

# MILWAUKEE SINGLES GOLF

Milwaukee Chapter - American Singles Golf Association — February 2012

## CARIBBEAN GOLF CRUISE DEPARTS FEBRUARY 25TH

### List of Committee Chairs and Officers and E-Mail Addresses

President:	Position open
Golf Committee:	Position open
Web Site:	Mark Sadowski <a href="mailto:m_e_ski@yahoo.com">m_e_ski@yahoo.com</a>
Communication:	Mark Sadowski <a href="mailto:m_e_ski@yahoo.com">m_e_ski@yahoo.com</a>
Membership:	Position open
Social Events:	Position open
Treasurer:	Linda Horn

### Winter Golf

By a rare quirk of nature, the weather in December was unusually mild. This nice weather continued until the middle of January. Who needs Florida? Several members took advantage of the reopening of some of the Milwaukee County golf courses. I can only recall one December in which any courses were open here, and no Januaries. Unfortunately, the cold arrived, the ground froze, the Packers lost, and the snow that has fallen is still on the ground, putting an end to the golf season. Perhaps this weather pattern portents an early spring. We can only hope. On the bright side, the worst month is

over, February has only 29 days, so the longer daylight of March is right around the corner. Meanwhile, the only thing to enjoy on the county courses is snowshoeing and cross country skiing. (That is if the cold and snow return, since it has melted after I wrote that)

### Upcoming events

The golf show is now under new management and is called the Greater Milwaukee Golf Show. We will not be hosting a booth this year. The dates are March 2nd to the 4th, 2012. The hours are 1:00 to 8:00 on Friday, 10:00 to 6:00 on Saturday, and 10:00 to 4:00 on Sunday. The cost of admission is \$8.00, parking is free. It will be held at the Milwaukee County Sports Complex in Franklin, 6000 West Ryan Road.

### Tip of the Month

One day on the practice area, I saw another golfer hit at least a hundred wedge shots to the same spot. I was thinking if he gets that shot on every hole during his next round, he should get a good score. But what if it is shorter or

longer? Many golf teachers believe you should practice your short game by varying the distance of your shots, and use different clubs to do this. This is more akin to an actual round. Some also advocate playing a mock round at the practice area. Imagine a course you're familiar with, and hit your shots as if you were playing an actual round. For example, we'll start with the first hole as 350 yards straightaway. I take driver and hit one 210 yards. I hit my next shot as if it was 140 yards to the pin. Let's say I hit it short or long, or off line by twenty yards, I would then play a 20 yard pitch or chip, and so on and so forth for the rest of the holes. Also, take a little time between shots like you would on a golf course, don't just hit ball after ball. Size up the situation and decide what shot to hit.

### Newsletters

ASGA started sending newsletters by email in March, 2011. Not all of our members have an e-mail account; I would encourage you to set one up.

We use e-mail as the primary source for telling others of club changes and events.

## NATIONAL OFFICE INFORMATION

Upcoming Events Include (see [SinglesGolf.com/events](http://SinglesGolf.com/events))

- Golf Cruise to the Caribbean - Details at [www.SinglesGolf.com/Cruise](http://www.SinglesGolf.com/Cruise) - February 25, 2012 for 7 nights
- Orlando & Ft. Lauderdale's Sunshine Fling Weekend in Ft. Lauderdale, FL, Feb. 17-19, 2012. Details at [www.SinglesGolf.com/SunshineFling](http://www.SinglesGolf.com/SunshineFling)
- Wilmington's Beach Blast - Wilmington, NC - March 16-18, 2012. Details at [www.SinglesGolf.com/BeachBlast](http://www.SinglesGolf.com/BeachBlast)

Office Hours: 9:00am to 2:00pm, M-F (Eastern)

National Office: 704-889-4600 or 1-888-GOLFMATE

## LOCAL CHAPTER INFORMATION

Next Meeting: TBA

Meeting Location: TBA

Our Website: [www.MilwaukeeSinglesGolf.com](http://www.MilwaukeeSinglesGolf.com)

Our Hotline: 262-544-8914

(See next page for list of officers and board members.)

To join, renew dues, make a change of address, phone, etc., call National Hotline at left or go to [www.SinglesGolf.com/join](http://www.SinglesGolf.com/join)

**Milwaukee Chapter**  
of the  
**American Singles Golf Association**



**President**  
Open

**Golf Committee**  
Open

**Website & Communication**  
Mark Sadowski  
[m\\_e\\_ski@yahoo.com](mailto:m_e_ski@yahoo.com)

**Membership**  
Open

**Social Events**  
Open

**Treasurer**  
Linda Horn

My suggestion would be to go to the local library, sign on a computer and go to [www.google.com](http://www.google.com), type in Gmail in the search box and follow the instructions.

### About Our Members

#### Happy Birthday to these members:

Rick Sanders - 02/14  
Bob Thomson - 03/09

#### These members are up for renewal:

*(date shown is last day of membership)*  
Kenneth Malm - 02/29/2012

#### These members recently renewed:

Ruth Durkin

#### These members did not renew their dues:

*(date shown is date membership expired)*  
Ron Wiza - 12/31/2011

**Our chapter currently has 35 members.**

### Rules and More Rules

#### Ball on green rotated without first marking position, legal or not?

Larry's ball was on the green, about 8 feet from the hole. Larry bent down next to his ball and rotated the ball to line up the imprinted arrow that was on the ball with the hole. He did not lift the ball, mark its position or change its

position. Scott called out foul. He said Larry, that's a one stroke penalty. I don't care if the ball didn't change position, you knew it was your ball and you touched the ball without marking the ball. Of course Larry protested and said he was entitled to rotate his ball if he did not move the ball's position and if the ball was on the green. What is the correct ruling?

- A. Scott is correct, one stroke penalty. Larry was in error for not first marking the ball.
- B. Larry is correct, no penalty. On the green, a ball if not moved, it can be rotated. Marking the balls position is not necessary because the ball is not being picked up and never moves from its' original position.

And the answer is...

The correct answer is A. Scott was correct, Larry is awarded a one stroke penalty for touching the ball other than as provided for in the Rules. Under Rules 6-b and 20-1, a ball on the putting green may be lifted, or touched, or rotated, after its position has been marked. Had Larry marked the ball position before rotating it, there would have been no penalty.



"You have to give him credit...I would have taken the penalty stroke."

# ASGA NATIONAL NEWS

AMERICAN SINGLES GOLF ASSOCIATION — FEBRUARY, 2012

## Meet More Singles: Grow Your Chapter!

### Declining Membership: We Can Talk About It, or . . . do something about it.

Membership in the national association has remained in the same place for the past three years, about 3300 members. In the past 19 years, right at 35,000 people have joined our 75 chapters around the country.

But the point of this article is not the national picture, but your local one. I've said many times that "singles want to meet other quality singles . . . in quantity." You don't want to go to a general membership meeting and see the same 11 people you saw last month. You want to see new faces. As with all organizations, this doesn't happen automatically.

We're all consumers. Look at how and why you go about making decisions. Look at the reasons why, when you first heard of the American Singles Golf Association, you joined. You had an image in your mind that this just might be a good fit for your life. Golfers seem to be nice people. They're not bowlers. There's etiquette in the game and there's social etiquette in the game of meeting other singles.

People ask me: How can you help our chapter grow. Membership is down. People have gotten "married-off." (Is that the same thing as getting married?) I usually reply by asking them to go to our online "grow" page: [www.SinglesGolf.com/grow](http://www.SinglesGolf.com/grow)

"Great idea," you think. The next time I'm on the computer, I'll go there. But if you don't, and if you're seriously interested in seeing growth in your chapter, here's what I have found actually works.

### But First . . .

Each chapter has a Membership Chairperson. The assigned duties of that person is to **head a committee** to do the following:

- a) **activate a new member** when he or she joins. Don't just collect the check. See that they get involved right away. If your chapter has a weakness, get them involved in joining a committee to fix the problem;
- b) **retain existing members.** ASGA National bills existing members one month prior to their dues period ending. But you won't get someone to renew their dues if you haven't seen them in six months. Watch for who's coming up for renewal in 3-4 months and make sure they are participating and benefiting from their membership; and
- c) **create membership growth.** Without new people joining, your chapter is dying. Don't wait until you're on your last breath before you head to the fitness center.

Our Tampa Bay chapter recently requested a spreadsheet of all

prior members so they could contact them and get them to join again. The list contained almost 700 names of former members, of which over 400 had email addresses. Divide the work-load up and make a concerted effort to get these "lost souls" involved in your chapter again. To get a list for your chapter, simply email [Irene@SinglesGolf.com](mailto:Irene@SinglesGolf.com).

### Growth

Over the past years, two things stand out which created a large amount of members in a short period of time. Timing is everything. If you're going to do something, make it happen at the **beginning of the golf season**, not the end. Some chapters have done this around Valentine's Day, although it may be a bit chilly for our northern chapters. So maybe April Fool's may be appropriate!

1) **Involve your local newspaper in your chapter.** They're looking for fun things to write about, things that their readers would enjoy reading about. At the beginning of your golf season, have a big turnout. Invite former members. Find out who writes feature articles for your local paper and get them to join your threesome for a round of golf. Make sure he brings a photographer and the photographer has his own golf cart. Your goal is to see a "Love on the Links" or a "Birdies and the Bees" type article to appear in your Sunday features section. This has happened before and the national office has received 100-400 calls over the next week. More details on this approach at [www.SinglesGolf.com/Valentine](http://www.SinglesGolf.com/Valentine)

2) **Grow quickly from a golf show booth.** Last year, Denver signed-up 25 members in two days. It was amazing what one of our newest chapters could do. For details, head over to [www.SinglesGolf.com/GolfShow](http://www.SinglesGolf.com/GolfShow) to see how they did it and how you can get ASGA National to pay for a large portion of this booth.

### Our Cruise and Other Great Events

We still have room for more on our Caribbean cruise. Go to [www.SinglesGolf.com/cruise](http://www.SinglesGolf.com/cruise) for details. 65 already signed-up.

Our Orlando & Ft. Lauderdale chapters are hosting the Sunshine Fling, February 17-18. Our Wilmington, NC chapter is hosting their Beach Blast Weekend, March 16-18. We hope to have our Ireland website up by February 10 and Sacramento's doing their Gold Country Classic May 4-5. Memorial Day survey out soon. Details at [www.SinglesGolf.com/events](http://www.SinglesGolf.com/events)

Finally, welcome to our new Chapter Presidents and Board members! Let's have a great year ahead!

- Tom Alsop, President / Founder  
American Singles Golf Association  
[GolfASGA@aol.com](mailto:GolfASGA@aol.com)