

# **GAME NOTES**

#### COMMUNITY AND DEVELOPMENT

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### **MATCH INFORMATION**



# SOUNDERS FC 2

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RIO GRANDE VALLEY FC

**Kickoff:** Tuesday, April 12, 2016 | 7:30 p.m. PT **Location:** Starfire Stadium | Tukwila, Wash.

Referee: Farhad Dadkho

Assistants: Kelsey Harms, Christian Clerc

Fourth Official: Charles Spaniola

#### **BROADCAST INFORMATION**

Live Stream: SoundersFC.com

Announcers: Wade Webber, Aaron Heinzen

### **MATCHUP PREVIEW**

On Tuesday evening at Starfire Stadium, Sounders FC (0-3-0, 0 points) hosts Rio Grande Valley FC Toros (1-1-0, 3 points) in the fourth fixture of a five-match homestand for S2. On March 25, S2 opened its second USL campaign with a 1-0 loss to Sacramento Republic FC, before falling to Arizona United SC 2-0 on two early goals. On April 3, the Rave Green once again couldn't overcome an early deficit, falling 3-0 to San Antonio FC in the visitor's inaugural USL match.

The RGV FC Toros made their USL debut on March 26, losing 2-0 on the road to the Tulsa Roughnecks despite 22 shots (12 on goal). The club then earned its first-ever win on April 8 with a 2-0 road victory against Portland Timbers 2. A hybrid affiliate of the Houston Dynamo, RGV FC Toros has an ownership group, Lone Star, that is separate from its MLS club.

### SECOND SEASON UNDERWAY

Tuesday's contest versus RGV FC Toros is the fourth match of S2's five-game homestand to open the 2016 campaign, its second in USL.

In addition to winning games, the primary purpose of S2 is to give players a chance to develop as they learn the system and are watched closely by Sounders FC's First Team coaching staff.

General Manager & President of Soccer Garth Lagerwey: "You have to vertically integrate the clubs. You have your First Team, and you have to push strategically to grow the Sounders, but you have to, below that, integrate S2 and the Academy."

### **SOUNDERS FC 2 SCHEDULE**

March 25	Sacramento Republic FC	L, 0-1
March 30	Arizona United SC	L, 0-2
April 3	San Antonio	L, 0-3
April 12	Rio Grande Valley FC	7:30 p.m. PT
April 17	Colorado Springs FC	5:00 p.m. PT
April 26	@ Real Monarchs SLC	6:00 p.m. PT
May 1	OKC Energy FC	7:30 p.m. PT
May 8	Tulsa Roughnecks FC	7:00 p.m. PT
May 14	@ Sacramento Republic FC	7:30 p.m. PT
May 22	LA Galaxy	5:00 p.m. PT
May 26	@ Timbers 2	7:00 p.m. PT
June 9	Whitecaps FC 2	7:30 p.m. PT
June 14	@ Timbers 2	7:00 p.m. PT
June 20	@ Arizona United SC	6:30 p.m. PT
June 26	Swope Park Rangers	5:00 p.m. PT
July 2	@ Sacramento Republic FC	
July 6	@ St. Louis FC	5:00 p.m. PT
July 10	Arizona United SC	5:00 p.m. PT
July 18	@ Colorado Springs FC	6:00 p.m. PT
July 24	Timbers 2	7:30 p.m. PT
August 1	Real Monarchs SLC	7:30 p.m. PT
August 6	@ Whitecaps FC 2	3:00 p.m. PT
August 13	@ Rio Grande Valley FC	5:30 p.m. PT
August 20	@ San Antonio	5:30 p.m. PT
August 29	Timbers 2	6:00 p.m. PT
September 2	Whitecaps FC 2	7:30 p.m. PT
September 5	@ Whitecaps FC 2	TBD
September 11	@ OKC Energy FC	4:00 p.m. PT
September 17	@ Colorado Springs FC	6:00 p.m. PT
September 24	@ Swope Park Rangers	5:00 p.m. PT

## **SOUNDERS FC 2 NOTES**

### **SCHWEITZER STAYS HOME**

Seattle Sounders FC announced in January that it added defensive midfielder Jordan Schweitzer to its roster after the former Academy prodcut was signed as the club's sixth-ever Homegrown signing.

Schweitzer, a 21-year-old native of Everett, Wash., was a three-time All-Summit League First Team selection at the University of Denver and led the Pioneers to three-consecutive NCAA Tournament appearances.

Schweitzer started 70 of his 73 appearances across four collegiate seasons from 2012-2015 at DU. As a senior in 2015, he was named First Team All-West Region selection after co-captaining the Pioneers to their second-straight Summit League Championship and a 15-1-3 record.

#### S2 ADDS DRAFT PICKS

Last month, S2 announced the signing of 2016 MLS SuperDraft selections Zach Mathers, Emir Alihodzic and Michael Nelson. The club adds three of its 2016 SuperDraft picks to the S2 roster after selecting Mathers in the Second Round before adding Alihodzic and Nelson in the Third Round and Fourth Round of January's SuperDraft.

Mathers, 21, was a three-time All-ACC selection at Duke, including a First Team nod as a senior in 2015. The Keller, Texas native led the Blue Devils last season with eight goals, eight assists and 64 shots, completing a collegiate career in which he started 69 of 71 appearances and recorded 14 goals and 18 assists.

Alihodzic, 22, was an NSCAA Third Team All-West Region selection at Nebraska-Omaha after tallying four goals, including two game-winners, and two assists in 16 appearances as a senior. The St. Louis native started 60 of 65 appearances for the Mavericks in his collegiate career, twice receiving All-Summit League Second Team honors, in addition to being a 2014 Academic All-Summit League selection.

A 21-year-old defender, Nelson earned First Team All-Conference USA and NSCAA First Team All-Southwest Region honors in his senior season at Old Dominion in 2015. After playing his freshman season at North Carolina State in 2012, Nelson transferred to Old Dominion, where he registered four goals and four assists in 54 career appearances (53 starts) for the Monarchs from 2013-2015.

### **S2 EXPANDS ROSTER**

S2 announced last month that it has agreed to contracts with goalkeeper Matt Bersano and midfielders Devon Fisher and Mark O'Ojong. Per USL and club policy, terms of the agreements are not being disclosed.

Bersano, 23, joins S2 after one season at Penn State, where he starred as goalkeeper while earning his Masters degree. As a Nittany Lion, Bersano recorded shutouts in five of his 13 matches and made 42 saves. Previously, Bersano played three seasons at Oregon State. In 2013, he set the school's single-season record with 101 saves.

Fisher, 22, enters his second season in USL after competing with Timbers 2 in 2015. The midfielder shined in three seasons at Virginia Commonwealth University, where he scored 12 goals and added five assists in 62 matches.

O'Ojong, 18, comes to S2 from Cameroon's Rainbow FC. The midfielder has two international appearances for Cameroon, including the 2016 Africa Nations Championship, where the country fell to Ivory Coast in the Quarterfinals.

### BY THE NUMBERS

- Career S2 appearances for goalkeeper Tyler Miller, who made his season debut again San Antonio FC on April 3.
- Sounders FC Academy players have appeared in a match for S2 this season: Lorenzo Ramos, John Magnus, Tobi Jnohope, Nick Hinds, Handwalla Bwana and Harrison Kurtz.
- Total shots by Sounders FC 2 against San Antonio FC, the club's highest mark this season.

### **ALL-TIME CLUB RECORDS**

#### **INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS**

Braces: Qudus Lawal, April 16, 2015 at. Tulsa Roughnecks FC

Andy Craven, May 15, 2015 vs. OKC Energy FC Oalex Anderson, July 12, 2015 vs. Arizona United SC

Myron Samuel, Aug. 19, 2015 vs. Colorado Springs Switchbacks FC

Hat Tricks:

Quickest Home Goal:

Quickest Road Goal:

Darwin Jones, March 29, 2015 vs. Whitecaps FC 2

Oalex Anderson, July 12, 2015 vs. Arizona United SC (2')

Qudus Lawal, April 16, 2015 vs. Tulsa Roughnecks FC (9')

Latest Game-Winning Goal: Guiliano Frano, April 11, 2015 vs. Timbers 2 (88')

Latest Goal: Cristian Roldan, March 21, 2015 vs. Sacramento Republic FC (89')

Quickest Goal Allowed: vs. Tulsa Roughnecks, 2015 - Bardsley (2')
Latest Goal Allowed: vs. Switchbacks FC, 2015 - Aaron King (90'+4)

Fastest Substitute Goal: Sam Garza, March 21, 2015 vs. Sac. Republic FC (15 seconds)

Goals in a season: Pablo Rossi (2015), 8
Assists in a season: Andy Craven (2015), 5
Shutouts in a season: Charlie Lyon (2015), 4

#### **TEAM STATISTICS**

Most goals scored: 4 goals (three times)

Most goals against: 5 goals, June 5, 2015 vs. Tulsa Roughnecks FC

SPLITS		GOALS	
Overall Home Away	0-3-0 0-3-0 0-0-0	GOALS SCORED While leading While tied While trailing	( <b>0</b> ) 0 0 0
March April May June July August	0-2-0 0-1-0 0-0-0 0-0-0 0-0-0	Run of play Set piece Penalties Own goals	0 0 0
September	0-0-0	Unassisted One assist	0 0
When leading at half When tied at half When trailing at half	0-0-0 0-1-0 0-1-0	Forwards Midfielders Defenders	0 0 0
When scoring first When conceding first With 0 goals scored With 1 goal scored With 2 goals scored With 3 goals scored	0-0-0 0-3-0 0-3-0 0-0-0 0-0-0 0-0-0	GOALS ALLOWED While leading While tied While trailing Run of play	( <b>6</b> ) 0 3 3
With 4+ goals scored  Conceding 0 goals  Conceding 1 goal  Conceding 2 goals	0-0-0 0-0-0 0-1-0 0-1-0	Set piece Penalties Own goals	0 1 0
Conceding 3 goals Conceding 4+ goals	0-1-0 0-0-0	Forwards Midfielders Defenders	5 0 1

### **BOX SCORES**

#### Sounders FC 2 | 0 - 1 | Sacramento Republic FC

March 25, 2016 at Starfire Stadium (Tukwila, WA)

**SCORING** 

SEA - None

SAC - Stewart (penalty) 63'

**Lineup:** Lyon; Oniel Fisher, Tobi Jnohope, Tony Alfaro, Dylan Remick; Michael Farfan (Emir Alihodzic HT), Nathan Sturgis, Zach Mathers (Mark O'Ojong 88'); Darwin Jones, Andy Craven (Handwalla Bwana 73'), Aaron Kovar (Nick Hinds 88')

Substitutes Not Used: Matt Bersano, Henry Baldwin

Total shots: 8 Shots on goal: 1 Corner-kicks: 4 Saves: 3

#### Sounders FC 2 | 0 - 2 | Arizona United SC

March 30, 2016 at Starfire Stadium (Tukwila, WA)

#### **SCORING**

SEA - None

AZ - Bardsley (Cortez) 16', Cortez 24'

**Lineup:** Charlie Lyon; Devon Fisher, Tobi Jnohope, Tony Alfaro, Nick Hinds, Zach Mathers, Mark O'Ojong, Victor Mansaray, Emir Alihodzic (Handwalla Bwana 57'), Andy Craven (Harrison Kurtz 71'), Darwin Jones (Lorenzo Ramos 71')

Substitutes Not Used: Matt Bersano, Henry Baldwin

Total shots: 8 Shots on goal: 2 Corner-kicks: 3 Saves: 2

#### Sounders FC 2 | 0 - 3 | San Antonio FC

April 3, 2016 at Starfire Stadium (Tukwila, WA)

#### SCORING

SEA - None

SAFC - Johnson 3', Johnson 9', Okiomah 79'

**Lineup:** Tyler Miller; Oniel Fisher, Tobi Jnohope (Harrison Kurtz 77'), Tony Alfaro, Nick Hinds (Handwalla Bwana 60'); Mark O'Ojong (Devon Fisher HT), Nathan Sturgis, Zach Mathers; Andy Craven, Victor Mansaray (Lorenzo Ramos HT), Myron Samuel (Emir Alihodzic 70')

Substitutes Not Used: Charlie Lyon, Henry Baldwin

Total shots: 11 Shots on goal: 5 Corner-kicks: 7 Saves: 5

# STATS AND STANDINGS

USL WESTERN CONFERENCE						
TEAM	PTS	GP	RECORD	GF	GA	+/-
LA Galaxy II	8	4	2-0-2	9	4	5
Vancouver Whitecaps FC 2	7	3	2-0-1	4	1	3
Real Monarchs SLC	7	3	2-0-1	5	3	2
Swope Park Rangers	7	3	2-0-1	5	3	2
Sacramento Republic FC	7	3	2-0-1	2	0	2
Colorado Springs FC	6	2	2-0-0	4	1	3
San Antonio FC	4	2	1-0-1	4	1	3
Saint Louis FC	4	4	1-2-1	5	7	-2
Tulsa Roughnecks FC	3	3	1-2-0	3	3	0
Rio Grande Valley FC	3	2	1-1-0	2	2	0
Arizona United SC	3	4	1-3-0	2	5	-3
OKC Energy FC	1	3	1-1-1	3	4	-1
Orange County Blues FC	1	3	0-2-1	2	5	-3
Portland Timbers 2	0	3	0-3-0	2	7	-5
Seattle Sounders FC 2	0	3	0-3-0	0	6	-6

USL EASTERN CONFERENCE						
TEAM	PTS	GP	RECORD	GF	GA	+/-
New York Red Bulls II	7	3	2-0-1	8	2	6
Richmond Kickers	7	3	2-0-1	4	1	3
Charleston Battery	7	3	2-0-1	3	1	2
Louisville City FC	6	3	2-1-0	5	3	2
FC Cincinnati	6	3	2-1-0	4	3	1
Toronto FC II	4	2	1-0-1	4	3	1
Wilmington Hammerheads FC	4	3	1-1-1	3	3	0
Charlotte Independence	3	3	1-2-0	3	4	-1
Bethlehem Steel FC	3	3	1-2-0	2	6	-4
Rochester Rhinos	3	2	1-1-0	1	1	0
Orlando City B	1	3	0-2-1	2	6	-4
Pittsburgh Riverhounds	0	1	0-1-0	0	1	-1
FC Montreal	0	2	0-2-0	1	3	-2
Harrisburg City Islanders	0	2	0-2-0	2	5	-3

<sup>\*</sup>As of April 11

TOP SIX CLUBS IN EACH CONFERENCE REACH PLAYOFFS

PTS: Points
GP: Games Played
GF: Goals For

GA: Goals Against

<sup>\*:</sup> Clinched Postseason Berth

<sup>#:</sup> Clinched Regular Season Title

<sup>^:</sup> Clinched first-round bye

### S2 HEAD COACH EZRA HENDRICKSON

Ezra Hendrickson initially joined Sounders FC as an Assistant Coach on January 20, 2009, after completing a 14-year professional career, including 12 seasons in Major League Soccer. He is now the Head Coach of Sounders FC 2, the club's USL PRO team.

Hendrickson played parts of eight seasons for Sigi Schmid, including three in Columbus prior to his retirement. Hendrickson appeared in 266 regular season ma tches with 225 starts. Playing defense, he scored 23 goals and added 30 assists.

He also played in 32 postseason games with five goals and three assists. Hendrickson was a member of three MLS Cup championship teams, winning two with Schmid. Together, they won the 2002 MLS Cup with the Los Angeles Galaxy and the 2008 MLS Cup in Columbus. Hendrickson was also with the champion D.C. United team in 2004.

A native of the island of St. Vincent in the Caribbean, Hendrickson began his career in 1997 with the New York MetroStars, before joining the Galaxy later that season. He totaled six seasons in Los Angeles, where he won the 2000 CONCACAF Champions Cup, scoring two goals in a 3-2 victory, and the 2001 Lamar Hunt U.S. Open Cup, scoring one goal in a 2-1 victory. He was named Galaxy's Most Valuable Player for the 2001 season.

Hendrickson went to Dallas in 2003 and began the next season with the A-League's Charleston Battery before joining D.C. United for its run to the 2004 MLS Cup. After starting all 31 appearances in 2005 for Chivas USA, Hendrickson was acquired by Columbus in early 2006.

An All-American and business administration major at Drake University, Hendrickson first played professionally with New Orleans of the USISL Select League (1995-96). After earning his first international cap in 1995, he served 12 years as captain of the St. Vincent and the Grenadines national team. Hendrickson earned his U.S. Soccer "A" Coaching License in December of 2008. He is a resident of Layou, St. Vincent, and has two daughters, Xavia and McKenzie.

### S2 GENERAL MANAGER ANDREW OPATKIEWICZ



Andrew Opatkiewicz started with Sounders FC in July of 2014, and was announced as General Manager of the Sounders Second Team, S2, on October 14, 2014.

Opatkiewicz has worked for over a decade in the sports industry beginning as General Manager of Seattle Wolves FC, a USL Premier Development League team he started while in graduate school. Prior to being named General Manager of S2, Opatkiewicz most recently worked as Vice President of Strategic Partnerships at Intersport, a sports marketing agency in Chicago.

Opatkiewicz built the Seattle Wolves Football Club with the vision of bridging the developmental gap between elite youth and professional soccer players. The Wolves cultivated a number of players and front office staff now employed with professional clubs in the U.S. and abroad. At Intersport, he worked with Fortune 500 sports and entertainment brands to deliver marketing campaigns leveraging Intersport's properties on national television, as well as developing and distributing custom branded digital content.

He has also worked as the Associate Vice President of Strategic Development at STATS, directing the organization's global soccer and ice hockey businesses, and building the sports marketing business unit applying STATS global sports data content. And, as Head of Business Development with Prozone Sports before that, Opatkiewicz managed the Prozone business in North and South America providing performance analysis consultancy services to professional football clubs, national teams and colleges.

A native of The Berkshires, Massachusetts, Opatkiewicz studied biological sciences in undergraduate (University of New Hampshire) and graduate school (University of Washington), and has published research papers on topics including MLS salary allocation strategy and physical effects on team performance. Opatkiewicz also serves on the advisory board for the University of New Haven Masters degree in sports management.

# 2016 SOUNDERS FC PLAYERS

NO.	NAME	AGE	PRONUNCIATION	BIRTHPLACE	PREVIOUS CLUB
25	Tony Alfaro	22		Michoacan, Mexico	Cal State - Dominguez Hills (NCAA)
88	Emir Alihodzic*	22	Alley-HOD-zik	Tulza, Bosnia	Nebraska Omaha Mavericks (NCAA)
6	Osvaldo Alonso	30	ahs-VAHL-doe	San Cristobal, Cuba	Charleston Battery (USL)
39	Oalex Anderson	20	OH-lex	Barrouallie, St. Vincent	System 3 FC (SVG)
98	Matt Bersano*	23	Bur-SAN-oh	Chandler, AZ	Penn State Nittany Lions (NCAA)
99	Andy Craven	24		St. Simons Island, GA	North Carolina Tar Heels (NCAA)
2	Clint Dempsey	33		Nacogdoches, TX	Tottenham Hotspur (England)
3	Brad Evans	30		Phoenix, AZ	Columbus Crew SC
12	Michael Farfan	27		San Diego, CA	D.C. United
81	Devon Fisher*	22		Chesapeake, VA	Timbers 2 (USL)
91	Oniel Fisher	24	Oh-neel	Portmore, Jamaica	New Mexico Lobos (NCAA)
24	Stefan Frei	29	STEF-in FRY	Altstaetten, Switzerland	Toronto FC
8	Erik Friberg	30	Free-burg	Lindome, Sweden	Esbjerg fB (Denmark)
9	Herculez Gomez	34	·	Oxnard, CA	Toronto FC
23	Andreas Ivanschitz	32	EVEN-schitz	Eisenstadt, Austria	Levante (Spain)
17	Darwin Jones	24		Chicago, IL	Washington Huskies (NCAA)
33	Joevin Jones	24	JOE-vin	Carenage, Trinidad & Tobago	Chicago Fire
11	Aaron Kovar	22		Seattle, WA	Stanford Cardinal (NCAA)
31	Damion Lowe	24		Kingston, Jamaica	Hartford Hawks (NCAA)
22	Charlie Lyon	23		St. Charles, IL	Marquette Golden Eagles (NCAA)
80	Victor Mansaray	19	MANS-uh-ray	Freetown, Sierra Leone	Sounders FC Academy
14	Chad Marshall	31	·	Riverside, CA	Columbus Crew SC
32	Zach Mathers*	21	Math-ers	Ft. Worth, TX	Duke Blue Devils (NCAA)
4	Tyrone Mears	32	MEERS	Stockport, England	Bolton Wanderers (England)
1	Tyler Miller	22		Woodbury, NJ	Northwestern Wildcats (NCAA)
13	Jordan Morris	21		Seattle, WA	Stanford Cardinal (NCAA)
36	Michael Nelson*	21		Austin, TX	Old Dominion Monarchs (NCAA)
90	Mark O'Ojong*	18	Oh-schong	Douala, Cameroon	Rainbow FC (CMR)
5	Jimmy Ockford	23		Yardley, PA	Louisville Cardinals (NCAA)
95	Carlos Patino*	20	Pa-TEEN-oh	Tulua, Colombia	Kitsap Pumas (PDL)
15	Dylan Remick	24		Inverness, IL	Brown Bears (NCAA)
7	Cristian Roldan	20	Roll-dahn	Artesia, CA	Washington Huskies (NCAA)
97	Myron Samuel	23		Layou, St. Vincent	Rendezvous FC (BRB)
30	Amadou Sanyang*	24	AH-muh-doo SAHN-yang	Bakau, Gambia	Charleston Battery (USL)
34	Jordan Schweitzer*	21		Dalllas, TX	Denver Pioneers (NCAA)
20	Zach Scott	35		Wailuku, HI	Gonzaga Bulldogs (NCAA)
18	Nathan Sturgis	28		Boca Raton, FL	Houston Dynamo
29	Román Torres	30	roe-MAHN	Panama City, Panama	Millonarios (Colombia)
16	Nelson Valdez	32		Caaguazú, Paraguay	Eintracht Frankfurt (Germany)

<sup>\*</sup>Signed to a S2 Contract