

MISGA GRAM

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Wow - It's been a year already and my turn as your President is almost over, and it has been a very good year at that.

I feel we have had a successful year with two new clubs joining MISGA, Bear Trap Dunes and Fairway Hills. Membership in holding and our mixers are doing well. The only drawback is our attendance at club mixers. We can improve on this. Let's all work on this together.

We have had two volunteers step up for our vacancies. John Babyak from Montgomery Country Club will be the Secretary and Mike Giuffrida from Crofton Country Club will be the Historian. I know both will do an outstanding job. Thanks again for volunteering.

First and foremost, let me thank all MISGA Members, Club Reps, Divisional Officers and MISGA State Board Members for their outstanding work this past year. Only with your help MISGA will be successful. I would like to thank the following for doing above the norm. Charlie Fieldhouse, C.J. Myers, Herb Hanson and Tom Tarpley.

The leadership in MISGA is very strong. Everyone works hard to make sure MISGA gets better each and every day.

The MISGA Gram needs your help, each one of us should try to see that items of interest are included. Please look for material from your Club or Division and send to the MISGA Gram Editor Herb Hanson.

Please provide support to Bob Turner, next year's President.

I wish each and every one a joyous holiday season, a healthy winter and an early spring to start the golf season.

Remember our men and women who are serving our Country and pray for their safe return home.

Looking forward to seeing you on the golf course, play well and stay safe.

Ralph E. Starkey, President

Honorable Mention

HOLE-IN-ONE Congratulations to *Quail Valley* MISGA associate **Larry Nelligan** who had a hole-in-one on the 145 yard, par-3 number 7 on Thursday, 12 July.

BIRDIE? On that same day, *Quail Valley* associate **Skip Amass** got a birdie of a different kind. While approaching the 13th hole, one of a small group of geese flew into the cart missing the driver but hitting **Skip** on the side of the head, knocking him out of the cart. The goose broke a wing but Skip quickly recovered and went on to par the hole. The goose was mercifully put down.



HOLE-IN-ONE On Wednesday, 25 July at *Holly Hills* in a mixer with *Chartwell* and *Hunt Valley* two outstanding golf feats were accomplished. **Lou Best**, who has more years than most of us, had his 9th Hole-in-one by sinking a 122-yard 8-iron shot on hole number 5. Many congratulations to **Lou** for another hole-in-one!

EAGLE On the same day at *Holly Hills*, **Al Shockley** struck an 8 iron for his second shot on hole number 16, a par-4, and contributed an eagle to his team with a stroke on the card. Congratulations are extended to **Al** on his 'big birdie'.

Lou (left) and **Al**; 'My eagle is better than your hole-in-one.'

Recently Deceased

Associate

Troy ASHCROFT
Glenn BEARINGER
Melvin BENHOFF
Alex CARO
Marvin DANZIGER
Bill DAVIS
Roy DAVIS
James DUNK
Robert GEBHARDTSBAUER
Thomas GEROVAC
Gene GRANGER
Michael JANIS
Len JASKIEWICZ
Andy KOSTECKA
Dick MACK
Bob REDMOND
Bud THOMAS
Jim TROUTMAN
Frank ZEIGLER

Club

Elks
Beaver Creek
Prospect Bay
Bowie
Leisure World
Green Hill
VFW
Hunt Valley
Leisure World
VFW
Green Hill
Norbeck
Cripple Creek
Lakewood
Lakewood
VFW
Univ. of Maryland
Naval Academy
VFW

All will be missed by their golfing buddies and fellow associates; rest in peace.

A-B-C-D Championship Tournament

Because of extremely heavy rainfall in the *Tantallon* area for two days prior to the scheduled date of August 22 for the A-B-C-D Championship Tournament it was necessary to reschedule this event to the rain date of August 29. Unfortunately, the Division II/VI MISGA Pro-Am tournament at *Holly Hills* was also scheduled for that day resulting in a smaller field at the A-B-C-D tournament.

The *Tantallon* golf course was in very good condition on this hot and humid day even though there were several soft and wet areas that required all carts to remain on the paths. In spite of this, the round was played in slightly over five hours thanks largely to the volunteer spotters located at the critical locations. In general, the scores were higher than usual - perhaps due to the softness and unfamiliarity of the course.

Our host Club Rep, **Bob King**, did an outstanding job of making all the arrangements including a buffet lunch prior to the noon shotgun start and a delicious filet mignon and broiled salmon filet dinner at the awards banquet. Division Director **Lloyd Stimson** and Division Tournament Chairman **Evan Davey** gave valuable assistance to Bob in establishing the field of players. The Golf Pro, **Bob Wallace**, and his staff did an excellent job of scorekeeping, breaking ties, and determining the winners.

Low gross champion with a score of 77 was **Chuck Winwood** from *Tantallon*. Low net champion with a score of 67 was **Monte Shepler** from *Wild Quail*. Each received a handsome wall clock trophy to keep in their den and the large silver bowl to be displayed at their respective clubs for the next year.

Pictured below is the low gross winner **Chuck Winwood** being presented his trophy by Tournament Chairman C. J. Myers.



Also pictured is the low net winner **Monte Shepler** with the Tournament Chairman.



In addition to the above, the other winners were:

<u>Flight A</u>	Low gross	Jeff Allen	78	<i>Wild Quail</i>
	2 nd "	Mo Dutterer	80	<i>Hobbit's Glen</i>
	3 rd "	Ed Sebring	81	<i>Rattlewood</i>
	4 th "	Bob Burd	82	<i>Shawnee</i>
	Low net	Tom Gancarz	68	<i>Eagle Creek</i>
	2 nd "	John Amey	70	<i>Tantallon</i>
	3 rd "	Ted Evans	72	<i>Nutters Crossing</i>
	4 th "	Joe McCollum	72	<i>Tantallon</i>
<u>Flight B</u>	Low gross	Fred Bulkinski	84	<i>Eagle Creek</i>
	2 nd "	Bill Rupp	86	<i>Tantallon</i>
	3 rd "	Ron Hudson	88	<i>Deer Run</i>
	Low net	Cris Smith	71	<i>Kenwood</i>
	2 nd "	Sam Wood	73	<i>Harbourtowne</i>
	3 rd "	Kirby Kendall	73	<i>Clearview</i>

A-B-C-D Championship Tournament (cont)

<u>Flight C</u>	Low gross	Frank Nicolai	88	<i>Tantallon</i>
	2 nd “	Bud Jarboe	89	<i>Eagle Creek</i>
	3 rd “	Bill Stafford	89	<i>Ocean Pines</i>
	4 th “	Byron Keadle	90	<i>Patuxent Greens</i>
	Low net	Bird Kaufman	68	<i>Bowie</i>
	2 nd “	Pete Sorge	70	<i>Tantallon</i>
	3 rd “	Larry Clark	71	<i>Ocean Pines</i>
	4 th “	Ed Wratten	73	<i>Montgomery</i>
<u>Flight D</u>	Low gross	C. J. Myers	94	<i>Manor</i>
	2 nd “	Lloyd Stimson	94	<i>Tantallon</i>
	3 rd “	Ron Jackson	97	<i>Ocean City</i>
	Low net	Jim Connelly	68	<i>Walden</i>
	2 nd “	Bill Hoffman	68	<i>Walden</i>
	3 rd “	Bob Kirkner	72	<i>Deer Run</i>

C. J. Myers, Tournament Chairman

FALL FROLIC NEARLY FILLED

I am pleased to report that the 2007 Fall Frolics is almost completely sold out! As you know, the applications had to be postmarked or hand delivered, as of June 15, 2007. As of June 18, 2007, all of the one (1) bedroom and the three (3) bedroom units at both venues were sold out. One-bedroom units are now only available, subject to cancellations. However, you can send in your application and fees to get on a **waiting list** for any of the units.

A few two-bedroom units may be available. Also, I may be able to get additional 3 bedroom units, subject to availability, late charges and when I receive the applications. Please note: the number of attendees is limited and that will govern if space is available.

If anyone is considering going to either Seabrook or Amelia they should contact me ASAP! (301-292-1597 or e-mail pete233@verizon.net).

We are looking forward to seeing you there & hope the weather is as kind to us this year as it has been in the past. Thanks, to all of you who responded so quickly.

Peter Sorge, Jr., Events Chairman

POINTS TO PONDER

Golf can best be defined as an endless series of tragedies obscured by the occasional miracle, followed by a good bottle of beer.

The term “mulligan” is really a contraction of the phrase “maul it again.”

A “gimme” can best be defined as an agreement between two golfers ... neither of whom can putt very well.

Golf's a hard game to figure. One day you'll go out and slice it and shank it, hit into all the traps and miss every green. The next day you go out and for no reason at all you really stink.

An interesting thing about golf is that no matter how badly you play; it is always possible to get worse.

MISGA TWO-MAN TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP

It was a very hot and humid day August 8 when the Two-Man Team Championship tournament was played at *Shawnee Country Club* but thanks to excellent planning by the committee to have plenty of ice water stations and ice cold bottled water strategically located throughout the course nobody had any problems from dehydration. Also, the committee had some volunteer club members spotting balls at the trouble holes, thereby avoiding slow play due to lost balls. Play was completed by the entire field of 120 players (60 teams) in approximately five hours.

All participants enjoyed a delicious box lunch prior to the 1:00 PM shotgun start and were served an outstanding dinner of prime rib and crab cake at the awards banquet that evening. The host Club Rep, **Ed Daino**, and the Division Tournament Chairman, **Bill Morton**, are to be commended for the excellent job of organizing and planning this event. The Head Golf Pro, **Devon Peterson**, is to be congratulated for his fine job of scorekeeping in a timely fashion. The following teams won trophies or prize money:

1st net	57	Patrick McAllorum & Charles Friesen	<i>Ocean City</i>
2nd	59	Ralph Harms & Joe McCollum	<i>Tantallon</i>
3rd	60	Mark Teaney & Jack Hughes	<i>Ocean Pines</i>
4th	63	Bill Duvall & Tom Phelps	<i>Prospect Bay</i>
5th	63	David Bowen & Bud Jarboe	<i>Eagle Creek</i>
6th	63	Fred Yooll Graham & Malcolm Peterson	<i>Prospect Bay</i>
7th	63	Bernie Grossman & Ian Forrest	<i>Piney Branch</i>
8th	63	Howard Martin & Bob Siegel	<i>Montgomery</i>
9th	63	John Carpenter & Robert House	<i>Glade Valley</i>
10th	63	George Roff & Evan Davey	<i>Marlborough</i>
11th	63	Bob Kanicki & Chuck Gardner	<i>Harbourtowne</i>
12th	63	Stan Matthews & Bill Lord	<i>Nutters Crossing</i>
13th	64	Russ Stoneman & Jerry Moxley	<i>Patuxent Greens</i>
14th	64	Ron Hudson & Rocky Christian	<i>Deer Run</i>
15th	64	Bill Clarke & Bob Spicher	<i>Cripple Creek</i>
16th	64	Mike Urquhart & Dick Crone	<i>Kenwood</i>
17th	64	Ed Berick & George Hudson	<i>Shawnee</i>
18th	64	Bob Graham & Ed Springer	<i>Shawnee</i>
19th	65	Mike Gorski & R. Tiikkala	<i>Eagle Creek</i>
20th	65	Earl Gayler & Cris Smith	<i>Kenwood</i>

Pictured below with the champions trophies awarded by Tournament Chairman C. J. Myers are **Patrick McAllorum & Charles Friesen** from *Ocean City*.



Also pictured are the runner-up trophies awarded by the Tournament Chairman to **Ralph Harms** and **Joe McCollum** from *Tantallon*



C. J. Myers, Tournament Chairman

Posting Southern Scores and Tournament Scores

Posting “Southern” Scores — including Fall Frolics and Winter Fling

If you'll be enjoying the warm southern climate this winter, remember that the USGA Handicap System **requires** that during our “off-season” (November 16 to March 14, in Maryland and Delaware), we must post scores for rounds we play in southern golf areas which are in “active season” (such as South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Texas, Arizona, California, etc., so-called “southern scores”).

Maryland and Delaware golfers (and those from Quail Valley, which is in PA but is under the Maryland State season) must post their southern scores by March 14, 2008, so that these scores will be included in the March 15 handicap index revisions for Maryland and Delaware.

This also applies to posting scores from the team events at the Fall Frolics and the Winter Fling (other than scrambles or other competitions, such as alternate shot, in which you don't play your own ball from tee to green).

In scoring for team events at the Frolics and Fling (such as two-person/better-ball or four-person/two-best-balls), on holes where you pick up your ball on some holes because your teammate(s) already had the low score(s) for the team, record the “most likely score” for those holes (most likely score you would have had if you had completed the hole from where you picked up your ball), using equitable stroke control as a cap for those hole scores. This is the same USGA procedure for calculating individual scores in any team event, including MISGA mixers.

(NOTE: The Fall Frolic and Winter Fling event scores are **not** to be posted as tournament scores, because of the generally friendly, casual nature of these events.)

Posting MISGA Tournament Scores

In 2006, the MISGA Handicap Committee monitored the posting of MISGA tournament scores from a sample group, and found that almost half of the MISGA tournament participants in the sample did not post their MISGA Division Tournament scores.

This year, to begin to address this issue throughout MISGA, the Committee initiated announcements at the DIVISION IV ABCD and Two-Man Tournaments, notifying the participants that the failure to timely post these tournament scores might affect their ability to enter future events — with good results. Ninety-one percent of the participants in the Division IV ABCD Tournament timely posted their tournament scores, and eighty-five percent of the participants in the Division IV Two-Man Tournament timely posted their scores.

Then, similar announcements were made at the STATE ABCD and Two-Man Tournaments in August, notifying the participants that the failure to timely post these tournament scores might affect their ability to enter Division and State Tournaments in 2008. (As of the submission of this article, the score posting results of the State Tournaments is not available.)

In 2008, the Committee looks forward to having similar announcements made at every Division's Tournaments, and, of course, again at the State Tournaments.

If you're going south for the winter, have fun and hit 'em straight.

Dick Crone, Co-Chairman, MISGA Rules and Handicap Committee

To how many organizations does a man have to belong to be happy? There are so many! Lions, Kiwanis, VFW, American Legion, golf club, country club, Elks, Moose, and the list goes on.

If you are a golfer, there are only two or three organizations that you really need to belong to: a golf club or country club, the USGA and MISGA. Everyone has heard of the golf club, country club, and the USGA, but it is surprising how many people know nothing of MISGA. It is also surprising that so many who belong to MISGA don't tell their friends about the fun and enjoyment that MISGA provides. What other organization provides the opportunity to join with others in golf, good food and fellowship at such a reasonable cost.

Over 4,000 men in Maryland, Pennsylvania and Delaware know of the golf, food and fellowship that MISGA provides! Isn't it about time that you tell your friends about the good times you are having with MISGA? Don't you think it is about time to share with others the fun and fellowship, let alone the golf that MISGA provides??

HOLE "HANDICAP" vs HOLE "DIFFICULTY"

When discussing hole "handicap" designations (*i.e.*, #1 handicap hole, #15 handicap hole, etc.), there has been much misunderstanding about differentiating between hole **handicap** and hole **difficulty**. The two are not the same. Many mistake a hole's **handicap** designation for the **difficulty** level of the hole. A hole that has been designated as the #1 handicap hole does not mean that it is the most difficult hole on the course. Likewise, a hole that has been designated as the #18 handicap hole does not mean that it is the easiest hole on the course.

According to Section 17 of the *USGA Handicap System* manual, hole **handicap** is the allocation of strokes to a player so that middle and higher-handicap players will be able to halve a hole with lower-handicap players. The hole that has the highest stroke count differential between the lower-handicap players and the middle to higher-handicap players will be designated the #1 handicap hole. The hole that has the lowest stroke count differential between the lower-handicap players and the middle and higher-handicap players will be designated the #18 handicap hole.

Hole **difficulty** is a measure of how tough it is for players to make a par on a hole. The hole that has the highest average stroke count above par will be classified as the most difficult hole of the course. The hole that has the lowest average stroke count above par will be classified as the easiest hole of the course.

The USGA manual further states that a handicap stroke should be an equalizer and should be available on a hole where it most likely will be needed by the higher-handicapped player to halve the hole. Difficulty in making a par on a hole is not an effective indicator of the need for a stroke. Also, Section 17-1 states that in allocating the order of handicap strokes to the 18 holes of a golf course, consideration should be given to the likelihood of the strokes being equalizers, rather than winning strokes.

BOTTOM LINE:

Hole Handicap: How tough it is for higher-handicap players to *halve* a hole with lower-handicap players.

Hole Difficulty: How tough it is for players to *par* a hole.

Lloyd Stimson, Division VI Director



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