



## MEDIA RELEASE

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### **Finalists named for the Golf Manitoba Amateur Golfer of the Year**

**(Winnipeg, MB Thurs. October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2009)** - The Golf Manitoba Selection Committee has announced three finalists for the 2009 Amateur Golfer of the Year Award, which will be presented during the annual general meeting and awards dinner on Oct. 19<sup>th</sup> at the Elmhurst Golf & Country Club.

The three nominees, in alphabetical order, are: GARTH COLLINGS of Breezy Bend, TYLER MANCINI of Pine Ridge and RYAN PITZEL of Rossmere.

Collings, a four-time winner of the award and now a 15-time nominee, won the Manitoba amateur for the third time, had a runner up finish in the mid-amateur, won the mid-masters category (40-and-over) and was a member of two provincial teams (willingdon cup and mid-amateur). He finished tied for 10<sup>th</sup> at the Canadian mid-amateur and 5<sup>th</sup> at the national mid-masters. He also won the Grey Owl Championship for a record eighth victory. Collings is currently ranked 21<sup>st</sup> on the RCGA Order of Merit.

Mancini, a first time nominee, won the men's provincial match play and mid-amateur championships and had a fifth place finish in the amateur championship. He finished off the season with a 29<sup>th</sup> place finish at the national mid-amateur and is ranked 118<sup>th</sup> on the RCGA Order of Merit.

Rossmere Country Club's Ryan Pitzel, also a first time nominee, captured the provincial junior championship at his home course in July, had two fine finishes in RCGA Future Links events (T19<sup>th</sup> Western FL & T5<sup>th</sup> at Prairie FL) and lead team Manitoba to a fourth place finish at the Canada Games with his individual 8<sup>th</sup> place result. He is a member of the University of Manitoba Bison Golf Team and has had a number of top twenty finishes in the fall competitive season for the Bisons. He is currently ranked 32<sup>nd</sup> on the RCGA Junior Order of Merit.

Six players earned honourable mentions for their strong 2009 campaigns: Tammy Gibson of St. Boniface, Jill Hardy of the Golf Manitoba Public Player Club, Don Jackson of Portage, Scott Markham of Niakwa, Jesse Skelton of Breezy Bend and Lindsay Stewart of Selkirk.

Gibson won the provincial women's senior, finished third at the women's amateur, was a member of two provincial teams (amateur & senior) and was a finalist in the women's match play.

Jill Hardy won the provincial women's amateur, made the cut at the national women's amateur and qualified for the US women's mid-amateur.

Don Jackson was the provincial senior champion and low individual at the provincial senior interclub.

Scott Markham was third at the provincial men's amateur, the medalist at the match play championship and finished 55<sup>th</sup> at the national amateur.

Jesse Skelton was top twenty at the men's amateur, made it to the sixteens at the match play and has had a number of top ten finishes in the fall season with the University of Manitoba Golf Team.

Lindsay Stewart won the provincial junior women's title, was 7<sup>th</sup> at the women's amateur, was the low female Manitoban at the Canada Games and has had two top five finishes with the University of Manitoba Bison Women's Golf Team

The Amateur Golfer of the Year Award dates back to 1975. It will be presented for the 35<sup>th</sup> time on Oct. 19<sup>th</sup>.

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