

News



David Feil Multimedia Journalist

The Bunker Blowout remained the bane of everyone at the tenth annual Tournament of Aces with the exception of Russ Kimmnett, the only person to chip the ball into the pot. The charity tournament raised about \$83,000.

Tournament of Aces raises \$83k as Kimmnetts bow out

David Feil
Multimedia Journalist

Despite the threat of rain hanging over town it did nothing to dampen the spirits of the nearly 200 golfers at the Links of Gleneagles on Saturday for the tenth annual Monumental Tournament of Aces, which raised about \$83,000 for charity.

"It was a great community event. The weather turned out fantastic," said Kelly Kimmnett. While rain did end up hitting parts of town, they managed to stay dry so that they could enjoy a day of golf mixed in with fun challenges thrown in around the course like using a hockey stick on a golf ball and trying to hit a gong from uphill.

"The most difficult was the Bumper Blowout. One person did it out of 190," said Kimmnett, which also ended up being the final shot to chip the ball into a pot in one of the sand traps. The newest obstacle, floating gardens in the pond, was also a tough one with only one person, Kimmnett's brother Russ,

managing to land a ball on the green without it bouncing into the water.

After a few hours of golf, everyone headed inside for dinner and a silent auction that gave everyone a chance to mingle and swap stories before Children's Wish's ambassador to the Lindsay Leigh Kimmnett Memorial Foundation Tristan Garrett got up to share his story.

"You could have heard a pin drop for his whole speech. He gave a very dramatic speech about the treatment he's going through for cancer," said Kimmnett.

The 14 year-old had been diagnosed with Wing's Sarcoma as a preteen and while it was treated successfully at first, it returned in November and has since required additional treatment. Despite this, Garrett came out to last year's Kimmnett Cup the Children's Wish ambassador and will be back in town when the games begin again in January.

While the totals are still being worked out from Saturday's events, it looks like about \$85,000 was raised in

support of Cochrane Search and Rescue, the Lindsay's Kids Sports Sponsorship program and Cochrane Rotary's student exchange program.

All in all, it was a great event for the Kimmnett family to end their leadership role on as the reigns of the Tournament of Aces will now be in the hands of the local Rotarians so the Kimmnetts can focus their energy on the Kimmnett Cup.

"The Rotary is doing a very good job and we certainly intend to stay involved in the years to come," said Kimmnett, who once thought the golf tournament would end up being their larger event but the Kimmnett Cup has grown beyond expectations and now takes a lot of time to plan out.

For those more comfortable with a hockey stick than a golf club, the three-on-three pond hockey tournament will be happening over the Jan. 16 weekend. You can register yourself or a team at kimmnettcup.com and early bird pricing will be in effect until November.

The Cochrane Times

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