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Part of Golfbreaks.com

## PRESS RELEASE

### Summer project by Teeofftimes.co.uk is a winner for Golf Foundation youngsters

*Teeofftimes.co.uk's* fundraising project to support the Golf Foundation has finished for the year, having raised an excellent £8,818.

The leading tee time booking provider called on its strong golf club customer network to back the Golf Foundation's HSBC Golf Roots programme throughout the year.

Selected golf groups and independent golf clubs were then asked by the Golf Foundation to donate funds raised from the sale of up to four golf course green fees, collected by the *Teeofftimes.co.uk* team. Golf groups De Vere Hotels & Resorts, Mytime Active and Macdonald Hotels & Resorts were early supporters.

Richard Barker, General Manager of *Teeofftimes.co.uk*, said: "We would like to offer a huge thank you to the golf clubs and club groups who happily took part in this project to help the Golf Foundation. Knowing these clubs well we felt they would get behind helping more young people into golf and that's exactly what they have done. The support from De Vere Hotels & Resorts, Mytime Active and Macdonald Hotels & Resorts was exceptional.

"For *Teeofftimes.co.uk*, a company that is working with key partners in providing playing opportunities for all golfers, we wanted to put something back into the game by supporting the Golf Foundation in this way."

Regular participation at club level is a key part of the HSBC Golf Roots strategy, which is supported by all of the major golfing bodies of England, Scotland and Wales. For example, with support from England Golf and the Professional Golfers' Association, official figures show that in the last year HSBC Golf Roots has created 2,500 new junior members in our clubs.

During The Open Championship at Royal Liverpool GC, the Golf Foundation team persuaded both Richard Barker and colleague Steve Hemsworth, Managing Director of parent company Golfbreaks.com, to take part in a Tri-Golf challenge against a group of ultra-keen youngsters – typical of the very children this project is supporting (see picture).

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Richard Barker added: "What better way to celebrate the project than learning about where the funds raised will be spent, including Tri-Golf and StreetGolf, which for many young people will be the first experience of any type of golf. Thanks to the great support of all the clubs involved, we have all helped the Golf Foundation with its strategy to encourage more young people into our golf clubs, which is very exciting."

Brendon Pyle, Chief Executive of the Golf Foundation, said: "This charity was delighted when *Teeofftimes.co.uk* offered to help us raise funds in this way, earlier in the year. Richard and his team have shown great enthusiasm and commitment in backing our HSBC Golf Roots programme and this fundraising success clearly demonstrates the strong relationships *Teeofftimes.co.uk* has with its customers, the golf clubs and club groups who have been fantastic in their support of this project."

\* Golf clubs wishing to find out more about the services of *Teeofftimes.co.uk* can contact General Manager Richard Barker on 07793 775207, or email RBarker@teeofftimes.co.uk.

..... PICTURE CAPTION FOR ATTACHED IMAGE: *Teeofftimes.co.uk* in a Tri-Golf challenge with youngsters at The Open. Adults from left: Steve Hemsworth, MD of Golfbreaks.com, Richard Barker and Golf Foundation Chairman Charles Harrison

..... \* To learn more about the Golf Foundation see [www.golf-foundation.org](http://www.golf-foundation.org) \* For media information on the Golf Foundation call Ben Evans on 01747 820384 or 07789 722853.

Notes for editors:

\* The Golf Foundation is a British Isles charity dedicated to bringing more young people into the sport.

\* The Golf Foundation is committed to developing the sport at the junior level by supporting the implementation of national development plans and by working in partnership with the golfing bodies in England, Wales and Scotland.

\* The Golf Foundation supports youngsters from many different backgrounds through its national programme, HSBC Golf Roots. To achieve its objectives, the charity has a fundraising target of £3 million per year. HSBC Golf Roots is already supported by The R&A, headline sponsor HSBC, The European Tour, the Professional Golfers' Association, the Ryder Cup Committee and Trust, England Golf, Sport England and the British Golf Industry Association's 'Grow Golf' Fund.