



2024 FT-PHX Tour Handbook

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*These documents are acknowledged and signed
when purchasing a FT-PHX membership.

First Tee—Phoenix Mission Statements

First Tee—Phoenix Mission Statement

First Tee—Phoenix provides opportunities for all youth to achieve success in every aspect of life, through the game of golf.

FT-PHX Tour Mission Statement

The FT-PHX Tour bridges the gap between First Tee programming and competitive junior golf in a fun, supportive environment. The goal of the FT-PHX Tour is to provide a valuable opportunity for both participants and parents to experience tournament golf.

Tournament Overview / Basics

Membership Requirements

All FT-PHX Tour participants must have an active First Tee—Phoenix membership.

Skill Requirements

Participants must meet **one or all** of the following requirements...

- Currently play in tournaments through a different organization or school
- Participate in at least one Rising Star event in which they are approved by their walking scorer based on course conduct
- Shoot double bogey golf (submit a scorecard)
- Achieved all 4 skill badges OR playing on course badge (based on their age group)

Rules Knowledge Requirements

- All new Tournament players must attend an in person or virtual rules clinic and subsequently pass a rules quiz.



2024 FT-PHX TOUR

YOUTH GOLF TOURNAMENTS

THE FT - PHX TOUR BRIDGES THE GAP BETWEEN FIRST TEE PROGRAMMING AND COMPETITIVE JUNIOR GOLF IN A FUN, SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT. THE GOAL OF THE FIRST TEE - PHX TOUR IS TO PROVIDE A VALUABLE OPPORTUNITY FOR BOTH PARTICIPANTS AND PARENTS TO EXPERIENCE TOURNAMENT GOLF.

- **DESERT CLASSIC ***
 - Ken McDonald GC - February 25
- **ADULT/JUNIOR SCRAMBLE**
 - Desert Mirage GC - March 17
- **FT-PHX MASTERS ***
 - Augusta Ranch GC - April 14
- **OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP ***
 - McDowell Mountain GC - June 9
- **PGA TOUR SUPERSTORE SIMULATOR**
 - 4 PGA TOUR Superstores - August 24
- **PINEAPPLE CUP ***
 - Continental GC - September 15
- **SPOOKTACULAR**
 - Palo Verde GC - October 25
 - Springfield GR - October 26
- **TOUR CHAMPIONSHIP ***
 - Tres Rios GC - November 10
- **KLOENNE CUP XIX**
 - TBC - January 4 & 5, 2024

Majors: Desert Classic, Masters, Open & Tour Championships
All dates & locations are subject to change

*EVENT INCLUDES A COMPETITIVE 9-HOLE TOURNAMENT AND A 6-HOLE RISING STAR TOURNAMENT

Player Code of Conduct

A First Tee – Phoenix member displaying any of the following actions at a FT-PHX event, non-FT-PHX event or toward another person anywhere, constitutes a violation of the FT-PHX Code of Conduct.

- Unsportsmanlike conduct, including abusive language, cheating, club throwing, disrespect to volunteers, officials or fellow competitors, or abuse of golf course property.
- Not adhering to the dress code at the host golf course.
- Use, or association with, drugs, alcohol, smoking, vaping or chewing tobacco
- Conduct not becoming of a FT-PHX player, such as acting in anger or creating other distractions during play.
- Failure to treat a host golf course with respect by ignoring the responsibility of caring for the course, filling divots and fixing ball marks.
- Physical abuse, threat of physical abuse, verbal abuse, slander or libel towards other players, parents, coaches, sponsors, host golf course staff or members, FT-PHX staff or volunteers in any medium.

CODE OF CONDUCT VIOLATION PENALTIES

The FT-PHX Tournament Committee may assess any or all of the following penalties based on severity and frequency of the violation(s):

- One-stroke penalty for each act of unsportsmanlike behavior on the golf course
- Immediate disqualification from the tournament where the violation occurs
- Depending on severity, a tournament disqualification may also result in further disqualification from additional event(s)
- FT-PHX reserves the right to suspend, or revoke, a membership for major breaches of the FT-PHX Code of Conduct
- Violation of the FT-PHX Code of Conduct may affect a player's eligibility for tournaments and postseason honors

Any Code of Conduct violation will result in a written letter to the player and parent(s)/guardian(s) detailing the violation and penalty.

The following violations are always considered flagrant and as such, they will result in automatic disqualification.

- Cheating
- Lack of respect for volunteers and officials
- Damage to course or course property
- Smoking or use of tobacco, alcohol or illegal drugs
- Throwing or breaking clubs
- Obscene, abusive or vulgar language

SUSPENSION INFORMATION

In the event of a suspension, both the player and parent(s)/guardian(s) will be required to submit a written account of the Code of Conduct violation to the FT-PHX Executive Director within 30 days of the suspension. The FT-PHX Executive Director will determine the length of the suspension after reviewing all submitted materials, including a FT-PHX tournament staff account of the violation.

While a player's membership is under suspension, they will not be eligible for scholarships, national opportunities and postseason honors. The Code of Conduct will be available by FT-PHX staff at each tournament during Player Registration.

Media Release

I hereby give the First Tee Chapter, First Tee HQ, and participating agencies permission to use film, videotape and/or photographs of the above mentioned minor for lawful promotional or informational purposes.

Acknowledgement indicates that you have read, understand, accept, and agree to the terms listed above in the FT-PHX Adult Code of Conduct.

*By purchasing a FT-PHX membership, you agree that you have read and acknowledged the Parent Code of Conduct.

Adult Code of Conduct*

In order to uphold the goals of FT-PHX and ensure that all participants have the benefit of a safe and fun learning environment, all parents, guardians and other adults and attendees of FT-PHX events must behave accordingly in a respectful, courteous and sportsmanlike manner at all times.

- Any adult who
 - * is using alcohol, tobacco or nonprescription drugs and/or appears intoxicated at an event associated with FT-PHX
 - * and/or who is flagrantly rude
 - * attempts to intimidate
 - * verbally abuses, heckles, taunts, ridicules, boos
 - * throws objects
 - * and/or uses vulgarity or profane language/gestureswith a coach, volunteer, staff member, participants or event attendee, will receive a verbal warning and/or be asked to leave the FT-PHX event. FT-PHX may also provide a written warning to the individual regarding the misbehavior. The adult's participant may receive a penalty and/or be removed from the event.
- Any adult who commits one of the above stated offenses a second time will be banned from all events associated with FT-PHX for a period of one year from the date of the second offense, and his/her children may also be removed from the program for that time period.
- Any adult who physically assaults a coach, volunteer, staff member, participant, or other event attendee or threatens bodily harm may be banned from all events associated with FT-PHX from one year from the date of the offense, and his/her children may also be removed from the program for that time period.
- After the ban has expired, if the individual commits another offense, the individual will be permanently banned from all events associated with FT-PHX and the individual's children may be permanently removed from the program.

An adult who has concerns or suggestions regarding FT-PHX should voice his/her recommendation to a staff member.

Acknowledgement indicates that you have read, understand, accept, and agree to the terms listed above in the FT-PHX Adult Code of Conduct.

*By purchasing a FT-PHX membership, you agree that you have read and acknowledged the Parent Code of Conduct.

Spectator Guidelines

Spectator Responsibilities ***NEW***

All spectators must check in at the Spectator Tent (located on the first hole) 10 minutes prior to their player's tee time!

At this time, they will receive a Spectator Badge (pictured to the right) and a reminder of all on course guidelines.

On Course Spectator Rules

- Spectators must remain on the cart path and 30 yards away from the players at all times
- Conversations with players are NOT permitted during play
- Spectators may talk to players once they have signed and turned in scorecards and are released from the Scoring Table
- Verbal and non-verbal advice is not allowed during tournament play per USGA Rules
- Spectators may use golf carts at the discretion of the host golf course

Rules violations may result in player penalties or disqualification.

If spectators see a rules violation, they should NOT speak to player or other parents regarding it. Please call the tournament phone (Number to be released at a later date)

Remember, this is fun! We are here to encourage the players!

Applause and Cheer is Encouraged!



Playing Rules/ On Course Rules

Rules

2023 USGA Rules are used to govern FT-PHX tournaments. FT-PHX committee maintains the right to set any additional rules (for example, course or condition specific rules).

Check In & Starter Tent Policies

Check In will open 1 hour prior to the first tee time. All players should check in 45minutes—1 hour prior to their tee time.

Players should be to the Starter tent at the first hole no later than 10 minutes before their tee time. At the Starter Tent, players should expect to:

- 1) Meet and greet other players
- 2) Exchange Scorecards with playing partners
- 3) Identify their golf ball to playing partners
- 4) Learn about any local rules

Distance Measuring Devices

Distance measuring devices (range finders or watches) may be used. These devices may not be used to measure slope or access other information.

Pace of Play & Honors

Players are expected to maintain a 2 hour/9 hole pace of play. Groups should be within a hole of the group in front of them. As per USGA rules, groups that fall behind will be warned and given the opportunity to catch up. After two warnings, a 1 stroke penalty will be issued.

Players shall respect Honors (order of play determined by Starter or Tournament Director) for the starting teeing ground (the teeing area at which you start your round). If all players agree, they may play ready golf thereafter. If a group falls behind pace of play, they must play ready golf until they are caught up.

Cont. on next page.

Spectator Carts

Spectator carts are available at the discretion of the host golf course. All host rules will apply to cart use. The aforementioned Spectator Guidelines apply to spectators in carts as well.

Playoff Policy

All ties will be broken using the USGA scorecard playoff rules of Matching Scorecards (Also Known as a Scorecard Count-Back)

If the tying players have the same score, we will determine the winner based on the score for the last nine holes, last six holes, last three holes and finally the last hole.

Suggested Yardages

Tour Division (9 holes)

Ages 14-18 | 2,800-3,200 yards

Ages 11-13 | 2,300-2,700 yards

Ages 7-10 | 1,600-2,000 yards

Rising Star Division (6 holes)

Participants will play distance based on their age group above.

Registration Policies

Registration will close on Monday at noon for all Saturday and Sunday tournaments.

Capacities & Waitlist

All Tour events will cap at 60 participants and Rising Stars will cap at 12 participants. There is no limit on the waitlist. Players will be notified as soon as they are moved off the waitlist.

Withdrawal & Refund Policies

- All withdrawals prior to registration closing will receive a full refund.
- Withdrawals after the close of registration will be given refunds only for medical or extenuating circumstances.
- Please email the tournament team at thefirstteephoenix@gmail.com as soon as you know there is an issue.

Special Requests

Special requests will be decided upon at the FT-PHX Committee's discretion.

Kloenne Cup

The Kloenne Cup is an exciting “Ryder Cup” style, invitational tournament held each January as the culminating event from the previous year's FT-PHX Tour. This event is held in honor of Tim Kloenne, who was a founding member of First Tee – Phoenix and Board Chairman from 2001-2016. Tim helped make the organization what it is today. He came out to tournaments and events to root on the participants and tell them how “cool” they are. A “Spirit Award” is given to a player on each team who demonstrates FT Core Values & Key Commitments, is a great teammate, and embodies the spirit of the Kloenne Cup. Tim unfortunately passed away in February of 2022, but his memory lives on through this wonderful event!

Team Selection

1. The top 12 point earners for each team will qualify automatically
2. An additional four team members are selected by the Team Captains.
3. Participants must play in at least one FT-PHX Tour major for the calendar year.
4. The Point Scale is awarded based on overall finish in the **ENTIRE FIELD**, not by gender or age division.

Players can expect to receive invitations the week following the final major of the season. All players are required to be available both days of competition.

***Desert Team:** Briarwood, Wigwam, Aguila, Desert Mirage, Palo Verde, Cave Creek and Papago

***Mountain Team:** Talking Stick, Longbow, Legacy, Lone Tree, TPC Scottsdale, Augusta Ranch, and San Marcos

***Majors:** Desert Classic, Masters, Open Championship & Tour Championship

***Non-Majors:** Adult/Junior, PGA TOUR Superstore Simulator Tournament, Pineapple Cup, Lone Tree Adult/Junior, Spooktacular

<i>Point Scale</i>	
1st place	50
2nd place	45
3rd place	40
4th place	35
5th place	30
6th place	25
7th place	20
8th place	15
9th place	10
10th place	5
Participation	2
Bonus: Each Division Winner	+10 extra
Points doubled for FT-PHX majors	

Rising Star Tournaments

Rising Star Tournament

Rising Star Tournaments are six-hole events held immediately after all FT-PHX Majors. They are a great introduction to our regular tournament schedule. These events are designed to be a short term, developmental option for those interested in playing in our nine-hole tournaments.

Players will be paired with a coach or volunteer to help them along in their first tournament. Parents are **NOT** allowed to caddy for their participants.

Requirements for participation

- Participants must have their own set of clubs and must be able to walk 6 holes with their clubs. We will not provide clubs or push carts.
- All participants must have their own golf balls, tees, ball marker and divot tool
- Participants must be familiar with the rules of golf and golf etiquette, for example: order of play, how to keep score, etc.
- All participants should be able to shoot double par or better (ex: 8 on a Par 4)
- It is recommended for participants to have prior on course experience

How to sign up

Parents or players can request information from their coaches. Your coaches should be able to let you know if your child is ready to play in this event.

Once coaches have approved you, please send this information to our tournament team at thefirsttee phoenix@gmail.com. We will add you to the mailing list so that you receive registration information for the next Rising Star event. Once you receive that email, you will register through the Golf Genius link included in the email. **Make sure to register with the participant's information, not the adults.** Golf Genius will send you an email confirming your registration or placement on the waitlist.

Continued on next page...

After you Sign Up

You're signed up– great! You are all set for a few weeks until FT-PHX sends out the next communication regarding the event. You will receive your tee times and more details the Monday or Tuesday prior to the event .

Now that you have some time before the event, this is a great opportunity to read more about how things will work the day of the tournament....

Prior to each Rising Star tournament, we will host a **mandatory** 30 minute rules overview. The timing of this will be communicated by email along with the participant's tee time.

Plan to arrive at the course 45min-1 hour prior to your tee time. The **participant** should head to the registration desk and check in. At the desk, players will receive more information on how range balls and lunch will work. Registration will remind them to make sure they are at the starter's tent (FT-PHX tent at hole #1) no later than **10 minutes** before their tee time. Range balls and the putting green can be used for warm up– remind your child this is a warm up, not a full practice session!

A FT-PHX team member or volunteer will be there to explain any course rules. The players will meet the other participants they will play with as well as the walking scorers who will be helping their group. We assign one walking scorer to two children.

Moving Up to the FT-PHX Tour

Players qualify to move up to our nine hole events after they are approved by a walking scorer. Walking Scorers base this decision on performance and course conduct.

All players will be notified by email the week following the event as to whether they have qualified to move up or if they will remain in Rising Star.

2024 FT-PHX Tour

Course Partners



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