



Robert Kalkman Foundation

Golf fun for Children with cancer



EUROPEAN
DEVELOPMENT TRUST





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INTRODUCTION



Let's play golf!

INTRODUCTION

In the Netherlands approximately 500 children a year get cancer. This ranges from a wide variety of different types of cancer such as leukaemia, Non-Hodgkin, brain tumours, kidney tumours, bone tumours, neuro blastoma, and liver tumours. Every year about 100 children die from this terrible disease.

The goal of the Robert Kalkman Foundation (RKF) is to support children with cancer (or other physical constraints) in finding relaxation and distraction during their illness. We provide an unforgettable golf experience and a new sports challenge.

Our main activity are Golf Fun Clinics, which we deliver with great enthusiasm. In 2007 we started with the first clinic. Since then we have grown to 18 clinics a year with almost 400 kids. We are very pleased with this development and proud and thankful to all sponsors and volunteers that have helped making this happen.

In 2014 the number of participating children have grown to over 400, due to our sponsors. Participation in the clinics is free of charge for the children and their parents.





Far right: Robert Kalkman
Second right: Marco van Basten
(Dutch National Youth Soccer Team, early 80s)

WHO IS ROBERT KALKMAN?

Robert Kalkman started his professional soccer career at the age of 12. He was the youngest contract player in the Netherlands at Feyenoord, which is one of the biggest clubs in the country. Robert was seen as one of the greatest soccer talents ever.

Robert played with Marco van Basten in the Dutch national youth team between the age of 14 and 17. He had a promising international soccer career ahead of him. This dream suddenly changed into a nightmare when he was diagnosed with bone cancer (Ewing-Sarcoma) in his right leg. According to the doctors he only had 6 months left to live. The affected bone was replaced by a

prosthesis, which was very experimental at the time. This saved his leg, but ended his soccer career.

Many surgeries followed. He was advised by his long-term doctor (professor Taminiou) to try golf as alternative sports. Robert's first acquaintance with golf took place at the Rotterdam Golf Club Kralingen.

This was the moment where frustration and destiny were substituted with the joy of living and a great persistence to survive. Two years of chemotherapy and radiotherapy followed. Robert's only goal was to get to the golf course as soon as possible after a treatment session



to practice and to have fun. He started to forget about his illness. Golf basically helped him tremendously and eventually Robert became an official PGA golf professional!

Since 2006 Robert Kalkman is bringing golf joy to many children with cancer. He introduced them to the fascinating world of golf. The experience of helping these children impacted him greatly and resulted into the idea of establishing a non-profit foundation with the goal to bring golf fun to the children. In February 2007 the Robert Kalkman Foundation was founded.

Robert was fortunate that his leg could be retained. He was able to walk thanks to the inward prosthesis. Unfortunately after 27 years he lost his leg due to an infection in 2008. This impactful event did not stop him from pursuing his dreams and goals with the foundation.



click picture to play video

“Thank you so much for this fun day. For me you are a hero and inspiration, because you show us it is possible to play golf with a physical constraint.”

ROBERT'S MISSION

"As PGA Golf Professional I want to support children that have been hit by cancer or another serious illness or physical constraint just like me. With my passion and enthusiasm I hope to improve the quality of their lives by providing fun, relaxation, and distraction in difficult times.

Golf has the unique characteristic of a sports without physical contact, which reduces the risk of injury. It is therefore such a fantastic distraction and therapy to children during their prolonged process of illness or recovery phase. Pleasure is the most important element of the Golf Fun Clinics we organise.

I want to demonstrate to everyone that despite cancer or other physical constraints, it is still possible to practice sports. Golf is extraordinary suitable and I invite any kid with this terrible disease to take the challenge."

Robert Kalkman





ACTIVITIES

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The most important activity of the RKF is the organisation of golf fun clinics for children with cancer or a physical limitation at different golf courses across the Netherlands. The goal is to introduce children to the golf sports, but more importantly to provide a day full of joy and distraction. Golf is one of the few sports that these children can practice.

Robert Kalkman and several other PGA golf professionals are present at every clinic to coach the children. Robert's story and his energy encourages the children and it helps to look at themselves differently. There is amazement, a lot of laughter, and sometimes a tear. It gives the children strength and self-confidence. The social aspect and mental support also play an important role. Therefore, the children are allowed to bring a brother, sister, or good friend. The distraction, the social interaction, golf itself, and a little flavour of competition all have a positive influence to the well-being and recovery of the children.

All golf clinics are free of charge (thanks to our sponsors) and include refreshments, lunch, and dinner. Various important aspects of golf will be exercised, including the driving range and a number of holes. And of course children love a ride in the golf buggy. At the end of a clinic all attendees receive a small gift and a certificate.



After the clinics some children take the challenge to continue playing golf and can be further coached on request. Furthermore, a number of children return a next season, which provides a nice mixture of new and existing experienced participants. Some of the children that return have survived the cancer and have become enthusiastic golf players.

Once a year, the foundation organises a special tournament, exclusively for sponsors, ambassadors, and other relationships and volunteers.

Robert is also available for personal coaching, private lessons, and presentations at hospitals, schools, medical seminars, and exhibitions. His presentation is an impressive personal story about his experience with cancer and how he survived it. He will emphasize how important it is to have distraction during the period of illness and rehabilitation. Golf has been his “life saver” in that journey.



“We loved the day! A day without the worries of our daughter’s illness. A fantastic ambiance with very nice people. Thanks so much to Robert for his laughter and visible enjoy from the happy kids faces.”





PROGRAMME

Golf Fun Clinics

| Season part 1 | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Hitland, Nieuwerkerk aan den IJssel | |
| Hitland, Nieuwerkerk aan den IJssel | |
| BurgGolf, Zoetermeer | |
| The Dutch, Spijk | |
| BurgGolf, Zoetermeer | |
| Season part 2 | |
| Hitland, Nieuwerkerk aan den IJssel | |
| The International, Amsterdam | |
| Hitland, Nieuwerkerk aan den IJssel | |
| BurgGolf, Zoetermeer | |
| BurgGolf, Zoetermeer | |

“We joined the golf fun clinics for the third summer. Our daughter looks forward to it every time!”

We also organise 8 clinics for the experienced children. These take place on Wednesday during the months May/June and August/September/October. Location: Hitland, Nieuwerkerk a/d IJssel.

| Event for Ambassadors at The Dutch | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Ambassadors Golf Day & Dinner | |

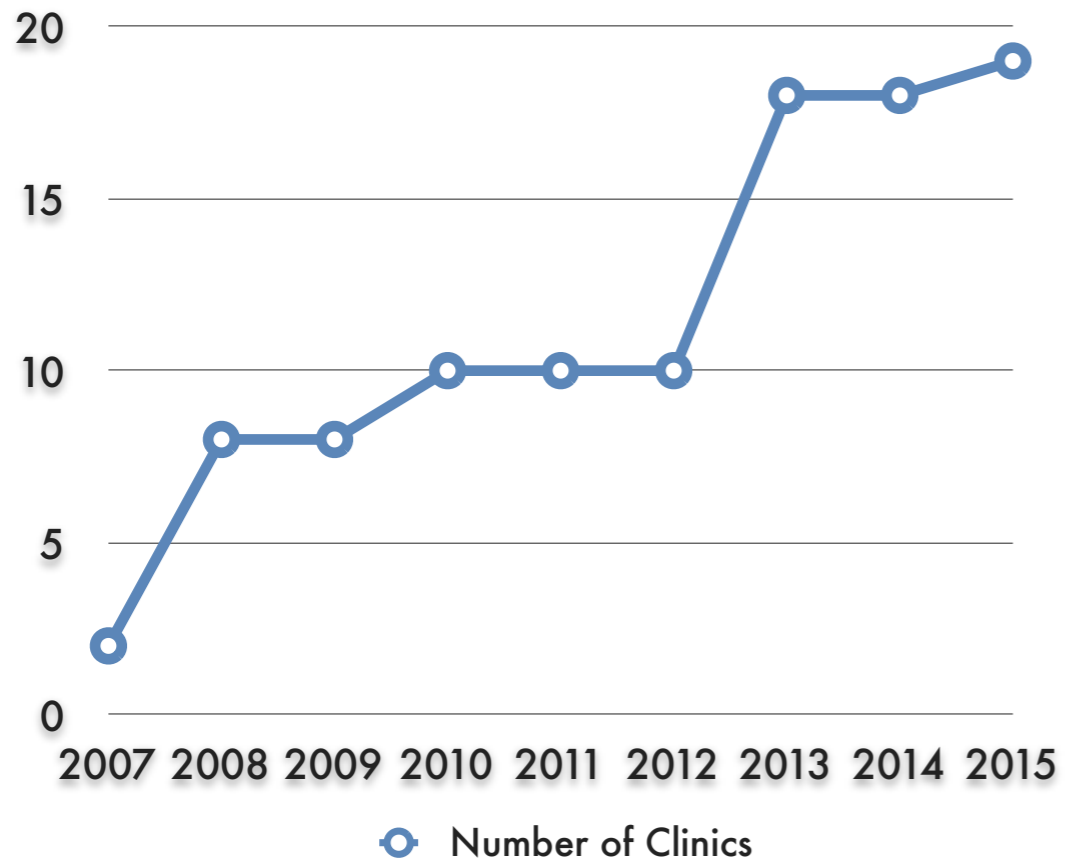


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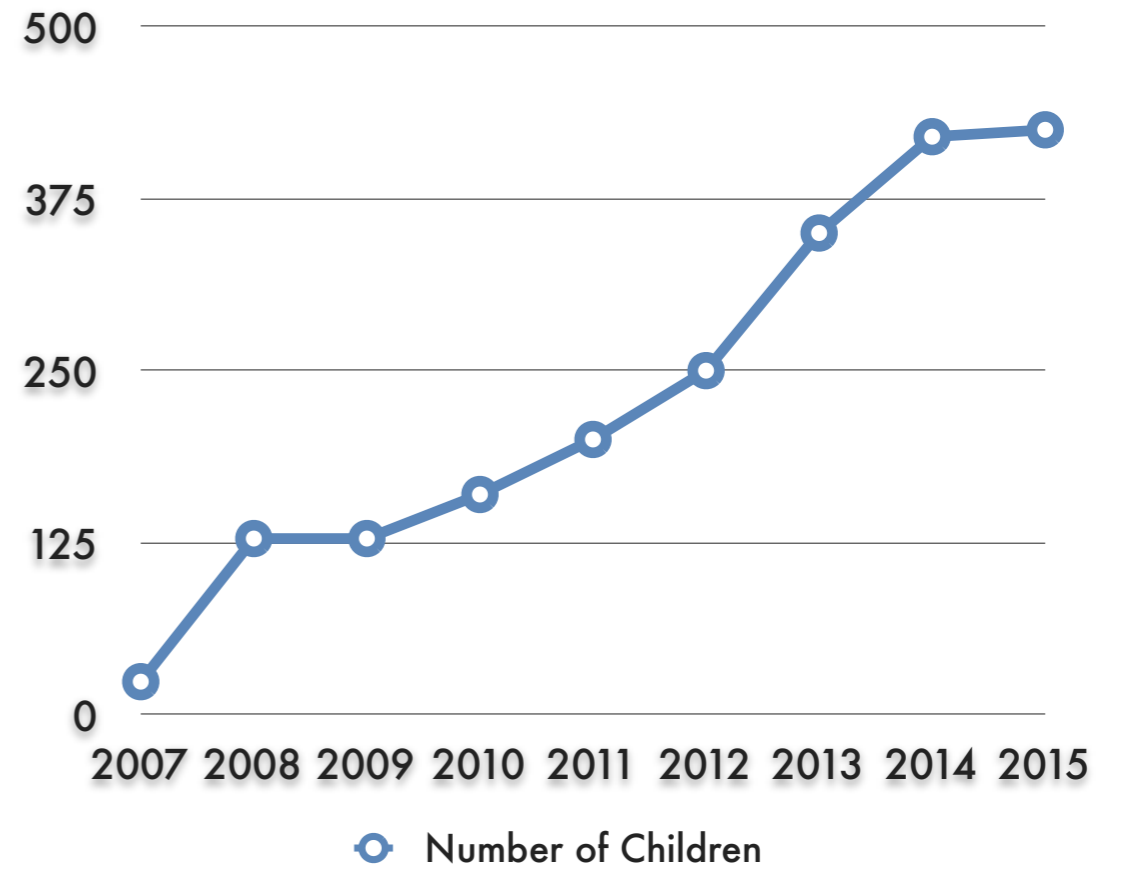
HISTORY & FUTURE



clinics per year



children per year





Golf Fun Clinics - Statistics of 2015

- * 18 clinics
- * 50 golf sets
- * 2500 sandwiches
- * 350 caps
- * 350 shirts
- * 1000 Nike balls
- * 300 liter soda
- * 1000 ice creams
- * 1000 dinners
- * 500 presents
- * 425 children had the day of their life!

"So great to see how children after an impactful surgery are able to pick up their lives. This is very motivating and positive."

FUTURE

We would like to continue organising the clinics free of charge and we are very pleased with the development of the funding. Next to donations and gifts we have been able to secure continuity by establishing long-term sponsorship with ambassadors.

The most important activity of RKF remains the clinics, but in near future we have the ambition to seek for new opportunities, such as organising golf weekends. Together with their families, the children can enjoy a happy-go-lucky weekend with golf and lots of fun.

“Me and my husband are amazed by what you are able to achieve. The atmosphere is fantastic. Everyone is fully engaged and kind to each other. No exceptions. It is so wonderful!”





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ORGANISATION & FUNDING



“We are very thankful to everyone who make these golf fun clinics possible!”

ORGANISATION

The foundation is directed by a board and supported by various volunteers and advisors. Previously all clinics were fully organised by Robert himself. Due to the growth, this is not sustainable anymore and a professional approach was needed to ensure the same level of quality could be delivered. We are very pleased with all the generous help from PGA professionals and the many volunteers. They are trained how to engage the children from both a physical and mental point of view. Since Robert is the face of the foundation and the inspiration to the children, he will be present at all clinics.



Board of Directors

Chair : Robert Kalkman
 Bookkeeper : Richard van Duin
 Secretary : Vincent Alwicher
 Advisor : Hans Brocades Zaalberg

Committee of Recommendation

LUMC Leiden : Prof. dr. Taminiau
 child physiotherapist : Dr. Peter Bekkering
 former soccer player : Marco van Basten
 actor (Martin Morero) : Peter Paul Muller
 Director PGA Holland: Frank Kirsten
 PGAs of Europe : Ian Randell
 Golf TV Commentator: Ken Brown

FUNDING

The RKF is a non-profit organisation and is fully dependent on donations and gifts from businesses and private persons. All funding goes to the organisation of the clinics and other events exclusively for the children. The foundation is always seeking for funding opportunities and uses different channels to raise attention for this good cause, such as presentations, flyers, banners, promotion videos, newsletters, and the internet.

The organisation of clinics is demanding from a logistics point of view and comes with extra costs due to the situation the children are in. Examples include:

- * Transport from hospitals to golf course
- * Buggies for transport on the golf course
- * Presence of a physiotherapist
- * Attendance of parents and other attendants
- * Materials, such as golf clubs, balls, tee flags, etc
- * Small prizes as souvenirs
- * Lunch, dinner, and refreshments



The total budget for 2015 is 160.000 euro for 18 clinics and other activities needed to gain or retain funding. Board members do not receive any salary or other payment. Only volunteers will receive a small financial contribution to cover their expenses.

The foundation has an ANBI statement from the Dutch tax authorities, which ensures all gifts are deductible from tax. ANBI certified non-profit organisations do not pay probate duty over donations. Sponsors can also rebate their donations from income tax.

To ensure continuity the foundation is always seeking for new funding opportunities. Please contact us if you are interested to become an ambassador or sponsor.



*Marco van Basten talks about Robert
tick picture to play video*

“This year was my very first clinic and I loved it. We had so much fun with Robert. Especially driving around in the buggy was cool.”





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AMBASSADORS & SPONSORS

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An ambassador is a company or person that is associated with the foundation for a number of years and provides financial support.

A sponsor is an organisation (e.g. golf club) or person that provides support through a one-off donation or through, for example, the organisation of a charity golf day.

Thanks to the support of our ambassadors and sponsors the foundation is able to bring happiness to the children!

Check our [website](#) for the latest overview of ambassadors and sponsors.





CONTACT INFORMATION

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De Robert Kalkman Foundation has the [ANBI](#) status



