

The First Tour staff have been working to improve programming for the 2024 season. This document contains more information on these changes and why they have been implemented. This document may contain terminology that is confusing to those unfamiliar with competitive golf. Please reach out to the tournament director at TLe@firstteedallas.org with any questions.

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Change in pricing and implementation of scholarship program

At First Tee and First Tour we have tried to keep our prices as low as possible throughout the years. Unfortunately our expenses have increased significantly due to recent inflation and global factors. While we do appreciate that some courses we work with offer us junior rates, most courses charge us \$25 or more per person. In order for First Tour to continue as a program we had to make the difficult decision to increase prices this year.

Effective starting for the First Tour 2024 season, the base tournament fees have increased to \$20-25. Some events may differ in prices and any changes will be visible before payment.

We understand that times can be tough and unforeseen situations may inhibit the financial availability for some. To help cover the cost of tournament fees, First Tour is implementing a scholarship program for those who qualify. To see if you are eligible for a First Tour scholarship, please email the tournament director at TLe@firstteedallas.org.

We are thankful to those who continue to financially support First Tour and allow us to offer discounted rates and scholarships. If you would like to become a First Tour patron and help support the program or scholarship funds, please reach out to the tournament director.

*The First Tour scholarship qualifications are different to FTGD qualifications. If you qualify for FTGD it does not guarantee you will qualify for First Tour.

Member Events

First Tour will offer member events throughout the season. These events may not be tournaments, they will be a combination of clinics, seminars and social events. Member events will be announced via email and social media. Most events will happen between FTGD programming sessions as extra playing, practice or learning opportunities for members and their families.

Definition of active participant in regards to FTGD open enrollment programing

Even though golf is a regular part of programming, First Tee is not a golf program. We are a youth development program that enables kids to build the strength of character and life skills, golf is simply a tool we use to seamlessly integrate it into our delivery. The First Tee curriculum takes precedence over the opportunities offered within the program such as First Tour thus the requirements for participation has changed.

A First Tour 2024 membership will only be available to active First Tee Greater Dallas participants. To meet "Active" status in FTGD participants will need to have attended a minimum of two full sessions in the past year and continue to maintain that throughout the season. At least one of those sessions must be either the Fall 2023 or Spring 2024 session.

In order to maintain a First Tour 2024 membership participants must not go more than a year without taking two full sessions. With such a high demand for memberships and only 90 available, First Tour is being more selective on participant requirements this season. Only participants who are familiar with First Tee programming are eligible for memberships.

The "full sessions" in FTGD are listed below and are subject to change.

- Spring 8 week session
- Summer 4-6 week session (outdoor)
- Summer camp
- Fall 8 week session

FAQs

Q. Why don't the Indoor sessions count towards a participant's active status?

A. Since the indoor sessions are only 3-4 weeks and 60 minutes long, it does not allow for FTGD staff to cover enough curriculum that satisfies the active participation requirement.

Q. Does attending two sessions at the same time count?

A. No, it does not count. Only part of the First Tee curriculum is covered each session and we expect any First Tour participant to be familiar with the curriculum which can only be done by attending different sessions throughout the year.

Q. I'm not able to take my child to class every week, are they able to get an exemption?

A. No they are not. While First Tour is meant to be a fun tournament series, we still expect participants to practice and work on their game. If they are not able to take a 75 minute class once a week, they will not be able to put in the expected effort to progress. FTGD offers classes six days a week at locations all over the Dallas metroplex. Please reach out to your region's program manager if you need help finding a class that works for you.

- Q. How can I know if my child meets the active participant requirement?
- A. Email the tournament director at TLe@firstteedallas.org to check on their active status. If they do not meet active status you will receive a notification.
- Q. What happens if a participant does not maintain their active status?
- A. If a participant is not able to maintain their FTGD active status throughout the season, their membership will be suspended until the status is restored. If their membership is suspended for two sessions, their membership will be revoked.
- Q. What does it mean to have a suspended or revoked status?
- A. If a membership is suspended, you will not be able to register or participate in First Tour in any capacity. This includes but is not limited to, tournaments, events or the points challenge until the suspension is removed. If a membership is revoked, participants will no longer have one and will have to restart the membership process and be put at the bottom of the waitlist for a renewal.
- Q. I only recently learned about First Tee and my child hasn't taken any FTGD classes yet, are they eligible for a membership?
- A. No they are not. Since memberships are only available for active participants, your child will have to wait until they have attended two full sessions before being eligible for a membership. (full sessions are defined above)
- Q. We recently moved to Dallas and participated in First Tee programming at another chapter, is my child eligible for membership?
- A. Contact the tournament director at TLe@firstteedallas.org to verify eligibility from another chapter.

Additional way to register for events

Due to troubles with emails last season First Tour will implement an additional way to register for events.

First Tour now has a Twitter account. At this time only event registration will be posted to it. Only First Tour members will be allowed to follow the account so you will need to have a twitter account and turn on notifications.

It is not required to follow the twitter account, it is merely to ensure every member has a fair chance to register for events.

Event registration will always be via direct link provided by email and twitter. The link will be made available at least one hour before registration opens. Ex, If registration opens at 12pm, an email and a tweet containing the registration link will be made by 11am but the link will not become active until 12pm.

We will no longer provide accommodations for issues involving event registration. Including inability to access an account or the parent portal. Participants' guardians are responsible for ensuring they are able to access their account and the registration link before it opens. If you

believe your situation falls outside these circumstances, reach out to the tournament director immediately at TLe@firstteedallas.org.

First Tour points challenge: Eligible non First Tour or FTGD tournaments

A new change to how points for non-First Tour tournaments are awarded are now in effect. Only the tournament series listed below are eligible for points. proper documentation is still required before points will be awarded. *Please note that Jr League game/play days are not eligible for points as participants are already awarded them in their jr league participation. Club tournaments are also not eligible for points.

- NTPGA (prep tour and medalist tour)
- Pinseekers Junior Tour
- middle and high school team tournaments
- texas junior golf tour
- hurricane junior golf tour
- Dallas Junior golf championship

We are willing to make exceptions based on tournament standards and quality. You will need to communicate with the tournament director before points are due on whether or not a tournament qualifies for points if not listed above. A good rule of thumb is, if you have to pay/register every time, and results are posted you can earn points. Tournaments have to be individual stroke play and at least 9 holes. Scramble tournaments are not eligible for points.

Q. My child participated in a tournament series that is not listed, are they eligible for points?

- A. Contact the tournament director to check the eligibility of any tournament series not listed above.

Q. A tournament my child got points for last year is not on the list, can they be awarded points for it again?

- A. Contact the tournament director to see if the event is still eligible for points. Just because it was awarded points in the past does not guarantee it will be awarded again.

Q. My child played in a scramble tournament with me, are they eligible for points?

- A. No, tournaments must be individual stroke play to qualify.

Q. My child played in an NTPGA prep tour event that was cut short due to inclement weather, Are they eligible for points?

- A. If NTPGA still awarded at least 1st place and the tournament was not rescheduled or canceled you may be eligible for points. Contact the tournament director to be sure.

The contents of this document is subject to change and is in effect as of 2/1/2024.