

From Golf Garb to Red Carpet Glam....

By Cori Matheson

The LPGA*USGA Girls Golf of Phoenix celebrated a year of success with an “Oscar-style” awards party at Studio Movie Grill in Scottsdale on Wednesday, December 28th.

This was the second annual Golden Tees awards ceremony that expanded in concept and class from the 2015 inaugural party. A parent volunteer committee of the Girls Golf of Phoenix all agreed that it was important to elevate the event and make it a priority during the busy holiday season. The members, the girls, are empowered by the chance to get fancy celebrating friendship while feeling like a celebrity.

The 2016 Golden Tees was a huge success and hosted 110 “celebrities” of the Girls Golf of Phoenix family that included members (ages 3-17), their families, and many of our supporters. Upon arrival at the event, guests walked the red carpet and were greeted with paparazzi. A major highlight of the night included ambassador guest, Cheyenne Woods: LPGA tour player and winner. Woods worked the red carpet with a gold glitter microphone and grace. The tables were turned, our girls (the members), were interviewed by Woods; they were the celebrity of the night and felt like royalty! Later in the evening, we honored Woods with a special “Ambassador Award.”

Guests were then invited into the theater and with the help of my very talented husband, Rick Matheson, we presented an astounding big-screen production. We captured the night, shared a slideshow of 2016 photos, celebrated the success of 2016, and announced goals for 2017. There are some fun things in store for this thriving Girls Golf site! This was a professional sparkle-filled show that exceeded movie star standards!

As the drums rolled, secret envelopes were opened and awards were presented for categories including the “Empower Award,” “Rookie of the Year,” “Engage Award,” “Gratitude Award,” and many more. 35 nominees were recognized on stage. Nine lucky winners took home the new Girls Golf “Golden Flamingo” trophies (Oscar style, of course) along with custom pink flamingo Daphne’s Headcovers. It was truly a night to remember by all in attendance.

After the event, Woods sent me a note that said “The Golden Tees were amazing and it’s so wonderful to see what you are doing for girls here in Phoenix! You are amazing!” – Thank you, Cheyenne, BUT, as Aristotle said “The whole is greater than the sum of its parts.” – I am just a part.... It takes the “whole” to make events like this as amazing as she stated. Thank you, Cheyenne Woods, Studio Movie Grill, the paparazzi (Jeff and Everardo), my husband, the supporters, the members, and the families of the LPGA*USGA Girls Golf of Phoenix for being a part of our greater whole.

Thank you for a successful 2016! Cheers to empowering, engaging, and welcoming in a record breaking 2017!

