LATIN AMERICA AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP 2017

DATE: January 12th - 15th, 2017  
VENUE: Club de Golf de Panama, Panama City, Panama

For more information about the tournament, visit: www.laacgolf.com

Club de Golf de Panamá Has Experience On Golf’s World Stage

Club de Golf de Panamá will take center stage in the golf world January 12-15, 2017, when it hosts the Latin America Amateur Championship (LAAC), conducted by the Masters Tournament, The R&A and the USGA. However, this is not the club’s first time in the spotlight, as it has long hosted the world’s best up-and-coming professional players on the Web.com Tour, the development arm of the PGA TOUR.

The relationship between the Web.com Tour and the Club de Golf de Panamá started in 2004 with the first Panamá Claro Championship. Jimmy Walker won the inaugural title, his first
professional victory in a career that has gone on to include a win at the 2016 PGA Championship and two Ryder Cup appearances.

A year later, the trophy went to Vance Veazey, but Latin America showed promise in the field after Colombia’s Camilo Villegas finished second by one stroke. Then in 2007, the region celebrated when Argentine Miguel Carballo hoisted the trophy at the Club de Golf de Panamá and became the first Latin American player to win on that tour.

“It was a victory that marked my career forever,” said Carballo, a native of Bahia Blanca. But Carballo’s victory wasn’t the only one for Latin America. Mexico’s Carlos Ortiz won the 2014 Panamá Claro Championship to open a terrific season which he finished with three wins and a full exemption into the PGA TOUR.

“The Club de Golf de Panamá is a top level golf course. It’s very good all-around, and it presents a huge challenge. It has very difficult holes where missing the fairway is a very costly mistake. Besides, when I won, the greens were very firm and the score wasn’t so low,” said Ortiz, in a clear message to those players who will be competing at the LAAC.

Much like Walker, Carballo, Ortiz and other winners of the Panamá Claro Championship, whoever hoists the LAAC trophy will be forever changed. The opportunities offered by the LAAC are unprecedented within Latin American golf. Each year, the LAAC champion receives an invitation to compete in the Masters at Augusta National Golf Club, as well as full exemptions into The Amateur Championship, U.S. Amateur Championship and any other USGA amateur championship for which he is eligible. In addition, the winner and the runner(s)-up are exempt into the final stages of qualifying for The Open and the U.S. Open Championship.

To Download the Latin America Amateur Championship 2017 logos, click these links:
LAAC Logo Vertical
LAAC Logo Horizontal

Follow us on:
Web: www.laacgolf.com
Twitter: @LAAC_Golf
Instagram: Instagram
Facebook - facebook.com/LAACgolf

About the Masters Tournament
Inspired by its founders, Bobby Jones and Clifford Roberts, the Masters Tournament has embraced its obligation and seized opportunities to promote the game since the Tournament’s inception in 1934. The efforts of the Masters on behalf of the game of golf are aimed to preserve its integrity, celebrate sportsmanship, applaud champions, positively affect people in need through philanthropy, and give all that is possible back to the game. The Masters is focused on providing stewardship for the game, especially for amateur players and youth
around the world.

For more information, visit www.masters.com.

About The R&A
Based in St Andrews, The R&A runs The Open, elite amateur events, international matches and rankings. Together The R&A and the USGA govern the sport of golf worldwide, operating in separate jurisdictions but sharing a commitment to a single code for the Rules of Golf, Rules of Amateur Status and Equipment Standards. The R&A, through R&A Rules Ltd, governs the sport worldwide, outside of the United States and Mexico, on behalf of over 30 million golfers in 140 countries and with the consent of 152 organisations from amateur and professional golf.

The R&A is committed to working for golf and supports the growth of the sport internationally and management of sustainable golf facilities.

For more information, visit www.randa.org.

About the USGA
The USGA conducts the U.S. Open, U.S. Women´s Open and U.S. Senior Open, as well as 10 national amateur championships, two state team championships and international matches, attracting players and fans from more than 160 countries. Together with The R&A, the USGA governs the game worldwide, jointly administering the Rules of Golf, Rules of Amateur Status, equipment standards and World Amateur Golf Rankings. The USGA´s reach is global with a working jurisdiction in the United States, its territories and Mexico, serving more than 25 million golfers and actively engaging 150 golf associations.

The USGA is one of the world´s foremost authorities on research, development and support of sustainable golf course management practices. It serves as a primary steward for the game´s history and invests in the development of the game through the delivery of its services and its ongoing "For the Good of the Game" grants program. Additionally, the USGA´s Course Rating and Handicap systems are used on six continents in more than 50 countries.

For more information about the USGA, visit www.usga.org.

---

Fotos del día

Pie de Foto
Club de Golf de Panamá will take center stage in the golf world January 12-15, 2017, when it hosts the Latin America Amateur Championship (LAAC)
MEDIA CONTACTS:

Founding Partners
Masters Tournament
Steve Ethun, Director of Communications
+1 (706) 832-1352
spethun@augustanational.com

The R&A
Mike Woodcock, Assistant Director - Communications
+44(0) 7584 071246
MikeWoodcock@randa.org

United States Golf Association
Christina Lance, Manager, Championship Communications
+1 (908) 963-1691
CLance@USGA.org

GolfMagazine Media Group (Latin America PR for LAAC)
media@gmmg.com.ar

Diego Blejer
M: +54911 40467304
diegoblejer@gmmg.com.ar

Federico Diner
M: +54911 40286376
federicodiner@gmmg.com.ar

Juan Pablo Álvarez
M: +54911 40463824
jpalvarez@gmmg.com.ar

Juan Manuel Fernandez
M: +54911 41991670
juanfernandez@gmmg.com.ar

Marcos Virasoro
M: +54911 58761737
marcosvirasoro@gmail.com