

Attendees: Howard Taylor, Tom Taylor, John Babyak, Dick Schwinger, Malcolm Peterson, Bob Turner, Jim Wilcox, Steve Neal, Byron Keadle, Ted Ifft, Ralph Cruikshank, Gary Sorrell, Pete Sorge, Ralph Starkey, Earl Gayler, Tom Tarpley, Dick Crone, Lloyd Stimson, Errol Myers and Dick Dale.

Call to Order & President's Report - The MISGA President, Howard Taylor, opened the meeting at 9:50 A.M.

Secretary's Report – The minutes of the December 8, 2009 meeting were previously distributed via e-mail and were published on the web site. A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes as presented on the website. The minutes were accepted.

Treasurer's Report – A Treasurer's Report was distributed via e-mail. The proposed budget for 2010 was approved. The Treasurer's Report was approved.

Division Reports

Division I – The division has an opening for an Assistant Director. Maple Dale has a new pro and they hope to start pre-sales of condos in April. The club should be solid at least through 2010. Dick Dale reported that Seaford is now owned by the Wilmington Trust Co. and the course may be purchased by the town. The clubhouse would become a senior center and the course turned into a public course which would not be eligible to be in MISGA. Concerning Williamsburg, last year MISGA promised the hotel 100 room-nights and filled 99. Currently for this year, we have only 30 nights registered out of a promised sixty. The guarantee is 80% and we are 18 room-nights short. At \$140 per night, that's over two thousand dollars that would be owed by MISGA. Dick Dale is working with the hotel staff to reduce the number of guaranteed room-nights. There are 62 golfers registered versus 66 last year. Next year, MISGA should consider setting up the event with no hotel, letting attendees use their own timeshares or hotels of their choice. That would be a way to keep the costs down. The cutoff for the 2010 event is April 13th and the cutoff date for the hotel is April 20th.

Division II – The division held its training seminar and all of the division clubs attended. The division is going to supplement the prize money for the first place winners, net and gross, of the division qualifiers. They are hoping that this will give an incentive to players to participate. The division is also going to run a round-robin match play tournament for interested clubs, they have five clubs signed up. There is one woman signed up for MISGA in the division. The Fall Frolic will be at Carroll Valley on September 15th and 16th with a Board meeting on the 14th. The division is looking to change the venue next year.

Division III – Malcolm Peterson reported that the course at Prospect Bay is currently 30% under water but should be O.K. for the Annual Reps Meeting. Prospect Bay is planning to aerate the greens the week before the April meeting. Malcolm asked that he be notified of how many people plan to attend the meeting so that the club can plan for food.

Division IV – A report was distributed via e-mail. Bob Turner said that 16 associates from Division IV attended the Winter Frolic at Crystal River, Fl. He reported that a long-time club rep, Ed Wratten of Montgomery C.C., passed away. The division had a very successful Holiday Dinner in December at Manor C.C.

Division V – Steve Neal reported that Dave Mitchell has resigned as Assistant Division Director. Dave is a retired judge and, because of a shortage of judges on the Eastern shore, has been asked to come back to work. Steve is looking for a replacement. He sent out the e-mail from Byron with a tutorial about Annual Reports and Roster Maintenance. Twenty-four people from Ocean Pines attended the winter event at Crystal River. There is a concern about a couple of clubs in the Division that may not be in MISGA after this year. The club rep at the Beach Club has left and they do not have a replacement.

Division VI – A report was distributed via e-mail. Byron reported 16 people from Division VI attended the Winter Fling and twelve of them were from Chartwell.

Committee Reports

Associates – Ralph Cruikshank encouraged everyone to get the rosters and dues in. Rosters are due, with the dues, by June 1st. The club reps should use the automated system that has been developed. Ralph is no longer a member of Hunters Oak or Harbortowne but is now a member at Talbot C.C.

Audit – Gary Sorrell submitted a report via e-mail. Everything is up to date. The tournament chairmen need to be aware of the tournament guidelines and what they are expected to report.

Counsel – No report.

Events – Pete Sorge said that he has looked at several different venues for the Fall Frolic for this year and is wondering whether he should run one or two events and was looking for comments from those that attend the events. In 2008, the last time that we ran two Fall events, we had about fifty golfers at Fripp and at Amelia there were 55. Normally we had 80-85 golfers at each venue. At Little River, in 2009, when we had only one Fall Frolic, we had 98 attendees and 78 golfers. For 2010, Pete looked at Hilton Head but the problem there is that they would not give us a shotgun start. Sea Trail also wants us to use tee times. Seabrook tore down the Conference facility and the management group, ResortQuest, was hard to deal with. Jekyll Island would like to have us back but the accommodations are not good. He currently has two unsigned contracts, for Fripp and Amelia. Fripp Island is relatively inexpensive and includes liquor and all of the meals. At Amelia, liquor is eliminated in order to keep the price down. He was looking for input as to whether we could support two events. In the past, at Fripp, there has not been anything for the non-golfers to do. Pete's wife said that this year, there will be many options available. There is a problem with Amelia, they are in Chapter 11 but that should not be a problem, all of the courses are open. A discussion followed. A decision would be made during the first two weeks in April. Pete asked that when he has made a decision on the Fall Frolics, he will get the info to the division heads to pass on to the club reps. He would appreciate it if the club reps would post it on the club bulletin boards. It will not be in the Misgagram, only on-line.

Historian – The position is open.

Membership – Ralph Starkey started a discussion about membership criteria for the number of associates required for a MISGA club. Ten clubs have fewer than 32 associates. The guidelines were discussed relative to maintaining a set number of associates in order to keep MISGA membership. MISGA admitted two clubs last year with fewer than 32 associates and gave them

two or three years to meet that number. It was suggested that the Division Directors should address the situation at clubs with fewer than 32 associates and work with the club reps to try to help increase the numbers through advice, training, etc.

Misgagram – Byron Keadle said that the Misgagram is now only on the internet. The deadline for articles for the next Misgagram is April 1st.

Policy and Planning – As part of the Membership discussion, Earl Gayler said that he is going to be reviewing the constitution and guidelines to reconcile them with the past actions of the Board.

Past Presidents Ad Hoc – Tom Tarpley said that he would be sending out a query as to why associates are not volunteering for leadership positions. A discussion of cheating and possible options for the format of mixers followed.

Rules and Handicap – Dick Crone submitted a report via e-mail. He stated that all clubs need to be licensed in order to issue handicap indicies. By the end of 2011, the clubs need to be re-licensed. He will continue to do articles in the Misgagram on rules and handicaps. He will monitor score posting for the 2010 tournaments to see if we have to reinstate the ineligibility policy for 2011 and will continue to work with the Handicap Chairmen of the divisions. A discussion about methods of posting scores, at clubs, through GolfNet, etc. followed.

Tournament Chairman – Lloyd Stimson sent a report via e-mail. Divisional quotas for the ABCD and Two-man tournaments have been posted on the website.. He also put together a 2010 MISGA tournaments and events schedule to consolidate the four categories of events; MISGA championship tournaments, divisional qualifiers, MISGA special events like frolics and pro-ams. He also created a matrix of prize payouts for the MISGA championship tournaments. He also developed flyers for the ABCD and Two-man tournaments and had them put on the website. They contain the information needed by the Division Tournament Chairmen. Lloyd re-worked the Tournament Policy document to change it from a narrative form to an outline form. He also made necessary changes, like use of senior tees, and added others. He asked the Board for permission to replace the current policy document. Howard suggested that the change not be incorporated until it is reviewed and Earl completes his review of the MISGA policies. Gary Sorrell pointed out that the reports from the Championship Tournaments go to the Auditor, not the Treasurer as stated in the by-laws.

Website – Errol Myers uploaded a large revision to the website, combining all club information, maps and links and moved all club leadership info onto a club page. On the club pages, he is looking to gather some additional information; start times, fees, cash or credit card, reciprocal charges, course status phone number, cart path info and links of MISGA or Senior groups, etc.

Old Business -

Board Action History – After the December 2009 Board Meeting, the Directors approved the updating of the Board Action History.

Wrap-up – There was a motion to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 12:05 P.M.