

**Our Mission Statement:** To impact the lives of young people by providing educational programs that build character, instill life-enhancing values and promote healthy choices through the game of golf.

## **About First Tee**

First Tee was created to introduce young people of all backgrounds to the game of golf and its inherent values. First Tee Pittsburgh is one of many chapters of the National First Tee Program across the country, Canada and Europe. The organization was founded in 1997. The Pittsburgh chapter started in 2000 at The Bob O'Connor Golf Course.

# **Our Golf Clinics**

What makes TFT different from other golf programs is our focus on teaching life skills, core values, healthy habits and stressing the importance of safety through the game of golf. As participants work on putting, chipping, pitching, full swing, and on course management, they will learn interpersonal skills, self-management, goal setting, and resilience skills. These values not only carry through in the children's daily lives, but ready's them to be responsible and respectful athletes on the golf course when not supervised.

## **Our Coaches**

All of our Lead Coaches have gone through numerous levels of National trainings over an extended period to understand all aspects of the game of golf, staying current with changes that occur in the game as well as implementing new and effective teaching techniques. All Lead and Assistant coaches are nationally Safe-Sport certified and have all necessary clearances. Our volunteer Assistant Coaches are trained by the First Tee and encouraged to use the specific training methods used by all coaches in the program. We offer volunteer coach training twice during the year. Our coaches serve as mentors to our participants, making our program and sites a "Safe Place" for children to be themselves and to learn from their mistakes in a non-threatening environment.

## **Equipment & Supplies**

We provide clubs and all needed equipment for all students. We do not supply water or snacks. We feel it is important that students stay hydrated during class, so you may want to make sure your child has a bottle of water.

## **Class Schedule**

To keep things on schedule, please respect clinic start times. It is beneficial for students to be at their location 10-15 minutes prior to class for check-in. Parents are encouraged to stay and monitor their child until class begins. Once the clinic starts, parents are welcome to stay or leave the site until the end of the session.

## **Dress Code**

At FTP we teach Respect for Others, Respect for your Surroundings, and Respect for Yourself. Please make sure your child is dressed appropriately for an athletic activity. Tank tops, halters, jeans, extremely baggie pants, and very short shorts are not appropriate golf attire. Also, please be sure to dress for the weather. Sun screen is always a good idea and a hat is a plus. Children should wear athletic shoes with some tread on the bottom. Please, no open toe, Crocks or heeled shoes, as they are a safety issue; soccer and football cleats can damage golf greens.

# **Inclement Weather Policy**

If weather permits, we will conduct class on the golf course. If the golf course is closed because of weather, we will conduct class in our indoor facility (where available). In the event we need to cancel, YOU WILL RECEIVE AN EMAIL FROM THE COACH OF THE CLASS. Due to scheduling issues, we will not make-up a single missed class. However, if more than 1 class is cancelled, we will do everything possible to schedule a make-up.

## **Behavior Policy**

We expect students to come ready to learn. We also expect that students will not interfere with the learning, safety, or well-being of others. Behavior expectations will be covered at the beginning of each session and reviewed as needed. Parents will be notified after class if a participant is having difficulty following through in this area. If you know your child has difficulty in a group setting, please let us know in advance. We may need you to stay to help monitor him/her for the safety of all.

# **Clinic Costs**

First Tee Pittsburgh charges only \$70 for a typical six-week clinic. We keep the price affordable to be able to serve as many families as possible from all walks of life. If you are experiencing financial difficulties, please know that no family is turned away for the inability to pay. Scholarship opportunities are available for any family, regardless of income level. Please call our offices at 412-622-0108 before registering. Refund Policy – Refunds upon request. 100% before the first class begins and then prorated from there.

## Volunteers

If you are interested in volunteering with First Tee Pittsburgh, please speak to one of our Lead Coaches, or go to our website and click on the VOLUNTEER button. As a non-profit organization, we rely on volunteers to help make our program the best experience possible for our participants. In addition to coaching, volunteering could include board membership, special projects, or fundraising. Please be aware Parent volunteers will receive ½ off of any of their children's clinic fees.

## **Other Support**

Being a 501C non-profit organization, First Tee Pittsburgh relies on donations to keep the cost to participants affordable. Actual costs are \$389/child per session to participate in a clinic. If you are interested in helping support this program, or work for a company that is interested please contact us. You may also donate through the United Way donor choice program, our agency number is 1436656.

## Locations

The Bob O'Connor Golf Course in Schenley Park, First Tee Golf Course at Pleasant Ridge in Stowe Township, Victory Hills Golf Course in Elizabeth, North and South Park Golf Courses, 3 Lakes Golf Course in Penn Hills, All About Golf in Butler, Wallace School Building in Baldwin, TopGolf in Bridgeville, X Golf in Wexford, Mars/Bethel in Mars and Black Hawk Golf Course in Beaver Falls.