

Maple Leaf Junior Golf Tour events receive Golf Canada Order of Merit nod

VANCOUVER, B.C. (May 15, 2012) – The Maple Leaf Junior Tour is pleased to announce that a number of MJT tournaments will be recognized by Golf Canada on the CN Future Links National Junior Order of Merit. Competitors taking part in these recognized events across the country will now receive points on Canada's national junior ranking Order of Merit.

The Maple Leaf Junior Golf Tour is Canada's only national junior tour run exclusively by PGA of Canada Professionals. The list of ranked tournaments, which has a number held in conjunction with the provincial bodies of the PGA of Canada, includes the following events:

MJT - PGA of Alberta Junior Championship, McKenzie Meadows GC, Calgary, AB, August 7-9

- MJT Odlum Brown Classic / PGA of British Columbia Junior Championship, Northview GC, Cloverdale, BC, July 3-5
- MJT PGA of Saskatchewan Junior Championship, The Willows G&CC, Saskatoon, July 26-27
- MJT PGA of Manitoba Junior Championship, Transcona GC, Winnipeg, MB, August 14-15
- MJT PGA of Ontario Junior Championship, Forest City National GC, London, ON, June 30 July 1
- MJT PGA of Canada Atlantic Junior Championship, Royal Oaks GC, Moncton, NB, June 9-10
- MJT Players Championship, Whistle Bear GC, Cambridge, ON, July 23-24
- MJT Boston Pizza National Tour Championship, The Legacy GR, Phoenix, AZ, November 16-18

"During the off season we did an evaluation of the competitions that are taking place across the country and based on the quality and numbers of juniors competing in the identified MJT events, it made sense to include them in our National Junior Order of Merit," says Jeff Thompson, Chief Sport Development Officer at Golf Canada. "We feel that including these events in the CN National Junior Order of Merit will provide us with a more complete picture of who the top players across the country are, which ultimately is the objective."

The goal of the CN Future Links Order of Merit is to provide an objective national comparison/ranking system for Canada's top junior golfers which will enable players to compare themselves to their counterparts across the country. The Order of Merit is based on those tournaments that represent an extremely high standard of competition. A point system is used based on the scores and results of the players in the approved tournaments in order to objectively rank each individual's performance. More information is available by <u>clicking here</u>.

Golf Canada is the governing body of golf in Canada, representing more than 340,000 members at close to 1,500 clubs across the country. Recognized by Sport Canada as the National Sport Organization (NSO) for golf in this country, Golf Canada's mission is to grow participation, excellence and passion in the sport while upholding the integrity and traditions of the game. More information can be found at <u>www.golfcanada.ca</u>.

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The non-profit Maple Leaf Junior Golf Tour presented by Boston Pizza is Canada's premier and only national junior tour run exclusively by PGA of Canada Professionals and the 'Road to College Golf' for aspiring young players. The organization hosts more than 60 events across Canada, including free Ford Go Golf Junior Clinics, the MJT Mini Tour for 7–12 year olds, and multi-day events for competitive players which also qualify juniors for international competitions. The MJT 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 Canadian PGA 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. More information can be found at <u>www.maplejt.com</u>.

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