

WEEK 16 PREVIEW

Games of Feb. 27 - March 1, 2026
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MAJOR ARENA SOCCER LEAGUE



THE LEAGUE

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Welcome to year five of Major Arena Soccer League 3, and the second season since the combination of MASL 3 and the Premier Arena Soccer League prior to the 2024-25 season.

A total of 13 teams are back from the 2024-25 season, with some new faces, old faces, and new faces in old places making up the 20-team league. In total, MASL 2, MASL 3 and MASL, W, the foundation of the North American's premier pro

indoor soccer pyramid, the 2025-26 season will feature 70 teams in three different countries. Including the top of the pyramid – the Major Arena Soccer League – no less than 78 teams will be playing under the MASL banner this winter.

Returning are the league champions – the RGV Barracudas out of Brownsville, Texas – who ended the three-year title run of Northern Virginia FC.

New teams this season in the Atlantic Division include Cumberland Valley SC, the Maryland Storm (who will play where the DMV Gunners played for the last two seasons) and Delaware City FC who will play out of the state's capital Wilmington.

All four teams in the East – the Roc City Boom who played RGV in the championship game – along with Buffalo, Cleveland and Youngstown are all back this year. New to the Great Lakes North Division this year are the Muskegon Risers, but they are far from new to the MASL. They have for the last



eight seasons fielded a team in MASL 2, and are stepping down a level in 2025-26. Also back in the pyramid are Cincinnati Swerve while Detroit Waza Flo and Indiana United both return.

The five-team South Division will feature four teams returning from last season including the OKC Certified Lions, who will play in the brand-new 4,500 seat OG&E Coliseum in downtown Oklahoma City this winter. Also back in 2025-26: RGV, the Wichita Selection and Springfield Demize. New is The Bold Dream FC based in Austin and Deportivo Shaolin.

Each MASL 3 team plays a 10-game regular season schedule, with a national playoffs to conclude the year.



Cincinnati Swerve at Muskegon Risers

Friday, February 27

Kickoff at 7 p.m.

Trinity Health Arena, Muskegon, Michigan



>> PREVIOUS MATCHUPS: This is the first meeting of the season between the two teams.

>> GAME NOTES: This, and a game in Cincinnati later this month, will likely decide the Gret Lakes North regular season division winners as both teams come in a 6-0. They are about as close as they can be statistically too. The Risers have a goal differential of plus 28 with 51 scored and 28 given up, Cincinnati has a differential of plus 27 with 42 scored and just 15 given up.

>> PLAYERS TO WATCH: Muskegon's Miguel Torres is a long-time Riser who has a knack of making himself known in big games. He is one of three players with 10 points on the season. Daniel Arellano is the team's leading scorer with 5 goals and seven assists. For the Swerve, Andrej Novakovic and Nathan Neal have been their leading scorers.

>> **UP NEXT:** Cincinnati Swerve vs. Muskegon Risers on Saturday, March 14 at 7 p.m. EDT at Game Time Training Center, Fairfield, Ohio / Muskegon Risers at Detroit Waza Flo on Saturday, February 28 at 7 p.m. EST at TOCA Novi East, Novi, Michigan.

Roc City Boom at Buffalo Gunners



Saturday, February 28

Kickoff at 1 p.m. EST

Kenan Center, Lockport, N.Y.

>> **PREVIOUS MATCHUPS:** This is the third meeting of the season, with Roc City winning both. On January 24, Rochester took a 21-5 win at home. For the fourth time in four starts, Rochester eclipsed the 20 goal mark. Equally impressive is, even after Buffalo netted five in this one, Rochester has only given up 12 goals in the four games as well. Alex Harling led the way with two goals and three assists. Fernando Furioso and Andrew Coughlin banged in four goals each and Matt Schuber had two goals and two assists. Andriy Demydiv had a goal and three assists while MASL veteran Jake Schindler had three assists. Rochester also got two goals and a helper from Jameson Railey. Jakeb Mitchell was credited with 23 saves in picking up the win. The Boom also took a 22-1 decision in Buffalo on Jan. 10. Caleb Munski led the way with a goal and six assists, a high mark for the league this year in helpers. Konrad Zydowicz had four goals and two assists. Nuri Sarbudak and Alex Harling each had three goals and one assist. Dan Reger had a goal and three assists and Matt Schuber and Andriy Demydiv each contributed with two goals and two assists apiece. Eduardo Figueroa had two goals as well for Rochester. Jakeb Mitchell was the winning goaltender.

>> **GAME NOTES:** Rochester advanced to the league finals last year, and will be a big threat to do that again in 2025-26. At 6-0, they have a goal differential of plus 111 with 125 goals scored and just 114 allowed. The Gunners are 2-5 with 111 goals allowed and 47 scored for a minus 64 differential.

>> **PLAYERS TO WATCH:** Andriy Demydiv is the team's leading scorer with 10 goals and an impressive 16 assists for the Boom. Teammate Eduardo Figueroa leads the team in goals with 16. For Buffalo, Ali Shawish has had a very nice season for the Gunners with 16 goals and eight assists. Douglass Tshibuyi is the other half of Buffalo's top offensive threats with 12 goals and five assists.

>> **UP NEXT:** Roc City Boom at Cleveland Samba on Saturday, March 7 at 6 p.m. Soccer Sportsplex, North Olmsted, Ohio / Buffalo Gunners vs. Youngstown Nighthawks on Saturday,

March 7 at 1 p.m. EST at Kenan Center, Lockport, N.Y.

Muskegon Risers at Detroit Waza Flo



Saturday, February 28

Kickoff at 6 p.m.

Sunday, March 1

Kickoff at 7 p.m.

TOCA Novi East, Novi, Michigan

>> PREVIOUS MATCHUPS: This will be the third and fourth meetings of the season between the two Michigan teams. On Jan. 24 in Muskegon, the Risers took a 12-8 win. Waza Flo, in fact, was within just two goals in the third quarter before Muskegon pulled away. Three different Risers managed to record hat tricks including Miguel Flores, Elmedin Zukic and Brett Timmer. Zukic also had an assist for a four-point night. Daniel Arellano had a goal and two assist while Muskegon's Pablo Real and Fikret Hasovic each had two assists. Jake Lofgren made 11 saves to pick up the win in goal. Detroit was paced by Omar Lahbiki with two goals and three assists. Aldony Mendez had two goals and one assist and Saeed Tawil had two goals as Muskegon held a 25-19 edge in shots on goal. On Jan. 9, also in Muskegon, the Risers won 14-6. New faces and old friends – and a nice big opening night crowd at the Trinity Health Arena in Muskegon – were the story lines of the Risers debut in MASL 3 as they rolled past Detroit for a season-opening win. Detroit dropped its third straight, all on the road, after a pair of losses against Cincinnati. Muskegon held a 34-21 edge in shots, and broke a 2-2 second quarter tie with five straight goals before intermission. Emmanuel Velazquez was the offensive star with three goals and one assist. Marco Real had two goals and an assist while Elmedin Zukic had a goal and two assists. Longtime Riser star Miguel Flores had two goals and Jair Real had a goal and one assist. Travis Schmid was the winning goalkeeper. Adam Mobarack had two goals and one assist to lead Detroit, and teammate Victor Viana had a goal and two assists. Omar Lahbiki also scored twice.

>> GAME NOTES: Muskegon will have the rare tripleheader weekend with three games in three days, necessitated by rescheduled games due to bad winter weather earlier in the year. For additional game notes and players to watch for Muskegon, see above. Detroit is 2-5 with 43 goals scored and 70 given up for a differential of minus 27. Saeed Tawil is also a major threat in the offensive end.

>> PLAYERS TO WATCH: Omar Lahbiki continues to be Detroit's biggest offensive threat. Saeed Sawil also a major threat in the offensive third.

>> **UP NEXT:** Roc City Boom at Cleveland Samba on Saturday, March 7 at 6 p.m. Soccer Sportsplex, North Olmsted, Ohio / Buffalo Gunners vs. Youngstown Nighthawks on Saturday, March 7 at 1 p.m. EST at Kenan Center, Lockport, N.Y.

Cumberland Valley at Northern Virginia



Saturday, February 28
Kickoff at 7:45 p.m. EST
Winchester Sportsplex, Winchester, Virginia

>> **PREVIOUS MATCHUPS:** This is the first meeting of the season between the two teams.

>> **GAME NOTES:** Northern Virginia continues to fight for its playoff lives, as the three-time league champs are in a spirited four-way race for the top spot in the Atlantic Division. NOVA is 4-2 with a plus four goal differential with 46 scored and 42 given up. Cumberland Valley has been competitive in the tough Atlantic, being a first-year team. Their most recent loss was last weekend to the first-place Maryland Storm, falling just 9-7. They are 1-6 with 41 goals scored and 73 given up for a minus 32 differential.

>> **PLAYERS TO WATCH:** Jose Alvarado leads CVSC with seven goals, while the team's point leader is Erick Villatoro with six goals and four assists. For Northern Virginia, Johnny De Souza and A.J. Sheta are among their big offensive threats.

>> **UP NEXT:** Cumberland Valley vs. Virginia Marauders on Sunday, March 8 at 7 p.m. EDT at Hagerstown Fieldhouse, Hagerstown, Maryland / Northern Virginia at Baltimore Kings on Sunday, March 1 at 6 p.m. EST at Goals Baltimore, Baltimore, Maryland.

Cleveland Samba at Youngstown Nighthawks



Saturday, February 28
Kickoff at 8 p.m.
Farmer Jim's Sports Complex, Cortland, Ohio

>> **PREVIOUS MATCHUPS:** There's barely time to find a favorite song on the radio when the two teams travel to face each other, they are that close.

They have met once, Feb. 14 in Cleveland, with the Samba rolling 36-4, setting league

records for most goals and widest margin of victory in a single game in league history.

>> **GAME NOTES:** The Samba are on track for a berth in the MASL 3 championship weekend in late March as they have a solid hold on second place in the East Division with a record of 4-2 with 104 goals scored and 61 given up for a goal differential of plus 43. Youngstown is 0-5 with 12 goals scored and 102 allowed for a minus 90 differential.

>> **PLAYERS TO WATCH:** Conner Hallett and Jake Gratzler are leading the team in goals with 14 each. Hollett also has seven assists for a team-best 21 points. Youngstown is led by David McKinney.

>> **UP NEXT:** Cleveland Samba vs. Roc City Boom on Saturday, March 7 at 6 p.m. EST at Soccer Sportsplex, North Olmsted, Ohio / Youngstown Nighthawks at Buffalo Gunners on Saturday, March 7 at 1 p.m. EST at Kenan Center, Lockport, N.Y.

Virginia Marauders at Maryland Storm



Sunday, March 1

Kickoff at 12 p.m. EST

Carroll Indoor Sports Center, Westminster, Maryland

>> **PREVIOUS MATCHUPS:** These two played Jan. 10 in Virginia with the Storm doubling up the hosts, 14-7. Maryland led just 6-4 at the break before pulling away late. Angel Stanley Maravilla Chavez had a huge night with five goals and three assists. Greg Adams and Abdul Kooistra each added three goals and one assist each for the Storm as well. The Marauders were led by Ryan Collins who had a hat trick and Matthew Martinez who had four assists.

>> **GAME NOTES:** Maryland sits atop the Atlantic, but has played more games than the three who are chasing them. The Storm is 6-2, and come in riding a four-game win streak. They have a goal differential of just plus 3 with 75 scored and 72 surrendered. Virginia is winless in seven starts, but has been very competitive this year, so the Storm can't sleep on the Marauders who have a goal differential of minus 38 with 40 goals scored and 78 given up.

>> **PLAYERS TO WATCH:** Angel Stanley Maravilla Chavez has been huge for Maryland this year with 18 goals and six assists. Andrew Wivell is second on the team in points with nine goals and three assists in five starts. Matthew Martinez is one of the league's best playmakers, and he has eight assists and three goals for the Marauders. Bethson Fuentes is also dangerous, with eight goals to lead the team in that department.

>> **UP NEXT:** Virginia Marauders at Cumberland Valley on Sunday, March 8 at 7 p.m. EDT at Hagerstown Fieldhouse, Hagerstown, Maryland / Maryland Storm at Baltimore Kings on Sunday, March 8 at 6 p.m. EDT at Goals Baltimore, Baltimore, Maryland.

Northern Virginia at Baltimore Kings



Sunday, March 1

Kickoff at 6 p.m. EST

Goals Baltimore, Baltimore, Maryland

>> **PREVIOUS MATCHUPS:** This is the first meeting of the season between the two teams.

>> **GAME NOTES:** Every game in the Atlantic Division feels uber important from here on out, and this one is no exception. Baltimore is looking to rebound from its first loss of the season on Feb. 7, 8-5, to the Maryland Storm. They are 4-1 with a goal differential of plus 10 with 33 goals scored and 23 give up. For NOVA game notes and players to watch, see above.

>> **PLAYERS TO WATCH:** Josh Danza is always looking for the perfect pass, and often finds it, as he leads the team in points with 10, all assists. Tony Araviakis is often on the receiving end of those passes as he leads the team in goals with eight.

>> **UP NEXT:** Northern Virginia vs. Baltimore Kings on Saturday, March 7 EDT at Wichester Sportsplex, Winchester, Virginia / Baltimore Kings at Northern Virginia on Saturday, March 7 EDT at Wichester Sportsplex, Winchester, Virginia.

>> **For all the latest information on your favorite team – including streaming options for their home and away games – visit those team social sites for the most up to date information.<<**



UP NEXT

For information, visit www.masl3.com.com

Saturday, March 7

Saturday, March 7

Saturday, March 7

Youngstown Nighthawks at Buffalo Gunners, 1 p.m. EST

Wichita Selection at RGV Barracudas, 1 p.m. CST

Roc City Boom at Cleveland Samba, 6 p.m. EST

Saturday, March 7
 Sunday, March 8
 Sunday, March 8

Baltimore Kings at Northern Virginia, 7:45 p.m. EST
 Maryland Storm at Baltimore Kings, 6 p.m. EDT
 Virginia Marauders at Cumberland Valley, 7 p.m. EDT



»» ATLANTIC DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OTL	PTS	RW	GF	GA	DIF
Maryland Storm	8	6	2	0	18	6	75	71	+4
Delaware City FC	7	5	2	0	15	5	84	31	+53
Baltimore Kings	5	4	1	0	12	4	33	23	+10
Northern Virginia FC	6	4	2	0	12	4	46	42	+4
Cumberland Valley	7	1	6	0	3	1	41	73	-32
Virginia Marauders	7	0	7	0	0	0	40	78	-38

»» EAST DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OTL	PTS	RW	GF	GA	DIF
Roc City Boom	6	6	0	0	18	6	125	14	+111
Cleveland Samba	6	4	2	0	12	4	104	61	+43
Buffalo Gunners	7	2	5	0	6	2	47	111	-64
Youngstown Nighthawks	5	0	5	0	0	0	12	102	-90

»» GREAT LAKES NORTH*

	GP	W	L	OT	PTS	RW	GF	GA	DIF
Muskegon Risers	6	6	0	0	18	6	51	23	+28
Cincinnati Swerve	6	6	0	0	18	6	42	15	+27
Detroit Waza Flo	7	2	5	0	6	2	43	70	-27
Kalamazoo United	4	0	4	0	0	0	11	39	-28

(*Records include forfeit wins awarded to teams scheduled against Indiana United, who was expelled from the league early in the season for violation of league bylaws. Kalamazoo is playing the United's schedule of away games.)

»» SOUTH DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OT	PTS	RW	GF	GA	DIF
Deportivo Shaolin	10	7	3	0	17	6	109	93	+16
OKC Certified Lions	8	6	2	0	18	6	98	52	+46
RGV Barracudas	6	4	2	0	12	4	46	46	0
Springfield Demize	7	2	4	1	6	2	54	88	-34
Wichita Selection	4	1	3	0	4	1	34	42	-8
The Bold Dream FC (Austin)	5	0	5	0	0	0	24	44	-20



THE STATS

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»» 2025-26 GOAL LEADERS

Player	Team	GP	GL
Daniel Malhue	Deportivo Shaolin	9	28
Aboubakr Diallo	OKC Certified Lions	7	25
Angel Stanley Chavez	Maryland Storm	6	18
Ali Shawish	Buffalo Gunners	6	16
Eduardo Figueroa	Roc City Boom	6	16
Conner Hollett	Cleveland Samba	4	14
Jake Gratzer	Cleveland Samba	6	14
Omar Lahbiki	Detroit Waza Flo	6	13
Douglass Tshibuyi	Buffalo Gunners	7	12
Jameson Railey	Roc City Boom	5	12
Luis Flores	Delaware City	5	11
Marco Del Vecchio	OKC Certified Lions	8	11

»» 2025-26 ASSIST LEADERS

Player	Team	GP	AS
Rafael Zalvidar	OKC Certified Lions	7	18
Andriy Demydiv	Roc City Boom	6	16
Aboubakr Diallo	OKC Certified Lions	7	14
Alex Harling	Roc City Boom	6	12

Josh Danza	Baltimore Kings	5	10
Cameron Dees	Cleveland Samba	5	10
Rafa Godoi	Roc City Boom	2	10

»» 2025-26 TOTAL POINTS LEADERS

Player	Team	GP	PTS
Aboubakr Diallo	OKC Certified Lions	7	39
Daniel Malhue	Deportovo Shaolin	9	31
Andriy Demydiv	Roc City Boom	6	26
Rafael Zalvidar	OKC Certified Lions	7	25
Angel Stanley Chavez	Maryland Storm	7	24
Ali Shawish	Buffalo Gunners	6	24
Eduardo Figueroa	Roc City Boom	6	24
Conner Hollett	Cleveland Samba	4	21
Alex Harling	Roc City Boom	6	21
Jameson Railey	Roc City Boom	5	21

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