

25 February 2020

Dear SNEWGA Reps and Club Presidents,

The First Tee is celebrating a 20 year anniversary. For nearly ten of those years, SNEWGA has asked our membership to participate in our initiative for The First Tee. Our goal is to have each willing member make a donation to The First Tee of Connecticut.

When a member chooses to pay through their club, it's been very effective to have a donation line on your club's membership form. Someone may want to write a personal check, (it should be made out to The First Tee of Connecticut). New this year is the ability to make a donation online through Golf Genius. Whatever works best for you and your club works.

In our fourth year that The First Tee of CT has become an officially recognized LPGA-Girls Golf site, SNEWGA has designated 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.

Regardless of how one chooses to make her donation, directly to your club, a personal check or online at Golf Genius, for each dollar donated, a raffle ticket with the member's name and club will be entered in a raffle to win one of two foursomes with carts. This year again, as a thank you to SNEWGA for their support, The First Tee will provide SNEWGA with two gift certificates to two different great courses for our annual raffle at Team Day on Monday July 27th at Ellington Ridge.

The courses will be announced after the PGA sectional meeting in April when The First Tee has the certificates.

To the wonderful reps, this message is for you. Please write the name of the donor and your club on the back of a raffle ticket for each dollar contributed. If the club accepts the donation, either with membership dues or by check, you will of course have the name of the donor. If the donation is made online, I will send the reps a list of the donations for the raffle tickets to be written. If you are sending a single donation check from your club, please include a list of donor names and the amounts they donated with the equivalent amount of raffle tickets with the member's name and club on the back of each ticket. First Tee will acknowledge any donation of \$10 or more with a thank you letter that can be used for tax purposes.

All monies should be given to or mailed to our treasurer Lisa Lavoie or myself for recording.

Thank you to all for the membership's 2019 very generous donation total of \$2,400. 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, some other event at your club or online at Golf Genius.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Email: KarisCT@aol.com Phone: 203.216.6184 mobile.

Thank you for helping The First Tee to assist 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