



MISGAGRAM

Volume 126 – March 2016

www.misga.org

President's Message



Greetings fellow golfers. I am excited about the start of another year of golf. I am sure you are too.

By now, all of you should know your club's MISGA mixer and event schedule for 2016. Putting a MISGA schedule together is far from simple. The folks that work on it put forth significant effort. They work hard making phone calls, exchanging emails, and coordinating with their counterparts at other clubs to establish your club's schedule. I often think they are the unsung heroes of MISGA. Make sure you express your appreciation to the ones who

do this for your club. Give them a pat on the back and a cheerful, "thank you" every time you see them. They deserve it!

Several new USGA rules have recently become effective. One rule has to do with the posting of your score for handicap purposes when playing alone. You cannot do it. There is more information about this rule and others in an article in this issue of the MISGAGRAM. For exact details of these rule changes, refer to the 2016-2017 USGA Handicap System manual which is on the USGA website or contact someone on your Club's Handicap Committee for guidance on the new rules.

Have a wonderful 2016 MISGA year. I am proud and honored to be your President for 2016. Go play golf and have fun.

- Tom Rowlett

Opportunity Knocks

MISGA was approached by the Quicken Loans National folks to let our members know that they are seeking volunteers. If you are interested, go to the following web site for more information:

<http://www.tigerwoodsfoundation.org/events/national/tournament#national-volunteer>

Maryland Interclub Seniors Golf Association

President
Tom Rowlett

Vice President
Jim Wilcox

Secretary
John Babyak

Treasurer
Dick Schwinger

The MISGAGRAM is the official newsletter of the organization published on the web site four times each year. The mission of the MISGAGRAM is to provide information of common interest to association members.

The MISGAGRAM can be read or downloaded at: www.misga.org.

The publication months for the MISGAGRAM are:

- March
- June
- September
- December

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

- 10 March** (March)
- 10 June** (June)
- 20 Sept.** (September)
- 20 Dec.** (December)

All materials should be sent via e-mail to:

tgnome1@gmail.com

Bob Hodges
MISGAGRAM Editor

OBITUARIES

Thankfully, none.

The Lighter Side



Help Wanted

Looking for a Few (Two) Good Men!

Recently Gary Manion from Division IV - Norbeck CC was appointed as the Chairman of the MISGA Audit Committee. The MISGA By-Laws state the Audit Committee is to be comprised of a Chairman and two additional MISGA Associates. Gary, a Retired-CPA, is now in pursuit of two good men who have interest in becoming members of the Audit Committee. Any MISGA Associates who have interest in joining the Audit Committee should contact Gary directly to discuss the opportunity. His cell phone number is 301-915-7559, while his e-mail address is Buck3820@aol.com.

Upcoming Frolics & Flings

SPRING FLING WILLIAMSBURG

There are still slots open for the Spring Fling in Williamsburg, VA May 3-5, 2016.

We will be playing Kingsmill River course where the LPGA plays a championship tournament later in May. We also play the Plantation course at Kingsmill and on the final day we play Kiskiack Golf Club. Your entry fee includes three rounds of golf, prizes each day, dinner on Wednesday evening at Kingsmill and lunch after golf on Thursday. This has always been a special event enjoyed by all our players.

For detailed information on the Spring Fling go to the MISGA website www.misga.org under "Flings & Frolics" you can find the Spring Fling Flyer and Spring Fling Application. Don't delay -- we are filling the quota and we don't want to see you left out.

If you have any questions contact the Spring Fling Coordinator Joe Baily email: jjbaily3@verizon.net cell phone 302 465-0793.

Summer Frolic

The Summer Frolic is scheduled for September 14 and 15 at the Liberty Mountain Resort in Fairfield, PA. Plans for the Summer Frolic are still being developed. Stay tuned to the web site or the MISGAGRAM for more information. The Winter Fling has not been scheduled because we are without a coordinator for the event. If you are interested in being the coordinator for the Winter Fling, please contact Pete Sorge for more details. Pete's contact information is on the MISGA web site.

MISGA Event Calendar

| | |
|----------|--|
| Apr '16 | Rep's Meeting |
| May '16 | Spring Fling 3-5 |
| Jun '16 | 2016 2 Man & ABCD Qualifiers |
| July '16 | 2 Man & ABCD Qualifiers |
| Aug '16 | 2 Man Tournament 8/4 ABCD Tournament 8/11 |
| Sep '16 | Board Meeting Summer Frolic |
| Oct '16 | Fall Fling |
| Nov '16 | |
| Dec '16 | Board Meeting |
| Jan '17 | |
| Feb '17 | Board Meeting |
| Mar '17 | |

2016 MISGA CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENTS

One of the major activities of MISGA is sponsoring and conducting 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-gun *individual* and *2-man team* golfers of the year. They are contested at two of MISGA's high quality private country clubs.

1. Schedule

| Championship | Host Club | Date | Rain Date |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 2-Man Team | Wild Quail CC (Div I) Wyoming, DE | Thursday August 4, 2016 | Thursday September 1, 2016 |
| Past Presidents (ABCD) | Norbeck CC (Div IV) Rockville, MD | Thursday August 11, 2016 | Monday August 29, 2016 |

2. Eligibility

All MISGA associates in good standing. Finalists must qualify through their Division's selection process. Finalists must have an established valid USGA handicap computed and maintained at the finalist's home club.

Teammates of each *2-Man Team* must be members of the same club. The 2015 *Gross and Net 2-Man Team Grand Champions* are automatically eligible for the *2-Man Team* tournament, but must pay the Entry Fee.

The current MISGA President, all MISGA Past Presidents and the 2015 *Gross and Net PP-ABCD Grand Champions* are automatically eligible for the *PP-ABCD* tournament, but must pay the Entry fee.

3. Prizes

Based on a full field of 100 finalists, 14 *2-Man Team* winners and 26 *PP-ABCD* winners will receive a pro shop gift certificate (\$100 for each *Grand Champion*). In addition, each gross and net *Grand Champion* will receive a high quality engraved trophy (provided by MISGA). Also, there will be prizes awarded for closest-to-the-pin and the straightest drive.

4. Entry Fee

Approximately \$105 per person - this includes a light lunch, range balls, cart fee, cash bar cocktail hour (*w/light hors d'oeuvres*), awards banquet (*plated-double entrée*) and prize pool.

NOTE: At the December 2, 2013, MISGA Board of Directors Meeting, the Board unanimously endorsed the proposition that the two tournaments should continue as high class, regal golfing championships with enhanced amenities and

For complete and detailed information about the two *MISGA Championship Tournaments*, go to the MISGA website, Tournament Info section. <http://www.misga.org/tournaments.htm>

Lloyd Stimson

MISGA Tournament Chairman

2015 Grand Champions



PP-ABCD (*Gross*) - Clark Sission, Lloyd Stimson, **Jeff Allen**, Jake Jacobi.



PP-ABCD (*Net*) - Clark Sission, Lloyd Stimson, **Bob Diamond**, Jake Jacobi.



2-Man Team (*Gross*) - Earl Gentry, **Brian Lord**, **Charles Gouert**, Lloyd Stimson, Jake Jacobi, Clark Sisson



2-Man Team (*Net*) - Earl Gentry, **Maurice Spedden**, **Frank Goldstein**, Lloyd Stimson, Jake Jacobi, Clark Sisson

New Handicap Rules for 2016

In tandem with the 2016 updates to the Rules of Golf, the United States Golf Association has announced revisions to the USGA Handicap System™, effective Jan. 1, 2016.

Six significant changes are among those noted in the new 2016 - 2017 edition.

Those highlighted changes include:

- **Definition of a tournament score:** Additional guidance is provided to Committees conducting competitions regarding the definition of a tournament score, placing greater emphasis on “significant events.” The definition excludes fundraising events and regular league play, in favor of designated competitions such as a member/guest or club championship, local amateur tournament or national qualifying and competition. ([Section 2: Definitions](#))
- **Adjusting hole scores:** A revised decision provides clarity for acceptable scores in limited situations where the player has not played a hole(s) under the Rules of Golf, but his or her score would be sufficiently accurate for handicap posting purposes. Three areas covered under the examples include: 1) where the Local Rule is not in effect, but a player chooses to use a Distance Measuring Device or preferred lies; 2) where a player does not wish to cause undue delay; or 3) where the situation is outside of the player’s control, such as an incorrectly marked golf course. ([Section 4: Adjusting Hole Scores](#))
- **Posting scores when a player is disqualified:** To improve alignment with the Rules of Golf, the revised Handicap System is clearer about what scores are acceptable when a player is disqualified. In general, a score is acceptable for handicap purposes even when a player fails to hole out, or apply a Rule that affects the rights of another player. If the disqualification breach is determined to provide an advantage for the player, the score is deemed unacceptable for handicap purposes. ([Section 5-1: Acceptability of Scores](#))
- **Anchoring and posting:** A new reference concerns a player who anchors the club while making a stroke during a round and fails to apply the appropriate penalty or an adjusted hole score (Section 4-2). Since the score would not be reflected as playing under the Rules of Golf, it would be unacceptable for handicap purposes. ([Section 5-1: Acceptability of Scores](#))
- **Playing alone and necessary peer review:** To further support the key System premise of peer review, scores made while playing alone will no longer be acceptable for handicap purposes. This change underscores the importance of providing full and accurate information regarding a player’s potential scoring ability, and the ability of other players to form a reasonable basis for supporting or disputing a posted score. ([Section 5-1: Acceptability of Scores](#))
- **Committee responsibilities:** In an effort to assist the Handicap Committee with its responsibilities, this revision addresses a player with a temporary disability or permanent disability who has a Handicap Index that is no longer reflective of his/her current potential ability. In the particular instance cited, the Committee will no longer assign a local handicap (denoted with the letter “L” for local use only), but instead will issue a (temporary) modified Handicap Index (denoted by the letter “M”). This change supports the portability of a disabled player’s handicap, so that it can be used outside the player’s home club. ([Section 8-4c: Handicap Index Adjustment by Handicap Committee](#))

Brought to you by: Jeff Hild, Rules and Handicaps Committee Chair