## **MEDIA RELEASE**







## Local First Tee Chapter Holds Golf Clinic for Youth from Braille Institute Rancho Mirage

Indio, CA (September 10, 2015) – <u>The First Tee of the Coachella Valley</u> is holding a golf clinic for juniors with limited to no vision on Saturday, September 12, 2015 from 9 to 11 a.m. The clinic will consist of four rotations that include chipping, putting, pitching, and full swing practice. This is the first year Braille Institute Rancho Mirage and The First Tee of the Coachella Valley are working together to bring a golf clinic to approximately 10 to 12 youth with vision impairment.

Karla Corona, Youth Programs Director for Braille Institute Rancho Mirage noted they "are excited and thankful to the Joey Meyers Foundation for granting us the opportunity to work with The First Tee on this golf clinic. Our students are looking forward to it".

The First Tee provides young people with learning facilities and educational programs that promote character development and life-enhancing values through the game of golf. Dustin Smith, Program Director for The First Tee of the Coachella Valley, oversees the Volunteer program. The goal of The First Tee is to have the same number of volunteers as participants at Saturday's event so there can be one-on-one interaction and assistance between the volunteers and the golfers.



Volunteers are encouraged to call or stop by for more information about becoming involved with our program. The First Tee of the Coachella Valley at the Golf Center at Palm Desert is located at 74945 Sheryl Ave, Palm Desert and can be found at TheFirstTeeCoachellaValley.org or call (760) 779-1877.

Information about The Golf Center at Palm Desert can be found at: MyRecreationDistrict.com or by calling 760-347-3484.

## The Desert Recreation District

The Desert Recreation District (DRD) provides quality recreation experiences to residents throughout the Greater Coachella Valley. DRD manages, maintains and assists in maintaining over 30 parks and recreation facilities; creates and delivers quality programs, services and classes; and, facilitates leisure opportunities through partnerships that support and encourage residents to engage in healthy lifestyles and wellness activities. The Golf Center at Palm Desert is operated by DRD. The First Tee of the Coachella Valley is a program offered by DRD. DRD is funded through tax dollars, special assessments, grants and nominal charges assigned to select classes and events. Over the last year, DRD hosted over 2,400 classes and programs and more than 100 special events.

## About The First Tee of the Coachella Valley

The First Tee of the Coachella Valley was established in 2008 by the Desert Recreation District and is one Chapter of a national/international non-profit youth initiative called The First Tee. The First Tee was created in 1997 by the World Golf Foundation to provide young people of all ethnic and economic backgrounds an opportunity to develop, through golf and character education, life-enhancing values such as honesty, integrity and sportsmanship. The First Tee Life Skills & Golf Experience is the unique component that sets The First Tee apart from many other junior golf programs. Since inception, The First Tee of the Coachella Valley has hosted more than 6,000 young people.

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