

UTAH ROYALS FC

2020 MEDIA GUIDE



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About Us

Utah Royals FC was announced as an expansion team in the NWSL in 2017, playing its inaugural match just three months later. Owned by Real Salt Lake Owner Dell Loy Hansen, URFC plays its home matches and bases its operations at Rio Tinto Stadium in Sandy, Utah. In the club's first home match, a standing-room-only crowd 19,203 saw Utah's first professional women's soccer match after the highly-successful RSL Women helped establish a grassroots base for support and hunger for soccer at the highest level. In the inaugural season, URFC finished fifth in the NWSL at 9-7-8 and followed that with a 9-10-4 record in the club's second season for a sixth place finish.

TEAM EXECUTIVES

Dell Loy Hansen, Owner

Utah Royals FC owner Dell Loy Hansen has spent a lifetime building communities and gathering places. Dell Loy began building single family homes, then multi-family communities, commercial buildings, a variety of successful businesses, charitable foundations, and finally an integrated professional sports enterprise in his home state of Utah.

He joined the Real Salt Lake ownership group as a minority partner in 2009 and acquired full ownership in 2013. Bringing the same passion and energy that made him a successful builder of buildings, communities, and businesses throughout the western United States, he immediately took aim at building a successful world-class soccer organization. He founded the defending USL Cup Champion Real Monarchs in 2015. In 2016, he began construction of the state-of-the-art Zions Bank Training Complex and Academy in Herriman which supports his deep commitment to player and organizational development. He immediately followed that up in 2017 with the founding of the Utah Royals FC of the NWSL.

The Utah Royals FC level of excellence on the pitch has been an inspiration to the community, while also adding an important dimension to the organization's mission of "Soccer For All". A proud father of six daughters, Dell Loy's founding of the Utah Royals was a natural progression in his life-long advocacy and support of women's equality and empowerment. Importantly, the Royals FC join with the organization's other clubs in championing inclusion and acceptance throughout the community.

Rob Zarkos, Executive VP of Soccer Operations

Rob Zarkos is in his seventh season with the RSL organization and handles oversight and management of all soccer operations for Real Salt Lake, Real Monarchs SLC, Utah Royals FC and the Real Salt Lake Academy. Prior to being named the Executive VP of Soccer Operations

in 2019, he served as President of Real Monarchs and Vice President of Soccer Administration for the organization from 2014-2018. Before moving to Utah, Zarkos had spent the previous five years working for Mr. Hansen as in-house counsel and VP of Operations in the Wasatch Company's real estate side. A graduate of Western Washington University, he earned his Law degree from the Willamette University College of Law.

Stephanie Lee, General Manager

Stephanie Lee is in her third season with Utah Royals FC and second as General Manager after starting in the role of Managing Director. Prior to her arrival in Utah, she worked spent three seasons as the Director of Operations for Seattle Reign FC. During her time with the Reign in her native Pacific Northwest, Lee handled all first-team operations, oversaw facility operations, scheduling, player relations and needs, while also serving as the Director for the club's game day operations, including retail operations. Lee is a graduate of San Diego State University and earned her Master's in Sports Administration and Leadership at Seattle University.

RIO TINTO STADIUM

Rio Tinto Stadium was opened in 2008 and has served as home for Real Salt Lake, Utah Royals FC and briefly the Real Monarchs before construction of Zions Bank Stadium. Located in scenic Sandy, Utah, Rio Tinto Stadium houses some of the best views in all American sports with the Wasatch Mountain range overlooking the stadium to the east. Utah Royals FC played its inaugural home match in a sell-out crowd of 19,203 on April 14, 2018. The stadium boasts a maximum fan capacity of 21,363 and that attendance was met in September 2018 when RSL took on the LA Galaxy.

2020 URFC PLAYER BIOS



1

ABBY SMITH

GOALKEEPER

Height: 5' 9"

Birth Date: October 4, 1993

Birthplace: Portland, Oregon

College: Texas

Smith, 26, was picked fifth in the 2016 NWSL College Draft, by the Boston Breakers, where she made 21 appearances. Smith also wore the US crest for several years as a member of the U-17, U-20, and U-23 teams, and was rostered on the senior side in May 2017 for friendlies against Sweden and Norway. A Plano native, she earned over 72 caps for the Texas Longhorns, where she finished her college career ranked first in the Big 12 Conference for 96 total saves, with a 5.33 saves-per-match. Her 30th career shutout in 2015 set a new school career shut out record.



2 RACHEL CORSIÉ DEFENDER

Height: 5' 9"

Birth Date: August 17, 1989

Birthplace: Aberdeen, Scotland

College: N/A

Corsie signed with URFC ahead of the 2018 season and immediately became a staple in backline. In 2018, she started 23 of her 24 matches played and registered one assist and was named to the NWSL Team of the Month for July. In 2019, she appeared in 19 matches, scored one goal. In 2019 she captained Scotland in the 2019 FIFA Women's World Cup in France.



3 TZIARRA KING FORWARD

Nickname: "Z"

Height: 5' 8"

Birth Date: August 8, 1998

Birthplace: Sicklerville, New Jersey

College: NC State

King was selected eighth overall and was Utah's first ever first round selection in the College Draft after trading the pick in each of the club's first two seasons. The forward capped her senior season at North Carolina State with 13 goals in 23 appearances in 2019. In four years at NC State, King notched 48 goals in 88 appearances. The Sicklerville, New Jersey, native was a regular on the All-ACC first and second teams from her sophomore to senior years and earned academic accolades in all four years at NC State.



5 KELLEY O'HARA DEFENDER

Height: 5' 5"

Birth Date: August 4, 1988

Birthplace: Fayetteville, Georgia

College: Stanford

The USWNT star signed with URFC ahead of its first year in the NWSL in 2018 and scored her first goal in a URFC kit in May 2018 against the Washington Spirit. The defender featured in eight matches for URFC in 2018. In 2019 O'Hara played significant minutes for the World Cup-winning USWNT and registered one assist in four appearances in 2019. She was named to the NWSL Best XI Second Team.



6 KATIE BOWEN DEFENDER

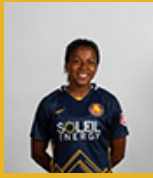
Height: 5' 7"

Birth Date: April 15, 1994

Birthplace: Auckland, New Zealand

College: North Carolina

Bowen, 26, is amongst the youngest players to represent New Zealand at an international level. She made her first appearance with the senior team in 2011 against Australia, also playing in the 2011 and 2014 FIFA Women's World Cup. She has since appeared in 37 matches for the New Zealand side, scoring one goal. In 2016, FC Kansas City selected Bowen in the NWSL College Draft, where she played in 34 games on the back line, scoring two goals.



7 ELIZABETH BALL

DEFENDER

Height: 5'6"

Birth Date: 10/20/1995

Birthplace: Newport News, Virginia

College: Penn State

Ball, 24, has made 23 appearances for Portland Thorns in her two-year professional career, 16 of which were made during her sophomore season. After going undrafted in the 2019 NWSL College Draft Ball received a preseason invite and soon signed a contract with the Thorns.



8 AMY RODRIGUEZ

FORWARD

Nickname: "A-Rod"

Height: 5' 4"

Birth Date: February 17, 1987

Birthplace: Lake Forest, California

College: USC

In 2018, 'A-Rod' started in 16 of her 19 appearances for URFC and played 1,301 minutes and finished the season with four goals and one assist. In 2019, she led the team in scoring with nine goals and appeared in all 24 matches.



9 LO'EAU LABONTA

MIDFIELDER

Nickname: "Lo"

Height: 5' 2"

Birth Date: March 18, 1993

Birthplace: Rancho Cucamonga, CA

College: Stanford

Having a breakout year in 2019, Labonta registered a career-high two goals and two assists and was named to the NWSL Team of the Month for August. In 2018, she started eight of her 16 appearances for URFC.



10 DIANA TAYLOR MATHESON

MIDFIELDER

Height: 5' 0"

Birth Date: April 6, 1984

Birthplace: Mississauga, Ontario, Canada

College: Princeton

Matheson, 36, A key player for the Canadian Women's side, Matheson totals 169 caps for the senior team, scoring 16 goals in international tournaments. Best known for scoring the bronze medal-winning goal for Canada in the 92nd minute against France at the 2012 Olympics, Matheson has scored 23 goals in the NWSL since 2013. Matheson also won gold in the 2011 Pan American Games, and a bronze in the 2016 Rio Olympics.



11 DESIREE SCOTT MIDFIELDER

Nickname: "The Destroyer"
Height: 5' 2"
Birth Date: July 31, 1987
Birthplace: Winnipeg, Canada
College: Manitoba

A midfield disruptor, Scott signed with Royals FC in 2018 and started 20 of her 21 appearances while playing 1,810 minutes. In 2019 aside from representing Canada at the 2019 FIFA Women's World Cup, she started and played in 17 matches for URFC.



12 TAYLOR LYTLE MIDFIELDER

Height: 5' 2"
Birth Date: March 31, 1989
Birthplace: Las Cruces, New Mexico
College: Texas Tech

In her first year with URFC, Lytle featured in 10 matches and started four of those matches. She missed the 2019 season due to injury.



13 CHESTLEY STROTHER MIDFIELDER

Height: 5'6"
Birth Date: June 13, 1994
Birthplace: Whitehouse, Texas
College: UT Tyler

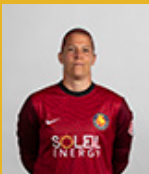
Strother enters her first year with URFC in unique fashion having played the last three season in Scandanavia. During her college career at UT Tyler, she registered 32 assists and scored 27 goals in 74 matches played.



14 GABY VINCENT DEFENDER

Height: 5' 6"
Birth Date: December 7, 1997
Birthplace: Columbia, Maryland
College: Louisville

After finishing her college career at the University of Louisville, Vincent was a non-roster invitee to URFC's 2019 preseason camp and secured a spot on the supplemental roster. Vincent appeared and started in all 54 of her match appearances with the Cradinals, earning a total of six goals, and three assists in her collegiate career.



18 NICOLE BARNHART

GOALKEEPER

Height: 5' 10"

Birth Date: October 10, 1981

Birthplace: Pottstown, Pennsylvania

College: Stanford

Barnhart, 38, comes to the Utah Royals FC with more than a decade of professional experience. With 54 caps with the United States Women's National team, and 108 starts for FC Kansas City, Barnhart comes to Salt Lake with two Olympic gold medals (2008, 2012) and a 2011 FIFA Women's World Cup runner-up. Up until 2017, Barnhart held the NWSL record for most consecutive clean-sheets, going on a 10-game streak without allowing a goal. She would later win an NWSL title in both 2014 and 2015 for FCKC.



19 MICHELLE MAEMONE

DEFENDER

Height: 5' 7"

Birth Date: March 18, 1997

Birthplace: San Jose, California

College: Pepperdine

Maemone was selected with the fifth pick in the third round of the 2019 NWSL College Draft, having featured collegiately for Pepperdine University. Maemone played to a standout career that began in 2015 and culminated in 2018. The San Jose, California native featured in 78 matches for Pepperdine, 69 of which were starts. Maemone notched three goals in her collegiate career while registering four assists. During her senior year she featured on the backline as well as up top for the Waves. She also helped Pepperdine to a West Coast Conference-best 0.82 goals-against average in her 19 starts as a senior.



20 MALLORY WEBER

FORWARD

Height: 5' 4"

Birth Date: April 4, 1994

Birthplace: Novi, Michigan

College: Penn State

Weber, 26, was selected as the 14th pick in the 2016 NWSL College Draft by the Western New York Flash and was subsequently traded to Portland Thorns FC. In three seasons with the Thorns Weber has scored one goal in 44 appearances and was part of the team that won the 2017 National Women's Soccer League Championship. Prior to entering the NWSL the forward spent four years as a member of Penn State's soccer team where she played in 100 matches, recorded 35 goals and 29 assists and won the 2015 NCAA National Championship.



21 VERO BOQUETE

MIDFIELDER

Height: 5' 4"

Birth Date: April 9, 1987

Birthplace: Santiago de Compostela, Galicia

Previous Club: Beijing BG Phoenix

Boquete moves from Beijing BG Phoenix, to Utah Royals FC. Boquete played in the US with the Chicago Red Stars back in 2010, when the club was a member of the Women's Professional Soccer league. After the 2010 season, Boquete played in the Spanish Superliga with RCD Espanyol de Barcelona, and won the Golden Boot award with a total of 41 goals in 29 matches. She returned to the U.S. with the Philadelphia Independence for the 2011-12 season and was named the 2011 WPS Player of the Year.



22 MADELINE NOLF

DEFENDER

Height: 5' 3"
Birth Date: March 29, 191996
Birthplace: Omaha, Nebraska
College: Penn State

Nolf was picked ninth in the third round of the 2019 draft from Penn State University, where she spent five seasons including a redshirt year in 2016. She started all six matches for the United States U-20 Women's National Team at the FIFA U-20 Women's World Cup in 2016. As a redshirt senior, Nolf and the Nittany Lion defense posted 14 shutouts and allowed just 13 goals in 25 starts on the backline. In all, the Omaha, Nebraska native earned 77 starts over her collegiate career.



23 CHRISTEN PRESS

FORWARD

Height: 5' 7"
Birth Date: December 29, 1988
Birthplace: Los Angeles, California
College: Stanford

Press came out of Stanford University in 2010 with the school's all-time leading goals at 71. She claimed the 2010 Hermann Trophy and was named Soccer America Player of the Year, Pac-10 Conference Player of the Year. Press joined Swedish club Kopparbergs/Göteborg FC and scored 17 goals in 21 match appearances. She made her debut for the USWNT in February 2013. Press then joined the Red Stars. In 2017, she led Chicago to the NWSL Semifinals as team captain and was the top scorer for the team. On the day of the 2018 NWSL College Draft, Press was traded to the Houston Dash in a three-team deal with Sky Blue FC. Houston retained Press's rights as the striker moved overseas to sign a three-month contract with Göteborg FC.



24 TAYLOR LEACH

DEFENDER

Height: 5'10"
Birth Date: January 19, 1992
Birthplace: Maumee, Ohio
College: University of South Carolina

After spending the last three seasons in Sweden where she featured in 86 matches, Leach now begins her venture with URFC with European experience having been a member of the 2019-20 UEFA Champions League squad for Göteborg FC. During her college career, she notched six goals in 86 matches and was a First-Team All-SEZC member at South Carolina.



25 BRITTANY RATCLIFFE

FORWARD

Height: 5' 4"
Birth Date: February 7, 1994
Birthplace: Monroe Township, New Jersey
College: Virginia

Ratcliffe was a star at the University of Virginia where she played in almost every college game of her career, scoring 24 goals. Ratcliffe was drafted by the Boston Breakers in the 2016 NWSL College Draft, where she made 15 appearances and two goals in her first year. In 2017, Ratcliffe made the move to the 2014/2015 NWSL cup champions, FC Kansas City, where she appeared in 22 games, and scored one goal. She missed the 2019 season due to injury.



29 KATE DEL FAVA FORWARD

Height: 5'9"

Birth Date: July 23, 1998

Birthplace: Kenosha, Wisconsin

College: Illinois State University

Del Fava was selected in the second round, 12th overall, in the draft in January. She arrives in Utah after a stand-out college career at Illinois State where she scored 25 goals in 84 appearances over four seasons. The midfielder was named the Missouri Valley Conference Player of the Year in 2019 after leading the conference in goals (17), points (39), shots on goal (35) and game-winning goals (6). In her career, she earned All-MVC First Team honors three times. Additionally, she was named the Linda Herman Female Scholar-Athlete of the Year for the 2018-19 academic year.



30 MARISSA SHEVA MIDFIELDER

Height: 5'3"

Birth Date: April 22, 1997

Birthplace: Sellersville, Pennsylvania

College: Penn State University

Sheva joins URFC as a second-year professional and a collegiate standout at Penn State University where she featured in 92 matches – 60 of which were starts – while scoring 13 goals and adding 9 assists in four years as a Nittany Lion. Sheva helped the program to its first-ever NCAA National Championship in 2015 in addition to competing on the school's track and field team. Most recently, Sheva featured for Deportivo Alavéz in the Spanish second division.



33 HOLLY DAUGIRDA MIDFIELDER

Height: 5'8"

Birth Date: December 24, 1997

Birthplace: Salt Lake City, Utah

College: University of Utah

Daugirda was a PAC-12 All-Academic selection from 2017-2019 and started every match the Utes played from 2018-2019. Over her four-year career at the University of Utah, she featured in 81 total matches, starting 64 and scoring 5 goals while adding 11 assists. Prior to featuring for the University of Utah Daugirda was invited to play for the United States U-19 Women's National Team and was named to numerous Utah All-State lists having scored 77 goals during her career at Skyline High School.

38 MIDFIELDER

Height: 5' 8"

Birth Date: April 3, 1995

Birthplace: Grenoble, France

College: N/A

Diallo arrives in Utah with vast European experience having played the last two seasons with PSG in Division 1 Feminine, the top flight of French soccer. During her time with PSG, she scored one goal in 59 appearances. She has appeared on seven occasions with the France Women's National Team, including during the 2018 She-Believes Cup.



42 RAISA STROM-OKIMOTO

FORWARD

Height: 5' 3"

Birth Date: October 25, 1997

Birthplace: 'Aiea, O'ahu, Hawaii

College: Hawaii

Strom-Okimoto joins URFC after a standout collegiate career at the University of Hawaii where during her senior season in 2018 was awarded the Big West Conference Player of the Year – the first University of Hawaii player to win the award. During her senior season Strom-Okimoto notched 12 goals and registered three assists. She finished her collegiate career in the top 10 in nine different offensive categories including: goals, assists, game-winning goals, shots, shots on goal, multiple assist matches and overtime goals.



61 MELISSA LOWDER

GOALKEEPER

Height: 5' 8"

Birth Date: January 21, 1997

Birthplace: San Diego, California

College: Santa Clara University

Although Lowder hasn't featured for URFC, she provides depth and competition at the goalkeeper position. During her college career at Santa Clara University, she featured in 63 matches, 60 of which were starts between the pipes.



60 GUNNY JONSDOTTIR

MIDFIELDER

Nickname: "Gunny"

Height: 5' 5"

Birth Date: September 28, 1988

Birthplace: Garðabær, Iceland

In 2019, Jonsdottir appeared in all 24 matches for URFC and tallied a team-second best four assists in her second year with the club. She has two goals to her name in a URFC kit, including the first-ever club goal just three minutes into the team's inaugural match. Jonsdottir has represented Iceland internationally since 2008.