



2023-24

GAMECOCK[®]

MEN'S BASKETBALL

MBB CONTACT: MICHAEL DeBATES // MDEBATES@MAILBOX.SC.EDU // 803-777-7881 // @MDEBATES

UNIVERSITY INFORMATION

Location Columbia, S.C.
Founded 1801
Enrollment 36,200
Nickname Gamecocks
Colors Garnet (PMS 202C) & Black
Conference Southeastern (SEC)
Athletics Web Address www.GamecocksOnline.com
University Web Address www.sc.edu
President Michael Amiridis
NCAA Representative Eva Monsma
Athletics Director Ray Tanner
Basketball Administrator Charles Waddell, Special Assistant to the AD

BASKETBALL STAFF/INFORMATION

Head Coach Lamont Paris (Wooster, '96 ; Indiana State, '00)
11-21 (2nd season at South Carolina)
98-93 (7th season overall)
Assistant Coach Tanner Bronson (Wisconsin, '08)
Assistant Coach Tim Buckley (Bemidji State, '88)
Assistant Coach Eddie Shannon (Florida, '99)
Special Assistant to the Head Coach Carey Rich (South Carolina, '95)
Director of Player Development David McKinley (Ohio, '13)
Director of Basketball Operations Colby Arendale (Chattanooga, '18)
Director of Video Services Roman DiPasquale (Wisconsin '11)
Strength & Conditioning Coach Scott Greenawalt (Muskingum College, '98)
Athletic Trainer Mark Rodger (Buffalo, '01)
Athletics Communications & PR Michael DeBates (Iowa State, '14)
Graduate Assistant Jack Samonsky (South Carolina, '22)
Graduate Assistant Tada Stricklen (Chattanooga, '23)
Home Arena Colonial Life Arena
Capacity 18,000
Arena General Manager Sid Kenyon

BASKETBALL HISTORY

First Year of Basketball 1908
All-Time Record 1,479-1,317-1 (.529)
Overall Postseason Record 30-20 (.600)
NCAA Tournament Appearances 9 (1971, 1972, 1973, 1974, 1989, 1997,
1998, 2004, 2017)
NCAA Tournament Record 8-10
Last NCAA Tournament Appearance 2017, Final Four, 77-73 L to Gonzaga
NIT Appearances 12 (1969, 1975, 1978, 1983, 1991, 1996,
2001, 2002, 2005, 2006, 2009, 2016)
NIT Record 22-10
Last NIT Appearance 2016, L vs. Georgia Tech, 83-66
Conference Championships/Titles
SoCon Regular Season (1927, 1933, 1934, 1945); SoCon Tournament
Champion (1933); ACC Regular Season (1970);
ACC Champion (1971); SEC Regular Season (1997);
SEC East Division Co-Champions (2009)

ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS/PR

Associate Director - Athletics Communications & PR Michael DeBates
Email mdebates@mailbox.sc.edu
Office phone 803-777-7881
Cell phone 712-348-5863
Website GamecocksOnline.com/sports/mbball/

TEAM INFORMATION

2022-23 Record 11-21
Southeastern Conference Record/Finish 4-14/12th
SEC Tournament Record 0-1
Postseason N/A
Letterwinners Returning/Lost 6/7
Starters Returning/Lost 1/3
Newcomers 9 (four transfers)
Roster Breakdown 3 graduates, 3 seniors,
3 juniors, 2 sophomores, 5 freshmen

RETURNING TEAM STATS

Percentage of Scoring 895/2,059 (43.5%)
Percentage of Field Goals Made 318/744 (42.7%)
Percentage of 3-Point Field Goals Made 109/244 (44.7%)
Percentage of Free Throws 150/495 (30.3%)
Percentage of Rebounding 549/1,091 (50.3%)
Percentage of Offensive Rebounding 193/378 (51.1%)
Percentage of Assists 241/355 (67.9%)
Percentage of Steals 83/243 (34.2%)
Percentage of Blocks 41/84 (48.8%)
Percentage of Minutes 3,429/6,500 (52.8%)

Players Returning (stats from 2022-23 season):

#0 Ebrima Dibba (RSr. - G) sat out 22-23 season with achilles injury, career averages of 8.2 ppg, 5.2 apg and 4.8 rpg ; #1 Jacobi Wright (Jr. - G) 7.3 ppg, 39.6% FG, 35.0% 3FG in 32 games played (15 starts) ; #5 Meechie Johnson (Jr. - G) 12.7 ppg and 3.6 apg (led team) in 30 games played (29 starts), one of eight players in SEC to make 70 3s, led the team with 13.7 ppg in SEC action ; #12 Zachary Davis (So. -G) 2.2 ppg, 2.2 rpg in 30 games played (2 starts) ; #14 Eli Sparkman (So. - G) hit 5 3s in 12 games played #31 Benjamin Bosmans-Verdonk (RSr. - F) 1.9 ppg, 3.1 rpg, 1.1 apg in 31 games played (14 starts) ; #33 Josh Gray (Sr. - F) 4.3 ppg, 6.3 rpg in 32 games played (15 starts) , averaged 5.8 ppg, 7.9 rpg in SEC action , had eight double-figure rebounding outings (seven in SEC play)

Notable players Lost (stats from 2022-23 season):

#2 Chico Carter Jr. (Sr. - G) 9.8 ppg, 1.8 rpg, 47.6 percent from 3 (led SEC) ; #10 Hayden Brown (Gr. - F) 11.4 ppg, 4.8 rpg, 2.0 apg ; #23 Gregory "GG" Jackson II (Fr. - F) 15.4 ppg, 5.9 apg ; #30 Daniel Hankins Sanford (Fr. - F) 2.3 ppg, 2.2 rpg

Notable Newcomers:

#2 B.J. Mack (Gr. - F) 14.1 ppg, 5.2 rpg and 1.5 assists in 85 career games (69 starts) at Wofford ; #4 Stephen Clark (Gr. - F) played in 109 games (88 starts) at The Citadel, averaging 9.5 ppg, 5.1 rpg, 2.6 assists and 1.8 bpg, fresh off best college season with 16.3 ppg, 6.5 rpg, 2.8 apg and 1.8 bpg in 2022-23 ; #10 Myles Stute (Jr. - G) 7.4 ppg and 3.7 rpg in 91 career games (59 starts) at Vanderbilt, averaged 8.4 ppg and 4.6 rpg in 2022-23 for the Dores ; #15 Morris Ugusuk (Fr. - G) 17.2 ppg, 5.3 apg, 4.3 rpg and 2.2 spg in final season playing for DRIVE Basketball Academy (Finland) ; #30 Collin Murray-Boyles (Fr. - F) attended Wasatch Academy (Utah) for final prep season, consensus top-100 player after averaging 15.0 ppg, 8.8 rpg, 2.1 apg and 1.8 bpg in the NIBC ; #55 Ta'Lon Cooper II (Gr. - G) 1,078 points and 603 assists in four collegiate seasons at Morehead State (2019-22) and Minnesota (2022-23) ; his 6.3 apg last season were seventh in the nation

ROSTER
BREAKDOWN

Returning Letterwinners (6)

#1 Jacobi Wright
#5 Meechie Johnson
#12 Zachary Davis
#14 Eli Sparkman
#31 Benjamin Bosmans-Verdonk
#33 Josh Gray

Guards (11)

#0 Ebrima Dibba
#1 Jacobi Wright
#5 Meechie Johnson
#10 Myles Stute
#12 Zachary Davis
#13 Austin Herro
#14 Eli Sparkman
#15 Morris Ugusuk
#20 Danny Grajzl
#21 Arden Conyers
#55 Ta'Lon Cooper

Forwards (5)

#2 B.J. Mack
#4 Stephen Clark
#30 Collin Murray-Boyles
#31 Benjamin Bosmans-Verdonk
#33 Josh Gray

By Height

#14 Eli Sparkman (6-0)
#20 Danny Grajzl (6-0)
#13 Austin Herro (6-1)
#5 Meechie Johnson (6-2)
#1 Jacobi Wright (6-2)
#55 Ta'Lon Cooper (6-4)
#15 Morris Ugusuk (6-4)
#0 Ebrima Dibba (6-5)
#10 Myles Stute (6-6)
#12 Zachary Davis (6-7)
#21 Arden Conyers (6-7)
#30 Collin-Murray Boyles (6-7)
#4 Stephen Clark (6-8)
#2 B.J. Mack (6-8)
#31 Benjamin Bosmans-Verdonk (6-9)
#33 Josh Gray (7-0)

2023-24 SOUTH CAROLINA MEN'S BASKETBALL ROSTER

Alphabetical Roster

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Cl.	Exp.	Hometown // Last School
31	Benjamin Bosmans-Verdonk	F	6-9	238	RSR	1L	Lommel, Belgium // Illinois
4	Stephen Clark	F	6-8	208	GR	TR	Charlotte, N.C. // The Citadel
21	Arden Conyers	G	6-7	204	FR	HS	Columbia, S.C. // Westwood (Blythewood, S.C.)
55	Ta'Lon Cooper	G	6-4	200	GR	TR	Roebuck, S.C. // Minnesota
12	Zachary Davis	G	6-7	194	SO	1L	Orangeburg, S.C. // Denmark-Olar
0	Ebrima Dibba	G	6-5	214	RSR	TR	Bredäng, Sweden // Coastal Carolina
20	Danny Grajzl	G	6-0	175	FR	HS	Cleveland, Ohio // Hawken School (Gates Mills, Ohio)
33	Josh Gray	F	7-0	265	SR	3L	Brooklyn, N.Y. // LSU
13	Austin Herro	G	6-1	174	FR	HS	Milwaukee, Wisc. // Whitnall (Greenfield, Wisc.)
5	Meechie Johnson	G	6-2	184	JR	1L	Cleveland, Ohio // Ohio State
2	B.J. Mack	F	6-8	270	GR	TR	Charlotte, N.C. // Wofford
30	Collin Murray-Boyles	F	6-7	231	FR	HS	Columbia, S.C. // Wasatch Academy (Mt Pleasant, Utah)
14	Eli Sparkman	G	6-0	160	SO	1L	Cleveland, Tenn. // Baylor School (Chattanooga, Tenn.)
10	Myles Stute	G	6-6	209	JR	TR	Washington, D.C. // Vanderbilt
15	Morris Ugusuk	G	6-4	160	FR	HS	Helsinki, Finland // Omnia Basketball Academy (Finland)
1	Jacobi Wright	G	6-2	182	JR	2L	Fort Mill, S.C. // Legacy Early College

Numerical Roster

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33	Josh Gray	F	7-0	265	SR	3L	Brooklyn, N.Y. // LSU
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Assistant Coach: Tanner Bronson (Wisconsin, '08)

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Director of Video Services: Roman DiPasquale (Wisconsin, '11)

Strength & Conditioning Coach: Scott Greenawalt (Muskingum College, '98)

Athletic Trainer: Mark Rodger (Buffalo, '01)

Associate Director of Athletics Communications and Public Relations: Michael DeBates (Iowa State, '14)

TOP RETURNING

Scorer.....Johnson, 12.7 ppg
Rebounder.....Gray, 6.3 rpg
Assist Maker.....Johnson, 3.6 apg
FG Shooter *.....Gray, 51.4%
3-Point FG Shooter \$.....Wright, 35.0%
FT Shooter \$.....Johnson, 76.3%
Shot Blocker.....Gray, 0.8 bpg
Steal Maker.....Johnson, 0.7 spg

* at least 75 attempts

\$ at least 20 attempts

PRONUNCIATION GUIDE

Benjamin **BOSE**-mans-ver-**DONK**
TUH-lon Cooper
Ee-**BRIME**-uh **DIB**-ah
Danny **GRAZ**-al
Myles **STEW**-tee
Morris **UG-AH**-suk

2023-24 SOUTH CAROLINA MEN'S BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

DATE	OPPONENT	LOCATION	TIME	BROADCAST
Nov. 1	Wofford (exhibition)	Columbia, S.C.	7 p.m.	-
Nov. 6	USC Upstate	Columbia, S.C.	7 p.m.	SEC Network+
<i>Hall of Fame Series - Charlotte, N.C. - Spectrum Center</i>				
Nov. 10	vs. Virginia Tech	Charlotte, N.C.	9:30 p.m.	ACC Network
<i>Arizona Tipoff - Glendale, Ariz. - Desert Diamond Arena</i>				
Nov. 13	VMI (unbracketed game)	Columbia, S.C.	7 p.m.	SEC Network+
Nov. 17	vs. DePaul	Glendale, Ariz.	11:30 p.m.	CBS Sports Network
Nov. 19	vs. Grand Canyon/San Francisco	Glendale, Ariz.	TBD	CBS Sports Network
<i>ACC/SEC Challenge - Columbia, S.C. - Colonial Life Arena</i>				
Nov. 28	Notre Dame	Columbia, S.C.	7 p.m.	SEC Network
Dec. 1	George Washington	Columbia, S.C.	7 p.m.	SEC Network+
Dec. 6	at Clemson	Clemson, S.C.	8 p.m.	ACC Network
Dec. 9	at ECU	Greenville, N.C.	12 p.m.	ESPNU
Dec. 16	Charleston Southern	Columbia, S.C.	6 p.m.	SEC Network+
Dec. 19	Winthrop	Columbia, S.C.	7 p.m.	SEC Network+
Dec. 22	Elon	Columbia, S.C.	6 p.m.	SEC Network
Dec. 30	Florida A&M	Columbia, S.C.	TBA	SEC Network+
Jan. 6	Mississippi State*	Columbia, S.C.	12 p.m.	CBS
Jan. 9	at Alabama*	Tuscaloosa, Ala.	7 p.m.	ESPNU
Jan. 13	at Missouri*	Columbia, Mo.	3:30 p.m.	SEC Network
Jan. 16	Georgia*	Columbia, S.C.	9 p.m.	ESPNU
Jan. 20	at Arkansas*	Fayetteville, Ark.	1 p.m.	SEC Network
Jan. 23	Kentucky*	Columbia, S.C.	7 p.m.	SEC Network
Jan. 27	Missouri*	Columbia, S.C.	1 p.m.	SEC Network
Jan. 30	at Tennessee*	Knoxville, Tenn.	6:30 p.m.	SEC Network
Feb. 3	at Georgia*	Athens, Ga.	1 p.m.	SEC Network
Feb. 6	Ole Miss*	Columbia, S.C.	6:30 p.m.	SEC Network
Feb. 10	Vanderbilt*	Columbia, S.C.	1 p.m.	SEC Network
Feb. 14	at Auburn*	Auburn, Ala.	8:30 p.m.	SEC Network
Feb. 17	LSU*	Columbia, S.C.	3:30 p.m.	SEC Network
Feb. 24	at Ole Miss*	Oxford, Miss.	3:30 p.m.	SEC Network
Feb. 28	at Texas A&M*	College Station, Texas	8:30 p.m.	SEC Network
March 2	Florida*	Columbia, S.C.	3:30 p.m.	SEC Network
March 6	Tennessee*	Columbia, S.C.	7 p.m.	ESPN2
March 9	at Mississippi State*	Starkville, Miss.	2:30 p.m.	SEC Network
March 13-17	SEC Tournament	Nashville, Tenn.	TBA	SEC Network/ESPN
March 21-22	NCAA Tournament First Round	Various Sites	TBA	TBA
March 22-23	NCAA Tournament Second Round	Various Sites	TBA	TBA
March 28-29	Regional Semifinal - Sweet 16	Various Sites	TBA	TBA
March 30-31	Regional Final - Elite Eight	Various Sites	TBA	TBA
April 6-8	Final Four	Phoenix, Ariz.	TBA	TBA

All dates and times subject to change

All home games in **BOLD**

All times listed Eastern

* indicates SEC contest