



# FEBRUARY

Spring Season | Coaching Opportunity | Team Names

## USWNT Updates

2023 is the year of the Women's World Cup! Congrats to the USWNT for becoming the 2023 SheBelieves Cup Champions!

Here are more upcoming games to watch leading up to the World Cup:

USWNT vs. Republic of Ireland  
Saturday, April 8 at 2:30 PM

USWNT vs. Republic of Ireland  
Tuesday, April 11 at 7:30 PM

And a special, notable congrats to Alex Morgan who just broke the program record for the most goals scored by a USWNT mother, scoring 14 national team goals since giving birth to her daughter in May 2020. Talk about #MomGoals!

## MLS is Back!

Saturday, February 25th was Atlanta United's home opener where they defeated the San Jose Earthquakes 2-1 in second half stoppage time.

Their home games in March at Mercedes-Benz Stadium are:

Saturday, March 4 at 7:30 PM  
versus Toronto

Saturday, March 18 at 7:30 PM  
versus Portland



The first weekend of Spring games will begin on **Sunday, March 5th** and continue through the end of May.

If you have not yet registered for the season, PLEASE get in touch with your team captain and register as soon as possible!

If you are a new player looking for a team, you can fill out our new player interest form [here](#).

All rules of play, schedules, and other helpful information can be found at [gawsa.org](http://gawsa.org).

We can't wait to see you back on the pitch soon! Best of luck to everyone this season!

## Interested in Coaching?

Looking to be a licensed Soccer Coach? Georgia Soccer facilitates US Soccer Grassroots and D licenses, and has grant money available to cover the cost of the course as well as provide the Coach with a starter kit! This isn't public information just yet, but if you are interested in Grassroots or D licenses, check out the information on the [Georgia Soccer website](http://Georgia Soccer website) and contact Laura directly at [laura@georgiasoccer.com](mailto:laura@georgiasoccer.com) for more details and information on eligibility.

## Strava

Did you know that GAWSA has a fitness challenge on the app called Strava? Our challenge is to see which player runs the longest distance during their Sunday match. We are hoping for an even bigger competition this spring, so be sure to download the Strava app!

## Get Involved with GAWSA!

We are constantly striving to grow our league's presence in the soccer community and beyond.

Our goals off the pitch include sponsorship opportunities and organizing a league tournament.

If you or someone you know is looking to get involved in any capacity, email Michelle at [president.gawsa@gmail.com](mailto:president.gawsa@gmail.com) or Hayley at [secretary.gawsa@gmail.com](mailto:secretary.gawsa@gmail.com) to talk about where to begin!

## Follow GAWSA on social media!

Help us grow our social media presence this year!

**Instagram:** [@gawsa22](https://www.instagram.com/gawsa22)

**Facebook:** [Georgia Amateur Women's Soccer Association](https://www.facebook.com/GeorgiaAmateurWomen'sSoccerAssociation)

**Website:** [www.gawsa.org](http://www.gawsa.org)

**Please send any photos, videos, or content** that you would like to see featured on any of these platforms to [secretary.gawsa@gmail.com](mailto:secretary.gawsa@gmail.com)



## Team Names Explained

Have you ever wondered the meaning behind some of the team names in our league? We asked the captains and got some great answers!

### ATAlanta FC:

Atalanta was a mythological woman known for her prowess in the foot race, which seemed appropriate to Jean Carson and her teammates when forming their team name!

### Five Seasons:

The team was formed back in 2003 and at that time, was initially sponsored by a brewpub called 5 Seasons that was in Atlanta. Even though the restaurant has since gone out of business, the team decided to keep their name.

### Donas da Bola FC:

This team wanted to keep their essence and Brazilian culture while picking a team name. Donas da Bola means "Queens of the Ball" and is also a very famous Brazilian TV show!

### Clash:

This team has been with GAWSA for over a decade, and it's thought by the current captains that the inspiration for their name was by the band, The Clash!

### Fire Ants:

Team captain Joy describes the inspiration behind this name as being a "silent, sneaky sting" just like the bite from a fire ant.

### United FC:

This team name actually pre-dates the foundation of Atlanta United, with team captain Michelle saying that it was voted upon by team members several years ago from a list of many other options!

### Arse-n-All 988 FC:

This team name was created in honor of the team's dear friend and teammate Kimberly Rogers who was lost to suicide in June 2022. The number 988 is the Suicide Prevention Hotline, while the "Arse" part is all for Kim and her vibrant personality and love for funny T-shirts.

## Player Spotlight

For each monthly newsletter, we want to highlight and feature a player in our league. We are lucky to have such an amazing group of ladies who represent GAWSA, and we want to learn more about you all!

Please send any and all nominations for these Player Spotlights to [secretary.gawsa@gmail.com](mailto:secretary.gawsa@gmail.com).