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## MEDIA RELEASE/ALERT

### Swinging for a good cause

Time is running out for south east Queensland golf enthusiasts to receive coaching from one of Australia's top teachers and play a few rounds at an international-level course for a good cause.

The inaugural Rose Cup Charity Golf Day to raise money to help Queenslanders living with cystic fibrosis will be held at the **Gold Coast's RACV Royal Pines, Benowa, on Friday, June 2**, from midday. Entry fees will be directed to Cystic Fibrosis Queensland (CFQ) to help support the more than 800 Queenslanders living with this incurable disease.

In return, the teams of four players will be in the running for up to \$25,000 in prizes, including a new car, and receive pre-tournament personal putting and chipping coaching from dual **PGA Australian Teacher of the Year and triple PGA Queensland teacher of the year Mark Gibson**.

Players of all handicaps and abilities are welcome to join the competition and fun, but teams had better hurry. Spaces are limited and the chance for one-on-one coaching with Gibson is enough to attract players from far and wide.

For more information, visit [tickets.lup.com.au/rose-cup-charity-golf-day](https://tickets.lup.com.au/rose-cup-charity-golf-day) or to enter a team contact Roz Fenson on 07 3359 8000 or rozf@cfqld.org.au

CFQ Chief Executive Officer Petrina Fraccaro urged golfers from across south east Queensland to enter the tournament, not just for the enjoyment of the game but to support people living with cystic fibrosis. May was cystic fibrosis awareness month, with activities being held across the state under the "65 Roses Challenge" banner.

While the tournament is in June, it still forms part of CFQ's major fundraising activities for the year.

Ms Fraccaro said community support like that provided by Let's Dance Latin and the Vennings was vital to CFQ's ability to help the 800 Queenslanders, many of them children, living with the disease.

"We must raise \$2 million each year to provide essential services such as counselling, free equipment hire, home physiotherapy, accommodation, advocacy, education programs and support for children during hospital stays," Ms Fraccaro said.

"Unfortunately, only 13% of our much-needed funding comes from government sources. The rest comes from corporate sponsorship and the generosity of Queenslanders who want to help. In fact, the fundraising efforts of people in our community are essential to enable us to continue to help everyone with cystic fibrosis in Queensland."

The 65 roses theme dates back to 1965 when a four-year-old boy overheard his parents and health care professionals discussing his condition. Not fully being able to get his tongue around the words cystic fibrosis, he pronounced the disease "65 roses".

The nickname stuck, and cystic fibrosis organisations around the world soon adopted the rose as a symbol of support and understanding for sufferers of the disease.

### Cystic fibrosis facts

Cystic fibrosis is a life-shortening, inherited disease, usually diagnosed shortly after birth. The disease attacks the digestive system and slowly shuts down the lungs. There is no cure.

When you are living with Cystic Fibrosis, every day matters. The average life expectancy for Australians with Cystic Fibrosis is 37.5 years. There is no cure.

On average, one Australian child is born with cystic fibrosis every week. It is the most common life shortening genetic condition in Australia. Living with a chronic illness from birth is stressful for all involved - physically, financially and emotionally.

The treatment for cystic fibrosis is lifelong, ongoing and relentless. People living with cystic fibrosis can spend the equivalent of four months of full-time work each year receiving treatment, take up to 80 pills a day, undergo tough physiotherapy regimes, hospital admissions several times a year and constantly cope with debilitating lung and gastrointestinal disease.

### **For interviews:**

**Cystic Fibrosis CEO Petrina Fraccaro on 0412 134 820**