



Update



OCTOBER 2020



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings Members! I hope this issue of the Update finds you well. It has been a while since our last issue of the Update in December! The 2020 pandemic caught everyone off-guard! Little did we know the broad effect of the Coronavirus. Everything had to shut down to save lives. Our club, like many, had to cancel all events, including our premier Tournament series, which would have gotten underway in March just as the quarantine started.

Despite the pandemic, our members are a resilient bunch. We maintained our connections through social meetings on zoom and, when golf courses reopened, scheduling informal playdates. Our Executive Committee kept things rolling with a member care "drive-by," giving swag bags of TDTD branded masks and sanitizers to members at the Yvonne Burke Community Center (see page 10).

We started the year 87 members strong and recognized our Club Champions Jenny Bethune and Vincent Lyday, a first-time winner, and Most Improved Player Sharon Walton. With our members' generous support, eight Juniors represented the club at the Allen Bennett Tournament in Las Vegas. Our Junior Golf Program has grown to 20 members. And we sent two off to college with scholarships!

We are dedicating this Update issue to the amazing accomplishments of our phenomenal Junior members. Our TDTD Junior Chairperson, Jenny Bethune, and TDTD members have provided strong support to this next generation of golfers. Their stories are featured here. Several Juniors are well on their way to college, forging a successful academic career built on the values and confidence they gained as Junior members.

This is our biggest issue yet with lots of information. In addition to articles and photos of our Junior members and other member activities, there is a special feature on Black Golf History presented by Juniors at the February member meeting. The article includes links to the interesting history of Blacks in golf dating back to the 1800s.

Here are three ways to make the rest of 2020 a good year for Tee Divas and Tee Dudes:

1. **Give one compliment a day.** That golfer whose ball is in the bunker or water could use some kind words from you.
2. **Reach out to loved ones and old friends.** Check-in, catch up. Share the love and joy.
3. **Pay off your credit card each month.** That would free up funds that could be donated to our Junior Golf and Scholarship Programs.

Stay well. Protect yourself and others—wear a mask.

And most important—VOTE! SUBMIT YOUR BALLOT EARLY.

Elois McGehee, President

TEE DIVAS & TEE DUDES JUNIOR GOLFERS DRIVE TO SUCCESS 2020

There are not enough words to express my thanks to the many members of the Tee Divas and Tee Dudes (TDTD) Golf Club for the mentoring and financial support that you have provided to our Junior golfers.

As the TDTD Golf Club moves towards 2021, I hope this UPDATE issue offers a glimpse into the golf activities that our Juniors have been involved in. During the last few months of 2020, some Covid-19 health restrictions were relaxed, which allowed our Juniors to begin playing again.

There are currently 20 TDTD Juniors, with 8 attending college. Our advanced Juniors have participated in golf tournaments in Ventura, San Bernardino, and San Diego counties. Our intermediate Juniors are keeping busy too, with practice sessions at Maggie Hathaway Par 3 golf course.



I want to thank our “Walkers and Supporters” TDTD Verna Stroud, Debrya Moore, Gloria Howard, Elois McGehee. I also thank our friends, Rafael Scott and Coach Mike Williams, for their efforts to ensure that the Intermediate Juniors could continue their golf education.

The TDTD Junior Golf program has grown tremendously over the past year. Working with TDTD members and friends, we support and connect our Junior members and their parents to existing golf programs that provide lessons, resources, and scholarship opportunities.

Our Juniors are involved in the Southern California Golf Association (SCGA-Golf Pass), and Intermediate Juniors are members of the Southern California Professional Golf Association (SCPGA) Junior League. The SCPGA Junior League is a type of intramural Team golf, played at different courses, and the Juniors wear numbered jerseys and hats.

I want to thank the Junior parents for sharing their exceptional children with the TDTD Golf Club. The parents are carrying the heavy load of supporting their Junior golfers, while we, TDTD are easing the load by providing needed resources.

TDTD members, our work is not done. We have to build upon the foundation that Doris LaCour, our President Emeritus, has started and continue to support our Juniors. The Juniors are the building blocks that represent Our Future and Our Legacy.

Jenny Bethune, Junior Golf Chair

Learn more about the Tee Divas & Tee Dudes Junior Program at <https://teedivas-dudesgolf.com/juniors/>

Skylar Graham, TDTD Junior and SCGA Junior Scholarship Recipient Heads to USC!



Skylar Graham joined TDTD Junior program while attending Westlake HS. A recipient of the Southern California Golf Association (SCGA) Junior Scholarship, Skylar will be attending University of Southern California to study Communications and/or Psychology. See Skylar's SCGA Class of 2024 profile at <http://www.scgajunior.org/meetthescholars/>. In this exclusive, Skylar shares her love of golf and what she has learned as a golfer and TDTD Junior member.

At the tender age of 7, I was taught golf from the green to the tee box. My coaches always stressed that it's not about driving the ball 300 yards. It's about who can put(t) the ball into the hole first, and who can finish the round.

Through golf, I have learned that the person who ends with the best round is the most patient, precise, and driven. Values such as courtesy, judgment, and confidence have guided me on the course, in the classroom, and how I step into the world. It has been a privilege to play golf, a sport that is not very diverse or

promoted in the black community. Nonetheless, it has been a motivating factor in all that I have accomplished on and off the golf course.

In 2019, I was selected to play in the PGA Tour's PURE Insurance Championship, impacting the First Tee Pro-Am at the iconic Pebble Beach Golf Links. The relationships that I built in just five days at this event are spread across the country and internationally. Golf, in itself, has been a life-changing experience. Every putt I have made has taught me to win with grace, and every putt I have missed has taught me to be resilient. I could have never imagined that this sport would open up so many doors for me.

The year of 2020 has been nothing short of a whirlwind, complete with the trauma that extends over two pandemics in our country: COVID-19 and racism. As I step into the world, now as a young adult, I am inheriting the progress fought for by prior generations. Even in this challenging period, I recognize that I stand on the cliff of progress and possibility. I am proud to announce that I will be furthering my education at USC this Fall to continue my footprint and impact the future.

I am so blessed to have had the Tee Divas & Tee Dudes supporting me on this journey these past few years. TDTD is not only the best golf club in the Western States Golf Association but a fantastic group of men and women who have become a part of my golf family. I am thankful for their words of encouragement and positive wishes.

I look forward to continuing my golf career as a collegiate student-athlete, and I appreciate the Tee Divas & Dudes for being by my side. To me, golf is a lifetime of lessons. Golf is a lifetime of relationships. Golf is a lifetime of unforgettable experiences. And I am thankful for every single one because they have helped me along this journey from Maggie Hathaway 3-par golf course to Pebble Beach to USC.

Skylar Graham



Kamren James TDTD College Member and Tennessee State Men's Golf Team MVP

| FGM BANK APSU INTERCOLLEGIATE | | | | |
|-------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| TENNESSEE STATE | | | | |
| TYLER WOODS | 79 | 76 | 77 | 232 |
| LANE HOOPER | 81 | 73 | 77 | 231 |
| LONDON ALBERT | 79 | 76 | 70 | 225 |
| KAMREN JAMES | 73 | 70 | 71 | 214 |
| JOHN STOKES | 82 | 77 | 82 | 241 |
| | | | | |
| | 312 | 295 | 295 | 902 |

Kamren James is starting his 2nd year as a sophomore at Tennessee State University (TSU). As a TDTD junior golfer, Kamren was a 2019 Gale James Scholarship winner.

As a student athlete, Kamren has excelled at golf and his academic career at TSU. In 2019, he was on the Ohio Valley Conference Commissioner's Honor list and the Most Valuable Player on the Tennessee State University Men's Golf Team. <https://www.tsutigers.com/mgolf/roster/2020-21/7872/kamren-james/> Kamren 'is majoring in Mechanical Engineering with a concentration in Thermo Dynamics/Avionics; his minor in computer science. In 2020,

Kamren was selected as the TSU Golf Team Captain due to his consistent low scoring average and work ethic. Kamren's 2020 goal is to make the Division 1 - NCAA Golf finals to be held in Arizona in 2021. Sounds like a possible road trip for TDTD golf club members.

FOCUS ON THE FUTURE: Kyla Coaxum, Leader and Student Athlete Builds on Golf Foundation

Kyla was introduced to the game of golf at fifteen years of age. She was then an active member of the Southern California Golf Association (SCGA), The First Tee of Los Angeles, and a Junior Member of Tee Divas & Tee Dudes Golf Club.



Building on some of the core values: confidence, responsibility, perseverance, integrity, to name a few, have instilled in me lessons that I apply in my everyday life both on and off of the golf course.

I am a dually enrolled honors eleventh-grade/college student at John Burroughs High School in Burbank, California, and Glendale Community College in Glendale, California. I am currently serving as the 2020-2021 Black Students Union President (BSU). Prior years, I have served as Vice-President of the BSU (2019-2020) and Parent Teacher Student Association (PTSA) Corresponding Secretary (2018-2019).

I am a former Junior Olympian competitive synchronized swimmer and a proud member of my school's swim and water polo team, holding the fastest spot for Butterfly Stroke of 28.7 seconds. Also, I am a Presidential and Volunteer Service Award recipient who is passionate about helping others.

As a leader and student-athlete, golf has continued to teach me to exert self-confidence, self-efficacy, and sportsmanship. I continue to set goals for myself to reach the highest potential while using transferable skills between my two sports to compete, win with grace, and build resilience when faced with an obstacle. My motto is to "Keep Pushing Forward!"

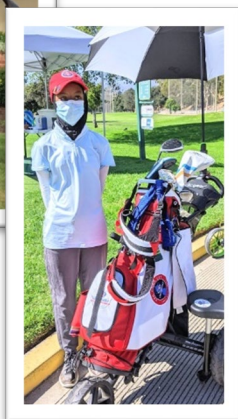
In my spare time, you can catch me on the greens, working as a certified Life Guard with the City of Burbank Parks and Recreation Department and leading my peers of the Far West Region of Jack and Jill of America, Inc. as the Regional Teen President (2020-2021). Thank you for your continuous support, and I am appreciative of every seed that the golf community has planted within me.



IBRAHIM SISTERS TAKE ON PINEHURST



TDTD Junior golfer, Siham Ibrahim, was invited to participate in the U.S. Kids Golf World Championship, held in North Carolina, at the famous Pinehurst Golf Resort. Siham's consistent top U S Kids Tournament finishes in Los Angeles lead to the invitation. Siham (*left*) poses next to the statue of famous golfer Payne Stewart at Pinehurst, home of the U.S. Open.



Out of a field of over (80) girls age 12, Siham tied for 16th. She was also selected to participate in the prestigious Van Horn Junior Cup and presented with a special golf bag, hat, and caddy bib for the Sunday Tournament.

Juniors Siham and sister Salma, 14, at Pinehurst with Dad (*right*), in signature Tee Diva & Dudes masks, with TDTD shirts and TDTD branded face masks. #GoSiham!



TDTD JUNIOR MEMBERS PRESENT STORIES OF BLACKS IN GOLF AT BLACK HISTORY CELEBRATION



TDTD President Elois McGehee with (l-r) Juniors Mahamed and Salma Ibrahim, Kyla Coaxum, Miles Flournoy, Adrienne Walker, Kourey Patterson, Siham Ibrahim and Jenny Bethune, TDTD Junior Chair.

At the February 2020 TDTD general membership meeting, we celebrated Black Golf History. Three Juniors—Kourey Patterson, Kyla Coaxum and Mahamed Ibrahim—were selected to provide presentations on different historical Black golf figures.

The Juniors did an excellent job and the adult TDTD members enjoyed the presentations. One of our TDTD Junior Golf goals was met, as our club continues to provide a Bridge from the Past to the Present to the Future of golf in the Black community.

Jenny Bethune

Learn more about Black Golf History

African Americans have a long, storied history in golf as champions, golf club and course designers, and clubhouse owners.

African-American George F. Grant invented the golf tee in 1899. Grant was a dentist by trade, and he took up golf after the Civil War. John J. Shippen, Jr., believed to be the first Black golf pro, was an early golfing pioneer who played in the second U.S. Open in 1897 at age 18. Joe Bartholomew, who grew up in New Orleans, entered the caddie ranks by age seven in 1887. He became an exceptional player, attended college in New York to study golf course architecture, and eventually returned home to ply his trade. He designed several courses in New Orleans, but because Bartholomew was Black, many members of the courses refused to let him play what he had designed. *Excerpt from [History of Golf Part Eight—African Americans and Golf](#). The Golf Channel 2012.*

Beyond individual players, African Americans invested in golf clubhouses and resorts for Black golfers. The oldest Black-owned golf clubhouse in the U.S. is the Shady Rest Golf & Country Club in New Jersey, founded in 1921 by prominent Black investors. Shady Rest was the home of early golf pro John J. Shippen Jr. Famous celebrities such as W.E.B. DuBois, Count Basie, Billie Holiday, and many others were among its guests. Learn about this historic property at <http://preserveshadyrest.org/history-shady-rest.html>. Shady Rest is now the Scotch Hills Country Club, which has preserved the Shady Rest Clubhouse on its nine-hole golf course. It currently hosts events and tours of the Shady Rest Clubhouse; see <https://www.scotchhillsgolfcourse.com/shady-rest/>

Update Editor Peggy Toy

Southern California PGA Junior League Tee Diva Squad



L-R: TDTD President Elois McGehee, and Juniors Nia Elkouby (16), Alysa Davis (13), Loren Fearence (10), Kaitlyn Haley (16), Kyla Coaxum (16), Adrienne Walker (16), London Clark (16) and TDTD Junior Chair Jenny Bethune.

TDTD Juniors joined the SCPGA Junior League this year. The league is a fun social opportunity for youth ages 17 and under to learn the game of golf.

"Much like other recreational league sports, participants wear numbered jerseys and play on teams with their friends." Each team is captained by a PGA or LPGA Professional, who serves as the coach. #GoDivas!



Mom LaShea and daughter Nia Elkouby, 16, TDTD Junior member and PGA member, at the SCGA and the Southern California PGA Women's Golf Summit last year. The Summit is for amateurs and PGA and LPGA members to hear from golf industry leaders on the future of women's golf.

TEE DIVAS & TEE DUDES JUNIOR MEMBERS GALLERY



Kris Stiles (Ctr) shares golf tips with Miles Flournoy and Kourey Patterson at Chester Washington Golf Course. Kris is a member of the Western States Golf Association Honors Golf Club and incoming member of the San Jose State Golf Team.



Stan Howell from Sister Club, LA Fairways, with TDTD Juniors Kourey Patterson and Miles Flournoy, and Jenny Bethune at Chester Washington GC before a round of golf.



TDTD Intermediate golfers started practicing at Maggie Hathaway GC once Covid-19 restrictions on golf were lifted. From left, Kyla Coaxum, Nia Elkouby, Jenny Bethune, Adrienne Walker, Kaitlyn Haley, Kamea Nicolis and London Clark.

PRACTICING WITH A PURPOSE



TDTD members play with the Juniors regularly. Reports are it's a mutual learning experience. The Juniors learn from the adult members and the adult members learn from the Juniors! As golf courses were allowed to open, several playdates were possible at the Heartwell Par 3 Golf Course in Long Beach.

Photo top left: (l-r) Jenny, Elois, and Debrya joined Junior Alysa Davis.

Photo bottom left: (l-r) Salma Ibrahim, Joan Alexander, Siham Ibrahim, Ruth Nuckolls, Loren Fearence, and Jenny Bethune.



WINNER'S CIRCLE

Sirhan Ibrahim
California Junior Golf Tournament 1st Place



Sirhan Ibrahim won first place at the California Junior Golf Tournament. The CJG Tour are single and multi-day ranked junior golf events in the Los Angeles area. The CJG Tour is designed for juniors looking to build a strong playing resume for college golf and to develop their competitive golf skills.

Loren Fearance
SCPGA Junior Tournament 1st Place



Loren Fearance, age 10 and the youngest Junior (drawing the moniker Baby Diva), took 1st Place in an SCPGA Junior Tournament at Anaheim Hills in July. Loren played 9 holes from the Red Tees and shot a 35, making par on each hole! At her practice round at Chester Washington before the tourney, Loren walked the 18-hole course; playing from the Red Tees at 5500 yards!

TEE DIVAS & TEE DUDES MEMBER CARE EVENT



In April, the TDTD Executive Committee hosted a member care “drive-by” event at the Yvonne Burke Community Center. Members were invited to drop in to receive a swag bag that included TDTD branded masks and sanitizers while sharing the joy of connecting, uplifting spirits of members. Photo (l-r) Charna Blakely, Tournament Chair; Debrya Moore, Corresponding Secretary; Verna Stroud, Scholarship Chair; Elois McGehee, President; Shirley Dones, Treasurer; Beryle Bryant, Recording and Financial Secretary; and Candis Noel, Player Development Chair. #Stay well; stay golf ready!

Tee Divas & Tee Dudes Golf Club

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Info@TeeDivas-TeeDudes.com

Rose Mary Spriggs, Newsletter Publisher

Peggy Toy, Update Editor

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