



2009 Fact Sheet

- What:** Often referred to as The Optimist, the Optimist International Junior Golf Championships is one of the world's largest junior golf tournaments. For more than 30 years, elite golfers from around the world have participated in the Optimist Junior Golf Program.
- Where:** For the 14th consecutive year, the competition will take place at PGA National Resort & Spa in Palm Beach Gardens, Florida, on the resort's Champion, Palmer, Haig and Squire courses. PGA National is home of the PGA of America, site of the PGA TOUR's Honda Classic and former site of the Ryder Cup.
- Who:** More than 600 of the top junior golfers representing more than 30 nations, 35 states and five Canadian provinces compete in The Optimist. The field is drawn from more than 55 district qualifying tournaments involving more than 5,000 competitors. Boys and girls compete in divisions for ages 10-11, 12-13, 14-15 and 16-18.
- When:** July 25 through August 2, 2009 – Boys and girls ages 10-11, 12-13 and 14-15 compete over three rounds July 25-27. Boys and girls 16-18 compete for three preliminary rounds July 30 through August 1 with the top 50 boys and top 35 girls advancing to a final round on August 2.
- Famous Names:** Former champions of the Optimist International Junior Golf Championships include Beth Bauer, Jonathan Byrd, Bubba Dickerson, Brittany Lincicome, Jeff Overton, Stacy Prammanasudh and Jennifer Rosales. A number of other well-known professional golfers have participated in Optimist-sponsored championships such as Amy Alcott, John Daly, Ernie Els, Justin Leonard, Davis Love III, Michelle McGann, Phil Mickelson, Nancy Lopez, Lorena Ochoa, Nick Price, David Toms and Tiger Woods.