

THE AMALGAMATION FORUM

Rosebud, June 8th 2010

- The Forum was addressed by John Crofts, consultant, Ann Felgate from WGV and Pat Doran from VGA.
- After some years of negotiation WGV and VGA have agreed on a proposed model for amalgamation. The model will be put to a vote of the members of both organisations, at meetings probably at the end of November 2010. The model and associated detail is available on WGV and VGA websites, and we encourage you to read the information.
- The benefits of amalgamation are seen as administrative consistency, financial efficiency and unified promotion, sponsorship and marketing.
- The process for the vote is quite different for men and women, because of the different constitutions of WGV and VGA. **This summary deals with the WGV process.**
- Each woman member of an affiliated club is entitled to a vote for or against the proposed model. Meetings should be arranged at each club, at which a simple majority will decide the way the club will vote.
- A delegate from each club will be able to attend a WGV Special Meeting to vote in accordance with the direction from her club. (Proxy votes will be allowed, but postal votes will not.) If it is a "YES" vote from a club with 158 women members then she presents 158 votes in favour. At this meeting, 75% of the members represented must agree with the amalgamation proposal for it to be passed. A simultaneous meeting of VGA delegates must also vote 75% in favour.
- If either meeting fails to get 75% in favour, then amalgamation will not proceed.
- The MPDWG committee has no role in the process apart from publicising the issue and encouraging all member clubs to use their vote responsibly.
- If the amalgamation is agreed to, it is assumed that district organisations such as the MPDWG and the PDGA will amalgamate. The new Board of Golf Victoria (*Golf Vic*) will assist districts in this process.
- The Steering Committee of WGV and VGA is willing to answer any questions clubs or individual members may have. Some matters still have not been decided and the process is an open and consultative one.