

The 2025 Red Hoffman Cup Matches: Baltusrol Is Back!



(2025 Red Hoffman Cup Champion Club -- Baltusrol Golf Club (From left to right): Barnes Blake; Patrick Cooper; Ben Alcorn; Ryan Fountaine; Hoffman Cup Director Kevin Casey; Max Bischel; Baltusrol Captain Nick Desai; Mark Costanza, and Gregg Angelillo.)

Baltusrol Golf Club successfully defended its 2024 Hoffman Cup title with a commanding performance at venerable **Hollywood Golf Club**, capturing its fourth championship since 2012. Perennial contender **Arcola Country Club** finished second after hovering near the top of the leaderboard throughout the afternoon.

Baltusrol's eight-man squad posted an impressive 17-under-par 267, paced by Ryan Fountaine and Gregg Angelillo, yet the victory was anything but easy. Arcola, long one of the Cup's dominant forces, was clearly motivated after last year's narrow loss to Baltusrol at Bayonne. In a classy and determined response, the Paramus club fired a superb 15-under 269. Their balanced 67-67-67-68 performance would have captured most Hoffman Cup Finals, but the sheer strength of Baltusrol's lineup proved insurmountable.

Baltusrol’s dominance throughout the season foreshadowed the outcome. Captains John Roberts and Roddy McRae assembled a team that steamrolled preliminary play, earning 31.5 of a possible 36 points. The Finals roster featured two nationally ranked amateurs — Mark Costanza and newly crowned New Jersey State Amateur Champion Barnes Blake. Still, it was Gregg Angelillo and Baltusrol head professional Ryan Fontaine who delivered the decisive blow, combining for a sparkling 65 that set the tone for the day.

It bears noting that, between Baltusrol and Arcola, all eight sides broke 70 — a remarkable display of depth and precision on one of New Jersey’s most exacting courses. The level of play from both clubs suggests that future Finals will continue to be tightly contested affairs.

Montclair Golf Club finished third at 275, building on an impressive semifinal showing. **Deal Golf and Country Club**, seeded 23rd entering the 2025 season, continued its unlikely run with a strong 276. **Manasquan River Golf Club** rounded out the field at 279.

While Baltusrol lifted the Cup, Hollywood Golf Club was a star in its own right. With its heaving greens, bold bunkering, pristine conditioning, and storied history, Hollywood provided a fitting stage for championship golf. One finalist captured the sentiment perfectly: “Playing Hollywood is like playing golf in a really great museum.”

Our sincere thanks go to Hollywood Golf Club for its outstanding support of the Hoffman Cup Matches. Any opportunity to compete there is both a historical privilege and a sensory delight. At every turn, players are reminded of the great events and champions who came before them. A special thank you to General Manager Salil S. Bokil, whose thoughtful leadership ensured that everything — except the golf itself — ran effortlessly.

2025 Finals results are below. Complete 2025 intraroup/semifinal match results follow.

Hoffman Cup 2025 Finals

The Finals clubs include the four semifinalist winners (Arcola, Manasquan River, Deal, and Montclair) and the bye club, Baltusrol, which won the most overall points in group play.

2025 Red Hoffman Cup Matches Finals Saturday, July 12 @ Hollywood Golf Club			
Hole	Club; Team #	Players	Score
#1A	Baltusrol #1	Ryan Fontaine & Gregg Angelillo	65
	Arcola #1	Matt Adonnino & Grant Sturgeon	67

#1B	Manasquan River #1	Christopher Dymek* & Jimmy Webster	74
	Deal #1	John Browndorf & Patrick Scenna	69
#2	Montclair #1	Matt DeVito* & Peter Berman	67
	Baltusrol #2	Mark Costanza & Nick Desai*	69
#3	Arcola #2	Charlie Cummings & Trevor Randolph	67
	Manasquan River #2	Ethan Wall & Richard Fitzsimmons, Jr.	69
#4	Deal #2	Brian Hale & Derrick Scenna*	67
	Montclair #2	Cliff Lindholm & Carl Chidambaram	67
#5	Baltusrol #3	Ben Alcorn & Barnes Blake	67
	Arcola #3	Todd Shagin & Lucas Farmer	68
#6	Manasquan River #3	Jeremy Wall & Jack Stamberger	68
	Deal #3	Brian Hart & Greg Campanile	70
#7	Montclair #3	Charlie Maizel & Brad Fetner	75
	Baltusrol #4	Max Bischel & Patrick Cooper	66
#8	Arcola #4	Brendan Jonland & Mike O'Connell	67
	Manasquan River #4	Tommy DiTullio & Danny Kopp	68
#9	Deal #4	Pat Keenan & Rob Luethold	70
	Montclair #4	Alexander Frankel & Jack St. Leger	66
* = Team Captains			

Finals Totals: Baltusrol – 267 (-17); Arcola – 269 (-15); Montclair – 275 (-9); Deal – 276 (-8); Manasquan River – 279 (-5)



2025 Hoffman Cup – Groups and Early Matches

These intragroup matches, the preliminary matches leading up to the semifinal rounds, are played among four clubs. The club in each group with the highest point total at the end of the three matches moves on to the Semifinals. The club with the highest point total (Baltusrol) received an automatic bye into the Finals.

First Scheduled Matches

	First Matches
Group A	Baltusrol (11) v Beden's Brook (1); Knickerbocker (9.5) v Fairmount (2.5)
Group B	Arcola (8) v Bayonne (4); Rockaway River (10.5) v. Navesink (1.5)
Group C	Black Oak (9.5) v Ridge@ Back Brook (2.5); Canoe Brook (8.5) v North Jersey (3.5)
Group D	Hollywood (9) v Mountain Ridge (3); Fiddler's Elbow (4.5) v Mendham (7.5)
Group E	Upper Montclair (7) v Liberty National (5); Plainfield (5.5) v Deal (6.5)
Group F	Montclair (7.5) v Trump National (4.5); Rumson (6) v Metedeconk National (6)
Group G	Spring Brook (7.5) v Morris County (4.5); Hamilton Farm (6.5) v Spring Lake (5.5)
Group H	Essex County (7) v Somerset Hills (5); Echo Lake (3) v Manasquan River (9)
Group I	Forest Hill (7.5) v Essex Fells (4.5); Ridgewood (4.5) v Hackensack (7.5)

Second Scheduled Matches

	Second Matches
Group A	Baltusrol (9.5) v Fairmount (2.5); Knickerbocker (7.5) v Beden's Brook (4.5)
Group B	Arcola (5.5) v Navesink (6.5); Rockaway River (6.5) v Bayonne (5.5)
Group C	Black Oak (6.5) v North Jersey (5.5); Canoe Brook (12) v Ridge @ Back Brook (0)
Group D	Hollywood (6.5) v Mendham (5.5); Fiddler's Elbow (7.5) v Mountain Ridge (4.5)
Group E	Upper Montclair (4) v Deal (8); Plainfield (7) v Liberty National (5)

Group F	Montclair (6.5) v Metedeconk National (5.5); Rumson (5.5) v Trump National (6.5)
Group G	Spring Brook (8.5) v Spring Lake (3.5); Hamilton Farm (3.5) v Morris County (8.5)
Group H	Essex County (3.5) v Manasquan River (8.5); Echo Lake (5) v Somerset Hills (7)
Group I	Forest Hill (6.5) v Hackensack (5.5); Ridgewood (6.5) v Essex Fells (5.5)

Third Scheduled Matches

	Third Matches
Group A	Baltusrol (10) v Knickerbocker (2); Fairmount (2.5) v Beden's Brook (9.5)
Group B	Arcola (10.5) v. Rockaway River (1.5); Navesink (7.5) v. Bayonne (4.5)
Group C	Black Oak (5) v. Canoe Brook (7); North Jersey (8.5) v Ridge @ Back Brook (3.5)
Group D	Hollywood (6.5) v Fiddler's Elbow (5.5); Mendham (9) v Mountain Ridge (3)
Group E	Upper Montclair (8.5) v Plainfield (3.5); Deal (10.5) v Liberty (1.5)
Group F	Montclair (5) v Rumson (7); Metedeconk (5.5) v Trump National (6.5)
Group G	Spring Brook (7.5) v Hamilton Farm (4.5); Spring Lake (6) v Morris County (6)
Group H	Essex County (6) v Echo Lake (6); Manasquan River (7) v Somerset Hills (5)
Group I	Forest Hill (6) v Ridgewood (6); Hackensack (2.5) v Essex Fells (9.5)

Hoffman Cup Intragroup Final Results

Group A	Baltusrol (30.5) ; Knickerbocker (19); Beden's Brook (15); Fairmount (7.5)
Group B	Arcola (24.5) ; Rockaway River (18.5); Navesink (15); Bayonne (14)
Group C	Canoe Brook (27.5) ; Black Oak (21); North Jersey (17.5); Ridge @ Back Brook (6)
Group D	Hollywood (22) ; Mendham (22); Fiddler's Elbow (17.5); Mountain Ridge (10.5)
Group E	Deal (25) ; Upper Montclair (19.5); Plainfield (16); Liberty National (11.5)
Group F	Montclair (19) ; Rumson (18.5); Trump (17.5); Metedeconk (17)
Group G	Spring Brook (23.5) ; Morris County (19); Spring Lake (15); Hamilton Farm (14.5)
Group H	Manasquan River (24.5) ; Somerset Hills (17); Essex County (16.5); Echo Lake (14)
Group I	Forest Hill (20) ; Essex Fells (19.5); Ridgewood (17); Hackensack (15.5)

Hoffman Cup Semifinals

To join the bye team, **Baltusrol Golf Club**, for a spot in the Finals, the other eight teams standing at the conclusion of preliminary group play advanced to the semifinals. They concluded in a nailbiter between the neighbors at the Shore, with **Manasquan River Golf Club** squeaking by Hollywood, 7 to 5.

In addition to Manasquan River, **Deal Golf & Country Club** came from behind first to tie, then to defeat feisty Forest Hill Field Club on the second hole of sudden death. Number 4 seed **Arcola Country Club**, the Hoffman Cup's dominant club over the past decade, defeated a strong five-seed **Spring Brook Country Club** squad 9 to 3. Arcola's talented squad was clearly pointing to recover the Hoffman Cup, which took an extended Baltusrol vacation this winter from its usual cozy spot in the Arcola trophy case.

The other advancing squad was **Montclair Golf Club**, the semifinal's eighth seed (who just squeaked by with only 19 points in group play), which upset the Number 1 seed, **Canoe Brook Country Club**, 10.5 to 1.5. This one weekend, Canoe Brook could not capture the magic that it had over the group play, where it collected 27.5 points to earn the top seed. Another club with a strong Hoffman Cup record, it was great to have Montclair in the Finals field yet again.

Per usual, there was a variety of clubs in the Finals, with three 18-hole and two 36-hole clubs. The playoffs were unusual in that only one lower seed advanced; two or three underdogs usually make it through. What is significant is the presence of clubs from the Shore in the playoffs. Never had more than two Shore teams made the playoffs. This year, Deal, Hollywood, and Manasquan River played one extra match to get into the Finals; two made it through. Is this a trend?

The 2025 Hoffman Cup's was a great mixture of upsets and predictability, where even the most obvious favorites have to deploy their best squads to move forward in a well-balanced field.