

MISGA GRAM

VOLUME 98

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www.MISGA.org



I will become your President for 2010 at the December 8, 2009 Board meeting.

As I approach this privilege, I have three thoughts in mind:

If it is not broke, do not fix it.
Fix all ball marks
Speed up play

Because of great leadership in the past, I'm not aware of anything needing to be fixed. If there are things you as individual members think needs to be changed, please inform your Division Director. As we enter this new decade, we will be using the internet as the primary means of communications. Our web site is MISGA.ORG where you can find a complete leadership listing under the Leadership tab. Take a tour of the site.

Just got back from the Fall Frolic at Little River NC and if you missed it you missed a great outing. I found fresh ball marks on the greens our foursome had not made and since MISGA was the only group on the course, it must have been MISGA members who made them and failed to fix them. Nothing ruins a green quicker than an untreated ball mark. We should leave the green in better shape than found. We should plan on fixing three ball marks on each hole: our own and two others. This will eradicate the problem!

Anybody can play bad golf, but there is no excuse for slow golf. Yet we still have rounds in excess of five hours. Four hours should be the norm for a round of golf. Some will take longer because of special conditions like cart paths only, two foursomes on each tee box and deep grass in the rough. It should never be because a player is not ready to hit or takes too many practice strokes. Let's try Continuous Putting on the Greens this year to speed up play.

Sign up for the 2010 Winter Fling. Entry forms available at misga.org under the *Documents* tab. If you have suggestions for improving the MISGA experience, please email me at het1@verizon.net.

Howard Taylor, President

**Maryland
Interclub
Seniors Golf
Association**

President
Howard Taylor

Vice President

Secretary
John Babyak

Treasurer
Gary Sorrell

The **MISGA**gram is the official newsletter of the organization mailed free to all Associates four times each year. The mission of the 'gram is to provide information of common interest to all association members. The 'gram also can be read at www.misga.org.

The publication months for the **MISGA**gram are:

April
July
September
December

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

15 March (April)
01 June (July)
01 September (Sept.)
10 November (Dec.)

All materials should be sent via e-mail to:
hahome@verizon.net

H. A. Hanson
MISGAgram Editor

Immovable Obstructions

Rule 24-2

(This article was part of MISGA's "Rules and Handicap Project" of 2001, a well-crafted set of 28 one-page articles on rules, etiquette, and handicapping, produced by former MISGA President **Sam Hall's** Ad Hoc Committee on Rules and Handicaps. To give these fine articles a new life and to provide "reminders" of rules, etiquette, etc., they are being inserted somewhat regularly in current **MISGAgrams**.) [Updating and enhancing edits and additions appear in brackets.]

"An [immovable] obstruction is 'anything artificial, including the artificial surfaces and sides of roads and paths...' [**USGA Rules, Definitions, Obstruction**]. If your ball is in or on an [immovable] obstruction or so close that it 'interferes with your stance or area of intended swing,' you may either play the ball as it lies or take relief."

"[Immovable] obstructions include cart paths and other immovable objects, such as sprinkler heads, shelters, pump houses, [electrical boxes,] signs, posts, and ball washers. Objects defining out of bounds are not considered [immovable] obstructions."

[To take relief from an immovable obstruction when your ball lies through the green (not on the green, in a hazard, or on a teeing ground), you are to lift the ball and drop it within one club-length from the nearest point of relief and not nearer the hole.]

[Note:] "If your ball comes to rest near a sprinkler head, but the sprinkler head does not interfere with your stance or swing, you cannot make claim to a "mental" obstruction [because the sprinkler head bothers you]. There is no such thing." [**Decision 24-2a/1**].

[Note: A cart path consisting of loose gravel or wood chips is also considered an immovable obstruction from which you may take relief, just as you would from a cart path consisting of solid concrete or tar. **Decision 24/9**.]

[Know the rule. Don't let immovable obstructions obstruct your enjoyment of the game!]

Dick Crone - Chairman, MISGA Rules and Handicap Committee

2010 MISGA SPRING FLING

WILLIAMSBURG, VIRGINIA

TUE, MAY 11 (ARRIVAL)--THUR, MAY 13 (DEPARTURE)

The 2010 Spring Fling will again be held in Colonial Williamsburg, Virginia. Williamsburg is located about 2.5 to 3 hours south of Washington, DC. We had three fantastic weather days last year with temperatures in the 70's in the daytime and mid 60's at night. (Same weather story as the previous year!) We will be playing three excellent and different golf courses: The Plantation Course at *Kingsmill*, the River Course at *Kingsmill*, and *Kiskiack Golf Club*. For the first time, in 2010, the *Kingsmill* courses will be available since both the PGA and the LPGA, which have previously used the River course, will not be there in 2010. We did play the *Kiskiack* course last year, but will return there since it proved to be very popular and generated very strong positive feedback. It is a little shorter but has some very high shot values. Participation is limited to 120 golfers. Applications will only be accepted from MISGA members who have paid dues for 2010.

Accommodations will be available at Crowne Plaza which is a large hotel/motel located approx. 3 miles from the historic district. It is 2 miles from the *Kingsmill* entrance. Crowne Plaza has the normal amenities associated with a large hotel, including an indoor and an outdoor pool. All guests must provide a credit card at check-in. Additional room nights are available, if desired, for the two nights before and/or after for \$139.50 per night (includes all taxes).

If you would prefer to make your own accommodations, that is acceptable. (Many people rented time-shares and stayed for the entire week. They used the MISGA games for the heart of their week and then scheduled additional golf games for the other days.)

Golf shotgun-start times are projected to be 1:00 PM on Tuesday, 9:00 AM on Wednesday and 9:00 AM on Thursday. Games will be typical MISGA team games. There will be no scrambles.

This year we have no specific planned activity for the non-golfing ladies, but there are many places to go and things to see in Williamsburg. Our two years previous experience has shown that many of the ladies wanted to "do their own thing". (Translation for men: shop.) Those who wish can meet with **Patty Dale** and **Kay Starkey** at 12:00 PM on Tuesday in the Hotel Lobby, go to lunch, and discuss various activities for both Tuesday afternoon and Wednesday.

Dinner on Wednesday night will be held at the Crowne Plaza and is included in the package price. Other than the Wednesday night dinner, we have not scheduled any other meals, since there are such a large variety of excellent and different restaurants in the Williamsburg area, including several in the historic area.

The basic package price includes three rounds of golf and one dinner. The "cafeteria" style registration form allows you to pick the following additional items if you desire; lodging at Crowne Plaza and/or nine-hole ladies golf. Basic entry is confirmed when money is received for the golf.

Just for information, please note that Mother's day is May 9. Also, \$420 was left over from last year and will be added to the prize fund this year. Part of this will be added to the men's and the women's skins games.

MISGA associates must submit a REGISTRATION FORM accompanied by a check for payment in full to the address on the form. (Additional forms are available at WWW.MISGA.ORG) If you cannot access MISGA.ORG, or do not have e-mail, contact either **Dick Dale** (302-629-7322) or **Ralph Starkey** (410-479-2968) to get an application form. Entries close April 15.

**MISGA SPRING FLING (MAY 11 thru 13, 2010)
WILLIAMSBURG, VIRGINIA**

APPLICATION: Please print all information. *(Only paid up MISGA members qualify for this event.)*

MISGA Associate Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Cell: _____

E-mail: _____

MISGA Club: _____ Phone: _____

Wife or guest name: _____

Her club: _____ Phone: _____

Category:

- 1. Couple--2 Golfers - Staying at Crowne Plaza -----\$846
- 2. Couple--1 Golfer -- Staying at Crowne Plaza-----\$607
- 3. Single Golfer -- Staying at Crowne Plaza-----\$567
- 4. Couple--2 Golfers -- No MISGA accommodations-----\$558
- 5. Couple--1 Golfer -- No MISGA accommodations-----\$319
- 6. Single Golfer -- No MISGA accommodations-----\$279
- 7. Nine holers -Circle the X and indicate what day(s) you are interested in **X** (See note below)
- 8. Extra nights at *Crowne Plaza* @ \$139.50 per night \$ _____

(Please specify what nights)

TOTAL COST = \$ _____

If staying at *Crowne Plaza*: Smoking: _____ or Non-Smoking: _____

NOTES: Above costs include dinner for two (2) for categories 1, 2, 4 & 5 and dinner for one (1) for categories 3 & 6. The dinner will be on Wednesday night.

X Nine-holers will be contacted separately to determine if there are enough to make a group and to determine the cost. Kingsmill has a separate, very interesting nine-hole, par three course that is immediately adjacent to the clubhouse.

We are considering either eliminating the game that involves the men and women playing together or flighting it so that you can select to play in a one-gender game or a two-gender game. (Wow, sounds sexy.) The two-gender game would have two women and two men. If you have a preference, please indicate it on the application. (We suspect that some couples are reluctant to sign up because the lady does not want to play with three men. There are not enough women to make foursomes with two women and two men. Therefore, we are looking for alternatives.)

Latest handicap index: Man: _____ Woman: _____

Send the application and a check made payable to **MISGA WILLIAMSBURG** to:

**RICHARD DALE
25135 PINE ROAD
SEAFORD, DELAWARE 19973**

Questions: Ralph Starkey at 410-479-2968
Dick Dale at 302-629-7322

E-mail ralph.starkey@comcast.net
E-mail dickdale@verizon.net

I and my spouse or guest agrees to indemnify MISGA for any physical damage to the golf course, golf carts, equipment and resort facilities incurred due to our negligence and to abide by the MISGA Code of Conduct, Article 1X of the MISGA constitution. All personal charges for services not included in the registration fee are the responsibility of each MISGA member. Also, I certify that I am a current MISGA member with paid up dues.

Signature of associate: _____

-Date

Hole-in-One

HOLE-IN-ONE at MISGA Fall Frolic

Bev Hogate, of the *Ocean City Golf Club*, made a hole-in-one during the MISGA Fall Frolic at the *Little River Golf Resort* in Carthage (Pinehurst area), NC. Her feat occurred on the 8th hole, a 113-yard par 3, on November 4, 2009. This was Bev's first hole-in-one and fortunately, there was an open bar for the ninety-some thirsty well-wishers.



John Lippke of the *Harbourtowne Golf Club* made a hole-in-one at *Harbourtowne* on the par-3 hole 11 during a mixer with *Nutters Crossing* on September 30,

Recently Deceased

Name	Club
Herb Biser	
Jack Dilli	<i>Hunt Valley GC</i>
Joe Gavin	<i>Bay Hills GC</i>
Cliff Gear	<i>Hunt Valley GC</i>
John Krall	<i>Deer Run GC</i>
Bill Marinelli	<i>Crofton CC</i>
Phil Martini	<i>Naval Academy</i>
Jim Wilkerson	<i>Hunt Valley GC</i>

REMINDER

The MISGA 2010 Florida Winter Fling again will be at the *Plantation Inn and Golf Resort*. If you wish to participate in this outstanding MISGA event and have not yet signed up, it may not be too late to do so. Please contact Bob McIntyre at 410-208-0101 or by e-mail at bnmac@verizon.net. Information, prices and the application form were printed in the last issue of the *MISGAgram* (Vol. 97) and are available for downloading at misga.org/documents. Please note that this year the Winter Frolic is only a one-week event (two-weeks in prior years).

MISGAgram

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