



VERMONT GREEN FC VS AC CONNECTICUT • SATURDAY JUNE 1ST • 6:00PM • VIRTUE FIELD

# 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.

# TONIGHT'S MATCHUP



VS



## Vermont Green FC vs AC Connecticut

**USL League Two**  
**Saturday, June 1, 2024**  
**6:00 pm Kickoff**

Vermont Green FC and AC Connecticut will face off for just the third time on Saturday night. The matchup between the two sides has a high-scoring history, with 19 goals being scored in only 180 minutes of football between them. In 2022, the Green defeated the Connecticut side in Hartford by a score of 6-4, and in 2023 the match ended 6-3 at Virtue Field in favor of the Green.

AC Connecticut will come to Burlington on Saturday with 1-1-1 record, sitting on 4 points and in 4th place, just one spot behind the Green. They are coming off an exciting 3-2 victory over Albany Rush on the road on Wednesday, May 29.

The Virtue Field faithful will see a very recognizable face in the Connecticut XI on Saturday as Sam McCann is expected to lead the line for his hometown team. The lanky striker famously scored the winning goal for Vermont Green FC against Lionsbridge FC in the 2022 USL League Two playoffs, completing the upset of the overall top seed of that year's tournament and cementing himself in Vermont Green lore. Once a Green, always a Green, but on Saturday night the home side will need to be diligent to thwart the signature runs of McCann and his new teammates.

VERMONT GREEN FC  
vs AC CONNECTICUT

# STARTING XI

JUNE 1, 2024  
BURLINGTON, VT

8

LABOVITZ

19

ZENGUE

15

GATO

7

O'NEIL

6<sup>C</sup>

PACELLA

22

RODRI

44

THREADGOLD

5

M.NDIAYE

27

FISHER

3

WINDSCHAUER

30

WICKHAM

HEAD COACH



ADAM  
PFEIFER



SUBS: 1. MONTALI, 4. LAYTON, 10. BAWA,  
11. ZAMBRANO, 17. COMBE, 18. BAZINI, 55. DRECHSLER,



# 2024 ROSTER

## DEFENDERS



**Nathan Simeon**  
Laval, Quebec



**Lucas Windschauer**  
Madeira Beach, FL



**Moussa Ndiaye**  
Dakar, Senegal



**Gerardo Castillo**  
San José, Costa Rica



**Bernardo Prego**  
Évora, Portugal



**Mason McClendon**  
Virginia Beach, VA



**Reid Fisher**  
Huntington Beach, CA



**Gabe Threadgold**  
Bremerton, WA



**Sjur Drechsler**  
Stavanger, Norway

## MIDFIELDERS



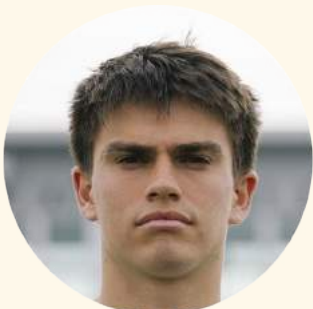
**Sam Layton**  
Brisbane, Australia



**Daniel Pacella**  
Montreal, Québec



**Andrey "Gato" Salmeron**  
San José, Costa Rica



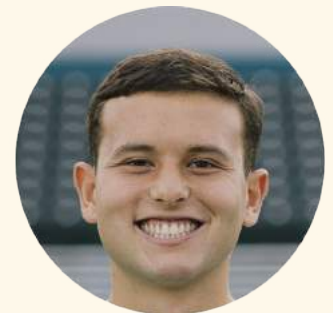
**Jackson Castro**  
Plano, TX



**Ryan Combe**  
York, Maine



**Pearson O'Brien**  
Hartford, CT



**Theo Drennan**  
Richmond, VA

# 2024 ROSTER



**Rodrigo Vaza Ferreira**  
Torres Vedras, Portugal



**Diego Batista**  
Barcelos, Portugal



**Aidan Farwell**  
Scituate, MA

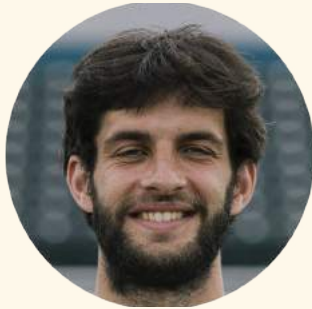


**Siad Haji**  
Manchester, NH

**FORWARDS**



**Xavi O'Neil**  
Hendon, VA



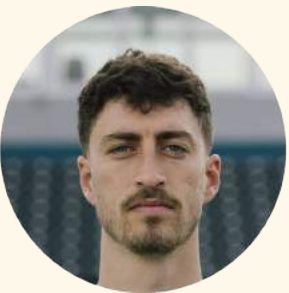
**Jacob Labovitz**  
Fairfax, VA



**Ernest Bawa**  
Accra, Ghana



**Carlos Zambrano**  
Miami, FL



**Yaniv Bazini**  
Beit Hanan, Israel



**Zach Zengue**  
Northern Oaks, MN



**Ayoub Lajhar**  
Dernah, Libya



**Michael Asare**  
Kumasi, Ghana



**Yann Toulay**  
Abidjan, Ivory Coast

**KEEPERS**



**Francesco Montali**  
Davie, FL



**Lute Lillo**  
El Altet, Spain



**Jahiem Wickham**  
Brampton, Ontario

# PLAYER SPOTLIGHT: #27 REID FISHER



Reid Fisher is today's player spotlight! Fisher is new to the Green this summer but has already seen action in the first few matches, and even getting an assist that led to the draw against Pathfinder.

He is a redshirt freshman at San Diego State University, he was named the Pac-12 Player of the Year and a Freshman All-American by College Soccer News. Fisher is majoring in journalism and aspires to be a sports announcer.

# SCHEDULE & RESULTS

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Result</u>	<u>Club</u>	<u>Location</u>
Sat May 19	7:00 PM	W 3-0	@ Boston City FC	Malden, MA
Wed May 22	4:00 PM	W 2-0	@ Black Rock FC	New London, NH
Sat May 25	2:00 PM	T 1-1	Pathfinder FC	Burlington, VT
Tue May 28	7:00 PM	W 1-0	Black Rock FC	Burlington, VT
<b>Sat June 1</b>	<b>6:00 PM</b>		<b>AC Connecticut</b>	<b>Burlington, VT</b>
Wed Jun 5	6:00 PM		Juba Star FC*	Burlington, VT
Sat Jun 8	1:00 PM		@ Albany Rush	Schenectady, NY
Tue Jun 11	6:00 PM		@ Seacoast United	Epping, NH
Sat Jun 15	7:00 PM		Western Mass Pioneers	Burlington, VT
Tue June 18	6:00 PM		@AC Connecticut	Danbury,CT
Sat Jun 22	7:00 PM		FC Laval (Women's)*	Burlington, VT
Wed Jun 26	7:00 PM		Boston City FC	Burlington,VT
Sun June 30	2:00 PM		@Pathfinder FC	Pleasant Valley, NY
Wed Jul 3	6:00 PM		CS Saint Laurent*	Burlington, VT
Sun Jul 7	2:00 PM		Seacoast United	Burlington, VT
Wed Jul 10	7:00pm		Boston Bolts	Pleasant Valley, NY
Sat July 13	6:00pm		Western Mass Pioneers	Ludlow, MA

\*Indicates friendly match



# IT'S PRIDE NIGHT!



Pride Center of Vermont is Vermont's LGBTQIA+ community center dedicated to advancing community and the health and safety of LGBTQIA+ Vermonters. They are an organization dedicated to supporting and empowering LGBTQIA+ people and communities. Their mission is to celebrate, educate, and advocate with and for LGBTQIA+ Vermonters.

Outright Vermont is one of the oldest queer youth organizations in the US founded in 1989. They hosted an adult-facilitated weekly queer (LGBTQ or lesbian, gay, bisexual, queer & questioning) youth group in Burlington on Friday nights. They offer workshops and presentations on queer identity, anti-harassment training, and how to start Queer/Straight Alliance student clubs for Vermont schools.



100% of the proceeds from the Pride merchandise sold at tonight's match will be donated to Pride Center of Vermont. ❤️

# RECENT CLUB NEWS



**THE GREEN ON CABLE** Vermont Green FC and WYCI-TV will bring local soccer to live television for the first time during the 2024 season! Six regular season matches will be televised on WYCI-TV live from Virtue Field, beginning on at today's match vs Black Rock FC.

**KIT LAUNCH** The Alpine Kit launched on Thursday, and was worn on Saturday's home opener. The inspiration comes from the vibrant ski and snowboard culture of Vermont. Through the club's partnership with PlayerLayer, each kit is made from approximately 23 recycled plastic water bottles and is Global Recycling Standard certified so the boys can play in style and wear the mission of climate justice.



**MEET THE SKIPPERS** Vermont Green has two captains (skippers) this year. Danny Pacella, who has been with the club since our first season, and Moussa Ndiaye, who is back for his second season with the Green. The club is incredibly proud and confident in these two wearing the captain's armband this season. ALLEZ!

# VOLUNTEER WITH THE GREEN!



Volunteers are essential to making matches successful and are a valued part of the Vermont Green FC family!

Interested in volunteering at upcoming matches? Fill out [this form](#) and we will be in touch!



# BIKE TO THE MATCH



Local Motion is our bike valet partner that has made biking to the matches more accessible. Check out their [website](#) for more resources. Rent a bike, learn more about community action, check out the bike ferry!

The Bike To The Match initiative incentivizes sustainable transportation that will address one of the club's environmental missions. Two raffle winners who have biked to our match will be entered to a win a prize that will be announced at during the match. Today's prize...**A Bivo water bottle!**

# 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](http://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.

# COMMUNITY PARTNERS



**ANTI RACIST  
SOCCER CLUB**



## King Street Center

Vermont Green FC is partnering with King Street Center to make matches more accessible and inviting to historically marginalized communities. The program is focused on building community ties between VGFC players and King Street Center youth and families. Players will join King Street Center youth each week to engage in soccer activities and discuss their path toward playing soccer at the highest levels. Vermont Green will host King Street Center youth at weekly practices and donate free tickets through its “Spread the Love” initiative so they can attend home games throughout the season.

## Juba Star FC

We are partnering with Juba Star Football Club to expand access to soccer and work towards equitable play in the state. Juba Star FC is a Somali Bantu-led organization that has operated in the state since 2006. The organization was established to provide a safe space for the growth and development of former refugee and immigrant youth in Vermont. The organization runs free soccer clubs for youth and adults, ages 14 and older, and provides assistance with transportation to games and practices, and mentorship for youth.

## Anti Racist Soccer Club

Anti-Racist Soccer Club is a coalition of players, clubs, and experts fighting racism in American soccer. The ARSC membership is open to teams and leagues at the professional and youth levels, supporter groups, and any other soccer-affiliated organization. ARSC works with interested parties to develop a ten-point plan anti-racism framework that is unique to that community. ARSC monitors and evaluates member plans to ensure accountability.

# 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.



Zero Gravity prioritizes partnering with proactive environmental organizations, as well as setting sustainable goals for their own business. The craft brewery works to bring the environment to the forefront of their decisions and to protect the landscapes here in Vermont that we collectively call home.



Myti community-driven online shopping platform that allows you to search for items by proximity and purchase products from independent retail businesses.



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.



As a mission-driven company, Seventh Generation believes that business can be a positive force in the world. Through its advocacy work, Seventh Generation supports the fight for climate justice and a fossil free future that's healthier and more equitable for all.



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.



Project Graphics creates branded display solutions for any promotional event!



# 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.



# THANK YOU, GRASSROOTS PARTNERS!

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# 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.