



PRESS RELEASE

VVJGA Conducts Benefit at Palms Golf Course.

March 23, 2011

The Virgin Valley Junior Golf Association generated about \$800 Monday during its annual fund raising tournament at the Palms Golf Course.

CONTACTS: Marsha Sherwood, Palms Golf Club, 702-346-4067 or 702-346-3771; Tom Winchester, Palms Golf Club, 702-346-4067; Mike Henle, The Idea Company, 702-279-3483.

Donations and raffle prizes were provided by the Palms Golf Club, CasaBlanca Golf Club, Falcon Ridge Golf Course, Oasis Golf Club, Conestoga Golf Course, Premier Properties, Randy Tickner and Willow Bay Designs.

Justin and Bruce Hughes won a scorecard playoff to highlight the day's play. Justin Hughes, a single digit handicap player, is one of three Hughes brothers who have gone through the VVJGA.

The VVJGA was started about 10 years ago. Several current and former golfers have benefited through participation in the group.

"This organization has helped mold so many young people," said VVJGA Administrator Marsha Sherwood adding that those in the group have included Jacoby Grillo, a former Virgin Valley High School golfer who eventually went on to study at Stanford University before accepting a major executive position with Ping in Phoenix; Dayne Byers and Rustin Bonner, both graduates of Virgin Valley High School; and twins Samantha and Amanda Bulloch who both played in the program before moving on to college."

Sherwood said others who have participated in the VVJGA program have included Cyera Jensen, who participated in the program before getting a scholarship to College of Southern Utah in Cedar City, Utah; Alex Puttman, who eventually went to college before departing on an LDS mission and returning to Northern Utah; 16 year-old Ryan Baeza, who entered the program at the age of six and is now a scratch golfer; along with Travis Causey, who graduated from Moapa Valley High School and is now attending UNLV and participating in the Rebel golf program while working as a caddie at The Chase in Coyote Springs.

Jason Ault and Bonner are among the former members of the VVJGA who have gone on to college thanks to scholarships from the organization.

The VVJGA offers clinics along with tournaments while encouraging parents to play in tournaments with their children. In addition, students are given golf privileges including the chance to play at various Mesquite golf courses for \$5 for the juniors and \$20 for the parents plus a 15 percent discount in each of the pro shops involved in the association at select times of the year.

VVJGA clinics will start in June after the school year has been completed. Volunteers are needed for the summer program and can participate by calling Sherwood at 702-346-4067 or 702-346-3771.