



**For Immediate Release**

**TOP RATING FOR SINGHA THAILAND WORLD JUNIOR GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP**

**Vancouver, BC - (December 3, 2009)** – A contingent of four Canadian junior golfers recently returned from the Singha Thailand Junior World Golf Championships at the par-72, 6,743-yard Royal Hua Hin Golf Course in Prachuap Khiri Khan province, where Thai junior golfers won all 12 competition categories upon the conclusion of the tournament on November 29, 2009.

The Canadians, who included Porsche Campbell, 16, of Vancouver, BC, Jerry Christiansen, 17, of Saskatoon, SK, Jay Kim, 16, of Surrey, BC and Leilanie Kim, 16, also of Surrey, BC, qualified for participation via the Maple Leaf Junior Golf Tour (MJT), Canada’s only national junior tour run exclusively by CPGA Professionals, and were outfitted by MJT Official International Events Partner, Travel Underwriters.

Team coach Vince Liu, CPGA, rated the tournament as first-class. “The Thailand Golf Association really put up a wonderful tournament - they had every detail covered,” he said. “A total of 18 countries and 126 players were welcomed with a parade with a police car and a marching band in front. It was very impressive. Finland, Pakistan and India were most serious-looking teams, with the players wearing coats and ties. There were 13 rules officials on the course and a forecaddie on every hole. The Committee even had the shuttle bus running at night taking all the international participants to night markets. I am very impressed by how much effort they put in.”

The Royal Hua Hin Golf Course was built in 1924 – the first in Thailand, and is a traditional design with tight fairways, mature tree lines and small greens of Bermuda grass. “Speed was a challenge for us North American players,” said coach Liu.

In the searing heat on the third and final day, Leilanie Kim missed a few short putts but played pretty steady golf, and placed 8th overall. Porsche Campbell struggled with her swing after having to use a rental set of clubs when hers were days late arriving from Vancouver and placed 10th. Jay Kim played a much smarter game on the final day, not trying to overpower the golf course, but a few bad holes had him placing 25th overall. Jerry Christiansen was one-over when he made the turn on the final day and shot 74 to end up 10th overall in his division.

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The players highly rated the international experience, which included an elephant safari. “It was an amazing experience that we will never forget and I couldn't ask for any better,” said veteran MJT member Jay Kim.

“This was a lovely group of kids and I enjoyed them very much,” stated Liu. “With all the team trips I have undertaken for the MJT, this is probably the one with the most laughter. They bonded well and they really supported each other.”

As part of the non-profit MJT's mandate to develop junior golfers, the program sends players to international competitions in countries such as the UK, Australia, China and the USA, and will return to Thailand in 2010. For more information on the Singha Thailand Junior World Golf Championships please visit [www.tga.or.th](http://www.tga.or.th) and click on the icon for English to translate the page.

#### About the MJT

The non-profit Maple Leaf Junior Golf Tour (MJT) is presented nationally by Boston Pizza and is Canada's premier and only junior golf tour run exclusively by Golf Professionals. The MJT is proud to play a role in developing young players, including several Canadian National Champions and many Future Links and Provincial Champions. The MJT also provides opportunities for young Canadians to learn how to golf and introduces players as young as four years old to the game via free instructional clinics. In addition, the MJT encourages young players to further their education with scholarship awards. For more information, please visit [www.maplejt.com](http://www.maplejt.com) or call 1-877-859-GOLF.

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