



# RICHMOND KICKERS

## RICHMOND KICKERS COMMUNICATIONS

2021 USL LEAGUE ONE STARTING XI PR/BROADCASTING AWARD AND 2021 PEER VOTED BEST IN COMMUNICATIONS AWARD RECIPIENT  
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# RICHMOND KICKERS (0-0-0, 0 PTS)

## vs FC TUCSON (0-0-0, 0 PTS)

Saturday, April 2, 2022 // 6:30 PM // City Stadium, Richmond, Virginia

# 2022 SCHEDULE & RECORD

LEAGUE RECORD: 0-0-0

HOME: 0-0-0 // AWAY: 0-0-0

DATE	OPPONENT	TV/STREAM	TIME/RESULT
APR 2	FC TUCSON	CBS 6.3/ESPN+	6:30 PM
APR 9	NORTHERN COLORADO HAILSTORM FC	CBS 6.3/ESPN+	6:30 PM
Apr 17	Chattanooga Red Wolves SC	CBS 6.3/ESPN+	7 pm
Apr 22	Charlotte Independence	CBS 6.3/ESPN+	7 pm
MAY 7	FORWARD MADISON FC	CBS 6.3/ESPN+	6:30 PM
MAY 14	UNION OMAHA	CBS 6.3/ESPN+	6:30 PM
May 20	FC Tucson	CBS 6.3/ESPN+	10 pm
May 28	North Carolina FC	CBS 6.3/ESPN+	7 pm
JUN 1	CHATTANOOGA RED WOLVES SC	CBS 6.3/ESPN+	6:30 PM
JUN 4	SOUTH GEORGIA TORMENTA FC	CBS 6.3/ESPN+	6:30 PM
JUN 11	CHARLOTTE INDEPENDENCE	CBS 6.3/ESPN+	6:30 PM
JUN 18	NORTHERN COLORADO HAILSTORM FC	CBS 6.3/ESPN+	6:30 PM
Jun 23	Forward Madison FC	CBS 6.3/ESPN+	8 pm
JUL 2	NORTH CAROLINA FC	CBS 6.3/ESPN+	7 PM
Jul 8	Charlotte Independence	CBS 6.3/ESPN+	7 pm
JUL 16	GREENVILLE TRIUMPH SC	CBS 6.3/ESPN+	6:30 PM
Jul 23	Central Valley Fuego FC	CBS 6.3/ESPN+	10:30 pm
Jul 27	North Carolina FC	CBS 6.3/ESPN+	7 pm
Aug 2	Northern Colorado Hailstorm FC	CBS 6.3/ESPN+	9 pm
AUG 6	FC TUCSON	CBS 6.3/ESPN+	6:30 PM
Aug 13	Greenville Triumph SC	CBS 6.3/ESPN+	7 PM
Aug 20	Central Valley Fuego FC	CBS 6.3/ESPN+	10:30 pm
AUG 27	UNION OMAHA	CBS 6.3/ESPN+	6:30 PM
SEP 7	SOUTH GEORGIA TORMENTA FC	CBS 6.3/ESPN+	6:30 PM
Sep 14	Union Omaha	CBS 6.3/ESPN+	8 PM
Sep 17	Chattanooga Red Wolves SC	CBS 6.3/ESPN+	7:30 pm
SEP 24	CENTRAL VALLEY FUEGO FC	CBS 6.3/ESPN+	6:30 PM
Oct 1	South Georgia Tormenta FC	CBS 6.3/ESPN+	7:30 pm
Oct 8	Forward Madison FC	CBS 6.3/ESPN+	8 pm
OCT 15	GREENVILLE TRIUMPH SC	CBS 6.3/ESPN+	6:30 PM

## MATCHDAY 1: #RICvTUC

## MATCH PREVIEW



On April 2, 2022, the Richmond Kickers kick off their unprecedented 30th consecutive season of operation as a professional soccer team. In a season that will be marked by nostalgia for the club, the team begins its season against one of their modern rivals when they host FC Tucson at City Stadium.

The two sides faced off three times including the USL League One Playoff Quarterfinals during the 2021 season. Tucson earned a 1-0 victory over the Kickers in the quarterfinals down in the desert despite the Kickers effectively dominating the matchup.

0-0-0 RECORD  
T-1st LEAGUE STANDING  
0-0-0 LAST 5 MATCHES  
0 STREAK  
Darren Sawatzky HEAD COACH  
Jon Pearlman

The Roos registered double the amount of shots to Tucson while placing five shots on target to Tucson's one shot on target. However, it was Tucson's one shot on target that proved to be the game winner in the 87th minute.

Despite the disappointing end, the 2021 season proved to be another step in the right direction for the club helmed by Chief Sporting Officer and Head Coach Darren Sawatzky. The Kickers made the playoffs for the first time since the 2016 season and had their second-straight winning season after not having a winning season since 2016.

The Kickers return back-to-back USL League One MVP and Golden Boot winner Emiliano Terzaghi along with USL League One Goalkeeper of the Year Akira Fitzgerald. The two League One First teamers lead a group that returned 12 total players. Amongst the 0 returners also include key contributors like Jonathan Bolanos, Nil Vinyals, Matt Bolduc, Zaca Moran, and Jalen Crisler who all played significant minutes and factored heavily into the starting lineup for the club.

A dressing room that features a core of players with at least two and three years experience with the club, the Kickers are looking to reload with 12 new players that look to be key additions in making contributions and solidifying the team's depth.

New to the group looking to factor heavily are outside backs Stuart Ritchie and Stephen Payne who both bring Youth National Team and European experience to the Richmond flanks. Adding to the attack are international newcomers Leonardo Baima and Matthew Bentley. Baima is a Boca Juniors academy product who has already registered several assists during the pre-season and is building a strong relationship with Terzaghi. Bentley aims to shoulder some of the goal-scoring load for Terzaghi, as the striker/winger hybrid proved to be a top goal-scorer with USL League Two side Lionsbridge FC and at the collegiate level.

## MATCH INFO

COMPETITION USL League One Regular Season  
DATE Saturday, March 2, 2022  
KICKOFF 6:30 pm ET  
LOCATION City Stadium, Richmond, Virginia  
FORECAST 67F/41F, Partly Cloudy  
REFEREE Danielle Chesky  
ASST. REFEREE Jake Brochu, Jordan Davis  
4TH OFFICIAL Emma Richards  
BROADCAST TV: WTVR CBS 6 Online: ESPN+

## STAT COMPARISON

Richmond	FC Tucson
0	0
0	0
0	0
0	0
0	0
0	0
0	0
0	0
0	0
0	0

## 2021 TEAM LEADERS

Richmond	FC Tucson
18, Terzaghi	9, Dennis
4, Vinyals	8, Dennis
70, Terzaghi	52, Corfe
2430, Fitzgerald	2520, Lapsley
131, Magalhães	89, Fox
76, Magalhães	50, Schenfeld
32, Two Tied	23, Barnathan
10, Fitzgerald	4, Lapsley

## QUICK HITS

- The home opener's title sponsor is Guerra Sáenz, PL--Immigration Attorneys who have been an incredible partner in helping the Kickers bring international players to the club.
- Coach Sawatzky has the opportunity to reach his 20th win at the helm of the club on Saturday after posting 8-6-2 and 11-10-7 records in his first two seasons with the Kickers.
- The Kickers will open the season in their new green '93 Legacy Kit by Adidas. The shirt pays homage to the original '93ers who wore green during the inaugural season.
- City Stadium features a brand new hospitality area situated behind the north end goal. The Party Perfect Pitchside Patio offers fans the opportunity to see a match at a whole new angle all while enjoying local craft beverages. It's the perfect place for companies and groups to book an outing.
- The team will be walked out by Columbia Soccer Club Sparta Black.

## USL LEAGUE ONE STANDINGS

#	Team	GP	W	L	D	GD	PTS
1	Central Valley Fuego FC	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	Charlotte Independence	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	Chattanooga Red Wolves SC	0	0	0	0	0	0
4	Forward Madison FC	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	Greenville Triumph SC	0	0	0	0	0	0
6	North Carolina FC	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	Northern Colorado Hailstorm FC	0	0	0	0	0	0
8	<b>RICHMOND KICKERS</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0
9	South Georgia Tormenta FC	0	0	0	0	0	0
10	FC Tucson	0	0	0	0	0	0
11	Union Omaha	0	0	0	0	0	0

## CLUB RECORDS

Appearances	Ronnie Pascale (304)
Goals (All-Time)	Matthew Delicôte (94)
Goals (Single Season)	Kevin Jeffrey (20)
Assists (All-Time)	Mike Burke (63)
Assists (Single Season)	Ruben Espinoza (12)
GAA (Single Season)	Ronnie Pascale (0.74, 2007)
Shutouts (All-Time)	Ronnie Pascale (97)
Shutouts (Single Season)	Mike McGinty (2000), Andrew Dykstra (2013) (12)

## LAST TIME OUT

The Richmond Kickers' (11-10-7) first playoff run since the 2016 season ended on the road at FC Tucson (11-10-7) in the quarterfinals of the USL League One playoffs after an 87th-minute goal and only shot on target for the hosts broke the stalemate.

With the clock winding down, in the final 10 minutes of regular time, FC Tucson was able to find a go-ahead goal off of a Derri Corfe shot into the far post, bringing Tucson to 1-0 in the 87th minute. Despite having three additional minutes of stoppage time, the Kickers were unable to find an equalizer.

The Kickers were unlucky not to earn a result in the desert as the attack produced twice as many shots as the hosts including five shots on target while holding Tucson to only one shot on target. Ultimately, the Kickers were built to withstand a siege and were dangerous off the ball.

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## RECORD IN 2021 WHEN...

At home.....	8-1-5
On road.....	3-10-2
In games decided by one goal.....	8-7-3
In games decided by two goals or more.....	3-4-2
vs. clubs with winning records.....	2-4-4
vs. clubs with losing records.....	6-6-2
vs. clubs with .500 records.....	3-1-1
Scoring first.....	7-4-1
Leading at half.....	4-1-1
Trailing at half.....	2-3-2
Tied at half.....	2-4-2
Leading with 10:00 remaining.....	8-1-1
Trailing with 10:00 remaining.....	1-5-0
Tied with 10:00 remaining.....	2-1-3
Leading with 5:00 remaining.....	6-0-1
Trailing with 5:00 remaining.....	0-7-0
Tied with 5:00 remaining.....	1-0-3
Outshooting opponent.....	5-6-3
Being outshot by opponent.....	6-4-4
Tying in shots with opponent.....	0-1-0
Scoring no goals.....	0-5-3
Scoring one goal.....	4-5-1
Scoring two goals.....	3-1-3
Scoring three goals.....	4-0-0
Scoring four or more goals.....	0-0-0
Allowing no goals.....	7-0-3
Allowing one goal.....	1-3-2
Allowing two goals.....	3-5-2
Allowing three goals.....	0-1-0
Allowing four or more goals.....	0-2-0
On weekdays.....	1-3-0
On weekends.....	10-8-7
In April.....	1-1-0
In May.....	1-2-1
In June.....	1-1-2
In July.....	1-1-2
In August.....	1-1-2
In September.....	1-2-0
In October.....	4-2-0
In November.....	0-1-0

### MISCELLANEOUS

Current Streak.....	0
Home Streak.....	0
Road Streak.....	0
Consecutive games with a goal.....	0

## THE UNPRECEDENTED 30TH SEASON

Kicking off for the first time in May 1993, the Richmond Kickers are the longest, continuously operating pro soccer club in the country. 2022 marks the 30th season of operation for the club that has been a staple in the American soccer landscape.

The club is using the season as an opportunity to look to its past to inspire the next generation of soccer fans in Richmond, Va. Working with current Kickers' Club Chairman and former '93er, Rob Ukrop, the club will honor past club greats in its marketing and matches during the season.

## '93' LEGACY JERSEY SET: AN ODE TO OUR HISTORY

A modern take on a classic design. The '93 Legacy Jersey Set from Adidas was designed to pay homage to original green tops and blue tops worn by the 1993 inaugural season team.

Famous for wearing Red, the club is changing up this year with a new green shirt that features dark green pinstripes paired with white shorts for home matches. On the road, the team will wear a white shirt that features diagonal red pinstripes and blue sleeves as a callback to the all blue secondary kits from '93.

The red, white, and blue color scheme which were all colors on the original away jersey were also chosen to show support for the USMNT and USWNT U-20 teams who are in major international competitions this year.

## KEY RETURNERS TO RVA

Terzaghi and Fitzgerald return to Richmond fresh off of multiple postseason awards and First Team selections.

Bolanos returns for a third season as he's seen increased production each season for the Kickers, the second-leading goal scorer in 2021 with five goals, Bolanos is aiming to reach new heights.

Jalen Crisler picks up the mantle as leader of the defense after Ivan Magalhães' retirement at the end of the 2021 season. Crisler was heavily underrated when it came to the weekly and postseason honors, but he was a force to be reckoned with in the danger area and was one of the best at headed clearances.

## GOOD THINGS COME IN THREES?

Emiliano Terzaghi has effectively been the face of USL League One since his arrival ahead of the 2020 season. The Argentine talisman is the most lethal goal-scorer the league has seen in its early years, and he returns for a third season in Richmond to continue building on the success he's created for the club and for himself.

As Richmond looks to return to the postseason in 2022 and possibly bring home silverware, Terzaghi will once again propel the Kickers from the front as he aims for a third-straight MVP title and third-straight Golden Boot.

## REVENGE MATCH?

During media availability in the lead up to the home opener, Coach Sawatzky, Akira Fitzgerald, and Matt Bolduc were all answered if this is a revenge match.

While they were all quick to say that they are more focused on winning the home opener to get the 2022 season off on the right foot, they didn't shy away from the notion that they didn't need any additional motivation when they learned Tucson would be the season opener opponent.



## 2022 ROSTER

#	NAME	POS	HT	WT	DOB	AGE	HOMETOWN	COLLEGE	LAST CLUB
1	Fitzgerald, Akira	GK	5'11"	175	07/17/87	33	Chiba, Japan	Wake Forest University	Tampa Bay Rowdies
2	Barnathan, Dakota	D	6'1"	176	11/9/94	27	Massapequa, N.Y.	Virginia Commonwealth	FC Tucson
3	Cole, Chris	D	6'1"	180	02/03/96	25	Duvall, WA	Seattle Pacific University	Seattle Sounders U23s
4	Fitch, Simon	D	6'1"	170	2/26/99	23	Richmond, VA	Virginia Commonwealth	VCU
5	Ritchie, Stuart	D	5'9"	150	9/10/01	20	Pleasanton, CA		Hannover 96 II
6	Moran, Zaca	M	5'7"	159	02/22/96	25	Caucete, Argentina		River Plate
7	Bolduc, Matt	M	5'8"	150	10/12/94	26	Hancock, NH	University of Massachusetts	Harrisburg City Islanders
8	Bryant, Ethan	M	5'11"	130	08/20/01	19	Longview, TX		San Antonio FC
9	Bentley, Matthew	F	6'1"	178	5/23/98	23	London, England	Missouri State University	Lionsbridge FC
10	Vinyals, Nil	M	5'11"	155	09/21/96	24	Barcelona, Spain	Withrop University	South Georgia Tormenta FC
11	Baima, Leonardo	F	5'9"	168	10/5/92	29	San Jorge, Argentina		Club Atlético Central Norte
13	Causey, Austin	GK	6'1"	175	08/20/01	19	Concord, MA		New England Revolution Academy
14	Pavone, Luke	M	5'10"	160	03/29/95	26	Rochester, NY	Buffalo State College	Hapoel Petach-Tikvah
15	Crisler, Jalen	D	6'4"	200	08/29/94	26	Everett, WA	Gonzaga University	Forward Madison FC
17	Bolanos, Jonathan	M	5'10"	140	05/20/98	22	Miramar, FL	High Point University	High Point University
20	Molina, Christian	M	5'4"	130	4/28/1998	23	Katy, TX	Northern Illinois	Union Omaha
22	Payne, Stephen	D	5'10"	155	6/16/1997	24	Birmingham, AL	UCLA	Vilaverdense FC
23	Olsen, David	F	6'0"	160	2/5/96	26	Auburn, WA	Seattle University	Seattle Sounders 2
24	Aune, Nathan	D	6'4"	195	10/27/96	24	Arlington, WA	Seattle University	Union Omaha
27	O'Dwyer, Chandler	M	6'2"	175	3/1/99	23	Lingfield, England	Christian Brothers	Christian Brothers
29	Will Palmquist	GK	6'1"	185	12/3/97	24	Denver, CO	University of Denver	New Mexico United
30	Mumford, Eli	GK	6'0"	170	3/4/04	18	Chapel Hill, N.C.		North Carolina FC Academy
32	Terzaghi, Emiliano	F	5'6"	154	03/06/93	28	Buenos Aries, Argentina		San Martin De Burzaco
99	Candela, Vincenzo	M	5'8"	158	9/28/94	27	Bogotá, Columbia		South Georgia Tormenta FC

## ALPHABETICAL ROSTER & PRONUNCIATION

#	NAME	POS	PRONUNCIATION
24	Aune, Nathan	D	AWW-knee
11	Baima, Leonardo	F	Lay-oh-nar-doh BY-muh
2	Barnathan, Dakota	D	Bar-nuh-than
9	Bentley, Matthew	F	
17	Bolanos, Jonathan	M	Bo-LAN-yos
7	Bolduc, Matt	M	BOL-duck
8	Bryant, Ethan	M	
99	Candela, Vincenzo	M	Vin-Chen-zo Can-del-uh
13	Causey, Austin	GK	CAUSE-e
3	Cole, Chris	D	
15	Crisler, Jalen	D	CRIZ-ler
4	Fitch, Simon	D	
1	Fitzgerald, Akira	GK	AH-keer-ah
20	Molina, Christian	M	Mo-lina
6	Moran, Zaca	M	ZAAC-ah MORE-an
30	Mumford, Eli	GK	
27	O'Dwyer, Chandler	M	
23	Olsen, David	F	
29	Palmquist, Will	GK	Palm-kwis-t
14	Pavone, Luke	M	PA-vone
5	Ritchie, Stuart	D	
32	Terzaghi, Emiliano	F	Ter-ZOG-ee
10	Vinyals, Nil	M	NILL Vin-yalls

### TECHNICAL STAFF

Sawatzky, Darren	Suh-WATT-ski
Elovaara, Mika	ME-kah EI-OH-var-ah
Fitzgerald, Akira	AH-keer-ah
Smetanick, Ray	Smeh-tan-ick
Perez, Rodrigo	

## TECHNICAL STAFF

<b>CHIEF SPORTING OFFICER AND HEAD COACH</b>	Darren Sawatzky
<b>HEAD ASSISTANT COACH</b>	Mika Elovaara
<b>GOALKEEPING COACH</b>	Akira Fitzgerald
<b>DIRECTOR OF PLAYER PERSONNEL</b>	Ray Smetanick
<b>ATHLETIC TRAINER</b>	Rodrigo Perez

## INJURIES/SUSPENSIONS/CALL-UPS

<b>INJURIES</b>	OUT - Luke Pavone (lower body) OUT - Ethan Bryant (lower body)
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<b>SUSPENSIONS</b>	NONE
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<b>NATIONAL TEAM CALL-UPS</b>	None
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## 2021 REGULAR-SEASON STATISTICS

#	PLAYER	GP	GS	MIN	S	SOG	G	A	CL	INT	BLK	FW	FC	YC	RC
1	Fitzgerald, Akira	27	27	2,430	0	0	0	0	27	0	0	4	0	2	0
2	Monticelli, Juan Pablo	18	16	1,357	10	3	2	1	46	34	11	4	36	5	0
3	Cole, Chris	18	14	1,276	8	2	1	2	41	27	4	12	15	2	0
4	Magalhães, Ivan	26	26	2,335	11	5	1	1	131	76	32	25	22	4	1
5	Antley, Ian	1	1	28	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0
6	Moran, Zaca	25	25	2,227	8	2	1	3	32	37	8	32	51	10	1
7	Bolduc, Matt	28	22	1,905	13	5	1	2	15	10	1	27	24	3	0
8	Bryant, Ethan	12	11	884	6	3	0	0	6	6	3	8	13	0	0
10	Vinyals, Nil	26	24	2,021	15	11	2	4	12	17	3	19	30	7	0
11	Anderson, Oalex	24	4	708	30	9	3	3	1	6	0	22	20	4	0
13	Causey, Austin	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
14	Pavone, Luke	20	6	720	3	1	0	0	23	10	1	13	14	3	0
15	Crisler, Jalen	27	27	2,342	13	5	0	0	119	32	32	15	32	9	0
16	Taublieb, Zev	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
17	Bolanos, Jonathan	28	24	2,021	35	17	5	1	5	9	2	24	42	6	0
18	Gallegos, Damian	1	0	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
19	Gonzalez, Hernan	19	4	339	7	2	0	1	7	0	0	8	12	3	0
20	Calvo, Esteban	23	23	1,938	2	0	0	0	42	30	8	34	41	6	1
21	Alves, Stanley	12	6	512	12	5	0	1	8	10	1	8	4	1	0
22	Ulysse, Denso	2	0	39	0	0	0	0	3	2	0	0	0	0	0
23	Falck, Victor	22	16	1,516	11	4	0	1	20	12	4	16	16	2	0
24	Aune, Nathan	14	3	458	2	0	0	0	19	10	3	6	13	2	0
27	Johnson, Ty	1	0	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
31	Kwesele, Mumbi	3	0	32	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
32	Terzaghi, Emiliano	27	27	2,311	70	40	18	2	8	5	2	63	48	8	0
44	Aviza, Austin	1	1	90	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
67	Dubose, Devante	3	0	39	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	0
88	Vickers, Cameron	8	1	129	0	0	0	0	3	2	0	1	2	1	0
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>416</b>	<b>308</b>	<b>27,681</b>	<b>256</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>568</b>	<b>339</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>343</b>	<b>388</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>3</b>

## 2021 GOALKEEPER STATISTICS

#	PLAYER	GP	MIN	GAA	GC	SF	SV	SAVES %	CS
1	Fitzgerald, Akira	27	2430	1.26	34	122	88	72.1%	10
13	Causey, Austin	0	0	0.00	0	0	0	0.0%	0
44	Aviza, Austin	1	90	2.00	2	5	3	60.0%	0
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>28</b>	<b>2520</b>	<b>1.29</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>71.7%</b>	<b>10</b>

## 2021 TEAM STATISTICS

Goals	35
Total Shots	258
Shots on Target	114
Goal Conversion Rate %	13.6%
Goals Conceded	36
Clean Sheets	10
Penalties Conceded	1
Tackle Success Rate %	65.4%
Duels Success Rate %	46.70%
Aerial Duels Success Rate %	48.60%
Pass Success Rate %	75.50%
Total Passes	9,293
Successful Passes	7,012
Fouls Won	343
Fouls Conceded	440
Yellow Cards	80
Red Cards	3



## TV/RADIO ROSTER



<b>1</b> Akira <b>FITZGERALD</b> GK   5'11"   174 Chiba, Japan	<b>2</b> Dakota <b>BARNATHAN</b> DF   6'1"   176 Massapequa, NY	<b>3</b> Chris <b>COLE</b> DF   6'1"   180 Duvall, WA	<b>4</b> Ivan <b>MAGALHÃES</b> DF   6'1"   185 São Paulo, Brazil	<b>5</b> Stuart <b>RITCHIE</b> DF   5'9"   150 Pleasanton, CA	<b>6</b> Zaca <b>MORAN</b> MF   5'7"   159 Caucete, Argentina	<b>7</b> Matt <b>BOLDUC</b> MF   5'8"   150 Hancock, NH
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<b>8</b> Ethan <b>BRYANT</b> MF   5'11"   130 Longview, TX	<b>9</b> Matthew <b>BENTLEY</b> F   6'1"   178 London, England	<b>10</b> Nil <b>VINYALS</b> MF   5'11"   155 Barcelona, Spain	<b>11</b> Austin <b>CAUSEY</b> GK   6'1"   175 Concord, MA	<b>13</b> Austin <b>CAUSEY</b> GK   6'1"   175 Concord, MA	<b>14</b> Luke <b>PAVONE</b> MF   5'10"   160 Rochester, NY	<b>15</b> Jalen <b>CRISLER</b> DF   6'4"   200 Everett, WA
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<b>17</b> Jonathan <b>BOLANOS</b> MF   5'10"   140 Miramar, FL	<b>20</b> Christian <b>MÓLINA</b> MF   5'4"   150 Katy, TX	<b>22</b> Stephen <b>PAYNE</b> DF   5'10"   155 Birmingham, AL	<b>23</b> David <b>OLSEN</b> F   6'0"   160 Auburn, WA	<b>24</b> Nathan <b>AUNE</b> DF   6'4"   195 Arlington, WA	<b>27</b> Chandler <b>O'DWYER</b> MF   6'2"   175 Lingfield, England	<b>29</b> Will <b>PALMQUIST</b> GK   6'1"   185 Denver, Co
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<b>30</b> Eli <b>MUMFORD</b> GK   6'0"   170 Chapel Hill, NC	<b>32</b> Emiliano <b>TERZAGHI</b> FW   5'6"   154 Buenos Aires, Argentina	<b>99</b> Vincenzo <b>CANDELA</b> MF   5'8"   158 Bogotá, Columbia
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<b>Darren SAWATZKY</b> Chief Sporting Officer & Head Coach Seattle, WA	<b>Mika ELOVAARA</b> Assistant Coach Oulu, Finland	<b>Akira FITZGERALD</b> Goalkeeping Coach Chiba, Japan
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## DARREN SAWATZKY, CHIEF SPORTING OFFICER AND HEAD COACH



Named the eighth head coach of the Kickers on November 6, 2019, and later adding the title of Chief Sporting Officer on November 19, 2020, Darren Sawatzky is ushering in a new era for one of the most historic clubs in U.S. Soccer.

Coming into his third season with Richmond, Sawatzky looks to build on the success of the 2020 and 2021 seasons. In his first season with the club, he led the team to an 8-6-2 record, the first winning record for the club in four years, and had the team into the hunt for the USL League One final heading into the final match of the season. Under his leadership, the club was able to navigate the COVID-19 pandemic without a single positive test. His scouting heading into his first season with Richmond found the 2020 USL League One MVP and Golden Boot winner, Emiliano Terzaghi.

The Kickers made their first postseason appearance since the 2016 season during Sawatzky's second season at the helm. The club finished with a second-straight winning record in the regular season as Terzaghi and Akira Fitzgerald led the team from either end of the pitch. Terzaghi won his second-straight MVP and Golden Boot award while Fitzgerald was named Goalkeeper of the Year. Both players finished as All-League First Team.

Sawatzky made the cross-country move to Richmond after a campaign with USL League One side FC Tucson, bringing in experience with coaching in the league. This was the first professional season for Tucson, after serving as a USL League Two club for the previous seven years.

Before joining Tucson, Sawatzky made a name for himself in the coaching ranks within the Seattle Sounders FC system. He led the Seattle Sounders U23 USL League Two squad along with directing the Development Academy, producing talents such as current United States National Team players Jordan Morris (Seattle Sounders) and DeAndre Yedlin (Galatasaray). During his time with the U23s, Sawatzky coached current Kickers center backs Nathan Aune and Jalen Crisler.

Serving as an assistant coach in their final two USL seasons, Sawatzky served under current Sounders head coach Brian Schmetzer. The club claimed the Commissioner's Cup and the League Championship during his first season in 2007.

The Seattle native also had a stint steering the Guam National Team, coaching former Kickers defender Alex Lee.

He holds a USSF A License and a French Federation Formation license.

Starting his professional playing career in Major League Soccer, Sawatzky was drafted by the New England Revolution in 1996, playing two seasons before moving on to the Dallas Burn in 1998. He went on to sign with the Charleston Battery later that year. Sawatzky was back in MLS the next year with the Colorado Rapids. A year later, Sawatzky found himself back in his hometown, signing with the Seattle Sounders,

## MIKA ELOVAARA, ASSISTANT COACH



Entering his fourth season with the Kickers, Elovaara came to the club after serving as the Commissioner of the Boys Elite Clubs National League (ECNL).

He was a four-year letter winner at the University of North Carolina Wilmington (UNCW). A four-year starter in college, he is the all-time leader in games started for the NCAA Division I Seahawks while earning his BA in English.

Elovaara followed his collegiate career with over 150 professional matches in Finland. Receiving his MA of English Philology from the University of Oulu in Finland in 2002, Elovaara continued his studies, earning his Doctor of Philosophy in Cultural Studies in 2007.

Fluent in three languages, Elovaara holds a USSF A Senior License, UEFA B License, and UEFA Football Strength and Conditioning diploma.

## AKIRA FITZGERALD, GOALKEEPING COACH



Fitzgerald returns to the Reds for a fourth season following a historic 2021 campaign that saw the veteran keeper set a new single-season record of 89 saves while also leading all goalkeepers with 10 clean sheets. He is the first player in the USL's modern era encompassing USL League One and USL Championship to lead the league in both saves and clean sheets in the same season. He collected his first end-of-season awards as a member of the Kickers as he was named the Goalkeeper of the Year and to the All-League First Team. He was previously named a finalist for Goalkeeper of the Year in 2019. Fitzgerald was recognized as a member of the league's team of the week four times as well as earning a nomination for USL League One Player of the Month for his performances during April and May.

Fitzgerald is a versatile, modern goalkeeper. The veteran keeper started all 16 matches for the Kickers in 2020, posting three shutouts, and recording 50 saves -- tied for the highest in USL League One. He also recorded 16 clearances throughout the season. After his season-high eight save performance at South Georgia Tormenta FC early in the season, Fitzgerald was honored on the League One Team of the Week.

Joining Richmond in 2019, Fitzgerald took the field 25 times. He finished the season with eight clean sheets behind 72 saves, which was good enough to be tied for second in the league in clean sheets and saves. His strong season saw him named a finalist for the 2019 USL League One Goalkeeper of the Year award.

Before making the move to the River City, Fitzgerald spent two seasons with USL Championship side Tampa Bay Rowdies. He notched 25 saves and recorded four clean sheets in 13 appearances with the Rowdies. Over two different stints with North Carolina FC, he made 82 appearances for the club, making 406 saves. Fitzgerald earned a contract with Major League Soccer expansion side New York City FC in 2015 in between his time with North Carolina FC.

An NCAA National Champion in 2007, Fitzgerald spent four years at Wake Forest University. He made 73 appearances with the Demon Deacons, earning Second Team All-ACC honors in his senior season and was one of 30 candidates for the 2010 Lowe's Senior CLASS Award for men's soccer after an ACC-leading 81 save season.









## #9 MATTHEW BENTLEY

## FORWARD



**Height:** 6'1"      **Weight:** 178      **DOB:** May 23, 1998  
**Hometown:** London, England      **College:** Missouri State University      **Last Club:** Lionsbridge FC

The London native caught the eyes of the Kickers' technical staff following a fruitful 2021 campaign at the USL League Two side. Playing just over an hour's drive down I64, Bentley bagged nine (9) goals and three (3) assists in 16 appearances. Following the conclusion of the 2021 League Two season, Bentley accepted an invitation to train with the Kickers' first team during the summer months.

Bentley was an exceptional college soccer player at Missouri State University, picking up Missouri Valley Conference Offensive Player of the Year and First Team All-American honors while finishing as a MAC Hermann Trophy semifinalist as one of the top players in Division I soccer in 2019.

The forward scored 15 goals including six (6) game-winning goals during his landmark senior season. The MSU Bears would earn a top-10 ranking while finishing as a finalist in the Missouri Valley Conference Championship and taking No. 8 University of Central Florida to the brink in the second round of the NCAA Men's Soccer Tournament.

Bentley was selected in the fourth round (88th overall) in the MLS SuperDraft by Minnesota United FC.

The signing of Bentley marked the second time a Lionsbridge FC player made the move inland after goalkeeper Joe Rice signed with the Kickers in 2019.

	GP	GS	MIN	S	SOG	G	A	CL	INT	BLK	FW	FC	YC	RC
2022	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

## #10 NIL VINYALS

## MIDFIELDER



**Height:** 5'11"      **Weight:** 155      **DOB:** September 21, 1996  
**Hometown:** Barcelona, Spain      **College:** Winthrop University      **Last Club:** South Georgia Tormenta FC

Last year, Vinyals slotted right into the Kickers' lineup in his first season with the club. The Barcelona native started 25 of his 27 appearances and finished with the fifth-most minutes played of the Kickers' outfield players. He returns to Richmond primed to pull the strings for Sawatzky during the club's historic 30th consecutive season.

Vinyals thrived in the role of the team's facilitator, leading the Reds with four assists and 51 chances created – ranking fifth-best in the league for chances created. His performances were recognized by USL League One's weekly honors twice when Vinyals was named Player of the Week during Week 9 and was named to the Team of the Week during Week 25.

The Week 9 Player of the Week award highlighted an exceptional night when the Kickers earned a 3-2 victory over New England Revolution II on June 5. Vinyals served up the 'hockey assist' for the Kickers' first goal in the opening 27 seconds of play – the fastest goal scored by the club since joining USL League One – before assisting the final two goals including the game winner.

"Playing in front of the Red Army, the best supporters in the league, is something that I never take for granted. Last year we were very strong at home and that has to continue if we want to win a title in 2022."

	GP	GS	MIN	S	SOG	G	A	CL	INT	BLK	FW	FC	YC	RC
2022	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

## #11 LEONARDO BAIMA

## FORWARD



**Height:** 5'9"      **Weight:** 168      **DOB:** October 5, 1992  
**Hometown:** San Jorge, Argentina      **College:** N/A      **Last Club:** Club Atlético Central Norte

The San Jorge, Argentina native has enjoyed a career that began at the world-renowned Boca Juniors before additional stops in Argentina's first and second division, Paraguay, and Croatia over his 10-year career.

Most recently, Baima played for Club Atlético Central Norte in Argentina's third division. He joined the club in the spring of 2021 and quickly impacted the squad, including converting a decisive penalty in only his third start for the club that secured a point for Central Norte.

Baima is a versatile player that excels at connecting play with a left foot capable of making a pass anywhere on the pitch. In transition, he has the agility to progress the ball forward quickly and is comfortable interchanging positions in build-up to create chances in the attack.

"My style is ball possession and shooting from outside the area and from set-pieces. I seek to be able to help with the creation of the team's play."

	GP	GS	MIN	S	SOG	G	A	CL	INT	BLK	FW	FC	YC	RC
2022	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

## #13 AUSTIN CAUSEY

## GOALKEEPER



**Height:** 6'1"      **Weight:** 175      **DOB:** August 20, 2001  
**Hometown:** Concord, MA      **College:** N/A      **Last Club:** New England Revolution Academy

Causey returns for his second professional season with the Reds following a successful apprenticeship under USL League One Goalkeeper of the Year and Kickers' goalkeeping coach Akira Fitzgerald during the 2021 season. He signed his first professional contract at the age of 19 with the club in April 2021 after impressing the technical staff during a trial period in the preseason. The rookie went on to make the Kickers' gameday roster in 23 matches including the team's USL League One Quarterfinal match at FC Tucson.

A natural shot stopper who thrives on frustrating opposing strikers, Causey joined the Kickers following a successful run in the New England Revolution Academy from 2016-19. The goalkeeper featured for both the U17 and U19 teams and registered 20 appearances during his time with the U19 team. Before his time in New England, Causey began his academy career with Richmond United during the 2015-16 season while making 16 appearances across the U14 and U16 teams.

Causey made history signing his rookie contract with the Kickers making him the first second-generation Kickers' pro player. Austin follows in the footsteps of his father Jeff Causey who was the goalkeeper for the Kickers during the 1995 season when the Reds collected its historic double by winning the Lamar Hunt US Open Cup and the USISL Championship. The elder Causey would go on to start for DC United in the inaugural season of the MLS before finishing his career at New England Revolution making 64 appearances with the Massachusetts-based club.

	GP	GS	MIN	GAA	GC	SF	SV	SAVES %	CS
2022	0	0	0	0.00	0	0	0	0.00%	0





