

## 2023 Southern Conference Men's Soccer Standings

STANDINGS	CONFERENCE					OVERALL				
	W-L-T	Pts	GF	GA	ST	W-L-T	Pct	GF	GA	ST
ETSU	0-0-0	0	0	0	-	0-0-0	.000	0	0	-
Furman	0-0-0	0	0	0	-	0-0-0	.000	0	0	-
Mercer	0-0-0	0	0	0	-	0-0-0	.000	0	0	-
UNCG	0-0-0	0	0	0	-	0-0-0	.000	0	0	-
Wofford	0-0-0	0	0	0	-	0-0-0	.000	0	0	-
VMI	0-0-0	0	0	0	-	0-0-0	.000	0	0	-

## Notes

- Last Season's regular season and tournament champions UNCG have been selected as preseason favorite to win the Southern Conference regular season title for the third consecutive year.

- The Spartans were ranked no. 10 in the United Soccer Coaches Top 25 Preseason Poll.

- UNCG beat Mercer in the conference championship 2-1 last year then went on to win against Ohio State and Stanford before losing in the Elite Eight to Indiana.

- The Spartans ended the season tied for ninth in the NCAA for total goals with 46 on the season

- Mercer and ETSU tied for second place in the preseason poll each garnering 18 points with Mercer receiving one first-place vote.

- ETSU had four SoCon preseason selections including Goalkeeper of the Year and 2023 preseason selection, Cole Hunter who averaged 0.79 goals against and .761 saves last season.

- The Bucs also return their leading scorers Kieran Richard and Tarik Pannholzer who both finished first-team all-conference a season ago.

- Mercer placed two on the preseason team including midfielder Dylan Gaither who is the active career leader in points scored, goals scored, shots and shots on goal.

- Furman was picked to finish fourth with the return of Jake Raine the career active goals and points per game leader who did not play for two months of the 2022 season due to injury.

- Wofford acquired 10 points to finish fifth in the preseason poll and return the 2022 Freshman of the Year Nikolai Rojel, a forward for the Terriers.

- VMI ended the 2022 season ranked eight in the NCAA for saves per game with an average of 5.41 per game

## Upcoming Schedule (All Times Eastern)

Aug. 24 (Thursday)  
VMI at Robert Morris University 4:00 PM.  
Mercer at Cal State Fullerton 4:30 PM.  
ETSU vs Georgia Southern 7:00 PM.  
Wofford at Gardner-Webb 7:00 PM.  
UNCG vs California 7:00 PM.

Aug. 25 (Friday)  
Furman at Elon 5:00 PM.

Aug. 27 (Sunday)  
Mercer at Southern Indiana 12:00 PM.  
Furman at Duke 2:30 PM.  
UNCG at Maryland 7:00 PM.

## SoCon Preseason Info

School (1st)	Pts.
1. UNCG	25
2. Mercer	18
ETSU	18
3. Furman	14
4. Wofford	10
5. VMI	5

### Preseason All-Conference Team

F Kieran Richards, ETSU  
F Nikolai Rojel, WOF  
F Tarik Pannholzer, ETSU  
F Jake Raine, FUR  
MF Dylan Gaither, MER  
MF Basile Marc, UNCG  
MF Dylan Lane, FUR  
D Emmanuel Hagan, UNCG  
D Ethan Conley, UNCG  
D Sekou Agard, MER  
D Henrik Guenther, ETSU  
GK Cole Hunter, ETSU

## Preseason Men's Soccer Release

For the third consecutive year, UNCG has been picked to claim the 2023 regular season championship in voting of the leagues' six head coaches. The defending regular season and tournament title winners along with their head coach, Chris Rich, will be vying for their eighth championship in program history and their third straight regular season crown. The Spartans scored in the 83rd minute of the 2022 SoCon Championship match to claim a 2-1 victory over the defending tournament title holder, Mercer.

ETSU picked up a conference-best four selections. UNCG followed with three, while Mercer and Furman placed two each on the preseason team. Wofford rounded out the team with one selection.

Coaches were not allowed to vote for their own teams or players in the balloting.

UNCG accumulated five first-place votes for a total of 25 points. Mercer and ETSU each collected 18 points to tie for second place with the Bears picking up the final first-place vote. Furman came in fourth with 14 points while Wofford was picked fifth with 10 points. VMI rounded out the poll with five points.



# SOUTHERN CONFERENCE NEWS AND NOTES

## United Soccer Coaches Top 25 Preseason Poll

School (1st)	PTS	Record
Syracuse University	188	18-2-5
Indiana University	180	14-4-7
Kentucky	172	15-1-5
Duke	167	13-2-4
Pittsburgh	154	12-5-5
Washington	143	15-2-3
Stanford University	142	12-2-6
Creighton University	127	13-5-6
Clemson University	113	13-7-1
UNCG	111	13-2-6
Marshall University	109	11-4-4
Vermont	102	16-4-2
Portland	92	15-3-3
Maryland	80	11-4-5
Virginia	78	10-4-5
Tulsa	74	10-5-2
Georgetown	72	12-6-3
Wake Forest	66	14-6-0
Southern Methodist	64	10-6-1
Cornell University	63	14-4-1
Florida International	53	13-5-2
Akron	50	11-4-5
New Hampshire	30	15-4-1
Saint Louis	27	12-5-3
Pennsylvania	24	13-3-2

## Active Career Leaders

### Points Scored

1.	79	Dylan Gaither, Sr., MER
2.	51	Jake Raine, Sr., FUR
3.	45	Kieran Richards, Sr., ETSU
4.	43	Tarik Pannholzer, Sr., ETSU
5.	28	Kadeen Agard, Jr., MER

### Goals

1.	30	Dylan Gaither, Sr., MER
2.	23	Jake Raine, Sr., FUR
3.	18	Kieran Richards, Sr., ETSU
	18	Tarik Pannholzer, Sr., ETSU
5.	10	Kadeem Agard, Jr., MER

### Assists

1.	19	Dylan Gaither, Sr., MER
2.	10	Dylan Lane, Sr., FUR
3.	9	Kieran Richards, Sr., ETSU
	9	Josh Hosie, Sr., FUR
5.	8	4 Players Tied

### Game-Winning Goals

1.	8	Dylan Gaither, Sr., MER
2.	5	Tarik Pannholzer, Sr., ETSU
3.	4	Jake Raine, Sr., FUR
	4	Kieran Richards, Sr., ETSU
5.	3	4 Players Tied

### Saves (min. 1 game)

1.	106	Trevor McMullen, Sr., MER
2.	50	Cameron Victor, So., WOF
3.	36	Cole Hunter, Jr., ETSU

### Wins

1.	14	Trevor McMullen, Sr., MER
2.	7	Cole Hunter, Jr., ETSU
3.	6	Cameron Victor, So., WOF
4.	2	Connor Cherry, So., VMI

### Shutouts

1.	7	Cole Hunter, Jr., ETSU
2.	6	Trevor McMullen, Sr., MER
3.	3	Cameron Victor, So., WOF
4.	2	Connor Cherry, So., VMI

### Goals Against Avg. (min. 2000 minutes)

1.	1.37	Trevor McMullen, Sr., MER
----	------	---------------------------

## Coaches' Records

Coach, School	Overall (YrS.)	School (YrS.)	SoCon (YrS.)
David Lilly, ETSU	50-32-9 (6th)	8-6-3 (2nd)	8-6-3 (2nd)
Doug Allison, Furman	320-163-63 (28th)	Same	Same
Brad Ruzzo, Mercer	133-110-8 (16th)	Same	Same
Chris Rich, UNCG	44-18-10 (5th)	Same	Same
Nick Regan, VMI	2-14-1 (2nd)	Same	Same
Joel Tyson, Wofford	16-40-5 (5th)	Same	Same

## The Southern Conference Media Relations Information

Name	School	Phone	Email	Website
Kevin Brown	ETSU	423-439-4220	brownk@etsu.edu	ETSUBucs.com
Jordan Caskey	Furman	864-294-3065	Jordan.Caskey@Furman.edu	FurmanPaladins.com
Connor Garrison	Mercer	478-301-5209	connor.andrew.garrison@live.mercer.edu	MercerBears.com
Denise Archetto	UNCG	401-862-8913	d_archetto@uncg.edu	UNCGSpartans.com
Mike Carpenter	VMI	540-464-7015	carpentermj@vmi.edu	VMIKeydets.com
Tyler Zaubi	Wofford	864-597-4098	zaubitg@wofford.edu	WoffordTerriers.com
Anna Brinkman	Southern Conference	864-906-9646	abrinkman@socon.org	SoConSports.com



**ETSU**  
(0-0-0, 0-0-0 SoCon)

- A24 GEORGIA SOUTHERN..... 7 p.m.
- A28 at Kentucky..... 7:30 p.m.
- S1 NORTH CAROLINA..... 7 p.m.
- S5 USC UPSTATE..... 7 p.m.
- S9 at UNC Wilmington..... 1 p.m.
- S12 RADFORD..... 7 p.m.
- S16 at Presbyterian..... 7 p.m.
- S19 UNC ASHEVILLE..... 6 p.m.
- S26 at Virginia..... 7 p.m.
- S30 WOFFORD\*..... 7 p.m.
- O6 UNC GREENSBORO\*..... 7 p.m.
- O10 at Gardner-Webb..... 6 p.m.
- O14 at VMI\*..... 2:30 p.m.
- O17 WINTHROP..... 7 p.m.
- O21 at Furman\*..... 7 p.m.
- O28 MERCER\*..... 7 p.m.

\* Southern Conference match



**Furman**  
(0-0-0, 0-0-0 SoCon)

- A25 at Elon..... 5 p.m.
- A27 at Duke..... 2:30 p.m.
- S4 at Wake Forest..... 6 p.m.
- S8 WINTHROP..... 6 p.m.
- S11 at Coastal Carolina..... 4 p.m.
- S16 GARDNER-WEBB..... 6 p.m.
- S19 CHARLESTON..... 6 p.m.
- S26 DAVIDSON..... 7 p.m.
- S30 UNC GREENSBORO\*..... 7 p.m.
- O3 USC UPSTATE..... 7 p.m.
- O7 at VMI\*..... 1 p.m.
- O14 at Mercer\*..... 7 p.m.
- O17 PRESBYTERIAN..... 6 p.m.
- O21 ETSU\*..... 7 p.m.
- O24 at UNC Asheville..... 7 p.m.
- O28 at Wofford..... 7 p.m.

\* Southern Conference match



**Mercer**  
(0-0-0, 0-0-0 SoCon)

- A24 CAL ST. FULLERTON..... 6 p.m.
- A27 at Southern Indiana. 4:30 p.m.
- S1 at South Florida..... 7 p.m.
- S5 JACKSONVILLE..... 7 p.m.
- S8 at Wisconsin..... 8 p.m.
- S10 at Bradley..... 8 p.m.
- S16 at Winthrop..... 4 p.m.
- S19 at Georgia Southern..... 7 p.m.
- S23 at Utah Valley..... 9 p.m.
- S30 VMI\*..... 7 p.m.
- O4 GEORGIA STATE..... 7 p.m.
- O7 at Wofford\*..... 7 p.m.
- O14 FURMAN\*..... 7 p.m.
- O17 LIPSCOMB..... 6 p.m.
- O21 UNCG\*..... 7 p.m.
- O24\* NORTH FLORIDA..... 6 p.m.
- O28 at ETSU\*..... 7 p.m.

Southern Conference match



**UNCG**  
(0-0-0, 0-0-0 SoCon)

- A24 CALIFORNIA..... 7 p.m.
- A27 at Maryland..... 7 p.m.
- S1 LOUISVILLE..... 7 p.m.
- S5 CAMPBELL..... 7 p.m.
- S9 at Charlotte..... 7 p.m.
- S12 DAVIDSON..... 7 p.m.
- S16 at High Point..... 7 p.m.
- S19 at Coastal Carolina..... 7 p.m.
- S23 PENN STATE..... 7 p.m.
- S26 WEST VIRGINIA..... 7 p.m.
- S30 at Furman\*..... 7 p.m.
- O6 at ETSU\*..... 7 p.m.
- O10 at UNC Wilmington..... 7 p.m.
- O14 WOFFORD\*..... 7 p.m.
- O21 MERCER\*..... 7 p.m.
- O25 VCU..... 7 p.m.
- O28 VMI\*..... 6 p.m.

\* Southern Conference match



**VMI**  
(0-0-0, 0-0-0 SoCon)

- A24 at Robert Morris..... 4 p.m.
- A28 at Navy..... 7 p.m.
- S2 MARITIME COLLEGE..... 7 p.m.
- S4 at LIU..... 2 p.m.
- S9 PRESBYTERIAN..... 1 p.m.
- S12 at Campbell..... 7 p.m.
- S16 at UNC Asheville..... 7 p.m.
- S19 REDFORD..... 4 p.m.
- S23 LIBERTY..... 1 p.m.
- S26 at MARY BALDWIN..... 4:30 p.m.
- S30 at Mercer\*..... 7 p.m.
- O3 at Longwood..... 7 p.m.
- O7 FURMAN\*..... 1 p.m.
- O11 REGENT..... 4 p.m.
- O14 ETSU\*..... 2:30 p.m.
- O18 at Howard..... 7 p.m.
- O21 at Wofford\*..... 5 p.m.
- O25 at Queens (Charlotte)..... 5 p.m.
- O28 at UNC Greensboro..... 6 p.m.

\* Southern Conference match



**Wofford**  
(0-0-0, 0-0-0 SoCon)

- A24 at Gardner-Webb..... 7:30 p.m.
- A28 CHARLOTTE..... 7 p.m.
- A31 at Duke..... 7 p.m.
- S5 at Georgia State..... 7 p.m.
- S12 UNC ASHEVILLE..... 7 p.m.
- S16 RADFORD..... 1 p.m.
- S19 QUEENS (CHARLOTTE).... 4 p.m.
- S26 WINTHROP..... 7 p.m.
- S30 at ETSU\*..... 7 p.m.
- O3 at Presbyterian..... 7 p.m.
- O7 MERCER\*..... 7 p.m.
- O10 at Wake Forest..... 7 p.m.
- O14 at UNCG\*..... 7 p.m.
- O21 VMI\*..... 2 p.m.
- O24 at USC Upstate..... 7 p.m.
- O28 FURMAN\*..... 7 p.m.

\* Southern Conference match