

2024 QUICK FACTS

Location	Los Angeles, CA
Athletic Dept. Address	325 Westwood Plaza Los Angeles, CA 90095
Athletics Phone	(310) 825-8699
Ticket Office	(310) UCLA-WIN
Men's Water Polo Office Phone	(310) 794-6443
Chancellor	Julio Frenk
Director of Athletics	Martin Jarmond
Sr. Women's Administrator	Dr. Christina Rivera
Assoc. Athletic Director (MWP)	Kenny Donaldson
Faculty Athletic Rep.	Dr. Michael Teitell
Home Pool	Dirks Pool at Spieker Aquatics Center
Enrollment	43,239
Founded	1919
Colors	Blue and Gold
Nickname	Bruins
Conference	Mountain Pacific Sports Federation
Conference MWP Contact	Darren Preston
Conference Phone	(925) 296-0723
Conference Fax	(925) 296-0724
National Affiliation	NCAA Division I
Head Coach	Adam Wright (UCLA '01)
Record at UCLA (Years complete)	344-66 (15)
Coach's Phone	(310) 267-4912
Associate Head Coach	Jason Falitz (L.A. Valley College '06)
Assistant Coach	Matt Kubeck (Long Beach State '12)
Assistant Coach	TBA
2023 Record	26-3
2023 MPSF Record (Finish)	6-0 (1st)
2023 MPSF Championship	4th
2023 NCAA Championship	2nd
2023 Final National Ranking	2nd
NCAA Championships	12 (1969, 1971, 1972, 1995, 1996, 1999, 2000, 2004, 2014, 2015, 2017, 2020)
All-Time NCAA Championship Appearances	37 (1969, 1970, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1974, 1975, 1976, 1979, 1981, 1982, 1983, 1984, 1985, 1986, 1987, 1988, 1990, 1991, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2004, 2009, 2011, 2012, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023)
All-Time Conference Championships	6 (1999, 2000, 2009, 2011, 2015, 2021)
Men's Water Polo SID	Ryan Finney
Finney's Phone	(310) 206-4701
Sports Information Fax	(310) 825-8664
Finney's E-mail	rfinney@athletics.ucla.edu
Instagram	uclamwp
Facebook	www.facebook.com/uclamenswaterpolo

MEDIA INFORMATION

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Los Angeles, CA 90095



Credits: The 2024 UCLA men's water polo information guide was written, edited and designed by Ryan Finney, UCLA Athletic Communications/Associate SID. Photography by ASUCLA Campus Studio (Don Liebig), Matt Brown, Sam Janicki, Minette Rubin, John Hilinski, Onno Zwaneveld, Juan Lainez (Marin Media), Catharyn Hayne Photography, Allen Lorentzen, Jeff Sipsey, Brock Scott Photography, Berliner Studios, Andrew Bernstein, Ruth Chambers and Scott Quintard.

Cover: The cover of the 2024 UCLA men's water polo information guide was designed by Eric Hurd of UCLA Athletic Communications with assistance from Ryan Finney. The front cover photo was taken by Don Liebig.

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2024 SCHEDULE

DATE	OPPONENT	LOCATION	TIME (PT)	TV
Sept. 7	vs. UC Santa Barbara ¹	San Diego, Calif.	9:15 AM	
Sept. 7	vs. Concordia University Irvine ¹	San Diego, Calif.	5:15 PM	
Sept. 8	vs. Pomona-Pitzer ¹	San Diego, Calif.	10:30 AM	
Sept. 8	at UC San Diego ¹	San Diego, Calif.	6:30 PM	
Sept. 13	at UC Irvine	Irvine, Calif.	1:00 PM	
Sept. 14	California Baptist Univ.	Los Angeles, Calif.	1:00 PM	Overnht.com
Sept. 20	vs. TBD ²	Berkeley, Calif.	TBD	
Sept. 21	vs. TBD ²	Berkeley, Calif.	TBD	
Sept. 21	vs. TBD ²	Berkeley, Calif.	TBD	
Sept. 22	vs. TBD ²	Berkeley, Calif.	TBD	
Sept. 27	UC Santa Barbara	Los Angeles, Calif.	7:00 PM	Overnht.com
Sept. 28	LMU	Los Angeles, Calif.	1:00 PM	Overnht.com
Sept. 28	Air Force	Los Angeles, Calif.	3:00 PM	Overnht.com
Oct. 5	Stanford*	Los Angeles, Calif.	1:00 PM	Overnht.com
Oct. 6	California*	Los Angeles, Calif.	1:00 PM	Overnht.com
Oct. 12	at Pepperdine	Malibu, Calif.	12:00 PM	
Oct. 13	Princeton	Los Angeles, Calif.	1:00 PM	Overnht.com
Oct. 13	Westcliff	Los Angeles, Calif.	3:00 PM	Overnht.com
Oct. 19	at USC ¹	Los Angeles, Calif.	1:00 PM	Overnht.com
Oct. 20	UC Davis	Los Angeles, Calif.	1:00 PM	Overnht.com
Nov. 2	at California*	Berkeley, Calif.	1:00 PM	Overnht.com
Nov. 3	at Stanford*	Stanford, Calif.	1:00 PM	Overnht.com
Nov. 16	USC*	Los Angeles, Calif.	1:00 PM	Overnht.com
Nov. 22	MPSF Quarterfinals³	Los Angeles, Calif.	TBD	Overnht.com
Nov. 23	MPSF Semifinals³	Los Angeles, Calif.	TBD	Overnht.com
Nov. 24	MPSF Championship³	Los Angeles, Calif.	TBD	Overnht.com
Dec. 6	NCAA Quarterfinals⁴	Stanford, Calif.	TBD	
Dec. 7	NCAA Semifinals⁴	Stanford, Calif.	TBD	
Dec. 8	NCAA Championship⁴	Stanford, Calif.	TBD	

KEY: 1 - Triton Invitational (hosted by UC San Diego); 2 - MPSF Invitational (hosted by California); 3 - MPSF Championship (hosted by UCLA); 4 - NCAA Championship (hosted by Stanford); * MPSF game; **BOLD** - Home game.

RADIO / TV ROSTER



1

Garret Griggs
Sr., GK, 6-9
Riverside, Calif.
Riverside Poly HS



1A

Nate Tauscher
RS-Fr., GK, 6-3
Sunset Beach, Calif.
Mater Dei HS



1B

Nick Tovani
Fr., GK, 6-3
Danville, Calif.
San Ramon Valley HS



1C

Joey Kent
Fr., GK, 6-3
Huntington Beach, Calif.
JSerra Catholic HS



2

Frederico Jucá Carsalade
RS-So., ATK, 5-11
Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
Escola Nova



3

Eli Liechty
RS-Jr., CTR, 6-6
Newport Beach, Calif.
Newport Harbor HS



4

Marcell Szécsi
So., CTR, 6-6
Budapest, Hungary
Kolping Katolikus Iskola



5

Wade Sherlock
So., ATK, 6-3
Long Beach, Calif.
Orange Lutheran HS



6

Ben Larsen
RS-So., UTL, 6-7
Lafayette, Calif.
Campolindo HS



7

Aaron Voggenthaler
Gr., CTR DEF, 6-6
Poway, Calif.
Poway HS
UC Davis



8

Peter Castillo
Fr., UTL, 6-4
Costa Mesa, Calif.
Newport Harbor HS



9

Gray Carson
Jr., UTL, 6-4
Long Beach, Calif.
Woodrow Wilson HS



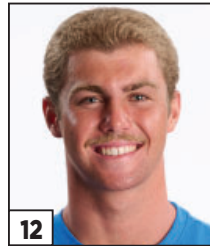
10

Jack Larsen
Gr., ATK, 6-7
Orinda, Calif.
Campolindo HS



11

Noah Rowe
Jr., ATK, 6-4
North Tustin, Calif.
Foothill HS



12

Bode Brinkema
Fr., UTL, 6-5
San Juan Capistrano, Calif.
JSerra Catholic HS



13

Ben Liechty
So., UTL, 6-4
Newport Beach, Calif.
Newport Harbor HS



14

Jack Hilinski
R-So., ATK, 5-10
Coronado, Calif.
Coronado HS



15

Chase Dodd
RS-Jr., ATK, 6-3
Long Beach, Calif.
Huntington Beach HS



16

Max Matthews
RS-Fr., DEF, 6-3
Tiburon, Calif.
Redwood HS



17

Andrew Spencer
Fr., ATK, 6-4
Los Altos, Calif.
Sacred Heart Prep



18

Harry Tucker
Fr., CTR DEF, 6-5
Perth, Australia
Wesley College



19

Ryder Dodd
Fr., ATK, 6-0
Long Beach, Calif.
JSerra Catholic HS



20

Alex Heenan
Fr., ATK, 6-3
Los Angeles, Calif.
Harvard-Westlake School



21

Grant Loth
RS-Jr., CTR, 6-4
Newport Beach, Calif.
Mater Dei HS



22

Makoto Kenney
Gr., ATK, 6-3
Costa Mesa, Calif.
Newport Harbor HS



23

Trey Doten
RS-Jr., ATK, 6-4
Davis, Calif.
Davis Senior HS



24

Nico Tierney
Gr., CTR DEF, 6-1
Sierra Madre, Calif.
Harvard-Westlake School
Pepperdine



25

Vinnie Merk
RS-So., ATK, 6-3
Huntington Beach, Calif.
Mater Dei HS



Adam Wright
Head Coach (16th year)
Alma Mater - UCLA '01



Jason Falitz
Assoc. Head Coach (10th year)
Alma Mater - L.A. Valley
College '06

NUMERICAL ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Yr.	Hometown / Last School
1	Garret Griggs	GK	6-9	Gr.	Riverside, Calif. / Riverside Poly HS
1A	Nate Tauscher	GK	6-3	R-Fr.	Sunset Beach, Calif. / Mater Dei HS
1B	Nick Tovani	GK	6-3	Fr.	Danville, Calif. / San Ramon Valley HS
1C	Joey Kent	GK	6-3	Fr.	Huntington Beach, Calif. / JSerra Catholic HS
2	Frederico Jucá Carsalade	ATK	5-11	R-So.	Rio de Janeiro, Brazil / Escola Nova
3	Eli Liechty	CTR	6-6	R-Jr.	Newport Beach, Calif. / Newport Harbor HS
4	Marcell Szécsi	CTR	6-6	So.	Budapest, Hungary / Kolping Katolikus Iskola
5	Wade Sherlock	ATK	6-3	So.	Long Beach, Calif. / Orange Lutheran HS
6	Ben Larsen	UTL	6-7	R-So.	Lafayette, Calif. / Campolindo HS
7	Aaron Voggenthaler	CTR DEF	6-6	Gr.	Poway, Calif. / UC Davis
8	Peter Castillo	UTL	6-4	Fr.	Costa Mesa, Calif. / Newport Harbor HS
9	Gray Carson	UTL	6-4	Jr.	Long Beach, Calif. / Woodrow Wilson HS
10	Jack Larsen	ATK	6-7	Gr.	Orinda, Calif. / Campolindo HS
11	Noah Rowe	ATK	6-4	Jr.	North Tustin, Calif. / Foothill HS
12	Bode Brinkema	UTL	6-5	Fr.	San Juan Capistrano, Calif. / JSerra Catholic HS
13	Ben Liechty	UTL	6-4	So.	Newport Beach, Calif. / Newport Harbor HS
14	Jack Hilinski	ATK	5-10	R-So.	Coronado, Calif. / Coronado HS
15	Chase Dodd	ATK	6-3	R-Jr.	Long Beach, Calif. / Huntington Beach HS
16	Max Matthews	DEF	6-3	R-Fr.	Tiburon, Calif. / Redwood HS
17	Andrew Spencer	ATK	6-4	Fr.	Los Altos, Calif. / Sacred Heart Prep
18	Harry Tucker	CTR DEF	6-5	Fr.	Perth, Australia / Wesley College
19	Ryder Dodd	ATK	6-0	Fr.	Long Beach, Calif. / JSerra Catholic HS
20	Alex Heenan	ATK	6-3	Fr.	Los Angeles, Calif. / Harvard-Westlake School
21	Grant Loth	CTR	6-4	R-Jr.	Newport Beach, Calif. / Mater Dei HS
22	Makoto Kenney	ATK	6-3	Gr.	Costa Mesa, Calif. / Newport Harbor HS
23	Trey Doten	ATK	6-4	R-Jr.	Davis, Calif. / Davis Senior HS
24	Nico Tierney	CTR DEF	6-1	Gr.	Sierra Madre, Calif. / Pepperdine
25	Vinnie Merk	ATK	6-3"	R-So.	Huntington Beach, Calif. / Mater Dei HS

COACHING STAFF

Head Coach	Adam Wright (16th season)
Associate Head Coach	Jason Falitz (10th season)
Assistant Coach	Matt Kubeck (1st season)

SUPPORT STAFF

Director of Operations	Kyle Boal
Athletic Trainer	Carl Stocklin
Assistant Athletic Performance Coach	Daniel Rivas
Sports Information Director	Ryan Finney

PRONUNCIATION GUIDE

Bode Brinkema – Boe-dee Brink-uh-muh
 Frederico Juc Carsalade – Ju-cah Car-suh-law-day
 Peter Castillo – Cuh-stee-oh
 Trey Doten – DOE-ten
 Alex Heenan – HEE-nun
 Jack Hilinski – Hill-in-ski
 Ben Liechty – LAY-thee
 Eli Liechty – LAY-thee
 Grant Loth – LOATH
 Makoto Kenney – Muh-Koe-toe
 Marcell Szécsi – SEE-CHEE
 Nate Tauscher – TAO-sure
 Nico Tierney – KNEE-co Tier-knee
 Nick Tovani – TOE-von-ee
 Aaron Voggenthaler – VOE-gun-taller

GUIDE TO WATER POLO POSITIONS

GK – goalkeeper, ATK – attacker/driver, CTR – center, DEF – defender, UTL – utility

Attacker: Similar to the guard and forward positions in basketball. Look for these players to shoot often and create offensive chances for their teammates, as well as disrupt the opponents' offensive play. Also known as a driver.

Center Offense/Defense: Similar to the post position in basketball. These players station themselves in front of goal, engaging in physical battles for position. Defenders are similar to football safeties by preventing opponent breakaways on counterattack.

ROSTER BREAKDOWN

Alphabetical

BBode Brinkema
 C ...Frederico Jucá Carsalade
 Gray Carson
 Peter Castillo
 D Chase Dodd
 Ryder Dodd
 Trey Doten
 G Garret Griggs
 H Alex Heenan
 Jack Hilinski
 K Makoto Kenney
 Joey Kent
 L Ben Larsen
 Jack Larsen
 Ben Liechty
 Eli Liechty
 Grant Loth
 M Max Matthews
 Vinnie Merk
 R Noah Rowe
 S Wade Sherlock
 Andrew Spencer
 Marcell Szécsi
 T Nate Tauscher
 Nico Tierney
 Nick Tovani
 Harry Tucker
 V Aaron Voggenthaler

Height

6-9Garret Griggs
 6-7Ben Larsen
 Jack Larsen
 6-6 Eli Liechty
 Marcell Szécsi
 Aaron Voggenthaler
 6-5Bode Brinkema
 Harry Tucker
 6-4 Gray Carson
 Pater Castillo
 Trey Doten
 Ben Liechty
 Grant Loth
 Noah Rowe
 Andrew Spencer
 6-3 Chase Dodd
 Alex Heenan
 Makoto Kenney
 Joey Kent
 Max Matthews
 Vinnie Merk
 Wade Sherlock
 Nate Tauscher
 Nick Tovani
 6-1 Nico Tierney
 6-0 Ryder Dodd
 5-11 ..Frederico Jucá Carsalade
 5-10 Jack Hilinski

Class

Freshmen (8): Brinkema, Castillo, R. Dodd, Heenan, Kent, Spencer, Tovani, and Tucker.

Redshirt Freshmen (2): Matthews and Tauscher.

Sophomores (3): B. Liechty, Sherlock, and Szécsi.

Redshirt Sophomores (4):

Jucá Carsalade, Hilinski, B. Larsen, and Merk.

Juniors (2): Carson and Rowe.

Redshirt Juniors (4): C. Dodd, Doten, Loth, and E. Liechty.

Seniors (0):

Graduates (5): Griggs, Kenney, J. Larsen, Tierney, and Voggenthaler.

Position

Attackers (12): Jucá Carsalade, C. Dodd, R. Dodd, Doten, Heenan, Hilinski, Kenney, J. Larsen, Merk, Rowe, Sherlock, and Spencer.

Centers (3): E. Liechty, Loth, and Szécsi.

Center Defenders (3): Tierney, Tucker, and Voggenthaler.

Defenders (1): Matthews.

Goalkeepers (4): Griggs, Kent, Tauscher, and Tovani.

Utility (5): Brinkema, Carson, Castillo, B. Larsen, and B. Liechty.

State

California (25): Brinkema, Carson, Castillo, C. Dodd, R. Dodd, Doten, Griggs, Heenan, Hilinski, Kenney, Kent, B. Larsen, J. Larsen, B. Liechty, E. Liechty, Loth, Matthews, Merk, Rowe, Sherlock, Spencer, Tauscher, Tierney, Tovani, and Voggenthaler.

International

Brazil (1): Jucá Carsalade.

Hungary (1): Szécsi.

Australia (1): Tucker.



entering its 16th season as UCLA's home . . .

SPIEKER AQUATICS CENTER

The UCLA men's water polo team begins its 16th season playing at Dirks Pool at Spieker Aquatics Center in the fall of 2024. Over the past 15 seasons, UCLA has logged a 115-15 (.885) record at its state-of-the-art home facility, where it won its 10th NCAA title in school history in 2015.

Spieker Aquatics Center opened in September 2009, in time for the start of the men's water polo season that fall. PCL Construction broke ground on the facility in July 2008. The athletics department officially opened Spieker Aquatics Center on Sept. 26, 2009, as the men's water polo team defeated UC Irvine, 10-4, after a dedication ceremony that evening.

UCLA is slated to host 10 regular season contests during the 2024 campaign. Additionally, the Bruins will serve as the hosts of the 2024 Men's Water Polo MPSF Championship from Nov. 22-24.

In the fall of 2011, UCLA hosted the MPSF Tournament (Nov. 25-27), using Dirks Pool at Spieker Aquatics Center. The Bruins took full advantage of their home court and won the Conference Tournament by beating top-ranked USC, 10-9, in sudden victory overtime on Nov. 27, 2012. The Bruins can also use the pool at Sunset Canyon Recreation Center when hosting larger events.

The Bruins' women's water polo program hosted the MPSF Tournament in May 2009, taking advantage of the home setting to win the title at the three-day event.

Spieker Aquatics Center features a 52-meter by 25-yard all-deep water pool with a dividing bulkhead, allowing races to take place at varying distances (meters, versus yards). The pool also has four platforms on a diving tower, at heights of three, five seven and one half, and 10-meter platforms, as well as one and three-meter springboards. In addition, the aquatics center features a warming pool for divers directly behind the tower.

Adjacent to Sunset Canyon Recreation Center on the northwest portion of campus, the Spieker Aquatics Center was made possible thanks to a generous lead gift from former student-athlete Tod Spieker and his wife, Catherine. Tod, a 1971 UCLA graduate and All-American, swam for the Bruins from 1968-71 and still competes in Master's Swimming.

The pool, Dirks Pool, is named after Carolyn Dirks, who provided the lead gift for the swimming pool. Dirks Pool has also been used for special use events and Masters Swim meets. The signature feature of the Spieker Aquatics Center is the diving tower, which sits at the west end of the pool. The east end of

the pool houses the new scoreboard, an LED, state-of-the-art piece of electronics, making scores, statistics and messages easily visible to all in attendance.

Next to the scoreboard is the "Wall of Champions", showcasing all of UCLA's water polo, swimming and diving national championship teams, and individual student-athletes' achievements, record-holders and Olympians.

Separate men's and women's locker rooms house enough lockers for all team members, with shower space and bathroom stalls and sinks for each team. Equipment needed for meets and matches have storage capacity on the facility's south side.

When walking through the public entryway to the center, visitors first notice the Donor Wall. All donors who generously made gifts to the Spieker Aquatics Center are recognized on this wall. Additionally, over 50 former UCLA water polo players, swimmers and divers made gifts to "name" a locker. Those names will forever be part of the locker rooms in the new facility.

The state-of-the-art facility brings together all three of UCLA's intercollegiate aquatic sports – water polo, swimming and diving – to one venue. The aquatics center features event lighting and permanent seating with the possibility of additional temporary seating for larger events.