



DEERHURST
RESORT
MUSKOKA

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3rd Annual Cottage Country Cup Golf Tournament Supports Dara's Fund @ Muskoka Community Foundation

Huntsville, Ontario – July 17, 2019. In just a few short years, the Cottage Country Cup golf tournament at Deerhurst Resort has become a tradition in Muskoka, raising almost \$10,000 for Dara's Fund @ Muskoka Community Foundation in support of local female athletes. This year, anticipation is already building for the two-day event which takes place August 18th and 19th at Deerhurst Resort's two courses, Lakeside and Highlands.

"This tournament is not only something I look forward to playing every year but something I'm truly grateful for," says Dara Howell, Olympic gold medalist and Huntsville native. "Everyone who plays in the Cottage Country Cup is helping female athletes on their journey to success. It's a cause near and dear to my heart and it wouldn't be possible without the support of Deerhurst and all the players and sponsors."

With a focus on fun and friendly competition, the Cottage Country Cup 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 2020 combined membership at Deerhurst Highlands and Deerhurst Lakeside – a value of \$3,200. There are mixed and men's divisions.

"Supporting Dara's Fund is something we're very proud of," says Ryan Barry, Head Professional. "Having her involved personally makes this event very special and it's rewarding to know that we're helping young athletes from our own area get the support they need to follow in her footsteps."

Tournament 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.

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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

About Deerhurst Resort

Founded in 1896, Deerhurst Resort is one of Ontario's oldest continually operating resorts. In 2019 Deerhurst opened the \$60 million Lakeside Lodge, Muskoka's newest waterfront experience featuring 150 cottage-inspired accommodations. 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 400 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. See more at: deerhurstresort.com

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Dara Howell presents the Cottage Country Cup trophy at Deerhurst Highlands Golf Club last year. This year's event takes place August 18 – 19, 2019.



Deerhurst Highlands Golf Course

