

2016 ARMADA FC SOCCER

Jacksonville Armada FC Public Relations ● One Independent Dr. #3131 ● Jacksonville, FL 32202

Eric Scott, Director of Public Relations • 904.516.3751 • escott@armadafc.com Ryan Lobato, Public Relations Manager • 904.516.3767 • rlobato@armadafc.com

ArmadaFC.com

@JaxArmadaFC instagram.com/jaxarmadafc

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2016 ARMADA FC SCHEDULE

P	K	ES	ĿΑ	SI	JN

FEBRUARY 6 PHILADELPHIA UNION (MLS) W, 1-0 13 ORLANDO CITY SC (MLS) W, 2-1 24 at U. of North Florida (NCAA D-I)D, 0-0 27 NEW YORK RED BULLS (MLS)L, 5-1
MARCH 3TULSA ROUGHNECKS (USL)L, 3-2 5CHARLESTON BATTERY (USL)D, 0-0 9at Miami FC
REGULAR SEASON – SPRING
APRIL 10at New York Cosmos
MAY 4FC EDMONTON 6:30 P.M. 7RAYO OKC 7 P.M. 14 at Minnesota United FC 8 p.m. 22 at Ottawa Fury FC 2 p.m. 28 INDY ELEVEN 7 P.M.
JUNE 4at Carolina RailHawks
REGULAR SEASON – FALL
JULY 2
AUGUST 3

 1.....at Minnesota United FC
 TBD

 8.....INDY ELEVEN
 7 P.M.

 12....MIAMI FC
 6:30 P.M.

 15....NEW YORK COSMOS
 7 P.M.

 23....at FC Edmonton
 4 p.m.

 30....TAMPA BAY ROWDIES
 4 P.M.

20....MINNESOTA UNITED FC......7 P.M.

3..... at Carolina RailHawks...... 7:30 p.m.

11 ... at Rayo OKC 8 p.m. 17 ... at Puerto Rico FC 7:30 p.m. 24 ... RAYO OKC 7 P.M.

28....FC EDMONTON6:30 P.M.

All home matches ET and at Community First Park unless noted otherwise

*At Patton Park

SFPTFMBFR

Sunday, April 10 ● 6 p.m. ET

Jacksonville Armada FC

(8W-7D-15L, 31 pts., 11th NASL Combined in 2015, 4-2-3 in Preseason)

a

New York Cosmos

(1W-OD-OL, 3 pts., 1st NASL Spring)



Jacksonville Armada FC

Head Coach/Technical Director: Tony Meola

2015 Stat Leaders

Goals: Alhassane Keita (7) Assists: Pascal Millien (4) Saves: Miguel Gallardo (75)



New York Cosmos

Head Coach: Giovanni Savarese

2016 Stat Leaders

Goals: Juan Arango (2) Assists: Jairo Arrieta (1) Saves: Jimmy Maurer (3)

After a long preseason and having to sit out the North American Soccer League Opening Kick weekend, the Jacksonville Armada and new head coach Tony Meola will finally make their debut this Sunday against the New York Cosmos in Long Island.

It will be a homecoming of sorts for Meola, who hails from Kearny, N.J., and played goalkeeper for the Red Bulls from 1996-98 (then known as the New York/New Jersey MetroStars) and again from 2005-06. He also played for the Long Island Rough Riders of the old USISL in 1995 along with Armada assistant coach Jim Rooney and Cosmos head coach Giovanni Savarese.

The Armada is no stranger to James M. Shuart Stadium, having played there twice in 2015 and faring with a draw (3-3 on June 13) and loss (1-0 on June 13). Jacksonville came out on top 1-0 on July 18 at Community First Park.

Despite a different looking squad than last year's NASL Champion-ship-winning outfit, particularly with the loss of Spanish legend Raúl, the Cosmos have restocked nicely. New York came out on top 3-0 over Ottawa Fury FC in a rematch of last year's Championship Final and got two goals from NASL Player of the Week Juan Arango.

ARMADA FC QUICK FACTS

Location	Jacksonville, Fla.
Founded	July 25, 2013
Colors	Navy Blue and Gold
League North	American Soccer League
Owner and CEO.	Mark Frisch
Home Facility	. Community First Park at
the Basebal	I Grounds of Jacksonville
Surface	Grass
Capacity	8,500

Coaching/Technical Staff

Head Coach/Technical DirTony Meol	а
Assistant CoachJim Roone	y
Assistant Coach Mark Lowr	y
Asst. Technical Director Nathan Walte	r
Team Orthopaedist Nigel W. Sparks, M.D.).
Team Physician Michael Haghighi, M.D.).
Head Athletic Trainer Andrew Orpian	0
Equipment ManagerPaul Dillo	n

Team Information

Active Roster Size	24
Midfielders	8
Defenders	6
Forwards	7
Goalkeepers	3
No. of Different Nationalities	10
United States	14
Haiti	2
Argentina	1
Cameroon	1
England	1
Finland	1
Guinea	1
Honduras	
Ireland	1
Mexico	1
Netherlands	1



The Armada has been looking forward to this date since commencing preseason training in January and faced stiff competition to prepare. Jacksonville faced three MLS opponents – Philadephia Union, Orlando City SC and New York Red Bulls – and went 2-1 while finishing 4-2-3 overall in the preseason.

A WHOLE NEW FLEET

Compare last season's Armada squad this year's both in roster makeup and style of play, and it would be safe to say that it is a whole new fleet. In addition to a coaching staff overhaul, now led by Meola, the Armada has brought on 13 new faces to fit with a more direct and physical American style of play in contrast to the finesse, Tiki Taka style of the 2015 Armada.

NEW FACES

F Danny Barrow (Braunton, England/Truro City FC)

D Bryan Burke (Newport Beach, Calif./Louisville City FC)

F Alex Dixon (Humble, Texas/Rochester Rhinos)

F Charles Eloundou (Yaoundé, Cameroon/Colorado Rapids)

F Matt Fondy (Foster City, Calif./Louisville City FC)

MF Pekka Lagerblom (Lahti, Finland/FC Lahti)

MF Garry Lewis (Orange Park, Fla./Likunnan Riemu)

GK Sean Lewis (Rockford, Mich./Olympia FC)

D Beto Navarro (Delano, Calif./Orange County Blues)

D Patrick Otte (Thousand Oaks, Calif./Ventura County Fusion)

D Tyler Ruthven (Alpharetta, Ga./Arizona United SC)

MF Richie Ryan (Tipperary, Ireland/Ottawa Fury FC)

MF Junior Sandoval (Quimistán, Honduras/Jaguares de Córdoba)

CLUB CONNECTIONS

Armada FC head coach and technical director Tony Meola and assistant coach Jim Rooney played with Cosmos head coach/sporting director Giovanni Savarese at the Long Island Rough Riders in 1995 ... Meola and Savarese also played together on MLS side New York/New Jersey Metrostars (now New York Red Bulls) from 1996-98 ... Savarese and Rooney also played together on the Rough Riders in 1994 ... Armada midfielder Junior Sandoval and defender Tyler Ruthven played with Cosmos goalkeeper Jimmy Maurer on the now defunct NASL side Atlanta Silverbacks in 2011 ... Cosmos defender Carlos Mendes and Meola were teammates on the Red Bulls in 2005 and 2006 ... Armada defender Matt Bahner and Cosmos forward Lucky Mkosana played together for the USL's Harrisburg City Islanders in 2013.

LOOKING AHEAD

The Armada will host NASL expansion side Miami FC at 7 p.m. on Friday, April 15 at Community First Park at the Baseball Grounds of Jacksonville.

2016 NASL SPRING STANDINGS									
	TEAM GP W D L GF GA GD PTS								
1.	New York Cosmos	1	1	0	0	3	0	3	3
2.	Carolina RailHawks	1	1	0	0	2	1	1	3
3.	Miami FC	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	1
4.	Fort Lauderdale Strikers	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	1
5.	FC Edmonton	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
6.	Indy Eleven	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
7.	Rayo OKC	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
8.	Tampa Bay Rowdies	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
9.	Jacksonville Armada FC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10.	Minnesota United FC	1	0	0	1	1	2	-1	0
11.	Ottawa Fury FC	1	0	0	1	0	3	-3	0

HOW THE TEAMS MATCH UP

2015 STATISTICAL COMPARISON					
JAX	STAT	NYC			
8-7-15	Final Record	15-11-4			
L-W-L-D-L	Last 5	W-W-W-W			
31	Points	56			
11th Combined	Table Position	1st Combined			
33	Goals Scored	49			
1.1	Goals Per Game	1.63			
49	Goals Conceded	30			
1.63	Goals Against Avg.	1.00			
64	Yellow Cards Received	49			
9	Red Cards Received	1			
4	Shutouts	14			

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JACKSONVILLE, Fla. - Even down a man for the majority of the second half, the Jacksonville Armada FC gave the North American Soccer League's best team, the New York Cosmos, all it could handle before falling 1-0 at Shuart Stadium on Saturday night.

Defender Shawn Nicklaw was named the Farah & Farah Man of the Match after a strong defensive effort, which aided goal-keeper David Sierra in his solid four save performance.

Playing in a steady stream of heavy rain and wind, the Armada (3W-2D-8L NASL Fall, 6-5-11 Combined) and Cosmos (6-4-2, 11-9-2) battled back and forth in an uneventful scoreless first half. The Cosmos had a 6-1 shot advantage in the first half, but only two of those were on goal and relatively easy saves for Sierra.

Jacksonville's one shot was the best scoring chance of either team in the half, and it came in the 35th minute when forward Pascal Millien took the ball at midfield and pushed it ahead to Shawn Nicklaw. Nicklaw brought it up to the right wing and curled a cross through the box for an open Tyler Williams, but Williams' shot was too strong and went high.

After more of the same in the first few minutes of the second half, the tables turned in the 52nd minute when defender Lucas Trejo was shown a red card after his foot accidentally kicked the face of Cosmos forward Lucky Mkosana when he was trying to corral a bouncing ball.

Then in the 74th minute, Raúl showed some of his legendary elusiveness when he took a feed from Walter Restrepo and shook a couple of Armada defenders in the box before putting it past Sierra to give New York a 1-0 advantage.

Despite being down a man, it didn't change Jacksonville's aggressive approach, and in the 77th minute, the Armada were awarded a free kick 25 yards away from New York's goal, and forward Alhassane Keita blasted it over the Cosmos wall, but it sailed just high over the crossbar.

Following that, the Cosmos sought to put the match out of reach and turned up the pressure a notch on the Armada. Midfielder Walter Restrepo took it on a breakaway in the 77th and tried to slide it into the bottom right of the goal, but his shot narrowly missed. Cosmos forward Gaston Cellerino had two other shots that were stopped the Armada in the 83rd and 90th minutes.

It was the first time the Armada fell to the Cosmos this season after playing to a 3-3 draw in New York on June 13 and winning 1-0 on July 18 in Jacksonville.

SERIES SNAPSHOT			
Series History:	Tied, 1-1-1		
At New York:			
At Jacksonville:			
Streak:	New York W1		
Last Meeting:	9/12/15 in New York		
	Cosmos 1, Armada 0		

ALL-TIME RESULTS VS. NEW YORK COSMOS					
Date Score Result Location					
6/13/15	3-3	D	Shuart Stadium		
7/18/15	1-0	W	Community First Park		
9/12/15	1-0	L	Shuart Stadium		

ALL-TIME SERIES SINGLE-GAME HIGHS					
JAX	STAT	NYC			
2 (Pascal Millien)	Goals	1 (three tied)			
1 (Castrillon, Johnson, Millien) Assists 1 (three tie					
3 (2x)	Yellow Cards	1 (7/18/15)			
7 (David Sierra)	Saves	3 (Jimmy Maurer)			
3 (Miguel Gallardo)	Goals Allowed	3 (Jimmy Maurer)			
3 (2x) 7 (David Sierra)	Yellow Cards Saves	1 (7/18/15) 3 (Jimmy Maurer)			

LAST TIME OUT BOX SCORE

Cosmos 1, Armada FC 0

Sept. 12, 2015

Hempstead, N.Y. | James M. Shuart Stadium

	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>E</u>
Cosmos	0	1	1
Armada FC	0	0	0

Scoring Summary

NYC - Raúl (Restrepo), 74'

Discipline Summary

JAX – Lucas Scaglia (caution), 24'

JAX - Lucas Trejo (ejection), 52'

JAX - Nicolas Perea (caution), 58'

JAX - Lucas Scaglia (ejection), 90'

	<u>NYC</u>	<u>JAX</u>
Corners	5	0
Fouls	18	14
Free Kicks	15	19
Goal Kicks	4	5
Offsides	5	2
Penalties	0	0
Blocks	2	0
SOG	5	0
SOffT	6	3
Possession	56%	44%

Attendance: 5,089

Notes: Armada scoreless streak extends to 408 minutes ... Lucas Trejo receives red card in 52nd minute ... Lucas Scaglia receives second yellow card in second half stoppage time.

2015 ARMADA FC NASL COMBINED INDIVIDUAL STATS										
#	Pos	Name	GP	GS	MIN	G	A	Y	R	
13	D	Bahner, Matt	22	22	1943	0	1	3	0	
26	F	Barrett, Akeil	23	10	1214	3	1	4	0	
23	M	Castrillón, Jaime	27	27	2225	3	1	3	0	
9 2	M	Flores, Marcos	22	16	1398	2	2	3	0	
2	D	Gafa, Jordan	5	1	135	0	0	0	0	
27	F	Gebhard, Derek	5	0	89	0	0	0	0	
8	М	Hoyos, Bochy	19	16	1354	2	1	0	0	
<u>8</u> 5	D	Hrustic, Nurdin	11	2	239	0	0	2	0	
11	F	Johnson, Jemal	28	27	2326	5	3	5	0	
4	D	Jérôme, Mechack	6	6	513	1	0	0	1	
10	F	Keita, Alhassane	20	20	1649	7	0	5	2	
18	F	Krizanovic, Tommy	17	5	578	1	0	0	0	
14	М	Millien, Pascal	24	22	1954	6	4	2	0	
15	D	Nicklaw, Shawn	23	16	1530	0	0	4	1	
6	D	Ortiz, Fabricio	23	22	1960	0	0	10	0	
17	М	Perea, Nicolas	19	15	1413	0	0	2	0	
7	М	Rodriguez, Lucas	20	13	1033	0	0	3	0	
21	М	Safi, Ramak	1	0	19	0	0	0	0	
16	М	Scaglia, Lucas	26	26	2295	1	2	11	2	
20	D	Toby, Joseph	16	6	674	1	0	1	0	
3	D	Trejo, Lucas	25	25	2163	0	1	5	3	
25	F	Williams, Tyler	8	3	199	0	0	0	0	

2015 ARMADA FC NASL COMBINED GOALKEEPER STATS										
#	Pos	Name	GP/S	W-D-L	SHO	GA	SV	Y/R	Min	GAA
1	G	Gallardo, Miguel	22/22	5-6-11	4	37	75	1/0	1980	1.68
12	2 G	Sierra, David	8/8	3-1-4	3	12	29	0/0	720	1.38

HEAD COACH/TECHNICAL DIRECTOR TONY MEOLA





Legendary former U.S. Men's National Team and MLS goalkeeper Tony Meola was named the Jacksonville Armada FC head coach and technical director on Nov. 24, 2015.

Meola, who was inducted in the U.S. Soccer Hall of Fame in 2012, takes over an Armada FC club that finished 8-7-15 (W-D-L) overall in its inaugural season in the North American Soccer League, good for an 11th-place combined finish.

Meola has been a prominent figure in U.S. Soccer since he stormed onto the scene in 1987 when he helped lead the U-20 National Team at the 1987 FIFA World Youth Championship in goal. Following a two-year college career at the University of Virginia, where he was a two-time All-American under the guidance of U.S. Soccer icon Bruce Arena, Meola embarked on an illustrious international career in 1988 with the U.S. Men's National Team. The Kearny, N.J., native earned 100 caps for the USMNT, which is tied for 14th all-time overall and third among goalkeepers, and was on the squad for the 1990, 1994 and 2002 FIFA World Cups. His 37 wins and 32 clean sheets rank third all-time in U.S. Soccer history.

Meola also had a successful 18-year club career, most of which was spent in MLS with the New York/ New Jersey MetroStars, Kansas City Wizards and New York Red Bulls. In 2000, he was named league MVP, MLS Goalkeeper of the Year and led the Wizards to an MLS Cup victory, where he was also named MLS Cup MVP. He still holds the MLS record for most shutouts in one season with 16, which he set in 2000 with Kansas City. In 2005, he was named to the MLS All-Time Best XI.

Prior to playing in MLS, Meola had brief stints in En-

gland with Brighton & Hove Albion and Watford in 1990. In 1991, he returned to the United States and played for the Fort Lauderdale Strikers, then competing in the APSL. Meola also played for indoor team Buffalo Blizzard in 1994 and for the USISL's (now USL) Long Island Rough Riders in 1995.

After becoming involved with the U.S. National Team the past several years in training sessions with the U-17 and U-20 teams, Meola also showed his ability as a player development expert. He made waves with former USMNT teammate Tab Ramos and the U-20 National Team, taking a hands-on approach with goalkeeper training and helping scout players. Meola has also developed a robust knowledge of the NASL after a successful broadcasting career with Sirius XM, Fox Sports, ONE World Sports and several other outlets.

Somewhat of a renaissance man, Meola was a multi-sport star in high school, serving as captain of his Kearny High School basketball team and was an all-state baseball player, which led him to be drafted by the New York Yankees in 1987. He also played baseball at the University of Virginia, and in 1994, Meola tried his hand at American football in 1994 when was a placekicker for the New York Jets in training camp.

And beyond sports, Meola has shown off his theatrical talents, appearing in the off-Broadway play Tony and Tina's Wedding in 1995. He also formed the New Jersey cover band Mushmouth with hometown friends in 1998.

Meola's love of the "beautiful game" was passed on to him from his father Vincent, who played professionally in Italy in the 1960s. Meola, who is married to Colleen Meola, has since paid that passion forward to his three children, Jonathan (18), Kylie (15) and Aidan (13) and recently coached Aidan's U-12 soccer club in New Jersey. He has also been active nationally in the promotion of soccer among youth clubs.

2016 ARMADA FC ROSTER

NUMERICAL

1	Miguel Gallardo	GK	#	Name	Pos.	Age	Ht.	Wt.	Hometown/Previous Club
2	Tyler Ruthven	D	13	Matt Bahner	D	26	6-0	175	Cincinnati, Ohio/Harrisburg City Islanders
4	Mechack Jérôme^	D	20	Danny Barrow^	F	20	5-7	140	Braunton, England/Truro City FC
5	Beto Navarro	D	7	Bryan Burke	D	26	6-2	185	Newport Beach, Calif./Louisville City FC
6	Richie Ryan^	MF	21	Alex Dixon	F	26	5-8	150	Humble, Texas/Rochester Rhinos
7	Bryan Burke	D	99	Charles Eloundou	MF	21	5-7	155	,
8	Pekka Lagerblom [^]	MF							Yaoundé, Cameroon/Colorado Rapids
9	Matt Fondy	F	22	Sebastian Evers	GK	25	6-0	192	Miami, Fla./University of Central Florida
10	Alhassane Keita	F	9	Matt Fondy	F	26	6-1	187	Foster City, Calif./Louisville City FC
11	Jemal Johnson	F	1	Miguel Gallardo	GK	31	6-1	187	Torreón, Mexico/Orlando City SC
13	Matt Bahner	D	27	Derek Gebhard	F	20	6-0	160	Severna Park, Md./Jacksonville United FC
14	Pascal Millien	MF	4	Mechack Jérôme^	D	25	5-10	165	Liancourt, Haiti/Charlotte Independence
15	Shawn Nicklaw	D	11	Jemal Johnson	F	30	5-7	172	Paterson, N.J./New York Cosmos
16	Lucas Scaglia [^]	MF	10	Alhassane Keita	F	32	5-5	149	Conakry, Guinea/FC St. Gallen
17	Nicolas Perea	MF							•
20	Danny Barrow [^]	F	8	Pekka Lagerblom [^]	MF	33	5-11	158	Lahti, Finland/FC Lahti
21	Alex Dixon	F	33	Garry Lewis	MF	29	5-10	165	Orange Park, Fla./Ekenäs IF
22	Sebastian Evers	GK	23	Sean Lewis	GK	23	6-1	177	Rockford, Mich./Olympia FC Warriors
23	Sean Lewis	GK	14	Pascal Millien	MF	29	5-5	159	Leogane, Haiti/Samut Songkhram FC
24	Chaim Roserie#	F	5	Beto Navarro	D	26	6-1	165	Delano, Calif./Orange County Blues
25	Junior Sandoval	F	15	Shawn Nicklaw	D	27	6-0	183	San Diego, Calif./Thór
27	Derek Gebhard	F							
29	Patrick Otte	MF	29	Patrick Otte	MF	24	5-7	160	Thousand Oaks, Calif./Ventura County Fusion
33	Garry Lewis	MF	17	Nicolas Perea	MF	22	5-10	170	Hollywood, Fla./Syracuse University
99	Charles Eloundou	MF	24	Chaim Roserie#	F	17	5-3	112	Mississauga, Ontario/West Toronto Cobras
			2	Tyler Ruthven	D	27	6-2	195	Alpharetta, Ga./Arizona United FC
	PRONUNCIATIONS		6	Richie Ryan^	MF	30	5-8	164	Tipperary, Ireland/Ottawa Fury FC
Matt	Bahner	.(BAY-ner)	25	Junior Sandoval	F	25	5-11	174	Quimistán, Honduras/Jaguares de Córdoba

#Inactive for NASL fixtures

Danny Barrow.....(BARE-oh) ^Denotes international roster spot Bryan Burke (BUHRK)

16 Lucas Scaglia[^]

COACHING STAFF

ALPHABETICAL

Head Coach/Technical Director: Tony Meola Assistant Coaches: Jim Rooney, Mark Lowry **Assistant Technical Director: Nathan Walter**

MF

AGE BREAKDOWN

- 33 Pekka Lagerblom (10/19/82)
- 32 Alhassane Keita (6/26/83)
- 31 Miguel Gallardo (10/24/84),
- Richie Ryan (1/6/85)
- 30 Jemal Johnson (5/3/85)
- 29 Pascal Millien (5/3/86)
- 28 Lucas Scaglia (5/6/87)
- 27 Tyler Ruthven (7/18/88),

Bryan Burke (1/3/89)

26 - Shawn Nicklaw (3/23/89), Beto Navarro (3/25/89), Matt Fondy (7/28/89),

Alex Dixon (2/7/90), Matt Bahner (3/12/90)

25 - Mechack Jerome (4/21/90),

160 Rosario, Argentina/HNK Rijeka

- Junior Sandoval (10/13/90), Sebastian
- Evers (1/2/91)
- 23 Akeil Barrett (7/7/92), Nicolas Perea (8/6/92)
- 21 Charles Eloundou (12/4/94)
- 20 Derek Gebhard (10/15/95), Danny
- Barrow (11/16/95)
- 17 Chaim Roserie (9/9/98)

Tony Meola(MEE-oh-la) Jim Rooney.....(ROO-nee) Mark Lowry.....(LOW-ree)

Akeil Barrett......(AH-keel BARE-et)

Alex Dixon(DIK-suhn) Charles Eloundou (EE-loon-doo)

Miguel Gallardo(MIG-el Guy-YAR-doe)

Derek Gebhard.....(GHEB-hard)

Mechack Jérôme (MEE-shack jehr-OHM)

Alhassane Keita..... (AH-la-sahn KAY-tah)

Pekka Lagerblom......(PEK-uh LOG-er-bloom) Pascal Millien.....(PASS-cal MILL-yun)

Patrick Otte.....(AWT-er)

Nicolas Perea (Peh-RAY-uh)

Chaim Roserie(HIME ROSE-er-ree)

Tyler Ruthven(ROOTH-ven)

Junior Sandoval.....(SAN-dah-val)

Lucas Scaglia(SKAG-lee-uh)