



## **Parent Handbook**

### **Mission Statement:**

*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.*

### **Nine Core Values**

Integrity  
Honesty  
Sportsmanship  
Perseverance  
Respect  
Courtesy  
Confidence  
Judgment  
Responsibility

## **FIRST TEE – CANTON STAFF AND CONTACT INFORMATION**

Angela Palomba – Executive Director – [apalomba@firstteecanton.org](mailto:apalomba@firstteecanton.org)

Terry Taylor – Program Director, Golf Professional – [ttaylor@firstteecanton.org](mailto:ttaylor@firstteecanton.org)

Mindy Pamer – Outreach Coordinator – [mpamer@firstteecanton.org](mailto:mpamer@firstteecanton.org)

Nanci Miller – Development Coordinator – [nmiller@firstteecanton.org](mailto:nmiller@firstteecanton.org)

Carin Herberghs – Administrative Assistant – [cherberghs@firstteecanton.org](mailto:cherberghs@firstteecanton.org)

OPEN – Course Maintenance

<http://www.firstteecanton.org>

First Tee – Canton  
2525 25<sup>th</sup> Street NE  
P.O. Box 7555  
Canton, OH 44705

[admin@firstteecanton.org](mailto:admin@firstteecanton.org)

330-452-5331

## **ABOUT US**

First Tee – Canton is a non-profit youth development facility and learning center that provides young people an opportunity to learn life-enhancing values, character development, and healthy habits through the game of golf.

First Tee – Canton is a chapter-owned and operated nine-hole, par-3 golf course with irrigated fairways and synthetic Tour Turf greens. The facility has a putting green and a 17 station driving range. The Deuble Learning Center includes a heated and air-conditioned golf practice space including hitting mats, putting green, and two state-of-the-art simulators. Our facility also has a multi-purpose educational space with a small kitchen and educational smartboard.

## **FIRST TEE LIFE SKILLS EXPERIENCE**

First Tee teaches young people life skills and character education through the game of golf. Its research-proven programs are having a positive impact on participants, their families and their communities.

First Tee – Canton is one of 150 chapters that collectively deliver programs at more than 1,200 golf locations around the United States and in select international locations. First Tee – Canton delivers its life skills curriculum to young people ages 5 to 18 at First Tee – Canton Learning Center and various golf course partners. First Tee – Canton coaches go through First Tee's extensive training

(eLearning and in-person), helping increase the on- and off-course success of all participants. The phased, educational and experiential training program takes approximately two to three years to complete. As a result, our coaches are equipped to create positive relationships that inspire young people to look to their future, set goals and discover their potential.

Programs are also delivered through outreach partners including the School Program at Forty - two elementary schools, Community Program at eleven YMCA locations, and various field trip opportunities for other youth-serving organizations.

First Tee Life Skills Experience focuses on educating youth on First Tee Nine Core Values. The Core Values are delivered seamlessly by utilizing the game of golf. Golf serves as an ideal context for youth character education because acquiring golf skills requires confronting challenges and a commitment over time. Moreover, golf has many rules, some are technical and many are reliant upon the qualities of character embodied in First Tee's Nine Core Values. Golf is the only game where a referee does not call the penalty. The golfer, not a referee, is required to report a rules infraction and apply the penalty to him or herself.

### **REGISTRATION**

Please register your participant(s) through our online registration portal. Go to [www.firstteecanton.org](http://www.firstteecanton.org) and select register. If your child has already been in our classes, please do not create a new account—type in your email and password to log in. If you do not remember your password, type in your email then select forgot password. You can add all of your children to your household and track their progress to see their eligibility for classes.

During the registration process, you will be required to agree to our waivers and releases. If you have questions on those releases, please contact our Executive Director. Lindsay's Law is a new state law for all youth sports organizations. Participants and parents must sign off on the forms before being eligible to participate in classes.

### **CANCELLATIONS**

If there is a cancellation, 10% of the program fee will be retained by First Tee - Canton. If the participant registration is cancelled within two weeks of the class, refunds will not be issued.

### **PROGRAM FEES**

There is a program fee, but our goal is that no child will be denied participation due to financial considerations: any family needing a scholarship may request assistance, whether it be partial or full. We have scholarship applications available on our website. Please visit our website to review the current class fees or contact our office with any questions.

Discounts are available for participants that sign up for both summer sessions and for families with more than two children. Please contact our office for assistance in getting the discounts set up.

### **SCHEDULE**

Please drop off/pick up your child(ren) on time. If you are going to be late, please contact our office at 330-452-5331 x 0. Most classes last an hour and a half.

First Tee - Canton golf course is not open to public use at this time. However, we do allow participants in the program to play and/or practice when we do not have classes scheduled. Please contact our office if you are interested in scheduling a time to play outside or use the indoor facility and simulators. We do have facility rentals available if you are interested in renting the course, pavilion or indoor space for events and/or parties. Please contact our office for more information.

### **COMMUNICATION**

We communicate mostly through emails, so please check them often. Information is also posted on our Facebook page and website ([www.firstteecanton.org](http://www.firstteecanton.org)). Each month we send out an e-newsletter with important information and updates. If you do not receive the newsletter, contact our office to be added. We will also utilize a text platform if we need to cancel a class due to an extreme weather emergency.

### **GOLF EQUIPMENT**

The participant does not need his or her own golf equipment to participate in First Tee - Canton. If a participant does not have clubs, we will provide equipment for them to use during class. The participant therefore agrees that any golf equipment received for their use is the property of First Tee - Canton and must be returned to First Tee - Canton after each class.

### **WEATHER CONDITIONS**

We rarely cancel class due to inclement weather. Please make sure your child has proper attire for the current weather situation. If necessary, class will be held indoors in our indoor putting facility. If classes need to be cancelled due to an extreme weather situation, we will contact you by phone or email.

### **DRESS CODE**

Boys-shirts must be tucked in, hats on straight and no derogatory words or pictures. Tennis shoes or golf shoes are required. No sandals or flip-flops.

Girls- shirts must have a collar or sleeves, no spaghetti straps or tank tops. Shorts must be an appropriate length (fingertip). Tennis shoes or golf shoes are required. No sandals or flip-flops.

### **VOLUNTEERS/COACHES**

Committed and hardworking volunteers are the backbone of our instruction. One volunteer/coach is required for every five children enrolled. Volunteers attend training through required instructional classes and are required to have a background check. The majority of our volunteers are college students, teachers, coaches, senior golfers and business professionals. On occasion, we will utilize our advanced participants to volunteer with the younger classes.

Parents are great volunteers! Please contact our Outreach Coordinator if you are interested in volunteering for programs, facilities (i.e. mowing, weeding, etc.) or administrative.

### **FIRST TEE - CANTON JUNIOR TOUR**

First Tee - Canton operates and manages a competitive junior tour throughout Stark County and surrounding areas each summer. The tour is for boys and girls from 10 - 18 years of age. This tour is not for beginner golfers. See our website for additional information about the tour including schedule and fees.

### **FIRST TEE NATIONAL PROGRAMS**

**A/B Honor Roll:** All First Tee - Canton participants receiving an A/ B average on their report cards are eligible to be recognized with a certificate from First Tee Home Office. The A/B Honor Roll program encourages all participants to excel academically and to stay on track for eligibility in the scholars program. Twice annually, the chapter reports a list of qualifying participants to The First Tee home office, which creates award certificates signed by Greg McLaughlin, the chief executive officer of First Tee. Please submit your report cards to [admin@firstteecanton.org](mailto:admin@firstteecanton.org).

**Participant Opportunities:** Thanks to national corporate partners and generous donors, First Tee can offer a variety of educational and leadership opportunities for participants each year. These events often become life-changing experiences for our participants as they further develop an awareness of possibilities surrounding them. Please contact our Executive Director or Program Director for requirements and schedule.

We look forward to having your child in our program. Please do not hesitate to contact any of our staff with questions.

Be sure to follow us on social media.

- Facebook – First Tee Canton
- Instagram – FirstTeeCanton
- Twitter – @lteeccanton
- LinkedIn – First Tee Canton
- YouTube –  
[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCTQ5Dgf5lvwNS2s0sA\\_CzAw?view\\_as=subscriber](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCTQ5Dgf5lvwNS2s0sA_CzAw?view_as=subscriber)