

2023 Annual Report







9 first tee®

central coast







First Tee Kids & Teens:

Learn the game of golf & how It relates to life

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

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

Emphasis on setting goals and making them a reality Put It all together and hone In on setting goals, career education, and giving back to the community

a word from our executive director

Dear Friends of First Tee - Central Coast,

As we look back on the accomplishments of our chapter in 2023, we are filled with gratitude for the remarkable impact we have had on the lives of youth in our community. Through our dedicated staff and impactful programming, we were able to reach over 30,000 kids and teens, providing valuable resources and opportunities for growth.

With the support of our community partners, we have strengthened and continued our programs at 14 golf courses, 56 elementary schools, 5 middles schools and partnered with numerous other organizations, fostering skills that extend far beyond the golf course.

At all levels, our kids and teens have the opportunity to play, learn and appreciate the game of golf and how it relates to life, as they focus on the key commitments to becoming a Game Changer: Pursuing Goals, Growing through Challenge, Collaborating with Others, Building Positive Self-Identity, and Using Good Judgement.

Thank you for your unwavering support, which has enabled us to continue our mission of making a positive difference in the lives of young individuals. We are excited to see what the future holds as we strive to create even more meaningful impact.

Sincerely.

Jessani Johnson Executive Director

Programs

Our 2023 Impact





3 Counties



14 program locations



61 elementary & middle schools



16 community partnership locations







About Us

Our programs happen daily at golf facilities, schools, and through community partners throughout Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo Counties. Participants ages 5 – 18 progress through the program over time, deepening their understanding of life skills and golf development. The integrated approach helps kids and teens build confidence and resilience for when they are on the course, at home and in school. Every participant has the opportunity to:

- Focus on interpersonal and selfmanagement skills on and off the golf course
- Set goals and put strategies in place to make them a reality
- Learn conflict resolution, resilience and how to plan for the future
- Make healthy choices and use good judgement
- Get out on a golf course to learn the game of golf and how it relates to life



2023 Outreach:

First Tee curriculum delivered by FTCC Coaches at no cost to these partner youth organizations

People's Self Help Housing:

2 six class sessions reching 36 particiopants

YMCAs In Santa Ynez Valley:

3 six week sessions reaching 49 participants

GIrls Inc In Carpinteria:

1 week Spring Break Camp reaching 9 participants

Bulldogs Special Olympians:

1 six week session reaching 16 participants

Vandenberg Space Force Base:

4 six week sessions reaching 195 military base participants

Laguna, Paulding, Carpinteria, Santa Barbara & La Cumbre Middle Schools:

6 sessions at each school reaching 929 teens



Our son was born a micro-preemie and spent the first six months of his life in the hospital. He has some chronic challenges as a result, but he works hard to not let those challenges define him or limit what he is capable of.

After participating in a few team sports, it became clear that our son's athletic experiences were going to be different than we dreamed...he needed them to be different. His pediatrician suggested First Tee. Golf isn't so dependent upon being the fastest, the most aggressive, having the best fine motor skills, or the most cunning strategy. At its core, it's a game against yourself. And that was the type of competition my son needed. Him against him. Him against his chronic challenges. Before First Tee, sporting experiences would highlight the things that made him different. But First Tee highlights his dedication, his pace, his patience, his skills to the best of his body's ability. He has flourished in the First Tee program, which he rates as a 11/10!

As a parent, I enjoy the personal attributes that are taught, which help the children to be kind, supportive team mates and competitors. I enjoy the encouragement from the coaches to show up as your best self and leave it all on the course. I appreciate the scholarship program, which we have been fortunate to benefit from in the past, for those families who are experiencing hardships. It's clear that the goal of First Tee is nothing more than to teach kids to love the sport of golf and to be good humans. I think First Tee accomplishes that year after year. I thank First Tee for providing an athletic experience where my son can shine. We never take any of those moments for granted and are forever grateful.

- Sara (First Tee Central Coast parent)



Since I began with The First Tee, I have gotten better and better at golf because of the amazing coaches who have helped me. But I have also become a better person because of the example they have always set by being so helpful and kind to me. Whatever I needed, I have always been able to count on people like my coaches Billy Gibbs and Darren Avrit to either help me, or point me in the right direction to get help.

The First Tee has taught me more than just how to hit a golf ball, it has taught me the importance of really helping other people wherever you can. Getting more involved now as a

junior coach has helped me feel more confident in my leadership skills, and I love being able to help other kids learn the game. It is really satisfying to see kids enjoying golf the way I did when I first started, and I feel like I am part of their life by being there for them at practice each week. I know that when you are a little kid, you really look up to those coaches and older kids around you and that has made me even more aware of being a good example in other areas of my life too.

Sophia Waddell - FTCC Participant & Junior Mentor



I appreciate the lessons shared throughout the course of the First Tee program. Safety, consideration, respect, and listening skills are life-long lessons that go beyond the links. His golf is improving as well. I cannot recommend this program enough.



Christopher - FTCC Father



Our Key Differentiator

Our coaches' ability to develop impactful relationships with our participants is the backbone of our program.

As we continue to grow and impact more kids and teens, we thank our coaches who serve as mentors, seamlessly integrating the game of golf with a character-building life skills curriculum. They create active learning experiences that build inner strength, self-confidence, and resilience that kids can carry to everything they do.



43 active coaches



3 staff members



Mike Brabenec, PGA FTCC 2023 Coach of the Year



Commitment to **Being a Game Changer**

I can change the game and change the world by simply being the best version of myself.

I am a Game Changer.



Pursuing Goals

Excited to grow and learn, not afraid to fail, and learning from both achievements and setbacks

Growing through Challenge

By discovering inner strength, developing resilience and digging deep when things get tough.

Collaborating with Others

Respecting other perspectives, showing kindness, consideration, and care for others, and knowing that our attitude and how we treat others have an impact.



82%

felt more confident with social skills

73%

reported higher confidence In academic ability





Building Positive Self-Identity

Finding self-confidence, discovering what we are capable of, and feeling safe to be ourselves.



Using Good Judgment

Respecting rules in golf and in life, being honest with ourselves and others, and having the courage to do what's right, even when it's hard.

Experiences are our greatest teacher. First Tee believes in developing the ones that are just as fun as they are meaningful, where kids feel excited to grow, safe to fail, and better equipped for whatever comes their way next.

Participants in the First Tee Program engage with trained, caring adult coaches and mentors, and interact with a curriculum that is both developmentally and age-appropriate to meet participants where they are and address their ever-changing needs—including their emotional and social needs as they are surrounded by and working with peers their same age.



Key Commitments



85%

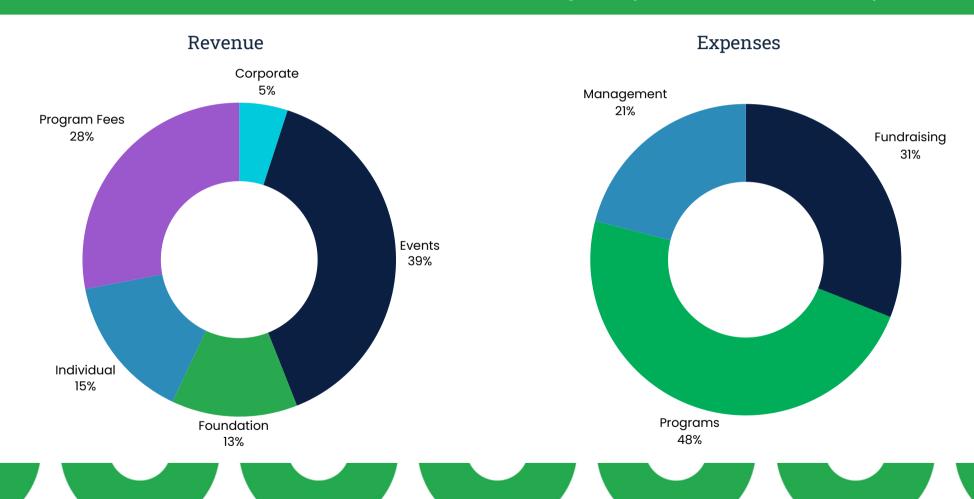
of alumni credit the First Tee for helping them be a better student 91%

of alumni were engaged in community service while in First Tee

Financial Stability

Thank you to the individuals, grant funders, corporate partners, organizations and donors who continue to support First Tee — Central Coast's mission of empowering youth.

We frame all decisions, strategies, personnel, programs, and community outreach with the single focus on what is best for our participants. Each chapter within the First Tee network is funded locally, 100% of all monetary contributions goes towards funding First Tee — Central Coast programs. Every dollar helps ensure that the lives of the kids and teens are positively affected within our community.



First Tee — Central Coast

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Thank you to our partners who continue to support First Tee — Central Coast's mission of empowering youth! We couldn't do It without you!



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Supporting Golf Courses

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







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