



2026 Biltmore Championship Asheville
(1st of 8 FedExCup Fall Events)

The Cliffs at Walnut Cove
Asheville, North Carolina

September 17-20, 2026
Par/Yards: 35-36—71/7,249

FedExCup Points: 500 (winner)
Purse: \$5 million (\$900,000)

Pre-Tournament Information – 2026 Biltmore Championship Asheville

Player Interviews (all times ET and subject to change)

Tuesday, September 15

9:45 a.m. – Jacob Bridgeman

2 p.m. – Brendan Valdes

Wednesday, September 16 (9-hole pro-am)

After 8:21 a.m. pro-am – Nico Echavarria

After 8:43 a.m. pro-am – J.T. Poston

After 11:40 a.m. pro-am – Jackson Koivun

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Jacob Bridgeman

- Captain's Pick for the 2026 U.S. Presidents Cup Team; debut appearance
- PGA Tour wins (1): 2026 Genesis Invitational
- Inman, S.C. native has missed just one cut in 23 starts this season (PGA Championship) and totaled six top-10 finishes
- Finished the season No. 4 in the FedExCup standings; only player in the field who advanced to the TOUR Championship
- Former Clemson University standout was the 2022 Atlantic Coast Conference Golfer of the Year and finished No. 2 in the PGA Tour University Class of 2022
- Ranked second in Clemson history in career stroke average (70.74), T1 in career victories (5) and first in rounds in the 60s (50)

Nico Echavarria (“etch-uh-vuh-REE-uh”)

- Captain's Pick for the 2026 International Presidents Cup Team; debut appearance
- Made the cut in 16 of 24 starts during the 2026 season, highlighted by his victory at the Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches
- Medellin, Colombia native finished the regular season No. 45 in the FedExCup standings
- PGA Tour wins (3): 2023 Puerto Rico Open, 2024 Baycurrent Classic, 2026 Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches

Jackson Koivun

- Captain's Pick for the 2026 U.S. Presidents Cup Team; debut appearance
- Winner of the 2026 3M Open by three strokes over Scottie Scheffler in his third start as a professional, becoming the youngest American player to win a PGA Tour event by multiple strokes since 1932 (Ralph Guldahl/WM Phoenix Open)
- Prior to turning professional this June, spent 56 consecutive weeks ranked No. 1 in World Amateur Golf Ranking, the third-longest reign in history, only behind Keita Nakajima (87 weeks) and Jon Rahm (60 weeks)
- Accepted PGA Tour membership in 2026 via PGA Tour University Accelerated; became the third player to earn a Tour card through the Accelerated program, joining Vanderbilt's Gordon Sargent and Florida State's Luke Clanton
- Led Auburn to team national titles at the 2024 and 2026 NCAA Championships and finished his collegiate career with 11 wins, which ranks first in Auburn history, tied for first in SEC history, and tied for seventh in NCAA history
- Became the first player in collegiate golf history to win all three Player of the Year awards twice (Haskins, Hogan, Nicklaus) – first as a freshman in 2024 and again as a junior in 2026

J.T. Poston

- Hickory, N.C. native, Western Carolina University alum, and a member at The Cliffs at Walnut Cove
- Made the cut in 15 of 21 starts during the 2026 season and recorded two top-10 finishes, highlighted by a win at the Memorial Tournament presented by Workday and T4 at the U.S. Open
- In his 10th year on Tour, qualified for the Playoffs for the eighth straight season, finishing No. 32 in the FedExCup standings
- PGA Tour wins (4): 2019 Wyndham Championship, 2022 John Deere Classic, 2024 Shriners Children's Open, 2026 Memorial Tournament presented by Workday

Brendan Valdes (“VAL-dess”)

- Sponsor exemption is making his first PGA Tour-sanctioned start since beating primary mediastinal lymphoma earlier this year; stepped away from golf in January after the diagnosis, entered remission in June and was declared cancer-free by the end of the month
- No. 2 in the PGA Tour University Class of 2025 at Auburn University where he was teammates with Jackson Koivun on the 2024 National Championship winning team
- Via his top-10 finish in PGA Tour University, earned Korn Ferry Tour status for the remainder of the 2025 season after turning professional; in 11 starts on the Korn Ferry Tour that season, recorded four made cuts and one top-10 finish
- Made the cut in three of five starts on the PGA Tour, including all three as a professional (best finish: T20/2025 3M Open)

Biltmore Championship Asheville notes

- The inaugural Biltmore Championship Asheville will be contested at The Cliffs at Walnut Cove, the PGA Tour’s first event in Asheville in more than 80 years; with roots dating back to the Asheville Land of the Sky Open, where Ben Hogan won three consecutive titles from 1940-42, the championship reconnects the region with its PGA Tour history while introducing a new era of professional golf in the Blue Ridge Mountains
- Nearly two years after Hurricane Helene, the Biltmore Championship Asheville offers an opportunity to highlight the strength, resilience and continued recovery of Western North Carolina, with much of the championship’s charitable and community impact being directed toward ongoing revitalization efforts throughout the region
- Set against the Blue Ridge Mountains and bordering Pisgah National Forest, The Cliffs at Walnut Cove (designed by Jack Nicklaus) provides a dramatic stage for the inaugural Biltmore Championship Asheville and beginning of the 2026 FedExCup Fall
- The 132-player field includes:
 - Past FedExCup Champion: **Billy Horschel** (2014)
 - Six winners from the 2026 season: **Jacob Bridgeman** (Genesis Invitational), **J.T. Poston** (the Memorial Tournament presented by Workday), **Nico Echavarria** (Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches), **Jackson Koivun** (3M Open), **Steven Fisk** (ISCO Championship), **Ricky Castillo** (Puerto Rico Open)
 - 59 Tour winners (130 wins), led by **Billy Horschel** (8), **Webb Simpson** (7), **Tony Finau** (6), **Lucas Glover** (6), **Chris Kirk** (6)
 - Two major championship winners: **Lucas Glover**, **Webb Simpson**
 - Two players ranked inside the top 50 in the OWGR: **Jacob Bridgeman** (29), **J.T. Poston** (38)
 - Five players inside the top 50 in the FedExCup standings: **Jacob Bridgeman** (4), **J.T. Poston** (32), **Nico Echavarria** (45), **Ryo Hisatsune** (47), **Eric Cole** (50)
 - One player who advanced to the TOUR Championship: **Jacob Bridgeman** (4)
 - Four Sponsor Exemptions: **Carson Bertagnole**, **Tyler Jones**, **Brendan Valdes**, **Tyler Watts**
 - **Tyler Jones** – Western Carolina University senior making his Tour debut; won the 2025 J.T. Poston Invitational last September
 - **Carson Bertagnole** – University of North Carolina sophomore who was the 2025-26 ACC Freshman of the Year; Pinehurst, North Carolina native and No. 21 in the World Amateur Golf Ranking, making his second Tour start (2026 Puerto Rico Open)
 - **Tyler Watts** – University of Tennessee freshman and No. 3 in the World Amateur Golf Ranking; 18-year-old lefthander making his third start on Tour (made the cut at the 2025 Procore Championship and 2025 Butterfield Bermuda Championship)
 - Former Clemson University All-American and five-time PGA Tour winner **Jonathan Byrd** will make his 500th PGA Tour start

FedExCup Fall

- The 2026 Biltmore Championship Asheville opens the FedExCup Fall, a group of eight tournaments played after the TOUR Championship that finalizes eligibility for the 2027 PGA Tour Season
- Players look to secure their position inside the top 100 in the standings and become exempt on the PGA Tour for the 2027 season
- The FedExCup Fall also determines eligibility for early-season Signature Events, with Nos. 51-60 in the final FedExCup Fall standings earning spots in the 2027 AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am and 2027 Genesis Invitational.
- In addition to the event purse, winners of FedExCup Fall events receive:
 - 500 FedExCup points and Official World Golf Ranking points
 - Two-year PGA Tour exemption, which will earn them their card for the PGA Tour Championship Series in 2028
 - Invitations to THE PLAYERS Championship and PGA Championship

Presidents Cup

- Following the Biltmore Championship Asheville, the FedExCup Fall takes a one-week break for the 16th Presidents Cup to be contested at Medinah Country Club in Chicago
- Two U.S. Team members in the field: **Jacob Bridgeman**, **Jackson Koivun**
- Five International Team members in the field: **Christiaan Bezuidenhout**, **Corey Connors**, **Nico Echavarria**, **Ryo Hisatsune**, **Nick Taylor**
- Presidents Cup Captain’s Assistants in the field: **Webb Simpson** (U.S.), **Taylor Pendrith** (INT) and **Camilo Villegas** (INT)