

## **NEW ZEALAND'S MOST PROMISING YOUNG GOLFERS RECEIVE HELPING HAND FROM THE TOP**

**New Zealand Golf has today announced the winners of the 2009 Michael Campbell Foundation scholarships, which will see three of the country's most promising amateur golfers receiving hands-on tuition, guidance and mentoring from Michael Campbell and his world renowned coach, Jonathan Yarwood, in England.**

Auckland's Larissa Eruera, Masterton's Ben Campbell and Wellington's Peter Spearman-Burn are the recipients of the 2009 Michael Campbell Foundation scholarships, which were established to better prepare New Zealand's top amateurs for successful professional careers.

The trio will travel to Yarwood's Academy base in England for a week in August where they will come under the watchful eye of one of the world's best coaches and spend time with Campbell, learning what it takes to reach the top in the sport.

"New Zealand Golf shares a vision with the Michael Campbell Foundation of wanting to see more New Zealand golfers succeed both at amateur level and as professionals on the international stage," said Bill MacGowan, CEO of New Zealand Golf.

"The Scholarships are a brilliant initiative which provide a truly remarkable opportunity for three of our elite amateur players each year. Michael is an icon of our sport and our country and we are delighted to be working closely with his Foundation on this initiative."

New Zealand Golf was overwhelmed with applications for the scholarships with applicants undergoing a rigorous process including full written presentations and interviews. The winners have already proven themselves in national and international competitions and are considered some of the best young amateurs in New Zealand.

Spearman-Burn, 19, (Miramar GC, coach Geoff Smart) is the current North Island and South Island Amateur champion, a semi-finalist in the recent New Zealand Amateur and a key member of the New Zealand team at the recent Southern Cross Cup.

Campbell, 17, (Masterton GC, coach Kevin Smith) was last year's New Zealand Under-23 Champion, beating off the challenge from Danny Lee on the final hole, as well as winner of the Aaron Baddeley International. Currently he is recovering from an injury that forced him to withdraw from the New Zealand Amateur.

Eruera, 17, (Aviation GC, coach Aaron Harding) was the 2006 New Zealand Amateur champion and last year had a string of impressive global finishes including T5 in the Callaway Junior Worlds in USA, T4 in the Jack Newton International and 8<sup>th</sup> in the Lake Macquarie International in Australia.

Bill McGowan continued: “The Michael Campbell Foundation has given our amateurs a truly remarkable chance, not only to receive guidance from a world class coach but even more importantly, to be able to spend personal time with Michael to learn what it takes to fulfil your dreams.”

Chairman of the Michael Campbell Foundation, Ken Douglas, commented: “The Michael Campbell Foundation seeks to inspire young New Zealanders to realise their full potential and support young New Zealanders who strive to dominate the world stage in their chosen field.

“This year’s Michael Campbell Foundation Scholarship winners are all outstanding golfing talents. They aspire to do great things in this sport and are single minded in their dedication to achieve their goals. Through the Foundation, we are pleased to be providing an opportunity for them to receive a unique cocktail of guidance, advice, mentoring and coaching and supporting them as they work towards achieving their dreams. We hope that spending time with Campbell and Yarwood will bring a whole new dimension to the subtleties of their game and give them an insight into life as a professional.”

The trio will travel to England in August and will partake in personal sessions and a round of golf with Campbell, with the chance to hear first-hand of what it takes to master the pressures of the Pro-Tour and succeed. They will also work with Yarwood, who will share techniques and methods he has learnt from some great players over the years, including potential new shots to add to their repertoire.

Yarwood said: “The three winners of the Michael Campbell Foundation scholarships are already accomplished players with excellent coaches. My philosophy is to work with them to make what they already do, more efficient, based on tried and tested methods that have produced results.”

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**The Michael Campbell Foundation was established to inspire young New Zealanders to realise their full potential and enable them to dominate in their chosen field on the world stage.**

The Michael Campbell Foundation is based on a unique three-tier Talent Pyramid and supports organisations and initiatives which help to inspire young New Zealanders to realise their full potential. The first component of the Talent Pyramid, Basic Principles, is focused on encouraging healthy lifestyles so that more children are capable of ‘joining the game’. The second component, Discovering Talent, removes obstacles and inspires the identification and development of ability. The third component, Nurturing Excellence, is about realising ambition and is targeted at high performers. More information is available at [www.michaelcampbellfoundation.org](http://www.michaelcampbellfoundation.org).

More information on Jonathan Yarwood is available at [www.golfjy.com](http://www.golfjy.com)

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