

Ernst and Young Crowned “King of the Course” at 1st Annual WNY Corporate Open



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AMHERST, NY – It was hardcore competition to the very last hole as more than 30 companies vied to win the first ever “King of the Course” award at the First Annual WNY Corporate Open.

This first-time golf competition was held last week at Park Country Club and featured some of Western New York’s largest firms competing against one another for the top prize. Ernst and Young took it home – the pride, the title and most importantly the trophy of Best Corporate Foursome!!!

The Western New York Corporate Open, the brainchild of William McGowan, an avid golfer and Chief Financial Officer at AccuMED Technologies Inc.

It's a unique idea born one day while McGowan was golfing with friends and chatting about the JP Morgan Chase Corporate Challenge run, held every spring in Buffalo.

"We were talking about the Corporate Challenge and I thought, 'Why not hold a golf tournament here?' There is no local tournament that crowns any company as having the best golfers in Western New York," McGowan said. "Someone has got to want to win the title."

For three years McGowan kept thinking about it but it wasn't until he learned of a new foundation that needed help raising money that McGowan got serious.

When Tom Blaszcykiewicz, Chief Executive Officer of AccuMED, formed the Blaszcykiewicz Foundation earlier this year to raise money to bring life-saving MRI technology to Buffalo, McGowan seized on the chance to turn his dream of a corporate golf competition into reality.

And he hopes in the future this competition, which adopts the Corporate Challenge format, will take on a life of its own just like the JP Morgan Chase run. Each year proceeds from the tournament will benefit a different charity. This year the beneficiary was the Blaszcykiewicz Foundation in which \$40,000 was raised during the event.

Response to the tournament was overwhelming. More than 30 foursomes competed and over 250 people joined the golfers for dinner afterwards at the Park Country Club.

Some of the corporations that participated were: AccuMED Technologies, Bonadio, Citizens Bank, Dimar Manufacturing Corp., Dent Neurologic Institute, Graphic Controls LLC, Manning & Napier Information Services, MVP Network Consulting, Phillips Lytle LLP, The McGuire Group, UPS, Wausau Signature Agency, Whiting Door Manufacturing Corp.

But only Ernst and Young were crowned "King of the Course." And they will return next year to defend their hard won title as the Best Corporate Foursome in WNY.

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