

Sockers Conclude a Reinvigorating Campaign

Although the 2014 season ended a few weeks earlier than the Sockers FC players, coaches, and staff had hoped, there can be no doubt that this summer was a key turning point in the franchise's fledgling history.

With the new energy and leadership from first-year head coach Matt Barnes, the team eased the tough memories of previous seasons and established the foundation for achieving the franchise's goal of becoming a powerful force in the Premier Development League.

By any measure, the 2014 season was one for the Sockers' record books:

Regular Season record: 7-4-3 24 pts

Goals Scored: 26

Goals Allowed: 19

Goal Differential: +7

Home: 3-2-2 15 G 10 GA

Road: 4-2-1 11 G 9 GA

Individual Accomplishments:

- ❖ **Defender Walker Hume was named to the PDL All-Southern Conference Team**; he is the first non-goalie in team history to earn this honor and third for the Sockers (Leif Craddock in 2010, Alonzo Jimenez in 2012).
- ❖ **Rory Knibbs** scored 7 goals (second-most in single-season franchise history); his 16 points were also second-most in single-season franchise history
- ❖ **Tucker Hume** scored 4 goals (T-5th single-season); recorded **5 assists (new single-season franchise record)**; 13 points (4th-most)
- ❖ **Conrad Goulbourne** and **Byron Knowles** each had 3 assists (T-2nd most all-time)
- ❖ **Goulbourne's** 9 points are T-6th most in franchise history
- ❖ **Jason Babyak had a 1.076 Goals Against Average (lowest in team history)**

Team Milestones:

- ❖ Team Goalies on faced 65 shots (fewest in team history)...4.6/game
- ❖ **Second-most wins in team history and most since 2010**
- ❖ Highest finish in the division since 2009
- ❖ **Best goal differential of all-time**
- ❖ Most home wins since 2011 (3 total in 2012-13)
- ❖ Most road wins in team history (5 total in 2011-13)
- ❖ 26 goals scored is T-2nd in team history (27 in 2013)
- ❖ 19 goals allowed is T-1st (19 in 2009)
- ❖ Allowed 22 less goals than 2013
- ❖ **Longest unbeaten streak in franchise history (5-0-1) from June 7-29**
- ❖ **Team record for wins in a month in June (5)**

The Sockers ranked in the top five nationally in average attendance during each of the team's first five seasons. Although the PDL has not released the 2014 figures yet, that streak is expected to continue, as **attendance increased 16 percent from 2013.**

Just as the mission of the Sockers is to prepare collegiate players for Major League Soccer, the same goal applies to our coaching staff: preparing them for the opportunity to coach at the highest levels in the nation. The team accomplished that with the news that Matt Barnes has been named the head men's soccer coach at San Francisco State. As he has done throughout his two-decade coaching career, **we know that Matt will find quick and sustained success for the Gators, and we are excited to continue this journey in 2015!**