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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

The 112<sup>th</sup> Trinidad & Tobago Open and 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Pro-Am starts tomorrow at 12.00 noon. on the Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March. The 5 days of golf start with 20 teams playing in the Pro-am at St Andrews Golf Club. The Open takes place from March 21<sup>st</sup>- 24<sup>th</sup>.

The big news is that there are 150 golfers entered in the 2019 Trinidad & Tobago Open, 47 of whom are foreigners.

The professional division playing for three spots in the Jamaica Classic which is a PGA Latinoamerican Tour Event has 23 players, among them are locals who have been competing overseas. Ben Martin who now lives in England, Dion Gonsalves and Matthew Marquez who compete in the US & Canada, Chris Richards, Antony Gill, Bernard Benny, Mitchum Jasper are the local hopes. There are professionals from USA, Canada, Jamaica and Saint Martin also competing for the chance to be in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Jamaica Classic. The top junior in the 16-18 age group will also be given a spot in the Jamaica Classic. The top juniors competing for this prize are Xzavier Wiggins from Barbados and Trinidadian Brandon Matabadal. Both events will now be covered by SPORTSMAX.

Players, compete in 6 divisions, these include, Professionals, Championship, First Flight, Second Flight, Seniors and Super Seniors.

With defending Champion Gabrielle Vanonoste, Liam Bryden the 2017 winner Wan Ju Lee the Caribbean Champion and also one of Jonathan Millen ( who finished 3<sup>rd</sup> overall in 2017), Sol Joanni are amongst others who will be keen to win the Open and gain selection for this year's national team.

Super Seniors is anticipated to be a hotly contested event with Fabian Lee Foon expected to receive stiff competition from Monty Chapman, John Hale, Selwyn Hakim and Kissoon Gannes and Barbadians Richie Alleyne (who is making his 37<sup>th</sup> entry into the T&T Open) and Roger Beale.

In the Seniors' division there will be keen competition as players from the US, Canada and Barbados have entered plus the fact that Dave Rajkumar, Deryck Gonsalves and Richard "Pecos" Camacho have moved into the senior category.

In the first flight there will be a battle with players such as Junior Charles, Paul Taylor and John Henry are 3 of the early favorites. In second flight junior national team players Dravid Bhim, Jean-Marc Chevrotierre, Reyad Adam Rambaran are among the favorites so should be good battle as there are many good competitors with Canadians and Barbadians among them so competition should be keen.

The TTGA and the competitors would like to thank NLCB, Chrystal Waters, TNR Contractors Ltd, Shell, FCB, Angostura, HCC, Whan Tong, Sports Max, MRSCL, TTMF, C&H Associates, Caribel and Millennium Lakes G.C.

The TTGA welcomes spectators to come out and see some exciting golf, play starts from 6.03 each morning.