



PGA Best Practices: Player Development (PGA Magazine)

Saturday, December 30, 2017

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Inclusion in Youth Golf

David Zimmaro on the importance of inclusion in youth golf:

In 2017, our youth golfers experienced how children with disabilities play golf. Our younger students learned how to hit shots as an amputee, as someone who is blind and as a wheelchair-bound youth in simulated activities while our older students played in a tournament with visually-impaired children and their coaches from the Middle Atlantic Blind Golf Association. This was an enlightening experience for our youth, as many did not realize kids with different impairments played golf. From attending the PGA Merchandise Show in prior years, we have noticed a large market growth in golfing equipment and instructional tools for youth with disabilities. And, we see how our facility and youth could benefit from expanding our program.

David Zimmaro on the business impact of inclusion in youth golf:

Having just initiated this program, it is hard to project the business impact at our club. However, my goal for this program was not to increase revenue, but rather raise awareness for groups like the Middle Atlantic Blind Golf Association. As the participation grows for students of all abilities, we've noticed that the market to make the game more accessible has grown with it. This has opened up opportunities at the PGA Merchandise Show to feature teaching aids, learning programs, course accessibility, golf clinics, etc. which are growing exponentially. As the golf industry embraces inclusion in golf, the real benefactors remain the kids!