



Castle Rock
**PARKS &
RECREATION**
Monthly Report:
August 2019



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CRgov.com/ParksandRec



parcs@CRgov.com





Upcoming Events View up-to-date information and register for events at CRgov.com/Events.

- SEPTEMBER 14**
SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE MUSIC AT RED HAWK RIDGE
5:30 - 8:30 p.m.
Red Hawk Ridge Golf Course
- SEPTEMBER 15**
FARMERS MARKET
8 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Festival Park
- SEPTEMBER 20**
RUMBLE AT THE ROCK PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENT
7:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Deputy Zack S. Parrish III Memorial Park
- SEPTEMBER 20**
DANCE FITNESS GLOW PARTY
7:30 - 9:30 p.m.
The Amphitheater at Philip S. Miller Park
- SEPTEMBER 21**
RUMBLE AT THE ROCK PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENT
7:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Deputy Zack S. Parrish III Memorial Park

- SEPTEMBER 21**
PADDLE DAY
7:45 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Rueter-Hess Reservoir
- SEPTEMBER 22**
RUMBLE AT THE ROCK PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENT
7:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Deputy Zack S. Parrish III Memorial Park
- SEPTEMBER 22**
PADDLE DAY
7:45 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Rueter-Hess Reservoir
- SEPTEMBER 22**
FARMERS MARKET
8 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Festival Park
- SEPTEMBER 29**
FARMERS MARKET
8 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Festival Park

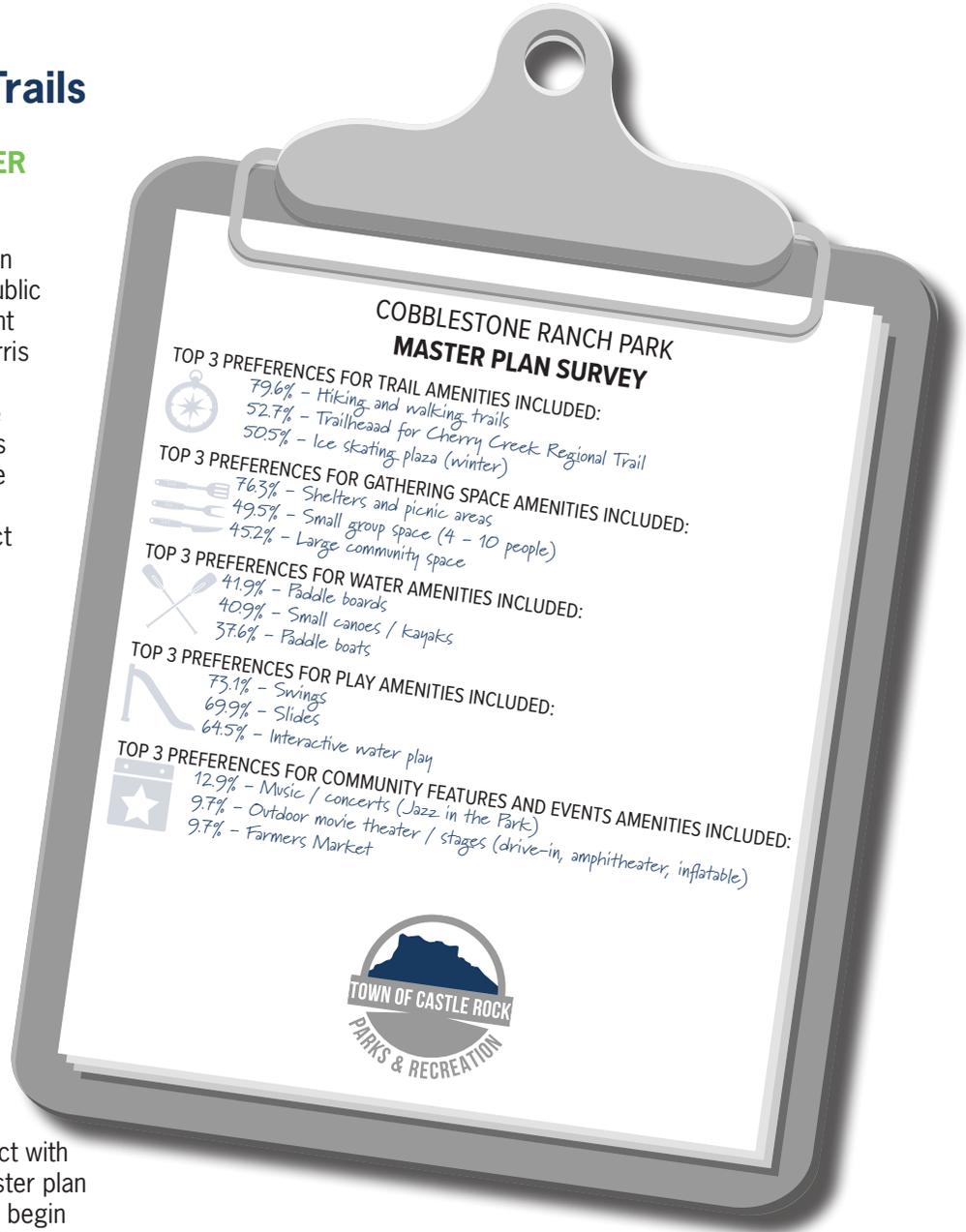


Parks, Open Space and Trails

COBBLESTONE RANCH PARK MASTER PLAN

In preparation for development of the Town's next neighborhood park, staff hosted an open house event on Tuesday, Aug. 7 to garner public feedback for the site's master plan. The event was well attended with over 100 people. Norris Design presented two concepts featuring contrasting amenity options for the 168-acre parcel. Attendees then split into small groups to provide input on the concepts and indicate amenity preferences. A survey was also posted to CRgov.com/futureparks to collect additional feedback from residents unable to attend the open house. Over 100 survey responses have been received to date. The online survey will close Sept. 15.

The future park site at Cobblestone Ranch was acquired to serve as a regional park for Castle Rock, much like Philip S. Miller Park or the Douglas County Fairgrounds. The 2020 budget includes \$4 million for the first phase of park development. Typically, \$4 million will fund roughly 10 acres of park amenities, including pavilions, an athletic field and playgrounds, similar to Bison Park in The Meadows or Matney Park in Castlewood Ranch. Funding for additional phases is not planned within the next 5 years; however, a master plan for the entire property is needed to ensure that the first phase does not conflict with potential future improvements. Once the master plan is complete, an additional public process will begin to design the first 10-acre phase for the funding currently available. Construction will commence in 2020.





EAST PLUM CREEK TRAIL SOUTHERN EXTENSION

The East Plum Creek Trail Southern Extension is almost complete! Please join the Town of Castle Rock Parks and Recreation Department in celebrating its grand opening at the rescheduled dedication event from 5-6 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 20.

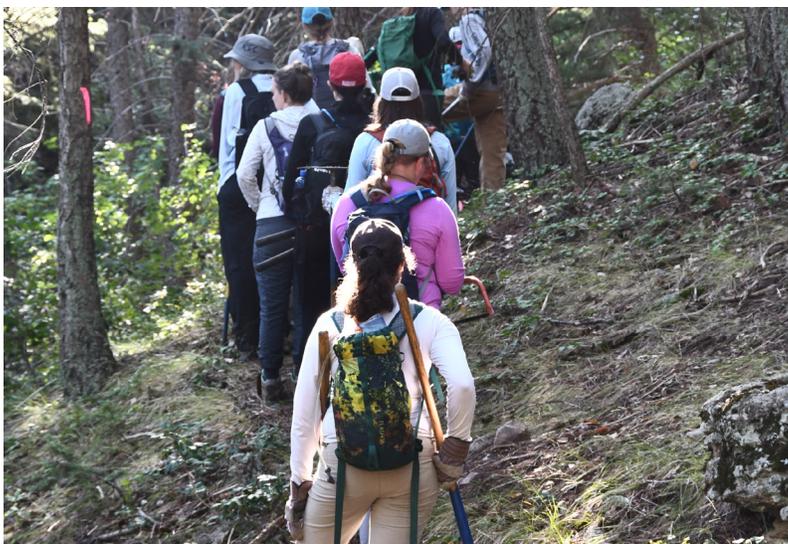
The project's grand opening, originally scheduled for Sept. 6, was postponed due to heavy rains that moved through the area. The severe storms resulted in areas damaged by heavy rainfall and runoff. Construction crews are continuing to work to regrade and fortify the damaged areas and ensure the trail is safe for future use. The new trail segment will open as soon as repairs are completed and conditions safe.

The dedication event will be held where the East Plum Creek Trail previously ended and the new extension begins, just west of Safeway off of South Perry Street. Enjoy complimentary food and giveaways, and cheer on the East Plum Creek Trail 10k and Art Fun 5k racers as they break the ceremonial ribbon to officially open the new trail. After the dedication, grab a Generation Wild geocaching treasure map for a fun and interactive way to explore the new 2-mile segment.

The southern extension of the East Plum Creek Trail was included as a Town priority in the Council-approved 2015 Parks and Recreation Master Plan. The current trail travels north to south 6 miles from Castle View High School to South Perry Street. The new addition will connect South Perry Street to Crystal Valley Parkway.

This project was made possible through grant support from Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO). GOCO invests a portion of annual Colorado Lottery revenues into competitive grants for trails, parks, wildlife, open spaces, river corridors and playgrounds. In October 2016, the Town was awarded with a \$1 million grant from GOCO through the Connect Initiative Program to fund approximately half of the project.





POST Partners

VOLUNTEERS FOR OUTDOOR COLORADO HOSTED SECOND ANNUAL WOMEN ONLY PROJECT! IN CASTLE ROCK WITH HUGE SUCCESS

On Saturday, Aug. 24, nearly 60 women built 1,000 feet of trail for Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado's (VOC) second annual Women Only Project! Led by fantastic women Crew Leaders, these volunteers spent a Saturday in Castle Rock's Gateway Mesa Open Space to continue building the Legacy Trail, which VOC started back in June and will continue to build in October. Positive comradery was shared despite the 90 degree weather.

The months-long project is a collaboration between the Town of Castle Rock, the Castle Rock Parks and Trails Foundation – which received a single anonymous \$10,000 donation for the project – and Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado, which is providing the volunteer workforce on three trail-building workdays.

The future hiking-only trail, named Legacy Trail, will connect to the existing Chuck's Loop Trail and will travel through a mature ponderosa pine and fir forest. Legacy Trail will be unique for Castle Rock in that it will meander under a dense tree canopy, through a wetland understory and will open up to views of unique rock formations.

Volunteers for Colorado (VOC) is a statewide organization that provides a volunteer workforce for outdoor stewardship projects including invasive species management, habitat restoration, recreational improvements and trail construction and maintenance.



Community Events

DEPUTY ZACK S. PARRISH III MEMORIAL PARK GRAND OPENING AND DEDICATION

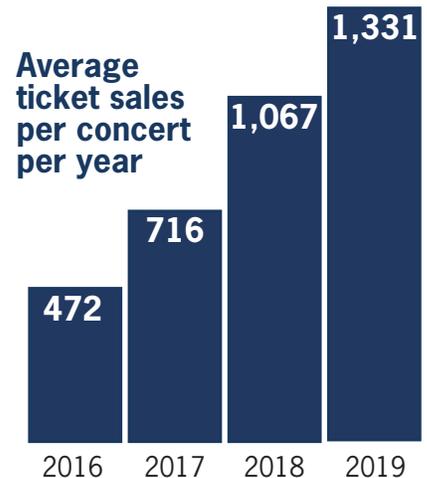
Thousands gathered to celebrate the grand opening and dedication of Deputy Zack S. Parrish III Memorial Park on Saturday, Aug. 17 from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. The Special Events and Parks Divisions collaborated with the Castle Rock Police Department to memorialize fallen officer Deputy Parrish, pay tribute to the public safety profession and to reveal the much anticipated amenities of the Town’s newest neighborhood park.

The park’s central memorial feature is impressive by day and phenomenal by night. A photoluminescent concrete path glows in the evening hours to light the walkway between the park and the memorial garden. The center blue photoluminescent line further accents the walkway and pays respect to all fallen officers. Three pillar light sculptures represent the ceremonial three-volley salute and cast a seven-point star-shaped magenta light, paying tribute to Deputy Parrish’s service to the Douglas County Sheriff’s Office. Three steel bands featuring the principles “excellence,” “dedication” and “service,” which illuminate in blue at dusk, represent the idea of strength and justice. Two memorial benches provide a place for rest and reflection.

In addition to highlighting two playground structures, multi-use fields, pickleball courts and zipline, the event signified the uplifting spirit and joys of childhood through hot air balloons. Although the weather halted the morning launch, the hot air balloon pilots delighted the crowds and cooked s’mores on the burners. Face painters, balloon art and giveaways made this a phenomenal event to kick off a park that will be a part of thousands of families’ cherished life moments for generations to come. The event concluded with the final splash mob of the summer season, organized by Castle Rock Police officers.

2019 SUMMER CONCERT SERIES CONCLUDES WITH INCREASED YEAR-OVER-YEAR ATTENDANCE

The Denver Pops rounded out the 2019 Summer Concert Series when scores of attendees flocked to the Amphitheater on Aug. 24. The Denver Pops Orchestra, along with Mike Masse and the Rubber Souls band, paid tribute to the Beatles with beloved covers of popular songs. The 2019 series also featured Everclear with special guest Tonic, Clay Walker with special guest Parmalee, The Guess Who with special guest Mitch Ryder and The Fray at Castle Rock Summer Jam. Castle Rock’s premier ticketed concert series has proven its popularity through year-over-year performance. The numbers of attendees has more than tripled from its inaugural year in 2016.



Aquatic Areas

- ✓ Drained and acid washed lap pool
- ✓ Repainted leisure pool play structure
- ✓ Performed annual slide maintenance
- ✓ Re-grouted hot tub and steam room
- ✓ Installed air conditioning unit in the leisure pool office

Selectorized Fitness Area

- ✓ Installed new rubber flooring to replace carpet
- ✓ Performed moisture mitigation work on floor
- ✓ Installed ADA accessible water fountain complete with a bottle filler

Panorama Hall

- ✓ Installed vinyl flooring to withstand high traffic and absorb sound
- ✓ Completed full repaint
- ✓ Repaired electrical

Cardio Area

- ✓ Completed full repaint
- ✓ Installed new flooring mats
- ✓ Fitness Studio
- ✓ Installed dimmable LED lighting

Cycling Studio

- ✓ Installed new flooring
- ✓ Completed full repaint
- ✓ Installed dimmable LED lighting
- ✓ Added media cabinet

Miscellaneous

- ✓ Deep cleaned windows and carpets
- ✓ Replaced north lobby furniture
- ✓ Completed parking lot repairs and restriping
- ✓ Placed Tykes Toyland wall graphics

Coming Soon This Fall

- ✓ New gymnasium floor
- ✓ New cardio and spin equipment

Recreation Facilities

RECREATION CENTER ANNUAL MAINTENANCE CLOSURE

Since it's traditionally the slowest month, the Recreation Center is closed for five days every August to implement major repairs and maintenance projects, as well as deep clean the facility. In addition to the specialized contracted work, 20 volunteers contributed 400 labor hours to help paint, clean and perform general tasks. Overall, 40 projects were completed, including those listed to the left.



Fitness Studio: Before



Fitness Studio: After



Aquatics

LEARN TO SWIM PROGRAM 2019 OVERVIEW

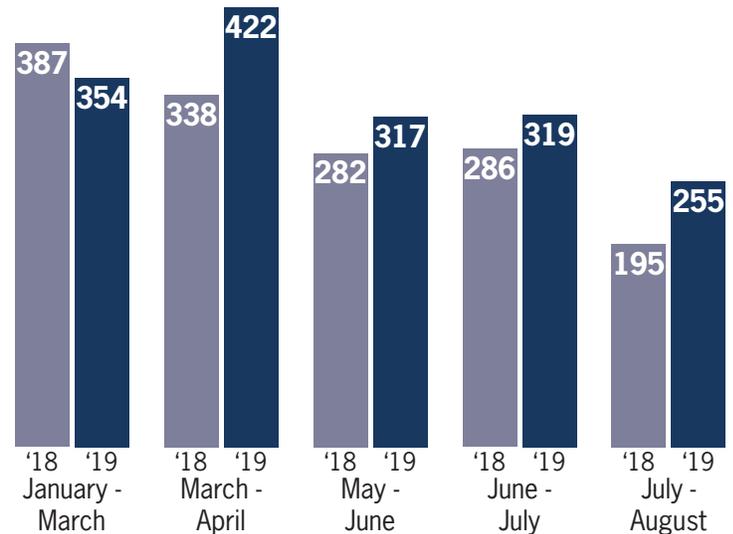
In 2019 to date, the Department's Learn to Swim program is experiencing record growth in participation over 2018. Active, busy and growing families rely upon convenient programming that offers safe, productive and affordable opportunities for all ages and abilities. Despite the fact that indoor and outdoor pool space remains at near maximum capacity, the Learn to Swim program has continued to grow by not just increasing the number of classes offered, but by offering a diversity of options to meet diverse community need. Other factors that have contributed to growth include an increased ease of registration through the implementation of a priority registration period - giving families the incentive to keep swimming session after session – and, the continued effort to develop talented and well-educated instructional staff through expanded training opportunities.

Hosting lessons at Butterfield Pool proved to be the ticket for busy families looking to get an abbreviated session of lessons. Due to the waitlist experienced in 2018, an additional instructor was added for each 2-week session and class times were adjusted to better utilize designated lap lane time. Despite the cooler June weather, the implemented changes resulted in 12 percent growth in participation over 2018.

Weekly private lessons continue to capture a growing percentage of registrants. The one-on-one instruction often allows for faster water skill development and convenience in busy family schedules that might not permit two lessons per week. In January 2019, private lesson swimmers made up 14 percent of Learn to Swim registrations. By August, nearly 22 percent of all enrolled students are private lesson swimmers, demonstrating strong retention and a positive program experience.

Offering class styles that fit a range of abilities in the swimming population continues to be essential. This past summer, the Division accumulated a waitlist of 35 special needs individuals looking for swim lessons in the one-on-one Adaptive Swim Lessons program. Training of staff was a primary goal to accommodate the rising number of students who may qualify for this program. With four new teachers prepared to begin this fall, staff anticipate being able to offer 25 slots to waitlisted children. In addition, the Special Olympics Swim Team and Competitive Swim Techniques programs have offered no less than 32 unique individuals the opportunity to advanced their swimming skills and aim for goals in competitive swimming in the last six months. Aquatics staff feel the excitement that these programs are generating and anticipate continued growth in 2020.

Participation Data: 2018 vs. 2019





Community Outreach

GOOGLE MY BUSINESS PROVES SUCCESSFUL IN REACHING CUSTOMERS

Google My Business is a multi-directional interface that allows business owners to take charge of how their business is displayed throughout all of Google's web platforms, as well as provide consumers the opportunity to give feedback regarding the business through a five star rating system, leave comments for public display and submit pictures. The service, operated by Google, allows business owners to manage the displayed information when someone searches a business, giving owners more control of what consumers see. It also allows for business owners to maintain correct information in various sections within their page, including business descriptions, hours, location and contact information. Page administrators are able to feature different photos, view key metrics related to online reputation, and receive real-time notifications of reviews with options to reply.

In addition to these basic features, more advanced features are available as well. Booking appointments can be done through Google My Business for applicable businesses. Google Posts can be made, which, similar to social media posts, allow businesses to update customers about company events or other announcements. Google Ads allow businesses to pay to run advertisements in search results.

Starting back in 2016, the Parks and Recreation Department set up Google My Business pages for the Miller Activity Complex, Philip S. Miller Park and Red Hawk Ridge, and most recently, Deputy Zack S. Parrish III Memorial Park. The department utilizes basic features of each page, and hopes to begin tackling the more advanced features mentioned above in 2020. Looking forward, the department plans to set up, or take over ownership of, pages for all department-managed facilities, including parks and pools. Highlights from each of the current pages are below.





Red Hawk Ridge

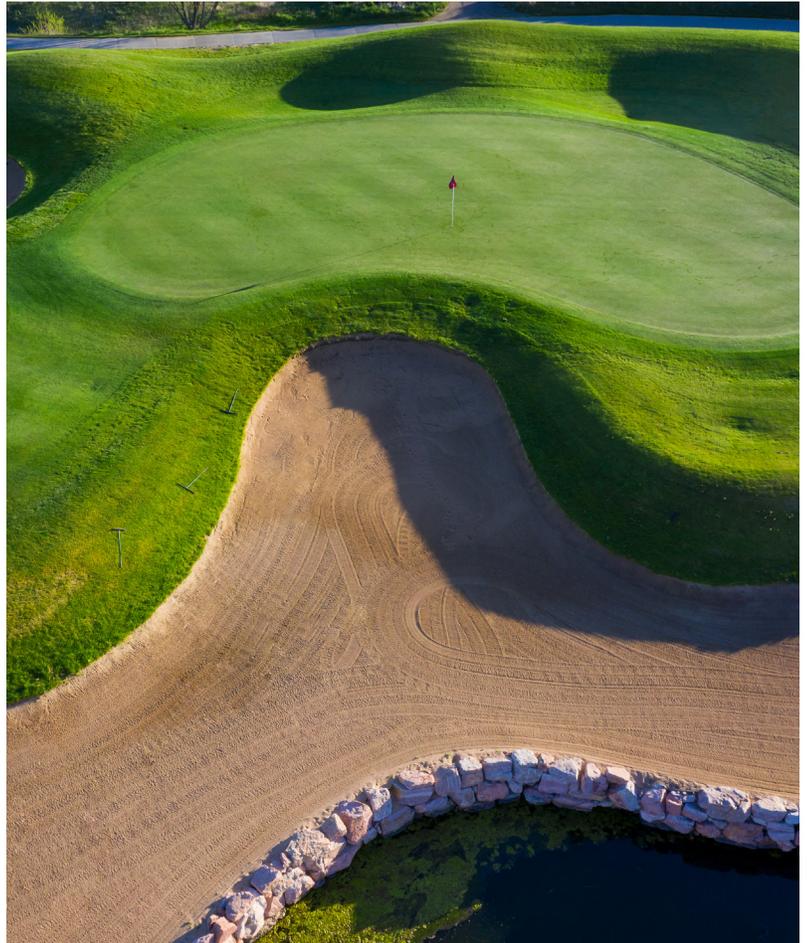
JUNIOR GOLF ACADEMY CLASSES

In August, the Junior Golf Academy program at Red Hawk Ridge wrapped up for the 2019 season. The academy had good participation with 233 total students. Participation was slightly up over 2018, but overall the statistics have been steady for the past three seasons. In 2014, the professional staff introduced SNAG (Starting New at Golf) as a way to make the introduction to golf more fun for the younger age groups. In 2016, the professional staff added a July class schedule which increased participation by nearly 55 percent and those numbers have held steady since then.

At the end of the season, all participants were asked to complete a survey. The results were very favorable in all areas. In particular, the professional staff received an “excellent” rating on 95 percent of the responses and 100 percent of those surveyed indicated that they would recommend the Junior Golf Academy to a friend.

JUNIOR GOLF LEAGUES

The Junior Golf Leagues continued to be very popular in Castle Rock. Due to the fact that the golf course can only offer a limited number of Junior League tee times each year, a lottery is used to determine season participation. In 2018, the professional staff offered an additional 9-hole league schedule, which allowed more youth golfers to participate. In addition, professional staff continue to work on creative ways to increase participation in all leagues and total participation numbers have grown as a result. The Junior Leagues are important in developing youth golfers who wish to pursue competitive golf in middle school years and beyond. The ultimate goal is to create golfers who have a dedication to play throughout life and to grow the game of golf.



“Great program! My 12 year old son loved the opportunity to play golf on an actual course with no pressure. Chris is great with the boys and made it fun. I really hope to be a part of it again next year!”

“Very professional staff, very well organized and the most important thing was that Chris made all events fun and enjoyable for the kids participating at each event. Your golf course employees make everything an awesome experience. Such an amazing staff. We'll run program and great experience for the kiddos to learn more about the game and continue to better themselves on and off the golf course.”