



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)

Third-Round Notes – Saturday, September 19, 2026

Weather: Mostly sunny. High of 84. Wind NNE 5-10 mph.

Due to forecasted thunderstorms Sunday, final-round tee times will run from 7:43 – 9:55 a.m. ET in groups of three off Nos. 1 and 10.

Third-Round Leaderboard

Pos.	Player	R1	R2	R3	Total
1	Neal Shipley	65	62	65	192 (-21)
2	Ben Kohles	65	63	65	193 (-20)
T3	Eric Cole	64	68	64	196 (-17)
T3	Ricky Castillo	69	62	65	196 (-17)

Neal Shipley (1st/-21)

- PGA Tour rookie holds his first career 54-hole lead/co-lead
 - Previous best 54-hole position: T4, 2024 ISCO Championship (finished T6)
- Only player bogey free through 54 holes; prior to this week, recorded bogey-free cards in five of 99 rounds
- Seeking to become the first Tour winner to play 72 holes without a bogey (or worse) since Tom Kim (2022 Shriners Children's Open)
- A victory Sunday would come at the age of 25 years, 8 months, 28 days in his 33rd start
- Clinches a career-best 54-hole score of 192 (previous: 198, 2024 ISCO Championship)
- Leads the field in SG: Putting (8.625) and Scrambling (13/13)
- No. 183 in the FedExCup Fall standings after just eight made cuts in 20 starts (best finish: T38, ONEflight Myrtle Beach Classic)
- Earned PGA Tour membership for the first time by finishing No. 4 on the 2025 Korn Ferry Tour Points List
- Owns three career top-25 finishes on Tour, all coming in 2024 as a sponsor exemption at the ISCO Championship (T6), Procore Championship (T13) and Rocket Classic (T20)
- 25-year-old turned professional in 2024 after playing at James Madison University (2019-22) and Ohio State University (2022-24)

Ben Kohles (2nd/-20)

- Trails Neal Shipley by one stroke following a third-round 6-under 65, highlighted by three birdies in his final four holes
- Third time this season entering the final round inside the top three: John Deere Classic (T3/finished T3), 3M Open (T2/finished 9th)
- Marks career-best 54-hole score of 193 (previous best: 196, 2024 CJ CUP Byron Nelson/2nd, 2026 3M Open/9th)
- A victory Sunday would come at the age of 36 years, 6 months, 27 days
- No. 96 in the FedExCup standings, owns two top-10 finishes in 12 starts this season (T3/John Deere Classic, 9th/3M Open)
- Five-time Korn Ferry Tour winner seeking his first PGA Tour title in his 125th career start (best finish: 2nd/2024 CJ CUP Byron Nelson)

Additional notes

- **Eric Cole** (T3/-17) leads the field with 21 birdies, including six in his final eight holes en route to a third-round 7-under 64; seeking his first win, with three runner-up finishes in 130 starts
- **Ricky Castillo** (T3/-17) entered the week No. 69 in the FedExCup standings with two top-10s this season, highlighted by his first PGA Tour title at the Puerto Rico Open; with a victory on Sunday, would become the sixth multiple winner of the season (Wyndham Clark, Matt Fitzpatrick, Scottie Scheffler, Chris Gotterup, Cameron Young)
- Clemson alum **Jacob Bridgeman** (T5/-16) sits inside the top five on the leaderboard entering the final round for the third time this season and first since The Genesis Invitational in February, which he went on to win for his maiden Tour title
- Seeking his first win in his 79th career start, **Max Greyserman** (T5/-16) owns five runner-up finishes since joining the Tour in 2024, the most by any player without a victory during that span
- Playing in the same group, **Haotong Li** (T7/-15/third-round 61) and **Johnny Keefer** (T11/-14/third-round 62) post career-low rounds; both had previously shot 63: Li (twice; most recently at the 2022 Sony Open in Hawaii/R1) and Keefer (2026 CJ CUP Byron Nelson/R4)
- Leaderboard positions of Presidents Cup players remaining in the field:
 - U.S. Team: **Jacob Bridgeman** (T5/-16), **Jackson Koivun** (T7/-15)
 - International Team: **Nick Taylor** (T59/-6), **Corey Connors** (T68/-5)
- Due to heavy rainfall and high temperatures in Western North Carolina creating challenging agronomic conditions during the final phases of tournament preparation, preferred lies are in effect all four rounds at the Biltmore Championship Asheville