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*Servicios de comunicación para el golf latinoamericano  
Media Services for Latin American Golf*

**Press Release**



**LATIN AMERICA AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP 2017**

**DATE:** January 12th - 15th, 2017

**VENUE:** Club de Golf de Panama, Panama City, Panama

**For more information about the tournament, visit:** [www.laacgolf.com](http://www.laacgolf.com)

## **2017 LATIN AMERICA AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP TO REACH 140 COUNTRIES VIA TELEVISION BROADCAST**

*3M, AT&T, IBM, Mercedes-Benz, Rolex, Samsung, UPS and Zurich Confirmed as Event Partners*

**PANAMA CITY, PANAMA** – Continuing its expansive coverage across five continents, the third Latin America Amateur Championship will be televised in 140 countries and reach millions of homes around the world, the event's Founding Partners – the Masters Tournament, The R&A and United States Golf Association (USGA) – announced today.

The championship will take place from January 12-15, 2017, with a 108-player field

competing in the 72-hole stroke-play event at Club de Golf de Panama, which is 15 minutes from Panama City. Since 2004, Club de Golf de Panama has hosted the Web.com Tour's Panama Claro Championship.

In addition to the contributions of the Founding Partners, the Latin America Amateur Championship is supported by six Proud Partners – 3M, AT&T, Mercedes-Benz, Samsung, UPS and Zurich – and two Scoring Partners, IBM and Rolex.

European Tour Productions will produce the high-definition broadcast, including two hours of live coverage on each of the four competition days. The English-speaking commentary team will include Rich Lerner as host, Andy North as analyst, Dottie Pepper and Billy Kratzert as on-course reporters and John Sutcliffe handling interviews.

The champion will receive an invitation to compete in the 2017 Masters at Augusta National Golf Club, as well as full exemptions into The Amateur Championship, U.S. Amateur Championship and any other USGA amateur championship for which he is eligible. In addition, the winner and the runner(s)-up will be exempt into the final stages of qualifying for The 146th Open at Royal Birkdale and the 2017 U.S. Open Championship at Erin Hills.

Live broadcasts of all four rounds will be available across Africa, Asia, Europe, North America and South America. The scheduled times for each round's live broadcast are listed below, with all times local to Panama City and Atlantic Standard Time (same as Eastern Standard Time):

**First Round: Thursday, Jan. 12 – 3-5 p.m. (AST)**  
**Second Round: Friday, Jan. 13 – 3-5 p.m. (AST)**  
**Third Round: Saturday, Jan. 14 – 1-3 p.m. (AST)**  
**Final Round: Sunday, Jan. 15 – 1-3 p.m. (AST)**

Championship highlights will air on Sunday following the completion of play; viewers can check local listings for specific broadcast times.

ESPN will provide event coverage in this year's host country, as well as throughout Latin America. Other broadcasters include ESPN2 and ESPN News (United States), Le Sports (China), TSN (Canada), SuperSport (Southern Africa), Fox Sports Asia (Asia) and Eurosport (Europe). All of the coverage will also be streamed live on the official event website, [LAACgolf.com](http://LAACgolf.com).

Spectators are welcome to attend, and entry into Club de Golf de Panama for the 2017 Latin America Amateur Championship will be free. For more information, including a full listing of television times by broadcaster, please visit [LAACgolf.com](http://LAACgolf.com).

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To Download the Latin America Amateur Championship 2017 logos, click these links:  
[LAAC Logo Vertical](#)

[LAAC Logo Horizontal](#)

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**About the Masters Tournament**

Inspired by its founders, Bobby Jones and Clifford Roberts, the Masters Tournament has embraced its obligation and seized opportunities to promote the game since the Tournament's inception in 1934. The efforts of the Masters on behalf of the game of golf are aimed to preserve its integrity, celebrate sportsmanship, applaud champions, positively affect people in need through philanthropy, and give all that is possible back to the game. The Masters is focused on providing stewardship for the game, especially for amateur players and youth around the world.

For more information, visit [www.masters.com](http://www.masters.com).

**About The R&A**

Based in St Andrews, The R&A runs The Open, elite amateur events, international matches and rankings. Together The R&A and the USGA govern the sport of golf worldwide, operating in separate jurisdictions but sharing a commitment to a single code for the Rules of Golf, Rules of Amateur Status and Equipment Standards. The R&A, through R&A Rules Ltd, governs the sport worldwide, outside of the United States and Mexico, on behalf of over 30 million golfers in 140 countries and with the consent of 152 organisations from amateur and professional golf.

The R&A is committed to working for golf and supports the growth of the sport internationally and the development and management of sustainable golf facilities.

For more information, visit [www.randa.org](http://www.randa.org).

**About the USGA**

The USGA conducts the U.S. Open, U.S. Women's Open and U.S. Senior Open, as well as 10 national amateur championships, two state team championships and international matches, attracting players and fans from more than 160 countries. Together with The R&A, the USGA governs the game worldwide, jointly administering the Rules of Golf, Rules of Amateur Status, equipment standards and World Amateur Golf Rankings. The USGA's reach is global with a working jurisdiction in the United States, its territories and Mexico, serving more than 25 million golfers and actively engaging 150 golf associations.

The USGA is one of the world's foremost authorities on research, development and support

of sustainable golf course management practices. It serves as a primary steward for the game's history and invests in the development of the game through the delivery of its services and its ongoing "For the Good of the Game" grants program. Additionally, the USGA's Course Rating and Handicap systems are used on six continents in more than 50 countries.

For more information about the USGA, visit [www.usga.org](http://www.usga.org).

### Fotos del dia



#### **Pie de Foto**

Alejandro Tosti (ARG) interviewed by ESPN reporter Dottie Pepper / Photo: Credit Enrique Berardi/LAAC

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