

The Willowcreek Golf Academy at Atkinson Resort & Country Club



GOLF FOR EVERYONE

**Introducing golf to kids with disabilities
Peter Doherty & Wayne Swanson**

Our Goal

A group of approximately 15 students of various ages and abilities are gathered in a large gymnasium. They are standing in a loose circle around an instructor who is demonstrating a golf swing. The instructor is an older man with grey hair, wearing a black long-sleeved shirt and light-colored pants. He is bent over, holding a golf club. The students are dressed in casual clothing like t-shirts, hoodies, and jeans. Some are holding golf clubs. The gymnasium has a polished wooden floor with yellow and black markings. In the background, there are blue padded walls, a basketball hoop, and a large doorway leading to another room.

To introduce the game of golf to those students in the Hampstead and Timberlane School Districts who may feel it's not available to them; specifically students with disabilities.

Overview

The Willowcreek Golf Academy at Atkinson Resort & Country Club is a state of the art golf learning center. We have 12 heated hitting bays that are open year round with over 15k square feet of grass tees used during the summer months.

All of this allows us the opportunity to provide golf instruction to players of all ages and abilities, including those with disabilities.

What is Golf For Everyone?



Golf for Everyone is a program designed to provide kids with disabilities the chance to learn life skills through the game of golf. Golf teaches us patience, acceptance, discipline and much more. These kids would be provided a safe environment using equipment that is provided to them. Kids 13 and under could use our SNAG <http://snaggolf.com/> equipment, made specifically for kids who are learning the game and a great tool to use for kids with disabilities.

Cost

A group of children are practicing roller skating in a gymnasium. They are wearing roller skates and holding poles. The background features a blue padded wall with climbing holds and a wooden floor with court lines. The word 'Cost' is written in large white letters at the top of the image.

Our goal is to provide this program at no cost to students. I understand that if this becomes a school event there might be associated costs, but from the Academy's standpoint, there would be no charge for the facility or instruction. I would like to explore involving the PTA at various schools as well.

Schedule

Our hope is to offer a 4-6 week program that meets once a week in the spring. We can meet at WCGA or school. We would also like to include the Best Buddy program at Timberlane High School in this initiative. Hosting a golf outing with instruction on the course would be a great culminating activity for this group. Students could play two or three holes on our par 3 course before coming back to the Academy for a little instruction that includes games to make it fun for everyone.