



SOUTHERN CONFERENCE WOMEN'S SOCCER

2023

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2023 SOUTHERN CONFERENCE WOMEN'S SOCCER STANDINGS

STANDINGS	W-L-T	CONFERENCE				OVERALL				
		Pts	GF	GA	ST	W-L-T	Pct	GF	GA	ST
The Citadel	0-0-0	0	0	0	-	0-0-0	.000	0	0	-
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	-
Samford	0-0-0	0	0	0	-	0-0-0	.000	0	0	-
Chattanooga	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	-
Western Carolina	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	-

NOTES

• Nine of the 10 league teams get the 2023 season, the SoCon's 30th, underway on Thursday, while The Citadel kicks off their 2022 campaign on Friday.

• UNC Asheville, Mississippi Valley State and Queens each play two SoCon schools on the opening week of the season.

• Defending Southern Conference tournament champion Samford was picked to win the 2023 league title in voting by the league's 10 head coaches. They also received one vote in the United Soccer Coaches Top 25 preseason poll.

• Samford won the 2022 Southern Conference women's soccer championship by downing UNCG on penalty kicks, 6-5, on Nov. 6, 2022, in Birmingham, Ala. The Bulldogs fell to Georgia, 2-0, in the first round of the NCAA Tournament five days later.

• Chattanooga and Samford, the SoCon co-regular season champions in 2022, each open the season against SEC opponents. The Mocs travel to Vanderbilt, while the Bulldogs take on Auburn.

• Conference play starts Thursday, Sept. 21. Each team will play the nine others once.

• The 2023 SoCon Championship will feature all 10 schools. The first round will feature two matchups, No. 7 vs. No. 10 and No. 8 vs. No. 9, and will be held at the higher seeds on Oct. 24. The quarterfinals and semifinals, hosted by the No. 1 and No. 2 seeds, will take place on Oct. 27 and Oct. 29, respectively. The SoCon Championship will be held at the highest remaining seed on Nov. 4 or 5.

UPCOMING SCHEDULE

(all times Eastern)

August 17 (Thursday)	TV/Digital	Time
Robert Morris at VMI	ESPN+	3 p.m.
Kennesaw State at ETSU		5 p.m.
Western Carolina at UNC Asheville	ESPN+	6 p.m.
Army at UNCG	ESPN+	7 p.m.
Evansville at Mercer		7 p.m.
Wofford at Queens	ESPN+	7 p.m.
Chattanooga at Vanderbilt	SEC Network	7 p.m.
Furman at Presbyterian	ESPN+	7 p.m.
Samford at Auburn	SEC Network	7:30 p.m.

August 18 (Friday)	TV/Digital	Time
The Citadel vs. Mississippi Valley State		5 p.m.

August 20 (Sunday)	TV/Digital	Time
Mississippi Valley State at Mercer		1 p.m.
Queens at Western Carolina	ESPN+	1 p.m.
Georgia Southern at Furman	ESPN+	1 p.m.
DePaul at Samford	ESPN+	2 p.m.
Davidson at ETSU		2 p.m.
UNC Asheville at VMI	ESPN+	3 p.m.
The Citadel at Winthrop	ESPN+	6 p.m.
UNCG at James Madison	ESPN+	6 p.m.
Wofford at Elon	FloSports	7 p.m.
Chattanooga at Tennessee Tech	ESPN+	8 p.m.

COACHING RECORDS

Coach, School	Career Record	School (Yrs.)	SoCon (Yrs.)
Ciaran Traquair, The Citadel	82-114-9 (11th)	52-72-7 (8th)	12-41-3 (8th)
Jay Yelton, ETSU	13-18-10 (4th)	Same	8-11-5 (4th)
Andrew Burr, Furman	229-105-28 (19th)	Same	110-44-21 (19th)
Tony Economopoulos, Mercer	125-117-29 (15th)	115-76-29 (12th)	42-21-14 (10th)
Michael Coll, UNCG	120-112-37 (15th)	79-69-26 (10th)	43-25-10 (10th)
Todd Yelton, Samford*	304-140-60 (25th)	264-107-56 (21th)	112-13-21 (15th)
Gavin McKinney, Chattanooga	124-92-28 (14th)	53-66-25 (9th)	31-29-12 (9th)
Chris Haught-Thompson, VMI	33-68-13 (8th)	6-57-7 (5th)	0-33-3 (4th)
Chad Miller, Western Carolina	196-171-37 (22nd)	103-115-26 (14th)	52-63-10 (14th)
Elissa Post, Wofford	0-0-0 (1st)	Same	0-0-0 (1st)

* later vacated 24 overall wins and four ties (13 wins and four ties in SoCon play) from 2012-13



ACTIVE CAREER LEADERS

Points

- 62 Taylor Yount, SAM
- 52 Nieva Gaither, FUR
- 44 Kendall Cook, MER
- 41 Kyla Reynolds, SAM
- 33 Kylie Gazza, SAM

Goals

- 25 Taylor Yount, SAM
- 18 Kyla Reynolds, SAM
- 16 Nieva Gaither, FUR
- 15 Kendall Cook, MER
- 14 Kylie Gazza, SAM

Assists

- 20 Nieva Gaither, FUR
- 14 Kendall Cook, MER
- 13 Gabi Santora, UNCG
- 12 Taylor Yount, SAM
- 10 Mackenzie Smith, UTC

Game-Winning Goals

- 7 Kyla Reynolds, SAM
- 6 Kendall Cook, MER
- 5 Taylor Yount, SAM
- 5 Nieva Gaither, FUR
- 4 Kylie Gazza, SAM
- 4 Mackenzie Smith, UTC
- 4 Hannah Farr, FUR
- 4 Jada Moorman, MER
- 4 Whitaker Buchanan, SAM

Goals Against Average (Min. 2000 Minutes)

- 1.10 Jess Newton, CIT
- 1.22 Caroline Doss, WOF
- 1.29 Addison Corn, FUR
- 1.30 Abby Buchholz, UNCG
- 2.73 Jillian Hall, VMI

Saves

- 260 Jillian Hall, VMI
- 173 Jess Newton, CIT
- 138 Caroline Doss, WOF
- 125 Addison Corn, FUR
- 121 Abby Buchholz, UNCG

Wins

- 17 Jess Newton, CIT
- 17 Abby Buchholz, UNCG
- 17 Addison Corn, FUR
- 9 Caroline Doss, WOF
- 9 Lindsay Bell, MER

Shutouts

- 11 Jess Newton, CIT
- 9 Abby Buchholz, UNCG
- 7 Caroline Doss, WOF
- 6 Caroline Ekern, UTC
- 6 Emma Donley, SAM

Saves Per Game (Min. 10 Games)

- 6.84 Jillian Hall, VMI
- 4.75 Ashton Blair, ETSU
- 4.70 Lindsay Bell, MER
- 4.55 Jess Newton, CIT
- 4.31 Caroline Doss, WOF

SoCON vs. OTHER CONFERENCES

Overall: 0-0-0

ALL-TIME RECORDS IN SoCON PLAY

Team	Years	W-L-T	Pct.
The Citadel	22nd	33-144-10	.203
ETSU	26th	48-92-15	.358
Furman	29th	186-60-24	.733
Mercer	9th	43-23-14	.625
UNCG	26th	179-52-20	.753
Samford	15th	112-14-20	.836
Chattanooga	27th	66-167-26	.305
VMI	9th	12-64-5	.179
Western Carolina	24th	109-104-23	.511
Wofford	26th	80-137-34	.386

SoCON HISTORY

The SoCon is the fifth-oldest NCAA Division I college athletic association. The SoCon contested the first-ever collegiate conference basketball tournament in 1921, tackled freshman eligibility in 1922, became the first conference to adopt the 3-point field goal in basketball in 1980 and developed women's championships in 1984.

UNITED SOCCER COACHES TOP 25

rankings as of August 1

School (1st)	PTS	Record
1. UCLA (8)	200	22-2-1
2. North Carolina	192	20-5-1
3. Notre Dame	174	17-3-3
4. Duke	161	15-5-3
5. Virginia	155	16-4-3
6. Florida State	154	17-3-3
7. Alabama	145	23-3-1
8. Arkansas	137	13-4-5
9. TCU	130	14-5-5
10. Penn State	123	15-5-3
11. Stanford University	118	17-2-3
12. South Carolina	111	15-4-5
13. BYU	108	11-3-7
14. Pittsburgh	92	14-5-3
15. Texas	79	15-3-4
16. Georgetown	75	15-2-5
17. Michigan State	71	18-3-3
18. Northwestern	65	16-5-2
19. Santa Clara	52	11-7-3
20. Memphis	47	11-5-6
21. Saint Louis	44	20-2-0
22. Southern California	40	12-3-3
23. Harvard	32	12-2-3
24. UCF	25	9-2-7
25. Clemson	16	8-5-5

Records shown are final 2022 records.



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SoCon Preseason All-Conference Honors

Samford predicted to win 2023 women's soccer championship

SPARTANBURG, S.C. – Defending Southern Conference regular-season and tournament champion Samford is the preseason favorite to win the 2023 Southern Conference women's soccer title in voting of the league's 10 head coaches. The Bulldogs outlasted UNCG, 6-5, in penalty kicks after a scoreless draw in the 2022 Southern Conference Championship to claim their third tournament championship in the last four seasons.

The coaches also selected an 11-member preseason all-conference team. Samford and UNCG picked up a league-best three selections apiece. The Citadel, Furman, Mercer, Chattanooga and Western Carolina each placed one on the team.

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

Samford, which garnered seven first-place votes, finished with 77 points. UNCG was second with 67 points and had one first-place vote, while Mercer was picked third with 65 points. Chattanooga was picked fourth with 64 points while claiming the final two first-place votes. Western Carolina was selected fifth with 48 points and Furman was behind them with 40 points to take sixth. ETSU finished with 34 points and The Citadel had 26 points, finishing in seventh and eighth, respectively. Wofford had 20 points to finish ninth and VMI rounded out the poll with nine points.

Samford went 11-4-7 overall last season and went 5-1-3 in league play en route to a share of its ninth straight regular-season title. Following their dramatic championship performance, the Bulldogs fell to Georgia, 2-0, in the first round of the NCAA Tournament.

The Bulldogs' three preseason all-conference selections – Taylor Yount, Kylie Gazza and Whitaker Buchanan – were each All-SoCon performers a season ago. Yount and Gazza finished last season as first-team all-conference performers, while Buchanan was on the second team.

Yount netted three goals, including two game-winning goals, and amassed seven points in conference games in 2022, placing her in the top 10 in each of those categories. Gazza played and started all 22 games as a defender for Samford last season, finishing tied for third on the squad in goals (4) and tied for fourth in points (10). Buchanan, who was named to the SoCon All-Tournament team last season, led Samford in points (15) in 2022.

UNCG put midfielder Gabi Santora, defender Parker Sikora and goalkeeper Emma Malone on the pre-season all-conference team. Santora and Sikora were first-team all-conference performers last season, while Malone was on the all-freshman squad. The Spartans finished the 2022 season with a 10-7-4 overall record and a 4-3-2 mark in conference games.

Santora finished tied for eighth in the SoCon in points with 14 last season and Sikora scored both of her goals last season in conference games. During league games in 2022, Malone led the conference in goals against average (0.31) and save percentage (.900).

Mercer, which made an appearance in the tournament semifinals last season after amassing a 9-4-7 record and finishing 4-1-4 in league action, put Jada Moorman, the reigning SoCon Freshman of the Year, on the preseason all-conference squad. Chattanooga, who won its first regular-season crown since joining the league last season, placed Mackenzie Smith, a first-team all-league selection in 2022, on the preseason all-conference team.

Furman forward Nieva Gaither, Western Carolina forward Isabella DeMarco and The Citadel defender Celeste Nader round out the preseason squad. Gaither and DeMarco were first-team all-conference selections in 2022, and Nader was on the all-freshman team last season.

The 2023 regular season begins on Thursday, Aug. 17, as Furman, ETSU, Mercer, UNCG, Samford, Chattanooga, VMI, Western Carolina and Wofford are all in action. The Citadel begins its season the following day.

The SoCon Women's Soccer Championship will feature all 10 schools. The first round will feature two matchups, No. 7 vs. No. 10 and No. 8 vs. No. 9, and will be held at the higher seeds on Oct. 24. The quarterfinals and semifinals, hosted by the No. 1 and No. 2 seeds, will take place on Oct. 27 and Oct. 29, respectively. The SoCon Championship will be held at the highest remaining seed on Nov. 4 or Nov. 5.

2023 Preseason Coaches Poll

- 1. Samford (7) 77
- 2. UNCG (1) 67
- 3. Mercer 65
- 4. Chattanooga (2) 64
- 5. Western Carolina 48
- 6. Furman 40
- 7. ETSU 34
- 8. The Citadel 26
- 9. Wofford 20
- 10. VMI 9

() denotes first-place votes

2023 Preseason All-Conference Team

- F Nieva Gaither, Furman
- F Jada Moorman, Mercer
- F Taylor Yount, Samford
- F Isabella DeMarco., Western Carolina
- MF Gabi Santora, UNCG
- MF Whitaker Buchanan, Samford
- MF Mackenzie Smith, Chattanooga
- D Celeste Nader, The Citadel
- D Parker Sikora, UNCG
- D Kylie Gazza, Samford
- GK Emma Malone, UNCG

SoCon Offensive Players of the Week

- August 22
- August 29
- September 5
- September 12
- September 19
- September 26
- October 3
- October 10
- October 17
- October 24

SoCon Defensive Players of the Week

- August 22
- August 29
- September 5
- September 12
- September 19
- September 26
- October 3
- October 10
- October 17
- October 24

SoCon Offensive Performers of the Month

- August
- September
- October

SoCon Defensive Performers of the Month

- August
- September
- October



The Citadel

(0-0-0, 0-0-0 SoCon)

A18	MISSISSIPPI VALLEY STATE.....	5 p.m.
A20	at Winthrop.....	6 p.m.
A24	FRANCIS MARION.....	4 p.m.
A27	CHARLOTTE.....	4 p.m.
A29	at South Carolina State.....	6 p.m.
S3	NORTH DAKOTA STATE.....	2 p.m.
S7	at UNC Asheville.....	6 p.m.
S10	at USC Upstate.....	4 p.m.
S13	at Charleston Southern.....	3 p.m.
S21	*at UNCG.....	5 p.m.
S24	*CHATTANOOGA.....	2 p.m.
S28	*at Furman.....	7 p.m.
O1	*at VMI.....	1 p.m.
O5	*ETSU.....	3 p.m.
O8	*at Samford.....	2 p.m.
O12	*WESTERN CAROLINA.....	3 p.m.
O15	*at Wofford.....	2 p.m.
O22	*MERCER.....	2 p.m.



ETSU

(0-0-0, 0-0-0 SoCon)

A17	KENNESAW STATE.....	5 p.m.
A20	DAVIDSON.....	2 p.m.
A24	at Tennessee.....	7 p.m.
A27	at Gardner-Webb.....	6 p.m.
A31	at Tennessee Tech.....	7 p.m.
S10	WINTHROP.....	2 p.m.
S14	USC UPSTATE.....	6 p.m.
S17	at South Carolina State.....	2 p.m.
S21	*at Furman.....	7 p.m.
S24	*VMI.....	2 p.m.
S28	*CHATTANOOGA.....	6 p.m.
O1	*at Mercer.....	2 p.m.
O5	*at The Citadel.....	3 p.m.
O8	*Wofford.....	2 p.m.
O12	*UNCG.....	6 p.m.
O15	*at Samford.....	2 p.m.
O22	*WESTERN CAROLINA.....	2 p.m.



Furman

(0-0-0, 0-0-0 SoCon)

A17	at Presbyterian.....	7 p.m.
A20	GEORGIA SOUTHERN.....	3 p.m.
A24	NORTH GREENVILLE.....	7 p.m.
A27	at USC Upstate.....	6 p.m.
A31	at Clemson.....	7 p.m.
S3	at UNC Asheville.....	12 p.m.
S10	at South Carolina.....	6 p.m.
S14	SOUTH CAROLINA STATE.....	7 p.m.
S21	*ETSU.....	7 p.m.
S24	*at Western Carolina.....	1 p.m.
S28	*THE CITADEL.....	7 p.m.
O1	*at Chattanooga.....	11 a.m.
O5	*SAMFORD.....	7 p.m.
O8	*at UNCG.....	1 p.m.
O12	*at VMI.....	4 p.m.
O15	*MERCER.....	2 p.m.
O22	*at Wofford.....	2 p.m.



Mercer

(0-0-0, 0-0-0 SoCon)

A17	EVANSVILLE.....	7 p.m.
A20	MISSISSIPPI VALLEY STATE.....	1 p.m.
A24	at Georgia State.....	7 p.m.
A27	ALABAMA STATE.....	2 p.m.
A31	at College of Charleston.....	7 p.m.
S3	NORTH FLORIDA.....	6 p.m.
S7	at Jacksonville.....	6 p.m.
S10	at UNC Asheville.....	2 p.m.
S14	at Gardner-Webb.....	6 p.m.
S17	ALABAMA.....	2 p.m.
S21	*at Chattanooga.....	6 p.m.
S24	*UNCG.....	2 p.m.
S28	*WOFFORD.....	7 p.m.
O1	*ETSU.....	2 p.m.
O5	*at VMI.....	4 p.m.
O8	*WESTERN CAROLINA.....	2 p.m.
O12	*SAMFORD.....	7 p.m.
O15	*at Furman.....	2 p.m.
O22	*at The Citadel.....	2 p.m.



UNCG

(0-0-0, 0-0-0 SoCon)

A17	ARMY.....	7 p.m.
A20	at James Madison.....	6 p.m.
A23	HIGH POINT.....	7 p.m.
A27	GEORGE WASHINGTON.....	5 p.m.
A31	at Charlotte.....	7 p.m.
S3	at Elon.....	7 p.m.
S7	COASTAL CAROLINA.....	6 p.m.
S10	DUKE.....	6 p.m.
S17	EAST CAROLINA.....	6 p.m.
S21	*THE CITADEL.....	5 p.m.
S24	*at Mercer.....	2 p.m.
S28	*at Western Carolina.....	6 p.m.
O1	*SAMFORD.....	1 p.m.
O5	*at Wofford.....	6 p.m.
O8	*FURMAN.....	1 p.m.
O12	*at ETSU.....	6 p.m.
O15	*CHATTANOOGA.....	1 p.m.
O22	*VMI.....	2 p.m.



Samford

(0-0-0, 0-0-0 SoCon)

A17	at Auburn.....	6:30 p.m.
A20	DEPAUL.....	1 p.m.
A24	Jacksonville State.....	6 p.m.
A27	OKLAHOMA.....	1 p.m.
A31	at Ole Miss.....	6 p.m.
S3	ALABAMA.....	5 p.m.
S7	at Troy.....	7 p.m.
S10	KENNESAW STATE.....	1 p.m.
S14	at Harvard.....	4 p.m.
S21	*WESTERN CAROLINA.....	6 p.m.
S24	*at Wofford.....	12 p.m.
S28	*VMI.....	6 p.m.
O1	*at UNCG.....	12 p.m.
O5	*at Furman.....	6 p.m.
O8	*THE CITADEL.....	1 p.m.
O12	*at Mercer.....	7 p.m.
O15	*ETSU.....	1 p.m.
O22	*CHATTANOOGA.....	1 p.m.



Chattanooga
(0-0-0, 0-0-0 SoCon)

A17	at Vanderbilt	8 p.m.
A20	at Tennessee Tech	7 p.m.
A24	at North Alabama	7 p.m.
A31	AUSTIN PEAY	6 p.m.
S3	JACKSONVILLE STATE	1 p.m.
S7	at Middle Tennessee	7 p.m.
S10	BELMONT	2 p.m.
S14	SAN FRANCISCO	6 p.m.
S21	*MERCER	6 p.m.
S24	*at The Citadel	2 p.m.
S28	*at ETSU	6 p.m.
O1	*FURMAN	11 a.m.
O5	*at Western Carolina	6 p.m.
O8	*VMI	1 p.m.
O12	*WOFFORD	6 p.m.
O15	* at UNCG	1 p.m.
O22	*at Samford	2 p.m.



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

A17	ROBERT MORRIS	3 p.m.
A20	UNC ASHEVILLE	3 p.m.
A24	at Delaware State	2 p.m.
A26	WINTHROP	4 p.m.
S3	at USC Upstate	2 p.m.
S7	at Gardner-Webb	6 p.m.
S10	LIU	1 p.m.
S14	LONGWOOD	4 p.m.
S17	LIBERTY	1 p.m.
S21	*WOFFORD	4 p.m.
S24	*at ETSU	2 p.m.
S28	*at Samford	6 p.m.
O1	*THE CITADEL	1 p.m.
O5	*MERCER	4 p.m.
O8	*at Chattanooga	1 p.m.
O12	*FURMAN	4 p.m.
O15	*at Western Carolina	1 p.m.
O22	*at UNCG	2 p.m.



Western Carolina
(0-0-0, 0-0-0 SoCon)

A17	at UNC Asheville	6 p.m.
A20	QUEENS	1 p.m.
A23	at Winthrop	7 p.m.
A27	at UT Martin	2 p.m.
A31	GEORGIA STATE	7 p.m.
S3	at Clemson	6 p.m.
S7	APP STATE	7 p.m.
S10	EAST CAROLINA	1 p.m.
S14	at Presbyterian College	7 p.m.
S21	*at Samford	7 p.m.
S24	*FURMAN	1 p.m.
S28	*UNCG	6 p.m.
O1	*WOFFORD	3 p.m.
O5	*CHATTANOOGA	6 p.m.
O8	*at Mercer	2 p.m.
O12	*at The Citadel	3 p.m.
O15	*VMI	Noon
O22	*at ETSU	2 p.m.



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

A17	at Queens	7 p.m.
A20	at Elon	7 p.m.
A24	USC UPSTATE	7 p.m.
A27	DAVIDSON	1 p.m.
A31	at UNC Asheville	6 p.m.
S3	NAVY	1 p.m.
S8	CHARLESTON SOUTHERN	6 p.m.
S10	GARDNER_WEBB	5 p.m.
S15	RADFORD	7 p.m.
S21	*at VMI	4 p.m.
S24	*SAMFORD	1 p.m.
S28	*at Mercer	7 p.m.
O1	*at Western Carolina	3 p.m.
O5	*UNCG	6 p.m.
O8	*at ETSU	2 p.m.
O12	*at CHATTANOOGA	6 p.m.
O15	*THE CITADEL	2 p.m.
O22	*FURMAN	2 p.m.