



UNITED STATES AUSTRALIAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE

# Executive Board Annual Report 2024



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## Year in Review

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Twenty Twenty-Four. What a Year. A lot of things happened this year in the world of sports. A lot of things happened in the world. It gives one pause.

It was here, 366 blank pages ago, that we wondered what would be drawn therein. Sure, there was the regular season, regionals, nationals and the TransAtlantic Cup, at least in our little corner of existence. But while it's nice to line out the drawings of each new day in pen, one must keep a pencil handy.

USAFL Season 2024 began with a handful of clubs slowly stirring from winter and ended with a couple of hundred players with medals around their necks, with many more caching away stories to tell their family.

In between were pilgrimages to Ohio and Utah to spread the Aussie Rules gospel. Then there were those who had earned selection to go to Toronto and take on some of the best in the game outside Australia and nearly came home with championships to boot.

### **THIS GAME RULES.**

In a first for the league, 2024 marked the beginning of a concentrated marketing campaign to help bring awareness and stoke recruiting.

The Aussie RULES campaign was used at both the league and club level to bring forth the personalities of each of the clubs, as well as the players, coaches, volunteers, and umpires that make up their numbers.

For the clubs, the focus was on joining together every team with the city they played in, and then spotlighting team member accomplishments both on and off the field. Those who play Aussie Rules are doing much more than taking marks and kicking goals, they come from all different backgrounds and serve the community in a variety of professions.

Many of the clubs spent 2024 creating content for their own channels, and as part of the Aussie RULES initiative, a club challenge was laid down to entice each team to get involved. The Baton Rouge Tigers emerged as winners, winning a VIP tent at Nationals, an Aussie RULES branded tent, case of Cooper's Beer, and a supply of footballs. The Rome Redbacks and Nashville Kangaroos were amongst the runners up and received prizes as well.

### **A DEVIL OF A PARTNER**

After years of hoping and wishing and waiting, the Apple Isle finally got its pro Aussie Rules team.



The Tasmanian Devils were announced as the AFL and AFLW's nineteenth club in May, and will begin play in 2028. The news was met with resounding support from the football world, as the new Devils team would go on to receive more than 200,000 foundation members from all over the globe, including here in America.

There had been a link between Tasmania, the sport of Aussie Rules, and the USAFL, for almost half a decade prior to this announcement. The addition of the North Texas Devils in 2020, followed by the establishment of the partnership between the

league and the Tasmanian Department of State Growth, was testament to that.

That relationship became more robust just days after the Tasmanian Devils' enfranchisement, as the state and the league agreed to a three year extension of their partnership, which will now run through 2026.

Tasmanian Premier Jeremy Rockcliff, who would later come to the USAFL Nationals in Austin as one of many honored guests, touted the landmark union as not just as one to enrich the sport, but to, in his words, "create valuable opportunities for Tasmanian businesses to connect with the US market."

### THREE CHEERS FOR COOPERS

This year marked 25 years of support from Coopers. As the League's longest standing partner, we are eternally grateful for the partnership with Coopers. Their support in the early years made Nationals possible and it has grown into the largest Aussie Rules tournament in the world. Three cheers for Andrew Cooper and Michael Shearer for making sure we never go thirsty! Here's to the next 25 years!

From the Australian Consulate in Houston Gabrielle Hall, Consul General and Adele Armstrong, Deputy Consul General made their presence felt with an amazing Aussie Recovery tent that featured ice baths and Hydralyte!

These were some of the many new and existing partnerships that highlighted the 2024 campaign, with Adelaide-based CyberSource IQ coming on board, and veteran sponsors such as Odin Mortgage getting around the USAFL to spur sustained growth.



## USAFL Member Clubs

Club	Founded	Club	Founded
Arizona Outlaws	2018	Louisville Kings	1996
Atlanta Kookaburras	1998	Little Rock Coyotes	2016
Austin Crows	2002	Maine Cats	2018
Baltimore Dockers	2017	Milwaukee Bombers	1998
Baton Rouge Tigers	2004	Minnesota Freeze	2005
Birmingham Bushrangers	2020	Nashville Kangaroos	1997
Boston Demons	1997	New York Magpies	1998
Chicago Swans	1998	North Carolina Tigers	1997
Cincinnati Dockers	1996	North Star Blue Ox	2017
Cleveland Cannons	2014	North Texas Devils	2020
Columbus ARFC	2008	Oklahoma FC	2017
Dallas Magpies	1998	Orange County Giants	1998
DC Eagles	2017	Philadelphia Hawks	1998
Denver Bulldogs	1998	Portland Steelheads	1998
Des Moines Roosters	2010	Rome Redbacks	2018
Finger Lakes ARFC	2024	Virginia Lions	2019
Ft. Lauderdale Fighting Squids	2005	Sacramento Suns	2009
Golden Gate AFL	1998	San Diego Lions	1997
Hawaii Eagles	2019	Savannah Hurricane	2019
Houston Lonestars	2005	Seattle Grizzlies	1998
Indianapolis Giants	2013	St. Louis Blues	1997
Jacksonville Saints	2018	Tampa Bay Tiger Sharks	2019
Kansas City Power	1999	Wasatch War Gulls	2019
Las Vegas Gamblers	2005	Wilmington Bombers	2024
Los Angeles Dragons	2010	Wisconsin Wombats	2017



## Executive Board Members - 2024

• April Munn, President	• Jim Martin, Secretary
• Keith Phillips, Eastern Vice President	• Stuart Prendergast, Treasurer
• Emma Bangs, Central Vice President	• Darren Green, Member At Large
• Julian Hatfield, Western Vice President	

## USAFL Staff

• Doren James, Executive Director	• Brian Barrish, Media Manager
• Kathryn Hogg, IT Director	• Horacio Gutierrez, Accountant

## USAFL Umpires Association

• Jon Mills, President	• Adam Alvarez, Member at Large #1
• Steve Arnott, Vice President	• Ryan Minmier, Member at Large #2
• Sid Caesar, Treasurer	• Bevan Main, Member at Large #3
• Tara Miller, Secretary	• Seth McElvaney, Member at Large #4
• Richard Ogilvie, Member At Large AFL Canada	

## International Program Staff

• Paul O’Keeffe, Director	• Cari Greving, General Manager
• Jason Becker, Football Director	• Ashley Twyman, Medical Director

## USA Revolution Coaching Staff

• Kyle Strenski, Head Coach	• Dustin Jones, Assistant Coach
• Simon Boyce, Assistant Coach	• Justin Valley, Assistant Coach

## USA Freedom Coaching Staff

• Andrew Donlen, Head Coach	• Marie Victoire, Assistant Coach
• Katie Klatt, Assistant Coach	



## 2024 Regionals

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This year's regional tournament series seemed to have a little bit of something extra to it. On one hand, you had teams looking to prove themselves on a bigger stage for the first time in the season. Not only were sides on the cusp of titles looking to make a breakthrough, but up and coming clubs wanted that first taste of glory either ever, or in some time.

Individually, however, there were also players who were, perhaps, trying to play themselves into a spot on Team USA. And though Revos coach Kyle Strenski and Freedom coach Andrew Donlen both had their players in mind for who would be on the plane to Toronto, Regionals was one last audition in very competitive circumstances.

### Super Regionals – Dublin, OH

For the second year running, the East and Central Regions would meet “in the middle,” returning USAFL tournament play to Dublin, Ohio, for the first time in a decade. Darree Fields was the site of the 2014 Nationals, and how different the league landscape seemed then. Austin and Denver were also-rans on the men's side that year, and there were just eight total women's teams with the then Lady Bulldogs in the midst of their six-title romp.

Austin, coming into this event as eight-time National champions but runners up a season ago, gave little to no quarter in their three games in Men's Division 1. There would be no last-siren heroics stealing it away this time around. It wasn't a romp by any stretch of the imagination, but solid victories over Minnesota, Baltimore, and Denver returned them to the top of regionals for the sixth time in eight seasons, and Nolan Cox took home yet another individual honor.

The Super Regionals got its first repeat champion. The DC Eagles, winners alongside Nashville in a combo last year in Kansas, took out Men's D2 with three members of the North Carolina Tigers in tow. DC trounced Houston in the Grand Final in 2023, here the Lonestars had more gas in the tank and fell by 13-points, their only loss of the day to finish second, ahead of Columbus and Des Moines.

Division 3 was a tale of split squads, as eight clubs joined forces to make four entries in what was seemingly a wide open field. Nashville had its own chance for a repeat after they combined with Cleveland to start the day 2-0, while Chicago and Virginia also were straightforward winners in their morning matches. Both teams accounted for St Louis/Cincinnati and Oklahoma/Kansas City. It was a sizzling final, one that saw the Swans and Lions get up by 11 points for their first regional victory apiece.



Women's football has grown exponentially since we were last in Dublin. Minnesota, which was then on the cusp of the top tier back then, was here in 2024 after falling in the last two National Grand Finals. Against D.C. and a combined Austin/Denver/North Texas conglomerate, the Freeze stretched their legs after a winter of hard work, and with help from athletes from Houston, Columbus, and Seattle, triumphed in both games for their fifth regionals title.

## Men's Division I

Division I											
TEAM	PLAYED	WON	LOST	TIED	GOALS	PF	PA	%	POINTS	H2H	
Austin Crows	3	3	0	0	25	168	45	373	12	0	
Denver Bulldogs	3	2	1	0	24	155	69	224	8	0	
Baltimore Dockers	3	1	2	0	11	73	137	53	4	0	
Minnesota Freeze	3	0	3	0	4	28	173	16	0	0	



Austin Crows

7.3.45

VS



Denver Bulldogs

Philadelphia, Boston, Seattle

5.1.31

Team	Final
Austin Crows	7.3.45
Denver Bulldogs	5.1.31

## WOMEN'S DIVISION

Women's											
TEAM	PLAYED	WON	LOST	TIED	GOALS	PF	PA	%	POINTS	H2H	
Minnesota Freeze Women	2	2	0	0	20	134	4	3350	8	0	
Austin Crows Women	2	1	1	0	4	35	35	100	4	0	
DC Eagles Women	2	0	2	0	0	7	137	5	0	0	





VS



### Austin Crows Women

Denver, Chicago, North Texas, Seattle

0.1.1

### Minnesota Freeze Women

Houston, Columbus

5.1.31

Team	Final
Austin Crows Women	0.1.1
Minnesota Freeze Women	5.1.31

## MEN'S DIVISION II

### Division II

TEAM	PLAYED	WON	LOST	TIED	GOALS	PF	PA	%	POINTS	H2H
DC Eagles	3	3	0	0	13	106	20	530	12	0
Houston Lonestars	3	2	1	0	13	91	63	144	8	0
Columbus Cats	3	1	2	0	13	89	64	139	4	0
Des Moines Roosters	3	0	3	0	1	10	149	6	0	0



VS



### DC Eagles

North Carolina

4.5.29

### Houston Lonestars

Wisconsin

2.4.16

Team	Final
DC Eagles	4.5.29
Houston Lonestars	2.4.16



## MEN'S DIVISION III

Division III											
TEAM	PLAYED	WON	LOST	TIED	GOALS	PF	PA	%	POINTS	H2H	
Chicago Swans	3	3	0	0	15	107	23	465	12	0	
Nashville Kangaroos	3	2	1	0	13	99	27	366	8	0	
Saint Louis Blues	3	1	2	0	11	79	65	121	4	0	
Oklahoma Football Club	3	0	3	0	0	3	173	1	0	0	



Nashville Kangaroos

Cleveland

1.4.10

VS



Chicago Swans

Virginia

3.3.21

Team	Final
Nashville Kangaroos	1.4.10
Chicago Swans	3.3.21

**USAFL SUPER REGIONALS**  
DUBLIN, OHIO JUNE 15, 2024

**TASMANIAN**

**AUSTIN CROWS**  
**BOSTON DEMONS**  
**CLEVELAND CANNONS**  
**DENVER BULLDOGS**  
**KANSAS CITY POWER**  
**NORTH CAROLINA TIGERS**  
**OKLAHOMA BUFFALOES**  
**VIRGINIA LIONS**

**BALTIMORE DOCKERS**  
**CHICAGO SWANS**  
**COLUMBUS CATS**  
**DES MOINES ROOSTERS**  
**MINNESOTA FREEZE**  
**NORTH TEXAS DEVILS**  
**PHILADELPHIA HAWKS**  
**WISCONSIN WOMBATS**

**BATON ROUGE TIGERS**  
**CINCINNATI DOCKERS**  
**D.C. EAGLES**  
**HOUSTON LONESTARS**  
**NASHVILLE KANGAROOS**  
**NEW YORK MAGPIES**  
**ST. LOUIS AFC**

**HBC Event Services** **PREMIER SPORTS MEDICINE** **Visit Dublin OHIO** **AUSSIE SPORTS USA**  
**CyberSolve IQ** **ODIN Mortgage**



## Western Regionals – Salt Lake City, UT



The Minnesota Freeze women took the crown in Dublin but they weren't done by any stretch of the imagination, as they made their way to Farmington, Utah as part of ten teams to inaugurate carnival Aussie Rules in the Beehive State.

Teams not only had to negotiate the 4,200 foot elevation of the Western Sports Park, but had to play three games on a 95 degree day. But, as they say, it was a dry heat; low humidity kept the warmth somewhat manageable, but it was still a factor.

Sure enough, the Freeze and Iron Maidens would meet to determine the Women's champion and, perhaps, a mini-preview of Nationals. The Freeze got competitive efforts from both Seattle and Sacramento/Portland/Denver in their two games, but held both to single digits in their two wins. Golden Gate/Orange County, meanwhile, needed goals in the dying minutes to secure victories in their two encounters, and the Freeze, showing that their conditioning in the off-season had paid off, came home 18-4 winners in the finale to do an unprecedented Regionals Double.

The victory had hometown roots too, as the Wasatch WarGulls' Jessica Rojas kicked the Freezes' opening goal over the Maidens, in what turned out to be the winning score, and team president and former Minnesota player Lizzy Sawyer was a rock in the backline for the champions.

History was made for the WarGulls men at home, as they played their first ever home games. They teamed up with Portland and though they ended up sixth out of the six teams on the men's side, they put in a supreme effort in all three of their matches and helped boost the future of the sport in Utah.

At the top of it all however were two familiar foes, both to the winners' table and to each other. The Finale was an all Bay Area affair. Golden Gate survived a scare from Seattle before upending San Diego/Arizona to lead Pool A, while Sacramento emerged victorious from Pool B after turning aside Wasatch/Portland and Los Angeles/Orange County. The final was one of the best games at the Westerns in some time, with the Suns holding an early lead over the Roos before the Gaters came back to claim a 14-9 decision. The Roos won their sixth regional championship, but the Suns, winners of D2 at Nationals last year, proved they could go toe-to-toe with the league's best.



## Men's Division 1

Division I											
TEAM	PLAYED	WON	LOST	TIED	GOALS	PF	PA	%	POINTS	H2H	
POOL A											
Golden Gate Roos	3	3	0	0	13	82	46	178	12	0	
Seattle Grizzlies	3	2	1	0	20	139	47	295	8	0	
San Diego Lions	3	1	2	0	11	74	125	59	4	0	
POOL B											
Sacramento Suns	3	2	1	0	17	112	31	361	8	0	
Los Angeles Dragons	3	1	2	0	17	118	81	145	4	0	
Wasatch WarGulls	3	0	3	0	1	8	203	3	0	0	

Division I											
TEAM	PLAYED	WON	LOST	TIED	GOALS	PF	PA	%	POINTS	H2H	
Golden Gate Roos	3	3	0	0	14	98	15	653	12	0	
Seattle Grizzlies	3	2	1	0	6	55	55	100	8	0	
Los Angeles Dragons	3	1	2	0	5	40	77	51	4	0	
Sacramento Suns	3	0	3	0	7	50	96	52	0	0	



Golden Gate Roos  
2.2.14

VS



Sacramento Suns  
1.3.9

Team	Final
Golden Gate Roos	2.2.14
Sacramento Suns	1.3.9



## WOMEN'S DIVISION

Women's											
TEAM	PLAYED	WON	LOST	TIED	GOALS	PF	PA	%	POINTS	H2H	
Minnesota Freeze Women	3	3	0	0	12	87	12	725	12	0	
Golden Gate Iron Maidens	3	2	1	0	5	38	43	88	8	0	
Seattle Grizzlies Women	3	1	2	0	7	48	65	73	4	0	
Sacramento Suns Women	3	0	3	0	4	26	79	32	0	0	



VS



Golden Gate Iron Maidens

Orange County

0.4.4

Minnesota Freeze Women

Wasatch

3.0.18

Team	Final
Golden Gate Iron Maidens	0.4.4
Minnesota Freeze Women	3.0.18







## 2024 Women's All Regionals Team

**2024 USAFL  
ALL REGIONAL  
WOMEN'S DIV.**





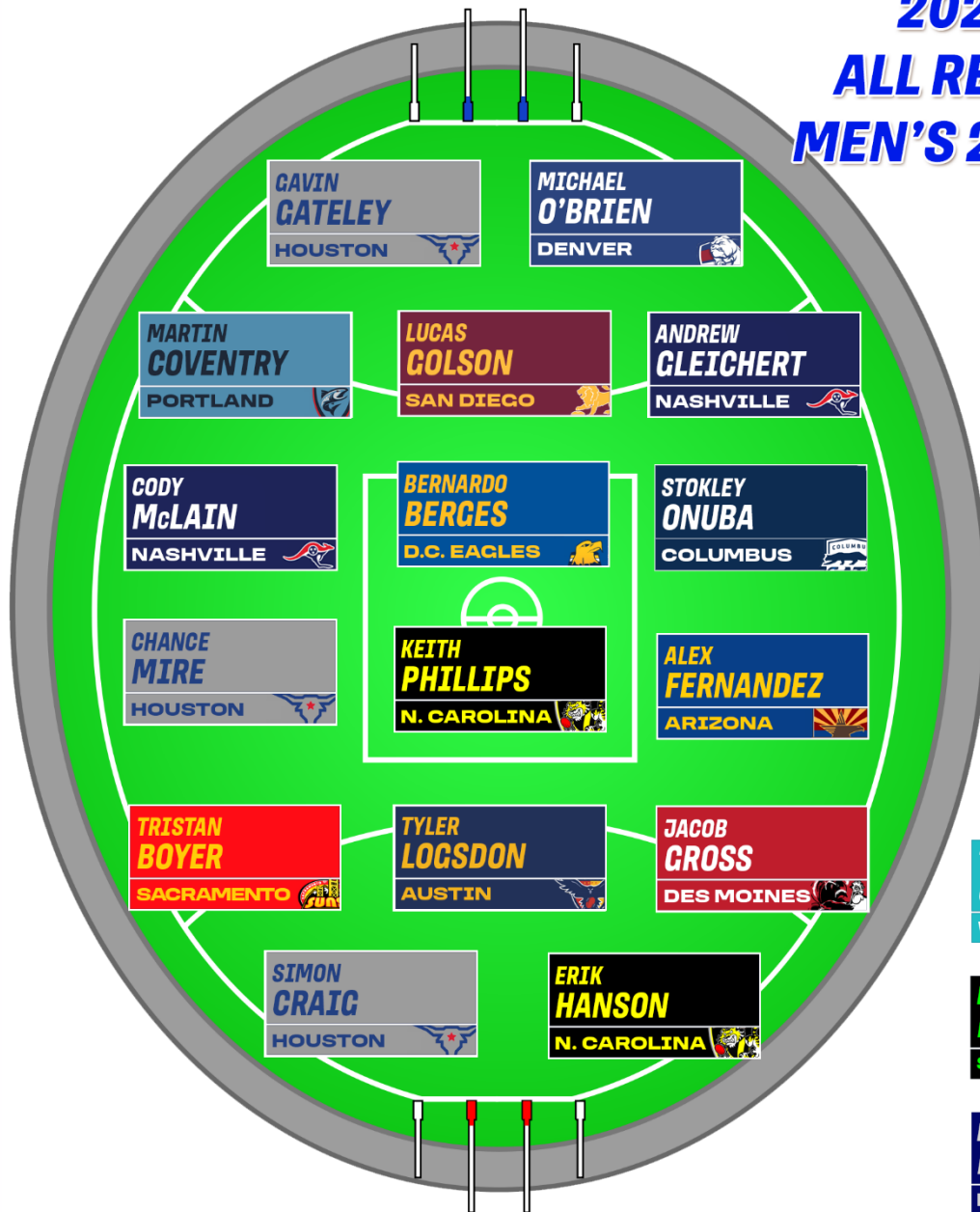
## 2024 Men's All Regionals Teams

### 2024 USAFL ALL REGIONAL MEN'S 1<sup>ST</sup> TEAM





## 2024 USAFL ALL REGIONAL MEN'S 2<sup>ND</sup> TEAM



TRISTAN  
CRUWYS  
WASATCH

DOUGLAS  
FITZPATRICK  
SEATTLE

BILL  
BARTON  
MINNESOTA





## 2024 National Championships

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### CROWING AND FREEZING IN THE HOT TEXAS SUN

It was the fifth time that the Texan capital played host to the world's largest Aussie Rules tournament. And once again, Visit Austin and the Austin Sports Commission rolled out the red carpet for the teams, fans, umpires, and special guests. History was made when Andrew Dillon became the first sitting AFL CEO to attend Nationals.

Other guests from the football world included AFL Umpire Matt Nichols, St Kilda legend Nick Riewoldt, and tournament regular Mason Cox. Counsel General Gabrielle Hall not only was part of the delegation from the Australian Consulate in Houston, but also took to the ground as well as part of the Calgary/Houston/Baton Rouge team in Women's D2.

After the administrative formalities and welcome festivities on Friday - which included the re-election of April Munn to a second term as president - it was time to play football. And 43 teams across seven divisions took on the heat, and each other, across the two days.

It was a memorable weekend for the home side. The Austin Crows men completed their first perfect season since 2019 en route to a sixth straight National D1 crown and a record breaking ninth overall. Teaming up with the Portland Sockeyes, the Austin women took out their third straight women's D2 title by going 4-0 in round robin play. That Calgary/Houston/Baton Rouge combination finished second, marking a successful debut for the Tigers on the women's side, as a quartet of athletes marked the Louisiana club's first at Nationals in their twenty year history.

There would be new champions at the top of the women's game, however. Showing off the fruits of nearly non-stop effort that spanned several seasons, the Minnesota Freeze finally ended the Golden Gate Iron Maidens' seven-year stranglehold on the women's D1 Division. Indeed, though members of the Freeze's formative team had been a part of Milwaukee's 2009 premiership, this was the Yetis' first outright victory. Only time will tell if they will form another dynasty, but after three straight Grand Final appearances, the future brings shades-inducing brightness.

Houston were another team that ascended to heady heights in October. After nearly a decade in the middle of the men's Division 2 pack, they qualified for the Grand Final and then came back from a deep second half deficit to pip the Seattle Grizzlies. While the Grizz will no doubt use another heartbreaking loss to harden their resolve for 2025, the Lonestars seem eager to challenge at the top come next season.

Elsewhere, the Calgary Kangaroos picked up their first men's National Championship since 2016, topping the Chicago Swans. Golden Gate and Denver's reserves teams teamed up to bring home



the bikkies in Division 4. And a full on 14-a-side Division 5 made its debut and concluded with the New York Magpies Reserves and Wasatch WarGulls getting by North Carolina.

## MEN'S DIVISION I LADDER

Division I											
TEAM	PLAYED	WON	LOST	TIED	GOALS	PF	PA	%	POINTS	H2H	
POOL A											
Austin Crows	2	2	0	0	22	148	20	740	8	0	
Quebec Saints	2	1	1	0	7	46	123	37	4	0	
New York Magpies Men	2	0	2	0	9	58	109	53	0	0	
POOL B											
Denver Bulldogs	2	2	0	0	12	81	14	578	8	0	
Golden Gate Roos	2	1	1	0	4	37	43	86	4	0	
Sacramento Suns	2	0	2	0	2	18	79	22	0	0	

## GRAND FINAL



Denver Bulldogs  
4.4.28

VS



Austin Crows  
8.4.52

Team	Final
Denver Bulldogs	4.4.28
Austin Crows	8.4.52

**Paul Roos Medal (Best & Fairest):** Daniel Duffield, Denver; Jak Cary, Quebec; Makenzie Evans, Golden Gate

**Coopers Medal (Most Consistent):** Matthew Carlsson, Denver; Jake Tratner, Golden Gate; Thomas O'Sullivan, Austin

**Geoff Cann Medal (Grand Final MVP):** Kane Murphy, Austin

**Hayden Kennedy Medal (GF Umpires):** Steve Arnott, Ross McLaren, Richard Ogilve





## WOMEN'S DIVISION I LADDER

Women's											
TEAM	PLAYED	WON	LOST	TIED	GOALS	PF	PA	%	POINTS	H2H	
POOL A											
Minnesota Freeze Women	3	3	0	0	13	92	20	459	12	0	
Golden Gate Iron Maidens	3	1	2	0	8	57	55	103	4	4	
Seattle Grizzlies Women	3	1	2	0	5	38	76	50	4	4	
Denver Bulldogs Women	3	1	2	0	3	23	59	38	4	4	

## GRAND FINAL



VS



Golden Gate Iron Maidens  
2.0.12

Minnesota Freeze Women  
6.6.42

Team	Final
Golden Gate Iron Maidens	2.0.12
Minnesota Freeze Women	6.6.42

**Paul Roos Medal (Best & Fairest):** Kaiya Sygulla, Minnesota

**Coopers Medal (Most Consistent):** Amelia Kahr, Seattle

**Geoff Cann Medal (Grand Final MVP):** Lindsay Eliassen, Minnesota

**Hayden Kennedy Medal (GF Umpires):** Laurie Rupe, Vicky Schoenagel

## WOMEN'S DIVISION II LADDER

Women's D-II											
TEAM	PLAYED	WON	LOST	TIED	GOALS	PF	PA	%	POINTS	H2H	
POOL A											
Austin Crows Women	4	4	0	0	21	145	46	315	16	0	
Calgary Kookaburras	4	2	2	0	8	56	49	114	8	4	
Quebec Saints Women	4	2	2	0	4	38	51	74	8	4	
Sacramento Suns Women	4	2	2	0	6	47	64	73	8	4	
DC Eagles Women	4	0	4	0	4	28	104	26	0	0	





## GRAND FINAL



Austin Crows Women

Portland

5.7.37

VS



Quebec Saints Women

North Texas, Boston, Saint Louis, Chicago

2.0.12

Team	Final
Austin Crows Women	5.7.37
Quebec Saints Women	2.0.12

**Paul Roos Medal (Best & Fairest):** Barb Williamson, Austin

**Coopers Medal (Most Consistent):** Indigo Ao, Portland

**Geoff Cann Medal (Grand Final MVP):** Barb Williamson, Austin

**Hayden Kennedy Medal (GF Umpires):** Tom Barrett, Steve Butler





## MEN'S DIVISION II LADDER

Division II											
TEAM	PLAYED	WON	LOST	TIED	GOALS	PF	PA	%	POINTS	H2H	
POOL A											
Seattle Grizzlies	3	3	0	0	25	164	37	443	12	0	
Baltimore Dockers	3	1	2	0	12	80	99	80	4	4	
Columbus Cats	3	1	2	0	10	67	100	67	4	4	
Austin Crows Reserves	3	1	2	0	7	50	125	40	4	4	
POOL B											
Houston Lonestars	3	3	0	0	20	129	28	460	12	0	
San Diego Lions	3	1	2	0	11	77	93	82	4	4	
Boston Demons	3	1	2	0	10	67	100	67	4	4	
DC Eagles	3	1	2	0	6	44	96	45	4	4	

## GRAND FINAL



Houston Lonestars  
4.1.25

VS



Seattle Grizzlies  
3.3.21

Team	Final
Houston Lonestars	4.1.25
Seattle Grizzlies	3.3.21

**Paul Roos Medal (Best & Fairest):** Thanakhan Chaichana, Seattle

**Coopers Medal (Most Consistent):** Max Rennie, Seattle

**Geoff Cann Medal (Grand Final MVP):** Rhys Byrns, Houston

**Hayden Kennedy Medal (GF Umpires):** Brendan Dye, Liam Dye, Mat Nicholls







## MEN'S DIVISION III LADDER

Division III											
TEAM	PLAYED	WON	LOST	TIED	GOALS	PF	PA	%	POINTS	H2H	
POOL A											
Chicago Swans	3	3	0	0	16	111	64	173	12	0	
Minnesota Freeze	3	2	1	0	18	125	68	183	8	0	
Arizona Hawks	3	1	2	0	8	62	95	65	4	0	
Nashville Kangaroos	3	0	3	0	8	58	129	44	0	0	
POOL B											
Calgary Kangaroos	3	3	0	0	25	164	28	585	12	0	
North Texas Devils	3	2	1	0	13	93	57	163	8	0	
Philadelphia Hawks	3	1	2	0	8	57	142	40	4	0	
Los Angeles Dragons	3	0	3	0	5	40	127	31	0	0	

## GRAND FINAL



Chicago Swans  
0.2.2

VS



Calgary Kangaroos  
7.6.48

Team	Final
Chicago Swans	0.2.2
Calgary Kangaroos	7.6.48

**Paul Roos Medal (Best & Fairest):** Samuel Collins, Calgary

**Coopers Medal (Most Consistent):** Brent Fischer, Minnesota

**Geoff Cann Medal (Grand Final MVP):**

**Hayden Kennedy Medal (GF Umpires):** Shaun Rothe, Andrew Harrison, Paul LaShier





## MEN'S DIVISION IV

Division IV											
TEAM	PLAYED	WON	LOST	TIED	GOALS	PF	PA	%	POINTS	H2H	
POOL A											
Denver Bulldogs Reserves	3	3	0	0	26	168	49	342	12	0	
Saint Louis Blues	3	2	1	0	13	93	62	150	8	0	
Orange County Giants	3	1	2	0	8	54	93	58	4	0	
North Texas Devils Reserves	3	0	3	0	4	31	142	21	0	0	
POOL B											
Oklahoma Football Club	3	3	0	0	21	146	28	521	12	0	
Portland Steelheads	3	2	1	0	11	89	52	171	8	0	
Fort Lauderdale Fighting Squids	3	1	2	0	6	44	107	41	4	0	
Des Moines Roosters	3	0	3	0	3	23	115	20	0	0	

## GRAND FINAL



VS



Denver Bulldogs Reserves

Golden Gate

8.2.50

Oklahoma Football Club

Austin

3.4.22

Team	Final
Denver Bulldogs Reserves	8.2.50
Oklahoma Football Club	3.4.22

**Paul Roos Medal (Best & Fairest):** Chris Willis, North Texas

**Coopers Medal (Most Consistent):** Kyle Peters, Portland

**Geoff Cann Medal (Grand Final MVP):**

**Hayden Kennedy Medal (GF Umpires):** Jay Hunter, Darren Henderson





## MEN'S DIVISION V LADDER

Division V											
TEAM	PLAYED	WON	LOST	TIED	GOALS	PF	PA	%	POINTS	H2H	
POOL A											
North Carolina Tigers	2	2	0	0	14	99	27	366	8	0	
Houston Lonestars Reserves	2	1	1	0	7	56	52	107	4	0	
Baton Rouge Tigers	2	0	2	0	2	26	102	25	0	0	
POOL B											
New York Magpies Men	2	2	0	0	10	73	48	152	8	0	
Rome Redbacks	2	1	1	0	9	73	69	105	4	0	
Virginia Lions	2	0	2	0	6	48	77	62	0	0	

## GRAND FINAL



North Carolina Tigers

1.1.7

VS



New York Magpies Men

Wasatch

4.10.34

Team	Final
North Carolina Tigers	1.1.7
New York Magpies Men	4.10.34

**Paul Roos Medal (Best & Fairest):** Logan Ray, Atlanta

**Coopers Medal (Most Consistent):** Dylan McLaughlin, Rome  
Harry O'Kelly, Virginia  
John Newton II, North Carolina  
Max Whiticker, Houston

**Geoff Cann Medal (Grand Final MVP):**

**Hayden Kennedy Medal (GF Umpires):** David Martin, Kevin Murray



## USAFL Life Membership

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The USAFL Life Membership recognizes and honors those members of Australian Rules Football who, by virtue of their contributions, are of such significant stature that they are considered to be among the most highly regarded contributors to the promotion and development of Australian Rules Football in the USA, while residing in the USA. The contributions of those inducted may come from player, coach, umpire, administrator, or media backgrounds and must be of lasting value.

This year **Rodney “Grilla” Grljusich** was inducted as the newest USAFL Life Member. This recognition is a testament to Grilla’s unwavering dedication, tireless work, and exceptional contributions that helped shape the commentary and live broadcast of Nationals into what it is today. This award reflects remarkable past contributions, but also the deep respect and gratitude we hold for all that Grilla has done to elevate and enrich our league as the original “Voice of the USAFL.”

## Administration Excellence Awards

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Each year selected USAFL leaders are recognized for their contributions to the overall development of the league. The awards are named in honor of USAFL Founder and Hall of Fame member, Paul “Plugger” O’Keeffe.

Congratulations to **Cari Greving, International Program General Manager** who was awarded for her tremendous efforts in guiding the USAFL International Program. 2024 was a historic year for the International Program. For the first time in either program’s history both the Revolution and Freedom reached the Grand Final at an international tournament. Cari Greving served as the first General Manager for the International Program this year. Her work set the stage for the fantastic success that was achieved at the first ever TransAtlantic Cup. Well done and thank you Cari for your dedicated leadership.

Congratulations also go to **Chet Ridenour, Columbus Jackaroos** who was awarded and recognized for his passion about the League and the community spirit the League fosters. As the founder of the Columbus ARFC Chet knows the sweat and effort it requires to run a successful USAFL club. Each year Chet pours that energy and enthusiasm into his current role as Nationals Operations Manager. He is instrumental in the success and delivery of Nationals. He delivered once again in Austin and we are grateful for all he does.





## Umpires Association Awards

The USAFL Umpires Association awarded its **Espirit De Corps award to Chet Ridenour**. The Esprit de Corp award is presented to an individual who has shown a true love of umpiring in the USAFL, more than just doing the games and attending the tournaments. These are individuals who not only raise their hand when asked to help, but seek out new opportunities, jump into the fray before asking what the commitment might be, and help to grow the umpiring community without being asked to do so. Such individuals show a joie de vive for being a USAFL Umpire.

**Doren James was awarded the Umpires Association President's award** for honoring loyalty, pride, and devotion to the members of the USAFL Umpires Association.

## Coaches Association Awards

USAFL Coaches Association Coach of the year (Men's & Women's) recognizes coaches that are actively developing their coaching capability and demonstrating the importance of the coaching role. Congratulations to this year's winners:

**Women's Coach of the Year** - Mark Fischer, Minnesota Freeze

**Men's Coach of the Year** - Sean McKenzie, Chicago Swans





## TransAtlantic Cup

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Somewhere deep down, every athlete dreams of representing their country. Though doing that in Aussie Rules is a rare commodity, a group of dedicated men and women got the chance to do that in August.

Though a temporary replacement for the International Cup which has gotten delayed and postponed for various reasons, the return of an intercontinental football tournament via the AFL TransAtlantic Cup was no small carrot.

It had been eleven months since the reformation of the USAFL International Program, where the Revolution men's team and Freedom women's team were brought together under one metaphorical roof, and where a new course for the future would be charted.

What transpired over ten days in Toronto was unequivocally the best football ever played by Team USA Aussie Rules in more than a quarter of a century, and appearances in major tournament Grand Finals for the first time.

It was a gauntlet virtually unseen anywhere in the sport. Clubs in Australia play five games in as many Saturdays during their season. Twelve competing teams were asked to do the same in just ten days, and they were all joined by a large contingent of umpires that included those from the USAFLUA.

Both American teams finished group play against Great Britain, France, and Ireland at 2-1. The men notched their first win over Ireland in 19 years, and the women rebounded from an opening round loss to reel off two decisive wins. That set up semi-final dates against the host Canadians.

The Revos continued their dominance over the Northwind, picking up their 18th win in 19 games. The Warriors, shaking off the bumps and bruises of their two point loss in the earlier match, left no doubt in the Grand Final. But there was no shame at all for Kyle Strenski's charges; Mark McClure led all with ten goals, Jacob Gross won mark of the tournament honors, and six men, led by captain Dan Livy, were named to the All-Tournament side.

Some experts were predicting a fourth-straight women's Grand Final between the Irish and Canadians. The Freedom had their AirPods in. Erasing a twelve-year drought against the Northern Lights, Amanda Boe's punch point broke a 13-13 tie with 15 seconds to go in the semifinal.





Two days later, Team USA found themselves 90 seconds away from hoisting the cup against mighty Ireland. But it wasn't to be, as the Banshees tied the game and then won it in the extra time. But there was nothing but pride in the run, as five Freedom players were all tournament selections, and any gap between the top teams in global women's footy had virtually disappeared.





## MEN'S TRANSATLANTIC CUP LADDER

#	TEAM	P	PTS	%	W	L	D	BYE	F	A	FORF	DISQ	ADJ
1	Great Britain Men Group B	3	12	505.88	3	0	0	0	258	51	0	0	0
2	Ireland Men Group B	3	8	300.00	2	1	0	0	243	81	0	0	0
3	France Men Group B	3	8	128.57	2	1	0	0	153	119	0	0	0
4	USA Men Group A	3	8	109.52	2	1	0	0	138	126	0	0	0
5	Canada Men Group A	3	0	44.55	0	3	0	0	94	211	0	0	0
6	Colombia Men Group A	3	0	5.99	0	3	0	0	19	317	0	0	0

## GRAND FINAL

Ireland Men Group B



64  
9.10

26  
3.8



USA Men Group A



Ireland Men Group B won by 38 points

01:45 PM, Sunday, 11 Aug 2024

Humber College Australian Football  
Field / Oval 1

AFL Transatlantic Cup, 2024

### Period Scores

END OF PERIOD	01	02	03	04
 Ireland Men Group B	26 4.2	42 6.6	50 7.8	64 9.10
 USA Men Group A	8 1.2	15 2.3	18 2.6	26 3.8





### WOMEN'S TRANSATLANTIC CUP LADDER

#	TEAM	P	PTS	%	W	L	D	BYE	F	A	FORF	DISQ	ADJ
1	Ireland Women Group B	3	8	340.30	2	1	0	0	228	67	0	0	0
2	USA Women Group A	3	8	276.81	2	1	0	0	191	69	0	0	0
3	Canada Women Group A	3	8	207.41	2	1	0	0	112	54	0	0	0
4	Great Britain Women Group B	3	8	166.67	2	1	0	0	90	54	0	0	0
5	Colombia Women Group A	3	4	18.78	1	2	0	0	37	197	0	0	0
6	France Women Group B	3	0	0.91	0	3	0	0	2	219	0	0	0

### GRAND FINAL

Ireland Women Group B



48  
7.6

30  
4.6



USA Women Group A



Ireland Women Group B won by 18 points

11:45 AM, Sunday, 11 Aug 2024

Humber College Australian Football  
Field / Oval 1

AFL Transatlantic Cup, 2024

#### Period Scores

END OF PERIOD	01	02	03	04	+1
 Ireland Women Group B	2 0.2	8 1.2	21 3.3	30 4.6	48 7.6
 USA Women Group A	3 0.3	15 2.3	24 3.6	30 4.6	30 4.6



## Financial Management

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The USAFL is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization that maintains its books on a cash basis. Primary revenue sources include the annual grant from the AFL, dues from member clubs, individual player registrations, and sponsorships. Primary expenses encompass events, support, development, and educational functions aligned with the League's core programs and mission. At the USAFL Annual General Meeting, the Treasurer outlines the financial report of the prior year and the current year's financial status.

The organization is responsible for the financial record-keeping of all League events, including Regional and National Championships. The League's financial philosophy is for events to be self-funding where possible. Consistent with past years, the League continues to employ a part-time accountant to enhance internal controls, compliance, and bookkeeping.

The financial results indicate that the League is in sound financial condition, contingent upon continued funding from the AFL. To comply with US tax requirements, the League submits reviewed financials annually to an external accounting firm. This firm provides audit, and accounting services and assists with federal tax compliance and reporting to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). The following pages present the USAFL's balance sheet as of December 31, 2024, and the income statement for the calendar year 2024. As of the time of printing, the 2024 tax return is not yet complete, and the figures presented have not been submitted to the IRS.

On the expense side, the League invested over \$25k in an innovative marketing campaign. The League's largest variable cost is Nationals, which, when considering standalone Nationals player registrations, season passes, and sponsorships, continues to be a self-sustaining event.

Overall, the League is in a solid financial position, and this is expected to continue into 2025 and beyond.

**Richard Hordern-Gibbings**

**Treasurer**

**[treasurer@usafl.com](mailto:treasurer@usafl.com)**



## 2024 USAFL Profit and Loss Statement

US Australian Football League	
Profit and Loss	
January - December 2024	
	Total
<b>Income</b>	
AFL Grant	110,000.00
Foundation	10,721.18
Club Dues	12,610.00
Player Registrations	
Registration Fees	118,875.00
Season Pass	49,620.00
Nationals	140.00
Merchandise Sales	24,556.27
Football Sales	2,288.09
Sponsorships	104,291.70
International Program	14,803.25
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>447,905.49</b>
Cost of Goods Sold	34,005.77
<b>Gross Surplus / Deficit</b>	<b>413,899.72</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	
Professional Expenses	4,427.20
Administrative Expenses	36,423.87
Employee Expenses	108,788.98
Promotion & Advertising	26,759.32
Super Regionals	16,703.33
Western Regionals	24,214.24
Nationals Expenses	144,832.22
International Program	23,381.75
Umpires Grant	6,909.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>392,439.91</b>
<b>Cash Operating Surplus / Deficit</b>	<b>21,459.81</b>
<b>Other Income and Adjustments</b>	
Transaction Gains & Losses	3,194.27
Other Income	-1,921.55
	<b>1,272.72</b>
<b>Operating Surplus after Adjustments</b>	<b>\$ 22,732.53</b>



## 2024 USAFL Balance Sheet

### US Australian Football League Balance Sheet

As of December 31, 2024

	Total
<b>ASSETS</b>	
Operating Accounts	
Cash or Cash Equivalents	54,551.81
Other Accounts	
USAFL Foundation	113,401.89
OFX	68,420.00
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 236,373.70</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>	
Liabilities	
Credit Card	5,461.93
Direct Deposit Payable	-2,898.64
Federal Taxes (941/944)	5,520.91
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$ 8,084.20</b>
Equity	
Opening Balance Equity	13,178.47
Retained Earnings	233,958.50
Net Income	22,732.53
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>\$ 269,869.50</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>	<b>\$ 277,953.70</b>



## 2025 USAFL Contact List

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### *Executive Board – 2023-24*

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Makenzie Adamo	VP West	<a href="mailto:julian.hatfield@usafl.com">julian.hatfield@usafl.com</a>
Darren Green	Member At Large	<a href="mailto:darren.green@usafl.com">darren.green@usafl.com</a>

### *Program Coordinators*

Jeff Persson	Umpire Association	<a href="mailto:jeff.persson@usafl.com">jeff.persson@usafl.com</a>
David Bryant	Coaches Association	<a href="mailto:dave.bryant@usafl.com">dave.bryant@usafl.com</a>

### *International Program*

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### *Staff*

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Jerry Long	Production Manager	<a href="mailto:Jerry.long@usafl.com">Jerry.long@usafl.com</a>