

## Going the Distance for a Cause

Valley Doctor Racing Against War on Cancer

By Alison Bailin Batz

Ironmen and women are warriors. Many of these warriors go even beyond grueling physical training in the name of their races—including Dr. Dennis Scribner.

By day, Scribner is a partner at Arizona Center for Cancer Care, which has an office in Scottsdale focused on treating patients with gynecological cancers including cervical, ovarian and more. Just last year, in fact, he became one of only a handful of specialists in the world to perform the famed da Vinci Single-Site gynecological robotic surgery, a recently FDA-cleared method to perform surgery through the bellybutton resulting in minimal pain and virtually scar-free results for women who need complex gynecologic procedures.

But by night, this dedicated doctor and dad is a complete triathlete and Ironman who wants to empower his fellow racers to fight back harder than ever in this on-going war on cancer.

How?

In partnership with the Foundation for Women's Cancer, of which he is a member, Scribner launched the Foundation for Women's Cancer Athletic Fund in early 2014.

"This organization has proven success in bringing together a vast network of physicians, patients, and researchers to achieve some common goals," said Scribner, noting the organization has assisted in furthering the study of cervical, ovarian, uterine to name a few. "To improve research and improve treatments to help patients, and to ultimately find a cure for cancer."

And they are certainly on a mission to do just that.

Over time, the organization has expanded its mission to include raising awareness about the prevention and early detection of cancers unique to women, and educational programs and materials about the optimal treatment for women with a gynecological cancer diagnosis.

"For many races, triathlons and even the Ironman, we athletes compete in

honor of a person or cause near and dear to our hearts. But, not all races are specifically focused on the goal of raising funds," said Scribner. "So, we created this Athletic Fund to offer athletes the ability to easily raise online funds for the causes that mean something to them no matter the race, location or time of year."



Dr. Dennis Scribner

With training underway for the Ironman competition in the fall, Scribner is hoping he can inspire others to make the commitment like he has made and encourage them to support the causes they most care about through his new foundation.

"It's the perfect platform to raise awareness not just for gynecological cancers but for any cancer," said Scribner, "At Arizona Center for Cancer Care we care deeply about our patients and are always looking for ways to advance treatment options and provide better outcomes, so we couldn't be more thrilled to support this initiative."

So, how do you get involved?

According to Scribner, getting involved is as easy as 1-2-3.

"Anyone can participate," he said. "Individuals, teams, families, friends, we're challenging everyone to make a commitment, get registered."

1. Visit [www.fwathleticfund.org](http://www.fwathleticfund.org).
2. Register an individual for an event or series of events, or choose the option to build a team
3. Spread the word and have your family, friends and colleagues support your team and cause with donations or by simply making a tax-deductible contribution to the Foundation for Women's Cancer. All money raised will support the foundation's awareness, research and education mission based programs.

"I am thrilled that this opportunity now exists, and I challenge everyone who is affected by these diseases to start training, join our team and participate," said Scribner.

# FINISH THE FIGHT against cancer.

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