

Men's WATC / Preview - News Release

Puerto Rican men set to tee off at WATC

By Alberto C. Medina - PRGA Staff Writer



(October 3, 2012) - The ladies already made the 2012 World Amateur Championships a success for Puerto Rico by placing 20th matching the Island's best ever finish. Now it will be up to the Puerto Rican men to match or improve on the women's performance as the men's competition kicks off on Thursday in Antalya, Turkey.

Robert Calvesbert, Jerónimo Esteve and Erick Morales will begin play tomorrow as 72 countries fight for the title of the best amateur golf team in the world. For Morales and Calvesbert it will be their second WATC experience; Morales played

in 2004 when Puerto Rico **HOSTED** the event, and Calvesbert was part of the 2010 team that finished tied for 32nd. For Esteve, it will be his first experience on the world stage, and he recently shared how excited he was to get the chance to compete against the very best.

“Honestly, I can’t even describe how proud I feel,” said Esteve. “I never thought that this would happen; it’s above and beyond anything I could have dreamed.” The Puerto Rican players will have their work cut out for them against a strong field that includes a record number of participants. Among the 72 nations, 12 Latin American countries are competing at the event. The United States team, which won three consecutive titles from 2000 to 2004, includes two of the top-three players on the World Amateur Golf Rankings. And defending champion France leads a strong contingent of European teams who will surely be in the hunt for the Eisenhower Trophy.

Morales, Esteve and Calvesbert will start things off at the Faldo Course beginning at 11:30 a.m. (4:30 a.m. local time). Puerto Rico will be paired with Australia and Switzerland for the first round. Then, on Friday, the ‘boricuas’ will take their shot at the Sultan course starting at 8:30 a.m. (1:30 a.m. local time), paired with Belgium and Scotland.

Follow the daily updates on our **WEBSITE** to cheer on the Puerto Rican men as they try to make history in Turkey.

Men's WATC / Round 1 - News Release

Puerto Rican men off to solid start at WATC By Alberto C.

Medina / PRGA Staff Writer (October 4, 2012) - Puerto Rico got off to a good start at the Men’s World Amateur Championship, ending up in 25th place after the first round of play in Antalya, Turkey.



Erick J. Morales / PUR - Courtesy of Sidney Wolf

Erick Morales led the squad with a round of -1, and Jerónimo Esteve shot +3 on the Faldo Course, to give Puerto Rico an aggregate score of +2; Robert Calvesbert, the third member of the team, shot +6. This first round puts the Puerto Rican squad in a good position to improve

over the next three days and perhaps match or improve on the performance by the ladies, who finished 20th in the Women's Championship a week earlier.

"I hit the ball well and I feel good about my game," said Morales. I had four birdies and an eagle, and three bogeys and a double. The bogeys weren't due to big mistakes, but the course demands a lot of precision because the slightest mistake will lead to a bogey or worse. I feel great about tomorrow (Friday) and ready to improve on today's round," he added.

Esteve, who reported that a rules official hurried him at one point and caused him to lose some of his focus, agreed with Morales about the course – and about feeling confident for the coming rounds.

"It's a course that demands a lot of precision on every shot. I'm ready for tomorrow; I was able to fix some things in my swing after the round that should help me tomorrow," said Esteve.

Calvesbert, for his part, fell prey to the tough nature of the course, with a triple-bogey and two double-bogeys against just one birdie on the day. Still, he felt that his overall play was good. "Aside from those three holes, I had a good day from the tee to the greens. I'm positive that those putts will drop tomorrow and, if I avoid those big numbers, I should have a solid round," he said.

The United States, which won the event three-straight times from 2000-2004 and features two of the top-three ranked amateur golfers in the world, had a spectacular day to finish at -13 and take control of the leaderboard. México is second at -9, and the Republic of Korea, which won the ladies' championship, is third at -8.

Play continues tomorrow as Morales, Esteve and Calvesbert take on the Sultan course starting at 8:30 a.m. (1:30 a.m. local time) as they look to improve on Puerto Rico's 32nd place finish in the 2010 Championship.

Men's WATC / Round 2 - News Release



Puerto Rico currently 40th at WATC

By Alberto C. Medina - PRGA Staff Writer

(Saturday, October 5th, 2012) Puerto Rico is tied for 40th place after two rounds at what will be a shortened Men's World Amateur Team Championship in Antalya, Turkey.

Weather conditions forced delays and an eventual stoppage of play on Friday, and the second round didn't finish until Saturday afternoon. Puerto Rico managed an aggregate score of +5 in that second round, as it was once again Jerónimo Esteve's (+2) and Erick Morales' (+3) scores that counted for the Island's squad. Robert Calvesbert shot +8. That second-round score dropped Puerto Rico from 25th to 40th place in what has been a highly competitive tournament with good scores all around despite the tough conditions. The United States (-24) seems to be running away with the event after a second-round -7, and a -4 midway through the suspended third round, widened the U.S. team's lead to eight strokes. Defending champion France is in second place at -18, also midway through the third round, as is México, which is in third place at -15.

For Puerto Rico, the third round will begin early Sunday at Cornelia Golf Club. The tournament will conclude after 54 holes.

Men's WATC / Round 3 - News Release

39th place finish for Puerto Rico at Men's WATC
By Alberto C. Medina - PRGA Staff Writer

(October 7, 2012) – The Puerto Rican Men's National Team shot a very solid +1 in the third and final round of this year's World Amateur Team Championship in

Antalya, Turkey, where the squad finished in 39th place with a total of +8. Robert Calvesbert, who had the worst score on the team in the first two rounds, bounced back in a big way to lead Puerto Rico on Saturday with a round of even par that featured six birdies and would've been even better if he had not triple-bogeyed the 18th on the Faldo Course. Jerónimo Esteve also had an excellent showing on the day with a score of +1, while Erick Morales shot +4.

Weather delays forced the tournament to end after 54 holes. Still, there were some excellent all-around performances and 23 countries finished below par. The United States dominated the event from day one and set a scoring record by finishing at -24, five strokes better than México, which finishes second. The Republic of Korea, Germany, and France shared third place with scores of -15.

Individually, Mexican Sebastián Vázquez finished atop the leaderboard at -15. Esteve and Morales tied for 81st place with individual totals of +6, while Calvesbert finished at +14. A record total of 72 nations and 215 players competed in the Championship.

The Puerto Rico Golf Association congratulates our players for another solid performance on the world stage, and we look forward to improving on these results at the 2014 Championships in Japan.

Men's WATC / Round 4 - News Release

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By Alberto C. Medina - PRGA Staff Writer



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par that featured six birdies and would've been even better if he had not triple-bogeyed the 18th on the Faldo Course. Jerónimo Esteve also had an excellent showing on the day with a score of +1, while Erick Morales shot +4. Weather delays forced the tournament to end after 54 holes. Still, there were some excellent all-around performances and 23 countries finished below par. The United States dominated the event from day one and set a scoring record by finishing at -24, five strokes better than México, which finishes second. The Republic of Korea, Germany, and France shared third place with scores of -15. Individually, Mexican Sebastián Vázquez finished atop the leaderboard at -15. Esteve and Morales tied for 81st place with individual totals of +6, while Calvesbert finished at +14. A record total of 72 nations and 215 players competed in the Championship. The Puerto Rico Golf Association congratulates our players for another solid performance on the world stage, and we look forward to improving on these results at the 2014 Championships in Japan.