

2021

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# MEDIA GUIDE





@USLLEAGUEONE





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# 2021 ALIGNMENT

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## 2021 LEAGUE ONE TEAMS

Chattanooga Red Wolves SC  
FC Tucson  
Fort Lauderdale CF  
Forward Madison FC  
Greenville Triumph SC  
New England Revolution II  
North Carolina FC  
North Texas SC  
Richmond Kickers  
South Georgia Tormenta FC  
Toronto FC II  
Union Omaha

## 2021 KEY DATES

April 10 – 2021 Season Kickoff  
May 18-19 – Lamar Hunt U.S. Open Cup First Round  
May 25-26 – Lamar Hunt U.S. Open Cup Quarterfinals  
June 15-16 – Lamar Hunt U.S. Open Cup Semifinals  
June 29 or 30 – Lamar Hunt U.S. Open Cup Final  
July 10 – August 1 – 2021 Concacaf Gold Cup  
September 24 – USL League One Roster Freeze  
October 30 – Final day of regular season



# SEASON STRUCTURE

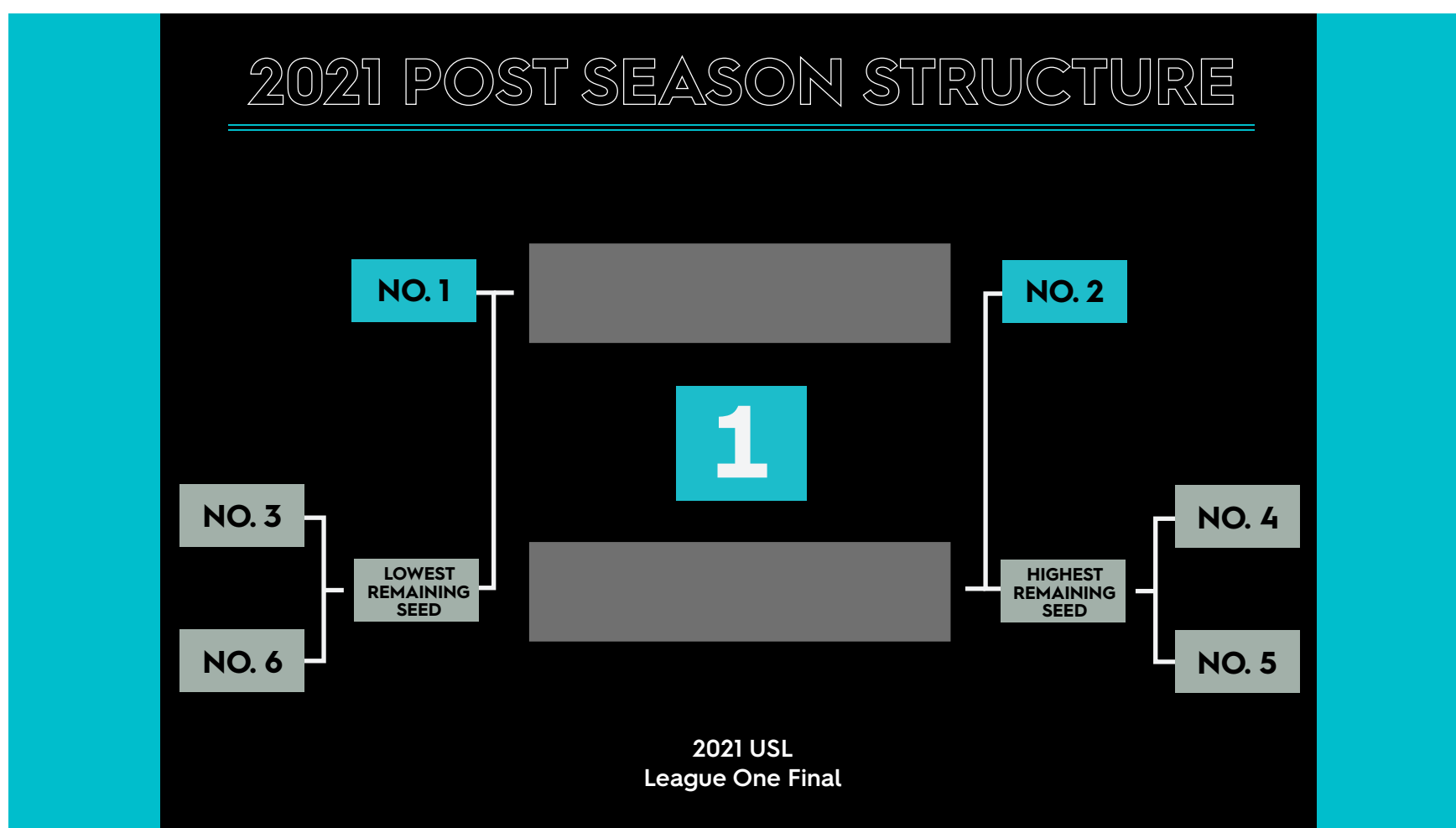
## Regular Season Structure

The 2021 USL League One season will see every team play 28 regular season contests, facing every team in the league home-and-away. The remaining six games will be made up of games against regional rivals.

## Format For 2021 USL League One Post Season

The top six teams in the final USL League One standings at the conclusion of the regular season will advance to the 2021 League One Playoffs, which will kick off in the first week of November. The No. 3 seed will host the No. 6 seed, and the No. 4 seed will host the No. 5 seed in the Quarterfinals, with the two winning sides advancing to face the No. 1 and No. 2 seeds in the Semifinals in a re-seeded bracket.

The winners of the two Semifinals will meet in the 2021 USL League One Final, with the higher remaining seed serving as host.







# CHATTANOOGA RED WOLVES SC

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Chattanooga, TN 37402  
www.chattredwolves.com  
P: (423) 541-1660

## TEAM OUTLOOK

Chattanooga Red Wolves SC developed a reputation as an exciting, attacking side in 2020 during Jimmy Obleda's first year as Head Coach, aiming to entertain and scoring the third-most goals per game in League One. The team's swashbuckling style led to impressive wins over Richmond (twice) and Omaha, but its habit of conceding late goals meant Chattanooga finished in fifth.

The Red Wolves had one of League One's most interesting off-seasons, bringing in a mixture of players both young and experienced, offensive and defensive, and North and South American. Forward Rafa Mentzingen and midfielder Jose Carrera Garcia boast USL Championship experience, while Jorge Luna and former U.S. youth international Jonathan Esparza were brought in to bolster the backline. Colombian striker Juan Galindrez adds an element to an attack which will have to make up for the loss of striker Greg Hurst, who bagged eight goals for the team last year before departing for Union Omaha.

The club's 11 new signings join proven returners like Marky Hernandez, Jonathan Ricketts, and 2020 League One All-League Selection Ricky Ruiz as Chattanooga looks to reach the postseason for the first time in 2021.

## HEAD COACH



**Jimmy Obleda**

## HOME VENUE



**CHI Memorial Stadium**



## CONTACTS

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**Director of Soccer Operations**  
Jimmy Weekley

**Operations Coordinator**  
Madeline Rector



# KEY PLAYERS



Ricky Ruiz  
Defender/Winger

Ruiz was superb for Chattanooga in 2020, winning 107 of 169 duels - tied for most in the league - and made the second-most interceptions in the league with 38. He also got forward effectively, completing 19 key passes and tallying two assists. Ruiz has a do-it-all role on the flank for Jimmy Obleda's side, and is a key to their high-energy style of play.



Rafael Mentzingen  
Forward/Midfielder

Mentzingen recorded six goals and seven assists on his way to becoming a League One All-League selection in 2019. The Brazilian playmaker spent the 2020 season in the USL Championship with Memphis 901 FC before returning to League One this offseason. With the departure of both Greg Hurst and Steven Beattie from the Red Wolves squad, Chattanooga will look to Mentzingen to be a primary creator of goals, assists, and chances, something he's shown he's more than capable of doing in his career thus far.

# 2021 SCHEDULE

| DATE       | HOME |   | AWAY |
|------------|------|---|------|
| 5/8/2021   | NTX  | V | CHA  |
| 5/16/2021  | NE   | V | CHA  |
| 5/22/2021  | CHA  | V | FTL  |
| 5/29/2021  | CHA  | V | RIC  |
| 6/5/2021   | TRM  | V | CHA  |
| 6/12/2021  | TUC  | V | CHA  |
| 6/20/2021  | CHA  | V | NC   |
| 6/26/2021  | CHA  | V | GVL  |
| 7/3/2021   | OMA  | V | CHA  |
| 7/10/2021  | CHA  | V | TUC  |
| 7/14/2021  | CHA  | V | TRM  |
| 7/17/2021  | NTX  | V | CHA  |
| 7/24/2021  | CHA  | V | GVL  |
| 7/31/2021  | CHA  | V | MAD  |
| 8/10/2021  | NC   | V | CHA  |
| 8/17/2021  | CHA  | V | NTX  |
| 8/21/2021  | CHA  | V | OMA  |
| 8/27/2021  | TOR  | V | CHA  |
| 9/4/2021   | FTL  | V | CHA  |
| 9/8/2021   | CHA  | V | NTX  |
| 9/11/2021  | GVL  | V | CHA  |
| 9/18/2021  | CHA  | V | NC   |
| 9/25/2021  | CHA  | V | NE   |
| 10/2/2021  | RIC  | V | CHA  |
| 10/10/2021 | NC   | V | CHA  |
| 10/16/2021 | CHA  | V | TOR  |
| 10/23/2021 | GVL  | V | CHA  |
| 10/30/2021 | MAD  | V | CHA  |

 /ChattRedWolves

 @ChattRedWolves

 @chattredwolves





# FC TUCSON

3350 S Country Club Rd  
Tucson, AZ 85713  
www.fctucson.com  
P: (520) 600-3095

## TEAM OUTLOOK

Tucson spent the 2020 campaign in the thick of the midtable, finishing in sixth - the same distance of seven points from second-place Union Omaha and 10th-place Fort Lauderdale CF. The team built positive momentum during the second half of the season, winning four times and losing only once in its final eight games. Entering its second season under Head Coach John Galas, the team will look to begin its 2021 slate in similar fashion.

The biggest offseason shift at FC Tucson took place in the boardroom, with the club's ownership transferring from Phoenix Rising FC to Benevolent Sports Tucson, LLC, making it Tucson's only independent professional sports team.

There were changes on the field too. Goalkeeper Carlos Merancio and defender Niall Logue each joined Championship clubs, while Azaad Liadi, Josh Coan, and Esteban Calvo joined other League One sides. But midfield linchpin Charlie Dennis signed a new deal to keep him at the club, and Wallis Lapsley, himself a Championship goalkeeper last season, is a ready-made replacement for Merancio between the posts. Standouts Shak Adams and Sam Biek are also staying put, and Dominican Republic international Gerard Lavergne is another intriguing addition in midfield.

After finishing in eighth and sixth during League One's first two seasons, the aim for 2021 in Tucson is to close the gap to the teams at the top.

## HEAD COACH



**John Galas**

## HOME VENUE



**Kino North Stadium**



## CONTACTS

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**Soccer Operations Manager**  
Kyle Cornell



# KEY PLAYERS



**Charlie Dennis**  
Midfielder

Dennis can sometimes be one of League One’s unsung heroes, but the Englishman’s midfield play was key for both FC Tucson in 2020 and Tormenta FC in 2019. He played in all but one of Tucson’s matches last season and was the squad’s primary creator, leading the team in assists with five and chances created with 36. His passing ability allows Tucson to break opposition pressure and to get the ball in promising attacking positions.



**Shak Adams**  
Forward

At 22-years-old, Adams is a bright young attacker with a nose for goal. He showed those attributes with Tucson last season, tallying four goals and two assists in 12 appearances. With the departure of both Azaad Liadi and Josh Coan for other League One clubs, more of the scoring load will fall on Adams’ shoulders this season, and Tucson will need him fit and firing from the start.

# 2021 SCHEDULE

| DATE       | HOME |   | AWAY |
|------------|------|---|------|
| 5/1/2021   | TRM  | V | TUC  |
| 5/8/2021   | TUC  | V | MAD  |
| 5/16/2021  | FTL  | V | TUC  |
| 5/26/2021  | TOR  | V | TUC  |
| 5/29/2021  | NC   | V | TUC  |
| 6/5/2021   | TUC  | V | TOR  |
| 6/12/2021  | TUC  | V | CHA  |
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| 6/26/2021  | OMA  | V | TUC  |
| 7/3/2021   | TUC  | V | FTL  |
| 7/10/2021  | CHA  | V | TUC  |
| 7/17/2021  | TUC  | V | NE   |
| 7/24/2021  | TUC  | V | OMA  |
| 7/31/2021  | RIC  | V | TUC  |
| 8/7/2021   | TUC  | V | NTX  |
| 8/14/2021  | TUC  | V | OMA  |
| 8/22/2021  | FTL  | V | TUC  |
| 8/28/2021  | TUC  | V | GVL  |
| 9/1/2021   | NE   | V | TUC  |
| 9/4/2021   | NTX  | V | TUC  |
| 9/11/2021  | TUC  | V | FTL  |
| 9/19/2021  | GVL  | V | TUC  |
| 9/25/2021  | OMA  | V | TUC  |
| 10/2/2021  | TUC  | V | NTX  |
| 10/13/2021 | TUC  | V | NC   |
| 10/16/2021 | TUC  | V | TRM  |
| 10/23/2021 | MAD  | V | TUC  |
| 10/30/2021 | TUC  | V | RIC  |

 **/FCTUCSON**

 **@FCTucson**

 **@fctucson**





# FORT LAUDERDALE CF

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Miami, FL 33134  
[www.intermiamicf.com](http://www.intermiamicf.com)

## TEAM OUTLOOK

Fort Lauderdale didn't challenge at the upper end of the table during the club's inaugural League One season in 2020, but the team was home to some of the best young talent in American soccer. The precocious duo of Ian Fray and Edison Azcona both earned Homegrown contracts with the club's senior team Inter Miami CF of Major League Soccer, after each featured among the League One All-League selections.

This season, they'll again be stocked with young talent. Among the key returners are Sami Guediri and Brian Rosales, each of whom started in 14 of the team's 16 matches last season, and Francisco Raggio, who was one of the first two players signed to professional contracts with Fort Lauderdale from the Inter Miami CF Academy.

Defender Ethan Hardin, who excelled as an Academy registered player last season, returns as well, while Braxton Najib joins as an Academy signing after making six appearances with Birmingham Legion FC in the USL Championship during the 2020 campaign.

This season, Fort Lauderdale will aim to continue providing its top young players with a high-level platform for exposure while trying to push up the table and end the year among the playoff places.



## HEAD COACH



**Darren Powell**

## HOME VENUE



**DRV PNK Stadium**

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# KEY PLAYERS



**Edison Azcona**  
Forward

Azcona excelled in League One last season, scoring three goals on nine shots while notching a 55.6 percent shooting accuracy rate. He also tallied three assists on 17 chances created, and won a team-high 22 tackles. He will return to Fort Lauderdale on loan from Inter Miami for certain matches this season, and is clearly a highly-valued prospect at the club. In March, he scored for the Dominican Republic U-23 national team in a Concacaf Men's Olympic Qualifier against Mexico, and earned his first two appearances with the Dominican Republic senior national team during the League One offseason as well.



**Ethan Hardin**  
Defender

In his first season as a professional, Hardin impressed just about everyone, playing in 13 of Fort Lauderdale's 16 matches. He led the team in successful passes with 741 (eighth-most in League One) and in passing accuracy (90.7 percent). The young defender also had the second-most interceptions on his team (25) and tied for a team-high 17 aerial duels won.

# 2021 SCHEDULE

| DATE       | HOME |   | AWAY |
|------------|------|---|------|
| 4/10/2021  | FTL  | V | NE   |
| 4/17/2021  | TRM  | V | FTL  |
| 4/24/2021  | NTX  | V | FTL  |
| 5/2/2021   | FTL  | V | RIC  |
| 5/7/2021   | FTL  | V | OMA  |
| 5/16/2021  | FTL  | V | TUC  |
| 5/22/2021  | CHA  | V | FTL  |
| 5/28/2021  | NE   | V | FTL  |
| 6/1/2021   | FTL  | V | MAD  |
| 6/5/2021   | NC   | V | FTL  |
| 6/16/2021  | FTL  | V | TOR  |
| 6/19/2021  | TOR  | V | FTL  |
| 6/26/2021  | FTL  | V | TOR  |
| 7/3/2021   | TUC  | V | FTL  |
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| 8/22/2021  | FTL  | V | TUC  |
| 8/28/2021  | TRM  | V | FTL  |
| 9/4/2021   | FTL  | V | CHA  |
| 9/11/2021  | TUC  | V | FTL  |
| 9/19/2021  | FTL  | V | TRM  |
| 10/1/2021  | GVL  | V | FTL  |
| 10/6/2021  | OMA  | V | FTL  |
| 10/10/2021 | FTL  | V | TRM  |
| 10/17/2021 | FTL  | V | NTX  |
| 10/22/2021 | TOR  | V | FTL  |

 /FortLauderdaleCF

 @FTLauderdaleCF

 @fortlauderdalecf





# FORWARD MADISON FC

834 E. Washington Avenue, Suite 229

Madison, WI 53703

[www.forwardmadisonfc.com](http://www.forwardmadisonfc.com)

P: (608) 204-0855

## TEAM OUTLOOK

In its first two seasons, Forward Madison took American soccer by storm with its colorful identity, creative kits, and passionate fanbase, leading League One in attendance in 2019. After finishing fourth and reaching the playoffs that year, the club's on-field performance dipped in 2020, with the Flamingos finishing seventh. The team was solid at the back, allowing only 14 goals - the second-fewest in League One. But goals proved hard to come by at the other end of the field, and the team's struggle with turning draws into wins prevented it from challenging at the top end of the table.

Madison's 2021 outlook appears as bright as its pink-and-blue color scheme, however. New Head Coach Carl Craig has an exciting and talented squad at his disposal, with a good mix of youth and experience. The key pieces of last season's strong defense are all still there, including Christian Diaz, Jiro Toyama, Connor Tobin, and Trinidad and Tobago international Josiah Trimmingham. Talented youngsters Michael Vang and Noah Fuson both brought creativity to the squad last year, while the attack has a new look with the addition of proven League One goal-scorer Jake Keegan from Greenville and former USL Championship striker Derek Gebhard.

Madison's target for 2021 seems to be a simple one: make the playoffs and challenge for a title.

## HEAD COACH



**Carl Craig**

## HOME VENUE



**Breese Stevens Field**



## CONTACTS

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Director of Corporate Partnerships  
Ryan Mooney



# KEY PLAYERS



Michael Vang  
Midfielder

Vang might be just 20 years old, but he plays with the composure of a veteran attacking midfielder. In 13 appearances for the Flamingos last season, he led the team with four goals while providing two assists and setting up 26 chances. Skilled with the ball at his feet and capable of finding teammates almost anywhere on the pitch, Vang is one of League One’s most exciting players to watch.



Jake Keegan  
Forward

With 14 League One goals to his name across two seasons with Greenville Triumph SC, Keegan doesn’t need to prove to anyone that he can put the ball in the back of the net. A key member of the Triumph SC team that won the title in 2020, Keegan joined Madison during the offseason and will be one of the centerpieces of new Head Coach Carl Craig’s revamped attack. The Flamingos struggled to score goals at times last year, and Keegan may just be the perfect remedy for that problem.

# 2021 SCHEDULE

| DATE       | HOME |   | AWAY |
|------------|------|---|------|
| 5/8/2021   | TUC  | V | MAD  |
| 5/15/2021  | MAD  | V | NC   |
| 5/26/2021  | MAD  | V | OMA  |
| 5/29/2021  | TRM  | V | MAD  |
| 6/1/2021   | FTL  | V | MAD  |
| 6/6/2021   | MAD  | V | OMA  |
| 6/12/2021  | MAD  | V | RIC  |
| 6/19/2021  | MAD  | V | NE   |
| 6/23/2021  | GVL  | V | MAD  |
| 6/30/2021  | MAD  | V | NE   |
| 7/10/2021  | NTX  | V | MAD  |
| 7/16/2021  | OMA  | V | MAD  |
| 7/24/2021  | MAD  | V | FTL  |
| 7/31/2021  | CHA  | V | MAD  |
| 8/7/2021   | OMA  | V | MAD  |
| 8/14/2021  | MAD  | V | TRM  |
| 8/18/2021  | MAD  | V | TOR  |
| 8/21/2021  | MAD  | V | NTX  |
| 8/25/2021  | NC   | V | MAD  |
| 9/1/2021   | RIC  | V | MAD  |
| 9/11/2021  | MAD  | V | RIC  |
| 9/17/2021  | TOR  | V | MAD  |
| 9/21/2021  | NE   | V | MAD  |
| 9/25/2021  | MAD  | V | GVL  |
| 10/1/2021  | NE   | V | MAD  |
| 10/16/2021 | RIC  | V | MAD  |
| 10/23/2021 | MAD  | V | TUC  |
| 10/30/2021 | MAD  | V | CHA  |

 /ForwardMadisonFC

 @ForwardMSNFC

 @forwardmadisonfc





# GREENVILLE TRIUMPH SC

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Greenville, SC 29601  
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P: (864) 203-0565

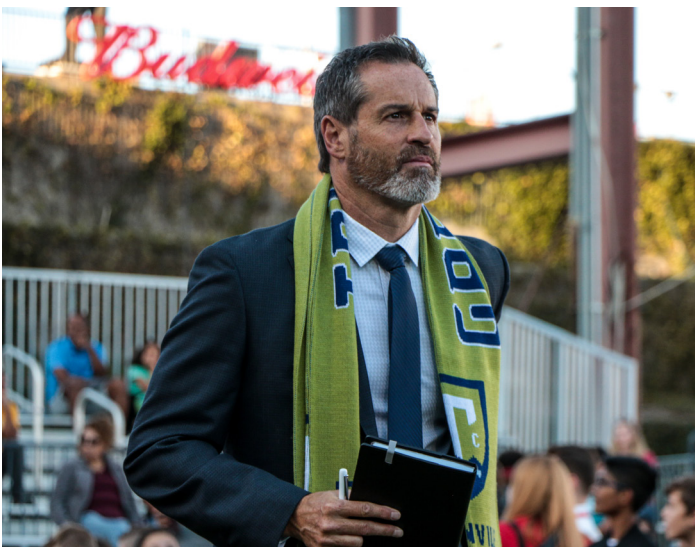
## TEAM OUTLOOK

Under its U.S. Soccer Hall of Fame Head Coach John Harkes, Triumph SC was a dominant force in League One last season, topping the table from start to finish on its way to lifting the trophy as title-winners. The team was immaculately balanced from back to front, and found ways to win games time and again when it looked as though they might have to settle for a point.

Following last season's success, the old adage "if it ain't broke, don't fix it," sums up Greenville's offseason. The club re-signed Harkes through 2023, and brought back the vast majority of its key players, including Dallas Jaye, Aaron Walker, Brandon Fricke, Evan Lee, Tyler Polak, Noah Pilato, Alex Morrell, and Lachlan McLean among others.

The most notable departure, which saw striker Jake Keegan join Forward Madison, was covered by the addition of experienced League One goal-scorer Don Smart from the Flamingos and Marios Lomis from North Carolina FC. A repeat, of course, will not be easy, but Triumph SC has all the pieces to make a run at a place in the League One Final for a third consecutive season.

## HEAD COACH



**John Harkes**

## HOME VENUE



**Legacy Early College**



## CONTACTS

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# KEY PLAYERS



Dallas Jaye  
Goalkeeper

Jaye won League One’s Golden Glove award in both 2019 and 2020, and shows no sign of slowing down in 2021. Last season, the Guam international led League One with nine shutouts and a 0.69 goals-against average. Jaye recorded 32 saves in 16 appearances with a save percentage of 72.4 percent, anchoring Triumph SC for the duration of the team’s title-winning campaign.



Alex Morrell  
Forward/Midfielder

Morell is among League One’s top creative players, earning a place on the All-League First Team in 2020. Morrell finished tied for the most assists in the league with six, created the third-most chances in the league with 32, completed the second-highest number of dribbles in the league with 27 and tallied five goals in a standout campaign. He will once again feature as a key part of a Greenville team looking to reach its third consecutive League One Final.

# 2021 SCHEDULE

| DATE       | HOME |   | AWAY |
|------------|------|---|------|
| 4/24/2021  | RIC  | V | GVL  |
| 5/1/2021   | GVL  | V | NTX  |
| 5/8/2021   | NC   | V | GVL  |
| 5/16/2021  | GVL  | V | OMA  |
| 5/22/2021  | TRM  | V | GVL  |
| 6/13/2021  | NTX  | V | GVL  |
| 6/16/2021  | GVL  | V | NC   |
| 6/19/2021  | TRM  | V | GVL  |
| 6/23/2021  | GVL  | V | MAD  |
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| 7/4/2021   | NE   | V | GVL  |
| 7/10/2021  | GVL  | V | NC   |
| 7/17/2021  | GVL  | V | TRM  |
| 7/24/2021  | CHA  | V | GVL  |
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| 8/22/2021  | GVL  | V | RIC  |
| 8/28/2021  | TUC  | V | GVL  |
| 9/3/2021   | GVL  | V | TOR  |
| 9/11/2021  | GVL  | V | CHA  |
| 9/19/2021  | GVL  | V | TUC  |
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| 10/16/2021 | GVL  | V | NE   |
| 10/23/2021 | GVL  | V | CHA  |
| 10/30/2021 | NC   | V | GVL  |

 /GreenvilleTriumphSC

 @GVLTriumph

 @gvltriumph





# NEW ENGLAND REVOLUTION II

One Patriot Place  
Foxborough, MA 02035  
[www.revolutionsoccer.net/revolutionII](http://www.revolutionsoccer.net/revolutionII)  
P: (508) 543-8200

## TEAM OUTLOOK

During its inaugural League One season in 2020, the young New England Revolution II squad got off to a slow start before putting together one of the season's highlights - a four-game win streak in September and October which saw Revs II defeat both Union Omaha and the Richmond Kickers. The team also beat Greenville Triumph SC at Gillette Stadium in July, one of just three teams to defeat the eventual title-winners last season.

Standouts Collin Verfurth, Jon Bell, and Maciel all signed with the New England Revolution's First Team in Major League Soccer during the offseason, but plenty of talent remains. Goalkeeper Joe Rice compiled the fourth-most saves in League One last season and should once again feature between the posts, while Connor Presley, Ryan Spaulding and Tiago Mendonca will also return. Haitian youth international Francois Dulyse is an intriguing addition to a defensive unit which Head Coach Clint Peay will be looking to tighten up this season.



## HEAD COACH



**Clint Peay**

## HOME VENUE



**Gillette Stadium**

## CONTACTS

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# KEY PLAYERS



**Joe Rice**  
Goalkeeper

Rice enjoyed an excellent season between the posts for New England in 2020. He made 45 saves, the fourth-most in League One, and kept three clean sheets. One of those saves, an incredible back-pedaling, leaping effort against Forward Madison, earned him the Fans' Choice Save of the Year award. His command of his area is impressive for such a young goalkeeper, and he has a high ceiling for continued improvement entering his second season with the Revolution II.



**Tiago Mendonca**  
Midfielder

Mendonca showcased his ability in New England's 4-0 demolition of the Richmond Kickers at City Stadium last season. The Portuguese midfielder did yeoman's work that day, leading his side with five clearances and winning possession 12 times to earn a spot on League One's Team of the Week for Week 12. If he can continue to produce similar performances, he could very well be due for a breakout campaign for the Revolution II in 2021.

# 2021 SCHEDULE

| DATE       | HOME |   | AWAY |
|------------|------|---|------|
| 4/10/2021  | FTL  | V | NE   |
| 4/17/2021  | NE   | V | RIC  |
| 5/12/2021  | NE   | V | OMA  |
| 5/16/2021  | NE   | V | CHA  |
| 5/28/2021  | NE   | V | FTL  |
| 6/5/2021   | RIC  | V | NE   |
| 6/12/2021  | OMA  | V | NE   |
| 6/19/2021  | MAD  | V | NE   |
| 6/26/2021  | NE   | V | NTX  |
| 6/30/2021  | MAD  | V | NE   |
| 7/4/2021   | NE   | V | GVL  |
| 7/9/2021   | TOR  | V | NE   |
| 7/17/2021  | TUC  | V | NE   |
| 7/23/2021  | TOR  | V | NE   |
| 7/30/2021  | NE   | V | TRM  |
| 8/6/2021   | NE   | V | NC   |
| 8/14/2021  | RIC  | V | NE   |
| 8/21/2021  | TRM  | V | NE   |
| 9/1/2021   | NE   | V | TUC  |
| 9/11/2021  | NC   | V | NE   |
| 9/17/2021  | NE   | V | RIC  |
| 9/21/2021  | NE   | V | MAD  |
| 9/25/2021  | CHA  | V | NE   |
| 10/1/2021  | NE   | V | MAD  |
| 10/12/2021 | NE   | V | TOR  |
| 10/16/2021 | GVL  | V | NE   |
| 10/23/2021 | NTX  | V | NE   |
| 10/29/2021 | NE   | V | TOR  |



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# NORTH CAROLINA FC

WakeMed Soccer Park, 101 Soccer Park Drive

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## TEAM OUTLOOK

North Carolina FC returned to the USL Championship in 2018, and has since maintained an impressive record of results on the field while remaining true to its ethos of developing young players. In January, the club announced its move to USL League One ahead of the 2021 season to further bolster its efforts in creating a youth to pro pipeline for the greater Raleigh area.

On March 23, NCFC announced 15 products of its youth system had signed USL Academy contracts with the first team, providing an unprecedented number of young players with access to professional training and matchday environments. In a new league and with so many young players, the club's veterans will have a more important role than ever this season.

Club captain and NCFC icon Nazmi Albadawi returns for his seventh season with the team this year. Midfield general Pecka, who played in nearly every match for NCFC in the Championship last season and led the team in assists, is also set to play a major role in the team's fortunes. The most exciting of the new additions may be Josh Coan, himself an NCFC Academy product who returns to his hometown club after a promising first season as a professional with FC Tucson, for whom he scored four goals in 2020.

Curacao international Shermaine Martina is another promising new face in the dressing room at WakeMed Soccer Park. Brimming with young and hungry talent, this NCFC squad will be looking to make an impact right away during its first League One campaign.

## HEAD COACH



**John Bradford**

## HOME VENUE



**Sahlen's Stadium at WakeMed Soccer Park**



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# KEY PLAYERS



Nazmi Albadawi  
Midfielder

If the title of “Mr. North Carolina FC” was once held by Austin DaLuz, it has certainly now been passed to Albadawi. A veteran midfielder with a wealth of leadership experience, the 2021 season will be his seventh with the NCFC senior team. A true hometown talent, Albadawi played for both the NCFC Youth Academy and the NCFC U-23 team in USL League Two during his youth career. He was voted the team’s Offensive Player of the Year in 2016 and 2017, as well as MVP in 2016. 2020 saw him become the club’s all-time assists leader and earn the 2020 Team Leadership Award for leading the team in community appearances and captaining the side. As the club embarks on its inaugural campaign in USL League One, Albadawi will be crucial to their success on and off the field.



Josh Coan  
Forward

Another NCFC Youth Academy product, Coan spent his rookie professional season with FC Tucson in 2020. He scored four goals in only six starts, including a spectacular strike against Madison which saw him take home the Fans’ Choice Goal of the Year award. As the 23-year-old returns to his hometown club, NCFC Head Coach John Bradford will look to Coan to be a major part of the team’s offense.

# 2021 SCHEDULE

| DATE       | HOME |   | AWAY |
|------------|------|---|------|
| 5/8/2021   | NC   | V | GVL  |
| 5/15/2021  | MAD  | V | NC   |
| 5/22/2021  | RIC  | V | NC   |
| 5/29/2021  | NC   | V | TUC  |
| 6/5/2021   | NC   | V | FTL  |
| 6/16/2021  | GVL  | V | NC   |
| 6/20/2021  | CHA  | V | NC   |
| 6/26/2021  | NC   | V | RIC  |
| 7/3/2021   | TRM  | V | NC   |
| 7/10/2021  | GVL  | V | NC   |
| 7/17/2021  | NC   | V | TOR  |
| 7/21/2021  | NC   | V | RIC  |
| 8/1/2021   | FTL  | V | NC   |
| 8/6/2021   | NE   | V | NC   |
| 8/10/2021  | NC   | V | CHA  |
| 8/14/2021  | NTX  | V | NC   |
| 8/25/2021  | NC   | V | MAD  |
| 8/28/2021  | RIC  | V | NC   |
| 9/4/2021   | NC   | V | OMA  |
| 9/11/2021  | NC   | V | NE   |
| 9/18/2021  | CHA  | V | NC   |
| 9/26/2021  | NC   | V | NTX  |
| 10/1/2021  | TOR  | V | NC   |
| 10/10/2021 | NC   | V | CHA  |
| 10/13/2021 | TUC  | V | NC   |
| 10/16/2021 | OMA  | V | NC   |
| 10/23/2021 | NC   | V | TRM  |
| 10/30/2021 | NC   | V | GVL  |

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 @northcarolinafc





# NORTH TEXAS SOCCER CLUB

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## TEAM OUTLOOK

2019 League One title-winner North Texas SC has showcased some of the best young talent in American soccer during the last two seasons. 2019 standouts Tanner Tessmann and Bryan Reynolds have moved on to the FC Dallas First Team and AS Roma in Serie A respectively. 17-year-old Justin Che, the youngest selection to last year's League One All-League First Team, is also currently on loan at Bayern Munich II.

League One's all-time leading scorer Ronaldo Damus and 2019 League One Most Valuable Player Arturo Rodriguez departed North Texas for the USL Championship this offseason. For most teams, the loss of that much talent might be worrisome, but Head Coach Eric Quill has a knack for knowing which players are ready to step in and fill the shoes of those moving on.

North Texas was League One's highest-scoring team last season and finished third, joining Greenville as the only clubs to achieve top-three finishes in each of League One's first two seasons. As the club aims to make it three-in-a-row, North Texas brought in a trio of signings from South American clubs during the offseason. Forward Alejandro Santana Viniegra and defenders Juan Jose Parra and Christian Ferreira will bring fresh energy to the side, joining proven returners like Alisson, Alex Bruce, Gibran Rayo, and Derek Waldeck.

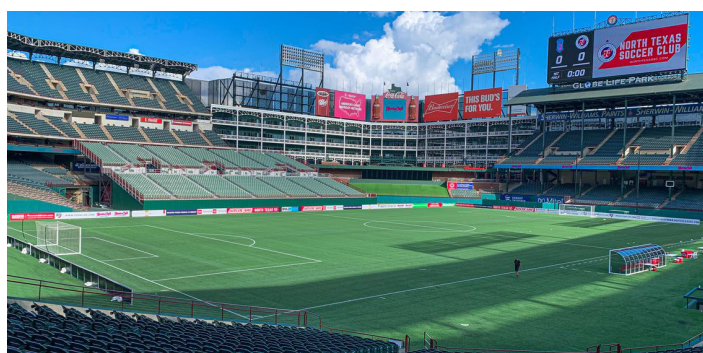


## HEAD COACH



**Eric Quill**

## HOME VENUE



**Globe Life Park**

## CONTACTS

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Matt Denny

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Tanner Holley



# KEY PLAYERS



**Alejandro Santana Viniegra**  
Forward

A lively striker with a full bag of tricks, Viniegra joined North Texas from Brazilian side Cruzeiro Esporte Clube during the offseason. The 18-year-old will have big shoes to fill following the departure of former League One Golden Boot winner Ronaldo Damus and former League One MVP Arturo Rodriguez, but he'll be in an environment that has helped young players thrive in past seasons. Viniegra holds both Brazilian and Mexican citizenship, and played for the Mexican U-20 national team in November 2020.



**Alisson**  
Midfielder

A tough defensive midfielder, Alisson is instrumental for Head Coach Eric Quill's side in breaking up opposition play. In 2020, he led the team in interceptions and tackles won while ranking third in duels won and second in aerial duels won. For a side that likes to attack in numbers, it's often up to Alisson to provide the first line of defensive cover, and it's a job he did well last season.

# 2021 SCHEDULE

| DATE       | HOME |   | AWAY |
|------------|------|---|------|
| 4/24/2021  | NTX  | V | FTL  |
| 5/1/2021   | GVL  | V | NTX  |
| 5/8/2021   | NTX  | V | CHA  |
| 5/16/2021  | NTX  | V | TRM  |
| 5/22/2021  | TOR  | V | NTX  |
| 5/29/2021  | NTX  | V | TOR  |
| 6/13/2021  | NTX  | V | GVL  |
| 6/19/2021  | NTX  | V | TUC  |
| 6/26/2021  | NE   | V | NTX  |
| 7/3/2021   | RIC  | V | NTX  |
| 7/10/2021  | NTX  | V | MAD  |
| 7/17/2021  | NTX  | V | CHA  |
| 7/31/2021  | OMA  | V | NTX  |
| 8/7/2021   | TUC  | V | NTX  |
| 8/14/2021  | NTX  | V | NC   |
| 8/17/2021  | CHA  | V | NTX  |
| 8/21/2021  | MAD  | V | NTX  |
| 8/28/2021  | OMA  | V | NTX  |
| 9/4/2021   | NTX  | V | TUC  |
| 9/8/2021   | CHA  | V | NTX  |
| 9/11/2021  | TRM  | V | NTX  |
| 9/19/2021  | NTX  | V | OMA  |
| 9/26/2021  | NC   | V | NTX  |
| 10/2/2021  | TUC  | V | NTX  |
| 10/10/2021 | NTX  | V | RIC  |
| 10/17/2021 | FTL  | V | NTX  |
| 10/23/2021 | NTX  | V | NE   |
| 10/30/2021 | NTX  | V | OMA  |

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# RICHMOND KICKERS

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## TEAM OUTLOOK

The Kickers were the second-best team in League One behind Greenville for most of the 2020 season, but faltered down the stretch, losing four of their final six games. However, last year's campaign still represented a big step in the right direction for Richmond, who improved upon a ninth-place finish in 2019 to come fourth in their first campaign under Head Coach Darren Sawatzky.

Argentine striker Emiliano Terzaghi was a key contributor to the River City side, scoring 10 goals on his way to picking up the league's MVP and Golden Boot honors. During the offseason, the Kickers added two more Argentines in Hernan Gonzalez and Zaca Moran. The club built out its depth chart with proven League One players at just about every position: goalkeeper Austin Aviza and defender Juan Pablo Monticelli arrived from Orlando City B, defender Esteban Calvo from FC Tucson, and midfielder Nil Vinyals from Tormenta FC are just a few of many new faces at City Stadium this season.

Besides Terzaghi, multiple other Richmond mainstays remained with the team. Ian Antley, Ivan Magalhaes, Luke Pavone, and goalkeeper Akira Fitzgerald return to the defensive unit, Matt Bolduc and Victor Falck will once again feature in midfield, and St. Vincent and the Grenadines striker Oalex Anderson is back for his first full season with the Kickers. After the disappointment of coming up short last season, this is a hungry group aiming at postseason success.



## HEAD COACH



**Darren Sawatzky**

## HOME VENUE



**City Stadium**

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# KEY PLAYERS



**Emiliano Terzaghi**  
Forward

League One's reigning MVP and Golden Boot winner, Terzaghi was the league's most prolific scorer last season. He recorded 10 goals in 15 appearances, and the Argentine is back for more in 2021. A highly-skilled finisher, Terzaghi possesses a striker's instinct in the box. With the addition of other talented attacking pieces around him this offseason, defenses may not be able to key on him as much in 2021 as they did in 2020, giving him more room to operate in dangerous areas.



**Ian Antley**  
Defender

With Antley on the field in 2020, Richmond conceded nine goals in nine games and kept three clean sheets. When he was sidelined through injury, the Kickers conceded 13 goals in seven games and failed to keep a single clean sheet. The team has plenty of other talented players in defense, but Antley is one of their keys to success. A strong and quick fullback, Antley will be instrumental to Darren Sawatzky's plans in his second season in the River City.

# 2021 SCHEDULE

| DATE       | HOME |   | AWAY |
|------------|------|---|------|
| 4/17/2021  | NE   | V | RIC  |
| 4/24/2021  | RIC  | V | GVL  |
| 5/2/2021   | FTL  | V | RIC  |
| 5/8/2021   | RIC  | V | TRM  |
| 5/22/2021  | RIC  | V | NC   |
| 5/29/2021  | CHA  | V | RIC  |
| 6/5/2021   | RIC  | V | NE   |
| 6/12/2021  | MAD  | V | RIC  |
| 6/19/2021  | RIC  | V | OMA  |
| 6/26/2021  | NC   | V | RIC  |
| 7/3/2021   | RIC  | V | NTX  |
| 7/17/2021  | RIC  | V | FTL  |
| 7/21/2021  | NC   | V | RIC  |
| 7/24/2021  | TRM  | V | RIC  |
| 7/31/2021  | RIC  | V | TUC  |
| 8/6/2021   | TOR  | V | RIC  |
| 8/14/2021  | RIC  | V | NE   |
| 8/22/2021  | GVL  | V | RIC  |
| 8/28/2021  | RIC  | V | NC   |
| 9/1/2021   | RIC  | V | MAD  |
| 9/11/2021  | MAD  | V | RIC  |
| 9/17/2021  | NE   | V | RIC  |
| 9/25/2021  | RIC  | V | TOR  |
| 10/2/2021  | RIC  | V | CHA  |
| 10/10/2021 | NTX  | V | RIC  |
| 10/16/2021 | RIC  | V | MAD  |
| 10/23/2021 | OMA  | V | RIC  |
| 10/30/2021 | TUC  | V | RIC  |

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# SOUTH GEORGIA TORMENTA FC

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## TEAM OUTLOOK

South Georgia Tormenta FC's emphasis on player development has been clear to anyone who has paid attention to the club in recent years. Nine players on the club's 2020 League One roster had experience with Tormenta FC 2 in USL League Two, and a further three were products of the Tormenta FC Academy. Tormenta struggled for consistency during a 2020 campaign which brought an eighth-place finish, but showed real promise toward the tail-end of the season after Ian Cameron was appointed Head Coach.

In the club's final six games of 2020 under Cameron, Tormenta earned impressive wins away to Richmond and at home to New England Revolution II, snapping a five-game unbeaten run for New England. Ahead of Cameron's first full season in charge, the Statesboro side has its sights set on moving up the table in 2021.

In pursuit of that aim, the team kept key figures like Pablo Jara, Marco Micaletto, Luca Mayr, Curtis Thorn, and Ricardo Gomez around. The addition of striker Azaad Liadi, who scored three goals for FC Tucson last season, will bring a new dynamic to the team's attack, while fellow offseason arrivals Luis Rodriguez and Carlos Avilez give Cameron options at center back and goalkeeper.



## HEAD COACH



**Ian Cameron**

## HOME VENUE



**Erk Russell Park**

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# KEY PLAYERS



Marco Micaletto  
Midfielder

The Tormenta offense often runs through Micaletto. An All-League selection in 2020, he finished tied for the league-high in chances created with 36, tallied three goals and two assists, won a team-high 83 duels and won 17 of 24 tackles (70.8 percent success). Since joining the Tormenta organization when the club’s senior team played in USL League Two back in 2018, Micaletto has been central to the Statesboro side’s success.



Pablo Jara  
Goalkeeper

Jara is everything you want in a goalkeeper: agile, quick, and commanding. He ranked third in League One in both saves and clean sheets in 2020, and frequently makes jaw-dropping stops look routine. Jara has started between the posts in all 44 of Tormenta FC’s matches as a member of League One, a level of consistency and leadership which has been invaluable to the club. Expect to see more Jara heroics in the Tormenta net this season.

# 2021 SCHEDULE

| DATE       | HOME |   | AWAY |
|------------|------|---|------|
| 4/17/2021  | TRM  | V | FTL  |
| 4/24/2021  | OMA  | V | TRM  |
| 5/1/2021   | TRM  | V | TUC  |
| 5/8/2021   | RIC  | V | TRM  |
| 5/16/2021  | NTX  | V | TRM  |
| 5/22/2021  | TRM  | V | GVL  |
| 5/29/2021  | TRM  | V | MAD  |
| 6/5/2021   | TRM  | V | CHA  |
| 6/9/2021   | TOR  | V | TRM  |
| 6/13/2021  | TRM  | V | TOR  |
| 6/19/2021  | TRM  | V | GVL  |
| 6/23/2021  | TOR  | V | TRM  |
| 6/30/2021  | TRM  | V | TOR  |
| 7/3/2021   | TRM  | V | NC   |
| 7/14/2021  | CHA  | V | TRM  |
| 7/17/2021  | GVL  | V | TRM  |
| 7/24/2021  | TRM  | V | RIC  |
| 7/30/2021  | NE   | V | TRM  |
| 8/7/2021   | GVL  | V | TRM  |
| 8/14/2021  | MAD  | V | TRM  |
| 8/21/2021  | TRM  | V | NE   |
| 8/28/2021  | TRM  | V | FTL  |
| 9/11/2021  | TRM  | V | NTX  |
| 9/19/2021  | FTL  | V | TRM  |
| 10/1/2021  | TRM  | V | OMA  |
| 10/10/2021 | FTL  | V | TRM  |
| 10/16/2021 | TUC  | V | TRM  |
| 10/23/2021 | NC   | V | TRM  |

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 @tormenta\_fc





# TORONTO FC II

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## TEAM OUTLOOK

Toronto FC II did not compete in the 2020 League One season due to COVID-related restrictions on cross-border travel, but the team is back and full of ambitious young players in 2021. Two of the team's top players from 2019 both found success on loan at other USL clubs in 2020. Forward Jordan Perruzza, who finished second in League One's Golden Boot race in 2019, scored three goals in five appearances for the USL Championship's San Antonio FC, while midfielder Adolfo Ovalle played nine times for Forward Madison FC.

The club's 2021 roster features plenty of Toronto FC Academy products who have earned their first chance to play at the professional level, and other members of the 2019 squad who went out on loan to get playing time during TFC II's hiatus last year. If the team's 2019 performance is any indication, they won't be easy to play against.



## HEAD COACH



**Mike Munoz**

## HOME VENUE

**Due to cross-border travel restrictions between the United States and Canada brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic, Toronto FC II will play its first three home matches of the 2021 League One regular season at Grande Sports World in Casa Grande, Ariz. The club's next three home matches in June will take place at Osceola Heritage Park in Kissimmee, Fla. The venue for Toronto FC II home matches from July 9 onward will be announced at a later date.**

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# KEY PLAYERS



Nyal Higgins  
Defender

Higgins was a collegiate standout for both Oakland University and Syracuse University. He spent time with the Flint City Bucks of USL League Two, and was selected 19th overall by Toronto FC in the 2020 MLS SuperDraft. During the 2020 season, he was loaned to Swedish side Nyköpings BIS. At 23, Higgins will be one of the older players on the TFC II team, but is a mature center back capable of marshaling his teammates when needed.



Julian Altobelli  
Midfielder

The 18-year-old Altobelli represented the Canadian National Team at the most recent Concacaf Men's U-17 Championship, where he appeared in all five games as Canada qualified for the FIFA U-17 World Cup. He made one appearance with Canada at the U-17 World Cup. Altobelli signed his first professional contract with York United of the Canadian Premier League on May 13, 2020, and spent the 2020 season with the club. He joined the Toronto FC Academy in 2014.

# 2021 SCHEDULE

| DATE       | HOME |   | AWAY |
|------------|------|---|------|
| 5/22/2021  | TOR  | V | NTX  |
| 5/26/2021  | TOR  | V | TUC  |
| 5/29/2021  | NTX  | V | TOR  |
| 6/2/2021   | TOR  | V | OMA  |
| 6/5/2021   | TUC  | V | TOR  |
| 6/9/2021   | TOR  | V | TRM  |
| 6/13/2021  | TRM  | V | TOR  |
| 6/16/2021  | FTL  | V | TOR  |
| 6/19/2021  | TOR  | V | FTL  |
| 6/23/2021  | TOR  | V | TRM  |
| 6/26/2021  | FTL  | V | TOR  |
| 6/30/2021  | TRM  | V | TOR  |
| 7/9/2021   | TOR  | V | NE   |
| 7/17/2021  | NC   | V | TOR  |
| 7/23/2021  | TOR  | V | NE   |
| 7/30/2021  | TOR  | V | GVL  |
| 8/6/2021   | TOR  | V | RIC  |
| 8/18/2021  | MAD  | V | TOR  |
| 8/27/2021  | TOR  | V | CHA  |
| 9/3/2021   | GVL  | V | TOR  |
| 9/11/2021  | OMA  | V | TOR  |
| 9/17/2021  | TOR  | V | MAD  |
| 9/25/2021  | RIC  | V | TOR  |
| 10/1/2021  | TOR  | V | NC   |
| 10/12/2021 | NE   | V | TOR  |
| 10/16/2021 | CHA  | V | TOR  |
| 10/22/2021 | TOR  | V | FTL  |
| 10/29/2021 | NE   | V | TOR  |

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# UNION OMAHA

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Papillion, NE 68046  
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## TEAM OUTLOOK

As League One's only independent expansion side in 2020, Union Omaha took the league by storm, starting and ending the season on unbeaten runs of eight and five games, respectively. The Owls finished second under Head Coach Jay Mims, and will return most of their key players from last season. All-League selections Evan Conway, Ethan Vanacore-Decker, Rashid Nuhu, and Damia Viader are all back with los Buhos in 2021, alongside a host of other key returners.

The club hasn't brought in many new faces, but the ones it has are certainly eye-catching. Scottish striker Greg Hurst, whose eight goals for Chattanooga Red Wolves SC were the second-most in League One last year, will provide an extra punch to the Omaha attack. Former Major League Soccer player Conor Doyle also joined the Owls from Chattanooga, adding quality and experience to the midfield corps.

With a dedicated local fanbase and a talented squad, Union Omaha's target in its sophomore season is to replicate what Greenville did in its last year: lift the League One trophy.



## CONTACTS

**Chief Executive Officer**  
Gary Green

**Communications & Content Manager**  
Yanira Garcia  
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(402) 884-8043

**President**  
Martie Cordaro

**Chief Operating Officer**  
Matt Homonoff

**Chief Financial Officer**  
Laurie Schlender

## HEAD COACH



**Jay Mims**

## HOME VENUE



**Werner Park**



# KEY PLAYERS



**Greg Hurst**  
Forward

Hurst trailed only Emiliano Terzaghi in the goal-scoring category last season, scoring eight for Chattanooga and adding two assists. His goals-per-game average of 0.79 was the best in League One of any player to play at least half of his team's minutes, and he earned All-League First Team honors. Having joined Union Omaha in the offseason, Hurst will want to hit the ground running for a team that finished second last season, and the Scottish striker may just be the one extra piece the Owls need to close the gap to Greenville.



**Evan Conway**  
Midfielder/Forward

Conway has a flair for the dramatic, scoring both the first goal in Union Omaha history and the late-game winner which clinched second place for the Owls in the final match of last season. Between those two bookend moments, Conway was stellar. He finished the 2020 season with six goals and two assists, and led the league in duels won with 107. Conway will once again be a key figure for Omaha in 2021 as Jay Mims' side sets their sights on the League One trophy.

# 2021 SCHEDULE

| DATE       | HOME |   | AWAY |
|------------|------|---|------|
| 4/24/2021  | OMA  | V | TRM  |
| 5/7/2021   | FTL  | V | OMA  |
| 5/12/2021  | NE   | V | OMA  |
| 5/16/2021  | GVL  | V | OMA  |
| 5/26/2021  | MAD  | V | OMA  |
| 6/2/2021   | TOR  | V | OMA  |
| 6/6/2021   | MAD  | V | OMA  |
| 6/12/2021  | OMA  | V | NE   |
| 6/19/2021  | RIC  | V | OMA  |
| 6/26/2021  | OMA  | V | TUC  |
| 7/3/2021   | OMA  | V | CHA  |
| 7/16/2021  | OMA  | V | MAD  |
| 7/24/2021  | TUC  | V | OMA  |
| 7/31/2021  | OMA  | V | NTX  |
| 8/7/2021   | OMA  | V | MAD  |
| 8/14/2021  | TUC  | V | OMA  |
| 8/21/2021  | CHA  | V | OMA  |
| 8/28/2021  | OMA  | V | NTX  |
| 9/4/2021   | NC   | V | OMA  |
| 9/11/2021  | OMA  | V | TOR  |
| 9/19/2021  | NTX  | V | OMA  |
| 9/25/2021  | OMA  | V | TUC  |
| 10/1/2021  | TRM  | V | OMA  |
| 10/6/2021  | OMA  | V | FTL  |
| 10/9/2021  | OMA  | V | GVL  |
| 10/16/2021 | OMA  | V | NC   |
| 10/23/2021 | OMA  | V | RIC  |
| 10/30/2021 | NTX  | V | OMA  |

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**The Official Ball Supplier of the USL League One**

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# USL EXECUTIVE STAFF

## Alec Papadakis

### *USL Chief Executive Officer*

Papadakis has served as the USL's top executive since 2009. A former franchise attorney with four decades' worth of domestic and international experience, Papadakis is the CEO and Managing Partner of NuRock Soccer Holdings and a Pro Council representative on the U.S. Soccer Board of Directors.

A former player for the Atlanta Chiefs and Boston Minutemen, Papadakis had a long, successful career in the U.S. at both the professional and collegiate level. He helped Atlanta to a 1971 regular-season championship and Boston to a 1974 regular-season crown. Papadakis was a three-time, First Team All-American at Hartwick College (New York) and he also attended Ibero-American University in Mexico City before receiving his law degree at the University of Akron in 1976.

Papadakis' legal focus has been U.S. and European franchise transactions. He also has practiced in the area of commercial real estate, acquisitions, development, financing and leasing. He was the founder and first president of the Hellenic Franchise Association and holds affiliations with the Board of Advisors of International Quarterly, the International Franchise Association, the State Bar of Georgia, the American Hellenic Chamber of Commerce and the Board of Directors for the Hellenic American Institute in Washington, D.C. In 2019, through Papadakis' leadership, the USL teamed with the Economist to host the Sports Business Summit for Southeast Europe in Athens, Greece. During Papadakis' tenure as the USL's CEO, the organization has expanded its professional membership by almost 400 percent and produced growth in league attendance over the past decade of 1,125 percent as the USL Championship and League One welcomed more than 3,000,000 fans during the 2019 campaign before last year's pandemic-affected season.

## Jake Edwards

### *USL President*

Edwards has served as USL President since March 2, 2015. Since his arrival at the USL, he has played an integral role in creating and implementing the league's long-term strategic plan, Destination 2020, which focused on expansion, the launch of media and commercial properties, the league's partnership with Major League Soccer and stadium development. Edwards oversees a significant portion of the 60-plus staff at the USL HQ in Tampa, Fla., as well as the daily servicing of its 40-plus professional clubs.

Edwards, who joined the USL as the league's Vice President in 2013, is a Manchester native and former professional soccer player whose career spanned 11 years, mostly for England-based clubs as well as USL Championship side the Charleston Battery. Edwards played collegiately for James Madison University in Virginia.

After completing his MBA from Warwick Business School in 2009, while also serving as commercial manager for Solihull Moors Football Club, Edwards was hired by Octagon, the global sports sponsorship agency. Based in Octagon's London office, Edwards served as a business strategy consultant in the company's rights holder side of the business.

Robert Hoskins, Chairman

Alec Papadakis, Chief Executive Officer

Jake Edwards, President

Justin Papadakis, COO & Chief Real Estate Officer

Court Jeske, Executive Vice President

Brett Luy, Executive Vice President

Karen Gittens, Chief Financial Officer

Garrison Mason, Vice President, General Counsel

Robert Fountain, Associate General Counsel

Lizzie Seedhouse, Senior Vice President, Digital, Emerging Technology & Strategy

Steven Short, Senior Vice President, USL League One

Josh Keller, Senior Vice President, Corporate Development & Partnerships

Ryan Madden, Senior Vice President, Communications & Community

John Cochol, Vice President, Club Services

Domenic Notarfrancesco, Vice President, Consumer Products

Rachel Bukszar, Vice President, People

Dan Holman, Vice President, Club Expansion & Real Estate

Matt Reda, Vice President, Corporate Development

Liam O'Connell, Technical Director

Cory Bernstine, Senior Director, Strategy

Curtis Walker, Senior Director, Corporate Partnerships

Adam Satz, Vice President, Digital Solutions

Dan Lohrs, Senior Director, Operations, USL Championship

Casey Mills, Director, Operations, USL League One

Eric Centner, Director, Compliance

Kelly Kearney, Director, Business Development

## Justin Papadakis

### *USL COO & USL Chief Operating Officer*

Papadakis joined the USL in 2014 when he was named President of Commercial Ventures in December of 2014. In May of 2016, he began his role as the league's Chief Operating Officer before in the past year adding the title of Chief Real Estate Officer as he oversees one of the key areas of the league's growth in future years.

Arriving by way of DDR Corp, now called SITE Centers, Papadakis served as the real estate company's leasing director for three years before advancing as the company's business development director. Papadakis holds a Juris Doctorate from Cleveland-Marshall College of Law and earned a dual degree in Public Policy and Economics at Duke University, where he also played four seasons for the Blue Devils' Men's Soccer program. Papadakis is also a member of YPO, New York Metro Chapter.

Since joining the organization, Papadakis has led USL's expansion efforts across the USL Championship and League One. Over the past four years he has facilitated an unprecedented surge in soccer-specific and mixed-use stadium developments anchoring economic live, work and play projects across the country, extending far beyond the pitch while amplifying the fan experience for current and future USL communities.

## Court Jeske

### *USL Executive Vice President*

Jeske joined the USL as Executive Vice President in January of 2019, bringing his extensive experience in the North American soccer industry to the organization's senior management team.

Jeske previously served as both the Vice President of International Business for Major League Soccer & Soccer United Marketing, where for eight years he was a key figure in the organization's strategic orchestration of international events for CONCACAF, the Mexican National Team, the United States Men's and Women's National Teams and elite clubs throughout Europe.

Jeske then served as the founding Chief Executive Officer and a minority owner of Nashville SC as it launched its professional era in the USL Championship, during which time the club set Championship records for season ticket sales in an inaugural season and corporate partnership revenue.

Since joining the USL, Jeske has played a key role in positioning the organization for the new decade, including leading the completion of a new United States media rights agreement with ESPN and new agreements with Premier Partners to lead the organization's commercial representation.

Selected to the Sports Business Journal's prestigious Forty Under 40 list of leading young sports executives in 2018, Jeske is also currently a member of the Soccerex USA Advisory Board. He graduated with a degree in Business Management from the University of Oklahoma before earning the FIFA Master-M.A. in International Sports Business from the International Center for Sports Studies.

Scott Stewart, Director, Communications & Public Relations

Matthew Calvo, Director, Creative Services

Sam Schuler, Director, Digital Solutions

Nicholas Murray, Director, Editorial

Nick Papadakis, Director, Merchandising

Matthew Fischer, Senior Media Coordinator

Michael Cohen, Media Consultant

Marcus Myrick, Senior Director, Club Services

Shannon Amely, Ticketing & Club Services Manager

Kelsi Steele, Senior Manager, Social Media & Content

Cameron Koubek, Manager, Communications & Public Relations

Nina Cusmano, Specialist, Social Media

Tyler Tetzlaff, Coordinator, Social Media

Sonjai Persaud, Graphic Artist

TJ Grier, Graphic Artist

David Wright, Motion Graphic Designer & Video Editor

Clay Benjamin, Creative Services Coordinator

Natalie Longroy, Junior Video Producer/Editor

Sophia Carbone, Manager, Digital Services

Lianna Riley, Coordinator, Digital Services

Julie Fogarty, Coordinator, Digital Services

Tania Kerr, Director, Administration

Clare Glenn, Senior Manager, Contracts

William Gillette, Manager, Finance & Accounting

Samantha Killilea, Human Resources Generalist

Brittany Stolzenberg, Senior Manager, Events



# RULES & REGULATIONS

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## DISCIPLINE & CONDUCT

### League Disciplinary Power

The League shall have the authority to suspend, fine, disqualify, or otherwise discipline players, team officials, or competing Teams for On-Field Misconduct and for off-field misconduct deemed by the League to be detrimental to the League, any Team, or the sport of soccer (“Detrimental Off-Field Misconduct”).

“On-Field Misconduct” shall include misconduct that occurs in any stadium or playing facility, in and/or around the stadium or playing facility (involving any person(s) or property in or around the stadium or playing facility), including, but not limited to: the playing field, locker rooms, parking lots, spectator stands or other spectator facilities, and other back-of-house and underground areas, including those used by television production and other media), and which occurs at, during or in connection with any match or tournament in which the player competes.

### The League Disciplinary Committee

The League Disciplinary Committee is a panel of League Directors covering the competition, operations, and compliance departments. As delegates of the President, this committee makes decisions about discipline for Detrimental Off-Field Misconduct and On-Field Misconduct, subject to the review of the President. The League Disciplinary Committee makes decisions with a view towards allowing for a competitive, but fair, environment for all Teams to compete against each other.

### Independent Disciplinary Panel

The Independent Disciplinary Panel is comprised of three outside members, consisting of a former professional coach, a former professional referee, and a former professional player. This panel is charged with the responsibility of reviewing any disciplinary matters deemed worthy of increased disciplinary measures (i.e. escalating a yellow card to a red card). Any disciplinary decisions rendered by the Independent Disciplinary Panel will be final and cannot be appealed.

### Disciplinary Process

The League Disciplinary Committee reviews disciplinary issues (including all send-offs) reported by the Referee, in addition to other incidents of On-Field Misconduct or Detrimental Off-Field Misconduct. The Disciplinary Committee conducts this review using match videos, official reports, individual accounts, and other pertinent information. Depending on the timeliness of the reports and match videos, the Disciplinary Committee will make every effort to issue rulings on cases in advance of the Team’s next League Game.

### Player Caution Accumulation

Players exceeding the caution accumulation plateau(s) will begin serving their suspension in their next match. If a player receives two cautions in one match, these cautions will not count toward a player’s caution accumulation total. The USL also reserves the right to reevaluate player accumulation plateaus for player eligibility rulings, including playoffs, with the reserved power to postpone suspensions to the following season.

Players and staff accumulating the following number of caution/yellow cards throughout the season will be sanctioned as follows:

- Five total cautions - Fine
- Eight total cautions - one game suspension and fine
- 11 total cautions - two game suspension and fine
- 14 total cautions - three game suspension and fine

Caution accumulation suspensions can only affect regular-season games. For those players who reach a caution accumulation suspension at the end of the season that suspension will not be implemented in any potential playoff games that season. Accumulations will be wiped clean at the end of the season. If a player exceeds 14 cautions in a season, the league reserves the right to fine and suspend the player at its discretion.

### Good Behavior Incentive

A player will automatically reduce his yellow card accumulation total by one yellow card each time he appears in five consecutive league games without a card or supplemental discipline. For clarity, a player cannot have a negative yellow card accumulation total; the Good Behavior Incentive reset can only reset to a zero-card total. This incentive will be automatically applied a maximum of three times through the course of the USL season.

For example, a player on his third caution of the season appearing in five consecutive league matches without receiving a card or supplemental discipline removes one (1) caution from his cumulative total, leaving the player with a total of two. This player now has two remaining Good Behavior Incentive opportunities for the 2018 Season. If that player completes five more consecutive league matches without receiving a card or supplemental discipline, one more caution is removed from his cumulative total leaving the player a total of one caution and one more Good Behavior Incentive opportunity.

### Serving Suspensions During the Regular Season

Any player and/or coach sent off/dismissed during a regular season game will be fined and will be suspended from the next league regular season game. A person who serves as both player and coach may not return as a player or a coach until the suspension has been served. For the purposes of determining accumulations and game suspensions, any games that count as part of a team’s official League schedule shall be utilized.

### Final Regular Season Game Send-off

Any player or coach sent off in a final regular season match must serve the suspension in the first playoff match, unless the season is over, in which case the suspension will be served in the team’s first League game the following season.

### Suspension during the Playoffs

Any player and/or coach that is sent off or dismissed during the playoffs will be suspended from, at minimum, the next playoff game, unless the season is over, in which case the suspension will be served, at minimum, in the team’s first League game the following season.



#### Major Game Misconduct

The League Disciplinary Committee, in its sole and absolute discretion, may impose discipline (including fines and suspensions) against players, coaches or other team staff for Major Game Misconduct, regardless of whether the misconduct in question resulted in a card being awarded by the Match Official or was included in the Referee Game Report. "Major Game Misconduct" is defined by the League and may include, without limitation, fighting, provoking a fight, criticizing Match Officials with words or gestures, entering the Match Officials' locker room, physical contact with Match Officials separate from Referee Assault, using excessive force, deliberate attempts to injure, spitting, provoking crowd disorders, profane language that can be heard by the crowd or broadcast audience, obscene gestures, racist, homophobic, or derogatory comments, improper conduct during the national anthem, taunting, abuse of spectators and others, failure to leave the field when instructed by the Match Official to do so, improper conduct following the award of a card, excessive delay tactics, excessive and obvious feigning of injuries, or other unsportsmanlike conduct detrimental to the League and the sport of soccer in general.

#### Red Card and Second Yellow Card Appeal

Within 24 hours after the completion of a match, a team may request a review of a red card or the second yellow card, if a player or staff member receives two yellow cards in a match, to rectify a case where a serious and obvious error has occurred.

#### Suspension and Fine Appeal

Within 24 hours after the USL League One distributes its Weekly Discipline Report, a team may appeal a suspension and/or fine that is greater than the established minimum fine and suspension amounts. The USL League One must receive the appeal in writing via email.

#### Cross League and Competition Suspensions

Players joining the USL (on loan or through transfer) may be subject to any suspension that has been levied by other competitions. The USL shall determine if it will permit a player who receives a red card or other supplemental discipline in another competition for an egregious act to play in USL matches. As per USSF policy, supplemental discipline issued for referee assault/abuse shall preclude the suspended individual from participating in any soccer competition until the suspension has expired.

Players who are suspended in any cup competition such as the Lamar Hunt U.S. Open Cup, Canadian Championship or CONCACAF Champions League are not automatically suspended in the USL. The USL will independently review the action and suspension and have the right to implement supplemental discipline in the USL Disciplinary Committee, if it determines the player's behavior was deemed to be egregious.

### LEAGUE ONE ROSTER REGULATIONS

#### Player Classifications

##### A. Professional Player

A professional player is a player who signs a professional registration form with the team's applicable Federation, a professional player contract with the USL League One and receives, or has received, payment beyond actual and necessary expenses for playing soccer. Players on loan are not deemed professional players unless there is not a right to recall. A professional player may only be registered with one team and may play only for the team to which he is registered, except in the following two instances:

1. Team has filed a completed loan agreement and supplement with the League Office.
2. Player competes for another team in an exhibition, all-star, benefit or some other non-League game with the consent of the team holding his contract.

##### B. Academy Players

In addition to the 30 Active Players allowed on the Master Roster, a team may register up to five (5) active Academy Players, which do not count against the 30 players on the Master Roster and are allowed to participate in all competitions. After the first five Academy Players rostered, Academy Players will count against the Master Roster.

To be considered an Academy Player, all of the following must be in place: a) player is under the age of 21 as of the official start date of the current season, b) player cannot compete (or have ever previously have competed) in any NCAA or NAIA university or college soccer program, and c) player has never been signed or registered as a professional soccer player as recognized by FIFA. The Academy Player must play for a club which conducts its activities (home games and/or training) within the team's franchise territory or play for a club which has a documented affiliation with the team. In the latter scenario, the affiliated club outside the territory of the team must not be in the territory of another League One team, and the team must register all documented affiliate clubs with the League Office prior to the season or upon completion of the affiliation agreement. Additionally, teams with MLS affiliations can use the Academy Players of their MLS affiliate.

No Academy Player may register or participate as an Academy Player with more than one League One club during a season. Academy players may not be loaned.

Academy Players that are classified as international count against a team's maximum of seven international players. Academy Players must be registered as an amateur with the USL League One team or its formally-recognized MLS affiliate. Teams may make Academy Players active or inactive on the Master Roster. Inactive Academy Players do not count towards the roster maximum or the international player maximum.

There cannot be more than five (5) Academy Players listed on the Game Day Lineup.



# RULES & REGULATIONS

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## Master Roster

### A. Master Roster Guidelines

The Master Roster consists of up to 30 Active Players and is the official player roster of the team, as set by the USL League One. Inactive Players do not count towards a team's Master Roster.

A maximum of seven (7) players on the Master Roster may be International Players, pending the trade or sale of International Roster Spots.

A professional team must carry 12 or more professional players on its Master Roster. Each club is allowed two Permanent Loan Assignment spots that count toward this minimum. These slots can be filled by players from any league, and these players cannot be recalled for any reason to meet the standard. Any violation of this standard will result in a fine being assessed at the League's discretion. Players loaned from leagues other than MLS with no right to recall also count toward this minimum.

Active Players consist of properly registered players on USL League One contracts, players in on loan, and active Academy Players. Players who are signed to a USL League One Standard Professional Player Contract and are not in on loan can only be active on the roster.

The only players that can be made inactive are players out on loan, in on-loan, or Academy Players. Inactive Players do not count against a team's International Player limit. In the interest of clarity, players on USL League One Professional contracts cannot be made inactive.

### B. Master Roster Changes

Whenever a team makes a change to its Master Roster, notification must be sent to USL Registration. Changes are not approved until the USL League One confirms via e-mail.

### C. Master Roster Freeze

No incoming transaction or player movement is allowed after the Roster Freeze date, including but not limited to: signing a player, receiving a player on loan, changing a player's active/inactive status, and/or replacing players. All trades, transfers and/or loans between teams must be finalized and approved by the USL League One prior to this time. The USL League One will not allow "deals in progress" or "extensions" to go beyond the deadline for any reason.

For purposes of visas and other pending documentation for incoming players, ALL documents must be approved by the USL League One, and if warranted, by Major League Soccer and the U.S. Soccer Federation, prior to the Roster Freeze deadline. All players must be completely active on the Master Roster to compete in the USL League One for the remainder of the season.

***The date of the Roster Freeze is September 24th, 2021 at 5 p.m. Eastern Time.***

Any MLS player legitimately on the final Master Roster of a USL League One team at the time of the Roster Freeze date will be permitted to compete for the League One for the rest of the season, regardless of whether or not that player is subsequently traded or transferred to another MLS team. In this instance, a newly executed loan agreement is required by the USL League One. However, if a player is sold or released from his contract with MLS, this will terminate the player's loan with the USL League One team.

Any field player on loan from any other team (including intra-League loans) must play a minimum of five (5) games during the regular season to be eligible to play in the playoffs. One of these games must occur prior to the roster freeze date. This standard does not apply to goalkeepers.

Any League One player who is sold to an MLS team after the Roster Freeze deadline may rejoin the League One team on loan for the remainder of the season, as long as he assumes the spot on the roster he vacated when he was sold by the club. As long as the player played in a minimum of five (5) games during the season, either prior or after being sold, he is eligible to play in the playoffs.

**SPECIAL EXEMPTION (GOALKEEPERS):** In the unlikely event that a team is reduced to a single "available and healthy" goalkeeper due to National Team call-up or medically-verifiable injury, the team may petition the USL League One in writing to be permitted to add a backup goalkeeper to its Master Roster. This may only be done in the event that at least two eligible and healthy goalkeepers are active with the club, participating in regular team activities, not on loan with another team, and listed on the final Master Roster submitted at the time of the Roster Freeze date. This backup goalkeeper will be permitted to remain on the team's roster until such time that one or more of the originally rostered goalkeepers becomes available and is able to compete. The USL League One will have the power to reject the addition of a goalkeeper in this situation, if it feels its primary intent is to create a competitive advantage.

## Player Loans

Loans may not extend beyond the length of the guaranteed contract or option term, provided the option has been exercised. Loan cancellation terms are outlined in the Loan Agreement. Academy Players may not be loaned.

### Loan Guidelines

**League One > League One:** Each team is permitted to receive or loan a maximum of two players under contract from/to each League One team in any given season. An individual player may not be intra-league loaned more than one time per season.

**League One > MLS:** There is no restriction on the number of League One players a team may send to compete in MLS. All loaned players shall remain on the League One team's Master Roster. Additionally, for players to move freely between the two clubs throughout the season, the League One and MLS clubs must have a documented affiliation with one another.

**MLS > League One:** There is no restriction on the number of players on loan a League One team may have from an MLS team at any given time. The team must have space on its Master Roster to add any player on loan. There is restriction on the total number of MLS players which compete on a given League One team during the season. Additionally, for players to move freely between the two clubs throughout the season, the League One and MLS clubs must have a documented affiliation with one another.



League One > League One: There is no restriction on the number of League One players a team may send to compete in League One. All loaned players shall remain on the League One Team's Master Roster. Additionally, for players to move freely between the two clubs throughout the season, the League One and League One clubs have a documented affiliation with one another.

League One > League One: There is no restriction on the number of players on loan a League One team may have from a League One team at any given time. The team must have space on its Master Roster to add any player on loan. There is no restriction on the total number of League One players which compete on a given League One team during the season. Additionally, for players to move freely between the two clubs throughout the season, the League One and League One clubs must have a documented affiliation with one another.

#### Loan Players in the Playoffs

A loan player must compete (play in a match, not just be rostered) in at least five regular season matches for a specific League One team to be eligible for the playoffs with that team. One of those games must occur prior to the Roster Freeze.

#### 23-Man Game Day Player Pool

All players must be rostered (i.e. registered with the League and Federation) and active prior to their inclusion in a Team's 23-Man Game Day Player Pool. Suspended players cannot be included in the 23-Man Game Day Player Pool. Should a player be successfully rostered (provided all registration paperwork and ITC cleared before the applicable match registration deadline) and fall within the 48-24-hour window, they may be added to the 23-Man Game Day Player Pool; however, the change will be subject to the opposing team's approval in accordance with Master Roster Guidelines.

Teams are required to submit their 23-Man Game Day Player Pool of players that are available and active for a match 48-hours prior to each match. Between 48 and 24-hours prior to the match, any change to that Game Day Player Pool must be approved by the opposing team and the League. There will be no changes allowed to the 23-Man Game Day Player Pool less than 24 hours prior to a match. Failure to submit the 23-Man Game Day Player Pool 48 hours prior to the match will result in a minimum fine of \$500. Failure to submit the 23-Man Game Day Player Pool in alphabetical order will result in a minimum fine of \$50. All appropriate parties must be included on the correspondence for the standard to be met. All times are subject to change in accordance with the best interests of the game and in the spirit of the intent of this rule in the League's absolute discretion. The League reserves the right to override approvals or denials of the opposing team.

No player may be simultaneously active on the Master Roster of two separate teams in two different leagues. The only exception to this rule occurs if a player has been listed as active on a USL League One team's 23-Man Game Day Player Pool, which is submitted to the League no later than 48 hours prior to the match. In such an instance, a player may remain active in both systems. Any player that does not meet this exception must be listed as inactive in the USL League One registration system to participate on a separate team in a different league. No player may be listed on the active roster for two separate teams in two different leagues on the same day. Failure to meet this standard will result in a minimum fine of \$500.

If a player not included on the 23-Man Game Day Player Pool participates in the match in any capacity, including being available on the bench for selection, it will result in a minimum fine of \$1,000. On the day of the game, during the roster exchange, game day lineups must be cross-referenced with the 23-Man Game Day Player Pools from each club to ensure all players included on the lineup have also been included on the 23-Man Game Day Player Pool. In the event that any of the parties involved with the exchange identify that a player included on the lineup was not previously listed on the 23-Man Game Day Player Pool, the designated League contact listed on the match preview must be notified and the player will not be able to compete in the match. If this occurs, the team is permitted to replace the lineup spot with a player who has been included on the 23-Man Game Day Player Pool provided the opposing team has the same opportunity based on the number of available players at the match (i.e. the opposing team has 19 or more players available for selection). The home team and visiting team must also submit a copy of their Official Game Day Lineup to the League 60 minutes prior to the start of the match via the Teamworks platform to meet the standard.