

**VERMONT SOUTH CLUB INC**  
**Minutes of the 31<sup>st</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
**For Year ended 30 June 2023**  
**Held Wednesday 27 September, 2023**

President Ken George opened the meeting and welcomed all members in attendance.

**PRESENT**

A quorum of members as per the attendance sheets attached

**APOLOGIES**

Apologies as per the apology sheet attached.

**MINUTES OF PREVIOUS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

The abridged Minutes of the 30th Annual General Meeting, for year ended 30 June 2022, were confirmed as a true record with amendments as recorded.

**TO RECEIVE AND ADOPT THE 31<sup>st</sup> ANNUAL REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED 30<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2023**

**Ken welcomed everyone and the meeting opened 7.03 pm**

**Correspondence in – nil**

**Correspondence out – nil**

**VSC PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Ken George**

I wish to start by thanking all those that have assisted in the running of the club over the past twelve months.

The Club is in a very good position with a small increase in overall membership and is in a sound financial position, but this does not mean we can become complacent. We have a \$150,000 dollar commitment to the renovation of the building, unknown fit out costs that are not part of the renovation and will continue to incur expenses in maintaining the greens and courts along with club running costs.

“We have a major renovation occurring to the bottom club room which will greatly enhance the comfort of members and allow greater community engagement. The Bowls, Darts and Tennis sections have plans to develop and grow their sections.

We are currently upgrading the VSC website to make it more relevant and user friendly.

As with most sporting and community clubs, this club is run by volunteers, we cannot continue to depend on the few, we need the many. Please consider joining or assisting the section committees, volunteering to help on the green or on the court, in the kitchens, to assist with the club maintenance or on work parties, social activities and fund raising, indeed joining the VSC committee. Any and all assistance helps.

The Tennis section continues to supply an excellent facility for the Tennis members and the large numbers of Juniors from the community to be outside, playing sport and interacting with each other.

## **MEMBERSHIP**

### **Tennis**

**2021 – 117 members**

**2022 – 134 members**

**2023 – 128 members**

**Current – 133 members**

### **Bowls**

**2021 – 200 members**

**2022 – 204 members**

**2023 – 191 members**

**Current – 198 members**

### **Darts**

**Our Dart numbers have increased.**

### **Darts**

**2021 – 22 members**

**2022 – 33 members**

**2023 – 34 members**

**Current – 34 members**

**BUILDING** – The renovations are progressing according to the schedule with completion due in February 2024. Based on the projected expenditure the total cost of the project will be \$2,900,000 (excluding GST). Within this budget there may be an opportunity to make minor improvements in the kitchen, but this is not confirmed.

The stairs between the greens are complete but the ramp is not expected to be built until December 2023.

As the development progresses we will need to make adjustments to how we use the West Green.

**SPONSORSHIP** – The VSC established a sponsorship sub-committee in 2022 under the

leadership of Spiro Agius.

The sub-committee undertook a complete audit of all past and current sponsors. In doing so the sub-committee reconnected with all lapsed and recent sponsors as well as seeking to attract new sponsors.

There has been \$22,470 raised to date for 23/24 year with a further \$4k plus expected.

Rhyman have not renewed this year as this area has no appeal for marketing at the moment. Next year may see a development in Ringwood so there may be an opportunity to renew some form of sponsorship.

A number of sponsors are providing “goods in kind” the total value of which stands over \$2000.

The sponsorship sub-committee continues to strengthen relationships with all existing sponsors and will continue to seek out further potential sponsors. I would like to thank the committee members for their hard work in achieving the results that they have.

Finally, in closing, I wish to express my gratitude to the VSC committee for their work and assistance over the previous term and to all the members of the club who continue to make this club the great club that it is.

Thank you.

## **BOWLS REPORT – Diane Agius, Chairperson Bowls Section**

The Bowls Committee has its own AGM, where detailed reports are provided for all areas of the club, to its members.

In summary.

- We are currently sharing the Tennis clubrooms, while our clubroom is being renovated and we thank our fellow VSC Tennis members for their support and cooperation to allow us to maintain the operations of the Bowls section. [1] [SEP]
- We have a new 2-year action plan to guide us achieving positive outcomes for the future of the Bowls section. [1] [SEP]
- We have recruited 9 new members since the last VSC AGM and there is a possibility of a further 4 signing up in the near future. Our current membership is 192. [1] [SEP]
- We had mixed results in our Pennant competitions but have set new goals and strategies

for the 23/24 season hoping to see improvement in all of our competitions. John Strybosch has been reappointed as Head Coach. [1] [SEP]

- The following milestone games were celebrated during the season [1] [SEP]
  - 600games–Barbara Brown, Oska Setyana
  - 400games–Viv Bennett
  - 300games–JimCull, MaryFarley, PamPeverelle, BobPeverelle, DenisQuintal, Gordon Russell, Carole Simmons, Gerry Trenker
  - 200games–Diane Agius, Martin Haines, Gillian Horlock, Geoff Parry
- Our social program has run throughout the year and maintained good numbers playing. We must acknowledge the enormous effort put in by the volunteer convenors to run social bowls days. All expenditure has been approved at VSC level [1] [SEP]
- This year we ran a Ladies Day tournament, the KCL tournament and the Balmoral Cup, all very successful and good for the club and its reputation. We also had our annual Mulgrave Challenge. [1] [SEP]
- Jack Attack is going from strength to strength. We now have 20 teams comprising around 70 regular players per season. We conduct two 6-week seasons per year using both greens. With floodlights on only one green, our seasons are limited to daylight savings times of the year. [1] [SEP]
- Corporate hire of our rooms has been impacted by the renovations but we have tried to manage barefoot bowls requests as best we could [1] [SEP] The Bowls section acknowledges the volunteers who give of their time and hard work to maintain the viability of not only the various sections of the Bowls club but for their contribution to the VSC overall. We also acknowledge the support and guidance provided by the VSC committee of management and their areas of responsibility.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all members who have volunteered to keep this wonderful Club running as successfully as it has.

Without your help and hard work the Club could not function and provide the services and sporting competition at Pennant and Social Bowls. You all help to create a great Club community.

Thank you.

[1] [SEP]

## TENNIS REPORT – Damien Whaley, President Tennis Section

Tennis Chairperson Report 2023 I would like to start out by thanking the loyal members of our club - without you the club will not be here! Our membership numbers have remained about the same as the 2022 year which is a trend we have seen over the past few years.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the volunteers who have donated their time and expertise to help around the club. We've had some really productive working bees (and there's more to come) which have neatened up the club grounds. We are always on the lookout for more volunteers. If you can help out the club we would really like to hear from you.

I'd like to express my thanks to the tennis committee and competition convenors. In no particular order I would like to thank Libby Fergusson, Jess O'Meara, Sean Wilkeson, Mark Judd, Mayumi Takahashi-Chan, and James Byrne. You have helped so much to ensure the competitions run smoothly, and keeping things in order.

I'm really proud of all of the players who compete for Vermont South Club. I'm am also really grateful for everyone who competes or plays socially with other club members. I encourage members to get involved in the competitions. We don't play for sheep stations, and it's a great opportunity to improve your tennis, meet new people, and have fun at the same time.

We are especially lucky to have "We Are Tennis" providing our coaching program. Sean Wilkeson and Kylie Wilkeson run a great program with enthusiastic coaches. Jess O'Meara has decided to have a career change and has stepped away from Tennis Coaching. Nothing changes however as "We Are Tennis" still operates the same as before. We will miss Jess at the club! Coaching classes have grown in size. It is fantastic to see full classes full of smiling faces. I strongly encourage signing up for a coaching class or a cardio class. I'm a regular on Tuesday nights and it's great fun.

We are continuing to use Tennis Australia's Book a Court system to display the court availability and allow bookings for visitors. We will be rolling out a reservation process for members to ensure that there will be a court available for you to use. We've seen a big uptake in the bookings made online, and the revenue we are getting from those bookings is helping with the maintenance of the courts.

Our poor sprinklers are reaching the end of their life. They've provided good service, but are now starting to struggle. We are looking at options to repair or replace them. This will ensure we continue to maintain great courts, as well as saving costs through using less water, and being able to use rainwater. This will be our next big project after the renovations of the club room have been completed.

As always our focus is to make sure that Vermont South Club is a place where members and visitors enjoy spending time at. We're a community club and we want to really make sure we're fostering a welcoming and warm environment. Be on the lookout for more social events!

I will be stepping down as Tennis Chairperson effective from the end of the AGM. I've been in the position for 5 years and we've had an interesting time. My focus was to restore the relationship between all the sporting sections, and to ensure that we set up the tennis section for success. I hope that I have made a positive impact and like a good boy scout I have left the tennis section a little better than when I started! I'm still a member and I will still be coming to the club (especially the tennis coaching), so it's not a goodbye!

James Byrne will be taking on the role of Tennis Chairperson. I look forward to seeing him drive further improvements for the tennis section and the club. I look forward to seeing you all on the courts.

Thank you.



## **DARTS REPORT – Neil Rammage Bowls Section Chairperson**

This year has been a challenge following our temporary move to the upper club house, with limited space leading to much jostling, & near misses from the odd errant dart. However, good natured & competitive dart games are played, nonetheless. Thanks go to all players who arrive early to set up the room which requires a lot of furniture moving, oche placements & distribution of scoring materials. Also, thanks to those who stay late & reverse the process.

Many thanks also to our retiring scribe, **Darren**, who has provided the interesting & amusing weekly darts articles for the VSC newsletter, since 2020, to early this year.

**Adrian** has since taken up the challenge, continuing the great work, providing articles that all darts players look forward to reading each week.

With a now fully established 8 team competition, covering our existing 4 boards each Thursday night, we have the capacity to field 32 players, with 4 players maximum in each team. Although we often play with 3 or even only 2 in a side due to absences. We can cater for an additional 2 to 3 players who act as "FLOATERS" to fill in for those absent players.

We look forward to moving back to the lower club house in 2024, where we will have an extra board enabling us to expand our numbers to 40 or more, should the demand from new players arise. Two Seasons of 20 matches each are played on most Thursday nights, with another 8 nights taken up with SLAB nights, Club Championship & our XMAS break up.

**AUTUMN SEASON - 2023:** Won by **PREMIERS** in a Season that went down to the wire with the top 3 sides all being a chance to win in the last few weeks of the competition. Congratulations go to **Andrew, Dan & Rick** for prevailing, winning 14 of the 20 matches played, to take the title. **SPRING SEASON - 2023:** began in early July & so far is also a very close competition with most sides still in the running to win.

**COUNTRY WEEKEND: (15<sup>th</sup> September to 18<sup>th</sup> September 2023)** 18 of us will be returning to last years successful venue of Cobram Barooga, at which the 2023 Country Darts Championship will be played (in between golf games). Thanks to **Darren & Kym** for organizing the facilities & golf bookings.

**LADIES NIGHT DINNER:** Now a tradition with 39 players & partners enjoying a great evening at Bucatini in 2022. We return there again this year on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> October. Individual winners for the past 12 months were: **2022 CLUB CHAMPION: Darren Lightfoot** (Beating **Neil** in a very close final - 2 games to 1.) **2022 COUNTRY CHAMPION:** Played at Cobram Barooga with **David M Johnson** winning his first ever title beating Taine Busse 2 games to 1.

Congratulations must also go to all our players, who continue to play in a very friendly but competitive environment each week.

Thank you.

## **TREASURER'S REPORT Phil Staley**

The 2022/2023 year has seen further improvement in our financial situation. We recorded a profit of \$33,713 compared with the previous year's profit of \$15,001; an increase of \$18,712.

Last year's profit included an \$18,000 grant for tennis court lighting, so our normal

operating result improved by \$36,712. An excellent result.

Income for the year is up \$51,819. It has increased in most areas, in particular: Sponsorship is up \$31,315. Bowls Playing Fees are up \$20,514. Net Result of the Bar is up \$5,697.

Grant income is down \$21,136 and Membership income has declined marginally (down \$674) due to changes in membership categories.

Expenses for the year are up \$33,107. Most expenses are up on last year with the increased activity around the club and the increasing cost of goods and services. Our total Cash is now \$367,988, up \$46,005 since last year. We have \$327,884 set aside in Term Deposits for our share of the Bowls Clubhouse renovation and the next Bowling Green replacement.

Once again, we are reporting an encouraging result, and once again there is still a lot of work to be done to manage significant financial challenges we will have over the coming years.

Our share of the Clubhouse renovation, \$150,000 due 31 December 2023. Fit out costs, furniture etc. not covered by renovation agreement. The next Bowling Green replacement.

Whilst we currently have enough cash to cover the cost of the renovation, we will need to continue saving \$30K to \$40K per year so we can afford to replace the East Bowling Green surface when it is required. This will not just be a green replacement because drainage work will be needed also. I expect we will need at least \$250,000 for this.

Once again, I would like to thank the various VSC committees and members generally, for their help and support over the past 12 months. If we keep working together, I am sure our club will remain successful and continue to grow.

Thank you.

## **Sponsorship – Spiro Agius**

Maintaining and growing the VSC sponsorships for the 2023 to 2024 year is a huge undertaking and workload.

Sponsorship renewals are sent out mainly in May to April.

\$22,470 raised to date for 23/24 year.

\$1,925 still to come in, \$1650 from Mark Kainey plus sales commission for one member's house sale. \$3,850 estimated.

Blue Cross was not renewing but Spiro persevered and they are now a sponsor, but at a reduced Subscription.



Rhyman are not renewing, as this area has no appeal for marketing at the moment. Next year may have a development in Ringwood so Spiro will follow up then.

Road Safety in \$5000

Hello World \$750 Quarterly

We plan for KCL top sponsor the VSBC for another \$2000 for our Next Tournament in 2024.

Wantrina Hill Club meal Vouchers still coming in and used as Prizes. Saves the Club using its cash for prizes.

John Allen offers Goods at cost to Club.

Okka Pies gives us Pies rather than money, used for prizes.

Bendigo Bank – last year sponsored us for \$3000, System has changed for new season to apply for a Grant.

Kaiser has come on as a new Sponsor to the VSC for \$5000 this year.

Thank you.

Motion - To receive and adopt the 2022/2023 Income and Expenditure Financial Statements and Treasurer's Report.

Ken George moved the reports as presented be accepted.

Seconded by John Strybosch – Carried.

## **ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS**

The returning officer John Temple then explained Nominations were held for the positions on the Committee of Management.

John Temple called for nominations for president.

One nomination was received for Ken George for the position:

There being no further nominations, Ken George was declared the President of the Vermont South Club.

The returning officer handed the meeting to the incoming president who conducted the remaining election of officers.

The following nominations for office were received.

Vice President - Mike Petty

Treasurer - Phil Staley

Secretary - No Nominations (previous secretary stepped down mid year)

Ken asked for a nomination for secretary from the floor.

None were made. Ken explained the secretary was an legislated role in the VSC and that without a Secretary the VSC would fold if a nomination for that role was not forthcoming in the next 30 days.

Committee

Vacant - (Membership secretary)

Libby Fergusson

Spiro Agius

Graeme Buntrock

Keith Horlock.

Automatic Secondments: -

Tennis Chairperson

James Byrne

Bowls Chairperson

Di Agius

As nominations for the positions were unopposed, no election was required.

#### **TO CONSIDER ANY MOTIONS FOR WHICH DUE NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN**

Nil

#### **GENERAL BUSINESS**

Di Agius asked for a Membership Secretary to be found amongst the membership and explained that Laurice Webb wished to step down from the role of Membership Secretary after nearly four years.

And welcomed in the newly appointed Tennis Chair, James Byrne, Who is replacing the outgoing Chair, Damien Whaley.

Trevor Holland reported that there was a strong and positive Vibe from all members in the Bowls, Tennis and Darts sections and that all the sections were working well one another.

Ken Notified the membership that the VSC had obtained a stall at the Positive Aging Expo to be Held Sunday October 1 at the Whitehorse Round.

This would be an ideal membership recruitment opportunity and asked for volunteers to help in various time slots as per the form on the notice board.

Ken also Notified the membership that the VSC had obtained a stall at the Whitehorse Spring Fair to be Held Sunday October 15 at the Whitehorse Round.

Once again we need volunteers to help man the stall for the various time slots as per the form on the notice board.

The VSC has organized a Try Bowls, Tennis and Darts evening with a Sausage Sizzle for prospects to come and have a no obligation experience on Wednesday Evening from 7.00 pm October 25<sup>th</sup>.

Volunteers are required from each section for that evening.  
Volunteer Forms are on the notice board.

Ken George thanked everyone and declared the meeting closed 7.37 pm and