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## 2016 Latin American Amateur Championships

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TTGA Golfer Matthew Marquez above

Two Trinidad & Tobago golfers made the 36 hole cut (the field is cut from 107 golfers to the low 50 and ties) at the 2016 LAAC being played in Dominican Republic on the Pete Dye designed Teeth of the Dog course in La Romana.

Led by Matthew Marquez who had a brilliant 69 three under par score today. This added to his first day 76 left him on one over par and 8 strokes behind the 36th hole leader Nicholas Echavarria of Columbia. Matthew was six under par after 15 holes but dropped 3 shots on the difficult finishing holes, but is still in touch with the leaders and in 21<sup>st</sup> position.

Talin Rajendranath added another 74 to his first round 74 for a two day total of 148 to lie in a tie for 34<sup>th</sup> position. Talin fought hard today with his round including a mixture of birdies and bogies

Sachin Kumar unfortunately had a bad day on the course today and shot a 79, this added to his first round 75 means he has missed the cut and has finished in 62<sup>nd</sup> position, one stroke ahead of fellow Trinidadian Liam Bryden.

Liam Bryden playing in this the biggest tournament of his fledgling career had a much improved score of 74 today, unfortunately after his 81 yesterday he had left himself too much to do, but should be proud of his round today. Liam finished in 72<sup>nd</sup> position.

All of them were looking forward to becoming the next heroes of the region. There's no doubt that the prizes extended by The Masters Tournament, The R&A and the USGA are a huge incentive to the players. The championship grants the winner the opportunity to play in the 2016 Masters Tournament. In addition, the winner and the runner(s)-up will be exempt into The Open Qualifying Series for the 145th Open at Royal Troon and into sectional qualifying for the U.S. Open Championship at Oakmont Country Club next year. Finally, the champion will receive full exemptions into The Amateur Championship in 2016, the 2016 U.S. Amateur Championship and any other USGA amateur championship for which he is eligible.