



2022 Impact Report

Who We Are

First Tee – Central Ohio is a youth organization that promotes character development in kids and teens through the game of golf.

We enable kids to build the strength of character that empowers them through a lifetime of new challenges. By seamlessly integrating the game of golf with life skills curriculum, we create learning experiences that build inner strength, self-confidence, and resilience that kids carry to everything they do.

Building Game Changers

We deliver experiences to help kids and teens uncover what is inside them and work each day to become the best version of themselves.

Game Changers:

- Pursue goals
- Collaborate with others
- Grow through challenge
- Have positive self-identity
- Use good judgment

A Message from our Executive Director

2022 was a year of getting our programming back to normal and making significant investments in the future. I joined the team this past summer to build relationships and carry the vision of our chapter forward.



Over the past year, we invested in staff to bolster our school programming, elevate our marketing and branding, and ultimately to better steward our financial partners. Returning to our pre-COVID standard of programming was a great success for our chapter – a few highlights include:

- Sending six of our students to national leadership opportunities in California, Montana, Philadelphia, Michigan, New Jersey and the University of Notre Dame
- Impacting 435 participants through our on-site programming and 4,924 students through our school and community partnership programming
- Hosting 13 summer interns – high school and college students who took on leadership roles and grew their skills through assisting with summer programming

We also started laying the groundwork for 2023. With a plan to re-engage schools post-pandemic, develop new partnerships and grow into more program sites, we look forward to achieving our goal of impacting more kids in at-risk communities. I hope you join us on what will be a fun adventure in the coming year. Please know our team is incredibly grateful for the support you have provided our chapter in 2022 – we could not be where we are without you.

Greg Wright



Our Impact

2022 saw First Tee – Central Ohio reach **over 5,000 kids** and teens with life skills, golf instruction and safe places to learn and grow. We offered **56 onsite classes** at **five locations** in Columbus and the surrounding areas.

Our partnerships extended our reach to even more kids – with **13 schools and 11 community partners** delivering First Tee programming throughout Central Ohio.

Program Sites:

Blacklick Woods
Golf Course

Heritage Golf Club

Oakhaven Golf Club

PGA TOUR Superstore

Valley View Golf Club



None of our work would be possible without the time and effort from our coaches and volunteers. 2022's impact was supported by **12 coaches and 67 volunteers**, who generously gave of their time at classes, summer camps and special events.

We look forward to expanding our reach even further in 2023!



2022 Program Snapshot

5

Program sites
throughout
Central Ohio

24

School and
community
partnerships

5,359

Kids and teens
impacted



Our Programs

Participants ages 5-18 progress through the program over time, deepening their understanding of life skills and the game of golf. This integrated approach helps kids and teens build character for when they are on the course, at home and in school.

Every participant has the opportunity to:

- Learn the game of golf and how it relates to life
- Focus on interpersonal and self-management skills – on and off the course
- Set up step-by-step goals and plan for the future
- Learn conflict resolution, appreciate diversity and build resilience



LPGA USGA Girls Golf

LPGA*USGA Girls Golf (Girls Golf) is an arm of our programming that specializes in creating experiences that show girls just how much fun golf really is!

Last year, our program served 123 girls at two program sites, helping them develop their skills and love for the game. In addition to regular classes, we also offered summer camp at Heritage Golf Club, which gave girls the valuable opportunity of spending time on the golf course.

We look forward to adding three additional programming sites and growing our community partnerships in 2023 – expanding our reach even further.



School Programs

School programming continues to be reinvigorated with the relaxing of COVID-19 protocols and bringing on our new School & Volunteer Engagement Manager, Jonathon Wilson.

2022 saw the creation of eight new school partnerships, thanks to generous funding from ScottsMiracle-Gro and the Memorial Tournament™ presented by workday®. These schools received First Tee equipment, refreshed curriculum lesson plans and training for teachers, and several will be further engaging with field trips to the golf course and First Tee participation at field days.

Teachers expressed excitement and appreciation for First Tee's partnership, and we are thrilled to bring our program to kids who might not otherwise have exposure to golf and life lessons that are learned through the game.

Community Programs

Our Community Program partners with other youth-serving organizations to introduce golf using games that are flexible to the ages and abilities of the kids involved. Throughout our summer season, we partnered with organizations like Buckeye Ranch, Home for Families and the Down Syndrome Association of Central Ohio to remove participation barriers and reach more kids, with a special focus on kids in under-served communities.

Through our Community Program, we provide training, equipment and lesson plans to youth development professionals and volunteer leaders to enable them to adapt our programming to any setting and skill level.



Moments & Milestones

Summer Interns

Our tenacious team of 11 interns made a huge impact on our summer programming. The high school and college students who joined our team assisted with coaching and mentoring our summer camp participants.



PGA Jr. League

Our PGA Jr. League team of 7-14 year olds competed in matches over the summer. Participants enjoyed the opportunity to develop their teamwork and sportsmanship.



National Opportunities

Throughout 2022, six of our participants were selected to take part in prestigious events throughout the country. Kyle Smetiouk, 17, played in the First Tee National Championship at Notre Dame University.

Kristina Ma, 14, was presented with her invitation to attend the PURE Insurance Championship at Pebble Beach Golf Links by golf legend Jack Nicklaus.

Isaac Stewart, 15, attended the First Tee Leadership Summit at West Creek Ranch to strengthen his leadership skills through dynamic outdoor and team-building activities.

Grace O'Grady, 16, traveled to the First Tee Game Changers Academy – a five-day experience focused on learning and empowerment around issues of identity, racism, diversity, equity and inclusion.

Caroline Donato, 14, and Bella Mitchell, 12, each attended LPGA USGA Girls Golf Leadership Academy where they explored their unique strengths and leadership style.



2022 Golf Classic

Held at Double Eagle Golf Club, the 2022 Golf Classic saw 14 teams enjoy a beautiful day – raising over \$40,000 to support our mission.



2022 Orty's Outing

This year's Orty's Outing and Auction hosted a full field of golfers at Brookside Golf and Country Club and generously raised funds benefiting First Tee – Central Ohio.

Participant Spotlight – Jake Pierce

During his father's deployment with the Air Force when he was seven, Jake Pierce was introduced to First Tee through a non-profit organization that connects service members' families with a variety of programs. Jake, now 18, remembers that even with no prior exposure to golf, he immediately loved the game, and has stuck with it ever since.

Today, Jake is a volunteer with First Tee – Central Ohio, and even joined the team as an intern last summer.



He plays on his high school's golf team, making it to Division 1 District competition, during this, his senior year.

This year, Jake also had the opportunity to play in the Hurricane Junior Golf Tour Tournament of Champions in Orlando, after qualifying for the event through a regional tournament.

Along with accomplishing some big goals in his golf life, Jake says his biggest takeaway from his many years in the First Tee program is the life skills. "I learned more about life skills – especially sportsmanship and integrity – than golf, which is awesome to me. It shows First Tee is balanced between the golf side and the life skills side."

Jake will graduate from high school in the spring of 2023 and is looking forward to playing college golf at Ohio Northern and potentially joining ROTC. He's thankful for all the years of support and opportunity he's had through First Tee. "I've met so many good people; been in so many great places," said Jake. "They really want to help you succeed in life."



“

Now that I'm coaching, it's awesome to see these kids coming up through the program – they grow dramatically with both life skills and golf skills.

Our Team

Greg Wright
Executive Director



Ethan Pinckney
Player Manager,
LSE & Community
Partners



Denise Vermilion, LPGA
Player Manager,
LPGA*USGA Girls Golf



Jonathon Wilson
School & Volunteer
Engagement
Manager

Cheri Jenkins
Director of Operations



Janae Miller
Marketing &
Development
Manager

Kristen Murray
Development Assistant



Assistant and Junior Coaches

Maya Aframian
Joe Atkins
Ashley Bisciotti
Ann Conley
Jonathan Fries
Levi Gutridge
Mitchell Irwin
Cheri Jenkins

Belina Khammounry
Eliza Khammounry
Evan Leff
Jack Malone
Nick Menedis
Erica Miller
Grace O'Grady
Kennedy Pannell

Bert Parise
Ireanna Peete
Grant Raubenolt
Isaac Stewart
Sean Tibbs
Mariana Vega

A Message from our Board President

Golf has been important in my life. The game has created endless opportunities and experiences that continue to occur today. Golf's influence has also taught me the importance of paying it forward – creating those same experiences for others, especially those who otherwise may not have the opportunity or resources to play the game.

This is one of the many reasons I strongly support First Tee's mission. Not only are we bringing life skills and golf instruction to kids, but we're able to focus that support and impact on a local level. We are changing the direction of Central Ohio youth, who can then make a difference both locally and nationally.

As our organization continues to expand, our participants are getting invited to experience leadership training and golf opportunities. The stories you read in this report aren't just any child – they are from right here in Central Ohio.

I am excited about the coming year and beyond – we are positioned for and investing in the future. I know I speak for the entire First Tee – Central Ohio Board when I say that we are motivated to reach more youth, create more opportunities, generate more impact.



Jason Job
Board President

Board of Directors

Jason Job – President

Yaz Ashrawi

Emmett Bahnson

Tonya Braun

Jeff Bruner

Mike D'Arienzo

Sue Eubanks

Oscar Guerrero

Kyle Monfort

Brad Paskievitch

Giovanni Smyth

Dan Sullivan

Jameel Turner

Courtney White

Honorary Chairman: Jack Nicklaus

Honorary Ambassadors:

Archie Griffin

Bill Hosket

***Thank you to our outgoing board members
for their dedication and service:***

David Berson

Steve Farkasovsky

Ray Hamman

Geoff Ortlip

Patrick Rini

Special thanks to First Tee – Central Ohio founder, Tod Ortlip. Tod has served for many years in pivotal leadership roles that have helped the chapter thrive and grow its impact. While stepping away from the Board, Tod remains a part of First Tee – Central Ohio as Founder and Special Advisor.

2023 Road Map

We're excited about all the great things 2023 has to bring. Over the next year we'll be following a strategic road map to broaden our reach and bring First Tee programming to more kids and teens in the Central Ohio area.



Impact

Broaden reach
onsite, school
community prog

Partnerships

Strengthen and
expand partnerships
with program sites
and school and
community
partners

Your involvement can directly impact the kids we serve and the skills they develop in First Tee. **Join us and start making a difference today.**



h of
and
grams

Alumni Network

Develop and leverage alumni network as brand ambassadors

Leadership Development

Connect engaged participants with national and local opportunities and scholarships



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