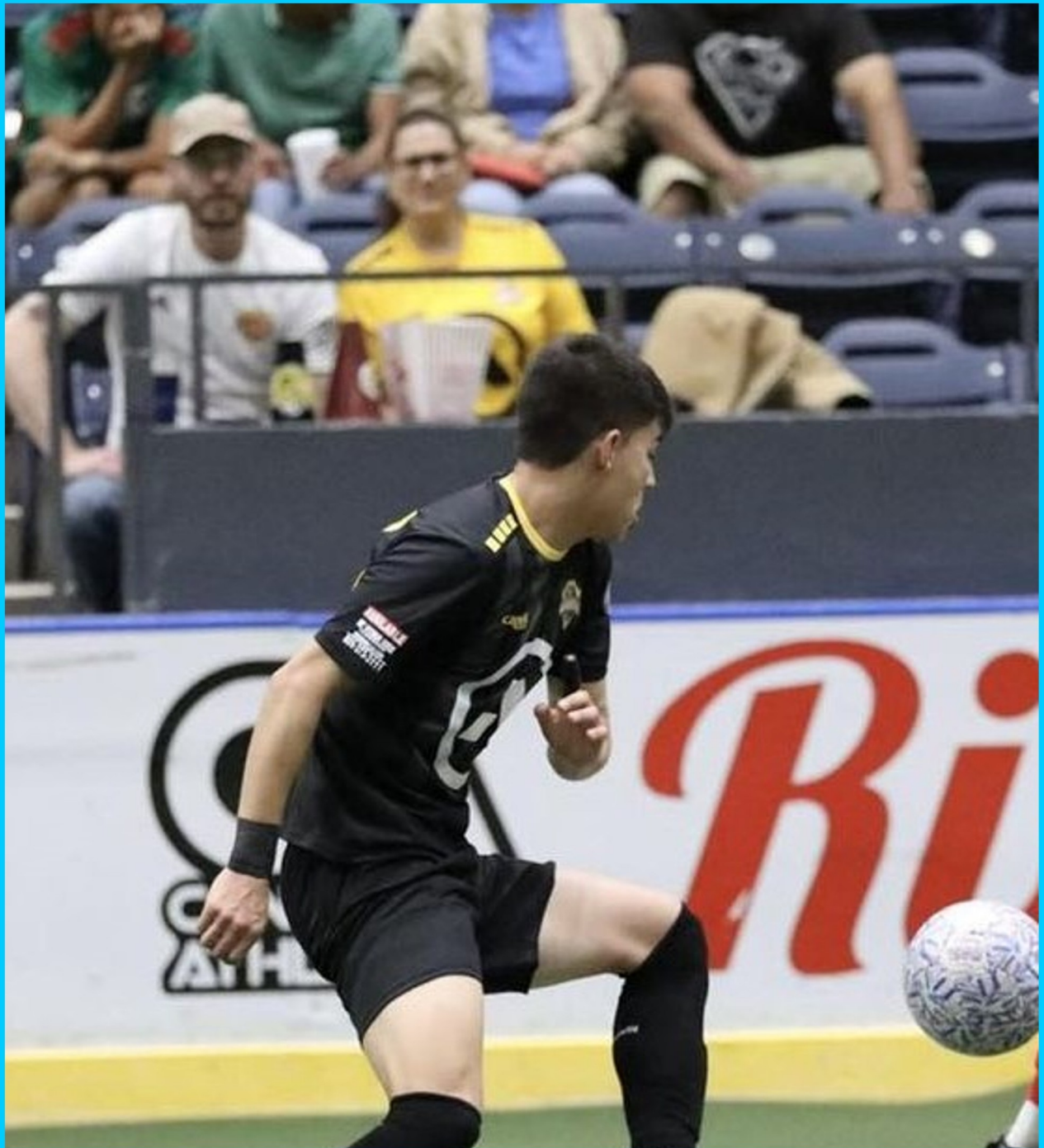


Major Arena Soccer League 2

# WEEK 15 PREVIEW



Games of March 15-17





# THE GAMES



Friday, March 15, 7:30 p.m. CDT  
**IOWA RAPTORS (5-5) at**  
**IOWA DEMON HAWKS (11-0)**  
Buccaneer Arena, Des Moines, Iowa



**GAME NOTES:** The Hawkeye State rivalry renews one more time in Des Moines as the Demon Hawks look to complete what would be the fourth perfect regular season in league history. In three previous meetings, the Hawks have taken wins by 11-3, 16-2 and 11-7 on Dec. 8. In Des Moines, the hosts raced to a 9-3 halftime lead. Diego Pantuza had three goals and two assists. On Iowa just led 4-2 after 15 minutes in Cedar Rapids on Jan. 20, but scored 12 goals – led by seven by Ricardo Diegues who went on to sign with the MASL Baltimore Blast – to win by 14. Most recently, on Feb. 25, also in Cedar Rapids, leading scorer Ricardo Diegues was out, but it was no problem for the highest scoring team in M2 who won its 10th straight in preparation for the league's playoffs April 4-7 in Wichita. The Demon Hawks led just 2-1 after 15 minutes, but stretched that to 6-3 at intermission and Rainer Hauss did the rest from there, shutting out the Raptors in the second half to pick up his league-leading 10th win in goal. Luan Silva led the Demon Hawks attack with three goals and two assists while Bruno Henrique added three goals and one assist. Lucas Nascimento contributed with two goals and one assist. The Demon Hawks have scored a league high 136 goals. Rochester is second with 116 but has played in two fewer games so far. Henrique leads the offense with 20 goals and 19 assists, while Hauss leads the league in saves percentage (.815), wins (10) and is second in goals against (4.14) among M2 netminders.

**UP NEXT:** Iowa Demon Hawks complete their regular season / Iowa Raptors at St. Louis Ambush 2 at 5 p.m. Sunday, March 17 at Family Arena, St. Charles, Missouri.



Saturday, March 16, 2 p.m. EDT  
**ROCHESTER LANCERS (9-0) at**  
**BALTIMORE ARSENAL (2-5)**  
Towson Arena, Towson, Maryland



**GAME NOTES:** Rochester is looking to complete what would be the fifth team in league history to record a perfect regular season – the Iowa Demon Hawks are also looking to turn that trick this weekend – in games that will impact who is runner up in the East this spring. That team, along with Rochester who has already clinched the division and playoff spot, will head to Wichita April 4-7 for the M2 playoffs. This is the

fourth meeting between the two, with Rochester taking wins of 14-6, 12-3 and 15-5. On January 13 in Baltimore, Rochester got four goals and an assist from Joey Tavernese (now injured) in the 14-6 decision. On Feb. 23 and 24 in Rochester, the Lancers continued their march through the Eastern Division, piling up 27 goals in a two-game sweep of the Baltimore Arsenal over the weekend, The Arsenal trailed just 4-2 at the half on Friday before the Lancers pulled away., thanks in part to 50 shots on goal (while allowing just 26). Ali Alomari led the Lancers with three goals and two assists while Matt D'Amico had a hat trick and an assist. Ryan Curtis chipped in with two goals and Jakeb Mitchell picked up the win in goal, credited with seven saves. On Saturday, Rochester ended the suspense early by scoring five goals in the game's first seven minutes; Baltimore never got closer than three goals the rest of the way. Alomari again had a big night with four goals and one assist while Davinson Diaz had three goals and one assist. Curtis and D'Amico each also added two goals. Mitchell picked up another win as the Lancers outshot the visitors, 57-34. For Baltimore, Brayde Wise scored twice while teammate Eric Lorent had a goal and an assist. Rochester has 116 goals in nine games, while their netminder, Jakeb Mitchell, has the league's leading goals against average at 3.77. Alomari leads the attack with 26 goals and 11 assists, including four game winners.

**UP NEXT:** Rochester Lancers vs. United Elite Krajisnik FC on Friday, March 22 at 7:45 p.m. EDT at Total Sports Experience, East Rochester, NY / Baltimore Arsenal vs. Atletico Orlando on Saturday, March 23 at 6 p.m/ EDT at Baltimore Practice Facility Baltimore, Maryland.



**Sat., March 16 / Sun., March 17, 6:30 EDT**  
**ATLETICO ORLANDO (1-5) AT**  
**UNITED ELITE KRAJISNIK (3-5)**  
**Nexus Center / Adirondack Bank Center, Utica NY**



**GAME NOTES:** Orlando can vault themselves right back into the playoff picture with a big weekend, while United Elite looks to move towards a runner up spot in the East and a trip to the M2 playoffs. These two teams have met twice already in Utica, the first weekend in January, with United Elite winning the games by a combined three goals. Both games were tight, back and forth affairs, as demonstrated by Saturday's opener., won by Orlando 9-7. Utica led 2-1 after one, it was tied 4-4 at half, and 6-6 going to the final 15 minutes. Orlando grabbed a quick upper hand in the fourth with two goals less than a minute apart when Daniel Vielma and Lucas Pietroluongo De Oliveira found the back of the net, part of a four-goal run by the visitors. Olivera scored three time to led the Atletico attack, while Eduardo Cruz scored twice. Alexander Gomez had a hat trick for United Elite, while Ricky added a pair. On Sunday, the hosts jumped out to a 3-0 lead, and then led 5-2, before Orlando closed the gap late. Victor Rada was the game's offensive star, getting four of Orlando's five goals. Douglas Barrera Tanes and Jayce Berger had two each for United Elite Krajisnik, who got the game winner from Dragan Cvetkovic with just 32 seconds to play. Victor Rada leads Orlando with six goals in as many games. Tyler Forbes is leading the Utica attack with nine goals and two assists.

**UP NEXT:** United Elite Krajisnik at Rochester Lancers on Friday, March 22 at 7:45 p.m. EDT at Total Sports Experience, East Rochester, NY / Atletico Orlando at Baltimore Arsenal on Saturday, March 23 at 6 p.m. at Baltimore Practice Facility, Baltimore, MD.



Sat., March 16, 7:30 / Sun., March 17, 2 p.m. MST  
**AMARILLO BOMBERS (7-3) at**  
**EL PASO RHINOS UNO SEIS (6-4)**  
La Frontera Indoor Soccer, El Paso, Texas



**GAME NOTES:** This should be an entertaining matchup, with two teams that have their sights set on playing beyond the end of the regular season. This is only the second meeting of the season, and that was an pre-season game in Amarillo that the Bombers scored a 10-8 win in. Pablo Magallanes had two goals and two assists for Amarillo, while David Trevizo had a hat trick. Mario Arrieta had a hat trick for El Paso, who can still earn a playoff spot by being one of the top two third place teams in the league's three divisions. Rene Loya, who played for last year's Chihuahua Savage 2 that won the league crown, has fit in nicely in Amarillo with 29 goals and nine assist to lead the Bombers. Trevizo has added 22 goals.

**UP NEXT:** These are the final regular season games for both teams.



Sunday, March 17, 3:05 p.m. MDT  
**WICHITA WINGS (10-0-1) at**  
**NEW MEXICO RUNNERS (1-10)**  
Rio Rancho Events Center, Rio Rancho, NM



**GAME NOTES:** The Wings will get a playoff tuneup on the road as New Mexico looks to finish a tough-luck season on a high noted. The Runners had one of their best performances of the season on March 8, losing to Wichita just 11-8. The Wings raced to a 6-1 lead and while the Runners threw a late scare into Wichita, they were able to notch their ninth win in 10 starts. Knocking on the door early and often, the Wings led 4-1 after one, and 6-3 at intermission. Setting the pace for Wichita was a quartet of four players who all had three points apiece: Guilherme Oliveira (three goals), Mershad Ahmadi (three goals), Taylor Henry (goal and two assists), Jared Robins (two goals and one assist). Making it close for New Mexico was Josh Garcia, who did not score but dished out four assists, while teammates Nick Famiglietta and Vince Aragon added a goal and assist each. Over the full 60 minutes, goaltender Jose Campo continued his stellar work for the Wings, recording 13 saves in picking up his ninth win of the season. Making the start in goal for New Mexico, Max Yaeger saw 20 shots come his way, while the Runners had 22 on Campo. On February 3 in Wichita, the Wings had an 8-1 lead at intermission and were never threatened in a 13-3 victory. David Lucia had three goals and two assists and Caique Trivelato had a goal and four assists to lead the Wings. Wichita goaltender Jose Ocampo, the league's Defensive Player-of-the-Month for February, is third in goals against, second in saves percentage, and second in wins in M2 this season so far.

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



**Sunday, March 17, 5 p.m. CDT**  
**IOWA RAPTORS (5-5) at**  
**ST. LOUIS AMBUSH (3-8)**  
**Family Arena, St. Charles, MO**



**GAME NOTES:** St. Louis will close with its third home game of the season on Sunday as part of a St. Patrick's Day doubleheader with their parent team in the MASL who will host rival Kansas City in a 3:05 CDT kickoff. The Ambush 2 and Raptors are playing for the fourth time this year, with Iowa winning twice. All the games were in Cedar Rapids, and all in December. On Dec. 22 and 23, St. Louis logged their first ever win in M2 – their parent team is now in its 11th year in the Major Arena Soccer League – with a 12-goal outburst in Friday's first game of the weekend doubleheader. It was a close game throughout, tied at 3 all after the first quarter and 5-5 at intermission. The Ambush 2 took an 8-7 lead to the final 16 minutes and put the game out of reach with a four-goal fourth. MASL Ambush veteran Lucas Almeida suited up for this one, and banged in five goals while adding two assists. Tristan Austin had a three-point effort with a goal and two assists while Luyanda Nogenda added two goals. Nico Williams and Jan Kearney each scored twice for the homestanding Raptors. In taking game two, the Raptors grabbed their first win in three starts this year – after advancing to the M2 Championship game last spring – pulling away with four goals in the fourth quarter. Angelo Oquendo led the Iowa offense with three goals, assisting on a fourth, while Isaiah Thomas chipped in with a pair of goals. The Raptors led 2-0 at intermission, but only 3-2 heading into the final 15 minutes. On Dec. 28, playing each other for the third time in less than a week, the Raptors ended up taking two of three from the first-year Ambush 2, building an early lead and never really letting the Ambush get up to speed. The homestanding Raptors managed to score nine goals on just 21 shots, while allowing just 12 shots on goal by St. Louis. Bobby Hurwitz ended up getting what turned out to be the game winning goal, breaking a 1-1 first quarter tie with his goal with just over two minutes to play in the first. The Raptors extended their advantage to 5-1 at the half, with all four of Iowa's remaining goals coming in the third quarter. Haakon Utesch went the distance in goal for the winners, posting an .875 saves percentage as the Raptors did not allow a goal in the game's final 50-plus minutes. Angelo Oquendo led the Iowa offense with a goal and three assists. Nico Williams had two goals and Hurwitz also added an assist. Aamahn Murvin got the lone St. Louis goal. Coming into Sunday, Perez had 15 goals and five assists for St. Louis.

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

**>> M2's CHAMPIONSHIP WEEKEND WILL  
FEATURE EIGHT TEAMS PLAYING APRIL 4-7 AT  
HARTMAN ARENA IN PARK CITY, KANSAS,  
HOSTED BY THE WICHITA WINGS <<**



# STANDINGS

(As of March 14, 2024)

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

y - Rochester Lancers	9	9	0	0	27	9	116	37	+79
United Elite Krajisnik FC	8	3	5	0	9	3	46	54	-8
Baltimore Arsenal	7	2	5	0	6	2	33	54	-31
Atletico Orlando	6	1	5	0	3	1	27	66	-39

## >>North Division

y - Iowa Demon Hawks	11	11	0	0	33	11	136	50	+86
x - Iowa Raptors	9	5	5	0	15	5	72	75	-3
St. Louis Ambush 2	11	3	8	0	9	3	65	107	-33
Muskegon Risers	12	3	9	0	9	3	64	105	-43

## >>Midwest Division

y - Wichita Wings	11	10	0	1	31	10	114	64	+50
x - Amarillo Bombers	10	7	3	0	20	6	114	91	+20
El Paso Rhinos Uno Seis	10	6	4	0	18	6	97	65	+32
Kansas Bandits	12	3	8	1	10	3	81	135	-54
New Mexico Runners	10	1	10	0	2	0	84	134	-50

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**

	<b>GP</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>OTL</b>	<b>PTS</b>	<b>RW</b>	<b>GF</b>	<b>GA</b>	<b>DIF</b>
<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

Friday, March 22 United Elite Krajisnik at Rochester Lancers, 7:45 p.m. EDT  
Sat., March 23 Atletico Orlando at Baltimore Arsenal, 6 p.m. EDT  
Sat., March 23 United Elite Krajisnik at Rochester Lancers, 7:45 p.m. EDT  
Sun., March 24 Atletico Orlando at Baltimore Arsenal, 1 p.m. EDT



# THE STATS

## 2023-24 MASL 2 GOAL LEADERS

Player	Team	Goals	GP
Angel Lopez	Kansas Bandits	34	12
Ali Alomari	Rochester Lancers	26	9
Rene Loya	Amarillo Bombers	26	9
Mershad Ahmadi	Wichita Wings	23	11
Bruno Henrique	Iowa Demon Hawks	20	10
Ricardo Diegues	Iowa Demon Hawks	20	7
Thiago Freitas	Iowa Demon Hawks	18	10

## 2023-24 MASL 2 ASSISTS LEADERS

Player	Team	Assists	GP
Thiago Frietas	Iowa Demon Hawks	19	10
Bruno Henrique	Iowa Demon Hawks	19	10
Kevin Ten Eyck	Wichita Wings	17	11
Ricardo Diegues	Iowa Demon Hawks	15	8
Miguel Reyes	Amarillo Bombers	13	9

## 2023-24 MASL 2 TOTAL POINTS LEADERS

Player	Team	Points	GP
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Angel Lopez	Kansas Bandits	39	12
Bruno Henrique	Iowa Demon Hawks	39	11
Ali Alomari	Rochester Lancers	37	9
Thiago Freitas	Iowa Demon Hawks	37	10
Rene Loya	Amarillo Bombers	35	9
Ricardo Diegues	Iowa Demon Hawks	35	8

### 2023-24 MASL 2 GOALS AGAINST AVERAGE LEADERS

Jacob Mitchell	Rochester Lancers	3.77
Rainer Hauss	Iowa Demon Hawks	4.14
Jose Ocampo	Wichita Wings	5.29
Robert Sams	United Elite	7.61

### 2023-24 MASL 2 GOALKEEPER WINS

Rainer Hauss	Iowa Demon Hawks	10
Jose Ocampo	Wichita Wings	9
Jakeb Mitchell	Rochester Lancers	6
Fredo Chavez	Amarillo Bombers	6

### 2023-24 MASL 2 GOALKEEPER SAVES PERCENTAGE

Rainer Hauss	Iowa Demon Hawks	.815
Jose Ocampo	Wichita Wings	.756
Jakeb Mitchell	Rochester Lancers	.704
Alejandro Sosa	Baltimore Arsenal	.647
Nate Yeager	New Mexico Runners	.693

*>> 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 [spicocityfc.com](http://spicocityfc.com) with season ticket options available for just \$79 for a seven-game home schedule.