



APRIL 3
2024

VIRTUE FIELD

VERMONT GREEN

... take on Carolina Core FC



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 SECOND ROUND



LAMAR HUNT
U.S. OPEN CUP



VS



**Vermont Green FC
vs Carolina Core FC**

**Wednesday, April 3, 2024
7:00pm**



2024 U.S. OPEN CUP ROSTER

1. Nathan Schnur
3. Jason Bouregy
5. Moussa Ndiaye
6. Daniel Pacella
7. Xavi O'Neil
8. Jacob Labovitz
10. Nick Lockermann
13. Lute Lillo
14. Sydney Wathuta
17. Dylan Lane
18. Yaniv Bazini
20. Pearse O'Brien
22. Rodri Vaza
24. Bernardo Prego
25. Jake Ashford
27. Reid Fisher
28. Zach Barrett
31. Francesco Montali





vs



STARTING XI



ADAM
PFEIFER



BAZINI



LABOVITZ



O'BRIEN



NDIAYE



RODRI



WATHUTA



LOCKERMANN



ASHFORD



BARRETT



PREGO



SCHNUR

SUBS: 13. LUTE, 3. BOUREGY, 6. PACELLA, 7. O'NEIL
17. LANE, 27. REID, 32. JORGENSON



2024 US OPEN CUP SECOND ROUND

Vermont Green FC will host professional club Carolina Core FC of MLS NEXT PRO on Wednesday, April 3 at 7:00pm in the Second Round of the historic U.S. Open Cup. The High Point, North Carolina-based club will be the second professional club to visit Virtue Field in as many weeks. Vermont Green FC are one of only eight amateur clubs remaining in the single-elimination tournament, and will look to defy the odds again to advance to the Third Round.

THE OPPONENT

Carolina Core FC competes in MLS NEXT PRO, an affiliate league of Major League Soccer with 29 clubs. Founded in 2022 in High Point, NC, the Core is currently competing in its inaugural season as one of MLS NEXT PRO's two independent professional clubs. They are not a reserve team for any other professional clubs. The Carolinians defeated Northern Virginia FC of USL League Two in the First Round of the U.S. Open Cup by a score of 3-2.

MLS NEXT PRO is recognized as the third tier of the American soccer pyramid. The Green compete in USL League Two, a semi-professional summer league, recognized as the fourth tier.

USMNT LEGENDS LEADING THE WAY

Despite being a new club, Carolina Core FC have no lack of experience at the helm. U.S. Soccer Hall of Famer and Carolina Core FC Chief Sporting Officer Eddie Pope will be in attendance at Virtue Field. Pope is a three time MLS Cup Champion with DC United and won the U.S. Open Cup in 1996. A High Point native, Pope was a regular in the U.S. National Team, and participated in three FIFA World Cups in 1998, 2002, and 2006. A bonafide legend of the game in the United States, let alone North Carolina, Pope is leading the line for the MLS NEXT PRO side, and has hired a sporting staff of serious pedigree.



2024 US OPEN CUP SECOND ROUND



ROY LASSITER'S VISION

The Core's star-powered back office invested heavily in an eye-catching sporting staff. Pope named Roy Lassiter as the Head Coach of the fledgling club. The Washington, DC-native made a name for himself as a player, winning MLS Cup in 1999 and earning 34 caps with the United States National team between 1992 and 2000.

Lassiter has built his staff with an experienced group that includes MLS veterans Amado Guevara and Donovan Ricketts, centurians for their respective national teams of Honduras and Jamaica. Pope has recruited a talented young squad of professional players from around the world for the club's first campaign.



2024 US OPEN CUP SECOND ROUND

THE GREEN APPROACH (PART 2)

A Cupset can be a once-in-a-lifetime feat, but the Vermonters will attempt to slay another Goliath on Wednesday. Riding the moment, the Boys in Green have only one focus: carrying the hopes of Vermonters everywhere one step closer to the nation's top soccer prize: the U.S. Open Cup.

HOLDING THE GREEN LINE

Adam Pfeifer's game plan to advance in the U.S. Open Cup will rely heavily on the strength of his back line, a group that will have to endure a high-energy attack from the Carolinian visitors. One standout from the First Round was Portuguese right back Bernardo Prego, who played his part pristinely in Vermont Green FC's 4-3 win over Lexington SC. To his left will likely be centerback duo and University of Vermont companions Zach Barrett and Jake Ashford. The centerbacks will be looking to match their valiance (and goalscoring) from two weeks ago.



2024 US OPEN CUP SECOND ROUND



THE 13TH PLAYER

While the twelfth player remains the raucous, dedicated fans that pack Virtue Field's bleachers to the brim and beyond, Vermont Green FC may have yet another loyal ally in their corner: the elements. The majority of the Green's roster have experience playing in Vermont and New England, a forecasted blast of heavy snow during Wednesday's match could work in their favor. The Vermonters hope to use the fury of the North as a thirteenth player and to give the Core a frigid welcome to the Green Mountains.



PLAYER SPOTLIGHT: #24 BENNY PREGO



Position: Defense
Hometown: Évora, Portugal
College: Providence College
Previous Club: Sporting Lisbon
Date of Birth: February 9th, 2000
Height: 5'10
Weight: 160
Instagram: @bernardo_prego

After a stand-out performance in the First Round of the U.S. Open Cup, Vermont Green fans will hope that Portuguese right back Benny Prego can put on another dazzling show down the right flank.

The Sporting Lisbon Academy product was a regular for the Green in last summer's USL League Two season, and will be back with the Green for the 2024 summer season.



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 Johnston 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



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.



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.

