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THE FIRST TEE OF PHOENIX NAMES KEVIN TERRY AS NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

PHOENIX, Ariz. – The First Tee of Phoenix recently announced the hiring of Kevin Terry as Executive Director. Terry will oversee all planning and day-to-day operations including programming featuring The First Tee’s nine core values and other golf learning activities. The position was previously held by Hugh Smith beginning in 2006.

"I am honored to have the opportunity to positively impact our nation’s youth," Terry said. "The First Tee of Phoenix goes far beyond teaching golf. Life skills like honesty, goal setting and interpersonal communication are essential to a child’s learning and I’m happy to be a part of that."

Terry enjoyed a wealth of success in the sports industry before coming to The First Tee of Phoenix. He began his career in sales for the Phoenix Suns before becoming the general manager of Arrowhead Country Club in Glendale, Arizona. In 2000, Terry served as the Vice President of Sales and Service for the Golden State Warriors where his efforts were recognized by the NBA as a best practice. Additionally, Terry served as a Vice President for the NBA’s Seattle Supersonics in 2005 and New Orleans Hornets from 2006-2008.

Terry also has experience in both Minor league and Major League baseball having served as the Vice President of Sales & Marketing for the Tampa Bay Devil Rays in 2005 and as President of BB&T Ballpark in Winston-Salem NC from 2008-2011.

Most recently, Terry functioned as the Chief Revenue Officer for the United States Bowling Congress, the national governing body for the sport of bowling. During his tenure, Terry was responsible for the sales and marketing of the USBC’s two national tournaments, The Open Championships and Women’s Championships. Together, the two are the largest amateur sporting events in the world with over 75,000 participants.

Terry is originally from Lawrence, Kansas and graduated from Emporia State University with a degree in business and marketing.

About The First Tee of Phoenix

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 14 locations in the Valley – Talking Stick, South Mountain, Desert Mirage, Papago, Falcon Dunes, Longbow, Lone Tree, Cave Creek, Encanto, Maryvale, Augila, Palm Valley and Augusta Ranch – 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.thefirstteeofphoenix.org.

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. To learn more about The Thunderbirds or Thunderbirds Charities visit <http://thunderbirdscharities.org/>