MINUTES OF THE BALLARAT GOLF CLUB INC

121st ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD AT THE CLUBHOUSE

ON MONDAY 11th of APRIL 2016

Present:

President Greg Anders (Chairman) and 71 members as per the register of attendance. The meeting opened at 7:30PM. Michael Phillips - General Manager - read the notice of the meeting and noted that in the printed Annual Reports John King should have been shown as Vice President and the Veteran Champion was Marcus Dwyer.

The President welcomed all members to the 121st AGM of the Club noting in particular the Life Members present, Alan Burns, Phil Trevenen and Heather Brauman and noted the absence due to illness of Peter Hoskin who had not missed a meeting in the Presidents memory.
He also welcomed the staff of the Club who were in attendance and the members of the ladies committee including the Lady President, Captain and Secretary. He then read a list of apologies and asked for further apologies.

Apologies:

Bruce Valpied, Michael Dunne, Jill Dunne, Jill Heinz, David McCarthy, Pauline Murphy, Morgan Murphy, Bernie Szapiel, Isabelle Szapiel, Peter Hoskin, Sandra Burns, Bruce Sidebottom, Nat Twaits, Rob Taylor, Brenda Ryan, Bernadette Clark, June Harty, Denis Faulkner, Neil Livingston.

Moved: P Cook **Seconded:** K Wagner that apologies be accepted. **Carried.**

The President than asked for the confirmation of the minutes of the Annual General Meeting on the 30th March 2015
Moved Geoff Waldron Seconded Kym Erbacher. Carried.

Adoption of Annual Report:

The President presented the Annual Report.
He noted the following points in relation to the Presidents report:
Michael Erbacher not seeking re-election summarising his various roles during his 19 years at the club including 16 years on the Board, 6 as Captain and 2 as President and thanked him sincerely for his outstanding contribution. This was met with hearty applause from all present.
Congratulations to the Titheridge family on the naming of the Titheridge room in recognition of the families' service to the Club over 4 generations.
The development of the Club's strategic plan which will shortly be available for members input through on-line surveys and a workshop that will be held at the Club on the 16th of May

The President then asked Gill Fryatt – Captain - to present his report.
The Captain thanked the Club for the honour given to him in being Captain and noted the considerable difference from his roles at his previous Club
He thanked the match committee and others who had assisted him in his role including the Pro Shop staff noting in particular Roger Masom for his work and assistance and Jeff Powell and his team for presenting what he believes is the most outstanding course in the district.
He noted the success of the shotgun start on the shortest day of the year which attracted 203 players.
He thanked Michael Erbacher for his support and the work he had done for the Club.

The President then asked Paul Foley – Finance Director - to present the Finance Report.

The Finance Director referred to his full report contained in the Annual Report noting in particular the profit of $133,602 including $50,456 of interest and non cash items of $233,501 noting that the core purpose of the Club being to provide a golf course and hospitality services for the members and guests.
He spoke briefly on the cost allocation method across departments, the small increase in annual fees and the bar levy and noted that member numbers had remained high which was a very good result.
He noted also that the labour market had pushed costs up in the kitchen but that generally the margins achieved were good, and that the TGS contract was to be reviewed in the coming year.
He thanked the Board and in particular the Finance Sub-committee for their work and assistance during the year and noted the enormous support provided by Louise Mead throughout the year.

The Finance Director then asked for questions noting that he was more than willing to take questions at the conclusion of the meeting should members prefer.

Ron Clark noted that the TGS fees reported as over $1,000 per day and asked what this was for and could it be provided more cheaply.
Michael Phillips responded noting that the contract with TGS had been in place since 2012 when the changes to the gaming environment were introduced and that it provided full gaming services to the Club including upgrades to equipment, loyalty system, reporting and full legal and compliance services to ensure all legislative gaming requirements were met. He noted that the agreement was effectively a 6 and 4 year agreement and that it would reviewed in the coming year as noted earlier by the finance director.

There being no further questions the President asked that members Receive and Adopt the Annual Report, Revenue Statement and Balance Sheet for 2015. Moved P Foley Seconded A Burns. Carried.

The President opened general business and noted that pursuant to the Rules, the Board has recommended that Roger Masom be elected as an honorary life member of the club and asked for speakers to the motion. Kym Erbacher spoke in support of the motion noting Roger's 34+ year membership, his passion for the Club and in all positions he had occupied, his representation on the BDGA, Pennant representation and his true passion for the juniors and lady members along with his willingness to always be there for support and advice. She noted that our Life members were remarkable people and none were more worthy of the honour than Roger.
There being no other speakers the President then called for a show of hands in support of the motion following which he stated there was obviously no need for a show in the negative and congratulated Roger on his achievement. This was met by a hearty round of applause.

Roger Mason then responded thanking the Club for the great honour bestowed upon him noting the positions he had filled and challenges faced, his great enjoyment in all roles and in particular the time he had spent as handicapper which had given him many memorable moments including one member who had threatened to sue him for the adjustments made. He again thanked all and greatly appreciated the honour.

The President then called for questions from the floor.

- Gary Butcher asked why the greens were not cut in order so as not to disadvantage morning players. After some discussion the President noted that this was an operational issue that would be examined and addressed by the General Manager and that an appropriate response would be provided to him as soon as possible.
- Neil Twaits asked why the 2016 bar levy had to be used in the year and could not be carried over. Michael Phillips noted that the Board had made the ruling on the levy with the aim of encouraging members to utilise the services of the Club noting that in exceptional circumstances the Board may approve an extension to the time available to use the levy i.e. for extended periods of illness
- Faye Butcher asked if there was a plan to do something about the seats which were showing signs of age. Michael Phillips responded that there was a replacement program in place for these.
- Phil Trevenen noted the lack and declining number of junior numbers was a concern and asked which Director was responsible for this area. Michael Erbacher responded that Tony Collier's work with the PGA had made direct contact with schools difficult and had a negative impact in this area. Michael Phillips noted that this was an issue but was being addressed and that new methods of attracting juniors to the Club were being investigated as it was acknowledge that the current offering was not working. Kelvin Dunne noted that attracting juniors was a problem across all sporting codes and Vicki Waldron noted that the parents of the juniors and potential juniors needed to provide greater support
- Martin Smith noted the recent email issued with regard to carts not being driven through the golfer foyer and that the hours of the golf shop made this very difficult. Michael Phillips noted that the closing hours for the pro shop should be on dark and as such there should be no issues and that he would discuss this with the Pro. Vicky Wilson raised the possibility of providing some sort of electronic key access to gate users with a levy being imposed on cart users. Michael Phillips stated that this had been examined and quotes received but that the costs were prohibitive. He also noted that he would examine how bar staff could potentially provide a key if urgently required and also noted that the gate should not be left open at any time with cart users required to report to the pro-shop and have the gate opened. Col Jennings noted that costs for such a gate key system would be in the vicinity of $30,000.
- Ian Forbes asked when the concreting of all paths would be done with the emphasis on those shared regularly by ground staff vehicles. The President noted that the concreting of paths was addressed in the Course Improvement program. John King noted that all concreting that had been identified to date had been completed and with current costs of $160 per metre no further major works were planned though there may be some minor works still to be examined.
- Kym Erbacher asked if it were possible for members to see what Board members had individually contributed to the Club when up for election. Michael Phillips noted that the requirements for the elections were set in the Rules of the Club and that the Board operated as a single entity and that the

achievements of the Board were seen and the contribution of the whole rather than any individual.

- Phil Trevenen asked if any statistical method were in place to measure the condition of the course – for instance how many weeks was the course viewed as being in excellent condition during the year compared to the last. Michael Phillips responded that there were 8 weeks a year that the course would always be in slightly less than desirable condition due to required major maintenance works and that weather always presented an unknown factor. He noted that since late 2014 onwards a reporting / monitoring system had been in place and could be used for this purpose. Mr. Trevenen asked if this could be included in the Annual report. The President noted that this may form part of the greens report.
- Ron Clark asked about bunker works being undertaken. Michael Phillips referred to the Thomson Perrett report "Bunker Restoration" which was now available to members on the web site noting that the Board had fully endorsed and adopted the report and work was underway in implementing the report in full. Bill King noted some problems in reading the report and Michael Phillips advised that it will be checked to ensure the online report was complete and available.
- Julie Carr asked what the Club will be doing in relation to the changes coming with regard to smoking and that she had particular concerns in the foyer areas. The President noted that this was a matter of discussion at the Board but that no final decisions had yet been made. Bob Widdison raised the issue of cigarette buts on course and the use of sand buckets as ashtrays and these were also acknowledged as a problem with the President noting his belief that one day the course would be smoke free.

There being no further questions Michael Phillips then spoke on the election of directors. He noted that there had been 4 nominations for the 3 vacant positions and therefore a ballot had been conducted in accordance with the Club Rules. He announced that the newly elected directors were Barclay Dowling, John King and Gilbert Fryatt congratulating them on their success. This was met with a round of applause.

Being no further business the President thanked all present for their attendance invited them to join him for a drink after the meeting and declared the meeting closed at 8:20 PM