

January 26, 2018

Dear SNEWGA Reps and Club Presidents,

For each of the last seven years SNEWGA has asked you to participate in our initiative for The First Tee. Our goal is to have each willing member add a donation to her SNEWGA dues. A member may include her donation when paying her SNEWGA membership dues or individually by writing a check to The First Tee of Connecticut.

We have found it very effective to put a donation line right on a club's membership form. Leslie Harrison has a sample membership form if you need one that you may find works for you or you may have a better idea. Whatever works best for you and your club works for us.

For this second year that The First Tee of CT has become an officially recognized LPGA-Girls Golf site, we will designate that ALL of our donations be directed to this part of The First Tee of CT program. We want to ensure that we directly impact young women and their exposure and enjoyment to this wonderful sport. LPGA-Girls Golf goals are similar to those of The First Tee, but with a special emphasis on developing the confidence and self-esteem of the young women in the program. Every member of the program is encouraged to lead a healthy, active life by incorporating The Five E's – Empower, Enrich, Engage, Exercise, and Energize. Another strong point of this program is that it is led by an all-female coaching staff reinforcing that this great game is for everyone at every stage of her life.

You can have your members make their donations payable to your club treasury and then in turn your club can write a single check made payable to **SNEWGA** (preferred method) or members may write their own check made out to **The First Tee of Connecticut** (if they would like a record for tax purposes).

This year again, The First Tee will provide SNEWGA with two gift certificates to two different great courses for our annual raffle at Team Day on Monday June 25th at Smith Richardson Golf Course in Fairfield and you don't need to be present to win. Two of our members can win a foursome with carts. We will announce the two courses after the PGA sectional meeting in April when The First Tee has the certificates.

If you are sending a single donation check from your club, please include a list of donor names and the amounts they donated and the equivalent amount of raffle tickets with the members name and club on the back on of the raffle ticket. First Tee will acknowledge any donation of \$10 or more with a thank you letter than can be used for tax purposes.

All monies should be given and/or mailed to either Leslie Harrison or myself for recording.

We would like to surpass the membership's 2017 very generous donation total of \$2,080.00. Remember: All donations stay right here in Connecticut and help Connecticut girls. If you have already held your winter meeting or sent out your membership forms, please ask your members to donate at your spring meeting, your opening day or some other event at your club. We will accept donations up through June 25th.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.
Email: KarisCT@aol.com Phone: 203.216.6184 mobile or 203.222.9540 landline.

Thank you for helping The First Tee help young female Connecticut golfers gain exposure to the game and derive a multitude of benefits from this great game of golf that we all love.

Barbara Karis Downey
The First Tee Liaison / Region IV Delegate