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Young golfers, mentors join in Reality Check

FOR FLORIDA TODAY

Kids don't get to play golf all too often and for one day this summer the Reality Check Foundation wants to change that.

From 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Aug. 21, the 3rd annual Reality Check Foundation Golf Outing will be at Viera East Golf Club, 2300 Clubhouse Drive, Viera.

The fun-filled event is geared for kids ages 11 to 18 and will give them the opportunity to play golf with an adult mentor.

The golf outing is being coordinated by Reality Check founder Larry Lawton.

"It's a great event to show kids that there is more to do than just hang out on the streets," Lawton said.

"No golf experience is necessary. It's meant to be fun and to expose kids to an activity they may not have tried otherwise, showing them that they can enjoy things without getting into trouble."

Lawton will give a 20-minute inspirational speech and will visit each group for one-on-one sessions during the tournament.

In all, 21 adult mentors will pair up with 63 kids for a nine-hole best ball scramble, including a putting contest, longest drive contest and closest to the pin contest.

Viera East golf professional Jeff Turner will kick off the event with a free golf clinic for the kids.

Lawton said business sponsorships are needed to keep the cost free for the kids or the mentors to enjoy the day of golf including a banquet and awards ceremony.

Individuals and businesses wanting to make donations and offer sponsorships can call Reality Check at 327-2921 or visit info@realityhcheckprogram.org.

The Reality Check Foundation is a 501(C)(3) US public charity formed to help educate teens and young adults to the consequences of bad choices.

It was founded by ex-con Lawton who operates the Reality Check Program in helping teens and young adults to stay out of trouble and avoid criminal activity.