

Kelly Gibson Junior Golf Tour event held at Money Hill

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By Mike Pervel St. Tammany News

The Kelly Gibson Junior Golf Tour conducted an event June 28 at the Money Hill Golf and Country Club in Abita Springs, which featured 65 participants.

Mandeville's Pair Noibanchong captured the girls' 18-22 age category crown firing an even par 72 edging Slidell's Jennifer Nguyen (74) in a competitive match.

Metairie's Brooke Braun (75) came in third. Slidell's Bridget Landry and Harvey's Pearlissa Harris (80) tied for fourth place followed by Covington's Lauren Barattini (93).

Noibanchong, a UNO signee, posted an eagle on the par 5, 380-yard 11th hole.

"I hit a seven iron from about 130 yards away. I then made about a 20-foot putt for eagle," Noibanchong said. Noibanchong, who had three birdies on the day to go with her eagle, talked about winning.

"It felt good to win and it is a great confidence booster for me. My short game and my putting really helped me," Noibanchong added.

In other girls' competition, New Orleans' Karrington Knight (47) captured the 12-13 year-old category defeating New Orleans' Camille Simon (51). Other local players included: Slidell's Catherine Landry (60) and Slidell's Josie Headrick (64).

In the girls 14-15 age group, Harvey's Angelica Harris (75) edged Abita Springs' Savannah Ennis (77) in a competitive match, while Madisonville's Michaela Bryan (98) finished in third place.

In the boys' action, Metairie's Jay Rowell (39) won the boys' 9-11 age category as he defeated Mandeville's Chris Wilson (45) followed by Marrero's Damon Gibson (46). Other local finishers included: Slidell's Bryce Denley (60) and Mandeville's Joshua Rumsey (66).

Turning to the boys' 12-13 age group, Ponchatoula's Justin Caldwell (78) edged Covington's Raymond Poche (80) followed by Larose's Kyle Estay (80). Other local competitors included: Slidell's Zachary Barrios (91), Madisonville's Chase Noel (94), Covington's Tanner Ledet (95) and Slidell's Logan Kastner (102).

Brad White, the executive director of the Kelly Gibson Foundation, shared his thoughts on the Money Hill tournament.

"It was a great day with a very good turnout and the golf course was in fantastic shape. We want to congratulate all the winners on their performances," White said. White thanked Stephen Christopher, PGA general manager at Money Hill and teaching professional Rob Noel for their help to put on the tournament and their ongoing support of junior golf.