

2017 PLAYER DEVELOPMENT GRANT WINNERS

Clifton Park Junior Golf

The MAPGA is assisting Clifton Park in their junior golf program called the Baltimore Junior Golf Tour (BJGT). This program is designed to introduce at-risk youth to the game, and provide them the opportunity to play competitively at little to no cost. Our grant helps provide equipment for junior players, tournament entry fees for those with a financial need, and tournament supplies.

First Tee of Prince William County

Seeks to provide youth with direction, focus, and the ability to make good choices through the game of golf. They have a large presence in local schools through curriculum and equipment provided to physical education teachers in Prince William. The MAPGA is providing funds for new curriculum manuals, as well as equipment to start a program in another school.

First Tee of Roanoke Valley

Last year First Tee Roanoke Valley provided more than 800 participants with golf skills and life lessons through their facilities, golf in schools program, and summer programs. The MAPGA is providing equipment to help them continue to expand their program, which continues to be an asset for growing the game in the Roanoke area.

Bide-a-wee GC & The Links at City Park

The city of Portsmouth's "Hook a Kid on Golf" program introduces the game to underprivileged youth in the city of Portsmouth. The program is designed to eliminate the obstacles which sometimes prevent less affluent youth from learning and loving the game. The MAPGA is providing several sets of youth golf clubs to help Portsmouth in its mission to make the game more accessible.

Rockbridge Area YMCA

The program is seeking to add golf instruction to their after school program, as well as coordinate a youth camp with Lexington Golf & CC. The MAPGA is helping make this a reality through providing funding for equipment and golf specific curriculum materials to the YMCA's program.

The First Tee of Greater Washington DC

On top of the normal golf and life skills programs provided by First Tee, they will be providing a Science and Technology program which shows participants how to apply what they learn in school to the golf course. In addition to golf equipment, the MAPGA is providing books and stimpeters to the program so that they can grow their applied science and math program.

Ocean Pines Golf Club

The club has a player development program for youth and women which has grown from 17 participants to approximately 140 in the last four years. They are seeking to continue growing the game through setting up a short course on the driving range which when set up can be used to introduce the game to the surrounding community. The MAPGA is providing funds to help them with the equipment needed to make this a reality.

Links to Freedom

Created in 2015, the program's mission is to provide injured service members and their families with the opportunity to learn and play golf. The program views golf as a great avenue for healing and bonding with family. The MAPGA is assisting in this mission through funds for access to the course and driving range, as well as providing equipment to service members and their families.

Hidden Valley CC

Hidden Valley has a growing junior program which seeks to make the game 'fun, exciting, and educational'. They have developed several junior golf programs designed to cater to all skill levels, and have grown greatly in the past 4 years. The MAPGA is encouraging this growth through the funding of new junior golf equipment.

The MAPGA took applications for this year's new Player Development Grant. In previous years, the MAPGA had a Junior Golf Grant that allotted \$10,000 in grant monies to Junior Golf specific programs and \$15,000 that was allotted to Player Development specific programs. Seeing how the two are very similar, we have decided to combine the two grants. We will now have one Player Development grant for \$25,000 that will include junior golf programs.

Programs awarded the grant must introduce new golfers to the game and can be geared to all skill levels and ages. A PGA member must be affiliated with the program, in order to be eligible to apply for grant funding.