



The First Tee of Raritan Valley Gives Thanks to the Hoffman Cup Matches

The 2014 Red Hoffman Cup Matches (HCM) will enter its tenth anniversary when play begins on Saturday, April 26th. 32 clubs will compete in this 3-week competition with a champion being crowned on May 17th at the prestigious Knickerbocker Country Club in Tenafly, NJ.

In 2012, the Red Hoffman Cup Matches teams were invited to get involved with the First Tee of Raritan Valley (TFTRV), the local chapter of The First Tee to most of the HCM clubs. To give back to the game, HCM captains and their teams were invited to volunteer time and / or make a donation to TFTRV's impactful programs. The 2012 results were outstanding and clearly struck a responsive chord.

Mark McCabe, Program Director of The First Tee of Raritan Valley said, "The First Tee of Raritan Valley has been overwhelmed by the support of the Hoffman Cup Matches and the clubs participating in the competition. The money donated to our chapter has allowed us to further develop our programs, get clubs into more kids' hands, and support our National School Program in elementary schools throughout our chapter service area."

In 2013, the Matches expanded the support to include the three First Tee chapters covering the geographies of the HCM teams: The First Tee of Metropolitan New York, The First Tee of Monmouth and Ocean Counties, and The First Tee of Raritan Valley. The results of our 2013 TFT Initiative far eclipsed our 2012 efforts, with almost all HCM teams donating a total of \$14,000 to the three chapters. The HCM clubs have, after two years, donated in excess of \$22,000 to support The First Tee's efforts to help our local kids develop life skills, core values and promote healthy choices through the game of golf.

"The 2014 version will build on this early success to keep our First Tee Initiative relevant and valuable to our member clubs. Literally all of us who participate in the HCM are familiar with TFT and its programs. It is important to realize that – also, literally – *all* of us benefit from the TFT. It builds our children into better citizens and creates a pipeline of support to the game we love," commented Kevin Casey, HCM Director.

For more information on the Red Hoffman Cup Matches, please visit their website at www.hoffmancup.org

(This article first appeared on <http://www.thefirstteerv.org> , March 2014)