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The Scorecard

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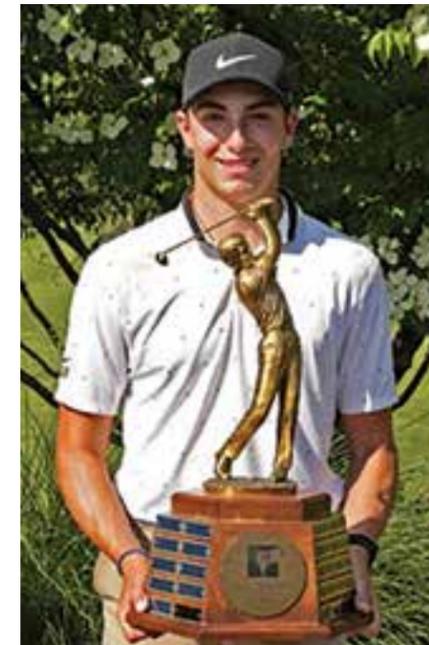
A Newsletter from First Tee – Roanoke Valley

SPRING/SUMMER 2021

The Scott Robertson Memorial Returns!

733—the number of days between the 36th Scott Robertson Memorial and the 37th.

Written by: Debbie Ferguson



Ben James of Milford, CT

As always, we begin planning for the Scott Robertson Memorial many months in advance. This one, however, required a totally new sort of planning and even some predicting. With golf being played safely throughout the pandemic and the hope that COVID would be on the decline, the SRM Committee felt confident that we could safely hold the 2021 Scott Robertson Memorial with precautions in place. With limited clubhouse access, fewer volunteers and spectators, safety protocols, and beautiful weather, the tournament turned out to be one of the best tournaments in recent memory!

We didn't know what to expect after a year off and were a bit anxious that applications might be low, but boy were we ever wrong! Within 48 hours of posting applications online, we had 50 applications to the tournament and qualifiers! Over 500 applications were received in total! We literally had applications from all corners of the US. Our field hosted players from 27 different states and 10 different countries.

Continued on Page 5



37TH ANNUAL

Scott Robertson Memorial

PRESENTED BY



First Tee - Roanoke Valley / Fall Schedule 2021

| Class | Day | Date | Time | Cost |
|---|-----------|---------------------------|------------------|-------|
| PLAYer / PAR (Girls ONLY!) | Monday | September 13 - October 25 | 3:00 - 4:00 pm | \$100 |
| Middle School / High School (Girls ONLY!) | Monday | September 13 - October 25 | 4:30 - 6:00 pm | \$125 |
| PLAYer / PAR | Tuesday | September 14 - October 26 | 10:00 - 11:00 am | \$100 |
| PLAYer / PAR | Tuesday | September 14 - October 26 | 3:00 - 4:00 pm | \$100 |
| PLAYer / PAR | Tuesday | September 14 - October 26 | 4:30 - 5:30 pm | \$100 |
| Middle School / High School All Levels | Wednesday | September 15 - October 27 | 10:00 - 11:30 am | \$125 |
| PLAYer / PAR | Wednesday | September 15 - October 27 | 3:00 - 4:00 pm | \$100 |
| High School All Levels | Wednesday | September 15 - October 27 | 4:30 - 6:00 pm | \$125 |
| PLAYer / PAR | Thursday | September 16 - October 28 | 10:00 - 11:00 am | \$100 |
| PLAYer / PAR | Thursday | September 16 - October 28 | 3:00 - 4:00 pm | \$100 |
| Middle School All Levels | Thursday | September 16 - October 28 | 4:30 - 6:00 pm | \$125 |
| Tiger Paws | Friday | September 24 - October 22 | 3:00 - 3:45 pm | \$50 |
| Tiger Paws | Friday | September 24 - October 22 | 4:15 - 5:00 pm | \$50 |

For more details, scholarship applications or to register, please visit: <http://www.firstteeroanokevalley.org> or call: 563-1TEE (1833).

- 2 Making the Turn
- 3 Parent-Child Tournament
- 4 Parent-Child Tournament
- 5 The Scott Robertson Memorial Returns!
- 6 Healthy Mindset
- 7 Tee It Up Tuesdays

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First Tee – Roanoke Valley is a project of The Scott Robertson Memorial Junior Golf Academy, a 501c3 not-for-profit organization. Our federal tax identification number is 20-1237999

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To request a schedule, volunteer or make a donation, please call 563.1TEE (1833).

Stay Informed!

Sign up for the monthly email newsletter from First Tee – Roanoke Valley by either visiting our website www.firstteeroanokevalley.org or send an email to: jblackwood@thefirstteeroanokevalley.org

Making the Turn

Written by: Bill Rader, PGA



One shot at a time...it may seem cliché but it is the single best piece of advice I have ever gotten. At times, it can also be the most difficult advice to follow.

Golf is a test; it is a game of emotions. During a given round, a player can quickly go from joy to sadness to anger to dismay or even confusion. I can't tell you how often I've finished a bad hole and asked myself "what just happened?"

SO, HERE'S MY GUIDE TO STAYING FOCUSED ON THE COURSE.

Step 1: To enjoy golf to its fullest, remember it's just a game. Games are supposed to be fun! Take lots of deep breaths and stay calm. Laugh a little. Sing a tune. Go to your happy place. Try to look on the bright side. Really, can there be better place to be than on the golf course?

Step 2: Be realistic with yourself. Accept the player you are. Don't compare yourself to Annika or Phil (congrats by the way!). Expect of yourself what your skills allow you to do. Try setting a personal par for each hole instead of the one the course has set. Personal par can change from hole to hole or day to day depending on how you're playing. Trust me, there's a lot less pressure when you're playing a par 4 as a par 8!

Step 3: Stay patient; stay positive. No matter what level a player you are, no one has ever played a perfect round of golf. Not every shot is going to be perfect, so be OK with the bad ones. When you get in trouble, make sure to get out of trouble on the next swing. Accepting a situation as it is will lead to lower scores. Be sure when it's your turn to hit you are only thinking about the shot at hand. It only takes one good shot to bring you back to the course again.

Step 4: Finally, enjoy the experience. Whether it's a casual round or playing in a highly competitive tournament, take time to enjoy it. Step back occasionally to think about why you are playing. One thing we all have in common is our love for the game.

The next time you're out on the links remember to stay in the moment and play one shot at a time.

10th Anniversary Parent-Child Tournament

Weekend of September 18th-19th at Roanoke Country Club

Written by: Meg Wise



Photos provided by Kevin Hurley

First Tee-Roanoke Valley proudly announces that our 10th annual First Tee Parent-Child Tournament will be held at Roanoke Country Club, September 18-19. The event will be comprised of two person Parent-Child teams. A "Parent" may be a mother, father, step-parent, grandparent, aunt, uncle or mentor. We welcome teams of ALL ages and ALL abilities to play, including those not involved in chapter programs. Competition will be either 9-hole or 5-hole Captain's Choice or 18-hole modified alternate shot. Players will be placed in different flights based on skill level and age, and all



tournament proceeds benefit First Tee - Roanoke Valley.

Every year, we love seeing parents and children enjoying time with each other on the golf course. Responding to feedback from our past successful tournaments, we will once again divide play into two days and this year use a combination of tee times and shotgun starts to maximize the number of teams eligible to play.

Parents are more than welcome to play in multiple divisions with different children!



5-Hole "FUN" Division

\$70/team (\$80 after August 1st)
Sunday, September 19th shotgun start at 1:30pm

9-Hole "FUN" Division

\$95/team (\$105 after August 1st)
Saturday, September 18th tee times between 8am and 3pm

18-Hole Division

\$145/team (\$155 after August 1st)
Sunday, September 19th shotgun start at 8:30am

***Please remember that we always welcome and encourage Adult-Adult teams to enter!**

Continued on Page 4



10th Anniversary Parent-Child Tournament – *Continued*



The entry fee includes golf with cart, range balls, box lunch, and Awards Reception. To guarantee your 10th anniversary tee gift, all entries are **due by September 1st** and teams can easily register and pay online at www.firstteeroanokevalley.org.

Please note that we will be accepting entries through September 13th, but those registrants are not guaranteed a tee gift.

Sponsors will again play a large role in our fundraising efforts.

Last year we raised close to \$20,000 in a challenged 2020 fundraising year, and this year our goal is \$25,000! Sponsorship opportunities start at only \$100 and extend to \$10,000. If you or your company are interested in sponsoring our event, please find our Sponsor Form in this newsletter or online at www.firstteeroanokevalley.org.

If you are unable to make a monetary donation but would still like to support our tournament, we are always looking for raffle prizes. Please contact Jennifer Blackwood (jblackwood@thefirstteeroanokevalley.org) if you have something you would like to donate to our ever-popular raffle. Thank you in advance for your support.

We are looking forward to another great event in September. For more information, visit our website or contact Miller Baber at 540-354-8180 or Meg Wise 540-815-1574.



Congratulations Gracie!

Congratulations to First Tee Eagle participant Gracie Blackwell, who graduated this year from Radford High School. Gracie is considering playing golf at Emory and Henry in the fall.



Save the Date

October 16th
LPGA USGA Girls Golf Day
at Ballyhack Golf Club

The Scott Robertson Memorial Returns! – *Continued*



This year's Boys 15-18 division field was one of the strongest in our history, comparable to the 2006 field that included **Rickie Fowler, Peter Uihlein, Lanto Griffin, Bud Cauley, Patrick Reed, Morgan Hoffman, Tyler McCumber, Spencer Lawson and Smylie Kauffman**.

The 2021 field touted 30 young men ranked in the top 100 junior boys in the nation and 13 AJGA All-Americans. To be the 2021 champion means you had to play your best! **Ben James of Milford, CT**, pulled it off with a pair of 66s posted during the event. James shot 66-72-66, for a total of 204, 9 under par.



Megha Ganne of Holmdel, NJ
Two weeks after winning SRM, Megha charmed the world on her way to the Low AM champion in the US Women's Amateur.

This was Ben's sixth SRM, and he will be eligible to play again next year before joining the class of 2022 at the University of Virginia.

Our Girls 15-18 division always has one of the strongest fields assembled in junior golf each year. In 2019, the older girls field was ranked 11th in the nation for its strength of field (as was our older boys field). This year, 22 young ladies in our field were ranked within the top 100 junior girls in the nation, and 5 were AJGA All-Americans.



Patmon Malcom of Alpharetta, GA

The top ranked junior girl in the nation, **Megha Ganne of Holmdel, NJ**, proved why she holds that position. Megha made her mark on the event with an opening round of 66, and followed that with a 70 and 71 to finish the event at 207, 6 under par. This was Megha's second SRM and she is also eligible to play again in 2022.

Kathryn Ha of Roanoke, VA, at age 14, opened the SRM with a fine round of 69. She went on to finish 13th, in the elite Girls 15-18 division. This is the highest finish for a young lady from Roanoke since the late 1980's. At that time, our girl's field had less than a dozen participants. Congratulations Kathryn!

In the Boys 14 and under division, **Patmon Malcom of Alpharetta, GA**, grabbed the trophy after an exciting finish and winning by only one stroke! Patmon set an 18-hole tournament record for the Boys 14 and under division, with a 65 in the second round. Malcom, at age 13, carded a 73-65-77, 215 for the win.



Ashnoor Kaur of Roanoke

A proud moment in the 2021 Scott Robertson Memorial was crowning the Girls 14 and under champion. For the first 10 years of the Scott Robertson Memorial (1984-1994), there was only one division for the girls. In 1995, we added a Girls 14 and under division. In those 26 years, there has never before been a Girls 14 and under Champion from the Roanoke Valley in this division! We are so proud of **Ashnoor Kaur of Roanoke** on her fine win! She had a three-day total of 225, scoring 74-77-74. It was a late birthday present to herself...Ashnoor turned 12 the week before the SRM.

We have had a winner in at least one of our divisions from the state of Virginia in the last three Tournaments!

Remember these names...no doubt, you will be seeing them at the next levels of golf in the very near future!



GOOD LUCK!

To our three PGA Junior League Teams who will compete against area club teams this summer. Let's Go Eagle Squad! Ace Makers! And Birdie Patrol!



Join us for Tee it Up Tuesdays this summer.

Only \$5 a round. Registration required. Visit our website: www.firstteeroanokevalley.org for the schedule and registration.



4 Steps for a Healthy Mindset

1. Positive attitude
2. Give your best effort
3. Give back
4. Take ownership



Thank You!

To all of the donors who supported The First Tee of Roanoke Valley on Roanoke Valley Gives Day – over \$3,600 was donated to support our programs for area children.



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