Aurora golfer takes his game south for PGA Canada Championship



By Jake Courtepatte

The sport of golf can take its athletes to some of the most challenging and beautiful landscapes in North America, and last week Justin Tomasulo of Aurora found himself at the Sunridge Canyon Golf Club in Fountain Hills, Arizona for the PGA Canada Club Professional Championship.

Tomasulo qualified for the event as a PGA Canada Director of Instruction, joining the top 100 golfers in the tour rankings.

Despite touching down in Arizona a few days early for practice, Tomasulo said the course was one of the most challenging he's faced.
?Tough, tough golf course. To string three good rounds there would be unbelievable.?

After making the cut to play the third and final round with a two-day score of 155 (76-79), he took to the course at the 10th hole on Wednesday.
He couldn't find his rhythm in a poor start, bogeying each of the first five holes. However, his day took a turn for the better when he stuck his tee shot on the par-3 17th to within six feet.

Although he couldn't capitalize on the birdie, his confidence allowed him to shoot just one-over on the final ten holes.

?Although not playing to my full potential, I was pleased with the finish. How did I do it? Putts were made!?

Growing up in Stratford, Ontario, Tomasulo moved with his wife to Aurora a few years ago.

The desert course in Arizona made for a difficult playing field, with cacti and sand often coming into play.

?People think that playing desert golf, if the ball strays off the fairway you can at least hit off the desert,? said Tomasulo. ?But there are rocks and obstructions everywhere. You pretty much have to take your ball out of an unplayable lie.?

There is no rest for the wicked, as Tomasulo heads down south again this weekend for a pro-am tournament in Florida. He's also heading down to Palm Springs for an event in February.

?In closing, in my books there is no such thing as losing...just learning from the experience. Would I change anything? No. I was

there early enough to play several practice rounds and acclimatize. What needs to be practiced now is putting on slick greens.?

In the meantime, he keeps busy as the Head Director of Instruction at both the Emerald Hills Golf Club in Stouffville and DiamondBack Golf Club in Richmond Hill.