



# CHICAGO RED STARS



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# 2016 MEDIA GUIDE

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>RED STARS DIRECTORY</b>	3
<b>ABOUT THE CLUB</b>	4
<b>CHICAGOLAND NATIVES</b>	6
<b>2016 SEASON AT TOYOTA PARK</b>	9
<b>STADIUM &amp; FACILITIES</b>	10
<b>TICKET INFORMATION</b>	11
<b>2016 SCHEDULE</b>	12
<b>2016 ROSTER</b>	14
<b>PLAYER BIOS</b>	16
<b>COACHES &amp; TECHNICAL STAFF</b>	54
<b>NWSL DIRECTORY</b>	58
<b>NWSL TEAMS &amp; MEDIA</b>	59
<b>NWSL SCHEDULE</b>	61
<b>NWSL RULES &amp; REGULATIONS</b>	66
<b>NWSL ROSTER RULES</b>	69
<b>NWSL MEDIA GUIDELINES</b>	85

# RED STARS DIRECTORY

## FRONT OFFICE

**OWNER:**  
ARNIM WHISLER

**GENERAL MANAGER:**  
ALYSE LAHUE

**VP SALES & MARKETING:**  
SCOTT KOSAK

**OPERATIONS DIRECTOR:**  
AMBER KLIMEK

**OPERATIONS & PARTNERSHIPS COORDINATOR:**  
MATT ZELEK

**COMMUNICATIONS & PARTNERSHIPS MANAGER:**  
JUSTYNE FREUD

**PARTNERSHIPS & MASCOT COORDINATOR:**  
ALEKS KANIA

**EQUIPMENT & OPERATIONS ASSISTANT:**  
KATIE FAREJ

**CREATIVE MANAGER:**  
JULIE ROCHELLE

**SALES EXECUTIVE:**  
LAUREN BARLOW

**SALES EXECUTIVE:**  
MANNY GOMEZ

**SALES EXECUTIVE & BOX OFFICE MANAGER:**  
LAUREN KENNEY

**COMMUNICATIONS CONSULTANT:**  
GUNNAR BERNDT

# ABOUT THE CLUB

The Chicago Red Stars are one of the longest tenured clubs in US women's soccer history. Established in 2007, the Chicago Red Stars began as one of seven teams competing in the Women's Professional Soccer (WPS), which was in existence from 2009 to 2011. Long-time Chicago Fire President and General Manager Peter Wilt, and WUSA coach and GM Marcia McDermott were brought in to solidify the team's roots in the new league. The first two Red Stars Head Coaches during the WPS years were Emma Hayes and Omid Namazi.

In 2011, under single owner Arnim Whisler, the Red Stars joined the Women's Premier Soccer League (WPSL), with Chicago native Rory Dames introduced as Head Coach. In addition to a few former WPS players, the team featured stars from the U-20 and U-23 U.S. Women's National Teams as well as other college standouts. The Red Stars finished the regular season with a 10-1 record, only to fall to the Orange County Waves in the championship match.

The following year, Chicago joined the WPSL Elite with seven other teams, including former WPS clubs Boston Breakers and Western New York Flash. Alyse LaHue returned as the club's second ever General Manager. In a league that was widely considered a step up from the WPSL, the Red Stars again reached the championship match. A hard-fought 1-1 draw with the Flash led to heartbreak, as the Red Stars suffered defeat in penalty kicks.

That same year, Head Coach Dames' side won the USASA's National Women's Cup.

In November 2012, it was announced that the National Women's Soccer League (NWSL) would be formed and start play the following spring. The Red Stars became part of a lineup of eight teams that also included Boston Breakers, FC Kansas City, Portland Thorns FC, Seattle Reign FC, Sky Blue FC, Washington Spirit and Western New York Flash.

The 2013 Chicago roster included Maribel Dominguez and Dinora Garza, who had been allocated to the Red Stars from the Mexican Football Federation (FMF), Erin McLeod and Carmelina Moscato from the Canadian Soccer Association (CSA), and Shannon Boxx from the U.S Women's National Team. The Red Stars finished sixth in the regular season standings in their inaugural NWSL campaign.

In 2014, the club bolstered its roster with such notable additions as USA star striker Christen Press, Canadian National Team veterans Karina LeBlanc and Melissa Tancredi, and first-round NWSL College Draft picks Vanessa DiBernardo and Julie Johnston. Players returning from the previous season included captain Lori Chalupny, midfielder-forward Alyssa Mautz, and defenders Michelle Wenino (now Lomnicki) and Jackie Santacaterina.

Over the course of 2014, the Red Stars were widely praised for their mature tactics and disciplined performances, as they conceded the second-fewest goals in the NWSL and showed plenty of promise, only to finish fifth and miss the playoffs in heartbreaking fashion. Tied on points with fourth-place Washington and boasting a far superior goal-differential, Chicago saw its postseason hopes evaporate by virtue of the head-to-head tiebreaker.

A number of Red Stars players had standout seasons, including defender Johnston, who took home the 2014 NWSL Rookie of the Year award and has since gone on to being a standout on the full U.S. Women's National Team roster. The midfield was anchored by rookie DiBernardo and club icon Chalupny, who would make headlines in December 2014 when she received her first USA call-up after being barred from representing her country for five years due to a history of

# ABOUT THE CLUB

head injuries.

Half-way through the 2014 campaign the Chicago Red Stars attack received an addition boost with the arrival of forward Christen Press. A member of the U.S. Women's National Team, the California native took the NWSL by storm as she bagged six goals in just twelve appearances with her new side.

Throughout the 2015 season the Red Stars had multiple players step up to help guide the team to the best finish in team history. With the overlap of the 2015 FIFA Women's World Cup, rookies Arin Gilliland, Danielle Colaprico and Sofia Huerta were immediately thrown into action in their first year and did not disappoint. All three were awarded NWSL Second XI for their play in their rookie campaign and Colaprico took home the NWSL Rookie of the Year award.

The U.S. Women's National Team, including Red Stars Christen Press, Lori Chalupny, Shannon Boxx and Julie Johnston, won gold at the FIFA Women's World Cup. After an amazing career with the Red Stars and the U.S. National Team, longtime captain Lori Chalupny would hang up her cleats and retire from professional soccer, as would Shannon Boxx.

Forward sensation Press found the back of the net a stunning ten times in just eleven regular season matches during 2015, good for an average of about one goal per every 93 minutes. Julie Johnston, whose breakout year culminated in a World Cup Golden Ball nomination, went the distance in all eleven of her NWSL appearances, helping Chicago to the third-fewest goals conceded among all nine squads. Both were awarded for their play and rightfully earned a spot on the 2015 NWSL Best XI list.

Fellow U.S. Soccer teammate Alyssa Naehrer joins the Red Stars after playing her previous seasons with the Boston Breakers. The 2014 NWSL Goalkeeper of the Year was acquired in an offseason trade and looks to bolster one of the best backlines in the league for the 2016 season.

After an exciting year the Red Stars look to further progress as a club and will return to Toyota Park, playing all home games in the venue for the 2016 NWSL season. Toyota Park was home to the Red Stars during the 2009 and 2010 Women's Professional Soccer (WPS) campaigns. A 20,000-seat stadium located in Bridgeview, Illinois, Toyota Park was built in 2006, as a soccer-specific venue with a natural grass pitch.

Given the encouraging developments on and off the field, many pundits agree this could be the year the Red Stars take the crucial final step into the elite of NWSL clubs.

# CHICAGOLAND NATIVES

As the Chicago Red Stars get ready for the 2016 season, it's time to celebrate all of the Red Stars players who hail from around Chicagoland.

The Chicago Red Stars will have six total players that were born and raised in the Chicagoland area, including three rookies who were drafted in the 2016 National Women's Soccer League (NWSL) Draft. These six locals are living out their dream and playing against the best players in the world, all while in front of their hometown crowd at Toyota Park.

Meet Michele Dalton, Vanessa DiBernardo, Casey Short, Sarah Gorden, Katie Naughton and Courtney Raetzman.

## MICHELE DALTON - Goalkeeper

A native of Mount Prospect, Illinois, Dalton spent a majority of her youth career at local hometown club Mount Prospect Green and White before spending the last two years of her club days with Eclipse Select.

After an outstanding career at University of Wisconsin-Madison, Dalton had planned on continuing her career in the WPS, but the league folded that year and plans changed. The two following years Dalton suited up professionally overseas in Iceland and Sweden, playing for Kvarnsvedens (Sweden) and VMF Selfoss (Iceland).

In 2015, Dalton relished the opportunity to return home to continue on her professional career. She enters her second-year with the Red Stars after having a phenomenal first-year in the NWSL, where she led the league in goals-against average, giving up just .917 goals per game. She definitely made her first year playing in front of her hometown fans one to remember, both for herself and for the Red Stars.

"As you get older, there's more pressure to perform and it's easy to get caught up in that. While I pride myself in working very hard, I also want to remember to have some fun and realize very few people get to play professionally in their hometown, in front of their family and friends."

## VANESSA DIBERNARDO - Midfielder

One of the most veteran Red Stars is none other than Naperville's very own Vanessa DiBernardo. A decorated youth player, DiBernardo eventually won the prestigious 2010 Illinois Gatorade Player of the Year while attending Waubansie High School where she helped lead the team to three IHSA state titles in her four years.

DiBernardo would stick close to home and continue her collegiate career at University of Illinois, where she would ultimately become a legacy in the program, earning multiple All-American and Big Ten awards.

Her play in college would see her land in Chicago, where she was chosen fourth-overall in the 2014 NWSL College Draft. Since joining the Red Stars, DiBernardo has seen action in every single NWSL game and established herself as one of the top central midfielders in the league. She led the team in minutes in 2015 and over the course of her two years, she has tallied 3 goals and 8 assists.

## CASEY SHORT - Defender

No one has worked harder to get back to her hometown than Casey Short. Like DiBernardo, she is a native of Naperville, who was originally drafted fifth-overall in the 2013 NWSL Draft out of Florida State. Unfortunately, playing in the NWSL would have to wait due to injury prior to the start of the

# CHICAGOLAND NATIVES

2013 season.

After recovering from the injury, Short spent two seasons in Norway, earning 'Best 11' honors at the Norwegian Toppserien 2015 NISO Awards. With two years professional experience under her cleats, she now returns home to compete as a Chicago Red Star against the best women's soccer players in the world within the NWSL.

## SARAH GORDEN - Defender

After a standout career at Depaul University, Sarah Gorden joins the Red Stars as the 22nd overall pick in the 2016 NWSL College Draft. A former youth player for head coach Rory Dames, Gorden spent her youth career on Eclipse Select.

The Elk Grove native earned back-to-back NSCAA All-Northeast Regional First Team honors in 2014 and 2015. The first ever women's soccer player to be drafted out of DePaul, Gorden will look to continue her success in 2016 at the professional level.

"It's a dream come true. There's nowhere else I'd rather be."

## KATIE NAUGHTON - Defender

The first pick for the Red Stars came with the nineteenth overall pick in the 2016 NWSL College Draft and Chicago was able to select Katie Naughton, a native of Elk Grove Village.

Her youth career was filled with accolades playing for Sockers FC, ultimately become the top recruit in the Midwest region for her class along with a five-star ranking. Those rankings proved to be beyond accurate as Naughton would become the University of Notre Dame's first three-year captain in program history.

"For some of us, we grew up playing together, so it is like it came full circle. We are able to play together once more, but at another level. It is where almost every girl (playing soccer) dreams about growing up. It is just exciting to play professionally with girls from the same hometown."

## COURTNEY RAETZMAN - Midfielder

Keeping it local once again in the 2016 draft, Courtney Raetzman heard her name called in the fourth-round, 32nd-overall, by the Red Stars. A local talent who is originally from Elk Grove and played her youth career for Sockers FC, Raetzman is eager to return to her roots.

The First Team All-SEC member will join up with fellow Wildcat Arin Gilliland in Chicago, where both had standout careers at University of Kentucky. Raetzman strives under pressure and proved that with multiple game-winning goals against top 25 teams throughout her 70 starts as a collegiate athlete. During the past summer Raetzman was a key member to the Chicago Red Stars Reserves, who recently won the 2015 WPSL National Title.

These six Chicagoland players are ready to kick-off the 2016 NWSL season with the Red Stars and cannot wait to do it for you; those that have been neighbors, friends, family and now their fans.



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## 2016 SEASON AT TOYOTA PARK

Red Stars look to enhance fan and player experience with the move to a world class natural grass pitch and stadium.

The Chicago Red Stars announced in December 2015 that the team will return to Toyota Park, playing all home games in the venue for the 2016 National Women's Soccer League (NWSL) season. Toyota Park was home to the Red Stars during the 2009 and 2010 Women's Professional Soccer (WPS) campaigns. The Red Stars will move from Benedictine University, where they have played since 2011.

"In 2016, it's time to return to our original home - Toyota Park. Our fans and sponsors will now enjoy an exciting game day environment in a major league stadium, while our players and the rest of the teams throughout the NWSL will enjoy the benefits of competing on a world class, natural grass pitch," said Arnim Whisler, Owner of the Chicago Red Stars. "It was hard to leave Toyota Park in 2010, but we are thankful for the warm reception and incredible support of Benedictine University and the Village of Lisle over the last three years. It gave us an intimate and affordable setting as our club and the league have grown."

Toyota Park is a 20,000-seat stadium located in Bridgeview, Illinois. It was built in 2006, as a soccer-specific venue with a natural grass pitch. Toyota Park has been the home of Major League Soccer's Chicago Fire for the past 10 seasons. Fans will enjoy the opportunity to see virtually every member of the 2015 World Cup Champion United States Women's National Team at Toyota Park with their respective NWSL club during the 2016 campaign.

Four-year veteran Vanessa DiBernardo could not be happier about the transition. "I'm really excited to be playing at Toyota Park this year," DiBernardo expressed. "It's great for our club, and shows that we are growing both as a team and as a league. Having played two games there last year, it will be an easy transition for us, and we are really excited to call the stadium our home field!"

The 2015 NWSL semi-finalist Chicago Red Stars will continue to provide the best value major league sports tickets in Chicagoland with over 25% of the available seats being priced at \$25 or less.

In addition, fans that are accustomed to free parking at Benedictine University will not be disappointed as the Red Stars, working cooperatively with the Village of Bridgeview, will offer free parking to all regular season home games in 2016. Furthermore, the Chicago Red Stars has worked with PACE to provide bus transportation for seven home games that run from the Orange Line Midway station every twenty minutes beginning two hours before Red Stars kick-off. At the conclusion of the game the Toyota Park Express will depart 30 minutes after and return fans to the Orange Line Midway station.

"We want to thank the Village of Bridgeview, Mayor Landek, Debra Augle and their staff for working hard to bring us back," Whisler added. "We are looking forward to a tremendous season."

With excitement running through the players, coaches and front office, the Red Stars could not think of a better way to kick-off the 2016 season than playing at Toyota Park.

# STADIUM & FACILITIES

## TOYOTA PARK - BRIDGEVIEW, ILLINOIS

TOYOTA PARK is the heart of soccer for much of the Midwest and a must-see destination for world-class concerts and other sporting events. Each year, more than a half million people go by the stadium's trademark brick arch, many achieving or reliving what has become a rite of passage for sports and music fans alike.

Since opening its doors in 2006, TOYOTA PARK has treated fans to sporting events of all calibers from around the world, and is the proud home of the Chicago Fire Soccer Club (MLS), Chicago Red Stars (NWSL), and the Chicago Bliss (Legends Football League). TOYOTA PARK's expansive parking lots are also the site of many festivals, carnivals, multi-stage concerts, and other special events.

The facility is owned and managed by the Village of Bridgeview. It can seat 20,000 for sporting events and 28,000 for concerts, featuring 34 executive suites plus 6 stage suites (available for sporting events).

TOYOTA PARK is conveniently located in Bridgeview near I-294 and I-55, an easy drive from every corner of the Chicago area. Only 15 miles from Chicago's Loop, TOYOTA PARK offers ample parking and is served by PACE buses and shuttle links with the nearby CTA Midway Orange Line station.

## PARKING

Parking at Toyota Park is free and opens (3) three hours prior to kickoff. N1 and S2 are the main parking lot gate entrances and both are used for tailgating.

## BOX OFFICE

The box office opens (3) three hours prior to kickoff. The Main Box Office is located on the east side of the Toyota Park at Gate D. Press/media check-in is located at Gate E.

## TAILGATING

Tailgating opens (3) three hours prior to kickoff and is permitted in all parking lots.

For additional information for Toyota Park please visit <http://www.toyotapark.com>.

## TRAINING GROUNDS

Located in Oak Brook, IL.

Media interested in attending and/or conducting interviews must contact: Justyne Freud at [jfreud@chicagoredstars.com](mailto:jfreud@chicagoredstars.com).



# 2016 TICKET PRICING

	SINGLE GAME	GROUP	SEASON / FLEX
HARLEM - LOCAL 134	\$20	\$15	\$150
CORNER KICK	\$25	\$20	\$220
FRONT ROW - CORNER KICK	\$45	-	\$425
SIDELINE CLUB	\$30	\$25	\$270
CENTER CLUB	\$35	\$30	\$310
FIELD SIDE - VIP	\$65	-	\$625
VIP TABLES - 4 SEATS	\$300	-	\$2,500
GOAL ZONE	\$30	\$25	-
FRONT ROW - GOAL ZONE	\$35	-	-



TO PURCHASE TICKETS VISIT [CHICAGOREDSTARS.COM](http://CHICAGOREDSTARS.COM) OR CALL 773.697.8699

# SCHEDULE

HOME GAMES LISTED IN BOLD  
ALL HOME GAMES AT TOYOTA PARK  
ALL TIMES CENTRAL

APRIL 16	VS. HOUSTON DASH	7:30PM
<b>APRIL 23</b>	<b>VS. WESTERN NY FLASH</b>	<b>6:00PM</b>
<b>MAY 1</b>	<b>VS. ORLANDO PRIDE</b>	<b>5:00PM</b>
MAY 7	VS. BOSTON BREAKERS	6:00PM
MAY 13	VS. FC KANSAS CITY	7:30PM
MAY 22	VS. SEATTLE REIGN FC	6:00PM
<b>MAY 29</b>	<b>VS. SKY BLUE FC</b>	<b>6:00PM</b>
<b>JUNE 12</b>	<b>VS. PORTLAND THORNS FC</b>	<b>5:00PM</b>
<b>JUNE 18</b>	<b>VS. BOSTON BREAKERS</b>	<b>7:00PM</b>
JUNE 22	VS. PORTLAND THORNS FC	9:00PM
JULY 1	VS. WESTERN NY FLASH	6:00PM
JULY 9	VS. WASHINGTON SPIRIT	6:00PM
JULY 16	VS. ORLANDO PRIDE	6:30PM
<b>JULY 23</b>	<b>VS. HOUSTON DASH</b>	<b>7:00PM</b>
<b>JULY 30</b>	<b>VS. FC KANSAS CITY</b>	<b>7:00PM</b>
AUG. 27	VS. SKY BLUE FC	6:00PM
<b>SEPT. 4</b>	<b>VS. SEATTLE REIGN FC</b>	<b>6:00PM</b>
<b>SEPT. 7</b>	<b>VS. FC KANSAS CITY</b>	<b>7:00PM</b>
SEPT. 11	VS. FC KANSAS CITY	5:00PM
<b>SEPT. 24</b>	<b>VS. WASHINGTON SPIRIT</b>	<b>7:00PM</b>

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# ROSTER

## ALPHABETICAL

#	NAME	POS	HT	DOB	HOMETOWN
24	COLAPRICO, DANIELLE	M	5'3	5/6/93	FREEHOLD, NJ
7	COMEAU, TAYLOR	M	5'6	7/21/93	LOS GATOS, CA
13	DA COSTA, AMANDA	M	5'4	10/7/89	KATONAH, NY
18	DALTON, MICHELE	GK	5'7	11/5/88	MT PROSPECT, IL
10	DIBERNARDO, VANESSA	M	5'4	5/15/92	NAPERVILLE, IL
3	GILLILAND, ARIN	D	5'8	12/25/92	WILMORE, KY
14	GORDEN, SARAH	D	5'4	9/13/92	ELK GROVE, IL
2	HOY, JEN	F	5'5	1/18/91	SELLERSVILLE, PA
11	HUERTA, SOFIA	F	5'7	12/14/92	BOISE, ID
16	JOHNSON, SAMANTHA	D	5'6	6/10/91	PALMDALE, CA
8	JOHNSTON, JULIE	D	5'7	4/6/92	MESA, AZ
34	LUBA, MARY	M	5'8	8/20/93	SHOREWOOD, WI
4	MAUTZ, ALYSSA	M	5'5	7/29/89	ST. LOUIS, MO
1	NAEHER, ALYSSA	GK	5'9	4/20/88	BRIDGEPORT, CT
5	NAUGHTON, KATIE	D	5'10	2/15/94	ELK GROVE VILLAGE, IL
23	PRESS, CHRISTEN	F	5'7	12/29/88	PALOS VERDES, CA
15	RAETZMAN, COURTNEY	M	4'11	4/9/94	ELK GROVE, IL
6	SHORT, CASEY	D	5'6	8/23/90	NAPERVILLE, IL
12	WALLS, CARA	F	5'9	6/16/93	WAUWATOSA, WI

# ROSTER

## NUMERICAL

#	NAME	POS	HT	DOB	HOMETOWN
1	ALYSSA NAEHER	GK	5'9	4/20/88	BRIDGEPORT, CT
2	JEN HOY	F	5'5	1/18/91	SELLERSVILLE, PA
3	ARIN GILLILAND	D	5'8	12/25/92	WILMORE, KY
4	ALYSSA MAUTZ	M	5'5	7/29/89	ST. LOUIS, MO
5	NAUGHTON, KATIE	D	5'10	2/15/94	ELK GROVE VILLAGE, IL
6	CASEY SHORT	D	5'6	8/23/90	NAPERVILLE, IL
7	COMEAU, TAYLOR	M	5'6	7/21/93	LOS GATOS, CA
8	JULIE JOHNSTON	D	5'7	4/6/92	MESA, AZ
10	VANESSA DIBERNARDO	M	5'4	5/15/92	NAPERVILLE, IL
11	SOFIA HUERTA	F	5'7	12/14/92	BOISE, ID
12	CARA WALLS	F	5'9	6/16/93	WAUWATOSA, WI
13	AMANDA DA COSTA	M	5'4	10/7/89	KATONAH, NY
14	GORDEN, SARAH	D	5'4	9/13/92	ELK GROVE, IL
15	RAETZMAN, COURTNEY	M	4'11	4/9/94	ELK GROVE, IL
16	SAMANTHA JOHNSON	D	5'6	6/10/91	PALMDALE, CA
18	MICHELE DALTON	GK	5'7	11/5/88	MT PROSPECT, IL
23	CHRISTEN PRESS	F	5'7	12/29/88	PALOS VERDES, CA
24	DANIELLE COLAPRICO	M	5'3	5/6/93	FREEHOLD, NJ
34	MARY LUBA	M	5'8	8/20/93	SHOREWOOD, WI



# 1 Alyssa Naehler



**POSITION:** GOALKEEPER

**HEIGHT:** 5' -9"

**BORN:** APRIL 20, 1988

**HOMETOWN:** BRIDGEPORT, CT

**COLLEGE:** PENN STATE

**INTERNATIONAL:** 2016: Started and earned the shutout and win on Feb. 15 vs. Puerto Rico ... Has five caps for the U.S. Women's National Team (as of 4/12/16) ... Earned her fourth career start and shutout vs. Colombia on April 10 ... 2015: Member of the 2015 FIFA Women's World Cup champion U.S. Women's National Team ... Second cap came on Aug. 19, 2015, in Chattanooga, Tenn. She played 45 minutes, coming on at the start of the second half of a 7-2 win over Costa Rica ... Third appearance came on Sept. 20, 2015, an 8-0 win over Haiti in Birmingham, Ala. She came on in the second half and played 45 minutes ... Her second and third appearances came during the USWNT's Victory Tour following the 2015 World Cup ... 2014: First appearance came on Dec. 18, 2014 in the International Tournament of Brasilia. She started and made one save in a 7-0 win over Argentina ... Called into three U.S. Women's National Team camps in 2014, the first coming in March for the Algarve Cup in Portugal ... Second call-up came in August ahead of the Aug. 20, 2014 game against Switzerland ... Named to U.S. roster for pair of games in September against Mexico ... 2013: Was called into camp with the senior team ahead of a November friendly against Brazil ... 2011: Traveled with the U.S. to Portugal for the 2011 Algarve Cup ... 2009: Earned her first call-up to train with the senior team in December 2009 ... 2008: Played for the U.S. U-23 team ... Won the 2008 U-20 FIFA Women's World Cup with the U.S. U-20 Women's National Team, earning the Golden Glove after posting five wins in the tournament

**PROFESSIONAL:** 2016: Acquired via trade by Chicago Red Stars on November 23, 2015. 2015: Started 12 of the 12 games she appeared in for the Boston Breakers, logging 1,080 minutes ... Her 65 saves ranked her second in the NWSL ... Named NWSL Player of the Week in Week 17 after a 12-save performance in a 2-1 win at home against the Washington Spirit on Aug. 8 ... The 12 saves tied a career-high for saves in a game for Naehler ... 2014: Named NWSL Goalkeeper of the Year ... played in and started all 24 games ... Logged a team-high 2,115 minutes, which also ranked her second in the league ... Won six games ... Set a NWSL record and team record with 106 saves ... Registered three shutouts (seventh most in the NWSL) ... Stopped six of the nine penalty shots she faced ... The six penalty kick saves was the most in NWSL history and a career high ... Named NWSL Player of the Week on Aug. 12, 2014, after a 10-save shutout (2-0) over Portland Thorns FC ... 2013: Started eight of the nine games she appeared in ... Finished with a 4-2-2 record with team-high two shutouts ... Joined the NWSL with the Boston Breakers in May 2013, signing as a free agent after finishing German Bundesliga season with 1. FFC Turbine Potsdam ... 2012: Posted a 16-4-1 record with 10 shutouts, helping 1. FFC Turbine Potsdam earn a berth into the 2013-14 Champions League ... Potsdam finished second in the Bundesliga, four points back of champions VfL Wolfsburg ... 2011: Led Women's Professional Soccer (WPS) with 99 saves ... Finished with a 5-9-4 record with five shutouts ... Had a goals against average of 1.33 ... Started and played in all 18 games ... Logged 1,620 minutes ... Debut season with Potsdam went 13-2-2 with 11 shutouts in the league and Potsdam won the Bundesliga ... 2010: Drafted by the Boston Breakers in the first round (11th overall) in the WPS Draft ... started all 16 games she played in, logging 1,379 minutes ... Faced 90 shots and made 69 ... Allowed 18 goals for a 1.17 goals against average ... Posted a record of 9-4-2 with three shutouts ... Played in one playoff game and made three saves in a loss to the Philadelphia Independence in the WPS Super Semifinal ...

**COLLEGE:** Three-time NSCAA All-American at Penn State ... Started and played 74 games for the Nittany Lions ... Finished with a career record of 50-19-5 and 24 shutouts ... Had a career 0.89 goals against average ... Soccer Buzz First Team All-American (2007, 2008) ... Big Ten Tournament Defensive MVP (2008) ... Big Ten Defensive Player of the Year (2007) ... First Team All-Big Ten selection (2007, 2008) ... Named to Big Ten All-Freshman Team (2006) ... Soccer Buzz Freshman All-American (2006).

NAEHER



## 2 Jen Hoy



**POSITION:** FORWARD

**HEIGHT:** 5' -5"

**BORN:** JANUARY 18, 1991

**HOMETOWN:** SELLERSVILLE, PA

**COLLEGE:** PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

**INTERNATIONAL:** 2014: Member of U-23 USWNT that participated in Six Nations Tournament in La Manga, Spain... 2013: Member of U-23 player pool that gathered in San Diego in May... Received her first call up to U-23 USWNT in April.

**PROFESSIONAL:** 2015: Played 18 games, starting in 14, totaling 1,110 minutes ... Scored 4 goals and assisted on 4 ... 25 shots with 15 on goal ... 2014: Played 21 games, starting in 16 and scoring 4 goals, 2 of which were game winners... Assisted on three goals... Took 21 shots with 11 on goal... 2013: Selected in the 4th round of the NWSL College Draft by the Red Stars... Scored her first goal for the club against Seattle on July 25... Scored 2 goals in a come-from-behind 2-1 upset of FC Kansas City on August 18... Was named NWSL Player of the Week for week 19... Finished her rookie season with 3 goals and one assist in only 471 minutes.

**COLLEGE:** Attended Princeton University from 2009-2012... 2012: Scored the second-most goals in a season in program history with 18... Three-time Ivy League Player of the Week... Recorded three hat tricks and scored two game-winning goals... 2011: Started and played in all 17 games for the Tigers... Earned Ivy League Player of the Week honors twice... 2010: Led the Ivy League in game-winning goals with four.



## 3 Arin Gilliland



**POSITION:** DEFENDER

**HEIGHT:** 5' -8"

**BORN:** DECEMBER 25, 1992

**HOMETOWN:** WILMORE, KY

**COLLEGE:** UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

**INTERNATIONAL:** Has been member of the United States U-20 and U-23 USWNT pools.

**PROFESSIONAL:** 2015: Was the 8th overall selection by the Red Stars in the NWSL College Draft ... Played in 19 matches, starting 17 ... Recorded 2 assists ... 1533 minutes of play (3rd highest minutes on team) ... Named to the NWSL Second-XI Team

**COLLEGE:** Named to All-SEC Team 4 times... Finished her Wildcat career with 30 goals and 25 assists for 85 career points ... Set UK record with 278 shots and eight career game-winning goals... 2014: SEC Defensive Player of the Year... First Team All-SEC... HONDA Award winner... MAC Hermann Award finalist... Team captain ... SEC Player of the Week (September 1)... Three multi-point matches... First in shots in the SEC (87)... 2013: MAC Herrman Award finalist... Third-Team NSCAA All-American... First-Team All-SEC... Tied UK single-game record with three assists against EKU... 20th nationally in assists per game... 27th nationally in total assists... Active team leader in goals scored (23)... Tied for 4th all-time at UK in career points... Scored game-winning goal in 54th minute of NCAA tournament match against Ohio State... 2012: First-Team All-SEC... Started in every game... Helped the defense keep a clean sheet in 5 of the first 8 games... Moved to forward and registered 3 points in her first 2 games up top... Tallied 2 game-winning goals and 2 equalizers... Recorded her 20th point of the season with an assist against Vandy... Assisted on the golden goal in the NCAA first-round win over UT-Martin... 2011: Second-Team All-SEC, Freshman All-SEC... Appeared in every game but one as a true freshman... Started in 8 of the final 9 games... Scored 2 game-winning goals and 3 equalizers.

GILLILAND



## 4 Alyssa Mautz



**POSITION:** MIDFIELDER

**HEIGHT:** 5' -5"

**BORN:** JULY 29, 1989

**HOMETOWN:** ST. LOUIS, MO

**COLLEGE:** TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

**INTERNATIONAL:** Member of the U-20 WNT that won gold at the 2008 FIFA U-20 Women's World Cup... Has also played for the U-23 team.

**PROFESSIONAL:** 2015: Started 13 games, appearing in 15 ... Scored 2 goals and 3 assists ... Totaled 16 shots with 4 on goal ... 2014: Played in 20 games for Chicago, starting 12... Scored 3 goals, 2 of which were game-winners... Took 16 shots, 9 of which were on goal... 2013: Allocated to the Red Stars via the NWSL Supplemental Draft... Played in 18 games, starting in 8 and scoring 4 goals... 2012: Played for Chicago in WPSL-Elite... 2011: Played in 5 matches for WPS side Sky Blue FC, making 2 starts and scoring 1 goal.

**COLLEGE:** 2010: Started all 23 matches... Named NSCAA National Player of the Week (September 1) and Big 12 Player of the Week (August 31)... All-Big 12 First Team and Big 12 All-Tournament Team... Led team with 12 goals and 5 assists for 29 points... Had team-leading 93 shots with 34 on target... 2009: Started 20 matches and played in all 25... All-Big 12 Second Team... Had 4 goals and 2 assists... Ranked second on the team with 66 shots and 27 on goal. 2008: Transferred to Texas A&M from St. Louis University... Had 19 appearances and 9 starts... Big 12 Newcomer of the Week (November 12)



## 5 Katie Naughton



**POSITION:** DEFENDER

**HEIGHT:** 5' -10"

**BORN:** FEBRUARY 15, 1994

**HOMETOWN:** ELK GROVE VILLAGE, IL

**COLLEGE:** NOTRE DAME

**INTERNATIONAL:** 2016: Member of the U-23 U.S. Women's National Team ... 2 appearances as of April 5  
2014: Named to the U.S. U20 World Cup Team ... Started all 5 matches at CONCACAF U20 Championship ...  
2013: Member of the U-20 U.S. Team ... 3 starts in 4 appearances

**PROFESSIONAL:** 2016: Drafted with the first pick by the Chicago Red Stars with the 19th overall pick

**COLLEGE:** 2015: Started all 20 games as a senior at Notre Dame ... ACC Defensive Player of the Week (Sept. 15)  
... Scored 3 goals, 2 off of headers ... All-ACC Second Team ... NSCAA All-Southeast Regional First Team. ... 2014:  
All-ACC Second Team ... ESPNW Women's Soccer Player of the Week (Oct. 1) ... NSCAA Second Team All-Southeast  
Region ... Scored 4 goals ... 2013: Team captain as a sophomore ... Started all 22 matches ... 2 goals, 1 assist ...  
2012: Started all 23 games ... NSCAA All-Northeast Region Second Team ... All-BIG EAST Third Team ... BIG EAST  
All-Rookie Team ... Notre Dame Team MVP Freshman

NAUGHTON



## 6 Casey Short



**POSITION:** DEFENDER

**HEIGHT:** 5' -6"

**BORN:** AUGUST 23, 1990

**HOMETOWN:** NAPERVILLE, IL

**COLLEGE:** FLORIDA STATE

**INTERNATIONAL:** Member of the U-23 U.S. Women's National Team ... Played with youth national teams since U14

**PROFESSIONAL:** 2015: Returning to Chicago after successful season overseas ... Played in Norway with Avaldsnes IL ... Earned Best-XI honors ... 2014: 2013: Drafted by the Boston Breakers with the 5th overall pick in the NWSL College Draft ... Did not appear due to injury ... Chicago Red Stars acquired rights via discovery

**COLLEGE:** 2012: Started 23 games after coming off redshirt year ... Helped guide defense to top 40 nationally rankings in shutout percentage (2nd - 0.708), GAA (12th - 0.619) and save percentage (36th - 0.839)... 2010: Named to the All-ACC team ... Tallied 1839 minutes ... Scored 5 goals and 3 assists... 2009: Appeared in 13 matches (due to injury) ... all-time leader at FSU in ACC play with 8 assists 2008: Named to the All-ACC Freshman Team ... Played in every game ... Finished her first collegiate season with 10 points with 2 goals and six assists



## 7 Taylor Comeau



**POSITION:** MIDFIELDER

**HEIGHT:** 5' -6"

**BORN:** JULY 21, 1993

**HOMETOWN:** LOS GATOS, CA

**COLLEGE:** CAL BERKELEY

**PROFESSIONAL:** 2015: Called up by the Portland Thorns as an amateur ... Started 5 games with 9 appearances for the Thorns ... Finished with 5 shots, 2 on goal

**COLLEGE:** 2014: NSCAA All-Pacific Second Team ... All-PAC-12 Second Team Honors ... Led Cal Berkeley Bears with 8 goals ... 2013: Started all 21 games for Cal ... 2 assists ... 2012: Started in 16 games, appeared in 19 ... One goal ... 2011: Appeared in all 22 games ... Finished with one goal and one assist



## 8 Julie Johnston



**POSITION:** DEFENDER

**HEIGHT:** 5'-7"

**BORN:** APRIL 6, 1992

**HOMETOWN:** MESA, AZ

**COLLEGE:** SANTA CLARA UNIVERSITY

**INTERNATIONAL:** 2016: As of April 12 has 10 caps for the U.S. National Team... Scored two goals off of set pieces on 4/10/16 vs. Colombia 2015: FIFA Women's World Cup Golden Ball Finalist ... FIFA Women's World Cup Champion ... Named to the U.S. FIFA Women's World Cup Roster, her first WWC selection ... Scored three goals ... Played in 19 games ... Recorded first career assist against China in the quarterfinals of the World Cup ... Scored her first goal with the WNT during the USA's 2-0 victory over France in the final of the Algarve Cup... 2014: Made 3 substitute appearances for the USWNT in the latter half of the year... 2013: Earned her first senior cap in a 4-1 win against Scotland on February 9... Played her first full 90 minutes at the international level against the Netherlands on April 9... 2012: U.S. Soccer Young Female Athlete of the Year... Captain of the U.S. team that won the FIFA U-20 Women's World Cup in Japan ... Won the bronze ball as the third-best player in the tournament, a rare honor for a defender... Started all 6 games for the U.S... A member of the American CONCACAF U-20 Championship team that earned a berth to the 2012 FIFA U-20 Women's World Cup in Japan.

**PROFESSIONAL:** 2015: Started in all 11 games she appeared in ... Totaled 2 assists in 990 minutes ... Attempted 4 shots, 1 on goal... Named to the NWSL Best XI-Team ... Voted Team Defensive MVP 2014: Drafted by Chicago in the 1st round of the 2014 NWSL College Draft... Played and started in 21 games for the Red Stars... Scored 2 goals, one of which was a game-winner... Assisted on 2 goals...Awarded NWSL Rookie of the Year

**COLLEGE:** 2013 First Team All-American, First-Team All-West Region selection and WCC Player of the Year... Led the Broncos with 8 assists and 4 game-winning goals... 3rd on the team with 12 goals and 32 points... 2012 and 2011 MAC Hermann Trophy semifinalist... First-Team All-WCC selection as a junior, while leading the team in goals with 8 and points with 21... Added 5 assists and had 3 game-winning goals... Finished second in the conference in goals per game (0.53) and points per game (1.40).

JOHNSTON



# 10 Vanessa DiBernardo



**POSITION:** MIDFIELDER

**HEIGHT:** 5' -4"

**BORN:** MAY 15, 1992

**HOMETOWN:** NAPERVILLE, IL

**COLLEGE:** UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

**INTERNATIONAL:** Member of the US U-23 player pool...2015: Called up to U-23 USWNT to play in La Magna tournament in Spain and started in one match... 2013: Earned seven caps and starts with the U-23 USWNT... Had one goal and three assists... Was called up to the full U.S. squad to replace the injured Megan Rapinoe in a friendly against Mexico... 2012: Member of the CONCACAF U-20 Women's Championship team that earned a berth to the 2012 FIFA U-20 Women's World Cup in Japan... Played in all 5 games in the qualifying tournament, starting in two and totaling 246 minutes... Scored 2 goals in the qualifying tournament, one each against Cuba and Panama, and added one assist. 2012 U.S. Soccer Young Athlete of the Year Finalist.

**PROFESSIONAL:** 2015: Appeared in 20 games, starting 19... Totaled 1733 minutes, 2nd highest on the team... Tallied 2 goals and 5 assists... Spent the offseason on loan to Perth Glory of Australian W-League 2014: Drafted by Chicago in the first round of the NWSL College Draft... Made 23 appearances and 19 starts... Scored one goal and assisted on 3... Took 25 shots with 11 on goal...

**COLLEGE:** 2013: Top Drawer Soccer Second-Team Best XI... MAC Hermann Trophy candidate... Helped the Illini reach the Sweet Sixteen, marking the team's best finish during her four-year career... Ranked second on the squad with 7 goals in 15 games (despite missing 7 games due to a knee injury and one due to her USWNT call-up)... Recorded a career-high seven assists and set a school record with 22 career assists... Finished her career ranked third in school history with 43 goals... NSCAA Third Team All-America... 2012: All-Big Ten First Team and Big Ten All-Tournament Team... Two-time Big Ten Offensive Player of the Week (October 8 & 29)... Led the team in points, goals and shots... MAC Hermann Trophy candidate.



# 11 Sofia Huerta



**POSITION:** FORWARD

**HEIGHT:** 5' -7"

**BORN:** DECEMBER 14, 1992

**HOMETOWN:** BOISE, ID

**COLLEGE:** SANTA CLARA UNIVERSITY

**INTERNATIONAL:** 2013: Called up to the Mexican Women's National Team for the September 3 game against the U.S, which she entered as a substitute in the 63rd minute. 2012: A member of the U.S. U-20 player pool and of the Mexican U-20 squad that earned a spot in the U-20 FIFA Women's World Cup in Japan... Played in all four games in the tournament, scoring three of Mexico's seven goals and leading her side to the quarterfinals... Called up to the Mexican Women's National Team for the Four Nations Tournament in Brazil... Started and played in all games, scoring two goals against Portugal

**PROFESSIONAL:** 2015: Drafted by Chicago as the 11th overall pick in the second round of the 2015 NWSL College Draft ... First NWSL back-to-back recipient of the Player of the Week award after earning it in both Week 5 and 6 ... NWSL May Player of the Month ... NWSL Second XI ... Started in 15 games, appearing in 19 overall ... Netted 6 goals and 3 assists

**COLLEGE:** 2014: NSCAA/Continental Tire NCAA Division I Women's Third Team All-American... Co-West Coast Conference (WCC) Player of the Year... All-WCC First Team... Started all 20 games and scored 17 goals as team captain... Tied for 2nd in total goals scored in the WCC... Ranked 26th best player in women's college soccer by Top Drawer Soccer... 2013: Third Team All-American... All-West Region First Team... All-WCC First Team... College Sports Madness All-WCC Second Team... Scored 3 goals in the NCAA Tournament, including the game winner against UC Berkeley in the first round... Led the team to the Sweet 16 of the NCAA Tournament... 2012: All-WCC First Team... 2012 NCAA Division I Women All-West Region Second Team... 2011: All-WCC First Team... 2011 WCC All-Freshman Team... WCC Player of the Month for October...



## 12 Cara Walls



**POSITION:** FORWARD

**HEIGHT:** 5'-9"

**BORN:** JUNE 16, 1993

**HOMETOWN:** WAUWATOSA, WI

**COLLEGE:** UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN

**PROFESSIONAL:** 2015: Drafted by Chicago as the 23rd overall pick in the third round of the NWSL College Draft. With the selection, Walls became the first player in Wisconsin women's soccer history to be drafted into the NWSL... Appeared in 10 games... 1 goal and 1 assist in just 256 minutes of play

**COLLEGE:** Finished career at Wisconsin as the second leading goal-scorer all-time with 42 goals and holding the Badgers record for multi-goal games (10)... 2014: All Big-Ten First Team... Big-Ten All-Tournament Team... Third Team NSCAA All-Great Lakes Region... Ranked 75th best player in women's college soccer by Top Drawer Soccer... Team captain... Her 14 goals were tied for fourth most in Wisconsin history... Helped UW make it to the second round of the NCAA tournament... 2013: Started in all 19 matches... Led the team in goals (9) and game-winning goals (4)... Ranked second in points (22) and shots (63)... Led the team in shots on goal (30)... 2012: Named to All-Big Ten Second Team... Named UW Offensive Player of the Year... 2011: Named to the All Big-Ten Freshman Team... Named Big-Ten Player of the Week 3 times



## 13 Amanda Da Costa



**POSITION:** MIDFIELDER

**HEIGHT:** 5' -4"

**BORN:** OCTOBER 7, 1989

**HOMETOWN:** KATONAH, NY

**COLLEGE:** FLORIDA STATE

**INTERNATIONAL:** 2016: Appeared for Portugal in the Algarve Cup ... 2015: Joined the Portugal Women's National Team ... First appearance on December 1 against Spain in the Euro 2017 qualifier match ... 2012: Full member of the U.S. U-23 Women's National Team ... Scored the game winner to beat Norway in the finals of the 3-Nationa Tournament 2010: Trained with the U23 U.S. National Team 2009: Called into training camp with the U.S. U-23 National Team in June 2008: Competed with the U.S. U-20 team at the Cyprus Tournament

**PROFESSIONAL:** 2016: Acquired by the Chicago Red Stars from Washington Spirit ... 2015: Appeared in 17 games for the Spirit, starting 7 ... Scored 3 goals on 6 shots ... 2014: Member of Liverpool Ladies ... Started 12 games with 16 appearances ... FAWSL Champions 2013: 1 goal for Liverpool Ladies in 16 appearances 2012: Joined the Boston Breakers in the WPSL-Elite ... 2011: Drafted by Washington Freedom (changed to MagicJack later that year) in WPS Draft

**COLLEGE:** Played four years at Florida State University ... First-Team All-ACC selection (2010) ... NSCAA All-Southeast Region team (2010) ... NSCAA All-Southeast Region Second Team (2009) ... NSCAA and Soccer Buzz First Team All-American (2008) ... Scored 17 goals and tallied 24 assists in career ... Tied for first all-time with 10 game-winning assists ... Third in career assists (24).

DA COSTA



## 14 Sarah Gorden



**POSITION:** DEFENDER

**HEIGHT:** 5' -4"

**BORN:** SEPTEMBER 13, 1992

**HOMETOWN:** ELK GROVE, IL

**COLLEGE:** DEPAUL UNIVERSITY

**PROFESSIONAL:** 2016: Drafted by the Red Stars with their 2nd pick of the NWSL College Draft, 22nd overall

**COLLEGE:** 2015: First ever DePaul soccer player selected in NWSL Draft ... All-BIG EAST First Team ... NSCAA All-Northeast Region First Team ... Started all 20 matches ... BIG-EAST Defensive Player of the Week four times  
2014: BIG EAST All-Tournament Team ... All-BIG EAST Second Team ... NSCAA All-Northeast Region First Team ... Anchored backline that gave up fewest goals in BIG EAST ... 1 assist ... 2012: Appeared in 19 games with 18 starts ... 2011: Started in all 17 matches she appeared in ... Scored golden goal in an overtime victory



# 15 Courtney Raetzman



**POSITION:** MIDFIELDER

**HEIGHT:** 4' -11"

**BORN:** APRIL 9, 1994

**HOMETOWN:** ELK GROVE, IL

**COLLEGE:** UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

**PROFESSIONAL:** 2016: Drafted by Chicago with the 32nd overall pick in the NWSL College Draft

**COLLEGE:** 2015: Joins 2015 Red Stars draft pick Arin Gilliland from University of Kentucky ... First Team All-SEC ... totaled three goals ... 2014: SEC All-Second Team ... Finished with 6 goals and 1 assist ... 2013: Started in the first seven matches of the season before season ending injury... 2012: SEC All-Freshman Team ... Started in every game she appeared in

RAETZMAN



## 16 Samantha Johnson



**POSITION:** DEFENDER

**HEIGHT:** 5' -6"

**BORN:** JUNE 10, 1991

**HOMETOWN:** PALMDALE, CA

**COLLEGE:** UNIV. OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

**INTERNATIONAL:** 2010-2009: Member of the U-18 and U-20 U.S. Women's National Team... 2008: Member of the U.S. side that won a silver medal at the FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup... Won the U-17 CONCACAF Championship... 2006-2007: Member of the U-16 USWNT...

**PROFESSIONAL:** 2015: Played in 14 games with 13 starts ... Totaled 1215 minutes primary as a centerback ... 2014: Registered 12 appearances and 11 starts for Chicago after making the team through the open tryouts... Assisted on one goal and took 3 shots... Spent the NWSL off-season with Sydney FC of the Australian W-League.

**COLLEGE:** 2012: Starting midfielder/forward for the University of Southern California... Collected All-Pac-12 honorable mention and Pac-12 Player of the Week accolades... 2011: Started all 20 games... Scored 2 goals, one against WSU and one at UCLA... Goal against WSU was the fastest in USC program history, scored 14 seconds into the match on September 25... 2010: Appeared in all 22 games and started 8... Matched her freshman-year scoring total with 4 goals... Scored the game-winning goal at Eastern Washington... Finished the season with 8 points. 2009: Appeared in 20 games with 19 starts... Was second on the team in goals (4), assists (4) and points (12)... Scored the game-winning goal in USC's 1-0 win over Oklahoma State on September 20... Named to Pac-10 All-Freshman Team... First career goal came against Cal State Fullerton on September 4... Also added her first career assists against Cal State Fullerton, setting up the game-winner as well as the final USC goal.

JOHNSON



## 18 Michele Dalton



**POSITION:** GOALKEEPER

**HEIGHT:** 5' -7"

**BORN:** NOVEMBER 5, 1988

**HOMETOWN:** MOUNT PROSPECT, IL

**COLLEGE:** UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN

**PROFESSIONAL:** 2015: Started in 12 games ... Goalkeeping leader in NWSL with 0.917 GAA ... Second in NWSL with 5 shutouts ... 3rd in league with wins despite not playing in 8 ... Totaled 47 saves ... Joined the Red Stars for her first professional year in the NWSL 2014: Played for Swedish second-division side Kvarnsvedens IK, posting 7 shutouts and a 1.19 goals-against average... 2013: Played for UMF Selfoss in the Icelandic top flight... 2012: Laced up for Philadelphia Fever of the WPSL-Elite.

**COLLEGE:** 2011: Started all 20 games... 2010: Started in 18 games and ranked 5th in the NCAA with a .471 goals against average... Recorded 80 saves... Named Big Ten Co-Defensive Player of the Week three times... Notched 11 shutouts on the season... Helped the team advance to the second round in the NCAA tournament... 2009: Played in 20 games with 19 starts... Posted an 8-6-6 record and recorded seven shutouts, tying her for 9th in Wisconsin history... 95 total saves with a 1.16 goals-against average... 2007: Redshirted the season.



## 23 Christen Press



**POSITION:** FORWARD

**HEIGHT:** 5' -7"

**BORN:** DECEMBER 29, 1988

**HOMETOWN:** PALOS VERDES, CA

**COLLEGE:** STANFORD UNIVERSITY

**INTERNATIONAL:** 2016: Appeared in all eleven games the U.S. has played (as of 4/12/16) ... 4 goals and 2 assists ... 2015: Member of the 2015 FIFA Women's World Cup champion U.S. Women's National Team ... Competed in 18 games ... Played in the Algarve Cup in Portugal and scored one of the goals in the 2-0 final win over France... 2014: Earned 23 caps and 14 starts, scoring 11 goals and assisting on 5... Helped the USWNT qualify for the 2015 FIFA Women's World Cup... Played in the International Tournament of Brasilia... 2013: Member of the USWNT player pool... 2012: First appearance for the USWNT in April... An alternate for the Olympic Team... 5th USWNT player to score at least four goals in her first four matches... 2010: Scored three times in three matches for the U-23 USWNT, including in a 1-0 victory over Sweden that won the U.S. the Four Nations Tournament in England... Started in the 2-2 draws with the U-23 sides of Germany and South Korea... 2009: One of 24 players called into U-23 USWNT training camp in June... Scored against an Irish select side during a U-23 two-match tour of Ireland and Northern Ireland...

**PROFESSIONAL:** 2015: Appeared in 12 matches ... Led team in goals at 10 ... Named to the NWSL Best XI Team ... Team MVP ... 2014: Started in all 12 of her games with Chicago, scoring 6 goals, one of which was a game-winner... Took 42 shots with 26 on goal... Allocated to the Red Stars after finishing up the season with her Swedish side Tyresö FF... First American to claim the Golden Boot award in the Swedish top flight... Scored 23 goals on the season... 2013: Spent the campaign with Tyresö FF... 2012: Played for Swedish side Kopparbergs/Göteborgs FC... 2011: 4th overall pick by WPS side magicJack... Played in 17 matches and scored 8 goals... Named WPS Rookie of the Year...

**COLLEGE:** Played for Stanford University from 2007-2010... 2010: MAC Hermann Trophy winner... Won National Player of the Year awards from Soccer America and Top Drawer Soccer... Named Pac-10 Conference Player of the Year... National leader in goals with 26 and points with 60... Her 26 goals tied the school's single-season scoring record, set in 2009 by Kelley O'Hara... The Cardinal's all-time scorer in NCAA Tournament play with 13 goals... Scored her first collegiate hat trick in a 6-1 victory over Utah in Santa Clara on September 17... 2009: Had the second-highest scoring season in Stanford history, with 21 goals and 16 assists for 58 points... Set Stanford season records for assists and shots... Ranked third in the nation in shots and was tied for the lead in assists... Had seven game-winning goals... Received her first All-America honor by being named to the NSCAA Second Team... All-Pac-10 First Team... Pac-10 All-Academic Second Team... CoSIDA Academic All-District 8 Second Team... Semifinalist for the Hermann Trophy... 2008: Had 16 goals and 11 assists (43 points), the second-highest single-season point total in school history at the time... Top Drawer Soccer Second Team All-American... Second Team All-Pac-10... One of five to start every game... 2007: Pac-10 Freshman of the Year... Soccer Buzz Freshman of the Year finalist and First-Team Freshman All-American... Top Drawer Soccer First-Team All-Rookie selection... Second-Team All-Pac-10... Pac-10 All-Freshman team... Started in 18 of 21 appearances... Led the team in assists (6) and was second in goals (8), points (22) and shots (60).



# 24 Danielle Colaprico



**POSITION:** MIDFIELDER

**HEIGHT:** 5' -3"

**BORN:** MAY 6, 1993

**HOMETOWN:** FREEHOLD, NJ

**COLLEGE:** UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA

**INTERNATIONAL:** 2016: Received first full team U.S. National Team call-up for January camp ... 2015: Called up to U-23s for La Magna tournament in Spain... Started in one of her 3 matches at La Manga and score in the 2-0 win over Norway.

**PROFESSIONAL:** 2015: Drafted by Chicago in the 1st round of the 2014 NWSL College Draft... Played and started in 21 games for the Red Stars... Led team in minutes ... Scored 1 goal, which was a game-winner... Awarded NWSL Rookie of the Year

**COLLEGE:** Virginia's all-time leader in assists (44) and appearances (100)... 2014: MAC Hermann Trophy Semifinalist... Second-Team NSCAA All-American... Soccer America MVP... First-Team NSCAA Scholar All-American... ACC Midfielder of the Year... First-Team All-ACC... First-Team NSCAA All-Southeast Region... NCAA All-Tournament Team... ACC All-Tournament Team... Virginia Nike Soccer Classic MVP... Started all 26 games... Had 6 goals and a UVA single-season record 19 assists (led ACC)... Had a career-high seven-game point streak... 2013: Third-Team NSCAA All-American... First-Team NSCAA All-Southeast Region... Second-Team All-ACC... First-team NSCAA Scholar All-American... Appeared in all 26 games, starting 24... Had 5 goals and 13 assists for 23 points... Ranked second in assists in the ACC... Virginia Nike Soccer Classic MVP... 2012: NSCAA Second-Team All-Southeast Region... Appeared in all 24 games, starting 18... Had 5 goals and a team-high 9 assists for 19 points... Had a goal and 2 assists in NCAA second round win over Rutgers (first game-winning goal of her career)... Virginia Nike Soccer Classic All-Tournament Team... 2011: ACC All-Freshman Team... Appeared in all 24 games, starting 8... Had 3 goals and 3 assists for 9 points... Scored first 2 career goals against Richmond... Had game-winning assist against Clemson on Morgan Brian's goal.



## 34 Mary Luba



**POSITION:** MIDFIELDER

**HEIGHT:** 5' -8"

**BORN:** AUGUST 20, 1993

**HOMETOWN:** SHOREWOOD, WI

**COLLEGE:** MARQUETTE UNIVERSITY

**INTERNATIONAL:** 2014: Invited to U-23 USWNT summer training sessions.

**PROFESSIONAL:** 2015: Signed to the Chicago Red Stars from the Chicago Red Stars Reserves on September 2 ...  
Appeared in one game

**CHICAGO RED STARS RESERVES:** Was a part of the Red Stars Reserves team that won the 2015 Women's Premier Soccer League national championship.... Had a part in four out of the five goals scored in the WPSL final, including scoring the first goal and assisting on the game winning goal

**COLLEGE:** 2014: NSCAA/Continental Tire NCAA Division I Women's All-Northeast Region second team... All-BIG EAST First Team at Marquette University... 2013: Ranked No. 18 on Top Drawer Soccer's BIG EAST Conference Top 20 list... Outstanding Offensive Player of the BIG EAST Tournament... BIG EAST All-Tournament team... NSCAA/Continental Tire Women's NCAA Division I All-Northeast Region Third Team... Named to All-BIG EAST Second Team

## COACHES & TECHNICAL STAFF



### RORY DAMES HEAD COACH

Rory Dames will be entering his fifth season at the helm of the Red Stars, after leading them to two league finals and a USASA's National Women's Cup triumph in 2012.

Dames also serves as the Director of Coaching and Player Development for Chicago's Eclipse Select Soccer Club, which consisted of three teams when the Illinois native took over in 1996 and today boasts over 50 male and female teams with more than 750 players ranging from ages 8-19.

Dames has led Eclipse Select to many accomplishments over the past ten years, including being recognized as the top girls soccer club in the nation by Soccer America in 2007 and 2008, as well as by NationalSoccerRanking.com in 2007. Over the

years, Dames has lead the club to eight national championships, six national finals, eleven regional championships, 17 UYSA MRL championships and 37 Illinois State Cup championships.

Born and raised in Chicagoland, the Red Stars Head Coach played his high school soccer at St. Viator in Arlington Heights until graduating in 1991. Next, he went on to star for St. Louis University, winning several conference championships and making an appearance in the NCAA Final Four. Dames then joined the Rockford Raptors for one professional season.

After his college career, Dames went on to coach not only Eclipse Select but also his high school alma mater. He would serve as Varsity Girls Head Coach at St. Viator for eight seasons (1997-2005) and guide his teams to seven conference championships and seven regional titles. Dames made five trips to the Elite Eight during his tenure at St. Viator, winning three state championships.

The man in charge of the Red Stars continues his work at the youth level, having turned Eclipse Select into one of the best known and most respected girls clubs in the nation. He also serves as the ID2 National Girls Director. Dames currently resides in Antioch, Illinois.

### JORDI KING GOALKEEPER COACH

Jordi King will be taking over as the team's goalkeeper coach. A standout goalkeeper at U.C. Riverside, King played professionally overseas for Cardiff City (Europe) and Kispest Honved (Hungary), before returning to play in the MLS for Chivas USA and L.A. Galaxy.

After retiring from professional soccer, King began his coaching career with the UCLA Women's Soccer program. Along with his current responsibility with the Red Stars, King is a scout for the U.S Women's National Team and an assistant coach for the U-17 U.S. Women's National Team, who recently won the CONCACAF World Cup Qualifiers.

## COACHES & TECHNICAL STAFF



### BONNIE YOUNG 1<sup>ST</sup> ASSISTANT COACH

Bonnie Young comes back to the Red Stars as an assistant coach after playing for Chicago during the 2009 WPS season. After an outstanding playing career at Penn State, earning multiple All-Big Ten accolades, Young was drafted with the 14th overall pick in the 2002 W-USL Draft to the New York Power. Young spent several years in the professional ranks, including time with the New Jersey Wildcats where she helped guide the team to a W-League Championship in 2005. After four years

with the Wildcats she would play for Sky Blue FC before eventually landing with the Chicago Red Stars.

In addition to her vast playing experience, Young brings over eleven years of collegiate coaching experience to the Red Stars. Young began her coaching career at Rhode Island University as an assistant coach for the 2004-2005 season, followed by five years at Monmouth University (New Jersey). Most recently, Young was the head coach at North Central College (Illinois), where she also served as the Director of the Strength and Conditioning Program. Since relocating to Illinois, Young has been the Senior Girls Director at NSA Premier, a Region II ODP Coach, and is still currently working as a U.S. Soccer Training Center coach.

Young holds a number of coaching qualifications, which includes a NSCAA Premier Diploma, NSCAA Director of Coaching Diploma and a USSF "C" License.



### BRIAN KIBLER 2<sup>ND</sup> ASSISTANT COACH

Brian Kibler joins the Red Stars with over 20 years of experience coaching. Currently the Director of Player Development and Programming for Eclipse Select S.C., Kibler has been a prominent youth coach in Illinois since 1995. Kibler currently holds a USSF "A" License, NSCAA Advanced National Diploma and USSF "Fitness 1" License.

**HEAD ATHLETIC TRAINER:** KELSEY REES

**PHYSICAL THERAPIST:** BRIA WANZUNG

**TEAM DOCTOR:** DR. ROGER CHAMS

**TEAM CHIROPRACTORS:** DR. ROBERT SMITH & DR. MICHAEL CALCAGNO

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## ABOUT

The National Women's Soccer League (NWSL) is a 10-team Division-I women's professional soccer league featuring national team players from around the world. The ten clubs are the Boston Breakers, Chicago Red Stars, Houston Dash, FC Kansas City, Orlando Pride, Portland Thorns FC, Seattle Reign FC, Sky Blue FC, Washington Spirit and Western New York Flash.

Based in Chicago, the NWSL is supported by the Canadian Soccer Association, Federation of Mexican Football and the United States Soccer Federation. For more information about the NWSL, log on to the league's official website at [NWSLsoccer.com](http://NWSLsoccer.com).

# NWSL TEAMS & MEDIA



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# NWSL TEAMS & MEDIA



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# NWSL SCHEDULE

ALL TIMES CENTRAL STANDARD TIME (CST)

## SATURDAY, APRIL 16

Washington Spirit vs. Boston Breakers	6:00 PM
Houston Dash vs. Chicago Red Stars	7:30 PM
FC Kansas City vs. Western New York Flash	7:30 PM

## SUNDAY, APRIL 17

Seattle Reign FC vs. Sky Blue FC	6:00 PM
Portland Thorns FC vs. Orlando Pride	9:00 PM

## SATURDAY, APRIL 23

Chicago Red Stars vs. Western New York Flash	6:00 PM
Orlando Pride vs. Houston Dash	6:30 PM
FC Kansas City vs. Portland Thorns FC	7:30 PM

## SUNDAY, APRIL 24

Sky Blue FC vs. Washington Spirit	5:00 PM
Boston Breakers vs. Seattle Reign FC	5:30 PM

## FRIDAY, APRIL 29

Western New York Flash vs. Washington Spirit	6:00 PM
Houston Dash vs. Sky Blue FC	7:30 PM

## SUNDAY, MAY 1

Boston Breakers vs. Portland Thorns FC	4:00 PM
Chicago Red Stars vs. Orlando Pride	5:00 PM
Seattle Reign FC vs. FC Kansas City	6:00 PM

## SATURDAY, MAY 7

Boston Breakers vs. Chicago Red Stars	6:00 PM
Washington Spirit vs. Portland Thorns FC	6:00 PM
Sky Blue FC vs. Western New York Flash	6:00 PM
FC Kansas City vs. Houston Dash	7:30 PM

## SUNDAY, MAY 8

Orlando Pride vs. Seattle Reign FC	4:00 PM
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## FRIDAY, MAY 13

Sky Blue FC vs. Boston Breakers	6:00 PM
FC Kansas City vs. Chicago Red Stars	7:30 PM

# NWSL SCHEDULE

## SATURDAY, MAY 14

Washington Spirit vs. Houston Dash	6:00 PM
Orlando Pride vs. Western New York Flash	6:30 PM
Seattle Reign FC vs. Portland Thorns FC	9:00 PM

## FRIDAY, MAY 20

Houston Dash vs. Orlando Pride	7:30 PM
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## SATURDAY, MAY 21

Western New York Flash vs. Sky Blue FC	6:00 PM
Portland Thorns FC vs. Washington Spirit	9:00 PM

## SUNDAY, MAY 22

Boston Breakers vs. FC Kansas City	5:30 PM
Seattle Reign FC vs. Chicago Red Stars	6:00 PM

## FRIDAY, MAY 27

Western New York Flash vs. Boston Breakers	6:00 PM
Houston Dash vs. Washington Spirit	7:30 PM

## SATURDAY, MAY 28

FC Kansas City vs. Orlando Pride	7:30 PM
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## SUNDAY, MAY 29

Portland Thorns FC vs. Seattle Reign FC	6:00 PM
Chicago Red Stars vs. Sky Blue FC	6:00 PM

## FRIDAY, JUNE 10

Boston Breakers vs. Washington Spirit	6:00 PM
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## SATURDAY, JUNE 11

Western New York Flash vs. Orlando Pride	6:00 PM
Sky Blue FC vs. FC Kansas City	6:00 PM

## SUNDAY, JUNE 12

Chicago Red Stars vs. Portland Thorns FC	5:00 PM
Seattle Reign FC vs. Houston Dash	6:00 PM

## FRIDAY, JUNE 17

Western New York Flash vs. Portland Thorns FC	6:00 PM
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# NWSL SCHEDULE

## SATURDAY, JUNE 18

Washington Spirit vs. Orlando Pride	6:00 PM
Chicago Red Stars vs. Boston Breakers	7:00 PM

## SUNDAY, JUNE 19

Sky Blue FC vs. Seattle Reign FC	5:00 PM
Houston Dash vs. FC Kansas City	7:30 PM

## WEDNESDAY, JUNE 22

Portland Thorns FC vs. Chicago Red Stars	9:00 PM
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## THURSDAY, JUNE 23

Orlando Pride vs. Houston Dash	6:30 PM
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## FRIDAY, JUNE 24

Western New York Flash vs. Boston Breakers	6:00 PM
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## SATURDAY, JUNE 25

Washington Spirit vs. Sky Blue FC	6:00 PM
FC Kansas City vs. Seattle Reign FC	6:00 PM

## SUNDAY, JUNE 26

Orlando Pride vs. Portland Thorns FC	4:00 PM
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## FRIDAY, JULY 1

Western New York Flash vs. Chicago Red Stars	6:00 PM
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## SATURDAY, JULY 2

Washington Spirit vs. FC Kansas City	6:00 PM
Seattle Reign FC vs. Boston Breakers	9:00 PM
Portland Thorns FC vs. Sky Blue FC	9:30 PM

## SATURDAY, JULY 9

Washington Spirit vs. Chicago Red Stars	6:00 PM
Western New York Flash vs. Seattle Reign FC	6:00 PM
Sky Blue FC vs. Houston Dash	6:00 PM
Portland Thorns FC vs. FC Kansas City	9:30 PM

## SUNDAY, JULY 10

Orlando Pride vs. Boston Breakers	4:00 PM
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# NWSL SCHEDULE

## SATURDAY, JULY 16

FC Kansas City vs. Washington Spirit	6:00 PM
Orlando Pride vs. Chicago Red Stars	6:30 PM
Houston Dash vs. Portland Thorns FC	7:30 PM
Seattle Reign FC vs. Western New York Flash	9:00 PM

## SUNDAY, JULY 17

Boston Breakers vs. Sky Blue FC	4:00 PM
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## SATURDAY, JULY 23

Western New York Flash vs. FC Kansas City	6:00 PM
Sky Blue FC vs. Washington Spirit	6:00 PM
Chicago Red Stars vs. Houston Dash	7:00 PM
Seattle Reign FC vs. Orlando Pride	9:00 PM

## SATURDAY, JULY 30

Washington Spirit vs. Sky Blue FC	6:00 PM
Chicago Red Stars vs. FC Kansas City	7:00 PM
Houston Dash vs. Western New York Flash	7:30 PM
Portland Thorns FC vs. Seattle Reign FC	9:30 PM

## SUNDAY, JULY 31

Boston Breakers vs. Orlando Pride	5:00 PM
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## FRIDAY, AUGUST 26

Orlando Pride vs. Washington Spirit	6:30 PM
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## SATURDAY, AUGUST 27

Seattle Reign FC vs. Portland Thorns FC	4:00 PM
Western New York Flash vs. Houston Dash	6:00 PM
Sky Blue FC vs. Chicago Red Stars	6:00 PM

## SUNDAY, AUGUST 28

FC Kansas City vs. Boston Breakers	5:00 PM
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## WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 31

Boston Breakers vs. Houston Dash	7:00 PM
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# NWSL SCHEDULE

## SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

Washington Spirit vs. Western New York Flash	6:00 PM
Houston Dash vs. Orlando Pride	7:30 PM

## SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

FC Kansas City vs. Sky Blue FC	3:00 PM
Portland Thorns FC vs. Boston Breakers	6:00 PM
Chicago Red Stars vs. Seattle Reign	6:00 PM

## WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

Washington Spirit vs. Seattle Reign	6:00 PM
Sky Blue FC vs. Orlando Pride	6:00 PM
Chicago Red Stars vs. FC Kansas City	7:00 PM
Portland Thorns FC vs. Houston Dash	9:00 PM

## THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

Boston Breakers vs. Western New York Flash	7:00 PM
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## SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

Orlando Pride vs. Sky Blue FC	6:30 PM
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## SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

FC Kansas City vs. Chicago Red Stars	5:00 PM
Houston Dash vs. Boston Breakers	7:30 PM
Seattle Reign FC vs. Washington Spirit	8:00 PM
Portland Thorns FC vs. Western New York Flash	8:30 PM

## SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

Orlando Pride vs. FC Kansas City	4:00 PM
Boston Breakers vs. Western New York Flash	6:00 PM
Chicago Red Stars vs. Washington Spirit	7:00 PM

## SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

Houston Dash vs. Seattle Reign FC	TBD
Sky Blue FC vs. Portland Thorns FC	TBD

# NWSL RULES & REGULATIONS

## SINGLE TABLE:

Teams will be aligned into a single table:

Boston Breakers  
Chicago Red Stars  
Houston Dash  
FC Kansas City  
Orlando Pride  
Portland Thorns FC  
Seattle Reign FC  
Sky Blue FC  
Washington Spirit  
Western New York Flash

## REGULAR SEASON:

Each of the ten (10) NWSL clubs will play 20 games, 10 at home and 10 away.

## POINT SYSTEM:

Teams will receive three points for a win, one point for a tie and zero points for a loss.

## REFEREES:

All referees in NWSL are either USSF (United States Soccer Federation) or CSA (Canadian Soccer Association) National Referees. Referees for all NWSL games will be trained, assigned and evaluated by PRO (Professional Referee Organization).

## GAME CLOCK:

The official game time for all National Women's Soccer League games will be managed on the field by the referee. If necessary, the referee may also allot extra time (a.k.a. "stoppage time") at the end of each period (first half, second half, and if applicable, first overtime period and second overtime period during playoff matches) to allow for injuries, time-wasting or other disturbances.

The stadium clock will display the time from 0:00 to 45:00 and from 45:00 to 90:00. For statistical purposes, the minutes for goals, substitutions, yellow cards, etc., will be listed from the first minute until the 90th minute. A goal scored at 15 minutes 10 seconds will be listed as having been scored in the 16th minute. Events occurring during stoppage time will follow the international norm by being demarcated with a "+" sign and the extra minutes. For example, a goal scored three minutes into first half stoppage time will be officially identified as happening at "48+".

## GAME DAY ROSTERS:

Each team can nominate 18 players for a game day roster. Teams are allowed three substitutions per game.

## CAUTIONS AND SUSPENSIONS:

A Player will be suspended for one game upon receiving her fifth yellow card, regardless of the nature of the infraction which resulted in her being awarded the yellow card. A second suspension of one game would result after the awarding of an additional three cards as would a third suspension after the awarding of card number eleven.

# NWSL RULES & REGULATION

## LIGHTNING AND SEVERE WEATHER:

Given the likelihood of lightning during the League season, and the potential for personal injury and structural damages lightning can cause, each Home Team will have a detailed weather delay plan that includes the following:

- 1) Specific persons in charge of decision-making (one management level person from the stadium, one person from the Home Team, one person from law enforcement)
- 2) Direct contact with the U.S. Weather Bureau and/or Doppler radar
- 3) Formation of a weather delay committee with pre-designated meeting location (and back-up location) that includes the Referee, Team representatives and TV producer
- 4) Immediate and consistent contact with the League's Game Notice Designee
- 5) Updates to spectators and media via PA announcement (and video if available)
- 6) "Standing Orders" (procedures) published and posted to accomplish the above. In the event it is deemed safe to resume play, refer to "Team Warm-Up Period Following Game Delay" for League guidelines.

## COOLING BREAKS:

Per the measures taken to protect player safety at the 2014 FIFA World Cup, the NWSL has established the following cooling break procedure for the League.

### Decision Making Process:

Per the National Weather Index Heat Chart, cooling breaks are mandated if the heat index reaches 89 degrees Fahrenheit or higher. Temperature and humidity should be checked sixty (60) minutes before kick-off. Heat index should be confirmed by the referee and a representative from each team (coach, medical staff, etc.) Any onsite questions should be directed to the NWSL League Staff. Implementation of the breaks will be managed solely by the referee.

### Implementation:

Each break shall be approximately three (3) minutes in length and held approximately thirty (30) minutes into each half (around the 30th and 75th minute respectively). Ball must be out of play for the break to commence. Referee will signal for the start of the break and inform both teams and all match officials. Both teams will go to their respective team areas. Clock will continue to run and all time allotted for the break will be added to stoppage time.

# NWSL RULES & REGULATIONS

**NWSL PLAYOFFS:**  
Single-Elimination Format

**WHO QUALIFIES:**  
The top four clubs in points from the League standings at the end of the regular season, qualify for the 2015 NWSL Playoffs. The two Semifinals will be decided by a single knockout game, the winner of which will advance to the Championship Game.

The NWSL Championship will be a single championship match hosted at a pre-determined site.

If the score is tied after 90 minutes of play in any playoff game, two 15-minute extra time periods will be played in their entirety, followed by kicks from the penalty mark, if necessary.

## **TEAM-STANDINGS TIE-BREAKING PROCEDURES**

The team awarded the highest position in the NWSL standings will be the team with the greatest number of points (three points for a win, one point for a tie, zero points for a loss). In the event that two teams finish the regular season with an equal number of points, the following system will be used to break the tie:

When two or more teams are tied in the standings on points (3 points for a win, 1 point for a draw, 0 points for a loss), the following tiebreakers will be used in the sequence below, until one team ranks ahead of the other(s):

- 1) The highest position shall be awarded to the team with the better win/loss record in current Regular Season games against all other teams equal in points. (head-to-head competition)
- 2) If the teams are still equal in the standings, the highest position shall be awarded to the team with the greater goal difference against all other teams during the Regular Season. (goal differential)
- 3) If the teams are still equal in the standings, the highest position shall be awarded to the team scoring the greatest number of total goals against all other teams during the Regular Season. (total goals)
- 4) If the teams are still equal in the standings, the procedures described in this section shall be applied only to games played on the road by each team against all other teams during the Regular Season. (road 1-3)
- 5) If the teams are still equal in the standings, the procedures described in this section shall be applied only to games played at home by each team against all other teams during the regular season. (home 1-3)

If the teams are still equal in the standings, the highest position in the standings shall be determined by the toss of a coin. The first tiebreaker in a three-way tie is also head-to-head, but it is determined via points-per-game versus the other two teams. If two teams are tied in points-per-game head-to-head, the next tie breaker is goal difference.

**NOTE:** If two clubs remain tied after another club with the same number of points advances during any step, the tie breaker reverts to step 1 of the two-club format.

# NWSL ROSTER RULES

## **ROSTER RULES**

### **Team Salary Cap Regulations**

#### Team Salary Cap

In computing the Salary Cap, it is assumed that it is spread across a minimum of 18 Players (if a Team is carrying additional Players because of Roster Relief due or Goalkeeper Replacement, these Players are also included) based on adjustments for Federation Players. Therefore, if a Team is carrying less than 18 Players, minimum salary Player spots are added to the Team's budget for the purpose of calculating the total TSC (i.e. a Team cannot spread the TSC over 11 Players).

Team Salary Cap: \$278,000.

#### Maximum, Minimum Player Salary Budget Charges

Minimum Salary: \$7,200.

Maximum Salary: \$39,700.

#### Roster Limits

- 18-20 Player Roster
- Teams may have no more than 20 available Players under contract on their Roster at any one time, subject to Injury and Goalkeeper Replacement exceptions.

#### League Classifications

##### **Individual**

An Individual is a person who is eligible to play in the NWSL but is not a Player.

##### **Player**

A Player is a person who:

- A) Is currently under contract with a Team
- OR
- B) Is not under contract with a Team, but has their rights to play in the NWSL controlled by a Team.

##### **Federation Player**

A Federation Player is a Player whose compensation is underwritten by a Federation.

##### **Unattached Federation Individual**

An Unattached Federation Individual (UFI) is an Individual who a Federation has designated as a potential Federation Player, but whose rights are not yet controlled by a Team. Unattached Federation Individuals are designated as such by one of the following mechanisms:

- A) From time to time, a Federation may choose to designate certain Individuals as Unattached Federation Individuals.
- B) Teams may, as permitted by the NWSL, choose to relinquish their rights to a Federation Player. Any Federation Player whose rights have been relinquished by a Team will become an Unattached Federation Individual.

# NWSL ROSTER RULES

## Domestic Players

A domestic Player is either a U.S. citizen, a permanent resident (Green Card holder) or the holder of certain other special status (e.g., has been granted refugee or asylum status). There is no limit as to the number of domestic Players on a Team's Roster within general Roster limits.

## International Players

Each Team has four (4) international Roster spots for the 2016 season. These international Roster spots may be traded with the only condition being time (spots can be traded for one year, two years or forever). With trades, there is no limit on the number of international Roster spots a Team may have. Any Player who does not qualify as a domestic Player in the U.S. shall be considered an international Player. Any international Player must occupy an international Roster spot on a Team's Roster (with the exception of Federation Players).

## Amateur Players

An amateur Player is any person other than a professional Player. An amateur Player may not receive or retain any remuneration for playing except expenses directly related to a game or games which have actually been incurred by the Player.

## Amateur List

- Each Team's Amateur List will initially be allowed 10 amateur Players
- The Players listed on the Amateur List may remain there through the end of the 2016 Season.

## Team

A Team is one of the following entities: Boston Breakers, Houston Dash, Chicago Red Stars, FC Kansas City, Orlando Pride, Portland Thorns FC, Seattle Reign FC, Sky Blue FC, Washington Spirit, and Western New York Flash (together, the "Teams").

## Expansion Team

An Expansion Team is any Team who did not compete in the prior NWSL season.

## Federation

A Federation is one of the following entities: the Mexican Football Federation, Canadian Soccer Association or United States Soccer Federation (together, the "Federations").

## MECHANISMS OF ACQUIRING PLAYERS

Teams may add Players to their Roster through one of the following mechanisms:

Distribution Process  
College Draft  
Trades  
Discovery  
Waivers  
Loans and Transfers  
Amateur Call-up  
Disabled List

# NWSL ROSTER RULES

Season-ending Injury Replacement  
Goalkeeper Replacement

In order for a Team to add a Player to its Roster, it must use one of the above mechanisms. Once it has been determined that a Player may be added pursuant to one of the above mechanisms, it must then be determined if the Player's addition would be within the relevant Roster limits and guidelines.

## Federation Distribution Process

### Purpose and Intent

The intent of the Federation Distribution Process is to provide an equitable mechanism for distributing the rights to certain Individuals to Teams in the NWSL.

### Types of Individuals Available for Distribution

The following types of Individuals will have their rights distributed to Teams via the Distribution Process:

A) Unattached Federation Individuals

Collectively, these types of Individuals will be referred to as Distribution-Eligible Individuals.

### Distribution Process

Teams will be provided the opportunity to select Distribution-Eligible Individuals on a rolling basis, in accordance with the following processes:

A) *Timing.* Distribution-Eligible Individuals will be made available for selection by Teams after the NWSL is notified that a Distribution-Eligible Individual is available for distribution, except after the Roster Freeze date, in which case the Distribution-Eligible Individual will not be available for selection until after the completion of the current season, on a date to be determined by the NWSL.

B) *If One Distribution-Eligible Individual Available for Selection.* If a single Distribution-Eligible Individual is available for selection by Teams via the Distribution Process, the NWSL will provide formal notice to all Teams via email. Interested teams will be required to respond via email by 5pm ET on the same day. The Distribution-Eligible Individual will be awarded to the Team that selects the Distribution-Eligible Individual, except in the event that more than one Team requests the Distribution-Eligible Individual, in which case the Team with the highest Distribution Ranking will be awarded the Distribution-Eligible Individual.

C) *If More Than One Distribution-Eligible Individual Available for Selection.* In the event that more than one Distribution-Eligible Individual is made available for selection by the Teams, a "Special Distribution Draft" will be held, in accordance with the following rules:

- i. The NWSL will provide Teams with a date, time and conference call number on which the Special Distribution Draft will be conducted;
- ii. Teams will be permitted to select Distribution-Eligible Individuals following Distribution Ranking Order;
- iii. Teams may choose to not make any selections in the Special Distribution Draft;
- iv. Teams are permitted to trade their Distribution Ranking to another Team during the Special Distribution Draft;
- v. Teams are permitted to select an unlimited number of Distribution-Eligible Individuals in each Special Distribution Draft;
- vi. In the event an Distribution-Eligible Individual is not selected by any Team in the Special

# NWSL ROSTER RULES

Distribution Draft, the Individual will be immediately eligible to be designated as a Discovery Player by a Team.

D) *Retention of Rights.* Teams who select an Distribution-Eligible Individual, but do not sign the Distribution-Eligible Individual to a contract, will retain the Distribution-Eligible Individual's rights until March 1 of the following year.

## Distribution Ranking Order

The Distribution Ranking Order is the mechanism used to determine which Team has first priority to select an Distribution-Eligible Individual.

A) The Distribution Ranking Order will be determined by the reverse order of finish of the prior NWSL season, taking playoff performance into account. Specifically, the 9th Ranking will go to the winner of the NWSL Championship Game, the 8th Ranking will go to the loser of the NWSL Championship Game, the 7th Ranking will be given to the team with the highest playoff seeding that lost in a Semi-Final Game, and the 6th Ranking will be given to the team with the lowest playoff seeding that lost in a Semi-Final Game. The 5th through 1st Rankings will be given to the non-playoff teams in reverse order of finish, such that the 1st Ranking will be provided to the team with the lowest position in the NWSL table. The 10th Ranking will be provided to the Expansion Team.

B) Once a Team uses its Distribution Ranking to select an Distribution-Eligible Individual, it will drop to the bottom of the Distribution Ranking Order.

C) Teams may trade their Distribution Ranking, provided part of the compensation received in return is the other Team's Distribution Ranking. At all times each Team is assigned one Distribution Ranking.

D) The Distribution Ranking Order will reset on the day following the current year's Championship match, as per the methodology described in Section 4(A).

E) Until the conclusion of the current season, each Team's Distribution Ranking can only be adjusted through one of the following mechanisms:

- i. By acquiring an Distribution-Eligible Individual via the Distribution Process;
- ii. Through a trade with another Team.

## **College Draft**

These are Players drafted by Teams in the annual NWSL College Draft.

All Players who have exhausted their college eligibility or who will graduate in the 2016-17 year are eligible for the College Draft. Players must be registered by Jan. 2017 to be part of the College Draft. If a Player is eligible and does not register, that Player will not be able to be on the Roster of a NWSL Team until the start of the Offseason Discovery Window – at which point that Player will become eligible as a Discovery Player.

The draft order is based upon the Teams' on-field performance during the previous year. If Teams are tied, the Tie Breaking Procedures shall be utilized.

Once preseason begins, Teams must make a decision on Non-Contracted Players, whose rights they hold, within 15 days once the Player reports.

# NWSL ROSTER RULES

## Undrafted Players

A Player who is on the College Draft List and is undrafted may be added to a Team's Roster via a Discovery claim on a first-come, first-serve basis. If more than one Team selects the same Player on the same day, priority will be determined in accordance with the League's Discovery Order.

## College Protected List

If a college Player is drafted by a Team in the College Draft, the League will attempt to sign the College Player to a contract in a salary range predetermined by the League Office.

Any college Player who has refused to sign an NWSL contract or who has refused to report to the Team to be evaluated does not need to be placed on waivers and may remain college protected.

A Player on the College Protected List is not a Roster Player and may not play for the Team, since she has not signed a Player contract.

## **Trades**

Players may be acquired in trades with League approval. See Standard Trade Agreement Form.

All Player trades are subject to League approval and to Salary Cap as well as Roster size and composition constraints. Player trades cannot be made for finite periods (i.e., Players may not be "loaned" by one Team to another or temporarily swapped by Teams).

Trades may not be conditioned upon a Player passing a physical examination or unwound because she failed to do so – it is a case of "buyer beware." Teams are advised to undertake any inquiries regarding a Player's medical condition before executing a Trade Agreement. It is also a case of "buyer beware" with regard to a Player failing to report to her new Team.

Bona fide consideration (either an exchange of Players, future draft choices) is required in each trade of a Player. No financial consideration is permitted. Teams are able to trade future draft picks and International spots as well as Players. Teams may not structure trades such that a Player may not play against her previous Team.

The League should be consulted early in any trade discussions so that Player salaries and other Player Agreement provisions can be confirmed, Team Salary Cap impacts can be determined, any draft positions to be traded can be confirmed, and any other matters, including the Players' physical condition, can be discussed.

Teams must respond fully to all inquiries in anticipation of a trade regarding Player injuries, illnesses, or other matters, and provide copies of medical records as requested. It is anticipated that Team trainers and physicians will communicate directly on these matters. A Team's failure to respond fully and accurately may result in sanctions imposed by the League as set forth under "Binding Agreement and Approval". There is, however, no prohibition against Teams trading an injured Player.

## Binding Agreement and Approval

A trade is binding on the Teams from the time the Trade Agreement is executed by both Teams and submitted to the League office, but is not final until approval has been received in writing from the League office. Once the League has given approval, the trade is final except where, in the opinion of the League, egregious conduct has occurred on the part of a Team involved in a trade that was not known at the time the trade was approved.

The League shall disapprove any trade of a Player if the consideration is not clearly established and accurately disclosed on the Trade Agreement submitted to the League.

# NWSL ROSTER RULES

## Trades of Discovery Rights

Teams may not trade Discovery Player "rights" or "spots."

## Trades for International Spots

Teams may trade International spots, provided that the only condition can be the length of time the spot is traded (e.g., a spot can be traded for 1 year, 2 years or forever).

## Trades for College Draft Picks

Teams trading College Draft picks may not place conditions on those draft picks.

Teams are only permitted to trade selections for the next College Draft. The sole exception to this is that Teams will be permitted to trade selections from the next two College Drafts during the period of time from the conclusion of a Season through the end of the subsequent draft.

## Trade Deadline

No trade may take place between the Roster Freeze and the NWSL Championship.

## Standard Trade Agreement Forms

All trades should be submitted to the League office on an official Standard Trade Agreement Form.

## **Discovery**

A Discovery Player is a domestic or international Player who is currently not under contract with the League. A Team may claim her rights by adding her to their Discovery List.

The term "Discovery Player" may refer to both Players on the Discovery List and those Players under contract with the League who have been acquired through Discovery Process.

A Discovery Player request must be made to the League on an official Discovery Player Request Form during the "Discovery Period." If approved by the League, the Player will be informed and will be added to the Team's Discovery List.

Teams may submit discovery forms and sign Players during the following Discovery Periods:

- Seven (7) in the off season period
- An additional four (4) in the Preseason period
- No more than three (3) unsigned international Players may be on a Team's discovery list in the Offseason and Preseason period
- An unlimited number of Players may be signed, but only two (2) unsigned discovery Players may be on a Team's discovery list during the Inseason period
- No more than two (2) unsigned international Players may be on a Team's discovery list in the Inseason period

Once submitted the Discovery Player continues to occupy a discovery spot. An exception to this would be applied if another Team submits a discovery request for the same Player and after 14 days the Player is not signed with the original Team she will be removed from the first Team and placed on the second Team's list who submitted the request. The Player will then occupy a spot on the 2nd Team's discovery list.

# NWSL ROSTER RULES

## Discovery Process

- A Player is put on a Team's discovery list once they are in talks/negotiations (on behalf of the League) to sign the Player.
- It is incumbent upon all Teams to notify their Discovery Players that they are on their Teams' Discovery List in order to assure that no tampering will take place.
- If another Team submits a discovery request for the same Player, the Team who holds the discovery rights will need to provide a Player Agreement within 14 days for the Player or release her rights.
- If the Player is released or the offer is deemed to not be bona fide, the discovery rights for the Player will then be awarded to the second requesting Team.
- If the Team makes a bona fide offer to the Player and she does not accept, the Player will not be eligible to be placed on another discovery list during that Season.
- Players will remain on a Team's discovery list until the end of the Season at which time she will be removed.
- No discovery may take place from the close of the Inseason period until the start of the Offseason period

A list of Discovery Players will be available for Teams to review in order to facilitate the process. This list is for internal use only and not be publicized in any way.

## Non-Discoverable Players

Teams may not discover Players in the pool for the full U.S. Women's National Team. The Player pool for the USWNT is as determined by U.S. Soccer (usually posted on their website) at the time the Player is being signed by the League.

Teams may not discover a Player who played at a four-year collegiate institution during the college Season immediately prior to the date of discovery. If a Player has completed her college eligibility in the Season immediately prior to the date of her discovery and was not on the College Draft list, she shall not be permitted to play in the League for the current Season.

## Discovery Period

The discovery period for Discovery Players is as set forth in the Competition Calendar. After the Roster Freeze Date the Discovery List is wiped clean as only goalkeeper replacement signings will be made for the remainder of that Season.

## Multiple Claims for the Same Player

If a Team makes a valid Discovery Player request and no other Team makes a Discovery Player request for the same Player on the same day (whether or not it's a business day) during the Discovery Period, the Player shall be assigned to the requesting Team. In the event a Discovery Player is requested by more than one Team during the Discovery Period, the League shall award the Player to the Team per the Discovery Order.

The Discovery Order is determined via reverse order of the standings from the previous Season until Teams have played at least three (3) League games. If the discovery takes place prior to all Teams playing in at least three (3) League games priority shall be granted based upon the prior year's performance according to their point totals through the end of the Regular Season. In the offseason, once a Team involved in a tie wins the tie breaker, it is moved to the bottom of the Discovery Order.

New expansion Teams shall be in the middle of the Discovery Order. If only one of the claiming Teams participated in the prior League Season, priority shall be granted to the Team that so participated. If neither Team played in the previous Season, priority will be granted to the Team that received the lowest 1st Round College Draft pick. If the Teams are equal in points, the League shall award the Player using the Tie Breaking Procedures for determining playoff participation and seeding.

## Salary Cap of Discovery Players

A Discovery Player's Salary Cap number will include the Player's salary (and bonuses, camps, etc.). The resulting Salary Cap number for the Player must not exceed the maximum Salary Cap charge or cause the Team to exceed its Team Salary Cap.

# NWSL ROSTER RULES

## Loans and Transfers

All contract and loan/transfer negotiations shall be approved by the League, consistent with the current rules. The League should be consulted at the beginning of any loan or transfer process.

U.S. Soccer will not register Player loans or transfers that take place outside of our two annual transfer windows. The Primary and Secondary Windows are set forth in the Competition Calendar.

### International Transfers and Loans

With respect to international loans or transfers of Players, the Players must be registered with U.S. Soccer within the registration windows. A number of requirements must be fulfilled prior to registering a Player pursuant to a loan or transfer. These include:

1. Negotiation and agreement with the Player's club for her loan or transfer;
2. Negotiation and agreement with the Player as to her personal employment terms with NWSL;
3. Confirmation from the respective football associations that the Player can be transferred in accordance with FIFA guidelines;
4. Confirmation that the respective football association will release the international clearance;
5. The Player receiving a work permit;
6. The Player passing a physical;
7. Receipt of the Player's International Transfer Certificate (ITC).

Loans of Players to NWSL must comply with the following:

- The Loan Agreement will be filled out by the Team requesting the loan and sent to the League Office for approval, along with contact information. The League Office will send the Loan Agreement to the Team from which the Player is being loaned.
- NWSL will send a Loan Agreement to the Team the Player is coming from. See Loan Agreement Into NWSL.
- A Loan Fee will not be part of the Loan Agreement.
- The Loan Period for the Player shall be from the start date through the conclusion of the League Season.
- The Loan Period for the Player shall be over two (2) consecutive League seasons, as follows: for the 2016 League season from start date until the end of the season; and for the entirety of the 2017 League season.
- The NWSL Team will submit a Player Agreement form to the League.
- The loaned Player will sign the Standard Player Agreement.
- The loaned Player must have an entrance and exit physical with the NWSL Team.
- The loan must fall within the Registration Windows.
- Medical Health benefits will be provided for the term of the loan.
- Workers Compensation benefits will be provided for the term of the loan.
- International Players must provide a P-1 Visa.
- International Players must have a Social Security Number.

## Amateur Call-up

If a National Team Player is being called up for National Team duty, a Team may bring in a U.S. Amateur Player to count toward the 20-Player Roster. The Team is not to provide any compensation to the Amateur Player, but may cover necessary expenses as approved by the League.

An Amateur Call-up Form will be submitted and Amateur Players will sign an Amateur Player Agreement. They must be registered Amateur Players with U.S. Soccer. (See Amateur Player Agreement and Registration Process)

# NWSL ROSTER RULES

For each National Team Call-up, each Team will need to submit its Amateur Call-Up Form no less than five (5) days prior to the Amateur Player's participation with the Team.

### Goalkeeper Exception

In the case where a Team has less than two available goalkeepers, a Team will be able to add a goalkeeper to its Roster until its goalkeeper is back to full participation with the Team. This must be done within the Salary Cap.

## Disabled List

In the event a Player suffers an injury that will prohibit the Player from participating for at least 45 days, a Player may be added to a Team's Roster as a "Disabled List" replacement as set forth below. Any Player placed on the Disabled List will have to remain unavailable for a minimum of 45 days once documentation has been provided to the League.

Disabled List replacement Players must be signed prior to the Roster Freeze Date. Any Player coming off the Disabled List following the Roster Freeze Date may be added to the Roster, but Teams must comply with the relevant Roster limits.

Where the League determines that a Player has sustained an injury that will prohibit the Player from participating for at least 45 days during the League Season, it may provide the Team Roster relief, provided the full amount of the injured Player's salary is charged to the Team's Salary Cap in the relevant Season. Therefore, the Team is given Roster relief, but not Cap relief.

In the event where a Team has two (2) or more Players on its Disabled List, Salary Cap relief may be considered by the League.

Teams that carry or can create extra Salary Cap room will therefore be able to temporarily replace Players who are on the Disabled List. The budget number for the replacement Player will be calculated in the same manner as any other Roster Player.

Also, if the Player suffering the injury is an international Player, the Team may replace such Player with an international Player.

## Season-ending Injury Replacement

Where the League determines based on certification from a Team's medical staff that a Player has received an injury that is beyond reasonable doubt Season ending, it may provide the Team Roster relief, provided the full amount of the injured Player's salary (or any settlement amount paid to that Player) is still charged to the Team's Salary Cap in the relevant Season. In the event of such a determination, the injured Player shall not be eligible to play for the Team again during the Season in question. Therefore, the Team is given Roster relief, but not Salary Cap relief. Also, if the Player suffering the Season-ending injury is an international Player, the Team may replace such Player with an international Player.

### Unexpected Recovery from Season-ending Injuries

In the event a Player, who had suffered a Season-ending injury and had been replaced on the Roster by another Player, unexpectedly rehabilitates and recovers prior to the end of the Season, she will nonetheless be barred from playing for the Team through the end of the Season.

## Goalkeeper Replacement

It is up to each Team to structure its Roster to ensure that it has the best make-up to field a Team throughout the year. Teams are required to carry two (2) goalkeepers.

In the case of an injured goalkeeper, or where a Team has less than two available goalkeepers, a Team will be able to add a goalkeeper to its Roster until its goalkeeper is back to full participation with the Team. Also, if the goalkeeper is an international

# NWSL ROSTER RULES

Player, the Team may replace such goalkeeper with an international Player.

This must be done within the Salary Cap.

## METHODS OF RELEASING PLAYERS

### Waivers

Clubs may waive players based on performance at any time during the NWSL season. Players with guaranteed contracts will continue to have their salary budget charge applied to the club salary budget, subject to any settlement. Players on Semi-Guaranteed Contracts can be waived prior to Roster Freeze and free up the corresponding budget space. If a player on a Semi-Guaranteed Contract is waived after July 1, her salary budget charge will continue to count against the team's salary budget. Any settlement amount will be charged to the club's salary budget.

Players may be added to all other Team's Roster from the Waiver wire, which is distributed via e-mail.

Teams may waive Players based on performance at any time prior to the Roster Freeze date during the NWSL Season. Teams may not waive Players between the Roster Freeze and the NWSL Championship. See Waiver Request Form.

A Team wishing to waive a Player must first obtain a favorable medical examination of the Player – an "exit physical", and then submit its waiver request to the League.

Once a Player on a P-1 visa has been waived and is not picked up by another Team in the League, the League is obligated to notify the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) of the termination of the employment relationship. After that date, if another Team intends to offer the player a contract, it would need to file a new petition.

### Waiver Wire

Provided the League approves the Player being placed on waivers pursuant to the above, it will distribute a waiver notice to all Teams. A Team claiming the Player must notify the League of the measures it will take to remain Roster compliant, if any such moves are necessary. Notice must be received by the League from a Team claiming a waived Player within the "Waiver Claiming Period."

The "Waiver Claiming Period" shall commence on the first business day (the "Waiver Period Commencement Date") the League gives notice to Teams and shall expire at 5:00 p.m. EST on the first business day after the Waiver Period Commencement Date (the claiming period is 24 hours).

If a Team claims a Player and no other Team claims the same Player during the Waiver Claiming Period (having regard to the time of League deadlines, set forth in the Competition Calendar attached to this document), the Player shall be assigned to the claiming Team.

# NWSL ROSTER RULES

### Waiver Order

The waiver order is determined via reverse order of the standings from the previous Season, taking playoff performance into account, until Teams have played at least three (3) League games. If the waiver takes place prior to all Teams playing in at least three (3) League games priority shall be granted based upon the prior year's performance according to their point totals through the end of the Regular Season.

In the offseason, once a Team claims a Player from waivers, it is moved to the bottom of the Waiver Order claiming order.

### **Transfers and Loans**

All contract and loan/transfer negotiations shall be approved by the League, consistent with the current rules. The League should be consulted at the beginning of any loan or transfer process.

An NWSL player may be transferred or loaned at any time to a club outside the League (subject to that club's Federation's transfer window), and subject to the consent of the player. Upon loaning a player, Clubs will receive roster relief and budget space, subject to the terms of the loan.

The registration windows – the dates between which NWSL may request the transfer certificate of a player under contract in another country – are as follows:

Primary Window – Feb. 10 – May 11, 2016

Secondary Window – July 4 – Aug. 3, 2016

### **Loans and Transfers of Players by NWSL**

#### Transfer of Players by NWSL

A Team may transfer or loan the services of any Player on a Team Roster to a Team outside of NWSL, subject to League approval for any such action that would remove a Player from her NWSL Team.

#### Loans of Players by NWSL

Players may be loaned by NWSL to overseas clubs during the off-Season.

Loans of Players by NWSL must comply with the following:

- The Loan Agreement will be filled out by the Team and sent to the League Office for approval, along with contact information.
- NWSL will send a Loan Agreement to the Team to which the Player is being loaned. See Loan Agreement NWSL Form.
- Loans may not include any player out-of-contract during the NWSL season.
- An exit physical must be conducted prior to the loan being approved.

# NWSL ROSTER RULES

- NWSL Medical Health benefits will be available only while the Player is in the U.S.
- NWSL Workers Compensation does not apply while the Player is on loan with another League.
- NWSL will write into the loan agreement the Team that is taking the Player on loan will be responsible for injury and guaranteed their health.
- Per FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players: Article 10, paragraph 3 “the club that has accepted a Player on a loan basis is not entitled to transfer her to a third club without the written authorization of the club (NWSL) that released the Player on loan and the Player concerned.”

Loans for certain Players may occur after the conclusion of a Team’s Season and before the NWSL Championship. In this case, there may be a reduction of such Players’ salaries for salary budget purposes. Such loans are made in the sole discretion of the League.

## Players Loaned to NWSL

All terms of any arrangements contemplated between an NWSL Team or any related party and a Player to be loaned to NWSL shall be fully disclosed to the NWSL League office. Any loan must be extendable to a second (2nd) year which will allow for the option year to be exercised. The loan agreement will include a proviso to this effect. The League office shall make a determination, in its sole discretion, as to the terms upon which it may accept such Player on loan.

LOANS TO WPSL – Teams may loan contracted Players to a WPSL Team. The loan period shall be from the initial date of the agreement through the end of the NWSL season, when the Player is not providing services to her NWSL Team. Teams will need to submit a loan agreement for an amateur Team which will be signed off by the National Women’s Soccer League prior to any participation by a Player.

## **Contract Expiration**

When a player’s contract expires, the player does not count against the roster or budget of the club in question. Subject to the End of Season Process, a club retains the rights to the player until the next preseason following the expiration of a contract provided attempts were made to re-sign the player.

## **Buyout of Guaranteed Contract**

Clubs may have the ability to buy out one player who has a Guaranteed Contract. Details follow below:

A club may buy out one (1) player who has a Guaranteed Contract during the offseason and free up the corresponding budget space. Such a buyout is at the NWSL club’s expense.

A club may not free up room in the salary cap with a buyout of a player’s contract during the season. In the case a team buys out a player’s contract during the season, the buyout amount will be charged against the club’s salary cap.

## **End of Season Process**

A club must place a player in the Re-entry Wire, whose option was not extended, no new contract was offered or contract

# NWSL ROSTER RULES

expired, at following the conclusion of the season at which point she is made available to all other clubs. The Re-Entry Claiming Period shall commence on the first business day after the League delivers notice to teams and expires at 5 p.m. ET on the second business day after the Re-entry Wire period commencement date.

## **RIGHT OF FIRST REFUSAL**

An NWSL club has priority over other NWSL clubs -- known as a Right of First Refusal -- to add a player to its roster in the following circumstances:

### **Out of Contract Players / Options Not Picked Up**

In the event a player is out of contract (including as a result of not exercising her option or loan option) and her current team was unable to re-sign her. The player’s rights can be acquired via the End of Season Process.

### **College Protected**

A player who was selected in the College Draft, provided her club offered her a contract and the contract offer was refused by the player.

### **Other Unsigned Players**

Players who were (i) on a club’s roster who that club attempted, but were unable, to resign at the expiration of their contract or (ii) on a club’s Discovery List and who that club attempted, but were unable, to sign.

In both cases, the club who attempted to sign the player maintains a Right of First Refusal to acquire the player in the event she is subsequently signed to an NWSL contract.

Holding a Right of First Refusal applies only within NWSL and does not indicate holding of the player’s International Transfer Certificate.

- For Players whose rights a Team holds from the previous Season, the decision must be made by start of preseason. Any Player not signed at that point will become available to be claimed as a Discovery Player. The Player would then be available to all Teams through the Discovery Process.
- Once preseason begins, Teams must make a decision on Non-Contracted Players, whose rights they hold, within 15 days once the Player reports (Example: college drafted Players)
- If another Team puts in a Discovery claim to sign a Player on another Team’s amateur list to a Standard Player Agreement the club will have 48 hours to make a decision.

## **RULES & REGULATIONS**

### **Player Registration**

All Players in the NWSL must be registered with U.S. Soccer prior to participating in any competition.

# NWSL ROSTER RULES

## **Transfer Windows/Registration Period**

The registration windows – the dates between which NWSL may request the transfer certificate of a player under contract in another country.

## **Out of Contract Players**

With respect to Players not under contract to any club, they may be able to be registered outside the transfer windows, provided the Player was out of contract during NWSL's immediately previous registration window. As opposed to Players that have secured a release from an existing contract or whose contracts have expired outside an NWSL registration window. In this instance, we cannot request the International Transfer Certificate (ITC).

## **College Drafted Players**

With respect to U.S. Players selected in the College Draft, they may be signed and registered outside the Transfer Window provided their clearance has not been transferred outside the U.S.

With respect to International Players selected in the College Draft, they may be subject to the Transfer Windows and may have potential work permit issues.

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# NWSL ROSTER RULES

## **Player Tryouts**

No tryouts may be conducted by a Team unless they are done pursuant to this Section. A Player tryout shall include any practice, participation, or training: (a) with any Players not under contract to NWSL; or (b) under the direct or indirect supervision of an NWSL Coach, Trainer, or other member of a Team's management. No Team may conduct a tryout with a Player unless she has executed a Waiver of Liability Agreement and received an entrance physical.

Names of all non-contracted Players that are practicing with Teams throughout the season should be submitted to the League in order to have a record should any workers comp or insurance issues arise.

Once preseason begins, Teams must make a decision on Non-Contracted Players, whose rights they hold, within 15 days once the Player reports.

Contracted NWSL Players are not allowed to participate in offseason tryouts as this would be considered a violation of the offseason training rule.

Teams may not try out a Player on the Roster of another Team or a College Player who has been drafted by another Team without League approval. No Team may try out a Player under contract to a Team outside NWSL without the written approval of the League Office.

Any violations of these guidelines subjects a club to aforementioned tampering rules.

## **Preseason**

Teams may commence preseason training on date set out in the competition calendar, but Players may report for off-field activities no more than three days before the start of preseason. A training session shall include any practice, participation, or training: (a) with any Players under contract to NWSL; or (b) under the direct or indirect supervision of an NWSL Coach, Trainer, or other member of a Team's management.

Any Player that is in preseason training camp with an NWSL Team cannot be discovered by another NWSL Team until she is released by that Team.

Once preseason begins, Teams must make a decision on Non-Contracted Players, whose rights they hold, within 15 days once the Player reports.

During preseason, Teams must submit a preseason list of up to 32 Players, 25 Players and 20 Player rosters on the corresponding dates outlined in the Competition Calendar. This list is to include only those Players who are currently participants in the camp. The list should be resubmitted any time there is a change in participants. Forms will be provided to submit your list of Players to the League office.

A Player must be on an official NWSL preseason Roster to participate in scrimmages or exhibition games. Therefore, Non-contracted Players may participate in any scrimmages or exhibition games. If such a Player participates in a scrimmage or

# NWSL ROSTER RULES

exhibition game without being added to the official preseason Roster, the Team will be subject to sanctions, including but not limited to fines.

The League will approve an unlimited number of tryout Players for a calendar year provided that the Team has not incurred more than US \$5,000 in expenses in aggregate in such year in connection with such tryouts. Teams shall provide the League office with projected expenses in connection with the tryout and shall confirm actual expenses incurred after the tryout.

## Scrimmages and Exhibitions

Teams may hold scrimmages and exhibitions during the regular season with prior notice and approval from the League office. A scrimmage/exhibition Roster must be submitted at least 48 hours in advance to the League for approval.

In addition to Amateur Player Call-ups, Teams will be allowed to use Non-contracted Players in scrimmages and exhibitions in order to replace any missing Women's National Team Players on their 18-20 Player Roster during WNT call-ups. It must be a one-for-one swap without exceeding the maximum of 20 Players on a Team Roster. Any Non-contracted Player must sign a Release and Liability Waiver in advance and be at least 18 years and older to be eligible.

A Player must be on the approved scrimmage and exhibition Roster in order to participate in scrimmages or exhibition games.

## Off-Season Training

Teams may not commence training between the end of the season and the start of preseason. A training session shall include any practice, participation, or training: (a) with any Players under contract to NWSL; or (b) under the direct or indirect supervision of an NWSL Coach, Trainer, or other member of a Team's management.

# NWSL MEDIA GUIDELINES

Media credentials and access will be granted only to individuals with a legitimate working function at a game, training session or event. The bearer must be on a specific assignment. Credentials are non-transferable. Any unauthorized use of a credential subjects the bearer to ejection from the stadium. Resale or attempted resale is grounds for seizure and cancellation.

The following actions may result in seizure of credential and/or ejection of its wearer from the stadium or training facility:

- Requesting autographs at any time.
- Taking photographs with players/coaches
- Using credential for family or friends of a working media member
- Conduction of unauthorized interviews
- Unprofessional behavior (Cheering in the press box, consumption of alcoholic beverages, failure to abide by posted rules, etc.)

## TREATMENT OF CREDENTIAL MEDIA

**POSTGAME MEDIA ACCESS:** Players from both teams will be available to media post-game in a mix-zone located outside the team locker rooms or in a location near the field of play. The mix-zone will begin 10 minutes after the conclusion of the match. Locker rooms will not be open to media at any point.

Team PR directors should be present to indicate the beginning and end of media access to players, and ensure media have access to the head coach and players after the match. All players are highly encouraged to be available to media post-game.

All regulations about post-game media access should be clearly communicated to team staff and security to ensure a secure environment.

No individuals other than League or Club representatives shall be allowed in Club locker rooms following a game. Under no circumstances shall any club and/or its players discriminate in any fashion against an accredited member of the media based upon race, creed, sex or national origin.

**SEATING ACCESS:** Accredited media members will have access to the stadium, professional workrooms and stadium seating, if available. During the match, accredited media will have access to the press box which will be restricted to only those accredited media members.

In addition, each stadium should have a Press Box capable of seating no less than TEN (10) people, with separate areas for working press and electronic broadcasters, and sufficient power outlets for all needs. If possible, all accredited media members should be given a seat in the press box.

All credentialed media shall be seated in media seating areas, consistent with treatment afforded comparable media. In addition, all members of the media are to be afforded equal treatment and access to facilities and personnel, regardless of sex.

When the press box is fully occupied by working media, referee assessors or in-stadium observers shall be provided seating with a desk or table shielded from the weather and a vantage point to view replays (if available) from any telecast. The specific location may be determined by the Home Team but must provide these minimum accommodations.

In order to maintain the integrity of the working press box, seating is specifically reserved for media members. All other individuals (including player agents, VIP's and administrators) should be seated in overflow booths or assigned stadium seats.

**TRAVELING MEDIA:** Members of the working media who travel with a visiting team are not to be treated in a discriminatory manner with regard to seating or any other privilege or facility accorded to the home media. Comparable seating and equipment should apply to home and road media (print and electronic).

**MEDIA ACCESS TO PRACTICE:** Clubs are encouraged to make all practices open to media. If a practice is closed, clubs must

# NWSL MEDIA GUIDELINES

grant a 15-minute media access period at the start or end of practice, as well as making the coach and players available for interviews following the conclusion of practice. Clubs are strongly encouraged to ensure that ballwork is at least part of the 15-minute access period. If practices are open to the media, as defined above, they must be open to all media; if practices are closed to the media, they must be closed to all media.

Clubs violating the media access policies on practice days will be subject to fines or other discipline at the discretion of NWSL Commissioner Jeff Plush.

**GUIDELINES FOR PHOTOGRAPHERS AND CAMERA OPERATORS:** All photographers and television camera operators must stay behind the field boards at all times, unless released by the on-site photo marshal. The only exception to the field board rule will be when a staff photographer, a national rights-holder or NWSL has a crew at a game. These entities will be allowed to shoot from the area between the field boards and the touch lines in the area bounded by the top of the 18-yard box and the end line.

Each photographer will be permitted to use one monopod -- but no tripods. No seats other than "lawn-type" photographer seats will be permitted.

Stand-alone remote units will not be permitted at any time on or around the goal posts. Units mounted on the top of field boards behind the end line will be permitted at the stadium's discretion, provided the equipment does not interfere with the clear display of the field board and does not impede the operation of broadcast equipment.

Live television crews located on the baseline or sideline will be limited to two (2) people -- a camera operator and a cable-puller -- and ENG crews will be limited to one (1) person. In either case, the crew must maintain actual possession of the camera and any other equipment during all game action. Cameramen and cable-pullers from all television crews must remain off the playing field at all times.

**PHOTOGRAPHER ACCESS TO FIELD:** Photographers and camera operators shall be permitted in the area between the field boards and the touch lines in the area bounded by the top of the 18-yard box and the end line (a C-shape that extends from the top of the 18, back behind the goal, and to the top of the 18 on the opposite side of the field).

Once situated, no movement between the two halves of the field shall be permitted until halftime. Changes in this policy will be allowed in cases where stadium facilities dictate alterations. No photographers shall be allowed to move from end to end on the bench side of the field.

**PHOTOGRAPHER IDENTIFICATION:** In addition to their regular credential, it is strongly recommended that photographers and camera crews be issued with colored bibs or armbands. This makes them easy to identify, and they would presumably enjoy quick and easy access to their designated areas. This will necessitate a special area in or near the stadium where they can pick up their bibs, on presentation of their accreditation, either the day before the match or on game day, at the time media gates are opened. If they are not to be allowed to keep the bib, then it should be exchanged for a press card to be picked up following the game, or else signed out.

**PHOTOGRAPHY WORK AREA:** A work area should be provided for photographers, near the field where appropriate, with high-speed internet access. The size of the room may vary, but it should be sizeable enough for at least 5 - 10 people to work on desktops/tables. Like the press section of the stands, the photographers' work room should have sufficient electrical sockets and compatible with the equipment being used for transmission.

**ACCREDITATION:** Care should be taken when processing credential requests for photographers shooting for commercial agencies. NWSL does not permit the accreditation of photographers shooting specifically for commercial agencies. However, since many agencies offer editorial and commercial sales options (Getty Images, AP, Reuters, etc.) this must be handled on a case-by-case basis.

