



GAME NOTES

SD LOYAL at TACOMA DEFIANCE



Thursday, July 29, 2021
Kickoff: 7 p.m. (PT)

Tacoma, Wash.
Cheney Stadium



Tacoma Defiance
3-4-4 (13 pts)

SD Loyal
6-5-3 (21 pts)

2021 SEASON SCHEDULE

Date	Match	Time (PT)	Competition	Result
April				
Fri. April 10	at Phoenix Rising	7 p.m.	USL	L 4-1
May				
Thurs. May 6	at RGV FC Toros	5 p.m.	USL	L 1-0
Thurs. May 13	at Tacoma Defiance	7 p.m.	USL	L 3-1
Sat. May 22	at Louisville FC	4 p.m.	USL	L 2-1
Sat. May 29	vs. Las Vegas Lights FC	7 p.m.	USL	W 2-1
June				
Sat. June 5	at Phoenix Rising FC	7:30 p.m.	USL	D 2-2
Wed. June 9	at Orange County SC	7 p.m.	USL	D 1-1
Sat. June 12	vs. LA Galaxy II	7:30 p.m.	USL	W 2-1
Sat. June 19	vs. Phoenix Rising FC	7:30 p.m.	USL	W 2-1
Fri. June 25	at Las Vegas Lights	7:30 p.m.	USL	W 2-1
Tues. June 29	vs. Oakland Roots SC	7:30 p.m.	USL	W 1-0
July				
Sat. July 3	vs Sacramento Republic	4 p.m.	USL	D 1-1
Sat. July 10	vs. Club Tijuana Xolos	5 p.m.	Friend	L 0-1
Wed. July 14	vs. Orange County SC	7:30 p.m.	USL	W 2-1
Sat. July 24	vs. Phoenix Rising FC	7:30 p.m.	USL	L 0-1
Thurs. July 29	at Tacoma Defiance	7 p.m.	USL	
August				
Sun. Aug. 1	at LA Galaxy II	5 p.m.	USL	
Sat. Aug. 7	vs. Real Monarchs SLC	7:30 p.m.	USL	
Sat. Aug. 14	vs. Tacoma Defiance	7:30 p.m.	USL	
Wed. Aug. 18	vs. Las Vegas Lights FC	7:30 p.m.	USL	
Sat. Aug. 21	vs. Orange County SC	7:30 p.m.	USL	
Sat. Aug. 28	at Sacramento Republic	8 p.m.	USL	
September				
Sun. Sept. 5	vs. LA Galaxy II	3 p.m.	USL	
Sat. Sept. 11	at Oakland Roots SC	5:30 p.m.	USL	
Sun. Sept. 19	vs. Tacoma Defiance	3 p.m.	USL	
Wed. Sept. 22	at Oakland Roots SC	7 p.m.	USL	
Sat. Sept. 25	at Las Vegas Lights FC	7 p.m.	USL	
October				
Sat. Oct. 2	at LA Galaxy II	7 p.m.	USL	
Sat. Oct. 9	vs. Sacramento Republic	7:30 p.m.	USL	
Sun. Oct. 17	vs. New Mexico United	3 p.m.	USL	
Wed. Oct. 20	at Orange County SC	7 p.m.	USL	

BROADCAST INFORMATION

National

ESPN+

Local

Fox 5
San Diego

Español

Azteca
America 33

UPDATES

@sandiegoloyal

#SDLoyal #TACvSD

PACIFIC DIVISION STANDINGS (As July 28)

		P	W	L	T	PTS
	PHOENIX RISING FC	13	9	2	2	29
	ORANGE COUNTY SC	15	6	5	4	22
	SD LOYAL	14	6	5	3	21
	LAS VEGAS LIGHTS FC	15	5	9	1	16
	LA GALAXY II	15	4	7	4	16
	TACOMA DEFIANCE	11	3	4	4	13
	SACRAMENTO REPUBLIC	13	3	6	4	13
	OAKLAND ROOTS	9	1	5	3	6

KNOW THE HOST

Club: Tacoma Defiance
Founded: 2014
Location: Tacoma, Wash.
Population: 217,827
Stadium: Cheney Stadium
Capacity: 6,500



ABOUT TACOMA DEFIANCE

Tacoma Defiance is coming off a 1-1 draw against LA Galaxy II on July 11. It hasn't won a match since beating LA Galaxy II 2-0 at home on June 27. That is more than a month without a win as coach Wade Weber's team hasn't played a game in nearly two weeks. That's because its match against Oakland Roots July 17 was rescheduled for September due to multiple persons on the Roots covered persons list tested positive for COVID-19.

Tacoma is 1-1-3 in its last five games in which it also had to make some roster adjustments as a handful of young players signed emergency contracts with MLS side Seattle Sounders last week. These are temporary contracts signed by Tacoma's Samuel Adeniran, Juan Alvarez, Obed Vargas and Alex Villanueva as Seattle had a shortage of players to face Austin FC as it only had 12 available players to field. Vargas was in the starting XI for that match. Tacoma had also just signed defender Cody Baker, 17, off the Sounders FC Academy last week.

Tacoma beat SD Loyal in the team's first meeting at Cheney Stadium. Carlos Anguiano (44th minute), Alec Diaz (51st) and Danny Robles (90+) scored for the home side. It was Tacoma's first win of the season following a draw against LA Galaxy II.

SD Loyal's first ever win came against Tacoma Defiance March 11, 2020. The 2-1 result on the road came right before the season temporarily came to a halt due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. Francis Atuahene had a brace for SD Loyal in that match.

NOTABLE ARRIVALS

-Samuel Adeniran, Forward: Texas native makes move to Pacific Northwest after competing in Germany

-Carlos Anguiano, Midfielder: Central player has recorded seven assists and has 50 Championship appearances.

-Christian Herrera, Goalkeeper: After loan stint in 2020, Herrera makes permanent move to Tacoma

NOTABLE DEPARTURES

-Sam Rogers: Signed with OKC Energy FC
 -Collin Fernandez: Signed with Austin Bold FCs
 -Nick Hinds: Signed with Nashville SC

KNOW THE VISITOR

Club: San Diego Loyal
Founded: 2019
Location: San Diego, Calif.
Population: 3.2 Million
Stadium: Torero Stadium
Capacity: 6,100



ABOUT SD LOYAL

SD Loyal enters its second season after becoming an expansion and playing in its inaugural season in the USL Championship last year. It was a turbulent 2020 season for the club due to the COVID-19 pandemic. It got to play its inaugural game in front of a sold-out home crowd then competition came to a halt in March. The league revamped the schedule and resumed play in July. SD Loyal went on to a 6-5-5 record under first-year coach Landon Donovan, finishing in fourth place in the Group B standings.

It finished the season with a forfeit in its regular season finale against Phoenix Rising FC after SD Loyal players walked off the pitch after a homophobic slur was used against one of its players before halftime. SD Loyal was in position to make a push for the playoffs before the forfeit. It was the second forfeit by SD Loyal in 2020. Donovan's team also forfeit a match against L.A. Galaxy II after a racial slur was used against one of its players.

Launched on June 19, 2019, San Diego Loyal is the newest member of USL Championship Western Conference. San Diego Loyal plays for America's Finest City and is led by some of the best in sport. The Club is led by Chairman Andrew Vassiliadis, who is the youngest principal owner in USL Championship. It was founded and led on the business-side by experienced soccer executive Warren Smith, a co-founder and former president of Sacramento Republic FC. Executive Vice President of Soccer Operations Landon Donovan, one of the most decorated soccer players in the U.S., leads the technical side as both EVP and Team Manager.

San Diego Loyal is built on four core pillars – Completion, Commitment, Connection, Camaraderie.

San Diego Loyal held training camp in late March and most of April 2021 at the Chula Vista Elite Athlete Training Center, which also serves as its training center. Donovan's roster played in four eight matches leading up to the 2021 USL Championship season opener at Pacific Division rival Phoenix Rising FC.

Home matches are played at Torero Stadium located on the University of San Diego campus. Torero stadium has hosted numerous important soccer events including the U.S. Women's National team and MLS clubs LA Galaxy, Chivas USA and Club Tijuana. It is also the home field to USD's football team, soccer teams and San Diego Legion Rugby team.

ALL TIME HEAD-TO-HEAD

SD Loyal is 1-1 all time vs. TAC

TAC 1-2 SD Loyal March 11, 2020

TAC 3-1 SD Loyal May 13, 2021

SD LOYAL INJURY REPORT

NONE

TONIGHT'S KITS



Tacoma Defiance



OFFICIALS



SD Loyal

PREVIOUS MATCHES

SD LOYAL vs. PHOENIX RISING FC July 24, 2021

San Diego Loyal allows early goal in 1-0 loss to Phoenix Rising FC

James Musa sent in winning goal for visiting team that mostly sat back to defend



San Diego (July 24, 2021) –They looked at each other Saturday night, wondering what had happened. A trio of SD Loyal defenders tried to find answers to the one mistake that put coach Landon Donovan's team in a hard spot at Torero Stadium at USD.

SD Loyal would not recover from the mistake that sent the team to a 1-0 loss against visiting Pacific Division rival Phoenix Rising, snapping a nine-match unbeaten streak. It was also the first loss at home in six matches.

It was Phoenix's James Musa who sent in the only goal in the 9th minute of the Week 14 match. Phoenix took the early 1-0 lead when James Musa sent in a loose ball from near the goal line after a trio of SD Loyal defenders could not clear it. Joseph Farrell had sent a header to the left post off a corner before the ball ricocheted off the hands of goalkeeper Trey Muse who couldn't hold on.

Instead, Muse and teammates celebrated the score that sent Phoenix Rising to create a herd of defenders on its own side. It kept SD Loyal from penetrating its penalty area, ultimately snapping the home team's streak.

The last time SD Loyal (6-5-3, 21 points) lost a full match at home was more than 11 months ago. It was a 3-1 outing against now defunct Reno FC Aug. 22, 2020. On paper, it was a Sept. 30, 2020 forfeit against Phoenix Rising that was the last loss for SD Loyal (SD Loyal was winning 3-1 at that moment). It was the night players walked off the pitch after a Phoenix Rising player used a xenophobic slur against SD Loyal midfielder Collin Martin. That incident intensified an already hot rivalry between both teams.

"You have to be ready to defend on set pieces to win the game," said SD Loyal captain Charlie Adams about the play that led to Phoenix's goal. We defended the counter attack but we didn't defend the set pieces."

As for Phoenix sitting back to defend, Adams was quick to point out his team didn't do things differently than other times against the team from the desert.

"They are one of the best teams in the league and they came here tonight and we played against them and they were fearful of us in the sense that they sat back," Adams said. "We played the way we wanted to play. We played the game on our terms, and we just didn't win tonight. According to them, they got a victory and that's why they are a good team, I guess."

Saturday night, temperatures were mostly mild in a physically, hard-fought match that featured Phoenix Rising sitting back waiting for a counter attack after Musa's goal. Phoenix, a team known for its firepower, sat back and defended with nearly all its players on its side of the pitch for most of the match.

"You guys hear me talk a lot about focusing on performance more than results. The performance was almost flawless," Donovan said. "We didn't start the game well but after that we were very good. If you are pushing against Phoenix, you are going to give up chances. Our guys dealt with that well. Probably the one area that we could have been better at was creating overall chances. But overall, there aren't many teams that pin Phoenix to their end of the field for long stretches like we did."

PREVIOUS MATCHES

SD LOYAL vs. ORANGE COUNTY SC July 14, 2021

Shorthanded SD Loyal gets pair of second half goals in win vs. Orange County SC

Callum Montgomery and Tumi Moshobane score in come-from-behind Week 13 win



San Diego (July 14, 2021) -What appeared to be San Diego Loyal's first defeat at home this 2021 USL Championship season, quickly changed. Manager Landon Donovan's team was down a goal and down a man late in the match with only 10 men on the pitch. Then everything changed in the Week 13 match.

Free kick, header, goal. Quick pass, deflection, header, goal. Those were the two sequences that lead to a 2-1 come-from-behind win Wednesday night against visiting Orange County SC at Torero Stadium at USD. Callum Montgomery scored his first goal with the team while Tumi Moshobane scored his second, both against Orange County. SD Loyal adds three more points in the Pacific Division standings to move into a tie for second place with Orange County, with the tiebreaker favoring SD Loyal. Donovan's team is unbeaten at home in six matches and extended its unbeaten streak to nine (6 wins, 3 draws).

Both scoring plays against Orange County came on plays that start with Jack Blake. The Englishman set up the assist as he sent a free kick into the penalty area, finding Montgomery charging the net. The defender didn't waste his chance and sent in the pass with a header in the 74th minute. Blake helped with the game-winning goal two minutes later. He sprinted into the penalty area and flicked a pass that deflected off a defender into the six-yard box where Moshobane headed it past Orange County SC goalkeeper Abraham Romero. Moshobane had also scored in the first meeting between these two teams earlier this season. It was a 1-1 draw in Irvine. This time in San Diego, Moshobane was at the right place when Blake sent that pass off the defender.

"They were very similar goals," Moshobane said. "Both were headers. I'll take them both. In the end is about helping the team and I am very proud of myself. And I am proud of my team. When we lost Stony (Grant Stoneman) to a red card it was still eleven versus eleven because of our supporters. They give us energy and gives us the extra boots to keep fighting."

Moshobane was talking about defender Grant Stoneman being sent off in the 60th minute after receiving a second yellow card. Stoneman's ejection came at a time in which SD Loyal (6-4-3, 21 points) was creating chances but not playing the style Donovan wanted to see. Orange County took advantage of the extra space and took a 1-0 lead with a goal by Eero Markkanen off a pass by Miko Kuningas on a quick run into the penalty area.

"There are times during the year when you aren't perfect. We weren't perfect tonight," Donovan said. "We were pretty good but you see what you're team is made of. I'm just really proud of the effort and performance. It's nothing we do for them to respond that way. They have good character. Our guys always keep going."

Montgomery, who sent in his header to begin the comeback, echoed his manager's thoughts.

"It was a great performance by the boys, I am very proud of everybody," Montgomery said. "You go down a man and at that point you want to keep playing there's a lot of game left you don't want to bunker in. Your emotions are low at that point. We get that goal and put some spark into the team and you realize that you can get out of this game."

And as for his goal, Montgomery said he just wanted to score.

"At that point, you just want to hit the net," Montgomery said. "Either the goalkeeper makes a save or it goes in. I just wanted to hit the net. It was an unbailable ball from Blake off the set piece. Tumi also came off clutch in the end. It was a bit of a roller coaster game."

PREVIOUS MATCHES

SD LOYAL vs. SACRAMENTO REPUBLIC July 3, 2021

Corey Hertzog scores second goal of season in 1-1 draw against Sacramento Republic

Mitch Taintor ties match in stoppage time as SD Loyal remains unbeaten at home



San Diego (July 3, 2021) -Corey Hertzog walked into Torero Stadium at USD in Red, White and Blue clad Saturday afternoon. The San Diego Loyal SC striker wore a one piece shirt and shorts combo, known as a romper. And he walked in wearing sunglasses with a United States flag hologram.

Hertzog also nearly walked into the opponent's goal on a scoring play on the day his team celebrated Independence Day and honored the military. Hertzog headed in a score inches away from the goal line in a 1-1 draw against visiting Sacramento Republic. The Pennsylvania native sent the more than 4,200 in attendance into frenzy as his score helped extend SD Loyal's unbeaten streak to eight.

Hertzog sent in his second goal of the season in the 62nd minute when he connected on Miguel Ibarra's pin-point cross from just inside the left side of the penalty area. Hertzog sprinted up the middle of the box to meet Ibarra's pass with a header.

"It was a great ball that Miggy (Ibarra) sent in. I was just trying to get any part of my body on it. I don't know what hit it or where it went but I am just glad it found the back of the net. I was happy."

It was a play that SD Loyal had been building on for most of the second half against a Sacramento Republic team that defended its side while playing a physical type of soccer. Hertzog's goal began with Alejandro Guido and Jack Blake moving the ball near the left flank and ultimately getting it to a sprinting Ibarra up field.

But Sacramento Republic would tie the match in stoppage time when Mitch Taintor beat Callum Montgomery at the heart of the six-yard box, putting the header past Trey Muse. Kharlton Belmar sent a cross from near the left sideline from about 20-yards out, catching Montgomery off guard.

Sacramento, who came into the match without a win in six games, nearly caught SD Loyal off guard when Muse had to backpedal into his penalty area as Dan Casey tries to catch him off his line. Casey took his shot from midfield after stealing a ball from Hertzog. Muse had to reach back to make the save as he came back to his line.

"It's frustrating, frustrating when you lose points when a game ends like that," Donovan said. "It's still part of the learning process. We didn't play well today but it was a very difficult week. We played a very good team who was well rested and prepared while we played a midweek game. We knew it was going to be a challenge."

Donovan's team also nearly had a surprise goal on a quick play in the 16th minute. Montgomery hit the crossbar off a long cross from Charlie Adams from left to right.

The tie gives SD Loyal (5-4-3, 18 points) a point in the Pacific Division table as it remains undefeated at home in five matches.

LINEUP:

SD Loyal -16. Trey Muse, 5. Grant Stoneman, 33. Callum Montgomery, 4. Jack Metcalf, 3. Elijah Martin, 7. Jack Blake, 24. Miguel Ibarra, 21. Corey Hertzog (87'- Ben Spencer), 10. Alejandro Guido (81' -11. Tumi Moshobane), 6. Charlie Adams, 17. Collin Martin (81' -14. Josh Yaro). Coach: Landon Donovan.

PREVIOUS MATCHES

SD LOYAL vs. OAKLAND ROOTS June 29, 2021

Miguel Herrera scores game-winning goal, his first in 1-0 win vs. Oakland Roots

Austin Guerrero with first club shutout to help extend winning streak to four and continue the seven-match unbeaten streak



San Diego, Calif. (June 29, 2021) – Miguel Ibarra took cover Tuesday night. The San Diego Loyal midfielder had to go to the ground and protect himself from his teammates. Ibarra was piled on after he helped his team to a 1-0 win against visiting Oakland Roots at Torero Stadium at USD.

The pile up was not only to celebrate Ibarra's first goal (72') with SD Loyal but the club's game-winner against an Oakland team that bunkered in its side of the field for most of the USL Championship Week 12 match.

Ibarra broke through after coming on as a second half sub, five minutes before the score. He took a Miguel Berry short pass while facing away from goal, made a half turn and blasted a right-footed shot into the right corner of the net. Oakland Roots goalkeeper Zeus De La Cruz could only stand and watch.

And Oakland watched manager Landon Donovan's team earn three more points in the Pacific Division standings in the first ever meeting between these clubs. SD Loyal is now unbeaten in seven matches, riding a four-game win streak. SD Loyal (5-4-2, 17 points) is the only team in the division to win four-straight. It also moved into second place behind division leader Phoenix Rising. SD Loyal had start the season 0-4 before going on the seven-game unbeaten streak with Ibarra's goal that also helped keep the team undefeated at home.

"It was a very good performance, not perfect," Donovan said about the win. "It's nice to send everyone home happy."

Donovan, fans and players were happy along with Ibarra, the goal scorer.

"It's a great feeling getting that goal," Ibarra said. "What made it more special for me is that my parents came to watch this game. If my job is to come off the bench and help the team however I can, then that's what I am going to do. It's 100-percent about the team."

Against the Roots Tuesday night, SD Loyal started moving the ball fluidly, pressuring the visitors. Tumi Moshobane and Corey Hertzog had scoring chances early on. Moshobane had a header slapped away by De La Paz at the goal line near left post for a corner kick. Hertzog sent a shot just wide of the left post off a pass by Moshobane, who kept the ball to the end line before his cross in the 13th minute. Hertzog then sent a left-footed shot from a cross by Collin Martin saved at the line by De La Paz at his line.

Oakland (1-3-2, 5 points) spent the rest of the night waiting on its side of the field while SD Loyal moved up its lines, looking to counterattack. Oakland had a chance to tie the match in stoppage time on a shot from former Loyal player Emrah Klimenta but SD Loyal goalkeeper Austin Guerrero dove to make a diving save to keep the shutout. It was the club's first shutout of the season in Guerrero's first start.

"This is like a dream come true, my whole family was here," Guerrero said. "You just grind, and you grind and when the opportunity comes, it's special. I'm stoked because the whole team (explicit) killed it tonight. I didn't have a ton of shots because the team played so well defensively, and I was just happy to be able to do my part."

PREVIOUS MATCHES

SD LOYAL at LAS VEGAS LIGHTS June 25, 2021

Miguel Berry scores late to help SD Loyal win at Las Vegas

Alejandro Guido also scores in team's first road win that extends unbeaten streak to six



Las Vegas, Nev. (June 25, 2021) – Miguel Berry recently said he was eager to find more goals, particularly on the road. The San Diego Loyal SC striker talked about the lack of finishing plays when not at home.

"It can be frustrating, but we will find a way to score those and win on the road," Berry said after a recent home match. They'll come."

Those goals came Friday night. And one of them was the difference maker as SD Loyal earned its first road win of the 2021 USL Championship season. Berry scored in the 74th minute and Alejandro Guido had already found the net seven minutes into the Week 11 match for the 2-1 win against Las Vegas Lights FC at Cashman Field.

Berry's goal was a moment he had been looking for as SD Loyal (4-4-2) had struggled on the road early in the season with four-straight losses and a 2-2 tie at Phoenix Rising after leading 2-0 into stoppage time. This time, it was Berry and Guido again helping lead the club to three more points in the Pacific Division standings. SD Loyal has not lost to Las Vegas in five matches.

"We asked the guys to do a few things tonight, get a set piece goal which we haven't done yet, get an away win and get a shutout," said manager Landon Donovan. "We got one of them, so, that's one marked off the list. Overall, it was a very good performance. We played the way we want to play, control the tempo of the game after about two minutes of the game when they had two corners, we controlled the rest of the game. We also completed the plays we need in order to score."

Donovan's team controlled the pace of the match Friday as it didn't allow Las Vegas to create space and have dangerous plays. It wasn't until Marvin Gomez scored to tie the match in the 63rd minute. Gomez headed one off the crossbar and bouncing it past Trey Muse and a couple of SD Loyal defenders that stood near the goal line. The scoring play came off a cross from right to left that was then headed to the right post where Gomez out jumped his mark.

The home side's score came well after SD Loyal had taken a 1-0 lead with Guido's goal. Guido found the net after he sprinted into the 18-yard box and fired a right-footed shot inside the right post, bouncing the ball under the stretched arm of Las Vegas goalkeeper Alex Rando.

Guido was back in the starting lineup after Donovan used the midfielder as a substitute the last two matches. It was Guido's third goal of the season, coming off a Las Vegas turnover in its area. Guido and Berry have three goals this season, tied for second place behind Jack Blake's four.

Berry's goal came when he put back a blocked shot by Rando. Corey Hertzog took a shot from about 20-yards out but Rando made the standout save. It wasn't enough for the goalkeeper as Berry charged the ball and fired it. It was a play that came after Donovan subbed in Hertzog for Guido.

"They both played well and ultimately, we always talk about making plays that could make the difference," Donovan said. "We can play well and dominate the game but we need to make the plays that will make the difference so we can get points. (Berry and Guido) are making plays, other guys making plays and we're getting goals from a few other guys which is great. We have to keep building and getting better."

PREVIOUS MATCHES

SD LOYAL VS. PHOENIX RISING June 19, 2021

Another win at home on a celebratory night for SD Loyal

Jack Blake with a brace to take down Phoenix Rising FC on "619 night"



San Diego, Calif. (June 19, 2021) –Jack Blake was in a celebratory mood on social media this week. His daughter turned one. And he was trying to hype San Diego Loyal SC's next match: a showdown against a hated a loathed Pacific Division rival.

Blake got to celebrate more in person Saturday night. He not only hyped the match but gave fans more to be excited about. The Englishman sent in a pair of goals in a SD Loyal 2-1 win against Phoenix Rising on what was deemed "619 night" to celebrate the club's second birthday on the date that coincides with San Diego's telephone area code.

The night coincided with SD Loyal adding more points in the standings with Blake's pair of goals that came off blasts from outside the 18-yard box. Blake sent in a blast in the 36th minute to open up the scoring and sent 5,800 fans at Torero Stadium at USD into a frenzy. Blake's first goal came from near the top of the box and he did it again in similar fashion on the opposite side of the pitch in the 57th for a 2-0 lead. It was his third goal against Phoenix this season. He also found the net in a 2-2 draw at Phoenix June 5, also from outside the box.

"This so special," Blake said. "The lads and I have been looking forward to this game for so long to be at full capacity and to hear the fans behind us and to get that goal in front of them was so special."

Saturday, on the first match available for full capacity since the inaugural match March 7, 2020, it was SD Loyal (3-4-2, 11 points) figuring out how to attack Phoenix Rising (5-2-1, 16 points) and keep it on its side of the field. Manager Landon Donovan's team moved the ball fluidly, taking the space the visitors allowed. Phoenix kept the ball moving, not always giving SD Loyal many chances. It took a pass by Jack Maher to Blake and another one by Charlie Adams to Blake to help create the scoring plays in the Week 10 match.

"Soccer is a funny game. We were much better in Phoenix and probably deserved to win that game," Donovan said. "Given everything that happened, a point probably would have been fair tonight. We thank the soccer gods. They do look down on you. We're proud of our guys. It was a different kind of performance. It's not like us to not have the ball and get pinned on our end."

Phoenix Rising moved up its lines and eventually found the net when Arturo Gonzalez scored in the 66th minute as Donovan was set on defending its side to try and hold on to its second consecutive win.

It worked. SD Loyal earned three more points to extend their unbeaten streak to five matches and remained unbeaten at home.

"It's just about character and digging in," Blake said about holding on. "We can learn from our mistakes. We gave up two late in Phoenix but we just keep getting better. That's all we can do. The schedule killed us for a little bit with the first seven of eight away but it's great to pick up points at home and make this place a fortress like we have so far."

LINEUP:

SD Loyal -16. Trey Muse, 14. Josh Yaro, 18. Jack Maher, 4. Jack Metcalf, 3. Elijah Martin, 7. Jack Blake, 21. Corey Hertzog (73' -10. Alejandro Guido), 6. Charlie Adams, 24. Miguel Ibarra (68' -33. Callum Montgomery), 17. Collin Martin (90+- 5. Grant Stoneman), 77. Miguel Berry (89' -9. Ben Spencer). Coach: Landon Donovan.

PREVIOUS MATCHES

SD LOYAL VS. LA GALAXY II June 12, 2021

Second home match, second home win for SD Loyal

Alejandro Guido and Miguel Berry score late in the second half for the win



San Diego, Calif. (June 12, 2021) –It was a play that perhaps came at the correct moment. San Diego Loyal SC had spent moments threatening with shots off the cross bar, the post and had shots blocked at the goal line Saturday night.

Then it happened. It was something out of a highlight reel. And it was enough to help SD Loyal to a 2-1 come-from-behind win against visiting LA Galaxy II at a limited capacity but loud Torero Stadium at USD.

The play: Miguel Berry headed in the game-winner off a long cross from Alejandro Guido to beat LA Galaxy goalkeeper Jonathan Klinsmann. Berry sped into the penalty area while Guido sprinted up the right-flank. The Chula Vista native then crossed a pin-point volley to Berry who headed it into the back of the net, leaving Klinsmann with no chance in the 84th minute. It was the second play of the night by Alejandro Guido, worthy of the highlight reel.

The midfielder who came on in the second half helped change the pace of the game, including with a goal of his own in the 75th minute. Guido passed a ball to himself in between Taylor Avila's legs, sped up field and fired a right-footed shot into the net. Klinsmann didn't have time to react but to see it in the net. It was Guido's second goal in front of a home crowd this season.

"At the beginning of the game I was telling myself I have to shoot more and when it went in. I just couldn't believe it but I went nuts," Guido said about his goal. "I'm so stoked. It was beautiful and awesome. It was fun."

The pair of standout plays combined with key saves by SD Loyal goalkeeper Try Muse helped the Loyal team preserve a chance for the come back and earn three more points in the Week 8 USL Championship match.

"I've done it a few times here but this one is a little bit different, the fans are unbelievable," Berry said about his goal. "We knew they would be. I've played here in front of a lot fewer people in my college days but it's nice to see this place rocking. Guido came in and did his thing. I knew it was going to be a goal. I am glad he did and it came in the right time of the night."

It was a night that had SD Loyal (2-4-2, 8 points) creating chances and often displaying a fluid brand of soccer. But despite the SD Loyal rhythm on the pitch, the visitors took a 1-0 lead in the 61st minute. Jorge Hernandez gave the Pacific Division rival LA Galaxy II (3-3-2, 11 points) a 1-0 lead when he dribbled into the right side of the SD Loyal penalty area and sped into the box and fired in front of two defenders. His shot rolled in between SD Loyal goalkeeper Trey Muse and the right post.

The post helped LA Galaxy II in the second half as the home side was pressuring looking to get on the board. Guido nearly scored on his first attempt after coming on in the 69th minute for Thomas Vancaeyezeele. Guido found some space and he sent a right-footed volley from inside the penalty area off the crossbar.

Tumi Moshobane also had his chance. The forward nearly scored with a point-blank shot that was blocked at the goal line by Klinsmann. And then came Guido's play between the legs of the defender and his cross to Berry for the header that sealed the win.

SD Loyal has earned points in the last four matches, including two of those on the road.

"This is continuing process for us and it's hard to describe progress when you lose the first four. It's hard to see that," said SD Loyal manager Landon Donovan. "Results matter but equally what's important to me is how we progress. This is a long season."

PREVIOUS MATCHES

SD LOYAL at ORANGE COUNTY SC June 9, 2021

Tumi Moshobane scores in SD Loyal draw at Orange County SC

Another draw on the road adds another point in the Pacific Division standings



Irvine, Calif. (June 9, 2021) – Trey Muse spread his arms as he faced a point-blank shot Wednesday night. The SD Loyal goalkeeper's wingspan was enough to block the quick shot on a key play that helped his team maintain the 1-1 draw against host Orange County SC.

Ronaldo Damus had taken a deflected ball right outside the six-yard box and rapidly poked it for a shot but Muse was at his line for the save. It was one of six key blocks by Muse in a match in which Damus had already found the net for the home side in the Week 8 match at Championship Soccer Stadium.

Damus tied the game and salvaged a point for Orange County when he brought down a volley from left to right from Brian Iloski. Damus didn't waste his chance and fired it past Muse in the 50th minute. Damus had also previously threatened the SD Loyal goal in the 18th minute. He sprinted into the area but Muse came off his line to confront him and make another of his standout saves of the night. Damus had another chance after a corner kick but Jack Metcalf cleared it away at the line.

SD Loyal had chances of its own early in a game that brought out a bus load of fans north on the I-5 to support manager Landon Donovan's team in the Pacific Division match.

SD Loyal had chances of its own early, one of which got the chants going from bus load of supporters that traveled north on the I-5 to support manager Landon Donovan's team in the Pacific Division match.

"It was terrific to have them here," said Tumi Moshobane about the SD Loyal supporters. "They gave us energy and a good boost. I was glad to have scored near and in front of them."

Moshobane sent those fans into cheers when he scored in the 14th minute via a header on a cross from Jack Blake. Moshobane sneaked behind a pair of defenders and waited for Blake's ball right outside the six-yard box to send in his first score of the 2021 USL Championship season and his second with SD Loyal (1-4-2, 5 points).

Orange County (2-2-1, 7 points) was able to contain the midfield and strikers late in the game to secure the draw.

LINEUP:

SD Loyal -16. Trey Muse, 14. Josh Yaro, 18. Jack Maher, 4. Jack Metcalf, 7. Jack Blake (58' -21. Corey Hertzog), 17. Collin Martin (69' -6. Charlie Adams), 3. Elijah Martin, 11. Tumi Moshobane (86' - 2. Morgan Hackworth), 29. Thomas Vancaeyezeele, 24. Miguel Ibarra (59' -12. Niki Jackson), 77. Miguel Berry. Coach: Landon Donovan.

Orange County SC: 1. Patrick Rahousky, 24. Nathan Smith, 20. Rhys Breen, 6. Michael Orozco, 4. Rob Kiernan, 13. Tommy McCabe, 25. Mikko Kuningans, 14. Chris Wehan, 10. Brian Iloski, 9. Eero Markkanen, 11. Ronaldo Damus. Coach: Braeden Cloutier.

PREVIOUS MATCHES

SD LOYAL at PHOENIX RISING FC June 5, 2021

SD Loyal plays to 2-2 draw at Phoenix Rising FC

Berry and Blake score to provide lead but home side finds pair of goals in stoppage time



Chandler, Ariz (June 5, 2021) –Players walked off the pitch staring at the ground and shaking their heads the last time San Diego Loyal SC was at Wild Horse Pass Stadium. Some even buried their face in their hands about a month ago.

This time, it was players looking around trying to figure out what had transpired in the final moments of an emotional finish of a 2-2 draw against host Phoenix Rising FC in front of nearly 9,000 fans. What appeared to be headed to another SD Loyal three points and a first win on the road quickly changed in the final seven minutes of the Week 7 USL Championship match.

Miguel Berry (14th minute) and Jack Blake (71st) had scored for manager Landon Donovan's team. SD Loyal (1-4-1, 4 points) led 2-0 with only six minutes of stoppage time to play. The seventh minute of added time provided just enough time for Phoenix Rising (4-2-1, 13 points) to score a pair of goals and salvage a point with the come-from-behind draw. Joseph Calistri (90+6) tied the game with a shot from the right side off one of a series of late consecutive corner kicks by the home team. Santi Moar cut the SD Loyal lead in half when he scored in extra time. He was all alone on the right side of the penalty box to find the deflected ball.

The turn of events came after Donovan's team came out attacking, putting pressure on Phoenix Rising, who came into the match as the Pacific Division leader. It was a deed SD Loyal set out to earn as it came here last month and lost 4-1 in the season opener for both teams. It was a different story this time. Donovan had his team ready for some redemption against the defending Western Conference champion and controlled most aspects of the game, creating chances with its attackers. Berry was one of them.

"At the start of the game, if you said we'd play that way and we'd tie the game, we would be okay with that," Donovan said. "We want more. And we know that we could be better. We were very, very good for most of the match, not perfect but very good. A little disappointing at the end to give up the goals of course. But still proud of the overall effort and I look at performance always more than I look at the results. Obviously, we want to win games but that was a really good performance against the best team in the league at their place."

Berry, who came on loan to SD Loyal last week, didn't waste his first chance at goal. The 6-foot-3 striker sent in a right-footed blast in between two defenders as he entered the penalty box from the right. Berry shed his mark as he won a loose ball after a bounce, leaving Phoenix Rising defender James Musa behind for a 1-0 lead. It was Berry's first goal with SD Loyal this season.

Blake added to the scoring and sent in his second goal of the season when he buried a blast from inches outside the penalty box. He faked out his defender then fired the ball into the right corner of the net, leaving Rawls diving without a chance for the SD Loyal 2-0 lead. The scoring plays were results of SD Loyal continuing to push up field while also maintain control of its back line. Phoenix did not have a shot on target until late in the game. One of them was Moar's goal. Moar scored with a right-footed shot that beat SD Loyal goalkeeper Trey Muse. Moar, who has scored in every match this season, cut the lead when he took a ball while being wide open on the right side of the penalty box. He didn't waste his chance, converting as he caught the SD Loyal defense off guard. Moar had several chances earlier in the match but couldn't get his shots on target. Adeseyi Adekoya nearly scored for the home side in the 67th minute. And then there was Calistri, who rushed in wide open from the left side off the box to a loose ball. He struck the ball and beat Muse to tie the game and send SD Loyal players into disbelief. But Donovan said his team can learn from the result and not be disappointed.

"The confidence to play this way...we know how to beat Phoenix." Donovan said. "We have proven over the last 18 months. (We've proven) that we are almost the only team in this league that knows how to beat them consistently and that's powerful. We need that. We need that now over 90 minutes but in the first half the way we dominated the game is what we know we can do against them."

PREVIOUS MATCHES

SD LOYAL VS. LAS VEGAS LIGHTS FC May 29, 2021

SD Loyal gets first three points of season in home opener SD Loyal allows goals in each half in 2-1 loss to Louisville City FC



San Diego (May 29, 2021) - Chants, drums, applause and Torrey Green smoke. Those were some of the sights, sounds and smells at Torero Stadium at USD on Saturday night.

Fútbol was back with fans in the stands, and they got to see SD Loyal earn its first points of the 2021 USL Championship season with a 2-1 win against visiting Las Vegas Lights FC. It was the first soccer action at home with fans for SD Loyal (1-4-0, 3 points) since its inaugural match March 7, 2020. It played a handful of home matches with closed doors due to the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020. The vibe was different during the Week 5 match against Pacific Division rival, the same one it faced on that inaugural game. This time, it was a hometown player who sent about 2,100 soccer hungry fans in attendance into frenzy.

Alejandro Guido scored his first goal of the season in the 56th minute. The Chula Vista native took a pass from Jack Blake from the right to near the top of the penalty box. It was there where Guido sent a low-rolling, right-footed shot past Las Vegas Lights goalkeeper Alex Rando. Guido celebrated his third goal in 10 games with SD Loyal since joining the club late last season. He raised his arms and shook them as he looked to the dark skies and then onto the loud stands.

"It just changes the game it changes the momentum," Guido said about having fans in the stands. "It gives you more energy in the 70th minute when your legs are getting tired. Just to hear them it's just inspiring."

And as for getting his goal after a handful of attempts that fell short?

"I said 'oh my God' I couldn't believe it. It just didn't want to go in and look at the kind of luck we're having. We stuck through it. We were patient and we were able to find a goal."

Corey Hertzog also found a goal of his own to celebrate. He sent in the game-winner in the 87th minute. He buried a shot after a series of shot were blocked in the six-yard box. Hertzog and Guido's scoring plays were part of SD Loyal's attempt to pressure Las Vegas early in the second half. SD Loyal had opportunities but couldn't break through. But things began to change assistant coach Nate Miller, who led the team for suspended manager Landon Donovan, sent in the recently signed striker Miguel Berry in the second half. Berry helped attract two or three defenders at times, allowing more space for others to create chances around a backline that finished without starter Mohamed Traore. That's how the loose ball amid a forest of legs and deflections got to Hertzog who put in the game-winner.

"Everything was about putting pressure on them today," Miller said about the plan against Las Vegas. "I thought our high pressure was good. We were able to settle in and take control. We did a good job sticking to the game plan, plugging away and eventually the moment came. You can see what Miguel Berry can do. He's just a handful. He occupied two, three, four defenders sometimes and really allowed us to come in through the lines."

Las Vegas (0-4-0) had taken a 1-0 lead with a 17th minute goal by Alvaro Quezada. He scored on a quick play seconds after SD Loyal's Blake threatened with dangerous header. Quezada sent in a pass from Caleb Jennings, who steered through two SD Loyal defenders all the way to the end line and rolled a pass back in. Quezada took the pass near the six-yard box, leaving Trey Muse without a chance. It was Las Vegas' third goal of the season. SD Loyal nearly found the net when Jack Blake headed a ball that looked to be heading just inside the top left corner. But Rando got his hands on it at the final moment. The ball then came off the crossbar in the 17th minute. Las Vegas was saved.

PREVIOUS MATCHES

SD LOYAL at Louisville City FC May 22, 2021

Long road ends with defeat

SD Loyal allows goals in each half in 2-1 loss to Louisville City FC



Louisville, Ky. (May 22, 2021) -Trey Muse jumped and grabbed on to his crossbar. The San Diego Loyal SC goalkeeper partially pulled his body up the bar as if he was trying to tear down the goal Saturday night.

Muse displayed his frustration. He had just blocked a penalty kick on a diving effort. But his block went right back to the shooter, who didn't waste the second chance. It was that type of game for Muse and SD Loyal in a 2-1 loss against host Louisville City FC at Lynn Family Stadium.

Cameron Lancaster took the penalty kick in stoppage time of the first half but Muse dove to make the save but the ball ricocheted back to Lancaster. He put the ball into the net after Muse stood up, but the goalkeeper had no chance the second time.

Louisville City FC converted the penalty kick after a questionable call a minute earlier. SD Loyal midfielder Jack Blake was whistled for a foul on Napo Matsoso. Blake and SD Loyal players argued with referee Ismir Pekic that Matsoso was never touched, to no avail. The home side would go into halftime with the lead.

SD Loyal (0-4-0) would leave its first ever trip to the Eastern Time Zone with its fourth-straight road loss. Coach Landon Donovan's team could not find an attacking rhythm after what appeared to be a fast start to the USL Championship Week 4 match. Instead, it was a set of unexpected plays and misfortunes for SD Loyal.

Louisville City FC (2-0-1, 7 points) scored again on a bazaar play, this time in stoppage time in the second half. Kyle Greig scored in stoppage time when he headed a volley in the penalty area. He made a half turn and was able to push the ball past Muse with his leg while facing away from the goal for a 2-0 lead. It added more to SD Loyal and Donovan's frustration. Donovan was sent off from the sideline with a red card soon after Greig's score.

SD Loyal answered the second Louisville City FC score with a blast by Jack Blake. The British midfielder fired a right-footed blast from about 25 yards out that hits the same crossbar where Muse hung on earlier in the match, ricocheting into the Louisville City FC net, also in stoppage time.

The late action in the match was a contrast of the rest of the game. It was mostly Louisville City FC creating the most danger after SD Loyal tried to come out with a fast attacking game. It began by sending up its lines, creating some opportunities, including a 16th minute shot by Alejandro Guido. The Chula Vista native sent a low but powerful bouncing shot that was saved by a diving Chris Hubbard to his left. SD Loyal then opted to wait for Louisville City FC in its territory, hoping for counter attacks on a warm and humid Kentucky night. Those opportunities were slim. Muse was the one with more save opportunities as Louisville City FC continued to push up field, ultimately getting a penalty call and an opportune goal by Greig, a second half substitute. Muse finished the match in his return to his hometown with nine saves.

LINEUP:

SD Loyal -16. Trey Muse, 29. Thomas Vancaeyezeele, 23. Hunter Ashworth, 4. Jack Metcalf, 6. Charlie Adams, 7. Jack Blake, 17. Collin Martin (81'- CJ Fodrey), 3. Elijah Martin, 10. Alejandro Guido (68'- 11. Tumi Moshobane), 12. Niki Jackson (68'-21. Corey Hertzog), 9. Ben Spencer (61'-2. Morgan Hackworth). Coach: Landon Donovan.

PREVIOUS MATCHES

SD LOYAL at Tacoma Defiance May 13, 2021

Another road loss for SD Loyal

A more fluid brand of soccer is not enough for SD Loyal in 3-1 loss at Tacoma Defiance



Tacoma, Wash. (May 13, 2021) –The last time San Diego Loyal SC came here, the atmosphere was a bit strange on that March 2020 night. There were no fans in the stands after the governor of Washington announced a State of Emergency due to the COVID-19 pandemic. It was the final time coach Landon Donovan's team would play until July.

It was also the place SD Loyal earned its first ever win. It was different Thursday night. There was a handful of fans in attendance with local health regulations a bit more relaxed. Those few got to see SD Loyal drop its third-straight game with a 3-1 loss against host Tacoma Defiance at Cheney Stadium.

Tacoma Defiance (1-0-1, 4 points) got a first half goal and a pair in the second. All three were essentially counter attacks despite SD Loyal (0-3-0) creating many scoring opportunities during the Week 3 match. Carlos Anguiano (44th minute), Alec Diaz (51st) and Danny Robles (90+) scored for the home side. It was Tacoma's first win of the season following a draw against LA Galaxy II while SD Loyal has started the season with three road matches, all losses.

But it was SD Loyal, who led in every statistical category except scoring, appeared to have an advantage. It came out looking to attack, creating many chances in the first half and later in the match. Tacoma took advantage of SD Loyal's missed scoring opportunities and converted those into scores on counter attacks.

Anguiano scored after taking a low-rolling ball from near the top of the penalty box and fired it with his left foot. The blast caught SD Loyal goalkeeper Trey Muse without a chance at his line against his former team.

Anguiano's goal came during a time in the match in which SD Loyal was moving up lines and attacking. Donovan's team had a handful of chances before the Tacoma Defiance score. It was Ben Spencer who started the dangerous plays and eventually found the net in the 29th minute. But it didn't count. His goal was called off after he was whistled offsides. He had put back a shot inside the six-yard box after Tacoma goalkeeper Christian Herrera slid to make a block. Spencer also had a header come off the crossbar in the 34th minute.

The SD Loyal attack continued with midfielder Alejandro Guido also forcing Herrera to make a one-handed save. Herrera got a piece of Guido's blast, deflecting it off the left post. Then it was Jack Blake with another shot that was saved by Herrera. Spencer had another try with a header a minute before Tacoma took one of its few opportunities and converted with Anguiano's goal.

SD Loyal's attacking persistence eventually paid off.

Jack Metcalf tied the game with a 51st minute goal. He put back a shot by Charlie Adams. Herrera dove to make a standout save on Adams' volley but the ball was left rolling for a wide open Metcalf who sent in his first goal with SD Loyal. Metcalf's goal came after SD Loyal came out attacking in the second half similarly to what it did in the first.

But the lead lasted not for long.

Tacoma took another counterattack that ended with Diaz sending in a cross by Alex Villanueva from left to right. Diaz charged the SD Loyal goal down the middle of the box wide open. All Diaz had to do was tap it in past Muse. Robles scored three minutes into stoppage time to seal the win for Tacoma.

PREVIOUS MATCHES

SD LOYAL at RGV FC May 6, 2021

SD Loyal allows late goal in loss to RGV FC

Vicente Sanchez finds net in 87th minute of SD Loyal's second road match



Edinburg, Texas (May 6, 2021) -It was a quick turnaround. San Diego Loyal was back on the road after only three days of practice and having to travel in its season opener. There was not much time to make adjustments as it headed to Texas for another primetime match.

This time it was SD Loyal's first trip to the Southeastern tip of the Lone Star State Thursday as it played to a 1-0 loss against Rio Grande Valley FC in a Week 2 non divisional match at H-E-B Park. The modifications by coach Landon Donovan appeared to have worked. SD Loyal appeared to be heading into its first points of the season as it showed some stability on defense and displayed a bit more fluid brand of an attack against Toros.

But all that didn't matter after second half substitute Vicente Sanchez buried a header into the back of the SD Loyal net late in the USL Championship match. Sanchez, who was out of soccer a few months ago, sent in a goal past Trey Muse in the 87th minute to secure the win for the Toros after what was tightly contested Week 2 match. Muse stood at his goal line after unable to make a play against a wide open Sanchez who scored from near the penalty spot. Sanchez connected on a bending cross by Christian Sorto from left to right.

SD Loyal (0-2-0) defenders looked for answers after the scoring play after showing significant improvement from a loss at Phoenix Rising last week. Donovan made some shifting in the lineup against Toros (2-0-0, six points). Part of the changes included replacing starting defender Grant Stoneman who was out with a lower body injury, but Donovan had veteran and team captain Sal Zizzo. Newcomer Josh Yaro also appeared to have settled into the center back position next to Zizzo. Donovan also sent in midfielder Alejandro Guido in the First XI this time around. SD Loyal was able to pressure RGVFC with a handful of dangerous shots, including one that almost tied the game in stoppage time. Elijah Martin sent a header towards goal from the left side and appeared to be going in, but it was headed away at the last moment by a RGVFC defender.

Tumi Moshobane also had a chance on a quick shot in the 70th minute from near the six-yard box but it was saved by Tyler Deric at the goal line. Martin also nearly scored in the 58th when he fired a low shot from left to right looking for the right lower corner but Deric was able to cut it off with his foot to end any danger. SD Loyal appeared to have scored in the 22nd minute but Cory Hertzog was whistled offside on the play. He took a pass from the right into the box and tapped it in with his right foot but the goal was annulled. Muse also had a handful of key saves. He stopped shots by Erik Pimentel and Sorto, both with a foot at the last moment. Muse also had to dive to block another shot by Pimentel from about 25 yards out. Donovan's team will now return to San Diego for another short week of practice before heading back on the road to visit Tacoma Defiance Thursday May 13.

LINEUP:

SD Loyal -16. Trey Muse, 3. Elijah Martin, 29. Thomas Vancaeyezeele, 14. Joshua Yaro, 4. Jack Metcalf, 6. Charlie Adams, 17. Collin Martin, 7. Jack Blake, 8. Sal Zizzo (c), 10. Alejandro Guido (62'- 11. Tumi Moshobane), 21. Corey Hertzog (68'- 9. Ben Spencer). Coach: Landon Donovan.

Rio Grande Valley FC: 1. Tyler Deric, Carter Manley, 3. Grant Robinson, 4. Erik Pimentel, 5. Juan David Cabezas (c), 6. James Murphy, 21. Wan Kuzain, 8. Rodrigo Lopez, 20. Christian Sorto, 9. Elvis Amoh (74'- Vicente Sanchez), 24. Alexis Cerritos. Coach: Wilber Cabrera

PREVIOUS MATCHES

SD LOYAL at Phoenix Rising FC April, 30, 2021

SD Loyal opens season with loss at Phoenix Rising FC

Trey Muse has handful of saves in team's first of three-straight road



Chandler, Ariz. (April 30, 2021) -Trey Muse leaned forward and put his hands on his knees Friday night. He looked toward midfield, perhaps trying to decipher what transpired.

The 21-year-old San Diego Loyal SC goalkeeper had made standout saves throughout the night but it was not enough in a 4-1 loss against host Phoenix Rising FC in the USL Championship season opener for both teams.

Muse stopped shot after shot in his debut with SD Loyal but it was Jon Bakero (39th minute), Santi Moar (55th), Aodhan Quinn (67th) and (Kevon Lambert (80th) found the net for the home side at its inaugural match at its new Wild Horse Pass Stadium. Muse helped keep the match close, allowing only Bakero's goal in the first half that featured Phoenix Rising consistently attacking.

Bakero tapped in a right-footed shot after Muse blocked a Ryan Flood shot. Flood sent a blast from about 20-yards out but Muse was there to block it but the ball ricocheted straight to Bakero. He didn't waste his chance in front of a 50-percent capacity crowd at the 10,000 seat stadium.

The scoring play was part of a constant pressure by Phoenix Rising for most of the first half. Muse spent it making a handful of saves. Bakero was the first to shoot 11 minutes into the game, sending a blast high over the crossbar. Muse had to make saves on a shot by Rufat Dadashov and Solomon Asante. Dadashov also sent a shot off the right post in the 15th minute and he also thought he had scored a minute earlier. His low-rolling shot inside the right post was annulled. He was offside.

Phoenix Rising (1-0-0, 3 points) began the second half much like the first 45 minutes. It continued to pressure with two early shots, one by Asante and Flood. Moar would give Phoenix Rising a 2-0 when he also put back a Muse save.

SD Loyal (0-1-0) cut the lead to 2-1 when Ben Spencer sent in a cross by Alejandro Guido intended for Jack Blake but it was deflected to Spencer on the pass. Spencer tapped it in from near the six-yard box for his first goal with SD Loyal.

Phoenix Rising added two more against Manager Landon Donovan's team that began its second season in the USL. Quinn scored with a shot from the left side after a pass by Moar gave him plenty of space. He took his shot from left to right past Muse into the right wall of the SD Loyal net. Kevon Lambert closed out the scoring by sending a low shot inside the right post.

LINEUP:

SD Loyal -16. Trey Muse, 5. Grant Stoneman (45th -3. Elijah Martin), 29. Thomas Vancaeyezeele, 14. Joshua Yaro, 4. Jack Metcalf, 6. Charlie Adams (c), 17. Collin Martin, 7. Jack Blake (86th -8. Sal Zizzo), 11. Tumi Moshobane (46th -10. Alejandro Guido) -, 21. Corey Hertzog (86th- 2. Morgan Hackworth), 12. Niki Jackson (61st- 9. Ben Spencer). Coach: Landon Donovan.

Phoenix Rising FC: Phoenix Rising FC: 24. Andre Rawls, 2. Darnell King, 3. Tobi Adewole, 41. James Musa, 4. Ryan Flood, 27. Kevon Lambert, 10. Jon Bakero, 14. Aodhan Quinn, 20. Solomon Asante (c), 7. Santi Moar, 9. Rufat Dadashov. Coach: Rick Schantz

SD LOYAL ROSTER



No.	Pos	Name	Age	Place of Birth
1	GK	Austin Guerrero	32	San Diego, Calif.
2	M	Morgan Hackworth	24	Winston-Salem, N.C.
3	D	Elijah Martin	24	Fresno, Calif.
4	D	Jack Metcalf	29	Liverpool, England
5	D	Grant Stoneman	25	Wheaton, Illi.
6	M	Charlie Adams	26	Hendon, England
7	M	Jack Blake	26	Nottingham, England
8	D	Sal Zizzo	32	San Diego, Calif.
9	F	Ben Spencer	26	Albuquerque, N.M.
10	M	Alejandro Guido	27	Chula Vista, Calif.
11	M	Tumi Moshobane	26	Soweto, South Africa
12	F	Niki Jackson	25	Scottsdale, Ariz.
14	D	Joshua Yaro	27	Kumasi, Ghana
16	GK	Trey Muse	21	Louisville, KY
17	M	Collin Martin	26	Chevy Chase, MD
21	F	Corey Hertzog	30	Reading, Penn.
22	GK	Antony Siah	23	Tucson, Ariz.
24	M	Miguel Ibarra	31	Lancaster, Calif.
25	D	Jordan Chavez	24	San Diego, Calif.
31	F	Chase Boone	25	Beaverton, Ore.
33	D	Callum Montgomery	24	Nanaimo, Canada
40	F	Calvin Jay Fodrey	17	San Diego, Calif.
41	D	Ian Mai	16	San Diego, Calif.
42	M	Haji Abdikadir	22	Nairobi, Kenya
50	M	Xavi Gnaulati	16	San Deigo, Calif.

PRONUNCIATION GUIDE



No.	Pos	Name	
1	GK	Austin Guerrero	(GHE-REH-ROW)
2	M	Morgan Hackworth	(HAK-WORTH)
3	D	Elijah Martin	(MAR-TIN)
4	D	Jack Metcalf	(MHET-KALF)
5	D	Grant Stoneman	(STONE-MAHN)
6	M	Charlie Adams	(AH-DAMS)
7	M	Jack Blake	(BLHAKE)
8	D	Sal Zizzo	(ZEE-ZZOW)
9	F	Ben Spencer	(SPEN-CER)
10	M	Alejandro Guido	Ah-leh-jan-dro (GHEE-DOW)
11	M	Tumi Moshobane	Two-Me (MO-SHO-BAW-NEH)
12	F	Niki Jackson	
14	D	Joshua Yaro	(YAR-OH)
16	GK	Trey Muse	(MEUW-Z)
17	M	Collin Martin	(MAR-TIN)
21	F	Corey Hertzog	(HERT-ZOG)
22	GK	Antony Siah	(SEE-AA-HA)
24	M	Miguel Ibarra	Me-ghel (E-BAR-RAW)
25	D	Jordan Chavez	(SHAA-VEHZ)
31	F	Chase Boone	
33	D	Callum Montgomery	(KAHL-UM)
40	F	Calvin Jay Fodrey	(FAW-DR-EE)
41	D	Ian Mai	(MAH-IY)
42	M	Haji Abdikadir	Ha-Gee (AB-DEE-KAH-DEER)
50	M	Xavi Gnaulati	

TEAM STATISTICS (As of July 28)

14
Games

6
Wins

3
Draws

5
Lost

42.9%
Games won

3
Position

DEFENSE

20
Goals conceded

1.4
Per game

1
Clean sheets

1
Penalties conceded

Tackles



Duels



Aerial duels



DISTRIBUTION

Passes



7,224
Total passes

6,003
Successful passes

516
Passes per 90 mins.

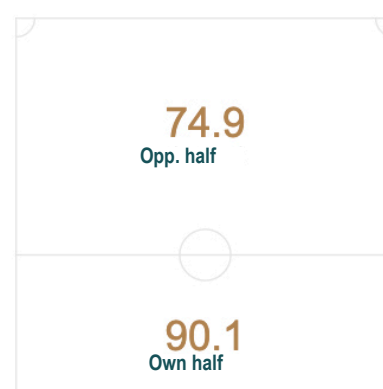
Long passes



Pass direction %



Passing accuracy by area %



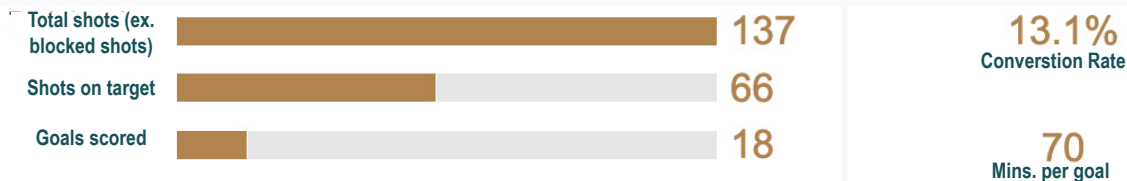
179
Total open play crosses

48
Success crosses

57.0%
Average possession

TEAM STATISTICS (As of July 28)

ATTACK



0

Left foot goals



13

Right foot goals



5

Headed goals



0

Other

0

Penalties scored

0

Penalties missed

12

Goals inside the box

6

Goals outside the box

0

Direct free kick goals

DISCIPLINE

182

Fouls won

162

Fouls conceded

32

Yellow cards

1

Red cards

LEAGUE RANK (TOTAL)

ATTACKING

GOALS	T16 (18)
SHOTS	11 (170)
CONVERSION RATE	22 (13%)

GOALKEEPING

CLEAN SHEETS	T26 (1)
GOALS CONCEDED	9 (20)

DISTRIBUTION

PASSES	1 (7,225)
ACCURACY	2 (83%)

DISCIPLINE

FOULS CONCEDED	25 (162)
YELLOW CARDS	T14 (33)
RED CARDS	T14 (1)

SEASON HEAD TO HEAD

TACOMA DEFIANCE VS. SAN DIEGO LOYAL



Date: Thursday July 29, 2021
Time: 7 PM PDT
Kickoff: 7:06 PM PDT | ESPN+



SAN DIEGO LOYAL	MINUTES		TACOMA DEFIANCE	SAN DIEGO LOYAL	SHOTS		TACOMA DEFIANCE
Jack Metcalf	1260	774	Sota Kitahara	Jack Blake	27	14	Samuel Adeniran
Jack Blake	1194	709	Tom Brewitt	Corey Hertzog	21	11	Ray Serrano
Trey Muse	1170	684	Randy Mendoza	Alejandro Guido	18	8	Ifonso Ocampo-Chavez
Charlie Adams	1166	675	Taylor Mueller	Miguel Berry	11	8	Alec Diaz
Collin Martin	1087	673	Ray Serrano	Tumi Moshobane	9	6	Azriel Gonzalez
Elijah Martin	997	635	Alex Villanueva	B. Spencer	8	5	Daniel Robles
Joshua Yaro	916	620	Eric Kinzner	Niki Jackson	6	3	Obed Vaargas
Corey Hertzog	878	588	Ifonso Ocampo-Chavez	Charlie Adams	6	3	Jimmy Medranda
Thomas Vancaeyezeele	809	582	Jose Carlos Anguiano	Miguel Ibarra	6	2	Danny Leyva
Alejandro Guido	727	559	Issa Rayyan	Elijah Martin	5	2	Sota Kitahara
Miguel Ibarra	598	460	Obed Vaargas	Joshua Yaro	3	2	Jose Carlos Anguiano
Tumi Moshobane	490	459	Alec Diaz	Hunter Ashworth	3	2	Marlon Vargas
Jack Maher	450	360	Andy Thomas	Thomas Vancaeyezeele	3	2	Abdoulaye Cissoko
Miguel Berry	435	360	Christian Herrera	Callum Montgomery	3	2	Issa Rayyan
				Collin Martin	3	2	Taylor Mueller
				Jack Metcalf	2	2	Eric Kinzner
				Grant Stoneman	1		
				Chase Boone	1		
				Jack Maher	1		

SAN DIEGO LOYAL	GOALS		TACOMA DEFIANCE
Jack Blake	4	2	Ray Serrano
Alejandro Guido	3	2	Ifonso Ocampo-Chavez
Miguel Berry	3	2	Alec Diaz
Corey Hertzog	2	1	Daniel Robles
Tumi Moshobane	2	1	Jose Carlos Anguiano
Jack Metcalf	1	1	Samuel Adeniran
Miguel Ibarra	1	1	Marlon Vargas
B. Spencer	1	1	Abdoulaye Cissoko
Callum Montgomery	1		

SAN DIEGO LOYAL	ASSISTS		TACOMA DEFIANCE
Jack Blake	3	2	Alex Villanueva
Charlie Adams	2	1	Issa Rayyan
Collin Martin	1	1	Taylor Mueller
Elijah Martin	1	1	Eric Kinzner
Jack Maher	1	1	Azriel Gonzalez
Alejandro Guido	1	1	Ray Serrano
Miguel Berry	1		
Jack Metcalf	1		
Miguel Ibarra	1		

SEASON HEAD TO HEAD

TACOMA DEFIANCE VS. SAN DIEGO LOYAL



Referee: Elton Garcia
Assistant Referee: Jennifer Garner
Assistant Referee: Hunter Zachwieja
Fourth Official: Luis Trujillo



SAN DIEGO LOYAL	CLEARANCES		TACOMA DEFIANCE
Joshua Yaro	47	34	Taylor Mueller
Elijah Martin	28	25	Eric Kinzner
Jack Maher	25	20	Randy Mendoza
Jack Metcalf	24	20	Tom Brewitt
Callum Montgomery	23	10	Alex Villanueva
Trey Muse	15	7	Abdoulaye Cissoko
Thomas Vancaeyezeele	15	7	Issa Rayyan
Grant Stoneman	12	6	Spencer Richey
Collin Martin	11	5	Christian Herrera
Hunter Ashworth	9	4	Ethan Dobbelaere
Corey Hertzog	8	3	Samuel Adeniran

SAN DIEGO LOYAL	FOULS WON		TACOMA DEFIANCE
Alejandro Guido	33	20	Jose Carlos Anguiano
Jack Blake	26	18	Issa Rayyan
Collin Martin	20	14	Ray Serrano
Corey Hertzog	18	13	Ifonso Ocampo-Chavez
Elijah Martin	16	12	Obed Vaargan
Charlie Adams	14	12	Alex Villanueva
Thomas Vancaeyezeele	8	11	Sota Kitahara
Tumi Moshobane	8	7	Abdoulaye Cissoko
B. Spencer	7	6	Danny Leyva
Joshua Yaro	7	5	Eric Kinzner
Jack Metcalf	6	4	Alec Diaz
Miguel Ibarra	5	3	Reed Baker-Whiting
Miguel Berry	4	3	Marlon Vargas
Niki Jackson	3	3	Randy Mendoza
Jack Maher	3	3	Tom Brewitt
		2	Christian Herrera
		2	Juan Alvarez
		2	Daniel Robles

SAN DIEGO LOYAL	FOULS CONCD.		TACOMA DEFIANCE
Jack Blake	28	11	Sota Kitahara
Collin Martin	27	11	Samuel Adeniran
Elijah Martin	15	10	Jose Carlos Anguiano
B. Spencer	15	9	Randy Mendoza
Alejandro Guido	11	9	Taylor Mueller
Tumi Moshobane	9	8	Eric Kinzner
Joshua Yaro	9	7	Issa Rayyan
Jack Metcalf	8	7	Tom Brewitt
Niki Jackson	7	6	Daniel Robles
Corey Hertzog	6	5	Ray Serrano
Charlie Adams	6	5	Obed Vaargan
Thomas Vancaeyezeele	5	5	Alex Villanueva
Grant Stoneman	4	4	Alec Diaz
Callum Montgomery	4	4	Reed Baker-Whiting
		3	Abdoulaye Cissoko
		3	Danny Leyva

SEASON HEAD TO HEAD

TACOMA DEFIANCE VS. SAN DIEGO LOYAL



Stadium Name: Cheney Stadium
Stadium Address:
Tacoma, Wash.
Field Dimensions:
Field Surface Type: Grass



SAN DIEGO LOYAL	MINS	PER GOAL	TACOMA DEFIANCE
Miguel Berry	145	229.5	Alec Diaz
Alejandro Guido	242.3	233	Daniel Robles
Jack Blake	298.5	270	Abdoulaye Cissoko
B. Spencer	350	277	Marlon Vargas
Callum Montgomery	365	294	Ifonso Ocampo-Chavez
Corey Hertzog	439	318	Samuel Adeniran
Miguel Ibarra	598	336.5	Ray Serrano
Jack Metcalf	1260	582	Jose Carlos Anguiano

SAN DIEGO LOYAL	PASSES	TACOMA DEFIANCE
Collin Martin	787	457
Charlie Adams	684	447
Elijah Martin	676	410
Joshua Yaro	665	367
Jack Metcalf	655	342
Thomas Vancaeyezeele	575	338
Jack Blake	469	251
Jack Maher	374	218
Grant Stoneman	365	210
Trey Muse	361	170
Callum Montgomery	294	169
Alejandro Guido	266	158
Miguel Ibarra	251	151

SAN DIEGO LOYAL	PASS ACC%	TACOMA DEFIANCE
Collin Martin	90.5	92.6
Joshua Yaro	90.1	89.1
Charlie Adams	88.5	88.2
Grant Stoneman	86.6	86.9
Sal Zizzo	86.1	85.1
Jack Maher	85.8	81.1
Elijah Martin	85.5	80.6
Miguel Ibarra	83.7	80.4
Jack Metcalf	83.4	80

SAN DIEGO LOYAL	SAVES	TACOMA DEFIANCE
Trey Muse	47	13
Austin Guerrero	2	13
	7	Andy Thomas

SAN DIEGO LOYAL	SAVE %	TACOMA DEFIANCE
Austin Guerrero	100	80
Trey Muse	71.2	77.8
	76.5	Christian Herrera

SAN DIEGO LOYAL	LONG PASSES	TACOMA DEFIANCE
Trey Muse	186	186
Elijah Martin	110	110
Charlie Adams	83	83
Jack Maher	77	77
Jack Metcalf	73	73
Thomas Vancaeyezeele	71	71
Collin Martin	69	69
Joshua Yaro	63	63
Grant Stoneman	60	60
Callum Montgomery	45	45
Jack Blake	41	41
Corey Hertzog	21	21

SAN DIEGO LOYAL	TACKLES WON	TACOMA DEFIANCE
Jack Blake	17	10
Collin Martin	15	9
Elijah Martin	14	8
Joshua Yaro	12	8
Jack Metcalf	12	7
Charlie Adams	9	6
Alejandro Guido	8	5
Callum Montgomery	7	5
Tumi Moshobane	7	5
Thomas Vancaeyezeele	6	4
Corey Hertzog	6	4

SAN DIEGO LOYAL	YELLOW CARDS	TACOMA DEFIANCE
Elijah Martin	4	4
Corey Hertzog	4	4
Jack Blake	3	3
Collin Martin	3	2
Trey Muse	2	2
Jack Metcalf	2	2
Charlie Adams	2	1
Alejandro Guido	2	1
Thomas Vancaeyezeele	2	1
Grant Stoneman	2	1
B. Spencer	2	1
Austin Guerrero	1	1
Joshua Yaro	1	1
Callum Montgomery	1	1
Tumi Moshobane	1	

SEASON HEAD TO HEAD



TACOMA DEFIANCE VS. SAN DIEGO LOYAL

Stadium Name: Cheney Stadium
Stadium Address: 2502 S. Tyler St.
Tacoma, WA 98405
Field Dimensions: 110 x 70
Field Surface Type: Grass



SAN DIEGO LOYAL	CHANCES CREATED		TACOMA DEFIANCE	SAN DIEGO LOYAL	CROSSES		TACOMA DEFIANCE
Charlie Adams	21	12	Ray Serrano	Jack Metcalf	64	20	Ray Serrano
Jack Blake	21	9	Alex Villanueva	Jack Blake	35	15	Issa Rayyan
Jack Metcalf	18	7	Issa Rayyan	Miguel Ibarra	18	14	Alex Villanueva
Collin Martin	10	6	Reed Baker-Whiting	Charlie Adams	17	8	Randy Mendoza
Alejandro Guido	10	6	Daniel Robles	Alejandro Guido	10	4	Jimmy Medranda
Miguel Ibarra	9	5	Jose Carlos Anguiano	Collin Martin	6	3	Ethan Dobbelaere
Corey Hertzog	8	5	Obed Vaargas	Corey Hertzog	6	3	Azriel Gonzalez
B. Spencer	7	5	Ifonso Ocampo-Chavez	Elijah Martin	4	3	Samuel Adeniran
Miguel Berry	5	4	Taylor Mueller	Thomas Vancaeyezeele	4	2	Ifonso Ocampo-Chavez
Niki Jackson	3	3	Samuel Adeniran	B. Spencer	4	2	Daniel Robles
Elijah Martin	2	3	Marlon Vargas	Sal Zizzo	3	2	Marlon Vargas
Callum Montgomery	2	2	Danny Leyva	Niki Jackson	1	2	Alec Diaz
Sal Zizzo	1	2	Eric Kinzner				
Jack Maher	1						
Thomas Vancaeyezeele	1						
Trey Muse	1						

SAN DIEGO LOYAL	SHOTS ON TARGET		TACOMA DEFIANCE
Jack Blake	14	8	Samuel Adeniran
Corey Hertzog	9	6	Ray Serrano
Alejandro Guido	7	4	Ifonso Ocampo-Chavez
Tumi Moshobane	7	4	Alec Diaz
Miguel Berry	6	3	Azriel Gonzalez
Miguel Ibarra	4	3	Obed Vaargas
Niki Jackson	3	2	Daniel Robles
Charlie Adams	3	1	Jimmy Medranda
Elijah Martin	3	1	Danny Leyva
B. Spencer	2	1	Sota Kitahara
Thomas Vancaeyezeele	2	1	Jose Carlos Anguiano
Jack Metcalf	2	1	Marlon Vargas
		1	Abdoulaye Cissoko
		1	Taylor Mueller

SD LOYAL LAST MATCH



SAN DIEGO LOYAL 0-1 PHOENIX RISING

Saturday July 24

Referee: Lukasz Szpala

CHANGES FROM LAST GAME

Elijah Martin in for Montgomery

Moshobane in for Ibarra

EVENTS

GOAL : Musa 9'

YC : Farrell **59'**

60' SUB : Ibarra on for Moshobane

YC: Musa **62'**

SUB : Egbo on for Dadashov 66'

69' SUB : Boone on for Collin Martin

SUB : Rodriguez on for Bakero 79'

SUB : Calistri on for Moar 79'

81' YC: Blake

SUB : Spencer on for Hertzog 90'

SUB : Billingsley on for Asante 90'

SAN DIEGO LOYAL				PHOENIX RISING		
1st Half	2nd Half	90 Min	Statistic	1st Half	2nd Half	90 Min
0	0	0	Goals	1	0	1
2	3	5	Total Shots (including blocked shots)	7	11	18
0	0	0	Shots On Target	2	4	6
2	3	5	Shots Off Target	4	7	11
0	0	0	Blocked Shots	1	0	1
2	2	4	Shots from inside the box	4	4	8
0	1	1	Shots from outside the box	3	7	10
1	2	3	Headed Shots	2	0	2
0	1	1	Corners taken	2	2	4
3	6	9	Fouls Conceded	9	7	16
6	9	15	Open Play Crosses	12	2	14
3	0	3	Offsides	1	1	2
28	30	58	Duels Won	27	22	49
50.9%	57.7%	54.2%	Duels Won (%)	49.1%	42.3%	45.8%
382	288	670	Total Passes	131	140	271
87.2%	82.6%	85.2%	Passing Accuracy	65.6%	72.9%	69.4%
73.0%	67.4%	70.4%	Possession	27.0%	32.6%	29.6%

HOW TACOMA DEFIANCE LINED UP LAST GAME



LA GALAXY II 1-1 TACOMA DEFIANCE

Sunday July 11

Referee: Mark Allatin

EVENTS

18' **GOAL : Ocampo-Chavez**

YC: Drack

44'

SUB : Harvey on for Davala

HT

OWN GOAL : Mendoza

55'

59' SUB : Vargaas on for Dobbelaere

59' SUB : Rayyan for Baker-Whiting

SUB : Picazo on for Hernandez

65'

69' SUB : Robles on for Serrano

78' YC : Robles

SUB : Valdes on for Drack

79'

SUB : Cabral on for Dunbar

86'

89' SUB : Adeniran on for Ocampo-Chavez

LA GALAXY II				TACOMA DEFIANCE		
1st Half	2nd Half	90 Min	Statistic	1st Half	2nd Half	90 Min
0	1	1	Goals	1	0	1
7	6	13	Total Shots (including blocked shots)	6	4	10
1	3	4	Shots On Target	1	0	1
3	1	4	Shots Off Target	3	2	5
3	2	5	Blocked Shots	2	2	4
3	4	7	Shots from inside the box	3	2	5
4	2	6	Shots from outside the box	3	2	5
2	1	3	Headed Shots	0	0	0
3	3	6	Corners taken	2	4	6
8	8	16	Fouls Conceded	5	4	9
7	4	11	Open Play Crosses	3	5	8
0	1	1	Offsides	1	2	3
25	20	45	Duels Won	26	24	50
49.0%	45.5%	47.4%	Duels Won (%)	51.0%	54.5%	52.6%
204	217	421	Total Passes	308	223	531
85.3%	82.9%	84.1%	Passing Accuracy	89.6%	87.9%	88.9%
40.8%	48.7%	44.5%	Possession	59.2%	51.3%	55.5%

SD LOYAL 2021 ROSTER BY POSITIONS

GOALKEEPERS



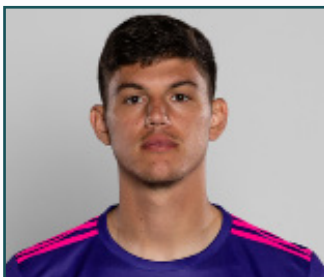
GK

#1

AUSTIN GUERRERO

2020 SEASON:	GP	GS	MP	SAVES	S. FACED	GA	YC	RC
	2	2	180	11	15	4	0	0

Guerrero is back for another season with his hometown team. He's coming off a 2020 season in which he made two appearances with 11 saves during SD Loyal's inaugural season, logging 180 minutes. He had two starts in front of the goal, including a critical match down the stretch against LA Galaxy II while SD Loyal was in the middle of a playoff push.



GK

#16

TREY MUSE

2020 SEASON:	GP	GS	MP	SAVES	S. FACED	GA	YC	RC
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Muse signed with the Seattle Sounders FC as a Homegrown Player ahead of the 2019 season and the skilled rookie started in 21 of 22 appearances as the primary goalkeeper for the club's USL side, Tacoma Defiance. The collegiate All-American and National Champion at the University of Indiana was named one of the top 10 goalkeepers to watch by the USL Championship last season. He played in every preseason match for SD Loyal heading into 2021 season.



GK

#22

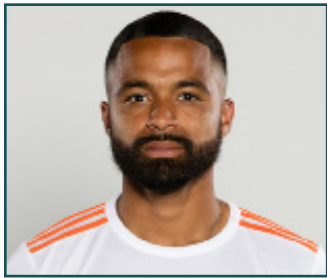
ANTONY SIAHA

2020 SEASON:	GP	GS	MP	SAVES	S. FACED	GA	YC	RC
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Siaha signed with SD Loyal March of 2021 as one of the later additions as the team had begun training camp. Siaha is a graduate of Tucson High School, where he won a state title his senior year and spent his youth soccer career at Real Salt Lake Academy. He played college soccer starting in 2016 at Cal State Bakersfield followed by stints at Ottawa University Arizona (NAIA) and Benedictine University at Mesa. Prior to signing with SD Loyal, Siaha was signed with 1904 FC (NISA) and San Diego Sockers (MASL), where he was believed to be the tallest goalkeeper in the MASL history. Siaha stands out under goal for his size, quickness and awareness.

SD LOYAL 2021 ROSTER BY POSITIONS

DEFENDERS



D

#3

ELIJAH MARTIN

2020 SEASON:	GP	GS	MP	G	A	SHOTS	S. GOAL	YC	RC
	15	12	1082	0	1	6	3	1	1

Martin started the SD Loyal inaugural season as part of the Team 1 first 11, working the left side of coach Landon Donovan's three-man defensive backline. He quickly became a dominant force on the field, often helping to control the pace of a match and had a touch in many scoring chances and game-changing plays. He played in 15 games in 2020 with 12 starts. He is an experienced defender at the USL Championship level, playing 31 games for the now defuncted Fresno FC in 2019. He started in 28 of those games, logging 2,550 minutes that year.



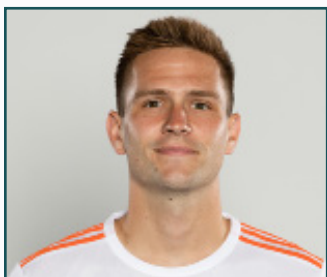
D

#4

JACK METCALF

2020 SEASON:	GP	GS	MP	G	A	SHOTS	S. GOAL	YC	RC
	15	14	1269	0	4	2	1	2	0

Metcalf scored the first ever goal for SD Loyal at its home field at the University of San Diego's Torero Stadium. It came in a 1-0 win against Panama's Costa del Este in a friendly match. It was SD Loyal's final preseason match before beginning play in the USL Championship. He became a staple in coach Landon Donovan's lineup. He played in 15 matches with 14 starts in 2020.



D

#5

GRANT STONEMAN

2020 SEASON:	GP	GS	MP	G	A	SHOTS	S. GOAL	YC	RC
	14	14	1269	1	0	7	3	6	1

Stoneman made his USL Championship debut while starting for SD Loyal in the team's debut match. Stoneman was part of Team 1 first 11 in the opener against Las Vegas Lights. He earned a spot as the starting defender on the right side of Landon Donovan's defensive line. He started in 14 matches in 2020 and scored a goal. Stoneman played in the USL League One and USL League Two before joining SD Loyal. He played in 23 games with Lansing Ignite and 18 with Chicago FC United of the USL League 2 from 2017 to 2018.

SD LOYAL 2021 ROSTER BY POSITIONS

DEFENDERS



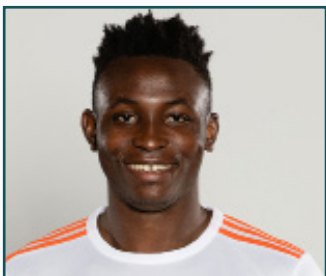
D

#8

SAL ZIZZO

2020 SEASON:	GP	GS	MP	G	A	SHOTS	S.	GOAL	YC	RC
	10	9	792	4	0	0		0	1	0

Zizzo is perhaps the most experienced player on the team. The defender is a 15-year veteran who had retired in 2018 but decided to join Landon Donovan to start SD Loyal in 2020. Zizzo leads a group of defenders as a leader and respected veteran. He returns for the second season with SD Loyal after starting in nine of 10 games he played in. Zizzo helped shape the backline not only as a savvy veteran but as a leader for youngsters on the roster.



D

#14

JOSHUA YARO

2020 SEASON:	GP	GS	MP	G	A	SHOTS	S.	GOAL	YC	RC
	14	13	1168	0	0	0		0	1	0

Yaro signed with SD Loyal prior to the start of the 2021 season. Yaro came into training camp and earned a spot on manager Landon Donovan's roster after standing out in a handful of pre-season scrimmages. He went on to start in the last two preparation matches. He came to the U.S. from Ghana on a scholarship to Cate School in California before playing college soccer at Georgetown University for three years. Selected No. 2 overall in the 2016 MLS SuperDraft by the Philadelphia Union, Yaro made 23 appearances in three seasons before a stint with Bethlehem Steel FC. He played in 45 matches the last two seasons with San Antonio FC.



D

#25

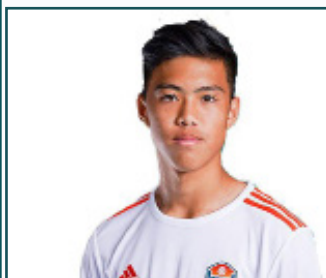
JORDAN CHAVEZ

2020 SEASON:	GP	GS	MP	G	A	SHOTS	S.	GOAL	YC	RC
	0	0	0	0	0	0		0	0	0

Chavez returned to his hometown with a chance to play professionally in front of his family. He got his first professional experience with SD Loyal in 2020. He grew up in Chula Vista in the South Bay of San Diego County where he played at Mater Dei Catholic High. He went on to play at UNLV where he played from 2015 to 2018. He started in 67 games during his college career. Chavez also played with club Albion SC in San Diego. SD Loyal is his first experience with a USL Championship club.

SD LOYAL 2021 ROSTER BY POSITIONS

DEFENDERS



D

#41

IAN MAI

2020 SEASON:	GP	GS	MP	G	A	SHOTS	S.	GOAL	YC	RC
	0	0	0	0	0	0		0	0	0

Mai was part of a handful of trialists who participated in the 2021 preseason. He got a chance to play in several scrimmages in the Spring 2021 and earned a spot on the team as one of the USL Championship Academy players.



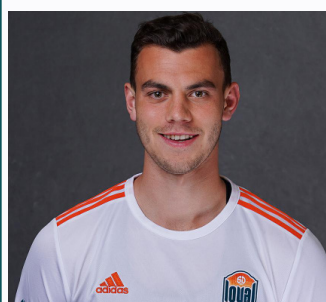
D

#29

THOMAS VANCAEYEZEELE

2020 SEASON:	GP	GS	MP	G	A	SHOTS	S.	GOAL	YC	RC
	17	17	1530	1	0	7		4	3	0

Vancaeyezeele signed with SD Loyal in December 2020. The defender from French Guiana recently played for Pittsburgh Riverhounds SC, where he was a key starter and instrumental in the club's success. He helped the team finish at the top of the USL Championship's Eastern Conference in 2019. He earned All-USL First team honors in 2020 and All-USL Second team honors in 2019 during three seasons with the Riverhounds. Vancaeyezeele's career in the USL has totaled over 80 regular-season appearances, five goals and over 7,000 minutes in regular-season play. He was traded to Birmingham Legion FC for an undisclosed amount July 8, 2021.



D

#33

CALLUM MONTGOMERY

2020 SEASON:	GP	GS	MP	G	A	SHOTS	S.	GOAL	YC	RC
	0	0	0	0	0	0		0	0	0

Montgomery came to San Diego five games into the 2021 USL Championship season on loan from Minnesota United FC.

He was selected 4th overall by FC Dallas in 2019 MLS SuperDraft and played with San Antonio FC on loan from FC Dallas in 2020 where he made nine appearances and scored two goals. Most recently, MNUFC acquired the defender from FC Dallas in exchange for 2022 4th Round MLS SuperDraft pick.

SD LOYAL 2021 ROSTER BY POSITIONS

DEFENDERS



D

#18

JACK MAHER

2020 SEASON:	GP	GS	MP	G	A	SHOTS	S.	GOAL	YC	RC
	1	1	90	0	0	1		1	0	0

Maher came to SD Loyal on loan from MLS side Nashville SC and was the second overall pick in the 2020 MLS SuperDraft. He joined Charlotte Independence of the USL Championship in March of 2020 also on loan. He also played for St. Louis FC. Maher moved on to Indiana University, where he excelled in two seasons as a starter at center-back. Voted the Big Ten Conference Freshman of the Year in 2018. Maher was called back to MLS side Nashville on June 23.

MIDFIELDERS



M

#42

HAJI ABDIKADIR

2020 SEASON:	GP	GS	MP	G	A	SHOTS	S.	GOAL	YC	RC
	0	0	00	0	0	0		0	0	0

Abdikadir, a native from Nairobi, Kenya, played at the University of Louisville last year where he started in all eight matches. The midfielder scored a goal and added three assists, all coming off set pieces. The 22-year old joined the team 13 games into the season. He is a prospect that SD Loyal coaching staff described as well rounded box to box midfielder. Abdikadir came to the United States at eight-years-old as his family fled political unrest in Kenya.



M

#24

MIGUEL IBARRA

2020 SEASON:	GP	GS	MP	G	A	SHOTS	S.	GOAL	YC	RC
	0	0	0	0	0	0		0	0	0

Ibarra joined SD Loyal after playing with Club Leon of Liga MX and MLS clubs Minnesota United FC and most recently, Seattle Sounders FC. The native Californian capped with the USMNT on three occasions from 2014-2015 and has been one of the few American second division players called to the national team. After spending seven seasons with Minnesota United FC, Ibarra was a beloved star for the club, especially during its NASL era.

SD LOYAL 2021 ROSTER BY POSITIONS

MIDFIELDERS



M

#2

MORGAN HACKWORTH

2020 SEASON:	GP	GS	MP	G	A	SHOTS	S.	GOAL	YC	RC
	7	4	375	0	0	1		0	0	0

Hackworth began to see more time on the pitch in the later part of the 2020 season. He played in seven games, logging 375 minutes. Coach Landon Donovan gained more and more confidence in Hackworth as he was part of the team's boost in the later part of its inaugural season. Hackworth came here in February 2020 after spending the 2019 season playing for Memphis 901. He played in 16 games with seven starts at Memphis in 2019 with 661 minutes.



M

#6

CHARLIE ADAMS

2020 SEASON:	GP	GS	MP	G	A	SHOTS	S.	GOAL	YC	RC
	15	14	1265	1	0	10		4	4	0

Adams will be tattooed into SD Loyal history. The British scored the first official goal in SD Loyal history in a 1-1 tie against Las Vegas Lights in the team's debut. It was also his first score in a USL Championship match since 2018. Adams has been a USL Championship journeyman, playing for a handful of clubs in the league throughout his career. His first stint in USL Championship came with Louisville City in 2015. He came to play in the United States after spending 2012 to 2014 playing for minor league teams in England. Adams went on to be a regular in the lineup, starting in 14 of the 15 games he played in 2020 in his first season with SD Loyal.



M

#7

JACK BLAKE

2020 SEASON:	GP	GS	MP	G	A	SHOTS	S.	GOAL	YC	RC
	13	10	982	1	1	14		5	4	0

Blake was one of the first off season acquisitions for SD Loyal in the offseason. The English native left Real Monarchs of the USL as the team captain. His leadership on and off the pitch played a large role in guiding the club to its first USL trophy in 2019. Blake has 61 games, 4,544 minutes, 11 goals and six assists. He played stints Tampa Bay Rowdies, Jacksonville Armada and Minnesota United. He played with Nottingham Forest in England before that.

SD LOYAL 2021 ROSTER BY POSITIONS

MIDFIELDERS



M

#10

ALEJANDRO GUIDO

2020 SEASON:	GP	GS	MP	G	A	SHOTS	S.	GOAL	YC	RC
	5	4	300	2	2	7		5	0	0

Guido returns for his second stint with SD Loyal, this time wearing No. 10. He was a key to the team's offensive boost late in the 2020 season. Guido played in five matches for the Loyal in 2020 after arriving on loan from LAFC. He scored two goals and assisted in two as well. Guido is a Chula Vista native, who signed to remain under contract through the 2021 season. He was signed to the squad Sept. 1, 2020 on loan from LAFC. The midfielder became an impact player immediately. He helped spark an offense with his presence at midfield. He helped set up an assist in his first match with SD Loyal and went on to score two goals in a win against Orange County SC, just a few days after signing.



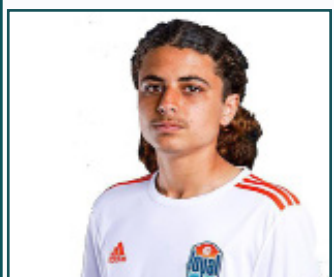
M

#17

COLLIN MARTIN

2020 SEASON:	GP	GS	MP	G	A	SHOTS	S.	GOAL	YC	RC
	14	14	1094	1	1	6		3	0	0

Martin is an experienced midfielder who was named to the starting line up in the team's second game. He led the midfield in the center of that five-man line against Tacoma Defiance, helping his team to a 2-1 win. Martin set up SD Loyal's first goal in that game, sending an assist via a free kick to Francis Atuahene, who charged the ball at the Defiance goal line. Martin went on to be a regular in the lineup, starting in the 14 matches he played in 2020.



M

#50

XAVI GNAULATI

2020 SEASON:	GP	GS	MP	G	A	SHOTS	S.	GOAL	YC	RC
	0	0	0	0	0	0		0	0	0

Gnaulati was added to the 2021 roster as a USL Championship Academy player toward the later part of the preseason. The youngster got a chance at a trial on the team and saw some minutes, impressing the coaching staff. He's a player with quick ball skills and settled in smoothly with that the coaches want at midfield. He is a San Diego native who played for a handful of local youth clubs.

SD LOYAL 2021 ROSTER BY POSITIONS

FORWARDS



F

#9

BEN SPENCER

2020 SEASON:	GP	GS	MP	G	A	SHOTS	S.	GOAL	YC	RC
	11	3	338	0	0	7		3	3	0

Spencer is an experienced player who was added to the SD Loyal roster right before the re-start of the 2020 season after the COVID-19 halt. He played in 11 matches and started in three in SD Loyal's first season. The New Mexico native surged out of the Chivas USA and Real Salt Lake's youth academy and eventually landed a professional contract in Norway's top-flight league. He returned to the United States to play in the then NASL Indy Eleven franchise and later moved to Toronto FC after the MLS side acquired his rights from Real Salt Lake.



F

#11

TUMI MOSHOBANE

2020 SEASON:	GP	GS	MP	G	A	SHOTS	S.	GOAL	YC	RC
	14	8	892	1	0	14		12	2	0

Moshobane is a versatile striker who adds a diverse attack for SD Loyal. He was part of the team's first ever win, a 2-1 victory at Tacoma Defiance. He went on to start in eight games in 2020, playing 14 in total. Moshobane came to the United States in 2015 and began to play soccer at the collegiate level at Kankakee Community College in Illinois. From there, he transferred to Olivet Nazarene University from 2016 to 2018 where his uncle, Vincent Mkhwanazi, is one of the most decorated players to come out of Olivet Nazarene University's soccer program and is from Moshobane's hometown.



F

#31

CHASE BOONE

2020 SEASON:	GP	GS	MP	G	A	SHOTS	S.	GOAL	YC	RC
	0	0	0	0	0	0		0	0	0

Boone joined SD Loyal 13 games into the 2021 season after signing July 24. Boone, 25, is from Beaverton, Oregon and played college soccer at the University of Redlands. He is coming off a stint with Thisted FC in Denmark. He is a versatile attacker who is two-footed and good in the air. He impressed the coaching staff during a trial period. He made his SD Loyal debut the same day the club announced his signing, coming on as a sub against Phoenix Rising FC.

SD LOYAL 2021 ROSTER BY POSITIONS

FORWARDS



F

#21

COREY HERTZOG

2020 SEASON:	GP	GS	MP	G	A	SHOTS	S.	GOAL	YC	RC
	18	18	1440	8	4	41		24	5	0

Hertzog came to San Diego from the now defuncted Reno1868. He has 64 goals and 18 assists in the 155 appearances of his USL career. He was a Penn State All-American prior to making his first professional appearance. He was drafted by MLS side New York Red Bulls 13th overall in the 2011 MLS SuperDraft. Hertzog is a dangerous striker with speed and a nose for goal. The striker had stints at various other professional teams including Vancouver Whitecaps FC, Tampa Bay Rowdies, Pittsburgh Riverhounds SC and Saint Louis FC. Most recently, Hertzog was with Reno 1868 FC for two seasons, scoring 27 goals and assisting on 10 others before the team folded due to the financial impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.



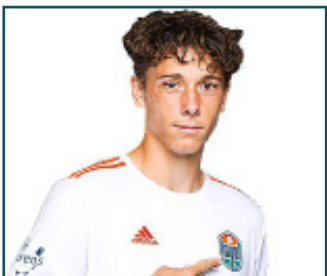
F

#12

NIKI JACKSON

2020 SEASON:	GP	GS	MP	G	A	SHOTS	S.	GOAL	YC	RC
	0	0	0	0	0	0		0	0	0

Jackson was added to the SD Loyal roster in February 2020. He was on loan with USL side Colorado Springs Switchbacks before signing with SD Loyal. He was part of Major League Soccer side's Colorado Rapids youth system. He was selected 73rd overall in the 2018 MLS SuperDraft by Colorado Rapids. He scored his first career goal during his MLS debut in a 2018 match against New England Revolution. Following, he was loaned to United Soccer League side Colorado Springs Switchbacks FC and most recently in 2019 with Charlotte Independence scoring five goals. Prior to being drafted, Jackson played at Grand Canyon University where he scored 41 goals over his collegiate career and was named WAC Offensive Player of the Year.



F

#40

CALVIN JAY FODREY

2020 SEASON:	GP	GS	MP	G	A	SHOTS	S.	GOAL	YC	RC
	0	0	0	0	0	0		0	0	0

Fodrey is part of the USL Championship Academy players for SD Loyal but he's also a local kid who stood out during the 2021 preseason. He got enough playing time that he even scored a goal in the team's second preparation match against MLS side LA Galaxy.

SD LOYAL 2021 ROSTER BY POSITIONS

MANAGER



LANDON DONOVAN

Regarded as one of the greatest U.S. soccer players in history, Landon Donovan brings his extensive knowledge of the game to San Diego Loyal's technical staff. During his 19-year professional career, Donovan's accomplishments span both his time domestically and internationally. In total, he played for five professional teams covering three leagues: Bayer 04 Leverkusen and Bayern Munich (Bundesliga); Everton (Premier League); San Jose Earthquakes and LA Galaxy (Major League Soccer). He played in six MLS Cups, Lamar Hunt U.S. Open Cup and two MLS Supporters' Shields. Individually, he was named to an MLS record 14-consecutive MLS All-Star games from 2001-2014, was honored with the Landon Donovan MVP Award in 2009 and won the Golden Boot in 2008, as well as being one of just two players to be named MLS Cup MVP twice. He continues to lead in MLS record books with assists (136), playoff goals (25) and co-leads MLS in playoff assists (14). He is second to Chris Wondolowski with most regular-season goals at 145. Donovan's contributions to the U.S. Men's National Team continues to dominate the record books. He leads the U.S. men in goals (57), assists (58), second in appearances (157) and is the only American player to surpass both 50 goals and 50 assists in his career. He was the fastest American to earn 100 caps and played for the U.S. in three FIFA World Cups. His individual awards include the only American to win the Golden Ball Award, FIFA's Best Young Player of the World Cup in 2002, the CONCACAF Gold Cup MVP in 2013, the Gold Cup Best XI four times and U.S. Soccer Athlete of the Year a record four times.

ASSOCIATE HEAD COACH



NATE MILLER

Miller is in his second season with SD Loyal as the associate head coach. Miller joined the team in 2020 after serving as head coach of the Spring Arbor University men's soccer program for six seasons, where his accomplishments include an overall record of 86-32-15, one league championship title, two regular season titles and being named 2018 Crossroads League Coach of the Year. Miller was also the general manager and head coach of Lansing United – a former member of the Premier Development League (PDL) – and, in 2019, was the inaugural head coach of USL League One expansion side Lansing Ignite FC.