

# Newsletter

01/31/2024

## TWIG's Mission

Introduce young women (ages 6 – 17) to play golf. Encourage practices after structured golf lessons with PGA coaches. Design programs and partnerships to build character, impart confidence and obtain golf scholarships & professional careers.

## TWIG Kid's Kick Off

17 TWIG Kidz were selected for 2023. March, 2023 everyone met at the driving range, short game or putting area with their Lonnie Poole coaches. Every 3<sup>rd</sup> week the kidz had a match play to test their skills to advance to the next level to play further from the hole. Operation 36 is a golf development program to guide beginners from playing their first round to shooting par or better for 9 holes.

The kidz also had small size to individual golf clinics to focus on areas they wanted to improve for their golf course management skills.

# TWIG KIDZ 2023

## Highlights

Three seasons from Spring to Fall are participated by the TWIG Kidz at Lonnie Poole golf course in Raleigh, NC



*Coach Tyler & Madison coordinate the TWIG Kids golf lessons*



*Penelope w/Coach Madison*



*Left to right Zoe, Olivia(back) & Allie*

**2023 TWIG Kid's Roster**

Allie Lee, Arianna Beverly, Brielle Eugene, Genesis Lewis, Justine Pennycooke, Karina Beverly, Kimani Frazier, Madison Knight, Makayla Bizzell, Morghan Knight, Olivia Heggie, Penelope Franklin, Rachel Barnes, Sabrina Shands, Trinity Simpson, Tyler Spriggs and Zoe Crichlow



Summer session smiles (back left to right) Chairwoman Valerie Willis, Big sistahs Genesis, Arianna, little sistahs Karina and Sabrina. (front) Penelope



Coach RD & Brielle



Coach Tyler & Rachel on putting greens



TWIG mentor Mrs. Pamela Batey-Bright driving six-year-old Penelope to her golf lesson.

Other TWIG Kidz mentors included; Vanessa Walker, Acie Ward, Keri Padgett, Shawna McKinnon. TWIG Kidz chairwoman; Valerie Willis

## TWIG Kidz HS Seniors

Tyler Spriggs joined TWIG Kidz 2015 at age 10 and was already driving the green on Wilmar's golf course on par 4/hole #1.

She was receiving golf lessons at Brier Creek while TWIG Kidz was a part of the Dona Lerner's golf academy (DLGA).

Justine Pennycooke (2019/age 13) and Gabrielle Pace (2017/age 14) also joined TWIG Kidz.

TWIG member Maureen Beavers delivered a powerful blessing in our prayer circle for Tyler Spriggs (to study Medical Researcher) & Gabrielle Pace (to study Architect) who are both attending University of NC Charlotte and Justine Pennycooke (to study Sports Management) attending University of NC State.

## OUR HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES



*Coach Scott Clagg, founder of Lonnie Pooles' Junior Golf program, joins TWIG Kidz and TWIG members to send off big sisters Tyler Spriggs and Justine Pennycooke (Justine yellow shirt/far left, Tyler blue V neck/far right). Gabrielle Pace (blue t-shirt/middle) graduated from high school in 2022 and joined us also.*



Tyler, 2015, auditioning for TWIG Kidz by driving the green on a par 4



Commemorative TWIG Kidz shirts for Tyler and Justin class of 2023. Knight sisters and Olivia checking out the shirt designs!

## Achievers



Allie Lee



Trinity Simpson



Kimani Frazier



Genesis Lewis

## RECOGNITIONS of TWIG Kidz Achievements:

### Allie Lee

Allie's personal goal this year was to place higher in the Drive, Chip & Putt competition. In 2022, Allie placed 7th overall in the Girls 12-13 division in the local qualifier.

This year, June 2023, Allie fulfilled her goal by placing 1st overall in the local qualifier girls 12-13 division at Wildwood Green Golf Club. Allie moved on to the sub-regional qualifier at Duke University Drive, where she places 4th overall in her age division and considered an alternate for the regional qualifier, which they took the top two.

This was a major accomplishment to Allie and she was very proud of herself. Allie set an attainable goal and she achieved it.

### Trinity Simpson

Trinity has received recognition at York Elementary school. She is a member of the safety patrol where she exhibits being a positive role model for students. Trinity started Kidznotes music program to prepare for the Ravinia National Seminario nomination. She actively participates in class and achieves high grades.

### Kimani Frazier

Kimani made NCISAA girls' golf state Championship (Varsity) two day 18-hole as a 7th grader.

### Genesis Lewis

- Genesis Lewis Durham and Chapel Hill Super Six 4A all-conference honors
- Finished 24th in the 1A/2A state championship
- South Granville High team MVP

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***TWIG Kidz Program's 2023 Achievement:** Raised \$29K via our annual TWIG Invitational event including a \$10K donation, received a \$5K grant from the Carolina Golf Association to extend the TWIG Kidz golf lessons @ Lonnie Pool into the Fall season, invested five to six years in our high school seniors and continue to open the hearts and minds of youth female golfers going into the future!*

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## ADDITIONAL RECOGNITIONS OF TWIG KIDZ...



### “EAT THAT FROG” 2023 THEME!

In the world of academics and extracurriculars, Makayla Bizzell, a dynamic 6th grader, stands out prominently in the TWIGZ Golf Program. The "Eat That Frog" assignment was a testament to Makayla's unwavering dedication to personal growth and discipline.

On the tech front, Makayla's passion for computer science is nothing short of impressive. Having been part of the robotics elective since 4th grade and earning a coveted spot in the robotics club, initially offered only to 8th graders, speaks volumes about her skills. Additionally, she actively participates in a computer science elective at her school. Beyond the classroom, Makayla and her friends from the elective initiated a daily FaceTime group, creating a collaborative learning environment. Her commitment to continuous learning is evident through Udemy courses on robotics and coding, along with engaging in one-on-one Python sessions twice a week.



Karina, Sabrina, Morghan, Makayla, Madison



Mentor Pam Batey-Bright & Makayla



Makayla on the 16<sup>th</sup> hole @ Lonnie Poole

Makayla's pursuit of excellence extends seamlessly to her golf journey. Starting the TWIGZ Golf Season at 100 yards and finishing at an impressive 200 yards by October showcases her commitment and progress. The mentorship of Ms. Valerie Willis within the program has not only refined Makayla's golf skills but has also instilled discipline in her personal life.

As we celebrate Makayla's triumphs, it's exciting to anticipate her expanded endeavors in 2024. Her journey is a shining example, inspiring young minds to excel in academics and extracurricular pursuits alike.

Cheers to Makayla's achievements and the bright future that undoubtedly lies ahead!