



2019 Southern Conference Volleyball Championship

NOV. 22-24 • WOFFORD • RICHARDSON INDOOR STADIUM • SPARTANBURG, S.C.



	CONFERENCE						OVERALL							
	W	L	Pct.	H	A	Streak	W	L	Pct.	H	A	N	L10	Streak
Samford	15	1	.938	7-1	8-0	W9	23	5	.821	8-1	12-1	3-3	10-0	W11
ETSU	14	2	.875	6-2	8-0	L1	25	5	.833	6-2	9-2	10-1	8-2	W2
Western Carolina	11	5	.688	6-2	5-3	L2	17	13	.567	7-2	7-5	3-6	5-5	L3
Wofford	8	8	.500	6-2	2-6	L1	15	16	.484	10-3	3-8	2-5	5-5	L2
Furman	7	9	.438	4-4	3-5	L1	8	21	.276	4-5	4-10	0-6	4-6	L1
Mercer	6	10	.375	4-4	2-6	W1	14	17	.452	7-5	4-8	3-4	5-5	L1
UNCG	5	11	.313	3-5	2-6	W1	11	20	.365	5-8	3-8	3-4	3-7	L1
The Citadel	4	12	.250	4-4	0-8	L4	11	20	.365	7-5	0-12	4-3	3-7	L1
Chattanooga	2	14	.125	2-6	0-8	W2	7	23	.233	5-6	0-13	2-4	2-8	L1

Awards & All-Conference Teams

Player of the Year

Kelsi Hobbs, Samford, Sr., RS

Libero of the Year

Meagan Sanchez, Western Carolina, Sr.

Rayna Taylor Freshman of the Year

Olivia Cunningham, ETSU, OH

Coach of the Year

Karen Glover, Western Carolina

All-SoCon First Team

Kaela Massey, ETSU, Sr., MB
Marija Popovic, ETSU, Jr., L
Neci Harris, Furman, So., MB
Courtney Hoffman, Furman, R-Jr., MB
Lauren Deaton, Samford, So., OH
Kelsi Hobbs, Samford, Sr., OH
Meagan Sanchez, Western Carolina, Sr., L

All-SoCon Second Team

Sharlissa De Jesus, The Citadel, Jr., OH
Emily Arnold, ETSU, Fr., S
Olivia Cunningham, ETSU, Fr., OH
Nicole Mack, Furman, R-Jr., OH
Merry Gebel, Western Carolina, So., OH
Riley Coonan, Wofford, Jr., MB
Catie Cronister, Wofford, Sr., OH

All-Freshman Team

Emily Arnold, ETSU, S
Olivia Cunningham, ETSU, OH
Lauren Hatch, ETSU, OH
Andrea Aceveda, Furman, L
Jaida Howell, Mercer, MB
Emily Naubert, Samford, L
Meghan Yaffa, Wofford, OH

Samford's Hobbs named Player of the Year, Western Carolina's Glover named Coach of the Year

SPARTANBURG, S.C. – Samford's Kelsi Hobbs was named the Southern Conference Volleyball Player of the Year for the 2019 season. In addition, Western Carolina's Karen Glover was named coach of the year and Catamount senior Meagan Sanchez was selected as libero of the year. ETSU's Olivia Cunningham earned the Rayna Taylor Award, given annually to the league's freshman of the year.

Hobbs claims the award after leading the Bulldogs to a 15-1 mark in conference play en route to the regular-season SoCon title. The Hoover, Alabama, native led Samford with 397 kills, nearly four kills per set, both conference bests. She added 236 digs, 2.31 per set, and 52 blocks in her impressive senior campaign. A preseason all-conference selection, Hobbs was the SoCon Offensive Player of the Week three times. She also tallied eight double-doubles on the year, including five in conference play. Hobbs is Samford's fourth player of the year and first since Michaela Reesor in 2013.

Glover earns coach of the year honors for the second time in her career and first since 2011 after guiding Western Carolina, picked to finish eighth in the preseason, to an 11-5 record in league play and the No. 3 seed in the upcoming Southern Conference Championship. The Catamounts recorded eight sweeps on the season, including five in conference play, and four of their five conference losses came to Samford or ETSU, the two teams who finished ahead of Western Carolina in the conference.

ETSU led the conference with eight postseason awards, including Cunningham's freshman of the year nod. The native of Knoxville, Tennessee, led the league in service aces per set (0.45) and was third in kills per set (3.57). Two Bucs, senior middle blocker Kaela Massey and libero Marija Popovic, were named to the seven-member all-conference first team. Massey, a preseason all-conference selection, was second in the league in hitting percentage (.339), while Popovic, a two-time libero of the year, was second amongst league players with 4.37 digs per set.

Furman added two on the first team, placing middle blockers Neci Harris and Courtney Hoffman on the squad. Harris, a sophomore, led the Paladins with a .321 hitting percentage, third in the league, while Hoffman's .305 mark was just behind in fifth. Samford outside hitter Lauren Deaton, the 2018 Rayna Taylor Freshman of the Year and a 2019 preseason all-conference selection, joined Hobbs on the first team. Deaton, a native of Memphis,

Tennessee, amassed 387 kills, second in the league only to Hobbs. Sanchez, the libero of the year, rounded out the first team. The senior from Bristow, Virginia, led the league in digs, tallying 596, 139 more than another other league player. She was named the SoCon Defensive Player of the Week seven times this season and became one of just two SoCon players to earn a weekly award eight times.

The second team also featured seven players, led by two selections each from ETSU and Wofford. Cunningham was joined by setter Emily Arnold, who led ETSU and was second in the league with 1,104 assists in her freshman campaign. Wofford placed junior middle blocker Riley Coonan and senior outside hitter Catie Cronister on the second team. Coonan led the league in hitting percentage (.361) and in blocks (120). Cronister, who led the Terriers with 370 kills, was in the top 10 in kills per set and service aces. The Citadel's Sharlissa De Jesus sits second in the league in service aces (25) and her 318 kills led the Bulldogs, who won a program-best four conference matches for the second season in a row. Furman's Nicole Mack was recognized after leading the Paladins in kills (351), while Western Carolina outside hitter Merry Gebel made the team after positing 364 kills and 35 aces on the season, both top-10 amongst conference players.

Along with Cunningham, the all-freshman team includes Arnold and teammate Lauren Hatch, Furman's Andrea Aceveda, Mercer's Jaida Howell, Samford's Emily Naubert and Wofford's Meghan Yaffa.

The Southern Conference Volleyball Championship began Tuesday, Nov. 19, when The Citadel, the No. 8 seed, swept No. 9 Chattanooga in the first-round matchup in Charleston, South Carolina. The remainder of the tournament will take place Nov. 22-24 on the campus of Wofford College in Spartanburg, South Carolina. Quarterfinal action kicks off at 11 a.m. Friday with a showdown between host school Wofford, the No. 4 seed, and fifth-seeded Furman. Samford is the top seed in the tournament and will face The Citadel at 1:30 p.m. on Friday. The championship match is slated for Sunday at 2 p.m.



2019 SOCON VOLLEYBALL ROSTERS



Samford (#1 seed)

Head coach: Keylor Chan

Assistant coaches: Betsy Freeburg, Ryan Freeburg

Record: 23-5 (15-1 SoCon)

No.	Name	Class	Pos.	Hometown/Previous School
1	Elise Watford	Sr.	RS	Birmingham, Ala./Middle Tennessee
3	Sarah Hayes Farley	Fr.	OH	Kennesaw, Ga./Mt. Paran
4	Charlotte Dean	Fr.	S	Mississauga, Ontario/Loyola Catholic
5	Lauren Deaton	So.	OH	Memphis, Tenn./Harding Academy
6	Andie Salasky	Fr.	L/DS	East Grand Rapids, Mich./East Grand Rapids
7	Sinclair Green	R-So.	MB	Hattiesburg, Miss./Oak Grove
8	Kelsi Hobbs	Sr.	RS	Hoover, Ala./John Carroll Catholic
11	Corinne Meglic	R-So.	S	Green Bay, Wis./Notre Dame Academy
12	Grace Tiesman	Sr.	L/DS	Wheaton, Ill./North
13	Briana Holmes	So.	MB	Orlando, Fla./Orangewood Christian
14	Sierra Rayzor	Jr.	MB	New Albany, Ind./Christian Academy of Indiana
15	Kenya McQuirter	Fr.	OH	Mobile, Ala./McGill-Toolen
16	Courtney Johnson	Sr.	L/DS	Bellevue, Wash./Fresno State
17	Emily Naubert	Fr.	L/DS	Chicago, Ill./Christian Heritage
18	Camryn Pierce	R-Fr.	MB	Jonesboro, Ark./Valley View

ETSU (#2 seed)

Head coach: Benavia Jenkins

Assistant coaches: Giovanni Delevry, Andrew Pile

Record: 25-5 (14-2 SoCon)



No.	Name	Class	Pos.	Hometown/Previous School
1	Sydney Cherney	Fr.	L	Knoxville, Tenn./Farragut
2	Mary Catherine Smith	So.	S	Murfreesboro, Tenn./Central Magnet
3	Lundyn Coffman	Fr.	MB	Nolensville, Tenn./Nolensville
4	Abbie Trantham	So.	OH	Candler, N.C./Enka
5	Kaela Massey	Sr.	MB	Brentwood, Tenn./Brentwood
6	Olivia Cunningham	Fr.	OH	Knoxville, Tenn./Knoxville Catholic
8	Emily Arnold	Fr.	S	Louisville, Ky./Sacred Heart Academy
9	Marija Popovic	Jr.	L	Belgrade, Serbia./Sports Grammar School
11	Alyssa Hatley	So.	OH	Rogersville, Tenn./Volunteer
13	Lauren Hatch	Fr.	OH	Homewood, Ill./Marian Catholic
15	Sara Esposito	So.	MB	Pianiga, Venezia, Italy/Istituto Cesare Musatti
16	Sidney Sherill	Fr.	MB	Knoxville, Tenn./Concord Christian
17	Caroline Cromer	Fr.	S	Anderson, S.C./Wren



Western Carolina (#3 seed)

Head coach: Karen Glover

Assistant coach: Chelsi Carter

Record: 17-13 (11-5 SoCon)

No.	Name	Class	Pos.	Hometown/Previous School
1	Johnna Robinson	Fr.	MB	Calera, Ala./Calera
2	Meagan Sanchez	Sr.	L/DS	Bristow, Va./Osborn Park
3	Brooklyn Poling	Fr.	OH/RS	Gilbert, Ariz./Perry
4	Caroline Perret	Jr.	L/DS	Tampa, Fla./Tampa Catholic
7	Madison McNally	R-So.	OH	Sarasota, Fla./Alabama
8	Hannah Price	Jr.	S	Piney Flats, Tenn./Sullivan South
9	Noelle Soldo	So.	L/DS	Charlotte, N.C./Marvin Ridge
13	Merry Gebel	So.	OH	Wildwood, Mo./Lafayette
15	MaKenzie White	Jr.	MB	Norcross, Ga./Norcross
16	Jada Gardner	Fr.	MB/RS	Coral Springs, Fla./St. Thomas Aquinas
17	Abigail Veit	Sr.	OH	Cary, N.C./Apex
18	Sydney Carlson	So.	S	Birmingham, Ala./Mountain Brook
19	Haley Multerer	So.	MB	Mequon, Wis./Divine Savior Holy Angels
21	Aleah Keaton	Jr.	MB	Roanoke, Va./Northside

Wofford (#4 seed)

Head coach: Lynze Roos

Assistant coach: Jordan Lay, Ali Skayhan

Record: 15-16 (8-8 SoCon)



No.	Name	Class	Pos.	Hometown/Previous School
2	Emory Wyatt	Fr.	MH	Greenville, S.C./Wade Hampton
4	Chasidy Sharpe	Fr.	L	Stony Point, N.C./Lake Norman
5	Robyn Krause	Jr.	S	Centerville, Ohio./Centerville
7	Kennedy Smith	Fr.	OH	Huntersville, N.C./South Lake Christian
8	Emily Durham	Jr.	OH	Raleigh, N.C./Middle Creek
9	Claire Meier	R-Fr.	MH	Orlando, Fla./Bishop Moore
11	Lorissa King	Sr.	S	Windermere, Fla./Olympia
12	Bella Zeman	Fr.	OH	Yorkville, Ill./Yorkville
13	Kara Shacklette	Sr.	MB	Louisville, Ky./Assumption
16	Meghan Yaffa	R-Fr.	OH	Boca Raton, Fla./Spanish River
18	Kelly Hubbard	So.	MH	Nokomis, Fla./Venice
21	Riley Coonan	Jr.	MB	Jacksonville, Fla./The Bolles School
22	Kelly Bossert	Sr.	RS	Easley, S.C./Easley
23	Catie Cronister	Sr.	OH	Chicago, Ill./Latin School of Chicago



Furman (#5 seed)

Head coach: Michelle Young

Assistant coach: Natalie Braun

Record: 8-21 (7-9 SoCon)

No.	Name	Class	Pos.	Hometown/Previous School
1	Courtney Hoffman	R-Jr.	MB	Greenwood, S.C./Greenwood
2	Neci Harris	So.	MB	Louisville, Ky./Mercy Academy
4	Nicole Mack	R-Jr.	OH	Cascade, Colo./Lewis Palmer
5	Gabby Howard	Sr.	OH	Plano, Texas/Plano
6	Madison Gresham	So.	OH	St. Louis, Mo./St. Joseph's Academy
7	Andrea Aceveda	Fr.	L	Brentwood, Tenn./Brentwood
8	Katie Murphy	R-So.	S	Phoenix, Ariz./Arcadia
9	Sarah Turner	Fr.	S	Lugoff, S.C./Lugoff-Elgin
10	Natalie Dunn	Fr.	OH	Holland, Mich./West Ottawa
13	Abbey Crawford	Jr.	L	Cary, N.C./Cardinal Gibbons
15	Lydia Morris	Sr.	MB	Atlanta, Ga./Woodward Academy
17	Kelsey Watkins	Fr.	MB	Chicago, Ill./Latin School

Mercer (#6 seed)

Head coach: Derek Schroeder

Assistant coaches: Kate Morrell, Jesse Earl

Record: 14-17 (6-10 SoCon)



No.	Name	Class	Pos.	Hometown/Previous School
2	Megan Smith	Jr.	L/DS	Oakville, Ontario/Brock University
3	Jovana Babin	Fr.	OH	Mississauga, Ontario/Streetsville
7	Roberta Todd	Jr.	OH	Stoney Creek, Ontario/UW Green Bay
9	Annie Karle	So.	OH	Flanders, N.J./Mount Olive HS
10	Lexi Uhrhan	Fr.	L/DS	Louisville, Ky./Sacred Heart Academy
11	Nya Steele	So.	S	Clemmons, N.C./Charlotte
12	Alexia Morey	R-Sr.	MB	Colorado Springs, Colo./Coronado
13	Amber Gibson	Sr.	L/OH	Cypress, Texas/Cypress Woods
14	Brittany Major	So.	OH	McDonough, Ga./Eagles Landing
15	Malia Randolph	Jr.	S	McDonough, Ga./Eagles Landing
16	Ellie Miller	So.	OH	Oakton, Va./Trinity Christian
20	Nadya Williams	Fr.	MB	Dallas, Ga./East Paulding
24	Emilee Wissmach	So.	L/DS	Savannah, Ga./Savannah Christian
27	Jaida Howell	Fr.	MB	Whitby, Ontario/Sinclair Secondary

2019 SOCON VOLLEYBALL ROSTERS



UNCG (#7 seed)

Head coach: Corey Carlin

Assistant coaches: James Goodridge, Taylor Pritchett, Joakim Mortveit

Record: 11-20 (5-11 SoCon)

No.	Name	Class	Pos.	Hometown/Previous School
1	Maria Esch	Jr.	OH	Williamsburg, Va./Jamestown
3	Giana Rasmussen	Jr.	S	Highland, Utah/Pleasant Grove
4	Hannah Knier	Fr.	OH	Petersborough, Ontario/Thomas A. Stewart
5	Emily Keilen	Sr.	OH	Austin, Texas/Round Rock
6	Stephanie Meysembourg	So.	DS	Noblesville, Ind./Noblesville
7	Camille Anderson	Fr.	OH	Gainesville, Fla./Buchholz
8	Grey Breen	Fr.	MH	Decatur, Ga./Decatur
9	Gabriela McHugh	Fr.	S	Ashley, Ind./Angola
10	Grace Howell	Sr.	DS	Rockwall, Texas/Rockwall-Heath
11	Megan Moran	R-Jr.	MH	Smithsburg, Md./Smithsburg
12	Mandy Garvens	So.	DS	Oconomowoc, Wis./Oconomowoc
14	Holly Behrends	Jr.	OH	Oswego, Ill./Oswego
15	Brittany Wood	Fr.	OH	Raleigh, N.C./Needham Broughton
16	Erika Quinones	Fr.	S	Chesapeake, Va./Hickory
17	Lauren Robeck	Sr.	MH	Plainfield, Ill./Plainfield North
18	Elayne Grisbee	Fr.	MH	Cypress, Texas/Cypress Ranch



The Citadel (#8 seed)

Head coach: Dave Zelenock

Assistant coaches: Michelle Cole, Katie Altman

Record: 11-20 (4-12 SoCon)

No.	Name	Class	Pos.	Hometown/Previous School
2	Mellanie King	Jr.	OH	Southlake, Texas/Carroll
3	Alicia Roberts	So.	MB	Griffin, Ga./Hampton
4	MaKaya Middleton	Fr.	RS	Litchfield Park, Ariz./Millenium
5	Amie Greene	Fr.	S	Tomball, Texas/Klein Oak
6	Maya Elassal	So.	MB	Herndon, Va./Oakton
7	Emma Strong	Jr.	L/DS	Clearwater, Fla./Palm Harbor
8	Caricia Rodriguez	Sr.	L	Naperville, Ill./Neuqua Valley
9	Megan Fuhr	Jr.	S	Franklinton, N.C./South Granville
10	Gina Delancey	Fr.	MB	Arlington, Va./Washington Lee
11	Sharlissa De Jesus	Jr.	OH	Guayama, P.R./Guamani Private School
16	Sarah Dobrich	Sr.	MB	Mokena, Ill./Lincoln-Way East
17	Faith Justice	So.	DS/L	Mauldin, S.C./Mauldin
20	Laura Kuhlmann	Fr.	OH	Pawling, N.Y./Pawling
21	Kenzie Kellerman	Fr.	L	Little Elm, Texas/Lone Stat
22	Camielle Simmons	Fr.	L	Tallahassee, Fla./Chiles
25	Maddy Cardenas	Fr.	MB	Redondo Beach, Calif./Bishop Montgomery



The Southern Conference would like to recognize the seniors for outstanding athletic and academic performance.

Caricia Rodriguez The Citadel
 Sarah Dobrich The Citadel
 Kaela Massey ETSU
 Gabby Howard Furman
 Lydia Morris Furman
 Amber Gibson Mercer
 Alexia Morey Mercer
 Grace Howell UNCG

Emily Keilen UNCG
 Lauren Robeck UNCG
 Kelsi Hobbs Samford
 Courtney Johnson Samford
 Grace Tiesman Samford
 Elise Watford Samford
 Aleah Keaton Western Carolina
 Meagan Sanchez .. Western Carolina

Kelly Bossert Wofford
 Catie Cronister Wofford
 Lorissa King Wofford
 Kara Shacklette Wofford



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Annual Champions

Year	Champion	Head Coach	Runner-up	Tournament Site	Regular-Season Champion(s)
1983	Western Carolina	Trish Howell	ETSU	Johnson City, Tenn.	Western Carolina
1984	Appalachian State	Toni Wyatt	Western Carolina	Cullowhee, N.C.	Appalachian State
1985	Western Carolina	Trish Howell	Appalachian State	Boone, N.C.	Western Carolina
1986	Western Carolina	Trish Howell	Appalachian State	Greenville, S.C.	App. St./Western Carolina
1987	Chattanooga	Tony Jadin	Furman	Huntington, W.Va.	ETSU
1988	Marshall	Martha Newberry	Western Carolina	Chattanooga, Tenn.	ETSU
1989	ETSU	Kelly Andrews	Western Carolina	Johnson City, Tenn.	ETSU/Western Carolina
1990	Furman	David Baillie	Appalachian State	Cullowhee, N.C.	Appalachian State
1991	Appalachian State	Traci Blankenship-McGee	ETSU	Boone, N.C.	ETSU
1992	ETSU	Kelly Andrews	Appalachian State	Greenville, S.C.	Appalachian State
1993	Appalachian State	Dave Markland	Furman	Huntington, W.Va.	Furman
1994	Appalachian State	Dave Markland	Furman	Chattanooga, Tenn.	Appalachian State
1995	Marshall	Susan Steadman	Furman	Davidson, N.C.	Appalachian State
1996	Chattanooga	Lisa Rhodes	ETSU	Statesboro, Ga.	Marshall
1997	Chattanooga	Lisa Rhodes	Appalachian State	Western Carolina	Chattanooga
1998	Chattanooga	Lisa Rhodes	Western Carolina	Chattanooga, Tenn.	Chattanooga
1999	Davidson	Lisa Marston	Chattanooga	Boone, N.C.	Davidson
2000	Davidson	Tamara Darwin	Furman	Cullowhee, N.C.	Davidson
2001	Georgia Southern	Kerry Messersmith	Chattanooga	Charleston, S.C.	College of Charleston
2002	College of Charleston	Jewel McRoberts	Georgia Southern	Greensboro, N.C.	Georgia Southern/CofC
2003	Georgia Southern	Kerry Messersmith	College of Charleston	Chattanooga, Tenn.	North: Appalachian State
2004	College of Charleston	Sherry Dunbar	Appalachian State	Cullowhee, N.C.	South: CofC/Georgia Southern
2005	College of Charleston	Sherry Dunbar	Appalachian State	Statesboro, Ga.	South: Coll. of Charleston
2006	College of Charleston	Sherry Dunbar	UNCG	Boone, N.C.	College of Charleston
2007	College of Charleston	Jason Kepner	UNCG	Chattanooga, Tenn.	College of Charleston
2008	Furman	Michelle Young	College of Charleston	Greensboro, N.C.	College of Charleston
2009	College of Charleston	Jason Kepner	Furman	Greenville, S.C.	North: Samford
2010	Georgia Southern	Chad Callihan	College of Charleston	Boone, N.C.	South: Furman
2011	Samford	Derek Schroeder	College of Charleston	Birmingham, Ala.	North: Elon
2012	College of Charleston	Jason Kepner	Furman	Davidson, N.C.	South: Coll. of Charleston
2013	Georgia Southern	Dustin Wood	Samford	Greenville, S.C.	North: Samford
2014	Samford	Derek Schroeder	Furman	Greensboro, N.C.	South: Coll. of Charleston
2015	Furman	Michelle Young	Chattanooga	Cullowhee, N.C.	North: Samford
2016	Samford	Keylor Chan	Chattanooga	Birmingham, Ala.	South: Coll. of Charleston
2017	ETSU	Lindsey Devine	Wofford	Cullowhee, N.C.	North: Samford
2018	Samford	Keylor Chan	ETSU	Greensboro, N.C.	South: Georgia Southern
2019				Spartanburg, S.C.	Georgia Southern