

**My Marsh Golf Classic  
The Hawthorns Golf & Country Club  
First Round News & Notes  
June 1, 2012**

**Jean Chua Takes First Round Lead at the My Marsh Golf Classic**

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**Of note**

Friday was plagued by chilly temperatures and gusting winds but Jean Chua battled through the tough conditions to shoot a 4-under par 68 and take the first round lead of the inaugural My Marsh Golf Classic.

Chua did not arrive in Fishers, Ind. until 3:00 a.m. Friday morning due to a 36-hole U.S. Women’s Open qualifier in North Carolina.

“I can’t really even remember how it went,” said Chua of her first round. “I got in the hotel at 3:00 a.m. this morning so I got about four hours of sleep.”

Originally from Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, Chua relied heavily on her short game to notch five birdies and one bogey at the par-72 The Hawthorns Golf and Country Club in Fishers, Ind.

“I guess the main thing today was I pretty much laughed off every bad shot because my head and body weren’t there so I’m bound to miss a couple,” said Chua. “The first nine I was getting it up-and-down from everywhere, I couldn’t hit the green but just stayed patient and hit where my caddie told me to hit it.”

Today’s first round marks the first time Chua has played a competitive round without playing a practice round. This proved to be a blessing in disguise for Chua as she relied heavily on target golf to move her into the lead.

“I feel good about it I just have to go back out there tomorrow and play the same way because I hadn’t seen the course at all before I played today,” said Chua. “I didn’t know where the bad positions were, where the traps were so I just picked a target and hit it. I just need to do the same thing tomorrow and not try to go for the pins in some of them and hit it in the middle of the green.”

Chua played collegiate golf at Wake Forest University and credits the cold North Carolina temperatures for her ability to adapt to today’s cold temperatures.

“When I went to Wake Forest it was kind of like that so it feels like college golf,” said Chua.

In her second year on the Symetra Tour, Chua is coming off a tied for second finish at the Riviera Nayarit Classic and currently sits at sixth in the Volvik Race for the Card standings after three events.

Chua heads into tomorrow’s second round with a two-stroke lead over Allison Hanna. Hanna carded three birdies and one bogey en route to a two-under par 70 first round.

**A day to remember…**Tom Marra, CEO of Symetra, and several other staff members were on hand on Thursday to play in the My Marsh Golf Classic pro-am. Marra was paired with LPGA and Symetra Tour member Juliana Murcia Ortiz in a scramble format.

Marra proved on Thursday that he is not only a successful business man but according to Ortiz, he is quite the golfer.

“It was great, he is such a nice guy,” said Ortiz. “He played great golf he just started saying, ‘oh I’m going to hit it in the woods’ and he didn’t. He was playing great, he putted unbelievable”

Symetra is in their first year as title sponsor for the Symetra Tour. The tour, which began in 1981 and has served as the official developmental tour of the LPGA since 1999, offers rising stars in the women’s game an opportunity to prepare for a career on the LPGA Tour.

“I talked to him about the company and how he got involved with helping the tour,” said Ortiz. “He just enjoys so much helping the girls.”

Symetra is a Bellevue, Wash. based provider of employee benefits, annuities and life insurance, has signed a multi-year agreement securing the naming rights for the Symetra Tour.

**Learning something new…**When you walk onto the scene of an LPGA Tour event it is common to see a player immersed in a tutoring session to learn a different language. This week’s My Marsh Golf Classic is no different thanks to The Language Training Center (LTC).

LTC has been a reliable partner of the LPGA and Symetra Tour since 2010 providing Cross-Cultural Seminars and one-on-one tutoring to both players and staff. This week LTC provided a seminar for Symetra Tour rookies and had nearly 20 players participate in one-on-one instruction to learn different languages ranging from Spanish to Italian and German to Korean.

This week’s My Marsh Golf Classic is located just a short drive from LTC Headquarters based in Indianapolis, Ind. Symetra and LPGA Tour rookie Lacey Agnew had the opportunity to tour LTC’s Headquarters and receive a one-on-one Spanish lesson.

“It was awesome,” said Agnew. “It was neat, they had a lot of open rooms and it was really cool to see how they work over there.”

Agnew shot a first-round two-over par 74 and played alongside current *Big Break Atlantis* cast member Gloriana Soto. Soto is the first Costa Rican golfer to compete in the United States and Agnew took full advantage of the opportunity to showcase her Spanish.

“We tried to work on it a little bit today but it didn’t go very well,” said Agnew of her attempt to speak Spanish with Soto.

In 2012, there are 100 International players on the Symetra Tour representing 32 countries. Like the LPGA, the Symetra Tour has gone international with the Rivera Nayarit Classic located in Nuevo Vallarta, Nayarit – Mexico.

**In the fast lane…**This week’s My Marsh Golf Classic is located right down the road from Indianapolis, Ind., home of the famous Indianapolis 500. The Symetra Tour and IZOD IndyCar series had the rare opportunity to cross paths on Wednesday when Victoria Alimonda Lovelady met fellow Brazilian and IndyCar driver Ana Beatriz.

Alimonda Lovelady and Beatriz met due to a luncheon provided by the Language Training Center (LTC). On site at this week’s My Marsh Golf Classic, LTC is a full service language provider specializing in language training, translation, interpreting, cross-cultural training, interpreter training, international business consulting and language assessment. Tuesday’s meeting provided a rare opportunity for Alimonda Lovelady to speak her native language of Portuguese.

“It’s very hard to not speak Portuguese to a Brazilian,” said Alimonda Lovelady. “I feel very weird speaking English to a Brazilian so it was fun. I have been living in Colombia for the past year and a half so for me not to speak Spanish, it is awesome. To find someone who speaks Portuguese is refreshing.”

Despite never previously meeting, Alimonda Lovelady and Beatriz are from the same hometown of Sao Paulo, Brazil.

“We come from very similar backgrounds and she studied right near my house so it’s kind of cool to make that connection with her,” said Alimonda Lovelady. “We are both from the same city and its fun because it’s very rare to find athletes from Brazil, especially female athletes out in the U.S.”

During the luncheon Alimonda Lovelady was able to get a further insight into Beatriz’s training regime.

“It was pretty cool to ask her about her training and mental training,” said Alimonda Lovelady. I think that ambition of competing in that spirit was to see in her as well. I am proud of her, she kicks butt.”

Alimonda Lovelady joined the Symetra Tour in 2010 and recorded a career best tied for 35th finish at the 2010 Ladies Titan Tire Challenge in Marion, Iowa. She played her collegiate golf at the University of Southern California where she was a member of the winning 2008 NCAA Women’s Golf Championship team.

**Tweet of the day…** First time ever I will wear pants for a tournament in the USA. It's going be 12degree Celsius!!! Pretty cold!!!! – Valentine Derrey (@Val\_Derrey)

**Of note…**Ulrika Van-Niekerk had a hole-in-one on the 136 yard par-3 17th with a 7-iron.