

WINTER 2024

At First Tee, we're empowering kids and teens through the game of golf.

The Power of Invitation

In the summer of 1999, Tiger Woods and his father visited Hiawatha Golf Course to host a junior golf clinic. Amidst the large turnout was 15-year-old Larry Fitzgerald, Jr., future NFL All-Pro wide receiver from South Minneapolis.

Tiger picked Larry from the crowd, inviting him to take swings on Hiawatha's driving range. This simple gesture left a lasting impact. Larry is now an accomplished golfer, fierce advocate for getting kids into the game, and, I'm pleased to say, supports First Tee – Minnesota through The Larry Fitzgerald Foundation.

My own invitation to golf lacked the grandeur of a Tiger encounter. When I was seventeen, my older sister Kathy needed her house painted. My folks, always happy to see their kids at work, "volunteered" my services.

Thankfully, Kathy sweetened her "invitation" by funding my introduction to golf. Prior to that summer, my exposure was limited to miniature golf on the Jersey Shore. After a month of hitting balls on the range and playing almost every evening, I was completely hooked.

Golf is like that; the impact of a simple invitation can last a lifetime.

And now I extend an invitation to you. Registrations are opening, and we hope you'll RSVP "Yes!" Our First Tee-certified coaches are the best at making it fun as they teach your kids (or your neighbors' kids, or your coworker's kids) solid fundamentals and life skills that go far beyond the golf course.



And please share this invitation. We work hard to create a welcoming community for every kid. The First Tee tent is a big one with plenty of room for more. Who knows who you might inspire!

Jim Triggs, CEO. First Tee – Minnesota

Larry Fitzgerald, Jr. was back at Hiawatha Golf Club last summer to inspire young golfers at a free First Tee Clinic.

Visit us at firstteeminnesota.org OR scan the QR code below to go directly to our website.



CONNECT WITH US!

@firstteemn



First Tee Minnesota





@firstteemn (formerly Twitter)



952-563-7447 info@firstteeminnesota.org www.firstteeminnesota.org

Ready, Set, Learn! REGISTRATION OPENING FOR SPRING AND SUMMER LESSONS

Experience is a great teacher, and First Tee believes in creating experiences that are fun AND meaningful. In lessons, leagues, and camps, our trained coaches create a supportive and empowering environment. Kids not only learn but thrive-they feel the excitement of progress, the safety of experimentation, and the confidence to face any challenge.

> At each age level, participants develop skills and master fundamentals, while also learning about setting goals, tackling challenges, using good judgement, and building positive self-identity.

Explore opportunities through the links below and join us for the 2024 season!

2024 Registration Information:

ROCHESTER

Registration opens February 15. For more information:



SAINT PAUL AND MINNEAPOLIS Registration opens February 15. For more information:



WOODBURY Registration opens mid-March. For more information:

THREE RIVERS PARK DISTRICT

Registration opens March 5.

For more information:







OUR VISION

game of golf.

OUR PURPOSE

To teach life skills,

self-confidence, and resilience to children and teens through the

To give every child in the State of Minnesota the opportunity to participate in our programs.

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OUR VALUES

- Honesty
- Integrity
- Sportsmanship
- Respect
- Confidence
- Responsibility
- Perseverance
- Courtesy
- Judgment

If you have questions or need some help, please email info@firstteeminnesota.org.

March Madness 2024 Season Kickoff

First Tee – Minnesota is hosting the 16th annual March Madness Kickoff Celebration. This unique extravaganza combines bowling speed (more than skill), NCAA bracketology, Masters prognostication, luck, and-most importantly-an abundance of action-packed fun!

Families, coaches, volunteers, and supporters can come together, be active, and get updates on our exciting plans for 2024.

March 17, 2024 5:30-8:00 pm Pinstripes, 3849 Gallagher Drive, Edina, MN 55435 \$100 per person (\$50 is tax-deductible)

Sign up individually or as a team (up to 6 bowlers per team). The ticket price includes food, drink, gift bag, bowling fun, and good company! Proceeds support community outreach, program scholarships, equipment, and coach training.

SAVE THE DATE!

We've got some fun events in the works. Consider attending, and sharing with kids in your circle who would enjoy exploring golf!

SATURDAY, APRIL 13

Great Minnesota Golf Sale, Highland National, Saint Paul

First Tee is partnering with local retailers to host a golf club sale! Did your kids get taller, and now you need new clubs? Stop by the Highland Learning Center on April 13 and get prepped for the upcoming golf season.

SATURDAY, MAY 18 Game Changer Clinic, Highland National, Saint Paul

SUNDAY, MAY 19 Game Changer Clinic, Columbia Golf Club, Minneapolis

Two great opportunities to introduce a kid to golf or help them brush off the winter rust. At putting, chipping, and full-swing stations, kids gain a sense of the different clubs and skills of the game. The clinics are free, but registration helps us ensure we have enough coaches, equipment, and ice cream!

SATURDAY, JUNE 7

North Commons Open, North Commons Park, Minneapolis

Find more details

and registration on

our website, or

scan the QR code.

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First Tee turns a grass field into a nine-hole golf extravaganza (picture hula hoop holes and a mini golf-like atmosphere) designed to make a kid's first golf experience memorable. Participants receive a new wedge and practice balls. This event is free but requires registration.

JULY 22-29

3M Open, TPC, Blaine

First Tee is proud to partner with the 3M Open again this year. Information about free clinics, Family Fun Zone activities, long-putt challenges, and opportunities to attend and volunteer will be available closer to the event.

Watch our website and our e-newsletter for more information about these events. Not on our e-newsletter mailing list? Sign up on our webpage: firstteeminnesota.org/blog/

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Have fun and let First Tee help you learn some new skills this summer!

LEARNING CENTER HAS A WHOLE NEW LOOK!

stay positive

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With support from the 3M Open, the First Tee Sanford Family Learning Center at Highland National is now a year-round facility. The transformation includes a simulator and putting technology, beautiful mural and wall graphics, new turf, and even desk space – providing students with a convenient area for homework while awaiting their turn at the simulator.