



# Daily Divot

A Newsletter for the Optimist International Junior Golf Championships

July 27, 2009

## One Round and Six Champs to Go

With just one round left at the Optimist International Junior Golf Championships, six championship titles are up for grabs and a number of golfers have their eye on the top spot.

The boys 10-11 division promises some final-day drama with three junior golfers tied for first entering the day. A 2-under 70 helped lift Luis Gagne of Florida to the top with a two-day 77-70—147. Sharing the lead are Issei Tanabe of California with 73-74—147 and Piyachad Yusabai of Thailand with 71-76—147. Just one stroke back is Terrence Zhang of Florida with 73-75—148. In fifth is Andy Ogletree of Mississippi with 75-74—149.

For a look at consistency, try the girls 10-11 division. First-day leader Clare Amelia Legaspi of the Philippines remains in first place going into the final round with an even two-day 72-72—144. Two back is Sierra Brooks of Florida, equally consistent with 73-73—146. In third place is Brooke Henderson of Ontario with 75-75—150, and in fourth place with a 76-76—152 is Abbey Carlson of Illinois. Shaking scores up a bit, Alejandra Merchan of Venezuela rounds out the top five with 79-75—154.

Jacob Choi of Tennessee has a four-stroke lead in the boys 12-13 division. Choi began the day tied for first but shot a 66 to keep the lead all to himself. Choi is 11 under for the tournament with a two-day 67-66—133. Four strokes back and tied for second are Claudio Correa of Chile (70-67—137) and Ignacio Marino of Argentina (67-70—137).

In the girls 12-13 division, Natalia Forero maintained her 6-stroke lead with an even 72 on Sunday. Forero has a two-day 66-72—138. Six off the lead and in second place is Aliea Clark of California with 72-72—144. In third place is Mexico's Giovana Maymon with 75-70—145.

With a low-round 68 for the day, Jonathan Sanders of California jumped into first place Sunday in the boys 14-15 division. Chatsworth has a two-day 73-68—141 and is 2 strokes ahead going into today's round. Tied for second and two behind are



**Jacob Choi of Collierville, Tennessee, and Natalia Forero of Cali, Colombia, lead the 12-13 divisions entering the final round.**



Sean Elliott of New Jersey with 70-73—143 and Somprat Rattanasuwan of Thailand, also with 70-73—143. Rounding out the top five are Cristobal del Solar of Chile (72-72—144) and Nicolai Kja Kokholm of Denmark (75-70—145).

After two rounds, the competition is tight in the girls 14-15 division. In the lead by just one stroke is Panitta Yusabai of Thailand with a two-day 69-68—137. In second place is another golfer from Thailand, Pavarisa Yoktuan, with a score of 71-67—138. With a 68 for the day and two strokes out of the lead is Jo Ee Kok of Singapore with 71-68—139. Rounding out the top five are Paveenuch Sriragul of Thailand with 71-71—142 and Jae Hee Choi of British Columbia with 73-72—145.

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# Golfers Put on a Powerful Show at Long-Drive Finals

Last night's Palmer Golf Long-Drive Contest Finals were full of music, revealing and embarrassing facts about the golfers and of course some impressive shots. Everyone's favorite long-drive emcee, Steve Feinstein, was present to help step up the excitement, but naturally the golfers were the ones who really made the show.

Girls 12-13 winner Supakirinee Nivatvongs put many of the boys in the audience to shame with her distance. And the competitors in the oldest boys division decided it was not just a contest but also a golf demo, adding some colorful swings and even a pinch hitter who did not disappoint with a shot over 300 yards.



The champs are (from left) Mason Short, Julian Lerda, Supakirinee Nivatvongs, Alex Wright, Justin Goh and Monica Vaughn.

## The Results

### Girls 10-11

- 1. Alex Wright (215 yards)
- T2. Abbey Carlson (188 yards)
- T2. Abby Lim (188 yards)

### Boys 10-11

- 1. Justin Goh (251 yards)
- 2. Rosswell Sinclair (223 yards)
- 3. Taisei Negishi (208 yards)

### Girls 12-13

- 1. Supakirinee Nivatvongs (232 yards)
- 2. Brittany Fan (218 yards)
- 3. Giovana Maymon (200 yards)

### Boys 12-13

- 1. Julian Lerda (256 yards)
- 2. Santiago Lopez (249 yards)
- 3. Ignacio Marino (247 yards)

### Girls 14-15

- 1. Monica Vaughn (224 yards)
- 2. Maria Andrea Legaspi (214 yards)
- 3. Jae Hee Choi (209 yards)

### Boys 14-15

- 1. Mason Short (283 yards)
- 2. Christian Cichan (267 yards)
- 3. Matthew Green (257 yards)

## Glowing Performances

The boys and girls 14-15 age divisions had their turn at the "Glow Ball" Putting Contest last night. Don't forget that the younger golfers have their contest this evening!

### Girls 14-15

- 1. Leticia Ras (15)
- 2. Maria F. Torres (18)\*
- 3. Claudia Davis (18)\*

### Boys 14-15

- 1. Julian Baker (13)\*
- 2. Thomas Baik (13)
- 3. Ryan Roberts (15)\*

\*Won a tie breaker

## One Final Event

Don't forget about today's Awards Ceremony. It will begin at about 4 p.m. in Bella Lago. Awards will go to first, second and third place in each division as well as the last-day low round.

## Don't Forget Your ...

You have one last chance to claim your lost items. Check the box outside the scoring room for anything you may have misplaced in the past few days.

### 5th Annual Optimist International Tournament of Champions

November 7-8, 2009 • Orange County National Golf Center & Lodge (Winter Garden, Florida)

An invitational event for boys and girls ages 14-18 played on the same course as the 2010 PGA TOUR Q-School Finals.



Winners of the 2008 Tournament of Champions (left to right), Quinlan Prchal (Boys 14-15), Andrew Cho (Boys 16-18), Annie Park (Girls 14-18) and Katlyn Kennedy (Girls 13 & Under).