

**Musket Ridge MISGA**  
**Welcome Letter to Members for the 2015 Season**

**Welcome to the start of the 2015 season.** If you have not already done so, go to [www.mrmisga.org/schedule](http://www.mrmisga.org/schedule) and sign up for our 2015 MISGA events.



As reminders for the 2015 Musket Ridge MISGA season, there are a few items I want to bring to your attention.

- As of today, we have five new Musket Ridge MISGA members for 2015. They are: Gary Abel, Doug Baker, Bill Jamison, Bryan McManus, and Frank Wickless. Please make our new members welcome by introducing yourself at one of our events.
- Your elected officers are serving the second year of their two-year terms. They are Jeff Hild, MISGA Representative; Darrell Blevins, Chairperson, Membership Committee; Rob Wheeler, Treasurer; and Bob Frucella, Chairperson, Handicap Committee. New elections will be held in the fall.
- If you want replacement Musket Ridge MISGA name badges, let Rob Wheeler know. The cost is \$4.00. New members will receive a free badge.
- If you are interested in ordering a Musket Ridge MISGA shirt, go to our website to order. The deadline for shirt orders is April 29. You must pay the pro shop before April 29.
- Just like last year, the mixers at Musket Ridge will start at 9:00 a.m. during April, May, September, and October. Home mixers will start at 8:30 a.m. during June, July, and August. Check the schedule for the start times of all events.
- Please sign up and play in as many home mixers as you can. Remember that members who play in at least **five home mixers** during 2015 will receive a discount for the Musket Ridge MISGA Championship on October 13.
- You will find the 2015 Musket Ridge MISGA schedule at [www.mrmisga.org/schedule](http://www.mrmisga.org/schedule). That is where you need to go to sign up for the mixers. If you have any problems with the sign-up process, let me know.
- Sign-up for mixers will be available about four weeks in advance of the event. The **“Posting Date”** column on the schedule is the date the event will be available for sign-up.
- As we have done in the past, the members of the Board are allowed an extra few days before the “Posting Date” to sign-up. This compensates them for the many hours of work they put in on behalf of the club.

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- Some of our mixers limit the number of members we can send. When our participation is limited, we will take the signups on a first-in basis. If the number of signups exceeds the number of available slots noted on the schedule, and you really want to play, signup anyway. If there are cancellations or we are able to negotiate for additional slots, you may be able to move up the list and be invited to play. Check back at the signup page to check your status. Unfortunately, we may not be able to let people know if additional slots are available until the last minute.
- You also can use the website to cancel your attendance at a mixer up until the **“Deadline”** date shown on the schedule. **After that date you must notify the host club.**
- **Lists of attendees are provided to the host golf course three to seven days in advance of the mixer (including those held at Musket Ridge). After the “Deadline” date, if you find you cannot attend a mixer for which you have signed up, it is your responsibility to contact the host club’s pro shop. This is important. Clubs order and prepare food based on the number of people who are signed up. They also prepare teams as evenly matched as possible based on the sign-up sheets. You may be charged a fee if you sign up, do not attend, and do not notify the pro shop timely.**
- We will have pocket schedules of the Musket Ridge MISGA schedule available at the 50/50 table at home events.
- One more thing about online signups: After you sign up for an event, you can change your mind about carpooling, special rules, like Rule 89, etc. On the signup page, enter your name exactly as you did to sign up and revise the information the way you want it. When you click “Submit”, your new information will **replace** the old and **retain your place in the queue**. If you decide to **cancel** for an event, your name is **removed from the queue**. If you re-sign up for the event, your name will be placed on the bottom of the existing queue.
- Like many other MISGA clubs, we implemented **slow play policies** in 2013. We will continue those policies for 2015.
  - If after four hours and fifteen minutes, you turn in your scorecard 20 minutes after the group in front of you, your group will be penalized one stroke per player in the group.
  - Any group turning in a scorecard after five hours from their starting tee time, will be penalized one stroke per player in the group.
  - The penalties will be assessed by the pro staff and there are no appeals.

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- To help speed play:
  - Members of the Pro Staff will have a ranger on the course from 9:30 to 11:30.
  - If a group is being held up by the group in front of them and there is open space in front of that group, call the Pro Shop or notify the ranger.
  - Turn in your scorecard immediately following your round to the scorer's table in Catoctin Hall before visiting the parking lot to put away your clubs.
  - Take responsibility to keep your group moving. Make sure visiting club members are aware of our Slow Play Policy and the consequences. If it helps, tell them that your Club Representative (that would be me) is the bad guy.
  
- Tips to speed play:
  - The number one rule to speed up play is to be ready to hit the ball when it is your turn. This applies all over the course including the greens.
  - When you finish a hole, get in the cart and move on -- you can record the scores and put your clubs away at the next hole.
  - On cart path only days, take enough clubs to play your next two shots.
  - Carry an extra ball in your pocket should you hit OB or need to hit a provisional shot.
  
- We will have a **"Golfer of the Year"** competition again this year. Points for this competition are earned at most MISGA events. It will be based on your "net" scores for each event. Your "net" score is not your equitable stroke control score. It is your gross score minus your handicap. Rules for this competition were released on March 22.