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First Tee Greater Knoxville Joins the First Tee Tennessee Network Operated by Tennessee Golf Foundation

Knoxville, TN – Effective June 1, 2021, the First Tee Greater Knoxville joined the First Tee Tennessee network operated by the Tennessee Golf Foundation. As a part of the First Tee Tennessee, the former First Tee Greater Knoxville will continue to operate at seven locations across the Greater Knoxville area and continue its expansion into other sites. Williams Creek Golf Course, operated by the Williams Creek Youth Foundation, will remain the primary headquarters for the First Tee Tennessee in Knoxville and will house local First Tee offices, host programming and provide fundraising event opportunities.

With the addition of the seven Knoxville locations, First Tee Tennessee will offer programming at 43 locations across the state.

"We are excited to join the First Tee Tennessee," said Shawn Mauer, Senior Program Director for First Tee Tennessee Greater Knoxville. "This change will help us further grow our program, while continuing to serve our "First Tee Family" in the Greater Knoxville Area. Although our name will change, our family will continue to embrace the same love and enthusiasm in which we have taken pride in over the years."

The First Tee Tennessee formed in April 2018 when the First Tee Middle Tennessee and the First Tee Tri-Cities combined under one name – First Tee Tennessee. Since its formation in 2018 the First Tee Tennessee has added Chattanooga and Memphis to its network. On June 1, 2021 Knoxville and its surrounding counties were added to the First Tee Tennessee's service area. The move brings all First Tee operations across the entire state under one entity. The First Tee Tennessee Greater Knoxville, formerly First Tee Greater Knoxville, had been operated by the Williams Creek Youth Foundation since 2005.

"Our work with the Tennessee Golf Foundation has shown how two mission focused organizations can be made better through their collaboration," said Alan Gibb, President, Williams Creek Youth Foundation. "Bringing the First Tee Greater Knoxville into the First Tee Tennessee network will bring even greater benefits and opportunities for participants and their families, both in Knoxville and in the other chapters within the network."

About First Tee of Tennessee:
The First Tee Tennessee is headquartered in Nashville, TN at Vinny Links Golf Course and has program directors in Chattanooga, Memphis, Nashville, Tri-Cities and now Knoxville. The mission of the First Tee is to impact lives of young people by providing educational programs that build character, values and promote healthy choices through the game of golf.

About the Tennessee Golf Foundation:
The Tennessee Golf Foundation (TGF) is a 501c3 non-profit organization. The TGF operates statewide junior golf programs including The First Tee of Tennessee, The Sneds Tour, Tennessee Middle School Golf Association, and more. Locally in Knoxville, the TGF manages Beverly Park Par 3 and Concord Park Par 3 Golf Courses and runs programs and events such as The First Tee of Tennessee, The Sneds Tour, the TMSGA, The Scott Stallings Kids Play Free Initiative, The Scotty Junior Four-Ball Championship and The Tri-Star Junior Match Play Championship.

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