

MISGA GRAM

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www.MISGA.org



Golf season is winding down and now is the time to plan to participate at the Fall Frolics at *Fripp Island* and *Amelia Island* in November. They are wonderful venues and the price is very reasonable. Application forms and information are available on the MISGA web site. Also, don't forget the Winter Fling at *Crystal River* in February. I will be there as usual.

In my article in the July issue of the MISGAgram, I mentioned that MISGA is supporting Operation Second Chance this year through voluntary donations. This worthwhile charity aids veterans wounded in Iraq and Afghanistan. There is still time to make a donation if you have not already done so. Contact **Charlie Fieldhouse**, our drive chairman. Contact information can be found on the MISGA web site at www.misga.org.

I am pleased to announce that MISGA has added four new clubs this year. Thanks to the effort of Tom Taylor and his Membership Committee, the following clubs are now included in our growing organization: *Bear Trap Dunes*, *Beach Club*, *Fairway Hills*, and *Ft. Meade*.

Continuing our push to enforce fair play at mixers and tournaments, most club reps ask their pros to announce at the start of play that all balls that will be used to score must hit the bottom of the cup; no gimmes. Of course, all players should observe USGA rules. You can't improve your lie anywhere. If you are faced with a difficult lie, remember you are the one who hit the ball there. So deal with it according to the rules. I have noticed that some Associates don't know how to take a drop. You cannot simply toss the ball onto a piece of turf; drop the ball from shoulder height no closer to the hole. Let's all play by the rules.

This summer I have noticed some creative ways to add interest to mixers. In addition to the usual two best balls of the foursome, here are a couple of new ideas your club may try next year. Have two flights, one for the A, B players, and a second flight for the C and D players. Both flights have winners, paying first, second, and third places equally. This arrangement means players are competing against others with similar handicaps. Others have tried 666. Single best ball for the first six holes, two best balls for the second six holes, and three best balls for the last six holes. Another scheme is 123: single best ball on the par 5s, two best balls on the par 4s and three best balls on the par 3s. Encourage your club rep to mix things up a bit!

I am always impressed with what a fine organization we have, and the many fine people we meet "mixing it up" with other clubs. Where else could you have so much fun on the golf course?

Byron Keadle, who has done such a fine job as our Web Master for several years, will be MISGA president for 2009 so this is my last article for the MISGAgram. Congratulate Byron when you see him.

Bob Turner, President

**Maryland
Interclub
Seniors Golf
Association**

President
Bob Turner

Vice President
Byron Keadle

Secretary
John Babyak

Treasurer
Gary Sorrell

The **MISGAgram** is the official newsletter of the organization mailed free to all Associates four times each year. The mission of the 'gram is to provide information of common interest to all association members. The 'gram also can be read at www.misga.org.

The publication months for the **MISGAgram** are:

April
July
September
December

Noteworthy events and announcement for away activities, and articles of general interest may be submitted to the editor at any time for printing. The closing dates for publication are:

15 March (April)
01 June (July)
01 September (Sept.)
10 November (Dec.)

All materials should be sent via e-mail to:

hahome@verizon.net

H. A. Hanson
MISGAgram Editor

CRYSTAL RIVER, FLORIDA 2009 MISGA WINTER FLING

The 2009 MISGA WINTER FLING will be held, once again, at the *Plantation Inn and Golf Resort*, Crystal River, Florida; a lovely resort with many sightseeing areas nearby.

We arrive on Sunday, February 22 after 3:00 p.m. and depart on Saturday, February 28 before 11:00 a.m.

DINING AGENDA: Breakfast daily Monday through Saturday; Buffet Dinners Sunday, Monday, Tuesday and Thursday at 6:00 p.m., with a cash bar open at 5:30 p.m.; Friday will be a Hosted Cocktail Party (6:00 - 7:00 p.m.) followed by a sit down dinner. There will be music for your dancing pleasure on Thursday evening. **You will receive dinner choices when we meet for dinner Sunday evening.

GOLFING AGENDA: Monday - 8:30 a.m. Shotgun - Scramble (everyone, including 9-hole ladies participate); Tuesday, Thursday and Friday - 8:30 a.m. Shotgun with daily formats by groups: 9- Hole Ladies/Executive Course and 18-Hole Ladies and Men/Regulation Course. Events and teams will be posted at least one day prior to play.

Please note: Tuesday, Thursday and Friday we will sit with our golfing partners and their spouses.

MISGA Associates must submit a registration form and a check for payment in full to the address on the form

Bob McIntyre

Reminders

Don't Forget to Vote: National election day is Tuesday, 04 November. For those who intend to vote this year and will be attending the Fall Frolic, and others who will be away the first week of November, remember to obtain an absentee ballot and submit it before you leave.

Operation Second Chance: As we go to press, the drive for donations for *Operation Second Chance* is moderately successful; only about one-half of the goal set for this fund drive has been achieved. Much more is needed. Please contribute to help these wounded service personnel and their families who have given so much for their country. When you're sitting in the nineteenth hole celebrating your round of golf with your golfing pals, remember those who have sacrificed so much for us and resolve to send a contribution for *Operation Second Chance* to **Charlie Fieldhouse**, 18400 Foreston Road, Parkton MD 21120.

An End-of-season Thought: As we near the end of the golfing season in this part of the country, we should all be extra vigilant to fix our divots and to repair our ball marks on the greens. Think '*plus-one*'; when you repair your own damage; make it a point to fix one additional divot or one additional ball mark. The better the condition in which we leave the course in the fall at the end of the season, the better the golf course condition for the next season in the spring. We owe it to ourselves; these are our golf courses we are caring for.

APPLICATION - PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION

MISGA FLORIDA WINTER FLING 2009

Plantation Inn and Golf Resort, Crystal River, Florida
February 22 – 27, 2009

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Cell: _____

E-Mail: _____

MISGA CLUB: _____ Phone _____

Wife or Guest: _____ Club: _____

Accommodations: Smoking: _____ Non-Smoking: _____

CATEGORY (Circle appropriate line)

1. Couple - 2 golfers: _____ **\$1745**
2. Couple - 1 golfer: _____ **\$1580**
Specify if spouse/guest is: **9-Hole** ____; **18-Hole** ____
3. Single golfer: _____ **\$1260**

Note: Patio doubles and kings have an additional \$10.00 per night charge plus 9% tax, please check here **YES** **NO**
(Do not include this amount in your application, it will be taken care of when you check out.)

Early Arrival Rate: \$97.00 plus 9% tax and \$5.00 resort-fee per night. Call resort to book: 1-800-632-6262

Send Application and check payable to **MISGA Winter Fling** to:

Bob McIntyre
19 Boatswain Drive
Ocean Pines, MD 21811

Questions: Call Bob at 410-208-0101 E-Mail: bnmac@verizon.net

My spouse or guest and I agree to indemnify MISGA for any physical damage to the golf course, golf carts, equipment and resort facilities incurred due to our negligence and to abide by Article IX Code of Conduct.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Summer Fling at Carroll Valley 2008

The weather was truly amazing. The food was outstanding! All appreciated the organization and implementation of the event, by **Tom Taylor** and his many helpers. The golf course was a snap to some and a bit tricky for others.

The attendance was somewhat limited as a result of a scheduling error. However, several new faces were present and said they were going back to their clubs and tell their friends about what a good time they missed. Next years date has been set for the second week in September; please make plans now to attend. And yes, **J. Ewalt**, the women played early, not last. Following are a few photos taken at the dinner on Wednesday. How many of these folks can you identify?

President **Bob Turner** acknowledged **Tom Taylor's** service to MISGA. A plaque for his service to Division II and chairing the Summer Flings was presented to **Tom T**(aylor). by **Tom T**(arpley).

*Tom T*arpley, Sec. Div. II



Photos by Tom T.

Editors note: The Summer Fling at *Carroll Valley* next year will be September 16 and 17, 2009. The MISGA Board will meet on Tuesday, 15 September.

Recently Deceased

Robert (Bob) H. Fuchs, past President of MISGA, died in Lewes, Delaware in August at the age of 97. He was an avid golfer and yachting enthusiast who had retired from the US government after 35 years of service in a variety of capacities.

Two-Man Team Championship Tournament

A total of 124 players (62 teams) participated in the Two-Man Team Championship Tournament played at *Ocean Pines Y.C.* on 14 August 2008. It was a very warm day but plenty of cold water was located throughout the course to keep everyone hydrated. The course was in good condition and, with the help of several spotters at troublesome locations, play was completed in approximately five hours.

All participants enjoyed a box lunch prior to the 12 noon shotgun start and were served a delicious sit-down meal at the *Ocean Pines Yacht Club* at the awards banquet that evening. The host Club Rep, **Mark Teaney**, and the Division Tournament Chairman, **Rick Bisker**, are to be commended for the excellent job of organizing and planning this event. Although there was an error made in misreading one of the scorecards the Golf Pro, **Sean Fischbeck**, and his staff did a timely job of scorekeeping and breaking ties. The following teams won trophies or prize money:

1 st	60 (net)	Bernie Grossman & Ian Forrest	<i>Piney Branch</i>
2 nd	60	Dennis Reese & Larry Able	<i>Bay Hills</i>
3 rd	60	Bob Siegel & Howard Martin	<i>Montgomery</i>
4 th	62	David Wallerstein & George Blair	<i>Crofton</i>
5 th	62	John Seek & Dick Watkins	<i>Norbeck</i>
6 th	63	Dick Martin & Wally Hoff	<i>Rattlewood</i>
7 th	63	R. J. Dominic & Roger Heeger	<i>Bear Trap Dunes</i>
8 th	63	Jerry Moxley & Russel Stoneman	<i>Patuxent Greens</i>
9 th	63	Bill Duvall & Tom Phelps	<i>Prospect Bay</i>
10 th	64	Jim Hawke & Walt Curran	<i>Bear Trap Dunes</i>
11 th	64	Tom Cronin & Ralph Menton	<i>Ocean Pines</i>
12 th	64	Douglas Rowe & Lonnie Ramos	<i>Marlborough</i>
13 th	65	John Wright & Walter Hann	<i>Quail Valley</i>



Pictured above (left) with the champions trophies awarded by Tournament Chairman **C. J. Myers** are **Bernie Grossman** and **Ian Forrest** from *Piney Branch*. Also pictured (right) are the runner-up trophies awarded by the Tournament Chairman to **Dennis Reese** and **Larry Able** from *Bay Hills*.

C. J. Myers

A-B-C-D Past Presidents Tournament

A total of 116 players including MISGA President **Bob Turner** and five Past Presidents participated in the A-B-C-D Championship Tournament held 04 August 2008 at *Piney Branch C.C.*

Piney Branch is a tough golf course to score well on because of its length and elevated undulating fast greens. For this tournament, however, the course was set up for a reasonable length of just under 6,000 yards and the pin placements were reasonable. These conditions, plus the use of 16 volunteer MISGA spotters at troublesome locations, helped to maintain a very good pace of play resulting in everyone finishing in slightly over five hours.

Our host Club Rep, **Joe Marschall**, did an outstanding job of making all the arrangements including a buffet lunch prior to the noon shotgun start and a delicious sit-down served dinner at the awards banquet. The Golf Pro, **Jeff Zachman**, and his staff did an excellent job of scorekeeping, breaking ties, and determining the winners.

Low Gross Champion with a score of 78 was **Bob Haight** from *Argyle*. Low Net Champion with a score of 66 was **Bud Jarboe** from *Eagle Creek*. Each received a handsome desk clock trophy and the MISGA traveling large silver bowl to be displayed at their respective clubs for the next year.

Pictured below (left) is the Low-Gross winner **Bob Haight** being presented his trophy by Tournament Chairman **C. J. Myers**. Also pictured is the Low-Net winner **Bud Jarboe** with the Tournament Chairman.



In addition to the above, the other winners were:

<u>Flight A</u>	Low gross	Hall Dillon	81	<i>Montgomery Village</i>
	2 nd "	Larry Lewis	83	<i>Quail Valley</i>
	3 rd "	Alan Nichols	84	<i>VFW</i>
	4 th "	Gary Manion	85	<i>Norbeck</i>
	Low Net	Rene Duvall	71	<i>Prospect Bay</i>
	2 nd "	Bob Brewer	73	<i>Rattlewood</i>
	3 rd "	Russ Stoneman	74	<i>Patuxent Greens</i>
	4 th "	Richard Barbour	75	<i>Tantallon</i>
<u>Flight B</u>	Low gross	Dwight Short	85	<i>Tantallon</i>
	2 nd "	John Wright	87	<i>Quail Valley</i>
	3 rd "	Cris Smith	87	<i>Kenwood</i>
	4 th "	Michael Urquhart	87	<i>Kenwood</i>
	Low net	Joe McCollum	72	<i>Tantallon</i>
	2 nd "	Kim Himmelman	73	<i>Glade Valley</i>
	3 rd "	George Keenan	74	<i>Quail Valley</i>
	4 th "	Barry Nemeth	74	<i>Eagle Creek</i>
<u>Flight C</u>	Low gross	Henry Schoen	87	<i>Caroline</i>
	2 nd "	Paul Norris	90	<i>Hobbits Glen</i>
	3 rd "	Jim Paradise	91	<i>Rattlewood</i>
	4 th "	Bob Turner	91	<i>Lakewood</i>
	Low net	Bob Forshey	69	<i>Quail Valley</i>
	2 nd "	Ted Ifft	70	<i>Univ. of MD</i>
	3 rd "	Harry Goad	72	<i>Glade Valley</i>
	4 th "	Dave Bowen	72	<i>Eagle Creek</i>
<u>Flight D</u>	Low gross	C. J. Myers	93	<i>Manor</i>
	2 nd "	Pete Sorge	97	<i>Tantallon</i>
	3 rd "	Errol Myers	98	<i>Norbeck</i>
	4 th "	Greg Mattson	99	<i>Montgomery</i>
	Low net	Bob King	74	<i>Tantallon</i>
	2 nd "	Gonzalo Delfierro	75	<i>Bretton Woods</i>
	3 rd "	Derwin Kim	75	<i>Kenwood</i>
	4 th "	Steve Moss	77	<i>Norbeck</i>

On Marking Your Ball

By **Bill Brown**; *Piney Branch*

Placing unique and personal markings on your golf balls is a very useful and practical practice for all golfers. By this simple action, you can speed-up play, avoid the embarrassment of hitting the wrong ball and the penalties that accompany this action. More importantly, a good personal mark on your ball precludes the need to touch it or lift it in order to identify it. Usually your ball can be identified as yours from several paces allowing you to get ready to hit the proper ball, pronto. I have even had lost balls of mine returned after a round of golf because my "mark" was identifiable to others with whom I golf.

Marking your ball is a simple process. Use a permanent magic marker in the color of your choice. Put distinct markings on two sides of the ball usually on opposite sides of the logo. Be creative with your marks. The wife of one of the tour players is a graphic artist and draws elaborate pictures on her husband's golf balls. His lost golf balls are collectors' items.

Keep the marker in your golf bag. That way you can refresh marks on balls you've been using and newly found balls can be marked before putting them into play. If the marker is handy, you will find it convenient to apply your mark.

(This article was written by **Bill Brown** of *Piney Branch*, as part of the MISGA 2001 Rules and Handicap Project, a well-crafted set of 28 one-page articles on rules, etiquette, and handicapping, produced by former MISGA President **Sam Hall**'s Ad Hoc Committee on Rules and Handicaps. Those articles were handed out to the club reps in 2001, with the intent that they be posted or distributed at the clubs. Only a few were inserted into the MISGAgrams. To give these fine articles a new life and to provide "reminders" of rules, etiquette, etc., an effort will be made to use them somewhat regularly for future MISGAgrams.)

Dick Crone - Chairman, MISGA Rules and Handicap Committee

Consideration of Other Players

1. No one should move, talk or stand close to or directly behind the ball or the hole when a player is addressing the ball or making a stroke. Exception: During a Scramble competition, it is permissible to stand behind your partners when they putt.
2. On the putting green, players should take care not to walk or stand in the "line of putt" of other players. It matters not that one is wearing "soft spikes."
3. When tending the flagstick for another player, the proper position is at arms length from the stick with your shadow falling away from the line of putt.
4. The first player to hole out on a green is expected to stand ready to replace the flagstick.
5. After holing out on a green, it is good practice to immediately move to the next tee and mark the scorecard when you get there.
6. "Ready-Golf" helps speed play, but prior to playing a stroke or making a practice swing, the player should ensure that no one is standing close by or in a position to be hit by the club or ball.
7. If a player hits a bad shot, the player should forget that shot and move on to the next. Opponents and fellow competitors are not interested in hearing why the shot was executed badly.
8. If a player hits a bad shot, fellow competitors should resist the temptation to offer advice unless asked to do so.
9. Do not leave cigarette butts, cigar butts, sunflower shells, wrappers, cups or other kinds of trash on the course. Use trash receptacles.
10. When marking a ball on the green, the marker should be placed behind the ball without touching it. Do not place the ball mark to one side or in front of the ball.

(This is another of the papers prepared by the Ad Hoc Committee on Rules and Handicaps formed in 2001 by MISGA President **Sam Hall**. Editor)

MISGAgram

2107 Old Pine Road
Timonium, MD 21093

