
Media Alert

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Father/Child Golf Tournament Tees Off For Two H.P.A.R.D. Youth Programs *Young Golfers and Students-Athletes to Benefit*

The Houston Parks and Recreation Department and the Houston Parks Board will host the Eleventh Annual Father/Child Charity Golf Tournament, Thursday, August 9, 2012, at the Wildcat Golf Club. Proceeds from the annual golf tournament benefit two HPARD programs: The First Tee of Houston at F.M. Law Park and the Athletes Seeking Knowledge program. Featured guest for the day, golf legend Mark O'Meara, will sign shirts and hats at 11:00 am. A new feature for the Father/Child Charity Golf Tournament is an [online auction](#). Details can be found at www.houstonparksboard.com. The auction closes on August 14, 2012.

Who: Norman Berkman, M.D., Chair, Father/Child Golf Tournament
Joe Turner, Director, Houston Parks and Recreation Department
Mark O'Meara, Professional Golfer
Stephen C. Costello, Council Member, At Large Position 1
Andrew C. Burks, Jr., Council Member, At Large Position 2
The First Tee of Houston at F.M. Law Park youth

What: 11th Annual Father/Child Charity Golf Tournament

When: Thursday, August 9, 2012
11:00 a.m. Mark O'Meara autograph signing
12:30 p.m. shotgun start
4:30 p.m. awards presentation

Where: Wildcat Golf Club
12000 Alameda Road

The First Tee of Houston at F.M. Law Park

Since October of 1999, The First Tee of Houston at F.M. Law Park has been the site for free-of-charge golf lessons for Houston youth, ages 7 – 18. The facilities at F.M. Law Park include a nine-hole golf course, a lighted, 80-station driving range, a putting green and chipping green, an indoor education center, and a covered outdoor pavilion. Open to young people of all backgrounds and skill levels, this program provides free golf instruction while teaching life skills such as leadership, self-discipline, perseverance, honesty and respect. Tournament proceeds have been earmarked for facility improvements and maintenance, including lighting the driving range, lighting the putting green, building an outdoor pavilion and education space, construction of a short-range practice area, and construction of a maintenance facility. Funds are also used for training and hiring coaches to teach children The First Tee Life Skills Curriculum.

Athletes Seeking Knowledge

Since the program began in 2003, A.S.K. has awarded 105 continuing education scholarships to Houston

area youth participating in H.P.A.R.D. programs for a total of \$128,150. A.S.K. benefits youth and teens who take part in H.P.A.R.D.'s Recreation & Wellness programming, including educational, community service, leadership, recreational, environmental and enrichment activities. The Father/Child Charity Golf Tournament is the primary contributor to this program which helps Houston area students in the pursuit of higher education for a brighter future.

The Houston Parks and Recreation Department (H.P.A.R.D.) stewards and manages over 38,752 acres of parkland and greenspace for the City of Houston and develops and implements recreational programming for citizens of all abilities. For more information on the Houston Parks and Recreation Department, call (832) 395-7022 or visit www.houstonparks.org.