

MISGAGRAM

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

With the 90-degree temperatures of last month, our 2002 golf season is clearly off to a head start. I hope you all make a point to participate in as many mixers as possible. Your Club Reps have worked hard in building the schedules, so please give them the support they deserve. Don't forget, it's just as important to play at home as away.



Post your score! This is a familiar refrain you are bound to hear this golf season. Plans are underway to insure that each associate receives a copy of the USGA publication "*Uncle Snoopy Wants You to Know How to Use Your Handicap.*" This booklet discusses your responsibilities under the USGA Handicap System and contains a course handicap table so you can quickly convert your handicap index into

the handicap for the course you are playing. Your Club Rep will get the booklets to you when they become available.

Elsewhere in this issue is an article by Charles Hodgson of the University of Maryland Golf Course who is a member of the MISGA Rules and Handicap Committee. In it, he addresses issues of personal responsibility in adhering to the handicap system as well as the responsibility of member clubs to maintain active handicap committees. Please take the time to read his comments and answer the questions he poses. If you can't answer them, it's time to huddle with your Club Rep.

Applications for the fall trips to Sea Trail and Seabrook are included in this issue. If you've never been on a "Fall Frolic," now is the time to seriously consider attending one. It's a great way to meet MISGA members and their spouses from throughout the region. And the price is right!

Thanks are in order for the Reps and staff at Chester River Yacht & Country Club for so ably hosting last month's Annual Reps Meeting. And then there's the Spring Fling! I think Arnie Simms and Paul Keiser outdid themselves on this one. The Ocean City Yacht & Country Club is such a convenient facility. This was the largest field ever, and a great time was had by all.

Enjoy the golf season. And when you miss the 12-inch putt, remember- it's just a game!!

Sam Hall

RULES & HANDICAP COMMITTEE

C. J. Myers

The following article was written by committee member Charlie Hodgson, University of Maryland

The handicap system developed by the USGA has as its goal, fair competition among players of differing abilities so that the game is enjoyable for all.

Implicit in the premise is a personal responsibility on the part of each participant to adhere to the rules, and to achieve the best score he can on each hole on every round played.

The system also has as its basis a review of each participant's scores by other club members, so all scores will be posted accurately and promptly. To that end, an active Handicap Committee at each club is an essential element to confirm, through peer review, that each participant is complying with all elements of the system correctly.

Part of each club's Handicap Committee responsibility is education of its members, which assures that the process is followed correctly, minimizing the need for enforcement.

All of the clubs in MISGA participate in the USGA Handicap System. It is an implicit part of mixers, tournaments and of every event. If one or more of our clubs is not as active in the regulation of the Handicap System as the others, it allows individuals in that club to compete unfairly, reflecting poorly on that club.

As a MISGA Associate, you have a **right** to compete fairly in all MISGA events. Here are some questions to think about.

- Does my club have a Handicap Committee?
- Is our senior group represented?
- What is being done in the way of posting members' scores for others to review?
- What is being done to audit the posting of away scores and tournament scores?
- Are all members implementing Equitable Stroke Control?
- What is being done to verify it?

If you don't know the answers to these questions, try to find out!!!

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2002 Annual Reps Meeting

The MISGA Annual Reps meeting was held at Chester River Yacht & Country Club on April 8, 2002. Fenton Martin & Jim Sood, Reps at Chester River, hosted the meeting. President Sam Hall, in his State of the Association Address, summed up MISGA'S condition as "outstanding." Sam credited the Club Reps and Assistants with "doing it right and generating excellent results." Reps and Assistants from all five MISGA Divisions, all Division Directors and Assistant Directors and most Committee Chairs were in attendance.

Sam recognized the following Associates for their contributions and service to MISGA:

Charlie Fieldhouse
Duke Rowdon
Bob Ludwig
C.J. Myers
Sam Hastings

Past President and Director
Director
General Counsel
Policy & Planning Committee
Events Committee



President, Sam Hall addresses the attentive Reps during the State of the Association message.



Reps and Assistants from new clubs. Left to right: Les Siller and Tom Metz - Jonathan's Landing
Dick Tomlinson and Bill Best - Easton.



Sam Hall presents service awards, left to right: C.J. Myers, Duke Rowdon, and Charlie Fieldhouse.



Florida Fling



The Winter Fling at Admiral Lehigh Resort in Florida was well attended with a total of 125 people. 115 golfers teed it up for four days at two different golf courses - the Resort Course on the property and the Lakes Golf Course four miles away.

The Fling package was for 6 nights, four days of golf and one day of rest. Some of the winners were:

First day scramble

John Boyland
Lucy Davis
Bob McIntyre
Harold Messenger

2nd Day Men

Charlie Hodgson
Charles Peeling
Paul Bowersox
Lou Penna

2nd Day Women

Marilyn Simpler
Dee Penna
Wanda Tiedemann
Vivian Strindmo

3rd Day Men

James Dougherty
Bob Rippeon
Bob Peterson
John Schafer

3rd Day Women

Sandy Witzke
Dee Penna
Eleanor Anderson
Debbie Ris

Flight 1

Gross Sandy Witzke
Net Heather Cook

Flight 2

Gross Judith Dixon
Net Marge Frances

4th Day Women

Flight 3

Gross Joan Stewart
Net Larue Allenwalt

Flight 4

Gross Jessie Peeling
Net MaeRetha Rippeon

9 Hole Women

Pat Rusman
Patty Dale
Ginny Campbell
Marge Desmond



The 4th day men's results were not available.

Paul Desmond



Back row left to right - Joe Hollister, Leisure World, and Joan and Sam Hall of Tantallon
Front row left to right- Pat Rusman, Nancy McIntyre, and Paul and Marge Desmond, Ocean Pines.

Left to right - Hank Rusman, Dick Shallow and Paul Desmond, all of Ocean Pines, sharing a laugh and a few golf stories.



Golf Tips

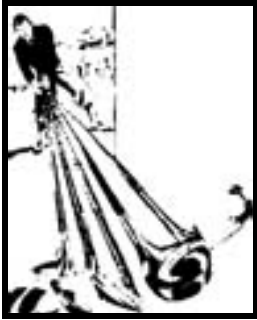
1. Never try to keep more than 300 separate thoughts in your mind during your swing.
2. When your shot has to carry over a water hazard, you can either hit one more club or two more balls.
3. If you are afraid a full shot might reach the green while the group ahead is still putting, you have two options: you can immediately shank a lay-up, or you can wait until the green is clear and top a ball half way there.
4. Everyone replaces his divot after a perfect approach shot.

Courtesy, George Shenk

PGA TRADE SHOW

January, 2002

Every year hundreds of golf pros and golf shop managers converge on the PGA Merchandise Show in Orlando, Florida to take in the latest and greatest in golfing equipment, apparel, and accessories. The show is not open to the public and it is limited to professionals and those in the golf business.

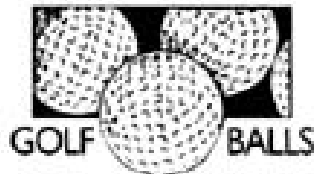


Larry Velten, Manor Country Club head pro, and *Tom Jewell*, consultant to the Professional Golfer's Career College in Florida were among those who traveled to Orlando in January to see what was new in the golf world. I interviewed them for their impressions of this event

and the following are a few observations they shared with me.

The size of this show is mind boggling! If you made up your mind to cover the entire show you would have to walk a total of 15 miles in the 1.5 million square feet of floor space utilized by the 1500 vendors who bring their wares to the show. The floor is divided into three areas: golf clubs; accessories (like golf carts, driving range equipment etc.); and apparel. As Tom said, "the show covers everything from pencils to golf clubs." About 52,000 people attended during the four-day event.

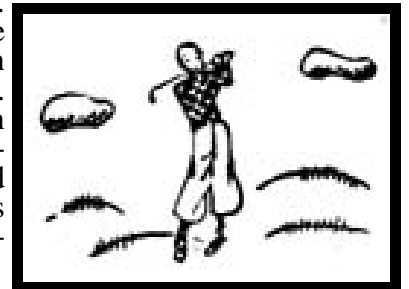
Some of the new equipment presented included the T-Bar putter by Mickey Finn that has a balanced weighting system. The Calloway booth featured its new Big Bertha ERC forged titanium fairway woods with a high coefficient of restitution which conforms to the USGA rules. Nike golf is introducing a 400 cc driver. Cobra has redesigned its woods including a 427 cc driver with its obvious expanded hitting area which might be helpful to seniors. Cobra's clubs are in the medium price range and are premium quality. Cleveland is offering the TA 7 irons with redistributed weight from top to sole. Wilson's perfectly balanced golf ball was big news at the show, promising increased accuracy on the putting green. Precept presented its repackaged Laddie for seniors. FootJoy has now joined Dexter in the step-in sandals market - some of the ladies are wearing these on the LPGA Tour.



In addition to viewing the products, and becoming aware of new computers and associated software, the show provides an opportunity for networking among company executives, marketing representatives, and golf professionals. Annika Sorenstam (LPGA player of the year), Jean Van de Velde, Patty Sheehan, David Leadbetter, Hubert Green, David Toms, Bruce Fleisher and Tom Weiskoff were among the celebrities who attended.

Other points of interest included a Pro Memorabilia booth exhibiting autographed photos, posters, awards, and just about every other golf collectible imaginable. (Golf collectibles are hot items!) Trophies from the four golf majors were displayed in glass cases and protected by armed guards.

The fashion side of golf had a prominent place in the show as well. Men's clothes will continue to be conservative in cut and color. Blues, grays and blacks will be popular this year with fewer bright colors than last year. Vertical stripes are being shown on men's golf shirts. Women will have an alternative to Bermuda shorts and slacks this year as many vendors are offering capri pants.



Popping colors are in, and are used to accent black and white items. Many manufacturers are marketing sleeveless golf shirts for the ladies. Approximately one-third of the show was devoted to apparel.

This merchandise show is clearly a valuable resource for those in the business. Ask your pro if he went to the show, perhaps he will have a tip about some equipment which may help your game this year!

Dick Hunt

A Golf Story

A golfer set up his ball on the first tee, took a mighty swing and hit his ball into a clump of trees. He found the ball and saw an opening through two trees he thought he could hit through. Taking out his three wood, he took another mighty swing, the ball hit a tree, bounced back, hit him in the forehead and killed him. As he approached the gates of heaven, St. Peter saw him coming and asked, "are you a good golfer?", to which the man replied, "got here in two didn't I?"

Courtesy, George Shenk

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Rules and Handicap Committee

If you would like some help in trying to improve the system of your club, contact the **MISGA Rules and Handicap Committee** member from your Division. Our names are listed below, and your Club Rep will help you contact us also.

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Westwinds Reports

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ACES!!

Second year Westwinds MISGA Associate **John Reiter** had the thrill of his first hole-in-one on Monday, April 8, at his home 3rd hole from the 125 yard senior tee. A super target shot, the ball went into the hole on the fly without touching fairway or green.

Dick Boardman of Westwinds MISGA enjoyed his first hole-in-one during a MISGA event Tuesday, April 23rd, using a pitching wedge on the 15th hole of his home course. The weather was cold and windy but Dick said it had been a perfect golf day!

Many, many thanks!

On behalf of MISGA Associates I would like to thank our web masters, Dick Walsh and Ken Walgren, for their hard work and dedication in the development of the MISGA web site.

(www.misga.org)

Please review your MISGA web site. It contains volumes of important MISGA information thanks to Dick and Ken.

*Charlie Fieldhouse
Past President*

Deceased MISGA Members

Argyle	Milton F. Denault
Harbourtowne	Frank Kelley
Kenwood	John Grimberg
Lakewood	Paul Haupt
	Hank George
	Larry Ring
Leisure World	Henry Blubaugh
	Jose Feliciano
	Robert Houston
	Alfred Meltzer
	Ben Kremen
Manor	Robert Hanson
	Eric Sieling
	William Welch
Piney Branch	Guy Tregoe