

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Six Countries Represented on the Leaderboard after First Round at the Optimist

PALM BEACH GARDENS, Fla. – It was a day of close rounds across the board with a strong showing from international golfers as play began today at the Optimist International Junior Golf Championships at PGA National Resort and Spa in Palm Beach Gardens, Florida.

Competition is close in the boys 14-15 division. Tied for the lead after the first round are Julian Fedele from Argentina and Jackson Lang from Lexington, Massachusetts. They each shot a 70 for the day. In a four-way tie for third are Mike Graboyes from Watchung, New Jersey, Taisei Negishi from Hilo, Hawaii, Caleb Small from Walnut Cove, North Carolina, and Kyle Suppa from Honolulu, Hawaii, with a first-round score of 72.

In the girls 13-14 division, Colombia's Cynthia Diaz shot 72 in the first round and has a one-stroke lead over Kesaree Rojanapeansatith of Thailand, who was 1-over for the day with 73. Maria Merchan Nunez ended the day in third place with a first-round 74.

Mexico's Andrew Sanchez leads the way in the boys 12-13 division. He enters round two three under par. Tied for second after 18 holes are Ryan Grider of Lewisville, Texas, and Eric Wowor from South Africa, who both shot 70 for the day.

In the girls 10-12 division Ela Belen Anacona of Argentina went 1-under for the day. Even for the first round and in a tie for second place are Thanyawarat Temyord and Nicha Vorrasanpisut, both from Thailand.

China's Guangshi Chen shot a 2-over 70 to take a five-stroke lead after the first round in the boys 10-11 division. Robin Williams from the United Kingdom ended the day in second place with 75. In third place, Brian Garrett of San Antonio, Texas, shot 77 for the day.

Round two begins on Sunday, with the third and final round on Monday. Scores, photos, news stories and tee times will be updated daily throughout the Optimist International Junior Golf Championships. Results will be available under the tournament's information at www.optimist.org/golf. News items will also be included on the Optimist Junior Golf Facebook page at www.facebook.com/optimist.golf and Twitter feed [@OptimistGolf](https://twitter.com/OptimistGolf).