**General Membership Meeting**

**May 1, 2014**

**Meeting Minutes**

1. **Open Meeting**
2. **News from the Pro Shop** — Josh Ricketts (assistant pro for Musket Ridge mentioned some items of interest.
* A **Blue-Gray Tournament Series** has been introduced. The Series will play about once a month on Saturday mornings in Fed Ex Cup style tournaments. Sign up and information are available in the pro shop.
* The **Mason Dixon League** will continue play with nine-hole events on Monday afternoons. Information for this league is available in the pro shop.
* There is also information in the pro shop about **Junior Clinics** for ages 5-17.
* **Short Game Area Groundbreaking** **-** Musket Ridge is excited to announce that this week work began on the new short game area. This short game area will be perfect for experienced players to hone their skills as well as for beginners who want to encounter real situations beyond what a range can provide.



* Musket Ridge has a new course superintendent, Vince Distefano. Vince joined Musket Ridge following eight years as the Superintendent of Blue Ridge Shadows GC in Front Royal. Vince has had an illustrious assistant’s career working at three Top 100 golf courses: Spyglass Hill in Monterey, CA; Eagle Point CC in Wilmington, NC and Shadow Creek in Las Vegas where he oversaw a renovation that brought Shadow Creek back into the Top 20 Best US Courses.
1. **New Members** in attendance were introduced including Larry Jensen, Bernie McClellan, Greg Williams, and Sam Zigler. Board members and Committee chairpersons were introduced.
2. **Quorum** for the meeting was verified.
3. The **summary of the October 15, 2013 General Membership Meeting Minutes** were sent to all members on March 17, 2014 and again on April 25, 2014. The floor was opened for questions and revisions to the summary. There were no questions or suggested revisions and the minutes were voted to be accepted as is.
4. **2014 Membership Information**
* As of May 1, 2014 there are 75 members for 2014 — 59 returning members and 16 new members.
* On Opening Day last year, we had 73 members — 58 returning members and 15 new members.
* We wound up with 80 members by the end of last year.
1. **Treasury Report** (see file)
2. **Amendments to the Charter, Rules, and Responsibilities**
* Draft amendments to the Charter, Rules, and Responsibilities were sent to all members on March 17, 2014 and again on April 25, 2014.
* The floor was opened for questions and revisions to the suggested changes. All of the suggested changes were minor.
* Only changes to the Charter require a vote by the general membership. There were no questions or suggested revisions and the changes were voted to be accepted as is.
* A revised Charter, Rules, and Responsibilities will be sent to all members soon.
1. **Weather Decisions for Home Events**
* Jeff emphasized that we have no say in whether or not to cancel an event or when it is cancelled.
* At Musket Ridge, the course superintendent and the pro make the call. **Musket Ridge’s philosophy is that we will play, rain or shine, unless the course is declared unplayable.**
* If a decision is made early enough, we will try to notify members by email.
* If there is any doubt, call the clubhouse where the event is scheduled.
1. **Update on MISGA Matchplay**
* Tom Roulliard updated the members on what is happening. The first event has been scheduled for May against Westminster National and, as of this moment, there are enough Musket Ridge members for the first match play event.
* If anyone is interested in information about the MISGA Division II Match Play, please contact one of the Chairpersons, Kevin Cannaday or Tom Roulliard.
1. **Ryder Cup Matches for Musket Ridge**
* We are trying to arrange one or more Ryder Cup events for this fall.
* We are looking at home and home events using the four formats used in the Ryder cup for nine holes each.
* Beaver Creek, Rattlewood, Challedon, and Glade Valley have expressed interest and we will be meeting with those clubs soon to see if we can make arrangements for this competition.
1. **Request for Help**
* We could use some help with the 50/50 sales, both in the morning and at the lunch.
* We are also looking for some help for a backup to the Donut Chairman for home events where Bob Frucella is not able to attend. The pickup point is the Dunkin Donuts in Frederick.
* And we may need assistance with the Ryder Cup arrangements and running the tournaments.
* If anyone is interested in volunteering, please let Jeff Hild know.
1. **Rule 89**
* We entertained questions on Rule 89 which devolved into a discussion of how handicaps are calculated for MISGA events.
* We only are sure of how the handicaps are calculated at Musket Ridge. The pro uses the proscribed USGA methodology for calculating handicaps for events that are conducted from more than one tee box.
* This is covered by Rules Section 3-5, 9-3c, and an USGA Position Paper on Competing from Different Tees.
* This is a complicated issue to explain and Jeff Hild will discuss this with anyone who has any additional questions.
* The bottom line is that the rule is being appropriately applied at Musket Ridge.
1. **Name Tags**
* We have ordered name tags for all of the new members.
* If anyone needs a new name badge, please let Jeff Hild know, and we will order them. The cost is $4.00.
1. **Golfer of the Year**
* We are conducting this competition for 2014 — check the Results Section of the Musket Ridge MISGA website for the results.
* The competition will be in every MISGA mixer up to, but not including the Closing Day Tournament.
* The competition will not include the MISGA Two-Man and ABCD events.
* A set of rules will be issued soon.
1. **Shirts**
* The pro shop will take payments and additional orders through May 1.
1. **Musket Ridge MISGA Website**
* Tom Rowlett explained that there have been a number of erroneous signups on our online signup system and at some other clubs. One club had over 100 erroneous signups for one of their events.
* In response to this, Tom is instituting an access control number to be used by all Musket Ridge members to sign up for Musket Ridge events. You will need this access code to sign up as soon as Tom makes the changes.
* A provision has been implemented to accommodate the specification of playing from a different tees for some of the clubs. Please check the Sign Up page for information about “Special Choices” to see if different tees are available. The Holly Hills CC mixer on May 28 has a choice of tees. Please double check to make sure you are signed up for the tees you want to play.
1. **New Schedule Items**
* There are three additional tournaments that have been scheduled.
* Two rainouts have been rescheduled for May 13 at Hunt Valley, July 23 at Holly Hills, and an additional visit has been scheduled for September 9 at Sparrows Point.
* **The online schedule is the official site for the latest events.**
* We are still working on two additional make-up dates.
* Once these are scheduled, new pocket schedules will be printed.
1. **Division II ABCD and Two-Man Tournaments**
* We have just received the MISGA directions for the Division II ABCD (Monday, July 14 at Quail Valley) and Two-Man (Monday, June 23 at Glade Valley) Qualifiers.
* Check the Musket Ridge online schedule as Tom Rowlett is working to make the application part of our signup system.
1. Everyone is reminded to try to play in at least **five home mixers** to qualify for a reduced rate at the Closing Day Tournament.
2. **Close Meeting**