

THE MASTER'S VOICE



Volume 14 No. 1
January 2017

The Official Organ of the VMSA Inc.
Postal Address: PO Box 1023, Newport Vic 3015
Mail contributions to: The Secretary, VMSA
secretary@vmsasquash.com.au



THE PREZ SEZ By Lou Morsch



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OUR WEBSITE IS HERE!!

Online Entries for
Members now
available
See the newsletter in
colour
LOG ONTO YOUR
WEBSITE
Contact Pam Park for
logon details

www.vmsasquash.com.au



Merry Christmas everyone and best wishes for a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year. 2017 is shaping as an exciting year which will be highlighted by our hosting of the Australian Championships in Ballarat from the 4th to 15th September. I really seek all of Victoria's support to ensure a successful event. Let's show the rest of Australia how well we can play and how well we can party.



Jill Mitchell (right) with good friend Jackie Bannon

Before getting into my report, I want to send a message of love and support for Jill Mitchell who was involved in a nasty car accident and is still fighting to recover from injuries sustained. The VMSA and all your friends are very concerned for you Jill. We are keeping our fingers crossed so please get better so we can share some more fun moments with you "purple lady".

As we see another year through, I want to thank all members and participants for your support of our association in 2016. Whether it's through tournaments or pennant, we will continue to work hard to ensure squash remains enjoyable, competitive and a great social forum for making new friends. Don't get too full and unfit as a result of too much Christmas pudding as pennant season will be upon you before you know it. Season commences on the 9th February.

The recent Grays Ballarat tournament was another great success. We saw a new champion in Craig Brook emerge. The past two years have seen new champions crowned for the first time. Mike Woolley in 2015 and now Craig in 2016. I'm sure Warren Miller won't be taking any satisfaction from that so watch your back Craig. Warren will surely be plotting his revenge in 2017.

Raffle Prizes

Tournament goers will appreciate the generosity of our sponsors and friends who donate raffle prizes. The VMSA is very thankful for having Jill and Wali do this so often. Thanks are also extended to Jane Davies who kindly offered a watch donated by Michael Hill Jewellers in Werribee at the recent Grays Ballarat Tournament. A wonderful gesture Jane and thank you so much.

Sponsors - Grays



Upcoming Tournaments

Bairnsdale	Feb 24-26 '17
Victorian Masters Champs –	
Dromana	April 28-30 '17
Masters/Juniors	May 27-28 '17
Bendigo	July 21-23 '17
Australian Master Champs –	
Ballarat -	Sept 4-15 '17
Grays Ballarat	Nov 17-19 '17



TOURNAMENT REPORT

By Helena Morgan

2016 GRAYS BALLARAT MASTERS TOURNAMENT

HAPPY NEW YEAR EVERYONE!!!

Hope the start of 2017 finds you all safe and well.

Again, our Ballarat tournament was a great end to our tournament year. We had 175 entries, with a record 22 virgins.

Special mention to our interstate competitors.

NSW 4, ACT 4, TAS 8, QLD 1, WA 1

Thank you all for your support.

From feedback I have received, the tournament was enjoyed by all, and for all the spectators there were a lot of great matches to watch in all grades. The dinner dance was a fabulous night as always. Great music!!! Sorry to all those who missed it, but I advise that you put next year's date in your calendar now.

Congratulations to the following players for reaching tournament milestones this weekend.

Craig Brook	25
Angela Burton	25
Gill Diggle	25
Stuart Jones	25
Caron Pendrey	25
Warren Miller	50

And..... A special congratulations to **Geoff Morley** for reaching his **100th** tournament. (Pics page 3)
Well done Geoff. Hope you make many more.



50 Tournament
Badge
Warren Miller



Caron Pendrey

THE PREZ SEZ – Continued from page 1

Another great moment in Ballarat was presenting Mark Thurkle the Judith Goadby Award. A thoroughly deserving recipient who has done extraordinary work for our association. Mark has been our Webmaster for a number of years now but has been involved in many other aspects of volunteer work on our committee as well as being a tournament stalwart. Congratulations Mark.

The VMSA are pleased to again sponsor the Mountain District Squash Championships on 3rd - 5th February. It's a great opportunity for us to promote Masters Squash but also a great lead up to pennant which commences the following week. Please support this great annual event.

It's time to hit the sack as I await the arrival of Santa. So once again everybody – Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Keep squash high on the agenda in 2017 and mark down that big event in Ballarat this year as a must do.

Merry Squashing from your PREZ

Lou Morsch

Tournament Badge Awards

25 Tournament Badges



Craig Brook



Angela Burton



Jill Diggle



Stuart Jones

TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR'S REPORT CONT'D

Again there was a great array of food provided by the Ballarat Squash Club over the weekend. Thanks ladies, and guys. You did a great job.

Our sincere congratulations go to Mark Thurkle, who was this year's recipient of the Judith Goadby Trophy. Thanks for all your hard work and support over your years of association with the VMSSA.

Other winners of our special draws

Members draw for 2 free dinner dance tickets
- Stephen Blamey

On line entry draw for VMSSA merchandise
- Craig Brook

Last but not least, my thanks as always to my fabulous tournament committee, especially Karen and Ute. Also thanks to our "apprentice" Darren. So far so good Darren!

Now we go to our next tournament, Bairnsdale. Something different this time!! We are running this tournament as a 'Teams' event.

Enter the tournament as normal. I will put all entrants into teams of 3. You will still play against the players normally in your grade. You will still get 3 or 4 matches depending on entry numbers.

Note:- To give you an idea of how the teams are structured:

The top five seeded entrants are the No. 1's in section 1. The next five are the No. 1's in section 2, and so on for the number of grades required Then the 2's, then the 3's.

Format for the scoring, best of five games to 15, scoring a point a rally with a 2 point advantage needed to win a game.

Match points shall be awarded as follows

3-0 Win 5 points	0-3 Loss 0 points
3-1 Win 4 points	1-3 Loss 1 point
3-2 Win 3 points	2-3 Loss 2 points

The team with the highest total match points will be the winner, and receive 2 extra bonus points

Please note that this means you can win 2 rubbers but still not be the winning team.

ie win in 5 3 points to you and 2 to opponent
win in 5 3 points to you and 2 to opponent
lose in 4 1 points to you and 4 to opponent

Total match points is 7 to you and 8 to opponent
This ensures that every game is important to the outcome of the match

Hope to see you all fit and well in Bairnsdale. It will be FUN!!

Helena – Tournament Director

Geoff Morley was presented with his 100 Tournament badge and a large hamper with congratulations from Helena Morgan, Darren O'Neill and Peter Wright.



A Step Back in Time

Our VMSSA Australian Championships Committee of 1990

PRESIDENT

Jim Bristow

SECRETARY

Judith Goadby

TREASURER

Anne Vergona

TOURNAMENT ADMINISTRATOR

Peter Wright

TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR

Graham Smith

TOURNAMENT REFEREES

Sylvie O'Neale / Jim Bristow

TOURNAMENT REGISTRARS

Scott Murdoch / Judith Goadby

COMMITTEE

Noelle Bartling / Leigh Carlson / Noel Clough

Allan Hennessy / Pam Holland / Kaye Kay

John Moline / Kathy Payne / John Sandler

Richard Vergona / Tricia West

Grays Ballarat 2016

BALLARAT PRIZE WINNERS

Section 1

Winner Craig Brook
R/Up Warren Miller
Special Plate Cameron Penna
Plate Tom Spark
Consolation Plate Mick Dyke

Section 2

Winner Chris Photis
R/Up Waka Elers
Special Plate John Carroll
Plate Gary McPyke
Consolation Plate Ross Francis

Section 3

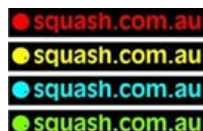
Winner Geoff Ely
R/Up Sandy Paterson
Special Plate Greg Murphy
Plate Gaye Mitchell
Consolation Plate Clem Viney

Section 4

Winner Alan McRorie
R/Up Mick Lucas
Special Plate Carlo Di Tondo
Plate Lou Morsch
Consolation Plate Mario Quintela

Section 5

Winner Sam Adams
R/Up Ray Mouw
Special Plate Sandra Edwards
Plate Janine Eedy
Consolation Plate Mark Rogers



Section 6

Winner Travis Brunt
R/Up Dave Pelchen
Special Plate Daryl Ferguson
Plate Gill Diggle
Consolation Plate Trevor Walker

Section 7

Winner Peter Bassett
R/Up Mick D'Arcy
Special Plate Jenny Swaab
Plate Kate Gordon
Consolation Plate Su Davis

Section 8

Winner Karen Scott
R/Up Jenny Scholtz
Special Plate Michelle Rowles
Plate Lisa Kirby
Consolation Plate Barry Durham

Section 9

Winner Steve Ligoli
R/Up Dennis Kennedy
Special Plate Marge Delaney
Plate Wendy McWilliams
Consolation Plate Madina Khan

Section 10

Winner Andrew Armitage
R/Up Mark Edwards
Special Plate Lynette Woodyard
Plate Christine Chapple
Consolation Plate Phil O'Brien

Section 11

Winner Pam Park
R/Up Rhonda Fry
Special Plate Elena Moreno
Plate Helen Lococo
Consolation Plate Heather Sinclair



Grays Ballarat 2016



Section 1



Section 2



Section 3



Section 4



Section 5



Section 6



Section 7



Section 8



Section 9



Section 10



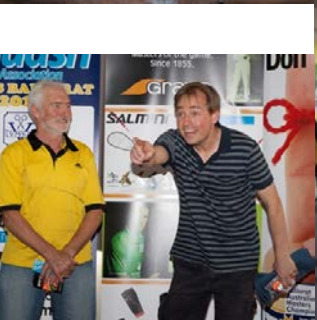
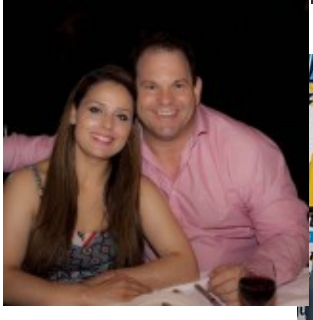
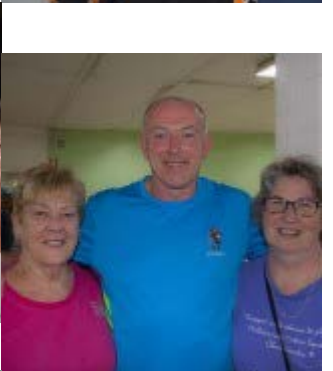
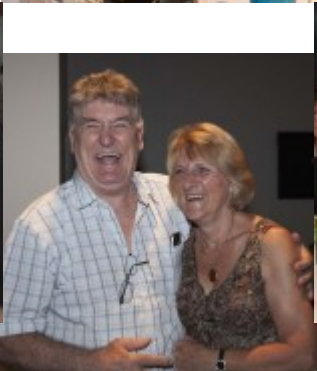
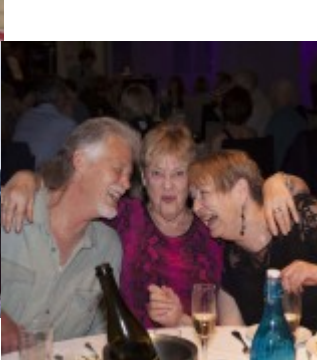
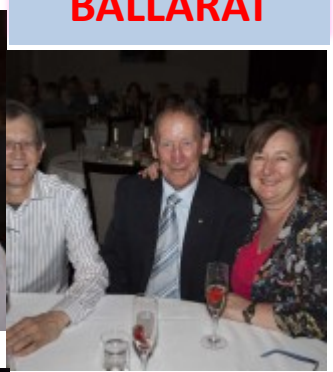
Section 11



**Tournament
Champion –
Craig Brook**

FUN AT

BALLARAT



Many more photos can be found on our website under 'Media'

OUR JUDITH GOADBY 2016 AWARD WINNER – MARK THURKLE



The Judith Goadby Award is given in recognition to committed, hard working VMSA members who give tirelessly and freely of their own time for the benefit of the VMSA.

Such a person is Mark Thurkle who, as our Webmaster, has given so much of his time and knowledge liaising with our website programmer to produce the fantastic VMSA site we can all enjoy. He also loads all our photos and videos (which he also takes at tournaments and dinner dances) onto the website for us all to enjoy, and is our 'go to' guy for any problems arising from online entries to ensure all works perfectly.

Well deserved recognition and congratulations Mark. Your work is greatly appreciated.

On-line Entry Prize

It's easy to enter our tournaments on-line, but to encourage more people to enter this way, we are awarding a prize at each tournament to a lucky member that enters this way. The only requirement is to be a current member of the VMSA, enter on-line and you are in the draw.

Just sign in, check your personal details are still correct and at the bottom of that page, there is a button to 'save and enter' which will take you straight to the entry. EASY!!

We already award a prize to a current member each tournament so here is another great reason to become a member of the VMSA.

From the A.G.M.

It is with regret the VMSA membership subscription will increase to \$25 as of the 1st January 2017. Rising costs associated with website development and tournament expenses along with preparations for our major event in Ballarat 2017 - the Australian Masters Championships, have contributed to this increase. The previous fee was set so long ago no one can recall exactly when. So to my knowledge that is at least 15 yrs ago when I joined the VMSA Committee. I hope the loyal members and supporters of our association understand and accept this increase. We are always trying to keep your squash expenses to a minimum yet continue to provide great value for money with the running of our pennant competition and tournaments. Thanks for your continued support. *Your Prez*

Masters Pennant

Spring Grand Finals

MATCH AND PENNANT REPORT.

Good news folks. Autumn pennant season commences in 2017 on the 9th February. Even better news is there is an increase of 7 teams to the competition which we are very pleased about. So, if clubs maintain their increase in teams, there will be a benefit of free pennant entry fee in Spring 2017 for each additional new team. Club treasurers will like that idea!! The compulsory club co-ordinators meeting is set for the 2nd February. Every club must be represented to gather important information about the upcoming season and collect fixture books. We will be keeping a close eye on behaviour next season as there were a few disciplinary matters to deal with last year. Don't ruin the night's enjoyment with unsociable behaviour. It makes supper awkward and leaves everyone talking about you when you've left. The VMSA has a file of offenders, so if you are on that list, you will not escape penalty by way of suspension if you come under report via a complaint from anyone. Good luck to all teams in 2017 and remember the motto about Masters pennant- competitive but fair and in a friendly social spirit.

\$95 or \$120 pennant fees

This is the choice clubs have next season. To obtain the benefit of unchanged fees (\$95.00), payment must be received by round one. With consistent late payment issues, the VMSA has decided to act to make clubs aware of their responsibilities in this area. Furthermore, points will be deducted after round one and your fees will increase to \$120 if full payment is not received on time. Any query regarding payment must be directed to the VMSA treasurer – Linda Wing.

VMSA Spring 2016
Grand Final Results

Grade 01	Grand Final	Knox Park 02	Defeated	Knox Park 01	121-10-3 to 120-8-1
Grade 02	Grand Final	Westerfolds 02	Lost to	Lilydale 01	83-4-1 to 125-11-3
Grade 03	Grand Final	Moorabbin @ Blu Health 01	Defeated	Fitzpatricks 02	91-9-3 to 65-3-1
Grade 04	Grand Final	Moorabbin @ Brighton 02	Defeated	Ivanhoe 01	82-8-2 to 68-4-1
Grade 05	Grand Final	Mulgrave Club 02	Defeated	Mountain District 02	116-9-3 to 92-6-1
Grade 06	Grand Final	Westerfolds 04	Defeated	Caulfield 01	135-11-3 to 109-7-1
Grade 07	Grand Final	Werrabee 01	Defeated	Moorabbin @ Blu Health 04	131-10-2 to 98-7-2
Grade 08	Grand Final	PEGS 02	Defeated	Moorabbin @ Blu Health 05	106-7-2 to 101-7-2
Grade 09	Grand Final	Mulgrave Club 04	Defeated	Lilydale 03	109-12-4 to 32-0-0
Grade 10	Grand Final	Moorabbin @ Brighton 08	Defeated	Mountain District 05	108-12-4 to 46-0-0

Grand Final Presentations Spring Masters Pennant 2016



Grade 1 - Knox 1 & 2



Grade 2 - Lilydale



Grade 2 - Westerfolds



Grade 3 – Moorabbin



Grade 3 - Fitzpatrick



Grade 4 - Moorabbin



Grade 4 - Ivanhoe



Grade 5 - Mulgrave



Grade 5 –Mt District



Grade 6 - Westerfolds



Grade 6 –Caulfield



Grade 7 - Werribee



Grade 7 -Moorabbin



Grade 8 - PEGS



Grade 8 -Moorabbin



Grade 9 - Mulgrave



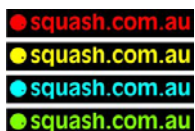
Grade 9 - Lilydale



Grade 10 - Moorabbin



Grade 10 –Mt District



SOVEREIGN HILL – AUSTRALIAN MASTERS SQUASH CHAMPIONSHIPS 2017

I'm very pleased to announce **Sovereign Hill** as the naming rights Major Sponsor of the Australian Masters Squash Championships in Ballarat in September 2017. The VMSA is very keen to promote Ballarat and the region as a great place to host our Championships and also a great place to visit as a tourist destination.

With planning well underway, I can update members on some developments. The VMSA is working with Ballarat Regional Tourism to promote places of interest for guests to visit and secure places to host our social functions. With Sovereign Hill as the major sponsor, squashies who visit this tourist site will enjoy discounted entry with brochures included in your welcome pack. There will be a number of other landmarks offering similar discounts on entry costs with information included in your pack.

The first major event for squashies will be the Welcome function on 3rd September to be held at Craig's Royal Hotel. Situated in the heart of town, we expect this venue to be an ideal place to introduce our guests to Ballarat.

At the completion of the Individual titles the Championship Dinner will be held on Friday night at the Ballarat Trotting Track. The venue is a short distance from town and offers ample parking. There will also be booze buses operating to and from the venue at a nominal cost for our guests.

Our main social function of week two will be the "Blood on the Southern Cross" dinner and show on the 12th September. We have negotiated a special price for squashies of \$85/head which is a massive reduction on the adult standard charge. Bookings for this event at the discounted price can be made on the entry form when it becomes available.

Finally, the concluding social function of week two will be the Team's Dinner to be held at the Mercure Convention Centre in Ballarat on 15th September. Again, booze buses will be provided at nominal cost to transport guests to and from the venue.

A great vote of thanks to Jill Morsch, our Events Organizer for securing these bookings.

Further updates relating to the 2017 Championships will be included in the next newsletter.

For those planning on attending the 2017 Australian Championships at Ballarat, accommodation is filling up fast, so to avoid disappointment, it might be prudent to get cracking and make some bookings.



Or more information visit -
www.vmsasquash.com.au

AUSTRALIAN MASTERS SQUASH CHAMPIONSHIPS 2017

BALLARAT - VIC.

Individual Championships

4-8 September 2017

Team Championships

11-15 September 2017

TOURNAMENT CONDITIONS AND INFORMATION

1. Prizes awarded for Winner and Runner-up. Every effort will be made to ensure that each entrant gets at least three matches. **PLAYERS MUST FULFIL THEIR OBLIGATIONS TO OTHER PARTICIPANTS BY COMPETING IN ALL MATCHES SET DOWN FOR THEM.**
2. **Tournament Committee reserves the right to accept or not accept entrants and to re-grade any entries.**

3. For advice of first round matches, please check on our website: www.vmsasquash.com.au. This is to encourage entrants to check for themselves without making unnecessary phone calls; or phone one of the following (AH) from Wed. 22nd February 2017.
Helena Morgan: 0417 579 311 (Mob)
Courts: (03) 5152 7366

4. Teams must report to Tournament Control no later than 30 MINUTES BEFORE their next scheduled match.
5. All players will be expected to mark and referee their own team's matches.
6. All players will be expected to be warmed up and ready to play as soon as the previous match is completed.
7. Teams will be constructed by the Tournament Committee. Requests will be considered but will not necessarily be possible.
8. Teams will be scheduled for 4 matches, best of 5 games with 5 teams per grade, scoring PAR 15. Three or four members per team depending on number of entries received.

9. **No late entries will be accepted (at the discretion of the Tournament Director). Faxed, mailed or emailed entries without payment will not be accepted. Refunds not given for withdrawal 1 week prior to tournament commencement (at Tournament Director's discretion). We encourage as many players as possible to play on Friday evening, commencing 7.30pm.**

10. No claims whatsoever will be recognized should any player receive an injury whilst participating in the Tournament.
11. Snacks and refreshments will be available at the squash centre during the day.
12. A social get-together, including complimentary supper will be held at the Bairnsdale Squash & Table Tennis Centre on Friday evening Feb 24th **after the conclusion of the matches.** ALL WELCOME.
13. A Dinner Dance will be held on Saturday 25th February at *The Bairnsdale Sporting & Convention Centre*, 117 Great Alpine Road, Bairnsdale 3875 from 7:30pm until 12:00am, featuring a live band. Drinks at bar prices. **Cost: \$50.00 per person. Please include payment with entry.**
14. Trophy presentation will be at approximately 4:30pm Sunday followed by a complimentary supper.
15. **Note:** A booze bus will be provided @ \$10 per head for the dinner dance. Pick-ups will be listed at courts on Saturday. If you wish to take advantage of this service, **please include payment on your entry form.**
16. Note: Playing in a VMSA Pennant Team does **not** automatically mean you are a member of the VMSA. Membership gives participants in tournaments discounted entry rates as well as many other benefits for just \$25 per year. Ask any of our committee members for details.



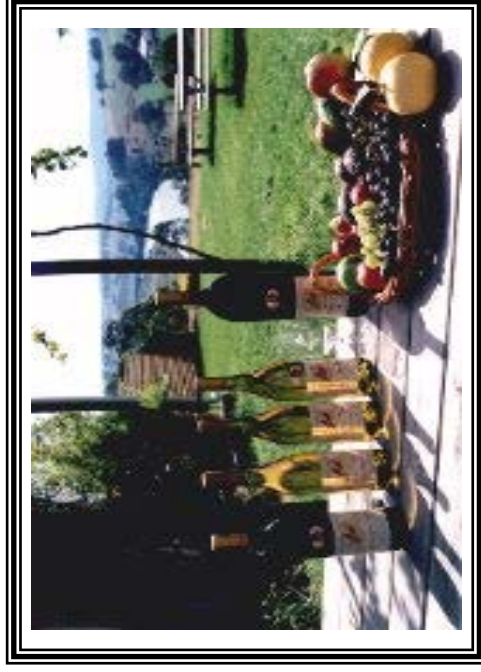
BAIRNSDALE MASTERS TEAMS EVENT 24-26 FEBRUARY 2017

Conducted by the Victorian Masters Squash Association Inc.
ABN 39 143 122 923



www.vmsasquash.com.au

Entries close Friday
10th February 2017



Next Tournament:
**Victorian Masters
Championships**
Dromana
28 - 30 April 2017

COURT HOST: Bairnsdale Squash & Table Tennis Centre

TO BE PLAYED AT:
**Bairnsdale Squash & Table Tennis
Centre**
**64 Great Alpine Rd, Lucknow,
Bairnsdale 3875**
Phone: (03) 5152 7366

TOURNAMENT HOSTS:
**Bairnsdale Squash & Table
Tennis Association**
Tournament Director:
Helena Morgan
Phone: 0417 579 311
Fax: (03) 9747 3150
Email: hjmorgan@bigpond.net.au

BAIRNSDALE MASTERS TOURNAMENT 2017 – ENTRY FORM

EVENTS: Events/gradings will depend on entries. The number of events will be determined by the level of entries.

Date of Birth: _____ **Gender:** _____ **Age at 24th Feb 2017:** _____

Surname: _____ **Given Names:** _____

Address: _____ **P/Code:** _____

Contact Phone No: (Pref mobile) _____

Email address: _____

IMPORTANT: Please fill in all the details of your current pennant team, grade and position.

	Midweek	State	Country	Masters
League				
Grade				
Position				
Club				

Are you a financial member of the VMSA? YES: NO:
 (Playing VMSA pennant is not automatic membership – see overleaf)

ARE YOU AVAILABLE TO PLAY FRIDAY NIGHT? YES: NO:

(We need as many as possible to play Friday night – matches commence 7.30pm) **Preferred Time:** _____ pm

ENTRY FEES:

VMSA Members	\$35.00	
Non-members	\$45.00	
25+ Tournament players	\$30.00	(Financial Members Only)

PLEASE COMPLETE: Payment attached for:

Dinner Dance \$50 per person (No. attending) _____	Entry Fee: \$ _____
Booze Bus \$10 per person (No. attending) _____	Dinner Dance: \$ _____
\$25 if due (check due date on website)	Booze Bus: \$ _____
	VMSA Membership: \$ _____
	TOTAL: \$ _____

Do you have any dietary requirements for the dinner dance? **Please specify** _____

I agree to abide by all tournament conditions and decisions of the tournament committee.

Signed: _____ **Date:** _____

If not entering on line, send entry form and payment details to : Helena Morgan, VMSA, PO Box 2246, MELTON SOUTH, VIC 3338 or Fax to (03) 9747 3150 or email: hjmorgan@bigpond.net.au .

NO ENTRIES ACCEPTED WITHOUT PAYMENT 7 DAYS PRIOR TO EVENT.

Please do not send cash by mail. **ENTRIES CLOSE Friday 10th Feb, 2017**

My preferred method of payment is:

Visa Mastercard Direct Debit - BSB 633000 A/c 130422223
 Description: <YOUR NAME>

Card Number: _____ | _____ | _____ | _____

Card Holder's Name (please print): _____ Expiry Date: _____ / _____

Payment Amount: \$ _____ Signature (Card Holder Only) _____