



THE NEW JERSEY BALL STRIKERS NEWSLETTER

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SHIPPEN CUP LEADERBOARD

PLAYER	RANK	POINTS
DeLano Bonner	1	92.5
Anthony Darby	2	85
Terry Carothers	3	80
Bruce Arthur	T4	65
Greg Whitaker	T4	65
Tony Jenkins	T6	60
Larry Jones	T6	60
Joe McLaughlin	8	55
Perry Medina	9	52.5
Errol Blake	10	50
Greg Cavanaugh	11	45
Mike Conrad	T12	40
Earl Fraser	T12	40
George Thomas	T12	40

RIVERVIEW TOP GROSS

Tony Jenkins	85
DeLano Bonner	87
Anthony Darby	88
Larry Jones	88
Greg Ward	90

Darby dodges raindrops to win season's first major



(left to right) Delano Bonner, Anthony Darby and Larry Jones topped the leaderboard at Riverview

Another 2025 Ball Striker event and another serious rain threat. Are you kidding me? Three events so far this season and each one with a real possibility of being cancelled. In this case, the decision was to play. It's not raining when the first group tees off, but due to heavy storms the day before, the course is waterlogged. There are many areas of standing water on fairways but the greens are in okay shape. And, of course, the dreaded CPO (cart path only) is in effect.

There were several instances of light rain during the round; just enough to be a nuisance. You know the drill. It

starts to rain, so you put on your rain suit and pull out your umbrella. By the time you're ready to play, it stops raining. By the next hole the sun is out and you're burning up in your rain gear. So you take it off. Four holes later, it starts to rain again and you repeat the drill.

None of this seemed to bother Ball Striker vet, Anthony Darby. He shot net 73 to easily win the stroke play competition. Darby also won his individual match to record 80 points for his day's work. Yeah, that's right, 80 points. I don't think I mentioned before that this was a MAJOR event. Double points awarded.

Larry Jones and Ball Striker rookie, DeLano Bonner, each shot net 77 for a T2 finish in stroke play. Greg Whitaker finished fourth at net 78 and Terry Carothers and Greg Ward claimed T5's at net 79.

Nothing moves the overall Shippen Cup standings like a major event, and this was no exception. DeLano Bonner's second place finish at Riverview propelled him to first place in the overall Shippen Cup. Darby's event win moved him from oblivion to second place. So take notice, high event finishes put you in contention. If you bring your "A" game, it can happen to you.

Sandbagging vs Artificially Lowering Handicaps in Golf

Understanding the Impact on Fair Play and Competition

From the outset, the following comments are not intended to shine a light on any one person, it actually may be 2 or 3 players that wear tight shoes.....LOL.

What is Sandbagging in Golf?

Sandbagging refers to the act of intentionally inflating one's handicap to gain an unfair advantage in competitive play. A sandbagger, therefore, deliberately underreports their skill level during casual rounds or practice sessions, creating a higher handicap index. When participating in tournaments or competitive games, this inflated handicap allows them to outperform their declared level, often leading to skewed results in their favor.

How Sandbagging Works

Sandbagging typically involves a golfer playing poorly during recorded rounds or manipulating scores to appear less skilled than they truly are. This strategy enables the golfer to qualify for a higher handicap bracket, giving them strokes they wouldn't normally need during competitive play. As a result, sandbaggers are often able to post extraordinary scores relative to their inflated handicap, dominating tournaments unfairly and claiming prizes that were meant for players whose handicaps genuinely reflected their ability.

What Does Artificially Lowering a Handicap Entail?

On the opposite end of the spectrum is the practice of artificially lowering one's handicap, which involves exaggerating one's abilities to appear more skilled than they truly are. Unlike sandbagging, this manipulation can result in a handicap that is too low, often leaving the golfer unable to perform to the expectations set by their reported index.

Reasons for Artificially Lowering a Handicap

Golfers may artificially lower their handicap for a variety of reasons:

- Prestige:** A lower handicap is often associated with greater skill, and some golfers may feel pressure to appear highly proficient, particularly in social or professional settings.
- Membership Requirements:** Certain golf clubs or tournaments may impose stricter handicap limits, prompting players to alter their index in order to qualify.
- Peer Group Dynamics:** Within competitive circles, golfers may feel the need to "keep up" with their peers, leading to unrealistic declarations of skill.

The Challenges of an Artificially Low Handicap

Submitted by Anonymous (New Ball Striker columnist – You'll never guess who)



A golfer with a falsely low handicap is likely to struggle in competitions, consistently underperforming against their declared level. This can lead to frustration, embarrassment, and a diminished enjoyment of the game.

Comparing the Two Practices

Impact on Competitions

Both sandbagging and artificially lowering handicaps disrupt the fairness of competitive play, albeit in different ways. Sandbagging undermines the system by enabling players to win through deceit, while artificially lowering handicaps can expose players to undue pressure and often contribute to skewed results that do not reflect true skill levels.

Community Perception

Players who engage in either practice risk damaging their reputation within the golfing community. Sandbaggers are often criti-

cized for exploiting the system, while those with artificially low handicaps may face skepticism and doubt regarding their authenticity.

Golf's Ethical Foundation

The essence of golf lies in its adherence to honesty and self-regulation. Both practices contradict this core principle, weakening the trust that is fundamental to the sport. Whether a golfer inflates or deflates their handicap, the result is a departure from the values of integrity and fairness.

Conclusion

The handicap system is a cornerstone of golf's tradition of fairness and inclusivity. While sandbagging and artificially lowering handicaps represent two distinct ways in which this system can be exploited, both practices highlight the importance of integrity in the sport. By fostering a community committed to honesty and respect, golfers can preserve the values that make the game truly exceptional.

Whether you are an amateur or a seasoned immature golfer, the true spirit of golf lies in embracing its challenges with honesty and dedication. After all, the game is not merely a test of skill but a testament to character/lack of, camaraderie, and the pursuit of Walter Mitty envisioned excellence.



"My handicap? I'm a poor loser."



"I'M NOT ASKING YOU FOR A ROUGH ESTIMATE!
I WANT AN EXACT NUMBER!"

Match Play Results

Riverview Major Event 5/31/2025, Individual Match Play Results					
Match	Points	Team/Player A	Team/Player B	Points	Match
5 & 3	20	Rucker, Donald	Woolfolk, Raymond		
		Ward, Greg	Jones, Larry	20	3 & 1
		Smith, Allen	Blake, Errol	20	3 & 2
		Jenkins, Tony	Bonner, DeLano	20	3 & 1
		Conrad, Michael	Darby, Anthony	20	8 & 7
2 & 1	20	Carothers, Terrell	Thomas, George		
Tied	10	Medina, Perry	Williams, David	10	Tied
		Cavanaugh, Gregory	McLaughlin, Joe	20	4 & 2
Tied	10	Arthur, Bruce	Fraser, Earl	10	Tied
		Weekes, George	Whitaker, Greg	20	1 & 0
		White, Eli	Holloway, Joseph	20	Default

Green background = Match WIN

Pink background = Match LOSS

Blue background = Match TIE

Yellow background = odd man in Odd Man Match

Net Stroke Play Results

Riverview Major Event, 5/31/2025, Net Stroke Play Results				
Pos.	Player	To Par Net	Total Net	Points
1	Darby, Anthony	1	73	60
T2	Bonner, DeLano	5	77	35
T2	Jones, Larry	5	77	35
4	Whitaker, Greg	6	78	20
T5	Carothers, Terrell	7	79	20
T5	Ward, Greg	7	79	20
7	Jenkins, Tony	8	80	20
T8	McLaughlin, Joe	9	81	20
T8	Blake, Errol	9	81	20
10	Weekes, George	10	82	20
T11	Conrad, Michael	11	83	10
T11	Smith, Allen	11	83	10
T13	Cavanaugh, Gregory	13	85	10
T13	Rucker, Donald	13	85	10
T13	Medina, Perry	13	85	10
T16	Arthur, Bruce	14	86	10
T16	Williams, David	14	86	10
18	Fraser, Earl	15	87	10
19	Thomas, George	18	90	10
20	Woolfolk, Raymond	21	93	10
21	Holloway, Joseph	30	102	10

Gross Hole by Hole

Riverview Event 5/31/2025 Ranked by GROSS																											
RANK	NAME	TEE	HOLE		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	OUT	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	IN	TOT	HDC	NET
			PAR	4	4	5	3	4	3	5	4	4	5	4	4	36	4	4	3	5	3	4	4	4	5	36	72
1	Jenkins, Tony	WHT	7.3	5	6	6	5	6	3	5	3	5	44	5	4	4	6	3	5	5	5	5	4	41	85	5	80
2	Bonner, DeLano	WHT	12	5	7	6	3	5	4	5	4	5	44	4	4	4	7	4	5	4	5	6	6	43	87	10	77
3	Darby, Anthony	WHT	17.4	5	3	6	3	4	4	4	5	6	40	4	5	3	9	4	6	5	6	6	6	48	88	15	73
3	Jones, Larry	WHT	13.1	5	5	7	5	5	4	4	8	5	48	4	4	3	6	3	7	4	4	5	5	40	88	11	77
5	Ward, Greg	WHT	13	5	8	5	3	5	5	6	4	6	47	5	4	4	7	2	6	4	5	6	6	43	90	11	79
6	Carothers, Terrell	WHT	14.7	6	5	5	4	5	5	7	3	5	45	6	5	4	8	5	5	4	4	5	5	46	91	12	79
6	Medina, Perry	WHT	8.5	4	7	6	3	6	5	5	4	8	48	5	4	4	7	4	5	5	4	5	5	43	91	6	85
8	Williams, David	WHT	10.1	5	4	6	5	5	4	4	8	5	46	7	5	4	8	3	4	7	4	6	6	48	94	8	86
9	Smith, Allen	WHT	14.3	5	5	7	3	4	4	7	6	5	46	7	4	4	7	6	6	6	4	5	5	49	95	12	83
10	McLaughlin, Joe	WHT	18.1	5	6	6	5	5	4	5	5	4	45	5	7	4	7	3	6	6	8	6	6	52	97	16	81
11	Blake, Errol	WHT	18.9	7	8	5	5	5	4	5	6	5	50	6	6	5	7	4	5	4	5	6	6	48	98	17	81
11	Conrad, Michael	WHT	17.1	6	6	6	5	5	4	6	6	6	50	5	6	4	7	4	6	6	5	5	5	48	98	15	83
13	Cavanaugh, Gregory	WHT	17.5	6	5	7	4	5	4	5	6	6	48	7	4	6	6	4	6	8	5	6	6	52	100	15	85
13	Rucker, Donald	WHT	17.7	5	4	7	6	5	4	7	5	7	50	5	6	4	8	4	5	6	6	6	6	50	100	15	85
13	Weekes, George	WHT	20	7	5	6	3	5	6	6	7	7	52	4	4	4	7	3	6	6	7	7	7	48	100	18	82
16	Thomas, George	WHT	15.7	7	5	7	5	5	4	6	5	5	49	7	5	3	7	4	7	8	7	6	5	54	103	13	90
17	Whitaker, Greg	GLD	33.4	5	6	7	3	7	5	8	4	8	53	5	6	4	7	3	6	7	6	7	5	51	104	26	78
18	Arthur, Bruce	WHT	20.8	6	7	6	3	5	5	8	6	5	51	4	8	4	10	5	4	5	7	7	5	54	105	19	86
19	Fraser, Earl	WHT	25.2	8	8	7	4	6	4	7	5	6	55	5	8	5	7	4	8	4	7	7	5	55	110	23	87
19	Woolfolk, Raymond	WHT	19.4	6	7	8	6	6	6	5	6	6	56	5	5	6	9	4	8	6	5	6	5	54	110	17	93
21	Holloway, Joseph	GLD	39.8	6	8	9	6	9	6	9	7	6	66	6	6	5	8	5	8	8	8	8	8	62	128	26	102

Skins & Skills

RIVERVIEW SKINS & SKILLS, May 31, 2025

Gross Skins (skins pool = \$90)			
Player	Skins	Purse	Details
Darby, Anthony	2	\$30.00	Birdie on 2, Par on 5
Jenkins, Tony	2	\$30.00	Par on 6, Birdie on 18
Ward, Greg	1	\$15.00	Birdie on 14
Williams, David	1	\$15.00	Par on 15
Total Purse Allocated:\$90.00			
High Handicap Gross Skins (skins pool = \$80)			
Player	Skins	Purse	Details
Weekes, George	2	\$26.00	Bogey on 2, Par on 11
Arthur, Bruce	1	\$13.00	Par on 15
Blake, Errol	1	\$13.00	Par on 3
Whitaker, Greg	1	\$13.00	Par on 8
McLaughlin, Joe	1	\$13.00	Par on 9
Total Purse Allocated:\$78.00			

50/50 Errol Blake \$17

Skins

5/31/2025																										
Riverview Event Gross Skins																		Total HC		Net						
NAME	TEE	PAR	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	OUT	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	IN	TOT	HDC	NET	
Carothers, Terrell	WHT	14.7	6	5	5	4	5	5	7	3	5	45	6	5	4	8	5	5	4	4	4	5	36	72		72
Darby, Anthony	WHT	17.4	5	3	6	3	4	4	4	5	6	40	4	5	3	9	4	6	5	6	6	48	88	14.5	73	
Jenkins, Tony	WHT	7.3	5	6	6	5	6	3	5	3	5	44	5	4	4	6	3	5	5	5	4	41	85	5.89	79	
Jones, Larry	WHT	13.1	5	5	7	5	5	4	4	8	5	48	4	4	3	6	3	7	4	4	5	40	88	15	73	
Rucker, Donald	WHT	17.7	5	4	7	6	5	4	7	5	7	50	5	6	4	8	4	5	6	6	6	50	100	16.9	83	
Thomas, George	WHT	15.7	7	5	7	5	5	4	6	5	5	49	7	5	3	7	4	7	8	7	6	54	103	15.2	88	
Ward, Greg	WHT	13	5	8	5	3	5	5	6	4	6	47	5	4	4	7	2	6	4	5	6	43	90	16.4	74	
Weekes, George	WHT	20	7	5	6	3	5	6	6	7	7	52	4	4	4	7	3	6	6	7	7	48	100	12.5	87	
Williams, David	WHT	10.1	5	4	6	5	5	4	4	8	5	46	7	5	4	8	3	4	7	4	6	48	94			
Minimum Score			5	3	5	3	4	3	4	3	5		4	4	3	6	2	4	4	4	4	4				
# of min scores			6	1	2	3	1	1	3	2	5		3	4	3	2	1	1	3	3	3	1				

Riverview Event High Handicap Gross Skins																				Total HC		Net			
NAME	TEE	PAR	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	OUT	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	IN	TOT	HDC	NET
Arthur, Bruce	WHT	20.8	6	7	6	3	5	5	8	6	5	51	4	8	4	10	5	4	5	7	7	54	105	19	86
Blake, Errol	WHT	18.9	7	8	5	5	5	4	5	6	5	50	6	6	5	7	4	5	4	5	6	48	98	17	81
Fraser, Earl	WHT	25.2	8	8	7	4	6	4	7	5	6	55	5	8	5	7	4	8	4	7	7	55	110	23	87
Holloway, Joseph	GLD	39.8	6	8	9	6	9	6	9	7	6	66	6	6	5	8	5	8	8	8	8	62	128	26	102
McLaughlin, Joe	WHT	18.1	5	6	6	5	5	4	5	5	4	45	5	7	4	7	3	6	6	8	6	52	97	16	81
Weekes, George	WHT	20	7	5	6	3	5	6	6	7	7	52	4	4	4	7	3	6	6	7	7	48	100	18	82
Whitaker, Greg	GLD	33.4	5	6	7	3	7	5	8	4	8	53	5	6	4	7	3	6	7	6	7	51	104	26	78
Woolfolk, Raymond	WHT	19.4	6	7	8	6	6	6	5	6	6	56	5	5	6	9	4	8	6	5	6	54	110	17	93
Minimum Score			5	5	5	3	5	4	5	4	4		4	4	4	7	3	4	4	5	6				
# of min scores			2	1	1	3	4	3	3	1	1		2	1	4	5	3	1	2	2	3				

Event Statistics

250531 Riverview

Riverview Golf Club

Round 1 -- May 31, 2025

<u>Hole #</u>	<u>Yardage</u>	<u>Par</u>	<u>Stroke Avg</u>	<u>Hole Rank</u>	<u>Eagles</u>	<u>Birdies</u>	<u>Pars</u>	<u>Bogeys</u>	<u>D. Bogeys</u>	<u>Others</u>
1	310-311	4	5.67	5						
2	285-315	4	5.95	2	0	0	1	10	6	4
3	420-490	5	6.43	9	0	1	2	6	4	8
4	100-110	3	4.24	14	0	0	3	9	7	2
5	290-345	4	5.38	10	0	0	8	3	7	3
6	150-185	3	4.48	8	0	0	2	13	4	2
7	425-471	5	5.90	17	0	0	1	12	5	3
8	310-340	4	5.38	11	0	3	7	4	4	3
9	340-395	4	5.76	4	0	2	4	5	6	4
10	305-356	4	5.29	12	0	0	1	9	7	4
11	275-308	4	5.24	13	0	0	5	9	3	4
12	150-184	3	4.19	15	0	0	8	5	5	3
13	475-555	5	7.38	1	0	0	3	13	3	2
14	111-140	3	3.86	18	0	0	0	3	11	7
15	260-305	4	5.90	3	0	1	6	10	3	1
16	340-385	4	5.62	6	0	0	2	6	8	5
17	303-351	4	5.57	7	0	0	6	4	6	5
18	440-480	5	5.95	16	0	0	5	7	3	6
					0	1	5	10	4	1

<i>Holes</i>	<i>Yardage</i>	<i>Par</i>	<i>Stoke Avg</i>	<i>Eagles</i>	<i>Birdies</i>	<i>Pars</i>	<i>Bogeys</i>	<i>D. Bogeys</i>	<i>Others</i>
Out	2630-2962	36	49.19	0	6	29	71	50	33
In	2659-3064	36	49.00	0	2	40	67	46	34
Total	5289-6026	72	98.19	0	8	69	138	96	67



