

**Attendees:** Jim Beisler, Earl Gentry, John Babyak, Dick Schwinger, Clarence Moody, Tom Rowlett, Carl Lazar, Mike Urquhart, Tom Taylor, Byron Keadle, Tom Tarpley, Lloyd Stimson, Errol Myers, Dick Dale and C.J. Myers.

**President** – Jim Beisler called the meeting to order at 4:00 P.M.

**Treasurer's Report** – Dick Schwinger passed out a report. The report showed the amounts that we have in the various accounts. The second of three installments of the division budget checks have been mailed. Lloyd Stimson asked if Dick anticipated an excess of funds at the end of the year. Dick said that he would check.

**Secretary's Report** – The minutes from the April club reps meeting were read by John Babyak. The minutes were approved as read.

### **Division Director's Reports**

**Division I** – The division was not represented at the meeting.

**Division II** – Tom Taylor reported that MISGA has lost the Rolling Road club. The reason they dropped out was because no one was wanted to take any of the jobs, e.g club rep.

**Division III** – The division was not represented at the meeting.

**Division IV** – Mike Urquhart said that Kenwood has been closed all summer, with only nine holes open. They have had to cancel all of their mixers this year. They will be open in about a week and a half. Hobbits Glen is redoing its clubhouse. Currently the club is not providing food at the mixers. Argyle will probably be dropping out next year because they also cannot get a club rep. There does not seem to be any interest at Argyle in participating in MISGA. The Division is sponsoring a Pro-am tournament at Montgomery Country Club on October 14th.

**Division V** – Jim Beisler said that they have had a pretty successful season. The Bay club may also be dropping out of MISGA. Their club rep disappeared, he left town. Jim talked to the assistant pro but he did not know what the clubs plans are. The club pro would contact Jim in a few days. They don't have a lot of members. The eastern shore seasons were all pretty good. We had a year-end party in the division and a tournament for associates that participate at high levels during the year, having participated in at least four events in the division and a couple of events outside of the division. We had a nice turnout and will be doing the same thing next year.

**Division VI** – Carl Lazar said that they have a couple of new reps, one at Bay Hills and one at Cross Creek. We may add a new club, Timbers of Troy, but that would be discussed later in the meeting. Walden club has left MISGA, they are a public club with no seniors and no interest in MISGA. Chuck Woods is the new club rep at Crofton. The associates at Crofton don't travel well.

### **Committee Chairmen Reports**

**Associates** – Mike Urquhart distributed a report. As a follow-up from the last meeting, in a discussion with the associated chairmen, it was decided that he would collect roster names and the overall total numbers. He was not collecting dues information and that has become a problem. Some of that is because all of the divisions do not use the same procedures on how to report all of this. Some of the associate chairmen did send him addresses and phone numbers but he is not requiring that info. What the divisions want to keep is up to them. He definitely is not taking e-mail addresses. The membership is down, 177 paid. We now have 3027 associates. The membership has declined since 2000 when we had over 4800 associates. We lost two more clubs and may lose two more and we are down to 59 clubs. Nationally the number of golf clubs and golfers is down. Another issue is that there are a number of clubs with fewer than 32 associates. The by-laws require that each club maintain a membership of at least 32 associates. Tom Tarpley said that he believed that the requirement was dropped for member clubs. Mike felt that maybe if clubs are below 32 MISGA should try to see if we can't help the clubs increase that number.

**Membership** – Tom Taylor said that we have an application from Timbers of Troy golf club to join MISGA. The evaluation committee has finished their report and it has been sent to all of the Board members. Tom said that the dining room facilities are not adequate. They may be using a tent or a pavilion and that's O.K. The biggest issue is their membership structure, they don't have one. They have what they call the Kemper Players Club, which has about 400 members. It costs \$65 to join this club. They do not have any club tournaments and they do not have a seniors organization. They say that approximately 60% of the members of this club are seniors. They now have 21 members signed up if they are approved for MISGA. The thing that bothers Tom is that they set up this meeting and were supposed to meet with the club rep and handicap chairman and anyone else that wanted to be involved and the only person they met was the general manager and he knew very little about MISGA. He learned about MISGA from the committee. That disturbed Tom a lot. Carl said that they can't have a dues structure because Howard County, who owns the course, will not allow it. There was a lot of discussion. Jim Beisler wondered that since we only had six directors of assistant Directors present, did we have a quorum. The question was not answered. There was a motion to accept Timbers of Troy. The motion was approved with the normal one-year trial probation. Carl will see to it that they pay the \$50 club dues and each member will play \$5. Carl will give a report at the December meeting about the club.

**MISGAGRAM** – Byron Keadle said that he is approaching retirement and he needs someone to take over the MISGAGram. He will continue through the March 2015 MISGAGram. Byron will put something in the MISGAGram.

**P.P. Ad Hoc** – Tom Tarpley said that he presented a Green Jacket to Lloyd Stimson in December. He invited everyone to submit names of people who have given outstanding service to MISGA.

**Tournament Chairman** – Lloyd Stimson e-mailed his report to all of the Board members and the Program Chairmen. Item #1 of his report provided a comparison of the 2014 allocation and number of finalists for each division. Item #2 compared the 2014 MCT participation levels of the Eastern and Western shore clubs. Item #3 provided the 2015 MCT schedule – Past Presidents (ABCD) at Norbeck CC in August and the 2-Man Team at Manor CC on August 20. There was a question about moving the tournament start times from 12:00 to 11:00. That would present a coffee and donuts/lunch problem. It was agreed to leave the start time at noon. Lloyd said that he received inquiries from individuals who wanted to know where the MCT Entry Forms can be located. He stated they are not sent to individuals for their use nor posted on the MISGA website. They are sent to Division Tournament Chairman for completion and submission to each MCT Tournament Coordinator. He also included an essay about *Whacking Sandbaggers*. He stated that, according to USGA rules, the Tournament Committee does not have the authority to alter handicaps.

**Web Master** – Errol Myers said the website is up-to-date. Anything that needs to be sent to the web should be in a Word document and he will convert it to PDF. The offer is still out there for clubs to send in a document for their members to read, he will put it on the website.

**Old Business** – Jim said that we had a discussion about raising the dues from five dollars. The current income and outgo is about equal. The checking account is stable. Should the MISGA Board make a contribution to help the State Tournaments? If we have a surplus, we should increase the prize pool, not reduce the cost of the tournaments. Jim suggested maybe taking money out of MISGA to give to the tournament committee. We would discuss this in December.

**New Business** –

**Special Olympics** – There was no further contact by this group.

**Eastern Shore** - Jim's concern is the continuation of MISGA. Dick Dale sent out a letter that points out some of the issues on the Eastern Shore. Jim took a count of how many MISGA clubs are private. We are having a problem on the Eastern Shore with participation. Discussion followed.

**MISGA Club Championship** – If the club has such a tournament should the scores be posted as tournament scores? The answer was Yes.

**Div IV Holiday Luncheon** – At Manor on Tuesday December 9<sup>th</sup>.

**Individuals at Mixers** – Tom Rowlett said that he has had a problem with individuals call in pro shops to get into mixers. He would like a policy to be documented. He has changed it at his club to have to go through the club rep if an associate wants to play.

**No-shows** – Earl Gentry said that his club is going to try to make no-shows pay for the cost of food. A discussion followed.

**Wrap-up** – The next meeting is at Crofton on December 2 at 10 A.M. A box lunch will be \$12 and golf will be \$20. The meeting was adjourned at 6:00.

**MISGA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**  
**Courtyard by Marriott (Gettysburg, PA) - Tues., Sept. 9, 2014**

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**MISGA Tournament Chairman's Report**

- 1. 2014 MCTs Allocation & Participation Levels** (+ Allocations are based on the 2013 MISGA Yearly Associates Dues Report dated January 14, 2014)

<b>MISGA</b>		<b>Past Presidents (ABCD)</b> <i>(at Wild Quail CC)</i>		<b>2-Man Team</b> <i>(at Norbeck CC)</i>	
Division	Associates +	Allocation	Finalists	Allocation	Finalists
I (10 clubs)	<b>423</b> (13.2%)	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
II (16 clubs)	<b>704</b> (22.0%)	<b>20</b>	<b>19 #</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>11</b>
III (7 clubs)	<b>286</b> (8.95%)	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>
IV (8 clubs)	<b>745</b> (23.3%)	<b>21</b>	<b>17 *</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>11</b>
V (9 clubs)	<b>266</b> (8.32%)	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>
VI (12 clubs)	<b>770</b> (24.1%)	<b>23</b>	<b>36 #</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13 #</b>
<b>TOTAL (62 clubs)</b>	<b>3,194</b> (100%)	<b>90</b>	<b>100 *</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>50</b>
Past Presidents	-	<b>8</b>	<b>3</b>	-	-
2013 Champs	-	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,194</b> (100%)	<b>100</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>1</b>

# includes the 3 Past Presidents and 2013 Grand Champions

\* includes 2 no shows who forfeited their entry fee

**2. 2014 MCTs Participation Comparison: Eastern Shore - Western Shore**

<b>MISGA</b>		<b>PP-ABCD Wild Quail CC</b>	<b>2-Man Team Norbeck CC</b>
<b>Divisions</b>	<b>Associates</b>	<b>Finalists</b>	<b>Finalists</b>
<b>I - III - V (Eastern Shore)</b>	<b>975 (32%)</b>	<b>28 (28%)</b>	<b>15 (30%)</b>
<b>II - IV - VI (Western Shore)</b>	<b>2,219 (68%)</b>	<b>72 * (72%)</b>	<b>35 (70%)</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,194 (100%)</b>	<b>100 * (100%)</b>	<b>50 (100%)</b>

\* includes 2 no shows who forfeited their entry fee

**3. 2015 MCTs Schedule**

<b>Tournament</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Official Date</b>	<b>Rain Date</b>
<b>Past Presidents (ABCD)</b>	<b>Norbeck CC (Div IV) Rockville, MD</b>	<b>August 2015</b>	<b>August 2015</b>
<b>2-Man Team</b>	<b>Manor CC (Div IV) Rockville, MD</b>	<b>Thursday August 20, 2015</b>	<b>Thursday August 27, 2015</b>

Note: The distance from the Bay Bridge to Norbeck - 52 miles, Manor - 50 miles.

**4. MCTs Tee Time**

Currently, the scheduled shotgun tee time for the MCTs is 12 noon. Would you favor moving the tee time back to 11:00 am? This would provide participants with more daylight driving time on their return trip home.

However, those who have a 2-3 hour drive to the MCT host club (*from far eastern & western shore clubs*) would be required to depart from their homes between 6:00 - 7:00 am to register for the tournament.

Also, as registration has always begun at mid-morning and a *light lunch* is served prior to tee time, the traditional MISGA mixer "coffee & donuts" has not been provided. Hence, if desired, the addition of "coffee & donuts" to the MCTs would necessitate an addition in the Entry Fee to cover this cost.

Activity	Current	Revised
Registration Begins	10:00 am	9:00 am
Light Lunch	11:00 am	10:00 am
Pre-Start Announcements	11:45 am	10:45 am
Shotgun Start	12 noon	11:00 am
Cocktail Hour ( <i>cash bar</i> )	5:00 pm	4:00 pm
Banquet & Awarding of Prizes	6:00 pm	5:00 pm

### 5. *MCT Entry Form*

The *MCT Entry Form* is designed for use by the Division Tournament Chairmen (DTC) only ... not by individuals who may wish to participate in the MCTs. The DTCs use the form to submit the names, clubs & handicap indices of their division's qualifiers to the MCTs. Hence, it is not available on the MISGA website. The MTC e-mails a copy of the *MCT Entry Form* to the DTCs in the spring of each year.

### 6. *"Whacking" Sandbaggers*

Refer to the attached essay.

### 7. *MISGA Championship Tournament Information*

All information associated with the MCTs (*except the MCT Entry Form*) can be found on the MISGA website. <http://www.misga.org/tournaments.htm>

**Stim**

Lloyd Stimson  
MISGA Tournament Chairman (MTC)

## WHACKING SANDBAGGERS

Bitching about the authenticity and legitimacy of an associate's handicap after he has won a championship title is the same as "closing the barn door after the horse has escaped."

Over the years, there has been profuse concern and angst over the validity and correctness of the playing handicap of a few MISGA associates. The perception has been that these rogues maintain a handicap higher than their true playing ability merits. This apprehension always comes to the forefront when one of these perceived sandbaggers has won or placed very high on the net side of a tournament. Consecutive tournament victories always generates increased and massive grumbling with extortions for "tarring & feathering" the scallywags.

For many years, MISGA leadership, at all levels (*club, division & executive*), has been cognizant of and has been in constant battle with the rascals of sandbagging. The problem is not easily solved. Sandbaggers are very clever and resourceful at managing their handicaps. It takes exceptional talent and ingenuity for them to manipulate their "magic number" without exposure or revealing detectable evidence of their dastardly deed.

Whether we like it or not, a MISGA official cannot merely wave his magic baton and reduce an associate's handicap. We can't arbitrarily lower a handicap just because we think it's too high and should be slashed. There must be tangible proof and authoritative guidance (*i.e., USGA, MSGA, etc.*) to empower and support any formal action MISGA might take to lower a handicap.

Fortunately, the USGA provides operational guidance for establishing and maintaining the accuracy of golfing handicaps. Section 11-1 of the **USGA Handicap System** guidebook specifically states: *An essential element of the USGA Handicap System is the Handicap Committee. Each golf club utilizing the USGA Handicap System must have a Handicap Committee to ensure the integrity of the USGA Handicap System.* The guidebook further states: *The Handicap Committee sees that scores are posted, all elements of the USGA Handicap System are followed, and the integrity of each Handicap Index is maintained.*

The **USGA Handicap System** manual makes it quite clear the responsibility for maintaining the integrity (*i.e., authenticity, legitimacy*) of a golfer's *handicap index* rests at the feet of his club's Handicap Committee. When a MISGA associate's handicap is formally challenged and a request for reduction is made, it must be presented to the **club Handicap Committee** for adjudication. The MISGA Club Rep and the Division Handicap Chairman (*with guidance from the MISGA Handicap Chairman*) should participate in the analysis and decision making process.

Last year, MISGA took a definitive step to "whack" perceived sandbaggers. At its September 10, 2013 meeting, the MISGA Board of Directors voted to adopt and implement the "handicap lowering procedure" utilized by the Maryland State Golf Association (MSGGA). The procedure was added to the *MISGA Championship Tournament Guidelines* for implementation during the 2014 MCTs. It states:

Individuals or 2-man teams who have won a **Net Grand Champion** title in two successive annual MISGA Championship Tournaments (*Past Presidents {ABCD} and/or 2-Man Team*) will incur a 20% reduction in their course handicap when they compete in their third successive MISGA Championship Tournament. A 3<sup>rd</sup> consecutive win will result in a 30% reduction in course handicap; a 4<sup>th</sup> consecutive win will result in a 40% reduction, etc.

Recently, Ray Campbell, Div. III Rules & Handicap Chairman, recommended the **Knuth Tournament Point System** be adopted and implemented by MISGA. This system was designed to lower the handicap of golfers who are constant net winners of golf tournaments. This system ... awards a golfer 5 points for a 1<sup>st</sup> place finish, 4 points for a 2<sup>nd</sup> place finish, 3 points for 3<sup>rd</sup> place, 2 points for 4<sup>th</sup> place and 1 point for 5<sup>th</sup> place. Golfers who accumulate more than 6 points in a year will receive a 2 stroke reduction to their official USGA handicap.

I wholeheartedly agree with Campbell's recommendation. It would provide MISGA with a second enforceable procedure for "whacking" sandbaggers. The *20% Rule* is currently administered by the Tournament Committee of a MCT. If adopted by MISGA, the *Knuth System* would be a tool for club Handicap Committees.

Too many MISGA associates are under the misconception that when it comes to the two MISGA championship tournaments, verifying the authenticity and accuracy of a finalist's *handicap index* is responsibility of the Tournament Committee (*i.e., MCT Coordinator, the Division Tournament Chairman, the host Head Pro, the Club Rep and the*



*MISGA Tournament Chairman*). Wrong - this assumption is incorrect. The job of the Tournament Committee is to ensure the *handicap indices* assigned to the finalists are the ones closest and most practical to the date of the MCT.

The current *20% rule* and the proposed *Knuth system* can provide MISGA with two tools for "whacking" perceived sandbaggers. And these two tools do not require extensive research of the alleged sandbagger's "handicap manipulation techniques" - only his wins and finishing places in tournaments. However, these two "whacking" instruments are after-the-fact solutions. Thus, the "perps" won't be penalized until they compete in subsequent golfing events.

## **MISGA Board of Directors Meeting - Rules & Handicaps Report Bob Brewer**

### **90%/95% Allowances**

Most clubs I have visited have been adhering to the 90% handicap allowance for men and 95% allowance for women when using the best two net scores of four for the mixers. For clubs I've encountered that have not been using those allowances, I've had perfect cooperation in making the correct adjustments. In every case where there was a deficiency, the culprit seems to be that the information I've sent out earlier this year has not flowed down to the club pros who make out the handicaps.

### **Mixed Tees**

When mixed tees are used for our mixers (whether it's men or women playing from different tees than the majority of players), the course rating adjustments have often not been made properly. This is not a hard concept, so I'm wondering where the problem is. I'd like to see the division directors and handicap chairmen as well as the club reps and handicap chairmen be more aware of this problem and see that the necessary corrections are made. When there is a club using mixed tees (which is becoming more and more prevalent in MISGA), check to see that the 90%/95% allowances are being used and that the course rating adjustments are in effect. If you are still having questions about these concepts, I'd like to know about them.

### **Posting of Scores**

A general MISGA problem is that players, for whatever reason, don't always post their scores properly. When I've asked players about why they wouldn't post a score, I get answers like:

- It's not a MISGA event, so I don't have to post it.
- It's a two-man or match play event where I often pick up.
- I didn't complete the round, so I can't post the score.

None of those reasons hold up. It's up to the club handicap committees to see that all legitimate scores are posted.

Here are some reasons why a score would not be acceptable for posting:

- fewer than 7 holes are played
- made on a golf course in an area in which an inactive season established by the governing golf association is in effect
- a majority of the holes of the course are not played in accordance with the principles of the Rules of Golf
- the length of the course is less than 3,000 yards for 18-holes
- types or maximum number of clubs are less than 14, for example, in a competition that allows only iron clubs
- scores are made on a course with no USGA Course and Slope Rating
- a player carries or uses non-conforming clubs or uses non-conforming balls
- artificial devices (as defined under Rule 14-3) are used during the execution of a stroke
- a player does not play his own ball (e.g., a captains choice event)

The following pages contain summaries of the checks of postings that were made for the ABCD and Two-Man qualifiers and the state tournaments that were held this year. Most of the scores checked were of the various qualifiers/winners of the tournaments, but there were some random checks of other scores. All postings needed to have a "T" designation to show that they were tournament scores.

## Score Posting of Division Qualifiers for the State MISGA ABCD and Two-Man Tournaments

### ABCD

	Total Checked	Posted Correctly	Did Not Post	Did Not Post With "T"	Other Error
Div. I	No Report	-	-	-	-
Div. II	18	18 (100%)	0	0	0
Div. III	No Report	-	-	-	-
Div. IV	17	11 (65%)	0	6	0
Div. V	No Report	-	-	-	-
Div. VI	31	24 (77%)	4	3	0
Overall	66	53 (80%)	4	9	0

### Two-Man

	Total Checked	Posted Correctly	Did Not Post	Did Not Post With "T"	Other Error
Div. I	No Report	-	-	-	-
Div. II	20	18 (90%)	1	0	1
Div. III	No Report	-	-	-	-
Div. IV	22	12 (55%)	8	2	0
Div. V	No Report	-	-	-	-
Div. VI	30	11 (37%)	8	10	1
Overall	72	41 (57%)	17	12	2

#### Summary:

Joe Baily, Div. I Director, did not report.

Bob Brewer, Div. II Rules and Handicaps Chairman, reported for Div. II.

Fred Meers, Div. III Rules and Handicaps Chairman, did not report.

Sperry Storm, Div. IV Rules and Handicaps Chairman, reported for Div. IV.

Mike Mason, Div. V Director, did not report.

Jack Sullivan, Div. VI Tournament Chairman, reported for Div. VI.

Of the divisions that reported it's clear that the correct posting of tournament scores is not particularly good, and that there is less adherence to the posting requirements for the Two-Man qualifiers. We can do better than this! It's also clear from those that I have talked to that posting of Two-Man scores is often rejected as being necessary.

We were primarily checking the scores of those that qualified for the state tournaments. If we had checked all entrants in the qualifiers there would be many more reporting failures noticed. It all makes me wonder about how many scores are not posted, or incorrectly posted, throughout the year. Think about it – for the Two-Man qualifiers that were examined, 43% of the scores checked were not posted correctly! That's a failure of our handicapping system!

Thanks very much to Sperry Storm and Jack Sullivan for the reports for Div. IV and Div. VI respectively.

## State MISGA ABCD and Two-Man Tournaments Postings

### ABCD

	Total Checked	Posted Correctly	Did Not Post	Did Not Post With "T"	Other Error
Div. I	5	4 (80%)	1	0	0
Div. II	5	5 (100%)	0	0	0
Div. III	4	4 (100%)	0	0	0
Div. IV	5	5 (100%)	0	0	0
Div. V	5	3 (60%)	2	0	0
Div. VI	15	15 (100%)	0	0	0
<b>Overall</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>36 (92%)</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

### Two-Man

	Total Checked	Posted Correctly	Did Not Post	Did Not Post With "T"	Other Error
Div. I	10	6 (60%)	1	2	1
Div. II	4	4 (100%)	0	0	0
Div. III	4	4(100%)	0	0	0
Div. IV	4	4 (100%)	0	0	0
Div. V	4	2 (50%)	0	1	1
Div. VI	18	12 (67%)	5	1	0
<b>Overall</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>32 (73%)</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>

These are better results than for the qualifier tournaments, so I guess these players are a little more cognizant of the posting requirements.

Special thanks to Lloyd Stimson for doing such a great job running the tournaments and then providing the data on the players and winners.

## MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

Board meeting September 9, 2014

Gettysburg, Pennsylvania

We have one club, The Timbers at Troy Golf Club, Located in Elkridge, Md., making application to join MISGA which will be presented at this meeting for a vote. The committee is not making a recommendation as the committee is split.

Thomas Taylor

Membership Chairman

## **Evaluation of Timbers at Troy Golf Club**

### **Application to join MISGA**

The evaluation team, consisting of Carl Lazar of Bay Hills GC (Director of Div. VI), Greg Morris (Club Rep. at National Golf Club at Tantallon), Tom Tarpley of Holly Hills CC (Past President, Chairman of the Past Presidents Ad Hoc committee) and Tom Taylor of Quail Valley GC (Past President, Chairman of the Membership Committee) met with the general manager of the Timbers of Troy, Kevin Smith, on July 31, 2014. The proposed Club Rep and Assistant Club Rep were not available.

The MISGA-NEW CLUB APPLICATION AGREEMENT FORM has been signed.

The evaluation team obtained information on the following items:

This club is a pure public golf club. It is managed by Kemper Sports. They do not have any dues structure.

The club has a program called "The Kemper's Players Club" which presently has approximately 400 members. It is estimated that 60% are seniors. The fee to join this club is \$65 for seniors which entitles them to a free round of golf, handicap service, and twilight rates at various times other than twilight. The club does not hold club only tournaments. They do not have any senior organization. As such no senior listing is available.

They have 74 golf carts.

They have a seating capacity of 40 indoor and 60 outdoor plus an additional 160 in a pavilion. All food is prepared by the club and is served buffet style

They have no warning horn or other means of clearing the course during storms and lightning.

They have one Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) which is serviced monthly.

Their white tees have been established as the senior tees at a length of 5616 yards. The slope and rating is 68.3/130 for men and 73.0/123 for women. The most forward tees (red) are not rated for men.

The club uses Golfnet to maintain the USGA handicap indexes and players scores. They also use the systems tournament management program to make up equitable foursomes and print out scorecards with all relevant information.

The club is licensed by the USGA as well as the MSGA.

At present, the club manager Kevin Smith is the handicap committee chairman. His phone number is 410-313-4653.

The course is being maintained properly and the greens are in good condition. It is a fun course to play and it is a fair course. However, some holes do have a carry which may be a problem for some of our most senior members.

The club would host MISGA mixers on Tuesdays and there will not be any attempts to block days, weeks or months during the year to prevent MISGA mixers or tournament events.

Other comments from the evaluation committee:

“Dining facilities are on site but NOT adequate to seat everyone in one place.”

“The membership structure is its weakest link. Nevertheless, I believe there are a number of clubs currently in MISGA which appear to have similar membership criteria.”

“The General Manager was surprised that no green fees could be charged. He had very little knowledge of MISGA. “

“The dining pavilion is next to the club house and can seat over 100 no different than Bowie has or what Hog Neck has, Also Glade Valley and Compass Pointe which has a tent set up that comment was made without thought by whoever wrote it

The following clubs have no dues structure either, Rattlewood, Bowie, Compass Pointe and Patuxent Greens. Timbers fall into that category. I am not sure about Hog Neck

We have lost Walden, Rolling Road and from what I have been told Argyle is dropping out and maybe River House at Easton club is in financial straights. Not adding new clubs would be a mistake.”

“ It is a nice course and I am in favor of admitting the club to MISGA. It is an option I would like to provide to my members. I concur with comments about the membership issue and the dining. There seem to me to be a number of courses with similar membership programs, which are also daily fee, which are also in MISGA. The outdoor pavilion is ample for a mixer, and like Hog Neck, their indoor dining option is limited.

I think the report is accurate and well done. Obviously the membership issue and dining capacity will be discussed, but hopefully, it will be pointed out that these issues are similar to other MISGA clubs which have successful track records.”

“I have several problems. First, I am not really sure about the interest in MISGA, in as much as the only person to meet with the evaluation team and discuss everything was the General Manager who was not

very well informed. This is the only time I know of when the persons who will be leading the club were not present. This has left a very bad impression on me. I know the proposed leaders are presently MISGA associates, but that does not mean they know the in's and out's of what is required of a MISGA Rep.

Second, they do not have a senior organization. They do have the "Players Club", but that includes anyone, regardless of age, who pays their \$65.00. This is not a senior organization. They are just hoping to recruit enough out of this "club" to make a senior organization.

I would like to see them get organized, set up a senior organization where they can present us with a members list as our rules call for, set up a dues structure, and then meet with the evaluation committee with all of the t's crossed and the l's dotted. I feel they are not ready."

A letter of recommendation by the Division VI Director is attached. He has contacted 7 of his clubs and they are in favor of admitting this club.

For the Evaluation Committee,

Thomas D. Taylor

Membership Chairman

August 31, 2014



## EVALUATION OF THE TIMBERS AT TROY GOLF COURSE

The MISGA evaluation team composed of Carl Lazar, Greg Morris, Tom Taylor and Tom Tarpley we met with the general manager of the course Kevin Smith on July 31, 2014. The new club agreement was gone over with Kevin and he understood and agreed to the items on the agreement, which is signed and attached.

At the present time they have an active senior group which I feel will grow once the club is approved, **due to the fact that many of their regular players have shown interest and have asked for MISGA.**

The course itself has a set of senior tees that plays to just over 5600 yards. There is a driving range with both grass tees and mats. They have a putting green as well.

They have their own kitchen facilities and can seat up to 150 people

We have already found a club rep in Jim Howlin and assistant rep in Frank Frodyma, both who are in MISGA at other clubs and are presently playing at this course.

The club has 75 carts at this time.

They maintain a USGA handicap service through MSGA but no handicap chairman as of yet.

They are experienced in setting up and running outings and can generate scorecards for our mixers.

They plan to hold mixers on Tuesdays at this time

The course is situated with easy access to route 95 and also route 100 which will make travel there easy for visiting clubs.

They do have one Automatic Defibrillator and it is serviced monthly, they do not have a warning system for bad weather.

We played the course and found the conditions to be very good, I was able to play the ball down all the way around the course.

Barring no objections I feel The Timbers at Troy will make an excellent addition to MISGA,

Carl Lazar

Division Director Division VI

**MISGA ASSOCIATE DUES SUMMARY FOR 2013 AND 2014**

TOTAL CLUBS	58	2013	2014	2014					2013	2014	2014	
<b>DIVISION I</b>	<b>CLUB</b>	<b>PAID</b>	<b>Reported</b>	<b>Paid</b>	<b>DIFF</b>	<b>DIVISION IV</b>	<b>CLUB</b>	<b>PAID</b>	<b>Reported</b>	<b>Paid</b>	<b>DIFF</b>	
CRIPPLE CREEK	101	70	80		10	ARGYLE	432	67	53		14	
EAGLE CREEK	104	51	55		4	HOBBITS GLEN	434	98	108		10	
MAPLE DALE	106	24	24		0	KENWOOD	435	118	124		6	
ROOKERY NORTH	111	52	52		0	MANOR	437	112	102		10	
WILD QUAIL	115	47	50		3	MONTGOMERY	438	103	96		7	
GARRISONS LAKE	117	57	42		15	NORBECK	440	84	85		1	
JONATHAN'S LNDG	121	49	44		5	LEISURE WORLD	441	80	84		4	
SUSSEX PINES	123	16	15		1	BRETTON WOODS	442	81	86		5	
BEAR TRAP DUNES	125	58	61		3							
HOOPERS LANDING	126	7	10		3							
Division TOTALS	10	431	433	433	2	Division TOTALS	8	743	738	738	5	
<b>DIVISION II</b>	<b>CLUB</b>	<b>PAID</b>	<b>Reported</b>	<b>Paid</b>	<b>DIFF</b>	<b>DIVISION V</b>	<b>CLUB</b>	<b>PAID</b>	<b>Reported</b>	<b>Paid</b>	<b>DIFF</b>	
BEAVER CREEK	214	66	62		4	EASTERN SHORE	503	21	21		0	
HOLLY HILLS	216	37	28		9	ELKS	505	0	10		10	
HUNT VALLEY	217	41	33		8	GREEN HILL	507	15	17		2	
PINEY BRANCH	218	27	25		2	NUTTER'S	511	40	46		6	
ROLLING ROAD	219	20	0		20	OCEAN CITY	513	42	35		7	
SPARROWS POINT	220	45	37		8	OCEAN PINES	514	68	64		4	
GLADE VALLEY	224	68	64		4	GREAT HOPE	519	23	24		1	
QUAIL VALLEY	226	55	46		9	DEER RUN	522	37	29		8	
WESTMINSTER NATL	227	37	33		4	BAY CLUB	523	20	6		14	
WINTERS RUN	228	34	22		12							
RATTLEWOOD	229	64	66		2							
CHALLEDON	230	44	57		13							
CRESS CREEK	231	40	36		4							
MUSKET RIDGE	232	80	78		2							
FOUNTAIN HEAD	233	50	36		14							
Division TOTALS	15	708	623	664	85	Division TOTALS	9	266	252	252	14	
<b>DIVISION III</b>	<b>CLUB</b>	<b>PAID</b>	<b>Reported</b>	<b>Paid</b>	<b>DIFF</b>	<b>DIVISION VI</b>	<b>CLUB</b>	<b>PAID</b>	<b>Reported</b>	<b>Paid</b>	<b>DIFF</b>	
CAROLINE	302	13	17		4	BAY HILLS	610	72	69		3	
CHESTER RIVER	303	58	67		9	CHARTWELL	623	41	35		6	
HARBOURTOWNE	305	41	44		3	CROFTON	625	82	103		21	
PROSPECT BAY	309	87	93		6	PATUXENT GREEN	627	32	29		3	
RIVER HOUSE	319	47	36		11	NATIONAL (Tantallon)	629	71	72		1	
CLEARVIEW	320	25	22		3	UNIV. OF MD	630	43	49		6	
HOG NECK	322	43	42		1	US NAVAL ACDMY	631	112	99		13	
						WALDEN	636	34	0		34	
						BOWIE	641	50	48		2	
						FAIRWAY HILLS	642	98	95		3	
						CROSS CREEK	645	53	41		12	
						COMPASS POINTE	646	82	64		18	
Division TOTALS	7	286	321	241	35	Division TOTALS	12	770	704	699	66	
<b>GRAND TOTALS</b>	<b>PAID</b>	<b>Reported</b>				<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>Clubs</b>					
2014	3027	3071				2014	58					
2013	3204					2013	61					
2011	3582					2011	68					
2010	3667					2010	65					
2009	3710											
2008	3845											