

The Scorecard

VOLUME 1 | ISSUE 33



A Newsletter from First Tee – Roanoke Valley

SPRING – SUMMER 2023

39th Annual Scott Robertson Tournament

Written by: Steve Hemphill



39TH ANNUAL

Scott Robertson
Memorial

PRESENTED BY



With her junior golf days now in the final months, Macy Pate was still looking for some marquee championships before moving on to college.

After numerous close calls, Pate had a big win on May 21st, winning the 39th Annual Scott Robertson Memorial Golf Tournament Girls 15-18 Division.

Pate, of Winston-Salem, North Carolina, birdied four times on the way to 2-under-par 69 and a three-shot victory over second-round leader Molly Davidson.

Continued on Page 4



Girls 15 -18 Champion Macy Pate



Boys 15 -18 Champion Tyler Mawhinney



First Mike Wise Scholar Selected

The inaugural Mike Wise Award of \$7,500, named in honor of the late Roanoke Valley philanthropist with ties to the First Tee – Roanoke Valley, went to Caroline Gilreath of Roanoke, who attends Patrick Henry High School.

Continued on Page 7

- 2 Making the Turn
- 3 Congratulations Graduates!
- 4 39th Annual Scott Robertson Tournament
- 6 Parent-Child Tournament
- 7 Mike Wise Scholar

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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



Golf is an emotional game. No matter how old you are or how skilled you may be, it will challenge you time and time again. Golf will push you to your limits; however the rewards are remarkable. No doubt, the game is an emotional roller coaster at every turn. How one handles those emotions makes all the difference.

As a coach, it is important to help players learn how to manage their emotions so they can find success. Our lessons at First Tee are based on core values, like confidence and perseverance, because we want children to build self-esteem and maintain a positive attitude. We teach kids techniques to help them push through difficulties so they realize how great things can be when they finish.

Kids love to play golf; generally they would rather play than practice. At the same time, many kids get nervous or have unrealistic expectations of being perfect, which makes constantly supporting them even more important.

At the last Junior Open, we had a golfer playing in his very first tournament. His caddie advised him to use the event to get some experience and enjoy himself. During warm up, however, the player began comparing himself to everyone else on the tee line, and began to worry about the tournament before it even started. As the round began, the pressure began to grow. On the fourth hole, after losing two tee shots to the left, the player told his caddie he didn't want to do it anymore. This became a coachable moment.



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

The caddie suggested trying something different, and the player used his favorite club, 7 iron, to hit every shot on the next two holes. He slowly began to feel better about himself, and before long his shots improved as well. He stopped worrying about the other players, the scorecard, the competition and was enjoying himself again...simply by using his favorite club.

By encouraging players during struggles and congratulating them when they do well, parents and coaches can help kids learn how to deal with their emotions. Remind your players of these few tried and true wisdoms:

These reminders will help our children succeed...on and off the course.

- Focus on the shot in front of you
- It's everyone against the course and not against each other.
- Throw away the bad shots and remember the good ones.
- No one's perfect
- It's ok to smile.



Like us on Facebook!
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First Tee – Roanoke Valley 2023 Schedule

FALL SCHEDULE 2023

Class	Day	Date	Time	Cost
Age 7-9 ; Age 10-11 / Girls Only!!	Mon	Sept 11 - Oct 23	3:15 – 4:15 pm	\$100
Age 10-11; Age 12-13; Age 14-18 / Girls Only!!	Mon	Sept 11 - Oct 23	4:30 – 6:00 pm	\$125
Age 7-9 ; Age 10-11 / Homeschool	Tue	Sept 12 - Oct 24	10:00 - 11:00 am	\$100
Age 7-9; Age 10-11	Tue	Sept 12 - Oct 24	3:15 – 4:15 pm	\$100
Age 7-9; Age 10-11	Tue	Sept 12 - Oct 24	4:45 - 5:45 pm	\$100
Age 10-11; Age 12-13; Age 14-18 / Homeschool	Wed	Sept 13 - Oct 25	10:00 – 11:30 am	\$125
Age 7-9; Age 10-11	Wed	Sept 13 - Oct 25	3:15 – 4:15 pm	\$100
Age 12-13; Age 14-18	Wed	Sept 13 - Oct 25	4:30 – 6:00 pm	\$125
Age 7-9	Thu	Sept 14 - Oct 26	3:15 – 4:15 pm	\$100
Age 10-11; Age 12-13	Thu	Sept 14 - Oct 26	4:30 – 6:00 pm	\$125
Age 5-6 / Tiger Paws	Fri	Sept 22 - Oct 20	3:00 – 3:45 pm	\$50
Age 5-6 / Tiger Paws	Fri	Sept 22 - Oct 20	4:15 – 5:00 pm	\$50

- In order to create the most impactful learning experience for our students, First Tee is moving from our current skills-based program to an age-based program.
- We will no longer use levels (PLAYER, PAR, Birdie, Eagle) to determine placement.
- Students will register and be placed in groups within a given class based on their age.
- The age groupings will be 7-9, 10-11, 12-13, and 14-18. Students will progress through these levels based on their age.
- Students will now celebrate achievements and skill progression by earning badges.

Congratulations Graduates!



Ashton Harper

Committed to Virginia Tech.



Caroline Gilreath

Committed to Radford. "My favorite First Tee memory is when Coach Bill and I were hitting drives on hole 18 at Pebble Beach"

39th Annual Scott Robertson Tournament – *continued*

Written by: Steve Hemphill

Pate, who finished tied for 15th in last year's SRM, had added seven-straight top-20 finishes in AJGA-level events since last May, including three top-10s. But finishing on top feels a little different, she admits.

"Winning feels really good," said Pate, who will enroll at Wake Forest in the fall. "I stayed really focused today, stuck with my game plan and stayed in the right mindset. It really paid off for sure."

Pate said she had been looking forward to coming back to Roanoke for this year's SRM ever since she said her goodbyes last spring.

"Everybody here treats you great," Pate said. "I've kind of gotten to know one of the tournament directors really well, which is always cool. ... This is a tournament I've always liked to play in, and I'm thankful to get a win in my last year here."

In the 14-under Division, Grace Carter of Jupiter, Florida, finished her weekend with a 4-over-par 75 and won by two strokes over Macie Rasmussen of Chesapeake. Carter, 12, had a three-day total of 8-over-par 221.

The low round of the day in the 14-under group was shot by Zoe Cusack of Potomac, Maryland. She shot 71 and tied for fourth with Asnoor Kaur of Roanoke, six shots back.

Tyler Mawhinney was just looking for a drama-free Sunday in his final round of the Scott Robertson Memorial Golf Tournament.

He couldn't control what might happen around him, but Mawhinney, a rising sophomore from Fleming Island, Florida, kept to his plan. His even-par 71 led to a five-shot victory in the Boys 15-18 Division.

"I just wanted to limit big mistakes and big numbers," said Mawhinney, who opened the tournament on May 19th by shooting 33 on his front nine and then led wire to wire. "When I got into trouble, I'd just try to hit it back into play and have a chance at par. If the putt went in that was great. If not, then I'd just move on to the next hole."

"This will definitely help me get into some other events, and it's a big confidence booster into the summer. ... Confidence is a big thing, and sometimes things can go your way and sometimes they won't."

Mawhinney took on a tough Sunday layout and finished with a round including four



Boys 14 under Champion Zabe Shores



Girls 14 Under Champion Grace Carter

birdies and four bogeys. His three-day total of 6-under-par 207 was one of just two under-par scores of the tournament. Runner-up Boyi "Barry" Zhang shot a 2-under 69 to finish with a three-day total of 1-under 212.

Mawhinney said he enjoyed the challenge that he faced at Roanoke Country Club and said that to have a drama-free day, it took a lot of concentration.

"The pin locations were very difficult and the greens were pretty fast," he said. "That makes it pretty hard. To get birdies, you have to hit the ball in the right spot. If you're in the wrong spot, you have to just take your par and move on."

In the Boys 14-under Division, Zabe Shores of Pinehurst, North Carolina, shot a 1-over-par 72, to finish the week with an even-par score of 213. That was good enough for a four-shot win over Jaden Peterson of Port St. Lucie, Florida.

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



FIRST TEE ROANOKE VALLEY

LGPA * USGA Girls Golf

Register now for the annual Girls Golf Day at Ballyhack Golf Club on
AUGUST 27, 2023.



Upcoming Junior Open Series Events

2023 JUNIOR OPEN EVENTS AGES 10 AND UP

Date	Event	Course	Core Value
Saturday, July 22nd	The Ringer Jr. Open	Ole Monterey GC	Responsibility
Saturday, July 29th	Junior Scramble	Blacksburg CC	Perseverance
Saturday, August 12th	Junior Scramble	Lexington CC	Respect
Saturday, September 30th	Beat the Pro Jr. Open	Hidden Valley CC	Confidence
Tuesday, November 7th	Red, White & Blue Jr. Open	Roanoke CC	ALL

2023 MINI-JUNIOR OPEN* AGES 5 TO 9

Date	Event	Course	Core Value
Friday, July 28	Mini-Scramble	First Tee Course	Courtesy
Friday, August 4	Mini-Stroke Play	First Tee Course	Honesty
Friday, September 8	Mini-Stroke Play	First Tee Course	Courtesy
Friday, October 27	Mini-Scramble	First Tee Course	Honesty
Tuesday, November 7	Mini-Red, White & Blue	First Tee Course	ALL



Thank you Janney!

Scott Robertson Tournament Administrator
Debbie Ferguson presents autographed flag to
Ed Bartlett in recognition of Janney's support
as Presenting Sponsor of the 2023 Scott Robert-
son Tournament.

Register now for the 12th Annual Parent-Child Tournament

Weekend of September 16th-17th at Roanoke Country Club



First Tee-Roanoke Valley is proud that our 12th annual First Tee Parent-Child Tournament will be at Roanoke Country Club, September 16-17. The event will be composed of two person Parent-Child teams. We welcome teams of ALL ages and ALL abilities to play, including those not currently involved in First Tee programs. Competition will be 9-hole or 5-hole Captain's Choice or the 18-hole division. Players will be placed in different flights based on skill level and age. Tournament proceeds benefit First Tee - Roanoke Valley programs.

Every year, we love seeing parents and children enjoying time with each other on the golf course. Responding to feedback from our past successful tournaments, we will once again divide play into two days and this year use a combination of tee times and shotgun starts to maximize the number of teams eligible to play. Parents are more than welcome to play in multiple divisions with different children!

5-Hole "FUN" Division

\$90/team (\$100 after August 1st) **All ages**

Sunday, September 17th (shotgun start at 2pm)

9-Hole "FUN" Division

\$115/team (\$125 after August 1st) **Ages 7 and up**

Saturday, September 16th (tee times between 8am and 3:30pm)

18-Hole Division

\$165/team (\$175 after August 1st) **Ages 11 and up**

Sunday, September 17th (shotgun start at 8:30am)

***Please remember that we always welcome and encourage Adult-Adult teams to enter!**



The entry fee includes golf with cart, range balls, box lunch, and awards. To guarantee your tournament tee gift, all entries are **due by September 1st** and teams can easily register and pay online. Please note that we will be accepting entries through September 9th, but those registrants are not guaranteed a tee gift. We often have a waiting list for this popular event, so you are encouraged to sign up **EARLY**.

Sponsors will again play a large role in our fundraising efforts. Last year we raised over \$20,000, and this year our goal is \$25,000! Sponsorship opportunities start at only \$100. If you or your company are interested in sponsoring our event, please find our Sponsor Form in this newsletter or on our website www.firstteeroanokevalley.org. If you are unable to make a monetary donation but would still like to support our tournament, we are always looking for raffle prizes. Please contact Jennifer Blackwood (jblackwood@firstteeroanokevalley.org) if you have something you would like to donate to our ever-popular raffle. Thank you in advance for your support.

We are looking forward to another great event in September!

First Mike Wise Scholar Selected- *continued*

Written by: Caroline Gilreath

Caroline has been involved at First Tee - Roanoke Valley since age 7. She is an ACE certified participant and has represented our community at numerous events. She will attend Radford University this fall and play on the golf team.

Below are excerpts from Caroline's remarks at a recent reception:



- “** *I have been a part of the First Tee program for 10 years, where I have learned important golf skills and life lessons. First Tee has provided me with many unforgettable and valuable opportunities. Through First Tee, I have played in the Pure Insurance Championship at Pebble Beach. This included an extensive application process, and only 81 juniors nationwide were selected. I was able to play with a PGA Champions Tour player at both Pebble Beach and Spyglass Hill. The experience was one I will cherish forever. I was also a nominee for the Congaree Global Golf Initiative. During my time there, I received instruction from the top instructors in the country. I received private lessons, personalized strength training, and completed a college prep course. Both opportunities have allowed me to play some of the best golf courses in the country and create valuable relationships that will help me succeed in the future. I have made many new friends through the years at First Tee and have been coached by the best! Many thanks to everyone in the program that has supported me over the years.*
- “** *I am thrilled to be this year's recipient of the Mike Wise Scholarship. I am the first recipient of this scholarship, and it is a great honor to represent him. His impact on the Roanoke Valley, and the First Tee - Roanoke Valley will never be forgotten. Through this generous scholarship I will be able to continue my academic and golf dreams as a player on the women's golf team at Radford University.*
- “** *First Tee - Roanoke Valley is the beneficiary of the Scott Robertson Memorial Tournament, and I was introduced to this amazing tournament at a young age. During my time at First Tee, I would volunteer for the tournament every year, and carry the leaderboard for the final groups. I always looked forward to seeing the “big girls” play, which inspired me to play in the Scott Robertson one day. This will be the last time I tee up at the Scott Robertson, but I will never forget the memories that the tournament and the First Tee - Roanoke Valley have given me.*



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MIKE WISE AWARD

In honor of Mike Wise

May 19th, 1950 - December 5th, 2022

The VSGA-VIP Scholarship Foundation, in partnership with the Virginia State Golf Association and the First Tee - Roanoke Valley, is proud to announce the creation of the Mike Wise Award, which will benefit a deserving high school senior with ties to that First Tee chapter.



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2400 Dovercourt Drive
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