

Big crowd fore 13th annual 4-H Foundation Golf-East Tournament

by Kory Glover
AgriNews Staff Writer

OTTAWA – DESPITE THE LOOMING PRESENCE OF DARK RAIN CLOUDS THREATENING A GOOD TIME, 4-H ONTARIO MANAGED TO PULL OFF THEIR 13TH ANNUAL 4-H FOUNDATION GOLF-EAST TOURNAMENT THIS PAST JUNE AT THE ANDERSON LINKS GOLF CLUB.

“We have 127 golfers here today,” said John den Haan, chair for the Ontario 4-H Foundation. “It’s currently not raining so that’s exciting, hopefully it holds out. On the go, we have a putting contest, beat the pro contest and a closest to the hole contest.”

Randy Seguin, chair of the Golf-East Committee added, “It’s a corporate fundraiser, we have a lot of agri-businesses that put a team in and invited some farmers to join their team.”

Both Seguin and den Haan expect the Foundation would net approximately \$38,000 over the course of the day at Golf-East.

“My team has worked very hard at doing their part, it wasn’t me,” said Seguin. “They were hustling and bending arms.”

The money raised from the tournament will go to the Ontario 4-H Foundation to support 4-H and its many opportunities at the club, regional and provincial levels.

“What we do with the Foundation is we invest money and, through those investments, support 4-H programming over the long term,” said den Haan.

4-H ambassadors Christie Annett and Mel Karpenko were also in attendance at the golf tournament to represent the club and spread the good word of all that 4-H has to offer; from unforgettable experiences to creating cherished friendships.



Playing the game

Along with the golf tournament, there were also a number contests to compete in, including a beat the pro contest, closest to the hole and putting.

Courtesy photo

“4-H is for everyone. I think it’s very common for people to think 4-H is only for farm kids but that’s not true,” said Karpenko. “There’s 4-H in pretty much every community and there’s clubs for everyone, you don’t necessarily have to do anything with animals or farming. We do cooking and baking and sports.”

Annett added, “I find that a lot too, when people hear 4-H, they’re just like, ‘Oh, cows right?’ but it’s so much more than that and there’s so much more you can do with it.”

Lasting five hours, the golf tournament was only, thankfully, met with a small amount of rain near the end. The players then moved to the club’s dining hall for a banquet, silent auction and a message from Debra Brown, executive director of 4-H Ontario.

“The big thing about the golf tournament is that it does support 4-H programming,” said den Haan. “We have a lot of volunteers here and it’s a great event for an awesome program.”



Getting started

From left, Chair for the Ontario 4-H Foundation John den Haan, 4-H Ambassador Christine Annett, Executive Director of 4-H Ontario Debra Brown, 4-H Ambassador Mel Karpenko, and Chair of the Golf-East Committee Randy Seguin were excited to get the 13th annual 4-H Golf-East Tournament started, by thanking their signature sponsor Ontario Mutuals.

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Claiming victory

Emerging victorious for the 13th annual 4-H Foundation Golf-East Tournament was the Dundas Vet Services Team (at centre of photo): Brandon Whitford (fourth, left), Ollie Gellner (holding the 4H trophy), Luc Imbeau and Jeff Sleeth. Also shown

are at far left John den Haan, chair for the Ontario 4-H Foundation, two 4-H Ambassadors Christie Annett and Mel Karpenko, and Randy Seguin (far right), chair of the Golf East Committee.

Courtesy photo



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**13th Annual
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June 13, 2019

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Golf-East Tournament Thursday June 11, 2020**