

Major Arena Soccer League 2

WEEK 14 M2 PREVIEW



Games of March 1-3





THE GAMES



Friday, March 8, 7 p.m. EST
IOWA RAPTORS (5-4) at
MUSKEGON RISERS (2-9)
Trinty Health Arena, Muskegon, MI



GAME NOTES: Muskegon will close the home portion of their slate in 2023-24 hoping to play spoiler against the Iowa Raptors, closing in on a playoff spot in the North after advancing all the way to the M2 championship game a year ago. This is the fourth meeting of the season with Iowa taking previous wins of 12-5, 8-3 and 10-7. On January 6, the Raptors pulled back to .500, and solidly into second place in the North Division in a quest to return to the M2 championship game that they reached last spring. The game was close for a while, with the Risers trailing just 2-1 at intermission, but the Raptors erupted for 10 second-half goals, including six unanswered in the third – part of a run of eight consecutive goals by Iowa – to pull away. Veteran Bobby Hurwitz led the way with four goals, while Dawson Swearingen had a goal and two assists. Nico Williams also scored twice. Scoring a goal and adding an assist each were Jacob Johnson, Angelo Oquendo and Isiah Diaz. Taylor Pill led the Muskegon attack with two goals and one assist while Jonah Dancer also added two goals. Sean Austin got the win in goal, credited with nine saves, as Iowa outshot Muskegon 24-17. On Feb. 9 and 10th, Iowa scored four goals in the second quarter, and four more in the fourth, to win on Friday. Nico Williams led the way with two goals and one assist while veteran Pat Kelly chipped in with a goal and two assists. On Saturday, it was just a 5-4 game at intermission, but the Raptors got the only two goals of the third frame to pull away. Ian Kearney had two goals for Iowa while Jacob Johnson had a pair as well. Ramon Somolinos had two goals for the Risers while Jonah Dancer had a goal and an assist. Williams is the Raptors leading goal scorer this year with nine while Angelo Oquendo leads in points with 13 on seven goals and six assists. Miguel Flores is having another big year for the Risers with 16 goals and four assists to lead the Muskegon attack.

UP NEXT: Muskegon Risers have completed their regular season / Iowa Raptors at Iowa Demon Hawks on Friday, March 15 at 7:30 p.m. at Buccaneer Arena, Des Moines, Iowa.

**>> ALL MAJOR ARENA SOCCER LEAGUE 2 GAMES
ARE BROADCAST LIVE AND FREE TO WATCH!!!
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INFORMATION FOR EACH GAME. <<**



Fri., March 8 and Sat., March 9 at 7:45 p.m. EST
ATLETICO ORLANDO (1-3) at
ROCHESTER LANCERS (7-0)
Total Sports Experience, East Rochester, NY



GAME NOTES: Rochester became the third team in M2 to clinch a playoff spot last weekend, even without taking to the field. The Lancers, in fact, can wrap up first place in the East in preparation for a trip to Wichita for the league's Championship Weekend April 4-7 at Hartman Arena. with just one point this weekend. These two teams met the first weekend in February in Rochester – by mutual agreement, Orlando is playing all their games on the road while they ready their own field in Central Florida for 2024-25– with the Lancers winning two, 12-4 and 10-4. The Lancers stayed undefeated after rallying for a win on Friday and never trailing on Saturday. Orlando looked to have upset on their mind as they opened a 2-0 lead in the first quarter Friday. But once the Rochester offense found its groove in the second quarter, it never let up, scoring 12 of the game's next 13 goals. The Lancers had a balanced attack, with Tamas Nagy, Tanner Bay, Konrad Zydowicz and Davinson Diaz all scored two goals each. Nagy and Bay each added two assists for four point nights. Jakeb Mitchell picked up the win in goal, with a .714 save percentage. Rochester outshot Orlando 47-24. On Saturday, the Lancers left little doubt, racing to a 4-0 lead after one period and 8-1 at then end of the third. Rochester outshot Orlando 41-29 with Ali Alomari leading the way with four goals and one assist. Ryan Curtis had a hat trick and Diaz had a goal and an assist. For Orlando, who is playing all 12 of its games on the road this year while it finalizes a home field for 2024-24, Rodrigo Kauffman and Jose Reyes each had one goal and one assist. Alastair Farmer got the start in goal and picked up his second win of the season in three appearances. He was credited with 13 saves and a .692 saves percentage. On the season, Victor Rada Yibrin leads Orlando with six goals in four starts. Rochester is led by Alomari with 19 goals and eight assist in seven games. Jakeb Mitchell is leading the league in goal with a goals against average of 4.15, and is third in saves percentage and wins.

NEXT: Rochester Lancers at Baltimore Arsenal on Saturday, March 16 at 2 p.m. Towson Arena, Towson, Maryland / Atletico Orlando at United Elite Krajisnik on Saturday, March 16 at 6:30 p.m. at Nexus Center, Utica, NY.



Fri., March 8, 7 p.m. / Sat., March 9 at 3 p.m. CST
KANSAS BANDITS (3-6-1) AT
AMARILLO BOMBERS (4-3)
Amarillo Civic Center, Amarillo, TX



GAME NOTES: Stopping Angel Lopez will be priority one for the Bombers this weekend as the Bombers look to improve their playoff hopes when the Bandits visit. Lopez is M2's leader in goals with 30 this season. The two teams have split a pair of high scoring affairs so far in 2023-23, with the Bandits winning

12-11 on Feb. 3 and the Bombers winning at home on January 6 10-8. The Bombers broke an early 2-2 with four straight goal in the second quarter to take a 6-2 lead at intermission en route to picked up their first win os the season. Rene Loya, who played last year for the Chihuahua Savage 2 which one the M2 title, led Amarillo with four goals and one assist. Alan Valenzuela had a h at trick, while teammate Jorge Gonzalez scored twice. Eduardo "Benji" Monreal added two assists while Miguel Reyes had a goal and an assist. Fredo Chavez was the winning netminder. For Kansas, who fought back to trail by only a goal with 4:32 to play, was led by Erik Martinez, Alan Lopez and Danny Rojas who all had two goals each. Martinez also added two assists. Chris Valez had a three-point night on a goal and two assists. In their February matchup, Lopez continued to be one of the main stories of the Major Arena Soccer League 2 season, as he had another big afternoon to lead the Bandits to their third win of the season. Lopez came into the game leading M2 in total goals with 23, and banged in another six in this one to stretch his goals leading total to 29 in eight games. The Bandits took the lead for good on Lopez's second goal of the game coming with 11:55 to play in the second quarter. Amarillo jumped out to an early 3-0 lead, but the Bandits then scored three in a row to knot things up. The game was tied on two different occasions early. Lopez scored again with 6:44 to go in the third to but Kansas up 10-6 before the Bombers battled back, pulling to within one on a Francisco Rivas sixth-attacker goal with 2:17 to go. Amarillo, however, despite some looks, did not ever find the equalizer. The Bombers lived up to their name, firing 53 shots at goal, while Kansas had 25. Kansas goalkeeper Jorge Ortiz was credited with 20 saves in the win. In addition to Lopez, Rodrigo De La Cruz had two goals and one assist. For Amarillo, Miguel Reyes had the hat trick. Alan Valenzuela had two goals and three assists and Rene Loya had two goals and one assist. On the season, Lopez also is tied for the league lead in total points with 33. Amarillo's attack is led by Loya with 18 goals and five assists.

UP NEXT: Amarillo Bombers at El Paso Rhinos Uno Seis on Saturday, March 16 at 7:30 p.m. MDT at La Fronterra Indoor Soccer, El Paso, Texas / Kansas Bandits end of regular season.



Friday, March 8, 7:30 p.m. CST
ST. LOUIS AMBUSH 2 (X-X) at
IOWA DEMON HAWKS (10-0)
Buccaneer Arena, Des Moines, Iowa



GAME NOTES: One of the league's two remaining undefeated teams – the Iowa Demon Hawks – will look to make it 11 in a row when they host the Ambush 2. This is the fourth meeting of the year between the two, with the first coming Dec. 30 when Iowa took an 18-8 home win. The Demon Hawks continued to get prolific production from a quartet of Major Arena Soccer League standouts who now suit up for the Demon Hawks in M2. In Saturday's 18 goal outburst, Thiago Freitas had three goals and four assists while Bruno Henrique had two goals and five assists. Ricardo Diegues had four goals and two assists while Diego Pantuza had five goals. All played for the MASL Florida Tropics, who were traditionally one of the league's highest scoring teams. Former Tropics goalkeeper Rainer Hauss got the win in goal too, his fourth in four starts. Demon Hawk Lincoln Borges chipped in with two goals and two assists. The offensive onslaught continued on Sunday, with a 13-goal showing. Diegues led the way with two goals and three assists, while Pantuza had two goals and two assists. Freitas had three goals and an assist while Henrique provided two goals and two assists. Joao Vitor also had two goals. St. Louis scored first (Josh Depriest) but Iowa built a 6-2 lead at intermission. On February 10, the Demon Hawks took a 10-5 decision in St. Louis. Lucas Silva

became the latest Demon Hawk to lead the league's leading offense with three goals and one assist. Thiago Freitas also added two goals as Iowa outshot St. Louis 31-22. The Ambush took a 3-2 lead early in the second quarter on a goal by Zach Druhe, but Iowa scored the game's next four goals to quell any thoughts of a big upset. St. Louis did pull to within 6-5 with two seconds to play in the third quarter on a goal by Aamahn Murvin, but Iowa went on another four-goal spree to close things out. Brennon Austin had a goal and assist for St. Louis, and Murvin also had a two-point effort by adding an assist as well. Ricardo Diegues, who has since signed with the MASL Baltimore Blast, continues to lead Iowa in scoring with 20 goals and 13 assists in seven games, Henrique has 17 goals and 15 assists in nine games, while Freitas has 14 goals and 18 assists in nine games. For St. Louis, Louie Perez leads the attack with 14 goals and four assists. Rainer Hauss has all 10 wins in goal for Iowa, tops in the league, as is his saves percentage at .797. He is second in goals against average at 4.16.

UP NEXT: Iowa Demon Hawks vs Iowa Raptors on Friday, March 15 at 7:30 p.m. CDT at Buccaneer Arena, Des Moines, Iowa / St. Louis Ambush 2 vs. Iowa Raptors on Sunday, March 17 at 5 p.m. CDT at Family Arena, St. Charles, Missouri.



Saturday, March 9 at 7 p.m. CST
EL PASO RHINOS UNO SEIS (6-3) at
WICHITA WINGS (9-0-1)
Hartman Arena, Park City, Kansas



GAME NOTES: The top two teams in the Midwest will tangle, although the Wings have assured themselves of a regular season title in the division, and a berth in the M2 playoffs which they will host April 4-7. This is the third meeting of the season, with El Paso suffering two of their three losses at the hands of the Wings. On January 6 in Wichita, the Wings picked up a 10-3 triumph. For the second straight home game, the Wings took all the suspense out of things early with a six-goal first quarter en route to a win in this anticipated matchup. The two teams combined to fire 79 shots on goal (40 for Wichita), as the Wings built a 6-2 lead after the first 15 minutes. Alvaro Quezada had the hat trick for Wichita, while Mershad Ahmadi had two goals as did Caique Trivelato. He added an assist for a three-point night, while David Lucio did the same with one goal and two assists. Jose Ocampo got the win in goal, credited with 23 saves, lowering his goals against average on the season to 4.19 in picking up his third win. Mario Arrieta had two assists to lead the El Paso offense. The two teams met again in Wichita on January 13, with the Wings prevailing, 7-2. The Wings finished off a string of five straight home games to start the season with their fifth win, and second in a week over El Paso, after a 10-3 win last weekend in Wichita. This past Saturday, Jose Ocampo, the Wings netminder, had a shutout going into the fourth quarter as Wichita built a 5-0 lead after the first three quarters. The clean sheet was ended 89 seconds into the fourth on an El Paso goal by Edgar Perez. For the game, Ocampo made 12 saves as the Wings outshot El Paso 27-26. Ahmadi had three goals to pace Wichita's attack, while Colin Lawler added a pair. Kevin Ten Eyck provided two assists as did Roger Downing, Wings head coach, who has dressed six times in his five year career at the helm. Coming into this one, Luevano leads El Paso with nine goals and six assists. Ahmadi is the top scorer for Wichita with 21 goals and eight assists in 10 starts. Jose Ocampo for the Wings is third in the league in goals against (5.19), second in saves percentage (.756) and second in wins (8).

UP NEXT: Wichita Wings at New Mexico Runners on Sunday, March 17 at 3:05 MDT at the Rio Rancho Events Center, Rio Rancho, NM / El Paso Rhinos Uno Seis vs. Amarillo Bombers on Saturday, Mmarch 16 at 7:30 p.m. at La Frontera Indoor Soccer, El Paso.



Monday, March 11 at 6:30 p.m. CDT
NEW MEXICO RUNNERS at
AMARILLO BOMBERS
Amarillo Civic Center, Amarillo, Texas



GAME NOTES: An extremely rare Monday night matchup since bad weather forced cancellation of a weekend game a few weeks ago in Amarillo. These two sides have met twice already this year, with Amarillo winning twice. On January 7 in Albuquerque The Bombers, who led all of M2 in goals scored last year, never trailed, although the Runners did get as close as 7-6 midway through the third quarter. Eduardo "Benji" Monreal had a big afternoon with five goals and one assist. Migeul Reyes had three goals and two assists and Rene Loya scored twice. The Runners got a big effort from Vince Aragon who had three goals and two assists. Nick Legendre chipped in with a pair of goals. Two weeks later, Amarillo squeaked out an 8-7 win at home. The Bombers erased an early 3-1 deficit to thrill the home fans with five straight goals from late in the first quarter to very early in the third to pick up their third win of the season. That run put the bombers up 6-3 just 30 seconds into the second half, The Runners trimmed the lead to just one 90 seconds before the end of the third on a goal by Edward Oropesa, but that was as close as they would get. Amarillo outshot New Mexico, 30-25, with GK Fredo Chavez picking up his third win in making a dozen stops. David Trevizo., one of M2's leading scorers a year ago, stepped up big again for Amarillo with a three-goal performance. Pablo Magallanes was the premier playmaker, with three assists to go along with his one goal. Francisco Rivas also had two assists. For the hard luck Runners it was their second one goal loss in as many weekends - Austin Snyder led the way with two goals while Jamie Rodriguez had a goal and two assists. Coming into the weekend, Amarillo is being led by Loya with 18 goals and five assists. New Mexico's Vince Aragon leads the runners with 14 goals and eight assists.

UP NEXT: Amarillo Bombers at El Paso Rhinos Uno Seis on Saturday, March 16 aqt 7:30 p.m. MDT at La Frontera Indoor Soccer, El Paso, Texas / New Mexico Runners vs. Wichita Wings on Sunday, March 17 at 3:05 p.m. MST at Rio Rancho Events Center, Rio Rancho, NM.



STANDINGS

(As of March 8, 2024)

GP W L OTL PTS RW GF GA DIF

>>East Division

x - Rochester Lancers	7	7	0	0	21	7	85	32	+53
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	4	1	3	0	3	1	22	35	-13

>>North Division

y - Iowa Demon Hawks	10	10	0	0	30	10	122	45	+77
Iowa Raptors	8	5	4	0	15	5	67	69	-2
St. Louis Ambush 2	10	3	7	0	9	3	60	93	-33
Muskegon Risers	11	2	9	0	6	2	58	100	-44

>>Midwest Division

y - Wichita Wings	10	9	0	1	28	9	109	60	+49
El Paso Rhinos Uno Seis	9	6	3	0	18	6	93	60	+33
Amarillo Bombers	7	4	3	0	11	3	72	70	+2
Kansas Bandits	10	3	6	1	10	3	71	107	-31
New Mexico Runners	10	1	9	0	2	0	72	120	-48

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

	GP	W	L	OTL	PTS	RW	GF	GA	DIF
>>North Division									
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
>>Midwest Division									
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
>>West Division									
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 15 Iowa Raptors at Iowa Demon Hawks, 7:30 p.m. CDT
- Sat., March 16 Rochester Lancers at Baltimore Arsenal, 2 p.m. EDT
- Sat., March 16 Atletico Orlando at United Elite Krajisnik, 6:30 p.m. EDT
- Sat., March 16 Amarillo Bombers at El Paso Rhinos Uno Seis, 7:30 p.m. MDT
- Sun., March 17 Amarillo Bombers at El Paso Rhinos Unot Seis, 2 p.m. MDT
- Sun., March 17 Wichita Wings at New Mexico Runners, 3 p.m. MDT
- Sun., March 17 Iowa Raptors at St. Louis Ambush 2, 5 p.m. CDT
- Sun. March 17 Atletico Orlando at United Elite Krajisnik, 6:30 p.m. EDT

**>> M2's CHAMPIONSHIP WEEKEND IS APRIL 4-7,
HOSTED BY THE WICHITA WINGS AT
HARTMAN ARENA, PARK CITY, KANSAS. <<**



THE STATS

2023-24 MASL 2 GOAL LEADERS

Player	Team	Goals	GP
Angel Lopez	Kansas Bandits	30	10
Mershad Ahmadi	Wichita Wings	21	10
Ricardo Diegues	Iowa Demon Hawks	20	7
Ali Alomari	Rochester Lancers	19	7
Rene Loya	Amarillo Bombers	18	7
Bruno Henrique	Iowa Demon Hawks	17	9
Diego Pantuza	Iowa Demon Hawks	17	9
Caique Trivelato	Wichita Wings	17	9

2023-24 MASL 2 ASSISTS LEADERS

Player	Team	Assists	GP
Thiago Frietas	Iowa Demon Hawks	18	9
Kevin Ten Eyck	Wichita Wings	16	10
Bruno Henrique	Iowa Demon Hawks	15	9
Ricardo Diegues	Iowa Demon Hawks	13	7
David Lucio	Wichita Wings	12	10
Taylor Henry	Wichita Wings	12	10
Miguel Reyes	Amarillo Bombers	10	7
Eduardo "Benji" Monreal	Amarillo Bombers	10	5

2023-24 MASL 2 TOTAL POINTS LEADERS

Player	Team	Points	GP
Angel Lopez	Kansas Bandits	33	10
Ricardo Diegues	Iowa Demon Hawks	33	7
Bruno Henrique	Iowa Demon Hawks	32	9
Thiago Frietas	Iowa Demon Hawks	32	9
Mershad Ahmadi	Wichita Wings	29	10
Ali Alomari	Rochester Lancers	27	7
Diego Pantuza	Iowa Demon Hawks	26	7
Kevin Ten Eyck	Wichita Wings	25	10

2023-24 MASL 2 GOALS AGAINST AVERAGE LEADERS

Jacob Mitchell	Rochester Lancers	4.15
Rainer Hauss	Iowa Demon Hawks	4.16
Jose Ocampo	Wichita Wings	5.29
Jorge Ortiz	Atletico Orlando	7.50

2023-24 MASL 2 GOALKEEPER WINS

Rainer Hauss	Iowa Demon Hawks	9
Jose Ocampo	Wichita Wings	9
Jakeb Mitchell	Rochester Lancers	5
Fredo Chavez	Amarillo Bombers	4

2023-24 MASL 2 GOALKEEPER SAVES PERCENTAGE

Rainer Hauss	Iowa Demon Hawks	.797
Jose Ocampo	Wichita Wings	.756

Jakeb Mitchell	Rochester Lancers	.678
Alejandro Sosa	Baltimore Arsenal	.647
Jorge Ortiz	Atletico Orlando	.625
Nate Yeager	New Mexico Runners	.603

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

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

>> Announcement coming this week of another new team for M2 in 2024-25, a club that if you're a soccer fan at all, you will know immediately! Stay tuned! <<