

The Scorecard: our quarterly newsletter

The promise we make, and how we deliver it:

First Tee builds experiences that build character. As a youth development organization, we believe experiences are our greatest teacher and that they should be both fun and meaningful, where kids feel excited to grow, safe to fail and better equipped for whatever comes their way.

By seamlessly integrating the game of golf with a life skills curriculum, we create active learning experiences that build inner strength, self-confidence and resilience that kids carry to everything they do.



A Message from our Executive Director - Jessani Johnson



Happy 2023 to you all. The year is off to a WET start. I hope you all have managed to stay safe and dry. As I'm writing this it's pouring outside, classes have once again been postponed at several sites, and evacuations are even in place for several areas of the central coast. The good news is once we get through this weather we should have some drought relief ahead and some beautiful golf courses. Our coaches have been flexible as always navigating each day as it comes, postponing classes, scheduling make up days and making sure to keep everyone safe. We appreciate our coaches diligence, our FT parent's patience, and our supporters generosity...thank you all. Please read below about everything we have going on this spring, including National Opportunities, participant accomplishments, Spring registration, and our upcoming fundraiser, First Tee Spring Classic at the beautiful SLO Country Club!

A Message from our Program Director - Billy Gibbs, PGA



I am pleased to report from sunny and very dry Florida, that 2023 is off to a great start, especially considering the unprecedented wet start we've had on the central coast. With 407 registered participants, our chapter reached 96% of its winter session goal numbers. Well done coaches, and kudos for being so adaptable and flexible with your schedules.

As most of you already know, my wife and I are now residing in Port St Lucie, Fla. Although I may be across the country, I am still the current Program Director and am actively carrying out the majority of the program directors' duties and responsibilities virtually. Additionally, I plan on making a number of trips back to the central coast this year for special events, coach trainings and program observations.

FTCC still has my full attention and will always have my heart. Let's get ready for a much drier and successful spring. Hope to see you all next month at our Spring Classic on April 17th at SLO CC.

A Message from our Board Chairman - Dr. Rob Moss



2023 marks the start of my 7th year of being the Board Chair for our First Tee Chapter. I've been on the board and involved since our inception over 20 years ago. I am extremely proud of where we started and how far we have come.

On behalf of the board of directors of First Tee – Central Coast, I would like to acknowledge the tremendous efforts of our staff, coaches, volunteers, supporters, parents and especially our young men and women, who made 2022 such a success.

Our mission is to positively impact the lives of the young people of the Central Coast area by providing educational programs that build character and instill life-enhancing values through the game of golf. 2022 marks another year of incredible accomplishments. Over the past 12 months, we have increased enrollment, added several new Board Members, trained new coaches, achieved the highest standards on our operational goals, sent multiple FTCC participants to National Opportunities, and qualified for the Charles Schwab Grant for the 2nd year in a row...just to name a few accomplishments!

As we embark into 2023, we look forward to growing the success we have had recently and to continuing our important mission of providing opportunities to the youth we serve so that they may succeed now and into the future.

We are always looking for new board members to join our team. Please reach out to Jessani or myself if you would like to know more.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Rob

Challenge Accomplished!

Your gift can go further thanks to
the Charles Schwab Challenge Grant.

Thanks Charles Schwab



Thanks to all of your donations In 2022, we
qualified for year two (of five) for this
amazing grant opportunity.

Lets see if we can do It again In 2023!

The Charles Schwab Challenge Grant continues this year allowing all contributions in 2023 to have the potential to go even farther. In order to take advantage of this years challenge our chapter has to match our donor generated revenue of last year and once we do... For every \$2 donated from that point on, Charles Schwab will match with an additional \$1. Our chapter's ability to receive this match will be tied directly to your support! This will be a challenge but I know we can do It!

"My First Tee coaches and mentors have helped me grow into a hardworking and kind leader with the tools I need to change the world!."

-First Tee alumna Claire Alford

" 2023 Events (you won't want to miss!)"

Mark your calendars:

- Spring Classic Golf Tournament at SLOCC - April 17th - [REGISTER NOW](#) or [CLICK HERE](#) to download the FLYER. Come join the fun...spots are filling fast!
- 9th Annual Tom McFadden Golf Tournament at Santa Barbara Golf Club on July 8th. [Click HERE](#) to register now.
- Fall Classic Golf Tournament at the Alisal Ranch Course In Solvang on October 16th. Registration coming soon on our website, www.FirstTeeCentralCoast.org and click on "events".



Have golf equipment
cluttering up your garage?
We can help!



Contact our First Tee Coach Matt
to schedule a pick up at (805)704-5983 or
matt.craddock@yahoo.com. All donations benefit
our chapter & we will provide you with a tax receipt.

National Participant Opportunities: 2022



National Opportunity First Tee Game Changers Academy

Congratulations to Augustin Nguyen!

Austin is a 6 year First Tee veteran and part of the 2025 class at Mission Prep. Augustin acts as a peer mentor with Coach Terri. Away from the golf course, Augustin helps at his local church and enjoys playing piano and audio/video software editing!



Congratulations to our Chapter's
PURE Insurance Championship
Selections:

Jeffrey Forster (Santa Barbara)
Cooper Groshart (Laguna Lake)



Join us in congratulating these participants on their
National Opportunity Selections!

First Tee National Championship
Cooper Grosshart

First Tee College Scholarship
Program

Jacob Zakaria- Class of 2022

First Tee Game Changers
Academy

Jacob Cameron
Emma Dodson
Augustin Nguyen



Congratulations to Emma Dodson!

National Opportunity First Tee Game Changers Academy

Emma is only 14 years of age but has been a participant at Coach Billy's Blacklake GC program for 8 years already! Most recently she has begun helping as a peer mentor with the younger classes. She plays Golf for her local golf team but also likes to get out and rock climb, read and hang out with her friends in her downtime.



Jacob is 17 and going to be a senior at Arroyo Grande High School coming this Fall. While he has worked with almost all of the First Tee Central Coast Coaches, his main programming and peer mentoring site is at Blacklake GC with Master Coach Billy Gibbs. Jacob stays busy throughout the year participating on his high school golf team along with playing piano and guitar!



Congratulations
to
Jacob Cameron!

National Opportunity
First Tee
Game Changers Academy



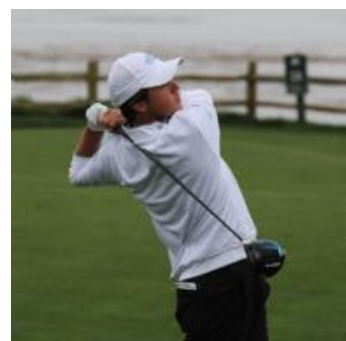
Olin Browne, PGA & Jeffrey



David McKenzie, PGA & Cooper



Coach Terri & Cooper



Jeffrey

Congratulations to our FTCC National Participants.
We are so proud to have you represent our chapter!



Don't miss out...

SPRING REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

Many classes are full but we have space in some! To register, visit our website at FirstTeeCentralCoast.org - click on

"Register My Child"

Click [HERE](#) for the Spring Schedule.

Summer registration opens May 1st at 8am.

2023 National Opportunities

Once your teen is ready to take their First Tee experience to the next level, we've got you covered. First Tee has national events to inspire and encourage high school students on a deeper level. From being mentored by PGA TOUR Champions players at Pebble Beach to a 5 day learning and empowerment academy, FT national events are about expanding horizons, meeting new people, opening doors and guiding teens to be more confident in themselves.

Cooper, Jeffrey, Augustin, Emma, Jacob C and Jacob Z (featured above) are all great examples of FTCC participants that have taken full advantage of FT National Opportunities and this could be you (or your child) too! You can see the impact these national opportunities can have for the teenagers that participate. There are leadership opportunities, golf opportunities as well as scholarships available for those that stick with the First Tee programs into their teen years. Each opportunity has its own set of requirements and I encourage you to look through them and discuss with your kids & their coaches. Contact your First Tee Coach, Billy Gibbs and or myself if you have questions about eligibility or have interest in applying. In many cases the cost to attend is covered either by First Tee National or by our chapter, with limited cost to the participant and their family. [See below for the 2023 planned opportunities.](#) Due dates are coming up quickly for most of these. Don't miss out on ALL First Tee has to offer!

We're Building Game Changers

Kids become a better version of themselves when they have the space to be who they are, surrounded by passionate people who guide them to see what they are capable of. As parents and guardians, you're living this out every day, and we're here to partner with you. Our trained coaches create safe, supportive and empowering environments to help your child(ren) prepare for life ahead, including friendships, school, college and even their careers.

- First Tee National Championship | July 2-6
Application Deadline: March 29, 2023
- Game Changers Academy Honoring Joe Louis Barrow, Jr | July 18-22 Participant Application
Deadline: March 29, 2023
- First Tee Participant advisory Council |
Application Deadline: March 29, 2023
- PURE Insurance Championship Impacting the First Tee | September 19-24 Application
Deadline: March 29, 2023
- First Tee Drive your Future Academy Powered by John Deere | October 5-9 Application Deadline:
July 12, 2023
- First Tee Innovators Forum | November 9-12
Application Deadline: July 12, 2023

FTCC Coaches, Participants & Alumni Accomplishments



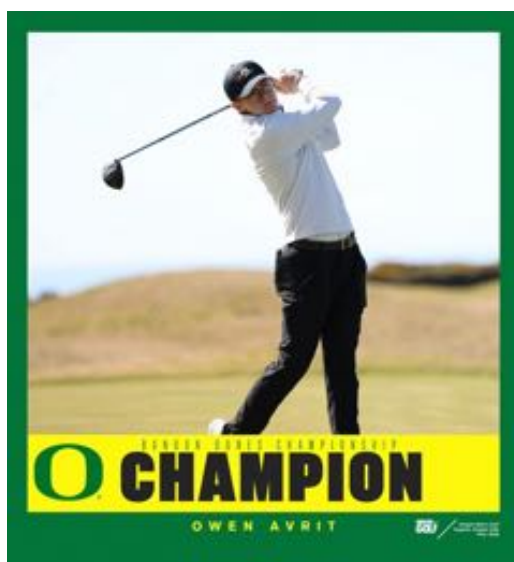
Coach Julia was Awarded Golf Professional of the year for the Southern California PGA Section-Northern Chapter



Cooper gets a Hole In One at Pebble Beach during the practice round of the PURE Championship.



Coach Terri was Awarded First Tee Coach of the year for our First Tee Central Coast Chapter



FTCC Alum Owen Avrit gets his 3rd NCAA collegiate win this year at Bandon Dunes.



Former FTCC ED, Butch's granddaughter, Ellinor Sudow, makes the LPGA Tour & will display the FTCC logo on her golf bag!



River Oaks Participant, Julianna made It to CIF playoffs!



SBGC Participant, Jamaica made It to CIF playoffs!



ftCC Alum, Claire (left) got the honor of Interviewing President George W Bush at the FT Network Meeting

How can you help?

Many people don't realize that we are a non-profit and we have to raise our own funds to pay for our amazing coaching team, staff, financial aid, no-fee programs, equipment etc. All contributions are tax deductible and our tax ID # is 77-0524816. We are so grateful for our amazing community of generous donors. There are a variety of easy ways you can help our organization. Please take a look and see if any will work for you.

- [Make a donation](#) of ANY amount.
- **Donate Used Golf Equipment:** We will also take your used golf equipment anytime. You can just let us know and we will come pick it up & send you a tax donation receipt. Contact Matt Craddock at (805) 704-5983 for pick up arrangements.
- **Facebook Fundraisers:** If you're on Facebook I'm sure you've had friends post about birthday fundraisers...and they don't even have to be for your birthday you can do them anytime and choose the charity of your choice as the recipient. You can search for us on facebook under First Tee – Central Coast. Either way you should join us on Facebook to see fun pictures of our programs...click [HERE](#) to like our FB page. You can find us on Twitter and Instagram as well.
- **Planned Giving:** Click [HERE](#) to learn more about how you can leave a lasting gift that could impact our chapter for years to come.
- **Buy GOLF MANIA Tickets!** (See details below)

It's Golf Mania Time!



Golf Mania Ticket fundraiser is here and is a fun way to give back to our local chapter programs.

Four chances to WIN BIG for only \$20.00!!! Basically that's \$5 for each Tournament to have a chance to win some cash! It all starts with The Masters on April 6th, PGA Championship May 18th, US Open June 15th and finally The British Open July 20th!

\$20.00 gets you 34 chances to win in each 4 major championships – (\$14 dollars goes straight to our chapter!!)

Each game card has a 1 in 20 chance of winning plus allows the purchaser to download \$30 worth of music from new artists!!! Cards are pre-assigned 5 golfers. Prizes are awarded at the end of each tournament to the cards whose 5 golfers have the 31 best (and 3 worst) total combined scores.

Tickets can be purchase online by using the QR-Code above or by [clicking HERE](#).

Good Luck and thank you for supporting our chapter!

We are looking for people to join our board of directors.

Please contact Jessani at jessani@FirstTeeCentralCoast.org or Rob at robmoss48@yahoo.com for more Information.

Thank you to our dedicated Board of Directors:

Dr. Robert Moss – Board Chairman,
Matt Porter – Vice Chairman,
Mia Cameron, – Secretary, Aaron Crocker – Treasurer
Sheila Davidson, Andrew Sherman, Carrie McDonnell Wood,
Whitt Hollis, Randy Shannon, PGA, David Posnick, Thayer White,
Manuel Arceo,, Rick Cohen, Bill Widner & Eric Bell

Thank you to the following golf courses that generously welcome our First Tee Programs:

Blacklake Golf Resort – Monarch Dunes
Santa Maria Country Club – The Mission Club
La Purisima Golf Course
Laguna Lake Golf Course – Morro Bay Golf Course
Hunter Ranch Golf Course
Santa Barbara Golf Club – Sea Pines Golf Course
Glen Annie Golf Course – Dairy Creek Golf Course
River Oaks Golf Course

Meet FTCC Mom & Author - Lauri Kriva

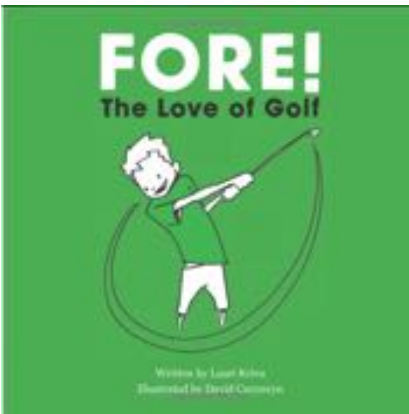


FORE! The Love of Golf tells the story of a young boy named Axl, determined to learn the game of golf. Through his ups and downs, he discovers there is more to success on the golf course than hitting a great shot, and finds his superpower in a place he never expected – his own mind.

Author, Lauri Kriva is a certified meditation and mindfulness teacher, a health coach and a collector of children's books. Her son, Axl's, experience learning how to play golf through First Tee and USKG inspired her to write Fore! The Love of Golf. Though Lauri never set out to write a children's book about golf, it took shape when her son Axl got more serious about the sport during COVID, and she spent a lot of time learning the basics through his eyes. 3 things in particular led her to put pen to paper:

First, there were a limited number of books for kids on the topic and she wanted something that covered the basics of the game in a fun, relatable way that had cool illustrations. Second, as a meditation and mindfulness teacher, Lauri also found golf is an incredible tool for turning obstacles into opportunities, which, when you are learning golf, is most of the experience on the course! It's all about mindset and tuning into the present moment, a great lesson for kids (and adults alike). Finally, the game is universal. It brings people together across all cultures, ages, backgrounds and skill levels, and gets them outdoors into nature. It has been a wonderful way for her family to share, learn and connect with each other.

Lauri lives with her family in Santa Barbara, CA and can be found online at www.swellheart.com. You can purchase her book here: <https://a.co/d/i2oCIEe>



FIRST TEE KIDS:

Learn the game of golf & how it relates to life

Focus on Interpersonal & self management skills on and off the course

Emphasis on setting goals and making them a reality

Learn conflict resolution, resilience and how to plan for the future

Put It all together and hone in on setting goals, career education and giving back to the community



Amazing things our donors made possible in 2022

- 29,424** The number of kids served through our Schools Program & Community Outreach.
- 2,232** The number of kids served through regular 9 weeks sessions at 14 Central Coast locations.
- 916** The number of participants who received financial aid to attend our regular after school programs.
- 470** The number of kids served through our partnerships with Vandenberg SFB, Girls Inc, People's Self Help Housing, YMCA's & Bulldogs programs at NO cost to the families or organizations.
- 764** The number of teens served through our Middle School Program. Our trained FT coaches delivering FT curriculum in PE classes.
- 40%** Percentage of our participants reached who are female.
- 47%** Percentage of our participants reached from underrepresented communities enrolled at chapter-led programming locations.
- 127** Number of military family participants that attended our programs at low to no cost.
- 6** Participants from our chapter that were accepted and attended FT National Opportunities.
- 38** Active Coaches (11 new coaches in 2022)
- \$19,666** Dollar amount we will receive from the Charles Schwab Matching Grant Challenge thanks to your generosity.

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. Your support helps make this possible.

Building experiences that build character

First Tee Fun

