



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)

First-Round Notes – Thursday, September 17, 2026

Weather: The start of the first round was delayed 40 minutes due to fog, beginning at 8 a.m. ET. Mostly sunny. High of 87. Wind variable 5-10 mph. Play was suspended due to darkness at 7:34 p.m., but all players ended up completing their round.

First-Round Leaderboard

Pos.	Player	R1
T1	Max Greyserman	64 (-7)
T1	Eric Cole	64 (-7)
T3	Ben Kohles	65 (-6)
T3	Chris Kirk	65 (-6)
T3	Mackenzie Hughes	65 (-6)
T3	Jackson Suber	65 (-6)
T3	Peter Malnati	65 (-6)
T3	Neal Shipley	65 (-6)

Max Greyserman (T1/-7)

- Opens with a 64, equaling his best opening round of the season; missed the cut at the Farmers Insurance Open (64-78)
- Marks his third first-round lead/co-lead; 0-for-2 to date (2024 Puerto Rico Open/T15, 2025 Baycurrent Classic/2nd)
- Five runner-up finishes in 78 PGA Tour starts, most recently at the 2025 Baycurrent Classic
- No. 103 in the FedExCup Fall standings after logging one top-10 in 23 starts this year (T9/THE CJ CUP Byron Nelson)
- Played four seasons at Duke University (2013-17)

Eric Cole (T1/-7)

- Marks his fifth first-round lead/co-lead, including three this season; 0-for-4 to date (2025 Sony Open in Hawaii/5th, 2025 Sanderson Farms Championship/T9, 2026 RBC Canadian Open/MC, 2026 Travelers Championship/T38)
 - Players with three or more first-round leads/co-leads this season: Rory McIlroy (4), Min Woo Lee (3), Wyndham Clark (3), J.J. Spaun (3), Cole (3)
- Three runner-up finishes in 130 PGA Tour starts: 2023 Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches, 2023 Baycurrent Classic, 2026 Charles Schwab Challenge/playoff loss to Russell Henley
- Is one of five players in the field who finished the season ranked in the top 50 in the FedExCup standings: **Jacob Bridgeman** (4), **J.T. Poston** (32), **Nico Echavarria** (45), **Ryo Hisatsune** (47), **Eric Cole** (49)

Additional player notes

- In his 21st start this season, **Neal Shipley** (T3/-6) opens with a 65, the best first-round score of his rookie campaign
- Inman, S.C. native and former Clemson University standout **Jacob Bridgeman** (T9/-5), the only player in the field who advanced to the Tour Championship, opens with a 5-under 66
- In his 500th start on the PGA Tour, **Jonathan Byrd** (T69/-1) posts a 1-under 70
- Opening-round scores of Presidents Cup participants in the field:
 - U.S. Team: **Jacob Bridgeman** (T9/-5), **Jackson Koivun** (T32/-3)
 - International Team: **Nick Taylor** (T17/-4), **Ryo Hisatsune** (T53/-2), **Corey Connors** (T69/-1), **Christiaan Bezuidenhout** (T112/+2), **Nico Echavarria** (T112/+2)
 - Captain's Assistants: **Taylor Pendrith** (T32/-3), **Camilo Villegas** (T69/-1), **Webb Simpson** (T90/Even)
- **Rasmus Højgaard** WD following the first round

Miscellaneous notes

- 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
- Due to heavy rainfall and high temperatures in Western North Carolina creating challenging agronomic conditions during the final phases of tournament preparation, preferred lies will be in effect all four rounds at the Biltmore Championship Asheville