

TAMPA BAY ROWDIES

Tampa Bay Rowdies



NASL Fall Record (W-T-L)

2-1-4, 7 points
9th place

NASL Combined Record (W-T-L)

7-5-5, 26 points
4th place

Series History

Tampa Bay is 1-3-0 (W-T-L) against Indy all-time. Including tonight, four of the Rowdies' five matches against Indy have been played in Indianapolis. In their only meeting this season, a rain-interrupted 2-2 draw, the Rowdies earned a point despite having three players sent off. Tampa Bay led 2-1 in the second half after goals by Rich Balchan and Maicon Santos, but Indy's Kyle Hyland earned the Eleven a point with a stoppage time goal.

Scouting Tampa Bay

Tampa Bay is coming off a 2-1 loss to the Fort Lauderdale Strikers at Lockhart Stadium on Saturday night in Fort Lauderdale. The Rowdies fell behind to a fourth minute goal by Stefano Pinho before Maicon Santos pulled the score level with his team-high seventh goal of the season in the 19th minute. James Marcellin scored the winner in the 43rd minute.

The Rowdies fell just short of winning the Spring Season and have started the Fall Season poorly, but remain in position to qualify for The Championship with 13 matches remaining. Tampa Bay went more than a month between wins on July 4 and August 8, but remains in the playoff hunt.

Forward Darwin Espinal has returned from international duty with the Honduras Under-23 team and could play tonight. He missed three matches and last played for Tampa Bay on July 25.

Connecting the Squads

No player on either side has ever played for the other.

Up Next

Tampa Bay returns home for a huge match against Minnesota United FC on Saturday night at Al Lang. The Rowdies and Loons are tied on points in the Combined Standings, but the Rowdies have a game in hand, which will be played tonight.

Tampa Bay Rowdies at Indy Eleven

Wednesday, August 19, 2015
7:30 p.m. ET

Michael A. Carroll Stadium,
Indianapolis, Indiana

The match can be seen live
on ONE World Sports.

Follow us for live updates on Twitter at
@RowdiesGameday.

Indy Eleven



NASL Fall Record (W-T-L)

1-2-4, 5 points
11th place

NASL Combined Record (W-T-L)

4-6-7, 18 points
10th place

2015 Schedule



SPRING SEASON

Date	Opponent	Time/Result
4.4	at San Antonio	3-1 W
4.11	MINNESOTA	0-0 D
4.18	at New York	2-0 L
4.25	JACKSONVILLE	3-2 W
5.2	at Carolina	1-1 D
5.9	at Ottawa	0-0 D
5.16	FORT LAUDERDALE	1-0 W
5.27	at Pittsburgh*	1-0 L
5.30	at Indy	2-2 D
6.6	EDMONTON	2-1 W
6.13	ATLANTA	3-0 W

FALL SEASON

Date	Opponent	Time/Result
7.4	ATLANTA	2-1 W
7.11	at San Antonio	3-0 L
7.18	EDMONTON	1-0 L
7.25	FORT LAUDERDALE	3-1 L
8.1	at Carolina	1-1 D
8.8	JACKSONVILLE	3-2 W
8.15	at Fort Lauderdale	2-1 L
8.19	at Indy	7:30 p.m.
8.22	MINNESOTA	7:30 p.m.
8.29	at Ottawa	3:00 p.m.
9.5	NEW YORK	7:30 p.m.
9.13	at Edmonton	4:00 p.m.
9.19	SAN ANTONIO	7:30 p.m.
9.26	at Jacksonville	7:30 p.m.
9.30	INDY	7:30 p.m.
10.3	at Minnesota	8:00 p.m.
10.10	OTTAWA	7:30 p.m.
10.17	at Atlanta	7:30 p.m.
10.24	CAROLINA	7:30 p.m.
10.31	at New York	7:00 p.m.

All times Eastern

Home games played at Al Lang Stadium in downtown

St. Petersburg

* denotes U.S. Open Cup match

TAMPA BAY ROWDIES MATCH NOTES



No.	Position	Name	DOB	Birthplace	Height	Weight	Pronunciation
1	GK	Kamil Čontofalský	Jul. 3, 1978	Kosice, Slovakia	6-3	205	kuh-meel shon-tuh-fal-ski
2	D	Darnell King	Sept. 23, 1990	Tampa, Florida	5-9	175	
3	M	Richard Menjivar	Oct. 31, 1990	Los Angeles, California	5-8	159	men-jih-var
4	D	Ben Sweat	Sept. 4, 1991	Palm Harbor, Florida	6-1	178	swet (rhymes with debt)
5	D	Stefan Antonijevic	Jan. 14, 1989	Buffalo Grove, Illinois	6-6	195	stef-on an-TOE-nee-yay-vic
7	M	Martin Nuñez	Feb. 2, 1987	Montevideo, Uruguay	5-6	140	mar-TEEN noon-yez
8	M	Marcelo Saragosa	Jan. 22, 1982	Campo Grande, Brazil	6-0	176	
9	M	Freddy Adu	Jun. 2, 1989	Tema, Ghana	5-7	150	
10	M	Georgi Hristov	Jan. 10, 1985	Plovdiv, Bulgaria	6-0	182	jor-jee wrist-off
11	F	Corey Hertzog	Aug. 1, 1990	Reading, Pennsylvania	6-0	174	hurt-zog
13	M	Justin Chavez	Mar. 23, 1990	Oklahoma City, Oklahoma	5-11	175	
14	M	Jeff Michaud	Sept. 30, 1993	West Palm Beach, Florida	5-11	165	mish-odd
15	D	Zac Portillo	Jan. 19, 1992	Aurora, Colorado	5-9	153	pore-tee-yo-ss
16	M	Juan Guerra	Feb. 16, 1987	Caracas, Venezuela	5-9	162	gare-uh
17	D	Tamika Mkandawire	May 28, 1983	Mzuzu, Malawi	6-2	194	tuh-ME-kuh muh-CAN-duh-weer-ee
18	GK	Matt Pickens	Apr. 5, 1982	Washington, Missouri	6-3	200	
19	M	Verner Välimäa	Jan. 19, 1993	Coral Springs, Florida	5-7	160	ver-nare-ee vahl-ee-mah
20	F	Darwin Espinal	Jan. 16, 1995	San Pedro Sula, Honduras	5-11	163	espy-nahl
21	F	Brian Shriner	Aug. 5, 1987	Clearwater, Florida	5-10	150	shh-RYE-ver
22	M	Keith Savage	Aug. 9, 1985	Gulf Breeze, Florida	6-2	175	
23	M	Marquez Fernandez	Sept. 7, 1992	Baltimore, Maryland	5-8	160	mar-kez
24	GK	Chris Glodack	Jun. 19, 1993	Mount Holly, New Jersey	6-1	200	glow-dack
25	D	Rich Balchan	Jan. 18, 1989	Ann Arbor, Michigan	6-0	175	ball-shin
26	F	Robert Hernandez	Sept. 14, 1993	Caracas, Venezuela	5-5	145	
28	F	Omar Salgado	Sept. 10, 1993	El Paso, Texas	6-4	200	sahl-gah-doe
29	F	Maicon Santos	Apr. 18, 1984	Paracambi, Brazil	6-2	200	my-cone san-toe-ss
33	F	Zak Boggs	Dec. 25, 1986	Marietta, Ohio	6-0	185	
44	D	Gale Agbossoumonde	Nov. 17, 1991	Lome, Togo	6-2	200	gah-lay ag-boss-ooh-mon-day

Technical Staff

CEO, Chairman & Governor: Bill Edwards
President/General Manager: Farrukh Quraishi
Assistant General Manager: Perry Van Der Beck

Head Coach: Thomas Rongen
Assistant Coach: Stuart Campbell
Assistant Coach: Eric Arbuzow
Assistant Coach: Stuart Dobson



Last Time Out:

Rowdies Head Coach Thomas Rongen made no changes to his lineup that had beaten Jacksonville Armada FC 3-2 a week earlier. Corey Hertzog, Robert Hernandez and Zak Boggs all appeared off the bench in the second half as the Rowdies chased the match. It was Boggs' first appearance since July 18.



2015 NASL Fall Standings

Team	GP	W	T	L	Pts.
Ottawa	8	6	1	1	19
Edmonton	9	4	3	2	15
Atlanta	9	4	2	3	14
Minnesota	8	3	3	2	12
New York*	7	3	3	1	12
Fort Lauderdale	8	2	4	2	10
Jacksonville	8	3	1	4	10
Carolina	8	2	2	4	8
Tampa Bay	7	2	1	4	7
San Antonio	7	1	2	4	5
Indy	7	1	2	4	5

2015 NASL Combined Standings

Team	GP	W	T	L	Pts.
New York	17	8	8	1	32
Ottawa	18	8	6	4	30
Minnesota	18	6	8	4	26
Tampa Bay	17	7	5	5	26
Edmonton	19	6	6	7	24
Carolina	18	5	7	6	22
Atlanta	19	5	7	7	22
Jacksonville	18	6	4	8	22
Fort Lauderdale	18	5	6	7	21
Indy	17	4	6	7	18
San Antonio	17	4	5	8	17

*clinched berth in The Championship

TAMPA BAY ROWDIES

MATCH NOTES



Starters By Match

	GK	RB	RCB	LCB	LB	CM	CM	CM	RF	CF	LF
SAS 4.4	Čontofalský	King	Mkandawire	Antonijevic	Portillos	Saragosa	Savage	Hristov	Hernandez	Espinal	Hertzog
MNU 4.11	Čontofalský	King	Mkandawire	Antonijevic	Portillos	Saragosa	Chavez	Hristov	Hernandez	Espinal	Hertzog
NYC 4.18	Čontofalský	King	Mkandawire	Antonijevic	Sweat	Guerra	Valimaa	Hristov	Hernandez	Santos	Hertzog
JAX 4.25	Čontofalský	Balchan	Mkandawire	Antonijevic	Sweat	Saragosa	Nuñez	Hristov	Boggs	Santos	Espinal
CAR 5.2	Pickens	King	Mkandawire	Antonijevic	Sweat	Saragosa	Nuñez (LM)	Hristov	Boggs (RM)	Santos	Hertzog (CF)
OTT 5.9	Pickens	King	Mkandawire	Antonijevic	Sweat	Saragosa	Menjivar	Nuñez	Boggs	Espinal	Hertzog
FTL 5.16	Pickens	King	Mkandawire	Antonijevic	Sweat	Saragosa	Menjivar	Hristov	Hernandez	Santos	Nuñez
PIT 5.27	<i>Pickens</i>	<i>King</i>	<i>Mkandawire</i>	<i>Antonijevic</i>	<i>Sweat</i>	<i>Saragosa</i>	<i>Menjivar</i>	<i>Hristov</i>	<i>Hernandez</i>	<i>Santos</i>	<i>Nuñez</i>
IND 5.30	Pickens	Balchan	Mkandawire	Antonijevic	Sweat	Guerra	Menjivar	Hristov	Hertzog	Santos	Espinal
FCE 6.6	Pickens	King	Agbossoumonde	Mkandawire	Sweat	Guerra	Nuñez	Shriver	Hernandez	Hertzog	Espinal
ATL 6.13	Pickens	King	Mkandawire	Antonijevic	Sweat	Guerra	Nuñez	Shriver	Hernandez	Hertzog	Espinal
ATL 7.4	Pickens	King	Mkandawire	Antonijevic	Sweat	Guerra	Nuñez	Shriver	Hernandez	Hertzog	Espinal
SAS 7.11	Pickens	King	Mkandawire	Antonijevic	Sweat	Guerra	Nuñez	Shriver	Hernandez	Hertzog	Espinal
FCE 7.18	Pickens	King	Mkandawire	Antonijevic	Sweat	Guerra	Nuñez	Shriver	Hernandez	Hertzog	Espinal
FTL 7.25	Čontofalský	King	Mkandawire	Antonijevic	Sweat	Guerra	Nuñez	Hristov	Hernandez	Santos	Espinal
CAR 8.1	Čontofalský	King	Agbossoumonde	Mkandawire	Sweat	Guerra	Saragosa	Hristov	Shriver	Santos	Hertzog
JAX 8.8	Čontofalský	King	Agbossoumonde	Mkandawire	Sweat	Guerra	Saragosa	Hristov	Shriver	Santos	Nuñez
FTL 8.15	Čontofalský	King	Agbossoumonde	Mkandawire	Sweat	Guerra	Saragosa	Hristov	Shriver	Santos	Nuñez

Italics denote U.S. Open Cup match



2015 NASL Game Recaps

Spring Season

April 4 — at San Antonio Scorpions, 3-1 W

The Rowdies scored the first three goals of the night, taking full control of the match and spoiling the Scorpions' championship celebration. Head Coach Thomas Rongen gave starts to two first-time professionals in the season opener, left back Zac Portillos and forward Darwin Espinal. Defender Stefan Antonijevic (10th minute), Espinal (45+ minute) and Corey Hertzog (61st minute) all scored for the Rowdies before Omar Cummings' consolation goal for San Antonio. Antonijevic, Espinal and Georgi Hristov all earned a spot in the NASL Team of the Week and Antonijevic was named Player of the Week.

April 11 — vs Minnesota United FC, 0-0 D

In front of a sold-out crowd of 7,010, the Rowdies and Minnesota United FC played an exciting scoreless draw. The Loons opened on the front foot, but after a shot on goal that forced Kamil Contofalsky to make a save in the fifth minute, couldn't muster any scoring chances. The Rowdies piled the pressure on in the second half, but couldn't find a game-winning goal.

April 18 — at New York Cosmos, 2-0 L

An early penalty kick scored by Marcos Senna in the 11th minute threw a wrench into the Rowdies' gameplan as Tampa Bay fell behind for the first time this season. New York scored again on a counterattack just three minutes after the halftime break, putting the Rowdies in a 2-0 hole that they were unable to climb out of despite a handful of late scoring chances.

April 25 — vs Jacksonville Armada FC, 3-2 W

The Rowdies won their Coastal Cup opener in dramatic fashion, overturning a 2-1 halftime deficit and surviving stoppage time on the heroics of goalkeeper Matt Pickens, who entered the match in stoppage time and made a handful of saves. Maicon Santos scored two goals (including the 78th minute match winner), bookending a blast by Martin Nunez. Marcos Flores and Jemal Johnson scored for Jacksonville.

May 2 — at Carolina RailHawks, 1-1 D

Carolina's Nacho Novo opened the scoring just six minutes in, but Martin Nunez would equalize for the Rowdies in the 19th minute with his second goal in as many weeks. Georgi Hristov provided the assist on Nunez's goal, his third of the season, but exited the match in the 76th minute after receiving a straight red card for a foul on RailHawks midfielder Wells Thompson. Neither side was able to score a winner.

May 9 — at Ottawa Fury FC, 0-0 D

The Rowdies kept a clean sheet and picked up a point on the road in Ottawa. It was goalkeeper Matt Pickens' first clean sheet of the season.

May 16 — vs Fort Lauderdale Strikers, 1-0 W

The Rowdies took early control of the Coastal Cup race with a 1-0 win over the Strikers, courtesy of Robert Hernandez's goal in the 55th minute. 6,851 fans sat through a rainstorm at Al Lang Stadium as the Rowdies beat the Strikers to pick up their second Coastal Cup win of the season.

May 30 — at Indy Eleven, 2-2 D

Indy's Brian Brown scored in the 21st minute before a two hour and three minute rain delay took hold of the match. Tampa Bay lead 2-1 after goals by Rich Balchan (40th minute) and Maicon Santos (68th minute) before discipline got in the Rowdies' way. Santos was shown a red card in the 74th minute, Stefan Antonijevic received a second yellow in the 89th and Indy's Kyle Hyland equalized in the 98th minute, just before Georgi Hristov was also ejected from the match.

June 6 — vs FC Edmonton, 2-1 W

Tampa Bay picked up a win it needed to stay in contention for the Spring Season title with a 2-1 victory over FC Edmonton. With five new starters from the previous week against Indy due to red card suspensions, injury and international duty, Tampa Bay's revamped lineup scored the first two goals of the match via Darwin Espinal (37th minute) and Brian Shriner (60th minute) before Edmonton's Lance Laing cut the lead in half in the 65th minute. It was Shriner's first start of the season, as well as the first start for center back Gale Agbossoumonde, who left the match with a shoulder injury late in the second half.

June 13 — vs Atlanta Silverbacks, 3-0 W

The Rowdies closed the Spring Season in style, with their biggest win of the year. If the result in the Jacksonville-New York match had been different, the Rowdies could have won the Spring. Instead, Tampa Bay finished one point short. All three goals came after halftime, with Corey Hertzog scoring the first on the hour mark. Martin Nuñez scored a stunning free kick in the 75th minute and Georgi Hristov finished the match from the spot in the 89th minute.

Fall Season

July 4 — vs Atlanta Silverbacks, 2-1 W

Tampa Bay beat Atlanta for the second consecutive match and became the first team to six wins with a 2-1 victory over Atlanta at Al Lang. The win also lifted the Rowdies into first place in the NASL Combined Standings. Each team benefitted from an own goal (committed by Atlanta's Rauwshan McKenzie and Tampa Bay's Stefan Antonijevic), but it was Darnell King's first goal of the season that earned all three points for the Rowdies.

July 11 — at San Antonio Scorpions, 3-0 L

The Rowdies were blown out in Texas, falling 3-0 to the Scorpions in the most lopsided match Tampa Bay has played this since. The Rowdies dominated possession, shots and corner kicks, but were unable to score. Defensively, Tampa Bay was caught on the counterattack for all three Scorpions goals.

July 18 — vs FC Edmonton, 1-0 L

The Rowdies lost their second consecutive match with a 1-0 loss to FC Edmonton, also their first loss of the season at Al Lang Stadium. Edmonton defender Mallan Roberts connected with a corner kick and put his header on frame, but Tampa Bay goalkeeper Matt Pickens made the save only to see the rebound carom off Rowdies defender Stefan Antonijevic's face and into the net for the decisive own goal.

July 25 — vs Fort Lauderdale Strikers, 3-1 L

A late comeback bid fell short as the Rowdies lost their third consecutive match. Goals by PC and Bruno Nunes in the 16th and 79th minutes, respectively, had the Strikers up 2-0 entering stoppage time. Second-half substitute Freddy Adu provided an assist for Maicon Santos to score in stoppage time. After a Rowdies corner, Fort Lauderdale's Stefano Pinho scored on a counterattack to make it 3-1.

August 1 — at Carolina RailHawks, 1-1 D

The Rowdies drew 1-1 in North Carolina for the second time in 2015, taking a brief lead before conceding a goal. Georgi Hristov finished a Darnell King cross in the 29th minute to put Tampa Bay ahead. Just three minutes later, Mark Anderson found a loose ball in the box and scored to even the match.

August 8 — vs Jacksonville Armada FC, 3-2 W

Maicon Santos starred as the Rowdies built a 3-0 lead before Jacksonville's Alhassane Keita scored two goals from dead ball situations to make the match interesting. Santos had two goals and assisted on the other, scored by Brian Shriner. Santos took the team lead with six goals, four of which have been scored against Jacksonville.

August 15 — at Fort Lauderdale Strikers, 2-1 L

Strikers goals by Stefano Pinho in the 4th minute and James Marcellin in the 43rd minute were too much to overcome. Maicon Santos scored in the 19th minute, his third match with a goal in four games. Santos' goal was his team-high seventh this season.

TAMPA BAY ROWDIES
MATCH NOTES

No.	Position	Name	GP	GS	Minutes	Goals	Assists	YC	RC
1	GK	Kamil Čontofalský	8	8	720	--	--	--	--
2	D	Darnell King	17	15	1,364	1	2	3	--
3	M	Richard Menjivar	3	3	270	--	--	1	--
4	D	Ben Sweat	15	15	1,350	--	--	2	--
5	D	Stefan Antonijevic	13	13	1,103	1	--	3	1
7	M	Martin Nuñez	14	12	1,018	3	1	2	--
8	M	Marcelo Saragosa	9	9	769	--	1	2	--
9	M	Freddy Adu	1	0	15	--	1	--	--
10	M	Georgi Hristov	15	11	1,062	2	7	2	2
11	F	Corey Hertzog	17	12	1,093	2	1	1	--
13	M	Justin Chavez	8	1	150	--	--	1	--
14	M	Jeff Michaud	1	0	<1	--	--	--	--
15	D	Zac Portillos	2	2	180	--	--	1	--
16	M	Juan Guerra	14	11	1,032	--	--	5	--
17	D	Tamika Mkandawire	17	17	1,530	--	--	5	--
18	GK	Matt Pickens	10	9	810	--	--	--	--
19	M	Verner Välimaa	2	1	103	--	--	--	--
20	F	Darwin Espinal	13	11	972	2	1	1	--
21	F	Brian Shriver	10	8	670	2	--	--	--
22	M	Keith Savage	1	1	33	--	--	1	--
23	M	Marquez Fernandez	1	0	<1	--	--	--	--
24	GK	Chris Glodack	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
25	D	Rich Balchan	3	2	187	1	--	--	--
26	F	Robert Hernandez	13	10	837	1	--	4	--
28	F	Omar Salgado	1	0	12	--	--	--	--
29	F	Maicon Santos	11	9	803	7	1	1	1
33	F	Zak Boggs	9	3	315	--	--	1	--
44	D	Gale Agbossoumonde	6	4	401	--	--	2	--



Tampa Bay Rowdies Bios (Stats are NASL only)

Freddy Adu: One appearance (no starts) in 2015, playing 15 minutes ... Debuted vs FTL on 7.25 and provided an assist ... Signed by the club July 14, 2015 ... Played for Coach Thomas Rongen for the United States U-20 Men's National Team, including at two U-20 World Cups ... Has 17 caps for the senior United States Men's National Team, including two goals ... No. 1 pick in MLS SuperDraft in 2004, with D.C. United, where he played 2004-2006 ... Has also played for Real Salt Lake (2007) and Philadelphia Union (2011-2013) in MLS.

Gale Agbossoumonde: Six appearances (four starts), playing 401 minutes ... Made Rowdies debut as a stoppage time substitute at IND on 5.30 ... Made first start vs FCE on 6.6 ... Signed with the Rowdies on Dec. 22, 2014 ... Previously played under coach Thomas Rongen as a member of the United States Under-20 Men's National Team from 2008-2011 ... Has one senior cap with the USMNT, a friendly against South Africa on Nov. 17, 2010, his 19th birthday ... Started 2014 with Toronto FC before being traded to the Colorado Rapids ... Made 13 appearances for TFC in a little over a year ... Made professional debut with Miami FC in 2009 ... Signed with Estoril Praia (Portugal) in 2011 and had loan stints with Braga (Portugal), Djurgardens IF (Sweden), Eintracht Frankfurt II (Germany) and the Carolina RailHawks ... Spent 2007 at the IMG Academy in Bradenton.

Stefan Antonijevic: Thirteen appearances (13 starts) in 2015, playing 1,103 minutes ... One goal, scored at SAS on 4.4 ... Named NASL Player of the Week, Spring Week One ... Thrice named to NASL Team of the Week in 2015 (Spring, Weeks 1, 2 & 6) ... Made Rowdies debut at SAS on 4.4 ... Signed with the Rowdies on January 6, 2015 ... Played 2013-2014 with the Fort Lauderdale Strikers, where he made 39 appearances, 38 starts, and played 3,385 minutes in two seasons. Began college career at Marquette University in 2007, before playing three seasons at Valparaiso University ... Drafted by Sporting Kansas City in 2012 MLS Supplemental Draft but did not sign ... Has two caps for the Serbian Under-19 National Team, both earned in 2008.

Rich Balchan: Three appearances (two starts) in 2015, playing 187 minutes ... One goal, scored at IND on 5.30 ... Named to NASL Team of the Week, Spring Week Nine ... Made Rowdies debut as a starter vs JAX on 4.25 ... Signed with the Rowdies on March 17, 2015 ... Spent last two seasons with Real Salt Lake in Major League Soccer, and two seasons before that with the Columbus Crew, also in MLS ... Played college soccer at Indiana before being drafted 12th overall by the Crew in the 2011 MLS SuperDraft ... Played for Coach Rongen on the United States U-20 team in 2008.

Zak Boggs: Nine appearances (three starts) in 2015, playing 401 minutes ... Made first start vs JAX on 4.25 ... Made Rowdies debut off the bench at SAS on 4.4 ... Signed with the Rowdies on February 24, 2015 ... Returned to professional soccer in 2014 with the Charlotte Eagles in the USL ... Was drafted 31st overall by the New England Revolution in the 2010 MLS SuperDraft ... Scored three goals for New England in 29 appearances (20 starts) ... Departed the Revs in the middle of his third season to accept a Fulbright Scholarship to study medical sciences at Leicester University in the UK ... 2011 MLS Humanitarian of the Year ... Finished college career at the University of South Florida after previously playing for West Virginia University and the University of Central Florida ... Played high school soccer at IMG Academy in Bradenton.

Justin Chavez: Eight appearances (one start) in 2015, playing 150 minutes ... Made Rowdies debut off the bench as SAS on 4.4 ... Made first start vs MNU on 4.11 ... Signed with the Rowdies on February 5, 2015 ... Spent last two seasons, his first two as a professional, with the Fort Lauderdale Strikers ... Made 27 appearances (15 starts) for Fort Lauderdale, playing 1,477 minutes in two seasons ... Played college soccer at the University of Tulsa in his home state of Oklahoma.

Kamil Čontofalšký: Eight appearances (eight starts) in 2015, playing 720 minutes ... One clean sheet, vs MNU on 4.11 ... Made Rowdies debut at SAS on 4.4 ... Signed with the Rowdies on February 25, 2015 ... Spent the 2014 Fall Season, his first in North America, with the Fort Lauderdale Strikers ... Made 18 appearances for the Strikers, keeping five clean sheets ... Guided the Strikers to the NASL Championship Final ... Made professional debut for Trenčín (Slovakia) in 1995 ... Played for Košice (Slovakia), Bohemians 1905 (Czech Republic), Zenit St. Petersburg (Russia), AEL Limassol (Cyprus), AE Larissa (Greece) and Slavia Prague (Czech Republic) before signing for Fort Lauderdale ... Honors include winning the 2007/2008 UEFA Cup (now Europa League) and UEFA Super Cup with Zenit St. Petersburg ... Made 34 appearances for Slovakian National Team from 2002-2009.

Darwin Espinal: Thirteen appearances (11 starts) in 2015, playing 972 minutes ... Two goals, scored at SAS on 4.4 and vs FCE on 6.6 ... One assist ... Twice named to NASL Team of the Week, Spring Weeks 1 & 10 ... Made Rowdies and professional debut as SAS on 4.4 ... Signed with the Rowdies on December 23, 2014 ... Signed to his first professional contract after two seasons at Darton State College in Georgia ... Scored 52 goals and notched 29 assists in 35 games at Darton ... Twice named a First-Team All-American by the National Junior College Athletic Association ... Played high school soccer at Taravella High in Coral Springs, where he was named the 2012-2013 Class 5A-4A High School Player of the Year.

Marquez Fernandez: One appearance (no starts), playing zero minutes ... Made professional debut as a second-half stoppage time substitute vs FCE on 6.6 ... Signed with the Rowdies on February 23, 2015 on first professional contract ... One of four players to sign after earning a trial from the Rowdies' invite-only combine ... Began college career at the University of Maryland before transferring to Maryland Baltimore-County ... Led UMBC to the College Cup semifinals as a senior, anchoring the backline ... Played for the Baltimore Bohemians in the PDL while in college.

Chris Glodack: Yet to appear in 2015 ... Signed with the Rowdies on February 23, 2015 on first professional contract ... One of four players to sign after earning a trial from the Rowdies' invite-only combine ... Most recently played for Clemson University in the NCAA ... Played high school soccer at IMG Academy in Bradenton.

Juan Guerra: Fourteen appearances (11 starts) in 2015, playing 1,032 minutes ... Made Rowdies debut off the bench at SAS on 4.4 ... Made first start at NYC on 4.18 ... Signed with the Rowdies on December 19, 2014 ... Four caps for the Venezuelan National Team ... Spent the second half of 2014 with Deportivo Lara in the Venezuelan First Division, where he made 10 appearances, including nine starts ... Played for Carabobo in 2013 after two seasons with Caracas FC ... Spent 2011-2012 with Las Palmas in the Spanish Segunda Liga ... Played for Monagas in 2009-2010 and Caracas FC 2010-2011 in the Venezuelan First Division ... Played for Florida International University 2005-2007.

Robert Hernandez: Thirteen appearances (10 starts) in 2015, playing 837 minutes ... One goal, scored vs FTL on 5.16 ... Named to NASL Team of the Week, Spring Week Seven ... Made Rowdies debut at SAS on 4.4 ... Signed with the Rowdies on December 30, 2014 ... Joined Rowdies after four seasons Deportivo Anzoategui in the Venezuelan First Division ... Scored seven goals, made 87 appearances and played 6,445 minutes for Deportivo Anzoategui ... Four caps for the Venezuelan Under-20 National Team.

Corey Hertzog: Seventeen appearances (12 starts) in 2015, playing 1,093 minutes ... Two goals, scored at SAS on 4.4 and vs ATL on 6.13 ... Named to NASL Team of the Week, Fall Week One ... One assist, for Darnell King on 7.4 ... Joined Rowdies late in 2014 season and made six appearances, including four starts ... Also played for Orlando City SC in 2014, scoring four goals in 22 appearances ... Played in MLS for New York Red Bulls and Vancouver Whitecaps FC ... Drafted 13th overall in 2011 MLS SuperDraft ... Played collegiate soccer for Penn State ... Signed with the Rowdies on September 24, 2014.

Georgi Hristov: Fifteen appearances (11 starts) in 2015, playing 1,062 minutes ... Two goals, scored vs ATL on 6.13 & at CAR on 8.1 ... Seven assists, most in the NASL ... Played last two seasons with the Rowdies ... 47 appearances, 46 starts ... 21 goals, 13 assists in Rowdies career ... Awarded the 2013 NASL Golden Ball as league MVP ... Also named in the 2013 NASL Best XI ... 9 goals and 4 assists in 2014 season ... 12 goals and 7 assists in 2013 season ... Led team in points in 2013 (31) and 2014 (22) ... Joined Rowdies after stints with Bulgaria's first division Lokomotiv Sofia and Slavia Sofia ... Played for first division teams in Bulgaria, Poland and Israel ... Leading goal scorer & league footballer of the year in the Bulgarian First Division with Botev Plovdiv ... Won the Bulgarian first division championship with Levski Sofia and competed in the UEFA Europa League in 2008 ... Signed with the Rowdies on March 8, 2013.

Darnell King: Seventeen appearances (15 starts) in 2015, playing 1,364 minutes ... One goal, two assists ... Scored vs ATL on 7.4 ... Named to NASL Team of the Week twice, Spring Week Seven & Fall, Week One ... Made Rowdies debut at SAS on 4.4 ... Signed with the Rowdies on December 22, 2014 ... Named to NASL Best XI as a defender in 2014 ... Spent last three seasons with the Fort Lauderdale Strikers, where he made 75 appearances, including 61 starts ... Played college soccer at Florida Atlantic University from 2008-2011, where he scored 17 goals and tallied 10 assists ... Played high school soccer at Gaither High School in Tampa, where he was named an All-County selection in 2008.

Richard Menjivar: Three appearances (three starts) in 2015, playing 270 minutes for Tampa Bay ... Made Rowdies debut at OTT on 5.9 ... Acquired by the Rowdies in a trade on April 29, 2015 ... Played 14 minutes for San Antonio Scorpions before trade ... Made 19 appearances and won Championship with San Antonio in 2014, playing 1,703 minutes ... Spent 2013 with Atlanta Silverbacks, playing 1,924 minutes in 22 matches and reached NASL Final ... Member of amateur Cal FC team that reached the fifth round of the 2012 U.S. Open Cup team, upsetting the Portland Timbers on the way ... Twenty caps for the El Salvador national team.

Jeff Michaud: One appearance (no starts), playing zero minutes ... Made professional debut vs ATL on 6.13 ... Signed with the Rowdies on February 23, 2015 on first professional contract ... One of four players to sign after earning a trial from the Rowdies' invite-only combine ... Began college career at the University of Central Florida before moving to Eastern Florida State College ... Played high school soccer at Dwyer High School in West Palm Beach, Florida under current Rowdies assistant Eric Arbuzow ... Under Arbuzow, Michaud led the district in scoring as a sophomore, tallying 22 goals and 11 assists in nine games.

Tamika Mkandawire: Seventeen appearances (17 starts) in 2015, playing 1,530 minutes ... Named to NASL Team of the Week, Spring Week 10 ... Spent the 2014 NASL Fall Season with the Rowdies ... Served as vice captain and made 15 appearances, including 14 starts and scored three goals ... Captained Shrewsbury Town in English League One in 2013-2014 ... Previously played for Hereford United, Leyton Orient, Millwall and Southend United in England ... Signed for the Rowdies on July 4, 2014.

Martin Nuñez: Fourteen appearances (12 starts) in 2015, playing 1,018 minutes ... Three goals, one assist ... NASL Team of the Week twice in a row, Spring Weeks 4 & 5 ... Scored vs JAX on 4.25 in first start ... Scored at CAR on 5.2 ... Scored vs ATL on 6.13 ... Made Rowdies debut vs MNU on 4.11 ... Signed with the Rowdies on December 23, 2014 ... Spent four of last five seasons with the Fort Lauderdale Strikers, where he made 78 appearances and scored 17 goals ... Previously played for Minnesota United FC, Puerto Rico Islanders and Carolina RailHawks.

Matt Pickens: Ten appearances (nine starts) in 2015, playing 810 minutes ... Three clean sheets, at OTT on 5.9, vs FTL on 5.16 and vs ATL on 6.13 ... Named to NASL Team of the Week, Spring Week Seven ... Made season debut in stoppage time vs JAX on 4.25, finishing the match ... Made first start at CAR on 5.2 ... Played last season with the Rowdies, playing 2,094 minutes in 24 appearances ... Played 10 seasons in Major League Soccer before signing for the Rowdies ... Spent 2005-2007 with the Chicago Fire ... Spent second half of 2008 with England's Queen Park Rangers, but did not play ... Returned to MLS with Colorado Rapids in 2009 and was a member of Colorado's MLS Cup-winning team in 2010 ... Holds Rapids franchise records in games in goal (116), shutouts (29) and wins (41).

Zac Portillo: Out for six months following rupture of right Achilles tendon on 4.15 ... Two appearances (two starts) in 2015, playing 180 minutes ... Made Rowdies and professional debut at SAS on 4.4 ... Signed with the Rowdies on February 23, 2015 on first professional contract ... One of four players to sign after earning a trial from the Rowdies' invite-only combine ... Most recently played from Akron University in the NCAA, where Tampa Bay goalkeeper coach Stuart Dobson coached.

Omar Salgado: One appearance (no starts), playing 12 minutes ... Made Rowdies debut off the bench vs JAX on 8.8 ... Joined the Rowdies on loan from Mexico's Tigres UANL for the rest of the 2015 season ... Played for Coach Thomas Rongen for the United States Under-20 Men's National Team in 2010 and 2011 ... Product of Chivas Guadalajara youth academy ... No. 1 overall pick in the 2011 MLS SuperDraft by the Vancouver Whitecaps.

Maicon Santos: Eleven appearances (nine starts) in 2015, playing 803 minutes ... Seven goals, two vs JAX on 4.25 & 8.8, one at IND on 5.30, one vs FTL on 7.25, one at FTL on 8.15 ... One assist, for Brian Shriver goal vs JAX on 8.8 ... Twice named to NASL Team of the Week ... Made debut as a starter at NYC on 4.18 ... Signed with the Rowdies on February 4, 2015 ... Arrived with six years of high-level experience in Major League Soccer and Mexico's LigaMX ... Moved to North America in 2009 to join Chivas USA ... Played for Toronto FC from 2010-2011 and was first non-Canadian to ever captain the team ... Also played for FC Dallas, D.C. United and Chicago Fire in MLS ... Was a teammate of fellow Brazilian Marcelo Saragosa at both Chivas USA and D.C. United ... Most recently played for Puebla in LigaMX.

Marcelo Saragosa: Club captain ... Nine appearances (nine starts) in 2015, playing 769 minutes ... No goals, one assist ... Made Rowdies debut at SAS on 4.4 ... Signed with the Rowdies on February 3, 2015 ... Arrives with nine years of Major League Soccer experience under his belt ... Played for Los Angeles Galaxy (2004-2006), FC Dallas (2006-2009), Chivas USA (2009-2010) and D.C. United (2012-2013) in MLS ... Played in Azerbaijani Premier League for FC Absheron (2010-2011) and Ravan Baku (2011-2012) ... Played youth soccer in the vaunted Sao Paulo Academy in his native Brazil ... Best friend of Orlando City midfielder Kaka.

Keith Savage: Out for remainder of 2015 NASL season with torn right ACL suffered at SAS on 4.4 ... Re-signed with the Rowdies on January 29, 2015 after spending last four seasons with the club ... Current appearances leader for the Rowdies with 96 appearances (87 starts) in four years, racking up 7,542 minutes ... Has scored 12 goals for the Rowdies ... Drafted in 2008 MLS SuperDraft by Chivas USA as their only pick ... Went on to play for the Portland Timbers, now in Major League Soccer ... Played college soccer at the University of West Florida ... Son of Bruce Savage, who made 16 appearances for the United States national team and was a teammate of Coach Thomas Rongen at the Fort Lauderdale Strikers.

Brian Shriver: Ten appearances (eight starts) in 2015, playing 670 minutes ... Two goals, vs FCE on 6.6 and vs JAX on 8.8 ... Named to NASL Team of the Week, Spring Week 10 ... Made season debut vs MNU on 4.11 ... Spent 2014 with the Rowdies, making 22 appearances (15 starts) and playing 1,312 minutes ... Scored two goals and had one assist ... Signed with the Rowdies on December 24, 2013 ... Spent the two prior seasons with the Carolina RailHawks ... Won NASL Golden Boot in 2013 as league's top goalscorer ... Scored 15 goals in 22 appearances with Carolina in 2013 ... Played for the Fort Lauderdale Strikers 2009-2011.

Ben Sweat: Fifteen appearances (15 starts) in 2015, playing 1,350 minutes ... Named to NASL Team of the Week, Fall Week Five ... Made debut as a starter at NYC on 4.18 ... Signed with the Rowdies on March 2, 2015 ... Spent 2014 with Columbus Crew SC in Major League Soccer ... Drafted 14th overall by Columbus in the 2014 MLS SuperDraft ... Played high school soccer for Palm Harbor University High School, club soccer for Clearwater Chargers SC and starred at the University of South Florida before turning pro ... All-time leader in appearances (78) for USF.

Verner Valimaa: Two appearances (one start) in 2015, playing 103 minutes ... Made professional debut vs MNU on 4.11 ... Made first start at NYC on 4.18 ... Signed with the Rowdies on March 30, 2015 on first professional contract ... A graduate of the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill ... Originally from Finland, but raised in South Florida ... Has represented Finland at the U-20 level.

2015 NASL Honors

NASL Player of the Week

D Stefan Antonijevic (Spring, Week 1)
F Maicon Santos (Spring, Week 4)

NASL Team of the Week

GK Matt Pickens (Spring, Week 7)
D Darnell King (Spring, Week 7, Fall, Week 1)
D Stefan Antonijevic (Spring, Weeks 1, 2 & 6)
D Rich Balchan (Spring, Week 9)
D Tamika Mkandawire (Spring, Week 10)
D Ben Sweat (Fall, Week 5)
M Georgi Hristov (Spring, Week 1)
M Martin Nuñez (Spring, Weeks 4, 5 & 11)
M Juan Guerra (Spring, Week 11)
F Darwin Espinal (Spring, Weeks 1 & 10)
F Maicon Santos (Spring, Week 4, Fall Week 6)
F Robert Hernandez (Spring, Week 7)
F Brian Shriver (Spring, Week 10)
F Corey Hertzog (Fall, Week 1)



Thomas Rongen - Head Coach

The Tampa Bay Rowdies announced the hiring of Thomas Rongen as head coach on December 3, 2014. Rongen became the third head coach in modern Rowdies history, bringing nearly 30 years of experience, an MLS championship and player development expertise.

Born in Amsterdam, Netherlands, Rongen played for Ajax Amsterdam before moving to the US to play in the NASL where he won Rookie of the Year, Defender of the Year and other honors. Rongen was the original head coach of the Tampa Bay Mutiny, leading it to earn the Supporter's Shield in the league's inaugural 1996 season (awarded to the Major League Soccer team with the best regular season record). He was awarded the MLS Coach of the Year Award that season and was appointed coach of the Eastern Conference All-Star Team, which included six of his own Mutiny players. Rowdies President and General Manager Farrukh Quraishi served as President and GM of the Mutiny at that time.

Rongen's other MLS experience includes stints as head coach for D.C. United, where he won the 1999 MLS Cup, the New England Revolution and as the first head coach and sporting director for Chivas USA in Los Angeles, California.

Additionally, Rongen has extensive experience developing young players, serving as head coach of the United States Under-20 Men's National Team for nine years. He was recently the head coach for the long suffering Men's National Team in American Samoa, which lost 30 consecutive games in their 17 year existence prior to Rongen's appointment. Most recently the subject of an award winning documentary "Next Goal Wins," the feature-length film highlights his remarkable turnaround of the team in what Esquire magazine calls "the most rewarding, gutsy and rather magnificent sporting story in recent cinematic memory."

In addition to his coaching experience, Rongen also served as the Netherlands' team liaison at the 1994 World Cup in Orlando and most recently spent the last three seasons as Academy Director at Toronto FC. He has provided color commentary for Comcast, Fox Soccer and Sportsnet.

2015 Rowdies (NASL Only)

2015 Record When:	W-T-L
Scoring First	7-1-0
Opponent Scores First	0-2-5
Outshooting Opponent	5-3-1
Being Outshot	2-2-4
Same Number of Shots	0-0-0
Home Matches:	6-1-2
Away Matches:	1-4-3
Wearing Hoops:	5-2-2
Wearing Yellow:	2-3-3
On Grass:	7-3-4
On Turf:	0-2-1

2015 Goals Breakdown:

Tampa Bay Rowdies	
Scoring 0-15 Minute	3
Scoring 15-30 Minute	5
Scoring 31-45 Minute	3
Scoring in 1st Half Injury Time	1
Scoring 46-60 Minute	5
Scoring 61-75 Minute	3
Scoring 76-90 Minute	2
Scoring in 2nd Half Injury Time	1

Opponents

Scoring 0-15 Minute	5
Scoring 15-30 Minute	2
Scoring 31-45 Minute	4
Scoring in 1st Half Injury Time	0
Scoring 46-60 Minute	4
Scoring 61-75 Minute	3
Scoring 76-90 Minute	1
Scoring in 2nd Half Injury Time	3

2015 Season - Rowdies Leaders (NASL Only)

Goals	
1. Maicon Santos	7
2. Martin Nuñez	3
3. Darwin Espinal	2
3. Corey Hertzog	2
3. Brian Shriner	2
3. Georgi Hristov	2
7. Stefan Antonijevic	1
7. Robert Hernandez	1
7. Rich Balchan	1
7. Darnell King	1

Assists

1. Georgi Hristov	7
2. Darnell King	2
3. Marcelo Saragosa	1
3. Darwin Espinal	1
3. Corey Hertzog	1
3. Freddy Adu	1
3. Martin Nuñez	1
3. Maicon Santos	1

Points

1. Maicon Santos	15
2. Georgi Hristov	11
3. Martin Nuñez	7
4. Darwin Espinal	5
4. Corey Hertzog	5

About the Rowdies

The Tampa Bay Rowdies are a professional soccer club and a member of the North American Soccer League (NASL). The Rowdies home stadium is Al Lang Stadium in downtown St. Petersburg, Fl. The Rowdies were reborn in 2010 and quickly reestablished themselves as a premier club in the United States, winning the NASL Soccer Bowl Championship in 2012.

The Rowdies attracted a sellout crowd to their first home game in May 2010, and have continued to boast strong local fan support. The team is led by former United States Under-20 Men's National Team Coach Thomas Rongen, who was hired as the third head coach in modern Rowdies history on December 3, 2014. Rongen's career highlights also include an MLS Cup and MLS Supporter's Shield.

The original Tampa Bay Rowdies were born in 1975 as an expansion team in the North American Soccer League (NASL). From 1975-1984, the Rowdies were one of the most successful teams in the NASL, winning the Soccer Bowl Championship in 1975 and reaching the finals in 1978 and 1979. The Rowdies featured iconic players such as Rodney Marsh, Derek Smethurst, and Steve Wegerle while winning over the hearts of the people of Tampa Bay and creating an internationally recognized brand.

North American Soccer League (NASL)

The new North American Soccer League (NASL) was officially founded in November 2009 when a group of second-division men's professional soccer team owners banded together to form North American Soccer League, LLC for the purpose of creating a team-owned and operated professional soccer league in the United States, Canada and Puerto Rico.

In February 2011, the NASL received provisional recognition from the United States Soccer Federation as the exclusive second division men's professional league (D-2) and the inaugural season kicked off on the evening of April 9, 2011. The team that emerges on top of the standings after 42 games played between April 6 and July 4 will earn the right to host the 2013 Soccer Bowl in November, to be joined by the Fall campaign champion as the NASL adopts a new split season format for the first time since returning to the American soccer scene in 2011.

The NASL member teams are: Atlanta Silverbacks, Carolina RailHawks, FC Edmonton, Fort Lauderdale Strikers, Indy Eleven, Jacksonville Armada FC, Minnesota United FC, New York Cosmos, San Antonio Scorpions FC, Ottawa Fury FC and Tampa Bay Rowdies. Miami FC and Puerto Rico FC will begin play in 2016. For more information about the NASL, visit www.NASL.com. Follow the NASL on Twitter @NASLOfficial and Facebook at <http://www.Facebook.com/NASL.fans>.

Al Lang Stadium

Fully renovated this year and situated on the downtown St. Petersburg waterfront next to the Salvador Dali Museum and Mahaffey Theater, the iconic stadium used to be home to the Tampa Bay Rays for their spring training. Over the years, several other Major League Baseball teams, including the Baltimore Orioles, New York Mets, New York Yankees, St. Louis Cardinals, have used the stadium as their headquarters for spring training.

The St. Petersburg Athletic Park at the current site of Al Lang Stadium was the spring home for the Boston Braves and New York Yankees from 1923 until after World War II, hosting such greats such as Babe Ruth, Lou Gehrig and Stan Musial. The first incarnation of the current field was built for the St. Louis Cardinals in 1947.

Team Information

Website: www.RowdiesSoccer.com

Twitter: @TampaBayRowdies

Match Twitter: @RowdiesGameday

Facebook: Tampa Bay Rowdies

Instagram: @TampaBayRowdies

Media Requests

All interview and credential requests should be made to Nico Castillo at ncastillo@rowdiessoccer.com or 813-527-1376.