

## NEWS RELEASE

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### **CODY PROVEAUX, MAXIMILLIAN ROTLUFF, ADRIAN MERONK, MARINA STUETZ HEADLINE TOP INTERNATIONAL FIELD AT GATE AMERICAN JUNIOR**

***-- TOP JUNIOR GOLFERS IN THE WORLD COMPETING FOR THREE DAYS IN PONTE VEDRA  
BEACH, FL DECEMBER 20-22, 2011 --***

(Ponte Vedra Beach, FL) - On December 20-22, 2011 many of the world's top junior players -- including the top three boys as ranked by the World Junior Golf Rankings -- will convene at the Ponte Vedra Inn & Club for the World Junior Golf Series' **Gate American Junior**. Seventy-eight male and female players from 18 countries will battle it out on the resort's famed Ocean Course, home to five US Open qualifying events. The Gate American Junior is the final event of a four-event series played around the world.



Included in the Gate American Junior field are **Cody Proveaux** of the United States, who is currently leading the Polo Golf Rankings, Poland's **Adrian Meronck**, who is currently ranked number one in the World Junior Golf Rankings and **Maximillian Rottluf** of Germany, currently ranked number two in the WJGS rankings.

On the girls' side of the draw are Austria's Girls' Junior Champion **Marina Stuetz**, who is currently ranked number four in the World Junior Golf Rankings; South Africa is represented by **Lara Weinstein**, ranked number six in the World Junior Golf Rankings; and the Hungarian Girls Junior Champion, **Csilla Rozsa**, ranked 14th in the World Junior Golf Rankings. There are also national teams coming from Mexico, Sweden and Germany. **For a complete list of players, please click [here](#).**

Competitive rounds will begin at 9:00 AM on December 20 on the first and tenth tees of the Ocean Course. The official practice round will be held on December 19th with tee times beginning at 8:00 AM. Watching the practice round as well as the actual tournament rounds are free to the public. The tournament will kick off the evening of December 19 with VIP Opening Ceremonies. Each participating player and their representative nations will be introduced.



Gate Petroleum Company of Jacksonville (FL) became the title sponsor in October of 2011. Also involved in the event are sponsors CSX, EnergyArmor, Florida's First Coast of Golf, the St. John's County Tourist & Development Commission, International Golf Realty, Kermit's Key Lime Pies, Chick Fil A, Bill Casper Golf and The Alhambra Theatre & Dining, who is hosting the players and their families on Wednesday night for a "Traditional American Holiday Celebration" featuring a showing of Christmas Carole. Levy Jewelers at the St. Johns Town Center is also aboard as the Official Jeweler of the Gate American Junior.

While the competition will certainly be intense, as important to the WJGS, a non-profit, 501(c)(3) corporation, is its charitable mission: *Changing the World Through Junior Golf*. The WJGS is dedicated to creating a competitive international arena for talented junior golfers through a series of international competitive golf events. The WJGS goal is to promote not only continuous development of talented athletes, but also citizenship, scholarship, benevolence, competitive spirit and outstanding ethical conduct. Unique to WJGS events is off-course programming that focuses on business, leadership, professional or cultural education for the players.

The WJGS is also responsible for the World Junior Golf Ranking system. Established in July of this year, the World Junior Golf Ranking is the only ranking system known to coordinate all of the world's significant events to help establish a unified portrayal of global performance. The overall mission of the World Junior Golf Ranking is to improve the quality of how all junior golf events are run.

"The level of players who are playing in this tournament tell us that this event, the WJGS and its ranking system are reaching the level of importance we hope they can have," stated Tom Burnett of the WJGS. "The quality of junior competition coming to Ponte Vedra this month will surpass any junior competition the area has ever seen. Many of these kids will be playing on professional tours in the not too-distant future."

About the host course, Burnett states, "We are thrilled to bring the Championship back to the Ocean Course. It's one of the few courses in the area that feels like a truly international golf course. Between the ocean breezes, the undulating greens and variations in terrain from tee to green, players have to use all the clubs in their bag. We encourage golf fans and golfers of all ages to come watch these kids play some exceptional golf on an exceptional course."

(more)



Ponte Vedra Beach hosted the event in 2010 at TPC Sawgrass and in 2009 at the Inn & Club. This year's event represents a bigger, stronger field and a more critical event. The World Junior Golf Series is quickly becoming recognized as a key worldwide junior tour. During the Gate American Junior, a WJGS event, boys and girls born in 1992 or later will be competing for 54 holes of championship golf on an historic course. The tour hosts three other events, including tournaments in South Africa, Germany and Poland.

**About the World Junior Golf Series ([www.wjgs.org](http://www.wjgs.org))**

The World Junior Golf Series is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation dedicated to creating a competitive international arena for youth that will promote good citizenship, scholarship, benevolence, competitive spirit and outstanding ethical conduct through a variety of competitive golf-related activities and other organized learning experiences. Under the direction of the WJGS, a series of international tournaments will be held around the world in an endeavor to establish the first World Junior Ranking System and to enhance the competition for prestige play among Junior Golfers. Every tournament will be structured and operated as a major tour event utilizing premiere courses and accommodations enhanced by experienced and caring staff and advisors. The challenging play, competitive spirit, and international camaraderie will culminate in competition to help decide the best junior players in the world.