

Grade 11 student earns spot on national golf team

By Cindy Veitch

Matt Yustin has been invited to represent the Canadian Junior Golf Association (CJGA) at the Dutch World Championships this summer in Amsterdam.

Matt, who enters grade 11 at SAC in September, received the exciting news this week while practicing on the range at his home course, the Summit Golf & Country Club in Richmond Hill. He earned his spot on CJGA Team Canada after shooting 71 at a tough qualifying tournament played in hail and snowy conditions this spring, and will now travel to Breda, Netherlands, to play at the PonCat Dutch Junior Open July 17-20.

"It's going to be a great opportunity for me to see other courses in Europe and compete with people from around the world," says Matt, a one handicap golfer.

The tournament is registered with the World Amateur Golf Ranking, and the winner of the Boys Division will receive an exemption into the KLM Open on the European Tour. CJGA Team Canada will also play a friendly one-day match against the Netherlands National Junior Team prior to the tournament.

Matt is currently ranked #1 provincially and #3 nationally for the CJGA's Order of Merit for 15-19 year olds. The fifteen-year-old is committed to the sport, practicing most days and competing in several tournaments each season. As a member of SAC's Varsity Golf team, he tied for the second lowest round with a score of 73 at the season opener at Deer Creek Golf Course in Ajax, and helped his team earn a silver medal at CISAA in May. His lowest score is 65 shot at Pheasant Run Golf Club in Newmarket.

With school over, Matt can now give full attention to his golf game and next challenge: qualifying for the U.S. Junior National Championship. He will be attending a high performance golf camp and tournament at South Carolina's Clemson University June 14-19. Clemson is Matt's number 1 choice for universities so he says he'll be trying to his best to make a great impression while there.