

SHANKS and FLOPS – 2026.11

Gentleman John Gino Claims the Crown as LaTourette's 2026 Club Champion in Dominant Fashion

The LaTourette 2026 Club Championship is officially in the books, and it belongs decisively to first-year member John Gino, who stormed through Championship Sunday with 11 pars, 1 birdie, and a momentum shifting eagle en-route to a field-crushing 74. Gentleman John's three-round total of 231 left him seven clear of newcomer Brian Foley, and according to sources, "this one was over early."

A-FLIGHT:

The Chin Survives Himself to Win A-Flight Title

In the A-Flight, Vin DiCrescento found himself in the final group with a chance to make history, but instead authored an 88 that nearly opened the door for the field. Still, the "Chin" did just enough, hanging on by two shots over Al Sala to secure the title.

B-FLIGHT:

Arena Obliterates the Field With Record 34-Shot Victory

There was no drama in the B-Flight. Lawrence Arena delivered a wire-to-wire demolition, posting a steady 83 on Sunday to win by a jaw dropping 34 shots, the largest margin in club history. Guy Pennisi finished runner-up.

2026 CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP RESULTS:

2026 CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP					
PLAYER	RD 1	RD 2	TOTAL	RD 3	TOTAL
Gino, John	76	81	157	74	231
Foley, Brian	76	82	158	80	238
Piazza, Rich	78	81	159	81	240
Delin, Eric	80	84	164	78	242
Padilla, Andrew	83	80	163	81	244
Dicrescento, Vin	78	81	159	88	247
Sala, Al	85	84	169	80	249
Fareri Jr, Jim	87	91	178	81	259

Pallotta Jr., Joe	84	84	168	92	260
Kelly, John	96	85	181	90	271
Nelson, Eric	81	DNS	200		
Kinlock, Jack	86	DNS	200		
2026 CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP - A-FLIGHT					(7 - 13.9)
PLAYER	RD 1	RD 2	TOTAL	RD 3	TOTAL
Dicrescento, Vin	78	81	159	88	247
Sala, Al	85	84	169	80	249
Grunlund, Mark	86	82	168	88	256
Fareri Jr, Jim	87	91	178	81	259
Pallotta Jr., Joe	84	84	168	92	260
Kelly, John	96	85	181	90	271
Pirrone, John	95	96	191	88	279
Eller, Dave	90	85	175	NC	
Scaglione, John	88	86	174	DNS	
Arena, Sal	88	92	180	DNS	
Garland, John	83	DNS			
2026 CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP - B-FLIGHT					(14. - 22)
PLAYER	RD 1	RD 2	TOTAL	RD 3	TOTAL
Arena, Lawrence	88	82	170	83	253
Pennisi, Guy	94	90	184	103	287
Falcone, Mike	101	98	199	106	305
Ricciardi, Jack	98	97	195	DNS	
Berardi, Tony	104	108	212	DNS	
Sciandra, Dom	87	DNS			
DeMartino, Len	NC				
Lally, Tom	NC				

PRESIDENT’S CORNER:

Delin Praises Smooth Championship, And Thanks the Golf Gods the Chin Didn’t Win

Post-round, Club President Eric Delin summed up the weekend with a grin: “Overall it was a nice event. The weather held up, no drama, no rain, no rulings, and no ‘Chin’. It would have killed me to put his name on the plaque.”

QUOTA GAME:

Fareri Jr. Takes Overall Quota; McDonald, Sala, and Fareri Sr. Win Nines

Due to late changes, Sunday’s game shifted to Individual Quota.

OVERALL

1. Jim Fareri Jr. (+3)
2. Lawrence Arena (+2)
3. Al Sala (+1)
4. John Gino (E), Dominick Sciandra (E)

FRONT NINE

1. John McDonald (+3)
2. Arena (+2)
3. Fareri Jr. (+2)
4. Sciandra (+2)

BACK NINE

1. Sala (+3)
2. Jim Fareri Sr. (+2)
3. Fareri Jr. (+1), Foley (+1), Piazza (+1)

Par 3/5 Winners: Eric Delin & Mike Falcone (14 pts)

A healthy mix of elite and not-so-elite players proved once again that handicap golf keeps the field competitive.

ROUND HIGHLIGHTS:

Delin Fires 78, Fareri Jr. Nets 69, and Only Two Players Break 80

Beyond Gino's stellar 74:

- Eric Delin overcame three doubles with four birdies to post the day's second-best score, a 78.
- Jim Fareri Jr. made every knee knocker inside three feet, shooting 81 for a net 69.
- Al Sala's 80 earned him a slippery A-Flight runner-up spot and a net 71.
- Arena's 83 netted him 70.
- Only two players broke 80, and only four shot par or better with handicap.

FROM THE PATIO:

Lenny Watch Reaches Crisis Levels as Dough Boy Logs Another Pair of Sixes

The Lenny Watch continues. Dough Boy delivered another 6 on the 12th to go along with 6 on 16, prompting whispers that nephew Big Dom may need to donate a spare set of irons. Lenny took so many swings coming in that he was later spotted asleep with a Modelo in one hand and a cigar in the other.



Meanwhile, The Freak, Jim Bones Sr., continues to amaze at the age 88, with three rods in his back, a pig valve, bone-on-bone knees, a popping bicep tendon, and a recent fall from bed, somehow fired 42 on the back to salvage a 91. Legend status confirmed.

TEE TALK:

Blue Tee Boys Proves the Point - Let Them Play Their Tees

Based on the Championship results, the Blue Tee regulars rose to the top. The writer stands firm: Let the boys play the tees they normally play. Nobody's stealing thunder out here.

HOUSEKEEPING HEADLINE:

Zuntag Classic Deadline Tonight; Club Outing Set for August 9

- **Steve Zuntag Classic**
 - Fri 6/19 – South Shore
 - Sat 6/20 – Silver Lake
 - Sun 6/21 – LaTourette
 - Gross & Net, Men's & Senior Divisions
 - Cost: \$220 for all three rounds
 - Deadline: TONIGHT (Wed 6/17)

- **Club Outing**
 - Sunday, August 9 – Nob Hill
 - Cost: \$100 for members
 - Club dues will subsidize green fees & game
 - Possible after-party at Tommy Lally's house

\$ Hole and Par 3/5 standings tightening up.