



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Junior Golf Program a Success! - *Columbia Basin Trust supports the Golden Golf Club, Golden, BC*

The Golden Golf Club gratefully acknowledges the financial support of Columbia Basin Trust (CBT) which delivers social, economic and environmental benefits to the residents of the Columbia Basin. CBT was instrumental in the development of the Golden Golf Club's junior program in 2011.

Golden's Junior Golf Program has finished for 2011 and program coordinator Russ Younger's comment was "What an exciting and successful year!" With 75 participants, ages five to 18 years, and instruction three times a week, the course was full with youth interested in having fun and learning a life-long skill.

"This year the program was fortunate enough to be granted funds from the Columbia Basin Trust's Community Initiatives Program," Younger said. "This allowed the volunteer-run program to purchase equipment that would have been impossible otherwise. These new golf clubs and other tools are designed specifically for the various ages and help volunteer coaches make a difficult sport really fun, interesting and easy to learn."

One part of the overall program uses special oversized plastic clubs and tennis balls, which enable beginners to immediately be successful with the golf swing. This equipment is called SNAG (Simply New At Golf) and can be used for all ages, including adults, and is popular internationally. SNAG equipment is excellent for use indoors in a gymnasium and Younger said he would like to introduce this concept to the school system as part of their physical education program.

Another part of the Community Initiatives Program grant went towards what Younger calls "Golferships", which allow applicants from families with limited funding to participate in the Junior Golf Program.

"I want to thank CBT, the Golden Golf Course, committee members, other partners and all of the volunteers who gave of their time to make this year's Junior Golf Program an overwhelming success," Younger said. "Without this support, this program would not happen." If you are interested in finding out how you can volunteer next year, call Russ Younger 250.439-9496. It is very rewarding and you don't even have to know how to play golf. Maybe you will learn to play and make use of another recreational outlet in Golden.

The mission of the Golden Golf Club is to provide a valued golf experience in harmony with nature.

For more information on the CBT support of the Golden Golf Club and Junior Golf Development, please contact Patrick Chury, General Manager, Golden Golf Club, 250.344.3646.

