

MISGA Annual Meeting Minutes

Chester River Golf Club - April 10, 2000

President **Duke Rowdon** called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M. and thanked Rep **Gerald Emerick** and the club staff for the excellent meeting arrangements at Chester River. He called for a moment of silence to honor the MISGA members who passed on in 1999.

Duke introduced past presidents **Paul Desmond**, **Sam Hastings**, and **C. J. Myers**.

Secretary's Report

Dick Walsh distributed the *leadership rosters* and updates to the *Reps Handbook*. He asked for corrections and updates as they occur so that the master copy can be kept current.

Dick Boardman's motion to dispense with reading minutes of the previous Annual Meeting was approved without objection.

Treasurer's Report

Harry Breitbach distributed the *Financial Statement as of 12/31/1999*. He reported that since there was a surplus of \$3617, a deficit of \$2440 will be budgeted for 2000. Cash on hand is \$20,236. This report, for the first time, reports MISGAgam separately from printing and mailing so that those items can be more accurately tracked. A comment from the floor suggested that MISGAgam costs should regularly be reviewed with an eye to reducing them. Harry responded to a question about MISGA bag tags that Directors would receive a supply (at \$1.00 each) at the next Board meeting.

State of the Association

After reminding Board members that the next Board meeting will be May 23rd at Holly Hills, **Duke Rowdon** discussed the following areas in presenting his report:

Club (57) and Associate (about 4700) MISGA membership is strong with Divisions III and V each adding a club during 1999 and Divisions I & IV pursuing additional prospects.

MISGA is sound financially and is assured of financial stability for the immediate future.

Immediate Past President **Paul Desmond** has been asked to chair a *Participation Committee* to look into possible causes and remedies for observed decreased attendance at MISGA events and mixers in some Divisions. The 2000 *Spring Fling* is fully subscribed for the first time in ten years. The *Board Bash*, which all Reps and Assistants should try to attend will be 9/20 and 9/21 this year.

Club Reps are urged to take decisive action throughout the year to curb handicap abuses and disregard for the rules of golf.

Reps should expect Club Pros to handle computerized foursome assignments, cart assignments, and golf-oriented rulings. But the Reps are responsible for welcoming visiting clubs, deciding play format and prize distribution, and running the mixers.

Vice President's Comments

Vice President **Charlie Fieldhouse** spoke of the *Snoopy Booklet* on the intricacies of handicap posting and also spoke of the *Compliant Company* (compliant.com 1-800-438-0489) which provides advice (and equipment) related to medical emergencies on the golf course.

Charlie reminded the Reps that players should be ready to tee off at mixer start time, not just leaving the assembly point.

Division Reports

Div 1 - **Arnold Simms** and **Paul Keiser** reported that the *Spring Flings* May 8th and 9th at *Ocean Pines* and *Nutter's Crossing* are fully subscribed but that additional applications should be sent in because there may be cancellations. Current index lists are to be faxed to **Paul Keiser** (*Mapledale*) at 302-674-1774.

Div 2 - **Tom Tarpley** reported that plans for the Board Bash are on track for September 20th and 21st. (**Duke Rowdon** noted that a Board meeting will be held in Division 4 on September 19th). Division 2 has had two inquiries from prospective member clubs, one of which is a possibility.

Div 3 - **Sam Hall** noted that with *Bay Hills*, there are now ten clubs in Division 3. He handed out the guide by which Division 3 held a successful pro-am event in 1999 and plans to hold again 10/4/00 at University of Maryland. There are a few openings for clubs from other Divisions.

Div 4 - **Bob McMinn** reported that the 10 clubs of Division 4 include 1327 members and played 6289 rounds in 1999. *Bretton Woods Country Club* in Seneca, MD has applied for MISGA membership.

Div 5 - **Jack Nichols** reported that with *Beach Club*, Division 5 now includes 12 clubs.

Committee Reports

Associates - **John Babyak** handed out instructions for *Roster Change forms* and observed that with 4695 paid members, including 22 extras (because of resignations, etc,) there were only four unpaid memberships in 1999.

Audit - **Sam Nisbet** indicated that his formal Asatisfactory@ audit report was presented at the previous Board meeting.

Events - **Sam Hastings** reported the Costa Rica trip was enjoyed by 23 participants. He said that **Jim Bell** (*Seabrook 11/12-11/17*) and **Charlie Fieldhouse** (*Jekyll 11/5-11/10*) would have *Fall Frolic* applications included in the *MISGAgam*. Sam's committee is considering new venues for future *Fall Frolics*, including Virginia Beach in October. Inquiry as to interest in a 3rd such event received a substantial show of hands. In addition, the committee hopes to plan a Fall >01 trip to Spain or Portugal.

General Counsel - no report.

Historian - **Ralph Starkey** indicated that in the interest of time there would be no historian report.

Mailing - **Nick Parker** reported that the *Anniversary MISGAgam* issue (20 pages) was being mailed and should arrive in the next week. He called for and got a round of applause for *MISGAgam* chairman **Dick Hunt**.

MISGAgam - **Dick Hunt** thanked the Reps for having submitted pictures and descriptions of their clubs' favorite golf holes. He said they all would be in the *MISGAgam*. Dick reiterated the fact that the mailing would also include *Fall Frolic* applications.

Policy and Planning - **C.J. Myers** thanked the Reps for submitting text *driving directions* to their clubs. He had responses from all but four clubs and would have directions booklets to the Directors in about a month. He said the text would eventually be available on a Web Page. C. J. asked the Reps to send him any ideas they might have for improvements to the *Reps Handbook*.

Tournaments - **Jim Lee** reported that all the 2000 tournament dates and places are set. He will soon distribute tentative plans for those events through the 2005 season.

Participation - **Paul Desmond** indicated that the five Assistant Directors comprise his committee.

Awards

Duke Rowdon presented the following pewter plate recognition awards for service:

Paul Desmond - Immediate Past President (and four years as Director).

C. J. Myers - Four years as Director.

Jack Beeson - 1999 Secretary.

C. J. Myers (who had made the original nomination) presented the *MISGA Outstanding Service Award* to **Sam Hastings** for his many years of MISGA dedication. The award consisted of a green blazer bearing the MISGA crest. Dating back to 1979, included among the contributions C. J. cited were Sam's service as the first Associates Chairman, Plans and Policies chairman who organized MISGA into four Divisions, Argyll Club Rep, Board member, Board President, and organizer of myriad domestic and international MISGA golf events.

In accepting the award, Sam quipped that Vijay Singh (2000 Masters winner) earned his jacket more quickly. Sam also said that he accepted this honor in the names of those who contributed so much along the way; especially Al Hagen, Allen Sondheimer, Gil Williams, Herb Hudson, Ted Hayward, Ed Schmidt, Ray Keany, Dick Redinger, Andy Anderson, Duane Swindle, Bob Fuchs, Ray Kroeger, Ed Maguire, Doug Moats, and Don Falconer.

Old Business

Update to the Reps Handbook

Duke Rowdon described the two-page handbook update that was distributed. It covers the process by which a non-performing Director or Assistant Director can be removed from office

New Business

Welcome to New Members

Duke Rowdon welcomed **Harry Nolen** from *Beach Club* (Div 5) and **Ham Nunnally** and **Tom Herz** from *Bay Hills* (Div 3).

Event Schedule for 2000

The *Spring Fling* will be 5/8-5/9 at Ocean Pines and Nutters Crossing, the *2-man final* will be 8/14 at Prospect Bay, the *A-B-C-D final* will be 8/22 at Chartwell, and the *Board Bash* will be 9/20-9/21 at Carroll Valley.

Possible 3rd Fall Frolic

The idea of a 3rd Fall Frolic at a closer site such as Virginia Beach will be pursued for this Fall and next year. Potential venues will be carefully screened for suitability.

Attendee Comments

Phil Morton (Eagle Creek) suggested the Annual Meeting should be held in March to avoid conflicts with mixers. It was explained that April dates are more likely to permit golf following the meeting and that Mondays are scheduled to minimize conflicts.

Dick Ewing (Shawnee) reported that his club provides two scorecards for each mixer foursome so that the visiting Rep can take a set for reporting purposes.

John Burns (Seaford) said that rising prices are starting to affect participation in some events.

Joe Ratajczak (Ocean City) reported that within Division 5, on an experimental basis, members who are not scheduled to play with their own club on a certain day may sign up on a space-available basis to play in any mixer.

Joe Booker (Hobbits Glen) indicated that his club is sponsoring the *TPA Senior Golf Classic 7/3-7/9* this year and is looking for volunteers to help with that professional event. Volunteers will pay \$45 each and will receive a shirt, hat, and lunch.

Sam Hall (Division 3) reported that a statistical review of MISGA records indicates the following as appropriate index ranges for A, B, C, and D players respectively: 0-14.7, 14.8-19.7, 19.8-25.2, and 25.3-36.4

This meeting was adjourned at 11:25 A. M. and was followed by lunch and golf.

Respectfully submitted,

Dick Walsh

Secretary