Golfers raise $75,000 for two local charities



PHOTOS DAVID FEIL COCHRANE TIMES

The ninth Monumental Tournament of Aces drew 185 golfers and was able to raise $75,000 for a new playground in Sunset and to help Cochrane Search and Rescue improve their equipment.

David Feil
Cochrane Times

The Monumental Tournament of Aces continues its tradition of not only being one of the most popular events in town with 185 golfers in attendance but in giving back to the community with $75,000 raised for two local charities: the Rancheview School Fundraising Society and Cochrane Search and Rescue (CSAR).

"The Monumental Tournament of Aces is far from your standard fundraising event," said Terry Norman, owner of Ongrowing Works and a long time sponsor of the event, noting everyone gets caught up in the energy and fun of the day while supporting the memory of Lindsay's Legacy. "Most people probably end the night feeling they've received so much that they should have given more."

The day itself was a little dicey at first but cleared up as players started heading out on to the green where pros and amateurs did some golfing and everyone was challenged by the games set up at some of the holes, with only one person making the Bunker Blow Up and Lisa Lundberg getting the only hole in one this year. Participants also really enjoyed the new Innocent Bystanders game where they tried to peg mannequins with a golf ball, something some golfers found difficult to do when targeting the dummies wearing sports jerseys of rival teams like the Oilers.

"I am very pleased with the financial success of the Monumental Tournament of Aces for 2016 and the day was fantastic for all the golfers and sponsors to enjoy," said Glen Gryzko, chairman of the Rotary Club of Cochrane, which will be taking over the tournament from the Kimmett family next year as the five year transition process is completed. "We hope to maintain your financial support of golfing, sponsorships and bidding on our auction items by showing you that we will continue to make your dollars work hard for projects that you can both appreciate and see a need filled."

Thanks in large part to a strong auction, with a trip to Kelowna, a week in Mexico and West Jet flight all coming in over $4,000, the Monumental Tournament of Aces was able to raise $35,000 for the Rancheview School Fundraising Society, putting the group at 30 per cent of what they need to build a playground at the new school in Sunset, and $40,000 for CSR to help replace and upgrade their equipment for improved efficiency when they are in the field looking for people lost in the Foothills.

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