



MISGAGRAM

Volume 141 – December 2019

www.misga.org

President's Message



Welcome to 2020. As we prepare for another golf season in the Mid-Atlantic area, I am sad to announce that two courses will not be coming back to the MISGA organization for 2020 - Argyle and Quail Valley. In one case, the withdrawal from MISGA was directly related to not being able to produce a MISGA representative for the club.

That being said, MISGA still provides its unique services of mixers, tournaments, frolics and flings to its over 2,200 members at 41 clubs in four states. A special thanks goes out to all of our club representatives and other volunteers at the club, division and state levels. Without your selfless support, MISGA would not exist.

2020 also ushers in the World Handicap System. I read the new handicap manual and I cannot wait to explain to our associates the effects of the “exceptional scores” adjustment, the course and weather conditions calculation, the “soft cap” and “hard cap” adjustments and the changes to the handicap index calculation.

In another move that reflects the demographics of our organization, the Summer Frolic, which has been held at Liberty Mountain in September each year will be suspended for 2020. The participation over the past several years has declined to the level that it is difficult to justify the work that goes into preparing and holding this event. We will be looking for an alternative to the Summer Frolic for the future. If you have any suggestions or would like to work on the organization of a summer MISGA event, please let me know.

As you head out for your New Year endeavors, remember the following golfers' prayer: God grant me the serenity to accept the shots I miss, the courage to try, try, again, and the wisdom not to throw my clubs in the lake.

Jeff Hild

Maryland
Interclub
Seniors Golf
Association

President
Jeff Hild

Vice President
Wayne Rowland

Secretary
Chris Pariseau

Treasurer
Gary Manion

The MISGAGRAM is the official newsletter of the organization published on the web site four times each year. The mission of the MISGAGRAM is to provide information of common interest to association members. The MISGAGRAM can be read or downloaded at:

www.misga.org.

The publication months for the MISGAGRAM are:

March
June
September
December

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

10 March (March)
10 June (June)
20 Sept. (September)
20 Dec. (December)

All materials should be sent via e-mail to:

tgnome1@gmail.com

Bob Hodges

MISGAGRAM Editor

The Lighter Side



Milestones

Division 6 Match Play Championship



Gary Kramer (left), Division 6 Director presents the championship trophy to Greg Morris, representing National Club at Tantallon, this year's match play winner. For many years, Division 6 has had a spirited club match play competition. With each club fielding an 8-person team, associates play singles and doubles matches, with 20 points per match at stake. This past year, eight teams were split into 2 flights and, within each flight, clubs played home and home matches throughout the year to determine flight winners. When the dust settled, Tantallon and Northwest emerged as flight winners and in the playoff, Tantallon narrowly defeated Northwest. A special thanks goes out to Charlie Bravo for

organizing and coordinating the division's match play.

Changing of the Guard



New MISGA President Jeff Hild presents outgoing President Mal Peterson with clock, in honor of Mal's excellent service

Obituary

Clarence Moody

Division II is sad to announce the death of Clarence A. Moody who succumbed to cancer on Dec. 26th. He was a long-time member of Rattlewood Golf Club in Mt. Airy, Md. He was very active in MISGA serving as the Tournament Director in Division II for many years. He joined the MISGA Board of Directors in 2013 as the Divisions Assistant Director and as Director in 2014 and 2015. His counsel will be greatly missed. Heartfelt sympathy is extended to his family and friends.



TIDBITS OF MISGA HISTORY

THE MISGAGRAM

In 1978, MISGA founding fathers President Al Hagen (*Lakewood*), Editor Ted Hayward (*Eagle Head*) and Communications Consultant Joe Gambatese (*Kenwood*) took on the task of developing an informative MISGA newsletter for the members.



The purpose of the newsletter is to provide members with: (1) information involving MISGA's missions, objectives and accomplishments; (2) announcements of tournaments, mixers, outings and other special events; (3) accounts and photos from special events; (4) worthy ideas developed by its member clubs and (5) promotion of MISGA and its value to participating clubs.

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World Handicap System

By the time you read this, your handicap will no longer be determined and managed under the USGA Handicap System. Welcome to the World Handicap System!

If your club pro and the golf magazines and the handicapping organizations haven't barraged you with information about the new system, someone isn't doing their job (or... you haven't been paying attention).

The USGA has whole chunks of its website devoted to the intricacies of the new system. They have also identified the major changes from the old USGA system. These are outlined below (in their words).

Handicap Index® Calculation Changes

With the World Handicap System, a player's best 8 scores out of the last 20 are used, not best 10 out of 20. Handicaps will be updated daily, instead of twice a month, which means you must enter your handicap immediately after you play.

Net Double Bogey Replaces ESC (Equitable Stroke Control)

Net Double Bogey = Double Bogey + any handicap strokes a player is entitled to receive based on their Course Handicap.

Changes to Course Handicap Slope Rating,

Course Rating and Par will now be used to determine a Course Handicap, so expect to see changes in your players' Course Handicaps. As long as par is the same, there will no longer need to be an adjustment when players compete from different tees.

Introduction of Playing Handicap

Playing Handicap is a new term that represents the number of strokes you actually play with during a round. Most of the time, it will be the same as your Course Handicap, but it may change based on the format of play and handicap allowance applied.

Playing Conditions Calculation

The Playing Conditions Calculation is an automatic calculation that compares actual scores to the expected scores made each day. It is designed to account for days when the golf course plays significantly easier or more difficult than normal due to weather or course conditions.

Want to know more??

Google 'World Handicap System', or go to the USGA website.

The inaugural issue was published and distributed in May 1978. From 1979-1996, two or three issues were published each year. In 1997, the current cycle of four issues per year began.

During the burgeoning era of electronic communications, there was much dynamic discussion among the Board members as to whether or not the MISGAGRAM should convert to the electronic format. Some desired to retain the hardcopy while others endorsed the electronic version. In February 2003, an electronic copy of the MISGAGRAM was posted on the MISGA website with hardcopies printed and distributed to the members.

Both formats were continued until the Board meeting held December 8, 2009 at Patuxent Greens Golf Club. At this meeting, the Board voted to terminate publication and distribution of the hardcopy. The electronic copy eliminated the need to hire an IT contractor to develop, maintain & code a roster of Associates (*with each member's name & address by club & division*) as well as the costly printing and postage expenses. This resulted in a \$12,000 per year savings for MISGA. In addition, MISGA's "associates" dues were reduced from \$10 to \$5 per year. Also, it has reduced much roster keeping paper work at the club, division and MISGA levels of operations.

The MISGAGRAM Editors: Ted Hayward (1978-79 – *Lakewood*), Joe Gambatese (1980 – *Kenwood*), Lee Shimberg (1981-82 – *Greencastle*), Bill Woolston (1983-86 – *Hunt Valley*), Harry Bryan (1987-88 – *Crofton*), Ken Pierson (1989-93 – *Hobbit's Glen*), Merle Shumaker (1994-96 - *Crofton*), Dick Hunt (1997-2002 – *Manor*), Jim Mitchell (2003-06 – *Walden*), Herb Hanson (2007-09 – *Hunt Valley*), Byron Keadle (2010-14 – *Patuxent Greens*), Bob Hodges (2015-present – *Wild Quail*).

If you would like to visit and peruse the library/archive containing all issues of the MISGAGRAM just open this link:

<http://www.misga.org/misgagrams.htm>

Lloyd Stimson

MISGA History Chairman

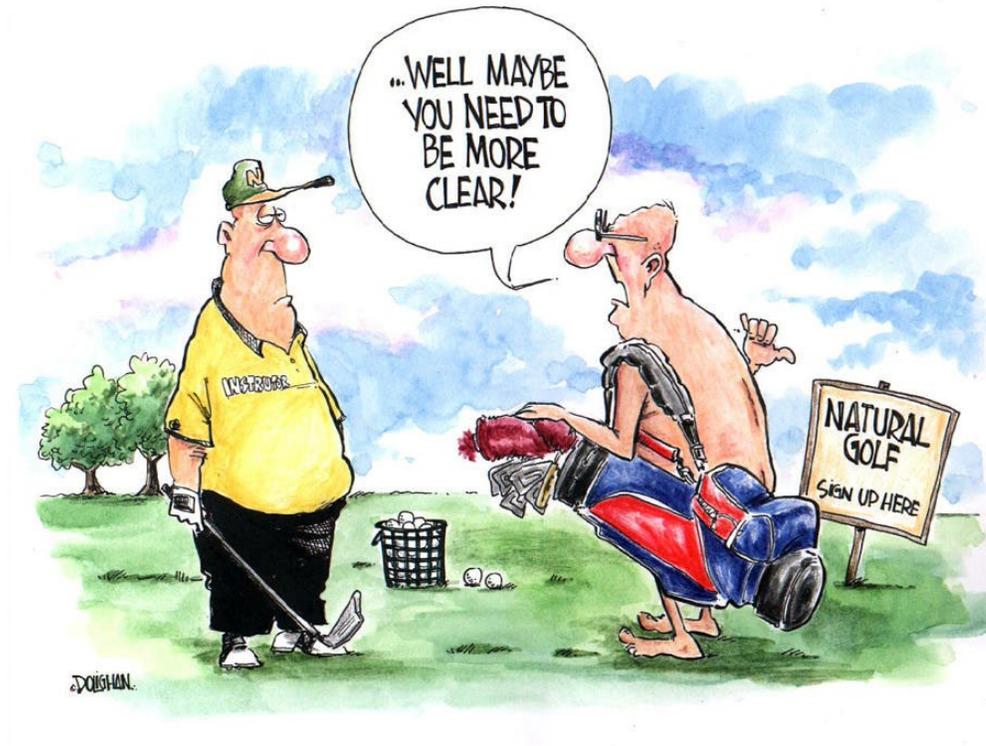
Winter Fling



The 2020 Winter Fling run from March 1 to 7, 2020. It will take place at the Plantation on Crystal River, Florida

Some interesting games are being planned and winners can make some moola as well as recognition.

Check the MISGA Website under “Frolics and Flings”. There’s a link to The Plantation’s website.



2020 -MISGA PAST PRESIDENTS (ABCD) CHAMPIONSHIP

HOLLY HILLS COUNTRY CLUB

MONDAY, JULY 20, 2020

RAIN DATE, MONDAY JULY 27, 2020



The 2020 MISGA Past Presidents (ABCD) Championship Tournament will be hosted by [Holly Hills Country Club](#) in Ijamsville, MD. Golden age golfers representing MISGA's clubs hit the roadways of Maryland, Pennsylvania, Delaware and West Virginia in high hopes of capturing the individual Gross and Net Grand Championship titles.

TOURNAMENT OVERVIEW

ELIGIBILITY: All MISGA associates in good standing. Finalists must qualify through their Division's selection process. Each finalist must have an established valid USGA handicap computed and maintained at the finalist's home club. The current MISGA President, all MISGA Past Presidents and the 2019 Gross and Net Past Presidents (ABCD) Grand Champions are automatically eligible (do not have to compete in their Division's Qualifier) but must pay the Entry Fee.

FORMAT: A maximum field of 100 competitors will be divided into four flights of A-B-C-D handicapped players -lowest in "A" to highest in "D" (approximately 25% in each flight). "A" players will compete against "A" players, "B" players against "B" players, "C" players against "Cs" and "Ds" against "Ds." The Gross and Net Grand Champions can come from any of the four flights.

PRIZES: Based on a full field of 100 finalists, 26 winners will receive a Pro Shop Gift Certificate (the Gross and Net Grand Champions plus 3 gross and 3 net winners in each flight). In addition, the Gross and Net Grand Champions will receive a high-quality engraved trophy.

2020 -MISGA 2-MAN TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP
NORBECK COUNTRY CLUB
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2020
RAIN DATE, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2020



The 2020 MISGA 2-Man Team Championship Tournament will be hosted by [Norbeck Country Club](#) in Rockville, MD. Teams of golden age golfers representing MISGA's clubs hit the roadways of Maryland, Pennsylvania, Delaware and West Virginia in high hopes of capturing the Gross and Net 2-Man Team Grand Championship titles.

TOURNAMENT OVERVIEW

ELIGIBILITY: All MISGA associates in good standing who qualify through their Division's selection process are eligible to compete in the tournament. Finalists must qualify through their Division's selection process. Finalists must have an established valid USGA handicap computed and maintained at the finalist's home club. Teammates of each 2-Man Team must be members of the same club. The 2019 Gross and Net 2-Man Team Grand Champions are automatically eligible (do not have to compete in their Division's Qualifier) but must pay the Entry Fee.

FORMAT: This is an 18-hole team stroke play (*Gross & Net Best Ball*) tournament. The maximum field of 50 teams will not be divided into flights. Each 2-Man Team will be competing against all other 2-Man Teams. There will be one **Gross** and one **Net 2-Man Team Grand Champion**. **Scoring** = the sum of the teammates' lowest **gross** score on each hole and the sum of teammates' lowest **net** score on each hole.

PRIZES: Based on a full field of 50 teams, 14 total teams will receive a Pro Shop Gift Certificate (the Gross and Net Grand Champions plus 6 gross teams and 6 net teams). In addition, the **Gross** and **Net Grand Champions** will receive high-quality engraved trophies.