

Round 2 - RECAP

Campos widens his lead heading into the weekend

by Alberto C. Medina / PRGA Staff Writer

Río Grande, PR - Rafael Campos finished with a solid 71 on Friday's second round of the **PRGA Championships, presented by Johnnie Walker**, bringing his score to -5 overall and increasing his lead heading into the weekend at Trump International Golf Club.

Campos, the only player who has shot under par on both days so far, withstood his first two bogeys of the tournament and was able to net three birdies despite somewhat tough conditions in Río Grande. But the swirling winds, high rough and fast greens couldn't stop him from finishing at -1 for the day.

"These first two days, I've been playing very calmly, just trying to put the ball in play," said Campos, who credited his success on one word, consistency, and vowed to maintain his same rhythm in the last two rounds. *"I won't try to change how I play, because I've been playing well. I made a few mistakes today, but those mistakes happened when I tried to get a little aggressive."*

Campos now holds a six-stroke lead over 18-year-old Edward Figueroa, who followed his even par opening round with a +1 on Friday to take sole ownership of second place and the lead among all amateurs. Professional golfer Max Alverio, the only player besides Campos to shoot under par (-1) in the second round, is in third place at +2. Felipe Colón, Sr. (+3), along with Jerónimo Esteve and Javier Córdova (+4), round out the top-5. Campos shared that he's been impressed by the level of competition, especially among the younger players like Figueroa, the recent Junior Puerto Rico Open Champion. "They've got outstanding talent; when I was their age, I wish I could've hit it the way they do."

The 36-hole cut sliced the field in half and included the first 30 players, up to and including those with a score of +16 (162). The thinned out field will tee off early Saturday for the third round. Meanwhile, Kristina Ortíz shot an outstanding 72 to lead the Ladies' category after the first round of play, while Elvin González, Sr. (+3) is in the top spot among the Seniors after the first 18 holes.