


Beverley Park to see extraordinary talents



John Veage

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 What disability: Andrew Zantiotis lines up a putt under the watchful eye of Scott Longmuir at Beverley Park. Picture: John Veage

Some of NSW's best amputee golfers will be taking part in a tournament on Friday, March 5 at Beverly Park golf club, to support Nova Employment's drive to create jobs for people with disabilities.

The event is being staged for Nova Employment by Scott Longmuir from Diverse Talent Management. They said they are a talent management business that focuses on people with extraordinary talents who also have disabilities.

"Some of NSW's best amputee golfers certainly fit this category, they are quite extraordinary and have very profound stories to tell about their life journeys, which they will share as part of the day," Longmuir said.

"This is a golf day with a difference; you get to enjoy a game of golf on the beautiful Beverley Park golf course and play with some absolutely amazing amputee golfers."

One of the amputee golfers assisting is Andrew Zantiotis; Andrew is also a Nova Employment client who supports his next career move.

Andrew played first-grade cricket for St George and his journey to becoming an amputee golfer started when he was involved in a car accident in April 2001.

After several operations, he was told by doctors advising him he could continue with more operations and face the prospect of being in hospital for years to come or get a prosthetic limb, which meant he would be out of hospital in three months.

Andrew said he chose the Prosthetic option, but it wasn't fitted for six months and he went into depression.

"Then I met Geoff Nicholas, who was the best amputee golfer in the world.

"Geoff was incredible, teaching me to play golf and then encouraged me to take part in the World Amputee Golf Championship at the Lakes Golf course in NSW.

"I didn't play that well, but I loved it and I persisted and kept improving.

"Since then, I have won a few events like the NSW Open, which I have won twice; I have also come fifth three years in a row at the Australian Open.

"Not only has the golf given me direction, I have travelled the world and met some of the best people you could hope to meet, all thanks to Geoff for supporting me when I was down.

"I hope to use what I have learnt over my journey to help people; I'd like to work with youth to help them build resilience."

Nova Employment CEO Martin Wren said he was ecstatic about the event's prospects, creating jobs for their candidates and encouraging prospective businesses to get involved and contact Nova.

He also said if you don't want to play golf, you can still join for lunch to hear from the fantastic golfers and other speakers.

Please contact Scott Longmuir on 0430 700 672 or scott.longmuir@bigpond.com to book a hole sponsorship or to play on the day.