

# Shinerama golf tournament

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The 2008 Shinerama Golf Tournament wrapped up last Thursday, raking in \$800 for the cause.

The greens and fairways at Stewiacke's prestigious Fox Hollow Golf Course were clean and pristine. Some of the city's finest players had assembled in eight teams to ruthlessly slug it out one club, one hole at a time in the name of charity.

Shinerama, the brainchild of the CCF (Canadian Cystic Fibrosis Foundation) is an annual fundraiser that takes place at about 60 post-secondary schools across Canada. The goal is to raise \$1 million, with all the proceeds going toward research and financial aid for families dealing with CF.

Gord Simms, this year's Dalhousie Shinerama organizer and captain of Team Baby Steps, says Dal is looking to raise \$52,000 and is usually the biggest fundraiser in Atlantic Canada.

"I have a feeling we are going to reach it (\$1 million) because everyone has been blowing past their totals this year," said Simms.

Teeing off last, Team Baby Steps was off to a rusty start. No one seemed worried though, as team ringer Paul Forrest said "in the back nine, that's when I'm going to blossom."

Word on the course was that Team Athletic Department, fronted

by coach Pierre Belliveau and Krista Hynes, master of the long ball, was seeing more eagles than Stephen Colbert.

While Team Baby Steps struggled to get a handle on its drives to stay out of the rough, Team Aramark was cooking up some delicious "par"fection.

After a few bogies and double bogies Team Baby Steps came into its own, with their fingers coming in clutch. Soft hands with the pitching wedge and solid use of the seven iron around the 15th hole opened up a solid run of par scores.

On the 17th hole, the measuring tape was out for the closest to the pin competition. The previous contender was marked at a forearm length of 18 inches, when a Baby Steps team member teed up a real beauty.

A windmill-smooth back swing with a consistent follow-through pitched the ball long and straight. From 300 yards back you would have sworn it had kissed the pin. Upon closer inspection the flawless drive had landed the ball a few feet from the hole, coming up just short of the record.

The last hole had apparently been swallowing balls all day. It's a par three that elbows right, with a large pond in the middle. If you go over the pond it's a straight shot of about 300 yards to the green.

The first three of Team Baby Steps failed to clear the water when captain Simms drew his hooked sa-

ber. With a diamond glitter in his eye, either from the setting sun or from his own fiery pride, he lined up the flag. As the wind settled and the crickets ceased their chirp, Simms stepped up.

Without a practice swing, he swung. From the sound of metal on plastic it was evident he had struck it with mighty force. The ball soared up and into the face of the sun, disappearing from all those watching from land. Then, like the first snowflake of the winter, it landed, not 10 yards from the hole.

High fives were everywhere as the teams sat around the clubhouse eating complimentary steak and potatoes. Bulbous cheeks replaced smiles while the crew enjoyed their delicious barbecue feed.

In the end, after some well played "baby steps", Team Baby Steps finished with a four over par, earning the team fourth place in the 2008 Shinerama Golf Tournament.

Team Labatt and Team Aramark shared second place. With a whopping eight under, Team Athletic Department took home first place; with team manager Krista Hynes taking longest drive.

Both Team Athletic and Team Aramark said they played hard and were happy to see their months of practice and hard work pay off. Both teams credited their success with good team gelling and dedicated focus.