

## Participant Opportunities Meeting

March 2022

### CHAPTER OPPORTUNITIES

**PGA JUNIOR LEAGUE | SPRING 2022** – This program has **13U (Ages 7-13)** and **17U (Ages 14-17)** divisions. Registration began on March 1 and closes March 31. Participants play 9-hole matches in **two-player teams** using a **scramble format**, and our chapter has teams at the **Bob** in addition to our programming locations at **3 Lakes** (Penn Hills), **All About Golf** (Butler) and **Victory Hills** (Elizabeth). Teams play home and away games throughout the regular season, and both the **13U** and **17U** divisions send an **All-Star team** to represent the chapter in **postseason** competition within the **Tri-State PGA Section**.

**PARTICIPANT INVITATIONAL TOURNAMENTS | SPRING, SUMMER & FALL 2022** – The chapter hosts Participant Invitational tournaments on select Saturdays throughout the year at the Bob. The 2022 events are scheduled for **June 11** (Spring), **August 20** (Summer) and **October 22** (Fall). Each of these events has four divisions - **3-Hole (Short)**, **3-Hole (Long)**, **6-Hole** and **9-Hole** – and each division has a **Boys and Girls** champion. Participants choose their division when registering for the event.

**FIRST TEE AMBASSADORS | YEAR-ROUND** – First Tee Ambassadors represent the Pittsburgh chapter at events throughout the year, including the annual Tee It Forward fundraiser and the Pittsburgh Golf Show. Participants selected to be a First Tee Ambassador must **demonstrate the Nine Core Values** and be able to interact with adults at **an age-appropriate level**.

**JUNIOR ADVISORY BOARD | YEAR-ROUND** – Junior Advisory Board members work with First Tee - Pittsburgh staff to guide the organization's future, and provide long-term strategic guidance in designing, creating and supporting participant activities. Participants must be **at least 13 years old**, and have reached the **Par level or higher**, and be actively enrolled in programming classes for **at least two years**.

**PURPOSEFUL PRACTICE | SUMMER 2022** - Held throughout June, July and August at private clubs in the greater Pittsburgh area, these events give skilled Birdie, Eagle and Ace members the chance to play and practice in conditions that they might not normally encounter. We typically have had practice sessions at **Edgewood, Oakmont, Longue Vue** and **Fox Chapel**. After enduring COVID cancellations for two years, we intend to revive Purposeful Practice in 2022.

**DEACON PALMER SCHOLARSHIP | SUMMER 2022** – Named after Arnold Palmer's father Deacon, this annual **\$2,000 scholarship**, renewable for up to four years based on academic performance, is given to a maximum of two graduating high school seniors each year. Applicants must be **Birdie level or above** and have been **active participants for at least TWO years**. Nominees must have demonstrated exceptional merit, citizenship, academic achievement, as well as service and commitment to the mission of First Tee - Pittsburgh. **Applications** are **released** in **early March** and must be **submitted** by **mid-April**. **Awardees** are **announced** in **June** each year and **recognized** at the annual Tee It Forward dinner in **September**.

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**STRAUNCH INTERNSHIP | SUMMER 2022** – Commemorating Paul Straunch, pronounced “Strow,” this paid internship is for participants ages 16 and older, who embody the “character, precision, compassion and honesty” demanded by the game of golf. Interns can earn **up to \$1,000** working throughout the summer at the **Bob O’Connor Golf Course**, assisting the staff for approximately **20 hours per week**. Applicants must **submit an essay by May 1**, outlining how they feel they can contribute to the chapter as an intern, in addition to having a valid work permit and transportation to and from the facility.

**BOB FORD LEADERSHIP AWARD | SUMMER 2022** - Created by the former Oakmont Country Club Head Professional, this annual one-time **\$5,000 scholarship** is given to a graduating high school senior who best exemplifies the leadership qualities Bob Ford demonstrated throughout his career. Applicants must be **Birdie level or above** and have been **active participants for at least THREE years**. Participants **submit an essay by early August**, outlining the impact the First Tee - Pittsburgh has had on their life, which is reviewed by the scholarship committee. Finalists for the award **MUST BE available** to interview with Mr. Ford in person in **late August** at a date and time to be determined by mutual agreement.

### REGIONAL OPPORTUNITIES.

**FIRST TEE CHAMPIONS CHALLENGE | FEBRUARY 18-20, 2022**- Held each year in **Naples, Florida** in conjunction with First Tee - Naples/Collier and the Chubb Classic on the PGA Champions Tour. **Two participants** and **one coach** attend from **twelve chapters** on the East coast. FTP typically sends two **males (even years)** or two **females (odd years)** to make housing arrangements easier to manage. This year Dylan Callaway and Danny McCloskey represented our chapter, and they were accompanied by Coach Aaron Lindauer.

**NORTHEAST REGIONAL CHALLENGE | JUNE 20-21, 2022** - Our chapter typically sends **four players** to this annual event. Last held in 2019 when the **Greater Philadelphia** chapter hosted with housing at Villanova University, participants had the opportunity to play at Walnut Lane Golf Course and Merion Golf Club. In addition to a Life Skills test, the competitors play two 9- or 18-hole rounds depending on skill level and participate in supervised activities in the city. First Tee – Pittsburgh will be hosting the event this year, with activities and playing sites still to be determined. Other chapters that participate include **Washington D.C., Trenton, Metropolitan New York, Connecticut, Raritan Valley (NJ)**,

**RIVER RIVALS CUP | TBD** - This annual event features teams from the **Pittsburgh** and **Cleveland** chapters, **and the host and location rotates** each year. In 2020, our chapter had planned to host the competition at **Black Hawk Golf Course**, our programming location in **Beaver Falls**. Lunch and Life Skills testing typically begins at 11:00 AM, and tee times start at 12:00 PM. There are eight participants on each team, and they play six holes of Scramble format, six holes of Alternate Shot, and six holes of Best Ball during their round, all with Stableford scoring.

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**FOXBURG HICKORY CHAMPIONSHIP | JUNE 2-4, 2022** – The **Society of Hickory Golfers** hosts one of their annual tournaments at Foxburg Country Club in Clarion County, about 55 miles north of Pittsburgh. Foxburg was founded in 1887 and is the oldest continually used course in the United States. **Dr. Bern Bernacki**, the former Co-Chair of First Tee - Pittsburgh Board of Directors, is an avid hickory player, and annually sponsors **two to four participants** from our chapter to play in this event

**NATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES** *(Detailed requirements are available on the First Tee website.)*

**FIRST TEE FUTURE ENTREPRENEURS PRESENTED BY WELLS FARGO | MAY 3-5, 2022** – This event is for four male or female participants and alumni ages 17-30, and will be held in **Washington, D.C.** Participants must be a High School senior and active First Tee participant for at least one year, or a current HBCU student or graduate who is a registered member of the First Tee Alumni Network, with a business or entrepreneurial studies concentration.

**JOHN DEERE DRIVE YOUR FUTURE ACADEMY (GIRLS ONLY) | JUNE 6-10, 2022** - This event is for 24 female participants only, and is held in **San Francisco, California**. The event focuses on leadership development, remaining active in the game of golf, learning the value/impact of volunteerism, and recognizing the importance of teamwork and 24 participants will be chosen.

**JOHN DEERE POWER FOR GOOD SCHOLARSHIP CONTEST | JUNE 27-JULY 1, 2022** - Participants submit a written essay about how they are a 'Power for Good' through service to their communities, schools, and neighborhoods. Three essay applicants will each receive a one-time \$5,000 college scholarship and a VIP experience at the John Deere Classic in **Silvis, Illinois**.

**FIRST TEE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP | JUNE 28-JULY 1, 2022** - The second annual First Tee National Championship will be held at the **University of Notre Dame** in **South Bend, Indiana**, bringing together up to 48 of First Tee's elite players for an opportunity to showcase how the program has helped build the strength of character needed to play at the collegiate or next level.

**PARTICIPANT ADVISORY COUNCIL | JULY 11-13, 2022** - Participants selected to attend this opportunity in **Jacksonville, Florida** must be in high school and be accessible for virtual conference calls meetings before the event.

**FIRST TEE GAME CHANGERS ACADEMY HONORING JOE LOUIS BARROW | JULY 19-23, 2022** – The 72 participants selected to attend the academy in **Philadelphia, Pennsylvania** will have the opportunity to further strengthen and develop their leadership skill in various methods. They will be encouraged to develop their leadership qualities and skill set through engaging workshops, panel discussions/seminars, and volunteer opportunities.

**FIRST TEE CORPORATE CONNECT IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE COCA-COLA COMPANY | AUGUST 24-27, 2022** - Coca-Cola Company offers five participants the chance to experience downtown **Atlanta, Georgia** visiting the Coca-Cola campus, attending new hire training, and taking part in

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interviews to determine the winner of a scholarship. This event is held in conjunction with The TOUR Championship.

**PURE INSURANCE CHAMPIONSHIP | SEPTEMBER 20-25, 2022** - An official PGA TOUR Champions event at **Pebble Beach Golf Links** in **California**, the tournament pairs 78 top participants from First Tee with a PGA TOUR Champions player and amateurs. To be selected, juniors are measured in both golf ability and life skills knowledge. The tournament is televised on Golf Channel.

**FIRST TEE INNOVATORS FORUM | NOVEMBER 16-18, 2022** - First Tee Innovators Forum in **Dallas, Texas** recognizes exemplary achievements by up to 28 participants currently involved in First Tee programming. This is an interactive and educational summit in which participants will have the opportunity to develop plans for leading a meaningful service project in their communities focusing on raising awareness on global issues. By bringing together exemplary participants across the chapter network, the Innovators Forum provides a distinctive educational experience.

### ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

**GALS ON AND OFF THE GREEN SCHOLARSHIP | SUMMER 2022** – The GALS (Growing, Achieving, Learning, Succeeding) Scholarship is for females only, and was established in 2013 by Jackie Sorrenti, the founder of Gals on the Green, and a former Board Member with the First Tee of Pittsburgh. The scholarship is for up to \$2,500 annually, and can be renewed. Applications are available online, and must be **submitted** by **August 1**, prior to the student's senior year of high school.

**WEST PENN GOLF ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIP | SUMMER 2022** - Founded in 1941, this is open to participants who have worked at a WPGA member club for at least two years. The program typically has 10-12 students receiving aid, and is renewable for up to four years if students maintain a cumulative 2.8 GPA or above. Applications from eligible high school seniors must be **submitted** to the WPGA by **late November**, and **final interviews** are done in **April**.

**WESTERN GOLF ASSOCIATION & EVANS SCHOLARS FOUNDATION | SUMMER 2022** - The Chick Evans Caddie Scholarship is a one-year full tuition and housing scholarship, renewable for four years, but only available to caddies. There are nearly 900 Evans Scholars currently enrolled at 20 universities, and over 10,800 have graduated. Applications are **available** online **beginning August 1** each year, and must be **completed by October 31**, when the review process will begin. All decisions are **finalized by April 1**. Complete details are available on their website at [www.wgaesf.org](http://www.wgaesf.org). *(Former participant Victoria Slawinski caddied at Oakmont Country Club, and became the first participant from the First Tee of Pittsburgh to earn an Evans Scholarship in January 2019. She is currently studying engineering at Penn State University.)*