

Roping, shooting raise capital to construct new Nebraska course

By MARK LESLIE

HYANNIS, Neb. — Skeet-shooting, calf-roping and ... and golf? In no other town do the three belong in the same sentence. But here in Hyannis — a town of 300 people, many of them ranchers, in the sand hills of Nebraska — the three merged in a fund-raiser called The Pelican Beach Shootout.

"It's a crowd-pleaser. It really is," said Kim Abbott, who helped run the event Sept. 22 with husband Chris, president of the 30-member Hyannis Golf Association and a fifth-generation rancher. "We plan on doing it again next year about the same time."

The Hyannis Golf Association raised approximately \$4,000 from the entry fees charged to the 21 three-member teams. The money is needed to complete a nine-hole public course owned by, well, the public.

"I can't say anyone owns it," said Kim Abbott. "The county owns the fairground and donated the land next to it for the golf course."

Problem is, there was only enough land on which to build three holes. The Hyannis Golf Association wants to purchase abutting property to complete the project.

The three finished holes are par-3s and their maintenance falls on the nebulous non-owners. "Whoever has time goes down and works on it — mows, pulls sand burrs and weeds..." said Abbott.

Construction on the course started a year and a half ago. Townspeople did the major work. A ranch supply store donated the sprinkler system. And the greens were shaped by Dan Proctor of Bunker Hill Golf Course Design and Construction Co., who happened to work on the now-famous Sand Hills Golf Course down the road in Mullen.

One-third of the town showed up to watch the Pelican Beach Shootout free of charge.

While a horse and buggy and two donkeys and carts replaced golf cars for the event, the Pelican Beach Shootout tested a variety of skills unusual in their coexistence. The three-member teams:

- shot 25 bluerocks (that's clay targets in skeet-shooting parlance);
- golfed three holes; and
- team-roped in two events — head and heel and ribbon-roping.

In the head-and-heel competition, one horseman ropes a steer's head and his partner ropes the heel.

The ribbon-roping has one

team member roping a calf, a second member mugging the calf (that is, holding it still) and the third member grabbing a ribbon off its tail and running back to a finish line.

It's all for fun, Kim Abbott says, in the life of ranchers-cum-golfers.

Ill. group purchases Albuquerque course from N.M. firm

BELEN, N.M. — Tierra del Sol Country Club, located here 25 miles south of Albuquerque, has sold for \$2.95 million. The seller was TM Golf Enterprises of Belen and the buyer was Golf Classic Resorts, LLC of Glencoe, Ill.

The parties were brought together by Roger Garrett of CB Commercial Real Estate Group, Inc. Garrett, based in Phoenix, deals exclusively in Golf Properties and brokers transac-

tions throughout the United States.

Tierra del Sol is a semi-private club on 155 acres and features 27 holes. Its new owners intend to renovate the existing clubhouse. The course's net operating income is \$425,000 per year with a gross income of \$1.5 million per year. There were more than 55,000 rounds of golf played on the course last year. For more information contact Roger Garrett at 602-262-5511.



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