

# Monthly Divot June/July



## First Tee National Championship

Participants Hunter Swanson and Kyle Leydon competed in the Inaugural First Tee National Championship held at Clemson University's Walker Course. Both boys played exceptionally well during the event, Hunter birdied the 18th hole to force a playoff with Ashton Harper of First Tee - Roanoke Valley. Hunter ended his event in second place after losing on the first playoff hole, finishing the championship 69-71-67 for a 9-under-par 207 total. Kyle Leydon played well also, finishing tenth with a score of 71-77- 75, 7-over-par 223. Both boys were great representatives of our chapter! They have bright futures ahead of them in golf and in life, we can't wait to see what you do next!



## Alexis Chosen for First Tee Leadership Summit in Partnership With PGA TOUR Superstore



Our very own Eagle participant Alexis Cunningham was one of 40 participants throughout the First Tee network chosen for the inaugural First Tee Leadership Summit in partnership with PGA TOUR Superstore (PGATSS). The summit is designed to strengthen the participants leadership skills through dynamic outdoor and team-building activities, preparing them to transfer those skills to other scenarios they will face in the future. Set in the unforgettable backdrop of West Creek Ranch in Montana, the teens will also participate in collaborative workshops in which they will be influenced to challenge their conceptions of transformational



## First Tee-GVR Well Represented in Junior Golf.

First Tee - GVR had strong representation throughout the junior golf in Colorado as well as outside of our wonderful state! We have had multiple top ten finishes and some victories, we are so proud of every First Tee participant of ours playing in these events. Regardless of where they finish, each kid has shown great perseverance in each event.

We have 13 kids playing in different tour and series events for the Junior Golf Alliance of Colorado (JGAC). 30 of our participants play PGA Jr League for our program or others around the area.

leadership. First Tee's core competencies of building character, self-confidence and resilience will be a part of the experience, combined with a robust curriculum which explores the concepts of relationship building, positive risk taking, and character evaluation. We are so proud of Alexis and look forward to hearing about everything she learns during her time in Montana!

## Colorado Women's Open Recap



The Colorado Open Golf Foundation recently hosted the 27th annual CoBank Colorado Women's Open, a full field event with 156 players, open to professional and amateur players. The tournament had a \$150,000 purse and is considered the best state tournament in the United States! After day one, Olympian Paula Reto from South Africa fire a 6 under par 66 to lead the field by one stroke. Day 2 saw a swing in the leaderboard as Savannah Vilaubi of Downey, CA shot a tournament record-tying round of 8-under par 64 to take a commanding 5 stroke lead into the final round. She followed her record-tying 64 with an impressive 4-under par 68 in the final round to win by five strokes over two-time champ Becca Huffer of



Birdie participant Makaela Swanson won her first JGAC event at Hyland Hills Golf Club on their Gold Course. Shooting a 4-over-par 77 to win the event!



Hunter Swanson has continued his stellar summer. Along with his 2nd place finish at First Tee National Championship, he qualified for the U.S. Jr Amateur after earning medalist honors at Champions Run Golf Club in Omaha, Nebraska.

#### **PAR participants:**

**Kylee Richartz-** Played in 2 events, placing top 25 in both!

**Xavier Olivas-** Played in 5 events, placing top 20 in each!

**Kellan Bond-** Played in one event, and placed T15!

Denver.

In the low amateur competition, University of Colorado sophomore Hailey Schalk of Erie, CO shot 1-under 71 and 3-under total (213) to beat University of Denver sophomore Caroline Jordaan of Denver by one stroke and win the coveted Low Amateur trophy.

In the pro-am competition, Team Ackerman (pro Dreesbeimdieke and amateur Mike Ackerman of Cherry Hills, CO) fired a blistering 11-under par 61 best-ball to finish at 24-under (192) to win by one stroke over Team Cool Girls (pro Stef Ferguson of Broomfield, CO and amateur Laura Stuto of Denver).

The First Tee program was crucial to the success of the tournament as the volunteer staff that handles scoring, caddy bib collection and player shuttle consisted of families from the program! The annual tournament benefits the programming efforts for First Tee – Green Valley Ranch, LPGA\*USGA Girls Golf & Colorado PGA Golf In Schools.

[Leaderboard/Recap](#)

## Speaking of Volunteers

The Colorado Open Golf Foundation is looking for volunteers for our upcoming CoBank Colorado Men's Open. The Colorado Open Championships have a reputation as one of the best, if not THE best, state championships in the country. That reputation is built on volunteers who tirelessly give their time and effort supporting aspiring

**Birdie participants:**

**Sophia Rosasco-** Played in 4 events, placing top 30 in 3 of them!

**Coby Puzio-** Played in 5 events, placed top 20 in one!

**Keagan Bond-** Played in 6 events, placing top 10 in one and top 30 in four others!

**Kaylin Leydon-** Played in 9 events, placing top 10 in two and top 20 in the rest!

**Joaquin Rodriguez-** Played in 6 events and placed top 25 in two of them!

**ACE participants:**

**Emma Bryant-** Played in 4 events, winning two and placing top 10 in the other two!

players. If you are interested in volunteering visit the link(s) below to view the championship volunteer information page.

[Championship Volunteering](#)

## Fall First Tee Registration

Our Fall Classes still have space. Check out the link below to sign up, roster spots are filling fast!

[Fall Registration](#)

First Tee - Green Valley Ranch  
[www.firstteegreenvalleyranch.org](http://www.firstteegreenvalleyranch.org)

