

THE SURGE BEGINS

GAMEDAY PROGRAM

Centreville Bank

RIFC TEAM STORE POWERED BY capelli SPORT



HOME OF THE OFFICIAL RIFC MERCH

SHOP THE NEW SURGE KIT







GAME NOTES

VS.

RHODE ISLAND FC vs SPORTING CLUB JACKSONVILLE

March 14, 2026 | 4:00 PM ET | Pawtucket, RI | Centreville Bank Stadium
NESN | ESPN Select | 790 THE SCORE

SAT	**MAR 14**	**HOME**	**Jacksonville**	**4:00 PM**	NESN
SAT	MAR 21	AWAY	Louisville	4:00 PM	NESN+
SAT	MAR 28	AWAY	Miami	7:00 PM	ESPN+
SAT	**APR 4**	**HOME**	**Detroit**	**4:00 PM**	MyRITV
SAT	APR 11	AWAY	Lexington	7:00 PM	NESN+
WED	**APR 22**	**HOME**	**Charleston**	**7:30 PM**	MyRITV
SAT	APR 25*	AWAY	Hartford	7:00 PM	CBS SPORTS NETWORK
SAT	**MAY 2**	**HOME**	**Birmingham**	**7:30 PM**	MyRITV
SAT	**MAY 9**	**HOME**	**Tampa Bay**	**7:30 PM**	MyRITV
SAT	MAY 16*	AWAY	Portland	4:00 PM	NESN
SAT	**MAY 23**	**HOME**	**Brooklyn**	**7:30 PM**	CBS SPORTS NETWORK
SAT	MAY 30	AWAY	Indy	7:00 PM	NESN+
SAT	**JUN 6***	**HOME**	**Westchester**	**7:30 PM**	MyRITV
SAT	JUN 13	AWAY	Loudoun	6:00 PM	NESN+
SAT	**JUL 4**	**HOME**	**Orange County**	**7:30 PM**	MyRITV
WED	JUL 8	AWAY	Sacramento	10:30 PM	NESN+
SAT	**JUL 11***	**HOME**	**Brooklyn**	**7:30 PM**	MyRITV
SAT	**JULY 18**	**HOME**	**Hartford**	**7:30 PM**	NESN+
SAT	JUL 25	AWAY	Pittsburgh	7:00 PM	NESN+
SAT	AUG 1	AWAY	Birmingham	8:00 PM	NESN+
SAT	**AUG 8**	**HOME**	**Colorado Springs**	**7:30 PM**	MyRITV
SAT	AUG 15	AWAY	Tampa Bay	7:30 PM	NESN+
SAT	**AUG 22**	**HOME**	**Monterey Bay**	**7:30 PM**	MyRITV
SAT	AUG 29	AWAY	Tulsa	8:30 PM	NESN+
SAT	**SEP 5**	**HOME**	**Louisville**	**7:30 PM**	MyRITV
SAT	SEP 12	AWAY	Jacksonville	7:00 PM	NESN+
SAT	**SEP 19**	**HOME**	**Miami**	**7:30 PM**	MyRITV
SAT	SEP 26	AWAY	Charleston	7:00 PM	NESN
WED	**SEP 30**	**HOME**	**Indy**	**7:30 PM**	MyRITV
SAT	OCT 3	AWAY	Brooklyn	7:00 PM	NESN
SAT	OCT 10	AWAY	Detroit	7:00 PM	NESN
SAT	**OCT 14**	**HOME**	**Loudoun**	**7:00 PM**	MyRITV
SAT	**OCT 17**	**HOME**	**Pittsburgh**	**7:30 PM**	MyRITV
SAT	OCT 24	AWAY	Hartford	7:00 PM	NESN

GAME KITS



RHODE ISLAND FC



SPORTING CLUB JACKSONVILLE

GAME PREVIEW

Despite making its USL Championship debut in front of a sold-out home crowd of more than 10,000 fans at Hodges Stadium on March 7, Sporting Club Jacksonville did not get the result it wanted on the field, falling 3-0 to Eastern Conference side Hartford Athletic. The USL Championship expansion club will look to bounce back when it makes its first road trip of the season this weekend, taking the field at Centreville Bank Stadium in search of its first-ever goal and first-ever win. Despite the loss vs. Hartford, Jacksonville kept it close throughout, testing the visitors with 13 shots, making 499 passes and sending in 32 crosses. It held the game to a one-goal deficit for the majority of the second half, conceding the opening goal in the 44th minute before eventually conceding again in the 79th and 90th minutes to finish on the wrong end of a 3-0 result.

Fresh off of its second-straight Eastern Conference Final in 2025, Rhode Island FC will kick off its third season on Saturday after its Week 1 matchup vs. Loudoun was postponed due to the historic blizzard that hit the Ocean State in late February. Led by Head Coach and General Manager Khano Smith in his third season, the club's technical staff have been hard at work in the offseason, bringing back 17 players from 2025 and reinforcing the squad with seven new signings that bring talent, depth and attacking firepower to the team. Eleven core players from RIFC's historic run to the USL Championship Final in its inaugural season will return for year three, hungry to start the season on a high in front of the home fans on Saturday.

EASTERN CONFERENCE STANDINGS

CLUB	GP	W	L	T	GD	PTS
Hartford	2	1	0	1	3	0
Louisville	1	1	0	0	1	0
Charleston	1	1	0	0	1	0
Brooklyn	1	1	0	0	1	0
Tampa Bay	1	1	0	0	1	0
Birmingham	2	0	1	1	-1	0
Detroit	0	0	0	0	0	0
Loudoun	0	0	0	0	0	0
Miami	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rhode Island	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pittsburgh	1	0	1	0	-1	0
Indy Eleven	1	0	1	0	-1	0
Jacksonville	1	0	1	0	-3	0

ROSTER



1 KOKE VEGAS
GOALKEEPER



2 DANI ROVIRA
DEFENDER



3 ALDAIR SANCHEZ
DEFENDER



4 HUGO BACHARACH
DEFENDER



5 GRANT STONEMAN
DEFENDER



7 DWAYNE ATKINSON
MIDFIELDER



8 LEO AFONSO
FORWARD



9 JJ WILLIAMS
FORWARD



10 AGUSTÍN RODRÍGUEZ
MIDFIELDER



11 NOAH FUSON
FORWARD



12 CLAY HOLSTAD
MIDFIELDER



13 WILL MEYER
GOALKEEPER



15 LOGAN DORSEY
FORWARD



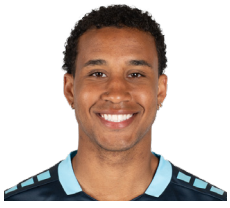
15 FRANK NODARSE
DEFENDER



17 JOJEA KWIZERA
MIDFIELDER



19 KEVIN VANG
MIDFIELDER



20 JAMIN GOGO PETERS
FORWARD



21 ZACHARY HERIVAUX
MIDFIELDER



22 NICK SCARDINA
DEFENDER



24 KARIFA YAO
DEFENDER



25 CJ WILLIAMS
DEFENDER



29 JACOB CASTRO
GOALKEEPER



32 HAMADY DIOP
DEFENDER



77 AMOS SHAPRIO-THOMPSON
MIDFIELDER

PLAYER BIOS



1
KOKE VEGAS ©
GOALKEEPER

Vegas was written into Rhode Island FC history on November 1, 2023, when he became the first player signed to the club's roster. The Spaniard enters his fifth season in the USL Championship in 2026 and third with RIFC, after spending his first two seasons in the league with San Diego Loyal. In his first three seasons with Rhode Island FC, Vegas captained RIFC to the 2024 USL Championship Final and back-to-back appearances in the Eastern Conference Final. Known for the quality in his touch and ability to help build up from the back, Vegas went to San Diego Loyal after 11 years of professional experience in Spain, including La Liga sides Levante UD and RCD Mallorca. Vegas made his professional debut in 2011 with Antequera CF and won a La Liga 2 championship in 2017 with Levante UD.



2
DANI ROVIRA
DEFENDER

Signed on January 18, 2025, Rovira is a USL Championship veteran who brings defensive experience and depth to Rhode Island FC. Rovira came to the Ocean State after making 138 appearances in six seasons with Pittsburgh Riverhounds SC, scoring one goal and dishing 14 assists in nearly 7,000 minutes of action throughout his career with the 2023 Players' Shield winners. Before joining the Hounds, Rovira made 41 appearances across three collegiate seasons at Dean College (2016) and the University of Vermont (2017-2018), totaling one goal and five assists. In his youth, he spent time with the New England Revolution Academy, playing under current Rhode Island FC Head Coach and General Manager Khano Smith, as well as Assistant Coach and Director of Goalkeeping Karl Spratt.



3
ALDAIR SANCHEZ
DEFENDER

Sanchez signed with Rhode Island FC on February 7, 2025, after a successful start to his professional career with Sacramento Republic FC, where he made 68 appearances in two seasons across all competitions. The versatile defender helped the club to two-straight playoff appearances during his stay, including a first-place Western Conference regular season finish in 2023. In 2024, Sanchez appeared in every USL Championship game for Sacramento, making 24 starts and scoring a career-high three goals. Before his USL Championship debut, the Portland Timbers academy product spent two years playing collegiately with the University of North Carolina, registering 769 minutes in 30 appearances for the Tar Heels. He helped North Carolina reach the Second Round of the NCAA Tournament in 2021.



4
HUGO BACHARACH
DEFENDER

Bacharach joined Rhode Island FC on Dec. 31, 2024, after making his professional debut with Minnesota United FC during the 2024 season, where he scored one goal in 12 appearances across MLS and MLS Next Pro. Prior to his time as a professional, Bacharach played collegiately at Fairleigh Dickinson University (2020-2022) and Indiana University (2023). After collecting Northeast Conference Defender of the Year honors in his final season with Fairleigh Dickinson, the defender transferred to Indiana, where he was named to the All-Big Ten Second Team Tournament Team after helping the team to its 12th Big Ten Tournament Championship. Originally from Spain, Bacharach spent 12 years in the Spanish Academy system in his youth development years, spending a decade with Villarreal before moving to CD Castellón.

PLAYER BIOS



5
GRANT STONEMAN
DEFENDER

Stoneman enters his seventh USL Championship season in 2026, and third with Rhode Island FC, after signing with the club on November 14, 2023. In his first two seasons with the RIFC, the defender started 39 of his 49 appearances across all competitions, tallying one goal, one assist and 143 clearances in 3,378 minutes. During his first four seasons with San Diego Loyal, Stoneman started 93 games in 99 regular-season appearances, recording four goals and four assists while cementing himself into the San Diego history books as the club's all-time leader in career regular-season minutes. Before joining the USL Championship, the defender played in USL League One (Lansing Ignite FC) and USL League Two (Chicago FC United). Stoneman also played collegiate soccer at Loyola University Chicago for three seasons.



7
DWAYNE ATKINSON
MIDFIELDER

Atkinson signed with Rhode Island FC on Aug. 7, 2025, from Jamaican Premier League side Cavalier FC. The 23-year-old Jamaican international joined the Ocean State club after leading Cavalier FC to three JPL titles and one CONCACAF Caribbean Cup title in five seasons, scoring 50 goals in more than 130 career appearances for his hometown club. During the 2024/25 Jamaican Premier League season, Atkinson made 41 appearances across all competitions, including all five games of the club's playoff run to its second-straight Jamaican Premier League title. He scored a career-best 19 goals, including a stretch of 11 goal contributions in seven games in Cavalier FC's journey to its first-ever CONCACAF Caribbean Cup title. At the international level, Atkinson has made six appearances for the Jamaican National Team.



8
LEO AFONSO
FORWARD

Afonso signed with Rhode Island FC on Jan. 8, 2026, after spending the first two years of his professional career with Major League Soccer clubs Inter Miami CF and Atlanta United FC. During his rookie season with Miami in 2024, Afonso made 26 appearances across the club's first team and its MLS Next Pro side. The forward enjoyed a prolific season with Inter Miami CF II, scoring seven goals in seven appearances. He also made 19 appearances with the first team, scoring two goals and assisting one. In July 2025, Afonso joined Atlanta United FC, making four MLS appearances and two appearances in MLS Next Pro. Prior to his professional career, Afonso enjoyed a standout four-year collegiate career at the University of Virginia, where he scored 22 goals and added eight assists in 59 career appearances.



9
JJ WILLIAMS
FORWARD

A surprise player announcement at the inaugural Rhode Island FC Kit Reveal Party on December 4, 2023, Williams enters his eighth USL Championship season in 2025, and third with RIFC. After leading RIFC with eight goals in 2025 and 11 goals in 2024, Williams enters 2026 as Rhode Island FC's joint all-time leading scorer with 19 career goals for the Ocean State club. With 167 professional appearances to his name, including 10 in MLS and more than 11,000 minutes of action since his professional debut in 2019, Williams also spent time with Columbus Crew (2019), Birmingham Legion FC (2019-20), Atlanta United FC (2020-21), FC Tulsa (2022) and Phoenix Rising FC (2022). In total, Williams brings 47 career USL Championship goals and 26 assists into his third season with RIFC.

PLAYER BIOS



10
AGUSTÍN RODRÍGUEZ
MIDFIELDER

Known as "Pity," Rodríguez joined Rhode Island FC on Jan. 14, 2026, on loan from Argentinian Primera División side Club Atlético Lanús. He began his professional career with Lanús in 2021, going on to tally one goals and two assists in 28 appearances across five seasons with the Argentinian club. The midfielder has also featured in 32 appearances for the club's reserve side, Lanús II, where he scored five goals. In 2025, Pity scored two goals in five appearances for Lanús II and made three appearances for the first team. He spent the back half of the year on a brief loan stint with Cypriot First Division club Anorthosis Famagusta, where he made four appearances. Internationally, Pity has made six appearances for the Argentina U20 National Team.



11
NOAH FUSON
FORWARD

Fuson signed with Rhode Island FC on January 16, 2024, after spending two seasons with Columbus Crew 2. Through RIFC's first two seasons, Fuson ranked second with 77 appearances, third with 5,707 minutes, third with 13 goals and finished 2025 as the club's all-time assist leader with 15. He enjoyed a career-best season in his first year with RIFC in 2024, earning the league's Golden Playmaker Award after finishing the season with a league-leading 10 assists. Prior to his time in the USL Championship, Fuson was named Crew 2 Player of the Year in 2023. In his two seasons in Columbus, Fuson logged 4,392 minutes over 49 starts and 57 appearances, tallying 20 goals and nine assists. Before joining the Crew, Fuson spent the first two seasons of his career at Forward Madison FC (USL League One).



12
CLAY HOLSTAD
MIDFIELDER

Holstad joined Rhode Island FC by way of Columbus Crew 2 on January 12, 2024. He finished his first two USL Championship seasons as the club's all-time leader in starts (68), appearances (78) and minutes (6,102), finishing 2025 as the only RIFC player in club history to appear in all but two of the club's games across all competitions. Prior to his time in the Ocean State, the Birmingham, Alabama, native spent one season with Columbus Crew 2, where he started 19 games in 26 appearances throughout the 2023 MLS NEXT Pro season. The midfielder scored one goal and created one assist in 1,761 minutes. In five seasons at the University of Kentucky, Holstad helped lead the Wildcats to multiple NCAA Tournament appearances and was named to the Sun Belt Conference All-Tournament Team and the NCAA All-Southeast Region Second Team.



13
WILL MEYER
GOALKEEPER

Will Meyer signed with Rhode Island FC on February 10, 2025, and enters his second season with Rhode Island FC in 2026. His professional career began when he was selected with the 10th pick of the second round in the 2022 MLS SuperDraft by Nashville SC. After moving to the New York Red Bulls, he made his professional debut in 2023, appearing twice for Red Bulls II before transferring to New York City FC II in 2024, where he logged a career-high 702 minutes in 10 appearances for the MLS Next Pro side with two clean sheets. Prior to his time in New York, Meyer split five seasons at the University of Louisville (2017-2019) and the University of Akron (2020-2021), where he made 42 appearances and kept 17 clean sheets throughout his collegiate career.

PLAYER BIOS



14
LOGAN DORSEY
FORWARD

Dorsey joined Rhode Island FC on Feb. 25, 2026, on loan from Major League Soccer organization Minnesota United FC. Dorsey enjoyed a breakout rookie season with Minnesota's MLS Next Pro reserve side in 2025, finishing the season as MNUFC2's leading scorer with 12 goals in 22 appearances. Prior to his professional debut, Dorsey split four collegiate seasons at the University of Kentucky (2023-2024) and Gonzaga University (2021-2022), finishing each season as the program's leading scorer. In total, Dorsey netted 27 goals in four collegiate seasons, including a career-high 14 goals in 18 appearances for the University of Kentucky during his senior season in 2024, where he became the first Kentucky Wildcat in program history to record two hat tricks in a single season.



15
FRANK NODARSE
DEFENDER

Nodarse joined Rhode Island FC ahead of the 2024 USL Championship season after spending two seasons with Rio Grande Valley FC Toros. In two seasons with the Ocean State club, he made 65 starts in 71 appearances, scoring eight goals and assisting one in 5,609 minutes as the club's highest-scoring defender. During his time with the Toros, the Cuban native made 46 appearances and 37 starts, tallying 3,317 regular-season minutes, one goal and three assists. Nodarse's USL career began in 2020, where he split time with Fort Lauderdale CF (now Inter Miami CF II) of USL League One and Charleston Battery in 2020-21. Nodarse has international experience at the youth level, most notably playing for the Cuba Under-20 National Team during the 2018 CONCACAF Championship.



17
JOJEA KWIZERA
MIDFIELDER

Kwizera joined Rhode Island FC on January 4, 2024. In his first two seasons, the Rwandan international started 52 games in 64 appearances across all competitions, scoring five goals and adding eight assists in 4,649 minutes. Kwizera came to the Ocean State after two seasons with MLS side CF Montréal, where he made 12 appearances. Prior to joining the MLS side, Kwizera split his four-year collegiate career between Utah State University Eastern and Utah Valley University. In his senior campaign at Utah Valley, Kwizera scored five times and led the Western Athletic Conference in assists (11). Kwizera transferred to Utah Valley from USU Eastern, where he recorded seven goals and 11 assists in 34 appearances. On the international stage, Kwizera led RIFC with eight senior call-ups for Rwanda in 2024 and 2025.



19
KEVIN VANG
MIDFIELDER

Vang made Rhode Island FC history on February 20, 2024, when he not only became one of two Rhode Island natives to sign a professional contract with Rhode Island FC, but was also the first player signed out of a local Rhode Island college or university. Vang enters his third professional season, and third season with RIFC, in 2026. In his first two professional seasons, he made one start in six appearances, logging 115 minutes. Previously, in five seasons with Providence College, Vang made 83 appearances, recording four goals and nine assists in 4,877 minutes. During his youth years with the New England Revolution's academy, he earned a callup to the U.S. Soccer Youth National Team Futures Camp in 2015 and an Under-17 National Team Camp in 2016.

PLAYER BIOS



20
JAMIN GOGO PETERS
FORWARD

Gogo Peters signed with the Ocean State club on Feb. 16, 2026, after four seasons at Brown University, where he logged 12 goals and three assists. A product of the Portland Timbers academy, the Forest Grove, Oregon native enjoyed a breakout rookie season with Brown after moving to the opposite coast in 2022. In his first year, Gogo Peters led the Bears and finished fourth in the Ivy League with seven goals in 16 appearances. In four seasons, Gogo Peters was a regular in the starting lineup, totaling 43 starts in 62 appearances and logging 3,276 minutes. He started all 15 games during his senior season in 2025, scoring three goals. Prior to his time in college, Gogo Peters featured with MLS Next Pro side Portland Timbers 2 in 2022, scoring four goals before beginning his first season with Brown.



21
ZACHARY HERIVAUX
MIDFIELDER

Herviaux signed with Rhode Island FC on July 3, 2024, via transfer from Tampa Bay Rowdies. The 2024 USL Championship Comeback Player of the Year started 28 of his 50 appearances through his first two seasons with RIFC, tallying six goals and five assists in 2,824 minutes. Herivaux began his professional career with his hometown club and became the third homegrown signing in New England Revolution history on May 2, 2015. While making 18 career appearances for the Revolution and scoring twice from 2015 to 2019, Herivaux also spent time on loan with San Antonio FC (2017) and Birmingham (2019) before permanently making the move to the USL Championship in 2020. In his first full season with San Antonio, Herviaux tallied one assist in eight appearances before signing with Birmingham the next season.



22
NICK SCARDINA
DEFENDER

Scardina signed with Rhode Island FC on Jan. 9, 2026, after spending the first three seasons of his professional career with Major League Soccer organization Charlotte FC. Playing his first two seasons with Charlotte's MLS Next Pro affiliate, Crown Legacy FC, Scardina scored nine goals and dished eight assists in 43 appearances, playing a key role in the club's first-place finish in the 2023 Eastern Conference. In 2025, Scardina elevated to the first team, starting eight games in 15 MLS appearances for Charlotte FC and helping it to a fourth-place finish in the Eastern Conference. Scardina spent his youth with the Portland Timbers Academy and played four seasons of collegiate soccer at the University of Washington, where he scored 18 goals and assisted seven in 60 career appearances.



24
KARIFA YAO
DEFENDER

Following stops in Major League Soccer and the Canadian Premier League, Yao signed with Rhode Island FC on January 23, 2024. He finished his second season with the club in 2025 as its all-time leader in minutes played (6,037) across all competitions, ranking first all-time with 52 blocks and 327 clearances. Born in Montréal, Yao made his professional debut with MLS side Montréal Impact (now CF Montréal) on September 20, 2020, on a Homegrown contract. In 2021, Yao was loaned out to Canadian Premier League side Cavalry FC, making 56 appearances in two seasons before being selected by Vancouver Whitecaps FC in Stage 1 of the MLS Re-Entry Draft for the 2023 season. At the international level, Yao received multiple call-ups to the Canadian Under-15 and Under-17 squads.

PLAYER BIOS



25
CJ WILLIAMS
DEFENDER

Williams signed his first professional deal with Rhode Island FC on March 2, 2026, after a successful collegiate career with Boston College. In four seasons with the Eagles, Williams started 52 of his 55 career games and logged 4,332 minutes. As a senior in 2025, he led a defensive unit that kept six shutouts, going the full 90 in seven of his final eight games. Williams also contributed two goals and one assist, the most memorable of which came in Boston College's come-from-behind 2-1 win over in-state rivals Boston University on Sept. 23, 2025, when he unleashed a long-range rocket with less than three minutes remaining to kickstart a dramatic comeback win. The Valley Stream, New York native spent his youth featuring for the academies of both New York City FC and Red Bull New York.



29
JACOB CASTRO
GOALKEEPER

Castro signed for RIFC on Jan. 13, 2026, after spending the first three years of his professional career with MLS Next Pro club Tacoma Defiance. In three seasons with Tacoma, he made 47 appearances, logging 4,755 minutes and posting seven shutouts. Castro spent his collegiate career across two different programs, beginning at the University of Washington in 2019 before transferring to San Diego State University in 2021. He started all 17 games and made 66 saves with seven shutouts during his first season with the Aztecs in 2022, becoming the program's first goalkeeper since 2006 to be named to the All-Pac 12 First Team. During his senior season in 2023, he was named to the All Pac-12 Second Team after leading the conference with 52 saves and finishing second with a 3.1 saves-per-game average.



32
HAMADY DIOP
MIDFIELDER

Diop signed with Rhode Island FC on Sept. 9, 2025, following stints with Major League Soccer's Charlotte FC and San Diego FC. Diop's professional career began in 2023, when he was selected first overall in the MLS SuperDraft by Charlotte FC after a standout three-year collegiate career at Clemson University. Diop spent his first two seasons in Charlotte, splitting 15 appearances between the first team and the MLS Next Pro reserve team, Crown Legacy FC, logging two assists. After a brief loan spell with SuperLiga club Čukarički, he was selected in the 2025 MLS Expansion Draft by San Diego FC, making eight appearances for the newest MLS club. In three seasons at Clemson, Diop scored seven goals and added three assists in 42 appearances, helping The Tigers lift its third NCAA National Championship in 2021.



77
AMOS SHAPIRO-THOMPSON
MIDFIELDER

Shapiro-Thompson joined Rhode Island FC ahead of the 2024 season after spending his first professional season with Red Bull New York II. After recovering from a season-long injury in 2024, the 2025 Rhode Island FC Midfielder of the Year enjoyed a breakout year, making 25 starts in 34 appearances and logging 1,984 minutes, scoring one goal. In his first professional season with RBNYII in 2023, he scored one goal in 20 appearances and registered one appearance with the Red Bull New York first team. During his youth career, Shapiro-Thompson spent time abroad in Croatia and Poland before returning home to play for Boston College from 2019 to 2022, where he scored six goals and assisted five across four NCAA seasons. He started 33 games in 36 appearances in Chestnut Hill and logged a total of 2,699 career minutes.

TECHNICAL STAFF



KHANO SMITH

HEAD COACH & GENERAL MANAGER

Khano Smith was named the first Head Coach and General Manager of Rhode Island FC on March 8, 2023. Smith joined Rhode Island FC after serving four years as the first-assistant coach at Birmingham Legion FC. Before his time in Birmingham, Smith was an assistant coach for Orlando Pride of the National Women's Soccer League for three years.

Playing career

Smith started his transition from player to coach in 2015 as an assistant coach at Southern New Hampshire University. Smith brings extensive experience to the club, including an 11-year professional career playing for seven professional teams across four leagues: Carolina Dynamo, Bermuda Hogges, Real Boston Rams (USL Premier Development League), Dandy Town Hornets F.C. (Bermudian Premier Division), New England Revolution, New York Red Bulls (Major League Soccer) and Lincoln City F.C. (EFL League Two). At the international level, Smith captained the Bermuda National Team and appeared in 32 games, including 13 CONCACAF World Cup qualifiers. He tallied 10 goals across his national team career with the Gombey Warriors.

Coaching Beginnings

In December 2022, Smith was part of the sixth graduating class to complete the U.S. Soccer Federation (USSF) Pro License, finishing a 12-month journey that began in December 2021. Joining an elite group of fewer than 75 coaches to have completed the highest-level coaching license in the Confederation of North, Central America and Caribbean Association Football (CONCACAF), Smith became the first Bermudian coach to earn the prestigious accreditation. Leading all soccer operations for Rhode Island FC, Smith has assembled a deep and talented roster, and an experienced coaching staff with high standards and expectations for the 2026 USL Championship season after leading the club to back-to-back Eastern Conference Finals in its first two seasons.



SEAN CAREY
ASST. GENERAL MANAGER



DAVE MCKAY
ASST. COACH



KARL SPRATT
ASST. COACH & DIRECTOR OF GOALKEEPING



MARCOS UGARTE
ASST. COACH



MATT DELGRECO
DIRECTOR OF SPORTS PERFORMANCE



NICK COELHO
HEAD KIT MANAGER



JASON GOVE
DIRECTOR OF SOCCER OPERATIONS



LANGSTON SMITH
HEAD ATHLETIC TRAINER



GUSTAVO RODRIGUEZ
DIRECTOR OF VIDEO ANALYSIS



MATTHEW DUARTE
SCOUTING COORDINATOR

WHAT TO WATCH FOR

BRINGING BACK THE CORE

Rhode Island FC returns 17 players from its 2025 squad, 11 of which have been with the club since its historic run to the USL Championship Final during its inaugural season in 2024. RIFC's all-time leading scorer, JJ Williams (19 goals), is among the list of returning players who will enter their third year with the Ocean State club. Goalkeeper and captain Koke Vegas, who was RIFC's first-ever signing and finished second in the 2025 USL Championship Golden Glove race, also headlines the returning list. Williams, Vegas, Grant Stoneman, Frank Nodarse, Karifa Yao, Clay Holstad, Jojea Kwizera, Kevin Vang, Zachary Herivaux, Amos Shapiro-Thompson and Noah Fuson will all return for year three at the club, making up the original core that led the Ocean State club to back-to-back Eastern Conference Finals.

NEW FACES, NEW GOALS

RIFC has reinforced its roster with seven new signings in the offseason: forwards Leo Afonso and Logan Dorsey, defenders Nick Scardina, Jamin Gogo Peters and CJ Williams, goalkeeper Jacob Castro, and midfielder Agustín "Pity" Rodríguez. Rhode Island FC's new attacking additions, Dorsey and Afonso, scored a combined 22 goals across Major League Soccer and MLS Next Pro in their last two seasons. Assembling a wealth of promising talent, Khano Smith's new acquisitions bring experience from Major League Soccer, MLS Next Pro, the Argentina Primera División and the NCAA.

FOR THE RECORDBOOKS

Rhode Island FC is 0W-0L-2T all-time in Home Openers, battling to a dramatic 1-1 tie vs. New Mexico United in its inaugural game on March 16, 2024, before playing to a scoreless tie vs. San Antonio FC in its first-ever game at Centreville Bank Stadium on May 3, 2025. Saturday's game will mark the first time Rhode Island FC opens its home slate against another Eastern Conference team, and the first time it does so against an expansion side. Rhode Island FC holds a 6W-2L-0T record against clubs from Florida, most recently dismantling the Tampa Bay Rowdies 5-0 in its 2025 home finale on Oct. 11, recording the largest shutout win in club history. On Saturday, it will play in front of its home fans for the first time since that historic win, looking to start its third season off on a strong note.

USL CHAMPIONSHIP HONORS

ALL-TIME LEADERS

TEAM OF THE WEEK SELECTIONS

Jojea Kwizera: 6
Stephen Turnbull: 4
Noah Fuson, JJ Williams, Clay Holstad. Koke Vegas: 5
Albert Dikwa: 4
Frank Nodarse: 3
Jackson Lee, Zach Herivaux: 2
Grant Stoneman, Maxi Rodriguez, Hugo Bacharach, Aldair Sanchez, Mark Doyle, Joe Brito, Marc Ybarra: 1

PLAYER OF THE WEEK SELECTIONS

Zachary Herivaux: 1
JJ Williams: 1

PLAYER OF THE MONTH SELECTIONS

JJ Williams: 1

COACH OF THE WEEK SELECTIONS

Khano Smith: 3

COACH OF THE MONTH SELECTIONS

Khano Smith: 1

GOAL OF THE WEEK SELECTIONS

Joe Brito, Clay Holstad, Noah Fuson: 1

SAVE OF THE WEEK SELECTIONS

Koke Vegas: 2
Jackson Lee: 1

USL CHAMPIONSHIP RECORDS

ALL-TIME REGULAR SEASON LEADERS (CAREER)

GOALS

PLAYER	TOTAL	CAREER
Albert Dikwa	13	2024 - 2025
JJ Williams	12	2024 - Present
Noah Fuson	11	2024 - Present
Clay Holstad	6	2024 - Present
Frank Nodarse	6	2024 - Present
Zach Herivaux	6	2024 - Present

ASSISTS

PLAYER	TOTAL	CAREER
Noah Fuson	11	2024 - Present
JJ Williams	8	2024 - Present
Albert Dikwa	8	2024 - 2025
Jojea Kwizera	6	2024 - Present
Marc Ybarra	4	2024 - 2025
Joe Brito	4	2024 - 2025

MINUTES

PLAYER	TOTAL	CAREER
Clay Holstad	4,970	2024 - Present
Karifa Yao	4,849	2024 - Present
Noah Fuson	4,506	2024 - Present
Frank Nodarse	4,381	2024 - Present
Koke Vegas	4,037	2024 - Present
Marc Ybarra	3,892	2024 - 2025

SHOTS

PLAYER	TOTAL	CAREER
JJ Williams	96	2024 - Present
Albert Dikwa	92	2024 - 2025
Noah Fuson	92	2024 - Present
Clay Holstad	81	2024 - Present

PASSES

PLAYER	TOTAL	CAREER
Clay Holstad	2,459	2024 - Present
Karifa Yao	2,310	2024 - Present
Frank Nodarse	2,146	2024 - Present
Marc Ybarra	1,730	2024 - 2025

INTERCEPTIONS

PLAYER	TOTAL	CAREER
Frank Nodarse	67	2024 - Present
Karifa Yao	54	2024 - Present
Marc Ybarra	51	2024 - 2025
Clay Holstad	49	2024 - Present

BLOCKS

PLAYER	TOTAL	CAREER
Karifa Yao	38	2024 - Present
Grant Stoneman	25	2024 - Present

CLEARANCES

PLAYER	TOTAL	CAREER
Karifa Yao	249	2024 - Present
Frank Nodarse	178	2024 - Present

SAVES/CLEAN SHEETS (GK)

PLAYER	SAVES (CLEAN SHEETS)	CAREER
Koke Vegas	100 (17)	2024 - Present
Jackson Lee	50 (3)	2024 - 2025

SINGLE-GAME RECORDS (ALL COMPETITIONS)

MULTI-GOAL GAMES

PLAYER	OPPONENT	DATE	GOALS
JJ Williams	Indy Eleven*	11/3/24	3
JJ Williams	Miami FC	10/26/24	3
Albert Dikwa	Portland Hearts of Pine**	6/27/25	3
Albert Dikwa	North Carolina FC*	11/8/25	2
JJ Williams	Tampa Bay Rowdies	10/11/25	2
JJ Williams	Westchester SC**	4/27/25	2
JJ Williams	Louisville City FC*	11/9/24	2
Zachary Herivaux	Birmingham Legion FC	7/17/24	2
Albert Dikwa	Miami FC	7/13/24	2
Frank Nodarse	Indy Eleven	7/5/24	2
Albert Dikwa	Monterey Bay FC	3/24/24	2

LARGEST WIN MARGINS

DATE	OPPONENT	HOME/AWAY	SCORE
10/26/24	Miami FC	Home	8 - 1
10/11/25	Tampa Bay Rowdies	Home	5 - 0
6/27/25	Portland Hearts of Pine**	Home	4 - 1
5/17/25	Tampa Bay Rowndies	Away	3 - 0
4/27/25	Westchester SC**	Away	4 - 1
4/5/25	Oakland Roots SC	Away	3 - 0
6/22/24	Louisville City FC	Away	5 - 2
11/9/24	Louisville City FC*	Away	3 - 0
8/10/24	Hartford Athletic	Home	3 - 0
6/26/24	El Paso Locomotive	Home	3 - 0

IN-GAME TRENDS
(THE LAST TIME RIFC...)

	OPPONENT	DATE	SCORE
Won by 4+ Goals	Tampa Bay Rowdies	10/11/25	5 - 0
Earned a result after trailing by multiple goals at halftime	Indy Eleven	7/5/24	3 - 3 (Trailed 2 - 0 at HT)
Won after trailing at halftime	FC Tulsa	9/21/24	2 - 1 (Trailed 1 - 0 at HT)

	OPPONENT	DATE	TOTAL
Scored multiple goals in the first half	Tampa Bay Rowdies	10/11/25	3 Goals
Scored multiple goals in the second half	North Carolina FC*	11/8/25	2 Goals
Score the game-winner in second-half stoppage time	North Carolina FC	6/14/25	90+5' Maxi Rodriguez 2 - 1 Win

*USL Championship Playoffs **Prinx Tires USL Cup

RIFC TRADITIONS

MEMBER OF THE MATCH

A Season Ticket Member carries the club flag as RIFC takes the pitch.

SCARVES UP

Stand with your RIFC scarf held high as the players take the pitch for kickoff.

ANCHORS UP!

Watch for the Anchors Up video on the big screen and listen for the boat horn to signal the start of play.

STAND & STOMP

Stand and stomp during Chick-Fil-A Attleboro Corner Kicks and set pieces to fire up the squad.

RI! FC!

Cheer on the Boys in Bay Blue and bring the energy to the stadium.

DEFIANCE 1636 MAN OF THE MATCH

Applaud and cheer for the Man of the Match presented by Defiance 1636, RIFC's official supporters group.

GOAL SONG

After every goal by RIFC, celebrate the killer scoring instinct by singing along to Psycho Killer by Talking Heads.

Psycho Killer, Siepmre Fiel, Fa Fa Fa Fa Fa Fa Fa Fa Fa Better ... Run Run Run Run Run Run Run Away! Oh Oh Oh

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ABOUT RHODE ISLAND FC

Our purpose is to build A Club for All Rhode Island. Everything we do on and off the pitch is focused on this North Star. It is part of our culture, our language and our values. It is the inspiration for us to play a meaningful and impactful role in the community. It is the motivation for us to compete, win and raise trophies. It is the reason we built the award-winning Centreville Bank Stadium on the riverfront in downtown Pawtucket – a place to gather as a community and create lifelong memories.

We want to be one of the most respected soccer clubs in North America and the flagship venue for sports and entertainment in Rhode Island. We know that when we wear the crest across our hearts, we represent more than the club. We play for the people and place we call home. It is why, we will always be:

GROUNDED
We are who we are. No apologies.

INDEPENDENT
Founded by an iconoclast, we were the first colony to break from tyranny. A defiant giant stands atop our state house as a reminder of hope and independence. We have never cared what others thought, and we are not about to start.

FOR ALL
The country's first synagogue. The first African American pro soccer players in the Watson Brothers. Immigrants from every corner of the globe stand tall within our borders. All are welcome in our state and in our club.

PROUD
We are a small state surrounded by titans. So we learned long ago that if you can't stand taller, stand together.

SALTY
What did you expect of the Ocean State? We've got an attitude and we are happy to share it with you – be it a raised glass or raised voice.

MEET CHIP

Not your ordinary harbor seal.

Name: Chip (because if you're THIS iconic, you deserve to be in the celebrity single name club!)

Favorite Food: Fish & Chips; Quahogs (secret cravings for New York System wieners, ideally washed down with some coffee milk.)

Languages spoken: Bark, Snort and Grunt. Arf! Arf!

Personality: Energetic. Optimistic. Charismatic. And just a tad salty.

Favorite sport: Beach soccer.

Favorite "haul out": That's a toughie. The stadium on gameday, of course. But shaking flippers with fans in the community is pretty awesome, too. And you just can't beat the rocks and beaches in Rhode Island.

Favorite team: RIFCFAA (Rhode Island FC Forever And Always). Duh!

Unique Features: 13 whiskers (RI is the 13th state after all); anchor nose; RIFC seal spots (when you're a true fan, you go all out).

Lucky number: 401





RIFC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



BRETT M. JOHNSON
COFOUNDER & CHAIRMAN



MICHAEL PARKHURST
COFOUNDER & EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER



DAN KROEBER
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER



PETER BAPTISTA
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER



CHRIS CANETTI
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER

CENTREVILLE BANK STADIUM

On the banks of the Seekonk River, the Tidewater Landing development is a gamechanger for the city of Pawtucket and the state of Rhode Island. The multi-purpose, award-winning Centreville Bank Stadium is the anchor of the development, which will include housing, restaurants, retail stores and recreational amenities. Rhode Islanders and visitors can attend a soccer match or concert, enjoy the Riverwalk, grab a bite, or call Centreville Bank Stadium home. The world-class destination on Pawtucket's riverfront will support thousands of jobs and create millions of dollars of tax revenue.

The 10,500-seat stadium is the home pitch to Rhode Island FC. Centreville Bank Stadium is the flagship venue for sports and entertainment in Rhode Island, hosting other sporting and community events and concerts.

Centreville Bank Stadium and the Tidewater Landing development is the result of over three years of close collaboration between the state of Rhode Island, the Executive Office of Commerce, the Rhode Island House and Senate, the city of Pawtucket, the Pawtucket City Council and developer Fortuitous Partners.

The site has been vacant for nearly 50 years. After decades of industrial use dating back to 1881, the full project will be built in multiple phases on two sites totaling 25 acres on both sides of the Seekonk River.

The private investment in Tidewater Landing represents the largest investment of private capital in any development in Rhode Island in over a century.









QUICK FACTS

Capacity: 10,500 (Potential to expand up to 16,000)

Playing Surface: Artificial turf

Soccer Field Square Footage: 81,000 square feet

Total Field Square Footage: 108,000 square feet

Three In-Stadium Screens: 50x18 ft, 33x13 ft, 33x3 ft

More on Centreville Bank Stadium: Since opening on May 3, 2025, Centreville Bank Stadium has earned national recognition for its innovation and sustainability, including being named "Best New or Renovated Venue" by SportsTravel Magazine at the 2025 TEAMS Conference + Expo in Columbus, Ohio. The stadium's world-class design includes premium fan amenities, advanced lighting and acoustics, and 100 percent electric, energy-efficient operations.

Centreville Bank Stadium has hosted several marquee sporting events including a Lamar Hunt U.S. Open Cup game against Major League Soccer club New England Revolution, an international friendly featuring the Nicaragua and Puerto Rico men's national teams, Women's Elite Rugby, the 2025 Major League Rugby Championship, and the annual college football Governor's Cup rivalry between Brown University and the University of Rhode Island. In 2026, Grammy-nominated comedian Bill Burr will headline an expanded slate of events at the award-winning venue, marking the first-ever comedy show at Centreville Bank Stadium. Proffesional lacrosse, college football and National Women's Soccer League expansion club Boston Legacy FC will also call Centreville Bank Stadium home in 2026.

For more information, visit centrevillebankstadium.com.

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2026 RIFC PARTNERS

Rhode Island FC plays home games at Centreville Bank Stadium—the state's premier outdoor venue and a standout destination for high-impact brand exposure. The club proudly collaborates with a diverse portfolio of partners ranging from locally rooted Rhode Island businesses to regional leaders across New England and globally recognized brands. Every partnership is built with purpose, offering tailored opportunities designed to align with specific business goals, audience targets and investment levels.

WANT TO LEARN MORE?

Email Partners@RhodeIslandFC.com for more information.

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