



SOUTHERN CONFERENCE MEN'S SOCCER

2024

702 North Pine Street, Spartanburg, SC 29303 • 864-591-5100 • Fax: 864-591-3448

Anna Brinkman, Assistant Director of Communications (MSOC contact)

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2024 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

• The 2024 Southern Conference men's soccer season will commence this week with five SoCon teams competing on Thursday, Aug. 22, including defending tournament champion and preseason favorite, Mercer, traveling to UCF.

• The Bears clinched the 2023 Men's Soccer Championship after scoring twice in the first six minutes of the 2023 SoCon Championship match to claim a 2-1 victory over No. 3 seed Furman

• Mercer's 2023 title win marks their second SoCon championship title in program history.

• ETSU won the regular season title last year with a 4-0-1 record.

• Mercer garnered the most votes for the preseason all-conference team, with 22 total points, including two first-place votes, and the team picked up four preseason all-conference selections, including the 2023 freshman of the year Barzee Blama, Carlos Santamaria, SoCon tournament MVP Sekous Agard, and Trevor McMullen.

• Furman forward Christian Kraus and defender Slade Starnes were both All-Tournament and All-Conference selections a season ago. Kraus led the Paladins offensively with 10 goals, two game-winning, and five assists for a total of 25 points on the season. Starnes started in all five conference games, coming off an injury, to earn a second team All-Conference nod.

• Arnaud Tattevin and midfielder Basile Marc made the preseason team after making the All-Conference second team last season. Tattevin scored seven goals for the Spartans, contributing 14 points. Marc started all 17 games last season and contributed three points with a goal and an assist.

• Wofford midfielder Jakob Andersson was selected after leading the league in assists last year. He made seven assists, combined with two goals for 11 points in 16 starts. Bryce Peacock, a defender, started in all 17 games for the Terriers in 2023.

• ETSU rounds out the preseason team with Gabriel Ramos, a forward who started 17 games for the Bucs. Ramos scored six goals on his way to contributing 17 points on the season with two game winning goals

• VMI return 11 players that started in at least three conference games last year, including Zack Murphy and Kyle Grant, who earned player of the week nods last season, and Cole Mooney who earned a spot on the All-Conference second team.

UPCOMING SCHEDULE (ALL TIMES EASTERN)

Aug. 22 (Thursday)

Emory and Henry at VMI	1 P.M.
Wofford at Georgia Southern	5 P.M.
USC Upstate at UNCG	7 P.M.
Mercer at UCF	8 P.M.
UNCW at Furman	8 P.M.
Longwood at ETSU	7:30 P.M.

Aug. 25 (Sunday)

Furman at Winthrop	6 P.M.
ETSU at USC Upstate	6 P.M.
Coastal Carolina at UNCG	7 P.M.
Mercer at South Florida	7 P.M.

Aug. 26 (Monday)

Warren Wilson at VMI	2 P.M.
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PRESEASON MEN'S SOCCER RELEASE

SPARTANBURG, S.C. – For the first time since the 2020-21 season, Mercer has been picked to claim the 2024 regular season championship in voting of the leagues six head coaches. The defending regular season and tournament title winners along with their head coach, Brad Ruzzo will be vying for their third SoCon championship in program history, the first since 2018.

The Bears scored twice in the first six minutes of the 2023 SoCon Championship match to claim a 2-1 victory over No. 3 seed Furman.

The coaches also selected a 11-member preseason all-conference team. Coaches were not allowed to vote for their own teams or players in the balloting.

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

Mercer accumulated two first-place votes for a total of 22 points. Wofford collected two more first place votes for a total of 20 points, following closely in second place. UNCG picked up a first-place vote and 17 points for a third-place finish, while Furman accumulated 16 points and the final first place vote for fourth. ETSU came in fifth with 10 points and VMI rounded out the poll finishing with five points.

The 2024 regular season begins on Thursday, Aug. 22, as all six SoCon teams are all in action.

The SoCon Men's Soccer Championship will feature all six schools. The first round will feature two matchups, No. 5 vs. No. 4 and No. 3 vs. No. 6, and will be held at the No. 1 and No. 2 team's fields on Nov. 8. The semifinals will be played on Nov. 10 followed by the championship on Nov. 16 or 17.

SoCon PRESEASON INFO

School (1st)	Pts.
1. Mercer (2)	22
2. Wofford (2)	20
3. UNCG (1)	17
4. Furman (1)	16
5. ETSU	10
6. VMI	5

Preseason all-conference team Pos, Player, school

F	Gabriel Ramos, ETSU
F	Christian Kraus, Furman
F	Barzee Blama, Mercer
F	Arnaud Tattevin, UNCG
MF	Carlos Santamaria, Mercer
MF	Basile Marc, UNCG
MF	Jakob Andersson, Wofford
D	Slade Starnes, Furman
D	Sekou Agard, Mercer
D	Bryce Peacock, Wofford
GK	Trevor McMullen

SOUTHERN CONFERENCE NEWS AND NOTES

UNITED SOCCER COACHES TOP 25 PRESEASON POLL

School (1st)	PTS	Record
Clemson University		15-3-5
University of Notre Dame		13-3-6
West Virginia University		17-3-4
Oregon State University		11-6-5
Stanford University		11-4-5
University of North Carolina		11-4-7
Indiana University		15-4-5
Marshall University		18-3-0
University of New Hampshire		13-3-4
Southern Methodist University		14-3-2
Loyola Marymount University		10-5-6
Western Michigan University		17-1-4
University of Virginia		11-4-4
University of Vermont		13-6-2
Wake Forest University		11-3-5
Georgetown University		13-3-3
Hofstra University		14-3-5
James Madison University		10-5-5
University of Central Florida		10-4-2
Duke University		11-4-3
UCLA		9-4-5
University of Portland		12-5-0
Seattle University		12-4-3
University of Louisville		12-6-3
Syracuse University		9-5-7

*Final records from 2023 season

ACTIVE CAREER LEADERS (as of end of 2023 season)

POINTS SCORED

- 31 - Gabriel Ramos, ETSU
- 29 - Christian Kraus, Furman
- 29 - Kadeem Agard, MEerco
- 20 - Cole Mooney, VMI
- 18 - Barzee Blama, MER

GOALS

- 12 - Christian Kraus, Furman
- 11 - Gabriel Ramos, ETSU
- 10 - Kadeem Agard, Mercer
- 8 - Blama, Barzee, Mercer
- 7 - Nick Wanzer, Mercer
- 7 - Grant Martin, VMI
- 7 - Tattevin, Arnaud, UNCG

ASSISTS

- 9 - Gabriel Ramos, ETSU
- 9 - Kadeem Agard, Mercer
- 8 - Cole Mooney, VMI
- 7 - Andersson, Jakob, Wofford
- 6 - Basile Marc, UNCG

GAME-WINNING GOALS

- 4 - Nick Wanzer; Mercer
- 3 - Christian Kraus; Furman
- 3 - Blama, Barzee; Mercer
- 3 - Slade Starnes; Furman
- 3 - Thaddeus Dennis
- 3 - Kyle Grant, VMI
- 3 - Emmanuel Hagan, UNCG

SAVES (MIN. 1 GAME)

- 164 - Trevor McMullen, Mercer
- 67 - Murphy, Zack, VMI
- 34 - Salinas, Aaron, Furman
- 26 - Marc Kouadio, ETSU
- 13 - Cameron Maung-Maung, Furman

WINS

- 17 - Trevor McMullen; Mercer
- 4 - Murphy, Zack; VMI 2023
- 3 - Salinas, Aaron; Furman
- 2 - Cameron Maung-Maung; Furman
- 2 - Marc Kouadio; ETSU

Shutouts

- 9 - Trevor McMullen, Mercer
- 2 - Murphy, Zack, VMI
- 1 - Salinas, Aaron, Furman
- 1 - Cameron Maung-Maung, Furman
- 1 - Marc Kouadio, ETSU

GOALS AGAINST AVERAGE (MIN. 2,000 MINUTES)

- 1.15 - Trevor McMullen, Mercer

COACHES' RECORDS

COACH, SCHOOL	OVERALL (YRS.)	SCHOOL (YRS.)	SoCON (YRS.)
Vital Allen, ETSU	294-205-60 (26)	First	First
Doug Allison, Furman	340-169-66 (28)	Same	Same
Brad Ruzzo, Mercer	147-128-38 (16)	Same	10
Chris Rich, UNCG Nick	46-28-15 (5)	Same	Same
Regan, VMI Joel	7-28-1 (2)	Same	Same
Tyson, Wofford	23-44-11 (5)	Same	Same

Southern Conference men's soccer 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
Donovan Schultz	Mercer	478-301-5209	donovan.schultz@live.mercer.edu	MercerBears.com
Connor Watchel	UNCG		cjwachtel@uncg.edu	UNCGSpartans.com
Nate Barbee	VMI	540-464-7015	barbeend@vmi.edu	VMIKeydets.com
Grayson Chastain	Wofford	864-597-4098	chastaingd@wofford.edu	WoffordTerriers.com
Anna Brinkman	Southern Conference	864-906-9646	abrinkman@socon.com	SoConSports.com

