



PRESS RELEASE

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2023 I GOT THIS GOLF INSTRUCTOR ACADEMY LAUNCH

I GOT THIS FOUNDATION ALIGNS WITH THE NATIONAL ALLIANCE FOR ACCESSIBLE GOLF TO DELIVER CONTINUING EDUCATION TO GOLF COACHES AND INSTRUCTORS



(Photo by Dee Ann Deaton)
I GOT THIS Head Golf Instructor Matt Acuff and
Amy Bockerstette

PHOENIX, AZ... The I GOT THIS Foundation announced the launch of their I GOT THIS Instructor Academy presented by the National Alliance for Accessible Golf.

I GOT THIS Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to providing opportunities in golf to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. It is the foundation's belief that by providing professional golf instruction in an environment conducive to learning, athletes will develop the skill set to become golfers, providing opportunities for social and athletic development. The academies work to connect Athletes with family members or friends as Playing Partners to offer families the opportunity to engage in healthy experiences together, building memories to last a lifetime.

"We are often approached by families asking, "How did Amy start playing golf? How do we start in golf?" commented I GOT THIS Foundation Executive Director Tracy Hupko. "The first question is easier than the second. Amy was fortunate to find instructors and coaches willing to learn and grow with her." Hupko went on to say, "That second question did not have an answer until recently. With the development of the I GOT THIS Golf Academy and teaching curriculum we have been able to package our methodology, developed by Amy's instructor, Matt Acuff, with the goal of sharing it with instructors across the country." The I GOT THIS Instructor Academy will be launched at the end of April 2023. The online training program consists of 7 training videos addressing a variety of lessons and tools for instructors to use when working with our constituency. Instructors who successfully complete the academy will be presented with a teaching certificate from the foundation and will be placed in a preferred instructor database available

through the National Alliance for Accessible Golf. “We are thrilled to have the National Alliance for Accessible Golf share in our vision and support our mission to develop more resources for families looking for their start.”

The National Alliance for Accessible Golf places emphasis on inclusive golf through advocacy, research, ongoing education and program support. “Our support of this initiative by the I GOT THIS Foundation represents a commitment from the National Alliance for Accessible Golf to the growth of participation in golf by individuals with all disabilities, from all walks of life, young or young at heart through education that creates coaches, programs and golfers,” commented Dave Barton, Executive Director for the National Alliance for Accessible Golf.

“The partnership is a big step in bringing awareness to the sport and it demonstrates to families that they have been heard and that more options are available for their loved ones,” said Hupko. For more information visit: <https://www.igotthis.foundation/igt-instructor-academy>

I GOT THIS Foundation, is a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit dedicated to providing golf instruction, playing opportunities, and organized events, for people with Down syndrome and other intellectual and developmental disabilities. The Foundation is committed to teaching people with Down syndrome and other intellectual disabilities to play golf, paving the way for them to compete in leagues with typical peers, join high school teams and even obtain athletic college scholarships. Golf is a sport where everyone plays the same game on the same field. Our vision is that people with intellectual disabilities become included in those games.

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National Alliance for Accessible Golf (Alliance) is the leader in inclusion— working to ensure the opportunity for all individuals with disabilities to play the game of golf. Formed in the summer of 2001, the National Alliance is represented by major golf, recreation and therapeutic organizations in the United States; organizations that provide services for people with disabilities; and others who advocate for the inclusion of people with disabilities into society.

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