PHOENIX, Ariz. – The Thunderbirds, hosts of the Waste Management Phoenix Open, have partnered with NextMed to purchase and distribute more than 100,000 PPE Masks to the Phoenix community as part of the NextMed Cares “Million Mask Project”. Through the help of Innovation Care Partners, the masks will be immediately distributed to first responders, health care workers and charities throughout the Valley.

“The Thunderbirds have been actively seeking ways to assist the community during this time, so when we were approached by NextMed to donate masks it was an easy decision,” said 2021 Tournament Chairman Scott Jenkins. “It literally happened in just days, we said we were on board and a couple of days later the masks were delivered and we started to distribute them immediately. It’s a great thing they are doing for the community and we are proud to partner with NextMed on this project.”

More than 17,000 masks have already been delivered to first responders and post-acute medical facilities, while today masks were delivered to Phoenix Children’s Hospital and Ronald McDonald House of Phoenix. The remaining masks will be delivered this week to other health care workers and charities in need across the Valley.

“I want to give a big thanks to The Thunderbirds for joining us in our ‘Million Mask Project’,“ said Scott Hallett, Sales and Marketing Director at NextMed. “It is inspiring to see so many people and organizations come together to help our community, and we are proud to partner with The
Thunderbirds to donate more than 100,000 masks to the people who need them the most at this difficult time."

The 2021 Waste Management Phoenix Open will be held at TPC Scottsdale February 1 - 7. “The People’s Open” has been named the Tournament of the Year by the PGA TOUR four times in six years (2014, 2015, 2018, 2019) to help the tournament gain legendary status for being one the most unique events in golf. The 2021 edition will mark the 86th playing of the event (one of the five oldest events on the PGA TOUR) and the 12th as the Waste Management Phoenix Open.

The Thunderbirds were founded in 1937 with the mission of promoting the Valley of the Sun through sports. The Thunderbirds consist of 55 “active” members and more than 280 “life” members. The Thunderbirds raised a record $14 million for charity from proceeds from the 2020 WM Phoenix Open and have eclipsed $161 million in charitable giving since its inception in 1932. For more information on The Thunderbirds or the 2021 Waste Management Phoenix Open, visit www.wmphoenixopen.com.