



MEDIA RELEASE

Finalists named for the Golf Manitoba Female and Male Golfers of the Year and Distinguished Service Award Recipient Announced

(Winnipeg, MB Monday, October 17th, 2016) – The Golf Manitoba Selection Committee has announced four finalists for the Female Golfer of the Year Award and four finalists for the Male Golfer of the Year, which will both be presented during the Annual General Meeting and Awards Reception on October 24th at the Niakwa Country Club.

As part of our centennial celebrations in 2015, Golf Manitoba announced we will be awarding both female and male amateur golfer of the year awards moving forward. This decision would allow for the appropriate recognition for both genders, while recognizing their outstanding performance in all levels of competition on an annual basis

The female nominees, in alphabetical order are: **Rhonda Orr** (Southwood), **Camryn Roadley** (Glendale), **Bri-ann Tokariwski** (Elmhurst) & **Bobbi Uhl** (Shilo)

Rhonda Orr won the Manitoba Senior Women's Championship and finished 5th at the Manitoba Women's Amateur Championship. She was a member of the Provincial Senior Team that finished 5th in the team competition at the nationals where she finished tied for 4th in the individual competition. Orr tied for low individual at the Women's Interclub A Championship, was a member of the Alternate Shot Championship winning team and was also a member of the Southwood team that won the women's Nassau League. She also qualified for and competed in the United States Golf Association (USGA) Women's Senior Championship.

Camryn Roadley was runner up in both the Women's Amateur and Accurate Dorwin Junior Championships. She won the CN Prairie Future Links and the MB Optimist Championship. The recipient of the inaugural Women's Golfer of the Year award in 2015, Roadley finished tied for 42nd at the Canadian Women's Amateur and was a member of the provincial women's amateur team that finished 4th in the Interprovincial Team competition. She is currently a member of the North Dakota State University Golf Team.

Bri-ann Tokariwski won the Provincial Women's Amateur and the City & District Championships. She was also a member of the provincial team who finished 4th at the nationals and tied for low individual at the Women's Interclub A.

Bobbi Uhl won the Accurate Dorwin Women's Junior Championship and the Manitoba High School Athletics Association Golf Championship. She won the silver medal at the Manitoba Games in the individual competition and was a member of the gold medal winning team. Uhl was tied for 14th at the Manitoba Women's Amateur Championship, 4th in the CN Prairie Future Links, 31st in the CN Pacific Future Links, a semi finalist in the MB Match Play Championship, was the MHSAA Rural Athlete of the Week (Sept 27th) and was 1st alternate in the USGA Junior Girls Championship Qualifier in Fargo.

Two female players earned honourable mentions for their 2016 accomplishments: **Rebecca Kuik** of Niakwa and **Marissa Naylor** of Pine Ridge.

Rebecca Kuik won the individual gold medal at the Manitoba Games and was a member of the team that won the silver medal. She finished 4th at the Accurate Dorwin Women's Junior Championship, tied for 7th in the Women's Amateur Championship, was 6th in the CN Prairie Future Links Championship, was a semi finalist in the Women's Match Play Championship and had a number of strong finishes in Maple Leaf Tour events. She also finished tied for 59th at the Canadian Junior Girls Championship.

Marissa Naylor was 5th at the Accurate Dorwin Women's Junior Championship, tied for 10th at the Manitoba Women's Amateur Championship and finished 66th at the Canadian Junior Championship. She also had strong showings in Maple Leaf Tour events.

The male nominees, in alphabetical order are: **Travis Fredborg** (Pine Ridge), **Eric Johnson** (Breezy Bend), **Devon Schade** (Elmhurst) and **Marco Trstenjak** (Larters).

Travis Fredborg finished 2nd at the season opening Match Play Championship Qualifier and went on to win the Men's Match Play Championship. He finished tied for 5th at the Nott Autocorp Men's Amateur and tied for 10th in the Glencoe Invitational in Calgary. He is currently a member of the University of Nevada Men's Golf Team where he has a sub 72 scoring average and plays in the number one spot. He has had three top 20 finishes this fall with the team.

Eric Johnson won the Manitoba Men's Mid-Amateur Championship and was 5th in the Nott Autocorp Men's Amateur Championship. He was a member of the provincial Mid-Amateur team that finished 5th at the national Mid-Amateur where he finished tied for 25th in the individual competition. He was also a member of the Breezy Bend team that won the Mundie Putter League.

Marco Trstenjak won the Elmhurst Invitational, was tied for 3rd at the Manitoba Match Play Championship Qualifier and finished tied for 28th at the Canadian Men's Amateur. He had one win and a runner up finish in local Maple Leaf Junior tour events, was the first alternate in the USGA Junior Championship Qualifier in Fargo, won the Juvenile Division in two Canadian Junior Golf Association events, finished 11th at the American Junior Golf Association Canadian Championship and won the 15 & 16 age group division at the World Stars of Junior Golf in Las Vegas, NV.

Devon Schade repeated as the Nott Autocorp Men's Amateur Champion, was tied for 3rd in the Match Play Championship Qualifier where he lost in the semi-final match, finished T16th at the Glencoe Invitational in Calgary and tied for 61st at the Canadian Men's Amateur. As the captain of the University of Manitoba Bison Golf Team, he had four top five individual results and a fall scoring average of 72.6. He was also named the University of Manitoba Bison Athlete of the Week for October 2nd to 6th.

Three additional male golfers are being recognized with honourable mentions:

Breezy Bend's **Garth Collings** won the Grey Owl, was 2nd in the Manitoba Senior Championship, 15th in the Manitoba Mid-Amateur Championship, 5th in the Manitoba Mid-Masters Championship and was tied for 12th at the Canadian Senior Championship. He was also a member of the provincial senior team that finished 2nd in the team competition at the national championship.

Ryan McMillan of Elmhurst won the MHSAA Golf Championship, was 4th in the Accurate Dorwin Junior Championship, tied for 5th in the Nott Autocorp Men's Amateur, 5th in the CN Prairie Future Links, 4th in the Elmhurst Invitational, made it to the quarter finals of the Manitoba Match Play Championship (13th in the Qualifier), three victories in local Maple Leaf Junior Tour events, won two junior open events in Phoenix, AZ and was the MHSAA Athlete of the week September 27th.

Golf Manitoba Public Player Club member **Zach Wytinck** won the Accurate Dorwin Junior Championship, was 2nd in the Manitoba Amateur Qualifier, 4th in the Nott Autocorp Men's Amateur Championship and tied for 2nd at the MHSAA Golf Championship.

The Amateur Golfer of the Year Award dates back to 1975.

Distinguished Service Award

Brandon's **George McLeod** will be the 2016 Golf Manitoba Distinguished Service Award Recipient.

George started volunteering in the 1980's as a Rural Representative for the Wheat City Golf Club with the Manitoba Golf Association (MGA). He was then nominated and elected to the Board of the MGA in 1985. During the 20 years on the Board, he served on every committee the MGA had with the exception of the Finance Committee and eventually moved on to be President (2002 – 2004). He was the last President of the MGA and the first President of the newly formed Golf Manitoba.

George was also instrumental in the formation and inauguration of the Manitoba Golf Hall of Fame and Museum.

Nationally, he served on the Royal Canadian Golf Association Board of Directors as Manitoba's Class "C" Governor for 10 years. Following a governance change with Golf Canada, he then went on to become a member of the Golf Canada Governors Council, served on the Membership Committee and was Chair of the Canadian Turf Grass Research Foundation until 2015. McLeod also assisted Golf Canada with the amalgamation of the Canadian Ladies Golf Association (CLGA) and the RCGA and served on numerous committees for ten years as a Governor.

George has been a rules official, course rater, and volunteer starter/scorer for Golf Manitoba, the RCGA & Golf Canada for over 30 years. Some of the highlights for him are in 2013, he was a rules official for 4 days at the Nott Autocorp Men's Amateur held at Neepawa. In 2014, he was the Golf Canada Tournament Chair and Starter/Scorer at the CN Future Links Prairie Championship held at the Shilo Country Club, he was a Starter/Scorer at the 2014 Canadian University Championship at Southwood and a Starter/Scorer at the Canadian Men's Amateur at Southwood that same year.

" I am very humbled by this honour and privileged to be in the distinguished company of the previous recipients", said McLeod. "Golf Manitoba has already awarded me with a lifetime of cherished times, memories and friends that is unmatched by anything I've been involved with."

“On behalf of the Board and Staff of Golf Manitoba, I would like to extend our congratulations to George McLeod as this year’s recipient of the Distinguished Service Award,” commented Tammy Gibson, President of Golf Manitoba. “George’s leadership, commitment and dedication to the game over the years are certainly worthy of this award and we are appreciative of his many contributions to amateur golf in Manitoba, North West Ontario and Canada” added Gibson.

Golf Manitoba is very pleased to honor Mr. George McLeod as the Distinguished Service Award Recipient for 2016.

Past recipients include Jerry Budyk (2007), Don Forsyth (2008), Betty Grant (2009), Brian Gilhuly (2010), Rudy Boivin (2011), Joyce Collier (2012), Bob Forcand (2013), Don MacDonald (2014) and Barbara Hamill (2015).

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