



## Frequently Asked Questions

### **What is The First Tee?**

The First Tee is a youth development organization introducing the game of golf and its inherent values to kids and teens.

### **How do youth build character through golf?**

Each lesson is designed to foster golf skills as well as help youth understand and ultimately develop The First Tee Nine Core Values (Confidence, Judgement, Courtesy, Honesty, Integrity, Responsibility, Respect, Perseverance, and Sportsmanship).

After three years in the program, youth at The First Tee chapters reported:

- 73% reported high confidence in their ability to do well academically
- 82% felt confident in their social skills with peers
- 52% credited the program for their ability to appreciate diversity

### **How do young people progress through the program?**

Participants move through levels over time (PLAYer, Par, Birdie, Eagle, Ace) that introduce new and more advanced concepts of golf and life skills that help them build character on and off the golf course. Please view the Certification Requirements and Class Progression document for specific information regarding the certification process.

### **When are classes offered?**

The First Tee of Aiken offers four 8-week sessions (Winter, Spring, Summer, and Fall). Additional playing and practicing opportunities are available year round. Visit the Programming page on our website to view current and upcoming session schedules!

### **Where are classes located?**

Currently, all classes and camps are located at The First Tee of Aiken at Houndslake Country Club. The First Tee of Aiken's classroom is located in the upper level of the building. Camps will start and end in the classroom. Please be prompt for drop-off and pick-up. Activities will be held on the driving range and/or golf course. Occasionally, classes, leagues, or other opportunities are held at other golf facilities in Aiken County. You are welcome to confirm location with The First Tee of Aiken Staff before programs begin.

**Should parents/grandparents/guardians plan to stay?**

Our Coaches, Volunteers, and Staff are trained through The First Tee program and complete annual background screenings. Parents do not need to stay for programs. If you would like to observe programming, please speak to your child's coach to see where class will be held.

Parents/Grandparents/Guardians are welcome to watch, but we ask that they do not interfere with the program. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, please contact Coach Heidi.

**What does my child need to bring?**

Equipment, snacks, lunch, water, sunscreen, and bug spray are provided for all participants. Participants may bring their own golf clubs if they have them (except Linksters I and II – all equipment is provided). Participants are encouraged to bring a hat or visor for outdoor activities.

**How can I get golf clubs for my child?**

The First Tee of Aiken has used junior clubs available for participants in the program. Please talk to your child's lead coach before or after class if you would like to borrow a set of clubs for the session. If you would like to purchase a new set of junior clubs, please email Coach Heidi at [heidi@thefirstteeaiken.org](mailto:heidi@thefirstteeaiken.org) for options and pricing.

**What should my child wear?**

Please dress for activity and consider the weather. Our dress code requires all participants to wear non-denim bottoms (pants, shorts, or skort) and a collared shirt. We kindly ask that gentlemen of all ages tuck in their shirts and remove caps inside. Golf shoes or athletic shoes are fine. Please do not wear sandals.

**What happens if it is raining?**

Classes and camps are held rain or shine. In the event of heavy rain or thunderstorms, we will modify the lesson for indoor activities. Occasionally we experience extreme weather conditions (hurricane, tropical storm, winter storm, etc.). If we are experiencing extreme weather, classes will be postponed. The First Tee of Aiken's staff will notify you if a weather cancelation will affect your child's class or camp.

If you have additional questions, please contact The First Tee of Aiken  
(803)-226-0053 or email Heidi Hoffman at [heidi@thefirstteeaiken.org](mailto:heidi@thefirstteeaiken.org)