



**DEERHURST**  
RESORT  
MUSKOKA

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Deerhurst Golf Event Helps Dara's Fund @ Muskoka Community Foundation Support Local Female Athletes**

**The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Cottage Country Cup is set for August 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>**

**Huntsville, Ontario – July 30, 2018.** Registration to the Second Annual Cottage Country Cup at Deerhurst Resort is well underway. The tournament, which raises money for Dara's Fund @ Muskoka Community Foundation in support of local female athletes, is a two-day event set for August 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> on both of Deerhurst's golf courses.

"To have young athletes look up to me is such an honour. All I want to do is show them anything is possible," says Dara Howell, Olympic gold medalist. "It doesn't matter where you come from. Having Deerhurst behind me to give others support is just remarkable."

Last year, the inaugural Cottage Country Cup raised \$4,500 for Dara's Fund @ Muskoka Community Foundation. The event features a par 3 challenge at Deerhurst Lakeside (where every hole is played as a par 3 with tees moved to the 150 yard marker on longer holes) on the Sunday and a two-person scramble at Deerhurst Highlands on the Monday. Among a variety of top-notch prizes is the chance to win a 2019 membership at Deerhurst Highlands and Deerhurst Lakeside – a value of \$3,100. There are mixed and men's divisions – and yes, Dara Howell will be participating in the event herself.

"Supporting Dara's Fund is about helping women achieve their dreams in sport," says Luke Nixon-Janssen, Deerhurst's Director of Sales and a driving force behind the event. "Being able to give back and help someone's dream become a reality is huge. I think that's what life is all about, it's being able to help lift up people and that's what resonated with me about this fund and its mission."

Spots and sponsorships are still available. Registration for the event costs \$200 per person plus HST and includes 36 holes of golf, player's gift, breakfast, lunch and prizes. Those looking to take part can register online at [deerhurstresort.com/golf-specials-events](http://deerhurstresort.com/golf-specials-events) or call Ryan Barry, Head Professional at 705-789-4494.

###

### **About Dara Howell's Fund**

Dara Howell is an Olympic Freestyle skier from Huntsville, Ontario who won a gold medal in slope-style skiing at the 2014 Winter Olympics in Sochi. She is the first freestyle skier to win a gold medal in this event.

Inspired by the support of her community, Dara and her family approached the Muskoka Community Foundation in 2013 about creating an endowment fund to give back to those who had supported them on her journey to the Olympic podium.

In April 2014, the Howell family created the Dara's Fund at the Muskoka Community Foundation. The fund will build a legacy and provide resources and opportunities for Muskoka's female athletes who excel in any sport to pursue their dreams, regardless of whether or not they are attending a post-secondary educational institution. [muskokacommunityfoundation.ca](http://muskokacommunityfoundation.ca)

### **About Deerhurst Resort**

Founded in 1896, Deerhurst Resort is one of Ontario's oldest continually operating resorts. Over its storied history, which includes being host venue of the 2010 G8 Summit and producing the stage show where Shania Twain performed during her early career, the resort has evolved into a Muskoka landmark hotel with 330 accommodation units, 40,000 sq. ft. of meeting venues, two 18-hole championship golf courses, an Amba Spa, Eclipse Art Gallery, extensive waterfront and full roster of activities year-round. Deerhurst also produces its own maple syrup and wildflower honey, as well as herbs and other foraged produce on property, which is served at its four onsite restaurants – Eclipse, Compass, Maple Pub & Patio and The Antler Steakhouse.

[deerhurstresort.com](http://deerhurstresort.com)

Contact:

Luke Nixon-Janssen, Director of Sales, Deerhurst Resort

705-789-7113 x4263or [lnixonjanssen@deerhurstresort.com](mailto:lnixonjanssen@deerhurstresort.com)

Dara Howell and Luke Nixon-Janssen get ready for the Cottage Country Cup golf event at Deerhurst which will benefit Dara's Fund @ Muskoka Community Foundation.

