

# WEEK 12 PREVIEW

Games of Jan. 30 - Feb. 1, 2026  
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## MASL3

MAJOR ARENA SOCCER LEAGUE



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# 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.



## Cleveland Samba at Buffalo Gunners



Saturday, January 31  
Kickoff at 1 p.m. EST  
Kenan Center, Lockport, NY

>> PREVIOUS MEETINGS: This is the third meeting of the season and boy do these two teams like to fill up the nets. The Samba have hosted the first two games of the season series, and have wins of 22-10 and 21-8. They scored 22 on December 20. Although the game was tied on three different occasions early, the Cleveland (1-0) offensive overwhelmed the Sahara Gunners (0-1) with 10 fourth quarter goals to pull away for a season opening win. The Samba outshot the Buffalo based Gunners, 63-33, and in fact, Gunner netminder Conner Russell earned third-star of the game honors for his 41 saves. Conner Hollet had four goals and two assists to lead Cleveland and Mikey Schmid had five goals. Silvester Messiah had a hat trick, and five other players had at least three points including Jake Gratzner with two goals and one assist and George Kephart, Dylan Keeling and Remik

Niewiarowski all had one goal and two assists. P.J. Derksen got the win in goal, credited with 10 saves, in splitting time with Keiffer Reed in the Samba net. For the Gunners. Douglass Tshibuyi picked up where he left off last year when he led the league in goals, netting four in this one and adding one assist. Ali Shawish also had a five-point effort with three goals and two assists. Freddy Fakir added two goals. On Jan. 17, the Samba had seven players with three or more points, including two five-point performers. George Cottenden and Conner Hollett led the Cleveland conga line with three goals and two assists each. Jake Gratzner had three goals and one assist and Hogan Kern and Cannon Dees each had two goals and two assists. Milton Evans and Mitch Boyer both scored a goal and assisted on two apiece.

>> GAME NOTES: Everyone is chasing the high-flying Roc City Boom in the East Division. Cleveland is 2-1, good for second in the division, with a goals differential of plus five with 46 goals scored, and 41 allowed. Buffalo is 1-4 and has scored 31 goals and allowed 89 for a differential of minus -58, largest in MASL 3 so far this year.

>> PLAYERS TO WATCH: The Gunners made a huge roster upgrade recently with the addition of Daniel Chamale. The defender had a six-year career with the MASL Milwaukee Wave, scoring 11 goals and adding nine assists. The Toronto native also had 41 blocked shots. Ali Shawish is having a good season with six goals and two assists ... Cleveland's offense is led by Conner Hollett with seven goals and four assists. Cannon Dees is an excellent distributor, with five assists in three starts.

>> UP NEXT: Cleveland Samba at Buffalo Gunners on Saturday, February 7 at 1 p.m. EST at Kenan Center, Lockport, N.Y. / Buffalo Gunners vs. Cleveland Samba on Saturday, February 7 at 1 p.m. EST at Kenan Center, Lockport, N.Y.

## Kalamazoo United at Muskegon Risers

Saturday, January 31

Kickoff at 6 p.m. EST

Trinity Health Arena, Muskegon, Michigan



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

>> GAME NOTES: Kalamazoo is playing just road games this winter in the Division, and has had just one start, a 14-2 loss at Detroit. The Risers, who are playing this year under new ownership which is learning the ropes at MASL 3 this season are 4-0, tied for the top of the Great Lakes North Division with Cincinnati who is also 4-0. The Risers have scored 26 goals and allowed just 14 for a differential of plus 12.

>> **PLAYERS TO WATCH:** Elmedin Zukic comes in with seven points in two starts, including four goals and three assists for Muskegon. Veteran Miguel Flores continues to excel, netting a team high five goals in two games. For his career in Muskegon, Flores came into the season with 69 goals in 39 games, all in MASL 2, dating back to his debut in the 2020-21 season.

>> **UP NEXT:** Kalamazoo United at Muskegon Risers on Saturday, February 14 at 6 p.m. CST at Trinity Healthy Arena, Muskegon, Michigan / Muskegon Risers vs. Kalamazoo United on Saturday, February 14 at 6 p.m. CST at Trinity Healthy Arena, Muskegon, Michigan.

## OKC Certified Lions at Wichita Selection

Saturday, January 31

Kickoff at 7:45 p.m. CST

The Sports Zone, Wichita, Kansas



>> **PREVIOUS MEETINGS:** This is the first meeting of the year between the two teams.

>> **GAME NOTES:** Wichita will mark the occasion with a special roster addition. Veteran Tico Rodriguez will suit up tonight with his son, Sebastian, also in the line up. "It's probably every sports dad's dream to step onto a field and play a high-level game with their child. To say I'm excited is an understatement. Lots of emotions are flowing, and the game hasn't even started yet. Though we can't control injuries, my biggest worry that my wife and I have discussed is his safety. He is a very smart and simple player, so I'm sure he'll know when not to get into battles that could cause him harm. I will say that the way he performs at practice really impresses me and the coaching staff and has a positive impact on the team. Some of the players had no idea he is my son, and some had no idea he wasn't even 16 years old until a couple of weeks ago. Though the number 15 jersey doesn't fit him in size and I'll be wearing it, he'll still be representing his name and number at heart!" OKC hasn't played since a 17-11 slugfest victory against Deportivo Shaolin on the road Jan. 10. At 4-0, they are atop the South Division with 59 goals scored and 23 against for a goal differential of plus 36. Wichita is 1-1 with a plus one differential on 21 goals scored and 20 allowed.

>> **PLAYERS TO WATCH:** Aboubakr Diallo continues to be an offensive force, with 19 goals and seven assists for OKC. Rafael Zaldivar has been a tremendous playmaker with 11 assists already this year for the Lions ... Wesley Carson is Wichita's biggest offensive threat with seven goals in two games.

>> **UP NEXT:** OKC Certified Lions at RGV Barracudas on Saturday, February 7 at 7 p.m. CST at Barracudas Park, Brownsville, Texas / Wichita Selection at Deportivo Shaolin on Sunday,

February 1 at 2 p.m. CST at Wichita Edge Sports Complex, Wichita, Kansas.

## Wichita Selection at Deportivo Shaolin

Sunday, February 1

Kickoff at 2 p.m. EST

Wichita Edge Sports Complex, Wichita, Kansas



>> PREVIOUS MEETINGS: These two teams battled Dec. 29, with the Selection pulling out a 12-9 triumph. Wesley Carson, one of the league's best a season ago, picked up where he left off by banging in four goals for Wichita, while Jose "Pepe" Martin also had a four-point night with two goals and two assists. Bader Nassar also turned that trick, his coming on a goal and three assists. Luis Guavina had a goal and two assists and Fernando Rubio had three assists. Daniel Malhue had a big debut for the visitors, scoring four goals. He appeared in 12 games with the MASL Kansas City Comets last year, picking up two goals and adding three assists. Mario Venegas had a hat trick and teammate Julian Campos had a goal and two assists. Leonel Palma chipped in with two assists. Bryan Hernandez made 16 saves in getting the win in goal for Wichita.

>> GAME NOTES: For Wichita game notes and players to watch, see above. Deportivo Shaolin comes in with a record of 2-2 with a plus one goal differential with 44 scored and 43 given up.

>> PLAYERS TO WATCH: Daniel Malhue has 12 goals in his four games to date for Deportivo Shaolin. Mario Venegas has also been a big offensive threat with eight goals and two assists in 2025-26.

>> UP NEXT: Wichita Selection vs. Austin The Bold Dream FC on Saturday, February 28 at 7:30 p.m. CST at the Sports Zone, Wichita, Kansas / Deportivo Shaolin at Springfield Demize on Saturday, February 7 at 7:30 p.m. CST at Lake County Soccer, Springfield, Missouri.

## Cincinnati Swerve at Detroit Waza Flo

Sunday, February 1

Kickoff at 4:30 p.m. EST

TOCA Novi East, Novi, Michigan



>> PREVIOUS MEETINGS: This is the third meeting of the season with Cincinnati taking two home wins by scores of 11-4 and 12-1. On Dec. 20, Cincinnati put up an even dozen as Nathan Neal led the charge with four goals for Cincy. Shawn Lamar and Jacob Pokorski each scored twice. Alex Pinkney was the winning goaltender. Dominic Scicluna got the lone Detroit score. On Jan. 4, Andrej Novakovic was going to make sure the Cincinnati Swerve continued to put its best foot forward in the 2025-26 season. A longtime veteran of the Swerve roster, Novakovic banged in six goals and added one assist in leading Cincinnati to its second win in as many starts this winter. Novakovic, who was the 2025 Ohio Valley Premier League Player of the Year in the outdoor league with the Northern Kentucky Nitro with 15 goals and three assists, also picked up one assist for a seven-point night. Jacob Pokorski had a goal and three assists and teammate Shawn Lamar added two goals and one assist. Alex Pinkney got the win in goal. Omar Lashiki did what he could to keep Detroit in the match, netting a hat trick.

>> GAME NOTES: Cincinnati and Muskegon are setting the pace in the Great Lakes North as each come into weekend action at 4-0. Cincy has a goals differential of plus 18 with 23 goals scored and five allowed. Detroit is 2-4 with 33 goals scored and 51 allowed for a minus 18 differential.

>> PLAYERS TO WATCH: Andrej Novakovic has seven goals and one assist to lead the Swerve offense in two games. Nathan Neal has five goals in his two starts for Cincinnati. For Detroit, Omar Lashiki leads the offense with 14 points on nine goals and five assist in five games. Saeed Tawil has chipped in with six goals, second best on the team to date.

>> UP NEXT: Cincinnati Swerve at Detroit Waza Flo on Saturday, February 7 at 6 p.m. EST at TOCA Novi East, Novi, Michigan / Detroit Waza Flo vs. Cincinnati Swerve on Saturday, February 7 at 6 p.m. EST at TOCA Novi East, Novi, Michigan.

**>> 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.<<**



Saturday, February 7  
Saturday, February 7

Cleveland Samba at Buffalo Gunners, 1 p.m. EST  
Cincinnati Swerve at Detroit Waza Flo, 6 p.m. EST



Saturday, February 7  
 Saturday, February 7  
 Saturday, February 7  
 Saturday, February 7  
 Saturday, February 7  
 Sunday, February 8

OKC Certified Lions at RGV Barracudas, 7 p.m. CST  
 Delaware City at Northern Virginia, 7 p.m. EST  
 Baltimore Kings at Maryland Storm, 7:30 p.m. EST  
 Deportivo Shaolin at Springfield Demize, 7:30 p.m. CST  
 Roc City Boom at Youngstown Nighthawks, 8 p.m. EST  
 Springfield Demize at Deportivo Shaolin, 6:45 p.m. CST



## » ATLANTIC DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OTL	PTS	RW	GF	GA	DIF
Delaware City FC	5	4	1	0	12	4	73	20	+53
Baltimore Kings	4	4	0	0	12	4	28	15	+13
Maryland Storm	6	4	2	0	12	4	58	60	-2
Northern Virginia FC	3	2	1	0	6	2	26	25	+11
Cumberland Valley	6	1	5	0	3	1	34	64	-30
Virginia Marauders	6	0	6	0	0	0	34	69	-35

## » EAST DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OTL	PTS	RW	GF	GA	DIF
Roc City Boom	4	4	0	0	12	4	88	12	+76
Cleveland Samba	3	2	1	0	6	2	46	41	+5
Buffalo Gunners	5	1	4	0	3	1	31	89	-58
Youngstown Nighthawks	2	0	2	0	0	0	6	29	-23

## » GREAT LAKES NORTH\*

	GP	W	L	OT	PTS	RW	GF	GA	DIF
Cincinnati Swerve	4	4	0	0	12	4	23	5	+18
Muskegon Risers	4	4	0	0	12	4	26	14	+12
Detroit Waza Flo	6	2	4	0	6	2	33	51	-18
Kalamazoo United	1	0	1	0	0	0	2	14	-12

(\*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
OKC Certified Lions	4	4	0	0	12	4	59	23	+36
Deportivo Shaolin	4	2	2	0	6	2	44	43	+1
RGV Barracudas	4	2	2	0	6	2	26	36	-10
Springfield Demize	3	1	2	0	3	3	24	38	-14
Wichita Selection	2	1	1	0	3	1	21	20	+1
The Bold Dream FC (Austin)	3	0	3	0	0	0	17	31	-14



## » 2025-26 GOAL LEADERS

Player	Team	GP	GL
Aboubakr Diallo	OKC Certified Lions	4	19
Angel Stanley Chavez	Maryland Storm	5	16
Daniel Malhue	Deportivo Shaolin	4	12
Andrew Coughlin	Roc City Boom	3	10
Odell Johnson	Delaware City	5	10
Eduardo Figueroa	Roc City Boom	4	10
Luis Flores	Delaware City	4	10
Agi Pacheco	Delaware City	5	9
Omar Lahbiki	Detroit Waza Flo	5	9

## » 2025-26 ASSIST LEADERS

Player	Team	GP	AS
Andriy Demydiv	Roc City Boom	4	12
Rafael Zalvidar	OKC Certified Lions	4	11
Josh Danza	Baltimore Kings	4	9
Alex Harling	Roc City Boom	4	9
Matthew Martinez	Virginia Marauders	5	8
Aboubakr Diallo	OKC Certified Lions	4	7

Johnny DeSouza	Northern Virginia	3	7
Luis Flores	Delaware City	3	7

## >> 2025-26 TOTAL POINTS LEADERS

Player	Team	GP	PTS
Aboubakr Diallo	OKC Certified Lions	4	26
Angel Stanley Chavez	Maryland Storm	5	21
Andriy Demydiv	Roc City Boom	4	17
Luis Flores	Delaware City	3	17
Alex Harling	Roc City Boom	4	15
Rafael Zalvidar	OKC Certified Lions	4	14
Eduardo Figueroa	Roc City Boom	4	14
Carlos Lievano	Delaware City FC	4	13
Odell Johnson	Delaware City FC	5	13
Andrew Coughlin	Roc City Boom	3	13

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