

29th Annual Scottish Games Charity Golf Tournament donates \$14,455 to St. Anne Institute

Another great year! Despite the threat of thunderstorms in the forecast, we were able to finish all 18 holes without a drop. But once we were done the rain came down in buckets. So, another successful year is in the books. As usual, our golfers were treated with a fabulous golf course, tartan kilts, great food, imported beers and individual piper and full pipe band performances. Yes, all of those things and more are what you get when you play in the Capital District Scottish Games Charity Golf Tournament.

As it has been for past 21 years, our charity of choice was St Anne Institute in Albany, NY. St Anne Institute is a private, not for profit, secular residential and community-based preventive service agency committed to providing the highest level of care and rehabilitation services in the briefest time to children and families throughout New York State. Our golf committee has visited their facilities and we've always left there feeling like we have definitely made the right choice when we see, first hand, the good work that they do.

Our 2025 tournament fielded 128 golfers. While we fielded fewer golfers than we had in previous years, our donation to St Anne Institute was actually higher. When that \$14,455 donation is added to the previous 28 years donations it results in our golf tournament being responsible for over \$219,000 to local charities! It is no secret that the people who have been coming to this tournament for most of our 29 years and the sponsors who continue to support us are very special. Yes, they enjoy golf, having a good time and having a few good beers on tap but above and beyond all of that, they care about helping others who may be a bit down on their luck or have more than their share of crosses to bear. The Scottish Games Golf Tournament Committee is constantly reminded of how lucky we are on an annual basis when we see the generosity and the selfless attitude that seems to grow from year to year. We are so lucky to have somehow attracted this wonderful bunch of golfers and sponsors.

To kick things Mike Munro played a few pipe tunes followed by the singing of our national anthem before sending our golfers on their way to our 8:30 shotgun start and a fun filled day of golf. Brian Munro lent his piping talents at the hole-in-one contest tee box all day. You could hear the skirl of the pipes in the distance and it made everyone truly feel like they were in a special place. Alissa Munro, Brian's wife, was our foursome photographer for the day. Judy Cocca and Barbara Munro (my beautiful wife of 52 years) were our witnesses at the Hole-In-One event on the 15th hole.

I want to take the time to thank our Charity Golf Tournament Committee without whom none of this gets done: Vince Colonno, Joe Bradley, Bill Munro, Lou Schenck, and Mike Munro. There's a lot of work involved in organizing, advertising and managing a charity golf Tournament of this size. They make sure that everything gets done and all the bases are covered and these guys do it every year without expecting any recognition. Behind the scenes Matt Kelly helped us a lot with setting up the on-line registration process, the tracking of credit card payments and all of the website related work for the tournament.

This year Matt Kelly went above and beyond though. He won the 50/50 fundraiser and donated \$500 of his \$1,000 prize back to St Anne Institute. In addition, Ted Dandrow, our retired Highland Athletics chairman at the Scottish Games, donated his \$150 Cash Prize from the Schenectady Pipe Band Association fundraiser event to the St Anne as well. Thanks so much to both of you Matt and Ted! You're the best!

While all the golfers were outside enjoying the day, the Stadium Golf Club staff was busy preparing a delicious banquet and tapping more of the Guinness and Smithwick's and Lite beer so that everyone could grab a cold one as they came off the course and readied themselves for the banquet. This is our 27th year at the Stadium Golf Club. Michele and Greg Hennel are like family to us now and why change locations when they already provide us with the best possible tournament, a golf course in tip-top shape and all of that at the most reasonable price.

For the eighth year in a row the Schenectady Pipe Band Association Par 3 contest was held on the 12th hole. The event had golfers of all skill levels competing for special prizes if they were able to put the ball on the green with their first swing and some pretty nice prizes for the off the green group as well. Donna Dardaris, the SPBA President, Kim LaBelle the SPBA Treasurer along with Dona Marie Munro, the SPBA Secretary, Sue Mackey and Steve Mackey volunteered their time to raise approximately \$1,000.

I've noted below our fabulous sponsors as well as the winners of this year's tournament contests. We hope you will honor our sponsors with your patronage. The committee would like to express our sincere gratitude to all of the golfers, sponsors and volunteers for what was another extremely successful year for a golf tournament that has been near and dear to our hearts for so long.

Our 2025 Sponsors

DeCrescente Distributing, Acemaker Sponsor and Scottish Games Sponsor, \$1,400 donation to St Anne Institute

JAMCORE Home Improvements (518) 470-9001, **2 Acemaker Sponsorships**

Broadview FCU, Acemaker Sponsor and Scottish Games Sponsor

Haughey Insurance Agency LLC (518) 399-1583, Acemaker Sponsor

Mohawk Honda, a new Eagle Sponsor this year

Capital District Celtic Cultural Association, Hole Sponsor Plus \$875 donation

Stadium Golf Club, \$300 donation to St Anne Institute

Albany AOH Division 5, Hole Sponsor

Albany Distilling Company, Hole Sponsor

Albany Rebels Gaelic Football Club, Hole Sponsor

Avila Retirement Community, a new Hole Sponsor

BBL Construction Services LLC, Hole Sponsor

Big Top Tent Rentals, Hole Sponsor

Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Albany, Hole Sponsor

Clan Cameron, Hole Sponsor

Clan Mackay Society, USA, Hole Sponsor

Coldwell Banker Prime Properties, Hole Sponsor

Driver & Greene LLP, Hole Sponsor

Fox & Schingo Plastic Surgery, Hole Sponsor

Gabriel's Super Market, Hole Sponsor

Linda A LeDuke Homeowners Advantage (518) 378-5791, Hole Sponsor

John and KellyAnne Murray Charitable Foundation, Hole Sponsor

New Scotland Spirits, a new Hole Sponsor this year and Scottish Games Sponsor

Recovery Room Sports Grill, Hole Sponsor

St Andrews Society of Schenectady, Hole Sponsor

Schenectady Pipe Band Association, Hole Sponsor

Scissors III & Co. donated a high-end basket of personal beauty care products to our raffle

2025 Capital District Scottish Games Charity Golf Tournament Winners

A Flight:

1 st Place	Kevin Cole & Matt Leonard	Score of - 64
2nd Place	Ryan Munro & Kyle Moldoff	Score of - 65
3 rd Place	Rich Murray & Garrett Murray	Score of - 66

B Flight:

1 st Place	Mark Hurley & Jason Schoonmaker	Score of - 63
2nd Place	Jim Schrimsher & Scott St Denis	Score of - 67
3 rd Place	John Byrne and Joe Murray	Score of - 69

C Flight:

1 st Place	Mike Hanelt & Matt St Pierre	Score of - 67
2nd Place	Sean Kirker & Gerry Decker	Score of - 70
3 rd Place	Jim Christman & Dave McNamara	Score of - 72

D Flight:

1 st Place	George Dushensky & Andrew Dushensky	Score of - 70
2nd Place	Jim Cole & Michael Cole	Score of - 75
3 rd Place	Matt Kelly & Iain Munro	Score of - 75

Longest Drive Men – Jim Pautler

Longest Drive Women – Lori Deichman

Closest to the Pin on Hole 5 – Matt St Pierre (6’’)

Closest to the Pin on Hole 8 – Tim O’Neill (5’4’’)