

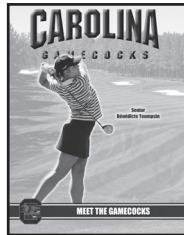


# SOUTH CAROLINA WOMEN'S GOLF

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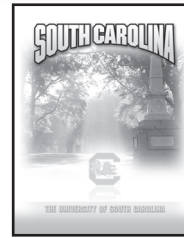
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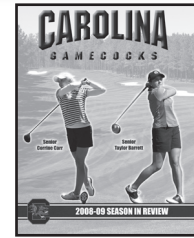
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### Why Carolina Golf?



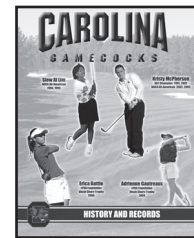
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## Quick Facts

### University

Location .....	Columbia, S.C.
Enrollment .....	25,077
Founded .....	1801
Team Name .....	Gamecocks
University President .....	Dr. Harris Pastides
NCAA Faculty Representative .....	Dr. Bill Bearden
Athletics Director .....	Eric Hyman
Deputy Athletics Director .....	Marcy Girtton
Senior Woman Administrator .....	Val Sheley
Colors .....	Garnet (PMS 202) and Black
Conference .....	Southeastern

### Coaching

Head Coach .....	Kalen Anderson (3rd year)
Alma Mater, Year .....	Duke, 2001
Assistant Coach .....	Michael Burcin
Director of Golf .....	Puggy Blackmon

### Program History

NCAA Championship Appearances .....	9
NCAA Regional Appearances .....	14

### 2009-10 Team

2009 SEC Finish .....	9th of 12
2009 NCAA East Regional Finish .....	12th of 21
2009 NCAA Championship Finish .....	N/A
Letterwinners Returning/Lost .....	6/1
Newcomers .....	2

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# SOUTH CAROLINA WOMEN'S GOLF

## Season Preview



Expectations are ever-growing in Gamecock country for the 2009-10 women's golf season. And with good reason – the bulk of the 2008-09 team returns (only one senior lost), the team chemistry is at a high point, and depth is better than ever in the **Kalen Anderson** era, now entering its third year. Add in a pair of highly talented newcomers, and South Carolina has the potential to make some great strides this season.

"Our goals are to get better each day, each tournament," Anderson said. "I'm really excited about this upcoming season. We've got a lot more depth than we've had in the past two seasons. I'm looking forward to seeing where the season takes us. My expectations are high as always, but we've just got to keep working every day and getting better and better. I think we're going to do a lot of great things, and I feel like we're going to be extremely competitive this year."

Seniors **Bénédicte Toumpsin**, **Taylor Barrett** and **Corrine Carr** lead the way for South Carolina. Carolina will also see a trio of sophomores returning to action with **Katie Burnett**, **Cayci Ruppe** and **Taylor Weaver** back for their second year.

Toumpsin returns for her senior season in second place among the all-time scoring leaders in South Carolina history. Last year, the native of Sombreffe, Belgium, turned in six top-20 tournament finishes, including a tie for first place at the LSU Golf Classic, where her 54-hole total of 209 (-7) was the second-lowest in South Carolina history. She was also the runner-up at the SEC Championship, improving on her third-place finish a year ago. For her efforts, she earned her second All-SEC selection as she was named to the league's second team after earning first-team honors in 2008.

"Bénédicte, who's been our number one player, really made some great strides in the spring last year," Anderson said, "more so mentally than physically. I think she's really going to be a force this year."

Along with Toumpsin, the other returning senior to have played in every event last season is Barrett. She has the second-most experience on the team with 24 career tournaments under her belt. Her best showing of the 2008-09 campaign came at the Auburn Derby Invitational, where she carded a 228 to tie for 23rd place. The native of York, S.C., also qualified for the U.S. Women's Amateur Public Links Championship.

"Taylor Barrett will come back strong," Anderson said. "She's always working hard and grinding it out for us. It will be a great asset to have her leadership as a senior."

Carr, the third returning senior, picked up steam as the season rolled along last year. After a rough start, the transfer from Furman put together two very solid tournaments to end the season, tying for 32nd at the SEC Championship and playing a very consistent 54 holes at the NCAA East Regional. Like Barrett, Carr had a successful summer as well, advancing to the third round of match play at the North & South Amateur and also qualifying for the U.S. Women's Amateur.

"Corrine is coming back, and she's coming off a great summer," Anderson said. "She won several matches at the North & South, and she also went to Slovakia and won the national amateur championship over there."

Katie Burnett is coming off a very strong freshman campaign where she was second on the team with a 75.27 stroke average, which ranks as the ninth-best single season in Carolina history. She got off to a blistering start, turning in an eighth-place finish in her first collegiate event at the Cougar Classic, then maintained that level of



Sophomore Katie Burnett and senior Bénédicte Toumpsin

## 2009-10 Roster

Name	Yr.	Hometown/High School
Taylor Barrett	Sr.	York, S.C. / York Comprehensive
Katie Burnett	So.	Brunswick, Ga. / Brunswick
Corrine Carr	Sr.	Pinehurst, N.C. / The O'Neal School
Cayci Ruppe	So.	Gaffney, S.C. / Gaffney
Amanda Sträng	Fr.	Jonstorp, Sweden
Meredith Swanson	Fr.	Roanoke, Va. / Hidden Valley
Bénédicte Toumpsin	Sr.	Sombreffe, Belgium
Taylor Weaver	So.	Spartanburg, S.C. / Dorman

**Head Coach:** Kalen Anderson  
**Assistant Coach:** Michael Burcin  
**Director of Golf:** Puggy Blackmon

success throughout the season by turning in three more top-20 finishes. The native of Brunswick, Ga., joined Barrett at the PubLinks championship.

"Katie played some really strong golf for us last year," Anderson said. "She got that freshman year under her belt and was one of our best players all year. I look forward to even bigger things from her this season."

Cayci Ruppe and Taylor Weaver will also return for their sophomore campaigns. The duo combined to play in six tournaments during the 2008-09 campaign, and Ruppe competed in the SEC Championship as a freshman. Weaver put together a strong summer that saw her qualify for the U.S. Women's Amateur.

"Cayci was in the lineup a bunch in the spring," Anderson said. "She's worked hard in the summer. And Taylor has had some recent success in qualifying for the U.S. Women's Amateur."

"Experience is a huge key. What I'm very excited about is that we have our leadership – Bénédicte Toumpsin, Corrine Carr, Taylor Barrett – they've all played in regionals and national championships. They've got some great experience. And the type of people I'm recruiting going forward are kids that have gained a lot of experience coming in."

Seeking out those types of players led her to **Meredith Swanson** and **Amanda Strang**, two top-rated recruits who will join the Gamecocks this fall. Swanson, a native of Roanoke, Va., was rated the No. 2 junior in the state of Virginia. For her junior golf exploits, GolfWeek named Swanson one of their "Top 25 Upcoming College Freshmen" for the 2009-10 school year. Swanson has also played at the highest level, earning a sponsor's exemption into the 2009 LPGA Michelob Ultra Classic.

"Meredith is going to add a really competitive edge," Anderson said. "She's got a lot of experience, playing in big-time tournaments all summer. She's tough."

Strang, a native of Sweden, was a member of the Swedish Junior National Team, and helped her team to the gold medal at the European Girls Team Championship in 2008. As late as the summer of 2009, she was ranked fifth in the Skandia Tour Elite girls standings and second among her age group. She has competed in numerous major team competitions, including winning gold and silver at the South of Sweden competition for juniors. She also took home individual gold at the Nordic Championships and silver at the Junior Swedish Masters.

"Amanda is going to be a lot of fun," Anderson said. "She's got a great personality, she's played on the Swedish National Team and comes from a real team-oriented atmosphere. I think that's going to be a great advantage for us."

The two newcomers, along with the rest of the squad, will have their mettle tested early at the NGCA Match Play Championship, the first event on the Carolina schedule. That will be followed in the fall by the Mason Rudolph Championship (Vanderbilt), the Lady Tar Heel Invite (North Carolina) and the Mercedes-Benz Collegiate Championship (Tennessee).

"It's always been my philosophy – and you can see how I book my tournament schedule – that playing against the best teams in the country are going to make us better," Anderson said. "Our fall schedule is set up to be, probably, one of the toughest you can be in. We've got the match play, we're playing at Vanderbilt, which is an incredible event, then UNC and Tennessee. We're going to get a good taste of it."

The SEC Championship returns to Tuscaloosa, Ala., in April, to the NorthRiver Yacht Club. The NCAA East Regional is set for Ironwood Country Club in Greenville, N.C., and the NCAA Championship will be played at the Country Club of Landfall in Wilmington, N.C.