

# HARRIS

GOLF ACADEMY

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BRIDGING THE GAP



# INTRODUCTION

Harris Golf Academy, headquartered in Nassau, is the first inner city golf academy that offers a comprehensive youth golf academy and has partnered with Bahamas Global Academy to provide its academic component. We offer a systematic, proven golf instruction program that provides our youth with expert coaching and training to improve their golf skills.

At Harris Golf Academy, we believe in the power of dreams, dedication, and determination. Just like President Obama once said, “Change will not come if we wait for some other person or some other time. We are the ones we’ve been waiting for. We are the change that we seek.” This sentiment embodies our mission and vision. Together, as a community committed to growth and transformation, we embark on this journey to greatness. Let us remember that with unwavering dedication and belief in ourselves, we can shape a future where success knows no bounds.

## **Mission Statement**

Harris Golf Academy is dedicated to nurturing the passion for golf in our participants while instilling values of perseverance, respect, and excellence. Through comprehensive training and mentorship, we empower individuals to achieve their full potential on and off the golf course.

## **Vision Statement**

Our vision is to create a world where every aspiring golfer, regardless of their background, has the opportunity to reach the highest levels of the sport. We aim to produce not only skilled golfers but also responsible and resilient individuals who will contribute positively to society.

# GOLF IN THE BAHAMAS

Golf is becoming more popular in The Bahamas, although there are a limited numbers of golf courses or practice facilities in Nassau and the family islands. We know that over the past 15-25 years, since Tiger Woods turned professional, there has been small steps towards more diversity and inclusion in the sport at a higher level. However, enough of that has not trickled into golf here in The Bahamas. We are addressing this through various initiatives such as Harris Golf Academy, Fourteen Clubs Golf Academy, a local U.S. Kids Tour, the school golf program, and an overall development program.

## ADDRESSING THE GAP

Through the various programs that we have been fortunate to lead or be involved in, we have seen more of our young players receive college scholarships. We have seen that through the school golf program that we can find talent, develop it, and get them to play good golf.

The students who are in school for the regular school hours miss out on the opportunity to perfect their craft. Students who can afford the elite golf academies are able to hone their skills sooner and with more reps, thereby creating more professional players from their ranks.

These challenges have affected outcomes in international events. When we do not have opportunities to practice for a minimum amount of hours and play in high level events, we cannot honestly expect our kids to just show up at these events and play as though this is what they do every day. **Harris Golf Academy** will be that affordable option for our talented players whose socioeconomic background may naturally eliminate them from being afforded any such opportunity.

# THE TEAM LEADERS

*We are a proven group of professionals who are committed to solidifying the pipeline for Bahamian professional tour players.*



**David Harris**

PGA, Class A Member  
University of New Mexico, BA Accounting  
Former Executive Director, The First Tee Houston  
Owner, Faded Gradience Barbershop  
Former student of Butch Harmon (Coach of Tiger Woods)  
Played in various PGA tournaments  
CoFounder, Fourteen Clubs Golf Academy



**Georgette Rolle-Harris**

LPGA, Class A Member  
Texas Southern University, MBA, Msc Biology  
Head Golf Professional, Baha Mar  
CoFounder, Fourteen Clubs Golf Academy  
Local Director, U.S. Kids Local Nassau Tour  
Golf Consultant, University of The Bahamas  
Developer, Short Game at St. Andrew's School

# MARKET VALIDATION- SOME OF OUR ACHIEVEMENTS



11:05:00 AM | Dan Carr, Assistant AD for Media Relations



- Multiple junior invitations to U.S.Kids World and Teen World Championships
- Organizers of the local U.S. Kids Local Nassau Tours
- Spearheaded the implementation of golf in the curriculum for the Ministry of Education
- Spearheaded the implementation of the Golf Team at the University of The Bahamas
- Co-developed the golf curriculum for the Ministry of Education in the Fall of 2020
- 80% of the Bahamas Junior National Team for the past three years have been students from our academy.
- Our parent academy, Fourteen Clubs Golf Academy, is known as the trailblazer of junior golf in The Bahamas
- 10+ collegiate players since inception
- Impacted over 10,000 youth since the first Georgette Rolle Junior Golf Camp
- Gained valuable experience running The First Tee of Houston at F.M.Law Park with more than 1,000+ students per year, which prompted the love for teaching junior golf

## THE ACADEMY - HOW WE WORK

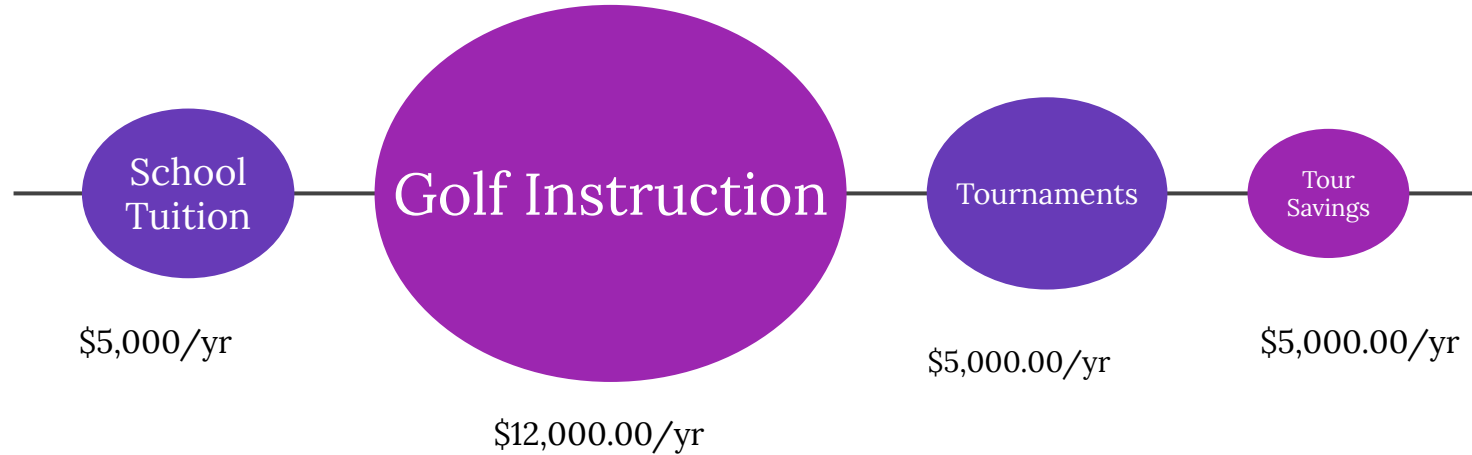
Harris Golf Academy extends its educational services to students ranging from grades 6 to 12. Our institution provides a locally accessible avenue for aspiring golfers to pursue their dreams of collegiate and, potentially, professional golf careers.

In collaboration with Bahamas Global Academy (BGA), a homeschooling institution dedicated to nurturing young athletes, we have established a successful partnership. Notably, two of our current collegiate players have hailed from BGA, underscoring the effectiveness of their program in conjunction with ours for securing college placements through golf scholarships.

In alignment with collegiate golf programs, our junior golfers are regarded and treated as student-athletes. Maintaining academic excellence is a prerequisite for their eligibility to partake in practice sessions and tournament play. Our students commit a minimum of 30 hours per week to practice and engage in a minimum of 5 competitive rounds each month.



# Cost - \$27,000 per student per year



- ★ Our current home school partner offers a U.S. based curriculum at \$450/m plus a one time Resource fee of \$600.
- ★ Our golf instruction is offered over five days per week for a minimum of 30 hours of group/individual instruction, fitness sessions, mental training sessions, and additional learning opportunities.
- ★ Tournaments include local U.S. Kids events, local World Amateur Golf Rankings events, International invitational events, and AJGA events.
- ★ Tour savings is the beginning of helping them support the beginning of their journey as a professional golfer. Lots of our talented athletes do not try because of a lack of funding. We will ensure that they have the beginning of a successful chance.

# OUR NEEDS



- Funding to secure a loan to build a home facility which includes an indoor practice area with the ability to convert to an outdoor practice driving range. With a grant of \$25,000, we can make a downpayment for a loan to build our home facility.
- Tuition assistance - Our initial class of students is open to a maximum of 10 players. The cost per player is \$27,000. Most of our students will not be able to afford the tuition and tournament costs. We need a scholarship program to support their growth and attendance which can support up to 75% or their total fees.
- Academy vehicle - this vehicle will be used to transport students to/from practice or tournaments. All elite golf academies travel to/from events with their players as a team.
- Academy equipment - this includes individual golf bags, uniforms and other training aids. The players will have specific academy bags with their names on it. They will have access to the best training aids.
- Access to fitness and mental training. Being an athlete is of utmost importance, as golf is more than having a great golf swing, or understanding the game. You must be physically fit to keep up with the rigorous regimen of hitting balls for hours on end, and walking the golf course which varies greatly in terrain from one course to the next.

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