

NEWS RELEASE



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City Parks and Recreation Department kicks off fall sports season with FootGolf

Anniston City Parks and Recreation Department will literally kick off their fall youth soccer season with a test course of FootGolf at 9 a.m. on Saturday, Sept. 13 near the soccer complex located at Ft. McClellan.

City officials will introduce the sport to an expected 400 fall youth soccer participants at the three-hole test course through a pilot program they hope will grow in the city.

"Were introducing a new sport not only to the city of Anniston but to the state of Alabama," said Anniston City Councilman Jay Jenkins.

FootGolf is slowly making its way into the U.S. from Europe and South America, and Anniston has officially become the first market in Alabama to receive formal certification in the sport.



The aptly named sport of FootGolf involves a combination of soccer and golf, and is played under the traditional rules of golf on a traditional golf course.

Jenkins said the genesis of the idea of bringing the sport to Anniston came out of the city's Parks and Recreation Department, and has received a large amount of support from its director Steven Folks, as well as Athletic Director Darren Spruill and Director of Golf Operations Kenny Szuch.

The City's Parks and Recreation Department hopes that this partnership with the American FootGolf League will ignite some interest within the community while also making good use of the city's municipal golf course.

Jenkins, who also coaches high school soccer at the Donaho School, believes that FootGolf in Anniston will provide unique opportunities for local students.

“It will give our kids who are not necessarily playing Club ball an opportunity to improve their skills during the off season,” Jenkins said. “I hope a lot of our kids who are not playing high school sports now will be interested in this. It’s a good tool that will help all of our soccer programs grow.”

The FootGolf test course has a par-3, par-4, and par-5 hole and is between 65 and 160 yards; it will remain open to the public throughout the fall season during designated hours.

For more information about the American FootGolf League, visit www.afgl.us.

The City of Anniston

Located in the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains in northeast Alabama, Anniston sits as the county seat for Calhoun County and a regional hub for legal, medical, and banking services. Home to the bronze-level mountain bike ride center of Coldwater Mountain, Anniston offers a wide range of recreational options such as biking the Chief Ladiga Trail or visiting the Anniston Museum of Natural History. For more information about the City of Anniston, visit anniston.al.gov.