

## Round 1 - RECAP



### **Campos builds solid first-round lead**

*By Alberto C. Medina / PRGA Staff Writer*

**Rio Grande, PR** - Top Puerto Rican pro Rafael Campos leads the field after one round at the **PRGA Championships, presented by Johnnie Walker**, but a slew of skilled players aren't far behind in the race to be crowned the Island's national champion.

Campos's 68 (-4) was the only score under par on a challenging day at **Trump International Golf Club**, where gusting winds and high afternoon temperatures made things tough on the 59 golfers who teed off at the Championship Course. Campos, however, the tournament's defending champ, was a model of consistency: he birdied three of the first six holes and avoided bogies altogether to solidify his spot atop the leaderboard.

Trailing Campos, Edward Figueroa and pro José Esteves share second place at even par, while Robert Calvesbert, pro Javier Córdova and Mike Santin shot +1 and round out the top five.

Even with his solid lead, Campos can't relax with such talented players behind him. Calvesbert was last year's PRGA amateur champion, and the Florida-based Figueroa is one of the most promising young Puerto Rican golfers.

*"I played well,"* said Figueroa, a recent high-school grad who bested players from over 15 countries to win this January's Puerto Rico Junior Open, and later had the best score among Puerto Rican players at the

PGA Tour's Puerto Rico Open. *"I missed a good amount of putts but I chipped in the last one for eagle, so that helped,"* he added.

The young player also mentioned that sharing the course with the likes of Campos and other top players is an invaluable learning experience. "It helps a lot. The competition is always so good here, and competing in courses like this in such harsh conditions is really helpful. It really elevates your game," said Figueroa, who will soon start his collegiate career at Florida Gulf Coast University.

The day also offered some excitement for amateur Jeffrey Pino, who netted his first ever hole-in-one on the 6th. *"That hole kind of slopes down, so I didn't even see it. When I got down there and it was nowhere to be found, I figured it must've gone in,"* said Pino, who otherwise had a poor round and shot an 86.

The action continues tomorrow at Trump International with the Championship Flight's second round, the first of three rounds for Ladies and Seniors, and the Longest Drive and Closest to the Pin competitions.

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