



SOUTHERN CONFERENCE MEN'S SOCCER 2020-21



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2020-21 SOUTHERN CONFERENCE MEN'S SOCCER STANDINGS

STANDINGS	CONFERENCE					OVERALL				
	W-L-T	Pts	GF	GA	ST	W-L-T	Pct	GF	GA	ST
Belmont	0-0-0	0	0	0	-	3-0-1	.875	7	2	W2
UNCG	0-0-0	0	0	0	-	4-1-0	.800	11	4	W4
Furman	0-0-0	0	0	0	-	2-1-0	.667	5	3	L1
VMI	0-0-0	0	0	0	-	2-2-0	.500	5	11	L1
Mercer	0-0-0	0	0	0	-	2-6-0	.250	7	11	L1
ETSU	0-0-0	0	0	0	-	0-3-1	.125	1	6	-
Wofford	0-0-0	0	0	0	-	0-3-0	.000	4	7	L3

NOTES

• Belmont is undefeated in its first four matches of the year, which sets a record for the longest unbeaten streak to start a season in program history. The Bruins defeated Lipscomb, 2-1, and Trevecca Nazarene, 2-1, last week, and will open conference action against Wofford on Saturday in Spartanburg, S.C. The team leads the conference with seven assists and only two goals allowed on the season.

• ETSU (0-3-1) tied with the VCU Rams on Feb. 27, senior night, and settled for the 0-0 draw. The Bucs had the week off and are set to open SoCon action on Friday against Furman (2-1-0) on ESPN+ at 7 p.m. ET.

• Furman took the last week to prepare for its conference opener against ETSU, scheduled for March 12. Two Paladins are tied for second for points per game. Shaun-Chris Joash and Jake Raine both scored five points on the season, averaging 1.67 points per game.

• Mercer dropped its hard-fought match at UAB on Feb. 28, 1-0. The Bears begin conference play on March 13 against UNCG, who is on a four-game win streak. With 30 saves on the season, Mercer leads the league in the category heading into a game against an opponent who leads the SoCon with 11 goals and 5.40 points per game. Goalkeeper JR DeRose made a league-leading 23 of the Bears' 30 saves.

• UNCG, who claimed both player of the week honors this week, extended its win streak to four games after defeating Longwood 2-1. The Spartans lead the conference in points (27), goals (11) and goals per game (2.20). UNCG (4-1) travels to Macon, Georgia, to kickoff conference action against Mercer (2-6), the SoCon preseason favorite.

• VMI (2-2-0) will host Longwood on Wednesday after a 4-1 loss to Radford last Thursday. This marks the Keydets last nonconference game before taking on unbeaten Belmont on March 16.

• Wofford scored the opening goal against Davidson on March 6, but it wasn't enough in the Terriers 3-2 loss to the Wildcats. Goalkeeper Emil Larsen made eight saves on the night and leads the conference with 5.50 saves per game.

• The 2020-21 SoCon Men's Soccer Championship is set to be contested on consecutive weekends in April. The top two seeds will host semifinal matches on either April 9 or 10, with the top remaining seed hosting the final on April 16 or 17.

UPCOMING SCHEDULE (ALL TIMES EASTERN)

March 10 (Wednesday)
Longwood at VMI 4 p.m.

March 12 (Friday)
Furman at ETSU* 7 p.m.

March 13 (Saturday)
Belmont at Wofford* 11 a.m.
UNCG at Mercer* 7 p.m.

March 16 (Tuesday)
VMI at Belmont* 5 p.m.
ETSU at Mercer* 7 p.m.
Wofford at Furman* 7 p.m.

March 20 (Saturday)
Mercer at VMI* 2 p.m.
ETSU at Wofford* 7 p.m.
Furman at UNCG* 7 p.m.

%ESPN+
*Southern Conference Game

PLAYER OF THE WEEK RELEASE

SPARTANBURG, S.C. – UNCG's Mani Austmann and Myson Darden have been named the Southern Conference men's soccer offensive and defensive players of the week, respectively, for all competition from March 2-8.

Sophomore forward Austmann earned player of the week honors after scoring the game-winning goal Thursday against Longwood to help the Spartans to their fourth straight victory, with their 4-1 record good for their best start since 2004. He drove a shot toward the net in the 59th minute, placing UNCG ahead of the Lancers in the team's 2-1 win. Austmann is one of only two players in the conference to register two game-winning goals this season.

Darden, the league's defensive player of the week, played a crucial role on the Spartans' defense by keeping the Lancers scoreless until the 86th minute. The defender from Raleigh, North Carolina, has started in all five games this season with three shots recorded.

UNCG (4-1-0) travels to Mercer on Saturday, March 13, to open conference action at 2 p.m. with hopes to keep its four-game win streak alive. All seven SoCon teams are set to open conference play within the next week.

SoCon PRESEASON POLL/TEAM

School (1st)	Pts.
1. Mercer (5)	34
2. Furman (1)	30
3. UNCG (1)	29
4. ETSU	17
5. Wofford	16
6. Belmont	15
7. VMI	6

Presason all-conference team Pos, Player, school

F	Trevor Martineau, Mercer
F	Niccolo Dagnoni, Belmont
F	Micah Albert, UNCG
MF	Kieran Richards, ETSU
MF	Adrian Roseth, Wofford
MF	Nelson Oceano, UNCG
D	Cole McLagan, Furman
D	Tommy Kay, Furman
D	Kareve Richards, Mercer
D	Buster Sjoberg, Wofford
GK	JR DeRose, Mercer



SOUTHERN CONFERENCE NEWS AND NOTES

SoCon PLAYERS OF THE MONTH

February

March

SoCon PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

Feb. 16

Offense.....Dawson Gideon, F, Mercer
 Defense.....JR DeRose, GK, Mercer

Feb. 23

Offense..... AJ Chastonay, MF, Belmont
 Defense.....Brant Zuluaf, GK, Mercer

March 2

Offense..... Shaun-Chris Joash, F, Furman
 Defense.....Cameron Petty, GK, Belmont

March 9

Offense.....
 Defense.....

March 16

March 23

March 30

April 6

ACTIVE CAREER LEADERS

POINTS SCORED

- 67 Trevor Martineau, Jr., MER
- 41 Leo Toledo Jr., R-Sr., MER
- 39 Cole McLagan, R-Sr., FUR
- 35 Niccolo Dagnoni, Jr. BEL
- 24 Nelson Oceano, Sr., UNCG

GOALS

- 25 Trevor Martineau, Jr., MER
- 16 Cole McLagan, R-Sr., FUR
- 11 Leo Toledo Jr., R-Sr., MER
- 11 Niccolo Dagnoni, Jr. BEL
- 9 Micah Albert, Jr., UNCG

ASSISTS

- 20 Leo Toledo Jr., R-Sr., MER
- 17 Trevor Martineau, Jr., MER
- 16 Nelson Oceano, Sr., UNCG
- 13 Niccolo Dagnoni, Jr. BEL
- 7 Cole McLagan, R-Sr., FUR
- 7 Matthew Cutler, Jr., UNCG

GAME-WINNING GOALS

- 10 Trevor Martineau, Jr., MER
- 5 Leo Toledo Jr., R-Sr., MER
- 3 Cole McLagan, R-Sr., FUR
- 3 Shaun-Chris Joash, So., FUR

SAVES (MIN. 1 GAME)

- 256 Broden Schull, Jr., VMI
- 162 JR DeRose, R-Sr., MER
- 137 Ben Hale, R-Sr., FUR
- 128 Josh Perryman, R-Jr. ETSU
- 116 Nicolo Dini, Sr., BEL

WINS

- 28 Ben Hale, R-Sr., FUR
- 26 JR DeRose, R-Sr., MER
- 15 Josh Perryman, R-Jr., ETSU
- 9 Brendan Pulley, So., UNCG
- 6 Nicolo Dini, Sr., BEL

SHUTOUTS

- 16 Ben Hale, R-Jr., FUR
- 11 JR DeRose, R-Sr., MER
- 7 Josh Perryman, R-So., ETSU
- 4 Brendan Pulley, So., UNCG
- 3 Cameron Petty, Jr., BEL

GOALS AGAINST AVERAGE (MIN. 2,000 MINUTES)

- 1.00 Ben Hale, R-Jr., FUR
- 1.19 Josh Perryman, R-So., ETSU
- 1.25 JR DeRose, R-Sr. MER

() indicates SoCon career rank

UNITED SOCCER COACHES TOP 25 POLL

School (1st)	Prev.
1. Clemson	8-2-1
2. Pittsburgh	7-1-0
3. Wake Forest	7-2-0
4. Virginia Tech	3-2-2
5. Coastal Carolina	6-1-1

*Final rankings from Fall 2020 season

NR=Not Ranked

RV=Recieved Votes

COACHES' RECORDS

COACH, SCHOOL	OVERALL (YRS.)	SCHOOL (YRS.)	SoCon (YRS.)
David Costa, Belmont	8-12-3 (2nd)	Same	1-4-1 (2nd)
David Casper, ETSU	17-18-4 (3rd)	Same	7-5-1 (3rd)
Doug Allison, Furman	311-146-57 (26th)	Same	135-51-21 (26th)
Brad Ruzzo, Mercer	117-103-26 (13th)	Same	32-16-4 (7th)
Chris Rich, UNCG	13-10-1 (2nd)	Same	5-1-0 (2nd)
Max Watson, VMI	2-2-0 (1st)	Same	0-0-0 (1st)
Joel Tyson, Wofford	4-16-1 (2nd)	Same	2-3-1 (2nd)

2020-21 SOUTHERN CONFERENCE MEN'S SOCCER CHAMPIONSHIP

CONFERENCE TOURNAMENT

The 2020-21 SoCon Men's Soccer Championship was postponed from the fall to the spring because of the coronavirus pandemic and will be contested on campus sites on consecutive weekends in April. The top two seeds will host semifinal matches on either April 9 or 10, with the top remaining seed hosting the final on April 16 or 17.

Semifinals

Friday, April 9 or Saturday April 10

M1: No. 1 seed vs. No. 4 seed

M2: No. 2 seed vs. No. 3 seed

Final

Friday, April 16 or Saturday, April 17

M3: Match 1 winner vs. Match 2 winner



SOCON VS. NONCONFERENCE

Atlantic Sun (3-2-0)

2/13 Lipscomb 2, ETSU 1
 2/13 North Florida 2, Mercer 1
 2/20 Belmont 3, Bellarmine 0
 2/21 Mercer 1, Jacksonville 0
 3/2 Belmont 2, Lipscomb 1

Atlantic 10 (0-1-1)

2/14 Davidson at UNCG PPD
 2/27 ETSU 0, VCU 0
 3/6 Davidson 3, Wofford 2

Big East (0-1-0)

2/5 Xavier 2, ETSU 0

Big South (3-3-0)

2/14 USC Upstate at Wofford PPD
 2/14 Gardner-Webb 5, VMI 0
 2/24 UNCG 3, Gardner-Webb 0
 2/24 Furman 2, USC Update 0
 3/3 Gardner-Webb 3, Furman 0
 3/3 Radford 4, VMI 1
 3/4 UNCG 2, Longwood 1
 3/10 Longwood at VMI 4 p.m.

Colonial (1-1-0)

2/6 UNCW 2, UNCG 0
 2/28 UNCG 2, Elon 0

Conference USA (1-4-0)

10/10 South Carolina 1, Mercer 0
 10/14 Kentucky 3, Mercer 1
 2/21 Furman 3, South Carolina 0
 2/23 Marshall 2, ETSU 0
 2/27 South Carolina 2, Wofford 1

Sun Belt (1-2-1)

9/18 Georgia State 2, Mercer 1
 9/22 Mercer 3, Georgia Southern 0
 10/6 Georgia State 2, Mercer 0
 2/25 Belmont 0, Central Arkansas 0

Non Division 1 (4-0-0)

2/17 VMI 2, Southern Virginia 1
 2/17 UNCG 4, Belmont Abbey 1
 2/20 VMI 2, Marymount 1
 3/6 Belmont 2, Trevecca Nazarene 1

Total.....13-14-2 (.483)

Ranking=United Soccer Coaches

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Belmont

(3-0-1, 0-0-0 SoCon)

- F20 at Bellarmine..... W, 3-0
- F25 vs. Central Arkansas T, 0-0
- M2 vs. Lipscomb W, 2-1
- M6 at Trevecca Nazarene W, 2-1.
- M13 at Wofford* 11 a.m.
- M16 vs. VMI* 6 p.m.
- M23 at ETSU* 3 p.m.
- M27 at UNCG* 5 p.m.
- M30 vs. Furman* 6 p.m.
- A3 vs. Mercer* 7 p.m.

* Southern Conference match



ETSU

(0-3-1, 0-0-0 SoCon)

- F5 vs. XavierL, 0-2
- F13 at Lipscomb.....L, 1-2
- F23 at MarshallL, 0-2
- F27 vs. VCU..... T, 0-0
- M13 vs. Furman* 3 p.m.
- M16 at Mercer* 7 p.m.
- M20 at Wofford* 7 p.m.
- M23 vs. Belmont 3 p.m.
- M30 vs. VMI 3 p.m.
- A3 at UNCG 7 p.m.

* Southern Conference match



Furman

(2-1-0, 0-0-0 SoCon)

- F21 vs. South Carolina W, 3-0
- F24 at USC Upstate W, 2-0
- M3 at Gardner-Webb.....L, 0-3
- M13 at ETSU* 3 p.m.
- M16 vs. Wofford* 7 p.m.
- M20 at UNCG* 7 p.m.
- M23 vs. Mercer* 7 p.m.
- M27 vs. VMI* 7 p.m.
- M30 at Belmont* 6 p.m.
- A2 vs. Winthrop 7 p.m.

* Southern Conference match



Mercer

(2-6-0, 0-0-0 SoCon)

- S18 GEORGIA STATE..... L, 2-1
- S22 GEORGIA SOUTHERNW, 3-0
- O6 at Georgia State L, 2-0
- O10 SOTUH CAROLINA..... L, 1-0
- O14 at Kentucky..... L, 1-3
- F7 at Davidson.....PPD
- F13 at North Florida.....L, 1-2
- F17 vs. Stetson.....Can.
- F21 at Jacksonville.....W, 1-0
- F28 at UAB..... L, 0-1
- M13 vs. UNCG*2 p.m.
- M16 vs. ETSU*4 p.m.
- M20 at VMI*2 p.m.
- M23 at Furman*7 p.m.
- M27 vs. Wofford*2 p.m.
- A3 at Belmont*6 p.m.

* Southern Conference match



UNCG

(4-1-0, 0-0-0 SoCon)

- F6 at UNCW.....L, 0-2
- F14 vs. Davidson..... PPD
- F17 vs. Belmont Abbey W, 4-1
- F24 at Gardner-Webb W, 3-0
- F28 vs. Elon..... W, 2-0
- M4 vs. Longwood W, 2-1
- M13 at Mercer* 7 p.m.
- M20 vs. Furman* 7 p.m.
- M23 at VMI* 3 p.m.
- M27 vs. Belmont* 5 p.m.
- M30 at Wofford* 6 p.m.
- A3 vs. ETSU* 7 p.m.

* Southern Conference match



VMI

(2-2-0, 0-0-0 SoCon)

- F14 vs. Gardner-Webb L 0-5
- F17 at Southern Virginia W, 2-1
- F20 vs. Marymount W, 2-1
- M4 at Radford L, 1-4
- M10 vs. Longwood 4 p.m.
- M16 at Belmont* 5 p.m.
- M20 vs. Mercer* 2 p.m.
- M23 vs. UNCG* 3 p.m.
- M27 at Furman* 7 p.m.
- M30 at ETSU* 3 p.m.
- A3 vs. Wofford* 3:30 p.m.

* Southern Conference match



Wofford

(0-3-0, 0-0-0 SoCon)

- F14 vs. USC Upstate..... PPD
- F17 at Winthrop PPD
- F24 at High Point.....L, 1-2
- F27 at South Carolina L, 1-2
- M6 at DavidsonL, 2-3
- M13 vs. Belmont* 11 a.m.
- M16 at Furman* 7 p.m.
- M20 vs. ETSU* 7 p.m.
- M27 at Mercer* 7 p.m.
- M30 vs. UNCG* 7 p.m.
- A3 at VMI* 3 p.m.

* Southern Conference match