



WHERE TO FIND IT

WATCH:

Junior Burgos

MF

U.S. (National) – ESPN3.com
Europe – ESPN Player
Middle East – ESPN Player
North Africa – ESPN Player

Brazil – WatchESPN

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Latin America and the Caribbean – ESPN Play Oceania – ESPN3.com

READ:

www.AtlantaSilverbacksFC.com www.NASL.com

MULTIMEDIA

www.Public.NASL.com



SEPTEMBER 15 | 7:30 PM ATLANTA SILVERBACKS PARK ATLANTA, GA.

REF: NIMA SAGHAFI ARI: NICK URANGA AR2: RICK ROGERS 4TH: MATTHEW JACKSON

GAME PREVIEW

ATLANTA - After a game away from Atlanta Silverbacks Park, the Atlanta Silverbacks (6-8-8, 26 points Combined Table) begin a two-game home stint on Tuesday against the surging Minnesota United (9-9-4, 36 points). With the Loons expected to join Major League Soccer as an expansion side in 2018, bragging rights are at a premium.

The Silverbacks have just eight games left in the 2015 NASL Season, sitting four points outside of a playoff position. Five of Atlanta's last eight games will be played at Silverbacks Park and the Silverbacks are certainly looking to continue the positive home form they've had for most of the Fall Season, having not suffered a defeat at home since June 6 — a span of more than 100 days.

Atlanta hasn'tlost in "The Jungle" since their Spring Season game against the San Antonio Scorpions. Last week, the Silverbacks traveled to WakeMed Soccer Park where they lost, 2-0, to the Carolina RailHawks. Plagued with injuries, the result definitely wasn't what Atlanta was hoping for. An absence from Paul Black and an early substitute of Abdul Bangura left Atlanta's backline shuffling.

Minnesota provides a tough match. United has lost just two games during the Fall Season, to the New York Cosmos and Carolina RailHawks. After losing USMNT midfielder Miguel Ibarra in a transfer to Liga MX side Leon, it wouldn't have been surprising to see the Loons suffer a bit of decline or stagnation. They haven't, though.

The Loons' leading goal-scorer, Christian Ramirez, seems to have finally found his 2015 form. His eight goals rank him fourth in the NASL's overall goal-scoring list. Former Portland Timber Kalif Alhassan is doing his part for Minnesota's offense, too. The speedy winger has contributed five assists to the team's effort. Coincidentally, Alhassan is tied with Atlanta forward Jaime Chavez in that regard.

Atlanta will have to give their all to take down United, a team on a six-game unbeaten streak. The Loons are still in the gray area when it comes to the playoffs with only six points more than Tampa Bay.

Atlanta and Minnesota both have plenty to lose and even more to gain when the match kicks off on Tuesday night..



No.	Name.	Pos.
1	Mitchell Hildebrandt	GK
2	Justin Davis	D
3	Cristiano Dias	D
4	Aaron Pitchkolan	М
5	Tiago Calvano	D
6	Brent Kallman	D
7	Kevin Venegas	D
8	Ibson de Silva	М
9	Pablo Campos	F
11	Kalif Alhassan	M
13	Jamie Watson	M
14	Brian Kallman	D
16	Tyler Polak	D
17	Yago Silva	M
18	Daniel Mendes	М
20	Andrei Gotsmanov	M
21	Christian Ramirez	F
23	Greg Jordan	М
24	Andrew Fontein	GK
29	JC Banks	M
33	Sammy Ndjock	GK
77	Juliano Vicentini	М
99	Geison Moura	М

NASL COMBINED STANDINGS

P	Team Pld F							
1	New York Cosmos 22 4:							
2	Minnesota United FC 22 3							
3	Ottawa Fury FC	22 36						
4	Tampa Bay Rowdies	22	30					
5	Fort Lauderdale Strikers	21	28					
6	FC Edmonton	23	28					
7	Carolina RailHawks	23	26					
8	Atlanta Silverbacks	22	26					
9	San Antonio Scorpions	22	25					
10	Indy Eleven	23	25					
11	Jacksonville Armada	22	23					



LAST TIME OUT

CARY, N.C. — The Atlanta Silverbacks (6-8-8, 26 points Combined Table) visited the Carolina RailHawks (6-7-8, 25 points) for the team's first of two meetings in September for a rare Friday fixture at WakeMed Soccer Park. A swift four-minute sequence of successful Carolina attacks gave the RailHawks all they needed for a 2-0 victory — their first in five matches.

"Of course this is disappointing; we came here with a positive mentality and high confidence, but a few injuries to integral components of our defense and a quality first half by Carolina caught us out," Silverbacks coach Gary Smith said. "Those are things you have to deal with, and I thought we may just turn the tide in the second half but our edge in the final third was blunted.

"We'll go into a 10-day break before our next match with a focus on building what went well and fixing what didn't, and we'll use the time to get some injuries healed."

Abdul Bangura — starting for just the second time this season, replaced of Paul Black after he suffered a training injury on Thursday — was taken off in just the 10th minute with a injury. His removal brought Josh Hughes in, but complicated the consistency of Atlanta's backline. Through the first 20 matches of the NASL campaign, Atlanta backliners Simon Mensing, Black and Rauwshan McKenzie were among the league's leaders in minutes.

Carolina pressed the newly makeshift Silverbacks defense, launching four shots on goal and scoring twice before halftime.

In the 24th minute, Carolina's Nazmi Albadawi opened with a wobbling rocket from the top of the 18-yard box after an Atlanta counter attack was severed and swung back onto the visitors. Albadawi ripped the back of the net for his third goal of the season.

The RailHawks doubled their lead four minutes later when Blake Wagner targeted the far post with a right-sided free kick. His delivery found Austen King, who nodded it across the Silverbacks goalmouth and into a Connor Tobin's feet from point-blank range. The goal was Tobin's second of the season; it was King's first assist.

Despite the four-minute Carolina ambush, Silverbacks goalkeeper C.J. Cochran — starting in place of Steward Ceus, who's away with Haiti on an international call up — made three impact saves in the first half. The most impressive save came in a 1-on-1 with Albadawi in the 12th minute: Cochran rushed out and spread wide to save Albadawi's close-range strike after Novo's pinpoint centering of the attack.

The 6-foot-4 rookie rejected Carolina again in the 50th minute when Mark Anderson sliced into the Silverbacks' box unmarked. Cochran sprung forward to two-hand Anderson's settling touch out for a harmless corner.

On the attack in the second half, Atlanta created potentially potent moments but failed to finish them. Jaime Chavez eyed the best chance in the 63rd minute on a breakaway to the top of Carolina's box. Needing just one touch to round goalkeeper Akira Fitzgerald, Chavez's was just heavy enough to be thwarted.

All in all, both sides aired three shots on goal with Carolina (3) taking just one more corner kick than Atlanta (2).

Atlanta will look to regroup into its bye week before hosting Minnesota United on Sept. 15 and the RailHawks on Sept. 19 at Atlanta Silverbacks Park.

Match Report:

Starting XI:

Atlanta Silverbacks: Head Coach - Gary Smith

(3-5-2) C.J. Cochran, Abdul Bangura (Josh Hughes - 10'), Simon Mensing (C), Rauwshan McKenzie, Kyle Porter (Jonathan Okafor - 66'), Paulo Mendes, Junior Burgos, Michael Reed, Kosuke Kimura, Jaime Chavez, Pedro Mendes (Shaka Bangura - 57')

Unused Substitutions: Bryce Billington (GK), Hans Denissen, Matt Horth

Carolina RailHawks: Head Coach - Colin Clarke

(4-2-3-1) Akira Fitzgerald, Blake Wagner, Austen King (Mark Anderson - 40'), Connor Tobin (C), Kupono Low (Jack Coleman - 90'), Neil Hlavaty, Chris Nurse, Tiyi Shipalane, Nazmi Albadawi, Austin da Luz, Nacho Novo

Unused Substitutions: Hunter Gilstrap (GK), Gabriel Da Silva, Simone Bracalello, Bradlee Baladez, Jaime Dell

Scoring Summary:

24': CAR - Nazmi Albadawi

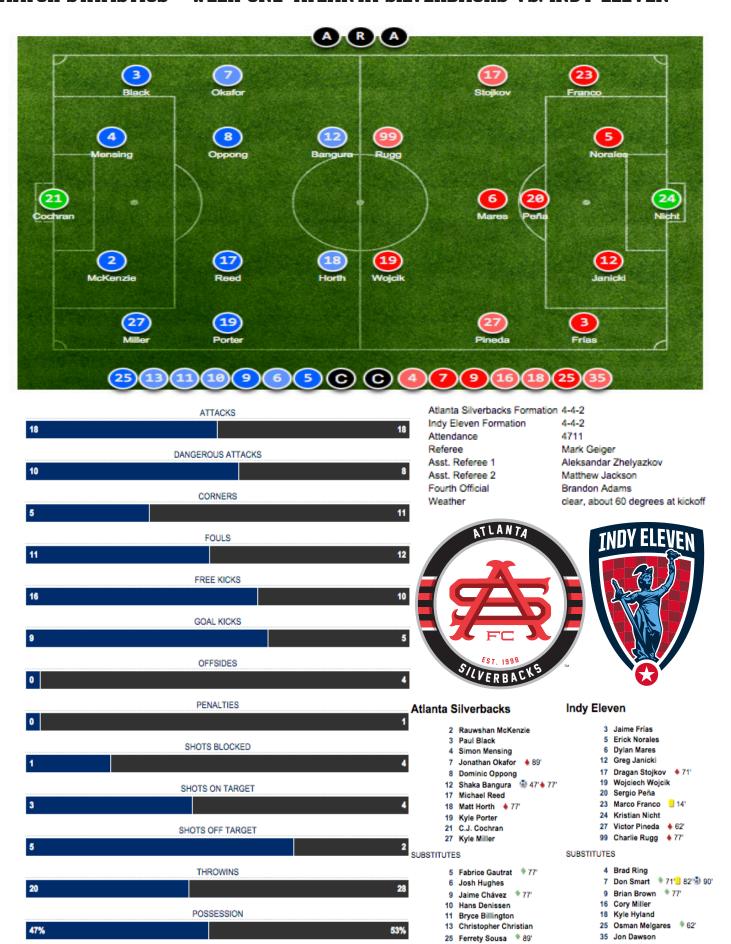
28': CAR - Connor Tobin (Austen King)

Caution Summary:

16': CAR - Chris Nurse (CAUTION)

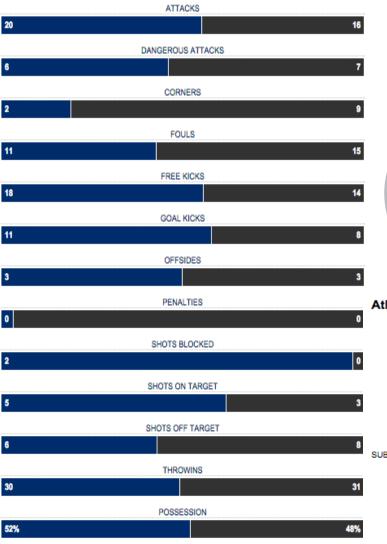
77': ATL - Jonathan Okafor (CAUTION)

MATCH STATISTICS - WEEK ONE: ATLANTA SILVERBACKS VS. INDY ELEVEN



MATCH STATISTICS - WEEK TWO: ATLANTA SILVERBACKS VS. OTTAWA FURY FC





Attendance Referee Asst. Referee 1 Asst. Referee 2 Fourth Official Weather 3841
Tyler Ploeger
Logan Brown
Nick Uranga
Guido Gonzalez Jr.
clear, 70 degrees at kickoff





Atlanta Silverbacks

2 Rauwshan McKenzie 3 Paul Black 4 Simon Mensing

- 7 Jonathan Okafor 66' 8 Dominic Oppong • 88'
- 12 Shaka Bangura 17 Michael Reed
- 18 Matt Horth ◆ 71' 19 Kyle Porter ⑤ 57' 21 C.J. Cochran
- 27 Kyle Miller 🔒 33'

SUBSTITUTES

- 5 Fabrice Gautrat
- 9 Jaime Chávez * 71'
- 10 Hans Denissen * 66'
- 10 Hans Denissen 11 Bryce Billington
- 13 Christopher Christian 22 Kevin Sawchak 988
- 25 Ferrety Sousa

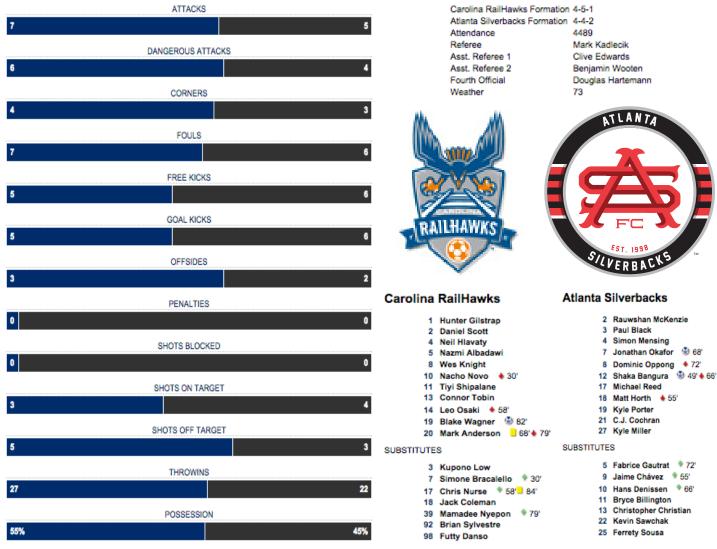
Ottawa Fury FC

- 1 Romuald Peiser
- 2 Ryan Richter
- 8 Nicki Paterson 34'
- 9 Tom Heinemann
- 11 Oliver Minatel 74'
- 17 Carl Haworth
- 18 Brandon Poltronieri 3 29' ♦ 86'
- 27 Patryk Misik 76'
- 29 Mike Randolph
- 32 Colin Falvey
- 32 Colin Falvey 33 Rafael Alves

- 3 Mason Trafford
- 4 Drew Beckie * 76' 89'
- 16 Mohammed Dagnogo
- 20 Mauro Eustaquio 9 86
- 23 Andrew Wiedeman 9 74
- 24 Marcel DeBellis

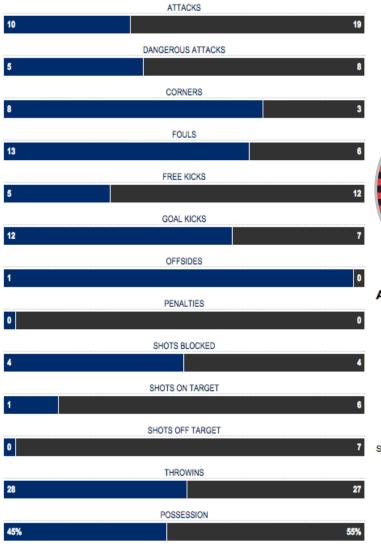
MATCH STATISTICS - WEEK THREE: CAROLINA RAILHAWKS VS. ATLANTA SILVERBACKS





MATCH STATISTICS - WEEK FOUR: ATLANTA SILVERBACKS VS. NEW YORK COSMOS





Atlanta Silverbacks Formation 4-4-2 New York Cosmos Formation 4-2-3-1 Attendance 5511

Referee Marcos de Oliveira
Asst. Referee 1 Brian Bozard
Asst. Referee 2 Nick Uranga
Fourth Official Guido Gonzalez
Weather Overcast, breezy





Atlanta Silverbacks

- 1 Steward Ceus 2 Rauwshan McKenzie 3 74
- 3 Paul Black
- 3 Paul Black 4 Simon Mensing
- Jonathan Okafor 🔸 86'
- Dominic Oppong
- 9 Jaime Chávez 85' 12 Shaka Bangura • 75'
- 17 Michael Reed
- 19 Kyle Porter
- 27 Kyle Miller

SUBSTITUTES

- 5 Fabrice Gautrat
- 10 Hans Denissen * 75'
- 18 Matt Horth 9 85'
- 21 C.J. Cochran
- 22 Kevin Sawchak
- 23 Michal Mravec 9 86'
- 25 Ferrety Sousa

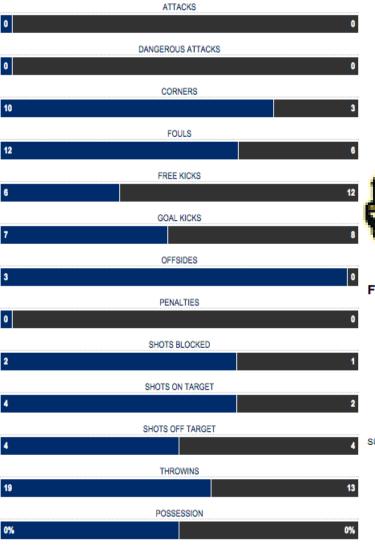
New York Cosmos

- 1 Jimmy Maurer
- 3 Hunter Gorskie
- 4 Carlos Mendes 352
- 6 Rovérsio Rodrigues de Barros 57'♦ 64'
 - 7 Raúl González Blanco
 - 14 Daniel Szetela
 - 19 Marcos Senna
- 20 Walter Restrepo
- 22 Leonardo Fernandes 82' 77 Lucky Mkosana 343' • 66'

- 5 Samuel Cáceres
- 11 Andrés Alexander Flores Mejía
- 13 Sebastián Ignacio Guenzatti Varela 9 66'
- 16 Adam Moffat
- 18 Mads Stokkelien 9 82'
- 21 David Diosa 9 64'
- 24 Brian Holt

MATCH STATISTICS - WEEK FIVE: FORT LAUDERDALE STRIKERS VS. ATLANTA SILVERBACKS

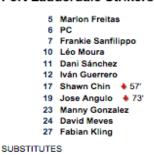




Fort Lauderdale Strikers Formation 4-4-2 Atlanta Silverbacks Formation 4-4-2 5295 Attendance Referee Mark Kadlecik Asst. Referee 1 Daniel Gutierrez Asst. Referee 2 Esteban Rosano Fourth Official Rubiel Vazquez Weather Clear



Fort Lauderdale Strikers Atlanta Silverbacks

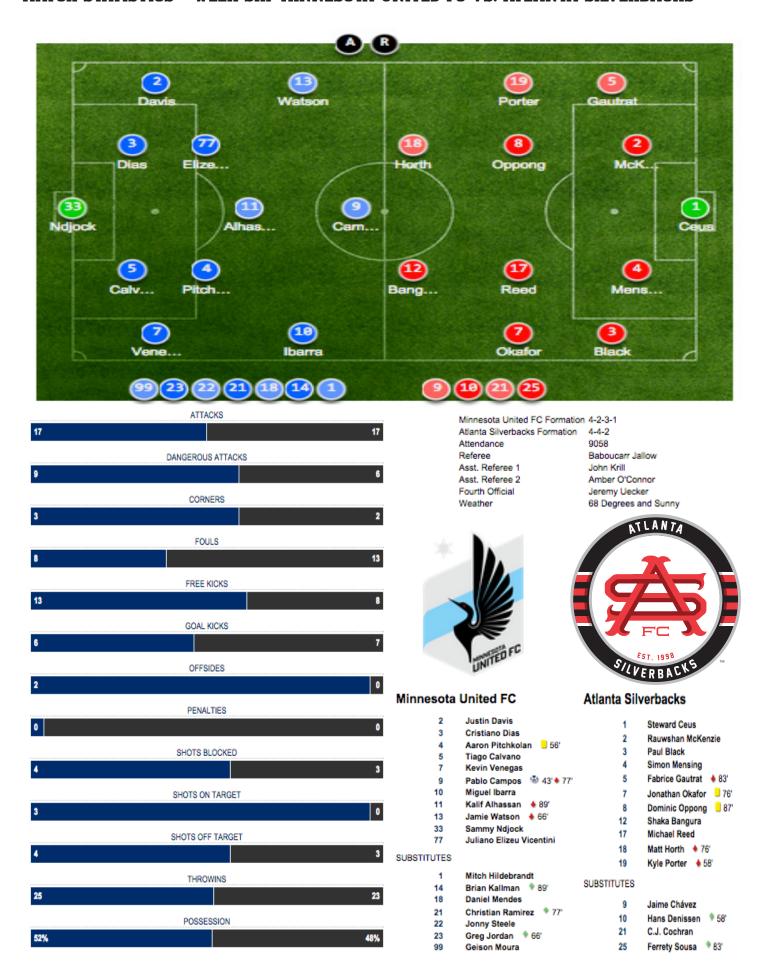


- 8 Evans Frimpong * 73' 14 Jordan Graye
- 15 Aly Alberto Hassan 21 Walter Ramírez 22 Lionel Brown 29 Stefano Pinho \$ 57' 42 James Marcelin
- 1 Steward Ceus 2 Rauwshan McKenzie 3 Paul Black 4 Simon Mensing 3 85' 7 Jonathan Okafor 8 Dominic Oppong 4 65' 9 Jaime Chávez 🔸 59' 12 Shaka Bangura • 78'

ATLANTA

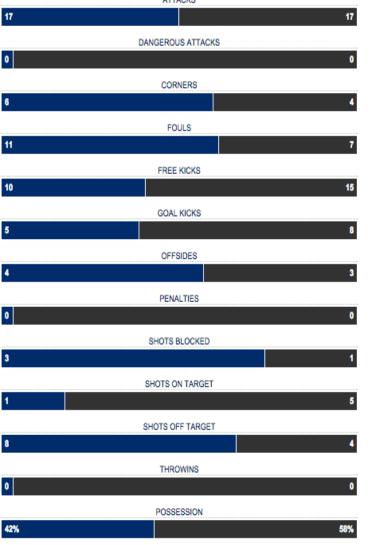
- 17 Michael Reed 19 Kyle Porter 27 Kyle Miller
- SUBSTITUTES 5 Fabrice Gautrat 10 Hans Denissen * 59' 18 Matt Horth * 78' 21 C.J. Cochran 23 Michal Mravec 9 65'

MATCH STATISTICS - WEEK SIX: MINNESOTA UNITED FC VS. ATLANTA SILVERBACKS



MATCH STATISTICS - WEEK SEVEN: ATLANTA SILVERBACKS VS. JACKSONVILLE ARMADA





Atlanta Silverbacks Formation 4-2-3-1 Jacksonville Armada Formation 3-5-2 Attendance 4736





Atlanta Silverbacks

1	Steward Ceus
2	Rauwshan McKenzie
3	Paul Black
4	Simon Mensing
7	Jonathan Okafor
8	Dominic Oppong
9	Jaime Chávez • 78'
10	Hans Denissen 🔮 1'♦ 62'
12	Shaka Bangura 🔸 54'
17	Michael Reed
27	Kvle Miller

SUBSTITUTES

5 Fabrice Gautrat
13 Christopher Christian
14 Alex Harlley 62'
18 Matt Horth 78'
19 Kyle Porter 54'
21 C.J. Cochran
25 Ferrety Sousa

Jacksonville Armada

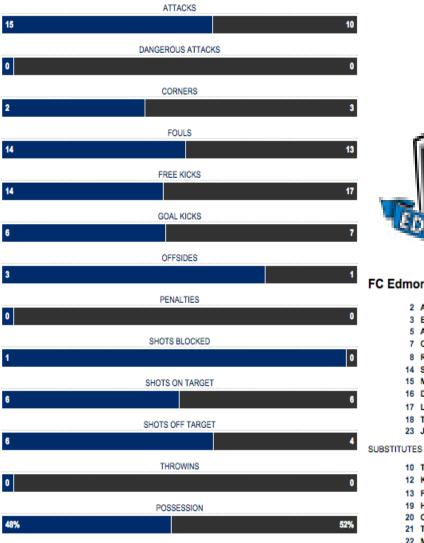
3	Lucas Trejo 📙 37'
6	Fabricio Ortiz 🔒 26'
7	Lucas Rodriguez 🔸 61
8	Bochy Hoyos
9	Marcos Flores
10	Alhassane Keita 🔮 20
11	Jemal Johnson 🔸 79'
13	Matt Bahner
14	Pascal Millien 🔸 83'
16	Lucas Scaglia

1 Miguel Gallardo

2	Jordan Gafa
5	Nurdin Hrustic * 83'
12	David Sierra
15	Shawn Nicklaw 9 61'
17	Nicolas Perea
18	Tommy Krizanovic
26	Akeil Barrett * 79'

MATCH STATISTICS - WEEK EIGHT: FC EDMONTON VS. ATLANTA SILVERBACKS





FC Edmonton Formation 4-1-4-1 Atlanta Silverbacks Formation 4-2-3-1 Attendance 3756 Referee Francis Latulippe Peter Manastryrsky Asst. Referee 1 Chantal Boudreau Asst. Referee 2 Fourth Official Mike Barwegan Weather 27 C sunny





FC Edmonton

2 Allan Zebie

_	Eddie Edward • 30' Albert Watson
7	Cristian Raudales 30'
8	Ritchie Jones 🐵 54'
14	Sainey Nyassi • 76'
15	Mallan Roberts
16	Daryl Fordyce 🔞 66'
17	Lance Laing 3 41' 42'
18	Tomi Ameobi 🔸 66'
23	John Smits

10 Tomas Granitto 12 Kareem Moses * 30' 85' 85' 85' 13 Frank Jonke * 66' 19 Hanson Boakai * 76' 20 Chad Burt 21 Tyson Farago 22 Michael Nonni

Atlanta Silverbacks

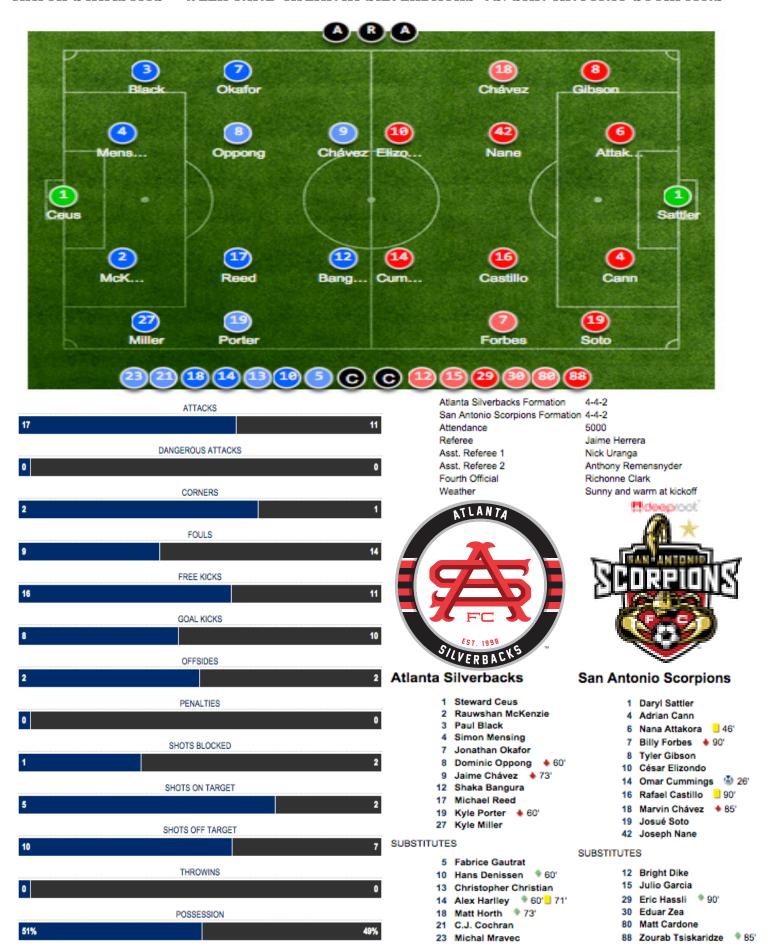
1	Steward Ceus				
2	Rauwshan McKenzie 363				
3	Paul Black				
4	Simon Mensing				
7	Jonathan Okafor				
8	Dominic Oppong 3 58'				
10	Hans Denissen 🔸 56'				
17	Michael Reed 36'				
18	Matt Horth • 66'				
19	Kyle Porter				
27	Kyle Miller ♦ 84'				
ITUTES					
5	Fabrice Gautrat				

SUBSTIT

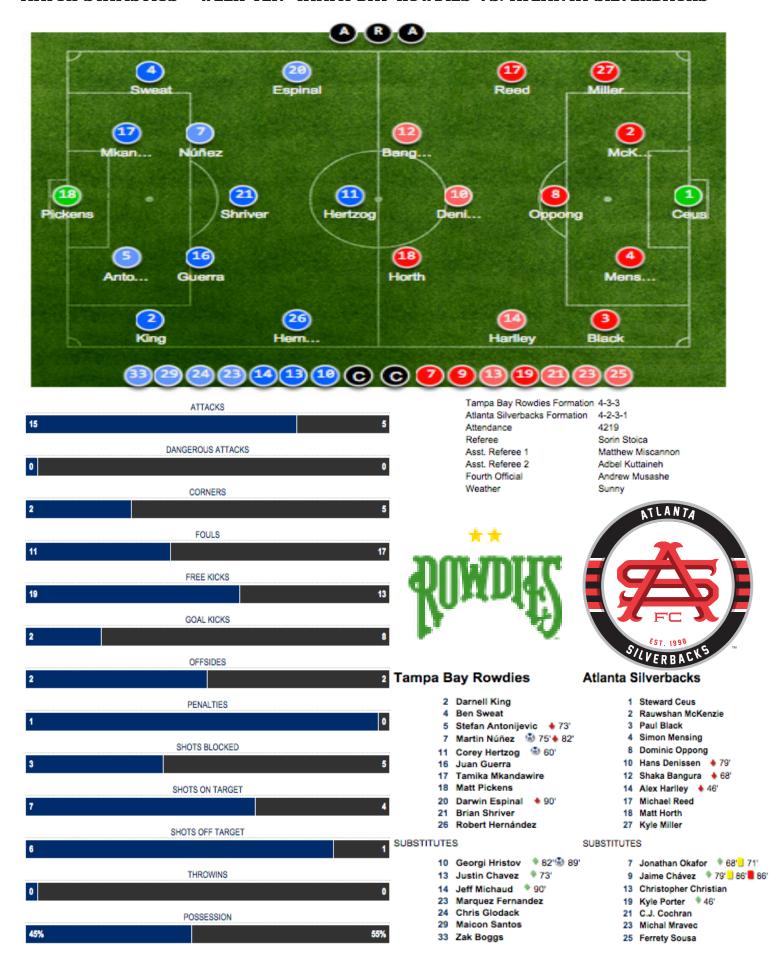
9 Jaime Chávez * 66' 376' 12 Shaka Bangura * 56' 13 Christopher Christian * 84" 88"

21 C.J. Cochran

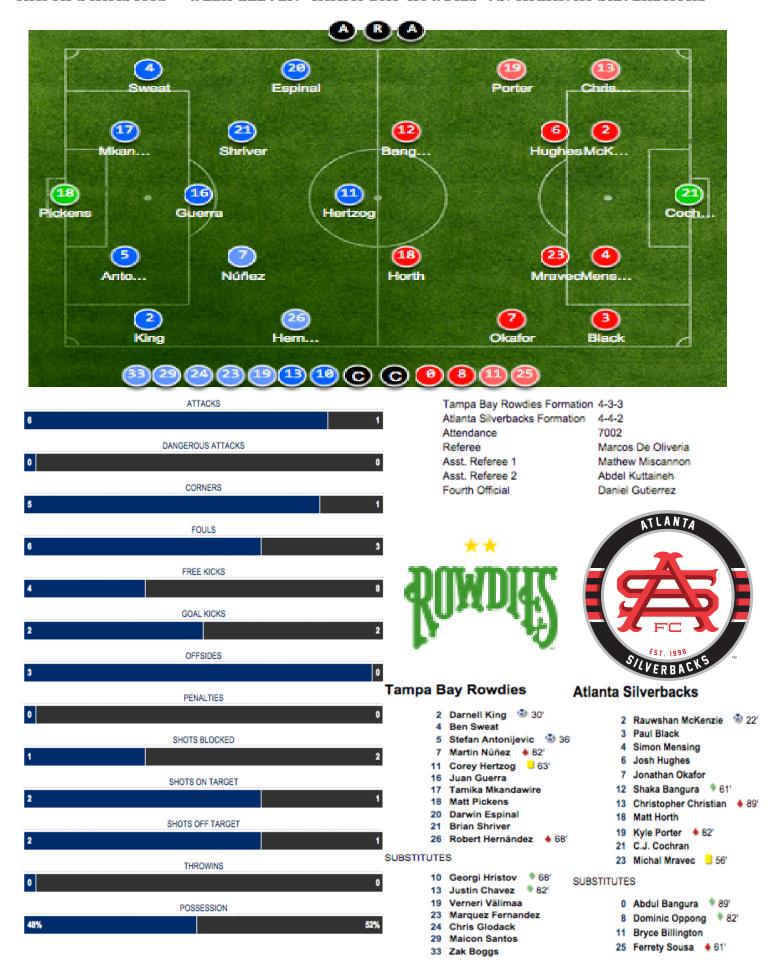
MATCH STATISTICS - WEEK NINE: ATLANTA SILVERBACKS VS. SAN ANTONIO SCORPIONS



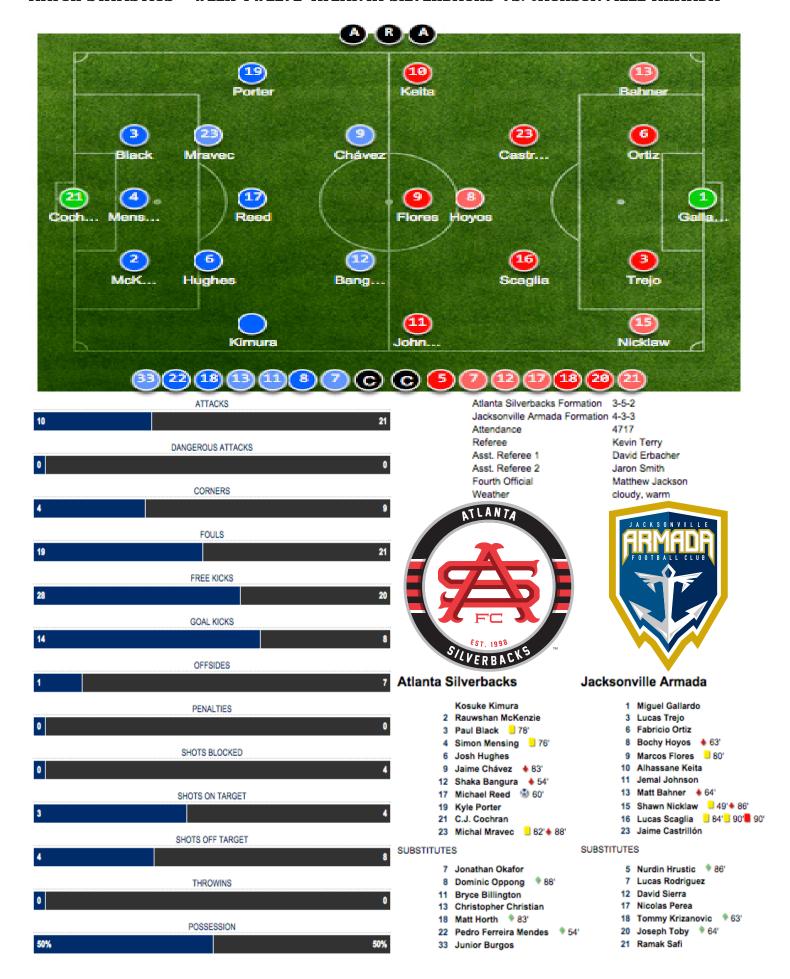
MATCH STATISTICS - WEEK TEN: TAMPA BAY ROWDIES VS. ATLANTA SILVERBACKS



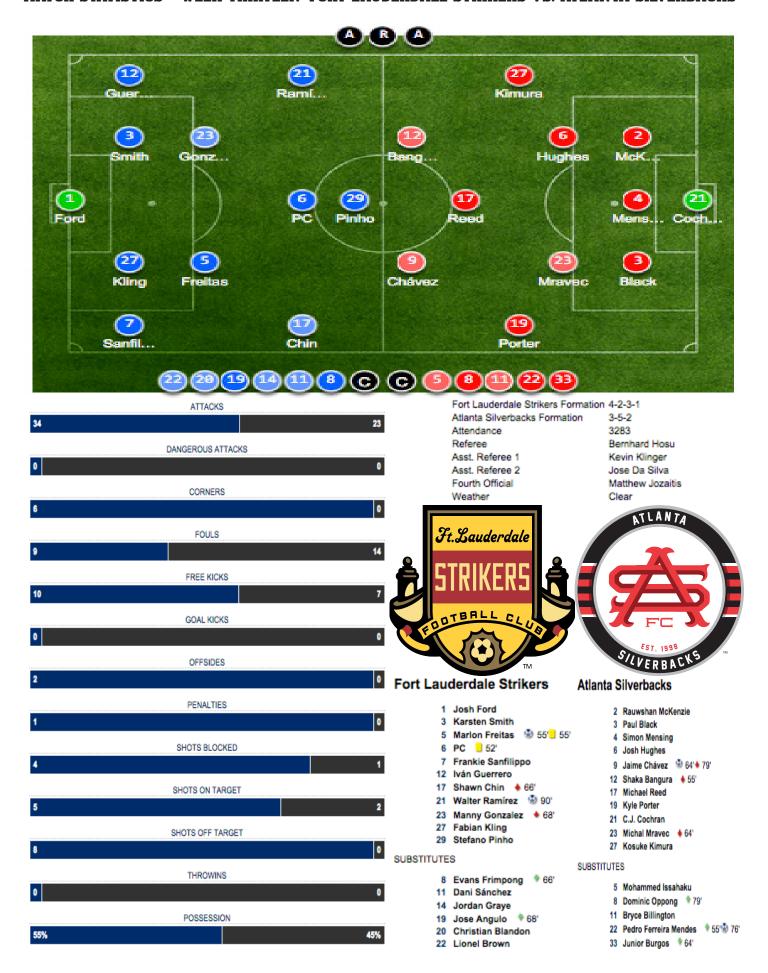
MATCH STATISTICS - WEEK ELEVEN: TAMPA BAY ROWDIES VS. ATLANTA SILVERBACKS



MATCH STATISTICS - WEEK TWELVE: ATLANTA SILVERBACKS VS. JACKSONVILLE ARMADA

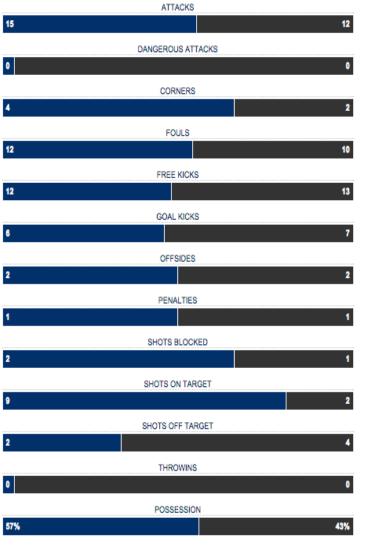


MATCH STATISTICS - WEEK THIRTEEN: FORT LAUDERDALE STRIKERS VS. ATLANTA SILVERBACKS



MATCH STATISTICS - WEEK FOURTEEN: OTTAWA FURY FC VS. ATLANTA SILVERBACKS



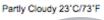


Ottawa Fury FC Formation Atlanta Silverbacks Formation 3-5-2 Attendance Referee Asst. Referee 1 Asst. Referee 2 Fourth Official Weather

Ottawa Fury FC

- 1 Romuald Peiser
- 2 Ryan Richter
- 3 Mason Trafford
- 6 Richie Ryan 3 73
- 9 Tom Heinemann 67'
- 11 Oliver Minatel 85
- 15 Philippe Davies 69'
- 17 Carl Haworth 3 43 56
- 20 Mauro Eustaquio
- 32 Colin Falvey 33 Rafael Alves
- SUBSTITUTES
 - 4 Drew Beckie
 - 7 Paulo Junior * 85'
 - 10 Siniša Ubiparipović * 69'
 - 14 Aly Alberto Hassan 9 67'
 - 18 Brandon Poltronieri
 - 23 Andrew Wiedeman
 - 24 Marcel DeBellis

3459 Francis Latulippe Lyes Arfa Gianni Facchini Chris Grabas



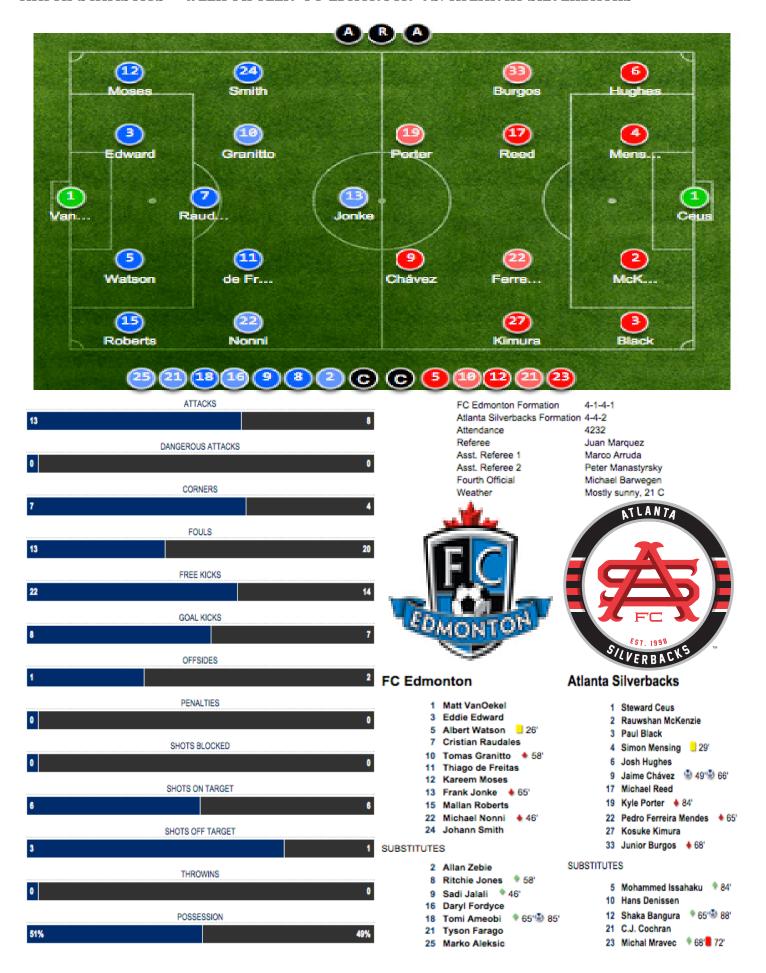


Atlanta Silverbacks

- 1 Steward Ceus
- 2 Rauwshan McKenzie
- 3 Paul Black
- 4 Simon Mensing 373
- 5 Mohammed Issahaku
- 9 Jaime Chávez
- 17 Michael Reed
- 22 Pedro Ferreira Mendes 70'
- 23 Michal Mravec 29' ◆ 81'
- 27 Kosuke Kimura 3 4'
- 33 Junior Burgos ³ 62' ♦ 78'

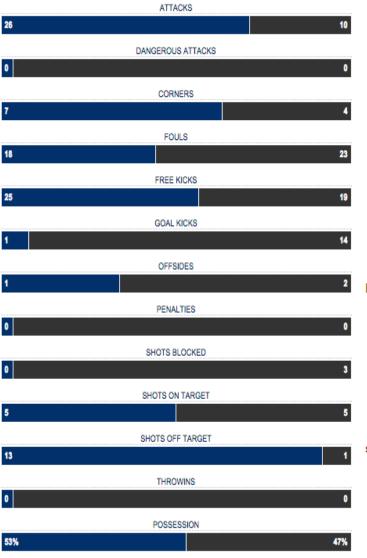
- 6 Josh Hughes 981'
- 10 Hans Denissen 9 78'
- 12 Shaka Bangura * 70'
- 19 Kyle Porter
- 21 C.J. Cochran

MATCH STATISTICS - WEEK FIFTEEN: FC EDMONTON VS. ATLANTA SILVERBACKS



MATCH STATISTICS - WEEK SIXTEEN: INDY ELEVEN VS. ATLANTA SILVERBACKS





Indy Eleven Formation Atlanta Silverbacks Formation 3-5-2 Attendance 9632 Referee Fotis Bazakos Asst. Referee 1 Joshua Brooks Asst. Referee 2 Khalaf Al-Latayfeh Fourth Official Aaron Hernandez Weather 80 Degrees & Fair



Atlanta Silverbacks Indy Eleven



SUBSTITUTES

1 Keith Cardona 2 Judson McKinney 3 Jaime Frías 7 Don Smart * 77' 15 Daniel Keller 19 Wojciech Wojcik * 60' 99 Charlie Rugg * 65'

27 Victor Pineda

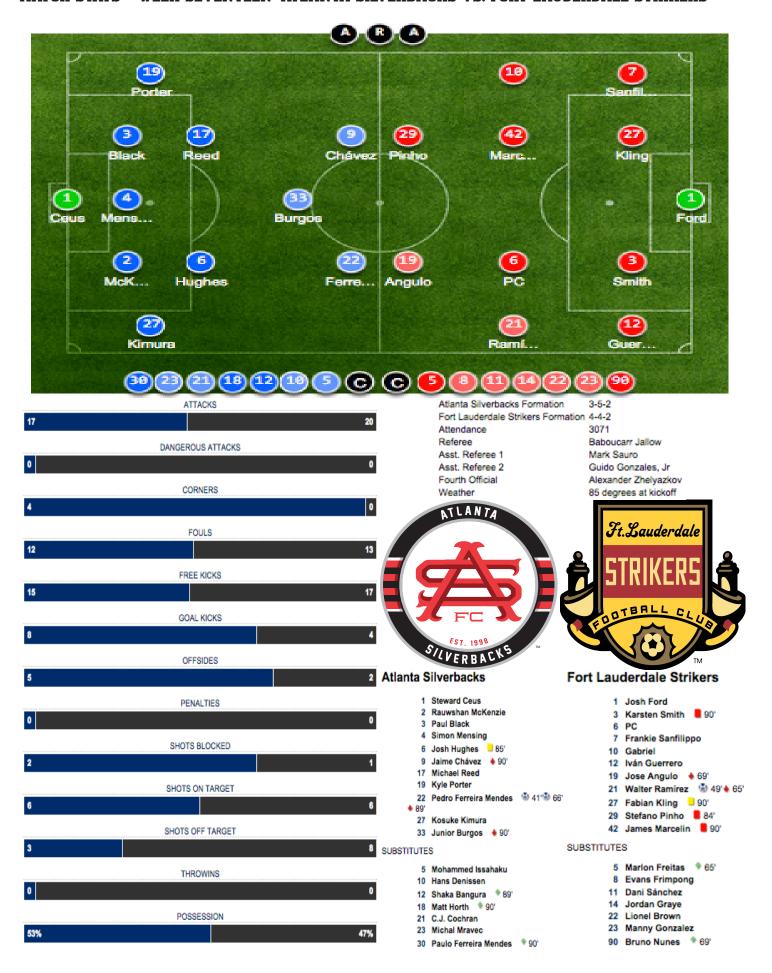
1 Steward Ceus 2 Rauwshan McKenzie 3 Paul Black 4 Simon Mensing 6 Josh Hughes 9 Jaime Chávez • 85' 17 Michael Reed 19 Kyle Porter 28' 22 Pedro Ferreira Mendes 3 15 74 79° 27 Kosuke Kimura 33 Junior Burgos • 78'

ATLANTA

SUBSTITUTES

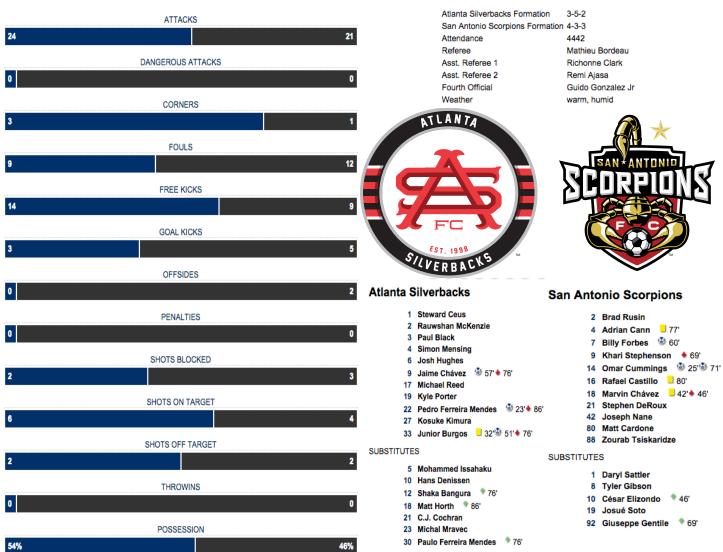
5 Mohammed Issahaku 12 Shaka Bangura 9 79' 18 Matt Horth * 85' 21 C.J. Cochran 30 Paulo Ferreira Mendes * 78' 88'

MATCH STATS - WEEK SEVENTEEN: ATLANTA SILVERBACKS VS. FORT LAUDERDALE STRIKERS



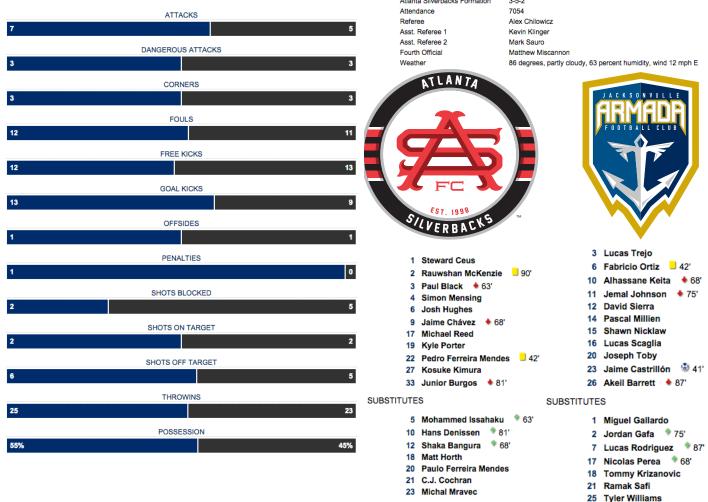
MATCH STATISTICS - WEEK EIGHTEEN: ATLANTA SILVERBACKS VS. SAN ANTONIO SCORPIONS





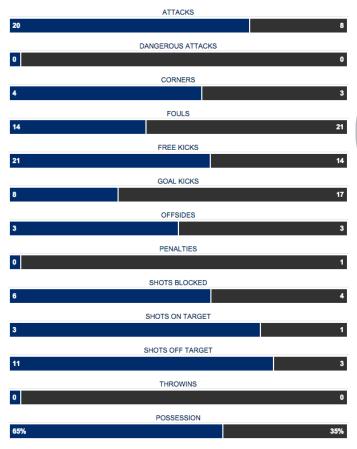
MATCH STATISTICS - WEEK NINETEEN: ATLANTA SILVERBACKS VS. SAN ANTONIO SCORPIONS





MATCH STATISTICS - WEEK 20: ATLANTA SILVERBACKS VS. SAN ANTONIO SCORPIONS





Atlanta Silverbacks Formation 3-5-2 Indy Eleven Formation Attendance 4021 Referee Daniel Fitzgerald Brian Bozard Anthony Remensnyder Mark Sauro Asst. Referee 1 Asst. Referee 2 Fourth Official breezy, humid





Atlanta Silverbacks

1	Steward Ceus
2	Rauwshan McKenzie
3	Paul Black • 73'
4	Simon Mensing □ 70'□ 77'■ 77
9	Jaime Chávez
17	Michael Reed • 70'
19	Kyle Porter
20	Paulo Ferreira Mendes
22	Pedro Ferreira Mendes • 83'
27	Kosuke Kimura
33	Junior Burgos 🚨 82'

SUBSTITUTES

- 6 Josh Hughes 10 Hans Denissen * 70' 12 Shaka Bangura * 73' 15 Abdul Bangura * 83' 18 Matt Horth 21 C.J. Cochran 23 Michal Mravec
- 5 Erick Norales 50' 14 Duke Lacroix 15 Daniel Keller 16 Cory Miller 17 Dragan Stojkov • 85' 18 Kyle Hyland 19 Wojciech Wojcik • 55' 21 Dane Richards ³ 6' ★ 68' 22 Zach Steinberger 23 Marco Franco 45' 24 Kristian Nicht

SUBSTITUTES

1 Keith Cardona 3 Jaime Frías 7 Don Smart * 85' 90' 10 Marvin Ceballos 12 Greg Janicki * 55' 3 76' 27 Victor Pineda 99 Charlie Rugg * 68'

MATCH STATISTICS - WEEK 21: ATLANTA SILVERBACKS VS. FC EDMONTON



Atlanta Silverbacks

ATTACKS DANGEROUS ATTACKS CORNERS FOULS FREE KICKS GOAL KICKS OFFSIDES PENALTIES SHOTS BLOCKED SHOTS OFF TARGET THROWINS POSSESSION

FC Edmonton



Atlanta Silverbacks

1 Steward Ceus

2 Rauwshan McKenzie

- 3 Paul Black 30' 9 Jaime Chávez 15 Abdul Bangura • 90' 17 Michael Reed 19 Kyle Porter 20 Paulo Ferreira Mendes 377 22 Pedro Ferreira Mendes \$69'
- 27 Kosuke Kimura 33 Junior Burgos ³ 81' 86'

SUBSTITUTES

- 5 Mohammed Issahaku *90' 6 Josh Hughes 986
- 7 Jonathan Okafor
- 12 Shaka Bangura 9 69'
- 18 Matt Horth
- 21 C.J. Cochran
- 23 Michal Mravec

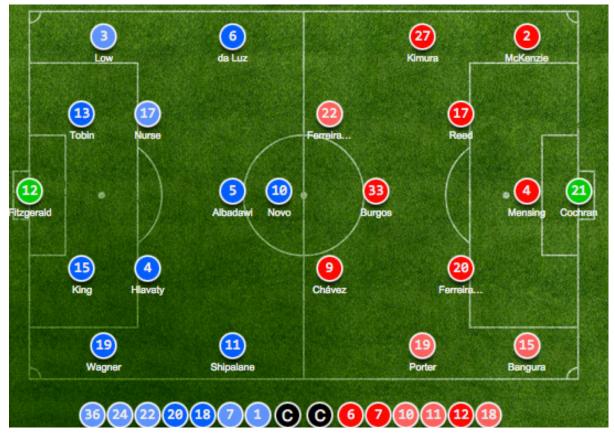


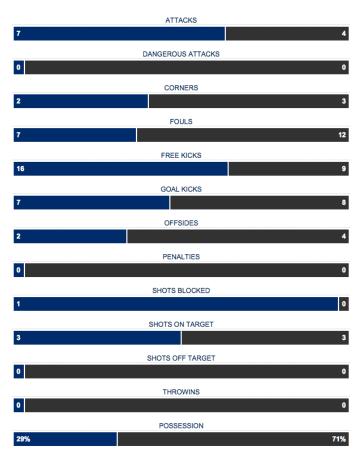
FC Edmonton

- 1 Matt VanOekel 2 Allan Zebie
- 3 Eddie Edward 5 Albert Watson
- 8 Ritchie Jones □ 35' 46'
- 10 Tomas Granitto 83 12 Kareem Moses
- 14 Sainey Nyassi 78' 16 Daryl Fordyce
- 17 Lance Laing
- 18 Tomi Ameobi

- 6 Dustin Corea * 78'
- 7 Cristian Raudales * 46' 48' 19 Hanson Boakai 983
- 21 Tyson Farago
- 25 Marko Aleksic

MATCH STATISTICS - WEEK 22: ATLANTA SILVERBACKS AT CAROLINA RAILHAWKS







Carolina RailHawks

- 3 Kupono Low \$ 90'
- 4 Neil Hlavaty
- 5 Nazmi Albadawi 3 24'
- 6 Austin da Luz
- 10 Nacho Novo
- 11 Tiyi Shipalane
- 12 Akira Fitzgerald
- 13 Connor Tobin 3 28'
- 15 Austen King
- 17 Chris Nurse ☐ 16' 39'
- 19 Blake Wagner

SUBSTITUTES

- 1 Hunter Gilstrap
- 7 Simone Bracalello
- 18 Jack Coleman *90'
- 20 Mark Anderson 9 39
- 22 Jamie Dell
- 24 Bradlee Baladez
- 36 Gabriel Da Silva



Atlanta Silverbacks

- 2 Rauwshan McKenzie
- 4 Simon Mensing
- 9 Jaime Chávez
- 15 Abdul Bangura 10'
- 17 Michael Reed
- 19 Kyle Porter ♦ 66'
- 20 Paulo Ferreira Mendes
- 21 C.J. Cochran
- 22 Pedro Ferreira Mendes 57'
- 27 Kosuke Kimura
- 33 Junior Burgos

- 6 Josh Hughes * 10'
- 7 Jonathan Okafor 9 66' 77'
- 10 Hans Denissen
- 11 Bryce Billington
- 12 Shaka Bangura * 57'
- 18 Matt Horth

FEC



ATLANTA SILVERBACKS INFORMATION

ATLANTA SILVERBACKS ROSTER

No.	Name	Position	DOB	Height	Weight	Home- town	Previous Club
1	Steward Ceus	GK	3-26-87	6-6	210	New York City, N.Y.	Närpes Kraft (Finnish 2nd Div.)
2	Rauwshan McKenzie	D	11-19-86	6-1	185	Hoffman Estates, III.	Portland Timbers (MLS)
3	Paul Black	D	1-18-90	6-0	179	Middleton, England	Cheltenham Town (English Lg. 2)
4	Simon Mensing	D	6-27-82	6-2	161	Wolfenbuttel, W. Germany	Livingston (Scottish Championship)
5	Mohammed Issahaku	D	10-25-87	6-2	185	Norcross, Ga.	CD FAS (El Salvador)
6	Josh Hughes	D	11-3-91	5-10	155	Peachtree City, Ga.	Berry College (NCAA)
7	Jon Okafor	MF	8-25-89	6-1	184	Brooklyn, N.Y.	Arizona United SC (USL)
8	Dominic Oppong	MF	1-21-86	6-0	180	Toronto, Canada	AC Oulu (Finnish 2nd Div.)
9	Jaime Chavez	F	7-17-87	6-0	180	Industry, Calif.	Cal FC (USASA)
10	Hans Denissen	MF	3-9-84	5-11	159	Tilburg, Nethrlands	New York Cosmos
11	Bryce Billington	GK	1-10-96	6-2	185	Cumming, Ga.	W. Forsyth High School
12	Shaka Bangura	F	2-9-86	5-7	165	Freetown, Sierra Leone	Barito Putera (Indonesia Super Lg.)
13	Chris Christian	D	3-27-89	6-1	175	West Orange, N.J.	Liberty Professionals (Ghana)
15	Abdul Bangura	D	1-10-86	6-1	194	Freetown, Sierra Leone	Atlanta Silverbacks Reserves (NPSL)
17	Michael Reed	MF	10-28-87	6-0	175	Albuquerque, N.M.	Minnesota United
18	Matt Horth	F	5-3-89	6-3	190	Cleveland, Ohio	Leiknir Reykjavik (Iceland 2nd Div.)
19	Kyle Porter	F	1-19-90	6-0	180	Toronto, Canada	DC United (MLS)
20	Paulo Mendes	MF	5-13-90	6-0	170	Goiânia, Brazil	New York Cosmos (NASL)
21	C.J. Cochran	GK	9-17-91	6-4	220	Alpharetta, Ga.	Georgia State (NCAA)
22	Pedro Mendes	F	5-13-90	6-0	170	Goiânia, Brazil	Minnesota United (NASL)
23	Michal Mravec	MF	6-10-87	6-3	180	Žilina, Slovakia	Podbeskidzie (Poland)
25	Ferrety Sousa	MF	12-25-90	5-5	150	D.R. Congo	FCM Aubervilliers (French 4th Div.)
27	Kosuke Kimura	D	5-14-84	5-9	160	Kobe, Japan	Widzew Łódź (Poland)
33	Junior Burgos	MF	8-14-88	5-11	172	Santa Ann, El Salvador	Jaguares (Colombia)

PRONOUNCIATION GUIDE

Steward Ceus Stoo-er-D Sooz

Jonathan Okafor Oh-kah-For

Dominic Oppong Dahm-n-ek Oh-Pah-nng
High-Meh Sha-Vez
Hans Denissen Hah-Nz Deh-neh-Zen
Shaka Bangura Shah-Kah Ban-Goo-Rah
Kosuke Kimura Koh-Skeh Ke-moo-Rah
Mohammed Issahaku Moh-aah-Med Iz-ah-Ha-Koo

Carl Cochran Jr. (CJ) See-Jay Kah-Kraan
Ferrety Sousa Ferr-it-Ee So-Za
Rauwshan McKenzie Ra-Shawn Mick-Ken-See
Michal Mravec Mee-Kal mm-Rah-Vich
Abdul Bangura Ab-Dool Ban-Goo-Rah
Pedro Mendes Pay-Droh Mehn-Dez
Paulo Mendes Pah-Loh Mehn-Dez
Junior Burgos Boor-Goh-Ss

COACHING STAFF

Head Coach	Gary Smith
Assistant Coach	Steve Guppy
Assistant Coach	Rob Di Figlio
Assistant Coach	Tony Annan
Goalkeeper Coach	Dan Dawson
Goalkeeper Coach	Guacho Pinho
Director of Scouting	Ricky Clarke
Video Coordinator	Bert Leonard
Athletic Trainer	Sydney Wolfe

TEAM AWARDS

Team of the Week

Spring Week 1 - Simon Mensing

Spring Week 2 - Kyle Porter

Spring Week 3 - Shaka Bangura; Rauwshan McKenzie

Spring Week 4 - Steward Ceus

Spring Week 5 - Steward Ceus

Spring Week 7 - Paul Black

Fall Week 2 - Paul Black; Michael Reed

Fall Week 3 - Paul Black

Fall Week 4 - Jaime Chavez; Simon Mensing

Fall Week 5 - Steward Ceus; Jaime Chavez; Pedro Mendes

Fall Week 6 - Pedro Mendes

Fall Week 8 - Jaime Chavez

Fall Week 9 - Rauwshan McKenzie, Junior Burgos

Play of the Week

Fall Week 3 - Jaime Chavez

Fall Week 5 - Pedro Mendes

Fall Week 6 - Junior Burgos

Player of the Week

Fall Week 6 - Pedro Mendes

ALL-TIME HEAD TO HEAD RECORDS

Rec Agai Teal	Tota Rec	Hom	Roa
Fort Lauderdale	7-7-5	5-2-2	2-5-3
Strikers			
Carolina Railhawks	3-3-11	1-1-5	2-2-6
Minnesota United	4-3-9	1-3-4	3-0-5
Indy Eleven	2-2-2	0-2-2	2-0-0
FC Edmonton	7-2-8	3-1-4	4-1-4
Montreal Impact	1-1-2	1-0-1	0-1-1
NY Cosmos	0-3-3	0-2-1	0-1-2
Ottawa Fury FC	1-2-3	1-2-1	0-0-2
Puerto Rico Islanders	2-1-5	2-0-2	0-1-3
San Antonio Scorpions	3-3-6	3-2-2	0-1-4
Tampa Bay Rowdies	3-6-6	1-3-3	2-3-3

ATLANTA SILVERBACKS INFORMATION





#1 STEWARD CEUS GOALKEEPER



Steward Ceus, a 27-year-old goalkeeper with international appearances for the Haitian national team, was signed on Jan. 14, 2015. He reunites

with head coach Gary Smith, who drafted him as the 37th overall selection in the 2009 MLS SuperDraft. Smith and Ceus were together with the Colorado Rapids from 2009-11. Ceus' MLS debut came late in 2012 when he started the final three matches of the season. He made one regular season appearance for the Rapids in 2013 before moving to Finland to play with Närpes Kraft Fotbollsförening in 2014. Ceus has earned seven caps for the Haitian national team.

#13 CHRISTOPHER CHRISTIAN DEFENDER



On March 17, the Club announced the addition of Christopher Christian after a preseason trial with two appearances in friendlies. With professional experience

in both Europe and Africa after four years as a starting center back with four goals and an assist at Villanova, Christian offers versatility with both athletic and technical ability but also as a seasoned veteran. He played for Polish second-division side Motor Lublin in 2012-13 before joining Ghanaian Premier League side Liberty Professionals in 2013-14

#3 PAUL BLACK DEFENDER — FULL BACK



Before signing with Atlanta in January 2015, the English full back played for Cheltenham Town in England's League Two. Black is seasoned with 132

appearances in the English lower divisions – including 103 matches with League One side Oldham Athletic. The Manchester City youth product joined Oldham after becoming a regular in the starting eleven during the 2006-07 season and serving as captain for the youth squad.

#4 SIMON MENSING

DEFENDER — CENTER BACK



Mensing has featured in both the English League Championship and the Scottish Premier League throughout his 15-year career. Mensing appeared 148 times for

Hamilton Academical, starting with a three-month loan deal in 2007. After netting three goals in five matches, Hamilton signed Mensing permanently, making way for the club's promotion to the Scottish Premier League in 2007-08 as Division One champions. The steady center back served as captain for Scottish club Livingston, appearing in 27 matches with a pair of strikes – including a penalty kick conversion in his debut in 2013.

#10 HANS DENISSEN FORWARD



2013 NASL Best XI selection Hans Denissen joined Atlanta in February 2015 after spending 2014 with the New York Cosmos. Before that, was a member of the

San Antonio Scorpions before that, including an award-winning 2013 campaign during which he tallied 12 league goals. A former Dutch youth international, Denissen started his senior career in 2003 with hometown club Willem II, featuring in both the Eredivisie and Europa League.

#25 FERRETY SOUSA MIDFIELDER



Originally from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Sousa grew up in Raleigh, N.C. The 5-foot-6 midfielder played for the Carolina RailHawks U-23 team

when they won the USASA national championship in 2011. Before joining the Silverbacks, Sousa most recently played with French side FCM Aubervilliers before participating in the NASL Combine in 2013.

#2 RAUWSHAN MCKENZIE DEFENDER



The 6-foot-1 center back has appeared in 39 MLS matches since 2008, nailing down defensive duties for the Kansas City Wizards (2008-09), Real Salt Lake (2010-

11), Chivas USA (2012) and the Portland Timbers (2013-14). The 28-year-old was originally drafted by the Kansas City Wizards in the 2008 MLS SuperDraft out of Michigan State – where he earned Freshman All-Big-10 team and 1st Team All-Big-10 honors.

#22 PEDRO MENDES

FORWARD

The 25-year-old forward — most remembered for his Goal of the Year-winning right-footed strike from 30 yards out against the Tampa Bay Rowdies — boasts a resume for scoring timely goals.

#23 MICHAL MRAVEC

MIDFIELDER



The University of Alabama-Birmingham alumnus spent the last four seasons patrolling the pitch in Europe. After being drafted by Major League Soccer's Sport-

ing Kansas City, he combined for 32 appearances with a trifecta of first-division European clubs: FC Emmen (Holland, 2011-12), MŠK Žilina (Slovakia, 2013) and Podbeskidzie (Poland, 2014). Mravec made his Europa League debut in the 2013-14 campaign as MŠK Žilina challenged NK Olimpija Ljubljana.

#12 SHAKA BANGURA

FORWARD



Sierra Leonean forward Shaka Bangura was re-signed by the Atlanta Silverbacks on Feb. 12, 2015. Bangura appeared in six matches – starting five – with At-

lanta in 2014. Bangura offers a wealth of football experience across the globe, boasting a resume featuring runs in the Indonesia Super League, Cypriot First Division, Thai Premier League and U.S. Soccer's third-tier USL.

ATLANTA SILVERBACKS INFORMATION





#21 CARL COCHRAN JR. GOALKEEPER



Metro Atlanta goalkeeping product C.J. Cochran made the most of his Silverbacks preseason trial, signing his first professional contract with the Club in

March 2015. The 6-foot-4 keeper and Alpharetta native constructed an impressive career at Georgia State, earning Sun Belt and College Sports Madness Independent Defensive Player of the Week honors, TopDrawerSoccer.com Midseason Top 100 Freshmen to Watch honors and two CAA Rookie of the Week honors. Cochran played more than 4,345 minutes with a 23-22-2 record in 48 career starts.

#8 DOMINIC OPPONG MIDFIELDER



A fresh face at defensive midfielder, the 29-yearold Ghanaian-born Oppong featured for FC Edmonton in 37 matches in 2011-12 before joining AC Oulu in the

Finnish second division last year. He made 23 appearances in Finland's Ykkönen, finishing 13-8-6 in fourth place and just three points off a promotion into the first division. He debuted for the Canadian Under-20 Men's National Team in 2005, appearing in all three group-stage matches at the Francophone Games in Niamey, Niger.

#9 JAIME CHAVEZ FORWARD



Chavez, 27, joined the Club in April 2015 and scored 12 goals in all competitions in his first NASL season. He led the team with 31 total appearances, scoring

nine goals in 27 league matches and three goals in four U.S. Open Cup games. Before signing for Atlanta, Chavez played at Cal FC of the USASA. Chavez started his senior career with PDL side Hollywood United Hitmen in 2009, standing as the club's leading scorer in its inaugural season with 10 goals. He remained with the Hitmen the following year, and again led the team in scoring with 11 goals.

#17 MICHAEL REED MIDFIELDER



Box-to-box central midfielder and NASL veteran Michael Reed signed for the Silverbacks in February 2015. Reed, a 27-year-old Albuquerque, N.M., na-

tive, featured for Minnesota in 31 appearances after debuting in 2012. He scored his only goal with Minnesota in Week 7 of the 2013 Spring Season, equalizing against the Tampa Bay Rowdies. Reed played collegiate soccer at the University of New Mexico, finishing his NCAA

#18 MATT HORTH FORWARD



The Silverbacks' first-ever NASL goalscorer, forward Matt Horth was the club's leading scorer in 2011 and 2012 and re-signed with the team on Jan. 14, 2015. Horth,

who has previously been recognized as NASL Player of the Month for his scoring efforts, returns to the Silverbacks after runs with the New England Revolution, Rochester Rhinos, and Icelandic club Leiknir Reykjavík. The 25-year-old forward led the Silverbacks in scoring in both 2011 and 2012 with 18 goals in 49 appearances.

#19 KYLE PORTER FORWARD



Canadian international and 2013 Lamar Hunt U.S. Open Cup champion Kyle Porter joined the Atlanta Silverbacks after signing on for the 2015 campaign. Porter

spent the past two seasons playing for D.C. United, including their Open Cup run, and a loan spell with the Richmond Kickers. Porter, a Canadian international at the Under-17, U-20 and senior level, made his debut for Canada's National Team on Jan. 26, 2013, in a, 4-0, loss to Denmark as a 70th minute substitute.

#7 JON OKAFOR MIDFIELDER



Okafor signed with Atlanta on Feb. 3, 2015, after 28 appearances with Arizona United in 2014. The 5-foot-11 wide midfielder was drafted by Chivas USA

in 2011 but never signed. Instead, he played at Finland's MYPA with 30 appearances and a pair of goals. In 2014, he featured in 28 matches for Arizona United with three goals.

#5 MOHAMMED ISSAHAKU DEFENDER

Mohammed Issahaku, a 6-foot-2 backliner with Norcross roots, added depth to the Silverbacks defense while also bringing his experiences from the CONCACAF Champions League when he earned promotion from the Silverbacks Reserves on July 8, 2015. The 27-year-old featured in 13 matches for El Salvadorian side CD FAS in 2014, scoring a goal.

27 KOSUKE KIMURA DEFENDER - FULL BACK



Kimura — the first Japanese-born player to ever play in Major League Soccer.

Atlanta is Kimura's fifth club in a nine-year

professional career with spells with the Colorado Rapids (2010 MLS Cup), Portland Timbers and New York Red Bulls (2013 Supporters' Shield).

MINNESOTA UNITED FC ROSTER

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Christian Ramirez

Greg Jordan

Andrew Fontein

JC Banks

Sammy Ndjock

Juliano Vicentini

Geison Moura

MINNESOTA UNITED FC INFORMATION

No.	Name	Position	Height	Weight	Age	PRONUNCIATION
1	Mitchell Hildebrandt	GK	6'1"	190	26	hill-DUH-brant
2	Justin Davis	D	6'0"	174	26	
3	Cristiano Dias	D	6'2"	185	28	kris-tee-AH-noh DEE-ess
4	Aaron Pitchkolan	D/M	6'2"	185	32	pitch-KOH-len
5	Tiago Calvano	D	6'2"	180	33	CHEE-ah-go
6	Brent Kallman	D	6'2"	190	24	KAHL-man
7	Kevin Venegas	D	5'8"	150	25	veh-NAY-gus
8	Ibson de Silva	M	5'8"	167	31	EEB-son
9	Pablo Campos	F	6'3"	201	32	pah-BLOH CAHM-pose
11	Kalif Alhassan	M	5'8"	161	24	kah-LEEF ALL-ha-sahn
13	Jamie Watson	M	5'9"	154	29	
14	Brian Kallman	D	6'0"	185	30	KAHL-man
16	Tyler Polak	D	5'8"	150	22	POE-lock
17	Yago Silva	М	5'8"	150	21	Yah-go
18	Daniel Mendes	M	5'7"	152	34	
20	Andrei Gotsmanov	M	5'8"	164	29	Ahn-dre Gots-man-off

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Fawn-TAYN

UN-jock

JOO-lee-ah-no vee-sen-TCHEE-nee

JAY-son MORE-uh

COACHING STAFF

6'2"

6'0"

6'1"

5'8"

6'1"

5'9"

5'10"

M

GK

M

GK

M

M

187

165

190

160

190

154

163

Head Coach: Manny Lagos
Assistant Coach: Donny Mark
Assistant Coach: Carl Craig
Goalkeeper Coach: Paul O'Connor