

'She would have really liked to take part'

Kimmett Cup set for Jan. 10

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Sharpen the skates, clear the ice, the three-on-three pond hockey tournament to honour one of Cochrane's finest is ready to go.

With 20 teams signed up, the Kimmett Cup is ready to begin the morning of Jan 10 at Mitford Ponds in Cochrane. Jason Baserman, one of the organizers, is excited to get the action underway.

"There's retired teams, mostly 55 and over, there's women's teams, there's father-son teams, father-daughter teams, there's teams that have competed in Cochrane minor hockey, Calgary minor hockey, there's a wide range of skills and diversity, It will be a lot of fun," Baserman said.

Baserman and Joe MacLellan, planned the tournament to remember Lindsay Kimmett, a Cochrane resident who died in a car accident in early 2008, and raise money for the foundation started in her memory.

The Lindsay Leigh Kimmett Memorial Foundation will fund a scholarship for the Cochrane High School valedictorian and assist youth participate in Cochrane Minor Hockey.

"She was a very fun-loving person, very inviting person, always made people feel very welcome, so I

think those attributes, in addition to the community she was raised and grew up in, gave a lot of people the opportunity to know her and they really appreciated this new friend they made," he said.



Since Lindsay passed away, two other events have been held in her name. Proceeds from Cochrane Ford Invitational Hockey Tournament were donated to the foundation and a Monumental Tournament of Aces golf tournament was held at the Cochrane Golf Club Oct. 4.

When Baserman, MacLellan and Kimmett played intramural hockey at the University of Calgary, they discussed creating a pond-hockey tournament.

When she passed away, the work started in earnest and continued throughout the summer.

"It's unfortunate this is taking place in her memory, because I am sure she would have really liked to take part in a event like this," Baserman said.

Although organizing a co-ed tournament with so many players — more than

150 will lace up — takes time and effort, Baserman said the task was made much easier by the inviting nature of Cochrane residents.

The community has rallied behind the cause, Baserman said, and donated space, time, money and equipment for the tournament.

A silent auction is planned for the Travelodge in Cochrane during the day and the Knights of Columbus are serving lunch for all hockey players.

"We're really, really grateful to Cochrane for its warm and the kind reception we have received. We have received a lot of help," Baserman said.

"And we hope to do a really good job for the town and community, that everyone have fun and raise a good amount of money for the foundation."

Games will start at 8 a.m. Jan. 10 and finish 12 hours later at 8 p.m.

The custom-built wooden trophy will be handed out at 8:30 p.m. and smaller trophies will be given to the captain of each team.

Three "rinks" on the Mitford Ponds will be cleared and prepared for action with boards and custom-built nets.

Bleachers and heated tents will be set-up for spectators.

While competitive, Baserman said the day will be about fun, connecting with friends, family and neighbours, while remembering a life that was taken far too quickly.

"I really hope the community, and especially the family, Kelly and Diane, are proud of the product. I am really hoping the day runs smoothly and everything comes together," he said.