



PGA Foundation



The PGA Foundation, the charitable arm of The PGA of America, began in 1954 to provide resources and professional expertise to make golf accessible to all segments of society. The Foundation continues to touch the lives of thousands with programs that otherwise would not exist.

In 1954, The PGA of America established a 501(c)(3) charity which later became known as The PGA Foundation. The PGA Foundation serves as the Association's philanthropic arm in order to provide resources and professional expertise so that golf is more accessible to all segments of the population. As a result, the Foundation's efforts have touched hundreds of thousands of lives with programs that otherwise would not exist. Individuals that make significant donations to The PGA Foundation and its programs are recognized by the Foundation's Legacy Society. As an affiliate of The PGA of America, The PGA Foundation manages and/or funds the following programs:

■ THE FIRST TEE

In May 1998, The PGA of America made the single largest donation commitment in the amount of \$6 million to support the initiatives of The First Tee.

■ NICKLAUS/PGA FIRST TEE TEACHING GRANTS

The PGA of America and golf legend Jack Nicklaus began a partnership in 2001, by creating a \$2 million endowment to provide teaching grants to certified First Tee Chapters that use PGA members and apprentices for instruction. Each eligible First Tee Chapter can receive a maximum of two \$5,000 grants. To date, 163 of the 206 active First Tee Chapters have been recipients of either a PGA of America or Nicklaus/PGA Teaching Grant. Last year, \$155,000 in Nicklaus/PGA Teaching Grants was awarded. To date, \$2 million has been awarded.

■ GOLF IN SCHOOLS

Since its inception in 1985, Golf in Schools has heightened interest in golf through elementary and high school physical education. It has provided opportunities for PGA members to showcase the PGA First Swing curriculum, a benchmark program developed by the PGA Foundation in 1986. It teaches youngsters basic golf skills and enhances these skills through games and other fun activities. The program focuses on golf and related topics supporting physical education programs; diet, nutrition, physical fitness and a positive mental outlook.

■ URBAN YOUTH GOLF PROGRAM

The Louisville Urban Youth Golf Program recently completed its 10th year of service. Supported by The PGA of America, this is an introductory golf program for urban youth supplemented with education, computer training, vocational enhancement courses and mentoring. More than 1,500 Louisville urban, inner-city youth have been exposed to the game of golf. Ninety-nine percent of the seniors graduated from high school, of which 92% were accepted into college. The participants are selected by the Urban League and the Louisville/Jefferson County Public Schools to participate in the program at no cost. The PGA of America has provided \$500,000 to support this program with annual grants of \$50,000 for the last 10 years. The PGA of America also provides the instructional curriculum, and local PGA Professionals conduct the golf instruction. Some \$500,000 has been awarded in college scholarships to eligible Louisville Urban Youth Golf graduates.

■ MIDNIGHT GOLF

Combining both golf and life-skills development for young adults age 17-24, Midnight Golf made its debut on Feb. 12, 2001, primarily to support young adults on the east side of Detroit and had an inaugural class of 21 young men and women. The primary goal for this program is to develop young people for success to become productive citizens. With the support of The PGA of America and the Michigan Section PGA, Midnight Golf brings young adults to the game during the high-risk hours of 6 p.m.-9:30 p.m. A total of 594 young adults have or are currently participating in this program. Of that total, 304 have completed the program, of which 256 (84%) were accepted into college. Sixteen young people have graduated from college and have employment.

■ GOLF FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES

The PGA of America has supported a number of organizations and programs for individuals with disabilities through the years. This support includes PGA Foundation grants, training of coaches and athletes, and tournament hosting to nurture the development of players with disabilities.

■ SPECIAL OLYMPICS

The PGA of America requested Special Olympics International in 1988 to include golf as an official Special Olympics Sport. Special Olympics Golf now has more than 13,000 athletes in 17 countries competing annually. The PGA makes annual grants in excess of \$25,000 to the organization, contributes additional dollars to the Special Olympics Golf National Invitational Tournament, and has many of the Association's members volunteer their time to support this program. Demonstrating its leadership role in Special Olympics Golf, The PGA of America wrote the *Sports Skill Guide* in order to make golf a Special Olympics sport and assist coaches in the instruction.

■ NATIONAL AMPUTEE GOLF ASSOCIATION

For several years, the PGA Foundation has provided annual grants in excess of \$10,000 to the National Amputee Golf Association (NAGA) to conduct approximately 36 one- and two-day clinics at Veterans Administrative Hospitals nationwide. These "First Swing" clinics teach physical therapists how to use golf as a rehabilitative sport for individuals with disabilities. Each year, The PGA provides "First Swing" manuals for these clinics and many PGA Professionals assist in teaching.

■ MILITARY PROGRAMS FOR WOUNDED SOLDIERS

The PGA of America's participation significantly increased in 2007 through a new program designed to teach wounded Iraq and Afghanistan military soldiers how to play golf as part of their rehabilitative program. The golf program was offered to soldiers at the three major military hospitals in the United States. More than \$60,000 was contributed in 2007 by The PGA of America along with instruction by 26 PGA Professionals. In 2008, The PGA of America supported the instruction at these sites through teaching grants, along with infrastructure support to our partner, Disabled Sports USA.

In addition, through the joint efforts of The PGA of America and 3,800 PGA Professionals, more than \$1.7 million was raised in 2008 to support the Fallen Heroes Foundation which supports scholarships for children of military parents who have died in the line of duty. This amount included \$130,000 from Captain Paul Azinger and the 12 members of the victorious U.S. Ryder Cup Team. The Folds of Honor Foundation has issued approximately 200 scholarships to assist students in their higher education pursuits.

■ MILITARY EDUCATION PROGRAMS

The PGA of America coordinates the Armed Forces Golf Course Managers Conference, which is conducted each year to provide continuing education for military course managers and professionals.