

Free hit for juniors

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WAGGA'S junior golfers will be a "fairway" in front of other youngsters after professional Scott Lennox introduces a membership offer believed to be an Australian first.

Scott will put his passion for golf before his business by providing free yearly membership to the Wagga City Golf Club to anyone between the ages of six and 17.

"This is not only for those in that age group who live in Wagga, but anywhere in Australia," Scott said.

"That means if cousins or friends visit Wagga during the school holidays, they will be able to come out and play for nothing."

The golf club located at Pomingalarna currently has 40 members in the age bracket, with the deal representing a saving of \$60 each.

"Obviously the idea is to get more kids out playing golf and enjoying both the fitness and social aspects of the game," Scott said.

Scott decided to bring the concept to Australia after visiting the United States earlier in the year. "I was told of the idea when I went to Torrey Pines in San Diego for 10 days and I thought it would work well here," he said.

Emerging golf star Nathan Walsh agrees.

"For a city the size of Wagga, there are not that many junior golfers around," the 15-year-old said.

"But the free membership will encourage a few more of them to get out here and try it, and once they are bitten by the golfing bug they will love it."

The year 10 June High School student has trimmed his handicap to seven and has aspirations of becoming a golf professional.

"As soon as I get out of school it's golf for me until dark," he said.

"You need a lot of patience and to be prepared to work hard.

"What turns some kids off is they cannot come out and be an instant star, but they have to realise it doesn't happen straight away."

Scott is hoping to entice more youngsters to the course by setting up a games room at the clubhouse and providing clubs as cheap as \$5.

"It won't be expensive to get involved and we will have a trading barrel for the kids to upgrade their clubs as they progress," Scott said. "The little ones start out using big clubs and tennis balls, while there are seven levels on our learn to play programs."

Form more information, juniors, parents and teachers can call Scott on 6931 6275.

