### Northwest MISGA Information for New Members

# Welcome to Northwest MISGA. Here is information about the organization and what to expect through the coming year.

**MISGA** is the Maryland Interclub Senior Golf Association. It encompasses the state of Maryland and has multiple Divisions. We are in Division 6. Other clubs in Division 6 include: Bay Hills, Chartwell, Compass Pointe, Crofton, Fairway Hills, Hampshire Greens, National/Tantallon, Naval Academy, Rattlewood, Timbers at Troy, Univ of Maryland, Walden, and Woodmore.

**Mixers** are events held throughout the season where other clubs invite us (and other clubs) to play at their course. We reciprocate and are scheduled to have 3 home mixers this year.

The Mixer consists of foursomes put together by the home club pro who ideally include an A, B, C, and D player (based on handicaps) and a mix of players from the various clubs attending.

Each foursome competes against all the other foursomes for prizes. The format for the competition varies but the most popular format is two best net scores per hole for the foursome.

Some clubs offer "Closest to the Pin" and other pools you may enter for an additional fee.

#### The day of a Mixer:

There is a shotgun start generally between 8:30 and 9:00 a.m. check the schedule for the exact time when you sign up for the event.

Proper golf attire is required. Soft spikes only. No jeans, cutoffs, denim, or running shorts. We have golf shirts available to us at the pro-shop made for Northwest Golf. It is not necessary to wear this shirt to these events, but most members do. There are no custom hats for our group but most members wear a hat with the Northwest logo.

Please try to arrive at least a half hour early to allow time to register, to pay, to find your cart, meet your playing partners, and to enjoy coffee and donuts. Most clubs provide free range balls for MISGA events.

Scores will be verified and Prizes will be determined by the host club staff. This is done during the luncheon. The number of prizes distributed depends on the host club's policy and the number of participants. The prizes are usually in the form of pro shop merchandise certificates and may have expiration dates.

**Cost:** The cost of each Mixer varies. At Northwest ours will cost the standard rate discounted by whatever membership you have signed up for plus a small fee for lunch. The cost includes cart, greens fees, refreshments (before the round coffee and donuts), lunch after the round, and prizes. Some clubs may only accept cash and if so this will be noted on the website sign-up sheet.

#### Sign Up/Show Up:

A few weeks before each Mixer you will be able to sign up through our website. You can also cancel through the website up to the deadline shown for each event. After the deadline you must call the host club to cancel.

Lists of attendees are provided to the host club at least 1 week (and sometimes longer) prior to the event. This is true for our home Mixers as well. Food is ordered and prepared based on the number of attendees. Evenly matched teams are formed based on the sign ups.

## You may be charged a fee by the host club if you sign up, do not attend, and do not notify them in a timely manner.

**Food:** Refreshments, generally coffee and donuts, are provided in the morning, usually one hour before the schedule start time. Lunch is served after the round. Typically you sit with your foursome at an indicated location. Alcoholic beverages are not included in the cost but may be available for purchase. **Hats are not allowed at lunch.** 

**50/50:** Most host clubs, including Northwest, sell 50/50 tickets at the Mixer. Participation is not required, but the income generated helps defray the cost of refreshments.

Car Pool: There is usually the opportunity to car pool to away events.

**Handicaps:** You must maintain a current handicap through the Maryland State Golf Association (MSGA). If you happen to belong to another club as long as that club (and your handicap) are part of the MSGA you are fine.

You are responsible for the posting of all your scores. Sometimes the handicap committee or our MISGA rep will post them for you (this is the case when away venues have blended tees that require manual entry).

**Weekly Events:** Each Thursday, we will have a home non-MISGA event. These games will vary and their schedule and explanation will be available on our website. You will either sign-up to play or cancel your intent to play up on the website.

During the season we will conduct a Match Play Tournament. To participate you must have participated in at least 50% of the weekly scheduled events between April 4<sup>th</sup> and the start of the

event in August. Seeding will be determined by blind draw. The same handicap index will be used throughout the event. A Medal, by flight, club championship will also be held.