

**Attendees:** Howard Taylor, Tom Taylor, John Babyak, Dick Schwinger, Malcolm Peterson, Bert Bigelow, Bob Turner, Jim Wilcox, Steve Neal, Byron Keadle, Ted Ifft, Pete Sorge, Ralph Starkey, Earl Gayler, Tom Tarpley, Dick Crone, Lloyd Stimson and Errol Myers.

**Call to Order** – Bert Bigelow, the MISGA rep for Prospect Bay, opened the meeting at 9:30 A.M. and went over the schedule for the day, i.e. meeting, lunch and golf.

**Opening Remarks** - The MISGA President, Howard Taylor, thanked Prospect Bay for hosting the meeting and thanked Bert and Malcolm Peterson for coordinating everything. Howard acknowledged all of the Past Presidents of MISGA that were attending the meeting: C.J. Myers(1997), Tom Tarpley(2006), Ralph Starkey(2007), Bob Turner(2008) and Byron Keadle(2009). All of the attendees were asked to introduce themselves.

**Secretary's Report** – The minutes of the March 23, 2010 meeting were previously distributed via e-mail and were published on the web site. A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes as presented on the website. The minutes were accepted.

**Treasurer's Report** – MISGA is very solvent financially. The checking account has \$2105.57, the savings account has \$7932.01 and CDs show \$19,579.99. Bert asked that all travel vouchers for the meeting be sent to the division treasurers. Dues notices were sent out in January for the \$50 club dues and so far he has received the dues from 56 of the 66 clubs. The outstanding dues are due from Talbot, Hog Neck, Hunters Oak, Kenwood, Montgomery, Ocean Pines, Deer Run, Bay Club, Beach Club and Marlborough. Howard pointed out that club dues were due on April 1<sup>st</sup> and associates dues are due by June 1<sup>st</sup>.

**President's Report** – At the close of 2009, MISGA had 3716 associates, Revenue generated by mixers for the clubs was \$882,176, down about 7.8% from 2008. We welcomed three new clubs: Cress Creek in West Virginia and Musket Ridge in Division 2 and Division 5 re-instated Nassawango, a club that has been out of MISGA for a number of years. We have several clubs in MISGA that are hurting financially and for members. Seaford has closed and is now owned by a bank. They are no longer members of MISGA.

A primary concern facing MISGA is the lack of participation in mixers and at the frolics. The numbers of associates are down and they continue to decline. Volunteerism is also declining. A Historian is needed by the MISGA Board. We have been looking to fill this position for three months. Howard asked the reps to see if anyone at their clubs would be interested in filling this position.

At the end of 2009, MISGA stopped printing the Misgagram. The primary reason was the cost of printing and distribution. In 2010, we have had two Misgagrams posted on the website. The success of the Misgagram on the website depends on the club reps to get the information out. The most important thing is that the clubs maintain accurate e-mail addresses and a notification system within the clubs. When the Misgagram is posted to the website, there is a notification sent to the division directors, they send the information to the club reps that are responsible for getting the information to the club associates via e-mail or by posting the information on a bulletin board. This has allowed MISGA to lower the associate's dues from ten dollars to five dollars.

We need to keep inflammatory words out of letters that are sent to the Editor. We need to express our opinions properly. The thing that caused some of the recent harsh letters was an incident concerning Chartwell. In 2007, there were some allegations that Chartwell C.C. was not following the schedule matrix along with some other issues. There was an Ad Hoc committee established that went to Chartwell and investigated the issues. They found that Chartwell was complying with all of the directives. So in 2007, it became a dead issue, but it has become an issue again. The schedule matrix is a starting point. The divisions have used the matrix differently. Basically, each club should schedule three clubs in their division each year and one in each of two surrounding divisions. Those are the requirements. The Plans and Policy Committee will do a complete review, this year, of the by-laws and guidelines to make sure that we are in compliance with the actual practice. The use or non-use of the matrix will be one of the things that we will look at.

A green jacket was given in 2009 to Ken Walgren, a former President of MISGA who held a number of positions on the Board.

### **Committee Reports**

**Associates** – Ralph Cruikshank was unable to attend the meeting. Associate rosters are due, with the dues, by June 1<sup>st</sup>. The club reps should try to get the rosters in to their division associates chairman by May 21st.

**Quiz** – Howard commented about a questionnaire that was mailed out asking associates to comment on cheating. Some people were offended by it. There was an article in this month's issue of Golf magazine about cheating. MISGA has a reputation of cheating. One problem is that the associates don't know the rules.

**Events** – Ralph Starkey said that they still could use more golfers for the Spring Frolic at Williamsburg. They have as many golfers as last year but could use more. We have not yet reached our quota for room nights at the hotel. There will be two rounds of golf at Kingsmill and a third round will be played at Kissiak. Pete Sorge said that MISGA will have two Fall Frolics this year. We will be at Fripp Island starting on October 24<sup>th</sup> and at Amelia Island starting on October 31<sup>st</sup>. The application forms have been sent to the webmaster. Pete requested that the reps print the applications and post them on the club bulletin boards. They should refer the associates to the website for information about the events. The Summer Frolic will be at Carroll Valley again this year on September 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>. The information about this event will also be on the website.

**Past Presidents Ad Hoc** – Tom Tarpley sent the questionnaire about cheating too soon. It should have been kinder. The purpose of the questionnaire was to make people think about cheating. Golf is a game of honor. The Golf magazine article claims that 95% of all golfers cheat. If you see someone cheat and ignore it, you are just as guilty of cheating.

**Tournament Chairman** – Lloyd Stimson had a question for the reps about having free beverages provided as part of the registration fee or would they prefer pay-as-you-drink. The vote was nearly unanimous in favor of each associate paying for his own drinks.

**Question from the Floor** – Is there a current listing of reps and division info for all of the divisions? According to Howard, the listings are current and they are on the website. There have been revised pages on the website for each club to centralize the information. Errol Myers, the MISGA Webmaster has uploaded a large revision to the website, combining all club information, maps and links and moved all club leadership info onto a club page. On the club pages, he is looking to gather some additional information; start times, fees, cash or credit card, reciprocal charges, course status phone number, cart path info and links of MISGA or Senior groups, etc.

**Awards to Division Directors and Board Members** – Howard Taylor presented awards to outgoing board members: Byron Keadle (President (2009), John Kennedy (Board of Directors 2006-2009), Howard Taylor (Audit Committee 2005-2009), Tom Taylor (Membership 2007-2009), Herb Hanson (Misgagram 2007-2009) and Tom Tarpley (Tournaments 2009).

**New Business from 2009** – In 2009, for the State Tournaments, we established net and gross prizes. This was implemented in response to a request from the membership. At the December 2009 Board Meeting, the Board voted to take any budget surplus from 2010 and apply it, in equal amounts, to the 2011 ABCD and Two-man tournaments.

**Points of Discussion** –

Could we have a committee look into slow play to try to resolve the problem. Tom Tarpley said that it is up to the divisions and the clubs to try to fix the problem. Some clubs in Division 4 disqualify teams that finish in more than four and a half hours. Others ask the teams to be aware of their position on the course. The need to post scores makes some players want to finish a hole even if their score will not help the team, and this contributes to slow play. Dick Crone said that a player should pick up and take the score that he probably would have made.

A comment was made that club reps need to provide a list of visiting players in a timely manner. It was suggested that instead of using fax machines to send the listings, that all reps send the listings via e-mail. Is it possible to standardize the procedure and who would make that decision? The questioner would like some feedback.

Steve Neal of Division 5 reported that the division has implemented two exclusive dates for each club in the division. No other club can schedule a home mixer on those dates. The first of those dates was at the Beach club and they had their biggest attendance.

Malcolm Peterson said that the low handicap player in each foursome should be responsible for keeping the team scores and should be responsible for the integrity of those scores.

Club reps should try to prevent their clubs from stacking multiple teams on short holes. This is a big cause of slow play. Players need to hit provision balls when there is a possibility of a lost ball or a ball out of bounds.

**Wrap-up** – There was a motion to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 10:35 P.M.