

Attendees: Jim Wilcox, Greg Morris, John Babyak, Dick Schwinger, Bob Burd, Tom Rowlett, Ed Masood, Malcolm Peterson, Wayne Rowland, Pete Sorge, Bob Hodges, Bob Brewer, Tom Tarpley, Lloyd Stimson, Errol Myers, Ralph Starkey and Dick Dale.

President – Jim introduced the club rep who went over the roster of those that were going to play golf. Jim then welcomed everyone to the meeting and then asked that we go around the room with everyone introducing themselves. Jim then went over the agenda for the meeting. Jim then said that he had an award to give out. The award went to Tom Rowlett, last year's MISGA President.

Secretary's Report – John Babyak said that there was a question last year about whether he should read the minutes of last year's Reps meeting or the last Board meeting. He decided to go with the minutes of the last Reps meeting. Because some of the items were no longer relevant, last years tournament dates, frolic dates etc., John did not read those items.

Treasurer's Report – Dick Schwinger said that we have \$3840 in the checking account, \$4455 in savings and \$21,216 in CD's for a total of \$29,511 dollars. All bills have been paid except he has not drawn the first of three Division budget checks because no one has given him any money. He has only received a \$50 check from one club. Today, he has received an envelope from Div III and Division IV. Those club dues checks were supposed to be in by April 1. MISGA depends on that money to do the division allotment checks. We have been discussing for a number of years the decline in membership and the decline in income. We dipped into the savings last year for about \$2,000. Dick felt that we do not get into the habit of using the money we have in reserve. Dick reminded the reps of the existing policy, clubs are supposed to send the club dues to the division representative. That person sends a check to the MISGA Treasurer. By June 1st, we should have all of the associate dues. The data about the associates goes to Mike Urquhart. The check to Dick should be a division check, not individual associate checks. There was a question about the dates. The dates mentioned are the dates the money has to be in to the Division not to the Treasurer.

Vice President's Report – Greg Morris said that is looking forward to working with Jim to handle some of the MISGA issues, especially the issue of trying to help clubs to stay afloat in MISGA and improve membership and participation. That is his goal and he has no other responsibilities as vice-president.

Division Director's Reports

Division I – Bob Burd said that nothing has changed. The schedules are done and the qualifiers with Div III are set. Div I is doing the two-man and Div III will do the ABCD. Jim thanked the Delaware groups for attending the meeting. They are doing a better job than some of the other divisions.

Division II – Tom Rowlett said that his division has 13 clubs, 572 associates, 126 mixers, two tournaments and one Pro-am. They had over 7,000 participants and they spent over \$300,000 at the clubs. Last year we said that WestWinds was coming back into MISGA but now they are inactive because the club is closed. We are working to bring other clubs in. Tom asked Ed Masood to talk about the Summer Frolic. Ed took over running the Frolic last year. This year the Board meeting will be on Sept 12th and the Frolic will be on September 13 and 14. The event will be at the Liberty Mountain Resort. Everything has been confirmed except for the final price. The Board meeting will follow golf on Tuesday at 4 P.M. Tee times will be 10:30-11:30. Following the Board meeting will be an opportunity for dinner. Ed will need all of the reservations by September 1. The Frolic will have tee times on the 13th followed by dinner and awards. Following breakfast the next morning, we will have a shotgun start followed by lunch and awards. There will be a variety of packages available. Last year we had 39 golfers participate. The food is excellent and the service is great.

Division III – Malcolm Peterson said the division has some different things going on. The division has four clubs playing this year. Harbortowne is going through a multi-million dollar renovation and is closed to MISGA this year. The situation at the Easton club is unsettled. The ownership has changed. The chances of it being an 18 hole golf course is highly unlikely. We picked up a number of people from some of the closed clubs.

Division IV – Jim Wilcox said the division has two new clubs this year. Blue Mash which considers itself a semi-private club and Argyle is also back. One of the complaints that Blue Mash had is that the MISGA events play too slowly. Norbeck has been purchased by Club Court and the hope is that they will stay in MISGA.

Division V – Inactive

Division VI – Greg Morris said that Earl Gentry, a past MISGA President, had bypass surgery and is doing fairly well. His division is healthy and this year they are going to have a Pro-am at Crofton on May 15th. We will start about 10:30 for registration, have lunch, play golf, have a cocktail hour and a dinner. It will be open to all clubs. They also have match play events within the division. There was a comment about Timbers at Troy. The course was closed during the winter and they did a big renovation. In mid-May the course will be open.

Committee Chairmen Reports

Associates – Mike Urquhart was not at the meeting. Jim said that Mike wanted to talk about club dues, due April 1 and the associates dues due June 1 but we already talked about that. There are also new forms. Jim asked that associates go to the website, MISGA.org for information.

Audit – Gary Manion was not at the meeting. Jim said that all of the audits are in with the exception of the last Summer Frolic.

Counsel – We have a new general counsel, a real attorney but Pete is still filling in. Pete said that Tom Tarpley is still out on bail. Nothing else to report.

Events – Pete Sorge said that Joe Bailey passed away and we thought that we would have to cancel the Williamsburg event, which he was running. Dick Dale and Ralph Starkey will run the event. The event will be May 16-18. At this point, we have 67 golfers and 15 non-golfers signed up. At this point, we do not have a contract. Pete said that the Fall Frolic will be October 22-27. Check in on Sunday, golf, breakfast and dinner for four days and depart after breakfast on Friday morning. Pete is currently negotiating with two or three venues. Amelia Island is trying to negotiate with Pete. The other venue is Fripp Island which also sent Pete a proposal. If those two do not work out, we will go to Seabrook. Pete's preference is Amelia Island if we can get a contract within our cost range. Pete is hoping to have a contract before the end of April. MISGA is also looking for someone else to take over running the Spring Fling.

Historian – Byron Keadle was not at the meeting. Jim said that Byron said that all of the Board archives, the history, and the annual fiscal reports are all on the website. Jim said that the fiscal reports can be used to show the clubs how much money is being spent.

Membership – Carl Lazar was not at the meeting. Jim introduced Dave Hanson, a PGA golf professional, who wanted to talk about Ruggles G.C., north of Baltimore, joining MISGA this year. Ruggles is a military installation but you do not have to go through any gates to get to the golf course.

MISGAGRAM – Bob Hodges said that he is going to publish in June. We have also created a MISGA Facebook site. Unfortunately you get everyone's personal stuff. We need someone to manage the site.

PP ad hoc – Tom Tarpley had no report.

Policy and Planning – Bob Brewer sent out copies of his report. We now have up-to-date documents on the website that everyone in this room should be familiar with. The newest thing added was the new guidelines for the club reps. If anyone is using the club reps handbook, they should put that aside and use the Constitution, By-laws and Guidelines that are in the Documents section on the website. Use that for the club reps information.

Rules & Handicap – Wayne Rowland said that he hoped everyone had a copy of the new local rules that the USGA wants everyone to adopt. Wayne discussed the rule about a ball moving on the putting green and some other rules. The other new rules are proposed and not yet adopted. He referred everyone to the USGA website. Wayne said that if you play a round under the new rules, you cannot post the score. A lot of discussion followed.

Tournament Chairman – Lloyd Stimson said that date for the Two-man is Thursday August 3rd at Wild Quail and the ABCD is at Norbeck on Thursday August 10th. We talked about moving the starting times up so that at Wild Quail we will start a half-hour earlier. The Norbeck time will stay the same. Norbeck has been sold and there is a new pro coming in. Check the MISGA website, all of the relevant documents are on there, the championship tournament guidelines, the division allocations, divisional qualifier schedules, past results and the Wild Quail flyer.

Web Master – Errol Myers said that this is the start of the golf season so if everyone could take about five minutes to get on the website, look at the page for your club to make sure that all of the information is accurate. Send Errol any updates.

Old Business

There was some discussion, with laughter, about what old business was.

New Business

Mixer Changes – Jim wondered if we need to make changes to make the mixers more appealing to the associates. Speed of play is always an issue. Is there anything that we can do that would be acceptable to the clubs? One suggestion is to make lunch optional. The comments were that the clubs are already waving the green fees and they have to make some money. Would that work at the public clubs? The opinion was no, for the same reason. There is concern about the rising costs. Travel distance is also a problem. A lot of discussion followed.

Nine Holes? – No.

Capon Springs WV – Mike Rogers, a PGA professional from Capon Springs, wanted to invite MISGA, as a frolic, a mixer or an individual club to come to play at Capon Springs. They are not a club that could join MISGA as they have no members. They are about 25 miles outside of Winchester. Food and golf will be less than \$50.

Wrap-up – The meeting was adjourned at 11:45.