



# GOLF SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA



Members Handbook  
2022

# **Golf Society of Australia Inc.**

Reg. No. A0003262H

## **Registered Office**

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Website: [www.golfsocietyaust.com](http://www.golfsocietyaust.com)

## **Patron**

Mrs Anne Court

## **Office Bearers**

### **President**

Mr G. J. (Graeme) Ryan

### **Treasurer**

Mrs G. (Grace) Rew

### **Hon. Secretary**

Miss K. A. (Kim) Hastie

## **Committee**

### **Collections Committee**

Mr J. W. (John) Scheffer

Mr J (John) Trevorrow

Mr I. J. (Ian) Rowell

### **Website**

Miss K. A. (Kim) Hastie

### **Dinners**

Mrs M. (Morag) North

### **'The Long Game' Editor**

Mr G. (Greg) Bain

### **Golf Historians**

Miss K. A. (Kim) Hastie

### **Golf Australia Nominee**

Mr D.R.(David) Greenhill

### **Hickory Co-Ordinator**

Mr M. (Max) Findlay

### **Hon. Auditor**

Mr C. R. (Bob) Stannard

## Past Presidents

The Society has been fortunate in having had Presidents and other office bearers who are well versed in the history and traditions of golf.

A red jacket decorated with Golf Society of Australia lapels is accorded each President as their badge of office.

Mr D. W. Bachli MBE	1982 - 1986
Miss B. Cheney MBE	1986 - 1988
Dr K. F. Shepherd RFD, VRD & Bar	1988 - 1990
Mr P. A. Rosenhain DFC	1990 - 1992
Mr D. H. Lawrence	1992 - 1994
Mr D. W. J. Cox	1994 - 2000
Mrs J. Court	2000 - 2002
Mr K. H. Wood AM	2002 - 2007
Mr I. Rennick	2007 - 2011
Mr G. A. Vincent AM	2011 - 2016
Mr G. J. Ryan	2016 -

## 2022 Program of Events

### February 21 Monday

Dinner

*Commonwealth Golf Club*

### April 11 Monday

Historians Forum

*Peninsula Kingswood GC*

### May 30 Monday

Don Lawrence Trophy

*Yarra Yarra Golf Club*

### June 27 Monday

Dinner

*Kingston Heath Golf Club*

### July 18 Monday

President's Trophy

*Royal Melbourne Golf Club*

### August 8 Monday

Historians Forum

*Metropolitan Golf Club*

### August 28 Sunday

Hickory Day

Frank Shepherd Trophy for Men

Burtt Cheney Trophy for Women

*Kingston Heath Golf Club*

**September 26 Monday**

Dinner

*Royal Melbourne Golf Club*

**October 9 Sunday**

Historians Forum

*Kyneton Golf Club*

**November 15 Tuesday**

Doug Bachli Trophy, AGM and Cocktail Party

*Riversdale Golf Club*

**January to December**

Hickory Golf Events

*Monthly Hickory Heroes dates and locations*

to be advised by the Hickory Coordinator

Hickory clubs available for hire from GSA

*Members are advised either by email or mail the dates, times and locations of all Golf Society events.*

*Members are also reminded to regularly monitor the Society's website.*

*[www.golfsocietyaust.com](http://www.golfsocietyaust.com)*

**Vision Statement**

*'Preserve, share and celebrate the history of golf in Australia'*

**Statement of Purposes**

1. To collate and record the history of golf in Australia
2. Bring together Society members to enjoy one another's company by arranging golf days, dinners and other events.
3. Arrange Historians Forums with guest speaker's presentations of historical note and interest.
4. Manage, develop and enhance the heritage golf collection and work towards the establishment of a National Golf Museum with Golf Australia.
5. To co-operate with any club, association, society or individual within Australia and overseas whose purposes are similar to those of the Golf Society of Australia.
6. Communicate our aims and activities using appropriate technology to members and the wider golf community.

## President's Summary

A strategic plan was prepared in 2017 to identify the main activities of the Society and develop the necessary tactics and actions for the timely achievement of pre-determined objectives over the next three years.

The planning process was initiated by a comprehensive analysis of the Society's current strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats (SWOT) in which all GSA committee members participated.

This structured, detailed analysis revealed several key elements (e.g., membership, finance, website, and communications) which were recognised as vital for the enduring success of the Society and its objectives.

The strategic plan was reviewed in late 2019 to determine progress and levels of success. In general, the Society's traditional activities (e.g., Dinners, Historians Forums, 'The Long Game', Website, Golf and Hickory Events) continued with much higher levels of participation due to increased membership and improved means of promotion and communication.

We are building on past successes and adding to the value of membership by the application of our growing levels of experience and skills.

The policy of previous committees to restrict the number of members to around 200 was reassessed in 2017 and an active recruitment program commenced within Victoria and interstate. We are currently increasing membership at a net rate of 10% per year and now have about 270 members.

Importantly, visits and discussions interstate with a view to the creation of state chapters has been ongoing and attracted a number of new members. Alongside this development is a proposal to establish a national body, provisionally titled Golf Heritage Australia, and this is currently being considered by Golf Australia.

In addition, the Society has established reciprocal arrangements with golf heritage societies in the UK and US to form connections, share information and celebrate the history of golf. This has been most successful, and we intend to form similar arrangements with other like-minded organisations overseas.

There are plans to form an international golf heritage society and this will make significant progress during 2020. We will play a leading role.

With the design of the Australian Golf Centre at Sandringham well advanced, we are applying considerable effort towards the inclusion of heritage displays and a library. The enormous task of classifying and cataloguing the many thousands of items has proceeded by the application of expertise by the members of our collection sub-committee.

The Golf Society of Australia is enjoying excellent health and vigour. The functions and events are popular and well attended. Our communications are effective, in particular via our website and 'The Long Game' which both receive many compliments from around Australia and overseas.

We have a strong, active and committed group of people on committee who are taking us to higher levels of success and enjoyment.

## History of the Society

The concept of an Australian Golf Society was initiated by Dr Ken Shepherd. Early in 1981 at Royal Melbourne Golf Club. He suggested to Mr John Snell that a society should be formed to research, document and preserve the history of golf in Australia.

They were in agreement and invited Messrs Doug Bachli, Bill Edgar and Peter Rosenhain to assist in the formation of the Golf Society of Australia. Each invited five interested golfers to the inaugural meeting which was held on 24 November 1981. Of the twenty-six invited, eighteen attended and agreed to form a society which became known as the Golf Society of Australia Inc.

After several meetings, the following objectives were determined:

- Establish a golf museum
- Create a collection of golf memorabilia
- Arrange regular golf days
- Arrange dinners with guest speakers

A constitution for the 'Golf Society of Australia' was prepared and the first AGM was held on the 26 October 1982. A copy of the current constitution is available for perusal by members from the Honorary Secretary.

The inaugural Office Bearers and Committee were:

President	Mr D. W. Bachli MBE
Vice President	Mr P. A. Rosenhain DFC
Treasurer	Dr K. F. Shepherd RFD, VRD & Bar
Secretary	Miss B. Burgess
Committee	Miss B. Cheney MBE Mr W. A. Edgar MBE Mr B. Green Mr J. A. Snell Mr F. A. Lester
Auditors	Mr J. M. Hilliard and Mr K. A. Christian
Publicity Officer	Mr D. H. Lawrence

The first committee meeting was held on 29 November 1982 at the offices of the Victorian Ladies Golf Union (VLGU) at 589 Malvern Road, Toorak.

The Society's activities were launched at Royal Melbourne Golf Club on Sunday 27 February 1983 in the form of a 'Hickory Day' with members playing a 9 hole competition on the West Course using hickory shafted clubs.

In 1985, when the Australian Golf Union (AGU) moved to its building in Cecil Street, South Melbourne, space was provided for a museum in which an excellent collection of golfing memorabilia was displayed.

When the newly formed Golf Australia moved to smaller premises in Coventry Street, South Melbourne in 2006, a large proportion of the collection was moved into storage.

At this time, golf became one of the sports to be included in the National Sports Museum (NSM) at the Melbourne Cricket Ground.

Items were displayed from 2006 to 2019 and due to redevelopment of the NSM (now the Australian Sports Museum) items on display were returned to storage in December 2019.

The display of a selection of items and photographs continues at Moonah Links Golf Course, Fingal, on the Mornington Peninsula.

## Society Golf Events

The 'Hickory Day' was the first golfing event held. Men compete for the Frank Shepherd Trophy, whilst the women play for the Burtta Cheney Trophy which is in the form of a mounted club bearing the name of the great Joyce Wethered.

The Doug Bachli Trophy is reserved for the day of the Society's Annual General Meeting. It is competed for by both men and women members.

In 1995, the Don Lawrence Trophy was introduced to commemorate this extremely gifted golf writer who was a President of the Society.

Completing the golfing program is the President's Trophy for which a morning qualifying round is held to determine the leading four players who then play match play to determine the winner.

## Dinners

Whilst the golfing events attract a strong representation of Society members, dinners have attracted the greatest numbers of members and guests. The quality of the guest speakers is a significant influence.

There are usually three dinners each year, but additional dinners have been held when special persons have been available.

## The Long Game

In 1996 the first edition of the Society's, now regular publication, 'The Long Game' was produced. Since then, it has kept its members up to date with Society activities. It features a variety of items about early Australian golf as well as items of interest from like organisations throughout the world. The newsletter is produced in print and digital form.

## Historians Forums

Another successful initiative by the Society has been the golf club Historians Forums which commenced in 2004 and have become regular fixtures on the Society's calendar. At these meetings, the Society invites representatives of golf clubs to midweek daytime meetings at selected city or country golf clubs.

Guest speakers talk on some aspect of golf from a historical perspective or matters relating to the preservation of golfing memorabilia.

There are also regular presentations on a variety of matters relating to the collection and preservation of records, cataloguing of museum items, writing club histories and the like.

The Forums also provide the opportunity for attendees to learn more about the history of clubs and golfing in Victoria, and to share information on the location of significant golfing memorabilia and artefacts.

## Golf Australia Museum Committee

Golf Australia is the governing body of golf in Australia. Under a Golf Australia by-law, the Golf Society of Australia acts as the Museum Committee and is responsible for Golf Australia's museum, library, and archive activities.

A Collection Committee comprising members of the Golf Society is active and meets on a regular basis. See Committee section. Committee members work on an honorary basis on the administration of the collection.

Currently, the main activity is cataloguing and recording the collection. Collections software Mosaic along with MS Excel are used for this purpose.

We welcome donations of books and magazines and memorabilia, subject to review by the Committee, using our collection criteria. Our emphasis is Australian golf and its many facets. In the year ahead, we are working to improve the accessibility and visibility of the collection with the use of improved technology.

If any members would like to assist, please contact Committee members for further details.

## Museum Locations and Redevelopments Underway

2020 saw the commencement of the new home of golf at the Sandringham golf complex. .

The new facility The Australian Golf Centre is now open with various items from the collection on display.

A selection of items from the collection are on loan and displayed at

### **Moonah Link Golf Course**

Mornington Peninsula  
Peter Thomson Drive  
off Truemans Road, Fingal, Victoria 3939  
Ph: 03 5988 2000  
[www.moonahlinks.com.au](http://www.moonahlinks.com.au)  
*Open: Clubhouse hours*

## Museum Collection List

The collection of anything pertaining to Australian golf heritage or the history of golf in Australia.

**Clubs, balls, tees & bags** - range of styles and types over time, including those noteworthy for their style, maker or use, unique and unusual designs.

**Trophies and medals** - relating to significant events and winners.

**Photographs** - golfers, winners of significant events.

**Apparel and golf fashions** - range of styles or used by significant golfers in major events.

**Score cards** - course records and other significant scores, changes to courses.

**Rules** - records of rules, changes and decisions.

**Golf tuition** - any related items, including books, films and training aids.

**Courses and green-keeping** - material relating to design, construction and management.

**Books** - printed materials relating to all aspects of golf including tuition, courses and course design, biographies and autobiographies, club histories, handbooks and Australian golf magazines.

**Historical accounts** - written by notable people, or about events and places.

**Club records** - historical records of golf clubs and courses.

**Australian club histories** - are especially welcome for inclusion in the Library and for listing on the database of Australian golf club histories.

**Golf course locations** - details of changes to golf course locations are being compiled in three sections: metropolitan, country, and those no longer in existence.

## Collection - Some Significant Contents

The collection contains many items of golfing historical interest including about 1500 different objects and several thousand books and magazines. Recently there have been some notable additions to the collection such as books, magazines, Peter Toogood awards, trophies, and memorabilia along with a Hickory Driver used by Alf Toogood in the 1906 British Open. Items relating to Jarrod Lyle's golfing career have also been placed in the collection.

Some other interesting items are the clubs used by Louis Whyte in 1894 to win the first Australian Amateur Championship; clubs used by Warren Bennett who won the 1994 Centenary Australian Amateur 100 years later; clubs used by Doug Bachli, until recently the only Australian to win the British Amateur Championship and a putter used by Peter Thomson when he won one of his five British Open Championships. The driver which David Graham used to win the 1981 US Open Championship is also in the collection. There are many other items in the collection ranging through clubs, balls, tees, trophies, score cards, regalia, photographs, books, and other golfing paraphernalia.

### Golf Clubs and Equipment

Clubs used by Louis A. Whyte, first Australian Amateur Champion, 1894.

Club used by P. C. Anderson, winner British Amateur Championship, 1893.

Clubs used by greats of Australian golf including Doug Bachli, Peter Thomson, Greg Norman, Lindy Goggin, David Graham, Ossie Pickworth, Betty Kernot, and Karrie Webb.

Golf balls of various sizes and makes, tees, etc.

Golf club making tools and equipment.

The Toogood Collection

Jarrod Lyle Items

### Trophies

Golf Australia trophies and 'presentation' items.

Trophies won by Harry Williams, W. A. Higgins, Alf Toogood, Peter Toogood

Mona Macleod, Judith Percy et al.

### Photographs

Individual photographs of players, teams and events.

Set of photographs of each Australian amateur and open champion, men and women.

### Clothing

Royal & Ancient Golf Club Captain's jacket and medal.

Australian team uniforms.

Collection of signed golf gloves.

### Library Collection

Books on all aspects of golf, including tuition, courses and course design, biographies and autobiographies, club histories, handbooks and Australian golf magazines. There are in excess of 1,000 books and 2000 magazines on file

### Ephemera

Scrapbooks, programs, scorecards, and tickets. The Golf Australia collection includes programs from all national events.

Resources collected by golf journalists Don Lawrence and Trevor Grant.

## Membership Guidelines

To maintain membership levels and the ongoing future of the Society, members are encouraged to invite friends and colleagues who meet the membership guidelines to consider nomination for membership.

Nominees to be considered for membership should be formally put before the Committee with the names of the proposer and seconder, for ratification prior to the issue of nomination papers. All proposers and seconds should take into account the following guidelines.

The primary aim of the Golf Society of Australia is to preserve the history of golf in Australia and members should have a true love of and interest in the traditions of the game. Prospective members should be able to demonstrate this in one or more of the following ways.

1. Achieved life membership of their club.
2. A club member of good reputation who is a proven and substantial collector of golf memorabilia and/or who is recognised as being well versed in the traditions of the game.
3. Served as an office bearer or other voluntary capacity at their golf club for a number of years.
4. Achieved major golfing successes at club, state, or national level.
5. Represented their club at Pennant for a number of years.
6. Worked in a voluntary capacity at state or national administrative level for some years
7. In the opinion of the committee, a person of integrity and significant contributor to the game who has made a positive impact and expected to be a valuable member

## Membership Categories

1. Ordinary Members have voting and full playing rights
2. International Members may be accepted if they reside permanently overseas.
3. Youth Members are 30 years of age or younger. Upon reaching 31 years they are eligible, subject to Committee approval for Ordinary Membership and full yearly fees will be applicable with no joining fee.

Fees for categories 2 & 3 shall be:

- a) Decided by the committee for International Members initially set a sixty percent but may be altered by the committee as required.
- b) Youth Members shall pay no fees.

These categories will not have voting rights yet are able to fully participate in society events.

## Life Members

Mr D. W. (Doug) BACHLI\* MBE

Miss B. (Burtta) CHENEY\* MBE

Mr D. W. J. (Daryl) COX\*

Mr W. A. (Bill) EDGAR\* MBE

Mr D. H. (Don) LAWRENCE\*

Mr P. A. (Peter) ROSENHAIN\* DFC

Dr K. F. (Ken) SHEPHERD\* RFD, VRD & Bar

Mr J. A. (John) SNELL

Mrs R. E. (Rosemary) WAKEHAM\*

Mrs J. (Anne) COURT

Mr J. (John) LINDSAY\*

Mr K. H. (Keith) WOOD\* AM

Mr I. (Ian) RENNICK

Mr G. A. (Geoff) VINCENT AM

Mr R. (Dick) Kirby

*\*Deceased*



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