



May 7, 2010

Dear Fellow Member,

My name is Joe Taggert and I am a member of Nashville Golf & Athletic Club as well as Director of The Vinny, Vince Gill's Pro-Celebrity-Am-Junior Golf Invitational. I have also been a golf professional for 45 years and associated with private clubs all of my life. I tell you this because I understand the frustration and inconvenience an event like The Vinny has on some of you, especially in a situation like the one affecting thousands of people in Middle Tennessee right now.

Vince Gill has given his time to so many worth while causes in Tennessee that they are far too numerous to count and most of which we never even hear about. I was called on Monday to see if Vince would host a telethon for flood victims and he never hesitated saying yes and did so last night. It raised \$1.7 million for Middle Tennesseans.

The Vinny scheduled for May 15-17 is just one of many things to be affected the flooding. It was to be held at The Golf Club of Tennessee, but they had massive damage and will be closed for 1-2 months. Our only options were to find a course or to cancel the event. The logistics of a postponement were not possible.

Although the people who participate in the The Vinny have a great time, the heart and soul of this tournament is the kids. The money raised helps literally thousands of kids every year all across the state of Tennessee. The majority of the kids affected by The Vinny are at need kids, blind golfers, Special Olympians, and inner city youth. Last year we had over 275 Tennessee kids in college on golf scholarships, most of whom would never have had that opportunity were it not for the programs The Vinny provides. We are not just about teaching some kids to play golf, but most of our programs involved life skills to build confidence, integrity, promote education, self discipline, honesty and character. These life skills combined with golf are giving these kids a great number of opportunities that otherwise would not have been available to them.

An event like The Vinny has a limited life span, most last about 6-8 years. This will be the 18th Vinny which is phenomenal. To cancel it would probably ring it's death bell and we felt like it is far too important to the children of Tennessee to continue if at all possible. I hope and pray that you, the members, understand that to do this event is not about greed or selfishness from anyone, but it is about helping kids.

Vince and I, along with the 182 amateurs, tour professionals, celebrities and juniors apologize for interfering with your golf and hope and pray that you all understand and support our effort.

Sincerely,

Joe Taggert