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CONTACT:

Jonathan Crist, 480-348-7540

jcrist@commlinks.com



THE FIRST TEE OF PHOENIX OPENS PROGRAMMING SITE AT SAN MARCOS GOLF COURSE

CHANDLER, Ariz. — The First Tee of Phoenix – owned and operated by The Thunderbirds – announced today they will expand their junior golf programming locations to include San Marcos Golf Course in Chandler. The new location will help to meet increased demand at nearby Lone Tree Golf Club.

“As The First Tee of Phoenix memberships at Lone Tree were filling up, it became abundantly clear we needed to expand programming in Chandler,” said Kevin Terry, Executive Director of The First Tee of Phoenix. “We’re happy to welcome San Marcos Golf Course into The First Tee of Phoenix family, and extremely excited to extend our positive reach to the young people of the Southeast Valley.”

Open and free for the public, a grand opening ceremony is scheduled for Tuesday, April 5 at San Marcos Golf Course (100 N Dakota St, Chandler, AZ 85225) from 10 am – 12 pm. The event kicks off with a short welcome from Kevin Terry, followed by a few words from Michael Rus, General Manager of San Marcos Golf Course, a trick-shot golf show, a junior golf clinic, as well as lunch and refreshments for all in attendance.

“Expanding our reach into Chandler was a goal of ours from the beginning,” said Herman Lewkowitz, Board Chair for The First Tee of Phoenix. “The San Marcos facility will now allow our volunteers to positively impact more kids in the area in smaller groups.”

Annual membership to The First Tee of Phoenix is just \$60. The First Tee of Phoenix also accepts equipment and membership donations. Sign up now by visiting www.TheFirstTeePhoenix.org, or by calling (602) 305-7655.

About The First Tee of Phoenix

The First Tee of Phoenix is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization created by The Thunderbirds for the purpose of providing affordable access to golf and golf learning facilities for young people in Maricopa County from all walks of life, particularly those who otherwise might not have an opportunity to play. As one of the largest chapters in The First Tee Network impacting more than 100,000 youth annually, The First Tee of Phoenix offers classes, special monthly family events and tournaments as part of its programming. Now with 15 locations in the Valley – Talking Stick, Desert Mirage, Papago, Longbow, Lone Tree, San Marcos, Cave Creek, Encanto, Palo Verde, Augila, Palm Valley, Valley Golf Center,

Augusta Ranch, The Legacy Golf Club, TPC Scottsdale and San Marcos Golf Course— The First Tee of Phoenix programming sites serve as conveniently located places for participants to learn valuable life skills and character-building lessons through creative activities and instructional programs that incorporate the fundamental teachings of golf. For more information on The First Tee of Phoenix call 602-305-7655, or log on to their website at www.thefirstteephoenix.org.

About San Marcos Golf Course

The San Marcos Golf Course first opened in 1913 and was seeded with Bermuda grass the following year, making it the first green grass golf course in Arizona. The San Marcos Golf Course boasts a recent multi-million dollar renovation and now includes a brand new, state-of-the-art irrigation system that produces year-round premium playing conditions, expanded lakes, new tee boxes, reconstructed bunkers with new sand, and green enlargements on a handful of holes. The result is a strategically-diverse and visually stunning layout that makes for an enjoyable challenge for golfers of all playing abilities.

About The Thunderbirds

The Thunderbirds were founded in 1937 with the mission of promoting the Valley of the Sun through sports. Consisting of 55 “active” members and more than 250 “life” members, The Thunderbirds host the Waste Management Phoenix Open; the best-attended golf tournament in the world, which to date has raised more than \$100 million for Valley charities, including The First Tee of Phoenix. With its unmatched fan participation and rich history dating back more than 80 years, the Waste Management Phoenix Open has gained legendary status for being a unique stop on the PGA TOUR. For more information on The Thunderbirds or the Waste Management Phoenix Open visit www.wmphoenixopen.com.