



## THE GREATEST GAME EVER PLAYED



### Synopsis

An amateur player from a working class family, Francis Ouimet shocked the golf world when at the 1913 U.S. Open, flanked by his 10-year-old caddie, he defeated his idol, the defending British champion Harry Vardon. An unlikely match-up – “the ingénue versus the seasoned champ” – theirs was the greatest match the sport had ever known.

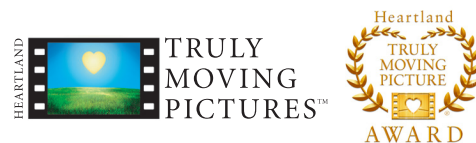
### Discussion Questions

- Did this film shed light on a particular aspect of the history of golf with which you were not familiar? How has the game of golf changed over the past 100+ years? How has it remained the same?
- Francis Ouimet is introduced to golf, but he doesn't have anyone in his family that truly fosters his interest in the sport. When were you first introduced to golf, or another sport you love? Who engaged your interest in the sport?
- If Ouimet had had the support of his father in his pursuit of the game, do believe Ouimet's career would have played out any differently? Why?
- Even though golf is not necessarily a team sport, how does teamwork come into play on the green?
- Vardon fools his opponents into using the wrong club on certain holes, convincing them to do the same, as some will look to him to successfully play the course. Discuss the importance of trusting your own intuition and playing your own game.
- At one point, Ouimet's caddy Eddie starts to update Ouimet on the other player's scores. Ouimet stops him, letting Eddie know that he doesn't want to hear how anyone else is playing because he's playing his own game. Is it easier to focus on yourself when you don't compare yourself to others? Why?
- What are some other sports where you can play against yourself as much as against others?



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### Activities

- The film is based on the book *The Greatest Game Ever Played: Harry Vardon, Francis Ouimet, and the Birth of Modern Golf* by Mark Frost. If this movie opened your eyes to a history that you would like to further explore, take the time to read the book upon which this film was based.
- Play a game of golf for fun. Whether a full 18 holes or simply a game of put put with your family, engage with others in this unique sport and its long history.

### Take Action

- There are innumerable ways to raise funds for causes close to your heart, but golf tournaments are one way in particular to raise awareness and funds for your organization. If an organization you are involved in hosts a golf tournament, offer your services as a volunteer or participate as a team, even if you aren't a regular on the links. You'll contribute to a good cause as well as spend a day playing a game rich in history.
- Golf, like any other sport, costs money, which can prevent aspiring athletes from playing and pursuing his or her dream. Do what you can to support aspiring athletes by holding a sporting equipment drive and getting the necessary equipment into the hands of deserving young people.



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