

MISGA Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday September 11, 2001
Montgomery Country Club

President **Charlie Fieldhouse** called the meeting to order at 10:31 a.m.

In attendance were: **John Babyak, Paul Desmond, Chuck Ebbecke, Don Ewalt, Charlie Fieldhouse, Sam Hall, Sam Hastings, Dick Hunt, Paul Keiser, Jim Lee, Bob McMinn, C.J. Myers, Bob Nicholson, Nick Parker, Duke Rowdon, Arnie Simms, Tom Tarpley, Ken Wallgren, and Dan Williams.**

Nine of the 10 voting Directors and Assistant Directors were present. All votes cast at the meeting totaled nine since **Dick Walsh**, the Director who was unable to attend had not granted his proxy to anyone.

Arnie Simms introduced **Paul Keiser** who will be elected by Division I to become Assistant Division Director next year.

Secretary's Report:

The minutes of the meeting of May 17, 2001 had been distributed by e-mail, and extra copies were presented at the meeting to those who had not received them. **Bob McMinn** pointed out that the original minutes had erroneously credited **Paul Desmond** rather than **Paul Keiser** with having co-managed with **Arnie Simms** this year's Spring Fling. In addition, **Paul Desmond** had not been listed among those in attendance. With these corrections noted, the minutes were accepted.

Treasurer's Report:

Tom Tarpley distributed a financial report covering activities through September 4, 2001. The report indicates that the Treasury has a balance of \$27,290.95. Income and expenses appear to be in line with budget projections.

President's Remarks:

Charlie Fieldhouse reviewed the results of the survey he had made regarding Board Meetings. Directors responding were in favor of having golf at each Board Meeting by a 6 to 1 margin. By a 9 to 1 margin, they suggested not having the September Board Meeting during the same week as the Board Bash, and also opposed having the Board Meeting as part of a regular Mixer. **Sam Hall** suggested that the Board Meeting be held one day prior to the Board Bash, and that it be held at the site where the Board Bash will be. This idea seemed to have some support, and will be followed up.

On another subject, **Charlie** noted that the visiting players section of the Annual Report is a good way to check on how many players might attend from any club which may be the visitors at a mixer. He reminded the Division Directors that the Annual Report is due in his hands by November 16 this year. **Arnie Simms** noted that his Division will still be playing regular mixers into mid November, which makes it difficult to meet **Charlie's** due date. After a bit of discussion they agreed upon a date of Dec. 1. Other dates of importance for next year are: All Rep's Meeting April 8, Spring Fling May 6 and 7, Two man team Championship August 26, at Montgomery Country Club. Board Bash is tentatively set for Sept. 18 and 19.

Vice President's Remarks:

Sam Hall has been searching for a replacement General Counsel, but without success. He asked for suggestions from the members. **Paul Desmond** suggested **Al Isaacs** who is a member at Ocean Pines. **Tom Tarpley** noted that former General Counsel **Bob Ludwig** had given him a copy of the MISGA liability insurance policy, and has also offered to be available to provide advice until a new General Counsel has been appointed. **Paul Desmond** reminded the meeting that individual MISGA members have responsibility for their actions and any liabilities they may generate. **Sam** feels that the idea of having the September Board Meeting at the site of the Board Bash is a good one, and will work to set up the meeting and perhaps an "off campus" dinner before the Bash. **C.J. Myers** noted that the food at Carroll Valley is good, and to select another restaurant for the Board's dinner may not be necessary.

Division Reports:

Div. I-Duke Rowdon reported: The Easton Club would be joining Division I next year. **Paul Desmond** noted that The Easton Club has been checked out by the Membership Committee, meets all MISGA admission standards, and has already submitted its dues for the year 2002. A motion was made by **Duke Rowdon** to accept The Easton Club into MISGA, seconded by **Bob McCready**, and approved unanimously. Adding The Easton Club will increase Div. I to 13 member clubs, but the Directors of Division I and Division V have agreed to transfer Cambridge to Division V, leaving each Division with 12 clubs. Associates Chairman **John Babyak** was asked to assign new club numbers to Easton and Cambridge, and gave them 119 and 520 respectively. **C.J. Myers** who has master copies of the 5-89 Associates Change Forms, will adjust them to reflect the new club numbers and then turn them over to **John Babyak** for distribution. **Arnie Simms** continued the Div. I report: Jonathan's Landing is organizing to become a MISGA Club. Located south of Dover, Delaware, they have 27 holes of golf, an excellent dining room, and are now in the process of electing officers for a MISGA group, hopefully by 2002. **Charlie Fieldhouse** asked **Duke Rowdon** to comment on the situation with one of the clubs in Div. I. The club had been allowing non-MISGA golfers to play in the middle of mixers. **Duke** reported that he has spoken with the Club Rep and corrected the situation, but will keep them under observation to ensure compliance.

Div. II-Charlie Fieldhouse reported that things are going well in his division. He has had discussions with Turf Valley about joining MISGA. These discussions have been Promising and at this time Turf Valley meets all the Directors Checklist items.

Div. III-Sam Hall reminded the group that Div. III will host its third annual Pro-Am tournament on October 4 at Walden. 23 of the 25 team slots are already booked. He encouraged Divisions I and V to find teams to participate in the remaining two spots. **Sam** also reported that problems with the meal service at Bay Hills appear to have been corrected. The web site created by **Byron Keadle** is worth a look to see an excellent example. **Arnie Simms** commented that the MISGA web site still lists the Beach Club, which has resigned from MISGA, and asked who is responsible for correcting the web site. **Charlie Fieldhouse** responded that **Dick Walsh** is, and further noted that the site should now contain "downloadable" examples of all commonly used MISGA forms. **Sam Hall** moved that **Dick** be asked to add these forms to the web site, so that they will be available throughout MISGA. **Arnie Simms** seconded the motion and provided a list of which forms should be made available, which he had earlier e-mailed to **Dick**. His list included the 5-89 associates change form, expense vouchers, rep and divisions annual report forms, and tournament and event financial reports. He also asked that certain temporary items be developed, such as Tournament and event application forms, Spring and Winter Fling, Fall

Frolic applications, and any other event applications as they might arise. The motion was unanimously approved.

Div. IV-Ken Wallgren indicated that all is well and that the Division's first Pro-Am Tournament will be held at Argyle on October 18. The tournament will be conducted following the outline set up by Division III, including ABCD Amateurs plus one Pro per team. Several members discussed how the ABCD handicap limits should be set. **Charlie Fieldhouse** asked the Divisions running Pro-Ams to include them in Divisional Annual Reports.

Div. V-Bob McCready stated that the Division is doing well, but reported on problems that were experienced at one club. A mixer was held without supervision by the Club Rep, with the result that food service was inadequate. **Bob** asked for guidance as to how best to correct the situation, and notify the Club of the seriousness of the situation. **Don Ewalt** who was assigned to research MISGA logo hats, reported that he had not yet found an acceptable vendor, but will continue hunting. Catalogs and business cards from Target Marketing were given to **Sam Hall** and **Don Ewalt**.

Committee Reports:

Associates: John Babyak announced that MISGA membership has declined slightly since last year, and now stands at 4,654. He distributed a membership report.

Events: Sam Hastings reported that the Virginia Beach and Sea Brook Fall Frolics are sold out, and that Sea Trail, with 113 signed up can handle a few more people. **Charlie Fieldhouse** commented that Jekyll Island would be closing one of its three courses each year for the next few years, as they rebuild them. Should MISGA consider Jekyll as a Fall Frolic location, we could only use two courses until the work is completed. MISGA uses two courses at many of our Fall Frolics, so considering Jekyll for a Fall Frolic should not be a problem.

Historian: Bill Brown was not present, he asked that Divisions III and V please provide him with the names of their Committee Members.

MISGAGram: Nick Parker reported that because costs have exceeded budget estimates, the next issue of the MISGAGram, even if mailed at bulk rates, may put the overall MISGAGram budget over by a maximum of \$2,000. He asked the Board whether the issue should be published or not in view of the possible overrun. **Ken Wallgren** moved and **Dan Williams** seconded a motion to provide whatever additional funds are necessary to produce and distribute the next issue. **Dick Hunt** explained in more detail where costs had increased, and apologized to C.J. Myers for having misspelled his name in the last issue. The next issue will include Fall Frolic results, Spring Fling announcement (but not applications) and will close editorially on November 20th.

Policy and Planning: C.J. Myers presented four recommendations (dated Sept. 9, 2001) from the Committee for Board action. The first dealt with Mixer fees, and was designed to ensure that all participants would be charged fairly and equitably. After some discussion of cart fees, exceptions, etc., the recommendation was amended by eliminating the first sentence, and approved for inclusion in the Rep's Handbook. The second recommendation would mandate that prizes at the Board Bash be paid in cash rather than Pro Shop Certificates. After discussion of the pros and cons, on a motion by **Duke Rowdon** and **Sam Hall** this was approved by a 6 to 3 vote for inclusion in the "Guidelines for the organization and conduct of the Board Bash". **C.J. Myers** distributed copies of the revised (dated Sept. 11, 2001) Board Bash Guidelines. The third item will define the duties of the Legal Counsel to MISGA.

The final sentence of this proposal was amended to read “.....General Counsel, who shall be a licensed attorney, ...” After this amendment the proposal was approved by the Board. Recommendation four defines the duties of the Mailing Committee, and was approved by the Board for inclusion in the By-Laws. After these last two recommendations were approved, **C.J.** pointed out that Section XII of the By-Laws requires that the Board be given 15 days advance notice of such motions before voting on them. Thus, he will send notice of the General Counsel and Mailing Committee amendments prior to the December Board Meeting, and we will vote on them again.

Tournaments: **Jim Lee** praised the Chairmen of this year’s Tournaments and distributed two memos. The first, reported the results of this year’s State Finals, established the locations and dates for next year’s state finals. The Past President’s-Crofton Aug. 19, 2002, and the Two Man Team- Montgomery Country Club August 26, 2002). The second memo detailed how prizes should be awarded, and should be included in the guidelines for running these tournaments. **Jim** also complimented **Dick Walsh** for developing a computerized scoring system for the Past President’s Tournament. This produced final gross and net results much faster than manual scoring. There was then a discussion of the quota system used for State Tournaments, and whether or not each Division should use a Qualifier Tournament to determine which golfers are sent to the finals. In the survey which was undertaken by Policy and Planning, only two Divisions (Div. III and Div. V) had voted to eliminate qualifiers. After discussion, it was agreed to let these two Divisions to experiment with the elimination of qualifiers for the next two years if they wish to. This approach is consistent with the idea that Divisions have autonomy in the conduct of their affairs.

Membership: **Paul Desmond** stated that issues related to membership had already been discussed during earlier reports.

Old Business: **C.J. Myers** noted that our guidelines for the conduct of Fall Frolics and Spring Fling had been revised last year but never formally approved by the Board. On motion by **Ken Wallgren** and **Duke Rowdon**, these revisions were then approved. **Tom Tarpley** praised **Charlie Fieldhouse** for having provided Past President’s pocket logos and noted that they are much appreciated by the recipients. **Ken Wallgren** presented a multi-year analysis of Division Director elections and noted that as it now stands Divisions II, IV and V will have problems due to the one and three year spreads between the elections of their Directors. This was presented for information only, and no action was taken.

New Business: **Charlie Fieldhouse** pointed out that the Board had approved the idea of holding only two Fall Frolics each year until attendance increased to support more, but that we had ignored this by scheduling three this year. He suggested that we remove reference to 1999 in this requirement. On motion of **Ken Wallgren** and **Dan Williams**, this was approved. **C.J. Myers** referred to awards for past service and asked that a final determination on this be resolved at our last Board Meeting of the year. He further commented on attendance at the Board Bash, and asked that Division Directors make an effort to promote this among Club Reps.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:47 p.m. Next Meeting scheduled for Piney Branch on December 5, 2001.

Summary of Actions Taken by the Board at Sept. 11, Meeting:

History of Board Actions:

Page 14 E. Other activities and events-Only two Fall Frolics will be held in 1999 (12/3/98) Change to read; Only two Fall Frolics will be held until participation increases. (9/11/01)

Approved were the guidelines for the Spring Fling, Fall Frolics, Winter Frolic and the Board Bash. (9/11/01)

Section V By-Laws:

Revise Page 7 to read:

B.President, paragraph 2 to read as follows:

The President shall appoint Associates to fill the offices of Secretary, Treasurer, **General Counsel, who shall be a licensed attorney**, and the Chairmen of the Permanent and Ad Hoc Committees.

Add Section, see C.J. Myers' Policy and Planning Committee memo to the Board of 9/09/01 for details.

F.General Counsel

Revise section letters to agree.

Add section:

K. Mailing Committee

Club Reps Handbook:

Page 20, after MIXER RESPONSIBILITIES insert;

Mixer Fees All fees collected at a given MIXER are to be spent that day and cannot be applied to any other function, such as an after the season club function, Christmas Party, etc. The exception to this is money collected from a 50/50 raffle, since these proceeds are not part of the Mixer entry fee.

Add the following statement to the existing paragraph on Home Mixers;

Home Mixers All Home Mixers are to be held at the host club's own golf course.

The use of an alternate course, in order to schedule additional Home Mixers is not allowed.

Respectfully submitted

Bob McMinn
Secretary