

TUES · MAR · 19TH
7:00PM · VIRTUE FIELD

VERMONT GREEN

TAKE
ON
LEXINGTON SC.

US OPEN CUP



LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT



Vermont Green FC acknowledges that our playing ground sits on land that is a site of meeting and exchange for Indigenous peoples since time immemorial. Ongoing generations of Indigenous peoples, namely the Western Abenaki [A-ben-A-kee], have stewarded this land. The Western Abenaki are the caretakers of this land which they call Ndakinna [in-DAH-kee-NAH], or “homeland.” We recognize the trauma that violence and forced displacement by the hands of colonizing peoples has caused these communities. We are guests on this land and will respect and uplift Indigenous histories, cultures and peoples. We give thanks for the opportunity to share the joys of this beautiful land and in turn are committed to protecting it.



2024 U.S. OPEN CUP FIRST ROUND



LAMAR HUNT
U.S. OPEN CUP



vs



**Vermont Green FC
vs Lexington SC**

**Tuesday, March 19, 2024
7:00pm**



2024 U.S. OPEN CUP ROSTER

1 Nathan SCHNUR

3 Charlie ADAMS

5 Moussa NDIAYE

6 Daniel PACELLA

7 Federico TELLEZ

8 Jacob LABOVITZ

10 Nick LOCKERMANN

12 Gerardo CASTILLO

13 Lute LILLO

14 Sydney WATHUTA

17 Dylan LANE

18 Yaniv BAZINI

20 Pearse O'BRIEN

22 Rodrigo VAZA

24 Benny PREGO

25 Jake ASHFORD (c)

28 Zach BARRETT

30 Jack CLOHERTY

32 Taha KINA

47 Jason BOUREGY





vs



HEAD COACH



ADAM
PFEIFER

STARTING XI



BAZINI



LABOVITZ



LOCKERMANN



NDIAYE



RODRI



WATHUTA



CASTILLO



ASHFORD^c



BARRETT



PREGO



SCHNUR

SUBS: 13. LUTE, 3. ADAMS, 6. PACELLA, 7. TELLEZ
17. LANE, 20. O'BRIEN, 32. KINA



2024 US OPEN CUP FIRST ROUND

Vermont Green FC will host professional club Lexington SC of USL League One on Tuesday, March 19 at 7:00pm in the historic U.S. Open Cup. The match will be the first U.S. Open Cup appearance for the Green, and the first time a match will be held in the Green Mountain State in the single-elimination tournament's 111 year history. According to available records, the visitors from Kentucky will hold the honor of being the first professional soccer club to play a competitive match in Vermont.

THE OPPONENT

Lexington Sporting Club competes in USL League One, the third tier of professional soccer in the United States. Founded in 2021 in Lexington, KY, the club competed in its inaugural season in 2023, making the club one year younger than Vermont Green FC. The Green compete in USL League Two, a semi-professional summer league, considered the fourth tier of the American soccer pyramid.

2024 CONTENDERS

After finishing in ninth place (7-11-14) in USL League One in their inaugural season, Lexington SC have made some noise this offseason with an impressive new coaching staff and a number of big player signings. The headline-making transfer business has the Kentuckians touted as serious contenders to win USL League One in 2024.

EXPERIENCE AT THE HELM: DARREN POWELL

In November, Lexington SC introduced Darren Powell as the club's new Head Coach. The experienced Nottingham, England native was previously the Director of Player Development and Phil Neville's First Team Assistant Coach at Inter Miami CF of Major League Soccer. He also served as Head Coach of Inter Miami CF II of MLS Next Pro in 2022.



2024 US OPEN CUP FIRST ROUND

MARQUEE SIGNING: CAMERON LANCASTER

Highlighting a bevy of attacking options is USL Championship's third all-time leading goalscorer and two-time champion Cameron Lancaster.

The 31-year-old forward from London, England recently joined Lexington SC from Kentucky-neighbors Louisville City FC of the USL Championship. In Louisville, he is the club's all-time leading scorer with 88 goals in 175 appearances, and won the league's Golden Boot in 2018. A product of Tottenham Hotspur, where he earned one appearance in the Premier League, Lancaster now joins Lexington with a decorated resumé.

THE GREEN APPROACH

Despite the differences between the two clubs both in the level on the American soccer pyramid and the time available for preparation, Vermont Green FC will approach the match looking to hold this sling in this David and Goliath tale. Head Coach Adam Pfeifer will field familiar faces as well as new reinforcements for the task at hand. It's the first match of the calendar year, and Virtue Field will be packed to the gills.

LABOVITZ & BAZINI LEAD THE LINE

Vermont Green FC are not without professional pedigree of their own as former USL League One striker Jacob Labovitz prepares to make his debut for the Green Mountain Boys. The Virtue Field faithful will also welcome back striker Yaniv Bazini (University of Vermont). The forward is coming off high-production seasons in USL League Two and collegiate play. The strike partnership will look to cause problems for the visitors on Tuesday night. If the two forwards can gel quickly, their partnership could ignite an upset.



2024 US OPEN CUP FIRST ROUND

RETURN OF THE CAPTAIN

As the Green Mountain State prepares for its biggest soccer stage yet, the underdog Green will look to club captain Jake Ashford to lead the way on the pitch. The former Creighton and University of Vermont defender has been club captain since 2022, and his leadership will be invaluable if the Vermonters are to advance in the tournament.



PLAYER SPOTLIGHT:

#8 JACOB LABOVITZ



Tonight will mark the debut for new signing, #8 Jacob Labovitz.

'Labo' most recently played with Greenville Triumph of USL League One. The 25-year old scored 18 goals in 57 appearances as a professional player in Greenville..

In his collegiate career, the Great Falls, Virginia-native represented Virginia Tech, where he scored 23 goals in 52 matches, earning First-Team All-ACC honors in 2021.

Labo holds both US and Hungarian passports.

Favorite club: Chelsea

Favorite player: Didier Drogba

Favorite vegetable: Broccoli



2024 SEASON SCHEDULE

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Club</u>	<u>Location</u>
Sat May 18	4:00 PM	@ Boston City FC	Malden, MA
Wed May 22	4:00 PM	@ Black Rock FC	New London, NH
Sat May 25	2:00 PM	Pathfinder FC	Burlington, VT
Tues May 28	7:00 PM	Black Rock FC	Burlington, VT
Sat June 1	6:00 PM	AC Connecticut	Burlington, VT
Sat June 8	1:00 PM	@Albany Rush	Schenectady, NY
Tues June 11	6:00 PM	@ Seacoast United	Epping, NH
Sat June 15	7:00 PM	Western Mass Pioneers	Burlington, VT
Tues June 18	6:00 PM	@ AC Connecticut	Danbury, CT
Wed June 26	7:00 PM	Boston City FC	Burlington, VT
Sun June 30	2:00 PM	@ Pathfinder FC	Pleasant Valley, NY
Sun July 7	2:00 PM	Seacoast United	Burlington, VT
Wed July 10	7:00 PM	Boston Bolts	Burlington, VT
Sat July 13	6:00 PM	@ Western Mass Pioneers	Ludlow, MA

Three additional matches to be added!



COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT



In recognition of VGFC's mission of a closed loop program, we are proud to be partners with Recover Brands.

Recover Brands was founded by Bill Jonhston and John Riddle in 2010 when they saw an opportunity to create a company that reduced the harm on the environment but also gave people an easy way to be part of the solution instead of the problem. They wanted all aspects of their business to be as environmentally and socially friendly as possible, from manufacturing to fulfillment.

VGFC's desire to take part in that mission has forged this partnership through all soft goods apparel coming from Recover as well as used clothing drop-off box at all Vermont Green FC matches.



COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT



Increasing Access to Healthcare

During tonight's match, we are partnering with [Open Door Clinic](#) and hosting a winter coat and accessories drive. ODC, a community clinic whose mission is to provide free and quality healthcare to those who are uninsured or underinsured.

ODC started in the 1990s with a grant from Ben & Jerry's (one of our partners!) in a bus and has been steadily expanding in several parts of the state since and is a member of the Vermont Coalition of Clinics for the Uninsured (VCCU).

Access is provided in Spanish and English. Half of the patients served in 2023 are Latin American migrant agricultural workers and Caribbean season workers who face profound barriers to accessing care. With the help of an amazing network of drivers, through a program called Amistad, ODC is able to reach more people who benefit from their services



HONORING AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY

Vermont Green FC is playing *Lift Every Voice and Sing*, often referred to as “The Black National Anthem,” at every home match to celebrate African American freedom and achievement and respect for all cultures. The Club started this tradition to honor Juneteenth – the effective end of slavery in the United States – and will continue honoring our shared history each time we take the pitch. The hymn was written as a poem by NAACP leader James Weldon Johnson in 1900. His brother, John Rosamond Johnson (1873–1954), composed the music for the lyrics.

At the turn of the 20th century, Johnson’s lyrics eloquently captured the solemn yet hopeful appeal for the liberty of Black Americans and was later adopted by NAACP and prominently used as a rallying cry during the Civil Rights Movement of the 1950s and 1960s. To learn more about the history of *Lift Every Voice and Sing*, visit [NAACP’s website](#).



ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE MISSION

The Club is prioritizing five goals in pursuit of our environmental justice mission. More details on these goals can be found on our website, www.vermontgreenfc.com/mission.

Net Zero

We will become a net zero club following Science Based Targets (SBTi) initiative standard. Net zero targets will follow climate science-based requirements and environmental justice principles.

Fight Systemic Racism

We will stand up to systemic racism in soccer and beyond. We are working with the Anti Racist Soccer Club on a 10 point plan to advance anti-racist actions and behaviors at the club and in the community.

Giving

As 1% for the Planet members, we have committed to donating 1% of our annual net sales to non-profits working on behalf of the environment.

Purpose-driven Merchandise

We source merchandise that satisfies the highest standards of environmental stewardship and social responsibility. We are also building a program that will allow our supporters to participate in the circular economy.

Educate and Advocate

It all starts here. We are using our platform to raise awareness of and advocate for ways we can collectively transform our society through the lens of environmental justice.



THANK YOU, PARTNERS!



SunCommon is your local solar expert, dedicated to accelerating the transition to solar power in our community. Ensuring a habitable planet is some of the most important work of our lifetimes, and everyone deserves access to a healthy environment and a brighter future.



Vivid Coffee is a roastery and coffee shop located in the heart of downtown Burlington. Our mission is to source, roast, and share coffee of the highest quality that is sourced in ways that prioritize equity and sustainability. This means working to ensure farmers and farm workers are paid fair wages; as well as considering environmental responsibility at each stage from seed to farm to cup. Visit our cafe at 150 Cherry Street in Burlington or order online.



Sticky Brand, located in Burlington Vermont, is one of the fastest-growing, custom sticker companies in America. Our mission is to offer high quality, affordable, custom stickers, through an easy-to-use online ordering system, with 100% customer satisfaction. Our customers range from local artists, entrepreneurs, and small businesses, to the NBA, Youtube, and Spotify.



Project Graphics creates branded display solutions for any promotional event!



Larkin Hospitality is a family-owned and operated hotel company with properties throughout New England. Whether you're looking for a more luxurious experience, planning a corporate or private event, or keeping your travels on a budget, you'll always find what you're looking for within the Larkin Hospitality family.



THANK YOU, PARTNERS!

Vermont Green Football Club would not exist without our generous partners. We would like to extend a massive thank you to all of them for their support.



Greenbacker



TICKET POLICY



The Vermont Green FC ticket is a revocable license, and the holder of this ticket voluntarily assumes all risks and dangers incidental to attendance at this event, whether occurring before, during or after the game. This ticket may be taken, and admission refused upon refunding the purchase price appearing thereon. This ticket will not be replaced if stolen or destroyed. It is understood that the license granted by this ticket for the purpose of viewing the game only as an eyewitness. Vermont Green FC further reserves the right to eject and prosecute any person whose conduct is deemed unbecoming (e.g., throwing objects, abusive or vulgar language). The consumption and/or possession of intoxicating beverages at this contest, outside designated areas is prohibited. Violators will be ejected without refund. All carried items will be searched upon entry, and entrants themselves are subject to search. Ticket holder expressly grants Vermont Green FC permission to use holder's image in connection with any live or recorded transmission, reproduction, or publication of this event. Tickets obtained from sources other than Vermont Green FC may be lost, stolen or counterfeit ticket and in such cases will not be honored. Any person buying tickets from other sources does so at his/her own risk. Individuals ages 5 and older must have a ticket. Children ages 4 and under are admitted free of charge. Unless specifically authorized in advance by Vermont Green FC, this ticket may not be offered as a prize in a sweepstakes or contest. Date and time are subject to change. No refunds or exchanges.

