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# LATIN AMERICA AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP 2017

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

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

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

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## Panamanians see a great opportunity in your hands

While Panama is not a country with great golf tradition, the sport has had a huge growth in recent years and many fans have come to different clubs to play for the first time. That is why it is very important the arrival of Latin America Amateur Championship, to strengthen the take-off of the sport and give an even bigger boost. The Panamanian public can enjoy the best players in the region from 12 to 15 January 2017 at the Club de Golf de Panama, but also will come to encourage amateurs of the country that will be represented in the tournament most important fans in Latin America. There will be 6 local golfers who have their secured in the field, profit earned by being the seat of

LAAC place.

Among the favorites at the local level the name of Miguel Ordonez, who was in the two editions of LAAC and has a very special memory of his first participation in Pilar Golf appears. "It was a very important moment in my life because I was expecting the birth of my first child. In fact, I got the call that was to be born when I was way to the airport to travel to Buenos Aires to play the LAAC. That week was a complete victory because I could see my daughter Aurora and then arrive in time to play the tournament," said Ordonez, who is the best amateur in his country in recent years and has won major titles as the Central American Championship in 2001 and the Simon Bolivar Cup in 2009. He also holds proudly having won in 2012 and 2013 National Championship Isthmus (event, played for the first time in 1918). "The LAAC is the most special golf tournament I've ever played in my life. The importance and the benefits provided. Is undoubtedly the most important amateur level Latin American championship, and one of the four major championships of amateur golf, along with The Amateur Championship, US Amateur and the Asia-Pacific Amateur Championship," said the 33 years.

The other player to consider is Luis Cargiulo, who earned his place after winning the title at the last National Championship Isthmus, the most important amateur golf event in Panama. "This was one of my goals, winning the Isthmian I qualified for the LAAC, the tournament that all fans want to play. In Panama are very grateful to the three organizations for thinking of our country to be host an event of such prestige "Cargiulo 30 who also represents the Golf Club of Panama pointed out, the seat of LAAC 2017.

Another who wants to be a prophet in his land is Raul Carbonell will live his second experience in the LAAC after passing through Casa de Campo, Dominican Republic. The 17 year old represented his country at the Callaway Junior World Championship and the US Kids Golf Teen World Championship. "My first goal is to have the best possible grades in school and keep practicing my game to qualify to play golf at a university in the United States. To achieve this goal I will try to participate in major junior tournaments and achieve good results. After my college experience, my dream is to someday play in the PGA TOUR. It is a difficult dream, but golf has taught me to never give up. "Carbonell has very clear goals in this sport he said.

One of the promises of the Panamanian golf is Jose Guillermo Lewis, who obviously plays the LAAC: "I started in golf when he was seven years because my grandfather played the sport, he loved it. I saw him play and I said this is my sport; I like and want to play," said the now 16 year old. The student of the American Academy of Panama has had the opportunity to represent their country in international events renowned as the tournament Callaway Junior World Championship, the US Kids Golf Teen World Championship and was part of the Panamanian team was in the World Amateur Team Championships in Mexico this year.

And finally, the other two fans will have the chance to play the LAAC are:

Mike Dunne and Carlos Clement. Dunne, 28, has a great track record within the local golf and is currently the No. 1 national ranking and holds a victory in the tournament Vista Mar Panama. While Clement, 37, is located in the 3rd place in the local ranking and was winner of the event in Buenaventura.

The benefits granted by the LAAC are unprecedented in the Latin American golf: the winner of Latin America Amateur Championship will have the chance to play in three Majors, as it ensures a place in the Masters Tournament 2017 and obtained by the runner (s), exemption to participate in one of the qualifying stages for the 146th Open to be played at Royal Birkdale and the US Open to be held at Erin Hills next year. In addition, the champion earns a place in The Amateur Championship and 2016 US Amateur, like any USGA amateur championship for which you are eligible.

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To download the logos of Latin America Amateur Championship 2017, click these links:

[Logo LAAC Vertical](#)

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**About the Masters Tournament**

Inspired by its founders, Bobby Jones and Clifford Roberts, the Masters Tournament has accepted its obligation and seized opportunities to promote the game of golf since the start of the tournament in 1934. The efforts on behalf Masters golf game They seek to preserve the integrity, sportsmanship celebrate, applaud the winners, positively influence communities through philanthropy, and reinvest everything in game development. The Masters is focused on providing administration for the game, especially for amateur players and youth around the world.

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

Along with the United States Golf Association (USGA), The R & A governs the game of golf around the world, managing jointly the Rules of Golf, Rules Status Amateur, equipment standards and World Amateur Golf Rankings. The jurisdiction of The R & A is global, excluding the United States and Mexico.

The R & A is committed to working for golf, supporting the growth of the game internationally, and the development and sustainable management. The R & A works with the consent of 152 organizations from amateur to professional levels, and on behalf of over thirty million golfers in 140 countries.

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

### **About the USGA**

The USGA organizes the US Open (US Open), the US Women 's Open (Women's Open Golf US), and the US Senior Open (Senior Open Golf US) as well as 10 national amateur championships, two state team championships and international matches, which collectively attract players and fans from more than 160 countries. Together with The R & A, the USGA governs the game of golf around the world, jointly administering the Rules of Golf, Rules of Amateur Status, equipment standards and World Amateur Golf Rankings the. The scope of the USGA is a global working with jurisdictions in the United States, its territories and Mexico, serving more than 25 million golfers, and actively participating in 150 golf associations.

The USGA is one of the world's foremost authorities in research, development and support of management practices sustainable golf course. It serves as the main guardian of the history of the game of golf and invests in game development through the provision of services and the continuous subsidy program "For the Good of the Game". In addition, systems handicaps and valuation fields and the USGA are used on six continents in more than 50 countries.

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



### **Photos of the day**

#### **Caption**

Miguel Ordóñez is the favorite of the locals to keep the LAAC.

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