

Juniors

News about champions
in the making

NICK NELSON

GOLF ASSOCIATION REACHING OUT WITH LESSONS

For the second year in a row The Multi-Cultural Golf Association of America is running a series of introductory golf lessons at Bayonet and Black Horse GC.

Each lesson lasts for over an hour and is held once a week for five consecutive weeks. The MGAA contacted several local youth organizations, including the Salinas Boys and Girls Club, the Girl Scouts and the Monterey Youth Center, and it did not take long to fill all of the available spots.

“The response that we get for golf is amazing when we come to the Monterey Peninsula,” said John David, president of the MGAA. “This year we will be introducing golf to about 300 local children which is about the same number that we taught last year.”

Every day this week a new series of lessons begins with about 60 children in each class. Several local golf professionals including Joe Peterson assistant professional at Laguna Seca Golf Ranch conduct the lessons.

“Helping out with this program is a lot of fun,” Peterson said. “I was fortunate to be involved with the lessons last year and it looks like we have an equally excited group of kids who want to learn how to play the game again this year.”

During the five-week series the children will learn the fundamentals of the game including etiquette, chipping, pitching and puffing, as well as watching videos presented by some of the top PGA Tour Golf Professionals who discuss the values of the game. It is during the closing time at every session that these clinics are different.

After the juice drink and snack time, the MGAA presents every child with a special gift, made possible by sponsorships provided by USA Network (television). Gifts include a golf cap, shirt, golf balls, towel and finally during the graduation week, a brand new set of clubs, complete with bag and headcovers.