

### 2024 Southern Conference Volleyball Championship

NOV. 21-24 • JERRY RICHARDSON INDOOR STADIUM • SPARTANBURG, S.C.



	CONFERENCE			OVERALL											
	W	L	Pct.	Н	Α	Streak		W	L	Pct.	Н	Α	N	L10	Streak
Mercer	14	2	.875	8-0	6-2	W3		24	5	.828	12-0	8-4	4-1	9-1	W3
Wofford	12	4	.750	6-2	6-2	W1		20	8	.714	12-2	6-4	2-2	7-3	W1
ETSU	10	6	.625	6-2	4-4	W3		18	10	.643	6-2	6-6	6-2	8-2	W3
Samford	9	7	.562	6-2	3-5	W2		15	11	.577	8-2	5-6	2-3	4-6	W2
The Citadel	8	8	.500	5-3	3-5	L2		14	13	.519	5-3	4-8	5-2	5-5	L2
Furman	7	8	.467	4-3	3-5	L1		13	13	.500	6-6	5-6	2-1	6-4	L1
Chattanooga	7	9	.438	3-5	4-4	L1		17	14	.548	7-6	6-6	4-2	5-5	L1
UNCG	2	14	.125	1-7	1-7	L8		8	21	.276	4-10	1-9	3-2	2-8	W1
Western Carolina	2	13	.133	0-8	2-5	L2		8	21	.276	0-8	3-9	5-4	1-9	L3

# Awards & All-Conference Teams

**Player of the Year** Skye Ekes, Mercer, Sr., OH

**Setter of the Year** Brooke Phillips, Mercer, Gr.

**Libero of the Year** Laney Klika, Wofford, So.

Rayna Taylor Freshman of the Year Allie Sweet, UNCG, OH

> **Coach of the Year** Lindsey Devine, ETSU

#### All-SoCon First Team

Skyler Bumpers, Mercer, Sr., MB Skye Ekes, Mercer, Sr., OH Brooke Phillips, Mercer, Gr., S Allie Sweet, UNCG, Fr., OH Gracie Lynn Butler, Samford, Sr., OH Chard'e Vanzandt, Chattanooga, Sr., RS Sarah MacLean, Wofford, Sr., RS

#### **All-SoCon Second Team**

Ali Ruffin, The Citadel, Sr., OH Reese Rhodes, ETSU, Gr., S Abbey Thomas, ETSU, Sr., MB MeMe Davis, Mercer, Fr., LIB Kaleigh Meritt, Samford, So., OH Paige Gallentine, Chattanooga, Sr., LIB Laney Klika, Wofford, So., LIB Mary Emily Morgan, Wofford, Sr., OH

#### **All-Freshman Team**

Makayla Bays, ETSU, OH MeMe Davis, Mercer, LIB Lou Johnson, Mercer, MB Sophia Henry, Mercer, OH Allie Sweet, UNCG, OH Kynli Kirkendoll, Chattanooga, MB Bradley Brown, Wofford, MB

#### Mercer's Skye Ekes tabbed Player of the Year, ETSU's Devine named Coach of the Year

SPARTANBURG, S.C. – Mercer's Skye Ekes was named the Southern Conference Volleyball Player of the Year for the 2024 season. ETSU's Lindsey Devine was named SoCon Coach of the Year and Wofford sophomore Laney Klika was selected as SoCon Libero of the Year, while the Bears' Brooke Phillips was named SoCon Setter of the Year. UNCG outside hitter Allie Sweet earned the Rayna Taylor Award, given annually to the league's freshman of the year.

The league's coaches voted on a pair of all-conference teams, an all-freshman team and the five individual awards. They were not allowed to vote for themselves or their own players. The second team features an additional player due to a tie in the voting.

Ekes claims the player of the year award after leading Mercer to a 14-2 mark in conference play en route to the No. 1 seed in the upcoming Southern Conference Volleyball Championship. The Sarasota, Florida native is second in the conference in kills (410), points (474.5) and kills per set (3.76). The senior was named SoCon Offensive Player of the Week once during the season. Ekes, who is a transfer from Florida State, helped lead Mercer to its first outright SoCon regular-season championship this season.

Devine earned coach of the year honors after leading the Buccaneers to an 18-10 overall record, with the team going 8-2 over their last 10 regular season matches. Devine, who was the ETSU head coach from 2003-18, returned to Johnson City this season after coaching in SEC for four seasons, three with Alabama and one with Mississippi State. This season marks the third time that Devine was named the SoCon Coach of the Year, with the other occurrences happening in 2016 and 2018.

Klika averaged 5.21 digs per set for Wofford this season. The native of Novelty, Ohio, is second in the league in total digs (537), which is 13th in the NCAA. Klika received SoCon Defensive Player of the Week in consecutive weeks back on Sept. 23 and 30. Klika, who is the first Terrier to be named SoCon Libero of the Year, is one of two players in the league averaging over five digs per set.

Phillips is the third player in conference history to be awarded SoCon Setter of the Year, joining ETSU's Caroline Dykes and The Citadel's Belle Hogan, the 2022 and 2023 winners, respectively. Phillips finished the regular season with 1,066 total assists, which is second in the SoCon. The graduate student from Indianapolis, Indiana, also has 69 services aces this season, making her second in the NCAA in that category. Phillips was named the SoCon Setter of the Week four times during the regular season.

Sweet earned UNCG's fourth SoCon Freshman of the Year honor. The Woodstock, Georgia, product led the league in points (498.5) and kills (442).

Sweet earned SoCon Offensive Player of the Week twice during the season.

Mercer led the way with seven postseason allconference or all-freshman selections followed by Wofford with four. ETSU and Chattanooga each had three selections, while UNCG and Samford had two apiece. The Citadel had one selection.

Ekes and Phillips each made the first team and were joined by teammate Skyler Bumpers, who received the designation for the second straight season. Bumpers started all 29 games for the Bears, finishing with a team-high 75 blocks.

Sweet, Samford's Gracie Lynn Butler, Chattanooga's Chard'e Vanzandt and Wofford's Sarah MacLean rounded out the first team. Butler, who made the first team for the second consecutive year, ranked fourth in the league in kills per set (3.31). Vanzandt concludes the regular season in the top five in the SoCon in kills (374), hitting percentage (.343) and points (434). MacLean led the conference in hitting percentage (.353).

The second team is highlighted by a pair of players from Wofford as Klika was joined on the second team by outside hitter Mary Emily Morgan. ETSU also placed two players on the second team as setter Reese Rhodes and middle blocker Abbey Thomas made the squad. Morgan finished second on the Terriers in kills (274) and digs (332). Rhodes is in the top five in the SoCon in service aces (39) and assists (973). Thomas led the league in total blocks (119) and blocks per set (1.18).

The Citadel outside hitter Ali Ruffin, the 2023 SoCon Player of the Year, and Samford outside hitter Kaleigh Meritt each made the second team. Ruffin finished the regular season with 315 kills and 420 digs. Meritt concluded the regular season third in the SoCon in kills per set (3.55).

Mercer libero MeMe Davis and Chattanooga libero Paige Gallentine rounded out the second team. Davis finished the season with 525 digs, which is third in the league. Gallentine leads the conference in digs with 624, the fourth-best mark in the NCAA in the category.

Along with Sweet and Davis, the all-freshman team includes ETSU's Makayla Bays, Mercer's Lou Johnson and Sophia Henry, Chattanooga's Kynli Kirkendoll and Wofford's Bradley Brown.



## **2024 SOCON VOLLEYBALL ROSTERS**

#### Mercer (#1 seed)

Head coach: Chad Sutton

Assistant coaches: Valerie Sutton, Matthew Miller, Sophia Hritz

**Record:** 24-5 (14-2 SoCon)





#### Wofford (#2 seed)

Head coach: Lynze Roos

Assistant coaches: Ladislav Lelkes, Shannah Carter

Record: 20-8 (12-4 SoCon)

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No.	Name	Pos.	Yr.	Hometown/Previous School
1	Mary Emily Morgan	OH	Sr.	Atlanta, Ga. / Westminster HS
2	<b>Emily Normand</b>	OH	So.	Greer, S.C. / St. Joseph's Catholic
3	Sarah MacLean	RS	Sr.	Simpsonville, S.C. / Hillcrest HS
4	Natalie Arnold	MB/RS	So.	Austin, Texas / Dripping Springs
6	Megan Brown	DS	Fr.	Charlotte, N.C. / Gaston Day School
7	Bri Mahoney	OH	So.	Aiken, S.C. / Aiken
9	Caroline Przystup	DS	Jr.	Oviedo, Fla. / Oviedo
10	Maddy Frazier	S	Fr.	Travelers Rest, S.C. / Travelers Rest
12	Ella Schomer	RS	So.	Clarkston, Mich. / Marian
16	Taylor Pecht	S	So.	Canton, Ga. / Sequoyah
18	Annemarie Rakoski	MB	Jr.	Atlanta, Ga. / St. Pius
21	Chloe Smith	OH	Fr.	Louisville, Ky. / Assumption
22	Mad Wilson	RS	Sr.	Apex, N.C. / Apex Friendship HS
23	Bradley Brown	MB	Fr.	Florence, S.C. / Florence Christian
28	Anna Adcock	MB	Fr.	Lutz, Fla. / Steinbrenner
33	Laney Klika	L	So.	Novelty, Ohio / Gilmour Academy



#### The Citadel (#5 seed)

Head coach: Dave Zelenock

**Assistant coach:** Erin Kretzschmar

**Record:** 14-13 (8-8 SoCon)

No.	Name	Pos.	Class Hometown / Previous School
1	Belle Hogan	S	Sr. Fort Wayne, Ind. / Leo
2	Lydia Larson	S	Jr. Spicer, Minn. / Willmar
3	Mia Watson	L	So. Jacksonville, Fla. / Mandarin
4	Peri Hoshock	MB	So. Lake Stevens, Wash. / Lake Stevens
5	Mackenzie Martin	OH	Gr. Port Orange, Fla. /Tulane University
6	Greta Pleuss	S	Fr. Fond du Lac, Wis. / St. Mary's Spring
7	Rachel Reininger	OH	Fr. Fayetteville, Ga / Starr's Mill
8	Jaelynn Elgert	L	Gr. Peoria, Ariz. / Liberty
9	Megan Stone	L	Fr. Virginia Beach, Va. / Floyd Kellam
10	Jess Martin	L	Fr. Redmond, Wash. / Eastlake
13	Sam Barnes	MB	Jr. Colorado Springs, CO. / Pine Creek
14	Ainsley Dowling	L	Jr. Hampshire, III. / Hampshire
15	Sadie Gomez	MB	Sr. Covington, La. / New Mexico Military
16	Karlie Vogelheim	MB	Fr. Brighton, Mich. / Brighton
18	Ali Ruffin	OH	Sr. Greenville, N.C. / South Central
22	Sophie Childs	OH	Gr. Tulsa, Okla. / Texas State
23	Aaliyah Byers	MB	Jr. Grover, N.C. /Wright State



#### Furman (#6 seed)

Head coach: Michelle Young

Assistant coaches: Chad Callihan, Kelly Picardi

**Record:** 13-13 (7-8 SoCon)

	7			
No.	Name	Pos.	Yr	Hometown / Previous School
1	Chandler Parker	RS	Sr.	Marietta, Ga. / Walton
2	Kennedy Seekford	L/DS	So.	Sterling, Va. / Dominion
3	Hayley Dionis	L/DS	Fr.	Greenwich, Conn. / Greenwich
4	Grainne McGrath	MB	Jr.Kr	noxville, Tenn. / Knoxville Catholic
5	Izzy Castelloe	MB	So.C	harlotte, N.C. / South Mecklenburg
6	Brooke Scheffler	OPP/OH	So.	Boone, N.C. / Watauga
7	Emily Navarro	S	So.	Davie, Fla. / Calvary Christian
9	Campbell Woods	OPP	Fr.	Glen Allen, Va. / Hanover
10	Eva Wheeler	S	Jr.	Cleveland, Ohio / Georgia State
11	Quinn Morrissey	S	Fr.	Tampa, Fla. / H.B. Plant
12	Ashley Stein	OH	Fr.	Easley, S.C. / Wren
13	Ava Augustson	OH	Sr.	Cary, N.C. / Cary
14	Rebekah Buchholz	MB	Fr.	Lancaster, Ky. / West Jessamine
15	Mary Beth Headley	ОН	5th	Newnan, Ga. / UCF
16	Genevieve Perry	MB	Sr.	Austin, Texas / Tulane
19	Lily Barnhill	OH/RS	Sr.	Greensboro, N.C. / Saint Peter's
20	Tennyson Gorman	MB	Fr.	Franklin, Tenn. / Fred J.Page
21	Lauren Haynes	OH	Jr.	Smyrna, Ga. / The Walker School
23	Lindsay Walch	OH/RS	So.	Palm City, Fla. / Jensen Beach

## **2024 SOCON VOLLEYBALL ROSTERS**

#### ETSU (#3 seed)

Head coach: Lindsey Devine

Assistant coaches: Emily Arnold, Aaron Giorgi, Adam VanOort

Record: 18-10 (10-8 SoCon)

NO.	NAME	POS.	YR.HOMETOWN/PREVIOUS SCHOOL
1	Gianna Blair	MB	R-Fr. Lancaster, N.Y. / St. Mary's HS
2	Jenna Forster	RS	Gr. Maryville, Tenn. / William Blount HS
4	Haley Sanders	DS/L	Sr. Brentwood, Tenn. / Brentwood HS
5	Abbey Thomas	MB	Sr.Goldsboro, N.C. / Charles B. Aycock HS
7	Brianna Cantrell	OH	Jr. Appleton, Wis. / Appleton North HS
8	Enisilina Savelio	S	So. Henderson, Nev. / Green Valley HS
9	Isabelle Iosua	OPP	Jr. Honolulu, Hawaii / Utah Tech
10	Kari Wilson	DS/L	Fr. Blountville, Tenn. / West Ridge HS
11	Melanie Morris	DS/L	So. Maryville, Tenn. / Heritage HS
12	Alex Kreutzmann	S	So.Menomonee Falls, Wis. / Hamilton HS
14	Makayla Bays	OH	Fr. Gate City, Va. / Gate City HS
15	Amanda Lowe	OH/RS	Sr. Blacksburg, Va. / Virginia Tech
18	Reese Rhodes	S	Gr. Waco, Texas / Texas Tech
19	Whitley Rammel	MB/RS	Jr. Ft. Recovery, Ohio / Ft. Recovery HS
20	Astrid Roman	DS/L	Fr. Isabela, Puerto Rico /

#### Samford (#4 seed)

Head coach: Keylor Chan

Assistant coaches: Ben Sabin, Sabel Sabin, Sydney Carlson

**Record:** 15-11 (9-7 SoCon)

NO.	NAME	YEAR	POS.HOMETOWN/PREVIOUS SCHOOL
1	Carly Minatel	Fr.	L/DS Indianapolis, Ind./Heritage Christian
2	Samantha Horn	Jr.	S Plainfield, Ill./Joliet Catholic
3	Brianna Hamilton	Fr.	OH Frisco, Texas/Centennial HS
4	Kaleigh Meritt	R-So.	OH Evansville, Ind./FJ Reitz HS
5	Lexi Thatcher	So.	S Indianapolis, Ind./Bishop Chatard
6	Annabelle Straty	So.	DS/L Dublin, Ohio/Dublin Coffman HS
7	Kate Morgan	Sr.	DS/LWaxahachie, Texas/Waxahachie HS
8	Ashley Evans	So.	MB Lake Mary, Fla./Lake Mary HS
10	Kate Wonus	Gr.	MB Lady Lake, Fla./Trinity Catholic
11	Aly Durban	Sr.	S Hoover, Ala.
12	Sydney Waller	Fr.	OPP Hudson, Ohio/Hudson HS
13	Ally Cordes	So.	OH Wyoming, Ohio/Wyoming HS
14	Greer Golden	Jr.	MBMountain Brook, Ala./Mountain Brook HS
15	Gracie Lynn Butler	Sr.	OH Hazel Green, Ala./Hazel Green HS
16	Janie Stinchcomb	So.	MBDuluth, Ga./Greater Atlanta Christian
18	Sophia Plasman	Jr.	OHGreensboro, N.C./Caldwell Academy
19	Amelia Johnston	Jr.	DS/L Collierville, Tenn./Collierville HS

### Chattanooga (#7 seed)

Head coach: Julie Torbett Thomas





#### UNCG (#9 seed)

Head coach: Felicia Turner

Assistant coaches: Trent Dunahoo, Justin Paggao

Record: 8-21 (2-14 SoCon)



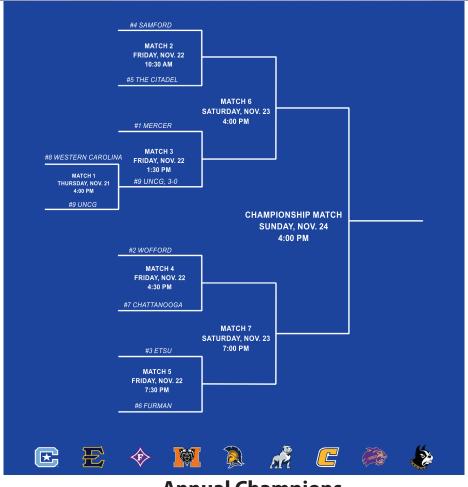
ı	No.	Name	Pos.	Yr.	Hometown / Previous School
•	1	Bloom Princell	S	Fr. Co	ornelius, N.C. / William Amos Hough
2	2	McKenna Timmerman	OH	Jr.	Crystal Lake, III. / Gardner-Webb
:	3	Izora Gragg	S	So.	Morganton, N.C. / Robert L. Patton
4	4	Madeline Timmermanl	MH	Sr.	Crystal Lake, III. / Eastern Michigan
ı	5	Megan Carron	L/DS	Sr.	St. Louis, Mo. / Florida Southern
6	5	Avery Sziksai	L/DS	R-Jr.	Apex, N.C. / Middle Creek
7	7	Lauren Janosy	OH	So. C	Chardon, Ohio / Notre Dame Cathedral
8	3	Allie Sweet	OH	Fr.	Woodstock, Ga. / River Ridge
9	9	Sydney Harrington	S	So.	Albany, Ore. / VCU
•	10	Chloe Nussbaum	L/DS	Fr.La	Cañada Flintridge, Calif. / La Cañada
•	11	Aylin Baran	OH	So.	Istanbul, Turkey / Istanbul Köy Hizmetleri
•	13	America Anderson	MH	Sr.	Fletcher, N.C. / West Henderson
•	14	Graylinn Serge	L/DS	Fr.	Hillsborough, N.C. / Cedar Ridge
•	17	Mya Wood	OH	Jr.	Orlando, Fla. / Lake Highland Prep
•	18	Kendall Lanclos	OH	Fr.	Augusta, Ga. / Lakeside
2	21	Emily Hanlon	OH	Gr.	Chico, Calif. / Butte College
2	22	Cece Fitz	MH	Gr.	Boise, Idaho / La Salle



## 2024 Southern Conference Volleyball Championship

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**Annual Champions** Runner-up

1983 1984 1985 1986 1987 1988 1988 1989 1990 1991 1992 1993 1994 1995 1996 1997 1998 1999 2000 2001 2002 2002	Western Carolina Appalachian State Western Carolina Appalachian State Western Carolina Chattanooga Marshall ETSU Furman Appalachian State ETSU Appalachian State Appalachian State Marshall Chattanooga Chattanooga Chattanooga Chattanooga Davidson Davidson Georgia Southern College of Charleston Georgia Southern
2004	College of Charleston
2005 2006 2007 2008	College of Charleston College of Charleston College of Charleston Furman
2009	College of Charleston
2010	Georgia Southern
2011	Samford
2012	College of Charleston
2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020-21 2021 2022 2022	Georgia Southern Samford Furman Samford ETSU Samford Samford Samford The Citadel Samford Wofford

Champion

Vaar

Kelly Andrews David Baillie Traci Blankenship-McGee Kelly Andrews Dave Markland Dave Markland Susan Steadman Lisa Rhodes Lisa Rhodes Lisa Rhodes Lisa Marston Tamara Darwin Kerry Messersmith Jewel McRoberts Kerry Messersmith **Sherry Dunbar** Sherry Dunbar Sherry Dunbar Jason Kepner Michelle Young Jason Kepner Chad Callihan Derek Schroeder Jason Kepner **Dustin Wood** Derek Schroeder Michelle Young Michelle Young Keylor Chan Lindsey Devine Keylor Chan Keylor Chan Keylor Chan David Zelenock Keylor Chan

Lynze Roos

**Head Coach** 

Trish Howell Toni Wyatt Trish Howell

Trish Howell

Tony Jadin Martha Newberry

Western Carolina Appalachian State Appalachian State Furman Western Carolina Western Carolina Appalachian State ETSU Appalachian State Furman Furman ETSU Appalachian State Western Carolina Western Carolina Chattanooga Furman Chattanooga Georgia Southern College of Charleston Appalachian State Appalachian State UNCG UNCG College of Charleston Furman College of Charleston College of Charleston Furman Samford Furman Chattanooga Chattanooga Wofford ETSU ETSU Mercer Wofford Furman Samford

Johnson City, Tenn. Cullowhee, N.C. Boone, N.C. Greenville, S.C. Greenville, S.C. Huntington, W.Va. Chattanooga, Tenn. Johnson City, Tenn. Cullowhee, N.C. Boone, N.C. Greenville, S.C. Huntington, W.Va. Chattanooga, Tenn. Davidson, N.C. Statesboro, Ga Statesboro, Ga. Boone, N.C. Cullowhee, N.C. Charleston, S.C. Greensboro, N.C. Davidson, N.C. Chattanooga, Tenn. Cullowhee, N.C. Statesboro, Ga. Boone, N.C. Chattanooga, Tenn. Greensboro, N.C. Greenville, S.C. Boone, N.C. Birmingham, Ala. Davidson, N.C. Greenville, S.C Greensboro, N.C. Cullowhee, N.C. Birmingham, Ala. Cullowhee, N.C. Greensboro, N.C. Spartanburg, S.C. Birmingham, Ala. Birmingham, Ala. Greenville, S.C

Spartanburg, S.C

**Tournament Site** 

Appalachian State Western Carolina App. St./Western Carolina ETSU/Western Carolina Appalachian State ETSU Appalachian State Furman Appalachian State Appalachian State Marshall Chattanooga Chattanooga Davidson Davidson College of Charleston College of Charleston Georgia Southern/CofC North: Appalachian State South: CofC/Georgia Southern North: Appalachian State South: Coll. of Charleston College of Charleston College of Charleston College of Charleston North: Samford South: Coll. of Charleston North: Samford South: Coll. of Charleston
North: Samford
South: Furman
North: Elon
South: Coll. of Charleston
North: Samford
South: Coll. of Charleston
North: Samford
South: Georgia Southern
Georgia Southern
Furman
Chattanooga Chattanooga ETSU Furman

Samford/Mercer Mercer/UNCG ETSU

The Citadel

Regular-Season Champion(s)