

MISGAGRAM

August, 1999

Volume 58

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

The MISGA season is now in full swing. It looks like participation at most clubs will be above 1998 levels and that is encouraging.

Numerous applications for the fall frolics indicates a great deal of enthusiasm. Jekyll Island is full! Sea Trail is filling up.

Our Winter Fling 2000 will be held at Cape Coral near Fort Myers, Florida from Feb. 6, to Feb. 12, 2000. Applications are included in this MISGAGRAM. This is a classy frolic and is relatively inexpensive for high season in Florida. Last year 80 Associates and their wives attended and everyone enjoyed it immensely.

Please join us for a week at Cape Coral. We look forward to seeing many of you there.

Paul Desmond

A SALUTE TO CLUB REPS

The Club Reps are the "stuff" of MISGA. They are the unsung heroes whose responsibilities are manifold and complex. They must deal with Associates, club management and the MISGA hierarchy in a politic way. They work diligently to ensure the best MISGA experiences for us.

Club Reps are the primary communicators to you the Associate. They keep you abreast not only of your mixers, but also of Division and MISGA Tournaments as well as spring, fall and winter trips. They can answer your questions about these events.

Club Reps are very special people. They take great interest and pride in their jobs. One might characterize them as dedicated, knowledgeable, tireless, well-organized, tactful, patient and good communicators as well as good listeners. Their reward is mainly the knowledge and pride in a job well done.

The Club Reps provide the cadre from which most of the MISGA hierarchy is drawn. They become our leaders who will chart the paths along which MISGA will be propelled into the 21st century. MISGA'S progress, growth and maturation to the prominence which it holds in seniors golf today is directly attributable to the Club Reps. I urge you to encourage, support and appreciate your Club Rep. He is truly an unsung hero.

Sam Hastings
Argyll CC

FUN AT THE WINTER FROLIC IN CAPE CORAL, FLORIDA



MISGAGRAM

August, 1999

Volume 58

SPRING FLING WINNERS - Men

May 17 Wild Quail Low Net

1st: R Blanchard	K Witkiewicz	R Perry	J Gaskill
2nd: W Dailey	C Fieldhouse	H Conover	R Green
3rd: D Winchester	J Winder	T Tarpley	V McGugan

May 17 Maple Dale Low Net

1st: P Orr	J Lee	B Talemal	R Kroeger
2nd: L Wesco	N Bass	E Daino	B Rippeon
3rd: D Pietruszka	A Simms	B Naugle	H Laggner

May 18 Wild Quail Low Net

1st: D Rowden	I Clayton	O Jefferson	H Breitbach
2nd: G Marcus	P Keiser	W Davis	G Chufar
3rd: F Liebert	B Borisko	W Thurman	E Nixon

May 18 Maple Dale Low Net

1st: G Chabott	J Smith	T Collier	G Nelson
2nd: G Swain	D Benchi	F Page	B Wilson
3rd: H Sipe	G Sweeney	D Thomas	J Hardy

LADIES

May 17 Low Net

1st: M Baysinger	A Mc Namara	B Perry	L Sieling
2nd: J Christy	S Cooper	B Hardy	L Page
3rd: S Hunt	H McGugan	R Rowden	O Truax

May 18 Low Net

1st: J Chufar	R Delia	R Nisbet	V Pond
2nd: M Clayton	V Orr	J Smith	E Tawes
3rd: P Adkins	A Daino	J Hutchings	P Johnson

MEN Wild Quail Low Gross

May 17 May 18

1st: G Chabbott	L Wesko
2nd: D Williams	D Pietruszka

MEN Maple Dale Low Gross

1st: L Wesko	D Williams
2nd: C Bradley	D Hunt

HOLE IN ONE

Congratulations to **George Chaney**, a long -time West Winds MISGA member. His 8 iron tee shot on the 5th hole of his home course found the cup for his first ever hole-in-one. The visiting team this happy August 3rd was Hunt Valley. Both clubs are in Division 2.

FUN AT THE SPRING FLING



MISGAGRAM

August, 1999

Volume 58

TWO MAN TEAM TOURNAMENT RESULTS

Division 2

1st: Jerome Tucker / Bill Ricketts	Beaver Creek
2nd: Bob Cohill / Charlie Mangus	Rolling Road
3rd: Bud Bachtell / Bill Foreman	Beaver Creek
4th: Frank Damon / Tony Palerino	Westwinds
5th: Paul Hulleberg / Bill Brown	Piney Branch
6th: Larry Lowman / Petey Bates	Beaver Creek
7th: Jim O'Neil / Jim Fleck	Rolling Road
8th: Dick Walsh / Pat Mc Cormack	Westwinds
9th: Frank McGowan / Bob Myklebust	Sparrows Point

Division 3

1st: Dick Hartzel / Warren Smith	Crofton
2nd: Jerry Shearer / Duane Robbins	Bowie
3rd: Bob Lucas / Al Newman	Bowie
4th: Phil Peluso / Basil Duncan	Walden
5th: Pete Sorge / Bob West	Tantallon
6th: Jack Belanger / Tom Davis	Bowie
7th: Gene Cleary / Robert Madden	Walden
8th: Al Squerrini / Lou Zanaro	Crofton
9th: Doug Pond / John Sokolowski	Walden

Division 4

1st: Charlie Bauman / Jim Garner	Montgomery Village
2nd: Francis Yi / Steve Grenleski	Hobbits Glen
3rd: Jim Spencer / Henry Lucas	Montgomery Village
4th: Ed Wralton / Jim Nanyakaka	Montgomery
5th: Doana Kiechel / Jim Troutman	Kenwood
6th: John Ligon / Charlie Lewis	Montgomery
7th: Tom Twigg / Frank Farinella	Montgomery
8th: Dan Waldman / Sam Bernstein	Leisure World
9th: Lee Peters / Joe Heaps	Hobbits Glen

ABCD TOURNAMENT RESULTS

Division 2

Bear Creek	Tom Bosley	Ken Schochey
	Bob Freedenburg	Frank Sobus
	Carl Merchant	

Beaver Creek	V Schultz
--------------	-----------

Glade Valley	Bob Huzzy	F Mc Gowan
	R Larue	J Ward
	C Matthews	

Hunt Valley	Tom McNamara	Bill Snyder
-------------	--------------	-------------

Piney Branch	Dick Allchin	Charlie Fieldhouse
	Ed Compher	

Rolling Road	Bob Slaght	Buck Brennan
--------------	------------	--------------

Sparrows Point	Paul Tippet	Bill Dickinson
----------------	-------------	----------------

Division 3

Bowie	John Bass	Al Newman
	Tom Keehn	Duane Robbins
	Ray Keeler	Warren Smith
	Bob Lucas	Ed Winkis

Chartwell	Jim Hudson	
Crofton	George Sampson	Dave Stevenson

Patuxent Greens	Ric Cook	
Tantallon	Jack Brady	Dick Stearns

Walden	Don LeCrone	Bill Rupp
	Richard Myers	Skip O'Dea

Division 4

Argyle	O Peters	E Koch
	D Haney	
Hobbits Glen	Bill Rowe	Lou Buchsbaum
	Joe Heaps	Greg Howard
	Frances Yi	Harry Bowie
	Joe Booker	Robert Banks
	Richard Ward	Fred Chaney
	Ron Doub	Paul Ramsey
Kenwood	Chuck Larson	Mac Ross
	Jim Snyder	Jim Kasab
	Ed Semans	Lin Steinko
	Steve Munger	
Leisure World	Tom Berilla	Hal Levy
	Ray Shaffer	
Manor	Joe Cardaci	
Montgomery	T. Bugenhagen	Ed Wratten
	Ken Sleeman	John Oravec
	John Babyak	
Montgomery Village	C. Thompson	Bill Finlayson
	Jim Spencer	
Norbeck	Larry Blaken	Wayne Edwards
	Charlie Bauman	

Golf Trivia Michigan led all states last year in golf course construction with 34 new course openings. Florida has 81 under construction, California 79 and Michigan 63.

Letters to the editor

HANDICAPS

There have been several articles in our MISGAGRAMS about handicaps. The noted golf author, Larry Dennis, wrote: "What a handicap does - It lets golfers of different skill levels play on an equal footing."

Lets leave it at that and look at Article II of our MISGA Constitution - which says in part "Its goal is to foster friendships and camaraderie etc." It is having a drink together while watching the sun sink into the Atlantic at Seabrook, it is seeing your buddy come back with titanium knees, heart surgery, or whatever and playing a round of golf with him again.

Does anyone REALLY NEED another pair of socks or another sleeve of balls? Let us not lose sight of our goal - to have fun!!!!

Vernon Rippeon
Glade Valley

SHOTGUN STARTS

A shotgun start means teeing off at a designated time not heading for the tee at or after the designated starting time.

MISGAGRAM

August, 1999

Volume 58

Letters to the editor (cont)

If we start late we tie up the course past our allocated time. The pros cannot let club members use the course or tee off at their reserved times. The membership becomes angered at MISGA.

Reps should inform players that they must check in 15 minutes prior to a shotgun tee time. Late comers should not be allowed to play that day. It is understood that highway problems can occur. It would be helpful if those members with cell phones called the pro shop and alerted it to the problem.

We should encourage our pros to have players on the starting tees at the designated starting time.

Charles Fieldhouse
Piney Branch CC

Handicaps and Tee Placements

According to the organizational Constitution, MISGA ... "was founded to develop greater interest, enjoyment, communication, and participation in golf by senior members of golf clubs..., and to foster friendships and camaraderie through tournaments and mixers..."

In my opinion the primary mission and goal of MISGA is being pushed aside and into the background. Too many Associates have become all too concerned with winning. There is nothing wrong with winning. We all like to win. ... I believe this concern for winning may have created a divisive situation within MISGA - lower handicappers vs higher handicappers. If this problem persists, it may have a negative impact on MISGA membership and participation. As I understand it, overall MISGA membership and participation have been on the decline in recent years. This is the last thing our organization needs.

Lower handicappers contend that they are at an unfair disadvantage because of the number of strokes higher handicappers are given during a mixer or tournament. They maintain that they have only a remote chance of standing on the victory podium. I have heard low handicappers complain that they had lost a hole with a

birdie because a high handicapper won with a par and two strokes for a net eagle...If each player's handicap is accurate and valid, why is it unfair?

As a result of this perceived disadvantage, Divisions III and IV and a number of other clubs are experimenting with allowing each Associate 90% of course handicap during some mixers according to USGA recommendations. It is believed that this will solve the perceived problem.

A majority of MISGA mixers are the "two-best-balls-of-four" format and MISGA mixer teams are essentially equal in total team handicap...Hence, application of the 90% allowance is unnecessary...

With tee placements, most lower handicapped players prefer the "middle" (white) tees; while most higher handicappers, older Associates, and Associates with physical disabilities prefer the "forward" (gold) tees. Lower handicappers claim that the "forward" tees mess up their swing, make club selection more difficult, and have a negative impact on their course handicaps (i.e., lower their handicap index). Higher handicappers maintain that the "middle" tee placements make the course too long which places them at an unfair disadvantage to longer hitting, lower handicappers. Also, higher handicappers argue that MISGA is for seniors and the "forward" tee placements are established for seniors, so why not use them?

To address the tee placement problem, a few MISGA clubs have implemented a compromise system. If an Associate's handicap plus age is equal to or greater than 90, that Associate may play from the "forward" tee. All other associates will play from the "middle" tees...

Winning is not supposed to be the primary objective of mixers...To de-emphasize winning, MISGA has placed a \$4.00 per player limit on prize pools. Hence, 1st place does not provide the winning team with a big mega-bucks payday. The winnings, with a couple of bucks from your own pocket, will allow you to

MISGAGRAM

August, 1999

Volume 58

purchase a 3-pack of socks, a golf glove, a sleeve of balls, etc. in the pro shop...

Whether you prefer the 100% or 90% of handicap allowance, "middle" tees or "forward" tees, or combinations of each, the prime consideration should be what is best for MISGA. Of these options, which will most effectively ensure the growth and stability of membership and participation in MISGA?

Now how about the problem of too many "sandbaggers"?

Lloyd Stimson
Tantallon CC

145 yard, 12th hole of West Winds. Way to go Tony!!!!!!



A DIVISION II WRITER

Division II claims a famous writer as one of its own!!!

A well-published author of humorous golf stories and anecdotes is none other than Jack Winder. "Professor Mulligan Cleek" one of the authors latest characters is off in search of the origin of golf. See the current and back issues of the "Washington Golf Monthly." You could be the object of humor for one of Jack's articles. He also plays golf well but not always as well as he writes!!

Tom Tarpley
Holly Hill CC

THE 'TREE' WOOD

On Thursday, the 8th of April, while playing with my regular weekly foursome, I tried to cut the dog-leg 16th hole at Argyle CC. As you can see from the photo below I was not successful as the ball lodged in the bark of a maple tree.

I asked a member of my group if this was an unplayable lie and was informed that it was not. He suggested I use a "TREE" wood.

Bill Bond
Argyle CC



HOLE IN ONE

From West Winds comes the report that **Tony Palerino**, a two year, avid MISGA participant, has recorded aces in each of the past two years, both with his trusty 7 wood. The first was August 5, 1998 on the 140 yard 6th hole of Kingswood Golf Club in Wolfeboro, New Hampshire. The second was February 16, 1999 on the

MISGA DEATHS

Elks
Sussex Pines

William Niblett
Len Cannatelli
Carmen Gaito

Kenwood

John Hitchens
James Pringle
Thomas J. Jenkins

Leisure World

Gerry Collins
Charles Berney
Kenneth Woodring

Seaford

Luigi Ricci
Barney Davis
Bill Dennis

Caroline
Chester River
Bethesda
Wakefield V.

Jake Minner
Claude Anthony
William Gross
William Toohey
Alfred R. Esten

VFW
Shawnee

Bob Bowers
Bill Stultz
Charles Futcher

Dick Hunt
MISGAGRAM
14520 Faraday Drive
Rockville, MD 20853

Bulk Rate
US Postage Paid
Permit #3539
Rockville, MD

DAMAGED IN HANDLING
IN THE POSTAL SERVICE



Editorial

The year 2000 is not just the millennium or the year of Y2K. It also marks the 25th anniversary of the founding of MISGA. The Board of Directors has requested that we recognize our beginning with a special issue of the MISGAGRAM to be published in April of 2000. This means there will not be a February issue. The flyer announcing the Spring Fling, which usually accompanies the February issue, will be mailed under separate cover.

To make the Silver Anniversary issue meaningful, we need your input. Below is a list of ideas to jog your thoughts.

1. Pictures of Associates who were members of the first MISGA class;
2. Articles describing what MISGA means to you;
3. Nomination of your favorite golf hole from a MISGA course;
4. Your favorite story from a MISGA mixer;
5. A list of Associates who were members during our first year;
6. Pictures you might have from our early years;
7. Anything you think may be appropriate for this special issue.

Please send your ideas to me at the address on the front of the MISGAGRAM. I look forward to hearing from you. Thanks!!

THE COSTA RICA TRIP IS ON!!!!

Sam Hastings reports that enough members are interested in going to Costa Rica to make the trip possible. (see the last MISGAGRAM) There are still a few openings. Contact Sam at 301-598-6171 if you are interested!

A REPORT ON THE EFFECT OF UTILIZING 90% vs. 100% HANDICAP IN A MISGA MIXER

WHERE NET BEST TWO OF FOUR SCORES ARE COUNTED

C. J. Myers - Director, Division IV

August 1, 1999

Throughout the many years of our existence, numerous MISGA Associates have discussed the pro's and con's of playing our inter-club Mixers at full 100% handicap versus a lesser amount. Some argue that the lower handicap players find it very difficult to be competitive with higher handicap players when full 100% is utilized. Others argue that the USGA handicap system which we employ takes care of this matter, making the situation equitable for everyone.

Earlier this year MISGA Division IV decided to ascertain, through a limited sample of Mixer scores, if significant differences in the winning teams would prevail if 90% were utilized instead of 100% (or vice versa). The following pertinent data, extracted from all six Mixers under review, is offered as a sufficient sample to at least form some opinions if not draw some reasonable conclusions.

The author would like to give credit and thanks to Joe Navarro, Club Rep. at Bethesda C. C. and John Babyak, Club Rep. at Montgomery C. C. who contributed and analyzed the data for four of the Mixers involved.

April 29, 1999 Kenwood at Manor

17 foursome teams 5 teams won prize money Event played at 90%

<u>90%</u>		<u>100%</u>	
<u>Place</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Score</u>
1	121	1	119
2	125	2	120
3	125	3	120
4	128	4	122
5	131	5	127
6	134	7	132
7	135	6	131

Note that the 6th and 7th place teams would exchange places if 100% were used, however both were out of the money.

May 7, 1999 Montgomery at Bethesda

13 foursome teams 4 teams won prize money Event played at 90%

<u>90%</u>		<u>100%</u>	
<u>Place</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Score</u>
1	127	1	123
2	131	2	126
3	132	3	129
4	133	6	130
5	133	5	129
6	134	7	130
7	134	10	132
8	135	4	129
9	136	9	131
10	137	8	130

Note that the 4th place team (at 90%) would have not won money if 100% were used; the 6th place team would have won instead.

May 18, 1999 **Chartwell and Glade Valley at Montgomery**

28 foursome teams 8 teams won prize money Event played at 100%

<u>Team #</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>100%</u>		<u>Place</u>	<u>Score</u>
		<u>Place</u>	<u>Score</u>		
18A	1		122	1	127
4	2		126	3	131
17B	3		127	4	132
18B	4		127	2	130
14A	5		129	5	134
9B	6		131	7	136
7A	7		131		137
2B	8		132		137
6			132	6	136
16			133	8	137

Note that teams #6 and #16 were not in the money as the event was played but would be if 90% were used

May 25, 1999 **Manor at Lakewood**

25 foursome teams 7 teams won prize money Event played at 100%

<u>Team #</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>100%</u>		<u>Place</u>	<u>Score</u>
		<u>Place</u>	<u>Score</u>		
18	1		122	1	125
17	2		123	2	127
15	3		123	3	127
13	4		126	4	130
25	5		128	8	135
19	6		130	6	134
10	7		131	5	132
4	8		131	7	135

Note that team #4 would have been in the money and team #25 would have slipped out of the money if 90% were used.

May 25, 1999 **Bethesda and Montgomery Village at Montgomery**

24 foursome teams 7 teams won prize money (1 gross, 6 net) Event played at 100%

<u>Team #</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>100%</u>		<u>Place</u>	<u>Score</u>
		<u>Place</u>	<u>Score</u>		
2	1		126	1	130
10A	2		129	2	130
10B	3		131	5	137
16B	4		131	3	133
6	5		133	4	136
15	6		133	6	138

June 18, 1999 **Walden at Bethesda**

12 foursome teams 4 teams won prize money Event played at 90%

<u>Place</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>100%</u>	
		<u>Place</u>	<u>Score</u>
1	125	2	122
2	126	1	120
3	126	3	122
4	126	6	126
5	131	4	126

OVERALL CONCLUSION: *The same teams win in either case - only the order of finish is affected !*