

Golfers Tee Off for

story by **Shelia Stannard**;
photos by **Lance Ziesch**

Fourteen teams of golfers took a break from their usual routine during the National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) to “Tee Off for the Future” during the first-ever Angus Foundation Golf Tournament. Tournament participants gathered for a morning of golf at the Thorncreek Golf Course on July 10 in Thornton, Colo.

After play concluded, the athletes assembled for a *Certified Angus Beef*® (CAB®) steak lunch sponsored by Kahn Cattle Co., White, Ga., and the awards ceremony. The first-place team consisted of Tim Fitzgerald, Alderson, W.Va.; Mike Wieben, Leesburg, Va.; and Jason Brandt and Ralph Dinkel, both of Golden, Colo.

The second-place team included Brad Rayl, Hutchinson, Kan.; and Bill Rishel, Alan Sears and John Tucker, all of North Platte, Neb. Other award winners included Harris Penner, Mill Creek, Okla., longest drive; Lori Wagner, Genoa, Neb., longest putt; and Jason Brandt, closest to the pin.

“This was an exciting project for the Angus Foundation,” says James Fisher, director of activities and junior activities. “The support was great, and we’ve already had golfers inquire about next year’s tournament.”

Pollard Farms LLC, Enid, Okla.; Lemmon Cattle Enterprises, Woodbury, Ga.; and Meldon Farms, Jefferson, Ga., were hole sponsors for the event. Belle Point Ranch, Lavaca, Ark., sponsored awards.



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► Above: Carts lined the drive to the clubhouse at Thorncreek Golf Course on Tuesday morning. The tournament began at 7:30 a.m. with a shotgun start. The event attracted 14 teams of Angus enthusiasts.

Angus Foundation



► Winning top prizes of the day are (second from left) Harris Penner, Mill Creek, Okla., for longest drive; Jason Brandt, Golden, Colo., for being closest to the pin; and Lori Wagner, Genoa, Neb., for longest putt. Awards sponsor Rick Taylor of Belle Point Ranch, Lavaca, Ark., is also pictured.



► The members of the first-place team include (from left) Tim Fitzgerald, Alderson, W.Va.; Ralph Dinkel, Golden, Colo.; Mike Wieben, Leesburg, Va.; and Jason Brandt, Golden, Colo. Hole sponsor Barry Pollard of Pollard Farms, Enid, Okla., is also pictured.

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► NJAA director Brittney Burns and Association regional managers John Dickinson and Jim Shirley register golfers for the first-ever Angus Foundation golf tournament at Thorncreek Golf Course, Thornton, Colo. Check-in was at the Thorncreek clubhouse.



► Angus golfers (clockwise from left front) Brad Rayl, Hutchinson, Kan.; and John Tucker, Alan Sears and Bill Rishel, all of North Platte, Neb., plan their strategy before the tournament. Their team would take home second-place honors by the end of the afternoon.



► Above: The first-ever Angus Foundation golf tournament was well-received, says James Fisher, Association director of activities and junior activities. "The support was great, and we've already had golfers inquire about next year's tournament," he says.



► Right: Rick Taylor (right, kneeling), Belle Point Ranch, Lavaca, Ark., repairs a ball mark on the green at Thorncreek Golf Course. Belle Point sponsored awards for the tournament.



► Bonnie Christensen, Fullerton, Neb., blasts a ball down the fairway at the first-ever Angus Foundation golf tournament.



► Golfers (from left) Randy Mitteness, Ada, Minn., and Steve and Nick Zenc, both of Hadley, Minn., gaze down the fairway after a long drive.



► Association regional managers (from left) Jim Shirley and Matt Caldwell watch as Ron Frye sinks a putt.

