

Colorado Springs Switchbacks FC Game Program Saturday, May 27th, 2017

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Weidner is proud to partner with the Switchbacks on their 2017 run for the Cup





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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

The Colorado Springs Switchbacks FC return to Weidner Field this Saturday evening as they host the hottest team in the USL, Reno 1868 FC. The Switchbacks will be looking to build off a spicy 2-2 draw against Reno 1868 at Greater Nevada Field in Reno on April 22nd in the first of three games at Weidner Field over the span of just eight days. Shane Malcolm rescued a point for the Switchbacks in The Biggest Little City in the World in April's draw with a stoppage time equalizer straight off a perfectly taken Josh Suggs corner kick.

Since the late April draw against Steve Trittschuh's men Reno 1868 FC have been on an unstoppable streak. Three consecutive shutouts, coupled with fourteen goals-scored, have seen Reno 1868 FC vault towards a playoff position – despite having played three games fewer than the Switchbacks.

"We don't worry too much about their form," said Switchbacks midfielder Luke Vercollone. "We're at home and we're confident here. We have to worry about our game. It's our home and we do well here and we need to keep that going."

Jamaican forward Dane Kelly leads the line for Reno 1868 FC, and after notching the first back-to-back hat tricks in USL history Kelly is now the USL's all-time leading regular season goal scorer. Kelly was named as the USL Player of the Week after his two hat-tricks (against Phoenix Rising and the Seattle Sounders FG 2, respectively) while American central defender Jimmy Ockford was also named a starter after helping his team keep clean sheets in both games.

"He's been finishing well and getting into good goal-scoring positions," said Switchbacks Assistant Coach and fellow Jamaican Wolde Harris when asked about Dane Kelly. "He moves well and we know he's a good finisher. Team-wise we have to stay compact and limit his space. I've been watching Kelly play over the years – he's also very dangerous off the ball so as a team we always have to be aware of him."

"Some of his [Dane Kelly] goals are penalty kicks, but he scores a lot and his movement is good," confirmed Switchbacks Head Coach Steve Trittschuh. "He's strong off the ball and he finishes really well. I've challenged our defense to step up and stop him, but he's not the only threat we have to worry about on Saturday. Reno are strong off re-starts and are a team that can score in different ways."

Parisian-born striker Antoine Hoppenot is a dangerous compliment to Kelly, while attacking midfielder Lindo Mfeka typically sits just behind Kelly and Hoppenot and helps run the Reno 1868 FC offense. Jordan Murrell will likely partner the aforementioned Jimmy Ockford in central defense. Fans on Saturday should keep a keen eye on holding midfielder Matt LaGrassa, as the former California Polytechnic State University standout is the recycler of possession for Reno 1868 and a key to both their defensive cohesion and offensive ball distribution.

Wildly uneven scheduling has the Switchbacks leading the Western Conference in games played with eleven, while three clubs in the West have only played seven matches (Swope Park Rangers, Orange County SC and Phoenix Rising FC). Few conclusions can be drawn on the current state of the Western Conference, partly due to it only being late May and

MY CITY. MY TEAM

the disparity in games played between teams. But there are certainties emerging west of the Mississippi River. Current leaders San Antonio FC are assuredly playoff-bound, while the Real Monarchs SLC have already cemented themselves as the most improved club in the West.

After finishing eleventh in 2016, the Real Monarchs SLC currently find themselves in second place at the time of writing – 11 points ahead of Rio Grande Valley FC. The Switchbacks fell to the Monarchs 5-2 at Rio Tinto Stadium in Sandy, Utah, last Saturday as the Monarchs recorded their fifth consecutive win. The Switchbacks are the only club to have defeated the Monarchs in 2017 after a 2-1 victory at Weidner Field on April 15th.

"You can look at all the games we've played and all the travel we've had – but those are just excuses," said Trittschuh. "The performance in Salt Lake was unacceptable. We've put it behind us and had a good week of training. The players are excited to be home and get back on track. We need a good crowd and we need to just show up and play our game. I expect us to come in on Saturday and do a complete 180 from last weekend. Nothing else will do."

"We look bad right now because of the result against Salt Lake but that doesn't reflect us as a team," said winger Masta Kacher. "We slept for 10 minutes versus the Monarchs and it killed us. It now has to switch for us – we have to make sure we switch on. They're [Reno 1868 FC] playing really good right now. It's a new challenge for us and a perfect challenge after last week. We have to bounce back!"

The first 500 fans through the gates at Weidner Field on Saturday will receive the third section of the 2017 poster series giveaway, courtesy of the Better Business Bureau. Early-arriving fans will have the chance to complete the poster set with the fourth

section on July 8th as the Switchbacks play host to the Vancouver Whitecaps FC 2, sponsored by Kneaders Bakery and Café. The fifth and final poster will be handed out on September 9th with Accelerated Wealth offering the first 500 fans the posters before the Switchbacks welcome Ivorian superstar Didier Drogba and Phoenix Rising FC to Colorado Springs.

Wednesday will see the Switchbacks host the Oklahoma City Energy FC in the Third Round of the Lamar Hunt U.S. Open Cup at Weidner Field. Three days later the Switchbacks will again face off against the Energy FC at Weidner Field, this time in USL action on Galactic Night with the first 500 fans receiving a saber from the St. Francis Medical Center Pediatric E.R.

"We'll decide about Wednesday's lineup after the game on Saturday," said Trittschuh. "The Open Cup is great but our focus is on the league and that's what we'll work on."



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1868 FC Roster

Team Stats

#	Player	MIN	G	Α	FC	YC	RC
<u>2</u> 3	Josh Phillips	990	Ø	1	15	3	Ø
3	Pascal Eboussi	541	Ø	Ø	12	3	1
<u>4</u> 5	Luke Vercollone	206	Ø	Ø	2	Ø	Ø
5	Josh Suggs	990	1	2	13	4	Ø
6	Davy Armstrong	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø
7	Jun Gyeong Park	110	Ø	Ø	4	Ø	Ø
8	Eddy Prugh	630	Ø	Ø	12	1	Ø
10	Masta Kacher	943	4	Ø	9	2	Ø
11	Kevaughn Frater	298	Ø	1	15	2	Ø
13	Diego Gutierrez	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø
14	Rony Argueta	990	Ø	1	16	1	Ø
16	Jake Cawsey	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø
17	Sean McFarlane	488	1	Ø	6	2	Ø
18	Aaron King	697	2	2	5	Ø	Ø
20	Richie Perez	403	1	Ø	8	Ø	Ø
22	Conner Beavans	34	Ø	Ø	1	Ø	Ø
23	Shane Malcolm	883	2	2	10	1	Ø
26	Chris James	360	1	Ø	3	1	Ø
35	Taeseong Kim	287	Ø	1	7	1	Ø
44	Jordan Burt	978	2	Ø	7	1	Ø
77	Jack Jones	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø
	L-L-						

Goalkeeper Stats

#	Player	MIN	SV	GA	FC	YC	RC
1	Moise Pouaty	630	22	14	Ø	Ø	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	Jackson Yueill	444	Ø	Ø	6	Ø	
4	Jordan Murrell	482	1	Ø	5	1	
5	Nick von Niederhauser	n 333	Ø	Ø	7	Ø	
6	Thomas Janjigian	360	Ø	Ø	5	Ø	
7	Jordan Roberts	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	
8	Mackenzie Pridham	313	1	Ø	5	Ø	<u> </u>
9	Dane Kelly	532	9	1	6	1	<u></u>
10	Junior Burgos	361	1	2	8	Ø	<u></u>
11	Anibal Echeverria	43	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	<u> </u>
13	Jake Ward	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	<u> </u>
14	Chris Wehan	449	1	3	1	Ø	<u></u>
<u>15</u>	Jimmy Ockford	598	2	Ø	8	1	<u> </u>
16	Brent Richards	156	Ø	1	Ø	Ø	
<u>17</u>	Lindo Mfeka	240	1	2	3	2	<u></u>
<u> 18</u>	Kip Colvey	610	Ø	Ø	1	Ø	
<u> 19</u>	Dembakwi Yomba	58	Ø	1	1	Ø	
20	Matt La Grassa	630	Ø	1	6	Ø	
23	Brenton Griffiths	251	1	Ø	2	Ø	
29	Antoine Hoppenot	707	1	2	8	2	<u></u>
38	Matheus Silva	166	Ø	1	1	1	<u> </u>
77	Cameron Vickers	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø
84	Seth Casiple	227	1	Ø	5	2	Ø
96	Luis Felipe	51	Ø	Ø	Ø	1	Ø
99	Brian Brown	189	Ø	1	7	Ø	Ø

Goalkeeper Stats

#	Player	MIN	SV	GA	FC	YC	RC
Ø	Andrew Tarbell	180	1	2	Ø	Ø	Ø
1	Russell Klabough	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø
12	Matt Bersano	540	18	12	Ø	Ø	Ø

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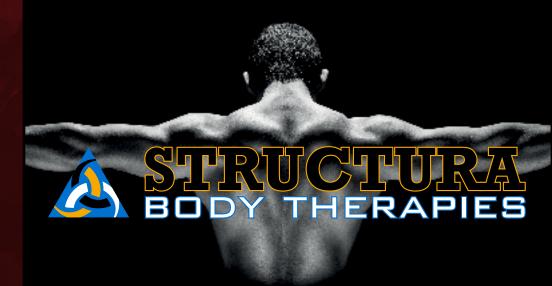






¹In 2017, U.S. News and World Report recognized CTU among the Best Online Bachelor's Programs, Best Online MBA Programs, Best Online Graduate Business Programs (Excluding MBA), Best Online Graduate Computer Information Technology Programs, Best Online Graduate Criminal Justice Programs

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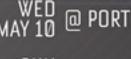
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SAT JUL 1

SAT JUL 8



SAT SEP 9 PHX



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SAT MAY 27 RENO

SAT MAY 20

TAR 3 NUL



SAT JUL 22 @ OKC SAT JUL 29 SEA



SAT SEP 23 KC

SAT SEP 16



@ RENO

SAT APR 15



SAT JUN 10 @ LA



SAT AUG 5 PORT



SAT SEP 30 00



SAT 4/29 SEA



WED Jun 21 @ KC



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SAT OCT 14 @ TUL



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Western Conference Standings (As of 5-3-17)

Team	GP	W		L	GD	PTS
San Antonio FC	10	8	2	0	16	26
Real Monarch SLC	9	8	0	1	15	24
Rio Grande Valley FC	8	4	1	3	4	13
Sacramento Republic FC	10	4	1	5	0	13
Seattle Sounders FC 2	10	4	1	5	-8	13
Colorado Springs Switchbacks FC	11	3	4	4	-1	13
Swope Park Rangers	7	4	0	3	3	12
Tulsa Roughnecks FC	9	4	0	5	-4	12
Reno 1868 FC	8	3	2	3	6	11
Vancouver Whitecaps FC 2	9	3	2	4	-1	11
Orange County SC	7	3	1	3	-2	10
OKC Energy FC	8	3	1	4	-4	10
Phoenix Rising FC	7	3	0	4	-5	9
LA Galaxy II	9	2	2	5	-9	8
Portland Timbers 2	10	1	1	8	-10	4

Eastern Conference Standings (As of 5-3-17)

Team	GP	W	D	L	GD	PTS
Charleston Battery	10	7	2	1	11	23
Tampa Bay Rowdies	11	6	2	З	8	20
Louisville City FC	8	4	3	1	3	15
Pittsburgh Riverhounds	11	4	3	4	Ø	15
Rochester Rhinos	7	3	3	1	1	12
Orlando City B	9	3	3	З	1	12
FC Cincinnati	10	3	3	4	Ø	12
New York Red Bulls II	10	3	2	5	-3	11
Saint Louis FC	8	3	2	ന	-3	11
Harrisburgh City Islanders	9	2	4	3	-2	10
Richmond Kickers	10	2	4	4	-2	10
Bethlehem Steel FC	9	3	Ø	6	-3	9
Ottawa Fury FC	8	2	3	З	-1	9
Charlotte Independence	6	2	2	2	-1	8
Toronto FC II	10	1	4	5	-9	7





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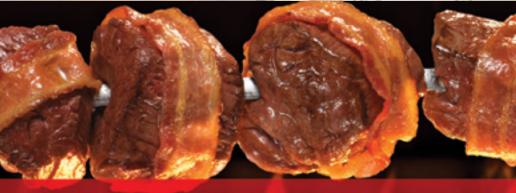








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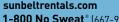




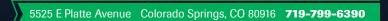
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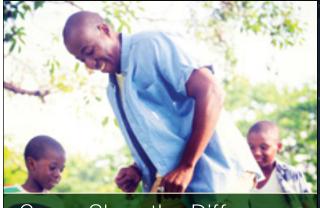
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