

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Desert Recreation District and First Tee Coachella Valley Mourn the Passing of Kyle Winn

INDIO, - Calif. , Desert Recreation District and First Tee Coachella Valley are mourning the loss of Kyle Winn, lovingly known by many young golfers and families as Coach “Peanut Butter Cups.”

Kyle was a deeply valued member of First Tee Coachella Valley, where he served as Program Coordinator, Program Director, and Executive Director from 2020 to 2025. During his five years with the organization, Kyle became much more than a coach. He became a mentor, leader, friend, and steady presence for countless young people across the Coachella Valley.

Through his work with First Tee Coachella Valley, Kyle helped introduce children and teens to the game of golf while teaching life skills that extend far beyond the course. His belief in the power of golf to shape confidence, character, and opportunity was evident in the way he showed up for every class, every child, and every family.

Known for his warmth, humor, and ability to make each child feel seen and celebrated, Kyle left a lasting mark on the program and the community it serves.

“Kyle’s impact on First Tee Coachella Valley and the young people it serves is clear through the stories shared by families, participants, and colleagues who knew him best,” said DRD Board President, Giovanna Healy. “As a District, we are deeply saddened by his passing and grateful for the years he dedicated to creating positive opportunities for children through golf. His commitment to youth development, mentorship, and service reflects the heart of what community recreation is all about. We extend our sincere condolences to his husband Ryan, his family, friends, and the entire First Tee Coachella Valley community.”

Desert Recreation District and First Tee Coachella Valley extend their heartfelt condolences to Kyle’s husband, Ryan, his family, friends, colleagues, and the many young golfers who knew and loved him.

The impact Kyle made will continue to be felt on the course, in the lives of the children he mentored, and throughout the community he served.

For those who wish to support Kyle’s family, a GoFundMe has been established in his honor at:

<https://gofund.me/db4e1bcc7>

About

Desert Recreation District (DRD) is the largest park and recreation district in California, covering 1,887 square miles and serving over 432,000 residents across the greater Coachella Valley. Our mission is to work closely with municipalities to ensure that every community, regardless of economic status, has access to quality recreation services. DRD manages and maintains more than 49 parks and recreation facilities, offering a wide range of programs, services, and classes designed to enrich the lives of our residents. We believe in the power of partnerships, collaborating with public, private, and nonprofit organizations to create opportunities for leisure, fitness, and community engagement. Our work is dedicated to promoting physical health, relaxation, and revitalization; fostering strong families and supporting individuals with disabilities; and enhancing the overall vibrancy of our community. By contributing to healthier lifestyles, a sense of belonging, and increased tourism, DRD plays an essential role in the economic and social well-being of the region. To find out more, visit MyRecreationDistrict.com

