

NALG Australia Delegates Meeting 2022

Meeting held at the Tocumwal Golf & Bowls Club, 15 November 2022 commencing at 4:00 pm with 21 members in attendance:

Secretariat

Executive Chairman	Bob Murphy
Vice Chairman	Phil Hart
Secretary/Treasurer	Sid Farrell
Captain	Langdon Emery

Division Delegates

ACT	John Longmire, Cheryl Gorham
New South Wales	Col Aldrick, Rex Langthorne
Northern Rivers	Barry Clark, Neil Garrett
Queensland	Peter Robson
Riverina	John Broster, Colin Holdsworth, Dennis Chapman
South Australia	Phil Othams, Peter Crawford
Tasmania	Keith Martin
Victoria	Chris Morris, Bryan Lynch

Observers

Sharon Rolzin – Tasmania
Jenny Watson – South Australia

Opening address

Bob Murphy opened the meeting with an obituary to past member Barry Huckstepp who had passed on the 26th of November 2021. Barry was a long-standing member of NALGA, having served as President of ACT division for over 10 years, was actively involved in the NALG National Council and participated in inter divisional events, as well as National and World Championships.

The deaths of other NALGA members were also reported for Riverina - Maurice Hetherington, a former National Champion; South Australia – Clyde Miller, who attended World Lefthanders and many National Lefthanders events; and NSW – Terry Lennox, who continued on the NSW committee for a further 23 years after resigning as president in 1990.

A few moments silence was held in memory of these members prior to commencing the meeting.

Item 1 - Apologies

James Polzin, Tasmania

Item 2 - Minutes of 2019 Meeting

Motion that the minutes be accepted as a true record of the 2019 delegates meeting
Moved: Langdon Emery, Seconded: John Broster; Carried

Item 3 - Business arising from the minutes

Due to the extensive period since the previous meeting the Executive Chairman proposed that any business arising from the previous meeting should be best dealt with under other agenda items of this meeting. Carried

Item 4 - Correspondence

No correspondence was listed for separate reference

Item 5 - Treasurer's Report

The Secretary/Treasurer presented the financial statements for 2021- 22 noting that current balances in the two accounts at the time of the meeting was \$17,237. It was also noted that substantial payments had been made as a shared cost with Riverina Division for advertising in golf magazines in an attempt to attract entrants for the National Championships.

Motion that the Secretary/Treasurer's report be accepted:

Moved: Colin Holdsworth; Seconded: John Broster; Carried

Item 6 - Auditor's Report

- i. The audited report was received and a motion made that it be accepted

Moved: Bob Murphy; Seconded: John Broster; Carried

- ii. Appointment of Auditor

A motion was made that an offer made by Trevor Golding via email to undertake the audit of the accounts

Moved: Colin Holdsworth; Seconded: Brian Lynch; Carried

Item 7 - Business arising from Treasurer's report

Discussion:

The Executive Chairman advised that divisions should note that an amount of \$1,000 is available to divisions for assisting with approved NALGA initiatives. Divisions are required to present submissions setting out the proposed initiatives, actions and cost for consideration/approval by the Executive Council.

Col Holdsworth advised that the advertising effort probably resulted in about 6 entrants to the National Championships

Item 8 – Executive Chairman's Report

The Executive Chairman presented his report for 2021- 22 thanking the NALGA Executive for their support and noting:

- Despite the difficulties imposed by Covid and poor weather, divisions were able to continue with events and increase membership numbers, although divisions centered in the East Coast major population centres have struggled to maintain numbers.
- Using technology to communicate with members is becoming fundamental to operating effectively, reporting that the National Website continues to increase its visibility
- National Newsletters have continued to be regularly emailed out to all on our email list which is now in excess of 650 addresses. The email list is refreshed annually with updated lists provided by division secretaries
- InSideGolf magazine has given NALGA excellent support with 6-8 articles published annually.

- Following an idea expressed by Col Holdsworth, the Executive had endorsed Nick O’Hern being appointed as NALGA Ambassador.

Item 9 - Captain’s Report

The Captain advised that there was nothing to report for this meeting

Item 10 -Election of Executive

Executive Chairman: Bob Murphy Proposed: Langdon Emery Seconded: Peter Robson

No other nominations elected unopposed

Vice Chairman: Peter Crawford Proposed: Bob Murphy Seconded: Dennis Chapman

No other nominations elected unopposed

Secretary: John Broster Proposed: Bob Murphy Seconded: Peter Crawford

No other nominations elected unopposed

Captain: Landon Emery Proposed: Bob Murphy Seconded: Phil Hart

No other nominations elected unopposed

The meeting formally acknowledged the work of the former Vice Chairman, Phil Hart and Secretary/Treasurer, Sid Farrell and thanked them for their input and support.

Item 11 – Confirmation of NALGA Ambassador

Following an idea expressed by Col Holdsworth, the Executive had endorsed Nick O’Hern being appointed as NALGA Ambassador a move that is expected to raise the profile of NALGA. Divisions have been requested to include information, and a photo on their websites and in electronic communications. Nick’s appointment comes at no cost to NALGA.

It was noted that at this stage not all divisions had placed this information on their websites and were encouraged to do this as soon as possible.

Item 12 – Revised Rules National Championships

The Executive Chairman recommended that the revised rules for the National Championships, as amended following the 2019 Council Meeting, including the order of prizes presented, be accepted. It was also noted that the revised rules were being used for the current tournament.

Moved: John Broster; Seconded: Barry Clark; Carried

Item 13 – Membership Numbers

The Executive Chairman reported that while, as indicated in the following table, membership numbers had declined during the pandemic, some divisions’ membership had improved and there may be other factors affecting this.

Year	LH Males	LH Females	RH Associate	Total
2019-20	272	22	96	390
2020-21	230	21	84	335
2021-22	231	16	92	319

Rex Langford presented a report from NSW Division outlining attendance statistics for the limited events the division was able to hold over the past 3 years and actions being considered to address these (Attachment A – NSW Report for National Council Meeting).

Various concepts for improving membership presented in the NSW report were discussed including considering right hand associate members, as used in other divisions and splitting divisions in major population centres into sub-divisions or branches.

It was proposed that these and any other ideas be taken into consideration as appropriate for the respective divisions.

Item 14 – 2024 World Championships

John Longmire reported that the world organising committee has confirmed that the 2024 World Lefthanded Golfing Championships will be held in March in Asia at Danang, Vietnam.

Item 15 – Update 2022 National Championships

The Executive Chairman made special mention of thanks to the Riverina Division as hosts of the 55th championships. He stated that because of the delays caused by Covid the division's committee has effectively been in a planning mode for almost 5 years. He congratulated them on their perseverance saying it was admired by all.

Col Holdsworth reported that despite the delays and difficulties encountered, the division had been well supported by the Tocumwal Golf and Bowls club, their sponsors and local businesses. He also made particular mention of the efforts of the club's grounds and greens staff in making the course playable following the unprecedented storms in the days before the event.

He stated that the championships have been a success thanks to the hard work of the tournament committee and numerous helpers from their division, reporting they had 130 golfers playing over the four-day event and 160 attending the presentation dinner.

Item 16 – Update 2023 National Championships

Phil Hart reported that the arrangements for holding the 56th National Championships at Coolangatta & Tweed Heads Golf Club are proceeding well, although at this stage it is likely that the field may be limited to a shotgun start of 128 players.

Any increase in registrations may result in a "first in best dressed" ruling as the club has indicated this is the maximum allowable without incurring the additional cost for a second booking of the course.

Arrangements have also been made with a major sponsor – Golf World Golf Mart for vouchers to the value of \$5,000 at \$3,000 cost to the division as well as discounts on merchandise.

Item 17 – Confirmation of Future Championships

2023	Qld
2024	Victoria
2025	NSW
2026	ACT
2027	SA
2028	Tasmania

Item 18 – General Business

i. Golf World Golf Mart Sponsorship

Phil Hart advised that the owners of Golf World Golf Mart have indicated that the arrangements being offered to Queensland Division for next year's championships can also be offered to other NALGA divisions. Any division wanting to take advantage of this offer should first discuss with Phil Hart and obtain details on who to contact.

ii. Website Rationalisation

Peter Crawford proposed that communications within and across the divisions and the wider golfing community would benefit significantly from a rationalised NALGA website.

It was apparent from the meeting that many divisions were considering changes to their websites but lacked the expertise to both develop and manage this properly. It was agreed that a coordinated and consolidate approach to these efforts would be beneficial.

Rex Langthorne reported that NSW Division has engaged assistance to define the requirements for the development of a new website for its division and could make this available to other divisions if required.

It was agreed that:

- NSW division will provide a copy of the NSW website requirements to division secretaries
- Divisions should use this list as the basis for producing their requirements
- Peter Crawford will be the nominated Executive Committee member to coordinate the division responses and submit for consideration by the Executive Council

Meeting closed at 6:00 pm

Executive Chairman

Bob Murphy



Secretary/Treasurer (Elect)

John Broster

Secretary/Treasurer (Ret)

Sid Farrell



Attachment A

NSW REPORT FOR NATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING

Like most other divisions we have been severely affected by firstly Covid restrictions and subsequently weather conditions that cancelled so many events. Since the last Council meeting, we have only been able to hold the following events.

2020	12/3 Long Reef (27)
	9/7 Monash (45)
	10/12 Long Reef (22)
2021	19/2 Mona Vale (28)
	28/3 ACT Div. Shell Cove (16)
	11/5 Strathfield (27)
	25/6 Stonecutters Ridge (18)
	16/12 Long Reef (24)
2022	14/2 Strathfield (16)
	ACT V NSW Gold Creek (9)
	27/4 Glenmore Park (15)
	28/6 Brighton Lakes (16)
	9/8 Shelly Beach (17)
	20/9 Twin Creeks (15)

In brackets are the number of people that participated in these events including R/H players and which shows a downward trend.

Our major focus area is the Sydney metro although our membership extends to the Southern Highlands, Blue Mountains, Hunter Valley, and South Coast. Travel within and across the metro area has become increasingly difficult thus some events are unattractive to many members for this reason and particularly if they need to travel in peak hours.

Due to the availability of reasonable courses at weekends, majority of our events are held mid-week. Therefore, this restricts our ability to attract younger, non-retired players.

Membership, or lack of financial members has declined significantly due to lack of events. Notwithstanding we have a database of 160 lefties and whilst regular reminders have been sent

most pay when they play for the first time in the financial year. We have a rule that you cannot win a lefties event if not a financial member.

Prior to Covid we were using social media to attract particularly new younger members which did have some success.

Actions taken or being considered.

- Produced cards for members to hand to lefties that they come across, particularly at their own club
- Produced a draft newsletter article for members to have included in their club newsletter
- Produced a letter that can be used to send to lefties within their club via email.
- Looking to have more week-end events in outer metro areas within reasonable travel distance e.g., Southern Highlands, Central Coast/Hunter Valley, Outer West/Blue Mountains.
- Upgrading our website to make easier to update and maintain plus flexible to cater for groups booking.
- Use social media where appropriate
- Considering different events e.g., every lefty brings a righty partner for a two-ball event.
- Considering righties as associate members

Considering the size of the metro area and spread of our current members there may be a case when numbers sufficient to split to say North and South divisions.

Final note, Life Member Terry Lennox passed away recently.

We received a letter from his niece advising that Terry had left \$2,500 to NALG-NSW in his will. When distributed we will consider how to apply these funds to recognise Terry's long involvement. Checking the records, it is noted in the 1990 AGM minutes quote, "Terry Lennox did not stand for re-election as President due to personal commitments. He will remain on the committee and a vote of thanks was conveyed for his 23 years contribution to the NSW Division of NALG in which time he was Secretary and then President."

Rex Langthorne AM

President NALG-NSW