the clubs by the end of the month for their affiliation fees for 2026. We mustn't forget it will be at \$6 per person based on the club's total membership as at 31st December, 2025. This is made up of \$4 fee to QVGU and the balance of \$2 to Wide Bay.

WIDE BAY DISTRICT VETERAN GOLFERS' ASSOCIATION					
FINANCIAL REPORTS 2024 - 2025					
		THIS YEAR 1/11/2024 TO 30/9/25			
LAST YEAR (24/25)	INCOME	RECEIPTS	EXPENSES	NET	Difference
\$ 46.89	Interest Received	\$ 656.75		\$ 658.60	\$ 611.71
\$ 4,704.00	Affiliation Fees	\$ 4,940.00		\$ 4,940.00	\$ 236.00
\$ 58,273.00	Spring Carnival	\$ 65,335.00	\$ 5,620.00	\$ 59,715.00	\$ 1,442.00
\$ 63,023.89		\$ 70,931.75	\$ 5,620.00	\$ 65,313.60	\$ 2,289.71
	EXPENDITURE				
\$ 271.73	Postage & Stationery		\$ 485.08	\$ 485.08	\$ 213.35
\$ 60.00	Catering		\$ 60.00	\$ 60.00	\$ -
\$ 1,306.36	Carnival Banners		\$ -	\$ -	-\$ 1,306.36
\$ 4,945.00	Spring Carnival Dinner		\$ 5,660.00	\$ 5,660.00	\$ 715.00
\$ 284.40	Website Hosting		\$ 589.40	\$ 589.40	\$ 305.00
\$ 800.00	Honorariums & Gratuities		\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 200.00
\$ 1,550.00	Prize Contributions to Clubs		\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 450.00
\$ 7,620.00	Spring Carnival Prizes		\$ 5,700.00	\$ 5,700.00	-\$ 1,920.00
\$ 2,342.00	QVGU Affiliation Fee		\$ 2,650.00	\$ 2,650.00	\$ 308.00
\$ 43,038.00	Spring Carnival Club Fees		\$ 43,227.00	\$ 43,227.00	\$ 189.00
\$ 62,217.49			\$ 61,371.48	\$ 61,371.48	-\$ 846.01
\$ 806.40	NET INCOME			\$ 3,942.12	\$ 3,135.72
\$ 10,266.18	Opening Cash Book			\$ 11,072.58	
\$ 11,072.58	Closing Cash Book			\$ 15,014.70	
\$ 11,072.58	Balance as per Working Account			\$ 15,014.70	

It was AGREED to accept the Treasurers Report

Moved: Babs Beh Seconded: George Fallon CARRIED

SPRING CARNIVAL CONVENOR REPORT

Thank you for the opportunity to be the Spring Carnival Convenor for 2025. My job was made possible with the help of Chris Wake and Wayne Goodwin, with their many, many assists with the spreadsheets and website, and of course with the Captains of the 5 clubs. My huge thanks to Don McKewen and his team at Bargara, Julie Wilson and her team at Bundaberg, Jo Tyrell, Catharina Paterson and their team at Coral Cove, Sandra Kerley and her team at Hervey Bay and George Fallon, Allan Vollmerhaus and the team at Maryborough.

There were 1790 games this year, up from 1,732 games last year.

Numbers were as follows:

	2025		2024		2023		2022	
Bargara	215	215	213	195	192	184	203	207
Bundaberg	184	194	178	177	182	189	180	175
Coral Cove	144	144	138	139	137	141	153	155
Hervey Bay	190	204	197	192	153	154	170	173
Maryborough	152	144	152	151	148	156	166	166
Dinner	120		115		104		149	

We had 125 Overall players this year compared to 127 Overall nominations in 2024, with 74 men and 51 women.

Again, the carts were well managed by the Captains.

This year, all but Coral Cove used the MiScore app and daily competitions were much quicker with results and the speed that results sent to the convenor was much better. Listing the results by alphabetical Christian names was a much more efficient way of transferring the results onto the Overall spreadsheet for publication on the web.

Closing the handicaps a week out was much better as well. Grades were similar but this really didn't matter when transposing the results.

A reminder to try to keep the 3 grades as even as possible for the daily results. Bundaberg had very uneven competitions but this can be explained by the management of the miscore comp. The Vets or pro-shop need to have access to the online nominations as that the comps can be set evenly. This is done when setting up the competitions and this needs to be explained carefully with the people setting up the comp.

The Clubs all presented their courses beautifully. A huge Congratulations to green staff for their efforts! Please, again, pass onto the committees, my thanks for their efforts with the draws, carts, greetings and results. A combined effort made for a very smooth carnival. Getting the results to me was a huge job and I am so grateful to the people that helped me with this. I don't remember having to contact any officials about daily results so thank you for that. Thank you to all of the Captains from me personally, too, for fitting me into the draw in the requested times.

Changes to the Nomination process:

Wayne is looking to put the nomination process fully online. I have reserved my opinion on this, as some Vets have a lot of difficulty even downloading the form and sending it by email. This will have to be done with very clear, easy instructions.

Feedback: We didn't send out the feedback form this year. In the past, the data gained was not a good indication of general opinions as mostly only the people with a gripe sent in forms. There have been a few positive emails sent in, and no negative ones.

General Comments:

Next year: Proposed dates:

Nationals in the Gold Coast – 23 to 28 August

Spring Carnival proposal:

Bargara Thursday 3 & Friday 4 Sept

Bundaberg - Sunday 6 & Monday 7

Coral Cove - Wednesday 9 & Thursday 10

Hervey Bay - Sunday 13 & Monday 14

Maryborough - Wednesday 16 & Thursday 17. Presentation Dinner in Mbro on 17th.

My many thanks again to Chris Wake for his patience and continued support with the excel file, and Wayne Goodwin for managing the results and draws on the website. Thanks again to all the Captains, Pro-Shops and crews at the 5 clubs.

With the Committee's approval, I would be happy to continue in the role of convenor in 2026.

It was AGREED to accept the Spring Carnival Report

Moved; Peter Cocking Seconded: Don McKewen CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE IN

List attached hereto

CORRESPONDENCE OUT

List Attached hereto

It was AGREED to accept the correspondence as attached hereto

Moved: Babs Beh Seconded: Hugh McLaughlin CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

Spring Carnival

It was **AGREED** that the dates for the 2026 Spring Carnival are as follows;

Bargara 3rd & 4th September

Bundaberg 6th & 7th September

Coral Cove 9th & 10th September

Hervey Bay 13th & 14th September

Maryborough 16th & 17th September

Presentation Dinner in MB on 17th September.

Moved: Don McKewen Seconded: Peter Hughes CARRIED

Wide Bay Website

Wayne G reported that the Wide Bay website has seen an increase of over 10% in views and visitors to the website.

The member club's pages are gradually being developed and operational with all pages having relevant content for their members being added.

Wayne also recommend that we upgrade Wordpress Forms so we can start the process of having the Spring Carnival entry form available to be filled out on the WB website from next year.

It was **AGREED** that we purchase the Wordpress Upgrade at a cost of \$75.

Moved: Wayne Goodwin Seconded; George Fallon CARRIED

District Open Days

At the last meeting a number of points were discussed in relation to the participation rates at member clubs' open days declining. The major concern was the lack of hire carts at the smaller clubs and the starting times being too early. It was suggested that the starting times be put back to allow enough time for competitors to travel to each venue. It was also suggested that some sort of incentive be given to competitors to defray the cost of taking their carts and sharing them on the day. These points will be further discussed at our next meeting in February.

The other suggestion was to hire a vehicle mover of some sort to take buggies from a nearby club for use on the day. Peter C will research this option and provide details at the Feb meeting'.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE FLOOR

WBVGA SURPLUS FUNDS

There were discussions regarding surplus funds and how best to use them in support of Wide Bay Veteran golfers. Peter C asked club delegates to discuss with their Committees any suggestions for how WBVGA could provide support to the Wide Bay clubs and bring any suggestions to the Feb meeting.

QVGU

It was once again mentioned that the QVGU will sponsor the smaller 9 hole clubs to the value of \$100. All they need to do is make an application which is available on QVGU website.

Hugh M made mention of the fact that the Wide Bay clubs are very willing to support the QVGU events and expressed appreciation on behalf of the QVGU.

Meeting Dates for 2026

It was agreed that the committee meeting dates for 2026 be as follows;

February 13th, 2026

June 12th, 2026

October 9th, 2026.

MEETING CLOSED: 11.00 am

Next Meeting: Friday 13th February 2026.

Isis Golf Club

9.30 am