

Kentucky Golf Foundation – Looking Back at 2009

In 2009, we entered our third year of operation at Golf House Kentucky. The Kentucky Golf Foundation has worked to establish Golf House Kentucky, since its opening in 2006, as THE home for golf in Kentucky, and over the past three years has hosted leaders from the Women's Kentucky State Golf Association, the Kentucky Turfgrass Council, the First Tee of Louisville, the Kentuckiana Chapter of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America, the Kentucky Chapter of the Club Managers Association of America, the USGA, the Kentucky Golf Association, the Kentucky Section PGA, and the Kentucky Senior Golf Association. In addition, the facility has hosted annual toy raising events for the United States Marine Corps Reserves' Toys for Tots Program, and this past January, hosted a public golf summit for golf professionals and officials at public golf courses in Kentucky.

Golf House Kentucky also welcomed additions to Kentucky Golf Hall of Fame displays in 2009, including items from the 2008 Ryder Cup and the U.S. Women's Mid-Amateur Championship Trophy, which 2009 champion Martha Leach of Hebron graciously permitted the Kentucky Golf Foundation to display at Golf House Kentucky. It is currently part of a display dedicated to Kentucky's USGA Champions.

To assist in promoting and developing junior golf in Kentucky, listed below are some efforts and initiatives from 2009:

- We added a six-hole division to the Pepsi Junior Golf Tour, which expanded playing opportunities for children age nine and under. This new division was a big success, and we plan to expand it in 2010.
- We conducted the inaugural Bluegrass Junior Championship at Audubon Country Club in late October, with many of Kentucky's top junior golfers participating. This 36-hole event was an official point event with the Junior Golf Scoreboard.
- We expanded the Gay Brewer, Jr. Grant Program by offering \$2,000 grants to six (up from five in 2008) junior golfers from Kentucky. The program provides financial assistance to junior golfers from Kentucky with the ability to compete at the regional and national level.
- We provided direct support to the following organizations:
 - Kentucky PGA Foundation – This organization supports junior golf and growth of the game programs across Kentucky each year, and in 2009, supported the Don Fightmaster Golf Outing for Exceptional Children, among other worthwhile programs.
 - Fred Allen Fund – This fund provides financial assistance each year to junior golfers from Kentucky who qualify for the U.S. Junior Amateur and U.S. Girls' Junior Championships.
 - Kentucky High School Athletic Association Golf Championships – We covered costs in providing Rules Officials for this important junior golf championship.
 - Kentucky/Indiana Challenge Cup – We covered costs in hosting this annual event between 20 of the best golfers from each state.
 - Kentucky High School All-State Banquet – We partnered with the Kentucky Junior Golf Foundation to conduct the banquet honoring Kentucky's All-State High School Golf Teams. The banquet was a success and provided a memorable evening for the golfers and their families.
 - First Tee Chapters in Kentucky – We provided framed Ryder Cup prints, signed by J.B. Holmes and Kenny Perry, to each of the First Tee Chapters in Kentucky, to be used for fundraising purposes.

The Kentucky Golf Foundation looks back fondly on 2009 and looks forward with optimism and confidence to 2010. If you would like to support our efforts, please contact Mark Hill at (502) 243-8295.