

SEPTEMBER 2025

VOICE OF THE VETS

Presidents Report

Welcome to the Spring edition of the Voice of the Vets.

Our AGM will be held at 2.00pm on 14 October this year following an 8.00am stableford event with a shot gun start. Reports and relevant information have now been emailed to all members. This meeting is being held a week earlier than usual as Bargara has the privilege of hosting the QVGU (Qld Veteran Golfers Union) State Carnival on the 20 and 21 October.

Hosting the State Carnival is not only beneficial for our club but also for the businesses in Bargara and surrounds. A lot of friendships are formed during these events with golfers from many other clubs participating.

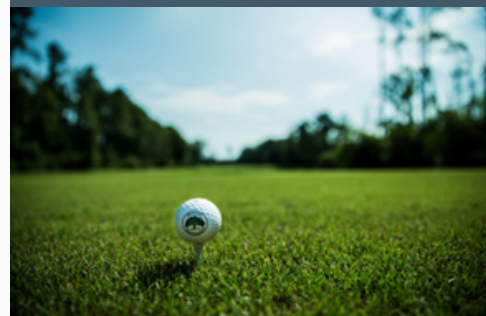
A reminder again for anyone crossing the golf course making their way to the pro shop or going home after golf - you are encouraged to use the concrete pathways as much as possible. If unable to do this and you must cross the fairways, please ensure there is no one hitting off the tee or further down the fairway. There have again been a few recent incidents where golfers in carts are putting themselves in danger, so please keep alert.

Our final day of golf for this year is on Tuesday 9 December. Don't forget to decorate your golf carts and dress up in your finest Christmas golfing outfits.

The committee looks forward to welcoming you to our annual Presentation Night which will be held on 10 December, so remember to book your table and pay by 2 December.

Finally, to all our sponsors, I would like to extend appreciation from all 370 members of our Veteran Golfers Association.

Happy golfing everyone
Shirley





Captains Report

The last few months have been very busy particularly for the match committee.

Many months of collecting player information from the nomination forms and collating the draw to accommodate player requests for the WBDVGA Spring Carnival has been time consuming. However, this was very capably done largely due to the work of Dennis and Sue Gaylard. It is rewarding when you see more than 200 players on the course many of them from southern states (27 different clubs). Thanks to Dennis and Sue for your untiring efforts and for the IT support given by Chris Wake.

This carnival which commenced 9 years ago remains very popular on the touring vet's calendar. Many favourable comments are received from these players noting the course improvements they observe from one year to the next. Thanks to Rod and his green staff and the course volunteers.

The change to Mi Score has been well received with most players using the mobile phone based scoring system. Golf Australia is introducing changes to the handicapping system (Golflink), and this will commence in early October. Sue Gaylard has been involved in some intensive training to become a "Club Champion" to assist the members during this changeover.

It is pleasing to see that more than 220 players have nominated for the QVGU State Carnival hosted by Bargara in October.

It is timely to remind all players of Rule 1.2 - *Standards of Player Conduct*. All players are expected to play in the spirit of the game by:

- Acting with integrity
- Showing consideration to others, by playing at a prompt pace, looking out for the safety of others

Good Health and Good Golfing
Don McKewen.

Date Claimers

AGM

2pm - 14/10/25
Shotgun start on this day

QVGU State Carnival

20/10 & 21/10
Bargara

14/11/25

Shotgun start on this day
(Melbourne Cup)

9/12/25

Final Vets competition
for 2025

Presentation Dinner

10/12/25



Out and About

Three adventurous Bargara Vets members Scott Loader, John Trude and Paul Nosworthy travelled to Calliope Golf Club for their Open Day in July.

With over 120 players from all over Queensland, this Vets Day was a huge success. A highlight, according to Paul, was the great luncheon provided for the visitors which was greatly appreciated by all. Scott, John and Paul say they will be heading back again next year to this event and hope other Bargara players will also make the journey with them.

Bargara players travelled to Bundaberg on 22 July to compete in the final round of the Bungara Shield.

Bargara won the first day of play, however were narrowly beaten on this return day. After much calculation, Bargara won the overall competition by a small margin to be victorious and retain the shield for another year.

The Isis Open Day on 12 August was another successful day for our small group of travelling golfers. A highlight, as many of you would be aware from playing previously, is the amazing lunch provided by the club members. Congratulations to the successful winners below.





Out and About (cont)

Leading up to any carnival held at Bargara, our Vets committee members - Sue, Dennis and Don spend many hours undertaking all the necessary paperwork required to ensure a well-run competition. In the months leading up, emails must be sent out. Closer to the event nominations received must be checked and verified and then a draw completed taking into account travelling partners, golf cart sharing etc. Thank you to you all for the tireless work that you do throughout the year to make our Vets club the success it is.

Bargara had a number of players represent our club at the Wide Bay Veteran Spring Carnival. Christine Parkinson, Robyn Edgar, Leanne Spruce and Alys Koziol played all games at the varying courses throughout the carnival.

Congratulations to Alys who placed 1st in Ladies Division 3, Christine Parkinson 6th and Robyn Edgar 9th in Division 2 and Leanne Spruce 9th in Division 1. Well done to you all.



Prize winners from Bargara competition Thursday 28/8/25:

Christine Parkinson - A Grade R/U
 Priscilla Bennett - B Grade Winner
 Kaye Nicholls - B Grade 4th Runner Up
 Alys Koziol - C Grade Winner
 Scott Beyer - A grade Runner Up
 Keith Kroger - A Grade 3rd Runner Up
 Michael Brett - B Grade Winner
 John See - B Grade Runner Up
 Rory Jackson - B Grade 2nd Runner Up
 Bob Warren - C Grade Winner
 Chris Norris - C Grade Runner Up



Bargara presentations
Spring Carnival





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If you have an article for
the Newsletter, we would like to hear from you.

Email to:
amjohnson3@bigpond.com

Results - Monthly Medals

JULY MONTHLY MEDAL

MEN	A GRADE	B GRADE	C GRADE	D GRADE
WINNER	Greg Lewis	Rory Jackson	Kel Drady	Alex Avery
RUNNER UP	Ash Butcher	Mark Rixon	Keith Atkins	Adrian Serra
GROSS WINNER	Greg Lewis	Rory Jackson	Ray Bennett	Alex Avery
PUTTS	Wayne Brown - 27			

WOMEN	A GRADE	B GRADE
WINNER	Priscilla Bennett	Barbara Charters
RUNNER UP	Debra West	Carmel Pearson
GROSS WINNER	Leanne Spruce	Carmel Pearson
PUTTS	Donna Pett - 28	

AUGUST MONTHLY MEDAL

MEN	A GRADE	B GRADE	C GRADE	D GRADE
WINNER	Des Fraser	Michael Anderson	Robin Lerch	Adrian Serra
RUNNER UP	Greg Lewis	Jack Vann Haren	Leo De George	Wayne Brown
GROSS WINNER	Gary Hallam	Michael Anderson	Barry Maxklow	Wayne Brown
PUTTS	Wayne Brown - 27			

WOMEN	A GRADE	B GRADE
WINNER	Jean Rapkins	Patricia Cahill
RUNNER UP	Julie Norris	Jessica Williams
GROSS WINNER	Julie Norris	Jessica Williams
PUTTS	Fran Taylor - 27	

SEPTEMBER MONTHLY MEDAL

MEN	A GRADE	B GRADE	C GRADE	D GRADE
WINNER	Michael Brett	Ted Clark	Robin Lerch	Dave Taylor
RUNNER UP	Rob Whitford	Dave Ryan	Graeme Briwn	Noel McNamara
GROSS WINNER	Stephen Jameson	Ted Clark	Robin Lerch	Michael Dwyer
PUTTS	Rory Jackson - 25			

WOMEN	A GRADE	B GRADE
WINNER	Jean Rapkins	Sylvia Spaar
RUNNER UP	Fran Taylor	Karen Bauer
GROSS WINNER	Leanne Spruce	Karen Bauer
PUTTS	Gayle Ryan - 27	

RECENT TUESDAY WINNERS





SPOTLIGHT

DON McKEWEN

- The son of a dairy farmer who married a dairy farmer's daughter
- Has 3 children and 4 grandchildren

Don's 8 years of primary education was at Watch Box State School where the maximum number of students was 19 with only 1 male teacher. Thereafter 4 years of high school followed at Murgon State High. Don enjoyed these years and believes that he was able to receive basic life skills from a dedicated team of teachers.



Country life for him was pretty special with plenty of activities—sport, the local Saturday night dances, and the Rural Youth Organisation.

Don has always been involved with sport, mainly tennis and then in later years golf. Don and Pat's children likewise all play sport - tennis, cricket, golf, bowls with his grandchildren following in the McKewen sporting footsteps and playing hockey.

Don spent most of his working life working with Kraft Foods in the food industry (42 years) managing factories - cheese, yeast extract for vegemite, peanut roasting for peanut butter. Prior to joining Kraft in 1972 he worked for 3 small dairy co-operatives. Whilst at Maclagan (1970 to 1972) they won the Champion Cheese at the Royal Brisbane Show—Don boasts that this was his only claim to fame!

In April 1972, he was electrocuted (11000-volt overhead power line), however was fortunate to receive no major injuries.

Don and his family have lived in three states – Kenilworth Queensland for 8 years, Sutherland Shire in Sydney for 15 years and Cohuna Victoria for 15 years. In 2007 Don and Pat retired to Bargara. The move to Bargara has proved very rewarding for Don and Pat, both becoming involved with the Bargara Golf Club and the community in general where they have made great friends. They have also travelled to all continents mainly with their Bundaberg Friendship Force Club.

Don has had many roles within the Bargara Vets:

- Vice President for 1 year
- Captain for 11 years (current)

Also within the Bargara Golf Club

- Men's match committee for 4 years
- Board member for 1 year
- Club President for 5 years

Don is currently also a committee member of the Wide Bay Veteran Golfers.

"The Bargara Golf Club is a very vibrant welcoming place to play sport and to socialize and in recent years with the significant increase in population it is pleasing to see the growth in club membership."

Thank you Don, for being an exceptional leader of our Bargara Veteran Golfers Association. Your untiring commitment, level-headed thinking and friendly and welcoming demeanor make the Vets at Bargara an organization we all want to be associated with.