



# NORTH CAROLINA FC 2023 MATCH NOTES

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## 2023 SCHEDULE

Date	Opp	Time/Result
Mar. 17	Tormenta FC	0-1
Apr. 1	Lexington SC	2-1
Apr. 5	@ Loudoun Utd.*	2-1 (a.e.t)
Apr. 8	Charlotte Ind.	1-1
Apr. 15	@ Union Omaha	1-2
Apr. 21	Chattanooga	3-0
Apr. 29	@ Greenville Tri.	1-2
May 5	@ CV Fuego	0-2
May 13	Forward Madison	0-2
May 17	Richmond Kickers	3-2
May 21	@ Charlotte Ind.	1-2
Jun. 3	@ One Knoxville	0-1
Jun. 10	@ Forward Madison	0-3
Jun. 18	Lexington SC	2-2
Jun. 30	Charlotte Ind.	2-0
Jul. 8	@ One Knoxville	2-2
Jul. 15	Forward Madison	2-2
Jul. 26	No. CO Hailstorm	2-0
Jul. 29	@ Chattanooga	2-1
Aug. 5	@ Tormenta	3-2
Aug. 9	@ Richmond Kickers	2-2
Aug. 12	Greenville Tri.	2-1
Aug. 19	@ Richmond Kickers	3-1
Aug. 26	No. CO Hailstorm	1-2
Sep. 1	CV Fuego	2-1
Sep. 6	@ Union Omaha	4-3
Sep. 9	@ Greenville Tri.	0-2
Sep. 16	Tormenta FC	2-3
Sep. 20	@ CV Fuego	0-3
Sep. 23	@ No. CO Hailstorm	2-0
Sep. 29	Union Omaha	D, 1-1
Oct. 7	@ Lexington SC	7:00 PM
Oct. 14	One Knoxville	7:00 PM

**BOLD - Home** | \*US Open Cup | All times Eastern

## THE MATCHUP (USL LEAGUE ONE)

MATCH DAY 31 - AWAY MATCH DAY 16  
North Carolina FC (17-7-6, 57 points, 1st)  
at

Lexington SC (7-10-13, 31 points, 9th)

Saturday, October 7, 2023 | 7:00 p.m. ET

Toyota Stadium | Georgetown, Ky. | ESPN+

**REFEREE: Richonne Clark**

AR1: Rebecca Luther; AR2: Marcus Moss; 4TH: Adam Brzozowiec



## KICKING OFF...

**LAST TIME OUT:** NCFC played Union Omaha to a 1-1 draw in a showdown of the two top-ranked teams in USL League One. NCFC struck first on a Rafa Mentzingen strike in the 12' before Luis Gil tied things up with a 40' goal.

**CLINCHED... SO FAR:** North Carolina FC has clinched at least a top-four seed in USL League One playoffs, guaranteeing at least a home quarterfinal matchup. The team still controls their own destiny for a top-two finish and a first-round bye.

**ON THE ATTACK:** North Carolina FC enters the matchweek leading all teams in goals (55) and total shots (427). NCFC is the only team with multiple players in the top-5 of the Golden Boot race in Oalex Anderson (2nd, 16) and Rafa (T-4th, 13).

**LEXINGTON AND CONQUERED:** North Carolina FC makes their first trip to expansion side Lexington this weekend, having hosted them twice this season. NCFC earned a win and draw in the first two meetings of 2023. This will be the first meeting in nearly four months, last playing on June 18.

## AVAILABILITY REPORT

Player	Designation	Reason
Pecka	OUT	Injury
Nicholas Holliday	OUT	Injury
Luke Croll	OUT	Injury
Daniel Navarro	OUT	Injury

## STAT COMPARISON

NC	STAT	LEX
55	GOALS	45
159	SHOTS ON TARGET	113
33	ASSISTS	23
38	GOALS AGAINST	55
256	TACKLES WON	252
8	CLEAN SHEETS	5
79.3%	PASS ACCURACY	81.2%
427	FOULS	427
77	YELLOW CARDS	87
2	RED CARDS	3

## USL LEAGUE ONE TABLE (as of October 6)

Rk	TEAM	GP	W	D	L	PTS	GD	LAST 5
1	Union Omaha	30	17	8	6	59	+15	WDWWW
2	North Carolina FC	30	17	6	7	57	+17	DWWLW
2	Northern Colorado	30	16	8	6	56	+18	WLDWW
4	Charlotte Independence	30	13	9	8	48	+11	DWDWL
5	Greeneville Triumph	30	13	7	10	46	+5	WLWWL
6	Forward Madison	30	11	10	9	43	+1	DLDWD
7	South Georgia Tormenta	30	12	5	13	41	+3	WWWLL
8	One Knoxville	30	9	10	11	37	-2	DLLDW
9	Lexington SC	30	7	10	13	31	-10	DLDDL
10	Chattanooga Red Wolves	30	8	6	16	30	-17	WWLLW
11	Richmond Kickers	30	6	10	14	28	-12	LLLLD
12	Central Valley Fuego FC	31	5	5	21	20	-26	LLLLL

## NORTH CAROLINA FC MATCH PREVIEW at LEXINGTON SC | SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2023

**Lexington, Ky. (Oct. 6, 2023)** – North Carolina FC makes their final road trip of the 2023 USL League One regular season as they visit Lexington SC this Saturday, October 7, for a 7:00 p.m. ET kickoff at Toyota Stadium. North Carolina FC, sitting second in the current table at 18-6-6 (57 points) has already clinched a top-three seed in the playoffs and at least a home quarterfinal fixture, controlling their own destiny for a bye, while the league newcomer Lexington SC has been eliminated from playoff contention.

North Carolina played to a 1-1 draw in a critical home match against Union Omaha last Friday. NCFC struck early with a 12' finish from Rafa Mentzingen, but Luis Gil answered for the Owls at the tail end of the half. Both teams would probe in the second period, but neither side found themselves overly dangerous as the two league leaders split the points. For Mentzingen, the goal was a cap on a brilliant September in which the Brazilian midfielder registered six chances created, four goals and one assist. He added 39 duels won, 32 recoveries and nine shots on target to earn a nomination for USL League One September Player of the Month.

NCFC is the only team with multiple players in the top-5 of the Golden Boot race in Oalex Anderson (2nd, 16) and Rafa (T-4th, 13). Those two continue to drive the offensive machine that is North Carolina FC, who enters the penultimate match week of 2023 leading all of USL League One in goals (55) and total shots (427).

### Scouting Lexington SC

Lexington was the latest team eliminated from playoff contention, dropping to 7W-13L-10D and now winless in their last five matches to fall out of the playoff race. As an expansion franchise in 2023, they set a strong foundation and have proven to be able to hold their own in USL League One for much of the season. The momentum will only continue to grow as they build a new professional stadium and grow roots in the heart of Kentucky. Despite playing at Georgetown's Toyota Stadium, they have had a significant home field advantage this season, getting a result in 12 of their 15 home matches (6W, 6D, 3L). They will look for some more home cooking to play spoiler for NCFC and get back on the upswing as the season comes to a close.

They have scored 45 goals on 243 shots this season while allowing 55 goals against. They are an aggressive side, winning 65% of their tackles but also committing 427 fouls and seeing 87 yellow cards and three red. Passing at 82% accuracy for the season, Lexington has shown the ability to build from the back and create line by line, forcing defenses into difficult decisions. Press and front line defending will be key for NCFC to avoid overloads in build-ups against their back line. In the third and final meeting of the season, NCFC will look to stay unbeaten against the first-year opponent in what may be the only season these two line up on opposite sides in league competition.

### Players to Watch

*North Carolina FC – Defender Gustavo Fernandes*

The centerback has been a key piece of the North Carolina defense all season, playing 2,388 minutes - which ranks second on the team - in the middle of the back line. He ranks second on the team with 72 clears, 14 blocks, and 48 aerial duels won while sitting fourth with 110 overall duels won and fifth with 24 tackles. At 25 years old, his blend of youthful energy and spirit with veteran savvy and temperament make him a key piece in the leadership and success of North Carolina FC.

*Lexington SC – Alasanne Ates Diouf*

The focal point of Lexington's offense is 23-year-old Senegalese forward Diouf. His 15 goals this season rank third in USL League One, netting a third of the team's scoring this season. He's had brief stints with three other USL clubs including Orlando City B, Austin Bold and San Antonio FC before becoming the second professional signing by the expansion club Lexington this past January. He's rattled off 62 shots this year, 22 more than any other member of the team and will be a consistent threat throughout the match. His ability to find dangerous pockets and get open looks heightens the importance of full field defense and consistency.

### Next Up

North Carolina FC wrap up regular season play as they host One Knoxville on Saturday, October 14, for a 7:00 p.m. ET kickoff at WakeMed Soccer Park. Fan Appreciation Night and NCFC Youth Shield Night will bring a great crowd, so get tickets early. The match will also stream live on ESPN+.

#	Name	Pos	Ht	DOB	Hometown (Citizenship)
1	Nicholas Holliday	GK	6-1	01/17/06	Chapel Hill, NC (USA)
2	Chris Lue Young	D	6-0	12/09/96	Plantation, FL (USA)
3	Nelson Flores Blanco	D	5-6	08/17/99	San Miguel, SV (SLV)
4	Luke Croll	D	6-1	01/10/95	Lambeth, UK (ENG)
5	Daniel Navarro	D	6-1	08/22/91	Hyannis, MA (USA)
6	Gustavo Fernandes	D	6-0	02/19/98	West Babylon, NY (USA)
7	Luis Arriaga	M	5-6	01/26/01	Santa Rosa, CA (USA)
8	Pecka	M	5-8	05/02/89	Rio de Janeiro, BR (BRA)
9	Oalex Anderson Jr.	F	5-8	11/11/95	Barrouallie, VC (VCT)
10	Jaden Servania	M	5-10	07/21/01	Birmingham, AL (USA)
11	Cole Frame	F	5-8	10/05/02	Wake Forest, NC (USA)
12	Tor Saunders	GK	6-6	04/30/98	Bothell, WA (USA)
13	Louis Perez	M	6-0	06/11/97	Paris, FR (FRA)
14	Rafa Mentzingen	F	5-9	05/02/96	Rio de Janeiro, BR (BRA)
15	Mikey Maldonado	D	5-9	07/02/98	San Antonio, TX (USA)
17	Shakeem Adams	F	5-7	11/07/98	Nashville, TN (USA)
18	DJ Benton	D	6-0	11/19/99	Birmingham, AL (USA)
19	Garrett McLaughlin	F	6-0	11/10/97	Oklahoma City, OK (USA)
22	Max Flick	D	6-0	06/29/94	Beaver Falls, PA (USA)
23	Marvin Mariche	F	5-5	07/01/04	Raleigh, NC (USA)
24	David Garcia	D	6-1	08/23/00	Palma, ES (ESP)
25	Trevor Mulqueen	GK	5-10	02/12/00	Bradenton, FL (USA)
31	Brooks Thompson	GK	6-4	05/28/02	Floyd Knobs, IN (USA)
44	Raheem Somersall	M	5-10	07/05/97	Basseterre, KN (KNA)
59	Nathan Ntalu	F	6-0	05/02/99	Lille, FR (FRA)
61	Kyrome Lumsden	M	5-8	06/16/07	Los Angeles, CA (USA)
88	Preston Popp	F	5-10	12/08/99	Montreal, CA (CAN)

## PRONUNCIATION GUIDE

00: Mar-zook Puck-er-in  
 1: Nick-o-las Hall-uh-day  
 2: Chris Loo Young  
 3: Nel-son Flo-res BLANC-o  
 4: Luke Kroll  
 5: Dan-yuhl Nuh-var-ro  
 6: Goose-tah-vo Fer-nahn-des  
 7: Loo-Ees Ar-ee-aa-guh  
 8: Peck-uh  
 9: Oh-lex An-der-son  
 10: Jay-den Ser-vain-yuh  
 12: Tore Sahn-ders  
 13: Loo-ee Pair-ez

14: Rah-fuh Mintz-in-gen  
 15: My-key Mal-doe-nah-doe  
 17: Sha-Keem Ah-dums  
 18: Dee-Jay Ben-ten  
 19: Gare-it Mick-loff-lin  
 22: Macks Flick  
 23: Mar-vin Marie-CHE  
 24: Da-Veed Gar-see-uh  
 25: Trev-ur Mull-kween  
 44: Rah-heem Sum-ur-sawl  
 61: Ki-rome L-ums-den  
 88: Press-ten Pop  
 99: Nay-th-an N-Tah-loo

## RECORD WHEN...

Split .....	W-L-D
Home .....	7-4-4
Away .....	10-3-2
Day .....	1-1-1
Night.....	16-6-5
Turf.....	5-0-1
Grass .....	12-7-5
Scoring first .....	11-1-2
Opp. scores first.....	6-4-5
Leading at half .....	11-0-1
Tied at half .....	3-0-3
Trailing at half .....	2-7-3
Scoring 0 goals .....	0-1-2
Scoring 1 goal .....	1-0-4
Scoring 2+ goals .....	15-7-1
Allowing 0 goals.....	7-0-0
Allowing 1 goal.....	7-1-3
Allowing 2+ goals.....	2-6-3
More shots than opp. ....	12-7-3
Fewer shots than opp .....	3-0-2
Even shots.....	1-0-0
More corners than opp .....	6-7-3
Fewer corners than opp.....	5-0-2
Even corners .....	3-0-0
March .....	0-1-0
April.....	4-0-1
May.....	3-0-2
June.....	2-1-1
July.....	2-2-0
August .....	3-0-2
September .....	4-2-1
October.....	0-0-0
Monday.....	0-0-0
Tuesday .....	0-0-0
Wednesday .....	3-1-0
Thursday .....	0-0-0
Friday .....	2-1-1
Saturday .....	12-3-5
Sunday.....	0-1-1

## INDIVIDUAL PLAYER STATS (sorted by minutes)

Player	Games	Starts	Minutes	Goals	Assists	Shots	Pass %	Tackles	Tackle %	Fouls	Yellows	Reds
Maldonado, Michael	29	29	2609	1	2	9	84.9	34	65.38	50	9	1
Fernandes, Gustavo	29	27	2388	0	0	13	87.06	24	80	38	7	0
Lue Young, Christian	28	25	2239	0	2	1	71.84	11	61.11	16	4	0
Blanco, Nelson	26	24	2196	0	2	8	75.53	16	57.14	18	2	0
Rafael Mentzingen	29	26	2171	13	4	75	77.12	16	55.17	24	6	0
Anderson, Oalex	30	26	2073	16	6	67	60.53	9	47.37	29	4	0
Louis Perez	28	24	2006	7	1	45	73.9	25	69.44	41	5	0
Garcia, David	24	21	1968	1	0	11	80.2	14	58.33	32	6	0
McLaughlin, Garrett	29	19	1724	8	6	29	74.38	11	68.75	25	1	0
Servania, Jaden	24	20	1718	3	4	17	78.23	26	81.25	29	7	0
Arriaga, Luis	29	17	1613	0	1	14	85.25	16	64	29	3	0
Somersall, Raheem	24	13	1406	2	3	9	76.67	27	75	25	4	0
Benton, Devin	25	11	1049	1	1	8	83.37	13	68.42	23	5	1
Navarro, Daniel	13	12	1038	0	0	4	88.72	6	60	20	5	0
Adams, Shakeem	13	3	272	0	0	6	73.03	2	66.67	3	0	0
Ntalu, Nathan	7	2	224	0	1	1	65.52	2	66.67	4	0	0
Popp, Preston	15	1	171	1	0	5	72.41	2	66.67	10	3	0
Flick, Max	17	0	120	0	0	2	66.67	1	33.33	6	1	0
Croll, Luke	1	0	12	0	0	0	90	0		4	1	0
Rincon, Nicolas	1	0	1	0	0	0	100	1	100	1	1	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>30</b>			<b>55</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>324</b>	<b>79.25</b>	<b>256</b>	<b>66.15</b>	<b>427</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>2</b>

Player	Games	Minutes	SOT Faced	Saves	Goals	Save %	PKs Faced	PKs Saved	Yellows
Holliday, Nicholas	13	1170	41	26	16	60.98	1	1	2
Thompson, Brooks	13	1170	41	23	18	56.1	1	0	1
Mulqueen, Trevor	3	228	3	1	2	33.33	0	0	0
Saunders, Tor	2	132	3	1	2	33.33	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>30</b>		<b>88</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>59.14</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>

## STATISTICAL INDIVIDUAL LEADERS

### Game Highs

Goals .....	O. Anderson .....	2
Assists.....	G. McLaughlin.....	1
Shots .....	R. Mentzingen .....	7
Fouls .....	G. McLaughlin .....	5
Duels .....	L. Perez .....	15
Clears.....	D. Garcia.....	10
Tackles .....	M. Maldonado.....	4
Saves.....	B. Thompson .....	5
Goals Allowed.	N. Holliday .....	0

### Season Highs

Goals .....	O. Anderson .....	16
Assists.....	G. McLaughlin.....	6
Shots .....	R. Mentzingen .....	97
Fouls .....	M. Maldonado.....	46
Duels .....	R. Mentzingen .....	169
Clears.....	D. Garcia.....	97
Tackles .....	M. Maldonado.....	35
Saves.....	N. Holliday .....	26

### League Season Highs

Goals .....	T. Amann .....	20
Assists.....	A. Rodgers.....	10
Shots .....	T. Amann .....	99
Fouls .....	K. Balogun.....	58
Duels .....	S. Santos.....	211
Clears.....	J. Skelton .....	157
Tackles .....	A. Kelly-Rosales .....	51
Saves.....	A. Pack .....	104
Goals Allowed.....	M. Williams.....	49

## USL LEAGUE ONE GAME-BY-GAME RESULTS

Date	Opponent	Final	Goal Scorers
3/17	South Georgia Tormenta FC	(L) 0-1	--
4/1	Lexington Sporting Club	(W) 2-1	O. Greene (OG), R. Mentzingen
4/8	Charlotte Independence	(D) 1-1	O. Anderson
4/15	at Union Omaha	(W) 2-1	R. Mentzingen, L. Perez
4/21	Chattanooga Red Wolves SC	(W) 3-0	O. Anderson, R. Mentzingen (2)
4/29	at Greenville Triumph	(W) 2-1	L. Perez, R. Mentzingen
5/5	at Central Valley Fuego FC	(W) 2-0	R. Mentzingen, L. Perez
5/13	Forward Madison FC	(L) 0-2	--
5/17	Richmond Kickers	(W) 3-2	G. McLaughlin, L. Perez O. Anderson
5/21	at Charlotte Independence	(L) 2-1	O. Anderson
6/3	at One Knoxville SC	(W) 0-1	J. Servania
6/10	at Forward Madison FC	(L) 3-0	--
6/18	Lexington Sporting Club	(D) 2-2	L. Perez, G. McLaughlin
6/30	Charlotte Independence	(W) 2-0	O. Anderson(2)
7/8	at One Knoxville SC	(D) 2-2	G. McLaughlin, O. Anderson
7/15	Forward Madison FC	(D) 2-2	G. McLaughlin, O. Anderson
7/26	Northern Colorado Hailstorm	(W) 2-0	L. Perez, O. Anderson
7/29	at Chattanooga Red Wolves SC	(W) 2-1	R. Mentzingen, R. Somersall
8/5	at South Georgia Tormenta FC	(W) 3-2	R. Mentzingen(2), O. Anderson
8/9	at Richmond Kickers	(D) 2-2	G. McLaughlin, Own Goal
8/12	Greenville Triumph	(W) 2-1	L. Perez, G. McLaughlin
8/19	at Richmond Kickers	(W) 3-1	O. Anderson (x2), M. Maldonado
8/26	Northern Colorado Hailstorm	(L) 1-2	D. Garcia
9/1	Central Valley Fuego FC	(W) 2-1	J. Servania, D. Benton
9/6	at Union Omaha	(L) 3-4	G. McLaughlin, R. Mentzingen, P. Popp
9/9	at Greenville Triumph	(W) 0-2	J. Servania, R. Mentzingen
9/16	South Georgia Tormenta FC	(L) 2-3	R. Somersall O. Anderson
9/20	at Central Valley Fuego FC	(W) 0-3	O. Anderson, G. McLaughlin, R. Mentzingen
9/23	at Northern Colorado Hailstorm	(W) 2-0	O. Anderson, G. McLaughlin
9/29	Union Omaha	(D) 1-1	R. Mentzingen - 12'
10/7	at Lexington Sporting Club	--	--
10/14	One Knoxville SC	--	--

## 2023 PLAYER HONORS

Honoree	Award
R. Mentzingen	(1x) USL League One Player of the Week, USL League One Player of the Month, (11x) USL League One Team of the Week
D. Navarro	USL League One Team of the Week
J. Servania	(5x) USL League One Team of the Week
DJ Benton	USL League One Team of the Week
O. Anderson	(10x) USL League One Team of the Week, USL League One Player of the Week,
L. Perez	(8x) USL League One Team of the Week
M. Maldonado	(x2) USL League One Team of the Week
G. McLaughlin	(7x) USL League One Team of the Week
N. Holiday	USL League One Team of the Week
John Bradford	USL League One Coach of the Month
D. Garcia	(3x) USL League One Team of the Week
N. Flores-Blanco	USL League One Team of the Week
C. Lue Young	USL League One Team of the Week
R. Somersall	(4x) USL League One Team of the Week
B. Thompson	(2x) USL League One Team of the Week



## HEAD COACH: JOHN BRADFORD (3rd Season)

### *Coaching Resume:*

NCFC (Head Coach): 2021 - present  
NCFC (Assistant Coach): 2019 - 2020  
NCFC Youth Academy: 2013 - present

*Hometown:* Winston-Salem, NC

John Bradford is in his fifth season with NCFC and his third as the team's head coach. He is also in his 10th year as the director of the North Carolina FC Youth Academy. Prior to becoming head coach, Bradford served as NCFC's assistant coach for two seasons.

Holding a unique role that involves working with the club's first team while overseeing the development of the club's top youth players, Bradford is a true link in NCFC's youth-to-pro pipeline. In addition to serving as head coach, Bradford directs the NCFC Academy and serves as the technical director of North Carolina FC U-23 of USL League Two.

In his first season working with the NCFC first team in 2019, Bradford played a part in helping NCFC tie a regular-season club record with 16 wins, as the group qualified for the USL Championship Playoffs and posted the third-best home record in the league. In 2019, NCFC's squad featured nine current or former Academy standouts, including the likes of Manny Perez, DJ Taylor, Dre Fortune and Caleb Duvernay, each of whom worked closely with Bradford as youngsters. Collectively, the quartet of Perez, Taylor, Fortune and Duvernay made 106 appearances, played 7,588 minutes, scored 10 goals and recorded 13 assists across all competitions in 2019.

In 2020, Bradford assisted the team during the pandemic, helping NCFC earn 19 points during the shortened season while also coaching many of the same academy standouts from 2019.

Bradford began working with the NCFC Youth Academy over 14 years ago as a U-9 Youth Training Systems (YTS Assistant Director) and has since taken the organization to new heights since being named director in 2013.

In the last five years, the NCFC Youth Academy has had 33 players called into youth national team camps, 19 sign amateur contracts with the NCFC first team, nine sign professional contracts with MLS clubs and over 100 commit to play at the college level. Three players from the 2019 NCFC U-23 squad were recently selected in the 2020 MLS SuperDraft, including first-round selection Jeremy Kelly, a product of the NCFC Youth Academy and the NCFC first team.

A Winston-Salem native, Bradford played collegiately at Furman University.



**Mike McGinty**

A seasoned soccer mind with ties to North Carolina and experience coaching at the international level, Mike McGinty is entering his third season as an assistant coach on head coach John Bradford's staff at North Carolina FC.



**Andrew Scheck**

Andrew Scheck is beginning his second season on the NCFC staff, where he serves as an assistant coach. Prior to joining NCFC, Scheck worked at NC State as the Director of Sport Science and assistant coach with the men's soccer team.



**Christopher Harrington**

Christopher Harrington joined the NCFC staff in 2023, taking over as Head Coach for the U14 & U17 NCFC Academy teams and an assistant coach for the North Carolina FC first team.



**Danny Cameron**

Danny Cameron joined the NCFC staff in January, serving as an assistant coach and video analyst. Along with working with the first team, Cameron is the head coach for two NCFC Youth teams.





**#1 NICHOLAS HOLLIDAY | GK | 6-1 | AGE: 17 | USL1 EXP: 3rd**

*Acquired via NCFC Academy*

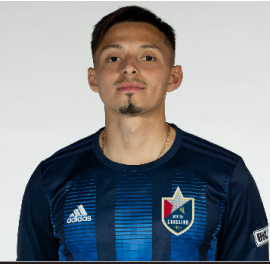
- Signed first professional contract with the club in September 2021
- Started eight regular season games in 2022 collecting 720 minutes of playing time
- Trained with U-17 US Men's National Team in 2021



**#2 CHRIS LUE YOUNG | D | 6-0 | AGE: 26 | USL1 EXP: 4th**

*Acquired via Free Agency in January 2022, Previously: Fort Lauderdale CF*

- Made 29 appearances in 2022, starting 27 matches
- Logged 2,498 minutes, one goal, one assist, won 57.8% of duels and 54.3% of tackles



**#3 NELSON FLORES BLANCO | D | 5-6 | AGE: 23 | USL1 EXP: 3rd**

*Acquired via free agency in March 2021, Previously: Oakland Roots*

- Third consecutive season with North Carolina FC, fifth overall
- Has made 57 appearances since joining the club
- Has made eight appearances for the El Salvador National Team



**#4 LUKE CROLL | D | 6-1 | AGE: 28 | USL1 EXP: 1st**

*Acquired via Free Agency in January 2023, Previously: Chesterfield FC*

- Has made over 120 appearances across the Vanarama National League and EFL League Two
- Was with Exeter City FC from 2016 to 2019 and Dagenham & Redbridge FC from 2019 to 2021
- Product of the Crystal Palace academy winning the U21 League 2 South in 2015



**#5 DANIEL NAVARRO | D | 6-1 | AGE: 32 | USL1 EXP: 3rd**

*Acquired via Free Agency in December 2022, Previously: Chattanooga Red Wolves*

- 2022 USL League One Defender of the Year finalist
- 2022 USL League One All-League First Team selection
- Spent two seasons with the Chattanooga Red Wolves, making 37 appearances



**#6 GUSTAVO FERNANDES | D | 6-0 | AGE: 25 | USL1 EXP: 4th**

*Acquired via Free Agency in February 2022, Previously: Forward Madison FC*

- Made 26 appearances in 2022, winning 50% of his tackles and 54.4% of his duels
- Made 26 total appearances with Forward Madison from 2020-21
- Spent the 2019 season with the Ocean City Nor'easters of USL League Two



**#7 LUIS ARRIAGA | M | 5-6 | AGE: 22 | USL1 EXP: 3rd**

*Acquired via Free Agency in March 2021, Previously: Real Salt Lake*

- Entering his third season with North Carolina FC
- Has made 54 appearances with North Carolina FC
- Made two MLS appearances with Real Salt Lake



**#8 PECKA | M | 5-8 | AGE: 33 | USL1 EXP: 3rd**

*Acquired via Free Agency in December 2019, Previously: San Antonio FC*

- Entering his fourth season with North Carolina FC
- Began playing professionally in 2009 and has experience in the MLS and USL Championship
- Works with NCFC Academy Staff and coaches with NCFC Academy



**#9 OALEX ANDERSON JR. | F | 5-8 | AGE: 27 | USL1 EXP: 4th**

*Acquired via Free Agency in January 2022, Previously: Richmond Kickers*

- Has been named to USL League One Team of the Week twice this season
- Has 34 international appearances for Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, scoring 15 goals
- Made 17 appearances and won an MLS Cup with the Seattle Sounders in 2016



**#10 JADEN SERVANIA | M | 5-10 | AGE: 21 | USL1 EXP: 2nd**

*Acquired via Free Agency in January 2022, Previously: Birmingham Legion*

- Made 28 appearances in 2022, scoring three goals and collecting two assists
- Has made six international appearances for the Puerto Rico national team, scoring one goal.
- Made 44 total appearances with Birmingham Legion from 2021-2022



**#11 COLE FRAME | F | 5-8 | AGE: 20 | USL1 EXP: 3rd**

*Acquired via NCFC Academy*

- Signed his first professional contract with the club in September 2021
- Has made 41 professional appearances with the club
- Has scored three goals and contributed one assist



**#12 TOR SAUNDERS | GK | 6-6 | AGE: 24 | USL1 EXP: 2nd**

*Acquired via Free Agency in January 2022, Previously: Indy Eleven*

- Spent the 2021 season on loan with Chattanooga Red Wolves SC
- 3rd round selection by Nashville SC in 2021 MLS SuperDraft





**#13 LOUIS PEREZ | M | 6-0 | AGE: 25 | USL1 EXP: 2nd**

*Acquired via Free Agency in January 2023, Previously: FC Tucson*

- Has been named to USL League One Team of the Week twice this season
- Named to the 2022 USL League One All-League Second Team
- Spent time in the Paris Saint-Germain and ES Troyes AC youth academies



**#14 RAFA MENTZINGEN | F | 5-9 | AGE: 26 | USL1 EXP: 3rd**

*Acquired via Free Agency in December 2022, Previously: Chattanooga Red Wolves SC*

- Made a team-high 33 appearances for Chattanooga in 2022, scoring eight goals and tallying four assists
- Spent time with Lansing Ignite FC and Memphis 901 before joining Chattanooga
- Named USL League One Player of the Week following his winning goal against Lexington SC



**#15 MIKEY MALDONADO | M | 5-9 | AGE: 24 | USL1 EXP: 3rd**

*Acquired via Free Agency in January 2023, Previously: Forward Madison FC*

- 2022 USL League One All-League Second Team
- Scored two goals and added four assists in League One play in 2022
- Has played in many different positions, including wing back, center back, and midfield



**#16 NICO RINCON | M | 5-6 | AGE: 17 | USL1 EXP: 2nd**

*Acquired in 2022 via Players Development Academy – Somerset, NJ*

- Made his professional debut with the club, and totaled 11 appearances in 2022
- Named USL League One Player of the Week in October 2022 after grabbing an assist and scoring the winning goal in NCFC's 2-1 victory over CV Fuego FC



**#17 SHAKEEM ADAMS | F | 5-7 | AGE: 24 | USL1 EXP: 4th**

*Acquired via transfer with Charleston Battery in December 2022*

- Spent the second half of the 2022 season on loan with North Carolina FC
- Has made 52 career USL League One appearances, scoring 13 goals
- Selected 54th overall in the 2020 MLS SuperDraft by Nashville SC



**#18 DJ BENTON | D | 6-0 | AGE: 23 | USL1 EXP: 3rd**

*Acquired via Free Agency in December 2022, Previously: Chattanooga Red Wolves SC*

- Made 27 appearances in his lone season with Chattanooga, recording a team high 42 interceptions
- Spent one season with North Texas SC in 2021



**#19 GARRETT MCLAUGHLIN | F | 6-0 | AGE: 25 | USL1 EXP: 3rd**

*Acquired via Free Agency in February 2022, Previously: Toronto FC II*

- Named to the 2022 USL League One All-League First Team
- Led NCFC with 14 goals, also contributed 2 assists across his 30 appearances in 2022
- Spent 2020 with Rio Grande Valley FC and 2021 with Toronto FC II



**#22 MAX FLICK | D | 6-0 | AGE: 26 | USL1 EXP: 3rd**

*Acquired via Free Agency in April 2021, Previously: Pittsburgh Hotspurs*

- Voted by his teammates as the Defensive Player of the Year and the team's Most Valuable Player in 2021
- Recorded several career firsts with the club, including his professional debut and first professional goal.



**#23 MARVIN MARICHE | F | 5-5 | AGE: 18 | USL1 EXP: 3rd**

*Acquired via NCFC Academy*

- Signed an academy contract with the first team in 2021
- Made his first team debut in July 2021
- Called up to U15 USYNT camp in 2018



**#24 DAVID GARCIA | D | 5-10 | AGE: 23 | USL1 EXP: 1st**

*Acquired in March 2023 via Free Agency, Previously: Florida International University*

- Made his professional debut against Loudoun United in the U.S. Open Cup
- Was a member of the RCD Mallorca youth academy, captaining the U19 team for three seasons
- Named American Athletic Conference Tournament Defensive MVP after captaining FIU to the conference tournament championship in 2022



**#25 TREVOR MULQUEEN | GK | 5-10 | AGE: 23 | USL1 EXP: 1st**

*Acquired via Free Agency in March 2023, Previously: University of Memphis*

- Signed first professional contract with club in March 2023
- Played collegiate soccer at East Tennessee State University and the University of Memphis



**#26 JOHN MCDOWELL | M | 5-10 | AGE: 18 | USL1 EXP: 1st**

*Acquired via NCFC Academy*

- Signed academy contract with the first team for the 2022 and 2023 seasons
- Committed to play collegiately at UNC Chapel Hill



**#44 RAHEEM SOMERSALL | M | 5-10 | AGE: 25 | USL1 EXP: 4th**

*Acquired via Free Agency in December 2021, Previously: South Georgia Tormenta FC*

- Has made 14 international appearances for the Saint Kitts and Nevis national team
- Made 28 appearances in 2022, recording 2,083 minutes of play, grabbed one assist and recorded 11 key passes and an 85.9% passing accuracy



**#88 PRESTON POPP | F | 5-10 | AGE: 23 | USL1 EXP: 1st**

*Acquired via Free Agency in December 2022, Previously: Rochester New York FC*

- Former member of the NCFC academy scoring 25 goals in 28 matches in 2017
- Was a multiple time All Conference-USA selection for the Charlotte 49ers