

The Scorecard

VOLUME 1 | ISSUE 32



A Newsletter from First Tee – Roanoke Valley

FALL 2022

Pure Insurance Impacting First Tee

Our FIRST Trip to Pebble

Written by: Amy Crawford



Taylor Davis, a junior at Salem High School and Nick Crawford, a junior at Northside High School represented Roanoke in the field of 78 juniors selected for the PGA Tour Champions 2022 Pure Insurance Impacting First Tee. In its 19th year, First Tee – Roanoke Valley has proudly sent 19 participants to Pebble to experience the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to meet, play and be mentored by the PGATOUR Champions players and amateurs involved.

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11th Annual Parent-Child Tournament was AWESOME!

Thanks to everyone's support, our Parent-Child Tournament continues to grow! This year, our tournament sold out in mid-August. Thanks to the vision of Meg Wise and Miller Baber who wanted to create a family tournament for our Valley, the Parent-Child Tournament is now the largest annual fundraising event for First Tee – Roanoke Valley.

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THANK YOU
to all of our
generous sponsors!



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First Tee – Roanoke Valley is a project of The Scott Robertson Memorial Junior Golf Academy, a 501c3 not-for-profit organization. Our federal tax identification number is 20-1237999

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To request a schedule, volunteer or make a donation, please call 563.1TEE (1833).

Stay Informed!

Sign up for the monthly email newsletter from First Tee – Roanoke Valley by either visiting our website www.firstteeroanokevalley.org or send an email to: jblackwood@firstteeroanokevalley.org

Making the Turn

Written by: Bill Rader, PGA

Experience is the best teacher...especially when it comes to youth. I think that's why, today more than ever, parents are having their young ones try it all. Whether its golf, baseball, softball, piano, violin, or chess, there is something to be gained for a child's development - even at the sacrifice of calendars and parental sanity!

First Tee has always focused on youth and character development as its mission. The curriculum model shapes the participants experience by creating a fun and safe learning environment. By using core values as the foundation of the life skills lessons, children are given the tools to grow and build their character through on and off course experiences led by trained caring adults and mentors.

In 2023, all First Tee chapters will move to an age-based program that will be centered on First Tee's commitment to **Being a Game Changer**. The five Key Commitments are life skills we want our participants to adopt and pursue as they develop good character.

Pursuing Goals

Create excitement to grow and learn, don't be afraid to fail, learn from achievements and setbacks.

Growing Through Challenge

Discover strength, develop resilience, dig deep when things get tough.

Collaborating with Others

Respect others' opinions even when they are different than mine, show courtesy and kindness for others.

Building Positive Self-Identity

Find self-confidence, discover capabilities, feel safe to be one's own self.

Using Good Judgment

Respect the rules, be honest with one's self and others, have courage to do what's right.

With these exciting curriculum changes, the most noticeable one is how the classes are labeled. Class names such as PLAYer, Par, Birdie and Eagle will be replaced with age groups 7-9, 10-11, 12-13, and 14 & up. This will make it much easier for parents sign their child up for the correct class.

First Tee's commitment to provide programs that build character and instill life-enhancing values through the game of golf remains unchanged.

ENABLES KIDS TO BUILD THE STRENGTH OF CHARACTER THAT EMPOWERS THEM THROUGH A LIFETIME OF NEW CHALLENGES

Take on the Challenge!

With your help, we can earn a \$32,500 matching grant this year.



Make your gift today so we can continue to teach kids golf and life lessons –such as perseverance and respect– that they can use, both on and off the course. A special thank you! to all who support our programs, mission and kids.

The Charles Schwab Challenge Grant is happening right now at First Tee – Roanoke Valley. Our chapter's ability to receive this matching gift is tied directly to your support! With your help, we met last year's challenge which gives us the chance to earn even more this year.

Your donation to First Tee–Roanoke Valley allows us to provide an environment where kids feel excited to learn, safe to try and better equipped for whatever comes their way next. Every dollar given to support First Tee – Roanoke Valley by December 31, 2022 counts towards our eligibility for the Schwab Challenge Grant – regardless of the size of your donation.

Make your gift today so we can continue programs that teach kids golf and lifeskills that they can use on **and** off the course.

To donate, please visit firstteeroanokevalley.org or return the enclosed envelope.

First Tee - Building Game Changers



Like us on Facebook!

@firstteeroanokevalley

Pure Insurance Impacting First Tee – *Continued*



Amy Crawford, Nick's mother, kindly shared her thoughts on the experience in the letter below. Enjoy!

It is fitting that the First Tee provided our family with so many FIRSTS this fall. Nick found out in July 2022 that he was selected to play in the PURE Insurance Golf Championship Impacting First Tee. This meant he would need to travel to California to play golf at Pebble Beach and Spyglass Hill.

This would be Nick's FIRST time flying. When asked if he was nervous about the tournament, he responded, "not right now, I'm just nervous about flying." The next FIRST for all three of us was to visit the state of California. What an amazing place! We had beautiful weather, wonderful accommodations, and met with the nicest people. The most amazing FIRST was the golf. For a seventeen-year-old young man to have the opportunity to practice and play at such prestigious golf venues was a once in a lifetime experience. First Tee, PGATOUR Champions, Pure Insurance and

all the organizations involved treated these young golfers and their chaperones like royalty. The players left with a suitcase full of swag, including a new Taylor Made golf bag. They were fed well and often.

They were given opportunities to practice at the tournament facilities and play practice rounds at both Pebble and SpyGlass. Nick had his FIRST opportunity to play with a professional golfer.



Steve Jones, 1996 US Open Champion, talked with him, guided him, and treated him with such respect. The amateur golfers that Nick played with were representatives of the corporate sponsors of the tournament. It was clear they had a love of golf and working with young adults. They made the round fun and comfortable for Nick. Another FIRST embodies what First Tee is all about. Nick made new friends from all over the United States. He was able to make connections and compare experiences with other teenagers involved in First Tee programs. He has kept in touch with these friends through social media after returning home.

Our family would like to thank the First Tee - Roanoke Valley for making this experience possible. We appreciate the time you have put into helping Nick become a well-rounded golfer and young man.



Ole Monterey Golf Club has joined Youth On Course, offering \$3 - \$5 rates for youth to play golf on specific days/times. Thanks to a partnership with VSGA, juniors in Virginia ages 6-18 can sign up for a Youth on Course memberships. www.youthoncourse.org/join

ENABLES KIDS TO BUILD THE STRENGTH OF CHARACTER THAT EMPOWERS THEM THROUGH A LIFETIME OF NEW CHALLENGES

11th Anniversary Parent-Child Tournament was AWESOME! – *Continued*



Our first event eleven years ago had a field of 76 teams – and this year we filled the course for two days straight with 116 teams with hundreds of players ranging in ages from 6 - 85!

No matter your age, few things are more special than one-on-one time with your parent or loved ones on the golf course. We enjoy seeing how this tournament proves that to be the case for so many families year after year.



We are thrilled that 116 teams played – and lots of teams means lots of winners! Our tournament is broken into flights based on ability, so everyone had a chance at taking home prizes. Final scores can be found on our website: www.firstteeroanokevalley.org.

In addition to the field, the Parent-Child tournament is a success because of our dedicated volunteers and generous sponsors – all who stepped up in a big way this year! We greatly appreciate our 2022 **Presenting Sponsor**: Carilion Children's and our **Eagle Sponsors**: Brookside Par 3, Brown Edwards and

Company, Carter Machinery, Fishwick Family, Marsh & McLennan Agency and Pinnacle Bank along with many others who helped us raise over to \$25,000 for First Tee - Roanoke Valley. That money will go directly towards helping young people in the Roanoke Valley learn about golf and the valuable life skills that accompany the game.

Please save the weekend of September 16th, 2023 for our 12th annual event! You don't want to miss it! Look for special Early Bird pricing in Spring 2023.



2022 PGA Jr. League AllStars Finish 4th in Mid-Atlantic Section



During the summer, the Roanoke area PGA Junior League fielded four teams that included almost 50 players; three teams were hosted by First Tee and one was hosted by Blacksburg Country. After a great season, ten area players were selected for the Roanoke Valley All-Star Team. The All-Stars played their first match at The Dominion Club in Glen Allen, VA. As a team, they shot a score of 9 under par (96) to advance to the MAPGA Section Championship! After competing in the 2-day event at the University of Maryland Golf Course, the Roanoke Valley team finished 4th overall in the Mid-Atlantic Section and 1 shot shy of qualifying for the Regional Championship. What an incredible end to a great season!

Congratulations our 2022 All Stars: Mike Bateman, Angelina Boonan, Mason Gilliland, Carder Gilreath, Zachary Kellam, Jake Masinter, Mason Palmer, Liam Smith, Ryland Stump, Erza Yalung

We greatly appreciate Roanoke Country Club and Blacksburg Country Club for generously sharing their facilities for another successful season!



From the Roanoke Valley PGA Junior League to the podium at The Metro



Thank you to Brookside Par 3 for donating the proceeds from the annual Archie Goode Tournament to First Tee!

ENABLES KIDS TO BUILD THE STRENGTH OF CHARACTER THAT EMPOWERS THEM THROUGH A LIFETIME OF NEW CHALLENGES



In the FIRST year, we offered 15 Junior Open and Mini-Junior Open events from April - November; over 300 rounds were played at area courses. Thank you to ALL the families who participated. Thank you Ashley Plantation, Roanoke Country Club, Hidden Valley CC, Hunting Hills CC, Hanging Rock, Ole Monterey, Copper Cove and Blacksburg CC for hosting us this year! Look for the 2023 Junior Open Series schedule to be posted on our website in February.



FIRST TEE ROANOKE VALLEY



Thank you Gabby Steiner, Ballyhack Golf Club & Dormie Network along with the LPGA Foundation and USGA for hosting a spectacular Girls Golf Day on October 16th.



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Save the Date 2023!



*Scott Robertson
Memorial*

Scott Robertson Memorial
May 19 – 21, 2023



Parent Child Tournament
September 16 and 17, 2023



Red, White and Blue Invitational
November 7, 2023

First Tee – Roanoke Valley Player Development Program – Winter 2023

Class	Day	Date	Time	Cost
**Players will be grouped according to age / skill level	Monday	January 9 - February 13	TBD	\$100
**Each group will have the same day /time slot each week	Tuesday	January 10 - February 14	TBD	\$100
**Daytime classes available for homeschool students	Wednesday	January 11 - February 15	TBD	\$100
Limited: 3 -6 participants per class	Thursday	January 12 - February 16	TBD	\$100

2023 class schedules will be posted on our website by December 5th