



Parent Information Guide

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Hi First Tee Families!

On behalf of the staff, board of directors, coaches, and volunteers, I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to First Tee - Golden Isles. We are excited for the opportunity to expose your child to the game of golf and more importantly the positive values, life skills, and healthy habits that are inherent to the game. Through First Tee's Golf & Life Skills Experience, your child will be exposed to life skills such as Interpersonal Communication and Goal Setting, Core Values such as Respect, Honesty, and Judgment, and Healthy Habits related to Social, Emotional, and Physical well-being. As your child progresses through the different levels of our program, they will have the opportunity to learn a myriad of skills that will help them both on and off the golf course.

As a non-profit organization, we rely heavily on the support of our community through financial contributions and donations of time. Volunteers are an integral part of our program and help us greatly in our mission to impact the lives of young people through character education. Many of the coaches you will interact with during your time in our program are volunteers who give their time to make a difference. I encourage you and your participant to take a moment to thank them for donating their valuable time.

Welcome to First Tee of the Golden Isles --- I look forward to seeing you soon!

Sincerely,

Kevin Vinson
Program Director
First Tee - Golden Isles

About First Tee – Golden Isles

Our Mission

Our mission at First Tee - Golden Isles is 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.

Our Vision

First Tee - Golden Isles will give young people of all backgrounds the opportunity to develop into contributing citizens by learning core values, life skills, and healthy habits inherent to the game of golf. This will be done by establishing partnerships with communities, golf courses, and other non-profit organizations to offer the largest network of access points.

Parent Guide and Orientation

At First Tee - Golden Isles, participants receive golf instruction integrated with First Tee Golf and Life Skills Experience in a seamless manner with an intention for young people to grow to become better golfers, and even more important, better members of their community. In addition, they will learn the fundamentals of the golf swing as well as etiquette and rules of the game. Lessons will be delivered in a fun, activity-based, group setting with trained coaches and volunteers.

Parent Expectations

Two of our Nine Core Values at First Tee are responsibility and perseverance. We believe children learn best by example and showing up for class is an easy way to practice being responsible and honoring one's commitments. Obviously, things do come up and people do take ill, schedule family vacations, etc. so we understand missing a class occasionally. When students know they are to miss a class, we ask that the student AND parents both notify the program director. Make-up classes will not be scheduled.

- **Parent sign in / sign out**
 - Parents/Guardians must sign their child(ren) in and out of each class they attend.
 - Please make sure that participants are picked up promptly after the session.
 - Parents are welcome to stay and observe the class, however they may not participate in the instruction during the class or interact directly with children during class sessions unless registered and trained as a First Tee Assistant Coach.

Participant Expectations

Participants are expected to abide by the First Tee's Commitment to Being A Game-Changer:

- Pursuing Goals
 - I am excited to grow and learn.
 - I am learning from both my achievements and setbacks.
 - I am not afraid to fail.
- Growing through Challenge
 - I am discovering my inner strength.
 - I am developing resilience.
 - I can dig deep when things get tough.
- Collaborating with Others
 - I respect other perspectives, especially when they are different from mine.
 - I show kindness, consideration, and care for others.
 - I know that my attitude and how I treat others have an impact.
- Building Positive Self-Identity
 - I am finding my self-confidence.
 - I am discovering what I am capable of.
 - I feel safe to be myself
- Using Good Judgment.
 - I respect rules in golf in life.
 - I am honest with myself and others.
 - I have the courage to do what's right, even when it's hard.

Additionally participants should:

- Dress neatly and wear golf or athletic shoes. No open toed shoes are allowed. Collared shirt and khaki shorts or pants are preferable. It is highly recommended that participants wear a hat to protect themselves from the sun and bring a filled water bottle to stay hydrated.
- Be honest with themselves and others when keeping score or breaking a rule.
- Follow all instructions and safety rules.
- Show responsibility for their surroundings by keeping the golf course and practice areas clean and in as good or better shape than they found it.
- Attend all classes and report on time.
- Bring equipment and class material to all classes.

What You Can Expect From Us

At First Tee - Golden Isles, golf and life skills are seamlessly incorporated into each experience. Your child will receive golf instruction integrated with First Tee Golf and Life Skills Experience in a seamless manner with an intention for young people to grow to become better golfers, and even more important, better members of their community. First Tee - Golden Isles has taken steps to make our programs more enjoyable and safer for the children who participate in them. We do our very best to ensure that our coaches are the kind of role models who represent the values of First Tee.

- We will do our best to teach both Golf and Life Skills in an organized and fun manner.
- We will strive to get to know every participant involved in the program and provide them with a solid background in the fundamentals of the game of golf.
- We will do our best to model the Core Values of First Tee and insist that our students do the same.

Golf Equipment

Golf equipment will be provided to any participant in First Tee - Golden Isles' program who does not have their own equipment. Any golf equipment received by the participant is the property of First Tee - Golden Isles and must be returned at the discretion of the chapter upon the termination of the participant's involvement of the program.

In Case of Inclement Weather

Parents will be contacted via phone or text no more than 2 hours prior to class in the event of inclement weather resulting in class cancellation. Our organization compares multiple weather apps, but primarily uses Accuweather.com and The Weather Channel and will only consider canceling classes if the predicted inclement weather is 70% or greater or the temperature is below 45 degrees.

Payment and Refund Policies

Cash and check payment may only be submitted directly to the Program Director or the Executive Director. Credit card payment and Financial Assistance may be completed online or in person. If you have paid but desire a refund for any reason you must contact us one week prior to the start of programs to receive a full refund. Within one week of the start of programs we will issue a 50% refund.