



Maryland Interclub Seniors Golf Association

MISGA Board Meeting Minutes Tuesday February 20, 2001 Walden Golf Club

President **Charlie Fieldhouse** called the meeting to order at 9:45 a.m. and announced that golf was available for those who wished to play, following the meeting.

In attendance were **John Babyak, Bill Brown, Paul Desmond, Chuck Ebbecke, Charlie Fieldhouse, Sam Hall, Sam Hastings, Dick Hunt, Jim Lee, Bob Ludwig, Bob McCready, Bob McMinn, C.J. Myers, Bob Nicholson, Sam Nisbet, Nick Parker, Duke Rowdon, Arnold Simms, Tom Tarpley, Dick Walsh, and Dan Williams.** Our host for the day was **Mac Magrogan** of Walden Golf Club.

Secretary's Report:

The minutes of the meeting of December 13, 2000 which had been prepared by **Dick Walsh** were reviewed, and on a motion by **Arnie Simms** were approved as submitted.

Treasurer's Report:

Tom Tarpley announced that the transfer of the Treasury from former treasurer **Harry Breitbach** has been partially completed, and a new bank account established, **Tom** submitted copies of the 2001 preliminary Budget, and a summary of income and expenses which had occurred since our last meeting. He praised **Frank Page** of Division II for having already submitted the annual dues payment for his members.

Division Reports:

Div. I- Duke Rowdon announced that Division I would again host the annual Spring Fling, on April 30 and May 1, 2001. It will be held at the Ocean City Yacht and Golf Club, with hotel accommodations at the Clarion Fountainbleu (formerly the Sheraton) in Ocean City. The Division will hold a rep's training meeting on March 28. Division I reps have considered the question of further splitting the Division and have concluded that it is not yet necessary. **Dan Williams** asked what would be considered a full field for the Spring Fling, and **Duke** responded that the number is 240, and encouraged the Board to

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Assist in promoting the event to achieve this number. **Arnie Simms** noted that there is a problem with the three year contract with Ocean City, previously announced. Apparently, the gentleman who signed this contract was not authorized to do so. After some discussion, Arnie was authorized to attempt to negotiate (with the proper persons) a new three year deal which might have to include some degree of price escalation.

Div. II- Dick Walsh declared that his division is in a healthy condition. It will hold a rep's training session on March 12 at Hunt Valley, and will host the annual Board Bash at Carroll Valley on September 12 and 13, 2001.

Div. III- Sam Hall announced that his division had held its rep's training session in December, but would be holding a regular Division meeting on March 28. **Charlie Hodgson** of the UMD Golf Club will be the new Tournament Chairman for the Division.

Div. IV- Chuck Ebbecke stated that the division is in good shape. In December it held the annual Holiday Party, attended by 125 Division IV reps and spouses and by several Board Members from neighboring divisions. At the party, **Jim Lee**, of Montgomery Country Club was named the division's rep of the year. On January 2, the division held its rep's training seminar, attended by 25. Following the success of Division III, there will be a Division IV Pro-Am tournament at Argyle on October 18, 2001. The Division's next meeting will be March 26, at Hobbits Glen.

Div. V- Bob McCready mentioned that the Division held its reps training program in January. The Beach Club has resigned from MISGA, but a new club has expressed interest in joining, and is being checked out. Division V has also reviewed the need for re-alignment and possible expansion of the number of Divisions, and has concluded that no change is necessary at this time. The Division has played four mixers this winter. More had been scheduled for the Division's winter season, but the weather was not cooperative.

Committee Reports:

Associates- John Babyak reported that there are now 4824 MISGA Associates on the roster, and that the roster is in good shape.

Audit: Sam Nisbet has completed the audit of MISGA's 2000 operations and found everything in good order. In addition to submitting his audit report, he praised former Treasurer **Harry Breitbart** for his many years of excellent work on behalf of MISGA.

Events- Sam Hastings asked **Paul Desmond** to report on the Florida Fling, held in February at the Admiral Lehigh resort near Fort Myers Florida. **Paul** indicated that the event had been very successful, with an attendance of 103. The event featured two days of golf followed by a day off and then two more days of golf. The day off in mid-week

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proved to be very popular with those who attended. A questionnaire distributed to the attendees indicates that all of them would be happy to return next year. Accordingly, 60 rooms have tentatively been reserved for next year on the dates of Feb. 3 to 9.

Sam Hastings announced that Sea Trail and Sea Brook have been reserved for next year's Fall Flings. The proposed event in Virginia is proving to be more difficult to establish, since virtually no full service resorts offering golf, rooms and food are available within the typical MISGA price range. Discussions regarding the length of the event, (two, three, or four days), and the possibility of holding it in the Williamsburg area and the need to provide for camaraderie by holding meals in a place where all can attend resulted in the decision to keep pursuing an appropriate location. **Sam** will report back at the next meeting.

General Counsel-Bob Ludwig noted that he had reviewed and approved the contract for three years to hold the Spring Fling at Ocean City. This of course is being re-negotiated as noted in the Division I report. **Bob** also commented that the Virginia Beach area should be a good area for an additional Fall Fling.

Historian-Bill Brown has brought up to date and entered on computer, the History of Board Actions as well as the overall MISGA History. Discussions were held as to how and how often the History of Board Actions should be supplied to the membership. **Dick Walsh** pointed out that it can be put on the MISGA web site, where all members can read it. It was decided that a hard copy version should be printed and distributed every two years, beginning with 2002. This will be distributed at the annual Reps' Meeting in April.

MISGAGRAM- Nick Parker reported that the next issue has been printed and is in the mail, third class, and should be received shortly. Editor **Dick Hunt**, is preparing the next issue for May, and asked if Spring Fling results would be available in time for inclusion. **Arnie Simms** responded that results will be available immediately following the event (May 1) and it should be possible to include them in the May issue. **C.J. Myers** asked whether the bulk mailing of the current issue would allow for tracking of bad addresses. **Dick Hunt** assured him that this would be possible since he had requested service of address changes from the Post Office.

Policy and Planning- C.J. Myers referred to his January 30 Committee Report which contained three recommendations to the Board. First was the requirement that annual Rep's Training Seminars be made mandatory for each Division. Several Division Directors felt that mandating training was unnecessary, and further that they already hold training whenever the number of new reps dictates that it is necessary. Finally, on the motion by **Dick Walsh**, it was agreed to accept the Committee's recommendation, but to make it an "encouraged," recommended practice, (not mandatory) included in the guidelines. In addition, an outline of the topics to be included in the training seminars is to be prepared and included in the guidelines.

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The second Committee recommendation was to involve the entire Associates membership in resolving the question of whether to eliminate Division Qualifiers as a method of filling the field for two man team state championship tournaments. The Committee is developing a questionnaire to be distributed along with a list of pros and cons on this issue. There was a lengthy discussion of whether or not a survey was necessary, whether it was too costly, alternative methods of determining how the Associates feel about the issue, etc. In conclusion, **C.J.** will continue to work on the survey and list of pros and cons. He pointed out that the elimination of Division Qualifiers is not being proposed for this year (2001) and would be done next year on a trial basis, providing that the membership agrees with the proposal.

The third issue addressed by the Policy and Planning Committee is the need to restructure or expand the number of MISGA Divisions. The Committee has concluded that at this time there are no compelling reasons to do so.

Tournaments- Jim Lee thanked **Paul Desmond** for chairing the excellent Florida Fling. **Jim's** new e-mail address is jamesleegerols.com. The state two man team tournament is set to be held at Piney Branch, on Aug. 27. Because Piney Branch is willing to accept 128 Players, **Jim** has recalculated the Division quotas. They are: I-11, II-11, III-10, IV-18, V-14. The ABCD tournament is set for Green Hill on Aug. 20, and **Jim** will verify how many entrants they can accept, and then distribute quotas to the Divisions.

Handicap- Sam Hall distributed a comprehensive "Pilot Program" for Rules and Handicaps. The program includes a month by month list of actions to be taken by the Committee in order to encourage adherence to the rules of golf, etiquette, and handicap reporting. The Board commended **Sam** and his Committee for a job well done and approved a one year trial program.

Old Business:

Dick Walsh had earlier suggested using the Annual Report as a basis for determining club quotas for Divisional and State Tournaments. After considering this proposal **Dick** commented that the Annual Report may not be the right source for this calculation, and Asked that the question of fair allocations be given further study. He also commented on the need (or lack of need) for a Board nominating Committee, since in most cases the President and Vice President are in line for automatic succession. Finally, he announced that updates to the Rep's Handbook and revised Leadership Rosters will be distributed at the Annual Rep's Meeting in April.

Charlie Fieldhouse encouraged the Board to take a look at the web site developed by Patuxent Greens, noting that it is very complete and user friendly. **Dick Walsh** our

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de facto "web master" asked that he be kept informed as new club web sites are developed, so that they can be linked to the MISGA web site.

Jim Lee remarked on the delay in scoring the results of the ABCD Tournament this year, and suggested that other than trophy positions, all ties should not be broken, but paid an average share of the prize money allocated for the number of positions involved in the tie.

Charlie Fieldhouse indicated that this could be done if necessary to speed up the scoring.

New Business:

Charlie Fieldhouse reviewed his agenda for action in the year 2001. Among his items was the issue of re-organizing of the Divisions. **Duke Rowdon** moved that any consideration of re-organization be tabled for this year and that Divisions consider the minimum number of clubs to be 8 and the maximum 16, and that re-organization only be considered when the club levels fall outside of these numbers. The motion was approved.

The next Board Meeting will be held May 17, 2001 at Prospect Bay Country Club.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bob McMinn
Secretary.