



August 9, 2011

Stony Plain, AB -

With one swing of his driver, Mike Belbin gave himself all of the cushion he needed to win his second consecutive Golf Supply House PGA of Alberta Assistants' Championship today at the Stony Plain GC. After three-putting the par-5 15th for bogey and then making another bogey on the par-4 16th, Belbin drove the par-4 17th, hitting his tee shot to a mere 8 feet and then making the putt for an eagle and an eventual three-shot victory over Darryl James of the National Golf Academy at McCall Lake.

A day that began with high hopes for a great battle between two of Alberta's finest Professional players ended up being just that as Belbin tried to hold off a hard-charging James throughout the back nine. Each time Belbin expanded his lead to two or more shots, James would battle back or Belbin would make a mistake that kept the two players close. It wasn't until that defining drive on the 17th that Belbin was able to finally put the finishing touches on his second consecutive Assistants' Championship title and his third in five years.

With their finishes today, Belbin and James clinch the first two spots on Team Alberta for the Canadian PGA Assistants' Championship in Hamilton, Ontario in the third week of September. Those two players will be joined by the two highest finishers on the PGA of Alberta Overall Order of Merit as of the end of the PGA of Alberta Tour Championship at the beginning of September in Jasper.

Jamie Gerlitz of the Lacombe G&CC put together an excellent tournament, shooting the low round of Day 2 with a 2-under 70 and finishing alone in third place at 3-under 141, four shots behind Belbin and one behind James. Gerlitz hit the shot of the day on the par-4 6th hole, hitting a driver that struck the flag before stopping a couple of inches away from a hole-in-one.

Jimmy Saran of the Paradise Canyon GR rounded out the top 4 players for the event and was the only other player under par for the two days, shooting an even-par 72 for a 1-under 143 total. Mark Corrigan of the Pinebrook G&CC and Scott Anderson of the River Bend GC finished in a tie for fifth place at even-par 144.

With his win today, Belbin pockets \$4,200, while James will take home \$2,800 for his second place finish.

For more information and photos, please visit our website at www.pgaofalberta.com or contact:

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