

## PITTSBURGH RIVERHOUNDS SC (0-1-0) vs. ORANGE COUNTY SC (0-0-1)

Saturday, March 16 >> 7 p.m. ET >> Highmark Stadium >> Pittsburgh, Pa.  
TV: KDKA+ (WPKD-19) >> Streaming: KDKA+ (local), ESPN+ (national)

### INSIDE THE MATCH



PITTSBURGH ORANGE CO.

0-1-0	Record	0-0-1
T-7th (East)	Conference Standing	T-4th (West)
0-1-0	Last Five	0-0-1
L1	Streak	D1
Bob Lilley	Head Coach	Morten Karlsen
@RiverhoundsSC	Twitter	@orangecountysc

**All-Time Head-to-Head** ..... 1-5-2

**Referee** ..... Matt Thompson

**Assistant referees** ..... Nicholas Balcer, James Duling

**Fourth official** ..... Stephen Milhoan

**Hounds injuries/inactives**

..... QUESTIONABLE - Mike DeShields (hamstring)

### STAT COMPARISON

Hounds	Category	Orange County
0.00	Scoring Average	2.00
1.00	Opponent Scoring Average	2.00
0	Goals Scored	2
1	Goals Allowed	2
-1	Goal Differential	0
5.00	Shots/Game (excl. blocked)	5.00
2.00	SOG/Game	3.00
34%	Average possession	46%
2	Yellow Cards	3
0	Red Cards	0

### TEAM LEADERS

Hounds	Category	Orange County
-	Goals	S.Casiple/C.Shutler, 1
-	Assists	Owen Lamb, 1
-	Points	S.Casiple/C.Shutler, 2
Five tied, 1	Shots	Ashton Miles, 2
Six tied, 90	Minutes	Six tied, 90
B.Diene/I.Osumanu, 1	Yellow Cards	Three tied, 1
None	Red Cards	None
Eric Dick, 1.00	GAA	Colin Shutler, 2.00
Eric Dick, .800	SV%	Colin Shutler, .500

### GAME 2 - QUICK STRIKES

- The Riverhounds are playing the first home match their 25th season of competition today. They Hounds are the third-oldest pro club in USL behind only the Charleston Battery and Richmond Kickers, both founded in 1993.
- This is the 12th home opener at Highmark Stadium, the Hounds' home since 2013. The team is 3-5-3 in Highmark openers, including a 2-2-2 mark in six home openers under coach Bob Lilley.
- The Hounds had the best home record in the USL Championship during the 2023 regular season, 13-1-3.
- The Riverhounds won the USL Championship Players' Shield in 2023 with a league-leading 19-5-10 record, and head coach Bob Lilley was named Coach of the Year for the second time in the USL Championship and sixth time as a pro head coach.
- The team has reached the playoffs in six consecutive seasons under Lilley, which is the second-longest such streak in the Championship (trailing only Louisville) and the longest among Pittsburgh's four professional sports teams.
- The Hounds have not had much success historically against Orange County with just one win in eight matches. That win came 10 years ago, as Mike Green scored the only goal in a 1-0 win on Aug. 8, 2014, at Highmark Stadium.
- Robbie Mertz became the 17th player to record 100 appearances with the club last week at New Mexico, in addition to being only the fourth Pittsburgh-area native to hit that milestone.
- Danny Griffin was named the Hounds' new captain for the 2024 season. The fifth-year pro has not missed a league match — regular season or postseason — in his career between Pittsburgh and a brief stint with Huntsville in MLS Next Pro.
- Kenardo Forbes, the Hounds' most-tenured player entering Year 7 with the club, was a Second Team All-USL pick last year after becoming the first in league history to record back-to-back 10-assist seasons. He has been named the All-USL First or Second Team seven times, including all six of his seasons in Pittsburgh.
- Defender Dani Rovira is the second-most tenured Hounds player entering his sixth season with the team. The versatile Colombian has had five assists in each of the past two seasons, and his 13 career assists are the most by a defender in team history.
- In 204 matches played under Lilley in all competitions, the Hounds are 106-43-55 and have allowed just 188 goals, an average of 0.92 goals per game.

### SUPERLATIVES

Hounds High	Hounds Low	Category	Opp High	Opp Low
N/A	0 (3/9 at New Mexico)	Goals	2 (3/9 at Sacramento)	N/A
1 (3/9 at New Mexico)	N/A	Goals All.	2 (3/9 at Sacramento)	N/A
5 (3/9 at New Mexico)	N/A	Shots	7 (3/9 at Sacramento)	N/A
2 (3/9 at New Mexico)	N/A	SOG	3 (3/9 at Sacramento)	N/A
4 (3/9 at New Mexico)	N/A	Saves	2 (3/9 at Sacramento)	N/A
19 (3/9 at New Mexico)	N/A	Fouls	9 (3/9 at Sacramento)	N/A

### MILESTONE TRACKER

- Already the team's all-time assists leader, Kenardo Forbes has 193 appearances in all competitions for the Hounds, third in team history. He is one behind his former teammate, Kevin Kerr (2013-19), for second, and two behind all-time leader and original Hounds forward David Flavius.
- Robbie Mertz is closing in on 10,000 minutes played in the USL Championship. He enters this weekend with 9,734 minutes between the Hounds and his time with Atlanta United 2.

### 2024 SCHEDULE & RECORD

USL Championship Record: 0-1-0

Home: 0-0-0 • Away: 0-1-0 • Conf.: 0-0-0 • All comp.: 0-1-0

#### MARCH

Sat. 9	@New Mexico United	KDKA+	L, 0-1
Sat. 16	Orange County SC	KDKA+	7 p.m.
Sat. 23	@Louisville City SC	SNP	4 p.m.

#### APRIL

Sat. 6	Tampa Bay Rowdies	KDKA+	7 p.m.
Sat. 13	@Rhode Island FC	KDKA+	7:30 p.m.
Sat. 20	@Phoenix Rising FC	SNP	10:30 p.m.
Sat. 27	Detroit City FC	KDKA+	7 p.m.

#### MAY

Sat. 4	Miami FC	KDKA+	7 p.m.
Sat. 11	@FC Tulsa	SNP	8:30 p.m.
Sat. 18	North Carolina FC	KDKA+	7 p.m.
Sat. 25	@Memphis 901 FC	SNP	8:30 p.m.

#### JUNE

Sat. 1	Indy Eleven	KDKA+	7 p.m.
Sat. 8	@Charleston Battery	SNP	7:30 p.m.
Sat. 15	@Hartford Athletic	SNP	7 p.m.
Wed. 19	Louisville City FC	CBSSN	7:30 p.m.
Sat. 22	@North Carolina FC	KDKA+	7:30 p.m.
Sat. 29	@Las Vegas Lights FC	SNP	10:30 p.m.

#### JULY

Sat. 6	Monterey Bay FC	KDKA+	7 p.m.
Sat. 13	Oakland Roots SC	KDKA+	7 p.m.
Sat. 20	Hartford Athletic	ESPN 2	8 p.m.
Sat. 27	Loudoun United FC	KDKA+	7 p.m.

#### AUGUST

Sat. 3	@Sacramento Republic FC	ESPN 2	10 p.m.
Wed. 7	@Detroit City FC	CBSSN	7 p.m.
Sat. 10	San Antonio FC	KDKA+	7 p.m.
Sat. 17	Colo. Springs Switchbacks	KDKA+	7 p.m.
Sat. 24	@Birmingham Legion FC	KDKA+	7:30 p.m.
Sat. 31	@Indy Eleven	KDKA+	7 p.m.

#### SEPTEMBER

Sat. 7	Rhode Island FC	KDKA+	7 p.m.
Sat. 14	@Tampa Bay Rowdies	KDKA+	7:30 p.m.
Sat. 28	Birmingham Legion FC	KDKA+	7 p.m.

#### OCTOBER

Sat. 5	@Miami FC	SNP	7 p.m.
Sat. 12	Charleston Battery	KDKA+	7 p.m.
Sat. 19	@Loudoun United FC	KDKA+	6 p.m.
Sat. 26	El Paso Locomotive	KDKA+	7 p.m.

### CLUB NOTABLES

Most Appearances ..... David Flavius (195)  
All-Time Goals Leader ..... David Flavius (62)  
All-Time Assists Leader ..... Kenardo Forbes (54)  
All-Time Record at Highmark Stadium ..... 91-44-49

LAST TIME OUT

### Last Game Summary

New Mexico United 1, Riverhounds SC 0

Game 1 • Isotopes Park, Albuquerque, N.M. • March 9, 2024

The Hounds opened 2024 with one of their longest road trips of the season, and they were beaten by a 44th-minute goal by New Mexico's Greg Hurst. Goalkeeper Eric Dick made four saves in his Hounds debut, and midfielder Robbie Mertz became the 17th player to play his 100th match for the club.

**FAST FACTS**

**General Information**

Name: Pittsburgh Riverhounds SC  
 City/Zip: Pittsburgh, PA 15219  
 Founded: March 11, 1998  
 First match: May 1, 1999  
 Nickname: Hounds  
 Colors: Black & Yellow  
 Conference: Eastern Conference  
 Venue: Highmark Stadium  
 Seating capacity: 5,000  
 Owner: Tuffy Shallenberger  
 Website: www.riverhounds.com

**USL RECORD IN 2024 WHEN...**

At home.....	0-0-0
On road.....	0-1-0
In games decided by one goal or fewer.....	0-1-0
In games decided by two goals or more.....	0-0-0
vs. clubs with winning records.....	0-0-0
vs. clubs with losing records.....	0-0-0
vs. clubs with .500 records.....	0-1-0
Scoring first.....	0-0-0
Conceding first.....	0-1-0
Leading at half.....	0-0-0
Trailing at half.....	0-1-0
Tied at half.....	0-0-0
Leading with 10:00 remaining.....	0-0-0
Trailing with 10:00 remaining.....	0-1-0
Tied with 10:00 remaining.....	0-0-0
Leading with 5:00 remaining.....	0-0-0
Trailing with 5:00 remaining.....	0-1-0
Tied with 5:00 remaining.....	0-0-0
Outshooting opponent.....	0-0-0
Being outshot by opponent.....	0-0-0
Tying in shots with opponent.....	0-1-0
Scoring no goals.....	0-1-0
Scoring one goal.....	0-0-0
Scoring two goals.....	0-0-0
Scoring three goals.....	0-0-0
Scoring four or more goals.....	0-0-0
Allowing no goals.....	0-0-0
Allowing one goal.....	0-1-0
Allowing two goals.....	0-0-0
Allowing three goals.....	0-0-0
Allowing four or more goals.....	0-0-0
In games reduced to 10 men.....	0-0-0
In games opponent was reduced to 10 men.....	0-0-0
On weekdays.....	0-0-0
On weekends.....	0-1-0
In March.....	0-1-0
Vs. Eastern Conference.....	0-0-0
Vs. Western Conference.....	0-1-0

**Miscellaneous**

Current Streak.....L2  
 Home Streak.....L1  
 Road Streak.....L1

**ACTIVE ROSTER**

Roster Size: 24 • Returners: 11 • Newcomers: 13

▶ **NUMERICAL**

No.	Name	Pos	Ht	Wt	Age	Hometown (Previous Club)
1	Eric Dick	GK	6'5"	220	29	Roeland Park, Kan. (Minnesota United FC)
2	Danny Griffin	M	5'9"	165	25	Wethersfield, Conn. (Huntsville City FC)
3	Pat Hogan	D	6'4"	196	26	Matthews, N.C. (Charleston Battery)
4	Dani Rovira	D	5'9"	145	27	Bogotá, Colombia (University of Vermont)
5	Sean Suber	D	6'0"	185	22	Charlotte, N.C. (Huntsville City FC)
7	Langston Blackstock	M/F	6'2"	190	23	Marietta, Ga. (Clayton State University)
8	Junior Etou	M	5'8"	155	29	Paris, France (Tampa Bay Rowdies)
9	Emmanuel Johnson	F	6'0"	175	20	Fairfield, Calif. (Hibernian)
10	Aidan O'Toole	M	5'10"	165	22	The Hills, Texas (University of Denver)
11	Kenardo Forbes	M	5'9"	175	35	Kingston, Jamaica (Rochester Rhinos)
12	Gabriel Perrotta	GK	6'1"	190	25	Asunción, Paraguay (Marshall University)
13	Luke Biasi	D	6'0"	180	24	Buford, Ga. (Syracuse University)
14	Robbie Mertz	M	5'7"	155	27	Pittsburgh, Pa. (Atlanta United 2)
15	Bradley Sample	M	6'0"	160	23	Channahon, Ill. (University of Louisville)
17	Nate Dragisich	M	5'8"	155	22	Pittsburgh, Pa. (Duquesne University)
19	Edward Kizza	F	5'9"	175	25	Kampala, Uganda (New England Revolution)
22	Jake Lent-Koop	D	6'3"	200	23	Rio Rancho, N.M. (Messiah University)
23	Mike DeShields	D	6'1"	190	25	Baltimore, Md. (New England Revolution II)
27	Babacar Diene	F	6'0"	187	27	Thies, Senegal (Rider University)
28	Illal Osumanu	D	6'0"	186	27	Accra, Ghana (Union Omaha)
31	Jacob Randolph	GK	6'4"	235	22	New Orleans, La. (UNC-Wilmington)
42	Jackson Walti	M	5'9"	172	24	St. Augustine, Fla. (Colorado Rapids 2)
44	Pierre Cayet	D	6'0"	170	24	Brette-les-Pins, France (New England Revolution II)
45	Kazaiiah Sterling	F	5'10"	170	25	Tottenham, England (South Georgia Tormenta)

▶ **ALPHABETICAL**

No.	Name	Pos	Ht	Wt	Age	Hometown (Previous Club)
13	Luke Biasi	D	6'0"	180	24	Buford, Ga. (Syracuse University)
7	Langston Blackstock	M/F	6'2"	190	23	Marietta, Ga. (Clayton State University)
44	Pierre Cayet	D	6'0"	170	24	Brette-les-Pins, France (New England Revolution II)
23	Mike DeShields	D	6'1"	190	25	Baltimore, Md. (New England Revolution II)
1	Eric Dick	GK	6'5"	220	29	Roeland Park, Kan. (Minnesota United FC)
27	Babacar Diene	F	6'0"	187	27	Thies, Senegal (Rider University)
17	Nate Dragisich	M	5'8"	155	22	Pittsburgh, Pa. (Duquesne University)
8	Junior Etou	M	5'8"	155	29	Paris, France (Tampa Bay Rowdies)
11	Kenardo Forbes	M	5'9"	175	35	Kingston, Jamaica (Rochester Rhinos)
2	Danny Griffin	M	5'9"	165	25	Wethersfield, Conn. (Huntsville City FC)
3	Pat Hogan	D	6'4"	196	26	Matthews, N.C. (Charleston Battery)
9	Emmanuel Johnson	F	6'0"	175	20	Fairfield, Calif. (Hibernian)
19	Edward Kizza	F	5'9"	175	25	Kampala, Uganda (New England Revolution)
22	Jake Lent-Koop	D	6'3"	200	23	Rio Rancho, N.M. (Messiah University)
14	Robbie Mertz	M	5'7"	155	27	Pittsburgh, Pa. (Atlanta United 2)
28	Illal Osumanu	D	6'0"	186	27	Accra, Ghana (Union Omaha)
10	Aidan O'Toole	M	5'10"	165	22	The Hills, Texas (University of Denver)
12	Gabriel Perrotta	GK	6'1"	190	25	Asunción, Paraguay (Marshall University)
31	Jacob Randolph	GK	6'4"	235	22	New Orleans, La. (UNC-Wilmington)
4	Dani Rovira	D	5'9"	145	27	Bogotá, Colombia (University of Vermont)
15	Bradley Sample	M	6'0"	160	23	Channahon, Ill. (University of Louisville)
45	Kazaiiah Sterling	F	5'10"	170	25	Tottenham, England (South Georgia Tormenta)
5	Sean Suber	D	6'0"	185	22	Charlotte, N.C. (Huntsville City FC)
42	Jackson Walti	M	5'9"	172	24	St. Augustine, Fla. (Colorado Rapids 2)

▶ **TECHNICAL STAFF**

Head Coach: Bob Lilley  
 Assistant Coach: Rob Vincent  
 Goalkeepers Coach: Jon Busch  
 Sporting Director: Dan Visser

▶ **PRONUNCIATION GUIDE**

Luke BIASI	BEE-ah-see
Pierre CAYET	KAL-yay
Babacar DIENE	DEE-en
Junior ETOU	EH-too
Edward KIZZA	KIZ-uh
ILLAL OSUMANU	Ill-ALL O-soo-mah-noo
Dani ROVIRA	RO-veer-ah
KAZAIAH Sterling	ka-ZAI-ah
Jackson WALTI	WALL-tee

▶ 2024 USL CHAMPIONSHIP STATISTICS

**INDIVIDUAL**

No.	Name	GP	MIN	G	A	PTS	SH	SOG	FC	T	CL	PK	PKG	YC	RC
2	Danny Griffin	1	90	0	0	0	1	1	2	1	3	0	0	0	0
3	Pat Hogan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4	Dani Rovira	1	84	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	1	0	0	0	0
5	Sean Suber	1	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	Langston Blackstock	1	19	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
8	Junior Etou	1	84	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
9	Emmanuel Johnson	1	19	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
10	Aidan O'Toole	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
11	Kenardo Forbes	1	71	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
13	Luke Biasi	1	45	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0
14	Robbie Mertz	1	90	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
15	Bradley Sample	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
17	Nate Dragisich	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
19	Edward Kizza	1	90	0	0	0	1	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
22	Jake Lent-Koop	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
23	Mike DeShields	1	45	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	0
27	Babacar Diene	1	71	0	0	0	1	0	3	0	0	0	0	1	0
28	Illal Osumanu	1	90	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	1	0	0	1	0
42	Jackson Walti	1	90	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
44	Pierre Cayet	1	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
45	Kazaiah Sterling	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

**GOALKEEPERS**

No.	Name	GP	MIN	GA	SV	CS	SV%	GAA	YC	RC
1	Eric Dick	1	90	1	4	0	.800	1.00	0	0
12	Gabriel Perrotta	0	0	0	0	0	-	-	0	0
31	Jacob Randolph	0	0	0	0	0	-	-	0	0

▶ 2024 HONORS

## HEAD COACH BOB LILLEY



Announced as the club's 10th head coach in its history on Nov. 14, 2017, Bob Lilley is in his seventh season at the helm for Riverhounds SC.

In 2023, Lilley and the Hounds had their most successful season to date by posting a 19-5-10 record and winning the USL Championship Players' Shield for the first time with the league's best record. The team also advanced to the quarterfinals of the Lamar Hunt U.S. Open Cup for only the second time, knocking off a pair of MLS teams in the process, and their 23 overall wins established a new single-season record across all competitions. The team advanced to the playoffs for the sixth year in a row to extend the longest run in team history, and for his work, Lilley was named Coach of the Year for the second time in the USL Championship and the sixth time overall.

His time in Pittsburgh has been marked by new levels of success for the team, including a 16-9-9 record in 2022, a 17-8-7 record in 2021 and an 11-4-1 mark in the pandemic-shortened 2020 season. In 2019, Lilley led the club to a 19-4-11 regular-season record — the 68 points being the most in team history — and the USL Championship Eastern Conference regular-season championship. The club also made the postseason in his first year, 2018, when it hosted the first-ever playoff match at Highmark Stadium. Lilley has posted a 106-42-55 overall record with the Hounds, the most wins by any coach in club history, and the most for Lilley at any of his career's coaching stops.

Lilley came to Pittsburgh after coaching USL's Rochester Rhinos, which he led during two separate stints (2014-17 and 2010-11). In his six seasons with the Rhinos, Lilley compiled an 82-39-51 regular-season record, which includes a 2015 mark of 17-1-10 en route to winning Coach of the Year honors and the USL Cup. He also was named Coach of the Year in 2010, when Rochester won the USSF Division 2 Professional League regular-season title. Before joining, Lilley spent 2007-08 as head coach of the Detroit Ignition of the Major Indoor Soccer League (MISL), earning Coach of the Year honors as the Ignition went 22-8, the best record in the league.

For three seasons (2005-07), Lilley served as head coach for the Vancouver Whitecaps of the USL First Division, winning his first league championship in 2006. From 2002-03, he led the Montreal Impact of the USL A-League, winning Coach of the Year honors in 2003. He began his pro head coaching career with the Hershey Wildcats from 1997-01, reaching the A-League final in 2001, and he was named Coach of the Year in 1997, his first campaign as a pro head coach.

Across 23 seasons of head coaching at the pro level, Lilley holds an all-time record of 357-167-151, giving him more wins than any other active coach at in the U.S. at the professional club level. He has logged at least a .500 winning percentage during each regular season and has led his team into the postseason every year. In 2010, he was inducted into the USL Hall of Fame as a coach.

Before his coaching days, Lilley played at George Mason University from 1984-87, where he was a four-year starter and team captain. He was inducted into the George Mason Men's Soccer Hall of Fame in 2011. He also played professionally with the Orlando Lions of the American Soccer League (1989-90) and the Maryland Bays of the American Professional Soccer League (1991). He also played on the indoor circuit with the Hershey Impact (1988-91) and Harrisburg Heat of the National Professional Soccer League (1991-97) and the Pittsburgh Stingers of the Continental Indoor Soccer League in 1994.

**Experience:**  
24th season  
(seventh with PIT)

**Date Hired:**  
November 14, 2017

**Hometown:**  
Fort Monmouth, N.J.

**Alma Mater:**  
George Mason University  
(1987)

**Accolades:**  
2015 USL Cup Champion  
2006 USL-1 Champion  
USL Hall of Fame (2010)  
Six-time Coach of the Year



## SPORTING DIRECTOR

**DAN VISSER**

- Ninth season with club; first as Sporting Director
- Joined as assistant coach in July 2016
- West Chester, Pa. native

Dan Visser enters his eighth full season with Riverhounds SC, but it is first in a new role as Sporting Director, overseeing the soccer aspect of the club at both the professional and academy levels. He holds bachelor's degrees in math and economics from Messiah College, and he received his Master of Business Administration from Eastern University (Pa.).

He first came to the club as an assistant coach midway through the 2016 season as part of head coach Dave Brandt's staff. Prior to arriving in Pittsburgh, Visser also served as an assistant coach under Brandt at the United States Naval Academy during its 2015 campaign.

From 2013-14, Visser was head coach at Eastern Nazarene College, and he began his coaching career as an assistant coach and recruiting coordinator at Eastern University while completing his MBA.

Visser played collegiately as a midfielder at Messiah for four seasons before graduating in 2008. During this period, the team won three national championships and accumulated an 89-6-2 record. The two-time team captain also received Regional All-America honors in 2007.



## ASSISTANT COACH

**ROB VINCENT**

- Tenth season with club; first as Assistant Coach
- Hounds player 2013-15; RDA coach 2018-23
- Liverpool, England native

Rob Vincent is entering his first season as the assistant coach for the Hounds pro team after six seasons leading ECNL teams in the Riverhounds Development Academy.

A youth player with Everton, Crewe Alexandra and Stockport County in England, Vincent came to the United States to play college soccer at the University of Charleston (W.Va.) from 2009-12. He starred for the Golden Eagles and was three times named a First Team Division II All-American.

Vincent signed with Hounds in 2013, the same year Highmark Stadium opened, and played three years for the club. In 2015, the midfielder had a breakout season with 21 goals in all competitions — still tied for the second-most in club history — and was named to the USL All-League First Team.

Prior to the 2016 season, MLS team D.C. United reached a transfer agreement with Hounds to bring Vincent to Washington, and by season's end, he was a regular starter for playoff-bound United. He began 2017 in a similar role, but he suffered a knee injury in the team's second match that ended his season.

In 2018, Vincent announced his retirement as a player and returned to the Hounds in his academy role.



## GKs COACH

**JON BUSCH**

- Second season with club
- Joined club in January 2023
- New York, N.Y. native

Jon Busch is in his second season as the goalkeepers coach for Riverhounds SC. He was previously the goalkeeping coach for Scottish Premiership side Hibernian, and before that, with Indy Eleven in the NASL and USL Championship.

Busch entered coaching after an impressive 21-year professional career that included 14 seasons in MLS. Busch first played in the A-League, where he was named the 2001 A-League Goalkeeper of the Year while helping the Hershey Wildcats reach the league final under Bob Lilley.

He was drafted by the Columbus Crew in the 2002 MLS Super Draft and played there until 2006 before joining the Chicago Fire from 2007-09. In 2008, his best year with the Fire, he was named MLS Goalkeeper of the Year after leading the league in save percentage and tying for the league lead in shutouts. Busch continued his career joining the San Jose Earthquakes in 2010, returning to the Fire in 2015 and finishing with Indy Eleven in 2016-17.

Busch also represented the United States in international play as part of the Under-17 team in the 1993 World Championship. He remained in the U.S. player pool and made his only start at the senior level in 2005, recording a shutout against Colombia, 3-0.

This year, the Pittsburgh Riverhounds Soccer Club is celebrating its 25th season of play as Pittsburgh's professional soccer team.

Beginning with the inaugural match played May 1, 1999, when the Hounds hosted the Cincinnati Riverhawks in a USL A-League match at Bethel Park High School, the Hounds have competed every year except 2007, when the club reorganized after an ownership change.

Only two current USL clubs — the Charleston Battery and Richmond Kickers, both founded in 1993 — have been playing longer than the Hounds, and the Hounds also are older than more than half of Major League Soccer's current franchises, including those with USL roots.

During that time, the successes of the Hounds on the field have included reaching the quarterfinals of the U.S. Open Cup in 2001 and 2023, winning the USL Pro Soccer League's Atlantic Division in 2004, and finishing atop the USL Championship's Eastern Conference in both 2019 and 2023, the latter of which included winning the USL Championship Players' Shield.

In 2013, the Hounds moved into Highmark Stadium, which set the standard in USL for a team-owned, soccer-specific stadium. And for this year's 25th-anniversary season, the club has created the special, commemorative logo pictured below with a quick primer on how the logo was created.



▶ **USL CHAMPIONSHIP STANDINGS**

**Eastern**

Team	GP	RECORD	PTS	GF	GA	GD
Miami FC	1	1-0-0	3	2	0	2
Birmingham Legion FC	1	1-0-0	3	1	0	1
Hartford Athletic	1	1-0-0	3	1	0	1
North Carolina FC	1	0-0-1	1	0	0	0
Charleston Battery	1	0-0-1	1	0	0	0
Loudoun United FC	1	0-0-1	1	2	2	0
Detroit City FC	0	0-0-0	0	0	0	0
Louisville City FC	0	0-0-0	0	0	0	0
Rhode Island FC	0	0-0-0	0	0	0	0
Tampa Bay Rowdies	0	0-0-0	0	0	0	0
Indy Eleven	1	0-1-0	0	1	2	-1
Pittsburgh Riverhounds SC	1	0-1-0	0	0	1	-1

**Western**

Team	GP	RECORD	PTS	GF	GA	GD
Memphis 901 FC	1	1-0-0	3	2	1	1
Oakland Roots SC	1	1-0-0	3	2	1	1
New Mexico United	1	1-0-0	3	1	0	1
Orange County SC	1	0-0-1	1	2	2	0
Sacramento Republic FC	1	0-0-1	1	2	2	0
Monterey Bay FC	1	0-0-1	1	1	1	0
El Paso Locomotive FC	2	0-1-1	1	1	2	-1
San Antonio FC	1	0-0-1	1	2	2	0
FC Tulsa	0	0-0-0	0	0	0	0
Las Vegas Lights FC	1	0-1-0	0	1	2	-1
Phoenix Rising FC	1	0-1-0	0	0	1	-1
Colo. Springs Switchbacks	1	0-1-0	0	0	2	-2

\*\*\*Through games played March 14

▶ **2024 GOAL LOG**

**RIVERHOUNDS SC**

**OPPOSITION**

3/9: @NM - Greg Hurst 44' (Jacobo Reyes)

▶ USL CHAMPIONSHIP LINE SCORES

Opponent	W/L/D	G	A	SH	SOG	POSS	PA%	CK	OFF	FC	PK	PKG	YC	RC	OG	SV
HOUNDS	L	0	0	5	2	33.7	70.6	8	2	19	0	0	2	0	0	4
@New Mexico		1	1	5	5	66.3	85.9	3	4	18	0	0	5	0	0	2

▶ TEAM USL CHAMPIONSHIP STATISTICS

	G	A	SH	SOG	CK	OFF	FC	YC	RC	PK	PKG	OG	GA	SV	POSS %
TOTAL:	0	0	5	2	8	2	19	2	0	0	0	0	1	4	-
AVG:	0.00	0.00	5.00	2.00	8.00	2.00	19.00	2.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	4.00	34%

**March 9: @New Mexico United (L, 0-1)**

Eric Dick  
Junior Etou (Pierre Cayet 84')  
Mike DeShields (Luke Biasi 46')  
Illal Osumanu  
Dani Rovira (Sean Suber 84')  
Danny Griffin  
Jackson Walti  
Kenardo Forbes (Langston Blackstock 71')  
Robbie Mertz  
Edward Kizza  
Babacar Diene (Emmanuel Johnson 71')



1

**ERIC DICK**

	GP/GS	W/L/D	S	GA	GAA	SV%
2024	1/1	0-1-0	4	1	1.00	.800

**GK • 6'5" • 220 • Roeland Park, Kan.**

- Signed as free agent from Minnesota (MLS)
- 13th overall pick in 2018 MLS Draft by KC
- 31 USLC games (on loan to SPR, TUL, PHX, IND)

**GAME HIGHS**  
Saves: 4 (3/9 at NM)  
GA: 1 (3/9 at NM)  
Clean sheets: 0



2

**DANNY GRIFFIN**

	GP/GS	MIN	G	A	PTS	SH	SOG
2024	1/1	90	0	0	0	1	1

**M • 5'9" • 165 • Wethersfield, Conn.**

- Returned from Huntsville (MLSNP) on 5/3/23
- Team record 85 straight league matches ('20-'22)
- Never missed a league match as a pro (118 gms.)

**GAME HIGHS**  
Minutes: 90 (3/9 at NM)  
Goals: 0  
Assists: 0  
Points: 0  
Shots: 1 (3/9 at NM)  
SOG: 1 (3/9 at NM)



3

**PAT HOGAN**

	GP/GS	MIN	G	A	PTS	SH	SOG
2024	0/0	0	0	0	0	0	0

**D • 6'4" • 196 • Matthews, N.C.**

- 26 appearances in first year with Hounds
- Signed in 2023 after two seasons with Charleston
- Conf. USA Defensive MVP in '20-21 at Charlotte

**GAME HIGHS**  
Minutes:  
Goals:  
Assists:  
Points:  
Shots:  
SOG:



4

**DANI ROVIRA**

	GP/GS	MIN	G	A	PTS	SH	SOG
2024	1/1	84	0	0	0	0	0

**D • 5'9" • 145 • Bogotá, Colombia**

- Career-high five assists in both 2022 and '23
- First professional goal on 7/29/23 vs. Memphis
- Most career assists by a Hounds defender (13)

**GAME HIGHS**  
Minutes: 84 (3/9 at NM)  
Goals: 0  
Assists: 0  
Points: 0  
Shots: 0  
SOG: 0



5

**SEAN SUBER**

	GP/GS	MIN	G	A	PTS	SH	SOG
2024	1/0	6	0	0	0	0	0

**D • 6'0" • 185 • Charlotte, N.C.**

- Signed as free agent from Huntsville (MLSNP)
- Led Huntsville in minutes played in 2023 (2,304)
- College teammate of Pat Hogan at Charlotte

**GAME HIGHS**  
Minutes: 6 (3/9 at NM)  
Goals: 0  
Assists: 0  
Points: 0  
Shots: 0  
SOG: 0



7

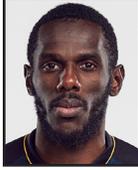
**LANGSTON BLACKSTOCK**

	GP/GS	MIN	G	A	PTS	SH	SOG
2024	1/0	19	0	0	0	1	1

**M/F • 6'2" • 190 • Marietta, Ga.**

- Appeared in 24 matches for Hounds as a rookie
- First pro assist 5/13 vs. Birmingham
- 32 goals, 12 assists at D-II Clayton State (Ga.)

**GAME HIGHS**  
Minutes: 19 (3/9 at NM)  
Goals: 0  
Assists: 0  
Points: 0  
Shots: 1 (3/9 at NM)  
SOG: 1 (3/9 at NM)



8

**JUNIOR ETOOU**

	GP/GS	MIN	G	A	PTS	SH	SOG
2024	1/1	84	0	0	0	0	0

**M • 5'8" • 155 • Paris, France**

- Signed as free agent in 2023 from Tampa Bay
- Fastest goal in team history (:21) 6/10/23 vs. CHS
- 27 appearances last year in midfield and at LB

**GAME HIGHS**  
Minutes: 84 (3/9 at NM)  
Goals: 0  
Assists: 0  
Points: 0  
Shots: 0  
SOG: 0



9

**EMMANUEL JOHNSON**

	GP/GS	MIN	G	A	PTS	SH	SOG
2024	1/0	19	0	0	0	0	0

**F • 6'0" • 175 • Fairfield, Calif.**

- Won MLS Next Pro in 2023 on loan with Austin
- Under contract with Hibernian (SCO) in '22-'23
- Debuted as pro in 2022 on loan with Charleston

**GAME HIGHS**  
Minutes: 19 (3/9 at NM)  
Goals: 0  
Assists: 0  
Points: 0  
Shots: 0  
SOG: 0



10

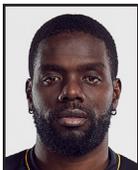
**AIDAN O'TOOLE**

	GP/GS	MIN	G	A	PTS	SH	SOG
2024	0/0	0	0	0	0	0	0

**M • 5'10" • 165 • The Hills, Texas**

- First-year pro out of University of Denver
- Set Denver record with 87 career games played
- Second Team All-Summit League in 2023

**GAME HIGHS**  
Minutes:  
Goals:  
Assists:  
Points:  
Shots:  
SOG:



11

**KENARDO FORBES**

	GP/GS	MIN	G	A	PTS	SH	SOG
2024	1/1	71	0	0	0	1	0

**M • 5'9" • 175 • Kingston, Jamaica**

- Seven-time All-USL selection ('16, '18-'23)
- All-time USL Championship assist leader with 65
- First in Hounds assists (54); 3rd in games pl. (193)

**GAME HIGHS**  
Minutes: 71 (3/9 at NM)  
Goals: 0  
Assists: 0  
Points: 0  
Shots: 1 (3/9 at NM)  
SOG: 0





12

**GABRIEL PERROTTA**

	GP/GS	W/L/T	S	GA	GAA	SV%
2024	0/0	0-0-0	0	0	-	-

**GK • 6'1" • 190 • Asunción, Paraguay**

- First-year pro out of Marshall University
- Grad transfer to Marshall from UNC-Wilmington
- Four-time All-CAA selection at UNCW ('19-'22)

**GAME HIGHS**

Saves:  
GA:  
Clean sheets:



13

**LUKE BIASI**

	GP/GS	MIN	G	A	PTS	SH	SOG
2024	1/0	45	0	0	0	0	0

**D • 6'0" • 180 • Buford, Ga.**

- Re-signed with Hounds as free agent in offseason
- 42 appearances in first two pro seasons w/club
- Four assists in 2023 was third on team

**GAME HIGHS**

Minutes: 45 (3/9 at NM)  
Goals: 0  
Assists: 0  
Points: 0  
Shots: 0  
SOG: 0



14

**ROBBIE MERTZ**

	GP/GS	MIN	G	A	PTS	SH	SOG
2024	1/1	90	0	0	0	0	0

**M • 5'7" • 155 • Pittsburgh, Pa.**

- Rejoined Hounds via transfer from ATL (7/20/22)
- Fifth overall season with team over two stints
- 100th appearance for Hounds on 3/9/24 at NM

**GAME HIGHS**

Minutes: 90 (3/9 at NM)  
Goals: 0  
Assists: 0  
Points: 0  
Shots: 0  
SOG: 0



15

**BRADLEY SAMPLE**

	GP/GS	MIN	G	A	PTS	SH	SOG
2024	0/0	0	0	0	0	0	0

**M • 6'0" • 160 • Channahon, Ill.**

- First-year pro out of University of Louisville
- 2nd in appearances, 3rd in minutes all-time at UL
- Four goals, seven assists as holding mid for UL

**GAME HIGHS**

Minutes:  
Goals:  
Assists:  
Points:  
Shots:  
SOG:



17

**NATE DRAGISICH**

	GP/GS	MIN	G	A	PTS	SH	SOG
2024	0/0	0	0	0	0	0	0

**M • 5'8" • 155 • Pittsburgh, Pa.**

- First-year pro out of Duquesne University
- First Academy alum to sign pro deal w/Hounds
- PA Player of Year in 2018 at West Allegheny HS

**GAME HIGHS**

Minutes:  
Goals:  
Assists:  
Points:  
Shots:  
SOG:



19

**EDWARD KIZZA**

	GP/GS	MIN	G	A	PTS	SH	SOG
2024	1/1	90	0	0	0	1	0

**F • 5'9" • 175 • Kampala, Uganda**

- Signed permanent deal after loan spell in 2022
- Previously under contract w/New England (MLS)
- Only current Hound w/league, cup & playoff goal

**GAME HIGHS**

Minutes: 90 (3/9 at NM)  
Goals: 0  
Assists: 0  
Points: 0  
Shots: 1 (3/9 at NM)  
SOG: 0



22

**JAKE LENT-KOOP**

	GP/GS	MIN	G	A	PTS	SH	SOG
2024	0/0	0	0	0	0	0	0

**D • 6'3" • 200 • Rio Rancho, N.M.**

- First-year pro out of Messiah University
- Division III First Team All-American in 2022
- Three-time All-Middle Atlantic Conf. First Teamer

**GAME HIGHS**

Minutes:  
Goals:  
Assists:  
Points:  
Shots:  
SOG:



23

**MIKE DESHIELDS**

	GP/GS	MIN	G	A	PTS	SH	SOG
2024	1/1	45	0	0	0	0	0

**D • 6'1" • 190 • Baltimore, Md.**

- Fifth overall pick in 2021 MLS Draft by DC United
- Started both USOC wins over MLS sides in 2023
- First assist with Hounds on 7/15/23 vs. Detroit

**GAME HIGHS**

Minutes: 45 (3/9 at NM)  
Goals: 0  
Assists: 0  
Points: 0  
Shots: 0  
SOG: 0



27

**BABACAR DIENE**

	GP/GS	MIN	G	A	PTS	SH	SOG
2024	1/1	71	0	0	0	1	0

**F • 6'0" • 187 • Thies, Senegal**

- First-year pro out of Rider University
- First Team All-MAAC, 13 goals for Rider in 2023
- Professional debut 3/9/24 at New Mexico

**GAME HIGHS**

Minutes: 71 (3/9 at NM)  
Goals: 0  
Assists: 0  
Points: 0  
Shots: 1 (3/9 at NM)  
SOG: 0



28

**ILLAL OSUMANU**

	GP/GS	MIN	G	A	PTS	SH	SOG
2024	1/1	90	0	0	0	0	0

**D • 6'0" • 186 • Accra, Ghana**

- USL League One champion with Omaha in 2021
- First career goal: 90th min. winner 6/24/23 vs. SD
- Played collegiately at Marshall University

**GAME HIGHS**

Minutes: 90 (3/9 at NM)  
Goals: 0  
Assists: 0  
Points: 0  
Shots: 0  
SOG: 0





31

**JACOB RANDOLPH**

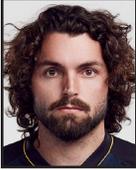
	GP/GS	W/L/T	S	GA	GAA	SV%
2024	0/0	0-0-0	0	0	-	-

**GK • 6'4" • 235 • New Orleans, La.**

- First-year pro out of UNC-Wilmington
- Seven shutouts in 15 starts in 2023
- Began college career at Division II Barton (N.C.)

**GAME HIGHS**

Saves:  
GA:  
Clean sheets:



42

**JACKSON WALTI**

	GP/GS	MIN	G	A	PTS	SH	SOG
2024	1/1	90	0	0	0	0	0

**M • 5'9" • 172 • St. Augustine, Fla.**

- Signed as free agent from Colorado (MLSNP)
- Three times named All-ACC Second Team at Pitt
- Finished as Pitt's all-time minutes leader (9,069)

**GAME HIGHS**

Minutes: 90 (3/9 at NM)  
Goals: 0  
Assists: 0  
Points: 0  
Shots: 0  
SOG: 0



44

**PIERRE CAYET**

	GP/GS	MIN	G	A	PTS	SH	SOG
2024	1/0	6	0	0	0	0	0

**D • 6'0" • 170 • Brette-les-Pins, France**

- Signed as FA after 3 years with NE2 (MLSNP)
- Came to U.S. to play collegiately at Temple
- Played in reserve side for French club Angers

**GAME HIGHS**

Minutes: 6 (3/9 at NM)  
Goals: 0  
Assists: 0  
Points: 0  
Shots: 0  
SOG: 0



45

**KAZAIAH STERLING**

	GP/GS	MIN	G	A	PTS	SH	SOG
2024	0/0	0	0	0	0	0	0

**F • 5'10" • 170 • Tottenham, England**

- USL League One champ with So. Georgia in 2022
- 30 goals in two seasons for So. Georgia Tormenta
- Pro debut w/Tottenham in UEFA CL in Dec. 2017

**GAME HIGHS**

Minutes:  
Goals:  
Assists:  
Points:  
Shots:  
SOG:

