



2020-21 CAL VOLLEYBALL

GOLDEN BEARS

1-13
OVERALL

1-13
PAC-12

Sam Crosson
HEAD COACH



VS



SUN DEVILS

2-10
OVERALL

2-10
PAC-12

Sanja Tomasevic
HEAD COACH

2020-21 SCHEDULE

Overall: 1-13 • Pac-12: 1-13

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME/RESULT
Jan. 22	at #22 UCLA*	L, 3-1
Jan. 24	at #22 UCLA*	L, 3-0
JAN. 29	#8 UTAH*	L, 3-1
JAN. 31	#8 UTAH*	L, 3-0
Feb. 5	at Colorado*	L, 3-2
Feb. 7	at Colorado*	L, 3-0
FEB. 12	#15 STANFORD*%	W, 3-2
Feb. 14	at #15 Stanford*%	L, 3-0
FEB. 19	USC*	L, 3-1
FEB. 20	USC*	L, 3-1
Feb. 26	at #17 Washington St.*	L, 3-0
Feb. 28	at #17 Washington St.*	L, 3-0
MAR. 5	OREGON ST.*	L, 3-2
MAR. 7	OREGON ST.*	L, 3-0
Mar. 12	at Arizona St.*%	2 p.m.
Mar. 14	at Arizona St.*	11 a.m.
MAR. 19	ARIZONA*%	6 p.m.
MAR. 21	ARIZONA*	1 p.m.
Mar. 26	at Oregon*	1 p.m.
Mar. 28	at Oregon*	12 p.m.
APR. 1	WASHINGTON*	6 p.m.
APR. 3	WASHINGTON*	1 p.m.

NCAA Tournament

Apr. 8-10	First-Second Rounds	TBD
Apr. 15-17	Regionals	TBD
Apr. 22-24	Final Four	TBD

* Pac-12 match

% Pac-12 Network

Home matches in **BOLD** at Haas Pavilion

All times listed PT and subject to change

QUICK FACTS

COACHING STAFF

Head Coach Sam Crosson (2nd season)

Assoc. Head Coach Jennifer Dorr (2nd season)

Asst. Coach Otavio Souza (1st season)

Dir. Operations Betsy Sedlak (2nd season)

TEAM INFORMATION

2019 Overall Record 20-10

2019 Pac-12 Record (finish) 10-10 (7th)

Facility Haas Pavilion (11,877)



MAR. 12, 14



Desert Financial Arena
Tempe, Ariz.



LIVE STREAM
CalBears.com



LIVE STATS
CalBears.com

THIS WEEK

California volleyball heads to the desert for a Pac-12 Conference matchup with Arizona State this weekend.

The Golden Bears and Sun Devils are set for a 2 p.m. first serve on Friday, Mar. 12 at Desert Financial Arena, followed by an 11 a.m. PT start on Sunday, Mar. 14. Friday's match will be televised live on the Pac-12 Networks and Sunday's match will be available via ASU Live Stream with links available on CalBears.com.

The young, shorthanded Cal squad is coming off of a pair of losses to Oregon State last week at Haas Pavilion, falling 3-2 on Friday and 3-0 Sunday. The Blue and Gold are led by a pair of freshmen in Lydia Grote (Burbank, California) and Katarina Pantovic (Vancouver, British Columbia), along with senior Isabel Potter (Moline, Illinois). Grote leads the Bears with 135 kills and 33 blocks, while Pantovic is second on the team with 109 kills, playing in 12 of 14 matches this season. Potter moved into seventh all-time at Cal in assists three weeks ago, totaling 2,653 in her career with the Bears.

The Sun Devils split a weekend series with rival Arizona a week ago in Tempe, falling 3-0 on Friday before coming back from a two-set deficit on Sunday to pull off the reverse sweep in a 3-2 win. ASU ranks fifth in the conference as a team in both service aces and digs. Annika Larson is third in the Pac-12 with a 3.92 digs per set average and Kennedi Boyd is fifth in the conference in blocks per set at 1.22.

BEAR NECESSITIES

GRO-T-ING UP QUICKLY

Lydia Grote got off to a strong start in her Cal career, collecting 18 kills on .654 hitting to go along with three blocks in her debut at then-No. 22 UCLA on Jan. 22. The 18 kills set a new mark for most in a freshman debut in Cal volleyball history and Grote's .654 attack percentage in the opener is the fourth-best in the conference this season with a minimum of 12 kills. The native of Burbank, California has recorded seven double digit kill matches, including four in a row and leads the team with 135 kills and 33 blocks after the first 14 matches of the season.

PANTOVIC POWER

Freshman Katarina Pantovic recorded her first career double-double (15k, 12d) in Cal's 3-2 win over then-No. 15 Stanford on Feb. 12, the Bears first win in the series since 2011. Opening her Golden Bear career with a bang on the road at then-No. 22 UCLA to begin the season, Pantovic tallied 14 kills and nine digs to fall just short of a double-double in her collegiate debut. The Vancouver, British Columbia native is second on the team with 109 kills through the first seven weeks of the season after recording a season-high 16 on Feb. 5 at Colorado. Pantovic set a new career-high with 13 digs on Mar. 5 against OSU as part of her second double-double with 13 kills.

ACED

Cal was bolstered in its win over then-No. 15 Stanford on Feb. 12 with a strong performance from behind the service line. The Bears recorded a season-high 12 service aces, winning the battle from behind the line, 12-5. Isabel Potter tallied a match best five aces which is tied for most in the conference this season in a single match while Lydia Grote added a season-high three aces. Potter currently stands fourth in the Pac-12 with 17 aces on the season.

MISSING PINS

2019 AVCA Pacific North All-Region and All-Pac-12 outside hitter Mima Mirkovic is opting out of the spring indoor season and the two-way athlete will play with the Cal beach volleyball team this spring. Mirkovic is a three-year starter for the Golden Bears and is just six kills away from becoming the 17th Cal volleyball player to reach 1,000 in her career. She plans to return in the fall and complete her indoor volleyball eligibility with the Golden Bears. Another outside hitter, Arizona transfer Katie Smoot, also decided to forgo the spring indoor season to play with the Cal beach volleyball program. She will also return to the team for the fall 2021 indoor season.

BEAR NECESSITIES**RE-SHAPING THE RECORD BOOK**

Senior setter Isabel Potter is leaving her mark in the record book during her final season as a Golden Bear. The Moline, Illinois native moved into seventh on the all-time assists list at Cal on Feb. 19 vs USC. Potter recorded 34 assists against the Trojans to pass Joan Caloiaro's (2012-13) 2,552 career assist mark and now has 2,653 assists in her Cal career. Samantha Carter (2003-06) holds the all-time record at Cal with 5,771 career helpers.

YOUNG BEARS

Six of the 15 active players on the spring roster for the Bears are new faces since the team last took the court in November of 2019. The freshman class includes libero Tara DeSa (Mililani, Hawai'i), middle blocker Lydia Grote (Burbank, Calif.), libero Lexi Gruszczynski (San Clemente, Calif.), setter Kendall Jensen (Burbank, Calif.), outside hitter Katarina Pantovic (Vancouver, British Columbia) and opposite Sam Taumoepeau (San Diego, Calif.).

BELLA'S BACK

Cal gets a boost in the middle with the return of redshirt sophomore Bella Bergmark, who sat out the 2019 volleyball season. Bergmark participated in USA volleyball tryouts back in February 2020 and will see a lot of playing time with the departures of graduated All-Conference middle blockers Preslie Anderson and Lauren Forte. The Larkspur, Calif. native started eight matches as a freshman in 2018, playing in 38 sets. She recorded 36 kills and 21 blocks during her first season with the Golden Bears and made her presence known with seven total blocks (2s, 5a) against No. 8 Utah on Jan. 29, tied for the fourth-most in the conference in a single match so far this season. Bergmark is currently second on the team with 27 blocks on the season.

O CAPTAIN MY CAPTAIN

The Bears will be led by two captains during the 2020-21 season in senior setter Isabel Potter and junior libero Jessica Houghton. The experienced duo were voted captains by their teammates during the summer. Potter has played in 92 matches and 331 sets in her first three seasons at Cal, totaling 60 kills and 66 service aces while leading the team in assists. Houghton came on strong late during the 2019 campaign, playing in nine matches and 24 sets. She tallied a career-high 20 digs on Mar. 5 against Oregon State after taking over libero duties for the Bears.

O CANADA

Freshman outside hitter Katarina Pantovic comes to Berkeley after a strong high school and club career. The Vancouver native played for both Team BC and the Canada youth national team. Pantovic was a four-year letter winner and a team most valuable player in high school, and helped Team Canada youth reach the World Championships for the first time in four decades.

SISTER SISTER

Cal junior libero Jessica Houghton and freshman middle blocker Lydia Grote will get a chance to catch up with family later on this season when the Bears host Washington at Haas Pavilion. Houghton's sister, Sianna, is a libero for the Huskies, while Grote's sister, Marin, is a middle blocker for UW.



Lydia Grote got off to a strong start in her Cal career, collecting 18 kills on .654 hitting to go along with three blocks in her debut at then-No. 22 UCLA on Jan. 22. The 18 kills set a new mark for most in a freshman debut in Cal volleyball history. Grote leads the Bears with seven double-digit kill matches this season.

ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Yr.	Exp.	Hometown/Prev. School
1	Katarina Pantovic	OH	6-0	Fr.	HS	Vancouver, British Columbia/Lord Byng
2	Darian Clark	OH	5-11	So.	1V	Phoenix, Ariz./Hamilton
3	Mima Mirkovic	OH	5-11	Jr.	2V	Irvine, Calif./Woodbridge
4	Lexi Gruszczynski	L	5-8	Fr.	HS	San Clemente, Calif./San Clemente
7	Gabby Bellizzi	DS	5-6	So.	1V	Ladera Ranch, Calif./San Juan Hills
8	Deniz Milli	OH	6-0	Fr.	HS	Istanbul, Turkey/Enka Schools
9	Sam Taumoepeau	DS	6-0	Fr.	HS	San Diego, Calif./Mt. Carmel
12	Lydia Grote	MB	6-2	Fr.	HS	Burbank, Calif./John Burroughs
13	Tara DeSa	L	5-5	Fr.	HS	Mililani, Hawai'i/Kamehameha
14	Jade Blevins	S	5-10	So.	1V	Laguna Beach, Calif./Sage Hill
15	Bella Bergmark	MB	6-2	So.	1V	Larkspur, Calif./Marin Catholic
17	Isabel Potter	S	5-9	Jr.	2V	Moline, IL./Moline
20	Katie Smoot	OH	6-2	Sr.	TR/3V	San Mateo, Calif./Arizona
21	Kendall Jensen	S	5-8	Fr.	HS	Burbank, Calif./Village Christian
22	Jessica Houghton	DS	5-8	So.	1V	Menlo Park, Calif./Menlo
23	Makana Meyer	OH	6-1	So.	1V	Burbank, Calif./Westridge
24	Sydney Lilomaiaava	OH	6-3	Fr.	HS	Orange, Calif./Villa Park

SCOUTING REPORTS

ARIZONA STATE
SUN DEVILS

- The Sun Devils split a weekend series with rival Arizona a week ago in Tempe, falling 3-0 on Friday before coming back from a two-set deficit on Sunday to pull off the reverse sweep in a 3-2 win
- ASU ranks fifth in the conference as a team in both service aces and digs
- Annika Larson is third in the Pac-12 with a 3.92 digs per set average
- LAST MEETING:** The Bears won both matches in 2019 and the all-time series is tied 34-34

AVCA TOP 25
WEEK SEVEN

RANK	TEAM	LAST	POINTS
1	Wisconsin (54)	1	1494
2	Texas (5)	2	1437
3	Kentucky (1)	3	1367
4	Nebraska	4	1320
5	Minnesota	5	1274
6	Baylor	6	1181
7	Florida	8	1107
8	Washington	7	1059
9	Utah	9	1016
10	Purdue	11	932
11	Ohio State	19	839
12	Penn State	10	779
13	Louisville	13	716
14	Notre Dame	14	672
15	BYU	12	619
16	Washington State	16	582
17	UCLA	12	548
18	San Diego	17	504
19	Oregon	20	477
20	Georgia Tech	18	451
21	Western Kentucky	21	319
22	Pittsburgh	22	268
23	Creighton	23	216
24	Pepperdine	25	158
25	Missouri	NR	50

Others Receiving Votes: Marquette 30; Colorado 15; Bowling Green 13; Tennessee 8; Michigan 6; UNLV 6; Florida State 4; Wright State 4

PAC-12 STANDINGS

PLACE	TEAM	Record
1	Utah	10-2, 10-2
2	Washington State	8-2, 8-2
3	Washington	11-3, 11-3
4	Oregon	9-3, 9-3
5	UCLA	10-4, 10-4
6	Colorado	5-7, 5-7
6	Oregon State	5-7, 5-7
8	USC	3-5, 3-5
9	Arizona	5-9, 5-9
10	Stanford	1-5, 1-5
11	Arizona State	2-10, 2-10
12	California	1-13, 1-13

2020-21 CAL STATISTICS

Game Records

Overall	Conference	Home	Away	Neutral
1 - 13	1 - 13	1 - 6	0 - 7	0 - 0

Team Box Score

##	Player	SP	Attack					Set		Serve			Dig			Blocking						PTS
			K	K/S	E	TA	PCT	A	A/S	SA	SE	SA/S	RE	DIG	DIG/S	BS	BA	TOT/S	BLK/S	BE	BHE	
1	Pantovic, Katarina	45	109	2.42	64	385	.117	4	0.09	6	8	0.13	18	82	1.82	1	9	10	0.22	0	1	120.5
2	Clark, Darian	15	0	0.00	0	0	.000	11	0.73	0	4	0.00	2	13	0.87	0	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.0
4	Gruszczynski, Lexi	13	0	0.00	0	0	.000	12	0.92	1	4	0.08	5	36	2.77	0	0	0	0.00	0	0	1.0
7	Bellizzi, Gabby	36	0	0.00	1	1	-1.000	8	0.22	4	3	0.11	15	70	1.94	0	0	0	0.00	0	0	4.0
8	Milli, Deniz	4	2	0.50	5	13	-.231	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	6	1	0.25	0	0	0	0.00	0	0	2.0
9	Taumoepau, Sam	38	54	1.42	45	203	.044	4	0.11	0	1	0.00	9	10	0.26	2	5	7	0.18	2	0	58.5
12	Grote, Lydia	52	135	2.60	50	314	.271	0	0.00	8	19	0.15	0	22	0.42	6	27	33	0.63	7	0	162.5
13	DeSa, Tara	27	0	0.00	1	5	-.200	1	0.04	1	6	0.04	9	53	1.96	0	0	0	0.00	0	0	1.0
15	Bergmark, Bella	52	68	1.31	15	189	.280	6	0.12	10	6	0.19	1	23	0.44	6	21	27	0.52	6	0	94.5
17	Potter, Isabel	52	11	0.21	6	38	.132	295	5.67	17	14	0.33	0	111	2.13	1	8	9	0.17	2	9	33.0
21	Jensen, Kendall	45	1	0.02	1	9	.000	122	2.71	8	11	0.18	0	76	1.69	0	2	2	0.04	0	5	10.0
22	Houghton, Jessica	33	0	0.00	0	3	.000	14	0.42	0	1	0.00	9	71	2.15	0	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.0
23	Meyer, Makana	43	77	1.79	71	270	.022	2	0.05	4	10	0.09	20	24	0.56	1	2	3	0.07	1	0	83.0
24	Lilomaiaava, Sydney	47	71	1.51	47	216	.111	2	0.04	0	1	0.00	0	26	0.55	1	22	23	0.49	3	0	83.0
CALIFORNIA		52	528	10.15	306	1646	.135	481	9.25	59	88	1.13	108	618	11.88	18	96	66	1.27	21	15	653.0
Opponents		52	710	13.65	211	1634	.305	639	12.29	108	128	2.08	59	668	12.85	31	198	130	2.50	18	15	948.0

CAL BEARS INDIVIDUAL STAT LEADERS

STAT	ACES	ASSISTS	BLOCKS	DIGS	KILLS	HITTING %	POINTS
NAME	POTTER	POTTER	GROTE	POTTER	GROTE	BERGMARK	GROTE
AMOUNT	17	295	33	111	135	.280	162
NCAA RANK	99	150	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
PAC-12 RANK	4	9	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

CAL BEARS TEAM STATS

STAT	ACES	ASSISTS	BLOCKS	DIGS	KILLS	HITTING %	OPP. HITTING %
AMOUNT	59	481	66	618	528	.135	.305
NCAA RANK	116	128	184	139	126	273	301
PAC-12 RANK	9	9	10	9	9	12	12

PLAYER BIOS



1

KATARINA PANTOVIC*Pan-TOE-vick***FR • OH • 6-0****Vancouver, British Columbia
Lord Byng Secondary School**

- Second on team with 109 kills in 12 matches
- Tallied team-high 24 kills over opening-weekend
- Came up one dig shy (14k, 9d) of double-double in first collegiate match at No. 22 UCLA on 1/22
- Played in World Championships with Team BC



2

DARIAN CLARK**JR • OH • 5-11****Phoenix, Ariz.****Hamilton HS**

- Played 18 sets in 11 matches as a sophomore
- Recorded seven digs during the 2019 season



3

MIMA MIRKOVIC**SR • OH • 5-11****Irvine, Calif.****Woodbridge HS**

- Named AVCA Pacific North All-Region in 2019
- Earned All-Pac-12 Honors
- Led team with 325 kills and a 3.28 k/s average
- Second on team with 289 digs
- Led Cal with 13 double-doubles



4

LEXI GRUSZCZYNSKI*grew-ZIN-ski***FR • L • 5-8****San Clemente, Calif.
San Clemente HS**

- Started both matches at libero to open season
- Led team with 22 digs in two matches at UCLA
- Has missed last 10 matches due to injury
- Sea View League Champion
- All-Tournament Team at 2017 nationals



7

GABBY BELLIZZI**JR • DS • 5-6****Ladera Ranch, Calif.****San Juan Hills HS**

- Recorded career high 20 digs vs Stanford 2/12
- Played in 24 matches, 82 sets in 2019
- Tallied 163 digs in 2019
- Notched career best five assists vs OSU



8

DENIZ MILLI**SO • OH • 6-0****Istanbul, Turkey****Erika Schools**

- Played in five matches as a freshman
- Recorded career high four kills vs UCLA
- Helped Turkish club Eczacibasi to five Turkey championships



9

SAM TAUMOEPEAU*Tom-moy-pea-OW***FR • OPP • 6-0****San Diego, Calif.
Mt. Carmel HS**

- Tallied season-high eight kills vs Utah on 1/31 and vs USC on 2/19
- Recorded seven kills at No. 22 UCLA on 1/24
- 2018 First Team All-League
- Three-year letter winner at Mt. Carmel

PLAYER BIOS



12

LYDIA GROTE

FR • MB • 6-2

Burbank, Calif.

John Burroughs HS

- Tallied 16 kills on .344 hitting vs OSU on 3/7
- Opened season with 18 kills at UCLA on 1/22
- Leads team with 135 kills and 33 blocks
- Named All-Pacific League First Team in 2019
- All-Redondo Union Tournament Team



13

TARA DESA

Dee-SAW

FR • L • 5-5

Mililani, Hawai'i

Kamehameha HS

- Played in six sets to open season at UCLA
- Hawai'i 2019 Open Division Champion
- 2019 State All-Tournament Team
- ILH 2019 Champion
- ILH 2019 First Team selection



14

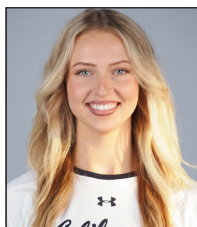
JADE BLEVINS

JR • S • 5-10

Laguna Beach, Calif.

Sage Hill HS

- Second on team with 317 assists in 2019
- Played in 22 matches, 69 sets as sophomore
- Tallied 117 digs during the 2019 season



15

BELLA BERGMARK

RSO • MB • 6-2

Larkspur, Calif.

Marin Catholic HS

- Recorded seven blocks vs Utah on 1/29
- Tallied seven kills at UCLA on 1/24
- Redshirted during 2019 season
- Started eight matches as a freshman
- Recorded 21 blocks in 2018



17

ISABEL POTTER

SR • S • 5-9

Moline, Ill.

Moline HS

- Seventh all-time in assists at Cal (2,652)
- Recorded 59 assists in two matches at UCLA
- Led team with 885 assists as a junior
- Recorded career high 51 assists vs OSU
- Tallied six 40-plus assist matches with two 50-



20

KATIE SMOOT

SR • OH • 6-2

San Mateo, Calif.

Arizona

- Recorded 307 kills as a junior at Arizona in 2019
- Second on team in both kills and digs
- Tallied season-high 19 kills three different times
- Registered double digit kills 18 times in 2019



21

KENDALL JENSEN

FR • S • 5-8

Burbank, Calif.

Village Christian HS

- Four-time First Team All-League selection
- 2018 Olympic League Player of the Year
- CIF-SS DIII 2018 Player of the Year
- 2018 CIF Second Team All-State
- Prepvolleyball honorable mention All-American

PLAYER BIOS



22

JESSICA HOUGHTON

JR • DS • 5-8
Menlo Park, Calif.
Menlo HS

- Career high 20 digs vs OSU on 3/5
- Played in nine matches, 24 sets as a sophomore
- Recorded career high 13 digs at Washington
- Totaled 37 digs and two service aces on the season



23

MAKANA MEYER

JR • OH • 6-1
Burbank, Calif.
Westridge HS

- Played in 11 matches, 38 sets as a sophomore
- Recorded 38 kills
- Tallied career high 11 kills at Colorado
- Registered nine blocks on the season



24

SYDNEY LILOMAIVA

SO • OH • 6-3
Orange, Calif.
Villa Park HS

- Recorded career best 13 kills to open season at UCLA on 1/22
- Played in nine matches, 28 sets as a freshman
- Recorded six blocks and one kill