

## THE FIRST TEE OF MANHATTAN NAMES AARON WALL AS NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Manhattan, KS (January 24, 2017) – The First Tee of Manhattan Advisory Board recently announced the hiring of Aaron Wall as Executive Director. Wall will replace Bernie Haney who currently serves as the Executive Director for The First Tee of Manhattan and the Kansas State University Golf Course Management and Research Foundation (KSUGCMRF). Haney will continue as the KSUGCMRF Executive Director.

"We are very excited to have Aaron fill this position, he will be a tremendous asset. Aaron has a clear passion for teaching youth and The First Tee of Manhattan. He will work directly with Bernie Haney and Program Director, Susan Lowman, to grow an already successful program in our service area," said Joel Phipps, The First Tee of Manhattan Advisory Board President.

Aaron has been working part-time for The First Tee of Manhattan for six (6) years, including the past three years as the Assistant Program Director. Wall recently completed Level III Coaches Training in San Diego, CA and will become a recognized The First Tee Coach later this year. During his time as Assistant Program Director, Aaron has assisted in adding new program locations in Junction City and Fort Riley and implemented The First Tee National School Program in seven (7) elementary schools in USD 475 Geary County Schools.

Aaron is currently teaching Physical Education at Fort Riley Elementary School. He has taught in USD 475 Geary County Schools for seven (7) years and serves as the Elementary Physical Education Chairperson for the District. Aaron earned his Bachelor's Degree in Physical Education and Health Education from Emporia State University and his Master's Degree in Athletic Administration from Western Kentucky University.

"I am excited for the opportunity to continue working to grow The First Tee of Manhattan to make a positive impact on youth in our area," says Wall. "We are presented with a great opportunity to expand our programming opportunities for the participants and I look forward to getting started."

## **About The First Tee of Manhattan**

The First Tee of Manhattan is one of 177 chapters around the country and in select international locations. Serving the Manhattan community since 2000 and Geary county since 2013, approximately 10,000 young people have participated through chapter certifying programs, Outreach partnerships with other local youth-serving organizations, and The First Tee National School Program, which is in all nine (9) USD 383 (Manhattan) and seven (7) USD 475 (Junction City) elementary schools. The programs are focused on building character through The First Tee Nine Core Values: honesty, integrity, sportsmanship, respect, confidence, responsibility, perseverance, courtesy, and judgment.