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SARASOTA PARADISE GAME NOTES MARCH 14

Sarasota Paradise vs Fort Wayne FC
 7:30 PM ET - Premier Sports Campus

GAME NOTES

Location: Premier Sports Campus, Lakewood Ranch, Florida
 Kickoff time: 7:30 pm ET
 Weather: 88H/68L, Mostly cloudy
 Watch: ESPN+
 Head Referee: Calin Radosav
 Assistant Referees: Melissa Beck, Jonathan Smith
 Fourth Official: Erick Lezema Pavon



Sarasota Paradise

Head Coach:
 Mika Elovaara

Years at SP:
 Appointed October 8 2025



Fort Wayne FC

Head Coach:
 Mike Avery

Years at FTW:
 Appointed September 2025

ABOUT SARASOTA PARADISE

Sarasota Paradise is a professional soccer club based in Sarasota, Florida competing in USL League One, part of the United Soccer League. The 2026 season marks the club's first year competing at the professional level as an expansion team in the league.

After launching in 2023 and building strong support across Florida's Gulf Coast, Sarasota Paradise now enters a new chapter with the club's inaugural professional campaign. The club plays its home games at Premier Sports Campus, bringing professional soccer to the Sarasota and Manatee County region.

As a new expansion side, Sarasota Paradise aims to establish a competitive team while building a lasting connection with the community through the growth of the game and the development of soccer across the region.

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
Sat, March 7	AC Boise	7:30
Sat, March 14	Fort Wayne FC	7:30
Sat, March 28	Portland Hearts of Pine	7:30
Sat, April 4	One Knoxville SC	7:30
Weds, April 8	@ Westchester SC	7:00
Sat, April 11	@ FC Naples	7:00
Weds, April 22	Corpus Christi	6:30
Sat, April 25	@ Tampa Bay Rowdies	7:30
Sat, May 2	Forward Madison FC	7:30
Sat, May 9	@ Chattanooga Red Wolves	3:00
Sat, May 16	AV Alta	7:30
Sun, May 24	Spokane Velocity	7:00
Weds, May 27	@ AC Boise	9:00
Sat, May 30	New York Cosmos	7:30
Sat, June 6	@ FC Naples	7:30
Weds, June 10	@ AV Alta	11:00
Sat, June 13	Union Omaha	7:30
Sat, June 20	@ Corpus Christi	8:30
Fri, July 3	@ Richmond Kickers	7:30
Weds, July 8	@ Greenville Triumph	7:00
Sat, July 11	Miami FC	7:30
Sun, July 26	@ Portland Hearts of Pine	6:30
Sat, Aug 1	FC Naples	7:30
Sat, Aug 8	@ One Knoxville SC	7:30
Sat, Aug 15	@ Charlotte Independence	7:00
Wed, Aug 19	Chattanooga Red Wolves SC	7:30
Sat, Aug 22	@ Union Omaha	8:00
Wed, Sep 2	@ News York Cosmos	7:00
Sat, Sept 12	@ Forward Madison FC	6:00
Sat, Sept 19	Greenville Triumph	7:30
Sat, Oct 3	Charlotte Independence	7:30
Sat, Oct 10	Richmond Kickers	7:30
Sat, Oct 17	@ Fort Wayne FC	7:30
Sat, Oct 24	Westchester FC	7:30

*^ - USL Jägermeister Cup



#	NAME	POS	HT	WT	HOMETOWN	DOB	PREVIOUS CLUB
1	Alex Sutton	GK	6'2"	190	New York City, New York	5/25/00	Carolina Core FC
2	Roberto Burlew	DF	6'0"	160	Cincinnati, Ohio	1/11/02	University of Wisconsin
3	Reid Valentine	DF	6'3"	185	Dallas, Texas	11/18/05	Texoma FC
4	Declan Watters	DF	6'5"	203	Dublin, Ireland	3/1/99	Chattanooga Redwolves SC
6	Callum Stretch	DF	6'3"	198	Los Angeles, California	9/18/99	South Georgia Tormenta FC
7	Ethan Bryant	MF	5'11"	165	San Antonio, Texas	8/20/01	Monterey Bay Fc
8	Aaron Walker	MF	6'0"	169	Woodstock, Georgia	6/4/90	South Georgia Tormenta FC
9	Jordan Bender	MF	6'0"	170	Lake Mary, Florida	7/9/01	AFC Eskilstuna
10	Matthew Cence	FW	6'0"	165	Farmington, Connecticut	12/22/03	University of Massachusetts Amherst
11	Sean Karani	FW	5'10"	165	Kansas City, Missouri	12/14/00	LA Galaxy
13	* Stanislav Lapkes	GK	6'1"	170	Columbus, Ohio	3/3/06	Columbus Crew
14	Jørgen Pettersen	MF	6'0"	165	Fredrikstad, Norway	10/15/97	IBV Vestmannaeyjar
16	Andres Rodriguez	MF	5'7"	154	Woodbridge, Virginia	8/27/03	Virginia Commonwealth University
17	Jonathan Bolanos	MF	5'10"	155	Miami, Florida	5/20/98	Westchester University
18	Brendan Krueger	MF	5'10"	160	Clearwater, Florida	2/11/04	High Point University
19	Garrett McLaughlin	FW	6'0"	175	Oklahoma City, Oklahoma	11/10/97	Forward Madison
20	Maximus Tainio	MF	5'8"	154	Helsinki, Finland	5/24/01	Jippo in Finland
23	Rockson Amedeka	GK	6'2"	167	Accra, Ghana	6/23/07	Right to Dream Academy
27	Chandler O'Dwyer	MF	6'2"	178	Lingfield, England	3/1/99	Richmond Kickers
36	Anderson Rosa	DF	5'10"	160	Salvador, Brazil	11/13/01	Colorado Rapids 2
46	Sander Røed	MF	5'11"	178	Tranby, Norway	12/28/00	University of Louisville
50	Dominik Brulinski	MF	5'11"	160	Glendale, New York	6/28/06	Two Bridges Academy
51	Adam Kend	DF	5'9"	155	Boca Raton, Florida	3/17/06	
52	Kevin Sanchez	MF	5'10"	184	Newport News, Virginia	1/5/07	Richmond Kickers Academy

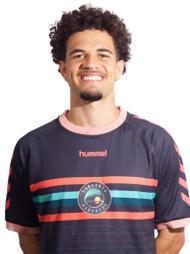
* - OnLoan



NAME	PRONUNCIATION
Alex Sutton	Alex SUT-ton!
Roberto Burlew	ROB-ert BUR-loo!
Reid Valentine	REID VAL-en-tine!
Declan Watters	DECK-lin WAH-ters!
Callum Stretch	KAL-um Stretch!
Ethan Bryant	EE-than BRY-ent!
Aaron Walker	AIR-in WALK-er!
Jordan Bender	JOR-dan BEN-der!
Matthew Cence	MATH-yoo SENS-EE!
Sean Karani	SHAWN kuh-RAH-nee!
Stanislav Lapkes	STASS LAP-kes!
Jørgen Pettersen	YOR-gen PET-ter-sehn!
Andres Rodriguez	ahn-DRESS roh-DREE-gex
Jonathan Bolanos	JAH-nuh-thin noh-LAH-nos
Brendan Krueger	BREN-din KROO-ger
Garrett McLaughlin	GAIR-it muh-KLOK-lin
Maximus Tainio	MAK-sih-muss TIE-nee-oh!
Rockson Amedeka	ROCK-son ah-meh-DEH-kah!
Chandler O'Dwyer	CHAND-ler Oh-DWY-er
Anderson Rosa	AN-der-son-ROH-Zah
Sander Røed	SAHN-der ROOD!
Dominik Brulinski	DAH-mih-nik broo-LIN-skee
Adam Kend	AD-um KEND
Kevin Sanchez	KEV-in SAN-chez



1
Alex Sutton
GK • 6-2
New York City, NY



2
Robert Bulew
DF • 6-0
Cincinnati, OH



3
Reid Valentine
DF • 6-3
Dallas, TX



4
Declan Watters
DF • 6-5
Dublin, Ireland



6
Callum Stretch
DF • 6-3
Los Angeles, CA



7
Ethan Bryant
MF • 5-11
San Antonio, TX



8
Aaron Walker
MF • 6-0
Woodstock, GA



9
Jordan Bender
MF • 6-0
Lake Mary, FL



10
Matthew Cence
FW • 6-0
Farmington, CT



11
Sean Karani
FW • 5-10
Kansas City, MO



13
Stanislav Lapkes
GK • 6-1
Columbus, OH



14
Jørgen Pettersen
MF • 6-0
Fredrikstad, Norway



16
Andres Rodriguez
MF • 5-7
Woodbridge, VA



17
Jonathan Bolanos
MF • 5-10
Miami, FL



18
Brendan Krueger
MF • 5-10
Clearwater, FL



19
Garrett McLaughlin
FW • 6-0
Oklahoma City, OK



20
Maximus Tainio
MF • 5-8
Helsinki, Finland



23
Rockson Amedeka
GK • 6-2
Accra, Ghana



27
Chandler O'Dwyer
MF • 6-2
Lingfield, England



36
Anderson Rosa
DF • 5-10
Salvador, Brazil



46
Sander Roed
MF • 5-11
Tranby, Norway



50
Dominik Brulinski
DF • 5-11
Glendale, NY



51
Adam Kend
DF • 5-9
Boca Raton, FL



52
Kevin Sanchez
MF • 5-10
Newport News, VA

TECHNICAL STAFF



Mika Elovaara
Head Coach and
Technical Director



Mark Ward
Assistant Coach



Glodi Konga
Assistant Coach



Mark MacPhee
Goalkeeper Coach



QUICK HITTERS - SARASOTA PARADISE

- Declan Watters was a USL League One All-League defender last season and will represent the Paradise for the 2026 season
- Garrett McLaughlin featured as one of the USL League One Forwards to watch for the upcoming season
- Sean Karani featured on the USL League One Newcomer's to watch for the 2026 season
- Declan Watters featured on the USL League One Defender's to watch for the 2026 season
- Reid Valentine featured on the USL League One Young player's to watch for the 2026 season
- Jonathan Bolanos holds the USL League One record for most assists in a season with 11
- Jonathan Bolanos, Chandler O'Dwyer and Ethan Bryant featured for the Richmond Kickers in 2022 and took part in helping them win the USL League One title alongside head coach Mika Elovaara
- Aaron Walker won the USL League One Title with the Greenville Triumph in 2020
- Maximus Tainio joins the club as the first ever international signing for the Paradise. Was part of Tottenham's youth academy from U-18 to U-23 before playing in Finland

QUICK HITTERS - FORT WAYNE FC

- Former U.S. Men's National Team and decorated MLS veteran DaMarcus Beasley is the Director of Football Operations for Fort Wayne FC
- Tiago Dias was the club's first ever professional signing, previously competing for the club for three seasons in the USL League Two
- Reid Sproat leads the club in appearances, featuring in every single season for Fort Wayne Fc from 2021-2025
- Reid Sproat made the 2023 USL League Two All-League Team in 2023, being the only player in Fort Wayne FC history to do so
- Jayden Smith featured as one of the USL League One's young players to watch for the upcoming season, becoming the youngest professional signing for the club
- Jayden Smith previously spent time with Coventry City's academy team, representing the club at the U-19 and U-21 level
- Taig Healy featured as a USL League One Newcomer to Watch for the upcoming 2026 season
- Ryan Becher featured as a USL League One Midfielder to Watch for the upcoming 2026 season after previously spending the 2025 season on loan at Union Omaha

STORYLINES

The Sarasota Paradise look to bounce back from their opening day defeat against another inaugural club, Fort Wayne FC

Paradise forward Matthew Cence made his professional debut versus AC Boise during the Paradise's home opener.

Both expansion team signal the growing presence and interest that soccer has taken within the United States.

Head Coach Mika Elovaara won the USL League One in 2022 as an assistant manager for the Richmond Kickers. Coach Elovaaa has brought in several of his former players with years of experience in the USL League One ahead of the Inaugural season.

Fort Wayne FC was ranked 8th in the power rankings for week one of the USL League One season, while the Sarasota Paradise came in at 12th out of the 17 teams competing in the league

Fort Wayne FC midfielder JP Jordan previously competed for the Sarasota Paradise in their 2024 USL League Two campaign

YEAR OF FIRSTS

This is the first professional game for both clubs, creating club and USL history.

Head coach Mika Elovaara is entering his first season a professional head coach for the Paradise. Before this stint, Elovaara featured as an assistant manager for the Richmond Kickers in USL League One while also part of their academy as technical director. This will be the first professional outing for both clubs, providing them with an opportunity to showcase all the work and preparation that has taken place during the offseason.

Fort Wayne Fc's head coach Mike Avery has been coaching the club for five years, leading their team to the Valley Division championships in 2023, 2024 and 2025 during their USL League Two campaigns, including trips to the Central Conference Semifinals in 2024 and 2025.

During his tenure with the club in USL League Two, Mike Avery compiled a record of 39-18-12 with the club.



GOALKEEPERS

1 Alex Sutton

- Spent 2024 and 2025 season with Carolina Core FC in MLS NEXT Pro
- Named August Goalkeeper of the month in 2024
- Was the 2022 Patriot League Preseason Goalkeeper of the Year with Lafayette College
- Won 2 Player of the Week honors with the Maryland Bobcats

13 Stanislav Lapkes "Stas"

- Played for Columbus Crew 2 in the MLS NEXT Pro from 2023-2025
- Featured sporadically with the Columbus Crew first team
- Served as part of the team that registered a 2-1 victory over Mexican powerhouse Monterrey in the Concacaf Champions Cup

DEFENDERS

6 Callum Stretch

- Featured for South Georgia Tormenta FC for the 2025 and 2024 season
- Featured for the US Youth National Team and the Puerto Rico Senior National Team
- Began his soccer journey with Aston Villa where he played for their academy

3 Reid Valentine

- Spent the 2025 season with Texoma FC
- Scored his first professional goal against Westchester SC
- Was named USL Rising Stars of the Week five times and earned a midseason Young Player of the Year nomination

4 Declan Watters

- Spent 2024 and 2025 Season with Chattanooga Red Wolves SC
- Earned USL League One All-League First Team honors
- Started his professional career in Sweden with Vänersborgs IF
- Attended the University of Akron, where he participated in the NCAA Championship Final
- Finished his collegiate career at Drake University

2 Roberto Burlew

- Featured for the Sarasota Paradise in the USL 2 for the 2025 season
- Helped lead the team to win the South Florida Division
- Spent his collegiate career at the Northern Kentucky University, where he earned Horizon League All Freshman and All Tournament honors
- Transferred to the University of Wisconsin for the 2024 season, tallying four assists
- Before college Burlew played for FC Cincinnati's Academy

36 Anderson Rosa

- In 2025 featured twice for the Colorado Rapids
- Competed extensively with the Rapids 2 in MLS NEXT Pro
- Won the MLS NEXT Pro Western Conference title and finished as runners-up in the MLS NEXT Pro Cup
- Recorded 1 goal and 2 assists for them
- Spent his collegiate career with the University of Central Florida, winning the American Athletic Conference championship and the AAC Tournament title
- Earned First Team All Conference twice

FORWARDS

10 Matthew Cence

- Attended the University of Massachusetts from 2022-2025
- Led UMass to an NCAA Elite Eight appearance in 2024
- In 2025 won First Team All-Conference, Second Team All-Region and selection to the Academic All-District Team

11 Sean Karani

- In 2025 featured for the LA Galaxy and their MLS NEXT Pro affiliate Ventura County FC
- Scored 9 goals and tallied 9 assists
- Featured for the LA Galaxy in the 2025 CONCACAF Champions Cup
- From 2019-2023 played collegiately at Temple University
- Earned First-Team All-AAC honors and named AAC All-Rookie Team
- Transferred to UCLA in 2024
- Featured for Sporting Kansas City's USL Championship team as a teenager

17 Jonathan Bolanos

- 2025: Played for Westchester SC, with three goals, one assist and multiple Team of the Week selections
- 2023-2025 Played with Huntsville City in MLS NEXT Pro, affiliated with Nashville FC's MLS team
- Scored 14 goals and 11 assists
- Became the club's all time leading goal scorer
- 2020-2023: Played with the Richmond Kickers
- Won the USL League One in 2022, earned All-League First Team honors, and was a finalist for league MVP
- Set the USL League One record for assists with 11

19 Garrett McLaughlin

- Has 34 League One goals across his career
- Earned multiple All-League selections, Team of the Week honors
- Spent 2025 with Forward Madison FC
- From 2022-2024 played for North Carolina FC
- In 2023, helped North Carolina FC claim the USL League One Player's Shield and the League One Final trophy
- Spent 2021 with Toronto FC 2
- Competed in the USL Championship with Rio Grande Valley FC Toros in 2020
- Was drafted by the Houston Dynamo in 2020
- From 2016-2020 played at Southern Methodist University collegiately
- Three-time All-AAC Conference selection

MIDFIELDERS

7 Ethan Bryant

- Spent the 2025 season with Monterey Bay FC, in the USL Championship
- 2023-2025 competed for Sporting KC 2 and earned two appearances for Sporting Kansas City
- 2021-2022 Competed at Richmond Kickers, winning USL League One Young Player of the Year and winning the USL League One regular season title

8 Aaron Walker

- From 2024-2025 competed with South Georgia Tormenta FC
- Became a player coach for Tormenta in 2025
- Will take the role of a player coach for the Sarasota Paradise
- From 2020-2023 competed with the Greenville Triumph
- Won the 2020 USL League One Title and 2020 USL League One Player's Shield
- Made the USL League One All-League Second Team in 2021

14 Jørgen Pettersen

- In 2025 played for ÍBV Vestmannaeyjar in Iceland's first division
- 2023-2024 Played for Throttur Reykjavik in Iceland's second division
- 2021-2022 Played for ÍR Reykjavik in Iceland's second division
- Appeared in 124 games in Iceland and scored 26 goals
- 2018-2020 played for Southern Illinois University Edwardsville
- Began collegiately at Maryville University

16 Andres Rodriguez

- Attended Virginia Commonwealth University from 2022-2025
- Made it to a conference tournament final during his sophomore season in 2023
- Received eligibility to the MLS SuperDraft for three consecutive years due to his strong performance

18 Brendan Krueger

- From 2022-2025 Played collegiately at High Point University
- In 2025 started 19 of 20 games, finished with five goals and eight assists and a first team all conference selection
- In 2024 he led the team with six goals and eight assists and earned first team all conference
- Earned Big South Midfielder of the Year honors
- Competed in the USL 2 against the Sarasota Paradise with St Petersburg FC (2023-2025)
- Played for Tampa Bay United in USL 2 in 2022
- Played for the Clearwater Chargers academy based in Clearwater, Florida
- Is local to the Florida area

20 Maximus Tainio

- Is the son of former Finland International and Tottenham midfielder Teemu Tainio
- 2025: Played for Jippo in Finland first division
- 2024: Played for SalPa in Finland
- 2023: Played for AC Oulu in Finland
- 2022: Played for Helsinki IFK in Finland
- 2021: Played for FC Haka in Finland
- 2019-2020: Featured for Tottenham's youth academy, from U18 to U23

27 Chandler O'Dwyer

- 2022-2025: Played for the Richmond Kickers in USL League One
- Registered 17 goals in 2024-2025
- Won USL League One in 2022 with Richmond Kickers
- 2021-2022: Competed collegiately at Christian Brothers University
- 2018-2020: Played collegiately at University of Massachusetts
- 2021: Won the USL 2 championship with Des Moines

46 Sander Roed

- 2025: Played for Hønefoss BK in Norway
- 2021-2025: Played collegiately at Louisville University
- Earned All ACC honors in multiple seasons
- Finished with 11 goals and 24 career assists, second most in program history
- 2020-2021: Played for Notodden FK in Norway
- 2019-2020: Began professional career with Kongsvinger IL in Norway



USL LEAGUE ONE MATCH BY GAME STATS

Opponent	W/L/T	G	A	PTS	SH	SOG	POSS	PA%	CK	OFF	FLS	PK	PKG	YC	RC	OG
Sarasota Paradise	L	0	0	0	13	2	47.6	78	6	0	18	0	0	2	0	0
vs AC Boise		1	1	3	10	5	52.4	84	5	2	17	0	0	1	0	0



PLAYER STATS

No.	Name	GP	MIN	G	A	SOT	FC	TK	PKA	PKM	YC	RC
2	Roberto Burlew	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	Reid Valentine	1	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4	Declan Watters	1	90	0	0	0	3	2	0	0	1	0
6	Callum Stretch	1	90	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
7	Ethan Bryant	1	85	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
8	Aaron Walker	1	90	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
9	Jordan Bender	0										
10	Matthew Cence	1	71	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
11	Sean Karani	1	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
14	Jørgen Pettersen	1	81	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0
16	Andres Rodriguez	0										
17	Jonathan Bolanos	1	90	0	0	1	4	1	0	0	1	0
18	Brendan Krueger	0										
19	Garrett McLaughlin	1	90	0	0	1	4	1	0	0	0	0
20	Maximus Tainio	1	10	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
27	Chandler O'Dwyer	1	80	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
36	Anderson Rosa	1	90	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0
46	Sander Røed	1	19	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
50	Dominik Brulinski	0										
51	Adam Kend	0										

GOALKEEPER STATS

No.	Name	GP	MIN	GC	SV	CS	PKS	SV%	YC	RC
1	Alex Sutton	1	90	1	4	0	0	80	0	0
13	Stanislav Lapkes	0								
23	Rockson Amedeka	0								

2025 LEAGUE HONORS

TEAM OF THE WEEK

GOAL OF THE WEEK

SAVE OF THE WEEK