



# match notes

## Indy Eleven at Carolina RailHawks

WakeMed Soccer Park, Cary, CNC

National Broadcast: [ESPN3](#)

Radio: [99.9 HD-3](#)

#CARvIND

### Match Preview

The Carolina RailHawks will play their final game of the 2015 season at WakeMed Soccer Park against Indy Eleven on Friday, October 30th at 7:30 pm.

The last regular season home game for the RailHawks will feature Fan Appreciation Night festivities including a post-game fireworks display, team poster and bobble bottles giveaways, and an extended autograph session with RailHawks players.

Friday's match will be the third meeting of the year between the RailHawks and Indy Eleven. The RailHawks traveled to Michael A. Carroll Stadium in the Spring and picked up one point from a 1-1 draw. In their Fall visit to Indianapolis, the RailHawks lost a tight game 2-1 to Indy Eleven, but are looking to make up for it at WakeMed Soccer Park with Indy Eleven's first visit to Cary this year.

The RailHawks are coming off a 1-0 road loss against the Tampa Bay Rowdies. The RailHawks came at the Rowdies from all angles, with attacks coming from Tiyi Shipalane, Nacho Novo, Daniel Jackson, and Fatty Danso, among others. Despite their intensity and a brilliant performance from goalkeeper Hunter Gilstrap, the RailHawks were unable to match Richard Menjivar's goal in the 12th minute.

Indy Eleven won their last game 2-1 against the Fort Lauderdale Strikers. The Eleven took the lead in the 19th minute with a goal from Don Smart and maintained a lead throughout the game. The Boys in Blue added another goal to the scoreboard in the 43rd minute courtesy of Brian Brown, but conceded one goal to Fort Lauderdale in the 59th minute.

### RailHawks 2015 Spring Schedule

<u>Date</u>	<u>Opponent</u>	<u>Time/Result</u>
Sat 4/4	Ottawa Fury FC	3-1
Sun 4/12	@FC Edmonton	1-1
Sat 4/18	Atlanta	1-2
Sat 4/25	@Indy Eleven	1-1
Sat 5/2	Tampa Bay	1-1
Sat 5/9	@San Antonio	0-1
Sat 5/16	New York	2-2
Sat 5/23	@Ft. Lauderdale	1-0
Sat 5/30	@Jacksonville	4-0
Sat 6/6	Minnesota	1-1

### RailHawks 2015 Fall Schedule

<u>Date</u>	<u>Opponent</u>	<u>Time/Result</u>
Sat 7/4	Minnesota	3-1
Wed 7/8	Ft. Lauderdale	1-1
Sat 7/11	@Indy Eleven	1-2
Sat 7/18	San Antonio	3-2
Sun 7/26	@Ottawa	1-2
Sat 8/1	Tampa Bay	1-1
Wed 8/12	@Jacksonville	0-3
Sun 8/16	@FC Edmonton	0-3
Sat 8/22	New York	1-3
Sun 8/30	@New York	1-3
Fri 9/4	Atlanta	2-0
Wed 9/9	@San Antonio	3-3
Sat 9/12	@Minnesota	1-3
Sat 9/19	@Atlanta	1-2
Sat 9/26	Ottawa Fury FC	1-3
Sat 10/10	Jacksonville	3-0
Wed 10/14	FC Edmonton	2-1
Sat 10/17	@Ft. Lauderdale	0-4
Sat 10/24	@Tampa Bay	0-1
Fri 10/30	Indy Eleven	7:30 pm

## Carolina RailHawks Roster

No.	Name	Pos.	HT	WT	Hometown	Pronunciation Guide
1	Hunter Gilstrap	GK	6-3	185	Asheville, NC	Gill-Strap
2	Daniel Scott	D	6-2	190	Haiku-Pauwela, HI	Scott
3	Kupono Low	D	5-11	165	Fremont, CA	Kuh-po-no
4	Neil Hlavaty	M	6-0	170	Berwyn, IL	La-va-tee
5	Nazmi Albadawi	M	5-11	165	Raleigh, NC	Nahz-me / Al-ba-da-we
6	Austin da Luz	M	5-10	155	Winston Salem, NC	Da-looz
7	Simone Bracalello	F	6-0	175	Genoa, Italy	Bra-ka-l-el-low
8	Alex Pérez	D	6-2	176	Madrid, Spain	Pe-res
9	Wells Thompson	F	5-10	150	Winston Salem, NC	Thomp-son
10	Nacho Novo	F	5-7	154	Ferrol, Galicia, Spain	No-vo
11	Tiyi Shipalane	M	5-10	160	Tzaneen, South Africa	Tee / Ship-ah-lahn-ee
12	Akira Fitzgerald	GK	6-0	174	Baltimore, MD	Fitzgerald
13	Connor Tobin	D	6-1	180	Fort Collins, CO	Toe-bin
14	Leo Osaki	M	6-2	187	Tokyo, Japan	Oh-sa-kee
15	Austen King	D	6-2	194	Wilson, NC	King
16	Dzenan Catic	F	6-3	182	Jablanica, Bosnia	Jenan / Catich
17	Chris Nurse	M	6-2	181	London, England	Nurse
18	Jack Coleman	M	5-7	170	Norman, OK	Cole-man
19	Blake Wagner	D	6-2	190	Atlanta, GA	Wag-ner
20	Mark Anderson	M	5-9	168	Durham, England	Ander-son
21	Tyler Engel	F	5-9	166	Orland Park, IL	Angle
22	Jamie Dell	M	5-8	156	Chapel Hill, NC	Jay-mee / Dell
24	Bradlee Baladez	F	6-2	183	Dallas, TX	Brad-lee / Ba-la-des
28	Daniel Jackson	F	6-1	168	South Haven, MI	Jackson
31	Steven Miller	D	5-11	161	Ivyland, PA	Miller
36	Gabriel Da Silva	M	5-8	172	Itanhaém, Brazil	Da-Silva
39	Mamadée Nyepon	F	6-0	189	Greensboro, NC	Ma-ma-dee / Nee-pon
92	Brian Sylvestre**	GK	6-4	215	Hollywood, FL	Sylvestre
98	Futty Danso	D	6-3	190	Serekunda, Gambia	Dan-so

\*\*On loan at MLS' Philadelphia Union

### Technical Staff

*Head Coach:* Colin Clarke

*Asst. Coach:* Dewan Bader, Greg Shields, Nic Platter

*Team Physician:* Dr. Jonathan Chappell (Wake Orthopedics)

## RailHawks Notes

### Who to Watch

RailHawks midfielder Tiyi Shipalane is having his best professional season ever with the Carolina RailHawks. The dynamic player has scored six goals this year and currently ranks second in assists in the NASL with eight.

### Coach's Quote

"We didn't have the season we wanted, but that doesn't mean we will take our last home game lightly," said RailHawks Head Coach Colin Clarke. "Our fans have been superb all year and we want to reward them with a good performance and a good result on Friday night."

### **2015 NASL Final Spring Season Standings**

	<b>TEAM</b>	<b>GP</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>GF</b>	<b>GA</b>	<b>GD</b>	<b>PTS</b>
<b>1</b>	New York Cosmos	10	5	5	0	18	9	9	<b>20</b>
<b>2</b>	Tampa Bay Rowdies	10	5	4	1	15	9	6	<b>19</b>
<b>3</b>	Carolina RailHawks	10	3	5	2	15	10	5	<b>14</b>
<b>4</b>	Minnesota United FC	10	3	5	2	15	13	2	<b>14</b>
<b>5</b>	Indy Eleven	10	3	4	3	13	12	1	<b>13</b>
<b>6</b>	Jacksonville Armada	10	3	3	4	15	18	-3	<b>12</b>
<b>7</b>	San Antonio Scorpions	10	3	3	4	11	15	-4	<b>12</b>
<b>8</b>	Fort Lauderdale Strikers	10	3	2	5	12	13	-1	<b>11</b>
<b>9</b>	Ottawa Fury FC	10	2	5	3	5	8	-3	<b>11</b>
<b>10</b>	FC Edmonton	10	2	3	5	16	22	-6	<b>9</b>
<b>11</b>	Atlanta Silverbacks	10	1	5	4	7	13	-6	<b>8</b>

### **2015 NASL Fall Season Standings**

	<b>TEAM</b>	<b>GP</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>GF</b>	<b>GA</b>	<b>GD</b>	<b>PTS</b>
<b>1</b>	Ottawa Fury FC	19	13	5	1	36	14	22	<b>44</b>
<b>2</b>	Minnesota United FC	19	11	5	3	37	24	13	<b>38</b>
<b>3</b>	New York Cosmos	19	9	6	4	29	21	8	<b>33</b>
<b>4</b>	Fort Lauderdale Strikers	19	7	6	6	36	27	9	<b>27</b>
<b>5</b>	FC Edmonton	20	7	5	8	25	24	1	<b>26</b>
<b>6</b>	Atlanta Silverbacks	19	6	6	7	23	26	-3	<b>24</b>
<b>7</b>	Tampa Bay Rowdies	19	5	5	9	18	23	-8	<b>20</b>
<b>8</b>	Indy Eleven	19	5	5	9	22	33	-11	<b>20</b>
<b>9</b>	Jacksonville Armada FC	19	5	4	10	18	30	-12	<b>19</b>
<b>10</b>	San Antonio Scorpions	19	4	6	9	28	35	-7	<b>18</b>
<b>11</b>	Carolina RailHawks	19	5	3	11	26	38	-12	<b>18</b>

## **2015 NASL Combined Standings**

	<b>TEAM</b>	<b>GP</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>GF</b>	<b>GA</b>	<b>GD</b>	<b>PTS</b>
<b>1</b>	Ottawa Fury FC	29	15	10	4	41	22	19	<b>55</b>
<b>2</b>	New York Cosmos	29	14	11	4	47	30	17	<b>53</b>
<b>3</b>	Minnesota United FC	29	14	10	5	52	37	15	<b>52</b>
<b>4</b>	Tampa Bay Rowdies	29	10	9	10	33	35	-2	<b>39</b>
<b>5</b>	Fort Lauderdale Strikers	29	10	8	11	48	40	8	<b>38</b>
<b>6</b>	FC Edmonton	30	9	8	13	41	46	-5	<b>35</b>
<b>7</b>	Indy Eleven	29	8	9	12	35	45	-10	<b>33</b>
<b>8</b>	Carolina RailHawks	29	8	8	13	41	48	-7	<b>32</b>
<b>9</b>	Atlanta Silverbacks	29	7	11	11	30	39	-9	<b>32</b>
<b>10</b>	Jacksonville Armada FC	29	8	7	14	33	48	-15	<b>31</b>
<b>11</b>	San Antonio Scorpions	29	7	9	13	39	50	-11	<b>30</b>

## **2015 NASL Individual Statistics**

<b>No.</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>GP</b>	<b>Starts</b>	<b>Goals</b>	<b>Assists</b>	<b>YC</b>	<b>RC</b>	<b>Min</b>
<b>1</b>	Hunter Gilstrap	GK	8	8	0	0	1	0	<b>720</b>
<b>2</b>	Daniel Scott	D	15	15	1	0	1	2	<b>1,240</b>
<b>3</b>	Kupono Low	D	21	21	0	1	5	0	<b>1,881</b>
<b>4</b>	Neil Hlavaty	M	28	28	4	1	2	0	<b>2,364</b>
<b>5</b>	Nazmi Albadawi	M	24	23	6	3	6	0	<b>1,913</b>
<b>6</b>	Austin da Luz	M	19	18	2	2	3	0	<b>1,563</b>
<b>7</b>	Simone Bracalello	F	13	5	2	2	0	0	<b>493</b>
<b>8</b>	Alex Pérez	D	4	4	0	0	1	0	<b>314</b>
<b>9</b>	Wells Thompson	F	15	10	0	0	5	2	<b>840</b>
<b>10</b>	Nacho Novo	F	24	20	10	2	1	2	<b>1,742</b>
<b>11</b>	Tiyi Shipalane	M	27	26	6	8	0	0	<b>2,245</b>
<b>12</b>	Akira Fitzgerald	GK	21	21	0	0	2	0	<b>1,890</b>
<b>13</b>	Connor Tobin	D	28	27	2	0	5	1	<b>2,452</b>
<b>14</b>	Leo Osaki	M	14	9	1	1	1	0	<b>839</b>
<b>15</b>	Austen King	D	6	5	0	1	0	0	<b>505</b>
<b>16</b>	Dzenan Catic	F	8	2	0	0	0	0	<b>256</b>
<b>17</b>	Chris Nurse	M	15	7	0	0	5	0	<b>652</b>
<b>18</b>	Jack Coleman	M	3	0	0	0	0	0	<b>28</b>
<b>19</b>	Blake Wagner	D	22	17	2	0	4	0	<b>1,492</b>
<b>20</b>	Mark Anderson	M	15	10	2	1	2	0	<b>880</b>
<b>21</b>	Tyler Engel	F	9	3	1	0	2	0	<b>399</b>
<b>22</b>	Jamie Dell	M	4	0	0	0	0	0	<b>90</b>
<b>24</b>	Bradlee Baladez	F	4	2	0	0	0	0	<b>245</b>
<b>28</b>	Daniel Jackson	F	3	3	0	1	0	0	<b>216</b>
<b>31</b>	Steven Miller	D	4	4	0	0	1	0	<b>360</b>
<b>36</b>	Gabriel Da Silva	M	4	0	0	0	1	0	<b>85</b>
<b>39</b>	Mamadée Nyepon	F	2	0	0	0	0	0	<b>12</b>
<b>92</b>	Brian Sylvestre	GK	0	0	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
<b>98</b>	Futty Danso	D	18	16	1	0	1	0	<b>1,358</b>

## NASL Spring 2015 Fixtures

### Week 1- April 4, 2015

Indy	at	Atlanta	1-1
<b>Ottawa</b>	<b>at</b>	<b>Carolina</b>	<b>1-3</b>
New York	at	Fort Lauderdale	1-0
FC Edmonton	at	Jacksonville	1-3
Tampa Bay	at	San Antonio	3-1

### Week 2- April 11-12, 2015

Ottawa	at	Atlanta	1-1
Jacksonville	at	Fort Lauderdale	1-2
New York	at	Indy	1-1
Minnesota	at	Tampa Bay	0-0
<b>Carolina</b>	<b>at</b>	<b>FC Edmonton</b>	<b>1-1</b>

### Week 3- April 18-19, 2015

<b>Atlanta</b>	<b>at</b>	<b>Carolina</b>	<b>2-1</b>
Minnesota	at	Ottawa	0-1
Indy	at	San Antonio	2-1
Tampa Bay	at	New York	0-2
Fort Lauderdale	at	FC Edmonton	2-3

### Week 4- April 25, 2015

New York	at	Atlanta	0-0
<b>Carolina</b>	<b>at</b>	<b>Indy</b>	<b>1-1</b>
San Antonio	at	Minnesota	2-2
Fort Lauderdale	at	Ottawa	3-1
Jacksonville	at	Tampa Bay	2-3

### Week 5- May 2-3, 2015

<b>Tampa Bay</b>	<b>at</b>	<b>Carolina</b>	<b>1-1</b>
Atlanta	at	Fort Lauderdale	0-0
San Antonio	at	Jacksonville	1-2
Ottawa	at	New York	0-1
Minnesota	at	FC Edmonton	2-2

### Week 6- May 9-10, 2015

Indy	at	Jacksonville	0-1
Atlanta	at	Minnesota	0-1
Tampa Bay	at	Ottawa	0-0
<b>Carolina</b>	<b>at</b>	<b>San Antonio</b>	<b>1-0</b>
FC Edmonton	at	New York	2-4

### Week 7- May 16-17, 2015

Jacksonville	at	Atlanta	1-1
<b>New York</b>	<b>at</b>	<b>Carolina</b>	<b>2-2</b>
Minnesota	at	Indy	3-1
Fort Lauderdale	at	Tampa Bay	0-1
San Antonio	at	FC Edmonton	3-2

### Week 8- May 23-24, 2015

<b>Carolina</b>	<b>at</b>	<b>Fort Lauderdale</b>	<b>1-0</b>
Jacksonville	at	Minnesota	2-3
San Antonio	at	New York	0-3
Indy	at	Ottawa	0-1
Atlanta	at	FC Edmonton	2-4

### Week 9- May 29-30, 2015

FC Edmonton	at	Ottawa	0-0
Tampa Bay	at	Indy	2-2
<b>Carolina</b>	<b>at</b>	<b>Jacksonville</b>	<b>4-0</b>
New York	at	Minnesota	1-1
Fort Lauderdale	at	San Antonio	1-1

**Week 10- June 6-7, 2015**

San Antonio	at	Atlanta	1-0
<b>Minnesota</b>	<b>at</b>	<b>Carolina</b>	<b>1-1</b>
Indy	at	Fort Lauderdale	2-1
FC Edmonton	at	Tampa Bay	1-2
Ottawa	at	Jacksonville	0-0

**Week 11- June 13, 2015**

FC Edmonton	at	Indy	0-3
Fort Lauderdale	at	Minnesota	3-2
Jacksonville	at	New York	3-3
Ottawa	at	San Antonio	0-0
Atlanta	at	Tampa Bay	0-3

## NASL Fall 2015 Fixtures

### Week 1- July 4-5, 2015

Atlanta	at	Tampa Bay	1-2
<b>Minnesota</b>	<b>at</b>	<b>Carolina</b>	<b>1-3</b>
Jacksonville	at	Ottawa	0-2
Indy	at	New York	1-1
San Antonio	at	FC Edmonton	0-4

### Week 2- July 8, 11, 2015

<b>Fort Lauderdale</b>	<b>at</b>	<b>Carolina</b>	<b>1-1</b>
Jacksonville	at	Atlanta	0-1
FC Edmonton	at	Fort Lauderdale	1-1
Carolina	at	Indy	1-2
Ottawa	at	Minnesota	1-1
Tampa Bay	at	San Antonio	3-0

### Week 3- July 15, 18-19, 2015

FC Edmonton	at	San Antonio	2-2
Jacksonville	at	Minnesota	0-4
<b>San Antonio</b>	<b>at</b>	<b>Carolina</b>	<b>2-3</b>
Atlanta	at	Fort Lauderdale	2-2
New York	at	Jacksonville	0-1
FC Edmonton	at	Tampa Bay	1-0
Indy	at	Ottawa	2-4

### Week 4- July 22, 25-26, 2015

Atlanta	at	Ottawa	1-2
New York	at	Indy	1-1
Minnesota	at	San Antonio	4-3
Fort Lauderdale	at	Tampa Bay	3-1
<b>Carolina</b>	<b>at</b>	<b>Ottawa</b>	<b>1-2</b>
Atlanta	at	FC Edmonton	3-1

### Week 5- July 31/August 1-2, 2015

Minnesota	at	Jacksonville	3-3
<b>Tampa Bay</b>	<b>at</b>	<b>Carolina</b>	<b>1-1</b>
Atlanta	at	Indy	1-0
Fort Lauderdale	at	New York	0-2
Ottawa	at	FC Edmonton	1-0

### Week 6- August 5, 8, 2015

Fort Lauderdale	at	Atlanta	1-2
Minnesota	at	New York	1-2
Indy	at	FC Edmonton	0-2
San Antonio	at	Atlanta	3-3
New York	at	Fort Lauderdale	3-3
Ottawa	at	Indy	4-1
FC Edmonton	at	Minnesota	1-1
Jacksonville	at	Tampa Bay	2-3

### Week 7- August 12, 15-16, 2015

<b>Carolina</b>	<b>at</b>	<b>Jacksonville</b>	<b>0-3</b>
Tampa Bay	at	Fort Lauderdale	1-2
Atlanta	at	Jacksonville	0-1
San Antonio	at	New York	1-2
Minnesota	at	Ottawa	2-1
<b>Carolina</b>	<b>at</b>	<b>FC Edmonton</b>	<b>0-3</b>

### Week 8- August 19, 22-23, 2015

Tampa Bay	at	Indy	0-2
Indy	at	Atlanta	1-1
<b>New York</b>	<b>at</b>	<b>Carolina</b>	<b>1-3</b>
Jacksonville	at	San Antonio	0-1
Minnesota	at	Tampa Bay	3-1
Fort Lauderdale	at	FC Edmonton	2-0



**Week 9 – August 26, 29-30, 2015**

New York	at	Ottawa	0-0
FC Edmonton	at	Atlanta	0-1
Indy	at	Fort Lauderdale	1-7
San Antonio	at	Jacksonville	0-0
Tampa Bay	at	Ottawa	2-2
<b>Carolina</b>	<b>at</b>	<b>New York</b>	<b>2-3</b>

**Week 10 – September 2, 4-6, 2015**

Indy	at	Minnesota	0-1
<b>Atlanta</b>	<b>at</b>	<b>Carolina</b>	<b>2-0</b>
Jacksonville	at	Indy	0-3
New York	at	Tampa Bay	0-2
Ottawa	at	San Antonio	1-0
Minnesota	at	FC Edmonton	1-1

**Week 11 – September 9, 12-13, 2015**

<b>Carolina</b>	<b>at</b>	<b>San Antonio</b>	<b>3-3</b>
<b>Carolina</b>	<b>at</b>	<b>Minnesota</b>	<b>1-3</b>
Jacksonville	at	New York	0-1
Indy	at	San Antonio	0-2
Fort Lauderdale	at	Ottawa	0-0
Tampa Bay	at	FC Edmonton	0-1

**Week 12 – September 15-16, 19, 2015**

Minnesota	at	Atlanta	2-1
Jacksonville	at	Fort Lauderdale	0-2
<b>Carolina</b>	<b>at</b>	<b>Atlanta</b>	<b>1-2</b>
Ottawa	at	Fort Lauderdale	2-0
FC Edmonton	at	Indy	2-0
New York	at	Minnesota	0-0
San Antonio	at	Tampa Bay	0-2

**Week 13 – September 22, 26-27, 2015**

Ottawa	at	New York	4-1
<b>Ottawa</b>	<b>at</b>	<b>Carolina</b>	<b>1-3</b>
Minnesota	at	Fort Lauderdale	5-2
Tampa Bay	at	Jacksonville	0-2
Atlanta	at	San Antonio	3-3
New York	at	FC Edmonton	1-2

**Week 14 – September 30/October 3-4, 2015**

Indy	at	Tampa Bay	1-1
Indy	at	Jacksonville	1-1
Tampa Bay	at	Minnesota	0-1
Fort Lauderdale	at	San Antonio	4-2
FC Edmonton	at	Ottawa	0-2
Atlanta	at	New York	1-1

**Week 15 – October 7, 10-11, 2015**

New York	at	Atlanta	3-0
<b>Jacksonville</b>	<b>at</b>	<b>Carolina</b>	<b>0-3</b>
San Antonio	at	Indy	2-1
Fort Lauderdale	at	Minnesota	1-2
Ottawa	at	Tampa Bay	1-1
FC Edmonton	at	New York	0-3

**Week 16 – October 14, 17-18, 2015**

<b>FC Edmonton</b>	<b>at</b>	<b>Carolina</b>	<b>1-2</b>
Tampa Bay	at	Atlanta	0-0
<b>Carolina</b>	<b>at</b>	<b>Fort Lauderdale</b>	<b>0-4</b>
Minnesota	at	Indy	1-3
FC Edmonton	at	Jacksonville	2-3
San Antonio	at	Ottawa	0-1

**Week 17 – October 21, 24-25, 2015**

San Antonio	at	Fort Lauderdale	0-0
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Ottawa	at	Jacksonville	3-1
Atlanta	at	Minnesota	0-1
Fort Lauderdale	at	Indy	1-2
<b>Carolina</b>	<b>at</b>	<b>Tampa Bay</b>	<b>0-1</b>
New York	at	San Antonio	2-1
Jacksonville	at	FC Edmonton	1-1

**Week 18 – October 30-31/November 1, 2015**

<b>Indy</b>	<b>at</b>	<b>Carolina</b>	<b>7:30pm</b>
San Antonio	at	Minnesota	7:00pm
Tampa Bay	at	New York	7:00pm
Ottawa	at	Atlanta	7:30pm
Fort Lauderdale	at	Jacksonville	4:00pm

## **Carolina RailHawks Player Bios**

### **1 - Hunter Gilstrap**

Hunter Gilstrap was signed ahead of the 2015 season. The 31-year-old Gilstrap most recently played for the Pittsburgh Riverhounds where he won the 2010 USL-2 Goalkeeper of the Year Award. Gilstrap started his professional career in 2006 with Miami FC (now Fort Lauderdale Strikers). After one season in Miami, he joined the Cleveland City Stars where he played under former RailHawks Head Coach Martin Rennie. In 2010, he joined the Riverhounds, where he would spend the next five seasons. Born in Asheville, NC, Gilstrap grew up in Lexington, SC and later played college soccer at Clemson University and the College of Charleston.

### **2 – Daniel Scott**

Daniel Scott joined the RailHawks last season after two years of NASL experience with the Tampa Bay Rowdies. In 2014, Scott appeared in 23 matches and played 2,061 minutes with the RailHawks. In his two seasons with the Rowdies, Scott has appeared in 28 matches and played 2,100 minutes. In 2012, Scott captured the NASL Soccer Bowl with the Rowdies and started both matches in the Championship Series. The central defender was a four-year starter at the University of Gonzaga and in 2011 led the Kitsap Pumas of the Premier Development League to the PDL National Championship. Scott is a two-time (2009, 2011) PDL All-League and Western Conference first team selection

### **3 – Kuponon Low**

Kuponon Low rejoins the team having previously spent eight seasons as an integral player within the defense. Low currently holds the all-time record of most appearances with the club at 220. Last season, Low logged 2,082 minutes in 24 appearances. Low did not only start the first match in the club's history but also went to score the franchise's first goal on April 21, 2007 against the Minnesota Thunder and became RailHawks seasons' Most Valuable Player. Over the last eight years Low has been a mainstay in the RailHawks starting eleven. In 2011, he was named to the North American Soccer League's Best XI and was named Defensive player of the year in 2012. He was also member of the 2011 and 2013 NASL Regular Season Championships. Despite a knee injury in 2010 that caused him to miss the first 22 matches of the season, Low has played at least 25 matches in each season with the RailHawks. In the last two seasons with the team (2013 and 2014), Low has seen action in 62 matches and clocked in over 5,052 minutes. Low is the last remaining player on the RailHawks roster from the inaugural 2007 squad. Low played college soccer at California State University, Fresno from 1999 to 2002. During this time, Low also played for the Central Coast Roadrunners in the USL Premier Development League. Low then played for the California Gold in the third division USL Pro Select League in 2003, the Syracuse Salty Dogs of the USL A-League in 2004 and before signing with Irish side Sligo Rovers Football Club, whom he helped win promotion to the Premier Division. Upon his return to the United States, "Mr. RailHawk" played two seasons with USL First Division team Virginia Beach Mariners but after the team folded in 2007, Low signed with the newly-founded RailHawks.

### **4 – Neil Hlavaty**

Neil Hlavaty signed ahead of the 2015 season. He spent the last two seasons playing for FC Edmonton. During his two seasons with the Eddies, he appeared in 51 NASL matches, logged 4,140 minutes and scored five goals. Prior to transferring to FC Edmonton, Hlavaty enjoyed a stellar three-year stint in Minnesota where he was an integral member of the NASL team that won the 2011 Soccer Bowl and finished in second place in 2012. The Berwyn, Illinois native played three years of college soccer at Boston University where he earned multiple individual honors. In 2008, former RailHawks Head Coach Martin Rennie signed him to his first professional contract

with the Cleveland City Stars. While in Cleveland he was a teammate of current RailHawks goalkeeper Hunter Gilstrap.

#### **5 – Nazmi Albadawi**

Nazmi Albadawi joined the list of former RailHawks U-23's to join the Carolina RailHawks professional side. After a standout career for the NC State Wolfpack Men's soccer program, Albadawi agreed to terms with the RailHawks prior to the start of the 2014 NASL Season, in which he logged 1,828 minutes in 25 appearances and scored four goals. Albadawi played soccer at Athens Drive High School in Raleigh, NC, to then join Triangle United and help the club win three consecutive regional championships (2008-10). He played for one year at Wake Tech Community College and transferred to North Carolina State University to join the Wolfpack Men's soccer program where he played for four years. While in college, Albadawi appeared for the U-23 Carolina RailHawks team in the National Premier Soccer League in 2012 and 2013.

#### **6 – Austin da Luz**

Da Luz first signed with the RailHawks in 2012, and has since rejoined the team following a one-year stint with USL Pro side Orlando City SC. While in Orlando, he made a total of 18 USL Pro appearances, scoring five goals and completing one assist in 1,123 minutes. At the conclusion of the 2014 USL season, da Luz returned to the RailHawks. During his three seasons with the RailHawks (2012-2014), da Luz accumulated 2,847 minutes, 6 goals, and 10 assists in over 48 matches. The Winston-Salem native had a stellar college career playing for the Demon Deacons at Wake Forest University. He appeared in 80 matches scoring 13 goals while also having 39 assists. Da Luz was part of the highly successful team that appeared in four Final Fours including a NCAA National Championship in 2007. Da Luz would be selected as the 14th overall pick of the 2010 MLS SuperDraft by the New York Red Bulls, where he played seven regular season games in 2011, making four starts and notching a goal and an assist. He was then traded to D.C. United, where he participated in 14 matches.

#### **7 – Simone Bracalello**

The former Minnesota United player became the first new addition to the RailHawks roster ahead of the 2015 Season. The Genoa, Italy native comes to the RailHawks after five years of experience in the NASL playing with Minnesota United FC. During his time in Minnesota, he appeared in over 117 matches, logged 6,461 minutes and scored 29 goals. He was an integral member of the Minnesota teams that won the 2011 Soccer Bowl and finished in second place in 2012. Prior to moving to the U.S., the 29 year old Italian forward started his career as a member of the youth academy of Serie A side Sampdoria (Italian First Division), and made his professional debut at age 17 with Savona (Serie C2) in 2002. Bracalello also trained with Serie C1 side Pescara, and with Australian side Newcastle Jets in 2008.

#### **8 – Alex Pérez**

The RailHawks announced they have signed Alex Pérez for the remainder of the 2015 NASL season late September. Pérez began his soccer career in his home city of Madrid, playing for prestigious youth clubs such as Juventud Madrid and CDC Moscardó before making his professional debut with Getafe CF in 2010. Pérez excelled during his two years with Getafe CF, playing in 61 matches, making two appearances in the UEFA Europa League, and logging 4,923 minutes. The defender scored one goal and started in 26 matches during the 2010-2011 season. In 2012, Pérez joined Spanish club SD Huesca on loan and appeared in 12 matches. He then joined Bulgarian club PFC Levski Sofia for the 2013 season and logged 1,085 minutes before returning to Spain on loan to Recreativo de Huelva.

## **9 – Wells Thompson**

The RailHawks signed veteran midfielder Wells Thompson ahead of the 2015 season. He earned an All-North Carolina first team selection as a junior and senior at Forsyth Country Day in Lewisville, NC. He then led the Winston-Salem Twins Club Team to a U-18 championship at the Tampa Bay Sun Bowl International Tournament and was selected most valuable player. The four-year player at Wake Forest University was drafted 5th overall in the 2007 MLS SuperDraft by the New England Revolution. While in New England, he went on to win the 2007 Lamar Hunt U.S. Open Cup, and one MLS Eastern Conference Championship. He was traded to the Colorado Rapids on January of 2010 and won the MLS Cup that year. At the end of the 2011 season he was honored as the Rapids Humanitarian of the Year for his continued involvement in local organizations and causes. He then spent the 2012-13 season playing for the Chicago Fire.

## **10 – Nacho Novo**

Nacho Novo will be entering his second season with the RailHawks. Novo debuted in the NASL on October 19, 2014 against Fort Lauderdale Strikers. He clocked 331 minutes in eight appearances and scored three goals for the RailHawks. Novo, a forward with 17-years of professional experience, spent most of his playing career with Glasgow Rangers where he won three Scottish Premier League Championships, one Scottish Cup Championship and two Scottish League Cups during his seven years with the club. The Spain native scored 47 goals over 179 appearances, including a goal that sent Rangers to the final of the 2008 UEFA Cup. Because of his contributions to the club, Nacho was inducted into the Rangers Hall of Fame in 2014.

## **11 – Tiyi Shipalane**

Tiyi Shipalane enters his fourth consecutive season with the RailHawks and fifth overall. After spending the 2010 season with the RailHawks, Shipalane returned to his native South Africa for one season to play for the University of Pretoria. Last season, Shipalane logged 2,037 minutes in 26 appearances and scored five goals. Shipalane moved to the U.S. to play college soccer at Lindsey Wilson College, where he was the 2006 NAIA Region XI Player of the Year and a three-time All-American. He began his professional career with the Harrisburg City Islanders and made his professional debut on April 18, 2009 against the Richmond Kickers. After 18 appearances and six goals for the Islanders in the 2009 season, Shipalane spent one season in MLS's D.C. United. After a brief stint with former USL team, Harrisburg City Islanders, Shipalane signed with the Carolina RailHawks in 2010.

## **12 – Akira Fitzgerald**

Akira Fitzgerald first joined the RailHawks as a member of the RailHawks U-23 Program before signing his first professional contract in July of 2011. During his five seasons with the RailHawks, he appeared in 51 matches, and logged 4,590 minutes. Fitzgerald played his collegiate soccer at Wake Forest University, where he started 69 out of 71 matches. He logged nearly 6,300 minutes with the Demon Deacons. He finished his collegiate career ranked third in school history in career goals against average (0.83), fourth in saves (237), third in save percentage (.803) and second in minutes played (6,296). Fitzgerald joined MLS' New York City FC on Dec. 11, 2014. The 27-year-old made two appearances for the Club during their first-ever preseason; he came on as a second-half substitute in the 2-0 win over St. Mirren on February 10th and started against the Houston Dynamo in the Carolina Challenge Cup on February 24th. The RailHawks re-signed Fitzgerald for the remainder of the 2015 Season in July of 2015 after the goalkeeper was released from MLS' New York City FC.

## **13 – Connor Tobin**

Connor Tobin joined the RailHawks last season after spending two years playing for Minnesota United. During the 2014 season, Tobin logged 2,043 minutes and scored two goals. Tobin

appeared in 34 matches and logged 2,710 minutes as a Minnesota United player. In 2012, Tobin started all five playoff matches in Minnesota's run to the NASL Championship Series. Tobin played at the University of Vermont where he started in 76 out of the 77 matches he appeared in. These 77 matches are tied for 6th all-time at that University's Men's soccer program. After he played four years of college ball, he began to play professionally in Norway for Nybergsund in 2009. After two years, he returned to the United States to play for the Rochester Rhinos.

#### **14 – Leo Osaki**

Leo Osaki signed with Carolina RailHawks in July 2014, making his professional debut on July 13th, 2014 against Indy Eleven. He clocked 757 minutes in 14 appearances and scored two goals for the team. Osaki was born in Tokyo, Japan but lived in Hawaii until he was ten years old. Then, Osaki decided to return to Japan, where he played for four years for the Yokohama Marinos, a U-15 team from the J-League Academy. Osaki then joined Yokohama FC Academy, where he played during three years. Osaki attended Toin University of Yokohama and played for four years there. After graduating from college, Osaki flew back to the United States to participate in the Info Sports Combine in Florida in January in 2014. The Carolina RailHawks invited him to be part of the 2014 preseason to then sign him in the summer of 2014.

#### **15 – Austen King**

The North Carolina native originally joined the RailHawks first team ahead of the 2012 season. Last year, King clocked 603 minutes in eight appearances. King was part of the RailHawks U-23's that won the USASA Men's U-23 Region III and National Championship in 2011. Since joining the RailHawks first team in 2012, he has amassed 3,329 minutes over 40 appearances and scored 2 goals. The RailHawks central defender played collegiately at Elon University, and was a two-time Southern Conference Academic All-Conference. He was also named to the Southern Conference All-Tournament Team in 2011 after helping Elon win the title. King is a former member of the Capital Area Soccer League, and captained his team to the USYSA Southern Regional finals in 2007.

#### **16 – Dzenan Catic**

The Carolina RailHawks announced the signing of Dzenan Catic on loan from Philadelphia Union in May of 2015. Catic was born in Bosnia & Herzegovina and started his playing career with the youth team of German side FC Kaiserslautern. After spending a year with the club, he moved to the United States and played soccer for Davenport University at the Division 2 level. Catic joined USL PDL club Michigan Bucks while at Davenport University and scored 16 goals in 14 appearances during their 2014 season. Catic was selected by MLS' Philadelphia Union as the 31st overall pick of the 2015 Superdraft and was later loaned out to Harrisburg City Islanders.

#### **17 – Chris Nurse**

Nurse, a key player of the 2011 RailHawks roster that won the regular season championship, will return to the RailHawks yet one more time. In 2012, Nurse returned for his second season with the RailHawks, making 10 appearances while registering 6 starts and 1 assist. Nurse originally joined the RailHawks prior to the start of the 2011 NASL season and was a key member of the club's NASL Regular Season Title. In two seasons, Nurse made 20 starts in 30 appearances with one goal and four assists. The international midfielder has been very active in the Guyana National Team and was named captain in September of 2011 for the 2014 World Cup Qualifiers. Nurse led Guyana to an upset over group favorites, Trinidad & Tobago, to advance to the third round of last's World Cup Qualifying. Nurse has developed vast experience at different levels of the game throughout his extensive professional career. He has played for several Conference North and Southern Football League clubs in England, such as Tamworth Football Club, Moor Green and



Hinckley United, as well as NASL sides Fort Lauderdale Strikers, Puerto Rico Islanders and FC Edmonton

### **18 – Jack Coleman**

The Carolina RailHawks signed Jack Coleman ahead of the 2015 season. Coleman will help strengthen the RailHawks defense for the NASL Spring Season. Coleman played soccer at the high school level during his freshman and sophomore years in Norman, Oklahoma. He joined FC Dallas' youth academy during his junior year and helped FC Dallas reach the finals of the U.S. Development Academy U-17/18 championship. Coleman was also a part of the U-18 National Team for the 2011 Lisbon International Tournament and scored a hat trick in the 2009 National ODP Championship final. Coleman played for Indiana University at the collegiate level for one season, making only one appearance before signing with Duke University in 2012. He went on to play 17 games with 13 starting appearances for the Blue Devils during his first season in Durham. Coleman continued to make an impact in the 2013 season where he made 16 appearances, half of those being starting appearances, and scored his first collegiate goal against Notre Dame. He transitioned between midfield and defense to help his team earn seven clean sheets.

### **19 – Blake Wagner**

The native of Atlanta, Georgia started his soccer career through the US Olympic Development squad when he was only 13 years old. Wagner would eventually represent the United States regularly between 2003 and 2008 at the U-17, U-20 and U-23 levels, making 36 appearances and scoring a solitary goal for his country. Wagner was drafted by FC Dallas in the Second Round of the 2006 MLS SuperDraft in Philadelphia, starting seven of his eight appearances in MLS Reserve Division action where he played a total of 709 minutes for the FC Dallas Reserves. He debuted in the MLS in 2007 and would eventually log nearly 3,000 minutes for the franchise. After spending four seasons at FC Dallas, Wagner signed on with Vancouver Whitecaps of the then-USSF D-2 League in 2010. Wagner started in 14 of his 16 regular season appearances and clocked 1,217 minutes of play. The versatile left-sided player then signed with Real Salt Lake, where he played two games before joining San Antonio Scorpions in 2012. Wagner played 3,732 minutes with San Antonio before he was signed by the Tampa Bay Rowdies in 2013. He clocked a total of 1,417 minutes in 21 appearances and scored three goals with the Rowdies during the 2014 season.

### **20 – Mark Anderson**

Anderson joined the RailHawks in 2015 after playing for three successful seasons with the Fort Lauderdale Strikers, where he scored 19 goals in 65 games and clocked nearly 5,000 minutes. In 2012 he was named to NASL Best XI team. The Durham, England native played college soccer for Barry University, winning 2011 National Player of the Year honors and 2011 Capital One Academy All-America of the year of Division II men's soccer. Anderson also represented Great Britain at the 2011 World University Games in Shenzhen, China, scoring two goals and leading his country to the finals, where they earned the silver medal. Anderson scored his first professional goal in the Strikers 3-3 draw against the Carolina RailHawks at WakeMed Soccer Park on May of 2012.

### **21 – Tyler Engel**

Engel joined the RailHawks midway through the spring 2015 season. The Illinois native played for Southern Methodist before transferring to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where he majored in Exercise and Sports Science. Throughout his career in Chapel Hill, he was able to score 22 goals. During the 2013 season, Engel scored four game-winning goals, which ranked tied for third in the ACC. While at Sandburg High School, Engel was a member of the Chicago Fire Academy team, was named an all-state midfielder by the IHSSCA and was a

Chicago Sun-Times third team All-Area selection. Engel was also a member of the Chicago Magic Academy which placed third in the 2009 Dallas Cup, and that finished third nationally.

## **22 – Jamie Dell**

The Carolina RailHawks signed Jamie Dell for the remainder of the 2015 NASL season. The 22-year-old attended high school in Chapel Hill, NC and graduated from the University of North Carolina in Wilmington last year. Dell's high school soccer career was spent at Chapel Hill High School, where he thrived in his senior year by scoring 24 goals and picking up 16 assists. This brought his total up to 50 goals scored and 51 assists made during his high school playing time. Dell went on to play in 28 matches for UNCW, where he would earn a total of eight goals and eight assists. His solid performances allowed him to be chosen for First-team All-CAA selection. Dell was part of the RailHawks' U-23 side for one year and has been rewarded for his hard work, talent and ability by being brought up to the RailHawks first team.

## **24 – Bradlee Baladez**

Baladez played with FC Dallas' academy and helped them reach the USSF Academy League Regional Finals in 2009 and the USSF Academy League National Finals in 2010. He continued his playing career with the University of South Carolina and scored a total of 17 goals and obtained eight assists during his three seasons with the Gamecocks. Baladez signed his first professional contract by joining FC Dallas in 2012 on a homegrown contract and made one appearance for the Texas side back in July 2013. He was loaned out to Fort Lauderdale Strikers in August of that same year and went on to score four goals in just 270 minutes of playing time. He went back to Dallas and logged 556 minutes of playing time for the FC Dallas Reserve Squad.

## **28 – Daniel Jackson**

The Carolina RailHawks announced the return of forward Daniel Jackson for the remainder of the season on October 2015. The 26-year-old spent the 2014 season with the RailHawks in which he made 16 game appearances and scored a crucial goal in the Lamar Hunt U.S. Open Cup against MLS' LA Galaxy. The South Haven, Michigan native played four years of soccer at the collegiate level and transferred from Cumberland University to Coker College in 2012. As a junior with the Cobras of Coker College, Jackson was named to Conference Carolinas third team All-Conference. In his senior year, Jackson scored 14 goals, and was ranked second-best in the South Atlantic Conference. In addition, Jackson was named to the All-South Atlantic Conference third team, the National Soccer Coaches Association of America 2013 NCAA Division II Men's Soccer All-Southeast Region third team, and the Daktronics All-Southeast Region second team. Jackson became Coker College's first soccer player to be drafted professionally when he was selected in the 2014 MLS SuperDraft by Real Salt Lake 70th overall in the fourth round. In March of 2014, Jackson signed with the Carolina RailHawks and notably scored the game-winning goal against Los Angeles Galaxy, which advanced the RailHawks to the quarterfinals of the U.S. Open Cup for the second straight season. Jackson then joined USL's Charlotte Independence in March 2015. Jackson made 15 appearances for the team, logging 784 minutes and scoring four goals.

## **31 – Steven Miller**

The Carolina RailHawks acquired 26-year-old defender Steven Miller on loan for the remainder of the 2015 NASL season on October 2015. Miller, a Pennsylvania native and Colgate University alumnus, will look to help the RailHawks push for a spot in the NASL Championship. Miller grew up in Elkins Park, Pa. and went on to play at Colgate University from 2007 to 2011. He finished his final collegiate season with 12 goals and one assist, earning the 2011 Patriot League Offensive Player of the Year award, an All-Patriot League First Team spot and the Patriot League Tournament MVP award. After graduating from Colgate, Miller was selected as the first pick in the third round of the MLS Supplemental Draft by the Montreal Impact. Miller then signed with the



Premier Development League's Michigan Bucks in 2012, before signing his first professional contract with Danish squad Jammerbugt FC in 2013. While in Denmark, he scored one goal in 12 matches. Miller returned to the United States in 2014 to play for Wilmington Hammerheads FC in the United Soccer League. As a Hammerhead, he netted three goals in 26 appearances. In March 2015, Miller signed with Tulsa Roughnecks FC, another United Soccer League squad. He scored three goals and earned three assists during his 2,125 played minutes with the Tulsa Roughnecks.

### **36 – Gabriel Da Silva**

The Carolina RailHawks signed Gabriel Vittorio Da Silva in August of 2015. Da Silva began his career in Brazil playing with the prestigious squad Santos FC at the age of 18. After Santos FC, Da Silva played for Coritiba FC for six months and then traveled to the Czech Republic to play for FC Vysočina Jihlava. Da Silva excelled in his six years with FC Vysočina Jihlava, appearing in 64 games from 2009 to 2012 and logging 4,790 minutes. In the 2010-2011 season, he scored a goal and started 21 matches. He later went on to play in Slovakia for DAC Dunajská Streda. Following his time in Slovakia, Da Silva played for Grêmio Barueri in Brazil for six months before traveling back to Europe to join NK Bistra in Croatia.

### **39 – Mamadee Nyepon**

Mamadee Nyepon signed for the club as an addition to the RailHawks attacking options. The 6' 1" striker from Greensboro, NC graduated from High Point University and was a very efficient player for them during his time at the school. Last season, he averaged nearly a goal per game for the Panthers and scored a total of 41 goals during his time at High Point. He also managed to claim 12 assists and played a total of 2,573 minutes for his university. Nyepon experienced his most prolific season last year as a senior when he recorded 11 goals and 2 assists, leading the team in both categories. During his high school career Nyepon scored 57 goals in 62 games, out of which 29 of those goals were during his senior year. He also won the North Carolina 4A State Championship in 2009 with Walter Hines High School.

### **92 – Brian Sylvestre**

Brian Sylvestre was signed ahead of the 2015 season. The physically stately American shot stopper is a former player of the USL's Harrisburg City Islanders, where he made three senior level appearances. Sylvestre debuted for the Islanders in a U.S. Open Cup match against the Philadelphia Union and is a former member of both the United States U-17 and U-20 National Teams. As a product of Hollywood, Florida, Sylvestre played his high school soccer at Hollywood Hills High School. His youth career started at the Schultz Academy, which ultimately led to Sylvestre joining the IMG Academy in Bradenton, Florida. Sublime development built the path for Sylvestre to join the Vancouver Whitecaps FC Residency in 2009. Sylvestre made his Residency team debut in the U-19 Super Group at Dallas Cup XXXI in 2010. As a member of the senior side, Sylvestre was a part of the Whitecaps squad that earned runners up in the 2012 Canadian Championship. He then continued his career with a move to the Harrisburg City Islanders in 2013.

### **98 – Fatty Danso**

The 31-year-old center back joins the team after enjoying success at the RailHawks' U-23 level back in 2008, when he played in the USL Premier Development League. Danso played college soccer at North Carolina Wesleyan College and Southern Polytechnic State University in Marietta, Georgia, where he scored 35 goals while playing both the defender and forward positions. He was a two-time All-Southern States Athletic Conference selection, was named SSAC's 2007 Newcomer of the Year following his first season at SPSU, became the first Hornet to receive All-America honors in 2008 and was named to the honorable-mention team. In 2009, he was signed by the Portland Timbers of the USL First Division. Danso played in 16 games as a rookie with the second-

division Timbers and was a member of the Timbers backline that shared the league lead for fewest goals allowed during the regular season. He eventually aided the club to a first-place finish in the USL First Division and the 2009 USL First Division Commissioner's Cup. Danso logged 2,950 minutes with the USSF Division 2 before the team joined MLS. He would eventually clock 5,437 with the Timbers senior team and score a career-high three goals. Danso then joined Montreal Impact and played five games with the USL team before he joined the senior team, where he registered 231 minutes in three matches. On the international scene, Danso took part in 10 games with the Gambian national team.

## **Head Coach Bio**

### **Colin Clarke**

Colin Clarke enters his fourth season as head coach of the Carolina RailHawks after being appointed to the position on December 6, 2011. Clarke signed a new multi-year contract with the RailHawks on 2014. This new contract will make Colin Clarke the longest tenured head coach in franchise history.

Prior to joining the RailHawks for the 2012 NASL Season, Clarke enjoyed successful seasons with league rival the Puerto Rico Islanders and FC Dallas of Major League Soccer. After a successful professional and international playing career, Clarke was hired to his first head coaching job with the Richmond Kickers by then Kickers General Manager and current RailHawks' President Curt Johnson in 1998. In his first season, Clarke led the RailHawks to a fourth place league finish accompanied by a run to the NASL Semifinals and a historic run in the Lamar Hunt U.S. Open Cup highlighted by a victory over the 2011 and 2012 MLS Champion, LA Galaxy.

In the newly formatted 2013 NASL Regular Season, Clarke led the RailHawks to accumulate the most points over the Spring Season and Fall Season with an overall record of 12 wins, 7 ties, and 7 losses in league play. In 2013, Clarke and the RailHawks once again defeated the LA Galaxy in the Third Round of the U.S. Open Cup and avenged their Fourth Round loss in 2012 with a 3-1 victory over Chivas USA. The trip to the Quarterfinals of the 100th Lamar Hunt U.S. Open Cup was the RailHawks longest run in the annual tournament since their Semifinal run in 2007.

Over his two seasons in charge, Clarke led the Kickers to a 38 - 18 record. During the 2003 Major League Soccer season, Clarke took over as head coach of the Dallas Burn (later named FC Dallas) and turned around the club's fortunes, leading the club to a Western Conference first place finish in 2006. In 2007 Clarke joined the Puerto Rico Islanders. His tenure in Puerto Rico was highlighted by a league regular season championship in 2008 and a historic run to the semifinals of the 2008-2009 CONCACAF Champions League before losing to Cruz Azul in a penalty kick shootout. For his accomplishments over the course of the 2008 season, Clarke was named the league's Coach of the Year. In 2010, Clarke's Islanders made headlines in Champions League play once again when they defeated the LA Galaxy 4 – 1 at the Home Depot Center. Following their Champions League success, the Islanders went on to defeat the RailHawks in the USSF-D2 Pro League Championship Final. Clarke left his tenure with the Islanders with a league regular season championship (2008), a league championship (2010), two CFU Club Championships (2010, 2011), and five consecutive playoff berths (2007-2011).

Prior to coaching, Clarke established himself as one of the top players from Northern Ireland representing the country in the 1986 World Cup and experiencing a twelve-year playing career in England. Clarke began his playing career with Peterborough United of the Football League Fourth Division in 1981 and quickly ascended to England's First Division spending time with Southampton, Queens Park Rangers, and Portsmouth until a knee injury ended his playing career. Appearing 38 times for the Northern Ireland National Team, Clarke recorded a World Cup goal, a hat-trick, and finished his career as the all-time leading goal scorer for Northern Ireland (13). Clarke finished his professional career with 147 goals in 436 matches.