

Maryland State Golf Association Women's Division



20th Anniversary Celebration



March 1995

WDCGA President Carol Davis meets with fellow Marylanders Ann Bergquist, Pat Kaufman, and Rose Marie Vargo to discuss beginning the Women's Division of the MSGA.







April 1995

Jane Mason and Joan Winchester join the others to form the Committee on Maryland Women's Golf (CMWG).





After overwhelming support of women golfers across the state, the six founding members are joined by Sharon Briggs, Sheila Dagucon, Marion Lewis, Rita Lipitz, Lenore Martinez, Jean Opeka, Kathy Franz, Andrea Kraus, and Glena Wirtanen.



May 1995

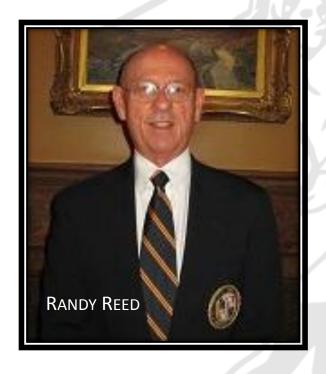
The committee outlines responsibilities of the CMWG:

- 1. Have control of number, type, and format of tournaments
- 2. Obtain sites
- 3. Conduct course and slope ratings
- 4. Develop a junior girls program
- 5. Increase responsiveness to higher handicap golfers
- 6. Officiate at tournaments
- 7. Take full financial control of the budget
- 8. Develop future tournaments perhaps a women's open



June-August 1995

Throughout June and July of 1995, the committee meets with and continues to correspond with then President Randy Reed of the MSGA to discuss the desire to form the Women's Division of the MSGA.



During a special meeting on August 1, 1995, the Executive Committee of the MSGA unanimously approved a motion endorsing the formation of the Women's Division.



November 1995

On November 13, 1995, the first annual meeting of the MSGA-WD was held at Rolling Road Golf Club, presided over by Ann Bergquist. By vote of the delegates, the first official officers and board members were elected – making them the first women to wear the emblem of the MSGA.





Inaugural MSGA-WD Board 1996



First Row: Pat Kaufman (President), Jane Mason (Vice President)

2nd Row: Connie Pfifer, Rose Marie Vargo (Recording Secretary), Colleen Lapp, Jean

Opeka, Joan Winchester (Treasurer)

Last Row: Joan McGinnis, Lenore Martinez, Peggy Miller, Andrea Kraus

Not Pictured: Carol Davis (Corresponding Secretary)



Course and slope rating chair Jean Opeka increases the number of women rating teams from two to five statewide.





The Women's Division begins administering the three women's state championships including the *Women's Amateur*, *The Two-Woman*, and the *Women's Senior*.



1996 Two-Woman Champions Beth Carpenter & Leland Beckel



1996 Senior Champ Ann Bailey with Super Senior Winner & Pat Kaufman



At the 2nd Annual Meeting, Carol Semple Thompson, member of the Executive Committee for the USGA, attends and presents the MSGA-WD with a check as part of a grant from the USGA.



Carol Semple Thompson & Rose Marie Vargo



Carol Semple Thompson



The *Distinguished Service Award* is established and was awarded to first time recipient Ann Bergquist, who was hailed for her years of work on behalf of women's amateur golf in Maryland.





Distinguished Service Awards Recipients



Mary Ann Downey Cooke 1997



John Stewart 1998



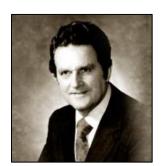
Jack Emich 2000



Pat Kaufman 2001



Randy Reed 2002



Bill Clarke 2004



Jean Opeka 2006



Jane Mason 2008



Marion Booth 2010



Joan McGinnis 2012



Paula Sovero 2014



State Team Matches were reinstated after a hiatus of nearly a decade. Thirty-two teams competed for the title of Maryland Women's Team Champion, with Baltimore Country Club winning the honor that first year.



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1997

MSGA-WD holds its first *Comprehensive Rules Seminar*, featuring popular USGA rules instructor Clyde Luther.





For the first time, the *Girl's Junior Championship* was conducted as a separate event from the boy's tournament.



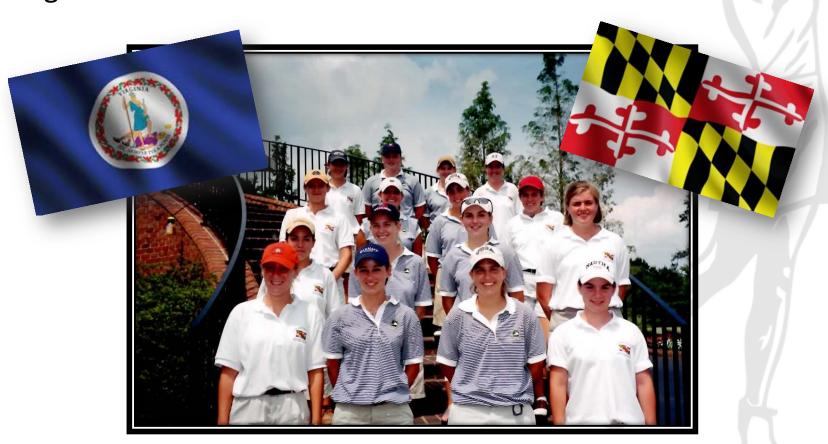


Clinics for the junior girls were held with golf professionals Troy Beck, Joy Bonhurst, Bob Dolan, and Holly Anderson.





The first Maryland vs. Virginia Girl's Junior Team Matches, the '*Poindexter Cup*', was established with counterparts in the Virginia State Golf Association Women's Division.





The Maryland & Virginia vs. North & South Carolina match, titled the '*Mid Atlantic Challenge*' was established. The inaugural event was held at VSGA's Independence Course near Richmond, VA.





A long held dream of the Women's Division, the *Maryland State Women's Open* became a reality. Held at Bulle Rock GC and with a purse of \$5,000, it attracted the best Maryland women amateurs and PGA professionals.





Additional grant money from the USGA provides the Women's Division with a new laptop for on-site computerized scoring, as well as USGA computer training classes.







Jane Mason, 2nd President of the Women's Division is inducted into the Middle Atlantic Golf Association Hall of Fame. She was honored for her playing ability and outstanding leadership and ability as an administrator and official.





Jane Mason with her son Chris and his wife Melanie and son Lee and his wife Katie.



Junior girl's golf scholarships are established with the help of Paula Sovero. The MSGA-WD awards \$1,550 in scholarship money at the 2005 Junior Girls Championship including the Champion, Runner-Up, and Age Division winners.



That same year, Paula creates the **4-Lady Invitational**, a charity golf tournament that raises money to support the scholarship fund.



Stasia Collins starts the *Mid-Amateur Championship*, an event for women age 30 and over. The first championship was held at Lakewood Country Club and was won by Lisa Schlesinger.





Although slated for 2007 and cancelled because of inclement weather, the first *Two-Woman Mid-Handicap Championship* was held at Holly Hills Country Club. Anne Dumont and Melly Tucker became the first champions.





2012 MSGA-WD Creates First Official Logo





After years of using the original MSGA logo, Marilyn Snight takes the initiative to work with National Graphics to design a new logo exclusively for the MSGA-WD.



The MSGA-WD becomes a member of the Women's Golf Alliance, an organization formed to support state and regional golf associations and representing over 120,000 female golfers.



Founded in 2009, The Alliance's purpose is to increase the voice and visibility of women golfers; to enhance the member benefits and services provided by member associations; and to offer marketing, management and governance resources and tools for member associations, staff and boards of directors.



The *Campbell Cup* is introduced to be presented to the low amateur in the Women's Open. Established by Bob Morris, a past PGA professional and avid golfer, to honor his wife Candace Campbell, a cancer survivor.



Candace Campbell,
Connie Isler (first time
winner of the
Campbell Cup), and
officer Patsy DiMuzio
at Congressional
Country Club.



The USGA has recognized a record number of Maryland women with appointments to the USGA committees:

USGA Women's Committee

Tinker Sanger, Pat Kaufman, Jean Mulcahey, Stasia Collins (Chair)

USGA Executive Committee

Pat Kaufman

USGA Women's Mid-Amateur Championship Committee

Jane Mason, Jean Mulcahey

USGA Women's Senior Championship Committee

Natalie McNicholas, Diane Herndon, Joan Heiss

USGA Girls' Junior Championship Committee

Mary Groff, Hae Han

USGA Regional Affairs Committee

Jean Opeka, Emily DiCicco, Joan Winchester





Past and Present Presidents



Pat Kaufman 1995-1998



Jane Mason 1999-2001



Joan Winchester 2002-2003



Rose Marie Vargo 2004-2005



Stasia Collins 2006-2007



Emily DiCicco 2008-2009



Diane Herndon 2010-2011



Marilyn Snight 2012-2013



Melly Tucker 2014-2015