



Eligibility Criteria for 2025 Participant Opportunities

Involvement in First Tee provides unique opportunities for teen participants. These opportunities have been created to recognize and reward the commitment participants have made to being a game changer on and off the course, through character development, education, and golf skills. Modifications to eligibility requirements have been made over the past several years to encourage teen retention and progression in the program. We encourage chapters to ensure the participants applying for these national opportunities reflect the diversity (age, ethnicity, gender, etc.) of the chapter.

Below you will find the requirements that are unique to each of the 2025 Participant Opportunities. To be eligible to apply, an applicant must meet ALL of the requirements specific to that event.

First Tee National Championship

Date: June 22-26; South Bend, IN

Selection: Up to 48 participants

- Participants must be between 14 and 18 years old (applicants must reach their 14th birthday by the first day of the event date and not have reached their 19th birthday by the conclusion of the event).
- Classified as a high school freshman, sophomore, junior, or senior as of spring semester 2025
- Since this event has male and female divisions, all participants must select one of these divisions during the application process. For any questions or concerns, please email support@firsttee.org.
- Entered in Salesforce and has been an active participant for a minimum of two years
- Applicants will be selected based solely on their golf ability. Applications will be evaluated based off the prioritized criteria below:
 - Golf Resumes: A selection committee will review and judge participants golf resumes with an emphasis on competitive golf experience (national, regional, state, and local tournaments)
 - Junior Golf Rankings
 - Rolex AJGA Ranking
 - Junior Golf Scoreboard Ranking
 - Golfweek Junior Ranking
 - Applicants Handicaps (note: the handicap must be active with the USGA GHIN Handicapping system)
- Each chapter may nominate up to five participants
- Participants who have previously attended this opportunity are eligible to reapply.
- If selected, the participant must be able to travel to South Bend, IN 6/22 – 6/26, 2025

First Tee Game Changers Academy Honoring Joe Louis Barrow, Jr.

Date: July 8-12; Minneapolis, MN

Selection: Up to 72 participants

- Participants must be between 14 and 18 years old (applicants must reach their 14th birthday by the first day of the event date and not have reached their 19th birthday by the conclusion of the event).
- Classified as a high school freshman, sophomore, junior or senior as of spring semester 2025
- Entered in Salesforce and has been an active participant for a minimum of two years
- Participants who previously attended the Game Changers Academy are not eligible to apply
- Each chapter may nominate up to **three** participants
 - ** Chapters with 100+ active participants ages 14-18 recorded in Salesforce as of 12/31/24 may nominate up to **five** participants **
- If selected, the participant must be able to travel to Minneapolis, MN 7/8-7/12, 2025



PURE Insurance Championship

Date: September 16–21; Pebble Beach, CA

Selection: Up to 81 participants

- Participants must be between 14 and 18 years old (applicants must reach their 14th birthday by the first day of the event date and not have reached their 19th birthday by the conclusion of the event).
- Classified as an 8th grader, high school freshman, sophomore, or junior as of spring semester 2025 (high school seniors at the time of the application deadline are not eligible to apply.)
- Since this event has male and female divisions, all participants must select one of these divisions during the application process. For any questions or concerns, please email support@firsttee.org.
- Entered in Salesforce and has been an active participant for a minimum of two years
- Competitive Golf Ability – MUST have an active USGA GHIN handicap of 6 or better for males and 8 or better for females
- Players must be physically and mentally able to play up to 5 rounds in one week, while walking, carrying their own bag, and keeping pace of play according to the PGA TOUR Rules and Competitions guidelines
- Participants who previously attended the event are not eligible
- Each chapter may nominate up to **five** participants
- If selected, the participant must be able to travel to Pebble Beach, CA 9/16 – 9/21, 2025.

First Tee Innovators Forum

Date: October 2–5; Ponte Vedra Beach, FL

Selection: Up to 32 participants

- Participants must be between 14 and 18 years old (applicants must reach their 14th birthday by the first day of the event date and not have reached their 19th birthday by the conclusion of the event)
- Classified as an 8th grader, high school freshman, sophomore, or junior as of spring semester 2025 (high school seniors at the time of the application deadline are not eligible to apply.)
- Entered in Salesforce and has been an active participant for a minimum of two years
- Participants who previously attended the First Tee Innovators Forum are not eligible to apply
- Each chapter may nominate up to **two** participants
 - ** Chapters with 100+ active participants ages 14–18 recorded in Salesforce as of 12/31/24 may nominate up to **four** participants **
- If selected, the participant must be able to travel to Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 10/2 – 10/5 2025.

First Tee Drive Your Future Academy presented by John Deere

Date: November 6–10; Ponte Vedra Beach, FL

Selection: 36 female participants

- This event is a female empowerment academy
- Participants must be between 14 and 18 years old (applicants must reach their 14th birthday by the first day of the event date and not have reached their 19th birthday by the conclusion of the event).
- Classified as an 8th grader, high school freshman, sophomore, or junior as of spring semester 2025 (high school seniors at the time of the application deadline are not eligible to apply.)
- Entered in Salesforce and has been an active participant for a minimum of two years
- Acceptable golf ability – Should be able to shoot approx. 100 for 18-holes
- Participants who previously attended the event are not eligible
- Each chapter may nominate up to **two** participants
 - ** Chapters with 100+ active participants ages 14–18 recorded in Salesforce as of 12/31/24 may nominate up to **four** participants **
- If selected, the participant must be able to travel to Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 11/6 – 11/10, 2025