



# NC Courage Media Guide 2022 NWSL SEASON



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# 2022 North Carolina Courage Schedule

#### Full NWSL 2022 Schedule can be found **HERE**.

Date	Home	Away	Venue	Kick (ET)	Kick (Local)	Broadcast
Friday, April 29	Angel City	NC Courage	Banc of California	10:30pm ET	7:30pm PST	CBSSN
Saturday, May 7	NC Courage	Portland Thorns	Wakemed Soccer Park	7:00pm ET	7:00pm ET	Paramount +
Saturday, May 14	NY/NJ Gotham	NC Courage	Red Bull Arena	7:00pm ET	7:00pm ET	Paramount +
Wednesday, May 18	NC Courage	Orlando Pride	Wakemed Soccer Park	7:00pm ET	7:00pm ET	Paramount +
Sunday, May 22	NC Courage	San Diego Wave	Wakemed Soccer Park	2:00pm ET	2:00pm ET	Paramount +
Sunday, May 29	Houston Dash	NC Courage	PNC Stadium	7:00pm ET	6:00pm CT	Paramount +
Saturday, June 4	Louisville	NC Courage	Lynn Family Stadium	8:00pm ET	8:00pm ET	Paramount +
Saturday, June 11	Washington Spirit	NC Courage	Segra Field	7:00pm ET	7:00pm ET	Paramount +
Sunday, June 19	NC Courage	<b>Houston Dash</b>	Wakemed Soccer Park	5:00pm ET	5:00pm ET	Paramount +
Friday, July 1	OL Reign	NC Courage	Lumen Field	10:00pm ET	7:00pm PT	Paramount +
Sunday, July 10	Chicago Red Stars	NC Courage	SeatGeek Stadium	6:00pm ET	5:00pm CT	Paramount +
Friday, July 15	NC Courage	Angel City	Wakemed Soccer Park	7:30pm ET	7:30pm ET	Paramount +
Friday, July 29	NC Courage	<b>Washington Spirit</b>	Wakemed Soccer Park	7:30pm ET	7:30pm ET	Paramount +
Friday, August 5	Portland Thorns	NC Courage	Providence Park	10:30pm ET	7:30pm PST	CBSSN
Saturday, August 13	NC Courage	Kansas City	Wakemed Soccer Park	8:00pm ET	8:00pm ET	Paramount +
Saturday, August 20	NC Courage	Chicago Red Stars	Wakemed Soccer Park	7:00pm ET	7:00pm ET	Twitch
Sunday, August 28	Kansas City	NC Courage	Children's Mercy Park	7:00pm ET	6:00pm CT	Twitch
Saturday, September 10	NC Courage	Louisville	Wakemed Soccer Park	7:00pm ET	7:00pm ET	Twitch
Saturday, September 17	NC Courage	OL Reign	Wakemed Soccer Park	7:30pm ET	7:30pm ET	Paramount +
Wednesday, September 21	Orlando Pride	NC Courage	Exploria Stadium	7:00pm ET	7:00pm ET	Paramount +
Saturday, September 24	NC Courage	NY/NJ Gotham	Wakemed Soccer Park	7:00pm ET	7:00pm ET	Paramount +
Friday, September 30	San Diego Wave	NC Courage	SnapDrgon Stadium	9:30pm ET	6:30pm PT	Paramount +
Sunday, October 16	QTRs					CBSSN or
						Paramount+
Sunday, October 16	QTRs					CBSSN or Paramount+
Sunday, October 23	SEMIs- TBD					CBSSN
Sunday, October 23	SEMIs - TBD					CBSSN
Saturday, October 29	FINAL					CBS 3



# **Club Directory**

**EXECUTIVES** 

Francie Gottsegen
Curt Johnson
Chief Soccer Officer
Pete Sciandra
Chief Operating Officer
Kyle Prairie
Chief Revenue Officer
Chief People Officer

#### **TICKET SALES & CORPORATE PARTNERSHIPS**

Erica Tillman Director of Ticket Operations
Santiago Lucio Director of Corporate Partnerships

Brian Kapusta Senior Account Manager

Nick Bavin Director of Corporate Partnerships
Letitia Stolarczyk Ticket Sales Account Executive

Kelsey Chan Manager of Corporate Partnership Activation

#### **MARKETING & CREATIVE SERVICES**

Megan RogersVice President, MarketingMorgan LeeCreative Campaign ManagerSam PetersenVideo Content Manager

**OPERATIONS** 

Bobby Hammond Senior Vice President of Operations, NC Courage Assistant GM

Frank Fitzgerald Director of Operations
Molly Dwyer Director of Player Experience

Logyn Mercuri Events Manager

**COMMUNICATIONS** 

Megan O'Keefe Director of Communications
Nikki Stoudt Communications Manager
Hannah Martin Communications Manager

**BROADCASTING** 

Jorge Acuna Vice President, Game Operations & Broadcasting

**MERCHANDISE** 

Erin Murray Director of Merchandising

**FINANCE** 

Brian Dobosh Controller

Shonda Mitchell General Accountant



# **About the NC Courage**

The North Carolina Courage is a professional women's soccer team that plays in the NWSL (Women's First Division). The NC Courage are two-time NWSL Champions and three-time NWSL Shield-winners. On January 9, 2017, the North Carolina Football Club announced it had entered into an agreement to acquire the rights to the National Women's Soccer League (NWSL) 2016 Champion Western New York Flash. The club was then renamed the North Carolina Courage. Steve Malik, owner of the North Carolina Courage, announced his intent to secure the awarding of an NWSL team on December 6, 2016 and achieved that objective in only one month's time.

The North Carolina Courage crest is a nod to the history of women's professional soccer in North Carolina, incorporating a stylized lion, a major component of the old WUSA Carolina Courage logo, while retaining the brand identity of the club's parent organization with the signature North Carolina Football Club star and the separated triangle. Additionally, the colors mirror those of the men's side, uniting the two teams under the North Carolina Football Club umbrella, while maintaining their individual identity.

In their inaugural season, the North Carolina Courage won the NWSL regular season, bringing the NWSL Shield home to North Carolina. The team also advanced to the NWSL Championship game. The NC Courage had two league award winners: Abby Dahlkemper (Defender of the Year) and Ashley Hatch (Rookie of the Year).

In 2018, the NC Courage were the NWSL Champions and Shield-winners breaking the NWSL record for the most wins in a season with 17. The team also broke the record for most points (57), fewest losses (1), most goals scored (53), fewest goals allowed (17), lowest goals against average (.71), and largest goal differential (+36). The Courage defeated the Portland Thorns, 3-0, on September 22, 2018 to win the NWSL Championship. Jessica McDonald was named the NWSL Championship MVP.

In 2019, the Courage won their third-consecutive NWSL Championship before becoming the first NWSL team to win the NWSL Championship on their home turf. In the Courage's 4-0 NWSL Championship win over the Chicago Red Stars, Debinha was named the MVP.

In a shortened 2020 season due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the NC Courage participated in the 2020 NWSL Challenge Cup and the NWSL Fall Series.

In 2021, the Courage went 9-9-6 in the regular season. They clinched a spot in the playoffs, where they fell to the eventual champions, Washington Spirit, 1-0 in the 2021 NWSL Playoff Quarterfinals.



## **Team Executives**



# Steve Malik Chairman & Majority Owner

A visionary entrepreneur with three decades of health information technology experience, Steve Malik has served as the chairman and owner of North Carolina Football Club since 2015. Since joining the club, Malik has ushered in a new era for soccer in North Carolina. He oversaw a full rebrand of the club in 2016 before securing the arrival of the North Carolina Courage and the birth of an historic partnership with North Carolina FC Youth in 2017, creating the largest youth-to-pro club in the country. Under Malik's guidance, the Courage have been the National Women's Soccer League's most successful club since arriving in North Carolina, winning consecutive NWSL titles in 2018-19. Additionally, Malik has helped North Carolina FC develop a reputation as one of the most ambitious clubs in the nation, having played English Premier League clubs West Ham United and Swansea City while also bringing in former U.S. National Team manager Dave Sarachan as head coach.

Touted for his business acumen and leadership ability, Malik serves on the U.S. Soccer Federation Board of Directors and is Chairman of the NWSL Executive Committee, where he helps shape the future of both men's and women's soccer in the U.S.

Currently, Malik heads Greenlight Health Data Services, a patient-initiated health data retrieval company. The founder of the Cary, N.C.-based Medfusion, Malik began the company in 1996 and re-acquired it in 2013 before selling again in November 2019. A 2010 finalist for the Ernst and Young Entrepreneur of the Year, Malik helped Medfusion grow from a medical website development company to the leading provider of enhanced healthcare communication solutions.

The son of a chemical engineer, Malik was born in Swansea, Wales, and moved to Kinston, N.C., at the age of four, where he grew up before attending the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill. Malik graduated with a bachelor's degree in business administration with honors from UNC-Chapel Hill. Malik resides in Raleigh with his wife, Kathleen, and their four children. In his free time, Malik enjoys soccer, fishing and sailing.



# **Team Executives**



# Francie Gottsegen Club President

Francie Gottsegen was named President of the North Carolina Football Club in January 2022.

"I'm thrilled to join the North Carolina Football Club and lead the growth of this best-in-class organization," Gottsegen said. "It is an honor to guide the club's front office in elevating the experience for our players, fans and partners. I'm also looking forward to further strengthening the club ties to our community and to our successes ahead."

A Durham resident and alumna of Duke University, Gottsegen brings a wealth of business development and sports marketing experience to the club, as well as a valuable perspective on sponsorships and relationship building. Most recently, Gottsegen served as the Chief Executive Officer of Sports Systems, a TicketManager Company, delivering guest management and accreditation solutions to numerous Fortune 500 companies. Prior to working at Sports Systems, Gottsegen served as the Senior Vice President of Sports and Entertainment Marketing at JP Morgan Chase, which followed a similar role at Wells Fargo. Gottsegen has also worked at notable professional sports organizations including the PGA of America, the National Basketball Association, and Major League Soccer.

In her role as Club President, Gottsegen will lead business operations and revenue generation. Simultaneously, she will lead front office operations, focusing specifically on marketing, communications, broadcasting, and human resources, and will also serve as one of two board representatives on the North Carolina FC Youth Board of Directors, as well as on the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Taskforce.



## **Team Executives**



# Curt Johnson Chief Soccer Officer

Johnson, a Raleigh native, played soccer locally with CASL, Ravenscroft School and NC State. As a defender for the Wolfpack, Johnson started 72 games in four years and as a senior captain, helped lead his team to the 1990 ACC Championship and NCAA semifinals. After graduating in 1991, he returned to NC State as a volunteer assistant coach.

Before heading up the RailHawks (now North Carolina FC) in 2011, he was GM with the Richmond Kickers from 1997-1999 and the Kansas City Wizards from 1999-2006, a club he helped guide to a 2000 MLS Cup and Supporters' Shield as well as a 2004 Lamar Hunt US Open Cup. Following the Wizards, Johnson returned to the Carolinas where he worked briefly for the Carolina Hurricanes of the NHL and US Club Soccer in Charleston, SC.

As president and general manager of the North Carolina Football Club, Johnson helped lead the state's most successful professional soccer organization both from a team and business perspective. He helped push the club to two NASL regular season championships, increased attendance, and an enriched fan experience.

In December 2016, Johnson led the club in introducing the New State of Soccer, transitioning from the Carolina RailHawks to North Carolina FC. Johnson became the president and General Manager of the North Carolina Courage (NWSL) in January 2017 after the club acquired the 2016 NWSL Champions, the Western New York Flash.

With the North Carolina Football Club, Johnson is active in promoting soccer at all levels on and off the field, with an emphasis on youth soccer partnerships with North Carolina FC Youth and throughout the state. He has been inducted into the Ravenscroft School Hall of Fame, Capital Area Soccer League (CASL) Hall of Fame, and the North Carolina Soccer Hall of Fame.

In January 2022, Johnson transitioned to the role of Chief Soccer Operator, as Francie Gottsegen assumed the role of Club President. Johnson now focuses on the oversight of the technical and team side of the club, as well as strategic projects and board work. As Chief Soccer Officer for North Carolina FC and the North Carolina Courage, Johnson's responsibilities will include oversight of team performance, player and coach development, player experience, and enhancing the youth to professional pipeline.

Johnson will continue to serve on the NWSL and USL Board of Governors, North Carolina FC Youth Board and the club's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Taskforce, in addition to other community focused boards.



## **Technical Staff**

Sean Nahas Head Coach

**Emma Thomson** Assistant Coach

Nathan Thackeray Assistant Coach

Vanessa Fulcher Equipment Manager

Brian Maddox Head Athletic Trainer

**Kenny Lynne** Team Physical Therapist (Select PT)

**Dr. Mike Young** Fitness Coach (Athletic Lab)

**Austin Both** Assistant Fitness Coach (Athletic Lab)

Dr. Kristen Clarey Medical Director

**Dr. Jonathan Chappell, MD**Head Team Physician (Wake Ortho)

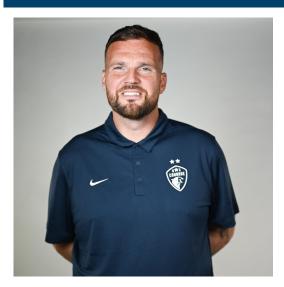
# **Technical Staff**

#### Sean Nahas - Head Coach



Nahas brings nearly two decades of experience with Capital Area Soccer League (now North Carolina FC Youth) to the NC Courage. In addition to being Head Coach for the NC Courage, Nahas is a coach for the NC Courage Academy. He has held several leadership positions with CASL including Director of Girls Classic Soccer, ECNL Director, and Director of CASL Player Development. As ECNL Director, he helped CASL reach its highest ranking in USYS of No.7 nationally in 2010-2011. Nahas also has valuable US National Team coaching experience including assistant coaching positions with the U20 USWNT and U14 Youth National Team and serving as a US National Team Youth Scout. Nahas was a member of the coaching staff that lead the NC Courage to their first NWSL Championship in 2018 and another 2019.

### Nathan Thackeray - Assistant Coach, Head Goalkeeper Coach



Thackeray started his coaching career in 2011 after playing with England's Bradford City from 2003-2006 and William Woods University from 2006-2010. He worked with Young Harris College in Georgia, and then became the Head of Goalkeeping at the Houston Dynamo Academy in 2012. Thackeray is a USSF licensed coach. He was a member of the 2018 and 2019 NWSL Championship coaching staff.

## **Technical Staff**

### **Assistant Coach Emma Thomson**



Originally from Nottinghamshire, England, Thomson grew up playing for Doncaster Belles in the FA Women's Premier league. She represented England at the youth levels before attending university in the states. A four-year starter and two-year captain for Penn State women's soccer, Thomson helped the Nittany Lions to four NCAA Tournament appearances, collecting four Big Ten Championships and one Big Ten Tournament Championship as well as the 2011 PSU Defender of the Year. Thomson earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Kinesiology from Penn State in 2012, before her Masters in Sports Management from St. John's (NY) in 2015 where she served as a graduate assistant with the women's soccer team. Emma spent 6 years coaching in college with George Mason University, while also coaching with FC Virginia in the Development Academy. Emma holds her A license and is currently on staff with the NC Courage Girls Academy.



# **Katelyn Rowland #0**



**Pronunciation:** Roll-and

**Position:** G **Height:** 5'11"

Jersey Number: 0
Date of Birth: 3/16/94
Hometown: Vacaville, CA

Citizenship: USA College: UCLA

Last Club: KC Current
How Acquired: Traded to NC

Courage from Kansas City

Current in in exchange for Lynn

Williams

#### **PROFESSIONAL**

**2021**: Started one match for Courage, recording the win with two saves. Traded to KC Current on July 22, 2021. Started four matches for the Current, totalling 360 minutes and 12 saves. Traded back to Courage from Kansas City on Jan. 10, 2022.

**2020**: Started two games in the Fall Series and had four saves. Started three games for 270 minutes and recorded six saves in the Challenge Cup.

**2019**: Rowland started in 6 games in 2019, playing for 540 minutes. She had 15 saves throughout the season.

**2018**: Rowland started in 19 games in 2018, playing for a total of 1,710 minutes. She had 47 saves during the course of the season. She had eight clean sheets, including a clean sheet in the NWSL Championship game.

**2017**: Rowland started in 18 games, played for 1,620 minutes and recorded 13 saves on the season, plus earned nine clean sheets. She and teammate Sabrina D'Angelo set a league record with their combined 12 shutouts in the 2017 season. Rowland had a goals against average of 0.7 in 2017. She was also nominated for NWSL Goalkeeper of the Year and was named to the league's Second Best XI.

**2016**: Played in six games for the Flash, totaling 540 minutes. Made 16 saves and averaged 1.33 goals against per game. Katelyn Rowland was acquired by the Flash on June 10, 2016, via trade with FC Kansas City.

**2015**: Selected by FC Kansas City as the 17th overall pick in the 2015 NWSL College Draft.

#### INTERNATIONAL

Starting goalkeeper for the U.S. Under-20 National Team at the FIFA U-20 Women's World Cup and CONCACAF Championship. Won the Golden Glove at the CONCACAF Championship, totaling four shutouts in each of her four starts in the tournament. Former pool player with the U-18 Team. Traveled with the U-17s to Denmark in 2010. First brought into the U.S. National Team Program with the U-15s in 2008.

#### COLLEGE

Rowland played all four years at UCLA from 2011-2014 where she set NCAA records for career shutouts (55) and single-season shutouts (19).

#### **HIGH SCHOOL / CLUB**

Rowland attended Vacaville Christian for high school. She helped her club team, San Juan, to a national championship in 2008 and was awarded the tournament's Golden Gloves Award at the final four. Rowland was named Top Drawer Soccer's "Player to Watch" in 2008. She was also a varsity basketball and volleyball player at Vacaville Christian High School, earning all-league honors in both sports.





**Pronunciation:** Mer-fee

**Position:** G **Height:** 6'1"

**Jersey Number:** 1

**Date of Birth:** 4/25/1996 **Hometown:** Bridgewater

Township, NJ

Citizenship: USA

**College:** Rutgers University

Last Club: OL Reign

**How Acquired:** Traded to NC Courage from the OL Reign in October 2020 for Crystal Dunn

# **Casey Murphy #1**

#### **PROFESSIONAL**

**2021**: Started all 24 matches she appeared in, recording 2,070 minutes and 96 saves (81.4 save percentage). She totalled 11 clean sheets on the season, tying the NWSL record for clean sheets in a season.

**2020**: Started in three of four Fall Series matches for the OL Reign and had 18 saves. Started two games and played 180 minutes in the Challenge Cup.

**2019**: Made a total of 26 appearance for the club across all competitions.

**2018**: Made 29 appearances for Montpellier HSC and was selected by the French media as the Division 1 Féminine's best goalkeeper in their league's Best XI.

#### INTERNATIONAL

**2022**: Named to USWNT roster for 2022 SheBelieves Cup, starting two matches and recording two clean sheets. 2021: Named to USWNT senior squad for the **2021 SheBelieves Cup**. YOUTH: United States youth international at the U14, U15, U18, U20, and U23 levels, Represented the US at the 2016 U20 World Cup in Papua New Guinea.

#### COLLEGE

Received Female Big Ten Medal of Honor in May 2018, 2-time Big Ten Goalkeeper of the year and All-Big Ten First Team selection, 2017 Mac Hermann Trophy Semifinalist. 2017: Started all 21 matches she played for Rutgers University. Named the Big Ten Goalkeeper of the Year and First Team All-Big Ten. Holds the Rutgers record for clean sheets (45) and is second on the Big Ten all-time list. 2016: Redshirted to play with the United States U20 Team at the 2016 Women's U20 World Cup in Papua New Guinea. 2015: Played every minute of the 26 matches she started in goal. Named Big Ten Goalkeeper of the Year and First Team All-Big Ten. 2014: Started all 20 matches she played in goal for Rutgers University and was selected to the Big 10 All-Freshman Team.

#### **HIGH SCHOOL / CLUB**

Murphy attended and played soccer and basketball for Bridgewater-Raritan High School. She also trained with the PDA Slammers, part of the Elite Clubs National League. Murphy was the No. 18 overall player in New Jersey and was a four-star recruit. In 2014, she chose to attend Rutgers University.



# **Taylor Smith #2**



**Pronunciation:** Smith

**Position:** D **Height:** 5'3"

Jersey Number: 2

Date of Birth: 12/1/93

Hometown: Fort Worth, TX

Citizenship: USA College: UCLA Last Club: OL Reign

**How Acquired:** Traded from OL Reign in exchange for Ally Watt

in December 2020

#### **PROFESSIONAL**

**2021**: Made 12 appearances and tallied one assist in 225 minutes played. **2020**: Made a return to soccer during the 2020 NWSL Challenge Cup, where she played in all four games for the Reign. Also played in three matches during the Fall Series. Traded to Courage from OL Reign in December 2020 in exchange for Ally Watt. 2019: Did not made an appearance for OL Reign in the 2019 season because of her ACL injury.

**2018**: Made 23 appearances for the Spirit during the 2018 season. Signed with the Newcastle Jets of Australia's W-League on loan at the end of the NWSL season and won Player of the Month honors for the team in November before suffering an ACL tear in December.

**2017**: Made 24 appearances in all competitions for the club during the 2017 season, helping the Courage to win the Community Shield and return to the NWSL championship game.

**2016**: Made 18 appearances for the Western New York Flash, two of which were starts, and scored two goals. Helped the club win the 2016 NWSL Championship over the Washington Spirit.

#### **COLLEGE**

2015: As the UCLA Bruins' team co-captain, started 14 out of 14 appearances while scoring two goals and adding two assists. 2014: Started all 24 games she appeared in, scoring nine goals and adding six assists. Named Second-Team All-Pac-12. 2013: Started 25 of her 26 appearances for the team, recorded eight goals and 10 assists. Helped the Bruins win their first NCAA Division 1 College Cup title, was also a First-Team All-Pac-12 selection. 2012: Started 17 out of the 23 games she played, scoring eight goals and assisting four. Named to Pac-12 All-Freshman Team.

#### INTERNATIONAL

Has made 10 appearances with the U.S. Women's National Team, including two starts in the USWNT's 2018 SheBelieves Cup victory.

#### **HIGH SCHOOL / CLUB**

Smith attended Fort Worth Country Day School where she captained the varsity soccer team for three years. She also played field hockey and ran track and field. Smith earned conference honors in both soccer and track. She was ranked as the eighth top national college recruit by Top Drawer Soccer and ESPN. Top Drawer Soccer ranked her as the top recruit in the state of Texas and she was twice named Youth All-American by the National Soccer Coaches Association of America (NSCAA). Smith played club soccer for Solar Chelsea. She helped the LA Blues win the USL W-League title in 2014.



# Kaleigh Kurtz #3



**Pronunciation:** Kay-lee

**Position:** D **Height:** 5'8"

Jersey Number: 3 Date of Birth: 9/9/94 Hometown: Greer, SC Citizenship: USA

**College:** University of South

Carolina

**Last Club:** University of South

Carolina

**How Acquired:** Joined NC Courage roster ahead of the

2018 regular season

#### **PROFESSIONAL**

**2022**: Re-signed one-year deal (one-year option) with the club on Jan. 11, 2022. **2021**: Started 12 matches totalling 1,890 minutes and one assist on the season.

**2020**: Started and played in three games for 182 minutes in the Fall Series. Played and started one game for 90 minutes in the Challenge Cup.

**2019**: Kurtz played 810 minutes in nine matches. She had a passing accuracy of 77.2%.

**2018**: Signed with the NC Courage in March. Started and played in six games for 540 minutes.

#### COLLEGE

2016: In her senior season at the University of South Carolina, Kurtz was named the SEC Defensive Player of the Year and All-SEC First Team. She started all 24 matches and had five assists. 2015: Had her first collegiate goal of her career. Started 20 games during the season. 2014: Played in 25 games for a total of 552 minutes in her first year at University of South Carolina. 2013: Played 18 games for Richmond College and had one assist.

#### **HIGH SCHOOL / CLUB**

Kurtz attended Riverside High School and was a four-star prospect and ranked No. 127 nationally, No. 15 in the South Region and No. 28 in the country among defenders. She was a four-time ECNL All-Event Team selection and an ECNL Top Performer in 2012. She helped lead Carolina Elite Soccer Academy (CESA) to seven state championships. Kurtz won the 2012 regional championship and finished sixth at Nationals.



### **Carson Pickett #4**



**Pronunciation:** Pick-it

**Position:** D **Height:** 5'8"

Jersey Number: 4

Date of Birth: 9/05/93

Hometown: Spartanburg, SC

Citizenship: USA College: Florida State

University

**Last Club:** Orlando Pride **How Acquired:** Traded from Orlando Pride in February 2021 for the rights to Jodie Taylor

#### **PROFESSIONAL**

**2021**: NC Courage - Started all 24 games played (2145 minutes) and tallied five assists. Named to 2021 NWSL First-Team Starting XI, and was a finalist for Defender of the Year.

**2020**: Orlando Pride - Did not make an appearance in 2020 for Orlando as the club withdrew from NWSL Challenge Cup due to positive COVID-19 tests among players and staff.

**2020**: Apollon Ladies - Went out on loan to the Cypriot side Apollon Ladies for their 2020 season. Did not make an appearance for the club.

**2019/2020:** Brisbane Roar - Started all 11 of the games she played in the 19/20 season for the Roar, scoring 3 goals and notching 1 assist. Named the Roar's Player of the Year.

**2019**: Orlando Pride - Started 19 of 20 games for the Pride during the 2019 NWSL season

**2018/2019:** Brisbane Roar - Started all 12 games she played in the 18/19 season for the Roar, scoring 2 goals and recording 3 assists.

**2018**: Orlando Pride - Started 16 of 19 appearances for the Pride during the 2018 NWSL season.

**2017/2018:** Brisbane Roar - Loaned to the Australian W-League's Brisbane Roar for their 2017-2018 season. Scored her first professional goal on 11/10/17 against Western Sydney Wanderers.

**2017**: Started all 21 of her appearances for the Reign in the 2017 NWSL season. **2016**: Selected by the Reign with the 4th overall pick in the 2016 NWSL College Draft. Started 8 of 15 appearances and notched 1 assist in her first season as a pro.

#### INTERNATIONAL

Has represented the US Youth National Team at the U17 and U23 levels.

#### COLLEGE

Played for Florida State University. 2015: Started all 25 games her senior season, finishing with 1 goal and 9 assists. Named to the All-ACC Third Team, and finished tied for 10th all-time in NCAA history with 103 appearances. 2014: Started 25 of 26 appearances, with 2 goals and 13 assists on the season. Helped FSU win their first-ever College Cup Title, and named to both the ACC All-Tournament Team and All-ACC Academic Team. 2013: Started 22 of her 28 appearances. Recorded 4 goals and 4 assists on the season, helping the Seminoles to their second-ever College Cup final appearance. 2012: Made 24 appearances, scoring 2 goals and adding 5 assists. Named to the ACC All-Freshmen Team.



### **Brianna Pinto #5**



**Pronunciation:** PIN-TOE

**Position:** MID **Height:** 5'5"

**Date of Birth:** 05/24/2000 **Hometown:** Durham, NC

Citizenship: USA

**College:** University of North

Carolina at Chapel Hill

**Last Club:** NJ/NY Gotham FC **How Acquired:** Traded to NC Courage from NJ/NY Gotham FC

for allocation money.

#### **PROFESSIONAL**

**2021**: Drafted third overall by NJ/NY Gotham FC in the 2021 NWSL Draft. Appeared in 10 matches for 204 minutes.

#### INTERNATIONAL

Called to USWNT U-23 January Camp in January 2022. Played up a year during the 2016 U-17 Women's World Cup in Jordan and was two years younger than the age cut-off during the 2018 U-20 WWC in France. Started every game in both tournaments.

#### COLLEGE

Attended the University of North Carolina from 2018-21, scoring 31 goals in 73 appearances. Named a finalist for the Mac Hermann Trophy in 2021 and a semifinalist for the award in 2019, also earning the title of US Soccer Young Female Player of the Year that same year.



# **Abby Erceg #6**



**Pronunciation:** Er-seg

Position: D Height: 5'10" Jersey Number: 6

**Date of Birth:** 11/20/89 **Hometown:** Whangarei, NZ **Citizenship:** New Zealand

College: N/A

Last Club: WNY Flash

**How Acquired:** Traded to the Flash in November 2015 from the

**Chicago Red Stars** 

#### **PROFESSIONAL**

**2021:**Started all 21 games played, logging 1,920 minutes and an 87% passing success rate. Notched 15 shots and scored one goal.

**2020**: Started all five games of Challenge cup for a total of 450 minutes

**2019**: Started and played 22 games for a total of 1,985 minutes in the 2019 season. She scored one header goal during the season and was named to NWSL Second Best XI

**2018**: Erceg started every game and played every minute of all 26 games during the season. She scored two header goals during the season and also had two assists. She was named the NWSL Defender of the Year and NWSL Best XI.

**2017**: Started in 24 games and has played for 2127 minutes. She recorded one goal, two assist and 19 shots. She received three yellow cards and one red card. The captain was named to the NWSL's Second XI at the conclusion of the 2017 season. 2016: Started in 16 out of 17 games played for the Flash, clocking 1,474 minutes. Had two goals and one assist as the team's 2016 captain.

**2014-2015**: Made 25 appearances for the Chicago Red Stars over two seasons. Sent to AS Elfen Saitama in Japan on a loan deal. Traded to the Flash in November of 2015.

**2013-2014:** Signed with FF USV Jena of Germany's Frauen-Bundesliga. Made 30 appearances and scored five goals. Was sent on loan to the Chicago Red Stars.

**2011-2013:** Made 23 appearances for Adelaide United in the Australian W-League. **2010**: Made 25 appearances and scored 14 goals for Fencibles United in New Zealand.

**2009**: Made 23 appearances and scored 15 goals for Three Kings United FC in New Zealand. **2007-2008**: Made 22 appearances and scored 12 goals for Western Springs AFC in New Zealand. 2004-2006: Made 36 appearances and scored 17 goals for Three Kings United FC in New Zealand.

#### INTERNATIONAL

2019: Erceg came out of international retirement after Tom Sermani was named the new head coach of the New Zealand Women's National Team. She has represented New Zealand in friendlies leading up to the World Cup. She started and played in three games during the 2019 Women's World Cup for a total of 270 minutes. 2018: Rejoined the New Zealand National Team for two friendlies against Scotland. 2017: Announced her retirement from international play ahead of the 2017 Cyprus Cup. 2016: Former captain of New Zealand's squad. Helped the Kiwis to a third place finish at the 2016 Algarve Cup. Played with New Zealand in the 2016 Olympic Games in Rio. 2015: Played in all three matches for New Zealand in the 2015 FIFA Women's World Cup in Canada. 2014: Scored one goal in 16 matches. Became the first player to reach 100 caps for New Zealand on October 25 at the OFC Nations Cup. Helped New Zealand qualify for the 2015 FIFA Women's World Cup. 2013: Had 11 caps in the year. 2012: 16 appearances with New Zealand including the 2012 London Olympic Games. 2011: Became the youngest player to reach 50 caps for New Zealand at the Cyprus Cup. Made 13 appearances. A part of the Kiwis' squad at the 2011 FIFA Women's World Cup in Germany. NZF's Players' Player honoree. 2010: Scored 2 goals in 12 matches. 2009: Made 7 appearances with the Kiwis. 2008: Played in 13 matches. Made appearances at the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games. Represented the Kiwis at the FIFA Women's U-20 World Cup. 2007: Played in 15 matches, scoring 2 goals. Played in the 2007 FIFA Women's World Cup in China. Honored as the New Zealand Football Young Player of the Year. 2006: Earned first full international cap on November 14 against China at 17 years-old. Played at the 2006 FIFA Women's U-20 World Cup.



# **Malia Berkely #7**



#### **PROFESSIONAL:**

2021-22: (Bordeaux) Started all nine games played and scored one goal.

**2020-21:** (Bordeaux) Appeared in one game.

#### **COLLEGE:**

Played 84 matches, recording four goals and 14 assists while leading the Florida State University Seminoles to three ACC Championship titles and an NCAA Championship title. Named ACC Defensive Player of the Year in 2019 and 2020.

**Pronunciation: Muh-LEE-YA** 

BERK-lee
Position: DEF
Height: 5'8"

**Date of Birth: 2/13/1998** 

Hometown: Liberty Township, OH

Citizenship: USA

College: Florida State University
Last Club: FC Girondins de Bordeaux
How Acquired: Signed two-year
contract following a transfer
agreement with FC Girondins de

**Bordeaux** 





**Pronunciation**: Den-ees

**Position**: M **Height**: 5'4"

Jersey Number: 8 Date of Birth: 2/4/94 Hometown: Cork, IE Citizenship: Ireland

College: N/A

**Last Club**: Houston Dash **How Acquired**: Acquired from the Houston Dash on 7/28/17

### Denise O'Sullivan #8

#### **PROFESSIONAL**

**2021**: Started all 23 matches played for 1,957 minutes.

**2020**: Played in five games with four starts for a total of 405 minutes

**2019**: O'Sullivan played in 25 games with 24 starts for the 2019 season. She totaled

2,158 minutes with a 84.3% passing success rate and 1 assist.

**2018**: Played 1932 minutes in 24 games, 22 of which she started. She had 77.7% passing success rate during the season and three assists. O'Sullivan averaged 37 passes per game.

**2017**: O'Sullivan started in 13 out of 20 games played for the Courage, totaling 1,129 minutes. She tallied a goal and an assist in the 2017 season after being acquired by the NC Courage on July 28, 2017. She spent the first part of the 2017 NWSL season with the Houston Dash, where she made 11 appearances and tallied one assist.

**2016**: She appeared in 29 total games for the Dash, scoring two goals and making four assists since April 2016.

**2013-2016**: O'Sullivan was a valuable member of Scottish Women's Premier League's Glasgow City since July 2013 and impressively won eight trophies with the club. During that time, she made 65 starts and scored 33 goals.

**2011-2013**: O'Sullivan played for a number of European teams prior to Glasgow including Wilton United, Peamount United, and Cork City.

#### INTERNATIONAL

2019: Played every minute in nine matches during friendlies and World Cup qualifying. 2018: Played 720 minutes in eight games with the national team during World Cup qualifying matches. She scored one goal. 2017: Played 741 minutes for the Republic of Ireland during 2017 and scored two goals. 2011: Made her debut at 17 years old with Ireland's senior team. Scored both of the team's goals in her first match.



# Kerolin Nicoli #9



**Pronunciation**: Care-o-leen

ni-COLE-ee **Position**: FWD **Height**: 5'5"

**Date of Birth:** 11/17/99 **Hometown:** São Paulo, Brazil

Citizenship: Brazil College: N/A

Last Club: Madrid Club de Fútbol

Femenin

How Acquired: Courage utilized allocation funds to buy out the remainder of her contract with Madrid Club de Fútbol Femenin. Signed with club Jan 2021.

#### **PROFESSIONAL**

**2020/21:** Signed with Madrid Club de Fútbol Femenin of the Spanish Primera División during the second half of the 2020/21 season. Appeared in 24 matches, logged 1,588 minutes of playing time and scored five goals. Has also played for Brazilian clubs Valinhos, Ponte Preta, Palmeiras, and Osasco Audax.

#### INTERNATIONAL

Has represented Brazil since 2016. Competed in 2016 South American U17 Women's Championship, the 2016 FIFA U17 Women's World Cup, and the 2018 FIFA U20 Women's World Cup, where she scored two goals in three games. Received first call up to full team in September 2018. Earned her first cap in a friendly against England as a substitute for Courage teammate Debinha.

Most recently, appeared in seven matches for the Brazilian senior national team over the course of 2021 scoring five goals.



### Debinha #10



**Pronunciation**: De-been-ya

**Position**: M **Height**: 5'2"

Jersey Number: 10 Date of Birth: 10/20/91 Hometown: Basópaolis, BR

**Citizenship**: Brazil

College: N/A

**Last Club:** Dalian Quanjian **How Acquired:** Signed with the Western New York Flash

on 01/05/17

#### **PROFESSIONAL**

**2021**: Started all 18 games played, scored three goals and earned two assists. Was named MVP of 2021 NWSL Challenge Cup.

**2020**: Has played 360 minutes and has scored four goals and assisted one goal in the Fall Series. Played and started five games for 419 minutes and scored one goal in the Challenge Cup.

**2019**: Played in 21 games and started 19 of them for a total of 1,737 minutes. She scored 10 goals and has 7 assists. She took 69 shots with 30 on goal.

**2018**: Played in 23 games, starting 22 of them, for a total of 1896 minutes. Debinha scored nine goals on the season and added two assists. She took 54 shots, 25 of which were on goal.

**2017**: Debinha played in 25 games, starting 17 for a total of 1,481 minutes. She recorded four goals, two assist, and 34 shots during the 2017 season.

**2016**: Played for Dalian Quanjian in the Chinese Women's Super League.

**2013-15:** Scored 23 goals in 30 appearances for Avaldsnes IL in the Norwegian Toppserien. She was Toppserien top goal-scorer in 2014. 2014: Went on a short loan spell to SÄ o José.

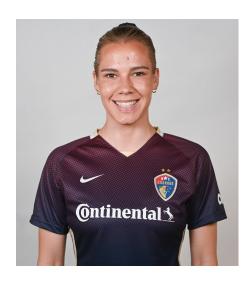
**2011-13:** Played for Centro Olímpico. In 2012, the club was the runner-up in the Copa do Brasil.

#### INTERNATIONAL

2020: Played in the 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games for Brazil, starting three of four games played and earning two goals and one assist. 2019: Played in the 2019 FIFA Women's World Cup with Brazil. She started all four games and had one assist during the tournament. 2018: Debinha made 13 appearances with the Brazilian National team during 2018. She played a total of 720 minutes and scored three goals. 2017: Played 144 minutes for the Brazilian national team between the Tournament of Nations and friendlies. She scored two goals during the year. 2011: Made her senior debut in the Pan American Games in Guadalajara. 2010: Represented Brazil in the 2010 FIFA U-20 Women's World Cup.



### **Merritt Mathias #11**



**Pronunciation**: Math-eye-iss

**Position**: D **Height**: 5'6"

Jersey Number: 11

Date of Birth: 7/2/90

Hemotown: Birminghan

**Hometown**: Birmingham, Al.

Citizenship: USA College: Texas A&M Last Club: OL Reign

**How Acquired:** Acquired from the

**OL Reign** 

#### **PROFESSIONAL**

**2021**: Started all 22 games played, earned one assist in the regular season. Scored one goal in the 2021 NWSL Challenge Cup.

**2020**: Out due to ACL injury

**2019**: Mathias started and played 20 games for a total of 1,772 minutes before a season ending injury. She took 22 shots and had 5 assists.

**2018**: Mathias was traded to the North Carolina Courage from the Seattle Reign. She started 24 games in 2018, scoring three goals and adding three assists. One of her goals was featured on Sports Center's Top 10. Mathias played a total of 2140 minutes during the season.

**2017**: Played 21 games and scored two goals. She also had an assist during the season.

**2016**: Started 17 games and made appearances in two others during the year. She played a total of 1.431 minutes and scored one goal.

**2015**: Recorded 1,480 minutes and started 19 games in her first season with Seattle.

**2014**: Played in 22 matches for FC Kansas City, 18 of which she started. She was traded to the Seattle Reign at the end of the 2014 season.

**2013**: Selected 23rd overall in the NWSL Supplemental Draft by FC Kansas City and started 20 games in her first season. She scored two goals during the season.

#### INTERNATIONAL

2018: Mathias was called up for an international friendly, making a 16-minute appearance with the U.S. Women's National Team for the first time in two years. She was also on the roster for the Tournament of Nations. 2016: First called up to the United States women's national team in October 2016 for friendlies against Switzerland.

#### **COLLEGE**

2011: Started all 24 matches during the season and scored eight goals. She also had eleven assists. Named AllOBig 12 First Team. 2010: Transferred to Texas A&M where she started 20 games and scored nine goals. 2008: Played in 20 matches as a freshman at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

#### **HIGH SCHOOL / CLUB**

Mathias attended Oak Mountain High School where she was a Parade Magazine high school All-America selection in 2007 and a 2006 and 2007 National High School Coaches Association All-America.



### Diana Ordoñez #12



**2022**: Drafted by the Courage sixth overall in the 2022 NWSL Draft.

#### INTERNATIONAL

2022: Called to USWNT U-23 January Camp in January 2020. Declared intent to play for Mexico moving forward in March 2022. Attended first team camp in April, made her La Tri debut in a CONCACAF qualifying match vs. Anguilla on April 9, 2022, scoring two goals, the first of which came seconds into her debut on her first touch. Subbed into the final qualifying match vs. Puerto Rico on April 12, 2022, adding one more goal to her career stats.

#### COLLEGE

Entered the draft following her junior year. Finished 3 year University of Virginia career with 45 goals, tied for third-most in school history. Led the country in scoring with 18 goals in 2021, which was also a school record, and was named the ACC Offensive Player of the Year.



**Pronunciation: DEE-ana** 

Position: FWD Height: 5'11"

Date of Birth: 09/26/2001 Hometown: Prosper, TX

Citizenship: USA

**College: University of Virginia** 

Last Club: N/A

How Acquired: Drafted 6th overall in 2022 NWSL Draft





#### **Pronunciation**: Williams

**Position**: D **Height**: 5'6"

Jersey Number: 13 Date of Birth: 2/23/96 Hometown: Centennial, CO

Citizenship: USA College: TCU Last Club: TCU

**How Acquired:** Selected 40th overall in the NWSL by the NC

Courage

## **Ryan Williams #13**

#### **PROFESSIONAL**

**2021**: Started two of 17 games played, notching two assists.

**2020**: Has played 354 minutes in four games and has one assist in the Fall Series. Played and started one game for 90 minutes in the Fall Series.

**2019**: Started three of the four games she played for a total of 232 minutes.

**2018**: Drafted by the Courage in the 2018 NWSL College Draft. Was signed as a national team replacement for the season and made one appearance as a substitute for a total of 10 minutes.

#### **COLLEGE**

2017: Started and played in 22 matches. Had six assists and one goal. 2016: Played in 20 games during the season. Played every minute of 18 of those games. Had two assists. 2015: Had 5 assists in 19 games started and played. 2014: Started 18 of 19 games for 1,702 minutes. Had two assists.

#### **HIGH SCHOOL / CLUB**

Williams attended Cherry Creek High school where she was a part of the team that won the 2012 5A state championship. She played club soccer with the Colorado Rush in the Elite Clubs National League (ECNL). Won the ECNL national championship in the 2011-2012 season.







**Pronunciation:** BOE-in

**Position**: DEF **Height**: 5'8"

Date of Birth: 4/15/94 Hometown: Auckland, NZ Citizenship: New Zealand College: University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

**Last Club:** Kansas City Current **How Acquired:** Signed Bowen on 21 January 2022, to a one year contract with an option to renew for the 2023 season.

#### **PROFESSIONAL**

**2021**: (Kansas City) Started 14 of 17 games played, tallied two assists.

**2019**: (Utah) Started 17 of 19 games played.

2018: (Utah) Started 16 of 19 games played, earned one assist.

2017: (Kansas City) Started 13 of 21 games played, recorded two goals and one

assist.

**2016**: (Kansas City) Started 11 of 13 games played, registered one assist.

#### **INTERNATIONAL**

Has represented New Zealand in three World Cups and two Olympic Games. Started 31 of 34 games played.

#### **COLLEGE**

Started 59 of 66 games played for the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill Tar Heels. Registered one goal and nine assists in four seasons.



### **Jaelene Daniels #15**



Pronunciation: Jay-leen
Position: DEF/FWD

Height: 5'4"

Date of Birth: 5/28/1993 Hometown: Denver, CO Citizenship: USA

College: Texas Tech University
Last Club: NC Courage / WNY
How Acquired: Returned to
professional soccer after retiring
from the NC Courage at the end
of the 2020 season. Resigned
with Courage in December 2021

#### PROFESSIONAL:

**2021**: Came out of retirement following the birth of her child to rejoin the Courage in Dec 2021.

**2020**: Retired from professional soccer.

**2019**: Started all 24 matched played, recorded one goal and six assists. Helped Courage to back-to-back NWSL championship wins.

**2018**: Started all 20 games played and tallied four assists. Helped the Courage earn their first NWSL title win.

**2017**: Started all 20 matches played, earned two assists.

**2016**: (WNY Flash) Helped Flash to NWSL championship win. Started all 15 matches played, scored one goal and had three assists.

#### INTERNATIONAL:

Represented the USWNT at the 2016 CONCACAF Women's Olympic Qualifying Championship where she appeared in three matches.

#### **COLLEGE:**

Appeared in 84 games for the Texas Tech Red Raiders, twice earning the title of All-American. Selected to All-Big 12 each of her four years.



# **Emily Gray #16**



**2021**: Drafted third overall in the 2022 NWSL Draft.

#### **INTERNATIONAL**

Has been invited to a total of six United States Women's National Team training camps

#### **COLLEGE**

Named to 2020-21 United Soccer Coaches All-Atlantic Region Second Team. Started all 17 matches played her senior season and led the team in points with nine goals and eight assists.



**Position**: MID **Height**: 5'4"

Date of Birth: 10/5/2000 Hometown: Sewell, NJ Citizenship: USA College: Virginia Tech

Last Club: N/A

How Acquired: Drafted 3rd overall in 2022 NWSL Draft





**Pronunciation**: Ha-van-ah

So-lawn **Position**: M **Height**: 5'9"

**Jersey Number: 19** 

Date of Birth: 2/23/1993
Hometown: Gainesville, FL
Citizenship: USA, Jamaica
College: University of Florida
Last Club: Apollon Ladies FC
How Acquired: Signed with NC
Courage in September 2020

### **Havana Solaun #19**

#### **PROFESSIONAL**

**2021**: Started 14 of 19 games played. Logged 1,250 minutes and scored one goal. Sustained season ending injury Oct. 9, 2021 against Houston

**2020**: Paris FC - Signed with Paris FC for their 2020 season, but did not make an appearance for the club.

**2020**: Apollon Ladies - Signed with Cypriot side Apollon Ladies for their 2020 season, but did not make an appearance for the club.

**2020**: NC Courage - Started 1 of her 2 appearances in the 2020 NWSL Fall Series with the Courage.

**2019**: Klepp IL- Made 20 appearances with Klepp IL, scoring 10 goals for the Norwegian side.

**2018**: Washington Spirit - Started 5 of 13 matches, notching 1 assist for the Spirit in 2018.

**2017**: Washington Spirit - Started 20 out of 24 games for the Spirit in 2017, scoring 5 goals and adding 4 assists.

**2016**: Seattle Reign FC - Started 3 of 6 games played with the Reign during the 2016 season. Scored her first and only goal of the season against the Houston Dash on 6/12/16, her first as a professional.

**2015**: Seattle Reign FC - Selected 15th overall in the 2015 NWSL College Draft though did not make an appearance during the 2015 NWSL season due to injury.

#### **INTERNATIONAL**

Elected to represent Jamaica at the senior level over the United States, Cuba and other international squads. Has started 6 of her 8 caps with the "Reggae Girlz," and scored the team's only goal in their 2019 Women's World Cup loss to Australia.

#### **COLLEGE**

Played for the University of Florida from 2011 – 2014. 2011: Made 21 appearances for the Gators, starting 4 of them. Scored 6 goals and added 6 assists en route to being named to the SEC All-Freshman Team. 2012: Started 24 of 25 games, scoring 7 goals and recording 8 assists. 2013: Started all 21 matches, scoring 8 goals and adding 9 assists. Was named to the All-SEC First Team. 2014: Started 22 out of 23 matches, scoring 9 goals and notching 9 assists in a season that saw her named to the All-SEC First Team for the second year in a row.





# Haleigh Stackpole #21 PROFESSIONAL

2021: Drafted 29th overall in the 2022 NWSL Draft.

#### **COLLEGE**

Named to 2021 United Soccer Coaches All-Southeast Region Second Team. Started every match of her college career at Ole Miss, earned 19 goals, 31 assists during those four seasons.

#### **HIGH SCHOOL / CLUB**

Member of the NC Courage Academy U-19 club and competed for CASL ECNL U-13 through U-17.

**Pronunciation**: Hay-lee

Stack-poll **Position**: MID **Height**: 5'5"

Date of Birth: 8/4/2000 Hometown: Bowling Green, KY

Citizenship: USA College: Ole Miss Last Club: N/A

**How Acquired:** Drafted 29th overall in 2022 NWSL Draft





### Kiki Pickett #23

#### **PROFESSIONAL**

**2021**: Drafted 4th overall by Kansas City in the 2021 NWSL Draft. Made six appearances for the Current.

#### INTERNATIONAL

Has represented the USWNT at the U17, U20 and U23 levels.

#### COLLEGE

In her senior year at Stanford University, Pickett was named Pac-12 Defender of the Year, United Soccer Coaches All-West Region first team, and All-Pac-12 first team. Helped Stanford to two NCAA Championship wins and three straight Pac-12 Championship wins. Started 85 of 87 matches, scored five goals and 17 assists in four seasons.

**Pronunciation:** KEY-key

PICK-it

**Position**: DEF **Height**: 5'0"

Date of Birth: 4/30/1999 Hometown: Santa Barbara, CA

Citizenship: USA

College: Stanford University
Last Club: Kansas City Current
How Acquired: Traded with
discovery rights to Malia
Berkely, first round pick in
2023 NWSL Draft from Kansas
City Current in exchange for

Sam Mewis



# Frankie Tagliaferri #24



**2021**: Acquired in discovery exchange with OL Reign for rights to Alyssa Malonson.

#### **COLLEGE**

Spent four years at Penn State before transferring to Rutgers University for final year of eligibility. Started all matches played, scored 13 goals and added nine assists.



**Pronunciation:** TAH-leeya-ferry

**Position**: MID **Height**: 5'7"

Date of Birth: 1/18/1999 Hometown: Colts Neck, NJ

Citizenship: USA

**College:** Rutgers University

Last Club: OL Reign

**How Acquired**: Signed one-year contract with NC following final

year of college eligibility





#### **Pronunciation**: Speck

**Position**: D **Height**: 5'3"

Jersey Number: 25

Date of Birth: 2/1/93

Hometown: Rockville Centre.

....

Citizenship: USA

College: Yale University Last Club: WNY Flash

**How Acquired:** Signed with WNY Flash in April 2016

# **Meredith Speck #25**

#### **PROFESSIONAL**

**2022**: Re-signed with the club on Feb. 1, 2022.

**2021**: Started eight of 18 matches played, netted the first goals of her professional

career and added an assist.

**2020**: Has played in three games for 326 minutes and has two assists in the Fall Series. Started one game and played three games for 76 minutes in the Challenge Cup.

**2019**: Played in eight games for a total of 72 minutes.

**2018**: Played in 15 games and made two starts for 246 total minutes. **2017**: Speck appeared in four games and played a total of 197 minutes.

**2016**: Speck joined the Western New York Flash ahead of the 2016 season. Started in five out of six games played in 2016, earning one assist.

#### **COLLEGE**

Played at Yale University for four seasons. Made 56 appearances and started 54 games for the Bulldogs. Three-time first team All-lvy selection (only one in school history). 2014: Named first team All-lvy and first team All-New England. Started 14 of Yale's 15 games. Scored 2 goals and had 2 assists. 2013: First team All-lvy and first team All-New England selection. One of only two players to start all 16 of the Bulldogs' games. Had 1 goal and 5 assists. 2012: Started 7 games for Yale, contributing 4 assists. Limited to only 8 games because of injury. 2011: First team All-lvy selection. Started all 17 games. Had four goals and four assists.

#### **HIGH SCHOOL / CLUB**

Speck attended Sacred Heart Academy where she was 2010 CHSSA League Player of the Year, and a two-time all-league and All-Long Island selection. She helped Sacred Heart to 2008 state championship. Speck played club soccer for the Albertson Fury '92 where she was an ECNL national finalist and three-time State Cup finalist, a five-year Region I team member, a six-year New York State team member, and a TopDrawerSoccer.com Player To Watch. She also played for Long Island Fury, which won the 2008 national championship.





### **Pronunciation**: Rad-cliff

**Position**: FWD **Height**: 5'4"

Jersey Number: 27

Date of Birth: 2/07/94

Hometown: Williamstown, NJ

Citizenship: USA

College: University of Virginia Last Club: Kansas City NWSL How Acquired: Kansas City waived contract in April 2021, became discovery eligible and soon after signed with NC

Courage

# **Brittany Ratcliffe #27**

#### **PROFESSIONAL**

**2021**: (NC Courage) Started two of 12 matches played. Scored one goal in 260 total minutes.

**2018-2020**: Ratcliffe spent the next three seasons in Utah, where she scored two goals in her 10 appearances with the Royals in 2018. 2019: sidelined due to an ACL injury. 2020: Started and played all five 2020 NWSL Challenge Cup matches and all four NWSL Fall Series games for Utah.

**2017**: Played for FC Kansas City, tallied one goal and two assists in her 22 appearances with the club. November 2017, FC Kansas City ceased operations and the team was relocated to expansion side, Utah Royals FC.

**2016**: Drafted 17th overall in the 2016 NWSL Draft by the Boston Breakers, where she appeared in 15 games.

#### COLLEGE

Played for the University of Virginia from 2012 – 2015. 2015: All-ACC Third Team selection, started all 23 games, notched two game-winning goals, recognized on the ACC Academic Honor Roll. 2014: Third-Team All-ACC, first-Team VaSID All-State. Appeared in all 26 games, starting 25. Scored 10 goals and six assists for 26 points. Recognized on the ACC Academic Honor Roll. 2013: Second-Team VaSID All-State. Appeared in all 26 games, starting two. Third on the team in scoring with 27 points on 12 goals and three assists. Set UVa record with 11 goals as a substitute. 2012: Appeared in 18 games off the bench



### **Tess Boade #28**



**Position**: MID **Height**: 5'4"

**Date of Birth: 2/3/99** 

**Hometown**: Highlands Ranch, CO

Citizenship: USA

**College:** Duke University

**Last Club:** 

How Acquired: Signed with Courage on March 17, 2021 after trialing with club during preseason. Initially drafted 40th overall by NJ/NY Gotham FC (formerly Sky Blue FC) in the 2021 NWSL Draft. Opted to use additional year of eligibility granted by the NCAA due to the COVID-19 pandemic to compete with Duke as a fifth year senior.

#### **PROFESSIONAL**

**2022**: Signed one year contract, with one year option, with NC Courage on March 17, 2022

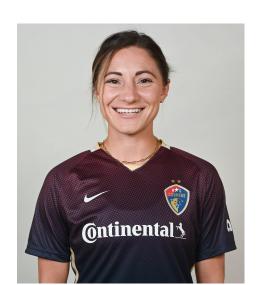
#### COLLEGE

Played five seasons at Duke ('17-'21). Starting in 67 of 93 games played, and clocking 5,837 minutes. Scored 22 career goals and added 15 assists. Named to the 2021 All-ACC First Team, the 2021 United Soccer Coaches All-Atlantic Region Second Academic Team, and the ACC Honor Roll in 2021 and 2018.

#### INTERNATIONAL

Trained with the US U-18 and U-19 Women's National Teams and travelled with the US U-17 WNT to South Korea in 2014, and also participated in U-15 WNT training that year.





#### **Pronunciation**: Ry-lee

Bays-den **Position**: F **Height**: 5'3"

Jersey Number: 29 Date of Birth: 4/16/1994 Hometown: Yorba Linda, CA

Citizenship: USA

**College:** Pepperdine University

Last Club: Brisbane Roar

How Acquired: Signed with NC Courage ahead of the 2020 Fall

Series

## Rylee Baisden #29

#### **PROFESSIONAL**

**2021**: Played three matches for the Courage, totalling 37 minutes.

**2020**: Baisden made her NWSL debut on Sept. 12 against Houston. Has played 85 minutes in three games and has one assist in the Fall Series. Signed a short-term contract with the Courage on September 4.

**2019**: Played 923 minuted in 11 games for the Brisbane Roar in the W-League. Scored three goals.

**2018**: Played for Morton Bay United scoring 33 goals in 23 games. Earned a Player of the Year Nomination and named to the W-League Team of the Season.

#### COLLEGE

2016: All-WCC first team and NSCAA All-Region third-team honors. 6 goals and 6 assists for a team-high 18 points. WCC Player of the Week twice (8/22, 10/24). 2015: Started all 19 games for the Waves as a redshirt junior in 2015. 2 assists, tied for the team lead in that category. 2014: Appeared in 22 games and made 11 starts as a redshirt sophomore for the Waves. 4 goals scored for a total of eight points. 2013: 2 goals and 2 assists for a total of six points as a redshirt freshman. 2012: Redshirted her first season at Pepperdine.





#### **Pronunciation**: BAW-come

**Position**: FWD **Height**: 5'9"

**Date of Birth**: 8/4/1996 **Hometown**: Scottsdale, AZ

Citizenship: USA

College: University of Colorado Last Club: Racing Louisville FC How Acquired: Picked up off waiver wire from Racing Louisville following the 2021

Season

## **Jorian Baucom #33**

#### **PROFESSIONAL**

**2021**: (Racing Louisville FC) Made three starts in 12 regular-season appearances. Scored Racing's first goal in The Women's Cup final vs. FC Bayern Munich.

**2020**: (MSV Duisburg) Started six of seven games played, scored three goals for the Bundesliga-based side.

**2019**: (Houston Dash) Named an International Duty Replacement Player for the Dash in July 2019.

#### **INTERNATIONAL**

Has logged time with the USWNT U15, U16, U19 and U20 teams.

#### **COLLEGE**

(LSU) Named 2015 All-SEC First Team. Made 57 starts in 60 games played for Louisiana State University, scoring 33 goals and adding seven assists in that time. (University of Colorado) Scored 12 goals in her lone seasons with the Buffalos, tying her with the second-most goals in program history. Started all 20 games played in 2018 and added six assists to her points total.



### Marisa Bova #44



#### **PROFESSIONAL**

2021: Drafted 45th overall by NC Courage in 2022 NWSL Draft

#### **COLLEGE**

Captain of the team senior year. Made 113 saves during the 2021 season and became the first goalkeeper to make more than 100 saves in a single season. Averaged .91 goals against and a .807 career save percentage, collecting 21 shutouts through four seasons. Named to the All-Big Ten Second Team and the Academic All-Big Ten.

**Pronunciation**: ma-RISS-a

BOE-vuh **Position**: GK

Height: 6'2"

**Date of Birth:** 8/6/2000 **Hometown**: Hartland, WI

Citizenship: USA

**College**: Purdue University

**Last Club**: N/A

**How Acquired**: Drafted 45th overall in 2022 NWSL Draft



# **Numerical Roster**

No.	Last Name	First Name	Pos.	Pronunciation	Hometown	Last Team
0	Rowland	Katelyn	GK	KAYT-lin ROH-land	Vacaville, CA	Kansas City Current
1	Murphy	Casey	GK	KAY-see MER-fee	Bridgewater Township, NJ	OL Reign
2	Smith	Taylor	MID	TAY-ler Smith	Fort Worth, TX	OL Reign
3	Kurtz	Kaleigh	DEF	KAY-lee Curts	Greer, SC	Univ. of South Carolina
4	Pickett	Carson	MID	CAR-sun PICK-it	Fleming Island, FL	Orlando Pride
5	Pinto	Brianna	MID	Bree-AH-na PIN-toe	Durham, NC	NJ/NY Gotham FC
6	Erceg	Abby	DEF	AH-bee Er-seg	Whangarei, NZ	WNY Flash
7	Berkely	Malia	DEF	MUH-lee-uh BERK-lee	Liberty Township, OH	FC Girondins de Bordeaux
8	O'Sullivan	Denise	MID	O'Sullivan	Cork, Ireland	Houston Dash
9	Nicoli	Kerolin	FWD	CARE-o-lynn	São Paulo, Brazil	Madrid Club de Fútbol Femenin
10		Debinha	MID	Deb-EEN-ya	Brasópolis, Brazil	Dalian Quanjian
11	Mathias	Merritt	DEF	Math-EYE-iss	Birmingham, AL	OL Reign
12	Ordoñez	Diana	FWD	Dee-ANN-ah Or-DOH-nyez	Prosper, TX	University of Virginia
13	Williams	Ryan	MID	WILL-ee-yums	Centennial, CO	Texas Christian University
14	Bowen	Katie	DEF/MID	BOH-wen	Auckland, NZ	Kansas City Current
15	Daniels	Jaelene	FWD/DEF	DAN-yulls	Denver, CA	WNY Flash
16	Gray	Emily	MID	GRAY	Sewell, NJ	Virginia Tech
19	Solaun	Havana	MID	Sol-ON	Gainesville, FL	Apollon Ladies FC
21	Stackpole	Haleigh	MID	STACK-poll	Bowling Green, KY	Ole Miss
23	Pickett	Kiki	DEF	KEY-key PICK-it	Santa Barbara, CA	Kansas City Current
24	Tagliaferri	Frankie	MID	Tah-LEE-YA-ferry	Colts Neck, NJ	OL Reign
25	Speck	Meredith	MID	Speck	Golden, CO	WNY Flash
27	Ratcliffe	Brittany	FWD	RAT-clif	Williamstown, NJ	Utah Royals
28	Tess	Boade	MID	BO-dee	Highlands Ranch, CO	Duke University
29	Baisden	Rylee	MID	BAYS-den	Yorba Linda, CA	Brisbane Roar
33	Baucom	Jorian	FWD	BAW-com	Scottsdale, AZ	Racing Louisville FC
44	Bova	Marisa	GK	BOH-vah	Hartland, WI	Purdue University



# **Alphabetical Roster**

No.	Last Name	First Name	Position	Hometown	Last Team
29	Baisden	Rylee	MID	Yorba Linda, CA	Brisbane Roar
33	Baucom	Jorian	FWD	Scottsdale, AZ	Racing Louisville FC
7	Berkely	Malia	DEF	Liberty Township, OH	FC Girondins de Bordeaux
44	Bova	Marisa	GK	Hartland, WI	Purdue University
14	Bowen	Katie	FWD/DEF	Auckland, NZ	Kansas City Current
28	Boade	Tess	MID	Highlands Ranch, CO	Duke University
15	Daniels	Jaelene	DEF	Denver, CO	WNY Flash
10		Debinha	MID	Brasopolis, Brazil	WNY Flash
6	Erceg	Abby	DEF	Whangarei, NZ	WNY Flash
16	Gray	Emily	MID	Sewell, NJ	Virginia Tech University
9	Nicoli	Kerolin	FWD	São Paulo, Brazil	Madrid Club de Fútbol Femenin
3	Kurtz	Kaleigh	DEF	Greer, SC	University of South Carolina
11	Mathias	Merritt	DEF	Birmingham, AL	OL Reign
1	Murphy	Casey	GK	Bridgewater Township, NJ	OL Reign
8	O'Sullivan	Denise	MID	Cork, Ireland	Houston Dash
12	Ordoñez	Diana	FWD	Prosper, TX	University of Virginia
4	Pickett	Carson	MID	Fleming Island, FL	Orlando Pride
23	Pickett	Kiki	DEF	Santa Barbara, CA	Kansas City Current
5	Pinto	Brianna	MID	Durham, NC	NJ/NY Gotham FC
27	Ratcliffe	Brittany	FWD	Williamstown, NJ	Utah Royals
0	Rowland	Katelyn	GK	Vacaville, CA	Kansas City Current
2	Smith	Taylor	MID	Fort Worth, TX	OL Reign
19	Solaun	Havana	MID	Gainesville, FL	Apollon Ladies FC
25	Speck	Meredith	MID	Rockville Centre, NY	WNY Flash
21	Stackpole	Haleigh	MID	Bowling Green, KY	Ole Miss
24	Tagliaferri	Frankie	MID	Colts Neck, NJ	OL Reign
13	Williams	Ryan	DEF	Centennial, CO	Texas Christian University



### **International Champions Cup**

#### 2018 Women's ICC

The North Carolina Courage captured the first ever Women's International Champions Cup by defeating five-time UEFA Champions League winner Olympique Lyonnais Feminin 1-0 on July 29th at Hard Rock Stadium in Miami Gardens. Three-time Olympic champion Heather O'Reilly scored the lone goal for the Courage, her first in a Courage uniform. A stellar performance by Sabrina D'Angelo and the back line kept the result, giving the 2017 NWSL Shield winners their second trophy since relocating to North Carolina.

#### 2019 Women's ICC

In the second edition of the Women's International Champions Cup, the North Carolina Courage and Olympique Lyonnais Feminin were joined by FA Women's Cup winners Manchester City and Spanish Primera División winners Atlético Madrid Femenino. The Courage faced Manchester City at Sahlen's Stadium on August 15th where a stoppage time goal by USWNT player Jessica McDonald propelled the Courage to another matchup against Lyon in an International Champions Cup final. On August 18th, Lyon claimed the ICC title in a 1-0 win over the Courage. A second-half goal by Dzsenifer Marozsán put Lyon ahead as they outlasted the Courage and claimed victory in the 2019 iteration of the International Champions Cup.



### **Stadium Information**



#### WakeMed Soccer Park

#### Address:

101 Soccer Park Drive Cary, N.C. 27511

**Capacity**: 10,000

WakeMed Soccer Park is one of the premier soccer complexes in the United States and is the home of North Carolina FC and NC Courage. It opened in 2002 as the home of the Women's United Soccer Association's Carolina Courage.

The soccer complex consists of a purpose-built, soccer-specific main stadium, two lighted practice fields built to the same specifications as the stadium field, and four additional practice fields. Fields 1 (main stadium), 2, and 3 are all FIFA international regulation size (120 yards x 75 yards).

WakeMed Soccer Park opened in May 2002 as State Capital Soccer Park. It sits on 150 acres on the eastern edge of Cary that the State of North Carolina has leased to Wake County. Money to build the soccer park came from \$14.5 million in county-wide hotel room and prepared food and beverage taxes. The Town of Cary assumed responsibility for operations and maintenance in 2004 from the Capital Area Soccer League.

On January 1, 2008, WakeMed Health & Hospitals, a private, not-for-profit health care organization based in Raleigh, acquired the rights to name the park from the Town of Cary. SAS, a Cary-based software company, previously held the complex's naming rights.

In addition to serving as the home of the North Carolina FC and NC Courage, WakeMed Soccer Park has also been the host of men's and women's ACC soccer tournaments, men's and women's NCAA College Cups, as well as U.S. Men's and Women's national team friendlies

### **Team Training Information**

The team trains throughout the season at WakeMed Soccer Park located in Cary, N.C. Training schedule varies and media availability is sent out on a weekly basis. To be included on this list, please email comms@NorthCarolinaFC.com.

### **Ticket Sales Info**

Individual Tickets can be found **HERE**.

More information on season tickets can be found HERE.



### **Broadcast Info**

Two Courage matches will be broadcast nationally on CBS Sports Network this season, including their regular season opener on the road against league newcomer Angel City FC on Friday, April 29, as well as their away match against the Portland Thorns on Friday, Aug. 5. Both matches kick off at 10:30 p.m. ET.

Three consecutive Courage matches will air exclusively on Twitch, starting with their home match on Saturday, Aug. 20, against the Chicago Red Stars, their away match against Kansas City on Sunday, Aug. 28, and their home game on Saturday, Sept. 10, against Louisville. The remainder of the Courage matches will all stream live on Paramount+.

Looking to the playoffs, CBS Sports Network will air one of the NWSL Quarterfinal matches on Sunday, Oct. 16, and both semifinal matches on Sunday, Oct. 23. The 2022 NWSL Championship match will air live on CBS on Saturday, Oct. 29. All regular season and playoff matches will also be streamed live internationally on Twitch

DATE	Home	Away	STADIUM	Kick (ET)	Kick (Local)	Broadcast
riday, April 29	Angel City	NC Courage	Banc of California	10:30pm ET	7:30pm PST	CBSSN
Saturday, May 7	NC Courage	Portland Thorns	Wakemed Soccer Park	7:00pm ET	7:00pm ET	Paramount +
Saturday, May 14	NY/NJ Gotham	NC Courage	Red Bull Arena	7:00pm ET	7:00pm ET	Paramount +
Wednesday, May 18	NC Courage	Orlando Pride	Wakemed Soccer Park	7:00pm ET	7:00pm ET	Paramount +
Sunday, May 22	NC Courage	San Diego Wave	Wakemed Soccer Park	2:00pm ET	2:00pm ET	Paramount +
Sunday, May 29	Houston Dash	NC Courage	PNC Stadium	7:00pm ET	6:00pm CT	Paramount +
Saturday, June 4	Louisville	NC Courage	Lynn Family Stadium	8:00pm ET	8:00pm ET	Paramount +
Saturday, June 11	Washington Spirit	NC Courage	Segra	7:00pm ET	7:00pm ET	Paramount +
Sunday, June 19	NC Courage	Houston Dash	Wakemed Soccer Park	5:00pm ET	5:00pm ET	Paramount +
riday, July 1	OL Reign	NC Courage	Lumen Field	10:00pm ET	7:00pm PT	Paramount +
Sunday, July 10	Chicago Red Stars	NC Courage	SeatGeek Stadium	6:00pm ET	5:00pm CT	Paramount +
riday, July 15	NC Courage	Angel City	Wakemed Soccer Park	7:30pm ET	7:30pm ET	Paramount +
riday, July 29	NC Courage	Washington Spirit	Wakemed Soccer Park	7:30pm ET	7:30pm ET	Paramount +
Friday, August 5	Portland Thorns	NC Courage	Providence Park	10:30pm ET	7:30pm PST	CBSSN
Saturday, August 13	NC Courage	Kansas City	Wakemed Soccer Park	8:00pm ET	8:00pm ET	Paramount +
Saturday, August 20	NC Courage	Chicago Red Stars	Wakemed Soccer Park	7:00pm ET	7:00pm ET	Twitch
Sunday, August 28	Kansas City	NC Courage	Children's Mercy Park	7:00pm ET	6:00pm CT	Twitch
Saturday, September 10	NC Courage	Louisville	Wakemed Soccer Park	7:00pm ET	7:00pm ET	Twitch
Saturday, September 17	NC Courage	OL Reign	Wakemed Soccer Park	7:30pm ET	7:30pm ET	Paramount +
Wednesday, September 21	Orlando Pride	NC Courage	Exploria Stadium	7:00pm ET	7:00pm ET	Paramount +
Saturday, September 24	NC Courage	NY/NJ Gotham	Wakemed Soccer Park	7:00pm ET	7:00pm ET	Paramount +
riday, September 30	San Diego Wave	NC Courage	SnapDrgon Stadium	9:30pm ET	6:30pm PT	Paramount +
Sunday, October 16	QTRs					CBSSN or Paramount+
Sunday, October 16	QTRs					CBSSN or Paramount+
Sunday, October 23	SEMIs- TBD					CBSSN
Sunday, October 23	SEMIs - TBD					CBSSN
Saturday, October 29	FINAL					CBS

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# National Women's Soccer League Info

#### **Directory**

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**Commissioner: Jessica Berman** 

#### **About**

The National Women's Soccer League (NWSL) is a twelve-team Division-I women's professional soccer league featuring national team players from around the world. The clubs are Angel City FC, Chicago Red Stars, Houston Dash, Orlando Pride, North Carolina Courage, Portland Thorns FC, OL Reign, NJ/NY Gotham FC, Kansas City NWSL, San Diego Wave and the Washington Spirit. Based in Chicago, the NWSL is supported by Canadian Soccer and U.S. Soccer. For more information about the NWSL, log on to the league's official website at NWSLsoccer.com.

#### **Rules and Regulations**

A full breakdown of the updated NWSL Roster and Competition Rules can be found here.

For more on the league's policy on Transgender Athletes, click here

For more on the league's Anti-Harassment Policy, click here

**League Schedule:** 

https://www.nwslsoccer.com/schedule



### **2021 NWSL Media Contacts**

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SAN DIEGO WAVE

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### **NWSL Media Policies**

#### **Credentials**

Media credentials and access will be granted only to individuals with a legitimate working function at a game, training session or event. The bearer must be on a specific assignment. Credentials are non-transferable. Any unauthorized use of a credential subjects the bearer to ejection from the stadium. Resale or attempted resale is grounds for seizure and cancellation.

The following actions may result in seizure of credential and/or ejection of its wearer from the stadium or training facility:

- Requesting autographs at any time.
- Taking photographs with players/coaches
- Using credential for family or friends of a working media member
- Conduction of unauthorized interviews
- Unprofessional behavior (Cheering in the press box, consumption of alcoholic beverages, failure to abide by posted rules, etc.)

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