



VERMONT NATIONAL COUNTRY CLUB

Event: Mary Gates Charity Golf tournament for Benefit of The Mary Nadon Gates Foundation, Ltd., and the Friedreich's Ataxia Research Alliance

Date: June 23, 2008

Site: Vermont National Country Club

Contestants: 132 Guests, Friends, Family

Competition: 4-Person Team 18-Hole Scramble

Schedule of Activities:

Registration: 9-10:45 A.M.

Complimentary Range Balls: 9-10:45 A.M.

Silent Auction: 9 A.M.-4:30 P.M.

Boxed Lunch Pick-up: 10-11 A.M.
(Lunch provided by Quizno's)

Golf: Shotgun Start at 11 A.M.

Dinner, Raffle and Awards: 4-5 P.M.
(Dinner provided by Vermont National)

Beverage Service: Complimentary Beer and Soft Drinks in the clubhouse from registration through dinner. A Beverage Cart with Drinks and Snacks for purchase will be available on the course.

Hello everybody, it's time for our second annual golf tournament and we are happy to announce that it will be played at the exclusive Vermont National Country Club. So come on out to raise funds for charity and enjoy eighteen holes with a cart, range balls, lunch and dinner, free beer, and wonderful prizes. The tournament is to benefit people suffering from Fredreich's Ataxia and raise the awareness of the disease. We are expecting a full field so please send in your registry as soon as possible. Thanks for a timely response as the day is fast approaching and we look forward to seeing you and eager for another fun time.

Mary Gates is a twenty-six year old who was diagnosed with Fredreich's Ataxia at age 20. She is from Northfield, VT originally, now living in Burlington. She has a nursing degree from UVM and was only able to practice for two years before becoming too disabled to continue with her dream profession. In the last four years she has unfortunately and unexpectedly gone from walking normal to being permanently disabled in a wheelchair. All of the symptoms below have plagued Mary already with one back surgery already performed and another in the near future. Thanks for taking the time to read this to help understand Mary's disease, what benefit you are playing for, and raise the awareness about Fredreich's Ataxia. Those who are unable to play or sponsor a hole are encouraged to make donations on one of two websites:

www.marygatesfoundation.com or www.cureFA.org. We appreciate any support to help find a cure for this atrocious disease.

Friedreich's ataxia and the muscular dystrophy family of neuromuscular diseases, though often compared, are different diseases. Muscular dystrophies are the result of muscle tissue degeneration and atrophy, whereas Friedreich's ataxia is the result of nerve degeneration caused by a trinucleotide repeat expansion mutation. Research on both disorders is supported by funding from the Muscular Dystrophy Association. Symptoms typically begin sometime between the ages of 5 to 15 years, but in Late Onset FA may occur in the 20's or 30's. Symptoms include any combination of the following: Muscle weakness in the arms and legs, Loss of coordination, Vision impairment, Hearing loss, Slurred speech, Curvature of the spine (scoliosis), High plantar arches, Diabetes, and Heart disorders (e.g., atrial fibrillation, and resultant tachycardia (fast heart rate) and hypertrophic cardiomyopathy (enlargement of the heart)). It presents before 25 years of age with progressive staggering or stumbling gait and frequent falling. Lower extremities are more severely involved. These symptoms are progressive. Because of many of these symptoms, a person suffering from Friedrich's Ataxia may require some surgical interventions (mainly for the spine and heart). Often a metal rod is inserted in the spine to help prevent or slow the progression of scoliosis. As progression occurs, assistive devices such as a cane or walker or a wheelchair are required for mobility and independence.

Thanks again for reading this which is just a tid bit about the disease. There are many more issues and details involved with the disease which we experience on a daily basis. We look forward to seeing you on tournament day and please feel free to ask us any questions about the disease or how it affects our lives. Have a wonderful day and God Bless.

Sincerely,

Kyle and Mary Gates

Team Registration Form

The Golf Tournament will be held at Vermont National, on Dorset Street in South Burlington (<http://www.vnccgolf.com/>).

Teams are made up of four members. The tournament will be limited to 33 teams. Included in the cost are: 18-holes with a cart, Range Balls, Lunch, Dinner, Beer and soft drinks, and a gift bag. The cost per team is \$500, groups and individuals without a foursome may sign up for \$125 each and will be appropriately matched up to complete groups. There will be a silent auction and raffle. Raffle tickets will be \$5 a piece or 5 for \$20.

Team Member Name	Team Member Address

Completed registration forms are needed by 6/13/08. You can mail forms and a check or money order to:

Please make checks or money orders payable to Mary Gates.

The Mary Nadon Gates Foundation, Limited

28 South Meadow Drive

Burlington, VT 05401

For any questions please call Kyle Gates at 802-922-6315

Hole Sponsorship Form
for the Mary Gates Benefit Golf Tournament

Sponsor or Company name
Company Logo (optional)

Sign Dimensions: 12" X 18"

Cost: \$100.00 per sign

Number of Sponsorships:

Company Logo attached (circle one): Yes No

Completed sponsor forms are needed by 6/13/08. You can mail forms and a check or money order to:

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