

The First Tee's first year: On track for 100 facilities by 2001

By TOD LEIWEKE

The First Tee continues to make excellent progress toward achieving our initial two-year goal of 100 facilities in development by the end of the year 2000.

Tangible evidence of this progress was the participation of 50 different communities at The First Tee's inaugural National Association meeting this past Nov. 20 at World Golf Village in northeast Florida. These committees came together to showcase their collective belief that the inherent values found in golf should play an important role in the lives of our youth in their respective communities.

These communities are not alone in their commitment, as evidenced by the support of The First Tee's corporate partners. These partnerships will allow The First Tee to pass through to our Chapters extraordinary benefits and discounts in the construction and operations of youth golf facilities. Toro, for instance, has pledged discounts of up to 70 percent off irrigation equipment and up to 40 percent off of operating equipment. Club Car, Jacklin Seed, Pursell Technology,

Tod Leiweke is executive director of The First Tee.

Syncroflo and IBM also have committed to discounts below wholesale prices.

Members of The First Tee's Oversight Committee have made extraordinary commitments to First Tee Chapters, as well. The PGA TOUR, LPGA, Augusta National Golf Club, USGA and the PGA of America continue to support The First Tee through financial and resource support. As an example, Jim Awtrey, CEO of the PGA of America, has launched a \$3 million teaching grant program and also will provide all First

Tee Chapters access to the PGA of America's Golf Course Financial model for use in building Chapter business plans.

While significant progress is being made, we are ever cognizant of the daunting challenge faced by this initiative and the golf industry in growing and expanding participation. Statistics show that 98 percent of kids ages 12 to 17 simply do not play the game of golf.

First Tee Chapters face development challenges similar to those facing private sector developers. Plus, there exists a lingering perception that golf still is a sport for the rich and elite of our society.

Additionally the cost of developing a youth golf facility is far greater than other

alternative facilities such as a basketball court, tennis court or baseball field. We know that no one initiative alone will be enough to dramatically alter participation amongst young people or minorities. Only through people working together — bonded by the common belief that golf has inherent values that are unique and valuable to the lives of our young people — can we truly change and grow the game.

THE FIRST TEE CORPORATE PARTNERS

TORO
CLUB CAR
JACKLIN SEED
PURSELL TECHNOLOGY
SYNCROFLO
IBM



Tod Leiweke



Tim Finchem, PGA Tour commissioner and chairman of the World Golf Foundation, speaking at The First Tee's inaugural National Association meeting on Nov. 20 at World Golf Village.

Sweaty palms?
Furrowed brow?
Bloodshot eyes?

Don't let gremlins in your pump station keep you up at night.
Call FLOWTRONEX PSI.

No one has created more industry innovations. No one gives you better, more advanced service capabilities. No one maintains over \$2 million in parts inventory to ensure fast and accurate delivery. And no one engineers a better pump station to fit your unique needs.

It all adds up to the best engineered, most worry-free pump station in the world. One that gives you superior strength. Superior performance. And a superior night's sleep.

So before you make any decisions, talk to the people at FLOWTRONEX PSI.

Yes, we may cost a little more than the other guys. But, rest assured, you'll never suffer through one of their pump station nightmares.

FLOWTRONEX PSI
Pumping Systems

(800)786-7480 (214)357-1320
E-mail: ftxpsi@flowtronex.com

**If Pump Station Paranoia Has You Losing Sleep,
Here's Some Peace Of Mind.**