



For Immediate Release

Successful finish to unique MJT National Team Challenge presented by Freedom 55 Financial

Sihota and Chun crowned as Individual Champions

Niagara Falls, ON – (September 24, 2018) – The 54-hole fourth annual MJT National Team Challenge (NTC) presented by Freedom 55 Financial took place this past weekend on Royal Niagara Golf Course in Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario. This one-of-a-kind junior event, which features collegiate style scoring, is a highlight on the Maple Leaf Junior Golf Tour’s season-long schedule and saw 89 players in 15 teams from Canada and Western New York challenge each other and the elements to see who would be crowned NTC Team and Individual champions.

During the opening day of competition, winds gusted up to 80km/h making for tough conditions and scores reflected this as the scoring average among Junior boys was four shots higher, and among Junior girls seven shots higher, in round one compared to round two.

MD Junior Golf Academy coached by Don Lee led wire-to-wire in the team portion of the event. Team members, Chris Yi, Eric Yun, Eric Byun, Gerry Mei, Victoria Zheng and Catherine Zhang were very impressive during the difficult opening round, posting a team score of 307 (74, 77, 78, 78). This was good enough for a 19 shot lead heading into the second day of competition over the **Western New York PGA** team.

During the second round, the weather calmed, scores improved, and the low total went to **Golf Ontario's** team of Peter Blazevic, Bennett Ruby, Tommy Latter, Tristen Renaud, Monet Chun and Vanessa Chychrn, who fired impressive scores of 69, 76, 77, 81 for a 303 team total, anchored by the terrific three-under par 69 by Golf Canada's Development Squad member, Chun. **MD Junior Golf Academy** would hold on to the overall lead in the team competition, however, after posting 308 on day two to bring their total to 615 (307, 308).

In the individual competition, Byun, 17, of the **MD Junior Golf Academy**, opened up a four shot lead in the **MJT Junior Boys** division over Brendan Dunphy, 17, of **Geared to Golf Academy**. Byun fired a 78 and followed it up with a 73 to sit at a two-day total of 151. In the **MJT Junior Girls** division, another **MD Junior Golf Academy** member, Zheng, 14, was able to weather the wind on day one posting a very impressive 74. Zheng followed that round with a 73 to hold a four stroke lead over Chun, 17, of Golf Ontario heading into the third and final round.

The third round saw the lowest scoring average for both divisions of any day. As competition for the individual titles heated up, **MD Junior Golf Academy** sat comfortably in the driver's seat for the NTC trophy. However, the **Golf Ontario** team came out determined to cut into the lead and after **MD Junior Golf Academy** stumbled on the final day shooting their highest team total of the event, 312, this opened the door for **Golf Ontario** who finished very strong with a final round total of 296, highlighted by another under-par score from Chun. **MD Junior Golf Academy** would, however, hold on to win the MJT National Team Challenge by two strokes over **Golf Ontario**, 927 to 929.

On the individual's side, second round leader, Zheng would fire a final round 74 to finish at 221 for the three days. Chun second consecutive under-par round, 70, would propel her back into contention and force a playoff with Zheng for low medalist honours in the **MJT Junior Girls**

division. Chun would make par on the first playoff hole to capture the Junior girls individual title at the 2018 National Team Challenge presented by Freedom 55 Financial. "I'm very excited to have been able to play well the last two days. To be able to win was a wonderful experience!" said Chun. "I wanted to play this event because I got to play some of the best junior golfers in Canada, and I always enjoy representing Golf Ontario."

On the **MJT Junior Boys** side, Bavake Sihota, 16, of **MJT Ontario Red**, was the only player to shot in the 60's, with a final round 69. Sitting five shots back of the leader going into the final day, Sihota made five birdies including one on the last hole on his way to erasing the deficit and edged out second round leader Byun by a single shot overall. "On the 18th hole, I needed to make birdie, so I hit driver to the middle of the fairway and then hit a 60° wedge to ten feet. I took a while on the putt because I needed to make it, and I did," said Sihota. "It feels so great to have won a WAGR ranked event."

Freedom 55 Financial presented this unique junior golf event, adding to their strong support of golf in Canada. Team and individual results for Geared To Golf, Glen Abbey Academy – Casey, Glen Abbey Academy – Vaughn, Golf Ontario, Golf Performance Center, Golf Performance Coaches, Henry Brunton - GenNXT Academy, MD Junior Golf Academy, MJT Ontario Blue, MJT Ontario Red, MJT Ontario White, MJT Team Prairies, MJT Team West, Rattlesnake Golf Academy and Western New York PGA can be found online on the MJT website www.maplejt.com.

About Freedom 55 Financial™:

Freedom 55 Financial™, a division of London Life Insurance Company, offers financial security advice and planning to Canadians through its more than 3,700 financial security advisors across Canada. Freedom 55 Financial offers London Life's own brand of life insurance, savings and investments, retirement income, annuities, and mortgage products to Canadians.

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About the MJT: The non-profit Maple Leaf Junior Golf Tour presented by Boston Pizza is Canada's number one-played Junior Golf Tour as well as the only national junior tour run exclusively by PGA of Canada Professionals and the 'Road to College Golf' in Canada. The organization is presented nationally by Boston Pizza and supported by valued Premier, Tournament and Product Partners. The MJT hosts more than 70 events across Canada, including free Ford Go Golf Junior Clinics, the MJT Mini Tour for 7-12 year olds, the Collegiate Tour for 19-23 year olds, and multi-day events for competitive players aged 11 to 18 which are also qualifiers for international competitions. The program offers annual awards, scholarships, and frequent player incentives to help reward player's performance and participation throughout each season. MJT alumni include many Professional Tour players and PGA of Canada Professionals, as well as Canadian Amateur, National and Provincial Junior Champions. The MJT aims to develop champions, in golf and in life, promoting the game from grassroots through to provincial, national, university and professional level. For more information on the Maple Leaf Junior Golf Tour, please visit www.maplejt.com

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2018 Maple Leaf Junior Golf Tour National Team Challenge
presented by Freedom 55 Financial
 September 21st - 23rd, 2018
 Royal Niagara Golf Club
FINAL RESULTS

Rank	Academy	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Final
1	MD Junior Golf Academy	307	308	312	927
2	Golf Ontario	330	303	296	929
3	Glen Abbey Academy - Vaughn	332	319	295	946
4	Geared To Golf	331	313	308	952
5	Western New York PGA	326	323	312	961
6	MJT Ontario Red	339	327	300	966
7	Henry Brunton - GenNXT Academy	337	328	314	979
8	Golf Performance Centre	337	323	323	983
9	MJT Ontario White	348	323	317	988
10	MJT Team Prairies	350	326	320	996
	Rattlesnake Golf Academy	334	334	328	996
12	Glen Abbey Academy - Casey	334	331	332	997
13	MJT Team West	347	327	327	1001
14	Golf Performance Coaches	356	327	328	1011
15	MJT Ontario Blue	371	334	318	1023



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FINAL INDIVIDUAL RESULTS

MJT Junior Boys Division

Rank	Name	Team	Day 1	Day 2	Day3	Total
1	Bavake Sihota	MJT Ontario Red	78	78	69	225
2	Eric Byun	MD Junior Golf Academy	78	73	75	226
3	Ranen Oomen-Danckert	MJT Ontario White	80	79	70	229
	Sam Hogan	Glen Abbey Academy - Vaughn	78	79	73	230
5	Brendan Dunphy	Geared to Golf	79	76	75	230
6	Luke Delgobbo	Glen Abbey Academy - Vaughn	83	77	72	232
7	Peter Blazevic	Golf Ontario	84	76	73	233
8	Ethan Irvine	Henry Brunton - GenNXT Academy	79	80	75	234
9	Nolan Pierce	Geared to Golf	83	77	75	235
10	Nathanial Coombes	Golf Performance Coaches	81	78	77	236
11	Graem Costigan	Golf Performance Centre	83	77	77	237
12	Gerry Mei	MD Junior Golf Academy	78	81	79	238
13	Andrew LaCongo	Western New York PGA	89	77	73	239
	Aidan Shaw	Western New York PGA	77	78	84	239
15	Tommy Latter	Golf Ontario	83	81	76	240
	Hudson Lafayette	Glen Abbey Academy - Casey	82	78	80	240
17	Nicholas Lin	MJT Ontario Red	85	80	76	241
	Bennett Ruby	Golf Ontario	81	83	77	241
19	Jacob Armstrong	MJT Team Prairies	87	78	77	242
20	Tyler Cunningham	Rattlesnake Golf Academy	82	81	80	243
21	Justin Nelligan	Glen Abbey Academy - Casey	83	82	79	244
	Kobe Smith	MJT Ontario White	83	81	80	244
	Zach Hart	Golf Performance Centre	82	80	82	244
	Luke Bigelow	Henry Brunton - GenNXT Academy	79	81	84	244
25	Tommy McKenzie	MJT Team Prairies	84	85	76	245
	Ben Bauer	Golf Performance Centre	83	85	77	245
	Philipp Kaiser	MJT Team West	84	83	78	245
28	Jordan Breen	Geared to Golf	86	82	78	246
	Marcus Enriquez	Glen Abbey Academy - Casey	79	86	81	246
30	Jayden Boddy	MJT Ontario Blue	87	87	73	247

	Kiefer Bulau	Henry Brunton - GenNXT Academy	89	84	74	247
	Tristen Renaud	Golf Ontario	91	77	79	247
33	Nicholas Jenner	MJT Team West	90	78	80	248
	Ian Wagner	Western New York PGA	80	86	82	248
	Nic Dessureault	Glen Abbey Academy - Vaughn	85	80	83	248
36	Michael Weber	Rattlesnake Golf Academy	83	83	83	249
37	Yashin Kapadia	MJT Ontario Red	86	86	78	250
	James Bader	Rattlesnake Golf Academy	81	86	83	250
39	Matthew Pilgrim	MJT Team West	82	83	86	251
40	Ryan Somerville	MJT Ontario Red	90	85	77	252
	Jordan Martins	Golf Performance Coaches	89	82	81	252
	Bradley Parker	Henry Brunton - GenNXT Academy	88	83	81	252
43	Luke Stanley	Western New York PGA	86	89	78	253
	Neel Soni	MJT Team Prairies	84	83	86	253
	Chris Yi	MD Junior Golf Academy	84	83	86	253
46	Sean Tippin	MJT Ontario Blue	93	81	81	255
	Tate Smith	Rattlesnake Golf Academy	89	84	82	255
	Eric Yun	MD Junior Golf Academy	77	88	90	255
49	Matt Billington	Geared to Golf	94	78	85	257
	Kayden White	Golf Performance Centre	89	81	87	257
51	Steven Duchscher	MJT Team Prairies	95	80	83	258
	Zach Burt	MJT Ontario White	93	81	84	258
53	Ryan Hogan	Glen Abbey Academy - Vaughn	95	91	73	259
54	Tyler Stansfield	Golf Performance Coaches	98	82	81	261
	Krtin Udith	MJT Ontario White	96	82	83	261
56	Tyler Schaap	MJT Ontario Blue	92	86	84	262
	Ben Hirasawa	Golf Performance Coaches	88	85	89	262
58	Matthew Peesker	MJT Ontario Blue	103	80	80	263
59	Nigel Anderson	MJT Team West	100	83	83	266
60	Mike Barnett	Glen Abbey Academy - Casey	96	94	82	272

MJT Junior Girls Division

Rank	Name	Team	Day 1	Day 2	Day3	Total
1	*Monet Chun	Golf Ontario	82	69	70	221
2	Victoria Zheng	MD Junior Golf Academy	74	73	74	221
3	Mikah McDonnell	Western New York PGA	83	83	79	245
4	Madelin Boyd	Geared to Golf	83	84	80	247
5	Alexis McMurray	Glen Abbey Academy - Vaughn	86	88	77	251
6	Bo Brown	Glen Abbey Academy - Vaughn	91	83	79	253
7	Meghan Fitchette	Geared to Golf	95	82	80	257
8	Catherine Zhang	MD Junior Golf Academy	93	81	84	258
	Vanessa Chychrun	Golf Ontario	89	81	88	258
10	Natasha Kozlowski	MJT Team West	91	84	87	262
11	Gwen Yarnall	Western New York PGA	92	85	87	264
12	Rozlyn Rooke	Rattlesnake Golf Academy	88	94	83	265
13	Katie Cranston	MJT Ontario White	92	90	85	267

	Rachel Demaine	Glen Abbey Academy - Casey	90	85	92	267
15	Mikyla Albert	MJT Team Prairies	98	88	84	270
16	Tara O'Connor	Golf Performance Centre	93	89	94	276
17	Breanna MacPherson	MJT Team West	95	92	90	277
18	Peyton Costabile	Rattlesnake Golf Academy	95	98	86	279
	Sarah Grieve	MJT Team Prairies	100	91	88	279
20	Madison Ouellette	MJT Ontario Blue	99	95	89	283
	Cynthia Ni	MJT Ontario White	98	90	95	283
22	Mandy Zeng	MJT Ontario Blue	104	94	86	284
23	Olivia Sargla	Golf Performance Centre	104	89	93	286
24	Sasha Baker	Glen Abbey Academy - Casey	104	87	97	288
25	Sonya Weerasinghe	Henry Brunton - GenNXT Academy	104	101	86	291
26	Isabel Noot	Golf Performance Coaches	99	91	102	292
27	Jasmyn Andreevski	Henry Brunton - GenNXT Academy	111	98	90	299
28	Kaitlyn Ellis	Golf Performance Coaches	123	96	104	323
	Calista Zeng	MJT Ontario Red	DNP	84	89	NA

*denotes winner of Playoff