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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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34th Annual Governors' Cup Golf Tournament Crowns Grand Champions in Support of Montana Youth Entrepreneurship

(KALISPELL, MT) — The Montana Chamber Foundation is thrilled to announce the successful conclusion of the 2023 Governors' Cup Golf Tournament now in its 34th year. Proceeds support the organization's Youth Entrepreneurs program, an educational curriculum that instills entrepreneurial thinking, basic business economics and workforce readiness skills in students grades 6-12. Montana consistently ranks as one of the top entrepreneurial states in the nation, and the Montana Chamber Foundation works to maintain that top ranking by creating a pipeline of young entrepreneurs.

Following two days of fierce yet friendly play, D.A. Davidson / Montana Accounting Group earned Grand Champions lowest gross score honors having shot a 108. WellSky won the team lowest net category shooting a 93.86.

Adding to this year's excitement, Chris O'Boyle of InterBel Telephone Cooperative got a hole in one on Whitefish Lake South #15 and will receive \$40,000 towards a vehicle of his choice at Don "K" Dealerships Whitefish. The last tournament to see a hole in one was more than a decade ago.

"Congratulations to the 2023 Grand Champions of the Tournament, D.A. Davidson and WellSky," said Ed Bartlett, Tournament Director. "We thank them and all other teams for participating in and supporting the Governors' Cup."

The Governors' Cup is the state's largest golf tournament and features a 36-hole scramble, creating a fun and competitive atmosphere that fosters business development and networking opportunities for nationally and locally recognized businesses competing for bragging rights and looking to grow their professional networks. Of the eighty-four five-person teams participating, those with the lowest gross and net scores are named Governors' Cup Grand Champions.

Buffalo Hill (Kalispell), Meadow Lake (Columbia Falls), and Whitefish Lake South (Whitefish) Golf Courses played host July 28-29. The event kicked off on July 27 with 650 people at the Glacier Bank Ace in the Hole Reception & BBQ at Flathead Valley Community College. Governor Greg Gianforte and First Lady Susan highlighted statewide and local elected officials in attendance.

"Our mission at the Montana Chamber Foundation has always been to inspire and equip the next generation of business leaders and entrepreneurs with the necessary skills and resources for their personal and professional growth," said Todd O'Hair, Executive Director of the organization. "This year's Governors' Cup represents not only a celebration of our commitment, but also an occasion to come together as Montana's business community and invest in the future of our students."

The success of the 2023 Governors' Cup would not have been possible without the unwavering support of our sponsors and partners. See a full list along with complete tournament standings and results <u>here</u>.

The 35th Annual Montana Chamber Foundation Governors' Cup will return to the Flathead July 25-27, 2024.

About the Montana Chamber Foundation

The Montana Chamber Foundation is the 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization established by the Montana Chamber of Commerce to fund business education, workforce development, and entrepreneurship programs aimed at grades 6–12; underwrite research projects; and host events that promote economic development opportunities in the Treasure State.

The Foundation maintains direct relationships with members of the Montana University System, Montana Office of Public Instruction (OPI), individual teachers and public-school districts, Career and Technical Student Organizations (CSTO) and other nonprofits supporting student business education.

For more information about the Montana Chamber Foundation visit www.MontanaChamber.com/foundation. Information on how your organization can get involved, contact Matt Olson, Director of Network Engagement at matthew@montanachamber.com.

About the Montana Youth Entrepreneurs fueled by Empowered program:

- Mr. Wonderful says it's about Youth Entrepreneurs
- Workforce Readiness. Where Innovation Meets Opportunity. Rapelje, MT
- <u>Connecting the classroom to the business community through the Montana Chamber & Youth Entrepreneurs</u>