

Attendees: Howard Taylor, Tom Taylor, John Babyak, Dick Schwinger, Charles Gailunas, Malcolm Peterson, Bob Turner, Steve Neal, Byron Keadle, Ted Ifft, Charlie Fieldhouse, Gary Sorrell, Jim Ewalt, Pete Sorge, Tom Tarpley, Dick Crone, Lloyd Stimson, Errol Myers, C.J. Myers and Will Hall.

Call to Order – Howard Taylor opened the meeting at 4:00 P.M.

Opening Remarks - The MISGA President, Howard Taylor, welcomed everyone to the End-of-Summer Board Meeting. He talked about the responsibility of the Club Reps to document the associates that are going to play in a mixer. It is also the responsibility of the individual associates to call the rep or the pro shop if the associate is not going to show up for a mixer that he has signed up to play. The schedule is out for most of the MISGA events for 2011. The club Reps should be aware of the dates of these events.

Winter Fling – February 2011

Spring Fling May 17-19, 2011

ABCD Finals August 8, 2011 rain date August 11, 2011

Two-man Finals August 1, 2011 rain date August 22, 2011

Summer Fling September 14-15, 2011

Fall Fling November 2011

Secretary's Report – The minutes of the April 12, 2010 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 – MISGA is very solvent financially. All associates dues have been paid and the \$50 club dues has been paid by all but two clubs. The number of associates is down 55 from last year. A motion was made and seconded to accept the Treasurer's Report. The report was approved.

Vice-President's Report – No Report

Division Director Reports

Division I – A report was distributed via e-mail. Maple Dale has begun Phase I of their building project to build condos and townhouses on the golf course. A former MISGA club, Garrison Lake, has requested to re-join MISGA. At this time, the club cannot meet the requirements for a dining facility.

Division II – A report was distributed via e-mail. Tom Taylor reported that this year, the division instituted a round robin match play format with five clubs participating. The response from the clubs was favorable. The division has a request from Fountainhead, in Hagerstown, to join MISGA. The preliminary investigation has been completed and sent to the Membership Chairman. A team will go to evaluate the course and facilities and that should be done in October. That would require a vote by the Board prior to the December Board Meeting. There are three female MISGA members in Division II and that number should increase greatly.

Division III – A report was distributed via e-mail. Malcolm Peterson said that many of the associates that qualify for the State Tournaments don't want to play in the Finals. He didn't know what to do about that. One suggestion was to collect the fee for the Finals at the division qualifying tournaments. Another suggestion was a lottery system rather than a qualifier. A discussion followed. The division is sponsoring a Pro-am tournament on October 7th at Hunters Oak. The cost is \$55. They do not have a full field and would welcome additional clubs. The format is two best balls with teams made up of a pro and three additional players. The division does not have a volunteer club to host the ABCD Division Qualifier for 2011. It was pointed out that Division IV assigns clubs on a rotating basis to host the qualifiers.

Division IV – A report was distributed via e-mail. Bob Turner has noticed that at his club, some senior members do not have any interest in joining MISGA. He feels that MISGA has developed an image problem and there is a concern about cheating.

Division V – A report was distributed via e-mail. Steve Neal reported that the program of designating exclusive dates for club mixers has worked fantastically well. All of the clubs in the division want to use the same procedure next year. Jim Beisler is the new Assistant Division Director.

Division VI - A report was distributed via e-mail. The division has lost one club, Marlborough, because of financial difficulties. The division membership has increased by three associates in spite of the loss of Marlborough. Ft. Meade has increased from 74 in 2009 to 112 in 2010, including five women. Match play events were good and we picked up some low-handicap members into MISGA events.

Committee Reports

Associates – Charlie Fieldhouse submitted reports via e-mail. There are 65 clubs in MISGA with 3658 associates. Howard Taylor said that we need repercussions for clubs not following the MISGA rules, like paying club dues. Ralph Cruikshank was unable to attend the meeting. Associate rosters are due, with the dues, by June 1st. The club reps should try to get the rosters in to their division associates chairman by May 21st.

Audit – Gary Sorrell submitted a report via e-mail. Audits were completed for the Fall Frolic, the Winter Fling and the State two-man Team Tournament. Gary pointed out that he does not audit division tournaments. Chartwell spent \$600 to rent additional carts for the ABCD Tournament.

Legal – Jim Ewalt reported that we're not being sued and we aren't suing anyone.

Events – Pete Sorge said that in 2009 there were 100 associates at the Fall Frolic in Pinehurst. In 2010, he has 100 associates, about 50-50, for two events. Some associates have used the economy as a reason for not attending. Some associates would like to see new venues but there are not many places that would accommodate us. Sea Trail will only give us tee times, not a shotgun start. Harbourtowne wants a guarantee of 00+ players for a shotgun start. Dick Dale has not scheduled Williamsburg for the 2011 Spring Fling. Pete said that we could do Hershey, Pa. for a Spring or Summer Frolic. Howard Taylor suggested that maybe all events should be coordinated through the Events Coordinator. A discussion followed.

Historian – The position is vacant.

Membership – Ralph Starkey did not attend the meeting.

MISGAgram – Byron Keadle reported that the next MISGAgram would be available by the end of September.

Policy and Planning – Earl Gayler did not attend the meeting.

Past Presidents Ad Hoc – Tom Tarpley said that he was glad that he sent out the Cheating Questionnaire although his wife felt that “cheating” was not a nice word. He did receive some strong criticism. Another cheating discussion followed.

Rules and Handicap – Dick Crone submitted a report via e-mail and said that there would be a Rules article in the MISGAgram. He reported that scores were posted for 88% of the ABCD and 90% of the Two-man team participants. He is not recommending that the “Ineligibility Policy” be in place for 2011.

Tournament Chairman – A report was submitted via e-mail. Lloyd Stimson thanked Tom Tarpley and C.J. Myers for their help in the transition for him to be the Tournaments Chairman. He recommended that the Past President Bowls, trophies for the State Tournaments, be retired. They are old and some names are not readable. A motion to retire the trophies was made, seconded and approved. There were 122 participants in the ABCD Finals and 128 for the Two-man Finals. Playing time was about five hours and ten minutes. Tom Tarpley asked if the number of carts at a host club determines the number of players in the field. That question would have to be researched. Lloyd asked the Board to give final approval to the Tournament Guidelines. Lloyd detailed some of the changes that have been made. There was a discussion about limiting prize money fees to \$5 per player in State Tournaments, practice rounds prior to those tournaments and the procedure for determining winners at State Finals if play was ended because of rain, lightning, etc. and all players had not completed their rounds. Howard Taylor said that he didn't feel that we would resolve these issues at this meeting and he was concerned that if the Tournament Guidelines were approved as is, they might not be in compliance with current guidelines. Howard asked C.J. to pick up the coordination of the review. C.J. commented that he is not on the Policy and Planning Committee. Howard appointed C.J. as the Policy and Planning Chairman in the medical absence of Earl Gayler.

Web – Erroll Myers said that the system is in maintenance mode for the summer.

New Business

Realignment of Clubs – Jim Wilcox requested this to be put on the agenda but he was not at the meeting.

Publicity/Marketing – Will Hall has developed a proposal to market MISGA to the clubs. He proposed the use of flyers to be placed in club locker rooms in order to attract new members. He handed out sample flyers and folders. The cost to MISGA would only be \$100. It was suggested that the flyers could be customized for each club.

Wrap-up – There was a motion to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 P.M.

Division I

MISGA Board Meeting 9-14-2010

Carroll Valley Resort, Fairfield PA

Spring meeting and Training Seminar was held at Maple Dale CC on 4-22-2010.

Maple Dale Country Club will begin construction on phase one of building town houses and condominiums this week.

Division I Assistant Director and Historian positions are vacant.

Fall meeting with club reps is scheduled for 11-16-2010.

Garrisons Lake Men's Association has requested to rejoin MISGA. At this time they do not meet the minimum MISGA requirements for dining facility.

Howard Taylor

Division I Director

Division II Report
MISGA Board Meeting—Sept. 14, 2010
Ski Liberty Resort, Fairfield , Pa.

Our annual Spring Meeting and Training Seminar was held at Rolling Road CC. on March 18th .

The Division Stroke Play Championship was held at Rattlewood on June 21st.

The Division Two-Man Championship was held at Quail Valley on July 19th.

The Division Pro-Am was held at Piney Branch GC on August 23rd with 17 clubs participating and fielding 25 teams.

The Summer Frolic and Board Meeting is scheduled for Sept. 15th & 16.

The Division Fall Meeting is planned for Hunt Valley on Oct. 20.

The Division instituted a Round Robin match play format this year in a trial mode. We have 5 clubs participating. The response from the clubs is very favorable and it is expected that we will continue next year. The main problem is finding time in each clubs schedule for these matches. A Round Robin Roundup is scheduled for Oct. 5 at Quail Valley for all participants.

We have a request from Fountainhead CC to join MISGA in Division II. The preliminary investigation has been completed and sent on to the MISGA Membership Chairman. We are hopeful they will be ready to join us in 2011. Scheduling for them will be no problem as they already play mixers with many of our clubs.

Division III Report

September 14, 2010

1. Generally positive news about mixers. Some concerns over failure of associates to inform host clubs in a timely manner when they decided not to attend mixers. This will be addressed by Club Reps.
2. The Division I/III ABCD qualifier was held at Harbournowne and the Two-Man at Chester River. A number of qualifiers at both tournaments elected not to participate in the MISGA Finals, requiring alternates to be notified for both. In the case of the Two-Man, Division III attendance was less than allocated. The qualifier host club had a number of qualifiers and alternates participating who had no interest in travelling to Holly Hills.
3. A Pro-Am is scheduled for October 7th at Hunter's Oak, starting at noon. We would be interested in having participants from other divisions.
4. The Tournament Chair position had to be filled during 2010 by the Division Director because of Ralph Starkey's decision to resign and consequent lack of interest in volunteering. Their reluctance to volunteer is now fully understood by the Director.
5. 2011 Qualifier sites for Division I/III, where Division III is responsible for the ABCD, are TBD, although Prospect Bay is willing to host the ABCD.

DIVISION IV REPORT

September 14, 2010

1. There will be a meeting of Division IV reps and assistant reps including golf and lunch at Bretton Woods October 20.
2. The incoming Assistant Director for Division IV will be announced at that meeting.
3. The position of Historian is vacant.
4. The Division bank balance is \$1353.
5. The Division IV spring training seminar was held at Lakewood on March 30.
6. The Division IV ABCD Qualifier was held at Leisure World June 14.
7. The Division IV 2-man Qualifier was held at Montgomery Village June 24.
8. The Division IV Pro-am will be held at Argyle September 27.
9. Over all the Division has had a good year despite declining participation at mixers. All member clubs now routinely invite multiple clubs to their mixers, thereby increasing the participation to 60-90 associates.
10. In recent years several clubs have upgraded their course and clubhouse facilities, and have maintained stable membership levels despite the economy. But club members at some clubs do not seem interested in joining MISGA. MISGA has developed a negative image among some senior golfers who would otherwise be fine MISGA Associates.

Submitted by:

Bob Turner

Division Director

Division V

Director's Report September 2010 Carroll Valley Board Meeting September 2010

Last year at this Board meeting I announced that Division V had tried a new method to increase attendance at mixers at our member clubs. This was originally aimed to assist our smaller and more remote clubs. The plan was to designate two dates per club that would be "exclusive" for that club. By exclusive, none of the other clubs in Division V could schedule either a home or away mixer on that date. With then ten clubs in the division, that reserved only 20 dates out of a possible 60 dates during the season. These dates were only on Tuesday or Thursday of the week. Obviously if clubs wanted to schedule on other week dates that only expands the number of possible dates. There was an additional restriction, clubs could not schedule a mixer on the day prior to or after the "exclusive" date.

We have not completed the complete schedule and had both "exclusive" dates at all of our clubs, but so far the program has been a great success. Most of the clubs that had not had attendance of over 50 or 60 members, were getting attendance in the 80 to 110 member range. Attendance of 120+ has not been unheard of either. We have not had our division meeting to schedule dates for next year but all clubs want to use this procedure again next year.

I am pleased to announce that Jim Beisler of Ocean Pines, has agreed to sign on as the Assistant Division Director for Division V.


Steve Neal Director Division V

Division VI Report
MISGA Board Meeting – 9/14/2010
Liberty Mountain Resort, Fairfield, PA 17320

1. Marlborough has dropped out of MISGA due to financial difficulties. As a result, we lost our Tournament Chairman, Evan Davey.
2. Division VI membership increased from 794 to 797, even with the loss of Marlborough. Ft. Meade continues to show rapid growth, up from 74 in 2009 to 112 in 2010, including five women.
3. A new Asst. Director for Division VI will be elected at the November meeting.
4. Division VI vacancies exist for Tournament Chairman and Historian.
5. The Division VI Training Seminar was held at Patuxent Greens on March 29.
6. The Division VI ABCD Qualifier was held at Tantallon on June 9.
7. The Division VI 2-Man Team Qualifier was held at Walden on June 28.
8. The State Tournament for the ABCD was held at Chartwell on July 26.

COMMENT: Trying to get MISGA associates to play by the rules of golf is like trying to herd cats! It's a fool's mission! Nothing will change unless and until cheaters are ostracized – and I don't see that happening. The ones who cheat are hostilely opposed to playing by the rules. Those who promote playing by the rules are the “bad” guys. It's a strange world!

Submitted by:


Byron Keadle
Division VI Director



Maryland Interclub Seniors Golf Association

MISGA Board Meeting @
CARROLL VALLEY RESORT, PA.
Date SEPTEMBER 14,2007
Associates Chairman Report

Appendix 13.1

I expect to received Ralph's files on or about Sept 14, 2010, therefore I have very little to report at this time.

| | | |
|----|----------------|------|
| A. | Associates | |
| 1. | Roster: | 3658 |
| 2. | Paid: | |
| 3. | Surplus: | |
| 4. | Owing: | |
| 5. | Clubs Accepted | |
| 6. | Club Resigned | |
| 7. | Total Clubs | 65 |

Norbeck added (2) Associates Sept. 2010

MISGA ASSOCIATE CHAIRMAN

Charlie Fieldhouse

John

It has been noted to me, Marlborough Golf Club Div. 6 on April 19, 2010 resigned from MISGA

Refer to Ralphs e-mail

Dues due June 1:

We have hashed this over many times - We can only do our best to get the monies in on time and no action will be will be imposed on a delinquent club.

32 members is only a requirement to JOIN MISGA and can be less with Board of Directors approval.

Low Memberships:

I believe the Board has addressed this subject and agreed (not in written form) MISGA is not going to terminate any Club because of low membership but the Directors are to encourage the Clubs to increase their membership.

Ladies in MISGA:

For statistical purposes ONLY - should we add a column (LADIES) to the roster - Consider and I will address this again at the Dec Meeting

**MISGA Board Meeting
September 14, 2010
Carroll Valley Resort**

Audit Committee Report

1. 2009 Fall Frolic at Little River, NC: 11/1/09 to 11/6/09 Financial Report

All expenditures were supported by receipts or checks and all income was identified by source. Overage of \$33.05 was retained in checking account.

2. 2010 Winter Fling at Crystal River, FL: 2/21/10 to 2/27/10 Financial Report

All expenditures were supported by receipts or bank statements and all income was identified by source. Overage of \$271 was retained in checking account.

3. 2010 Spring Fling at Williamsburg, VA: 5/11/10 to 5/13/10 Financial Report

Report is being submitted this week.

4. 2010 State ABCD Tournament at Chartwell CC: 7/26/10 Financial Report

Have not seen this report yet.

5. 2010 State Two-Man Tournament at Holly Hills CC: 8/16/10 Financial Report

All expenditures were supported by itemized statements (requested official receipt) and all income was identified by source.

Gary Sorrell
Audit Committee Chairman

MISGAGRAM Editor Report
MISGA Board Meeting – 9/14/2010
Liberty Mountain Resort, Fairfield, PA 17320

The next MISGAGRAM, Volume 102, will be published in mid-September, immediately following the Summer Frolic at Carroll Valley golf.

I don't know how well the Associates are accepting the web-only MISGAGRAM. I've received no complaints or feedback. I will say that dealing with Errol Myers is a lot easier than dealing with Whitmore, the U.S. Postal Service, and mailing labels. And he is dirt cheap, to boot.

Please support the MISGA newsletter by contributing items of interest in the form of articles, pictures (with captions), letters to the editor, event reports, suggestions, holes-in-one, obituaries or death notices, and anything else of interest to the MISGA associate. For guidance on submitting articles and pictures, please download the document, "Preparing Documents for the MISGAGRAM" at http://www.misga.org/Guides/Mgram_Prep.pdf .

Submitted by:



Byron Keadle
MISGAGRAM Editor

Short Self Help Quiz and Questionnaire -- Members of MISGA 2010!

Report :

Like many questionnaires the response rate was almost in the negative arena. The questionnaire could have been phrased differently "A kinder, gentler " work. But alas it was not! Many in leadership positions thought it insulting and did not therefore forward to Associates. Others not excited by the content placed it in the round basket or hit the delete button.

The content dealt with cheating and participation in our organization.

As the one who originated the document at the request of leadership, I will provide my interpretation of the results.

It is obvious to me that ignorance or avoidance of the Rules of Golf run rampant not only with MISGA Golfers but all Amateur Golfers as well. (See attachments)

Very few admitted to Cheating, most replied NO. Most would not report a cheater. While protecting the field is a good thing. And would you believe that most do not play for money.

We all play for money. Five dollars is extracted from your playing fee to go into the prize pool. Side bets are common. Pots and pools of money are the norm for play, whether five cents a hole, nine or 6-6-6 or more.

If you give/take a "gimme" put or move the ball not in accordance with the rules of golf you are cheating. My thrust with this questionnaire and report is/was to make each of us cognizant of the rules we are supposed to play by. Variation from the rules is Cheating. Of course there are minor transgressions and major ones. Which do you accept and play by? If we play by the rules then we can help make the playing field more level. We will never rid the game of overt abusers of the system. That is a subject I will pass to another braver than I.

The lack of participation is obvious—member's say they are not informed of positions available or mostly that they are too busy with other organizations or family commitments.

A special thanks to each of you who took the time to respond and for your comments.

Respectfully submitted,

PP AD HOC, Chair. Tom Tarpley

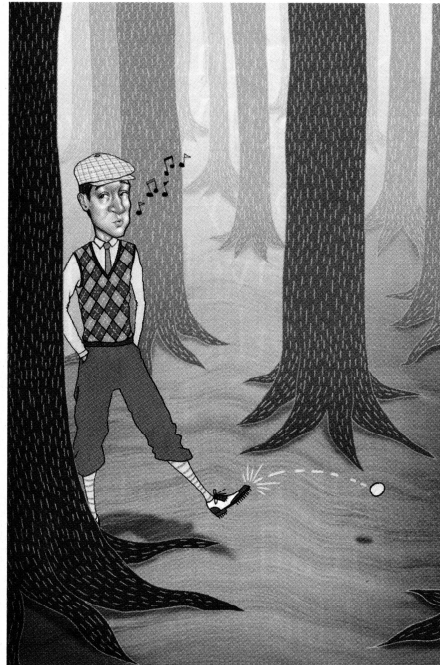
Attachments for Questionnaire (#2)

Why Do We Cheat?

ACCORDING to a shocking new Duke University survey of nearly 15,000 everyday golfers, 95 percent of us knowingly break the USGA Rules of Golf nearly every round—whether we're foot-wedging balls from bad lies or scraping up four-footers and saying, "That's good."

Golf is about honor. How can almost every amateur have a cheatin' heart? Because in their mind, it's not cheating. "Say you drive it into a creek but didn't know the water was there until you reached it," says Scott McKenzie, the Duke student who headed up the study. "You tell yourself you wouldn't have lost the shot had you known the creek was there. So you drop, no penalty. That's cheating, and it's indicative of how golfers talk themselves into breaking the Rules. The study found that time and again, in your mind you deserve that drop." It goes deeper. We also want to protect our self-image of being, say, a single-digit handicap, so we shave a stroke here and there to turn that 81 into a 79.

McKenzie is fascinated by the nuances of how we rationalize Rule-breaking. For example, the less direct contact a player has with his ball, the more likely he is to cheat. "Say you're behind a tree," McKenzie says. "Few golfers will pick up the ball and move it to a better spot. That crosses a line. But they'll move the ball with the clubface, or kick it, and get the exact



A stunning 95 percent of everyday golfers use the trusty foot wedge, shave strokes off their card, or otherwise knowingly break the Rules of Golf.

same outcome: an illegally improved lie. Or a guy will knowingly write down an incorrect score on a hole but will almost never erase a [correct] score that's there and replace it with a better one. Why? To erase what's written goes against the natural state of things. Cheating seems black and white. A rule is a rule. But the mind sees it more discreetly. We see shades of gray."

THE CHEAT SHEET

The 5 most acceptable kinds of cheating, according to golfers in the study:

1. Asking a player what club he used before you tee off
2. Accidentally touching your ball during a practice swing, then replacing it to its original spot with no penalty
3. Taking a first-tee Mulligan
4. Not taking a penalty when, while grounding your club, the ball moves
5. Moving your ball a foot or two out of a divot onto the fairway

The 5 most immoral kinds of cheating:

1. After feeling you played well, you don't like your final score, so you change the final number
2. You physically pick up your ball from behind a tree and place it in the fairway, which gives you a clear path to the hole
3. After failing to find your shot in the rough, you drop a ball from your pocket and tell the group you found your original ball
4. Intending to avoid a creek you know is there, your layup finds water—and you take a free drop
5. You kick your ball from behind a tree to the fairway, giving yourself an unimpeded shot at the green

“Rational lies: So many golfers cheat because to them it's not cheating.”

Golf's dirty little secret

FAR HILLS, New Jersey, August 4 -- Golf is a game of honor, or so says the United States Golf Association. There are many famous instances of players calling penalties on themselves -- Tom Kite once called a penalty on himself for accidentally moving a ball in the woods, which cost him a championship. When praised for his honesty, Kite is said to have replied, "You might as well give me an award for not robbing a bank."

That's how it works for the professionals. However, for 98% of the people who play golf, there's a much different reality: everyone cheats. In this "game of honor," cheating is so widespread that it's actually sanctioned by amateur league and tournament rules, to the point where it's not even considered cheating.

How do weekend golfers cheat? Let me count the ways. 1. Picking up the ball when it's not yet in the hole but is within "**gimme**" range (typically, within a couple of feet of the hole). 2. Taking the occasional "mulligan" (an errant or stubbed tee shot which is forgiven, allowing the player to tee up another ball without penalty). And, the most widespread and insidious of all, 3. Improving one's lie (moving the ball so it's sitting up in the fairway grass, making it easier to strike cleanly).

Gimme that!

It's embarrassing to miss a two-foot putt -- so many weekend golfers never attempt one. As soon as the ball is within embarrassment-potential range, someone in the foursome says, "We'll give you that one," and the player picks the ball up and counts it as if he'd knocked it in the hole. The idea is that if I give you a two-foot putt on this hole, you'll give me one on the next, and neither of us will face the ignominy of missing a shorty -- it's an exercise in mutual face-saving.

A rationalization sometimes offered for "**gimme**" **putts** is that picking the ball up, instead of putting it into the hole, saves time and speeds play. Well, it may speed play ever so slightly -- but what it really does is avoid the uncomfortable truth that a two-foot putt is *not* automatic (neither is an 18-inch or even a 12-inch putt. In fact, in this year's Doral-Ryder Open, PGA Tour star Michael Bradley missed an *8-inch* putt, in front of a national TV audience -- fortunately, it didn't cost him anything, as he ended up winning the tournament by one stroke). And picking up the ball does not teach you how to make short **putts**.

One of my early mentors, when I was first taking up golf, related an episode that occurred in a country club of which he was once a member. In the club championship tournament one year, the defending champion was defeated by a high-handicapper in an early-round match. When asked how he'd accomplished such an upset, the winner explained, "My opponent's regular foursome always picks up everything inside three feet. Well, when I played this guy, I made him putt every ball into the hole. He missed a two-footer early in the match, and started to get steamed up. I continued to make him knock everything in, not conceding any **putts** -- and he kept missing short ones. He got madder and madder, and missed more and more short **putts**, until I closed him out!"

[For non-golfers who might be reading this, match play -- such as a club championship tournament -- is the one kind of golf in which it's legitimate to "concede" a putt and let an opponent pick the ball up. If your opponent's ball is only a foot or two from the hole, you can say, "That's good," and let him pick it

up -- in fact, you're insulting him if you don't. But our hero in the club championship didn't care about insulting his opponent by suggesting he couldn't make a two-footer; all he was interested in was winning the match. His opponent, because he normally played with friends who "conceded" every short putt, had never bothered to sharpen his short-putting skills -- and it cost him his championship.]

Awhile back, I ran across an anecdote involving the legendary golf teacher, Harvey Penick. Seems a young couple with a small child approached Penick one day in a state of excitement. "Our son just made his first birdie!," they told him. "How long was the putt?" Penick asked. "Oh, it was only a foot or so away, so we gave it to him." "I have bad news for you," Penick replied. "Your son still hasn't made a birdie." His point was that golf is a game of knocking a ball *into* a hole. Close may count in horseshoes and hand grenades, but not on the green.

Mulligan stew

Another peculiar way a lot of weekend golfers have of deluding themselves is the mulligan. This involves hitting a poor tee shot (either into the woods, if there are any, or into a pond, or just dribbling the ball a short distance off the tee), then teeing up a second ball and proceeding as if the first one had never happened. Not much need be said about this one, except to note that it's almost as widespread as the **gimme putt** and the preferred lie (see below). Typically, a foursome will allow each player one mulligan per round, or one per nine holes. I say if you're going to do that, why not just play by the rules, then subtract two strokes from your score at the end of the round? It's the same thing.

Lies, damned lies, and preferred lies

By far the most common way of cheating on the golf course -- so common that most people don't even consider it cheating -- is the preferred lie, sometimes known as playing "with the ball up." When you don't like the position your ball is in, simply roll it around until it comes to rest in a higher spot -- on a tuft of grass or small raised spot, the better to make solid contact.

Many, many golfers play with the ball up -- even a lot of people who should know better, who consider themselves serious players, turn in their scores for handicaps and so on. They never hit a ball out of a bad lie (sitting down in the grass, in a depression, or simply in a tight spot in the fairway) -- they'll roll the ball over into a better position on almost every shot. Improving a lie is such a common practice that many golf leagues actually *allow it explicitly in their*

rules. Well, so be it -- but as with "**gimme**" **putts**, getting into the habit of improving lies does not improve your game -- it simply prevents you from learning how to hit a clean golf shot. I read an apt quote that sums it up pretty well: "Playing golf with the ball up is like playing tennis with the net down."

'Fess up, Urb

In the interest of truth, justice, and full disclosure, it must be admitted that even though I've never taken a mulligan, I knock every putt, no matter how short, into the hole, and I play the ball where it lies, it would be less than truthful to claim 100% adherence to the USGA rulebook. For example, when I find that the ball has come to rest in a damaged area not marked as ground under repair, I'll occasionally move it to an undamaged area. I'm especially prone to doing this if the turf has been damaged by golf carts (which are an abomination -- but that's another column). I've been known to bend or even break a small branch of a tree or bush, to give myself a chance to take a swat at a stray ball. I frequently carry more than the legal limit of 14 clubs in my bag. And after a heavy rain, I'll take a ball out of a waterlogged greenside bunker, playing the bunker as ground under repair. (After all, bunkers are supposed to be full of sand, not water.)

A couple of weeks ago, I hit my second shot out of bounds on a par-5. Officially, when your ball is lost or out of bounds, you're supposed to go back to where you played the shot and drop another ball, taking a stroke-and-distance penalty (in this instance, I'd have taken my 4th shot from the same spot from which I hit my 2nd shot OB). This is impractical for casual daily-fee play, though -- going back 200 yards, several minutes after the original shot, would have provoked the wrath of the following group, who'd been watching me look for my ball, hoping I'd find it, so they could get on with their round. So instead of playing strictly by the book, I dropped a ball at the approximate spot where I thought my original ball probably trickled into the brush, and took a two-stroke penalty (hitting my fifth shot from there). A bit of a fudge, but true to the spirit, if not the letter, of the rules.

Play 'em where you find 'em!

There's no need to memorize all the minutiae of the rulebook. Some of the Official Rules of Golf are just plain goofy (again, that's a subject for another column -- just to take one example, though, if you're on the green, and you touch your ball with your putter and move it, you're obligated to replace it and take a stroke-and-distance penalty -- if you simply count it as a stroke and play the ball from its new location, you get a *two-stroke* penalty. This happened on

the LPGA Tour a few years ago. Where's the logic in that rule?). But there are some basic principles that shouldn't be ignored -- and the fact that the majority of golfers ignore them doesn't make it OK. Play the ball where it lies, count every stroke, and knock every ball into the hole. Otherwise, don't bother keeping score. How is golf supposed to be a "game of honor" if everyone cheats?

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Report of the Chairman
of the MISGA Rules and Handicap Committee
to the Board and Officers of MISGA
for the MISGA Board Meeting
at Carroll Valley
on September 14, 2010

Current Committee Activity - since the March 23 meeting

Inform Membership regarding Rules & Handicap Issues

-- In the MISGAgram - Rules Articles

In the continuing effort to inform Associates regarding the Rules, the Committee Chairman has submitted a Rules article for the September MISGAgram regarding a couple of recent real situations involving Rules issues, titled "Touching Hazard Grass" and "Flower Bed Bush in the Backswing."

The Chairman thought that it might be more interesting, periodically, to submit articles involving real situations, which might contain more than reminders of Rules all golfers should all know. The Committee Chairman intends to intersperse these interesting real-life rules situations with basic rules reminder articles extracted from former MISGA President Sam Hall's "Ad Hoc Committee on Rules and Handicaps" 2001 Rules and Handicap Project.

Monitoring of Score Posting of 2010 Championship Tournament Scores

The Chairman has completed his check of the score postings of the more than 200 Associates participating in the 2010 Championships.

Eighty-eight percent of the ABCD Championship players posted their scores, and 92 percent of the 2-Man Team Championship players posted their scores.

Because these percentages are in line with the numbers for the last two years, the Chairman does not recommend that the Board apply the tournament ineligibility policy for the 2011 Championships.

Other Issues:

Bay Hills -- is not a member of the Maryland State Golf Assn. and Golfnet (one of only two clubs in Maryland to not be members of the MSGA and to not use Golfnet). Bay Hills' members' scoring records are therefore not viewable online and may only be obtained by calling the club's pro shop.

Revised Tournament Policy Guidelines -- The Chairman has perused the proposed revised guidelines to determine the extent to which they differ in substance from the current version.

The revised guidelines are a tighter version of the current guidelines. They differ from the current guidelines in some ways, including the expansion of the description of duties of the Championship Tournament Committees (Committees on the Competition), and the discretionary, rather than mandatory, application of the Tournament Ineligibility Policy. The Handicap Chairman does not object to these changes.

The revised tournament guidelines also alter the Tournament Interruption scoring procedure.

Dick Crone
Kenwood
Chairman, MISGA Rules and Handicap Committee

MISGA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Carroll Valley Resort - Tuesday, Sept. 14, 2010

Tournament Chairman's Report

1. 2010 Championship Tournaments Participation

| ABCD | | | 2-Man Team | | |
|--------------|------------|-----------|--------------|-----------|-----------|
| Div | Players | Winners | Div | Teams | Winners |
| I | 11 | 6 | I | 6 | 3 |
| II | 23 | 7 | II | 15 | 7 |
| III | 15 | 5 | III | 6 | 2 |
| IV | 32 | 6 | IV | 15 | 5 |
| V | 14 | 0 | V | 8 | 1 |
| VI | 27 | 10 | VI | 14 | 2 |
| TOTAL | 122 | 34 | TOTAL | 64 | 20 |

Many thanks and kudos go to Chartwell (ABCD) and Holly Hills (2-Man Team) and the staffs of these two country clubs for their outstanding performance as tournament hosts. Their efforts were highly laudable.

The results for both the **Past Presidents (ABCD)** and **2-Man Team** Championship Tournaments are posted on the MISGA website. The results include a written report, photos and a list of all the winners (*finish, amount, club, division and scores*).

2. 2011 MISGA Championship Tournaments Schedule

This schedule has been posted on the MISGA website.

| Event | Location | Date | Rain Date |
|-----------------------------------|--|------------------|-------------------|
| 2-Man Team | Rolling Road (Div II) Catonsville, MD | Mon-Aug. 1, 2011 | Mon-Aug. 22, 2011 |
| Past Presidents (ABCD) | Maple Dale (Div I) Dover, DE | Mon-Aug. 8, 2011 | Mon-Aug. 15, 2011 |

Both clubs are on the recommended list of 16 clubs identified as high quality courses within 50 miles of the Bay Bridge (*Earl Gayler's project*).

3. Past Presidents (ABCD) Bowls - Retirement

Consideration for retirement is recommended for the two traveling *Past Presidents (ABCD) Bowls*. On an annual basis, the *Bowls* are presented to the home clubs of the "Low Gross" and "Low Net" champions for display during the following golfing year.

The names of a number of the previous champions on the *Bowls* have been worn thin and are unreadable. Also, at one club, the *Bowl* was used as a holding receptacle for socks on sale by the club.

For many years, high quality individual trophies have been presented to each champion; thus, the need for the two *Bowls* is not essential. In addition, the effort to annually retrieve the *Bowls* from the clubs and the cost to have the names of the current year's champions engraved on the *Bowls* makes retirement an attractive alternative. Also, locating a shop, within a reasonable driving distance, which can perform the engraving, is a time consuming task as well as requiring two round trips to the engraving shop to deliver and retrieve the *Bowls*. Then there is the postage expense for mailing the *Bowls* to the winners. Hence, I recommend retirement for the two *Bowls*.

4. Revised MISGA Championship Tournament Guidelines

It is requested the Board of Directors grant final approval, for official use, the "revised" MISGA Championship Tournament guidelines (dated Sept. 1, 2010).

Updates and modifications to the *MISGA Tournaments Policy, Guidelines, Information, Instructions & Procedures* document is a continuous project. As issues and problems occur (e.g., entry fee refunds, tee marker placement, practice rounds, eligible Past Presidents, tournament interruptions, etc.), applicable references must be added, deleted and/or modified to maintain the functional capability of the "guidelines."

Attached, for your review, is a **document** which compares and contrasts specific sections of the "current official" *Policy & Guidelines* (dated Dec 2007) with the updates and modifications of the "revised" *Guidelines*.

Also attached, for your information, is a copy of the complete "revised" *Guidelines*.

5. Slow Play at the Tournaments

A perpetual complaint about the two Championship Tournaments has been slow play. During this year's tournaments, the range of completing time (*first in to last in*) was between 5 hrs, 10 min and 5 hrs, 45 min. This was a reasonable time range considering the size of the two fields (*ABCD – 122 participants and 2-Man Team – 128*).

One method that might be considered for reducing the amount of time would be to reduce the size of the competing field. Currently, a maximum field is 128 finalists. A maximum field of between 80 – 100 finalists would definitely reduce the completing time. Using this year's participants and completion time data and application of basic mathematical ratios - if the time range for a 128 player field is 5.25 – 5.75 hours, then a 100 player field would result in a range of 4.10 – 4.50 hours and an 80 player field would result in a range of 3.30 – 3.60 hours. The math is accurate, but I, too, don't believe those time ranges could be accomplished.

A supplemental benefit of a reduced field is a club's need for a fewer number of golf carts. This year, Chartwell had to rent additional golf carts to meet the required number of carts for all participants. This has been a problem at other clubs in the past.

Prepared by:

Stim

Lloyd Stimson
MISGA Tournament Chairman

MISGA TOURNAMENT POLICY, PROCEDURES & GUIDELINES

(Pending Final Board Approval)

(Revision # 2 - Sept. 1, 2010)

I - MISSION & OBJECTIVE

One of the major activities of MISGA is sponsoring the two annual Championship Tournaments - the *Past Presidents (ABCD)* and the *2-Man Team*. The purpose of these two tournaments is to provide MISGA Associates with an opportunity to compete against each other in a MISGA-wide tournament to determine the top *individual* and *2-man team* golfers of the year.

On a rotating basis, each of the two Championship Tournaments will be held at a club, in a different Division, in accordance with the schedule issued by the MISGA Tournament Chairman and approved by the MISGA Board of Directors. Host clubs must comply with the established administrative and logistical criteria listed in Section VIII.

II - FORMATS

A. **Past Presidents (ABCD)** - 18 hole - individual stroke play - gross & net

A maximum field of 128 competitors will be divided into four flights of A-B-C-D handicapped players - lowest in A" to highest in "D" (approximately 25% in each flight). "A" players will compete against "A" players, "B" players against "B" players, "C" players against "C" players and "Ds" against "Ds." The **Low Gross** and **Low Net** Champions can come from any of the four flights.

B. **2-Man Team** - 18 hole - team stroke play - gross & net best ball

The maximum field of 64 teams will not be divided into flights. Each 2-Man Team team will be competing against all the other 2-Man Teams.

C. The **tee placement marker** for both Championship Tournaments will be the host club's customary *Senior Tee Marker*. Normally, this is the forward (*gold*) marker at or about 6,000 yards. Divisional qualifier tournaments should use the same tee placement marker.

III - ELIGIBILITY

A. **Basic**

Both tournaments are open to all MISGA associates in good standing. All finalists must qualify through their Division's selection process. All finalists must have an established valid USGA handicap computed and maintained at the finalist's home club.

B. **Supplemental**

1. The current MISGA President and all Past Presidents are eligible to compete in the *Past Presidents (ABCD)* tournament. They will not be required to qualify, but they will be required to pay the entry fee.

2. Teammates in the *2-Man Team* tournament must be members of the same club.
3. The MISGA Tournament Chairman and/or the Tournament Committee may declare an entrant ineligible for violation of USGA rules and established MISGA policies and guidelines. Appeals must be submitted to the MISGA Tournament Chairman for adjudication.
4. Failure of an entrant to post his previous year's Championship Tournament scores or his current year's Division Qualifier tournament score could result in his being declared ineligible to participate in the current year's Championship Tournaments.

IV - DIVISION QUOTAS

- A. At the beginning of each year, the MISGA Tournament Chairman will determine the number of finalists each Division may enter in the two MISGA Championship Tournaments. Division quotas will be based on the percentage of Associates each Division represents of the total MISGA membership as reported in the *MISGA Associates Report of Dues Paid* from December of the prior year.
- B. Each MISGA Division may determine the method it wishes to use for selecting their finalists for the two MISGA Championship Tournaments. Recommended methods of selection are a qualifying tournament, a lottery, a quota from each club, etc. If a qualifying tournament is used, the instructions contained in this document should be followed where applicable.
- C. Unfilled Quotas
 1. If a Division submits an *Entry Form* with a fewer number of entrants than its quota, the host Club Tournament Coordinator (*Club Rep or his designate*) will select qualified alternates from other Divisions.
 2. First, select a qualified alternate from the Division with the most Associates, then select a qualified alternate from the Division with the second most Associates, then the Division with the third most Associates, etc. until the tournament field is filled. A second or third round of selections may be required.
 3. If there are still unfilled slots in the tournament field, the host Club Tournament Coordinator may select any MISGA Associate, in good standing, from any MISGA club. The Associate will pay all fees and will be eligible for all prizes.
 4. If the tournament field still remains unfilled (*128 individuals or 64 2-man teams*), the tournament will be played with less than a full field.
 5. Divisional qualifying tournaments should follow this selection procedure.

D. Drop-Outs & Declared Ineligibles

1. It will be the responsibility of the Division Tournament Chairman of the Division incurring the drop-out or the declared ineligible player to provide, if possible, a substitute finalist. However, a substitute for a **2-Man Team** teammate who has dropped out or has been declared ineligible is prohibited. The remaining teammate may participate by himself or a substitute team must be selected.
2. Alternates listed on the Division's *Entry Form* will provide the primary source of substitutes.
3. If the Division Tournament Chairman is unable to provide a substitute, the host MISGA Tournament Coordinator (*Club Rep or his designate*) should follow steps 2-4 in Section IV, C above to locate and select a qualified substitute.

V - PRIZES

A. Past Presidents (ABCD)

1. Approximately 25-30% of the field will receive a Pro Shop Gift Certificate.
2. The **GROSS** and **NET** Champions will receive an engraved trophy only.
3. 50% of the prize pool will be awarded to the **NET** winners.
4. 50% of the prize pool will be awarded to the **GROSS** winners.
5. The clubs of the **GROSS** and **NET** Champions will retain temporary possession of their respective **Past Presidents Bowl** until next year's Championship Final.

B. 2-Man Team

1. Approximately 25-30% of the field will receive a Pro Shop Gift Certificate.
2. The **GROSS** and **NET** Champions will receive an engraved trophy only.
3. 80% of the prize pool will be awarded to the **NET** winners.
4. 20% of the prize pool will be awarded to the **GROSS** winners.

VI - HANDICAP ALLOCATIONS

A. Past Presidents (ABCD) - 100%

B. 2-Man Team

1. 90% of each partner's handicap
2. There will be an additional 10% reduction to each partner's handicap if the partners' handicaps differ by more than 8 stokes.

- C. The official handicap index to be used for finalists in the two MISGA Championship Tournaments, will be the handicap index closest and most practical to the date of the championship tournament. The official *Tournament Committee* will determine the closest and most practical date.
- D. Most MISGA clubs compute and maintain their members' handicap indices on a "posting station" computer in the Pro Shop. On a regular basis (*weekly or biweekly*), the Pro Shop transmits the posted scores to *Golfnet.com*. This website's *Handicap Verification* section is an excellent source for obtaining and verifying individual and group handicap indices.

VII - TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE

- A. Members of the *Tournament Committee* for each of the two Championship Tournaments will include the host Division Director (*Committee Chairman*), the host Division Tournament Chairman, the host Club Tournament Coordinator (*Club Rep or his designate*), the host Club Pro and such other individuals as may be appointed by the Division Director. The MISGA Tournament Chairman will assist as needed.
- B. The *Tournament Committee* will be responsible for establishing the conditions of competition; assuring adherence to USGA, MISGA and local rules of golf; assuring fairness of play and good sportsmanship; interpreting USGA, MISGA and local rules of play; answering technical questions; mediating disputes and resolving other issues and problems as they may occur.
- C. It is strongly encouraged that Divisions establish similar *Tournament Committees* for their Divisional Qualifier Tournaments. The MISGA Tournament Chairman will assist as needed.

VIII - ADMINISTRATIVE & LOGISTICAL REQUIREMENTS

A. Promotional Materials

1. **Flyers** - As early as possible in the golfing season, the MISGA Tournament Chairman will prepare an information **flyer** for each of the two Championship Tournaments. Each **flyer** will include all relevant information involving each tournament and instructions to the Division Tournament Chairman for submitting Division *Entry Forms* and *Entry Fee checks* to the host Club Tournament Coordinator (*Club Rep or his designate*). The two **flyers** will to be posted on the MISGA website.
2. **Posters** - As early as possible in the golfing season, the MISGA Tournament Chairman will prepare an information **poster** that provides all relevant

information needed by Associates for registering and participating in the two Championship Tournaments. The **poster** will be made available to all MISGA Club Reps for posting on their MISGA bulletin boards.

B. Entry Fees

1. As early as possible in the golfing season (*not later than May 15*), the host Club Tournament Coordinator (*Club Rep or his designate*) and the host Club of the two Championship Tournaments should determine the amount of the *Entry Fee*. Cost items will include: light lunch, cart fee, range balls, awards dinner, prize pool (*minimum \$10 per finalist*) and other incidentals. The amount of the *Entry Fee* should be as low as feasibly possible, high enough to provide an enjoyable tournament experience, but not too high to discourage participation.
2. As soon as the amount of the *Entry Fee* has been determined, the host Club Tournament Coordinator must inform the MISGA Tournament Chairman. In turn, the MISGA Tournament Chairman will include the amount of the *Entry Fee* in each Championship Tournament **flyer** and **poster**.

C. Tournament Documents

1. **Entry Form** - The MISGA Tournament Chairman will develop a standardized *Entry Form* for each of the two Championship Tournaments. The *Entry Forms* will be used by Division Tournament Chairmen for submitting the names (*including home club and handicap index*) of his Division's Championship Tournament finalists and alternates. Copies of the standardized *Entry Forms* will be made available to Division Tournament Chairmen in early Spring.
2. **Rules of Play** - A *Rules of Play* sheet will be prepared and placed on every golf cart prior to play. The rules sheet will include basic instructions and information relevant to the Championship Tournament (*"USGA rules apply at all times," disputes, tee placement, handicap allowance, local rules, use of cart paths, moving the ball, gimmes, playing from hazards, score keeping, pace of play, tie-breaking procedure, marking balls for identification, etc.*). A model *Rules of Play* sheet is available on the MISGA website.
3. **Tournament / Event Financial Report (T/E Report)** - As soon as possible after the conclusion of a Championship Tournament (*not later than 120 days*), the host Tournament Coordinator (*Club Rep or his designate*) must complete and submit a copy of the *T/E Report* with all supporting documentation (*vouchers, invoices, receipts, deposit slips, cancelled checks, bank statements, etc.*) to the MISGA Auditor. Detailed guidance for completing and submitting the *T/E Report* is contained in the **Handbook for MISGA Club Representatives** under the section *Fiscal Conduct of MISGA Golf Tournaments & Special Events*. The guidance and a blank copy of the *T/E Report Form* are available on the MISGA website.

D. **Golf Carts**

It will be the responsibility of the host club of a Championship Tournament to provide a golf cart for all finalists in the Championship Tournament (*2 finalists per golf cart - a full field = 64 carts*). A less than full field would require fewer golf carts. There should be 2-3 extra golf carts available for use by members of the Tournament Committee. MISGA will provide NO financial assistance to the host club if it requires rental golf carts to comply with the golf cart requirement. MISGA clubs unable to provide the required number of golf carts will be declared ineligible to host a Championship Tournament.

E. **Volunteers**

The host Club Tournament Coordinator (*Club Rep or his designate*) should recruit volunteers from the host Club's MISGA Associates to perform a variety of duties and tasks (*greeters, assist with registration, serve as ball spotters, assist with scoring, etc.*). Volunteers will ensure a more efficient and effectively operated tournament and reduce the burden placed on the Club Pro and his staff and the host Club Tournament Coordinator. Approximately 15 - 20 volunteers may be required. Volunteers should be provided with the *light lunch*.

F. **Food & Beverages**

1. **Meals** - As Registration will be begin at 9:30 am and a *light lunch* will be served at 10:30 am, it will be not be necessary to provide "coffee & donuts." The *light lunch* should be a "brown bag" or "box" lunch (*2 sandwich halves, small bag of chips, apple or cookie*) with a cold drink. Place two of each in every golf cart. Volunteers should be provided the *light lunch*. The *awards dinner* may be a plated, sit down dinner or a buffet line. However, a plated, sit down dinner is preferred as all finalists will be served and finish simultaneously; thus, non-winners will be deterred from an early departure.
2. **Beverages** - A variety of chilled drinks (*sodas, lemonade, iced tea, Gatorade, bottled water, beer, etc.*) should be made available at a "snack bar" near the staging area. A beverage cart with chilled drinks should make rounds during play. A cash bar should be open prior to and during the *awards dinner*.

G. **Tournament Scoring**

1. **Scorecards** - There will be two tournament scorecards prepared for each foursome - one for each golf cart. All names will be printed on the scorecard (*Individuals or 2-Man Teams*). Each scorecard must be totaled, signed and attested prior to being turned in at the Scorer's Table.

2. **Scorer's Table** - Generally, the Head Pro and his assistants will be in charge of the Scorer's Table. Non-playing Tournament Committee members and official volunteers may assist with the scorekeeping tasks. It is recommended that at least one scorekeeper be assigned to each flight of the Past Presidents (ABCD) Championship Tournament.

H. **Tie Breaking Procedure**

The tie breaking procedure for both Championship Tournaments shall be based on the MISGA mandated match-of-cards for both *low gross* and *low net*. The initial tie-breaker will be the best score attained for the last nine holes (10-18), then the last six holes (13-18), then the last three holes (16-18), and finally the 18th hole. Should a tie still exist, the match will be a hole-by-hole match beginning with the #1 handicap hole and proceeding to the #2 handicap hole and so on until the tie is broken.

I. **Tournament Interruptions**

1. The host club for each of the two Championship Tournaments must provide for a "rain date" in case of unforeseen circumstances that could cause play to be interrupted or suspended (*rain, lightening, high winds, earthquake, fires, flooding, air raids, etc.*). The recommended "rain date" should be the following week on the day of the official established date of the tournament (*e.g., official date - Monday, August 2; rain date - Monday, August 9*).
2. If Tournament play is interrupted or suspended, the Tournament Committee will follow and comply with applicable USGA guidelines governing such situations.
3. The *Definitions* section of the *USGA Rules of Golf* states - "The 'stipulated round' consists of playing the holes of the course in their correct sequence, unless otherwise authorized by the Committee. The number of holes stipulated in a round is 18 unless a smaller number is authorized by the Committee." (*i.e., in MISGA, the Tournament Committee*)
4. Decision 33-1/2 of the *USGA FAQ* section states - "The Committee does not have the authority to reduce the number of holes of a 'stipulated round' once play has been commenced in that round."
5. Section 5-2 b of *The USGA Handicap System* manual states - "If 13 or more holes are played, the player must post an 18-hole score. Scores for unplayed holes must be recorded as *par* plus any handicap strokes the player is entitled to receive on the unplayed holes."
6. Therefore, if the Championship Tournament is interrupted and resumption of play is impossible, the Tournament Committee will declare the Tournament official for determining winners and awarding prizes if all players have completed a minimum of 13 holes. Scores for unplayed holes will be recorded as

par plus any handicap strokes the player is entitled to receive on the unplayed holes (*this neutralizes all the unplayed holes for all players*). However, if there any players who have not completed a minimum of 13 holes, a new "stipulated round" should be rescheduled on the "rain date."

7. If the suspended Tournament cannot be certified as completed on the official "rain date," the Tournament Committee will declare the Tournament null and void. All prize money and other "refundable amounts" of the *Entry Fee* shall be refunded to the players. The amount of the "refundable amounts" is negotiable between the Club Tournament Coordinator (*Club Rep or his designate*) and the host Club.
8. Except for emergency situations (*illness, injury, death, etc.*), any finalist who does not return for completion of the Championship Tournament on the established "rain date" will forfeit his *Entry Fee*. As the "rain date" is known for many weeks in advance, scheduling conflicts are not considered valid justification. Appeals must be submitted to the host Tournament Committee for adjudication.

J. **Posting Scores**

1. The host *Tournament Committee* may declare a player ineligible to participate in the current year's Championship Tournaments if, within a practical period of time (*normally two weeks*), the player has failed to post his current year's Divisional Qualifier score or either of his previous year's Divisional Qualifier and Championship Tournament scores. Appeals must be submitted to the MISGA Tournament Chairman for adjudication.
2. The MISGA Rules & Handicap Chairman may monitor the posting of scores by Championship Tournament participants (*entrants, qualifiers, finishers*) to assure they have complied with USGA and MISGA score posting policies and guidelines. The R&H Chairman will inform the appropriate *Tournament Committee* of instances of non-compliance. The *Tournament Committee*, in consultation with the R&H Chairman, will determine whether or not the non-compliant participant should be declared ineligible. If a participant is declared ineligible he may file an appeal to the MISGA Tournament Chairman for adjudication. Other prescribed penalties are the jurisdiction of the participant's home club Handicap Committee.

COMPARISON - CURRENT & REVISED Tournament GUIDELINES

| Feature | Current Guideline | Revised Guideline |
|-----------------------------|---|--|
| Format | Narrative Textbook | Outline <i>(more user friendly)</i> |
| Volume | 13 pages - 2 documents | 8 pages - 1 document <i>(eliminated duplication and condensed length of instructions and explanations)</i> |
| Tee Markers | Middle (white) Tee Markers | Senior forward (gold) Tee Markers <i>(Changed to forward (gold) markers in 2009)</i> |
| ABCD Invitations | Only Past Presidents who are current MISGA members are permitted to play | All Past Presidents are invited to play |
| Entry Fees | A typical cost breakdown might be: cart and prize money \$25; lunch and dinner \$40 to \$45, for a total of \$65 to \$70. | The amount of the <i>Entry Fee</i> should be as low as feasibly possible, high enough to provide an enjoyable tournament experience, but not too high to discourage participation. Set a minimum \$10 per participant prize pool amount. |
| Flyers & Posters | One page poster to be prepared and distributed by host Club Rep. | To be developed by MTC. For each tournament, a detailed Flyer posted on MISGA website and a brief, one-page poster forwarded to Club Reps for posting on Senior Bulletin Boards. |

| | | |
|-----------------------------|---|---|
| T / E Report | Not addressed | Instructions for preparation and submission of the MISGA Auditor's T/E Report are now included in document. |
| Entry Fee Refund | Not addressed | Except for emergency situations (<i>illness, injury, death, etc.</i>), any finalist who does not return for completion of the Championship Tournament on the established "rain date" will forfeit his <i>Entry Fee</i> . As the "rain date" is known for many weeks in advance, scheduling conflicts are not considered valid justification. Appeals must be submitted to the host Tournament Committee for adjudication. |
| Hosting Clubs | | |
| Practice Rounds | Not addressed | Recommend the host club has the option of allowing practice rounds. |
| Tournament Committee | Only one duty stated - <i>establishing the conditions of competition.</i> | Revised includes - <i>establishing the conditions of competition; assuring adherence to USGA, MISGA and local rules of golf; assuring fairness of play and good sportsmanship; interpreting USGA, MISGA and local rules of play; answering technical questions, mediating disputes and resolving other issues and problems as they occur.</i> |

| | | |
|--------------------------------|---|---|
| Tournament Interruption | ABCD - 9 Common Holes 2-Man Team - Minimum 9 holes | Minimum 13 holes with unplayed holes recorded as par plus entitled handicap strokes (<i>adheres to USGA guidance</i>). Detailed explanation in July issue of MISGAGRAM. |
|--------------------------------|---|---|