

arnold palmer

post  
office  
box  
fifty-two  
youngstown,  
pennsylvania  
15696

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Dear Friends of Junior Golf:

When we enter the exciting realm of junior golf, we find ourselves in the company of not just the game's stars of tomorrow but of equal importance the vast numbers of individuals who will provide the amateur backbone that should help the game flourish in the years to come.

Nobody knows where any of these young golfers will be a decade or two from now, so it is important that those of us who can influence their progress and encourage their love of the game do so in every possible positive way.

There are more opportunities than ever today for young people in all walks of life to take up and enjoy golf. Most prominent, perhaps, is the First Tee program, which has the full and enthusiastic support of every major golf organization in the country. Through their joint efforts and massive influence, youngsters who otherwise would not have the ways and means themselves are being provided with wonderful facilities, fine equipment and proper instruction. This will not only imbue in these young people a clean, healthy, worthwhile outlet for their energies but also serve the game well in the long run.

Golf has come a long way from its roots many centuries ago. All of us who are a part of the game have an obligation to fuel a continuing growth as we move through the 21st Century.

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