



**PUERTO RICO
GOLF ASSOCIATION**

Press Release

Release Date: July 18, 2017 (For Immediate Release)

U.S. Amateur Championship Qualifier, the East Course and tropical downpours, why not!

San Juan, PR - The qualifier for the 117th U.S. Amateur Championship was played at the famed East Course at TPC Dorado Beach. It brought out some of the finest golfers Puerto Rico has to offer for a chance to play at Riviera.

Monday's round one started with spectacular conditions. But that was short lived as a strong cell parked itself over Dorado and dumped over 3-inches of rain forcing play on the East Course to be suspended.

Players, caddies, friends and family took shelter at the Oceanside restaurant *Barlovento* as tournament director Francisco Rivera analyzed different scenarios. Rules officials and Rivera toured the course and it became evident play could and would not continue.

Tuesday starts promising, but a few early quick passing showers made everyone a little nervous thinking if Monday would repeat itself. Round one finished with Juan Jose Guerra, Brandon Bueno, Andres Aranguren and Pepi Suarez all tied for the lead with a 2-over 74.

Round two was quickly set up and took off at noon. Alfred Colon and Erick Morales made their way into the leaderboard and would finish in a 3-way tie for second along with Bueno. They would go onto play the 18th hole twice to settle who would fill the two positions available as alternates for the U.S. AM Championship with Colon and Morales beating out Bueno for the spots.

But it was Dominican native Juan Jose Guerra who dropped seven birdies on his way to a spectacular 3-under 69 second round to finish as Medalist Qualifier for the 117th U.S. Amateur Championship.

"It's a dream come though as I tried to qualify 3 previous years and had not succeeded", Guerra mentioned after receiving an emotional congratulatory phone call from his father who lives in the Dominican Republic.

A special Thank You to TPC Dorado Beach and the magnificent grounds crew for restoring and preparing the East Course allowing the Qualifier to be completed on time.

For a recap and full listing of the scores, please visit: <https://is.gd/Yg64Zk>