

USL.TM

2017 MEDIA GUIDE



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The USL is the world's largest Division II professional soccer league, with 30 markets in 20 U.S. states and two Canadian provinces for the 2017 season. In total, the USL reaches a population of 75 million people, fueling the growth of professional soccer across North America. A growing league, the USL has more than doubled in size since 2014, with Ottawa Fury FC, Reno 1868 FC and the Tampa Bay Rowdies to debut in 2017. Nashville SC is the first club set to join the league for 2018. Headquartered in Tampa, Fla., the USL provides unparalleled club support with a growing team of more than 50 professionals across 17 departments, ranging from operations to marketing, communications and sponsorship.

For the full 2017 USL schedule, visit www.uslsoccer.com.

2017 USL CONFERENCE ALIGNMENT

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Colorado Springs Switchbacks FC
LA Galaxy II
OKC Energy FC
Orange County SC
Phoenix Rising FC
Portland Timbers 2
Real Monarchs SLC
Reno 1868 FC
Rio Grande Valley FC
Sacramento Republic FC
San Antonio FC
Seattle Sounders FC 2
Swope Park Rangers
Tulsa Roughnecks FC
Vancouver Whitecaps FC 2

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Bethlehem Steel FC
Charleston Battery
Charlotte Independence
FC Cincinnati
Harrisburg City Islanders
Louisville City FC
New York Red Bulls II
Orlando City B
Ottawa Fury FC
Pittsburgh Riverhounds
Richmond Kickers
Rochester Rhinos
Saint Louis FC
Tampa Bay Rowdies
Toronto FC II

2017 IMPORTANT DATES

USL Season Opens	March 25
U.S. Open Cup Round 2	May 17
U.S. Open Cup Round 3	May 31
U.S. Open Cup Round 4	June 14
U.S. Open Cup Round of 16.....	June 28
U.S. Open Cup Quarterfinals	July 11
U.S. Open Cup Semifinals.....	August 9
U.S. Open Cup Final.....	September 20
USL Regular Season Ends	October 13-15
USL Conference Quarterfinals.....	October 20-22
USL Conference Semifinals	October 27-29
USL Conference Finals.....	November 3-5
USL Cup Final	November 10-12

Teams/Schedule

The USL's 2017 regular-season schedule features a 480-game slate kicking off on March 25, with 13 matches set for the opening weekend. The biggest regular season in the USL's history will last 30 weeks. The USL's 30 teams are divided into two conferences - Eastern and Western - with each team playing 32 regular-season games. Teams will play two games (one home, one away) against each conference rival, and the remaining four matches will be played against regional foes. Teams will not face each other more than three times during the regular season.

USL Cup Playoffs

The top eight teams from the Eastern Conference and the top eight teams from the Western Conference will advance to the 2017 USL Cup Playoffs, with four weeks of postseason action set to crown the league's next champion. The fixed-seed format concludes with the USL Cup Final, which is held at the venue of the conference champion with the best regular-season record. The postseason stages include the conference quarterfinals (Oct. 20-22), conference semifinals (Oct. 27-29), conference finals (Nov. 3-5) and the 2017 USL Cup Final (Nov. 10-12).

USL Productions, ESPN, SiriusXM:

The USL has expanded its broadcast partnership with ESPN and formed a new agreement with SiriusXM FC. For a second straight season, the USL Game of the Week will air on ESPN3 and the USL will have a weekly one-hour show every Monday night on SiriusXM FC. The league recently invested \$10 million to create USL Productions - which includes a state-of-the-art facility that will produce and distribute nearly 500 league matches and more than 1,000 hours of original content to national partners, local affiliates, USL's Match Center and international markets. The first USL Productions event was the 2016 USL Cup Final between the Swope Park Rangers and champion New York Red Bulls II. The broadcast aired on ESPNU and SiriusXM FC from Red Bull Arena. The USL's partnership with VISTA Worldlink, a major production company based near Fort Lauderdale, Fla., offers the opportunity for the league to produce more than 1,000 hours of additional video content for the league's growing fan base.

Stadium Experience

In 2016, more than \$100 million were invested league-wide into stadium infrastructure to create venues that deliver an unforgettable fan and competitor experience. The USL implemented an initiative to have all USL clubs as owners or primary tenants of soccer-specific stadiums by 2020. The league also formed a partnership with HOK to lead the stadium development, design and standards initiatives. The 2017 season will feature the anticipated debut of H-E-B Park, the nearly 10,000-capacity venue designed by HOK in Edinburg, Texas, and home to Rio Grande Valley FC. Orlando City B also will be playing in a new state-of-the-art facility, moving to the downtown venue Orlando City Stadium.

Record Attendance

The 2016 USL season rewrote the attendance record books as nearly 1.5 million spectators (1,496,493) were in attendance during the regular season - an impressive 33 percent increase from 2015 (1,132,218). First-year FC Cincinnati set the standard, surpassing 20,000 in attendance four times (setting a USL record with 24,376 on Sept. 17) and averaging 17,296 per game at Nippert Stadium. Sacramento Republic FC, competing in its third season, sold out 14 of 15 regular-season games and averaged 11,514 per game at Bonney Field. In its second season, Louisville City FC totaled 108,269 in attendance (7,218 average) and recorded its first 10,000-plus crowd at Slugger Field on June 25. First-year side San Antonio FC averaged 6,170 per game and set a Toyota Field-record crowd of 8,466 on April 9.

USL-MLS Partnership

In early 2013, the USL and Major League Soccer formed a groundbreaking, multi-year partnership to enhance the professional game in North America. Today, a full integration between the two leagues includes MLS clubs either partnering with current USL clubs or entering their own side. In 2014, the LA Galaxy became the first MLS organization to form a USL team with the introduction of the LA Galaxy II - a team that has advanced to the USL Cup Playoffs every season and reached the 2015 USL Cup Final. The New York Red Bulls II became the first MLS-owned-and-operated USL team to win the league, capturing the 2016 USL Cup Final. Overall, there are 22 USL teams that either have an MLS affiliation or are owned and operated by an MLS organization in 2017.

USL EXECUTIVE STAFF

Alec Papadakis

USL Chief Executive Officer

Papadakis has served as the USL's top executive since 2009, and he is the CEO and Managing Partner of NuRock Soccer Holdings. Papadakis is a franchise attorney with four decades' worth of domestic and international experience.

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

Papadakis' legal focus has been U.S. and European franchise transactions. He also has practiced in the area of commercial real estate, acquisitions, development, financing and leasing. He was the founder and first president of the Hellenic Franchise Association and holds affiliations with the Board of Advisors of International Quarterly, the International Franchise Association, the State Bar of Georgia, the American Hellenic Chamber of Commerce and the Board of Directors for the Hellenic American Institute in Washington, D.C.

Jake Edwards

USL President

Edwards has served as USL President since March 2, 2015, when he succeeded Tim Holt in this position. Edwards has played an integral role toward the league's long-term strategic plan, Destination 2020, which focuses on the USL's expansion, the launch of media and commercial properties, partnership with Major League Soccer and the important step for all USL teams to be situated in soccer-specific stadiums. Edwards oversees the 40-plus staff at the league's headquarters in Tampa, Fla., and the daily servicing of its 30-plus clubs.

Edwards joined the USL as the league's Vice President in 2013. The Manchester native is a former professional soccer player whose career spanned 11 years, mostly for England-based clubs as well as with the Charleston Battery, signing with the USL side in July of 2002.

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

Tom Veit

USL Executive Vice President; USL Productions

Veit was named USL Chief Marketing Officer in 2015, and in April of 2016 helped establish USL Productions, which will be fully implemented beginning with the 2017 USL season. Veit is heading the launch of USL Productions, which will provide a higher quality of video content available to fans, not only through in-game broadcasts but through additional packages to convey the personalities and teams that make up the USL.

Veit has an extensive sports executive background, serving as Senior Vice President of Sales and Marketing for former Major League Soccer side the Tampa Bay Mutiny in 1999-2000, Chief Revenue and Marketing Officer and then President of MLS's Philadelphia Union (2008-10), as

well as several years with World Wrestling Entertainment and major collegiate athletics, including six years as his alma mater the University of South Florida as an Associate Athletic Director.

The Tampa, Fla., native graduated from South Florida in 1993 with a B.A. in Government and International Affairs.

Justin Papadakis

USL Chief Operating Officer

Papadakis was named the USL President of Commercial Ventures in December of 2014 and in May of 2016 began his role as the league's Chief Operating Officer.

A former goalkeeper, Papadakis represented Duke from 2004-07, with one of his biggest highlights being a two-save effort during a penalty shootout to lift the Blue Devils past North Carolina to win the 2005 ACC Championship. The Roswell, Ga., native also had a strong youth career in the greater Atlanta region as well as abroad with Benfica FC in Portugal during his high school years.

Papadakis earned his juris doctorate in real state after attending the Cleveland-Marshall College of Law from 2011-15.

Executives

Rob Hoskins - Chairman

Alec Papadakis - Chief Executive Officer

Jake Edwards - President

Justin Papadakis - Chief Operating Officer

Tom Veit - Executive Vice President & Chief Revenue Officer; USL Productions

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2017 CLUBS



BETHLEHEM STEEL FC

f @BSteelFC
t @BSteelFC

TEAM RECORD

Year	W-L-D	Pts	Playoffs
2016	6-14-10	28	--

TEAM OUTLOOK

Head Coach Brendan Burke's Bethlehem club underwent a trying first USL season in 2016, a campaign in which the Steel were riding a .500 record in mid-July. Unfortunately for Bethlehem, the club was winless in its final 12 games (0-8-4) and finished 11th in the Eastern Conference.

The Philadelphia Union's owned-and-operated USL side hopes to rebound in 2017, led by returning midfielder James Chambers who is expected to wear the captain's armband heading into the year. He was the team's top assists man in 2016 and provides some important leadership on a young roster.

Among the biggest changes is the signing of 2016 USL All-League defender Hugh Roberts, who comes from the Richmond Kickers and serves as an important addition for a team that conceded two or more goals in eight of the final 10 games of 2016.



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KEY PLAYERS



JAMES CHAMBERS

The midfielder and set-piece specialist returns to Bethlehem and will be the expected focal point of the second-year club. Two of his three goals last year were from free kicks, but his biggest asset isn't scoring. Chambers led Bethlehem with four assists in 2016.



HUGH ROBERTS

The 24-year-old defender made an impressive splash through his previous three years in Richmond, anchoring a back line that posted 13 shutouts in 2016. Roberts also led the USL in minutes last year (2,700), so despite his youth, the center back has an already strong resume.

2017 SCHEDULE

DATE	HOME	VS	AWAY	TIME (ET)
4/1	BST	v	ROC	4 p.m.
4/9	BST	v	CIN	4 p.m.
4/15	HAR	v	BST	7 p.m.
4/23	BST	v	ORL	4 p.m.
4/29	BST	v	CIN	5 p.m.
5/6	CHS	v	BST	7 p.m.
5/13	TOR	v	BST	6 p.m.
5/20	CIN	v	BST	7 p.m.
5/25	BST	v	CHS	11 a.m.
5/28	BST	v	HAR	5 p.m.
6/4	BST	v	OTT	5 p.m.
6/11	STL	v	BST	5 p.m.
6/16	NY	v	BST	7 p.m.
6/20	HAR	v	BST	7 p.m.
7/1	BST	v	RIC	5 p.m.
7/9	BST	v	NY	5 p.m.
7/15	BST	v	PGH	5 p.m.
7/22	RIC	v	BST	7 p.m.
7/29	BST	v	CLT	5 p.m.
8/5	OTT	v	BST	2 p.m.
8/13	BST	v	TOR	5 p.m.
8/16	CLT	v	BST	7 p.m.
8/20	BST	v	LOU	5 p.m.
8/26	PGH	v	BST	7 p.m.
8/31	ORL	v	BST	7:30 p.m.
9/9	BST	v	TBR	3 p.m.
9/15	LOU	v	BST	7:30 p.m.
9/24	BST	v	PGH	3 p.m.
9/30	TBR	v	BST	7:30 p.m.
10/6	TOR	v	BST	7:30 p.m.
10/10	ROC	v	BST	7:05 p.m.
10/15	BST	v	STL	3 p.m.



CHARLESTON BATTERY

f @charleston.battery
t @Chas_Battery

TEAM RECORD			
Year	W-L-D	Pts	
2016	13-8-9	48	Playoffs
2015	12-6-10	46	East Semifinals
2014	11-8-9	41	East Semifinals
2013	13-7-6	45	Quarterfinals
2012	12-10-2	38	Semifinals
2011	10-9-5	35	Champions
			Quarterfinals

TEAM OUTLOOK

The story has been much the same over the past several seasons as the historic club remains a post-season threat year in and year out. While Charleston has not been able to replicate its 2012 championship run, it practically is a given that the Battery - who have advanced to six consecutive USL Cup Playoffs - will be in the mix once again near the top of the Eastern Conference.

A significant cog within Head Coach Mike Anhaeuser's side has been Justin Portillo, a diminutive midfielder who joined the Battery in 2014 and has cemented his role as the team's top playmaker. Portillo missed the tail end of the 2016 season because of acute appendicitis, but he heads into his fourth season with a clean bill of health.

Cuban midfielder Maikel Chang was certainly Charleston's best player during the final two months of the 2016 regular season, recording five of his six goals and four of his team-leading six assists during that stretch. With the likes of returning players Chang and Portillo, and the resources stemming from its affiliation with Major League Soccer's Atlanta United FC, Charleston is on track for yet another promising campaign.



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KEY PLAYERS



JUSTIN PORTILLO

The versatile midfielder's uncanny ability to distribute the ball has grown through his previous three seasons in Charleston. It goes without saying that Portillo is one of the most essential and valuable players on this roster.



MAIKEL CHANG

Chang has been a Battery mainstay since 2013, and he enjoyed a balanced 2016 campaign with six goals and a team-leading six assists. It marked the second straight season that "El Chino" has led the club in the latter category, registering seven assists during the 2015 season.

2017 SCHEDULE

DATE	HOME	VS	AWAY	TIME (ET)
3/25	CHS	v	CIN	8 p.m.
4/1	CLT	v	CHS	7 p.m.
4/8	CHS	v	PGH	7 p.m.
4/15	CHS	v	ROC	7 p.m.
4/22	TBR	v	CHS	7:30 p.m.
4/29	CHS	v	OTT	7 p.m.
5/6	CHS	v	BST	7 p.m.
5/13	CHS	v	STL	7 p.m.
5/20	HAR	v	CHS	7 p.m.
5/25	BST	v	CHS	11 a.m.
5/28	NY	v	CHS	4 p.m.
6/3	CHS	v	LOU	7 p.m.
6/10	CHS	v	RIC	7 p.m.
6/17	CIN	v	CHS	7 p.m.
6/24	CHS	v	TOR	7 p.m.
7/1	CHS	v	TBR	7 p.m.
7/8	CHS	v	LOU	7 p.m.
7/15	STL	v	CHS	8:30 p.m.
7/22	TBR	v	CHS	7:30 p.m.
7/26	PGH	v	CHS	7 p.m.
7/29	CHS	v	ORL	7 p.m.
8/5	TOR	v	CHS	4:30 p.m.
8/12	CHS	v	NY	7 p.m.
8/19	ROC	v	CHS	6:05 p.m.
8/26	RIC	v	CHS	7 p.m.
9/2	LOU	v	CHS	7:30 p.m.
9/9	CHS	v	CLT	7 p.m.
9/16	CHS	v	RIC	7 p.m.
9/23	ORL	v	CHS	8:30 p.m.
10/1	OTT	v	CHS	2 p.m.
10/7	CHS	v	HAR	7 p.m.
10/14	CLT	v	CHS	7 p.m.



CHARLOTTE INDEPENDENCE

f. @charlotteindependence

@CLTIndependence

TEAM RECORD			
Year	W-L-D	Pts	Playoffs
2016	14-8-8	50	East Quarterfinals
2015	10-8-10	40	--

TEAM OUTLOOK

The Independence took an impressive leap forward in their second season to secure a spot in the 2016 USL Cup Playoffs. Charlotte's climb up the ladder quickly was pulled from under the team's legs with an Eastern Conference Quarterfinal exit against the Rochester Rhinos. Nevertheless, the 14-win campaign was another good building block for Head Coach Mike Jeffries' side as the Independence now hope to become a serious title contender in Year 3.

A significant corps from last year's team is back. Charlotte had some pretty balanced contribution on the attacking end, and the club is hopeful for another strong season in particular with returning midfielder Enzo Martinez. He earned USL All-League First Team accolades and was a finalist for 2016 USL MVP.

The midfield depth was certainly a trademark of last year's team, from David Estrada, to Jun Marques-Davison, to longtime Charlotte soccer staple Jorge Herrera who adapted to an integral role off the bench. This group is returning in 2017, and should the Independence maintain their merit in that area of the pitch, the potential looks bright for a deep postseason run.



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KEY PLAYERS



ENZO MARTINEZ

The 2016 USL MVP Finalist has been dubbed the "engine" of the Independence by Head Coach Mike Jeffries. Martinez has been a staple of the organization over the previous two seasons. The 26-year-old Uruguayan stood out this past year with a nine-goal, five-assist campaign and will be called upon to lead the charge again in 2017.



BILAL DUCKETT

Outside of the postseason loss to Rochester, Duckett was a vital component of 10 clean sheets last season. The center back, whose presence dates back to the Charlotte Eagles, has certainly molded himself into a leader as he served as team captain in 2016.

2017 SCHEDULE

DATE	HOME	VS	AWAY	TIME (ET)
4/1	CLT	v	CHS	7 p.m.
4/8	ORL	v	CLT	7:30 p.m.
4/15	CLT	v	PGH	7 p.m.
4/22	STL	v	CLT	8:30 p.m.
4/29	ROC	v	CLT	6:05 p.m.
5/11	CLT	v	NY	7 p.m.
5/27	ORL	v	CLT	7:30 p.m.
6/3	CLT	v	TBR	7 p.m.
6/7	LOU	v	CLT	7:30 p.m.
6/10	CIN	v	CLT	7 p.m.
6/17	CLT	v	HAR	7 p.m.
6/24	RIC	v	CLT	7 p.m.
7/1	CLT	v	ROC	7 p.m.
7/4	PGH	v	CLT	7 p.m.
7/8	CLT	v	STL	7 p.m.
7/15	NY	v	CLT	4 p.m.
7/18	HAR	v	CLT	7 p.m.
7/19	CLT	v	RIC	7 p.m.
7/29	BST	v	CLT	5 p.m.
8/5	CLT	v	LOU	7 p.m.
8/9	TOR	v	CLT	7:30 p.m.
8/12	OTT	v	CLT	2 p.m.
8/16	CLT	v	BST	7 p.m.
8/19	CLT	v	ORL	7 p.m.
8/26	CLT	v	TOR	7 p.m.
9/2	CLT	v	RIC	7 p.m.
9/9	CHS	v	CLT	7 p.m.
9/16	CLT	v	OTT	7 p.m.
9/23	TBR	v	CLT	7:30 p.m.
9/29	CLT	v	CIN	7 p.m.
10/7	LOU	v	CLT	7:30 p.m.
10/14	CLT	v	CHS	7 p.m.



COLORADO SPRINGS SWITCHBACKS FC

f. @switchbacksfc
@SwitchbacksFC

TEAM RECORD		
Year	W-L-D	Pts
2016	14-9-7	49
2015	14-10-4	46

TEAM OUTLOOK

In position to capture first place in the Western Conference standings heading into the regular-season finale this past campaign, the Switchbacks' regular season ended with a road loss and a quick Western Conference Quarterfinal exit during the 2016 USL Cup Playoffs. Coach Steve Tritschuh's side has established itself as a regular top-of-the-table club in his two previous seasons at the helm, but the Switchbacks are hoping for a bit more in terms of being a title contender.

Heading into 2017, a decent spine of the team returns, led by midfielder and USL veteran Luke Vercollone. He enjoyed a career year in 2015 when he was an MVP Finalist, and while Vercollone's numbers were slightly lower than last year, the Switchbacks are always banking on his high level of production in the captain's role.

Colorado Springs returns some other important pieces, including defender Josh Suggs and midfielder Taeseong Kim who quietly had a strong and consistent 2016. Among the new faces, one of the most significant is New Zealand national team midfielder Chris James. In addition to his significant international experience, James also spent 2005-07 with Fulham, when the club was in the English Premier League.



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KEY PLAYERS



LUKE VERCOLLONE

It was a tough ask to repeat his form from 2015, but Vercollone was still steady last season with six goals and four assists. The captain's hard-nosed work ethic and deep-rooted USL experience are the foundation of this club, and he will continue to be the face of this franchise moving forward.



JOSH SUGGS

Suggs joined the Switchbacks last year and didn't disappoint, leading the team in minutes (2,648) and contributing four assists and two goals on his way to USL Second Team honors. Defenders who can produce on both ends of the pitch are a luxury, so Suggs' game is vital toward Colorado Springs' success.

2017 SCHEDULE

DATE	HOME	VS	AWAY	TIME (ET)
3/25	TUL	v	COS	8 p.m.
4/1	COS	v	OKC	8 p.m.
4/7	SA	v	COS	9 p.m.
4/12	RGV	v	COS	8 p.m.
4/15	COS	v	SLC	8 p.m.
4/22	RNO	v	COS	10 p.m.
4/29	COS	v	SEA	8 p.m.
5/5	COS	v	TUL	9 p.m.
5/10	POR	v	COS	2 p.m.
5/14	VAN	v	COS	6 p.m.
5/20	SLC	v	COS	9 p.m.
5/27	COS	v	RNO	8 p.m.
6/3	COS	v	OKC	8 p.m.
6/10	LA	v	COS	10:30 p.m.
6/21	SPR	v	COS	8:30 p.m.
6/24	COS	v	SA	9 p.m.
7/1	COS	v	RGV	9 p.m.
7/8	COS	v	VAN	8 p.m.
7/15	PHX	v	COS	10:30 p.m.
7/22	OKC	v	COS	8:30 p.m.
7/29	COS	v	SEA	8 p.m.
8/5	COS	v	POR	8 p.m.
8/8	OC	v	COS	10:30 p.m.
8/12	SLC	v	COS	9 p.m.
8/18	COS	v	LA	9 p.m.
9/2	SAC	v	COS	10:30 p.m.
9/9	COS	v	PHX	8 p.m.
9/16	SEA	v	COS	10 p.m.
9/23	COS	v	SPR	8 p.m.
9/30	COS	v	OC	8 p.m.
10/7	COS	v	SAC	8 p.m.
10/14	TUL	v	COS	8 p.m.



f @fccincinnati
t @fccincinnati

TEAM RECORD

Year	W-L-D	Pts	Playoffs
2016	16-6-8	56	East Quarterfinals

TEAM OUTLOOK

Boasting tremendous gusto during its USL expansion campaign, FC Cincinnati touted both a strong team and record-breaking fanfare in 2016. The club also advanced to the USL Cup Playoffs, but bowed out against a veteran Charleston Battery side. Overall, though, it was an impressive debut.

Cincinnati moves ahead with many changes throughout the roster and staff. Former Vancouver Whitecaps FC 2 Head Coach Alan Koch is taking over for John Harkes on the sidelines. FCC also has a challenge in the attack now that it does not have the services of 2016 USL MVP Sean Okoli, who signed with Major League Soccer's New York City FC. Up front, FCC went out to gain some new attacking options in Northern Ireland striker Daryl Fordyce, former Seattle Sounders FC 2 and OKC Energy FC forward Andy Craven and will also have the option with loanee and the No. 1-ranked 2016 USL 20 Under 20 prospect Victor Mansaray.

FCC's midfield is packed with talent. Corben Bone and Jimmy McLaughlin return from last year's team, while Cincinnati brought on a pair of former Louisville City FC midfielders in Aodhan Quinn and Kadeem Dacres. In the back, Cincinnati's first move of the offseason was returning 2016 USL Goalkeeper of the Year Mitch Hildebrandt, who certainly became the face of the franchise a year ago.

Heavy attendances and a strong attacking brand of soccer will once again be in the cards for Cincinnati. The club is hoping it translates into a championship-caliber campaign.



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Senior Director of Communications & Public Relations - Fumi Kumura
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KEY PLAYERS



MITCH HILDEBRANDT

A fan favorite both on and off the field for FCC, Hildebrandt will need to replicate some high standards after winning 2016 USL Goalkeeper of the Year. The "Mitch Says No" mantra for his goal-saving moments reverberated at Nippert Stadium, something Cincinnati fans are banking will continue in 2017.



AODHAN QUINN

Cincinnati made a splash this offseason with the addition of the former River Cities Cup rival and former Louisville captain. Dangerous in set pieces chances, Quinn brings a level of precision, experience and high work rate that will bode well for FCC.

2017 SCHEDULE

DATE	HOME	VS	AWAY	TIME (ET)
3/25	CHS	v	CIN	8 p.m.
4/1	PGH	v	CIN	5 p.m.
4/9	BST	v	CIN	4 p.m.
4/15	CIN	v	STL	7 p.m.
4/19	CIN	v	TBR	7 p.m.
4/22	CIN	v	LOU	7 p.m.
4/29	BST	v	CIN	5 p.m.
5/6	RIC	v	CIN	7 p.m.
5/13	CIN	v	ORL	5 p.m.
5/20	CIN	v	BST	7 p.m.
5/27	CIN	v	TOR	5 p.m.
6/3	ROC	v	CIN	6:05 p.m.
6/10	CIN	v	CLT	7 p.m.
6/17	CIN	v	CHS	7 p.m.
6/24	CIN	v	STL	7 p.m.
7/1	ORL	v	CIN	8:30 p.m.
7/6	TBR	v	CIN	8 p.m.
7/9	CIN	v	RIC	6 p.m.
7/15	LOU	v	CIN	7:30 p.m.
7/26	CIN	v	HAR	7 p.m.
7/29	CIN	v	ROC	7 p.m.
8/5	CIN	v	ORL	7 p.m.
8/12	LOU	v	CIN	7:30 p.m.
8/19	NY	v	CIN	4 p.m.
8/23	CIN	v	OTT	7 p.m.
9/2	CIN	v	PGH	4 p.m.
9/12	HAR	v	CIN	6:30 p.m.
9/16	CIN	v	NY	7 p.m.
9/23	STL	v	CIN	8:30 p.m.
9/29	CLT	v	CIN	7 p.m.
10/8	OTT	v	CIN	2 p.m.
10/14	TOR	v	CIN	7:30 p.m.



HARRISBURG
CITY ISLANDERS

f @HarrisburgCityIslanders

t @city_islanders

TEAM RECORD			
Year	W-L-D	Pts	Playoffs
2016	8-15-7	31	--
2015	11-11-6	39	--
2014	10-11-7	37	Final
2013	14-10-2	44	Quarterfinals
2012	10-7-7	37	Quarterfinals
2011	10-7-7	37	Final

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TEAM OUTLOOK

The City Islanders endured their toughest USL season to date in 2016. While the eighth and final Eastern Conference postseason spot was still almost within the club's reach, Harrisburg ultimately fell short of the USL Cup Playoffs for a second straight year.

Harrisburg needs a spark on both ends of the pitch, and fans will be eager to see if the City Islanders made enough substantial moves in the offseason.

Jamaican midfielder Paul Wilson returns and is one of the club's more exciting players on the pitch. He holds a well-rounded rapport after tallying four goals and six assists for Bill Becher's side. The head coach knows Wilson is the type of presence that draws plenty of attention and could potentially make his teammates stronger.

Defensively, the City Islanders conceded the third-most goals in the Eastern Conference a year ago. Finding stability among the back line was a big sticking point, and the club is relying on returnees Shawn McLaws and Jamie Thomas to maintain some structure. The consistent minutes last season certainly should bode well for both of them moving forward; McLaws was the lone City Islanders player to appear in all 30 regular-season games in 2016.



CONTACT INFO

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KEY PLAYERS



PAUL WILSON

Perhaps the biggest motor within Harrisburg's roster, Wilson had a productive first season with six assists and four goals last year. The Jamaican footballer will certainly be asked to display even more as a returnee. Consistency will be key; Wilson already has shown that he has the work rate.



CARDELE BENBOW

The club has high expectations for Benbow to be an offensive force now that he has been with the team for two previous seasons. With an offseason loan to Portmore United FC in Jamaica, as well, Bill Becher anticipates some immediate contributions from the 21-year-old for 2017.

2017 SCHEDULE

DATE	HOME	VS	AWAY	TIME (ET)
3/25	RIC	v	HAR	5 p.m.
4/5	NY	v	HAR	7 p.m.
4/15	HAR	v	BST	7 p.m.
4/18	HAR	v	ORL	6:30 p.m.
4/29	PGH	v	HAR	7 p.m.
5/6	NY	v	HAR	4 p.m.
5/13	RIC	v	HAR	7 p.m.
5/20	HAR	v	CHS	7 p.m.
5/24	HAR	v	PGH	6:30 p.m.
5/28	BST	v	HAR	5 p.m.
6/10	OTT	v	HAR	7 p.m.
6/17	CLT	v	HAR	7 p.m.
6/20	HAR	v	BST	7 p.m.
6/24	HAR	v	LOU	7 p.m.
7/1	TOR	v	HAR	5 p.m.
7/8	ROC	v	HAR	6:05 p.m.
7/12	HAR	v	NY	7 p.m.
7/15	HAR	v	RIC	7 p.m.
7/18	HAR	v	CLT	7 p.m.
7/26	CIN	v	HAR	7 p.m.
8/2	ORL	v	HAR	7:30 p.m.
8/5	TBR	v	HAR	7:30 p.m.
8/8	HAR	v	ROC	7 p.m.
8/12	HAR	v	PGH	7 p.m.
8/23	LOU	v	HAR	7:30 p.m.
9/6	HAR	v	TBR	6:30 p.m.
9/9	STL	v	HAR	8:30 p.m.
9/12	HAR	v	CIN	6:30 p.m.
9/16	HAR	v	TOR	7 p.m.
9/27	HAR	v	OTT	6:30 p.m.
9/30	HAR	v	STL	7 p.m.
10/7	CHS	v	HAR	7 p.m.



LA GALAXY II

f @LAGalaxyII

t @LAGalaxyII

TEAM RECORD		
Year	W-L-D	Pts
2016	12-7-11	47
2015	14-11-3	45
2014	10-10-8	38

Playoffs
West Quarterfinals
Runner-Up
Quarterfinals

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TEAM OUTLOOK

The first MLS-owned-and-operated USL franchise is now 3-for-3 in terms of qualifying for the USL Cup Playoffs. Los Dos set a high standard since their 2014 debut and are big reason why today's fans are able to enjoy the type of championship showdown last year between USL Cup Final winners the New York Red Bulls II and the runners-up Swope Park Rangers.

For LA, the club had mixed results in the 2016 season, flirting with the top spot in the Western Conference and exiting quickly in the conference quarterfinals after appearing in the USL Cup Final the year before. Now, the team has gone through some structural changes after Curt Onalfo became the MLS side's head coach this offseason.

In comes Mike Muñoz, who without question will know his new USL roster better than anyone. An incredibly successful head coach for the organization in the U.S. Soccer Development Academy, Muñoz has been a big reason why the Galaxy II and Galaxy have successfully molded young talent at the professional ranks. This year's USL side will feature returnees such as midfielder Ryo Fujii and forward Adonis Amaya.

The Galaxy II could sport an incredibly young team even by the club's previous standards. In goal, for example, Los Dos benefited enormously from the services of Clement Diop, who is now getting significant time with the MLS club this preseason. That will put much more pressure on teenagers Bennett Sneddon and Eric Lopez in USL play.



CONTACT INFO

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KEY PLAYERS



RYO FUJII

The former Galaxy Academy player showed some brilliance last season, highlighted by a two-goal performance against Arizona United SC. He also was named to the 2016 USL 20 Under 20, and the Galaxy organization hopes Fujii's rise continues in 2017.



ADONIS AMAYA

Amaya opened 2016 mostly coming off the bench, and he proved his worth as summer heated up. He registered all five assists and four goals during his final 13 regular-season appearances. Los Dos hit some potholes from a scoring standpoint after Jack McBean's departure, and Amaya will need to restore that production this year.

2017 SCHEDULE

DATE	HOME	VS	AWAY	TIME (ET)
3/25	LA	v	VAN	5 p.m.
4/1	SA	v	LA	8:30 p.m.
4/8	PHX	v	LA	10:30 p.m.
4/15	LA	v	SEA	10:30 p.m.
4/22	LA	v	OC	10:30 p.m.
5/6	OC	v	LA	8 p.m.
5/10	LA	v	SLC	10:30 p.m.
5/14	NY	v	LA	9 p.m.
5/20	RGV	v	LA	8:30 p.m.
5/27	LA	v	PHX	10:30 p.m.
6/3	SEA	v	LA	10 p.m.
6/10	LA	v	COS	10:30 p.m.
6/17	RGV	v	LA	8:30 p.m.
6/25	LA	v	SAC	9:30 p.m.
6/30	LA	v	SPR	10:30 p.m.
7/3	RNO	v	LA	10:30 p.m.
7/9	POR	v	LA	5 p.m.
7/13	LA	v	TUL	10:30 p.m.
7/30	LA	v	OKC	9:30 p.m.
8/2	LA	v	OC	10:30 p.m.
8/5	LA	v	PHX	10:30 p.m.
8/18	COS	v	LA	9 p.m.
8/27	VAN	v	LA	6 p.m.
9/3	LA	v	RGV	9:30 p.m.
9/6	LA	v	RNO	10:30 p.m.
9/9	LA	v	SA	10:30 p.m.
9/16	SAC	v	LA	10:30 p.m.
9/23	TUL	v	LA	8 p.m.
9/27	SPR	v	LA	8:30 p.m.
10/1	OKC	v	LA	6 p.m.
10/7	LA	v	POR	10:30 p.m.
10/14	SLC	v	LA	9 p.m.



LOUISVILLE CITY FC

f @louisvillecityfc

t @loucityfc

TEAM RECORD

Year	W-L-D	Pts	Playoffs
2016	17-4-9	60	East Final
2015	14-8-6	48	East Final

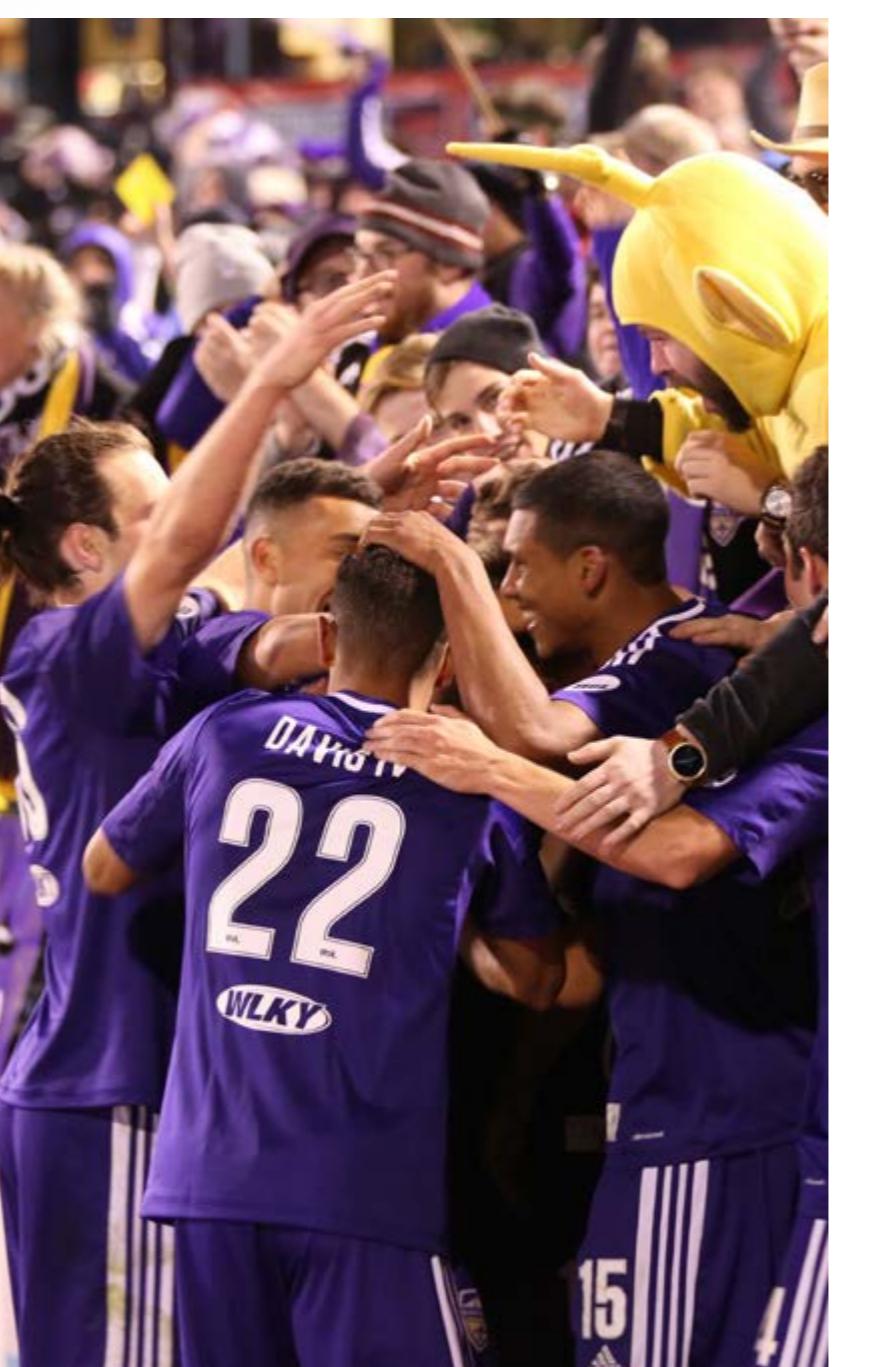
TEAM OUTLOOK

For its first two seasons, Louisville set a high standard, coming within one victory or reaching the USL Cup Final both years. It is an impressive accomplishment, but James O'Connor's side is primed to get over that hurdle heading into 2017.

Louisville couldn't keep pace with the eventual 2016 champion New York Red Bulls II, who ran away with the Eastern Conference crown. Nevertheless, City firmly secured itself as the next-best throughout the year, with an offense that tied for second in the USL (52 goals) and a top-10 defense. One member of the past two years' NYRBII sides has made the trek to Louisville -Devon "Speedy" Williams, who as his nickname suggests, should add some swiftness among a deep midfield.

George Davis IV, one of the league's top-five all-time goal scorers, is back for a second season in Louisville. Davis had some fleeting moments in 2016 and looks to improve on his five-goal clip a year ago. He reunites with a former Richmond Kickers teammate, midfielder Brian Ownby, who had two solid seasons in his home state of Virginia.

Last year saw the upsurge of goalkeeper Greg Ranjitsingh, who during the regular season posted 10 individual clean sheets. The 2016 season progressively got better for Ranjitsingh as he took over the No. 1 spot formerly held by Scott Goodwin and also earned his first international call-up with Trinidad & Tobago. Ranjitsingh returns to lead a defense that not only takes pride in that third of the pitch but also is one of the best at generating buildup in the attack.



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KEY PLAYERS



DEVON 'SPEEDY' WILLIAMS

The Jamaican central midfielder was at times lower on the pecking order within the deep Red Bulls organization, but Williams should get his shot at being a regular impact player with the move to Louisville. City FC has an array of intangibles in the midfield, with Williams' quick-witted play adding more flair to the mix.



GREG RANJITSINGH

The Trinidad & Tobago international got his first significant playing opportunity for Louisville in mid-April last year after Scott Goodwin's sending off against Pittsburgh. Ranjitsingh delivered from that point on, recording 12 total individual clean sheets, including two during the USL Cup Playoffs.

2017 SCHEDULE

DATE	HOME	VS	AWAY	TIME (ET)
3/25	LOU	v	STL	2 p.m.
3/30	ORL	v	LOU	7:30 p.m.
4/8	RIC	v	LOU	5 p.m.
4/15	LOU	v	TBR	7:30 p.m.
4/22	CIN	v	LOU	7 p.m.
4/29	LOU	v	TOR	7:30 p.m.
5/13	TBR	v	LOU	7:30 p.m.
5/20	PGH	v	LOU	7 p.m.
6/3	CHS	v	LOU	7 p.m.
6/7	LOU	v	CLT	7:30 p.m.
6/11	NY	v	LOU	4 p.m.
6/17	LOU	v	PGH	7:30 p.m.
6/24	HAR	v	LOU	7 p.m.
7/1	LOU	v	OTT	7:30 p.m.
7/8	CHS	v	LOU	7 p.m.
7/15	LOU	v	CIN	7:30 p.m.
7/22	STL	v	LOU	8:30 p.m.
7/29	LOU	v	NY	7:30 p.m.
8/5	CLT	v	LOU	7 p.m.
8/12	LOU	v	CIN	7:30 p.m.
8/20	BST	v	LOU	5 p.m.
8/23	LOU	v	HAR	7:30 p.m.
8/26	LOU	v	ORL	7:30 p.m.
9/2	LOU	v	CHS	7:30 p.m.
9/9	PGH	v	LOU	7 p.m.
9/15	LOU	v	BST	7:30 p.m.
9/20	LOU	v	ROC	7:30 p.m.
9/24	OTT	v	LOU	2 p.m.
9/27	TOR	v	LOU	7:30 p.m.
9/30	ROC	v	LOU	6:05 p.m.
10/7	LOU	v	CLT	7:30 p.m.
10/14	LOU	v	RIC	7:30 p.m.

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NEW YORK RED BULLS II

f @NYRBII
t @NYRBII

TEAM RECORD		
Year	W-L-D	Pts
2016	21-3-6	69
2015	12-10-6	42

Playoffs
Champion
East Semifinals

600 Cape May St.
Harrison, NJ 07029
www.newyorkredbulls.com/2
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TEAM OUTLOOK

The Red Bulls II took the league by storm in their second USL season, posting record-breaking marks on the offensive end and winning the 2016 USL Cup Final against the Swope Park Rangers. The league's first MLS-owned-and-operated USL champions will now try and repeat, and Head Coach John Wolyniec still has a good base to choose from among the organization's deep talent pool.

The French connection of Vincent Bezecourt and Florian Valot returns. Valot tied for the team assists lead and Bezecourt proved to be an important commodity with some highlight-reel goals and important set piece responsibilities. Junior Flemmings leads the attack after tallying seven goals in an injury-shortened season.

Another anticipated element is a change of venue. Rather than share Red Bull Arena with the Major League Soccer side as it has for two previous seasons, NYRB II looks forward to calling MSU Soccer Park at Montclair State University its home base. The Red Bulls II helped in renovations and upgrades to meet league standards and look to regenerate significant buzz on campus to draw support the defending USL champions.

Replicating last year's performance certainly will be a difficult task. NYRB II was the only USL team to average slightly more than two goals per game a year ago and the defense conceded a league-low 0.7 goals per game. That said, New York has a strong skeleton to work with in its attempt to rekindle last year's magic.



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Sporting Director - Dennis Hamlett

KEY PLAYERS



VINCENT BEZECOURT

Bezecourt's left-footed free kick deliveries and shot-taking capabilities truly shone during the second half of the 2016 season. His finishing is strong (six goals during the regular season), but moving forward it will be his setup play that will drive this club, as evidenced by three postseason assists last year.



JUNIOR FLEMMINGS

The Jamaican striker was unable to join the pitch for NYRBII's stretch run, undergoing left medial meniscus surgery at the beginning of September. In 23 games, Flemmings tallied seven goals and four assists, and he certainly will be a central figure within New York's attack to open the 2017 campaign.

2017 SCHEDULE

DATE	HOME	VS	AWAY	TIME (ET)
3/25	PGH	v	NY	5 p.m.
4/1	NY	v	RIC	4 p.m.
4/5	NY	v	HAR	7 p.m.
4/8	STL	v	NY	8:30 p.m.
4/14	NY	v	ORL	7 p.m.
4/22	ROC	v	NY	6:05 p.m.
5/6	NY	v	HAR	4 p.m.
5/11	CLT	v	NY	7 p.m.
5/14	NY	v	LA	9 p.m.
5/20	NY	v	OTT	4 p.m.
5/28	NY	v	CHS	4 p.m.
6/3	RIC	v	NY	7 p.m.
6/11	NY	v	LOU	4 p.m.
6/16	NY	v	BST	7 p.m.
6/24	OTT	v	NY	2 p.m.
7/2	NY	v	STL	4 p.m.
7/9	BST	v	NY	5 p.m.
7/12	HAR	v	NY	7 p.m.
7/15	NY	v	CLT	4 p.m.
7/21	NY	v	TOR	7 p.m.
7/29	LOU	v	NY	7:30 p.m.
8/5	NY	v	ROC	4 p.m.
8/12	CHS	v	NY	7 p.m.
8/19	NY	v	CIN	4 p.m.
8/27	OTT	v	NY	7 p.m.
9/2	NY	v	TBR	4 p.m.
9/9	TOR	v	NY	8 p.m.
9/16	CIN	v	NY	7 p.m.
9/30	NY	v	PGH	4 p.m.
10/4	TBR	v	NY	7:30 p.m.
10/7	ORL	v	NY	7:30 p.m.
10/14	ROC	v	NY	6:05 p.m.



OKC ENERGY FC

f @EnergyFC
t @EnergyFC

TEAM RECORD		
Year	W-L-D	Pts
2016	10-7-13	43
2015	13-7-8	47
2014	9-14-5	32
	Playoffs	
	West Semifinals	
	West Final	
	--	

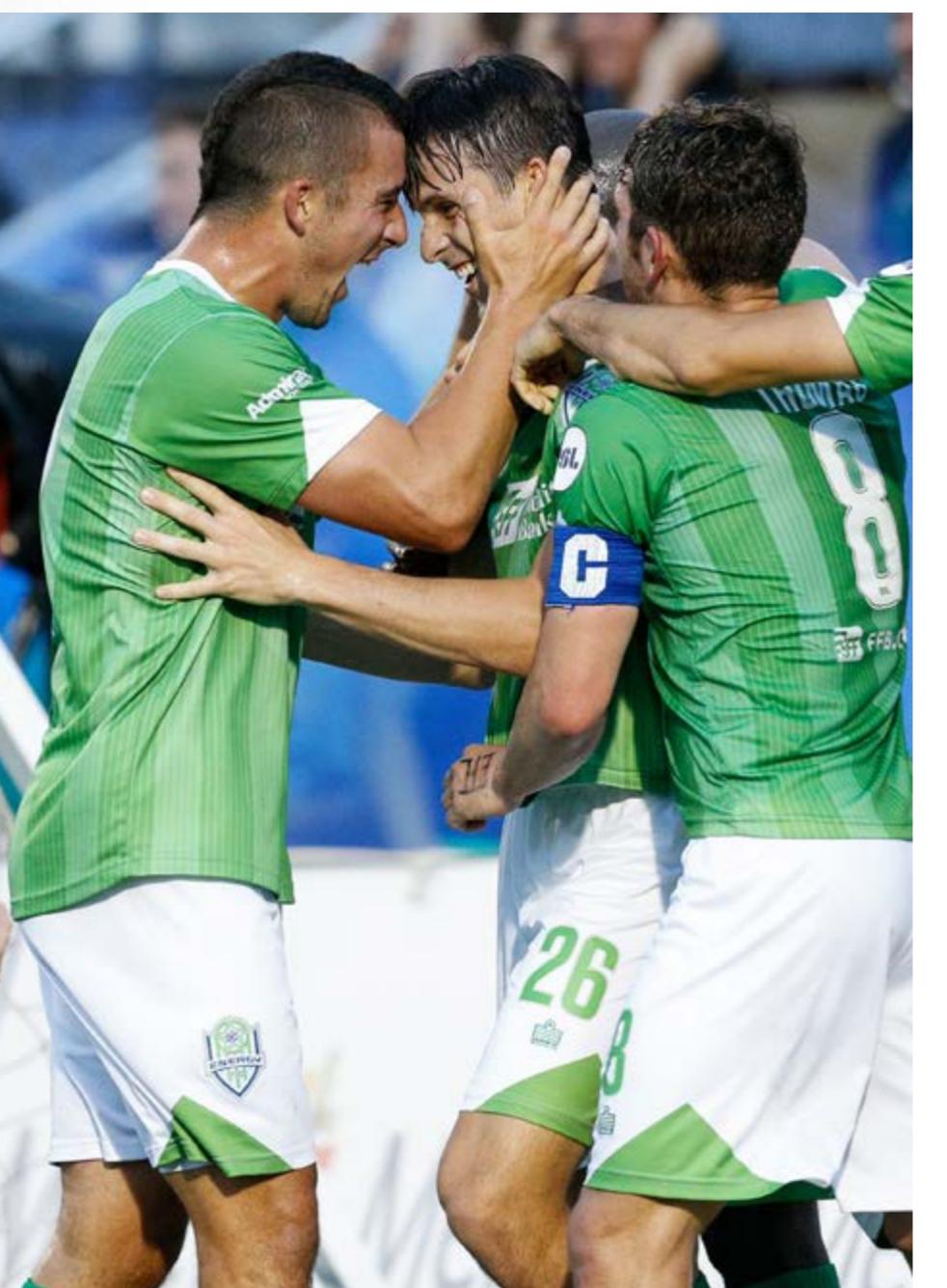
TEAM OUTLOOK

The positives for Energy FC in 2016 included a strong defense and a second straight season in the USL Cup Playoffs. The down side was that the offense did not live up to expectations, aside from a momentous comeback to win its Western Conference Semifinal clash against Rio Grande Valley FC.

Head Coach Jimmy Nielsen's side is hoping to get over that hump and return to the realm that saw 2015 USL MVP Finalist Danni Konig delivering 21 goals that year. Thanks to some key signings up front and in the midfield, perhaps OKC can revisit that trend.

Former Colorado Springs Switchbacks FC forward Miguel Gonzalez reunites with his younger brother, Daniel, and his USL track record has been solid with 16 goals and nine assists in two years with the Switchbacks. Energy FC also landed two imposing midfielders, including former Harrisburg City Islanders member Jose Barril, a multi-tooled talent who was named to the 2016 USL All-League Second Team and helped the 2014 side to a runner-up finish. Midfielder Alejandro Covarrubias spent the previous three seasons with the LA Galaxy II and was a member of the 2015 USL runner-up squad.

Goalkeeper Cody Laurendi is back in the fold to continue anchoring the defense, so if both sides of the ball can play at the same wavelength, Energy FC could be in for a successful run in the Western Conference.



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KEY PLAYERS



MIGUEL GONZALEZ

Uniting with younger brother Daniel is a feel-good story for 2017, but production will ultimately matter the most, and Miguel has enjoyed two impressive seasons at Colorado Springs Switchbacks FC. From scoring to dishing, the forward has a commanding scope that could benefit the likes of Danni Konig who had a subpar 2016.



CODY LAURENDI

OKC's defense conceded the fourth-lowest total of goals among Western Conference teams in 2016, so re-signing the Puerto Rican goalkeeper for this year was an important process. Laurendi flirted with a USL single-season record, notching 12 clean sheets last year. He is a significant Energy FC player, both on the field and in the community.

2017 SCHEDULE

DATE	HOME	VS	AWAY	TIME (ET)
3/25	SPR	v	OKC	8:30 p.m.
4/1	COS	v	OKC	8 p.m.
4/8	OKC	v	RGV	8 p.m.
4/11	OKC	v	SAC	8 p.m.
4/29	RGV	v	OKC	8:30 p.m.
5/13	PHX	v	OKC	10:30 p.m.
5/20	OKC	v	OC	8 p.m.
5/24	OKC	v	POR	8 p.m.
6/3	COS	v	OKC	8 p.m.
6/6	OKC	v	PHX	8:30 p.m.
6/10	OKC	v	SA	8:30 p.m.
6/16	POR	v	OKC	10:30 p.m.
6/19	SEA	v	OKC	10:30 p.m.
6/24	VAN	v	OKC	6 p.m.
7/5	SLC	v	OKC	9 p.m.
7/8	OKC	v	TUL	8:30 p.m.
7/14	SA	v	OKC	9 p.m.
7/22	OKC	v	COS	8:30 p.m.
7/30	LA	v	OKC	9:30 p.m.
8/2	OKC	v	RNO	8:30 p.m.
8/5	OKC	v	SLC	8:30 p.m.
8/12	TUL	v	OKC	8:30 p.m.
8/19	OKC	v	SA	8:30 p.m.
8/25	OC	v	OKC	10:30 p.m.
9/2	SPR	v	OKC	8:30 p.m.
9/10	OKC	v	VAN	6 p.m.
9/17	OKC	v	TUL	6 p.m.
9/20	RNO	v	OKC	10 p.m.
9/23	SAC	v	OKC	10:30 p.m.
10/1	OKC	v	LA	6 p.m.
10/8	OKC	v	SPR	6 p.m.
10/15	OKC	v	SEA	6 p.m.



ORANGE COUNTY SC

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[@orangecountysc](#)

TEAM RECORD			
Year	W-L-D	Pts	Playoffs
2016	12-14-4	40	West Semifinals
2015	14-9-5	47	West Semifinals
2014	9-18-1	28	--
2013	11-8-7	40	Quarterfinals
2012	9-12-3	30	--
2011	8-7-9	33	Quarterfinals

TEAM OUTLOOK

Orange County found its stride at the right moment of the 2016 season, advancing to its best postseason finish with an appearance in the Western Conference Semifinals. Following up that strong run, the organization is in the midst of a different culture in more ways than one.

The club underwent a branding change, from the former Blues moniker to Orange County SC. The organization also formed what should be a beneficial affiliation with Major League Soccer expansion side Los Angeles FC, which will begin play in 2018. To top it all off, longtime Chicago Fire midfielder Logan Pause moves into his first professional head coaching foray.

With all the changes in play, the roster itself will have a number of new pieces, as well. Outside back Juan Pablo Ocegueda brings some intrigue to Orange County. Though the UANL loanee has not appeared for the Liga MX side, Ocegueda has made a name for himself at several levels within U.S. Soccer's youth system, including the 2013 FIFA U-20 World Cup team. Salomon Wbias, a Mexican youth international on loan from Liga MX's Pachuca, could also prove to be steady talent in the center of the defense.

Coinciding with this youth will be the veteran presence of midfielder Richard Chaplow and Belgian defender Roy Meeus, who had a strong four-goal, four-assist campaign in 2016. It is likely that this group will repeat production-wise, but the challenge will ultimately fall on how their play meshes with the young talent and Pause's style at the helm.



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KEY PLAYERS



RICHARD CHAPLOW

At 32 years old and with a playing career that spans the English Premier League and Championship, Chaplow will be the major piece in Orange County's midfield. Orange County will likely field a much younger side than years past, and his veteran contribution is imperative.



JUAN PABLO OCEGUEDA

Ocegueda has spent the past few years on loan to Ascenso MX side Oaxaca and now returns close to his hometown. He should bring some versatile dimension to the left back position. Ocegueda is comfortable with the ball at his feet and will be tasked with linking with the attack from time to time.

2017 SCHEDULE

DATE	HOME	VS	AWAY	TIME (ET)
3/25	RNO	v	OC	10 p.m.
4/1	SAC	v	OC	10:30 p.m.
4/8	POR	v	OC	10 p.m.
4/22	LA	v	OC	10:30 p.m.
5/6	OC	v	LA	8 p.m.
5/13	TUL	v	OC	8 p.m.
5/20	OKC	v	OC	8 p.m.
6/3	OC	v	SLC	8 p.m.
6/24	OC	v	SEA	8 p.m.
7/1	OC	v	POR	10 p.m.
7/8	OC	v	PHX	10 p.m.
7/16	SEA	v	OC	5 p.m.
7/19	RGV	v	OC	8 p.m.
7/22	OC	v	RGV	10 p.m.
7/29	OC	v	VAN	10 p.m.
8/2	LA	v	OC	10:30 p.m.
8/5	SA	v	OC	8:30 p.m.
8/8	OC	v	COS	10:30 p.m.
8/12	SPR	v	OC	8:30 p.m.
8/15	OC	v	TUL	10:30 p.m.
8/18	OC	v	PHX	10:30 p.m.
8/25	OC	v	OKC	10:30 p.m.
9/2	OC	v	RNO	10 p.m.
9/6	PHX	v	OC	10:30 p.m.
9/9	OC	v	SPR	10 p.m.
9/13	OC	v	SA	10:30 p.m.
9/17	VAN	v	OC	7 p.m.
9/22	SLC	v	OC	9 p.m.
9/30	COS	v	OC	8 p.m.
10/4	OC	v	SAC	10:30 p.m.
10/7	OC	v	RNO	10:30 p.m.
10/13	VAN	v	OC	10 p.m.

CONTACT INFO

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ORLANDO CITY B

f @OrlandoCityB
t @OrlandoCityB

TEAM RECORD			
Year	W-L-D	Pts	Playoffs
2016	9-13-9	35	East Quarterfinals

TEAM OUTLOOK

Orlando City B's opening USL season was not smooth by any means, but in the grand scheme of things, OCB did accomplish quite a bit. The club clinched the final USL Cup Playoffs berth in the Eastern Conference, and in the offseason Orlando midfielder Pierre Da Silva signed with the MLS side, establishing the professional hierarchy the organization set out to instill.

Orlando will feature a mix of both returnees and key off-season acquisitions, putting the side in a better position for a fast start in 2017. Some added excitement also is in play this year as OCB will play in the new, state-of-the-art Orlando City Stadium downtown, after spending 2016 in Melbourne.

One of the earlier offseason moves the organization made was acquiring defender Zach Carroll, who was a member of the championship New York Red Bulls II side. Carroll served as a key component at center back and earned USL All-League Second Team honors. Additionally, some strong young talent is in the mix with U.S. youth national team forward Joe Gallardo and former Portland Timbers 2 forward Ben Polk and former Seattle Sounders FC 2 midfielder Jordan Schweitzer among a number of dynamic options.

Among the returning corps, the most important is OCB's leading goal-scorer Michael Cox, who tallied 11 times in 28 regular-season games in 2016. Cox's production rate also was one of the best - 11 goals in 44 shots versus 2016 USL MVP Sean Okoli's 16 goals in 85, for instance.



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KEY PLAYERS



ZACH CARROLL

Orlando's defense notched a solid component with the addition of the center back, who brings championship experience from last year and was part of a back line that conceded a USL-low 21 goals during the regular season.



MICHAEL COX

The Canadian striker quickly established himself as one of the league's more dangerous goal-scorers, tallying 11 goals in 2016. Cox actually had the USL's lowest shot total of the bunch that scored more than 10 times, so if given some more opportunities, he could make a serious run for the league lead down the road.

2017 SCHEDULE

DATE	HOME	VS	AWAY	TIME (ET)
3/25	TBR	v	ORL	7:30 p.m.
3/30	ORL	v	LOU	7:30 p.m.
4/4	ORL	v	TOR	7:30 p.m.
4/8	ORL	v	CLT	7:30 p.m.
4/14	NY	v	ORL	7 p.m.
4/18	HAR	v	ORL	6:30 p.m.
4/23	BST	v	ORL	4 p.m.
4/27	ORL	v	STL	7:30 p.m.
5/13	CIN	v	ORL	5 p.m.
5/27	ORL	v	CLT	7:30 p.m.
6/3	PGH	v	ORL	7 p.m.
6/7	ORL	v	ROC	7:30 p.m.
6/14	TOR	v	ORL	12 p.m.
6/20	OTT	v	ORL	10:30 a.m.
6/23	ROC	v	ORL	7:05 p.m.
7/1	ORL	v	CIN	8:30 p.m.
7/8	ORL	v	PGH	7:30 p.m.
7/13	ORL	v	TBR	7:30 p.m.
7/29	CHS	v	ORL	7 p.m.
8/2	ORL	v	HAR	7:30 p.m.
8/5	CIN	v	ORL	7 p.m.
8/12	RIC	v	ORL	7 p.m.
8/16	ORL	v	OTT	7:30 p.m.
8/19	CLT	v	ORL	7 p.m.
8/26	LOU	v	ORL	7:30 p.m.
8/31	ORL	v	BST	7:30 p.m.
9/7	ORL	v	RIC	7:30 p.m.
9/16	STL	v	ORL	8:30 p.m.
9/23	ORL	v	CHS	8:30 p.m.
10/1	RIC	v	ORL	5 p.m.
10/7	ORL	v	NY	7:30 p.m.
10/12	ORL	v	TBR	7:30 p.m.



OTTAWA FURY FC

f @OttawaFuryFC
t @OttawaFuryFC

TEAM OUTLOOK

Ottawa enters its first USL season with a blend of familiar faces within Fury FC's circle and some familiar faces that die-hard league followers will certainly recall. As things shape up for Head Coach Paul Dalglish, his side appears to have built a veteran presence on both sides of the ball that should make an immediate impact in the USL's Eastern Conference.

The first order of business was securing Carl Haworth for 2017 for his fourth season, making him the longest-serving member of the organization. A former PDL champion, as well, Haworth wound up having a career year to lead the team in goals and assists in 2016. This year's Ottawa side will be captained by midfielder Lance Rozeboom, who also served as the Austin Aztex's captain during the 2015 USL season under Dalglish.

This season marks the reunion of former 2015 USL champion Rochester Rhinos teammates. Defender Onua Obasi is set for his second campaign with Ottawa, and new to the fold is striker Steevan Dos Santos, who had spent the past two years in Rochester. The 6-foot-4 duo will be hard to miss in Canada's capital, and while their height is an intangible, both players are comfortable with the ball at their feet.

The benefits of Ottawa's new affiliation with Major League Soccer's Montreal Impact will be one to keep a close eye on. Goalkeeper David Paulmin marked the first signing of an Impact player to Fury FC as he will compete alongside the likes of Callum Irving, and Dalglish certainly will utilize this influx of talent throughout the campaign.



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KEY PLAYERS



CARL HAWORTH

As the longest-tenured Fury FC player, Haworth's style and work ethic are two of the more valuable intangibles that Paul Dalglish sees in his forward. Haworth also earned his first Canada senior team call-up shortly after re-signing, so the full spectrum of his rise continues heading into 2017.



STEEVAN DOS SANTOS

Offensive production was a key offseason focal point for Paul Dalglish, who expects newcomer Steevan Dos Santos to help with his USL experience and scoring prowess. The Cape Verdean tallied three times during the 2016 USL Cup Playoffs, netted eight goals during the regular season and led the Rochester Rhinos with five assists.

2017 SCHEDULE

DATE	HOME	VS	AWAY	TIME (ET)
4/1	STL	v	OTT	8:30 p.m.
4/8	TBR	v	OTT	7:30 p.m.
4/15	RIC	v	OTT	5 p.m.
4/22	OTT	v	TOR	2 p.m.
4/29	CHS	v	OTT	7 p.m.
5/6	OTT	v	TBR	2 p.m.
5/13	OTT	v	PGH	2 p.m.
5/20	NY	v	OTT	4 p.m.
5/27	OTT	v	RIC	2 p.m.
6/4	BST	v	OTT	5 p.m.
6/10	OTT	v	HAR	7 p.m.
6/17	ROC	v	OTT	6:05 p.m.
6/20	OTT	v	ORL	10:30 a.m.
6/24	OTT	v	NY	2 p.m.
7/1	LOU	v	OTT	7:30 p.m.
7/8	TOR	v	OTT	7:30 p.m.
7/15	OTT	v	ROC	2 p.m.
7/29	OTT	v	TOR	7 p.m.
8/5	OTT	v	BST	2 p.m.
8/12	OTT	v	CLT	2 p.m.
8/16	ORL	v	OTT	7:30 p.m.
8/19	TBR	v	OTT	7:30 p.m.
8/23	CIN	v	OTT	7 p.m.
8/27	OTT	v	NY	7 p.m.
9/3	OTT	v	STL	2 p.m.
9/9	ROC	v	OTT	6:05 p.m.
9/16	CLT	v	OTT	7 p.m.
9/24	OTT	v	LOU	2 p.m.
9/27	HAR	v	OTT	6:30 p.m.
10/1	OTT	v	CHS	2 p.m.
10/8	OTT	v	CIN	2 p.m.
10/14	PGH	v	OTT	7 p.m.



PHOENIX RISING FC

f @phxrisingfc
t @phxrisingfc

TEAM RECORD			
2016	9-14-7	34	--
2015	10-16-2	32	--
2014	10-13-5	35	--

TEAM OUTLOOK

The former Arizona United SC underwent a branding change this offseason with the birth of Phoenix Rising FC. Phoenix is now hoping to alter a three-year stretch that has fallen short of the postseason in each occasion.

While the club saw its wins total take a small dip in 2016, Phoenix enters its fourth campaign with significant optimism having improved in some areas under two-time MLS Coach of the Year Frank Yallop and going out and acquiring some big pieces this offseason. Entering his second season at the helm, Yallop feels he has the pieces that mesh with his system and style of play for 2017.

Yallop made a pointed effort to amplify the attack, and Phoenix went out and acquired one of the best in the business in Mexican legend Omar Bravo. The all-time leading goal-scorer at C.D. Chivas Guadalajara and long-time international, Bravo has big-game experience that automatically puts the club at a higher level. Beyond Bravo, Yallop is reuniting with former Chicago Fire striker Jason Johnson. The 26-year-old Jamaican spent last year with San Antonio FC. Also noteworthy is the addition of former Colorado Springs Switchbacks FC forward Mike Seth, coming off a career year that featured eight goals. Combined with a midfield of former England international Shaun Wright-Phillips, newcomer Alessandro Riggi and returnees such as Luke Rooney, opposing defenses could have a handful in slowing down this offense.

Phoenix's defense took a positive step last year, and the club has a strong goalkeeping tandem to work with. Veteran Carl Woszczynski returns, and he spent a portion of his offseason with Millwall Football Club in England. He will be challenged with new teammate Josh Cohen, who split time in goal with 2015 USL Goalkeeper of the Year Brandon Miller at Orange County.



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KEY PLAYERS



OMAR BRAVO

High-profile talent like Bravo changes a club dynamic in a multitude of ways. The resume is impressive: two-time CONCACAF Gold Cup winner, member of Mexico's 2006 FIFA World Cup team and a club-high 132 goals with C.D. Chivas Guadalajara. Rising FC faithful certainly expects big things from him in 2017.



LUKE ROONEY

The English midfielder grew in stature as the 2016 season progressed, supplying eight goals and five assists. Supporters voted him the club MVP, and it is hard to argue with that designation after he provided some of the top highlight-reel moments of last year.

2017 SCHEDULE

DATE	HOME	VS	AWAY	TIME (ET)
3/25	PHX	v	TOR	10:30 p.m.
4/1	SLC	v	PHX	6 p.m.
4/8	PHX	v	LA	10:30 p.m.
4/23	PHX	v	SPR	10:30 p.m.
5/6	PHX	v	RNO	10:30 p.m.
5/13	PHX	v	OKC	10:30 p.m.
5/20	SA	v	PHX	8:30 p.m.
5/27	LA	v	PHX	10:30 p.m.
6/6	OKC	v	PHX	8:30 p.m.
6/10	PHX	v	VAN	10:30 p.m.
6/18	SPR	v	PHX	5 p.m.
6/24	PHX	v	SLC	10:30 p.m.
6/30	RNO	v	PHX	10:30 p.m.
7/8	OC	v	PHX	10 p.m.
7/15	PHX	v	COS	10:30 p.m.
7/22	TUL	v	PHX	8:30 p.m.
7/29	PHX	v	SA	10:30 p.m.
8/5	LA	v	PHX	10:30 p.m.
8/12	RGV	v	PHX	8:30 p.m.
8/18	OC	v	PHX	10:30 p.m.
8/26	PHX	v	SAC	10:30 p.m.
9/2	PHX	v	SEA	10:30 p.m.
9/6	PHX	v	OC	10:30 p.m.
9/9	COS	v	PHX	8 p.m.
9/16	PHX	v	SLC	10:30 p.m.
9/20	SEA	v	PHX	10:30 p.m.
9/24	VAN	v	PHX	6 p.m.
9/27	POR	v	PHX	10:30 p.m.
9/30	SAC	v	PHX	10:30 p.m.
10/4	PHX	v	TUL	10:30 p.m.
10/7	PHX	v	RGV	10:30 p.m.
10/14	PHX	v	POR	10:30 p.m.



PITTSBURGH RIVERHOUNDS

f @pittsburghriverhounds
t @pghriverhounds

TEAM RECORD			
Year	W-L-D	Pts	Playoffs
2016	6-17-7	25	--
2015	11-9-8	41	East Quarterfinals
2014	9-14-5	32	--
2013	10-8-8	38	Quarterfinals
2012	4-15-5	17	--
2011	7-11-6	27	Quarterfinals

TEAM OUTLOOK

The Riverhounds are hopeful that a rebound campaign is in the cards as the club prepares for the 2017 season. After a seven-game winless streak (0-4-3) to open 2016, Pittsburgh could not recover as it posted 17 losses and finished second-to-last in the Eastern Conference. During this stretch, the club brought in Dave Brandt to take over as Head Coach just eight matches into the season. Now Brandt has a full season to work with heading into 2017, and the Riverhounds are hoping a rejuvenated attack emerges, as well.

There was one piece that delivered last year in striker Corey Hertzog. He ran away with the team scoring lead, posting 13 goals and four assists while playing in all 30 regular-season matches. Hertzog's productive year helped garner USL All-League Second Team honors.

Brandt's side incorporates some other familiar faces, including last year's captain Kevin Kerr. The midfielder who was already under contract for the upcoming year had an adequate stretch of play midfield through the 2016 season. However, Kerr wasn't able to replicate the high-flying success he enjoyed in 2015 as the club's second-best scorer behind Rob Vincent.

Midfielders Mike Green and Danny Earls have also established themselves in Pittsburgh, so the club has placed some faith in a handful of last year's roster finding a way to turn things around this season.



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KEY PLAYERS



KEVIN KERR

The Riverhounds captain was unable to properly follow up his remarkable 2015 season, registering a modest four goals and four assists a year ago. Though an offense isn't predicated on the performance of one player, Pittsburgh was 5-1-0 last season when Kerr posted a goal or assist, magnifying his contributions.



COREY HERTZOG

One of the few bright spots from 2016, Hertzog was responsible for more than half of the team's goal-scoring (13 of the club's 25 goals). Hertzog will be a focal point for opposing defenses after that production and will need a couple teammates to follow in his path this year.

2017 SCHEDULE

DATE	HOME	VS	AWAY	TIME (ET)
3/25	PGH	v	NY	5 p.m.
4/1	PGH	v	CIN	5 p.m.
4/8	CHS	v	PGH	7 p.m.
4/12	PGH	v	STL	7 p.m.
4/15	CLT	v	PGH	7 p.m.
4/22	RIC	v	PGH	5 p.m.
4/29	PGH	v	HAR	7 p.m.
5/3	PGH	v	TOR	7 p.m.
5/13	OTT	v	PGH	2 p.m.
5/20	PGH	v	LOU	7 p.m.
5/24	HAR	v	PGH	6:30 p.m.
6/3	PGH	v	ORL	7 p.m.
6/10	TOR	v	PGH	7:30 p.m.
6/17	LOU	v	PGH	7:30 p.m.
6/22	PGH	v	TB	7 p.m.
7/4	PGH	v	CLT	7 p.m.
7/8	ORL	v	PGH	7:30 p.m.
7/15	BST	v	PGH	5 p.m.
7/22	ROC	v	PGH	6:05 p.m.
7/26	PGH	v	CHS	7 p.m.
7/29	TB	v	PGH	7:30 p.m.
8/5	PGH	v	RIC	7 p.m.
8/12	HAR	v	PGH	7 p.m.
8/19	STL	v	PGH	8:30 p.m.
8/26	PGH	v	BST	7 p.m.
9/2	CIN	v	PGH	4 p.m.
9/9	PGH	v	LOU	7 p.m.
9/16	PGH	v	ROC	7 p.m.
9/24	BST	v	PGH	3 p.m.
9/30	NY	v	PGH	4 p.m.
10/7	PGH	v	ROC	7 p.m.
10/14	PGH	v	OTT	7 p.m.

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PORTLAND TIMBERS 2

f @portlandtimbers

t @TimbersFC2

TEAM RECORD			
Year	W-L-D	Pts	Playoffs
2016	12-14-4	40	--
2015	11-15-2	35	--

TEAM OUTLOOK

Portland's second USL season looked like a lost cause midway through the campaign, but T2 ended the year as perhaps the hottest team in the league. The squad posted a five-game winning streak in September to close out the year with 12 victories overall. It wasn't enough to gain a postseason berth, but it served as an optimistic moment heading into 2017.

Head Coach Andrew Gregor preps for his second season leading T2, and once again it will be an incredibly youthful and energetic club that could undergo some stretches of trying to mesh as a unit.

The midfield has some strong personality with Jamaican international Andre Lewis and Dylan Damraoui among a returning group that is expected to take on a heavier workload and influence. Striker Augustine Williams featured 11 times for T2 last year, tallying three goals, so now he will have a full season under his belt to showcase his attacking arsenal.

The previous T2 seasons saw the professional emergence of some key players such as 2015 USL Rookie of the Year Kharlton Belmar and 2016 USL All-League First Team midfielder Villyan Bijev. Portland is hoping that trend continues, and expands to the point where T2 is vying for a playoff berth.



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KEY PLAYERS



DYLAN DAMRAOUI

You can't miss the midfielder's flamboyant head of hair, and he's got the playing personality to go with it. The Belgian youth international is representative of the attacking youth that T2 has showcased in two previous seasons, and Damraoui is likely to see inflated minutes on the pitch in 2017.



ANDRE LEWIS

The No. 7 overall selection in the 2014 MLS SuperDraft jumped around among three USL teams in his first three years. For the first time in his young pro career, the midfielder is returning to the same side. Things seem to be on the upswing for Lewis with T2 and recently with Jamaica's senior national team.

2017 SCHEDULE

DATE	HOME	VS	AWAY	TIME (ET)
3/25	POR	v	SLC	10:30 p.m.
3/29	SPR	v	POR	8:30 p.m.
4/2	SEA	v	POR	5 p.m.
4/8	POR	v	OC	10 p.m.
4/16	POR	v	VAN	5 p.m.
4/22	SAC	v	POR	10:30 p.m.
4/28	POR	v	SA	10:30 p.m.
5/5	SEA	v	POR	10:30 p.m.
5/10	POR	v	COS	2 p.m.
5/24	OKC	v	POR	8 p.m.
5/27	TUL	v	POR	8:30 p.m.
6/4	POR	v	VAN	5 p.m.
6/10	SLC	v	POR	9 p.m.
6/16	POR	v	OKC	10:30 p.m.
6/24	POR	v	RNO	10 p.m.
7/1	OC	v	POR	10 p.m.
7/9	POR	v	LA	5 p.m.
7/16	POR	v	SPR	5 p.m.
7/22	RNO	v	POR	10:30 p.m.
7/29	POR	v	RGV	11 p.m.
8/5	COS	v	POR	8 p.m.
8/13	POR	v	SAC	5 p.m.
8/18	POR	v	SEA	10:30 p.m.
8/26	SA	v	POR	8:30 p.m.
8/30	RGV	v	POR	8 p.m.
9/3	POR	v	TUL	5 p.m.
9/9	POR	v	SLC	10 p.m.
9/23	RNO	v	POR	10 p.m.
9/27	POR	v	PHX	10:30 p.m.
9/30	VAN	v	POR	6 p.m.
10/7	LA	v	POR	10:30 p.m.
10/14	PHX	v	POR	10:30 p.m.

CONTACT INFO

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REAL MONARCHS SLC

f @RealMonarchs
t @RealMonarchs

TEAM RECORD			
Year	W-L-D	Pts	Playoffs
2016	10-14-6	36	--
2015	7-13-8	29	--

TEAM OUTLOOK

The Monarchs franchise, owned and operated by Major League Soccer's Real Salt Lake, put together some good stretches during its second USL season but still finished in the bottom half of the Western Conference table. But things are different heading into 2017 under Head Coach Mike Petke as the roster includes a level of experience that hadn't been available in previous years.

Early in the offseason, the Monarchs added two important pieces in former Louisville City FC forward Chandler Hoffman and former Vancouver Whitecaps FC attacker Daniel Haber. Hoffman has a pedigree that has now spanned a half-dozen USL franchises and a stretch with Major League Soccer when he was drafted in 2012 by the Philadelphia Union.

With those new pieces in place, combined with Real Salt Lake's resources and the organization's track record for getting the most out of young talent, the mix could potentially result in the Monarchs' first postseason in the USL.



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KEY PLAYERS



CHANDLER HOFFMAN

Hoffman was in the hunt for the USL Golden Boot in 2016, and his knack for the goal is an incredible asset for a Monarchs side that could have utilized his type of experience during the previous two seasons. This marks Hoffman's sixth USL team, and he typically delivers no matter the destination.



CHARLIE ADAMS

The English midfielder is representative of the increased young experience found on the Monarchs' 2017 roster. This is Adams' second foray in the USL, having appeared in 20 regular-season games for Louisville in 2015, so his familiarity at this level should certainly bode well for Real.

2017 SCHEDULE

DATE	HOME	VS	AWAY	TIME (ET)
3/25	POR	v	SLC	10:30 p.m.
4/1	SLC	v	PHX	6 p.m.
4/6	SLC	v	RNO	9 p.m.
4/15	COS	v	SLC	8 p.m.
4/22	SEA	v	SLC	10 p.m.
4/29	SLC	v	SPR	6 p.m.
5/10	LA	v	SLC	10:30 p.m.
5/13	SLC	v	SAC	9:30 p.m.
5/20	SLC	v	COS	9 p.m.
5/28	VAN	v	SLC	6 p.m.
6/3	OC	v	SLC	8 p.m.
6/10	SLC	v	POR	9 p.m.
6/19	SLC	v	RNO	9 p.m.
6/24	PHX	v	SLC	10:30 p.m.
7/1	TUL	v	SLC	8:30 p.m.
7/5	SLC	v	OKC	9 p.m.
7/8	SLC	v	SEA	9 p.m.
7/22	SA	v	SLC	8:30 p.m.
7/26	RGV	v	SLC	8 p.m.
7/31	SLC	v	TUL	9 p.m.
8/5	OKC	v	SLC	8:30 p.m.
8/12	SLC	v	COS	9 p.m.
8/18	SPR	v	SLC	8:30 p.m.
8/25	SLC	v	RGV	9 p.m.
9/2	SLC	v	SA	9 p.m.
9/9	POR	v	SLC	10 p.m.
9/16	PHX	v	SLC	10:30 p.m.
9/22	SLC	v	OC	9 p.m.
9/27	SAC	v	SLC	10:30 p.m.
9/30	RNO	v	SLC	10 p.m.
10/7	SLC	v	VAN	9 p.m.
10/14	SLC	v	LA	9 p.m.



RENO
1868 FC

f @reno1868fc

t @reno1868fc

TEAM OUTLOOK

Reno 1868 FC embarks on its first season, with first-year Head Coach Ian Russell helping shape the organization's start. A two-time MLS Cup champion as a player with eight years as an assistant for the San Jose Earthquakes, Russell is now taking the reins of San Jose's USL affiliate.

The expansion club made a strong statement this offseason, introducing USL all-time goal scoring leader Dane Kelly as the organization's first signing. Between his tenure at the Charleston Battery and last year's contributions for the 2016 runner-up Swope Park Rangers, Kelly will be relied upon heavily during Reno's early stages.

Reno followed up his addition with a number of young pieces who have already accrued some meaningful USL experience, including former Orange County defender Brenton Griffiths, midfielder Matt LaGrassa who represented Sacramento Republic FC, and defender Jordan Murrell who spent the previous two years with Real Monarchs SLC and the Pittsburgh Riverhounds, respectively.

It remains to be seen how heavily the Earthquakes will impact the Reno roster, but if Sacramento's past success is any indication with its former MLS partnership, 1868 FC should be a beneficiary to make a strong USL debut.



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KEY PLAYERS



DANE KELLY

The Jamaican striker enters 2017 with a new team and a possible new milestone. Kelly is two goals shy of 50 in regular-season play. Reno is banking on the fleet-footed forward to score in numbers and score with drama, such as last year's unfathomable shorthanded overtime winner to lead Swope Park past Orange County in the USL Cup Playoffs.



BRENTON GRIFFITHS

The 2015 USL All-League Second Teamer and former Orange County center back immediately brings stability toward a new defensive line. How Reno steadies itself defensively will gauge how successful the new club performs, and the 6-foot-3 Jamaican will be the driving force.

2017 SCHEDULE

DATE	HOME	VS	AWAY	TIME (ET)
3/25	RNO	v	OC	10 p.m.
4/1	RNO	v	VAN	10 p.m.
4/6	SLC	v	RNO	9 p.m.
4/15	SA	v	RNO	8:30 p.m.
4/22	RNO	v	COS	10 p.m.
5/6	PHX	v	RNO	10:30 p.m.
5/20	RNO	v	SEA	10:30 p.m.
5/24	RNO	v	TUL	10:30 p.m.
5/27	COS	v	RNO	8 p.m.
6/7	RNO	v	RGV	10:30 p.m.
6/10	RNO	v	SAC	10:30 p.m.
6/19	SLC	v	RNO	9 p.m.
6/24	POR	v	RNO	10 p.m.
6/30	RNO	v	PHX	10:30 p.m.
7/3	RNO	v	LA	10:30 p.m.
7/15	VAN	v	RNO	6 p.m.
7/22	RNO	v	POR	10:30 p.m.
7/30	SPR	v	RNO	5 p.m.
8/2	OKC	v	RNO	8:30 p.m.
8/5	TUL	v	RNO	8:30 p.m.
8/12	RNO	v	SA	10:30 p.m.
8/19	SAC	v	RNO	11 p.m.
8/26	RNO	v	SPR	10:30 p.m.
9/2	OC	v	RNO	10 p.m.
9/6	LA	v	RNO	10:30 p.m.
9/9	SEA	v	RNO	10 p.m.
9/16	RGV	v	RNO	8:30 p.m.
9/20	RNO	v	OKC	10 p.m.
9/23	RNO	v	POR	10 p.m.
9/30	RNO	v	SLC	10 p.m.
10/7	OC	v	RNO	10:30 p.m.
10/14	RNO	v	SAC	10 p.m.



RICHMOND KICKERS

f @richmondkickers
t @RichmondKickers

TEAM RECORD		
Year	W-L-D	Pts
2016	12-9-9	45
2015	10-7-11	41
2014	13-3-12	51
2013	15-1-0	55
2012	11-8-5	38
2011	12-7-5	41

TEAM OUTLOOK

One of two organizations to advance to every USL postseason since 2011 - the other being the Charleston Battery - the Kickers have been a model of consistency in the Eastern Conference under the helm of Leigh Cowlishaw. Richmond has built a winning formula and foundation that typically features a strong returning corps year after year.

Heading into the 2017 season, the Kickers once again are relying on a heavy returning contingent - particularly in the midfield - that resulted in a seventh-place finish in the East and a sixth consecutive berth in the USL Cup Playoffs.

Japanese midfielder Yudai Imura returns for a third season in Richmond, coming off a career year after leading the club with 10 goals. Along with the Ghanaian duo of Fred Owusu Sekyere and Samuel Asante, Richmond's midfield heads into 2017 as the spine of this club.

Defensively, the Kickers conceded the third-lowest amount of goals in the Eastern Conference a year ago. The absence of center back and 2016 USL All-League First Teamer Hugh Roberts - now with Bethlehem Steel FC - will no doubt be a hurdle to overcome. That said, the rest of the club's typical starting back line is back to anchor this squad in veteran William Yomby, Braeden Troyer and Alex Lee.



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KEY PLAYERS



YUDAI IMURA

One of the more technically gifted midfielders in Richmond and the USL, Imura put everything together in his second season with the Kickers last year. The Tokyo native's 10-goal, three-assist campaign led to a deserved USL All-League Second Team selection, and Richmond is hoping for more of the same in 2017.



SUNNY JANE

Offensive reliability was a subpar element of the 2016 team, and the Lesotho native will be among those returnees who need to pick up the support following Imura's stellar year. Jane did contribute four goals and two assists - all when he started - but he played in more of a reserve role toward the end of last season.

2017 SCHEDULE

DATE	HOME	VS	AWAY	TIME (ET)
3/25	RIC	v	HAR	5 p.m.
4/1	NY	v	RIC	4 p.m.
4/8	RIC	v	LOU	5 p.m.
4/15	RIC	v	OTT	5 p.m.
4/22	RIC	v	PGH	5 p.m.
4/29	TBR	v	RIC	7:30 p.m.
5/6	RIC	v	CIN	7 p.m.
5/13	RIC	v	HAR	7 p.m.
5/21	ROC	v	RIC	4:05 p.m.
5/24	TOR	v	RIC	12 p.m.
5/27	OTT	v	RIC	2 p.m.
6/3	RIC	v	NY	7 p.m.
6/10	CHS	v	RIC	7 p.m.
6/17	RIC	v	TBR	7 p.m.
6/24	RIC	v	CLT	7 p.m.
7/1	BST	v	RIC	5 p.m.
7/9	CIN	v	RIC	6 p.m.
7/15	HAR	v	RIC	7 p.m.
7/22	RIC	v	BST	7 p.m.
7/26	CLT	v	RIC	7 p.m.
7/29	RIC	v	STL	7 p.m.
8/5	PGH	v	RIC	7 p.m.
8/12	RIC	v	ORL	7 p.m.
8/19	RIC	v	TOR	7 p.m.
8/26	RIC	v	CHS	7 p.m.
9/2	CLT	v	RIC	7 p.m.
9/7	ORL	v	RIC	7:30 p.m.
9/16	CHS	v	RIC	7 p.m.
9/23	RIC	v	ROC	7 p.m.
10/1	RIC	v	ORL	5 p.m.
10/7	STL	v	RIC	8:30 p.m.
10/14	LOU	v	RIC	7:30 p.m.



RIO GRANDE VALLEY FC

f @RGVFC
t @RGVFC

TEAM RECORD			
Year	W-L-D	Pts	Playoffs
2016	14-7-9	51	West Quarterfinals

TEAM OUTLOOK

With one season in the books as the hybrid affiliation of Major League Soccer's Houston Dynamo, it is suffice to say that Rio Grande Valley FC's 2016 was a rousing success. True, the postseason evaporated quickly into the Edinburg, Texas air, but overall the Toros are primed to follow up with another strong showing in the Western Conference.

The Toros will be led by Othoniel "Junior" Gonzalez, the successor to Wilmer Cabrera who earned the head coaching job with the Dynamo. He previously served as an assistant coach at Seattle Sounders FC 2, so his familiarity with the league and working with younger professionals should bode well for RGV.

RGV also looks forward to a new home with H-E-B Park and its nearly 10,000-capacity facility likely to gain rave reviews. Combine the new digs with the Toros' attacking brand of play and the Valley has plenty to look forward to in Year 2.

Personnel-wise, there should be some familiar names from last year's team, which showcased a deep and versatile roster on the attacking end. Forward Ruben Luna quickly established himself as a goal-scoring threat. Midfielder Emilio Garcia, forward Kyle Murphy and a number of others have logged in some solid minutes, too, in their first campaign with RGV.



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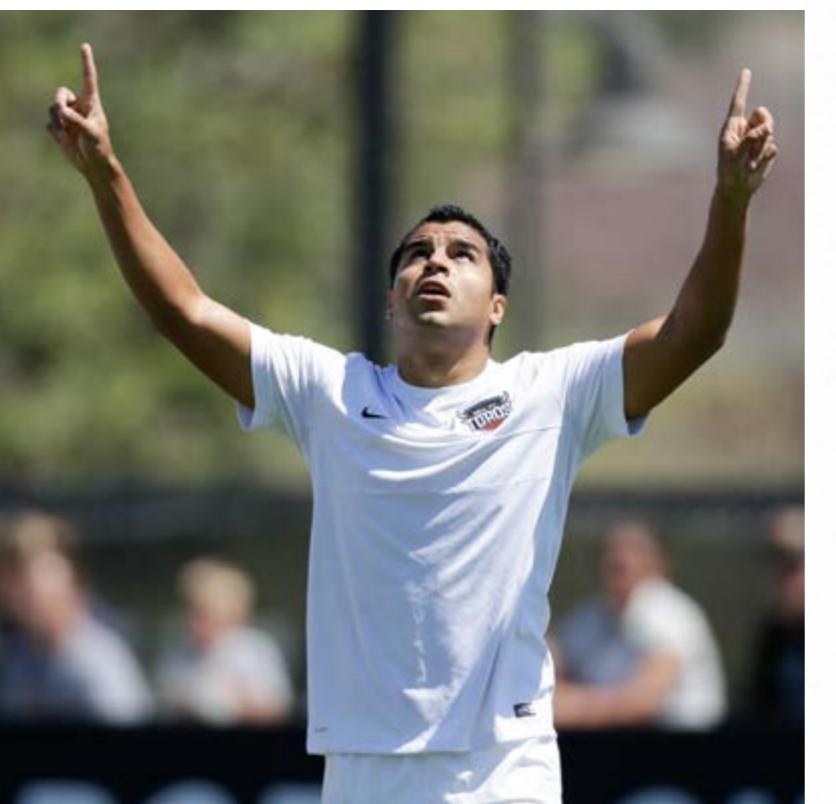
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KEY PLAYERS



RUBEN LUNA

The striker produced one of the hottest scoring stretches of the season in 2016, tallying six goals in five consecutive matches. RGV sports a fluid attacking style, and Luna certainly fit that mold after leading last year's side with seven tallies in 12 regular-season matches, in addition to a postseason goal.



KYLE MURPHY

The second-year striker, who enjoyed success at the collegiate level with 2015 NCAA runner-up Clemson, made a smooth professional transition with three goals and an assist in 24 regular-season games in 2016. With more consistent minutes under his belt this year, Murphy could firmly establish himself with the attack-heavy Toros.

2017 SCHEDULE

DATE	HOME	VS	AWAY	TIME (ET)
3/26	RGV	v	SA	7 p.m.
4/1	TUL	v	RGV	8 p.m.
4/8	OKC	v	RGV	8 p.m.
4/12	RGV	v	COS	8 p.m.
4/22	RGV	v	TUL	8:30 p.m.
4/29	RGV	v	OKC	8:30 p.m.
5/13	RGV	v	SPR	8:30 p.m.
5/20	RGV	v	LA	8:30 p.m.
6/3	SAC	v	RGV	11 p.m.
6/7	RNO	v	RGV	10:30 p.m.
6/10	RGV	v	SEA	10:30 p.m.
6/17	RGV	v	LA	8:30 p.m.
6/21	SAC	v	RGV	11 p.m.
7/1	COS	v	RGV	9 p.m.
7/8	SPR	v	RGV	8:30 p.m.
7/19	RGV	v	OC	8 p.m.
7/22	OC	v	RGV	10 p.m.
7/26	RGV	v	SLC	8 p.m.
7/29	POR	v	RGV	11 p.m.
8/2	VAN	v	RGV	3 p.m.
8/6	SEA	v	RGV	9:30 p.m.
8/12	RGV	v	PHX	8:30 p.m.
8/19	RGV	v	VAN	8:30 p.m.
8/25	SLC	v	RGV	9 p.m.
8/30	RGV	v	POR	8 p.m.
9/3	LA	v	RGV	9:30 p.m.
9/9	RGV	v	SAC	8:30 p.m.
9/16	RGV	v	RNO	8:30 p.m.
9/23	SA	v	RGV	8:30 p.m.
9/30	RGV	v	SPR	8:30 p.m.
10/7	PHX	v	RGV	10:30 p.m.
10/14	SA	v	RGV	8:30 p.m.



ROCHESTER RHINOS

f @rochesterrhinos
t @rochesterrhinos

TEAM RECORD		
Year	W-L-D	Pts
2016	13-5-12	51
2015	17-1-10	61
2014	10-10-8	38
2013	6-10-10	28
2012	12-7-5	41
2011	12-8-4	40

TEAM OUTLOOK

For the fifth time in the past six seasons, longtime league staple Rochester advanced to the USL Cup Playoffs. Though the Rhinos were unable to follow up their brilliant 2015 championship showing, they still showcased one of the league's top defenses en route to a 13-win regular season.

Now the question is can Bob Lilley's side maintain this upper echelon showing in the Eastern Conference in 2017? Some key pieces have departed during the offseason, but Lilley typically is able to get the most out of what he has on the table.

The emergence of some of last year's players will also be key to a strong performance out of the gate. German defender Wal Fall proved his worth in more ways than one in 2016, getting into the scoring act late in the campaign as his midfield background emerged on the score sheet. In a split-shift role last season, goalkeeper Tomas Gomez had some significant numbers anchoring the defense with a 0.69 goals-against average and .780 save percentage in 16 regular-season games.

But the most integral returnee is thrust upon the work rate of midfielder Kenardo Forbes, who was a member of the organization's 2015 championship squad. Forbes earned USL All-League Second Team honors a season ago and is expected to maintain his role as the club's leader.



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KEY PLAYERS



WAL FALL

The defender and cousin of U.S. international Jermaine Jones made a name for himself in 2016, proving to be a significant stalwart among the back line. The bonus late last season was his capability of influencing the offense, as well, especially during the USL Cup Playoffs.



KENARDO FORBES

The Jamaican midfielder is set for his third season with the Rhinos, and his presence and leadership grow every year. Known for his speed, set-piece value and creativity, Forbes will need to continue to deliver in that wide range for Rochester to maintain its level of success.

2017 SCHEDULE

DATE	HOME	VS	AWAY	TIME (ET)
4/1	BST	v	ROC	4 p.m.
4/7	TOR	v	ROC	7:30 p.m.
4/15	CHS	v	ROC	7 p.m.
4/22	ROC	v	NY	6:05 p.m.
4/29	ROC	v	CLT	6:05 p.m.
5/6	STL	v	ROC	8:30 p.m.
5/21	ROC	v	RIC	4:05 p.m.
5/24	ROC	v	TBR	7:05 p.m.
6/3	ROC	v	CIN	6:05 p.m.
6/7	ORL	v	ROC	7:30 p.m.
6/10	TBR	v	ROC	7:30 p.m.
6/17	ROC	v	OTT	6:05 p.m.
6/23	ROC	v	ORL	7:05 p.m.
7/1	CLT	v	ROC	7 p.m.
7/8	ROC	v	HAR	6:05 p.m.
7/15	OTT	v	ROC	2 p.m.
7/22	ROC	v	PGH	6:05 p.m.
7/26	ROC	v	TOR	7:05 p.m.
7/29	CIN	v	ROC	7 p.m.
8/5	NY	v	ROC	4 p.m.
8/8	HAR	v	ROC	7 p.m.
8/19	ROC	v	CHS	6:05 p.m.
8/26	ROC	v	STL	6:05 p.m.
9/2	TOR	v	ROC	7:30 p.m.
9/9	ROC	v	OTT	6:05 p.m.
9/16	PGH	v	ROC	7 p.m.
9/20	LOU	v	ROC	7:30 p.m.
9/23	RIC	v	ROC	7 p.m.
9/30	ROC	v	LOU	6:05 p.m.
10/7	PGH	v	ROC	7 p.m.
10/10	ROC	v	BST	7:05 p.m.
10/14	ROC	v	NY	6:05 p.m.



SACRAMENTO REPUBLIC FC

f @SacRepublicFC
t @SacRepublicFC

TEAM RECORD

Year	W-L-D	Pts	Playoffs
2016	14-6-10	52	West Semifinals

TEAM OUTLOOK

In three previous seasons, Sacramento has served as the gold standard of the Western Conference in terms of success, draw and impact in the league. Republic FC added to that reputation by finishing first out of the packed West during the regular season, and the club is attempting to add some hardware alongside the 2014 championship crown.

Paul Buckle's team has the depth in place to try and make that second title a reality in 2017. Last season, the goal-scoring wasn't as heavy-hitting as in years past, but Sacramento pinpointed some solid pieces on that front during the offseason. Former Orange County striker and Trinidad & Tobago international Trevin Caesar adds plenty of spark to the front line. Former Arizona United SC (now named Phoenix Rising FC) forward Tyler Blackwood also is an important piece as Republic FC attempts to fill the void left by Cameron Iwasa, who signed with Major League Soccer's Sporting Kansas City.

Republic FC had a strong season defensively in 2016, and the goalkeeping tandem of Evan Newton and Dominik Jakubek returns. The two split time in net a year ago and their splits were pretty tight. Jakubek had the slight edge in goals-against average (0.83 versus Newton's 1.00) and the 2015 USL Goalkeeper of the Year finalist Newton had the edge in saves (35 versus Jakubek's 31).

In the middle of the pitch, the show still belongs to Danny Barrera, who captained the 2016 squad, is integral during set-piece situations and was a model of high-level consistency after appearing in every match.



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KEY PLAYERS



DANNY BARRERA

The midfielder and set-piece specialist took hold of the captain's armband last year and lived up to the role in perfect fashion. Barrera led Sacramento with nine assists, was one of two players to appear in all 30 regular-season games and led the club in minutes (2,559).



TREVIN CAESAR

With Cameron Iwasa heading to Major League Soccer's Sporting Kansas City, the club needed a proven goal scorer this offseason. Caesar certainly fills that void after a 10-goal campaign with Orange County last year, preceded by nine tallies in 2015 with the Austin Aztex.

2017 SCHEDULE

DATE	HOME	VS	AWAY	TIME (ET)
3/26	SEA	v	SAC	5 p.m.
4/1	SAC	v	OC	10:30 p.m.
4/8	TUL	v	SAC	10 p.m.
4/11	OKC	v	SAC	8 p.m.
4/15	SPR	v	SAC	8 p.m.
4/22	SAC	v	POR	10:30 p.m.
4/29	VAN	v	SAC	6 p.m.
5/6	SA	v	SAC	8:30 p.m.
5/13	SLC	v	SAC	9:30 p.m.
5/20	SAC	v	TUL	10:30 p.m.
5/28	SEA	v	SAC	5 p.m.
6/3	SAC	v	RGV	11 p.m.
6/10	RNO	v	SAC	10:30 p.m.
6/17	SAC	v	VAN	11 p.m.
6/21	SAC	v	RGV	11 p.m.
6/25	LA	v	SAC	9:30 p.m.
7/1	SAC	v	SA	11 p.m.
7/23	SAC	v	SEA	11 p.m.
8/5	SAC	v	VAN	11 p.m.
8/13	POR	v	SAC	5 p.m.
8/19	SAC	v	RNO	11 p.m.
8/23	SAC	v	SPR	11 p.m.
8/26	PHX	v	SAC	10:30 p.m.
9/2	SAC	v	COS	10:30 p.m.
9/9	RGV	v	SAC	8:30 p.m.
9/16	SAC	v	LA	10:30 p.m.
9/23	SAC	v	OKC	10:30 p.m.
9/27	SAC	v	SLC	10:30 p.m.
9/30	SAC	v	PHX	10:30 p.m.
10/4	OC	v	SAC	10:30 p.m.
10/7	COS	v	SAC	8 p.m.
10/14	RNO	v	SAC	10 p.m.

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SAINT LOUIS FC

TEAM RECORD			
Year	W-L-D	Pts	Playoffs
2016	8-12-10	34	--
2015	8-11-9	33	--

TEAM OUTLOOK

With the continued expansion in the USL, Saint Louis FC will be rejoining the Eastern Conference after spending 2016 in the West. Conference changes aside, the club has seen a similar fate in its first two years, coming up short of a spot in the USL Cup Playoffs.

Alterations have been in full swing this offseason, highlighted by the addition of 2014 USL Coach of the Year and National Soccer Hall of Famer Preki as Head Coach. The former leader at Sacramento Republic FC has already had a heavy influence within the organization's structure, and some of the players are quite familiar with Preki's approach.

STLFC's first two offseason signings are some heavy hitters as former Sacramento and Orange County midfielder Ivan Mirkovic and former Colorado Springs Switchbacks FC goalkeeper Devala Gorrick have been brought in. Gorrick, a finalist for 2016 USL Goalkeeper of the Year, potentially brings in a level of consistency that Saint Louis has not touted at the position, while Mirkovic's aggressive play is well known throughout the USL. The midfield will also include Octavio Guzman, who was part of the 2014 champion Republic FC club alongside Mirkovic.

The big question early on this season will be the goal-scoring after Saint Louis loaned striker Irvin Herrera to the New York Cosmos for 2017. Herrera notched the first hat trick (and four-goal performance) in club history on his way to 14 goals last season, so replacing that type of production for 2017 will be a heavy task.



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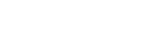
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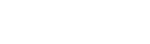
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KEY PLAYERS



DEVALA GORRICK

A selection to the 2016 USL Second Team, Gorrick was a rock for Colorado Springs Switchbacks FC the past two seasons and was one of Saint Louis' first two offseason signings. No STLFC goalkeeper has appeared in more than 20 games in a single season, and Gorrick could be the first to end that trend.



IVAN MIRKOVIC

A hard-nosed defensive midfielder, Mirkovic brings solid championship experience to a Saint Louis side still in search of the post-season. Mirkovic's benefit is based on awareness, disruptions, connecting play and a bevy of intangibles that aren't statistically driven.

2017 SCHEDULE

DATE	HOME	VS	AWAY	TIME (ET)
3/25	LOU	v	STL	2 p.m.
4/1	STL	v	OTT	8:30 p.m.
4/8	STL	v	NY	8:30 p.m.
4/12	PGH	v	STL	7 p.m.
4/15	CIN	v	STL	7 p.m.
4/22	STL	v	CLT	8:30 p.m.
4/27	ORL	v	STL	7:30 p.m.
5/6	STL	v	ROC	8:30 p.m.
5/13	CHS	v	STL	7 p.m.
5/27	TBR	v	STL	7:30 p.m.
6/2	STL	v	TOR	8:30 p.m.
6/11	STL	v	BST	5 p.m.
6/24	CIN	v	STL	7 p.m.
7/2	NY	v	STL	4 p.m.
7/8	CLT	v	STL	7 p.m.
7/15	STL	v	CHS	8:30 p.m.
7/22	STL	v	LOU	8:30 p.m.
7/29	RIC	v	STL	7 p.m.
8/5	STL	v	SPR	8:30 p.m.
8/10	TUL	v	STL	8:30 p.m.
8/13	STL	v	TBR	7 p.m.
8/19	STL	v	PGH	8:30 p.m.
8/23	STL	v	TUL	8 p.m.
8/26	ROC	v	STL	6:05 p.m.
8/30	TOR	v	STL	7:30 p.m.
9/3	OTT	v	STL	2 p.m.
9/9	STL	v	HAR	8:30 p.m.
9/16	STL	v	ORL	8:30 p.m.
9/23	STL	v	CIN	8:30 p.m.
9/30	HAR	v	STL	7 p.m.
10/7	STL	v	RIC	8:30 p.m.
10/15	BST	v	STL	3 p.m.



SAN ANTONIO FC

f @SAFCUSL
t @SanAntonioFC

TEAM RECORD

Year	W-L-D	Pts	Playoffs
2016	10-12-8	38	--

TEAM OUTLOOK

San Antonio's first campaign in the USL featured some brilliant moments but also some lulls as SAFC fell a couple spots short of a berth in the USL Cup Playoffs. Significant injuries also were a major factor down the stretch, particularly on the defensive end.

A new year is on the horizon for Head Coach Darren Powell's side, and some exciting additions provide some promise that the club can make a jump in the Western Conference standings. The formation of a partnership with Major League Soccer's New York City FC - established a month and a half before the season - should also provide some further depth for Powell's roster.

Midfielder Kris Tyrpak returns to his home state, having made some previous professional stops with the Austin Aztex and San Antonio Scorpions. A member of the Swope Park Rangers' runner-up side in 2016, Tyrpak is hoping to enjoy some similar postseason success with SAFC. The defense also includes some substantial upgrades with former OKC Energy FC center back Cyprian Hedrick and former Louisville City FC outside back Ben Newnam. Combined with returnees such as midfielder Rafa Castillo, San Antonio has gone out of its way to field a club that could make a postseason run.

Outside of the professional season itself, this year also marks a big-picture moment for the club, which will host the 2017 USL Experience in April. In conjunction with exclusive Super Y League players, the USL and SAFC join forces to hold a unique multi-day residential experience that gives SYL players an unprecedented look into professional soccer. FC Cincinnati hosted the first USL Experience in 2016.



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KEY PLAYERS



KRIS TYRPAK

Coming off a runner-up campaign with the Swope Park Rangers, Tyrpak will be one of the key additions for SAFC's second season. Tyrpak's finishing prowess continued to grow heading into the 2016 USL Cup Playoffs, giving San Antonio plenty of optimism for an offensive boost.



CYPRIAN HEDRICK

The Cameroon defender and former Houston-area youth returns to Texas. Hedrick was an integral part of OKC Energy FC's back line, which posted 13 shutouts a year ago. Needless to say, Hedrick brings some essential experience for SAFC's defense.

2017 SCHEDULE

DATE	HOME	VS	AWAY	TIME (ET)
3/26	RGV	v	SA	7 p.m.
4/1	SA	v	LA	8:30 p.m.
4/7	SA	v	COS	9 p.m.
4/15	SA	v	RNO	8:30 p.m.
4/22	VAN	v	SA	6 p.m.
4/25	SEA	v	SA	10:30 p.m.
4/28	POR	v	SA	10:30 p.m.
5/6	SA	v	SAC	8:30 p.m.
5/13	SA	v	SEA	8:30 p.m.
5/20	SA	v	PHX	8:30 p.m.
5/26	SPR	v	SA	8:30 p.m.
6/3	SA	v	SPR	8:30 p.m.
6/10	OKC	v	SA	8:30 p.m.
6/17	SA	v	TUL	8:30 p.m.
6/24	COS	v	SA	9 p.m.
7/1	SAC	v	SA	11 p.m.
7/14	SA	v	OKC	9 p.m.
7/22	SA	v	SLC	8:30 p.m.
7/29	PHX	v	SA	10:30 p.m.
8/5	SA	v	OC	8:30 p.m.
8/12	RNO	v	SA	10:30 p.m.
8/19	OKC	v	SA	8:30 p.m.
8/23	SA	v	VAN	8:30 p.m.
8/26	SA	v	POR	8:30 p.m.
9/2	SLC	v	SA	9 p.m.
9/9	LA	v	SA	10:30 p.m.
9/13	OC	v	SA	10:30 p.m.
9/17	SPR	v	SA	5 p.m.
9/23	SA	v	RGV	8:30 p.m.
9/30	TUL	v	SA	8 p.m.
10/7	SA	v	TB	8:30 p.m.
10/14	SA	v	RGV	8:30 p.m.



f. @SoundersFC2
t. @SoundersFC2

TEAM RECORD			
Year	W-L-D	Pts	Playoffs
2016	9-13-8	35	--
2015	13-12-3	42	West Quarterfinals

TEAM OUTLOOK

Seattle Sounders FC 2's second USL season featured the slowest of starts, though S2 did keep things interesting in a tightly packed Western Conference field. With only one win in its first 12 games, Seattle was unable to return to the postseason last year, finishing with nine wins and a 12th-place showing in the conference.

Head Coach Ezra Hendrickson's club could potentially face some similar challenges in the early games of the 2017 season as it tries to mesh with a number of new players in the fold. Most of last year's scoring drive has departed to other fellow USL clubs, so Seattle is short a proven scorer from a year ago.

Midfielder Irvin Parra, who spent four seasons in Germany, returned to the States late last season and contributed a goal and two assists in limited time with S2. He figures to be a consistent presence for Seattle's third USL season. Then there is midfielder Lorenzo Ramos, a former Academy player, who gained some valuable time with S2 last year, earning 14 appearances and recording the game-winning goal during their 3-2 win against Vancouver Whitecaps FC 2.

The downfall last year was the team's defense as it conceded 50 goals - second-most in the Western Conference. Seattle conceded two or more goals in 15 occasions, and the squad will need to substantially turn that trend around to return to the postseason ways of its 2015 USL season.



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KEY PLAYERS



IRVIN PARRA

The midfielder was a late addition to S2 last season and the organization hopes his skillful demeanor will flourish in full for 2017. Parra tallied a goal and two assists in his six appearances a year ago, already making his name among a small sampling.



LORENZO RAMOS

The 2016 season was a tough one to gauge how far Ramos has progressed, simply because he logged less than 20 minutes in half of his S2 appearances. That could change in 2017 as Ezra Hendrickson and the organization hope younger former Academy players like Ramos make a positive professional jump.

2017 SCHEDULE

DATE	HOME	VS	AWAY	TIME (ET)
3/26	SEA	v	SAC	5 p.m.
4/2	SEA	v	POR	5 p.m.
4/8	VAN	v	SEA	6 p.m.
4/15	LA	v	SEA	10:30 p.m.
4/22	SEA	v	SLC	10 p.m.
4/25	SEA	v	SA	10:30 p.m.
4/29	COS	v	SEA	8 p.m.
5/5	SEA	v	POR	10:30 p.m.
5/13	SA	v	SEA	8:30 p.m.
5/20	RNO	v	SEA	10:30 p.m.
5/28	SEA	v	SAC	5 p.m.
6/3	SEA	v	LA	10 p.m.
6/10	RGV	v	SEA	8:30 p.m.
6/19	SEA	v	OKC	10:30 p.m.
6/24	OC	v	SEA	8 p.m.
7/1	VAN	v	SEA	6 p.m.
7/8	SLC	v	SEA	9 p.m.
7/16	SEA	v	OC	5 p.m.
7/20	SEA	v	SPR	10:30 p.m.
7/23	SAC	v	SEA	11 p.m.
7/29	COS	v	SEA	8 p.m.
8/6	SEA	v	RGV	9:30 p.m.
8/13	SEA	v	VAN	9:30 p.m.
8/18	POR	v	SEA	10:30 p.m.
8/30	SEA	v	TUL	10:30 p.m.
9/2	PHX	v	SEA	10:30 p.m.
9/9	SEA	v	RNO	10 p.m.
9/16	SEA	v	COS	10 p.m.
9/20	SEA	v	PHX	10:30 p.m.
10/7	TUL	v	SEA	8 p.m.
10/11	SPR	v	SEA	8:30 p.m.
10/15	OKC	v	SEA	6 p.m.



SWOPE PARK RANGERS

f @SwopeParkRangers
t @SwopeRangers

TEAM RECORD			
Year	W-L-D	Pts	Playoffs
2016	14-10-6	48	Final

TEAM OUTLOOK

The Rangers enjoyed an impressive first USL season to say the least, advancing to the 2016 USL Cup Final to finish runner-up in the league. Changes have been aplenty during the offseason, though, as Nikola Popovic will begin the 2017 campaign at the helm of Sporting Kansas City's owned-and-operated USL side.

On the field, the Rangers will have some new attacking blood with the addition of forward Kharlton Belmar. The 2015 USL Rookie of the Year spent the previous two seasons with the Portland Timbers 2. Belmar, teamed with returnee and 2016 leading goal scorer Mark Anthony Gonzalez, could prove to be a formidable attacking tandem.

Midfielder and team captain Christian Duke returns, as does midfielder Kevin Oliveira who was ranked No. 2 in the USL 20 Under 20 series. Many eyes will be on Oliveira after his already promising 2016 campaign was cut short because of an ACL injury in late June.

The defense was the staple of the Rangers down the stretch of the regular season and into the USL Cup Playoffs, and two vitally important pieces return. USL All-League First Team defender Amer Didic and fellow center back Oumar Ballo gained deserved praise for their shutdown capabilities. The Rangers posted a 13-1-2 record when Ballo and Didic started alongside each other. The lone loss was the 2016 USL Cup Final against the New York Red Bulls II.



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KEY PLAYERS



KHARLTON BELMAR

Perhaps it was just a sophomore slump, but Belmar's second USL season with the Portland Timbers 2 ended up with reserve duties for the final month and a half of the year. The 2015 USL Rookie of the Year heads to the Midwest, and the Rangers hope Belmar finds the double-digit scoring touch from his rookie campaign.



AMER DIDIC

Center back was one of Swope Park's biggest strengths last year, and the USL All-League First Teamer returns to maintain that fortress. The 6-foot-4 Didic was the first SPR player to be brought up for the MLS side, and another stellar USL campaign alongside fellow center back Oumar Ballo could perhaps pave the way to more opportunities at Sporting.

2017 SCHEDULE

DATE	HOME	VS	AWAY	TIME (ET)
3/25	SPR	v	OKC	8:30 p.m.
3/29	SPR	v	POR	8:30 p.m.
4/15	SPR	v	SAC	8 p.m.
4/23	PHX	v	SPR	10:30 p.m.
4/29	SLC	v	SPR	6 p.m.
5/5	SPR	v	VAN	8:30 p.m.
5/13	RGV	v	SPR	8:30 p.m.
5/26	SPR	v	SA	8:30 p.m.
6/3	SA	v	SPR	8:30 p.m.
6/11	SPR	v	TUL	5 p.m.
6/18	SPR	v	PHX	5 p.m.
6/21	SPR	v	COS	8:30 p.m.
6/27	TUL	v	SPR	8:30 p.m.
6/30	LA	v	SPR	10:30 p.m.
7/8	SPR	v	RGV	8:30 p.m.
7/12	VAN	v	SPR	3 p.m.
7/16	POR	v	SPR	5 p.m.
7/20	SEA	v	SPR	10:30 p.m.
7/30	SPR	v	RNO	5 p.m.
8/5	STL	v	SPR	8:30 p.m.
8/12	SPR	v	OC	8:30 p.m.
8/18	SPR	v	SLC	8:30 p.m.
8/23	SAC	v	SPR	11 p.m.
8/26	RNO	v	SPR	10:30 p.m.
9/2	SPR	v	OKC	8:30 p.m.
9/9	OC	v	SPR	10 p.m.
9/17	SPR	v	SA	5 p.m.
9/23	COS	v	SPR	8 p.m.
9/27	SPR	v	LA	8:30 p.m.
9/30	RGV	v	SPR	8:30 p.m.
10/8	OKC	v	SPR	6 p.m.
10/11	SPR	v	SEA	8:30 p.m.



@TampaBayRowdies
@TampaBayRowdies

TEAM OUTLOOK

The Rowdies are gearing up for their first season in the USL, and based on the club's already strong success, devoted allegiance and plenty of noteworthy signings this offseason, the organization has grand expectations to burst into the scene in 2017.

The returning talent pool will be familiar to Rowdies fandom and perhaps a rude awakening for opposing USL franchises. Three-time FIFA World Cup veteran and English midfielder Joe Cole and all-time Rowdies goal-scoring leader Georgi Hristov were immediate returnees for Head Coach Stuart Campbell's side. Goalkeeper Matt Pickens is a well-known commodity dating back to his Major League Soccer days with the Chicago Fire (2006 Lamar Hunt U.S. Open Cup winner) and Colorado Rapids (2010 MLS Cup winner). Defender Tamika Mkandawire, who has served as club captain, has been a staple of the franchise for three previous seasons.

Several Rowdies newcomers will be familiar names within the USL, particularly former Seattle Sounders FC 2 teammates in forward Darwin Jones and defender Damion Lowe.

The 2012 Soccer Bowl marked the last title and last postseason the Rowdies have been a part of. Certainly the framework appears to be in place to change history heading into Year 1 in the USL.



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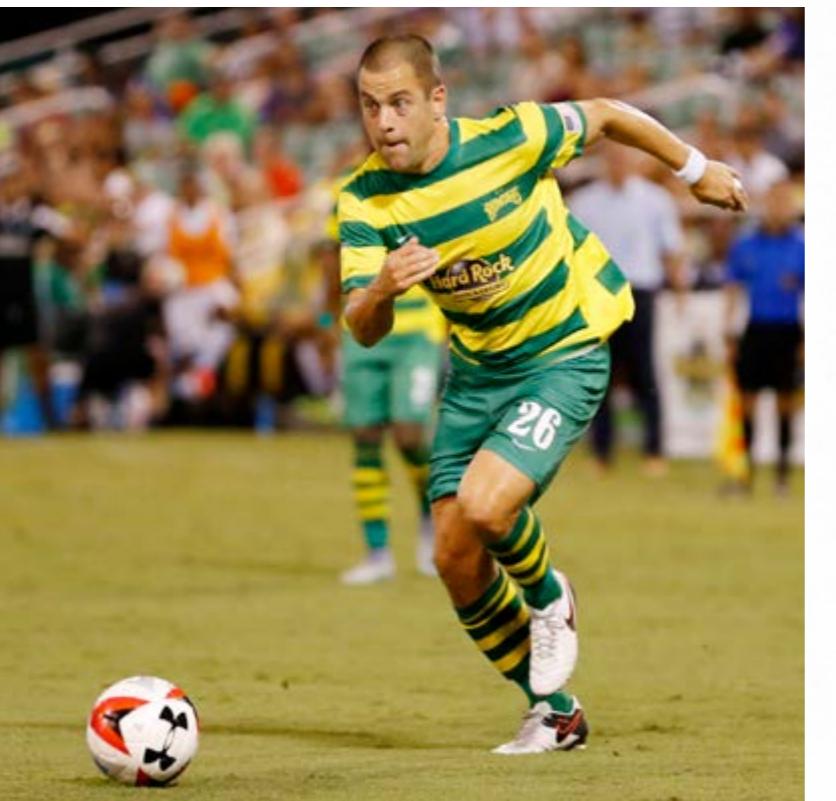
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KEY PLAYERS



JOE COLE

The three-time FIFA World Cup member with England and former Chelsea midfielder returns to the Rowdies in 2017. Cole's experienced profile naturally stands above the crowd, and Eastern Conference foes should be ready for his versatile threat.



GEORGI HRISTOV

The Rowdies' first offseason re-signing announcement was the franchise goal-scoring leader. The Bulgarian forward has called Tampa Bay home for five previous seasons and more than 100 appearances, so his return was a top priority for Head Coach Stuart Campbell.

2017 SCHEDULE

DATE	HOME	VS	AWAY	TIME (ET)
3/25	TBR	v	ORL	7:30 p.m.
4/1	TBR	v	TOR	7:30 p.m.
4/8	TBR	v	OTT	7:30 p.m.
4/15	LOU	v	TBR	7:30 p.m.
4/19	CIN	v	TBR	7 p.m.
4/22	TBR	v	CHS	7:30 p.m.
4/29	TBR	v	RIC	7:30 p.m.
5/6	OTT	v	TBR	2 p.m.
5/13	TBR	v	LOU	7:30 p.m.
5/19	TOR	v	TBR	5 p.m.
5/24	ROC	v	TBR	7:05 p.m.
5/27	TBR	v	STL	7:30 p.m.
6/3	CLT	v	TBR	7 p.m.
6/10	TBR	v	ROC	7:30 p.m.
6/17	RIC	v	TBR	7 p.m.
6/22	PGH	v	TBR	7 p.m.
7/1	CHS	v	TBR	7 p.m.
7/6	TBR	v	CIN	8 p.m.
7/13	ORL	v	TBR	7:30 p.m.
7/22	TBR	v	CHS	7:30 p.m.
7/29	TBR	v	PGH	7:30 p.m.
8/5	TBR	v	HAR	7:30 p.m.
8/13	STL	v	TBR	7 p.m.
8/19	TBR	v	OTT	7:30 p.m.
9/2	NY	v	TBR	4 p.m.
9/6	HAR	v	TBR	6:30 p.m.
9/9	BST	v	TBR	3 p.m.
9/23	TBR	v	CLT	7:30 p.m.
9/30	TBR	v	BST	7:30 p.m.
10/4	TBR	v	NY	7:30 p.m.
10/7	SA	v	TBR	8:30 p.m.
10/12	ORL	v	TBR	7:30 p.m.



TEAM RECORD	W-L-D	Pts	Playoffs
Year	2016	7-18-5	26
2015	6-17-5	28	--

TEAM OUTLOOK

Ebbs and flows have consumed the Toronto organization over the past two seasons. Last year, TFC II went from a team that was capable of posting wins against the likes of the Rochester Rhinos and Richmond Kickers, but would then concede 13 goals during a season-long five-game losing streak.

Toronto has never been short of talent, but Jason Bent's side struggled mightily to find consistency game-in and game-out, or even within the confines of a 45-minute half.

TFC II's roster is peppered with national team-level influence, and the squad is hopeful that the international play of some individuals will rub off collectively at the professional level. Among the group is midfielder Luca Uccello and forward Shaan Hundal, who tied for the TFC II goal-scoring lead. Both players competed on Canada's U20 national team at the CONCACAF U20 Championship.

It remains to be seen what role winger Raheem Edwards could have with TFC II or the MLS side. Edwards, who matched Hundal's goal-scoring mark last year while hopping between club and international duty, has certainly proven himself in the USL. Should he return for a third season, the Toronto faithful know he will be one of the most dependable options on the pitch.



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KEY PLAYERS



SHAAN HUNDAL

Having worked his way up Toronto's academy system, the forward had a strong 2016 that included sharing the team goal-scoring lead with Raheem Edwards. Hundal has a knack for finding crevices in opposing defenses and most certainly will be looked upon to add to his six-goal total this year.

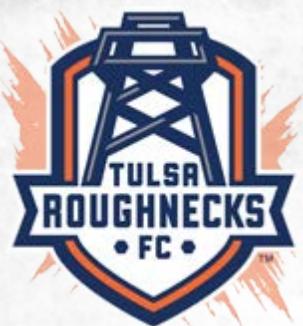


LUCA UCCELLO

The Canadian midfielder preps for his third season with TFC II and will be a key leader toward Toronto's potential turnaround. He netted three goals in 20 appearances a year ago and was among a number of USL players to represent Canada's U20s at the CONCACAF U20 Championship this offseason.

2017 SCHEDULE

DATE	HOME	VS	AWAY	TIME (ET)
3/25	PHX	v	TOR	10:30 p.m.
4/1	TBR	v	TOR	7:30 p.m.
4/4	ORL	v	TOR	7:30 p.m.
4/7	TOR	v	ROC	7:30 p.m.
4/22	OTT	v	TOR	2 p.m.
4/29	LOU	v	TOR	7:30 p.m.
5/3	PGH	v	TOR	7 p.m.
5/13	TOR	v	BST	6 p.m.
5/19	TOR	v	TBR	5 p.m.
5/24	TOR	v	RIC	12 p.m.
5/27	CIN	v	TOR	5 p.m.
6/2	STL	v	TOR	8:30 p.m.
6/10	TOR	v	PGH	7:30 p.m.
6/14	TOR	v	ORL	12 p.m.
6/24	CHS	v	TOR	7 p.m.
7/1	TOR	v	HAR	5 p.m.
7/8	TOR	v	OTT	7:30 p.m.
7/21	NY	v	TOR	7 p.m.
7/26	ROC	v	TOR	7:05 p.m.
7/29	OTT	v	TOR	7 p.m.
8/5	TOR	v	CHS	4:30 p.m.
8/9	TOR	v	CLT	7:30 p.m.
8/13	BST	v	TOR	5 p.m.
8/19	RIC	v	TOR	7 p.m.
8/26	CLT	v	TOR	7 p.m.
8/30	TOR	v	STL	7:30 p.m.
9/2	TOR	v	ROC	7:30 p.m.
9/9	TOR	v	NY	8 p.m.
9/16	HAR	v	TOR	7 p.m.
9/27	TOR	v	LOU	7:30 p.m.
10/6	TOR	v	BST	7:30 p.m.
10/14	TOR	v	CIN	7:30 p.m.



TULSA
ROUGHNECKS FC

f @roughnecksfc
t @RoughnecksFC

TEAM RECORD			
Year	W-L-D	Pts	Playoffs
2016	5-21-4	19	--
2015	11-11-6	39	--

TEAM OUTLOOK

There is only one way to go - and that is up - following a last-place finish in the Western Conference in 2016. Tulsa's 21 defeats were the second-most in USL history, and the organization shook things up with assigning former Head Coach David Irving to Director of Football Operations and Technical Director. In comes David Vaudreuil to serve at the helm, and his side will have a challenging task of working its way into the conversation within the Western Conference.

After an initially quiet offseason, the Roughnecks made some interesting additions to the club. Two-time MLS Goalkeeper of the Year Donovan Ricketts, a well-known staple in the professional ranks as a 2011 MLS Cup winner with the LA Galaxy and a longtime representative of Jamaica's national team, was brought on as a player-coach. Additionally, defender Kosuke Kimura was signed to try and turn around the USL's worst defense from a season ago. The first Japan-born player in MLS logged some impressive seasons with the Colorado Rapids earlier in his career, and at outside back, his influence will be felt at times on both ends of the pitch.

Several key pieces are back in the fray, including midfielder and 2015 USL Rookie of the Year finalist Brady Ballew who returns for a third season with the Roughnecks. Forward Cristian Mata will also be a key figure in turning around an offense that was capable of creating chances but clearly lacked a finishing touch last season.

Vaudreuil's influence as the club's new head coach will be watched closely. The former defender addressed some major voids personnel-wise, and it will be a steep hill to climb in making everything mesh in 2017.



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KEY PLAYERS



DONOVAN RICKETTS

The Roughnecks attained one of the most impressive resumes among USL goalkeepers. Ricketts is the league's oldest player (he turns 40 on June 7), and while it is unclear how many game minutes he may be responsible for, the Jamaican's presence and coaching assets will be vital components to help shore up a defense that was unorganized in 2016.



CRISTIAN MATA

Scoring depth certainly was lacking last year, and an early ankle injury played a role in Mata's dip in production - four goals and two assists. After bursting into the scene in 2015 - six goals in less than 1,000 minutes - the Roughnecks are banking on that return to form.

2017 SCHEDULE

DATE	HOME	VS	AWAY	TIME (ET)
3/25	TUL	v	COS	8 p.m.
4/1	TUL	v	RGV	8 p.m.
4/8	TUL	v	SAC	8 p.m.
4/22	RGV	v	TUL	8:30 p.m.
5/5	COS	v	TUL	9 p.m.
5/11	TUL	v	VAN	8 p.m.
5/13	TUL	v	OC	8 p.m.
5/20	SAC	v	TUL	10:30 p.m.
5/24	RNO	v	TUL	10:30 p.m.
5/27	TUL	v	POR	8:30 p.m.
6/11	SPR	v	TUL	5 p.m.
6/17	SA	v	TUL	8:30 p.m.
6/27	TUL	v	SPR	8:30 p.m.
7/1	TUL	v	SLC	8:30 p.m.
7/8	OKC	v	TUL	8:30 p.m.
7/13	LA	v	TUL	10:30 p.m.
7/22	TUL	v	PHX	8:30 p.m.
7/31	SLC	v	TUL	9 p.m.
8/5	TUL	v	RNO	8:30 p.m.
8/10	TUL	v	STL	8:30 p.m.
8/12	TUL	v	OKC	8:30 p.m.
8/15	OC	v	TUL	10:30 p.m.
8/23	STL	v	TUL	8 p.m.
8/30	SEA	v	TUL	10:30 p.m.
9/3	POR	v	TUL	5 p.m.
9/6	VAN	v	TUL	10 p.m.
9/17	OKC	v	TUL	6 p.m.
9/23	TUL	v	LA	8 p.m.
9/30	TUL	v	SA	8 p.m.
10/4	PHX	v	TUL	10:30 p.m.
10/7	TUL	v	SEA	8 p.m.
10/14	TUL	v	COS	8 p.m.

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VANCOUVER WHITECAPS FC 2

f @whitecapsfc2

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TEAM RECORD			
Year	W-L-D	Pts	Playoffs
2016	12-9-9	45	West Final
2015	8-14-6	30	--

TEAM OUTLOOK

WFC2 put together an impressive start and a successful postseason run during the 2016 season, the club's second in the USL. The organization also saw several of its players during the offseason make the move to the MLS side, so there will be a somewhat different roster compared to the club that reached the Western Conference Final.

Additionally, WFC2 has a new head coach for 2017. Rich Fagan, who has enjoyed some success with Vancouver's U18 Residency Program and Development Academy team, has taken over for Alan Koch, who is now on staff with FC Cincinnati.

Despite a few changes, there is a relatively strong base that has accumulated some strong USL minutes, particularly in the defensive third. Sem de Wit, who was named WFC2's MVP last year, prepares for his third campaign to lead the back line. Defender Kadin Chung also returns, and he has had a busy offseason representing Canada's U20 national team during the CONCACAF U20 Championship. At defensive midfield, Will Seymour was one of WFC2's steadiest players this past season.

The scoring production might be one of the question marks heading into 2017. Kyle Greig was a hot commodity with 10 goals through early June last season. Other options will need to pick up the slack, and there were some flashes from some of the returning pool, the most noteworthy being Thomas Sanner and his second-half hat trick against Arizona United SC.



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KEY PLAYERS



SEM DE WIT

De Wit adapted to a number of defensive changes, but the center back has been the constant among this group. With 27 starts and more than 2,400 minutes last year, de Wit cemented himself as the veteran presence for a defense that could be more cohesive this year with Kadin Chung also returning.



WILL SEYMORE

The defensive midfielder naturally did the things that don't show in a score sheet, helping clog opposing offenses while providing the support in Vancouver's attack. He posted two assists in 23 regular-season games last year and figures to once again be an important piece in WFC2's consistency for 2017.

2017 SCHEDULE

DATE	HOME	VS	AWAY	TIME (ET)
3/25	LA	v	VAN	5 p.m.
4/1	RNO	v	VAN	10 p.m.
4/8	VAN	v	SEA	6 p.m.
4/16	POR	v	VAN	5 p.m.
4/22	VAN	v	SA	6 p.m.
4/29	VAN	v	SAC	6 p.m.
5/5	SPR	v	VAN	8:30 p.m.
5/11	TUL	v	VAN	8 p.m.
5/14	VAN	v	COS	6 p.m.
5/28	VAN	v	SLC	6 p.m.
6/4	POR	v	VAN	5 p.m.
6/10	PHX	v	VAN	10:30 p.m.
6/17	SAC	v	VAN	11 p.m.
6/24	VAN	v	OKC	6 p.m.
7/1	VAN	v	SEA	6 p.m.
7/8	COS	v	VAN	8 p.m.
7/12	VAN	v	SPR	3 p.m.
7/15	VAN	v	RNO	6 p.m.
7/29	OC	v	VAN	10 p.m.
8/2	VAN	v	RGV	3 p.m.
8/5	SAC	v	VAN	11 p.m.
8/13	SEA	v	VAN	9:30 p.m.
8/19	RGV	v	VAN	8:30 p.m.
8/23	SA	v	VAN	8:30 p.m.
8/27	VAN	v	LA	6 p.m.
9/6	VAN	v	TUL	10 p.m.
9/10	OKC	v	VAN	6 p.m.
9/17	VAN	v	OC	7 p.m.
9/24	VAN	v	PHX	6 p.m.
9/30	VAN	v	POR	6 p.m.
10/7	SLC	v	VAN	9 p.m.
10/13	VAN	v	OC	10 p.m.

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ABOUT THE U.S. SOCCER FEDERATION

As the governing body of soccer in all its forms in the United States, U.S. Soccer has played an integral part in charting the course for the sport in the USA for 100 years. In that time, the Federation's mission statement has been clear and simple: to make soccer, in all its forms, a preeminent sport in the United States and to continue the development of soccer at all recreational and competitive levels.

From a viewership standpoint, nearly 20 million Americans watched the Round of 16 match at the 2010 FIFA World Cup on television. Soccer-specific stadiums have opened their doors to resounding success. The National Training Center in Carson, Calif., has been a valuable facility for all levels, including the U.S. Soccer Development Academy, which kicked off at the state-of-the-art complex with much fanfare in 2007.

In 1989, the U.S. Men's National Team had not played in a World Cup in 40 years and the U.S. Women's program was in its early stages. U.S. Soccer was playing games in small stadiums that did not reach capacity, few matches were televised, soccer-specific stadiums were yet to be created and there were no high-level professional outdoor leagues.

Since that time, the state of U.S. Soccer has evolved significantly. The U.S. MNT has played in seven consecutive FIFA World Cups and advanced to the quarterfinals at the 2002 event. U.S. Soccer is a world leader in women's soccer at every level, and the U.S. WNT has won three FIFA Women's World Cups and four Olympic Gold Medals - an accomplishment that no other country on the men's and women's side has reached in Olympic competition. The United States has also hosted three World Cups with the support of its members and strong organizational abilities.

From a coaching standpoint in the United States, more classes are continually being offered around the country, and the number of licensed, well-educated trainers and managers is larger than ever. The education level among coaches has been tailored to match the expanding pool of talent in the U.S.

U.S. Soccer continues to set positive trends for referees in CONCACAF, with reinvigorated focus on education and training, including the realm of professional referees. In 2012, U.S. Soccer and MLS created the Professional Referee Organization (PRO) to manage the referee program in professional soccer leagues in the U.S. and Canada. The creation of PRO has been designed to increase the quality of officiating in U.S. and Canadian professional leagues, develop more professional quality officials at a younger age and develop officials who will represent the United States and Canada in FIFA competitions.

Participation in soccer continues at high levels among both youth and adults, with more than 4.3 million registered players among the 24 million participants in the sport, according to the FIFA Big Count.

For more information on all U.S. Soccer programs, visit the official organization website at www.ussoccer.com.

2016 USL SEASON IN REVIEW

2016 STANDINGS

Eastern Conference	GP	W	L	T	GF	GA	Pts
New York Red Bulls II	30	21	3	6	69	61	21
Louisville City FC	30	17	4	9	60	52	27
FC Cincinnati	30	16	6	8	56	41	27
Rochester Rhinos	30	13	5	12	51	38	25
Charlotte Independence	30	14	8	8	50	48	29
Charleston Battery	30	13	8	9	48	38	33
Richmond Kickers	30	12	9	9	45	33	26
Orlando City B	30	9	13	8	35	35	49
Wilmington Hammerheads FC	30	8	12	10	34	37	47
Harrisburg City Islanders	30	8	15	7	31	37	54
Bethlehem Steel FC	30	6	14	10	28	32	43
Toronto FC II	30	7	18	5	26	36	58
Pittsburgh Riverhounds	30	6	17	7	25	31	50
FC Montreal	30	7	21	2	23	35	57

Western Conference	GP	W	L	T	GF	GA	Pts
Sacramento Republic FC	30	14	6	10	52	43	27
Rio Grande Valley FC	30	14	7	9	51	47	24
Colorado Springs Switchbacks FC	30	14	9	7	49	37	27
Swope Park Rangers	30	14	10	6	48	45	36
LA Galaxy II	30	12	7	11	47	52	42
Vancouver Whitecaps FC 2	30	12	9	9	45	44	44
OKC Energy FC	30	10	7	13	43	32	30
Orange County SC	30	12	14	4	40	39	41
Portland Timbers 2	30	12	14	4	40	38	42
San Antonio FC	30	10	12	8	38	36	36
Real Monarchs SLC	30	10	14	6	36	31	41
Seattle Sounders FC 2	30	9	13	8	35	35	50
Arizona United SC	30	9	14	7	34	40	46
Saint Louis FC	30	8	12	10	34	42	44
Tulsa Roughnecks FC	30	5	21	4	19	25	64

PLAYOFFS

Eastern Conference Quarterfinals

Rochester Rhinos 3, Charlotte Independence 1
 New York Red Bulls II 4, Orlando City B 0
 Charleston Battery 2, FC Cincinnati 1
 Louisville City FC 2, Richmond Kickers 0 (OT)

Eastern Conference Semifinals

New York Red Bulls II 3, Rochester Rhinos 3
(New York wins 5-4 in a penalty shootout)
 Louisville City FC 1, Charleston Battery 0

Eastern Conference Final

New York Red Bulls II 1, Louisville City FC 1
(New York wins 4-3 in a penalty shootout)

Western Conference Quarterfinals

Swope Park Rangers 3, LA Galaxy II 0
 Vancouver Whitecaps FC 2 2, Colorado Springs Switchbacks FC 1
 OKC Energy FC 3, Rio Grande Valley FC 2
 Orange County Blues FC 0, Sacramento Republic FC 0
(Orange County wins 5-4 in a penalty shootout)

Western Conference Semifinals

Vancouver Whitecaps FC 2 3, OKC Energy FC 2
 Swope Park Rangers 2, Orange County Blues FC 1 (OT)

Western Conference Final

Swope Park Rangers 3, No. 6 Vancouver Whitecaps FC 2 0

USL Cup Final, Presented by Nike

New York Red Bulls II 5, Swope Park Rangers 1

USL ALL-LEAGUE FIRST TEAM

GK - Mitch Hildebrandt, FC Cincinnati
 D - Harrison Delbridge, FC Cincinnati
 D - Amer Didic, Swope Park Rangers
 D - Aaron Long, New York Red Bulls II
 D - Hugh Roberts, Richmond Kickers
 M - Danny Barrera, Sacramento Republic FC
 M - Villyan Bijev, Portland Timbers 2
 M - Enzo Martinez, Charlotte Independence
 F - Brandon Allen, New York Red Bulls II
 F - Jack McBean, LA Galaxy II
 F - Sean Okoli, FC Cincinnati

USL ALL-LEAGUE SECOND TEAM

GK - Devala Gorrick, Colorado Springs Switchbacks FC
 D - Zach Carroll, New York Red Bulls II
 D - Joe Farrell, Rochester Rhinos
 D - Bruno Perone, Wilmington Hammerheads FC
 D - Josh Suggs, Colorado Springs Switchbacks FC
 M - Jose Barril, Harrisburg City Islanders
 M - Kenardo Forbes, Rochester Rhinos
 M - Yudai Imura, Richmond Kickers
 F - Irvin Herrera, Saint Louis FC
 F - Corey Hertzog, Pittsburgh Riverhounds
 F - Cameron Iwasa, Sacramento Republic FC

USL AWARDS

Most Valuable Player: Sean Okoli, FC Cincinnati
 Scoring Champion: Sean Okoli, FC Cincinnati
 Golden Boot: Sean Okoli, FC Cincinnati
 Assists Champion: Villyan Bijev, Portland Timbers 2
 Goals-Against Average Champion: Callum Irving, Rio Grande Valley FC
 Rookie of the Year: Brandon Allen, New York Red Bulls II
 Goalkeeper of the Year: Mitch Hildebrandt, FC Cincinnati
 Defender of the Year: Aaron Long, New York Red Bulls II
 Coach of the Year: John Wolyniec, New York Red Bulls II

2015 USL SEASON IN REVIEW

2015 STANDINGS

Eastern Conference	GP	W	L	T	GF	GA	Pts
Rochester Rhinos	28	17	1	10	40	15	61
Louisville City FC	28	14	8	6	55	34	48
Charleston Battery	28	12	6	10	43	28	46
New York Red Bulls II	28	12	10	6	46	45	42
Pittsburgh Riverhounds	28	11	9	8	53	42	41
Richmond Kickers	28	10	7	11	41	35	41
Charlotte Independence	28	10	8	10	38	35	40
Harrisburg City Islanders	28	11	11	6	49	53	39
Saint Louis FC	28	8	11	9	30	40	33
FC Montreal	28	8	16	4	32	46	28
Toronto FC II	28	6	17	5	26	52	23
Wilmington Hammerheads FC	28	2	15	10	22	42	19
Western Conference	GP	W	L	T	GF	GA	Pts
Orange County Blues FC	28	14	9	5	38	34	47
OKC Energy FC	28	13	7	8	44	36	47
Colorado Springs Switchbacks FC	28	14	10	4	53	35	46
Sacramento Republic FC	28	13	8	7	43	31	46
LA Galaxy II	28	14	11	3	39	31	45
Seattle Sounders FC 2	28	13	12	3	45	42	42
Tulsa Roughnecks FC	28	11	11	6	49	46	39
Portland Timbers 2	28	11	15	2	38	45	35
Austin Aztex	28	10	15	3	32	41	33
Arizona United SC	28	10	16	2	31	55	32
Vancouver Whitecaps FC 2	28	8	14	6	39	53	30
Real Monarchs SLC	28	7	8	13	32	42	29
Arizona United SC	30	9	14	7	34	40	46

PLAYOFFS

Eastern Conference Quarterfinals

New York 4, Pittsburgh 2 (OT)
Charleston 2, Richmond 1 (OT)

Eastern Conference Semifinals

Rochester 2, New York 0
Louisville 2, Charleston 0 (OT)

Eastern Conference Final

Rochester 1, Louisville 0

Western Conference Quarterfinals

Los Angeles 1, Sacramento 0
Colorado Springs 2, Seattle 0

Western Conference Semifinals

Los Angeles 2, Orange County 0
Oklahoma City 2, Colorado Springs 2 (OT)
(Oklahoma City wins 4-3 in a penalty shootout)

Western Conference Final

Los Angeles 2, Oklahoma City 1

USL Championship

Rochester 2, Los Angeles 1 (OT)

USL ALL-LEAGUE FIRST TEAM

GK - Brandon Miller, Rochester
D - Bryan Burke, Louisville
D - Shawn Ferguson, Charleston
D - Daniel Steres, Los Angeles
D - Grant Van De Casteele, Rochester
M - Luke Vercollone, Colorado Springs
M - Rob Vincent, Pittsburgh
M - Tony Walls, Rochester
F - Matt Fondy, Louisville
F - Danny König, Oklahoma City
F - Long Tan, Arizona

USL ALL-LEAGUE SECOND TEAM

GK - Odisnel Cooper, Charleston
D - Mickey Daly, Sacramento
D - Brenton Griffiths, Orange County
D - Mechack Jerome, Charlotte
D - Nemanja Vukovic, Sacramento
M - Gareth Evans, Oklahoma City
M - Kevin Kerr, Pittsburgh
M - Rodrigo Lopez, Sacramento
F - Kharlton Belmar, Portland
F - Dane Kelly, Charleston
F - Jason Yeisley, Richmond

USL AWARDS

Most Valuable Player: Matt Fondy, Louisville
Scoring Champion: Matt Fondy, Louisville
Golden Boot: Matt Fondy, Louisville
Assists Champion: Bryan Burke, Louisville
Goals-Against Average Champion: Brandon Miller, Rochester
Rookie of the Year: Kharlton Belmar, Portland Timbers 2
Goalkeeper of the Year: Brandon Miller, Rochester
Defender of the Year: Bryan Burke, Louisville
Coach of the Year: Bob Lilley, Rochester

2014 USL SEASON IN REVIEW

2014 STANDINGS

	GP	W	L	T	GF	GA	Pts
Orlando City SC	28	19	4	5	56	24	62
Sacramento Republic FC	28	17	7	4	49	28	55
LA Galaxy II	28	15	7	6	54	38	51
Richmond Kickers	28	13	3	12	53	28	51
Charleston Battery	28	11	9	8	36	31	41
Rochester Rhinos	28	10	10	8	29	25	38
Wilmington Hammerheads FC	28	9	8	11	35	33	38
Harrisburg City Islanders	28	10	7	11	45	46	37
Arizona United SC*	28	10	13	5	32	47	33
OKC Energy FC	28	9	14	5	32	37	32
Pittsburgh Riverhounds	28	9	14	5	35	49	32
Charlotte Eagles	28	9	15	4	33	40	31
Orange County Blues FC	28	9	18	1	31	54	28
Dayton Dutch Lions FC	28	6	18	4	28	63	22

* - Arizona was deducted two points for use of an ineligible player

PLAYOFFS

Quarterfinals

Harrisburg 1, Orlando 0
Richmond 2, Charleston 1 (OT)
Sacramento 4, Wilmington 1
Los Angeles 2, Rochester 1

Semifinals

Harrisburg 3, Richmond 2
Sacramento 3, Los Angeles 2

Final

Sacramento 2, Harrisburg 0

USL AWARDS

Most Valuable Player: Kevin Molino, Orlando
Scoring Champion: Kevin Molino, Orlando
Golden Boot: Kevin Molino, Orlando
Assists Champion: Kevin Molino, Orlando
Goals-Against Average Champion: John McCarthy, Rochester
Rookie of the Year: John McCarthy, Rochester
Goalkeeper of the Year: John McCarthy, Rochester
Defender of the Year: Nemanja Vukovic, Sacramento
Coach of the Year: Preki, Sacramento

USL ALL-LEAGUE FIRST TEAM

GK - John McCarthy, Rochester
D - Luke Boden, Orlando
D - Ashani Fairclough, Wilmington
D - Nemanja Vukovic, Sacramento
D - William Yomby, Richmond
M - George Davis IV, Richmond
M - Rodrigo Lopez, Sacramento
M - Kevin Molino, Orlando
F - Matthew Delicate, Richmond
F - Chandler Hoffman, Los Angeles
F - Dane Kelly, Charleston

USL ALL-LEAGUE SECOND TEAM

GK - Joe Willis, Richmond
D - Matt Bahner, Harrisburg
D - Gareth Evans, Oklahoma City
D - Brad Rusin, Orlando
D - Daniel Steres, Los Angeles
M - Andre Auras, Los Angeles
M - Jorge Herrera, Charlotte
M - Allan Russell, Orange County
F - JC Banks, Rochester
F - Aaron Schoenfeld, Dayton
F - Long Tan, Arizona

2013 USL SEASON IN REVIEW

2013 STANDINGS

	GP	W	L	T	GF	GA	Pts
Richmond Kickers	26	15	1	10	51	24	55
Orlando City SC	26	16	4	6	54	26	54
Charleston Battery	26	13	7	6	48	29	45
Harrisburg City Islanders	26	14	10	2	55	39	44
Charlotte Eagles	26	10	5	11	44	39	41
Los Angeles Blues	26	11	8	7	52	37	40
Pittsburgh Riverhounds	26	10	8	8	36	33	38
Dayton Dutch Lions FC	26	10	7	9	43	46	37
Wilmington Hammerheads FC*	26	11	11	4	35	39	36
VSI Tampa Bay FC	26	9	12	5	41	39	32
Rochester Rhinos	26	6	10	10	25	39	28
Phoenix FC	26	5	14	7	28	41	22
Antigua Barracuda FC	26	0	26	0	11	91	0

* - Wilmington was deducted one point for use of an ineligible player

PLAYOFFS

Quarterfinals

Richmond 1, Dayton 0
Charlotte 3, Harrisburg 1
Orlando 5, Pittsburgh 0
Charleston 2, Los Angeles 1

Semifinals

Charlotte 2, Richmond 1
Orlando 3, Charleston 2

Final

Orlando 7, Charlotte 4

USL AWARDS

Most Valuable Player: Jose Angulo, Pittsburgh
Scoring Champion: Jose Angulo, Pittsburgh
Golden Boot: Dom Dwyer, Orlando
Jose Angulo, Pittsburgh
Assists Champion: Matt Dallman, Pittsburgh
Goals-Against Average Champion: Andrew Dykstra, Richmond
Rookie of the Year: Nate Robinson, Richmond
Goalkeeper of the Year: Andrew Dykstra, Richmond
Defender of the Year: Colin Falvey, Charleston
Coach of the Year: Leigh Cowlishaw

USL ALL-LEAGUE FIRST TEAM

GK - Andrew Dykstra, Richmond
D - Colin Falvey, Charleston
D - Henry Kalungi, Richmond
D - Rob Valentino, Orlando
D - William Yomby, Richmond
M - Matt Dallman, Pittsburgh
M - Joseph Ngwenya, Richmond
M - Jamie Watson, Orlando
F - Jose Angulo, Pittsburgh
F - Dom Dwyer, Orlando
F - Sainey Touray, Harrisburg

USL ALL-LEAGUE SECOND TEAM

GK - Nick Noble, Harrisburg
D - Danny Earls, Rochester
D - Josh Rife, Tampa Bay
D - Andrew Marshall, Pittsburgh
D - Daniel Steres, Wilmington
M - Micheal Azira, Charleston
M - George Davis IV, Los Angeles
M - Jorge Herrera, Charlotte
F - Gibson Bardsley, Dayton
F - Matt Fondy, Los Angeles
F - Lucky Mkosana, Harrisburg

2012 USL SEASON IN REVIEW

2012 STANDINGS

	GP	W	L	T	GF	GA	Pts
Orlando City SC	24	17	1	6	50	18	57
Rochester Rhinos	24	12	7	5	27	23	41
Charleston Battery	24	12	10	2	36	26	38
Richmond Kickers	24	11	8	5	31	27	38
Wilmington Hammerheads FC	24	10	7	7	34	32	37
Harrisburg City Islanders	24	10	7	7	34	29	37
Charlotte Eagles	24	11	10	3	34	26	36
Los Angeles Blues	24	9	12	3	26	29	30
Dayton Dutch Lions FC	24	4	10	10	20	29	22
Pittsburgh Riverhounds	24	4	15	5	20	39	17
Antigua Barracuda FC	24	5	18	1	15	50	16

PLAYOFFS

Quarterfinals

Charleston 2, Harrisburg 1
Wilmington 3, Richmond 2

Semifinals

Rochester 1, Charleston 1
(Charleston wins 4-3 in a penalty shootout)
Wilmington 4, Orlando 3

Final

Charleston 1, Wilmington 0

USL AWARDS

Most Valuable Player: Kevin Molino, Orlando
Scoring Champion: Dennis Chin, Orlando
Golden Boot: Dennis Chin, Orlando
Assists Champion: JC Banks, Rochester
Goals-Against Average Champion: Miguel Gallardo, Orlando
Rookie of the Year: Jose Cuevas, Charleston
Goalkeeper of the Year: Kristian Nicht, Rochester
Defender of the Year: Troy Roberts, Rochester
Coach of the Year: Adrian Heath, Orlando

2011 USL SEASON IN REVIEW

2011 STANDINGS

American Division	GP	W	L	T	GF	GA	Pts
Orlando City SC	24	15	3	6	36	16	51
Wilmington Hammerheads FC	24	14	7	3	42	30	45
Richmond Kickers	24	12	7	5	35	21	41
Charleston Battery	24	10	9	5	24	25	35
Charlotte Eagles	24	9	9	6	32	29	33
Antigua Barracuda FC	24	9	13	2	32	32	29

National Division	GP	W	L	T	GF	GA	Pts
Rochester Rhinos	24	12	8	4	31	23	40
Harrisburg City Islanders	24	10	7	7	37	30	37
Los Angeles Blues	24	8	7	9	34	29	33
Pittsburgh Riverhounds	24	7	11	6	23	32	27
F.C. New York	24	6	11	7	27	37	25
Dayton Dutch Lions FC	24	2	16	6	21	54	12

PLAYOFFS

American Division Semifinals

Orlando 3, Charleston 1
Wilmington 0, Richmond 0
(Richmond wins 5-4 in a penalty shootout)

American Division Final

Orlando 3, Richmond 0

National Division Semifinals

Rochester 4, Pittsburgh 0
Harrisburg 3, Los Angeles 2

National Division Final

Harrisburg 2, Rochester 1

USL Championship

Orlando 2, Harrisburg 2
(Orlando wins 3-2 in a penalty shootout)

USL AWARDS

Most Valuable Player: Yordany Alvarez, Orlando
Scoring Champion: Jhonny Arteaga, New York
Golden Boot: Jhonny Arteaga, New York
Assists Champion: Tadeu Terra, New York
Goals-Against Average Champion: Miguel Gallardo, Orlando
Rookie of the Year: Luke Mulholland, Wilmington
Goalkeeper of the Year: Miguel Gallardo, Orlando
Defender of the Year: Rob Valentino, Orlando
Coach of the Year: Adrian Heath, Orlando

USL ALL-LEAGUE FIRST TEAM

GK - Kristian Nicht, Rochester
D - Josh Rife, Charlotte
D - Troy Roberts, Rochester
D - Rob Valentino, Orlando
D - William Yomby, Richmond
M - JC Banks, Rochester
M - Kevin Molino, Orlando
M - Nicki Paterson, Charleston
F - Dennis Chin, Orlando
F - Jose Cuevas, Charleston
F - Corey Hertzog, Wilmington

USL ALL-LEAGUE SECOND TEAM

GK - Miguel Gallardo, Orlando
D - Keiron Bernard, Orlando
D - Eryls Garcia, Los Angeles
D - Quinton Griffith, Antigua
D - Mechack Jerome, Orlando
M - Joel DeLass, Dayton
M - Matt Kassell, Pittsburgh
M - Bryce Taylor, Wilmington
F - Bright Dike, Los Angeles
F - Matt Luzunaris, Orlando
F - Lucky Mkosana, Harrisburg

USL ALL-LEAGUE FIRST TEAM

GK - Miguel Gallardo, Orlando
D - Nelson Akwari, Los Angeles
D - Gareth Evans, Wilmington
D - Rob Valentino, Orlando
D - William Yomby, Richmond
M - Yordany Alvarez, Orlando
M - Jorge Herrera, Charlotte
M - Luke Mulholland, Wilmington
F - Jhonny Arteaga, New York
F - Matt Delicate, Richmond
F - Max Griffin, Orlando

USL ALL-LEAGUE SECOND TEAM

GK - Neal Kitson, Rochester
D - George Dublin, Antigua
D - Colin Falvey, Charleston
D - Kyle Hoffer, New York
D - Troy Roberts, Rochester
M - Lewis Neal, Orlando
M - Lawson Robinson, Antigua
M - Jamie Watson, Orlando
F - Jose Angulo, Harrisburg
F - George Davis IV, Dayton
F - Jason Yeisley, Pittsburgh

2016 USL SEASON IN REVIEW

Record scoring, attendances embody action-packed campaign

The sheer excitement during the USL's sixth season was shown in a number of ways. From the high-flying, USL-record goal totals of the 2016 champion New York Red Bulls II to the record-shattering crowds in FC Cincinnati, the league enjoyed an element of growth it had not seen in previous campaigns.

The future continues to look bright in 2017 as the league earned Division II professional sanctioning in early January. Current organizations are continuing to evolve and the USL anticipates further growth across the North American soccer landscape.

The USL has turned the page on 2016 as any aggressive and proactive league should, but it would be remiss to overlook the importance of this chapter in the USL's history. Here is a rundown of the league's top 10 stories in 2016:

10. International flavor: Among the 2016 USL team rosters, more than 70 players have represented their senior national team - past or present - and well more than 200 of these players have donned their national team jersey on the youth level.

9. Highlight-reel tallies: For the first time in USL history, more than 1,000 goals were scored during the regular season. FC Cincinnati's Sean Okoli - the 2016 USL Most Valuable Player - landed on ESPN SportsCenter's Top 10 with a volley that also was Cincinnati's first home tally at Nippert Stadium.

8. Music City embrace: On July 1, 2016, the scene at Nashville's Bridgestone Arena was one filled with sheer enthusiasm as Nashville SC put its plans in place to join the USL starting in the 2018 season. As Nashville gears up for the USL, the organization will see the debut of its PDL team this year.

7: Fountain of youth: The USL 20 Under 20 series was unveiled in 2016, including No. 8 selection Vancouver Whitecaps FC 2's Alphonso Davies - the youngest goal scorer in USL history at 15 years old. NYRBII's Brandon Allen, the 2016 USL Rookie of the Year, set a USL rookie record with 15 goals.

6: Forefront of VAR: The USL, in collaboration with MLS and the International Football Association Board, incorporated the use of a Video Assistant Referee for several NYRBII games at Red Bull Arena, giving the league a historic platform to push officiating in the game forward.

5. Fury, Rowdies make move: Two days after the 2016 USL Cup Final, Ottawa Fury FC and the Tampa Bay Rowdies - two incredibly established North American organizations and markets - announced their move to the USL starting in the 2017 season.

4. Toros' hybrid delivers: Rio Grande Valley FC debuted in 2016 as a hybrid affiliate of MLS's Houston Dynamo. The result was a second-place finish in the Western Conference and an exciting brand of soccer under Head Coach Wilmer Cabrera.

3. Red Bulls II charge to title: The New York Red Bulls II became the first MLS-owned-and-operated club to win the 2016 USL Cup Final. The road to get there was strong, as well, as NYRBII set single-season USL records for total wins (21), points (69) and goals (61), while also posting 14 road victories.

2. Cincy bursts onto scene: FC Cincinnati's first season welcomed five-figure crowds to every home game, and John Harkes' side finished third in the Eastern Conference. Sean Okoli won MVP honors, Mitch Hildebrandt earned USL Goalkeeper of the Year and excitement continues to build for the future.

1. 1.5 million strong: The 2016 season reached nearly 1.5 million spectators (1,496,493), a 33 percent increase from 2015. FC Cincinnati, Sacramento Republic FC and Louisville City FC each drew more than 100,000 fans, marking the first time in USL history that multiple organizations surpassed that total.

2016 LAMAR HUNT U.S. OPEN CUP REVIEW

Rochester among six USL sides to advance to Fourth Round of tournament

A number of USL clubs were on the cusp of an extensive run during the 2016 Lamar Hunt U.S. Open Cup, with six organizations advancing to the Fourth Round of the tournament.

The 2016 event was the first in which MLS-owned-and-operated USL teams - eight total - were not allowed to participate in the Open Cup. That limited the USL's field to 17 when the league joined tournament play in the Second Round.

The most dominating performance among the USL contingent was the Rochester Rhinos. The defending USL Cup champions stormed through the first two games, opening with a 7-0 victory against USASA's Southie FC, followed by a 2-0 win against the USASA's Lansdowne Bhoys FC in the Third Round. That set up a difficult home match against Major League Soccer's New York Red Bulls. NYRB fielded a strong side, and if not for conceding a first-half penalty kick to New York's Sacha Kljestan, a different result could have presented itself than Rochester's 1-0 loss to bow out of the tournament.

Another run cut short was the performance of Wilmington Hammerheads FC, which after a 6-0 win against Miami Fusion FC and a 2-1 road victory against Miami FC, was in the driver's seat against MLS's Real Salt Lake in the Fourth Round. Mael Corboz and Jeff Michaud tallied to give the Hammerheads a 2-0 second-half lead, but host RSL battled back to tie the score at 2-2 late in regulation and eventually win in a penalty shootout.

The Harrisburg City Islanders were involved in a chaotic final 15 minutes against the 2015 runner-up Philadelphia Union. Despite a late two-goal deficit to the MLS side, the City Islanders tied things up thanks to Craig Foster's 79th-minute score and Bobby Warshaw's stoppage-time equalizer. Appearing to be headed to overtime, Philadelphia spoiled Harrisburg's hard-fought response with a late response of their own as Roland Alberg recorded his brace in the fourth minute of second-half stoppage time for the 3-2 Union win.

San Antonio FC, in the midst of its inaugural season, also advanced to the Fourth Round, as did Colorado Springs Switchbacks FC and OKC Energy FC, which fell to FC Dallas in a penalty shootout.

The 2017 U.S. Open Cup will be the 104th edition of the competition and will feature 18 teams joining the tournament's Second Round: Arizona United SC, the Charleston Battery, Charlotte Independence, Colorado Springs Switchbacks FC, FC Cincinnati, the Harrisburg City Islanders, Louisville City FC, OKC Energy FC, Orange County Blues FC, the Pittsburgh Riverhounds, Reno 1868 FC, the Richmond Kickers, Rochester Rhinos, Sacramento Republic FC, Saint Louis FC, San Antonio FC, the Tampa Bay Rowdies and Tulsa Roughnecks FC.

The USL's Rochester Rhinos are the last non-MLS team to win the U.S. Open Cup (1999) and the USL's Charleston Battery were the last non-MLS team to advance to the Final (2008). Teams such as the Richmond Kickers (2011 semifinals), Harrisburg City Islanders (2012 quarterfinals) and Orlando City SC (2013 quarterfinals) have all made remarkable runs in recent years.

RULES & REGULATIONS

NEW RULES STARTING IN 2017

Three Substitutions

The USL is reducing the number of substitutions permitted in league contests to the international standard of three per match. The USL previously allowed for five substitutions. That rule had been carried over from earlier versions of the league when - due to scheduling and travel - teams occasionally played two games in three nights or even on back-to-back days. With the 2017 season extended to 32 games over a 30-week regular season, league management determined the time had come to change the substitution rule to three.

Good Behavior Incentive

The USL is implementing a Good Behavior Incentive that potentially could reduce a player's yellow card accumulation total based on a string of matches without receiving a caution.

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

For example, a player on his third caution of the season appearing in five consecutive matches without receiving a card or supplemental discipline removes one (!) caution from his cumulative total, leaving the player with a total of two. This player now has two remaining Good Behavior Incentive opportunities for the 2017 Season. If that player completes five more consecutive matches without receiving a card or supplemental discipline, one more caution is removed from his cumulative total leaving the player a total of one caution and one more Good Behavior Incentive opportunity.

DISCIPLINARY REGULATIONS

Disciplinary Powers

The USL shall have the authority to suspend, fine or disqualify players, team officials or competing clubs for violating league rules, or for any action or conduct not in the best interest of soccer or the USL. The USL hands down any final decision on a breach of rules.

The USL Disciplinary Panel

The USL Disciplinary Committee is charged with the responsibility to enforce the playing rules and allow for a competitive, but fair, environment for all teams to compete against each other. A panel of at least three USL staff members, consisting of the League Director, Operations Director and Referee Services Coordinator, shall conduct the review of critical disciplinary issues. An alternate League Director may be utilized in the event any of the three members above are unable to participate.

Disciplinary Process

USL disciplinary issues (including all sendoffs) reported by the Referee shall be reviewed by the USL Disciplinary Panel (a panel of at least three USL staff members) via match videos, official reports, individual accounts and other pertinent information. Depending on the timeliness of the reports and match videos, the Panel will make every effort to rule on all cases from the preceding week and issue these rulings by Wednesday of each week.

Every disciplinary incident (sendoffs) shall be reviewed to ensure that players are not over-penalized, either by the number of matches served or fines. The USL has the authority and reserves the right to levy additional suspensions or fines (above the minimum for that type of infraction) if a review of the incident warrants such action.

The USL Disciplinary Panel shall only act in contravention of a referee's ruling on the field when a play, or the consequences of a play, are of an egregious or exceptional nature OR in circumstances where the referee did not see the play in question and the USL has sufficient and convincing evidence that a serious infraction occurred.

Independent Disciplinary Panel

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

Disparaging Comments

Players, coaches and team officials may not disparage referees, referee decisions, league disciplinary decisions or the league in team press releases or in quotes provided to the media. Fines will be levied accordingly based on the nature, severity and context of the comments made. Suspensions could also be levied for very serious comments.

Serving Suspensions During the Regular Season

Any player sent off or coach dismissed during a regular-season game will be fined (min. \$100) and will be suspended from the next league regular-season game. A person who serves as both player and coach may not return as a player or a coach until the suspension has been served. The USL Disciplinary Committee reserves the right to assess further penalties depending on the severity of the incident.

The penalties set forth shall apply to all cards awarded to a player in any USL match. For the purposes of determining accumulations and game suspensions, any games that count as part of a team's official league schedule shall be utilized.

Exhibition Game Sendoff

Any player sent off or coach dismissed during an exhibition game shall serve a suspension during the team's next exhibition game.

Final Regular Season Game Sendoff

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

Coach/Staff Cautions and Ejections

Referees, at their discretion, may warn or dismiss coaches and team staff for unprofessional behavior. Any coach or other team staff member not acting in a professional manner in the opinion of the League, whether or not the incident is reported in the Referee Game Report, shall be subject to a fine and/or suspension. Referees are instructed not to physically show a red card to non-players, although they may require the removal of coaches and team staff in accordance with Rule 647 for unprofessional behavior at their own discretion.

Suspension Parameters & Restrictions

Any manager, coach, assistant coach, athletic trainer, player or other official bench personnel is prohibited from assuming any official duty at or near the team bench while serving a suspension. Any athletic trainer sent off during a match should remain in the locker room area through the end of the match and may only return to the pitch at the request of the Referee in the event of an emergency. Any infringement of this rule or the restrictions below may result in the forfeiture of the game and include a fine for each infraction. The following restrictions apply:

Pre-Game

Suspended personnel are allowed to communicate pre-game information to the team in the locker room prior to the match. However, they are not allowed on the field during warm-ups and may not stand or in any way be in close proximity to the field of play.

In-Game, Including Halftime

Field Access: At no time during the game are suspended personnel allowed on or around the field of play.

Communication: There is to be no direct or indirect communication whether written, verbal, cellular or electronic to any other coach, player or staff member on the team bench.

Stadium Seating: The suspended personnel must sit in the press box or in some location other than in the stands. The suspended person is not permitted to sit in the stands as a "spectator." If it is not possible to sit in the press box, then they are prohibited from attending the match.

Locker Room Access: The coach/staff member is not allowed to be in the locker room at any time during halftime.

Post-Game

The coach/staff member may join their team in the locker room, but not on the field of play or its surrounding areas.

Extending a Suspension

In any case, the USL reserves the right to impose suspensions beyond any of these parameters for offenses deemed to be particularly violent and against the spirit of the game. This can be imposed regardless of whether a sendoff occurred.

League Disciplinary Point System

The USL has the authority to discipline players, coaches, and/or team personnel based upon the USL disciplinary regulations in accordance with FIFA and the respective National Federation.

Penalty Points

All cautions/yellow cards will account for one point and sendoffs/red cards will account for two points. Any player receiving two cautions in one match, which results in a sendoff, will receive one point for the first caution and one point for the resulting sendoff for a total of two points. Any player receiving one caution and one red card in a match, which results in a sendoff, will receive one point for the caution and two points for the sendoff for a total of three points. Sendoffs/red card suspensions must be served the following game in which the team participates. Cautionable offenses, both subjective and mandatory, will be listed in the USL Referee Manual for reference.

Player Caution Accumulation

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

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

Five cautions: one-game suspension and \$200 fine

Eight total cautions: one-game suspension and \$300 fine

11 total cautions: two-game suspension and \$400 fine

14 total cautions: three-game suspension and \$500 fine

Caution accumulation suspensions can only affect regular-season games. For those players who reach a caution accumulation suspension at the end of the season that suspension will not be implemented in any potential playoff games that season. Accumulations will be wiped clean at the end of the season.

Coach Dismissal Accumulation

Any coach accumulating the following number of dismissals, will be suspended and fined as the following:

First dismissal: coach will serve a one-game suspension and will be fined minimum of \$500

Second dismissal: coach will serve a one-game suspension and will be fined minimum of \$1,000

Third dismissal: coach will serve a two-game suspension and will be fined minimum of \$1,500

Suspension During USL Cup Playoffs

Any player and/or coach who is sent off during the playoffs will be suspended from the next playoff game, unless the season is over, in which case the suspension will be served in the team's first league game the following season.

Major Game Misconduct

In addition to the penalties set forth above, major fines or suspensions, at the sole and absolute discretion of the USL Disciplinary Panel, shall be levied against players (whether or not they were awarded a card by the referee), coaches or other team staff for such game conduct as fighting, provoking a fight, criticizing game officials with words or gestures, entering the game officials' locker room, physical contact with game officials separate from referee assault, using excessive force, deliberate attempts to injure, spitting, provoking crowd disorders, profane language that can be heard by the crowd or broadcast audience, obscene gestures, improper conduct during the national anthem, taunting, abuse of spectators and others, failure to leave the field when instructed by the referee to do so, improper conduct following the award of a card, excessive delay tactics, excessive and obvious feigning of injuries, or other unsportsmanlike conduct detrimental to the USL and the sport of soccer in general. The league may levy fines and/or suspensions for such behavior whether or not it is reported in the Referee Game Report.

Game Official Assault or Abuse

In addition to enforcing the mandatory sanctions from USSF Policy 531-9, the USL may impose additional fines and/or suspensions.

The USL's Discretionary Power on Suspensions

The USL may, at its discretion, rule a specific game shall not count toward the completion of a suspension, if satisfied the game has been purposely arranged by the club with a view toward enabling the player in question to complete his suspension at a specific time in order to qualify him to play in another specific game.

USSF Fine for Serious Incidents

The U.S. Soccer Federation has the power to impose fines for any incident bringing the game into disrepute within the league.

Red Card and Second Yellow Card Appeal

Within 24 hours after the completion of a match a team may request a review of a red card or the second yellow card if a player receives two yellow cards in a match to rectify a case of serious and obvious error. An independent panel of three people made up of one representative from the USSF, the CSA, and PRO will oversee the appeal. The must unanimously agree to overturn a red card or second yellow card for the appeal to be successful.

Suspension and Fine Appeal

Within 24 hours after the USL distributes its Weekly Discipline Report, a team may appeal a suspension and/or fine that is greater than one game or \$100, unless the established minimum fine and suspension exceeds those amounts. The USL must receive the appeal in writing via email. The appeal must state why the team feels the punishment is not appropriate, and it must provide supporting evidence to support its position.

Within 48 hours of receiving the appeal the USL shall hold a call to determine the appeal. The USL shall convene the Independent Disciplinary Panel to decide the appeal. The panel will review the video of the incident prior to the appeal. \$500 is due to the USL in order to conduct an appeal, but if the appeal is successful, then the \$500 will not be invoiced.

The USL's General or Associate Counsel will organize the appeal call. First the referee(s) will give their view of the incident. Next, the league will explain how it arrived at its decision. Last, the team and the player can explain his reasoning on why he feels the decision should be changed and his proposed outcome. During each of these, the panel may ask questions to any of these parties. After each party has spoken, they will all leave the call, including the league and the General Counsel, and the panel will render a decision. They will call the General Counsel and inform him or her of their decision, and they will communicate that decision to the league and the appealing team.

Cross League and Competition Suspensions

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

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

Master Roster

27-man Game Day Player Pool - All players must be rostered (i.e., registered with the league and Federation) prior to their inclusion in a team's 27-man Game Day Player Pool. Should a player be successfully rostered (provided all registration paperwork was submitted before the applicable match registration deadline) and fall within the 24-48-hour window, they may be added to the 27-man Game Day Player Pool; however, the change will be subject to the opposing team's approval in accordance with Master Roster Guidelines.

The Master Roster consists of up to 30 Active Players and is the official player roster of the team as set by the USL. Inactive Players do not count toward a team's Master Roster. A maximum of seven players on the Master Roster may be Foreign Players.

A professional team must carry 12 or more players signed to the USL Standard Professional Player Contract on its Master Roster.

At least 50 percent of the players on a Canadian-based team's roster must be Canadian citizens or possess landed immigrant status.

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

Teams are required to submit their 27-man Game Day Player Pool of players that are available and active for a match 48 hours prior to each match. Between 24 and 48 hours prior to the match, any change to that Game Day Player Pool must be approved by the opposing team and the league. There will be no changes allowed to the Game Day Player Pool less than 24 hours prior to a match. Failure to submit the Game Day Player Pool 48 hours prior to the match will result in a minimum fine of \$500. All appropriate parties must be included on the correspondence for the standard to be met. All aforementioned times are subject to change in accordance with the best interests of the game and in the spirit of the intent of this rule in the league's absolute discretion. The league reserves the right to override approvals or denials of the opposing team.

No player may be simultaneously active on the Master Roster of two separate teams in two different leagues. The only exception to this rule occurs if a player has been listed as active on a USL team's 27-man Game Day Player Pool, which is submitted to the League no later than 48 hours prior to the match. In such an instance, a player may remain active in both systems. Any player that does not meet this exception must be listed as inactive in the USL registration system to participate on a separate team in a different league. No player may be listed on the active roster for two separate teams in two different leagues on the same day. Failure to meet this standard will result in a minimum fine of \$500.

Inactive Players can only consist of players out on loan, in on-loan, or Amateur/Academy Players who the team has indicated are to be inactive. Inactive Players do not count against a team's Foreign Player limit.

Academy Players

In addition to the 30 Active Players allowed on the Master Roster, a team may register up to five Academy Players who do not count against the 30 players on the Master Roster and are allowed to participate in all competitions. After the first five Academy Players rostered, Academy Players will count against the Master Roster. To be considered an Academy Player, all of the following must be in place:

Player is under the age of 21 as of the official start date of the current season,

Player cannot compete (or have ever previously have competed) in any NCAA or NAIA university or college soccer program, and

Player has never been signed or registered as a professional soccer player as recognized by FIFA.

The Academy Player must play for a club that conducts its activities (home games and/or training) within the team's franchise territory or play for a club which has a documented affiliation with the team. In the latter scenario, the affiliated club outside the territory of the team must not be in the territory of another USL team and the team must register all documented affiliate clubs with the League Office prior to the season or upon completion of the affiliation agreement. Additionally, teams with MLS affiliations they use the Academy Players of their MLS affiliate. Academy Players do count against a team's maximum of seven foreign players. Academy Players must be registered as an amateur (only) such with the USL team or its formally-recognized MLS affiliate. Teams may make Academy Players active or inactive on the Master Roster. Inactive Academy Players do not count towards the roster maximum or the international player maximum. All changes making Academy Players active or inactive is subject to Rule 8. D. 3.

Master Roster Changes

Whenever a team makes a change to its master roster, notification must be sent in writing to the USL. Changes are not approved until the USL confirms in writing and makes the changes on the USL website. All roster changes for Monday through Thursday games must be made by 5:00 PM EST on the day of the match. All roster changes for Friday through Sunday games must be made by 5:00 PM EST on Friday. No changes will be accepted after this time.

Master Roster Freeze

No team will be allowed to sign, receive a player on loan, change a player's active/inactive status, and/or replace players after the Roster Freeze date. All trades, transfers and/or loans between teams must be finalized and approved by the USL prior to this time. The USL will not allow "deals in progress" nor "extensions" to go beyond the deadline for any reason.

The date of the Roster Freeze is Sept. 15, 2017, at 5 p.m. ET.

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

Any player on loan from another league must play a minimum of five games during the regular season to be eligible to play in the playoffs. One of these games must occur prior to the roster freeze date.

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

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