

PR Junior Golf Team set to defend Hank James Trophy



San Juan, PR / (July 2, 2011) - In only few days, the fourteen (14) players on the Puerto Rico Junior Golf Team will begin their participation at the [24th Caribbean Amateur Junior Golf Championships](#) with only one goal in mind, to repeat as the Best Junior Golf Team in the Caribbean for 4th consecutive year and successfully defend the title earned three years ago in Trinidad & Tobago (2009) / [Complete CAJGC Results](#)). Team departure is scheduled for Sunday, July 3rd.

The [CAJGC](#) will be hosted this year by the [Barbados Golf Association](#) between July 6-8, and the [Barbados Golf Club](#) will be the course played. Led by Junior Program Director and **Team Manager Marilina Silén**, the team will be **coached** this year **by Eduardito Figueroa**, Head Golf Professional at Caguas Real Golf Club.

A total of **eight (8) Boys, ages 12 to 18** and **six (6) Girls, ages 11-17** complete another very strong Junior Golf Team for Puerto Rico, participating at the event organized by the [Caribbean Golf Association](#). **José Oscar Rodríguez, Jorge González & Andrew Baez** will be the three players on the team at the **Boys 16-17 Division**, while **Paola Robles & Maria Torres** will play on the Girls Division at that same age group. **Fico Thon, Daniel Cabán & Joito Cardona** will pair up at the **Boys 14-15**, while **Kristina Ortiz & Yudika Rodríguez** will be teammates at the girl's category. Finally the four rookies on the team are **Ruben Rodriguez & Alberto Firpi** playing at the **Boys 11-13 Division** and **Natalia Rivera & Valeria Pacheco** as the girl's team who complete our 14-players squad.

Click [HERE](#) to review the names & bios of players from our **2011 Junior Golf Team**.

"Our Junior Team this year, is once again composed by very talented juvenile players and fierce competitors, who are very proud to represent our country in these regional championships" - said Marilina Silén, who has been leading the team for over 12 years as the Team Manager.

"I'm very pleased to work with our Junior Golf Team, as they have become my extended family for so long. I enjoy every part and minute of this experience to help our players participate and compete in a sport we all love", she added.



Figueroa, who participated of the PRGA Junior Golf Program and once earned the title of Junior Island Champion, will have the opportunity to coach the team in 2011. ***"I'm very honored and thankful to receive the opportunity to coach the Junior Golf Team during this year's CAJGC in Barbados. As a former player who represented Puerto Rico in the past, I'm committed to help, motivate and provide support and advice to each of the members on our team in order to return home with the trophy once again"***, commented Eduardito after being notified of his selection.

Figueroa replaces Robert Birtel, Golf Director at Dorado Beach Golf Club who for the past three years led the team alongside with Silén to win the **Hank James Trophy** awarded by the [CGA](#) to the **"Best Overall Team"** during the annual championships. Although personal matters are keeping Birtel away from his coach duties this year, but the PRGA Junior Golf Team members and directors are extremely thankful to him for his commitment and support to junior golf and the golf association. Parents and family members of each player as well as PRGA Sponsors, such as **SEARS & TITLEIST** among others, are to be thanked for their support to our programs and participation at international events.

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