

# WEEK 16 PREVIEW



Games of March 22-24





# THE GAMES



Fri., March 22 / Sat., March 23

**ROCHESTER 7 UNITED ELITE 3**

**ROCHESTER 9 UNITED ELITE 1**

**Total Sports Experience, East Rochester, NY**



**GAME RECAPS:** Rochester became only the fifth team in league history to record a perfect record – the Iowa Demon Hawks turned the same trick this year as well – in finishing its regular season with a sweep of Utica’s United Elite Krajisnik FC. On Friday, Rochester led just 4-3 at intermission, but the Lancers defense pitched a shutout in the second half for their 11<sup>th</sup> straight win. Rochester outshot United Elite 41-30. Jakeb Mitchell and Alastair Farmer both played in goal for Rochester, with Farmer going 37 minutes in picking up his fourth win of the year. Three Lancers had a goal and an assist each including Rookie of the Year candidate Ali Alomori, Alex Harling and Augustus Finn. Damon Almazon had two goals for United Elite. On Saturday, Rochester raced to a 4-0 lead after 15 minutes, and were dominant throughout, outshooting the visitors 60-20, including by a margin of 35-7 in the second half. In fact, despite the lopsided loss, United Elite netminder Julian Rodrigues was named the games third star for his 23 save performance. Jakeb Mitchell was the game’s second start as he was credited with 10 saves for Rochester in notching his eighth win of the season. Player/Coach Jake Schindler led the attack with two goals and two assists. Taner Bay had two goals and MASL veteran Darren Toby chipped in with a goal and an assist. Mitchell lost his shutout try on a third-quarter goal from Elizandaro Vieira.



**UP NEXT:** This is the final regular season game for both teams.

**>> M2’s CHAMPIONSHIP WEEKEND WILL  
FEATURE EIGHT TEAMS PLAYING APRIL 5-7 AT  
HARTMAN ARENA IN PARK CITY, KANSAS,  
HOSTED BY THE WICHITA WINGS <<**



Sat., Mar. 16 / Sun. March 17  
**ORLANDO 8 BALTIMORE 5**  
**BALTIMORE 5 ORLANDO 4**



**Baltimore Blast Practice Facility, Baltimore, MD**

**GAME RECAPS:** These two teams split this past weekend's doubleheader, and will close the M2 regular season next weekend with a game at Towson Arena on Saturday as part of a pro indoor soccer doubleheader with their parent team, the MASL Baltimore Blast, hosting Utica City FC at 6 p.m. EDT. This past Saturday, Orlando never trailed after Rodrigo Kauffman gave Atletico a 2-1 lead just over two minutes into the second quarter. On three different occasions after that, Baltimore was able to pull within one goal but never did find the equalizer. Jordan Travers made it a 6-5 game with 3:28 to play, but Orlando closed out the game with two scores, including one against a sixth attacker, and the true back breaker, a shorthanded tally by Eduardo Cruz with 1:52 left in the fourth. Juan Reyes had two goals and one assist for Orlando, while Kaufman and Cruz finished with two goals each. Charly Vargas added two assists. Erik Lorent had two goals for Baltimore, who outshot Orlando 35-27. On Sunday, it was just as tight. Baltimore never trailed after taking a 3-2 lead with just over a minute left in the first period from Michael Bernstein. Orlando forged tie scores on two occasions after that, but never did lead the rest of the way. Orlando outshot Baltimore 34-30. Joe Stefoi had two goals and two assists to lead the Arsenal attack, while Brayde Wise had a hat trick. Kauffman had a hat trick for Orlando.



**UP NEXT:** Baltimore Arsenal vs. Atletico Orlando on Saturday, March 30 at 2 p.m. at Towson Arena, Towson, Maryland / Atletico Orlando at Baltimore Arsenal on Saturday, March 30 at 2 p.m. at Towson Arena, Towson, Maryland.

**>> ALL MAJOR ARENA SOCCER LEAGUE 2 GAMES ARE BROADCAST FREE ONLINE. CHECK YOUR FAVORITE TEAM'S SOCIAL MEDIA SITES FOR THE LATEST INFORMATION ON HOW TO WATCH! <<**





# STANDINGS

(As of March 25, 2024)

GP	W	L	OTL	PTS	RW	GF	GA	DIF
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## >>East Division

y - Rochester Lancers	12	12	0	0	36	12	146	48	+98
x - Atletico Orlando*	11	5	6	9	15	4	60	98	-38
Baltimore Arsenal	11	3	8	0	9	3	53	93	-40
United Elite Krajisnik FC	12	3	9	0	9	3	68	88	-20

\*Includes two games ruled as forfeit wins for Orlando over United Elite, and one forfeit win over Baltimore

## >>North Division

y - Iowa Demon Hawks	12	12	0	0	36	12	156	52	+104
x - Iowa Raptors	12	5	7	0	15	5	78	107	-29
x - St. Louis Ambush 2	12	4	8	0	12	4	77	111	-34
Muskegon Risers	12	3	9	0	9	3	64	105	-43

## >>Midwest Division

y - Wichita Wings	12	11	0	1	34	11	122	70	+52
x - El Paso Rhinos U. Seis	12	8	4	0	24	8	128	113	+15
x - Amarillo Bombers	12	7	5	0	20	6	114	91	+20
Kansas Bandits	12	3	8	1	10	3	81	135	-54
New Mexico Runners	12	1	11	0	2	0	90	142	-52

x - clinched playoff spot

y - clinched regular season division title and playoff spot

Teams receive three points for a regulation time win (RW), two points for a win in overtime, one point for an overtime loss (OTL), and no points for a loss in regulation time. Teams play a 12-game regular season.

Standings and playoff tiebreakers: POINTS > REGULATION WINS > WINS > HEAD TO GROUP > GOAL DIFFERENTIAL > GOALS FOR > GOALS AGAINST

*Eight teams will qualify for M2 Championship Weekend April 4-7 at Hartman Arena, Park City , Kansas, hosted by the Wichita Wings who are guaranteed as host one of the eight playoff spots. The top two division finishers earn playoff spots, along with two wildcard entrants, the teams with the two top point totals among the third and fourth place teams in the three divisions.*

## ***FINAL 2022-23 REGULAR SEASON***

	<u>GP</u>	<u>W</u>	<u>L</u>	<u>OTL</u>	<u>PTS</u>	<u>RW</u>	<u>GF</u>	<u>GA</u>	<u>DIF</u>
<b>&gt;&gt;North Division</b>									
x - Iowa Raptors	12	7	3	2	23	7	82	89	-7
Rochester Lancers	12	8	4	0	23	7	81	63	+18
Iowa Demon Hawks	12	7	4	1	21	6	94	76	+18
Muskegon Risers	12	2	10	0	5	1	74	103	-29
<b>&gt;&gt;Midwest Division</b>									
x - Amarillo Bombers	12	10	2	0	30	10	146	91	+55
x - Wichita Wings	12	10	2	0	29	9	122	77	+45
New Mexico Runners	12	4	7	1	13	4	107	134	-27
Colorado Inferno	12	3	9	0	9	3	82	134	-52
Kansas Bandits	12	3	9	0	9	3	81	102	-21
<b>&gt;&gt;West Division</b>									
x - Chihuahua Savage II	12	10	2	0	30	10	111	63	+48
Club Deportivo de Baja	12	8	4	0	24	8	113	69	+44
RGV Barracudas	12	7	5	0	20	6	78	69	+9
Empire Jets	12	6	5	1	19	5	68	84	-16
Turlock Cal Express	12	3	9	0	8	2	66	127	-61
San Diego Sockers 2	12	2	9	1	7	2	65	89	-24



# UP NEXT

Saturday, March 30

Atletico Orlando at Baltimore Arsenal, 2 p.m. EDT

-- End Regular Season --



# THE STATS

## 2023-24 MASL 2 GOAL LEADERS

Player	Team	Goals	GP
Angel Lopez	Kansas Bandits	34	12
Rene Loya	Amarillo Bombers	29	12
Ali Alomari	Rochester Lancers	28	11
Bruno Henrique	Iowa Demon Hawks	26	12
Mershad Ahmadi	Wichita Wings	25	12
Ricardo Diegues	Iowa Demon Hawks	24	9
David Trevizo	Amarillo Bombers	22	12

## 2023-24 MASL 2 ASSISTS LEADERS

Player	Team	Assists	GP
Thiago Frietas	Iowa Demon Hawks	26	12
Bruno Henrique	Iowa Demon Hawks	24	12
Kevin Ten Eyck	Wichita Wings	19	12
Jake Schindler	Rochester Lancers	18	11
Ricardo Diegues	Iowa Demon Hawks	16	9
Eduardo "Benji" Monreal	Amarillo Bombers	14	8
Miguel Reyes	Amarillo Bombers	13	9

## 2023-24 MASL 2 TOTAL POINTS LEADERS

Player	Team	Points	GP
Bruno Henrique	Iowa Demon Hawks	50	12
Thiago Freitas	Iowa Demon Hawks	46	12
Ali Alomari	Rochester Lancers	40	11
Ricardo Diegues	Iowa Demon Hawks	40	9
Angel Lopez	Kansas Bandits	39	12
Rene Loya	Amarillo Bombers	38	10
Mershad Ahmadi	Wichita Wings	36	12
Joao Vitor	Iowa Demon Hawks	33	12

## 2023-24 MASL 2 GOALS AGAINST AVERAGE LEADERS

Jacob Mitchell	Rochester Lancers	3.52
Rainer Hauss	Iowa Demon Hawks	3.80
Jose Ocampo	Wichita Wings	5.29
Jorge Ortiz	Atletico Orlando	8.02
Alejandro Sosa	Baltimore Arsenal	8.23

## 2023-24 MASL 2 GOALKEEPER WINS

Rainer Hauss	Iowa Demon Hawks	12
Jose Ocampo	Wichita Wings	8
Jakeb Mitchell	Rochester Lancers	8
Fredo Chavez	Amarillo Bombers	7

## 2023-24 MASL 2 GOALKEEPER SAVES PERCENTAGE

Rainer Hauss	Iowa Demon Hawks	.825
Jose Ocampo	Wichita Wings	.756
Jakeb Mitchell	Rochester Lancers	.741
Alejandro Sosa	Baltimore Arsenal	.647
Jorge Ortiz	Atletico Orlando	.637
Nate Yeager	New Mexico Runners	.590

>> Note: Goalkeepers must have appeared in at least 50 percent of their team's games to qualify for GK category leaders

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## 2022-23 MASL 2 GOAL LEADERS

<u>Player</u>	<u>Team</u>	<u>Goals</u>
Mershad Amadhi	New Mexico Runners	38
Miguel Reyes	Amarillo Bombers	25
David Trevizo	Amarillo Bombers	22
Francisco Rivas	Colorado Inferno	22
Bruno Henrique	Iowa Demon Hawks	21
Rene Loya Hernandez	Chihuahua Savage II	19
Jorge Gonzalez	Amarillo Bombers	18
Vince Aragon	New Mexico Runners	18

## 2022-23 MASL 2 ASSISTS LEADERS

<u>Player</u>	<u>Team</u>	<u>Assists</u>
Miguel Reyes	Amarillo Bombers	23
Jared Robins	Wichita Wings	17
Thiago Freitas	Iowa Demon Hawks	17
David Luico	Wichita Wings	15
David Trevizo	Amarillo Bombers	13
Bruno Henrique	Iowa Demon Hawks	12
Kevin Ten Eyck	Wichita Wings	12
Ricardo Diegues	Iowa Demon Hawks	12
Francisco Rivas	Colorado Inferno	12

## 2022-23 MASL 2 TOTAL POINTS LEADERS

<u>Player</u>	<u>Team</u>	<u>Points</u>
Mershad Ahmadi	New Mexico Runners	48
Miguel Reyes	Amarillo Bombers	48
David Trevizo	Amarillo Bombers	35
Francisco Rivas	Colorado Inferno	34
Bruno Henrique	Iowa Demon Hawks	33
Jared Robbins	Wichita Wings	33
Vince Aragon	New Mexico Runners	29
David Luico	Wichita Wings	28
Jorge Gonzalez	Amarillo Bombers	28

## 2022-23 MASL 2 GOALS AGAINST AVERAGE LEADERS

Jakeb Mitchell	Rochester Lancers	4.92
Aaron Parrott	Wichita Wings	5.01
Rainer Hauss	Iowa Demon Hawks	5.66
Diego Arriaga	RGV Barracudas	5.67
Jesus Ortiz	Iowa Raptors	5.93
David Escarcega Trevizo	Chihuahua Savage II	6.40

## 2022-23 MASL 2 GK SAVES PERCENTAGE

Jakeb Mitchell	Rochester Lancers	4.92
Aaron Parrott	Wichita Wings	5.01
Rainer Hauss	Iowa Demon Hawks	5.66
Diego Arriaga	RGV Barracudas	5.67



Jesus Ortiz Iowa Raptors 5.93  
David Escarcega Trevizo Chihuahua Savage II 6.40



# LATEST NEWS

## Owners of Newtown Pride – winners of last year’s million dollar winner-take-all TST– will launch M2 team in Danbury, Connecticut

TAMPA, Florida -- Indoor soccer fans have a million reasons to be excited about the latest addition to Major Arena Soccer League 2.

The Danbury Ice Arena alongside partners of Spice City Futbol Club, LLC have announced Danbury’s newest professional sports team – Spice City FC. The team will participate in Major Arena Soccer League 2 and will play seven home games on turf at the Danbury Ice Arena in Connecticut beginning in winter of 2024-25.



The organization will add to the existing ice arena offering of Hat Tricks hockey while celebrating Danbury’s multicultural flavor and delivering family friendly, affordable entertainment. The Danbury Ice Arena, like most arenas across the country, is preparing an operations team that will flip the switch from ice to turf overnight to bring soccer to the forefront of the 3,000 seat arena.

The name, Spice City, and its playful jalapeno logo, is a nod to a multicultural city with an edge to it. A spice; a simultaneous sweetness; and hotness, that consistently delivers a welcoming, fun yet surprising experience.

Mayor of Danbury, Roberto Alves, stated, “Bringing an M2 team to Danbury is an exciting time for our city. As a big soccer fan myself, you will see my family in those seats cheering on Spice City FC. This partnership has our attention and support – and we’re confident the residents of the City of Danbury will get behind this team like they have every team that has called the Arena home. We’re excited to also welcome more people downtown to experience all we have to offer.”



Matt and Adriana Svanda, also owners of Newtown Pride FC in Newtown, Connecticut, have spearheaded the effort in Danbury.

"Bringing a fast paced, energy driven brand of soccer to Danbury is something we think is a perfect fit for this city," said owner and general manager Matt Swanda. "The game of soccer is a true passion of ours and we try and use it as a catalyst of good. We're confident that in partnership with the Danbury Ice Arena, we will be able to bring an incredible experience and different brand of soccer to fans both new and old."

In 2023, it was Newtown Pride FC who took America by surprise creating an instantly iconic national soccer memory with their win in the inaugural million-dollar winner-take-all TST tournament. The Pride will be partaking in this years TST tournament in June to be aired on ESPN.

"Spice City FC will offer a great compliment to Danbury Hat Tricks hockey while giving fans an opportunity to not only see great hockey on ice; but also a great brand of soccer on turf!, said Herm Sorcher, Partner of Diamond Properties who owns the Danbury Ice Arena. "We are committed to private partnerships that will advance our space; bring more people to the arena and prove that our arena is multidimensional and can pivot to accommodate opportunities like this one."

Commissioner of MASL 2, Chris Economides said Newtown's next big soccer move to join the league speaks volumes for where the second tier of the American indoor soccer pyramid is headed.

"We're excited and proud to welcome Spice City FC to our M2 family. There are some incredible teams in the East Division, and we're anxiously awaiting their first goal in Danbury this winter," Economides said. "We're more intrigued to see how their front office puts together a team that's competitive in a league that boasts organizations like the Rochester Lancers, Utica, Baltimore and Orlando. We know that Spice City FC is committed to excellence both on and off the field, and couldn't be more thrilled that they'll be strong stewards of our league."

Kyle Lyddy, President of Operations for the organization, said the MASL 2 franchise was a natural extension of the club.

"Partnering with Herm Sorcher and the Danbury Ice Arena is the perfect setting to launch our brand to bring people together,' Luddy noted. "What better place than Danbury, bringing a global game to a city with a diverse set of individuals and cultures. Our mantra "You Belong Here" is a call to excite people to get in the building to witness high energy goals and a fast-paced brand of soccer we can all rally around. Our team is planning to create an atmosphere that is one of the best in minor league sports – it is our commitment that you won't just be coming to a soccer game – but an event. And while MASL 2 will bring us to cities like Rochester, Utica, Baltimore and Orlando, we're we're excited to add Danbury to the East to showcase our home turf."

Onua Obasi will be the head coach. Obasi, who has extensive experience within the MASL as a player, is committed to Spice City FC. Obasi has played with the Baltimore Blast, Utica City FC and the Empire Strykers, appearing in 78 total games in the Major Arena Soccer League, with 22 goals and 25 assists.

"I'm thankful for the Svanda family for trusting me in this role and am excited to get to work. My commitment is to building a team that our city can be proud of, and deliver a brand of soccer that fans will be excited to be in their seats at kickoff for," Obasi said.

Tickets are on sale now at [spicecityfc.com](https://spicecityfc.com) with season ticket options available for just \$79 for a seven-game home schedule.