

Colorado Springs Switchbacks FC Game Program Saturday, September 30th, 2017

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# WELCOME

Welcome to Weidner Field! Today we begin our 2017 campaign at home; which centers around an environment that every other USL team fears to enter. Last year the Switchbacks won 10 USL matches at home on their way to a consecutive top-three finished in the Western Conference regular season. The Switchbacks also shutout USL opponents 9 times in their 10 home victories at Weidner Field. A combination of the high elevation and enthusiastic crowds makes Switchbacks Stadium a fortress for opposing teams to enter.

There is an incredible amount of excitement surging in the United Soccer League (USL) right now. The league has more than doubled from the fourteen teams in 2014 to 30 teams for the 2017 season. Right before your eyes, American soccer is evolving and Colorado Springs is an important part of it!

The Switchbacks had their inaugural season last season where they made the playoffs and fell just one point short of a regular season Western Conference title. The Switchbacks continued their success last season finishing third in the Western Conference regular season before falling to Vanvouver Whitecaps FC 2 in the first round of the playoffs. With a newer, younger squad, the Switchbacks are confident head coach Steve Trittschuh will lead the Switchbacks into another title-contending season.

With the leadership of our Head Coach, Steve Trittschuh, and Owner, Martin Ragain, we are developing strong partnerships.

"Join the Climb" and purchase your season tickets as the Switchbacks FC compete for a championship in the 2017 USL season!







People Ideas



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# **Match Preview**





By Roland Vargish

Orange County SC visits Weidner Field this Saturday evening as the Colorado Springs Switchbacks FC look for a much-needed three points. The first 500 fans through the turnstiles will receive a black and blue tote bag courtesy of The Gazette newspaper, complete with the Switchbacks logo.

Last Saturday saw the Switchbacks lose 3-1 to the Swope Park Rangers in a game that was beset by torrential thunderstorms that eventually caused a delay after 17 minutes of the first half. Swope Park nabbed three quick-fire goals almost immediately after the match restarted before second-half substitute Pascal Eboussi pulled a stoppage-time consolation goal back for the Switchbacks.

"We can't have the lapses in concentration that we did on the weekend," said Switchbacks Head Coach Steve Trittschuh. "Five minutes cost us the game. I told the guys during the lightning break that the game will be won or lost right after the break...and we lost it. But I'm happy we didn't stop playing in the second half. We went 3-5-2 in the second half and that helped us. Lapses in concentration and focus hit us in the game and we lost because of that."

Orange County SC will arrive in Colorado Springs after a O-O draw last Friday night against the Switchbacks' Rocky Mountain Rivals, the Real Monarchs SLC at Rio Tinto Stadium in Sandy, Utah. Five days earlier Orange County defeated the Vancouver Whitecaps FC 2 behind goals from Zach Kobayashi and Jerry van Ewijk at Thunderbird Stadium in British Columbia.

"It's do or die for us," said Davy Armstrong who started at left back against the Swope Park Rangers. "They'll [OC] come out fighting like dogs. We can't have mental lapses like in the last game and if we cut those out we'll come out and win on Saturday."

Saturday's visitors will no doubt be out for a modicum of revenge at Weidner Field after the Switchbacks defeated Orange County SC 4-0 on Tuesday, August 8th at Champions Soccer Stadium at OC Great Park in Irvine, California. A 72nd-minute finish from Kevaughn Frater supplemented first-half goals from Luke Vercollone, Shane Malcolm, and Masta Kacher.

"I expect OC to have the same mentality we do," said Shane Malcolm. "It's all about this weekend. Games earlier won't be a factor on Saturday. The playoffs are everything – that's our promotion/relegation in this league. OC have a lot of talent. I expect a good game because they have a lot on the line now – just like us."

Dutch striker Jerry van Ewijk is joined atop Orange County's goal-scoring charts by former Seattle Sounders FC 2 standout Irvin Parra – each player has scored seven times in 2017. Parra started the 2017 campaign as a member of

# MY CITY. MY TEAM.

S2 – even scoring against his current employers on June 24th in wild match that ended in a 4-3 victory for Orange County SC. Belgian defender Roy Meeus has already scored four goals this season, equaling his total from all of 2016.

Orange County number one goalkeeper and former Marquette University Golden Eagle standout Charlie Lyon leads OC in games played: Lyon captained his club in the aforementioned O-O draw on the other side of the Rocky Mountains against the Real Monarchs SLC on September 22nd. Casey Beyers started in net for OC's 2-1 victory over the Vancouver Whitecaps FC 2 on September 17th, while Lyon once again wore the armband just days earlier as OC fell 1-0 to red-hot San Antonio FC.

Three Western Conference matches will be contested on Wednesday evening. The Swope Park Rangers host the Los Angeles Galaxy II. Phoenix Rising FC travel to the Great Pacific Northwest to take on the Portland Timbers 2. and Sacramento Republic FC entertain the Real Monarchs SLC in California's capital city. As of Wednesday morning prior to those kickoffs, the Switchbacks sit in 10th place in the USL's Western Conference – five points behind the Oklahoma City Energy FC who occupy the 8th and final playoff place. Orange County SC are in 9th - just two points above the Switchbacks. A win for the Switchbacks on Saturday would move them above OC, but they'd remain just outside the playoff picture with two critical matches remaining in the regular season.

"We still have a chance," said Head Coach Steve Trittschuh when asked about his team's playoff prospects. "I really liked the approach of the guys today [in practice]. We'll go at every game like we're going to win. It's time to see who's got the mentality to come out and win the game on Saturday. There will be changes for this weekend. I told the guys that all three teams we play from here on out are above us and are fighting for a playoff position. Nothing will be easy from here on out. We'll focus on what we've got to do which is to win the game."

Saturday, October 7th, sees the Switchbacks host Sacramento Republic – themselves currently in 7th place – with the Switchbacks' final regular season game taking place on October 14th at ONEOK Field in Tulsa, Oklahoma against the Roughnecks FC.

"This weekend is a must-win situation," said Conner Bevans. "We had a good training session today [Tuesday] – the energy level is up. The guys are positive and we've got to approach every game from now on with this mentality."

"I definitely expect a battle and a test of our character," said Jack Jones. "Through character, we'll respond and we'll show that we're not going to die. We'll go at them and show ourselves in every game."



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# **Orange County SC Roster**

### Team Stats

#	Player	MIN	G	Α	FC	YC	RC
2	Josh Phillips	2,553	Ø	2	31	6	<u>Ø</u>
3	Pascal Eboussi	678	2	Ø	15	3	1
4	Luke Vercollone		1,090	2	3	10	1
5	Josh Suggs	2,340	2	5	26	7	<u>Ø</u>
6	Davy Armstrong	116	Ø	Ø	3	1	<u>Ø</u>
8	Eddy Prugh	1,520	1	2	36	3	0
9	Damen Marcu	36	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	0
10	Masta Kacher	2,440	7	6	32	3	0
11	Kevaughn Frater	1,573	8	6	62	7	<u>Ø</u>
<u>13</u>	Diego Gutierrez	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	<u>Ø</u>
14	Rony Argueta	2,610	1	1	48	6	
<u> 16</u>	Jake Cawsey	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	0
<u>17</u>	Sean McFarlane	2,089	2	2	21	5	
18	Aaron King	1,293	4	2	10	Ø	
20	Richie Perez	485	1	Ø	10	1	
22	Conner Bevans	702	Ø	1	10	1	
23	Shane Malcolm	1,914	5	3	28	3	
24	Tobenna Uzo	105	Ø	1	5	1	Ø
33	Shawn Chin	677	Ø	1	8	1	
35	Taeseong Kim	1,445	Ø	1	37	6	Ø
36	Aj Ajeakwa	1,200	1	Ø	28	2	
44	Jordan Burt	1,850	6	Ø	16	1	Ø
77	Jack Jones	262	1	1	8	Ø	Ø

### Goalkeeper Stats

#	Player	MIN	SV	GA	FC	YC	RC
1	Moise Pouaty	2,250	94	43	1	2	Ø
12	Dan Jackson	270	10	5	Ø	Ø	Ø
29	Justin Luthy	90	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø

### **Team Stats**

#	Player	MIN	G	Α	FC	YC	R
2	Oscar Sorto	2,010	Ø	Ø	20	6	1
3	Joe Franco	2,114	Ø	Ø	8	Ø	Ø
4	Alberto Navarro	1,080	Ø	Ø	15	3	
5	Salomon Wbias	1,305	Ø	Ø	7	Ø	0
6	Victor Pineda	1,718	2	1	24	2	
7	Richard Chaplow	1,390	Ø	1	28	7	
8	Gustavo Villalobos	1,124	2	1	17	Ø	Ø
9	Monday Etim	742	2	1	21	2	
10	Carlos Álvarez	1,263	2	2	10	1	0
11	Jerry van Ewijk	2,076	7	2	33	1	1
12	Sola Abolaji	81	1	Ø	2	1	<u>1</u>
13	Juan Pablo Ocegueda	1,264	Ø	1	17	2	0
14	Dusan Stevanovic	648	1	1	2	1	0
16	Amirgy Pineda	816	Ø	1	16	3	1
17	Roy Meeus	1,313	4	Ø	21	2	
18	Duke Lacroix	377	2	Ø	2	Ø	Ø
19	Wuilito Fernandes	1,595	3	3	27	5	Ø
20	Jeannot Esua	695	1	Ø	9	1	
22	Kevin Jeon	106	Ø	Ø	2	Ø	Ø
23	Zach Kobayashi	617	3	Ø	10	2	Ø
28	Frank Olijve	1Ø87	Ø	Ø	11	Ø	Ø
44	James Baxendale	439	Ø	Ø	3	1	Ø
38	Irvin Parra	1993	7	8	47	8	Ø
15	Rodrigo Pacheco	298	Ø	Ø	5	Ø	
30	Walker Hume	450	Ø	Ø	2		

## Goalkeeper Stats

#	Player	MIN	SV	GA	FC	YC	R
1	Charlie Lyon	2,430	84	36	1	Ø	Ø
25	Casey Beyers	90	3	1	Ø	Ø	0
26	Michael Suchy	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø

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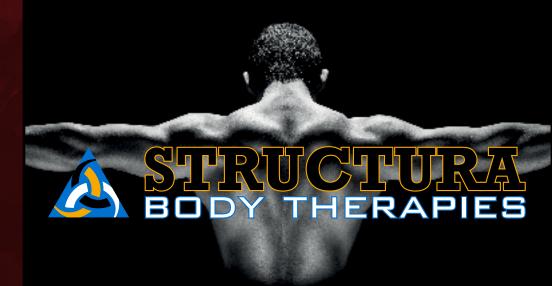






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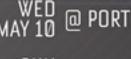
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SAT SEP 16



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SAT AUG 5 PORT



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# Western Conference Standings

Place	Team	GP	w	L	D	GD	Pts
1	Real Monarchs SLC	29	18	5	6	24	60
2	Reno 1868 FC	29	16	6	7	36	55
3	Swope Park Rangers	29	16	7	6	20	54
4	San Antonio FC	28	14	4	10	16	52
5	Phoenix Rising FC	28	14	7	7	9	49
6	Tulsa Roughnecks FC	28	13	11	4	1	43
7	Sacramento RepubliC FC	28	12	10	6	3	42
8	OKC Energy FC	29	11	11	7	-3	40
9	Orange County SC	28	9	9	10	-3	37
10	Colorado Springs Swtichbacks FC	29	9	12	8	0	35
11	Rio Grande Valley FC	29	9	13	7	-9	34
12	Seattle Sounders FC 2	29	9	16	4	-15	31
13	LA Galaxy II	29	7	17	5	-29	26
14	Vancouver Whitecaps FC 2	29	5	16	8	-18	23
15	Portland Timbers 2	28	2	20	6	-32	12

# Eastern Conference Standings

		0					
Place	Team	GP	W	L	D	GD	Pts
1	Louisville City FC	29	16	6	7	24	55
2	Charlotte Independence	29	13	7	9	15	48
3	Charleston Battery	29	13	8	8	15	47
4	Tampa Bay Rowdies	28	12	7	9	12	45
5	Rochester Rhinos	28	11	7	10	4	43
6	FC Cincinnati	29	10	9	10	0	40
7	Bethlehem Steel FC	28	11	11	6	0	39
8	Orlando City B	29	9	8	12	3	39
9	New York Red Bulls II	28	11	12	5	-4	38
10	Saint Louis FC	29	9	12	8	-10	35
11	Pittsburgh Riverhounds	29	8	10	11	-5	35
12	Harrisburg City Islanders	30	9	14	7	-17	34
13	Ottawa Fury FC	29	7	10	12	-3	33
14	Richmond Kickers	29	7	14	8	-10	29
15	Toronto FC II	30	6	17	7	-24	25





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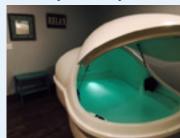
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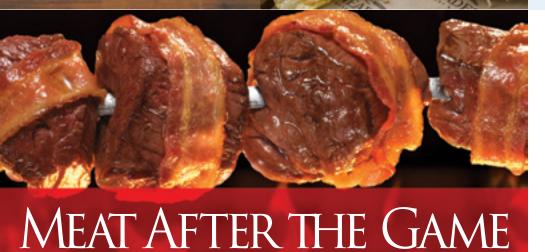








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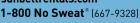


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