



2026 Scholarship Recipients

Celebrating five exceptional student-athletes recognized for academic excellence, outstanding golf achievements, leadership, and core values on and off the course.



Rhys Heiberger • Brookings, SD • Brookings High School

College: South Dakota State University **Major:** Human Biology

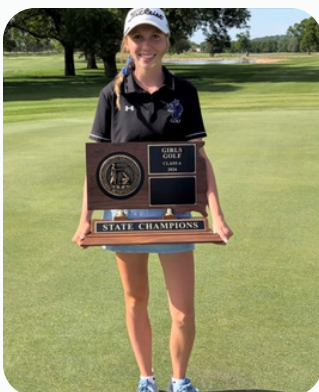
Whether competing on the golf course, skating on the hockey rink, or giving back to younger players, Rhys has made the most of every opportunity in his community. He competed in both golf and hockey at Brookings High School, played on the SDGA Junior Tour, and volunteered as a coach with First Tee – South Dakota. This fall, he will continue his education at South Dakota State University, pursuing a degree in Human Biology.



Will Peterson • Brandon, SD • Brandon Valley High School

College: University of Sioux Falls **Major:** Statistics

Will's love for numbers is matched only by his passion for golf. A standout student with a talent for mathematics, he will study Statistics at the University of Sioux Falls while competing as a member of the men's golf team. Along with tournament experience throughout the SDGA circuit, Will has invested in the next generation of golfers through his work as a First Tee – South Dakota coach.



Rylan Horning • Rapid City, SD • Saint Thomas More High School

College: South Dakota State University **Major:** Pharmacy

A two-time Class A State Champion and the 2025 Junior Female Golfer of the Year, Rylan played a key role in leading the Saint Thomas More team to consecutive state titles. Off the the course, Rylan excelled academically as an honor roll and National Honor Society student and gained valuable experience as an SDGA intern. She will continue both her academic and athletic careers at SDSU, where she plans to study Pharmacy and compete on the women's golf team.



Maddie Childs • Mitchell, SD • Mitchell High School

College: Augustana University **Major:** Exercise Science

A three-time All-State selection and state runner-up at Mitchell High School, Maddie spent years testing her game against top competition on the SDGA Sanford Series. Away from tournament golf, she has remained committed to youth development as a coach with First Tee – South Dakota. Maddie will bring that same energy and dedication to Augustana University as a member of the women's golf team and an Exercise Science major.



Jadyn McDonald • Wentworth, SD • Chester Area High School

College: Augustana University **Major:** Mathematics & Pre-law

Jadyn's achievements reflect a balance of academic ambition and competitive excellence. A two-time region champion and state runner-up for Chester Area High School, she consistently demonstrated leadership both in competition and as a First Tee – South Dakota coach. At Augustana University, she plans to pursue studies in Mathematics and Pre-Law while continuing her golf career with the Vikings women's team.

SDGA JUNIOR GOLF FOUNDATION • FIRST TEE – SOUTH DAKOTA

Supporting young leaders on the course and in the classroom.
Scholarships are funded through generous donor support.

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