



## Teens Taking the Lead

### Shaping tomorrow's leaders at PGA TOUR Superstore

Thanks to your support, First Tee – Southeast Wisconsin successfully launched the First Tee Leadership Series this winter at the PGA TOUR Superstore in Brookfield. Designed to help teens develop essential leadership skills, the six-week program offered a unique opportunity for personal growth, career exploration, and confidence-building.

Four dedicated participants completed the series, engaging in weekly sessions focused on self-awareness, goal setting, communication, and resilience. PGA TOUR Superstore provided an inspiring setting where students connected leadership principles to real-life experiences in and beyond the golf industry.

The series concluded with a final project where each teen presented their career aspirations—ranging from sports media to computer science—highlighting not just their goals, but their personal growth throughout the program.

The First Tee Leadership Series marks an exciting step forward in how we prepare our participants for success beyond the course. We are especially grateful to the PGA TOUR Superstore team for their partnership and to donors like you who make these experiences possible. Your generosity helps us create meaningful, lasting impact in the lives of young people throughout Southeast Wisconsin.

### In this issue:

**02** New Board Member Spotlight

**03** Smiles at Children's

**04** Supporter Q&A

# Starting Strong with Spring Sessions

## Your generosity drives our mission

First Tee – Southeast Wisconsin is off to a strong start this golf season at Noyes Park! Our spring classes mean that even more youth are gaining early-season access to our life-changing golf and character education programming, all in a fun and supportive environment.

Noyes Park Golf Course has become a vibrant hub for learning and laughter. From first swings to embracing core values like confidence, respect, and perseverance, participants are getting a head start on their journey through the game of golf and life.

This progress is made possible by the generosity of our donors. Your support allows us to extend programming to new times of year and new locations, ensuring more kids across Southeast Wisconsin have the opportunity to learn, grow, and play.

As we continue to grow, we're reminded that every class, every swing, and every smile is powered by your belief in our mission. Because of you, our youth are enjoying meaningful moments on the course in 2025.



## New Board Member Spotlight

We're excited to welcome several outstanding new members to our Board of Directors. Each brings a unique perspective and passion for our mission. Check out what they had to say about joining First Tee – Southeast Wisconsin:



### Jeff Budzien

SVP, Director & Team Lead – BMO Commercial Bank

"I am most looking forward to using golf – a game that I have grown to love – as a tool to help build character, empowerment and confidence with our youth locally."



### April Calvert

Senior Director, Operations – FIS

"The values of character development and mentorship truly resonate with me. Guiding young people and helping them grow is something that gets me excited and I can't wait to help further the reach and impact of First Tee – Southeast Wisconsin."



### Mike O'Reilly

General Manager – Whistling Straits and Blackwolf Run

"I am passionate about what the game can do for people. It can be great recreation but also teaches many life skills. I'm hopeful that my experiences can add value to the board so we can benefit our community."



## More Than a Game

### Mentorship through golf

We had an incredible day at Noyes Park Golf Course for the Youth Mentoring Golf Day, where golf became a platform for connection, confidence, and character.

Young people from across Milwaukee came together with mentors from across the city to share swings, stories, and support. A special thanks to County Executive David Crowley for stopping by and sharing his message of community and growth. His encouragement reminded everyone how mentorship can drive positive change at every level — from the green to the greater Milwaukee community.

This event, made possible by collaboration with Mentor Greater Milwaukee, PEARLS for Teen Girls, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Metro Milwaukee, MKE Fellows, and WeBlackWeGolf, created space for youth to be seen, heard, and inspired. Together, we showed that when community partners unite, the results go far beyond the game. Thanks to the generosity of donors like you, opportunities like this continue to empower young people across Milwaukee — one swing at a time.



## Game-Changing Clinic



Over 50 kids came together at Brown Deer Park Golf Course for the Bank of America Golf With Us Clinic, where they learned golf fundamentals from First Tee Coach Scott Walecki and former Green Bay Packer kicker Mason Crosby, gaining life skills they will remember for years to come.

The highlight of the night wasn't just the perfect swings — it was the spark of confidence and belonging these young athletes discovered. As Mason told them, "Don't let your misses keep you from your makes" — a message that reaches far beyond the course.

Every child left with a complimentary golf kit and a Youth on Course membership, giving them access to rounds of golf for \$5 or less across thousands of courses. Events like these provide ongoing opportunities for young athletes to develop their skills and build confidence through golf.

## Smiles at Children's

Because of you, we brought the joy of golf to children receiving care at Children's Wisconsin, setting up stations where young patients could smile, swing, and just be kids.

Your support brought this moment of light and play to a place that needs it most. Together, we created a space full of laughter and encouragement for families and children.



## Supporter Q&A

Each year, donors are asked why they support First Tee – Southeast Wisconsin. Here's what they had to say this year:

"It's not all about golf. What these kids get out of the experience will go a long way in their future."

"The opportunity for underserved communities to have access to non-traditional sports is so important for expanding life experiences and providing a space to build healthy life skills."

"Affordable, trustworthy programs that introduces golf to the next generation."

## Scenes from Spring



From top left to bottom right: Golf With Us Clinic, Youth Mentoring Golf Day, Howard Fuller Academy Clinic, School Program at Erin School

## Thank You Teachers!

In celebration of Teacher Appreciation Week, Mayo Clinic and First Tee – Southeast Wisconsin teamed up to recognize the incredible educators who bring the First Tee School Program to life. Thanks to the dedication of teachers at 86 local schools, over 34,000 students are learning life skills through the game of golf.

United by a shared commitment to education, we partnered with Mayo Clinic to offer these educators a complimentary round of golf at Dretzka Park Golf Course for our Teacher Appreciation Golf Outing. Thank you to everyone who participated and to the teachers making a lasting impact on the next generation.



11350 W. Theodore Trecker Way  
West Allis, WI 53214

414-727-5290

info@firstteesew.org

firstteesoutheastwisconsin.org

**Building Game Changers**

### Mission

Our mission is to impact the lives of young people by providing educational programs that build character and instill life-enhancing values through the game of golf.

### Vision

Our vision is that **all** kids in Southeast Wisconsin have the opportunity to build their strength of character through the game of golf.