### PART I - APPLICANT INFORMATION Haven State: KY Zip: 40229 Date of Birth: High School: Currently, I am a high school: Freshman Sophomore Junior Parent Phone #: 502 - 741 -1451 mharding Parent/Guardian's Email: PART II – APPLICANT ESSAY Please explain why you feel as though you deserve to be awarded a Justin Thomas Grant Essay must be typed and double spaced Essay should be no more than two pages PART III - PERFORMANCE RECORD

- Please provide your performance record for at least the last two years
- Record should include scores in addition final results
- Performance Record must be typed

### SUBMITION

Return Application by mail with Part II, III to:

Kentucky Golf Foundation Attention: Justin Thomas Grant 1116 Elmore Just Drive Louisville, Kentucky 40245

OR by email to:

Connie Saner csaner@kygolf.org

Applications must be received at Golf House Kentucky by 4 p.m. on May 4, 2018

# **Justin Thomas Fund 2018 Application**

# Submitted Madison Ray Harding

Part I-Applicant Information attached

Part II-Applicant Essay

When I read the purpose of the Justin Thomas Fund I knew I had to apply because the purpose of this grant aligns with my current personal goals. This fund would significantly help me reach my goals through allowing me to enter in more tournament play. I am a freshman at Louisville Male High School, that plays golf, and hopes to earn a college scholarship and play golf at the college level.

I found golf at an early age, in fact, I do not remember a time that golf was not in our house. My father has always loved the game and has shared it with both of his children. From watching The Masters to taking me out in the backyard with a plastic, dollar store golf set, this was time I loved to spend with my dad. As I grew older he would take me to the driving range, practice putting with me, and my interest grew from there. I played other sports, such as soccer and softball but they never held my interest the way gold did. I have a passion for this game that challenges me because I truly believe in what Gay Brewer, Jr said, "Golf is a game you can never get too god at. You can improve, but you can never get to where you master the game."

When I was 5<sup>th</sup> grade I decided that I would focus entirely on golf and started taking lessons regularly. As a middle school student, I joined the golf team at Jefferson County Traditional

School and started competitive tournaments with other local middle schools. My last year in middle school I began thinking about my future and sat my parents down to talk about the goals I had set for myself. I wanted to play golf on the high school team, play in more tournaments, as well as keep my grades up (I was one of three students in my class who had a 4.0 throughout my entire middle school career).

I am working on my goals as I am 1 of 5 girls on my high school golf team. I take lessons at The Golf Academy to focus on improving my game. Recently, I have played in my first KY PGA Jr. Tour and placed 1<sup>st</sup> in the 9 hole division and am excited to participate in several tournaments this summer, all while still focusing on school and maintaining a 3.999 GPA in school. I have found tournaments are mental tests that I must work thru and only make my game better. I felt Arnold Palmer was speaking about the stage that I am at now where I am working to strengthen my mind and not get into my own head when he said, "Success in this game depends less on strength of body than strength of mind and character."

### Part III- Performance Record

- 2017 Season
  - Member of Louisville Male High School Girls Golf team. Freshman season golf scores unavailable, but Madison typically scored from 55-65 for 9 hole match.
  - Bunny Daugherty Girl's Golf Tournament at Hurstborne Country Club: 137 for 18 hole match
  - KY State Regionals (Region 5 at Shelbyville Country Club): 133 for 18 hole match.
  - Continuing improvement through weekly instruction with The Golf Academy at Persimmon Ridge.

- 2018 Season
  - o KY PGA Junior Tour: Juniper Hills, Frankfort, KY, April 14-15
    - 1st place in girls 9 hole 13-18 year old division.
      - 59 on day 1 and 51 on day 2
  - Remaining Schedule
    - KYPGA 4 Ball Championship, Audubon CC, April 21-22
    - KYPGA Junior at Bellefonte, May 12
    - KYPGA Summer Preview at Seneca GC, May 26-27
    - KYPGA Junior Regional combo #1, May 30-31
    - KYPGA Junior at Shawnee GC, June 2
    - KYPGA Junior at Polo Fields CC, June 5
    - Girls Junior PGA Championship Qualifier, June 6-7
    - KYPGA Junior at Oxmoor CC, June 21
    - KYPGA Junior Tour Championship, Jul 18-19
    - JR Falls Cities Tournament, Jul 22-26
    - High School Golf Schedule will start in August, remainder of KYPGA schedule will be determined after high school schedule is released.
  - Continuing improvement through weekly instruction with The Golf Academy at Persimmon Ridge.