

SHANKS and FLOPS – 2026.09

HEAVY ROUGH, LOST BALLS, AND FIVE-HOUR GRINDS DEFINE ROUND 1 OF THE 2026 CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP

The heavy rough and ball-down conditions stole the spotlight on Sunday as Round 1 of the 2026 Club Championship got underway. The boys hit the tee at 7:00 AM, and by the time Group 3 teed off at 7:30 and reached the turn at 9:45, it was clear the course was going to dictate the pace. They rallied for a quicker back and finished at 12:30, a clean five hours.

Group 1, however, wasn't as fortunate; the Sean Hicks Groups slowed the threesome to a crawl. Thick rough made finding balls a chore, and the "ball down" rule only amplified the challenge. A few complaints surfaced, but let's be honest: if you complained Sunday, you're campaigning for ball in hand year-round. We hear Pickles in Ocean City runs a Nine-Ball Tournament that allows ball in hand, year round for all but the Chin who is banned.

The committee is working this week on a solution.

3-MAN TEAM GAME RESULTS

(Net 2 Ball on Par 4s, Net 3 Ball on Par 3s & 5s)

OVERALL

1st — Rich Piazza, Vin DiCrescento, Mike Falcone (90 pts)

2nd — Brian Foley, Tom Lally, Dom Sciandra (87 pts)

3rd — John Garland, Jim Fareri Jr., Guy Pennisi (84 pts)

FRONT NINE

1st — Piazza, DiCrescento, Falcone (50 pts)

2nd — Andrew Padilla, Mark Grunlund, Len DeMartino (45 pts)

BACK NINE

1st — Foley, Lally, Sciandra (45 pts)

2nd — Al Sala, Dave Eller, Lawrence Arena (44 pts)

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP — ROUND 1 LEADERBOARD

2026 CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP					
PLAYER	RD 1	RD 2	TOTAL	RD 3	TOTAL
Foley, Brian	76				
Gino, John	76				
Dicrescento, Vin	78				
Piazza, Rich	78				
Delin, Eric	80				
Nelson, Eric	81				
Padilla, Andrew	83				
Pallotta Jr., Joe	84				
Sala, Al	85				
Kinlock, Jack	86				
Fareri Jr, Jim	87				
Kelly, John	96				

2026 CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP - CHAMPIONSHIP FLIGHT					(0 - 6)
PLAYER	RD 1	RD 2	TOTAL	RD 3	TOTAL
Foley, Brian	76				
Gino, John	76				
Piazza, Rich	78				
Delin, Eric	80				
Nelson, Eric	81				
Padilla, Andrew	83				
Kinlock, Jack	86				
2026 CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP - A-FLIGHT					(7 - 13.9)
PLAYER	RD 1	RD 2	TOTAL	RD 3	TOTAL
Dicrescento, Vin	78				
Garland, John	83				
Pallotta Jr., Joe	84				
Sala, Al	85				
Grunlund, Mark	86				
Fareri Jr, Jim	87				
Arena, Sal	88				
Scaglione, John	88				
Eller, Dave	90				
Pirrone, John	95				
Kelly, John	96				
2026 CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP - B-FLIGHT					(14. - 22)
PLAYER	RD 1	RD 2	TOTAL	RD 3	TOTAL
Sciandra, Dom	87				
Arena, Lawrence	88				
Pennisi, Guy	94				
Ricciardi, Jack	98				
Falcone, Mike	101				
Berardi, Tony	104				
DeMartino, Len	NC				
Lally, Tom	NC				

Two rookies Foley and Gino sit atop the Championship Flight with a 2-shot lead over A-Flight's Vin DiCrescento (78), who played steady all day.

A-Flight:

- DiCrescento leads by **5** over John Garland (83), who is searching for the old magic.

B-Flight:

- Rookie Dom Sciandra posts a career-ish 87 to lead by 1 over Lawrence Arena (88).
 - Dom made sure to clarify post-round that 87 is **not** his low round as he shot 83 at Lakewood Gold Tees, which sources tell us is equivalent to Manor Road Mini Golf with no highway wind.
 - He also noted he spent plenty of time walking around looking for other players' balls. "The Balls on this Guy"
 - Confidence is high... but he's not signed up for Round 2..... Stay Tuned

FROM THE PATIO

The Slushy King, Treasurer Tom Aldycki, was in peak form. When the stories shift to Weddings, Sweet 16s, Sanitation, and Vegas, you know he's feeling right. He wants to tee it up with the boys the same way he wants to devour a Tomahawk Steak for two.

Slushy Lab Update: Aldycki was mixing flavors like a mad scientist. Tom Lally transitioned from beers and Jamo shots on the Lake Veranda to beer and slushies on the patio. Let's just say the drive home from Jersey wasn't as smooth as usual. Excellent work by the Pond.

From the Gym: John Kelly officially deactivated his membership; he's now on the Abs shot, pairing nicely with his diabetes shot.

Fareri Sr. allowed Bones to stay for post-round festivities longer than usual, but only because the Sunday sauce was made on Saturday.

Pallotta Jr. is close to finding it again. Shot 84 with a few loose swings, while Papa Pallotta gave lessons like it was 1991.

LENNY WATCH

Recorded a 5 on Hole 12, but if you want to see where he was hitting from, ask Richie, who was standing on 14, waiting for Lenny to clear his airspace.

There were three 10s recorded — none by Lenny. Bones Jr. contributed to one of them with two unplayable lies on Hole 4.

A GREAT DAY, MOSTLY

Despite the rough, the pace, the lost balls, and some questions, it was a great day for most of the field. Round 2 awaits and so do the committee's solutions.