

FROM THE MGA FOUNDATION



Official Newsletter of the MGA Foundation

November 2012



THE FIRST TEE OF METROPOLITAN NEW YORK

Founded in 2001 by the MGA Foundation and Met PGA, The First Tee of Metropolitan New York (TFTMNY) has grown from one location at Mosholu in the Bronx to six Met Area facilities and 14 affiliate sites. It is now the nation's largest and most active chapter and one of the area's leading youth development programs, with more than 3,000 young people directly enrolled in programs teaching the full First Tee curriculum. More than 40,000 are being impacted through outreach programs each year. In a year filled with achievements and special events, here are some of the highlights:

- Essex County Executive Joe DiVincenzo and TFTMNY officially opened **The First Tee Youth Learning Center at Essex County's Weequahic Park in Newark** on Wednesday, June 6. Benefactors Len Wilf and Art and Kevin Ryan were on hand for the dedication



and Freehold N.J. native J.R. Smith of the New York Knicks and his charitable Foundation hosted a clinic. The new facility will feature a computer lab area and classroom space for group learning and special presentations. The First Tee will provide after-school tutoring as well as golf and life skills instruction through its youth development curriculum, enabling TFTMNY to double the number of programs being offered, expand programs into full-year courses and provide a place for students to learn during inclement weather.

- The local chapter and First Tee facility at Eisenhower Park on Long Island joined forces to host **The National First Tee Life Skills and Leadership Academy**, July 25-31, to provide valuable character education and leadership instruction to select First Tee participants from across the country. This marked the first time The First Tee used a public golf course for its Academy and participants, who were housed at Hofstra University, and had access to Eisenhower Park's Red and Blue courses, as well as the Christopher Morley



executive nine-hole course. Three participants from the TFTMNY Chapter were among the 96 participants selected for the Academy. Pictured above with TFTMNY Executive Director Barry McLaughlin-left and MGA President Gene Bernstein-right are Brian Carty, Jamaica, N.Y. ; Jacob Cutler, Bellmore, N.Y. (both TFT Nassau County); and Sarah Gander, Fairfield, Conn. (TFT at Fairchild Wheeler).

- First Tee participants Christopher Johnson of Pomona, N.Y., and Rachel Floeder of St. Paul, Minn., were awarded the 2012

This event will help shape the outstanding First Tee participants into the leaders of tomorrow.

-Barry McLaughlin, Executive Director of TFTMNY on the 2012 Life Skills and Leadership Academy

Lew Rudin/First Tee Scholarship to New York University. The scholarship is named in honor of the late Lew Rudin, a NYU graduate who was one of the driving forces behind the founding of TFTMNY. Since

2003, six deserving students have been awarded the tuition scholarship based on their academic success and relationship with The First Tee. The scholarships are funded by the Lew Rudin Charity Golf Classic, which celebrated its 10th anniversary on August 20 at the Deepdale Golf Club in Manhasset, N.Y., and raised over \$200,000.

- Bobby Mazziotti of Westbury, N.Y., a participant at The First Tee of Nassau County, was named a semifinalist for the **2012 RBS Achievers of the Year** award. After Bobby's mother Betsy passed away from Lou Gehrig's disease, he used his leadership skills to lead a team of First Tee participants in building a deck at The First Tee of



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THE FIRST TEE OF METROPOLITAN NEW YORK

The First Tee Met NY cont'd

Nassau County. The deck is now used as an outdoor teaching facility and event space and has since been dedicated to Bobby's mother, naming it "Betsy's Backyard." For his efforts, Bobby received a \$3,000 scholarship to help fund his college education, which he received during the week of the U.S. Open at The Olympic Club. Bobby attended the U.S. Open and met Jack Nicklaus (pictured, p.1) and representatives from The First Tee, RBS, Golf Channel and the USGA.

- The **Young Benefactors** is a group of young professionals focused on supporting TFTMNY. They hosted a series of events in 2012, including a Kick-Off event at Drive 495 in Manhattan on January 24, a Masters week event, 19th Hole on the Park, held at New York Athletic Club on April 5 (below), a 9-hole Member-Guest on June 28, and a Happy Hour in New York City on July 29. All proceeds went directly to the Path to College, a one-of-a-kind program that offers a series of informative seminars focusing on educating TFTMNY participants on how to prepare for college. Path to College was featured on the Golf Channel's Golf Central on September 17.

- Kayla Jackson of Essex County and Winifred Shen (below-left) of Nassau County went behind the scenes at The Barclays as **Junior Course Reporters**. Each day they wrote blogs that were posted on PGATOUR.com.



- **The First Tee Girls Golf and FORE!** program was created in 2012 to help girls navigate their teenage years in a healthy and supportive environment. The program links over 100 girls that have a common love of golf to create a group that can safely and confidently share their ideas and concerns without being judged. This year's activities included the LPGA Sybase Match Play Championship for a behind-the-scenes look at the Golf Channel compound; a tour of the Brooklyn Grange Roof, a green rooftop farming initiative; a visit to the PGA TOUR's The Barclays at Bethpage and a New York Yankees game.

- Jeremy Garriga, a participant at The First Tee of Essex County, was the winner of TFTMNY's **Community Service Challenge**. Jeremy spearheaded a sock drive called "Soxcess" to provide socks and hats for those in need during the winter months at a shelter in Hoboken, N.J. Garriga was able to collect and distribute over 900 pairs of socks to residents of the shelter.



Educational Programs

The MGA Foundation's Educational forums are designed to educate club leaders and the golfing public about a wide range of topics. They include our three popular Handicap and Rules Seminars held in the spring, as well as the annual Green Chairmen Seminar. In addition, the annual MGA/Met PGA Rules Workshop was held at Brae Burn Country Club on March 27, and in October, the annual MGA Presidents Council was held at Canoe Brook Country Club, which attracted more than 180 club leaders. These events underscore the commitment of the MGA Foundation to provide our members with timely and relevant information that will help clubs remain healthy and prosperous.

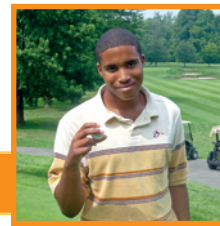


Caddie Academies

More than 450 youngsters participated in the MGA Foundation's annual Caddie Academies at nine Met Area clubs. Begun in 1995, these one-day, after-school programs include classroom and on-course training that focus on caddying fundamentals and course etiquette. For the first time, the Academies featured a new training video that was produced by the Met Caddie Master Association with support from the MGA Foundation and other local golf organizations. Open to all Met Area youth, they are free of charge, and participants receive certificates of completion to help with obtaining work at area golf clubs. Academies are conducted by MGA staff, local caddie masters and golf professionals.



GOLFWORKS



Now in its 19th year, the MGA Foundation's GOLFWORKS program continues to provide exposure to the game and its related careers. This year, 237 students served internships at 70 MGA member clubs. Participants were introduced to the many different career opportunities available in the golf industry by working in pro shops, clubhouses and with golf course maintenance staffs. In addition, the skills and exposure that these internships provide often extend well beyond club walls, with students interacting with positive role models and experiencing opportunities outside the golf community. We invite you to meet some of our outstanding 2012 interns:

- James Jiggetts, a second-year intern at Fenway Golf Club, credits GOLFWORKS for teaching him how to be more responsible both in the workplace and classroom.
- Metropolis Country Club in White Plains, N.Y., continued its 19-year tradition of supporting GOLFWORKS with interns Julie Hung and Awa Nyambi, both from nearby Woodlands HS. Julie and Awa worked on the club's outside operations staff and Hung was designated the MGA Foundation/Gene Borek Scholar, named in honor of the longtime head golf professional at Metropolis.
- Matthew St. Furcy completed a second-year internship at The Woodmere Club on Long Island and worked in a variety of positions at Woodmere, including stints in the locker room, grill room, outside operations, clubhouse office and grounds crew. A valuable employee, Matthew began school this fall at SUNY-Albany.

- Second-year intern Lauren Hutt of Brewster, N.Y., worked at Richter Park Golf Course in Danbury, Conn. Hutt parlayed her experience into a work-study position at Fordham University as a manager of the basketball team.
- Guatemalan native and first-year intern Josseline Jimenez from Lawrence, N.Y., worked as a cook at Rockaway Hunting Club. Jimenez on GOLFWORKS: "I get to do what I love to do—cook—and I love every minute of it!"
- Eugene Boakye-Firempong never envisioned working at a golf course when he moved from the African nation of Ghana to the United States. He worked at at Sunningdale



Country Club where he not only learned new skills and bettered his knowledge of English, but he now loves golf and hopes to continue to play. GOLFWORKS helped him gain entry into Georgia Tech this fall.

- Jelani Carrion, a third-year intern at Birchwood Country Club in Westport, Conn., earned a Westchester Golf Association Caddie Scholarship as a result of his internship and is currently attending Herkimer County Community College.

These are just a few of the many stories which highlight the impact that GOLFWORKS can have on young people's lives, many of whom are working for the first time, learning time management skills, responsibility, and a game they can play for the rest of their lives.

As always, our clubs are a vital component to the success of GOLFWORKS, providing guidance and training to young people with little or no prior exposure to a golf environment. We are indebted to them for their support.

Financial support is also key to the growth and success of the GOLFWORKS program and we would like to thank our generous sponsors: **Emblem Health, ICAP, MetLife, Astorial Financial,** and the **Michael J. Berkeley Foundation**, whose support has allowed GOLFWORKS to grow and provide meaningful summer work experiences to even more deserving young people. The MGA Foundation Day of Golf remains our most important fundraising event. This year's outing raised more than \$150,000 in support of GOLFWORKS due to the outstanding generosity of our supporters and our host, Baltusrol Golf Club in Springfield, N.J., where Crestmont's intern, Aaron Rhaney (right) was on hand to speak about how GOLFWORKS has impacted his life and influenced his career plans to become a teaching professional.



GOLFWORKS is a tremendous opportunity because it teaches young adults valuable life skills that will translate to anything they do in life, regardless if it's in the golf industry.

-Doug Vogel, Head Superintendent, Packanack Golf Club

Junior Competitions

95TH MET JUNIOR SPONSORED BY METLIFE Nissequoque GC, St. James, N.Y. July 17-20

The nation's oldest junior championship celebrated its 100th anniversary in 2012. Scott Kim of River Edge, N.J., survived six rounds of match play as well as scorching July heat and numerous severe weather delays to defeat Will Bernstein of New York, N.Y., in the finals, 3 & 2.



10TH CARTER CUP Baltusrol GC, Springfield, N.J. August 1



Jared Mactas of Woodcliff Lake, N.J., shot an even-par 71 on the Upper Course to claim the Carter Cup at historic Baltusrol. Celebrating its 10th anniversary, the event is an invitational named in honor of the late Michael P. Carter, an accomplished junior player and a standout member of the Delbarton School golf team and a promising player at Penn State who died in an accident in 2002. The Carter Cup is played as a collaborative effort between Baltusrol and the MGA Foundation.

44TH MGA/METLIFE BOYS CHAMPIONSHIP Gardiner's Bay CC, Shelter Island, N.Y. August 9 & 10

Fifteen-year-old Willis Huynh of Syosset, N.Y., captured the first major victory of his career with the 44th MGA/MetLife Boys Championship, defeating Vincent Palazzolo of Colts Neck, N.J., 3 & 2 in the final.



49TH WILLIAMSON CUP MATCHES Fieldstone GC, Greenville, Del. August 13

Cameron Young of Scarborough, N.Y., earned medalist honors with rounds of 66-66 while leading the MGA squad featuring Clancy Waugh, Theo Humphrey and Peter Kim to a 19-stroke victory, as the MGA torched the 10-team field to win its second consecutive title in this inter-city junior competition founded by late Winged Foot member A.Fred Williamson.



MGA / METLIFE YOUTH CLINICS

Once again, the MGA Foundation and MetLife joined forces in an effort to introduce young people throughout the area to the game of golf and the life lessons that it can teach by hosting three MGA/MetLife Youth Clinics.

The series tee'd off on May 19 as part of the LPGA Sybase Match Play Championship at Hamilton Farm Golf Club in Gladstone, N.J. More than 40 participants from The First Tee of Metropolitan New York's Plainfield West and Weequahic Park sites were treated to an afternoon of instruction and games and the opportunity to see some of the LPGA's best players in action. A team of NJPGA teaching professionals led the students in putting, chipping and full-swing instruction.

On July 25, the USGA Golf House in Far Hills, N.J., hosted 85 juniors representing First Tee programs at Plainfield West in Edison, N.J., Weequahic Park in Newark, N.J., and Raritan Valley in Kenilworth, N.J., along with the LPGA/USGA Girls Golf of Greater Newark. All enjoyed a day of golf history, technology, and games with a guided tour of the USGA Museum and Arnold Palmer Center for Golf History, demonstrations at the USGA Research & Test Center, and putting practice on the Pynes Putting Course.

The final clinic of the season took place on August 20 at the historic Plainfield Country Club in Edison, N.J., which ran in conjunction with the MGA/MetLife Caddie Scholarship Pro-Am at the 97th Met Open Championship. A group of 65 enthusiastic junior golfers from First Tee sites across New Jersey were instructed by The First Tee at Plainfield West Program Director Billy Castner and Plainfield Assistant Pro Toby Hearn in activities to improve their golf swings, body awareness, and body rotation.

MetLife's jovial ambassador and mascot, Snoopy, was on hand for all three youth clinics to meet kids and represent MetLife's commitment to support junior golf in the Metropolitan Area. MetLife has been a partner of the MGA for more than 30 years and has a long history of community service and supporting MGA Foundation junior golf initiatives.



SUPPORT THE FOUNDATION

The MGA Foundation, as a 501(c)3 organization, relies on contributions in order to continue our important work and fund many of our initiatives. The MGA would like to thank the many members of the golf community and our member clubs who have given so generously to this cause and who continue to ensure that "Golf Grows Here" in the Met Area.

Here's how to give to the MGA Foundation:

- Cash - tax deductible to the full extent allowable by law.
- Bequests - cash, securities, property designated to the Foundation in your will.
- Life Insurance - Designate the MGA Foundation as a beneficiary.
- Appreciated stocks, bonds or real estate - donations of these items can be easily accommodated through the MGA Foundation office.

