



University of Southern California 2019 WOMEN'S TENNIS

USC Sports Information

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April 2, 2019

USC Women's Tennis To Play Three Home Matches

The Women of Troy will take on Cal State Fullerton on Tuesday (April 2) at 1 p.m. PT, Colorado on Friday (April 5) at 12:30 p.m. PT and Utah on Saturday (April 6) at 12 p.m. PT.

2019 USC Women's Tennis

13-3 OVERALL, 4-1 PAC-12

TROJANS IN THE ORACLE/ITA NATIONAL RANKINGS

Team (as of April 2): #11

Singles (as of April 2):

- Salma Ewing - #43
- Angela Kulikov - #87
- Danielle Willson - #122
- Ana Neffa - #123

Doubles (as of April 2):

- Angela Kulikov/Rianna Valdes - #13
- Constance Branstine/Estella Jaeger - #85

2019 SCHEDULE/RESULTS

| DATE | OPPONENT | RESULT/TIME |
|------------|------------------------------|-------------|
| Jan. 20 | vs. Australian National Team | --- |
| Jan. 21 | vs. South Carolina (AU) | W, 4-1 |
| Jan. 30 | Loyola Marymount | W, 4-2 |
| Jan. 30 | San Diego | W, 4-2 |
| Feb. 9 | vs. SMU (College Station) | L, 4-3 |
| Feb. 10 | at Texas A&M | CANCELLED |
| Feb. 16 | at UC Santa Barbara | W, 5-2 |
| Feb. 24 | at California | L, 5-2 |
| Feb. 26 | San Diego State | W, 5-2 |
| March 1 | at UCLA | W, 4-1 |
| March 3 | Saint Mary's | W, 4-0 |
| March 3 | Hawai'i | W, 4-1 |
| March 8 | at Arizona* | W, 6-1 |
| March 9 | at Arizona State* | W, 4-3 |
| March 16 | vs. Baylor (Indian Wells) | W, 4-2 |
| March 23 | at Oregon | W, 5-2 |
| March 29 | California* | W, 6-1 |
| March 30 | Stanford* | L, 4-3 |
| April 2 | Cal State Fullerton | 1pm PT |
| April 5 | Colorado* | 12:30pm PT |
| April 6 | Utah* | 12pm PT |
| April 9 | Pepperdine | 2pm PT |
| April 12 | at Washington* | 1:30pm PT |
| April 14 | at Washington State* | 11am PT |
| April 20 | UCLA* | 12pm PT |
| Apr. 24-27 | Pac-12 Championships% (P12) | |
| May 12-13 | NCAA Regionals@ | |
| May 17-23 | NCAA Team Champs\$ | |
| May 23-28 | NCAA Individual Champs\$ | |

Home matches in Bold (at Marks Stadium) * Pac-12 match
 All times are local to match site
 % Pac-12 Championships (Ojai, Calif.)
 @ NCAA Regionals (Site TBD)
 \$ NCAA Championships (Orlando, Fla.)
 (P12) = televised on Pac-12 Networks

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THIS WEEK

The No. 11 ranked USC women's tennis team takes to the courts in Marks Stadium three times this week. The Women of Troy take on Cal State Fullerton on Tuesday (April 2) at 1 p.m. PT, Colorado on Friday (April 5) at 12:30 p.m. PT and Utah on Saturday (April 6) at 12 p.m. PT. USC's match versus Colorado will be broadcast on the Pac-12 Network.

ORACLE/ITA RANKINGS UPDATES

In the most recent ITA team rankings (April 2), the Women of Troy surged ahead five spots to the No. 11 ranked team in the nation.

The ITA also released new singles and doubles rankings on April 2.

Freshman Salma Ewing remains USC's highest ranked singles player. She jumped ahead six spots to claim in the No. 43 ranking. Junior Angela Kulikov fell to No. 87 after previously holding the No. 75T ranking. Freshman Danielle Willson improved two positions to No. 122, and Ana Neffa reentered the rankings at the No. 123 spot.

In doubles, the duo of Angela Kulikov/Rianna Valdes improved six spots to the No. 14 ranking after previously holding the No. 20 spot. In addition, the Trojan tandem of Constance Branstine/Estella Jaeger debuted in the national rankings at the No. 85 position.

SCOUTING FULLERTON

The Cal State Fullerton Titans are 11-3 overall and 3-1 in Big West Conference play. They are currently riding a three-match winning streak. The Titans have played one other Pac-12 opponent: Arizona State. They lost to the Sun Devils 6-1 earlier this season. They do not have any singles or doubles players nationally ranked.

SCOUTING COLORADO

The Colorado Buffaloes are 10-8 overall and 3-2 in Pac-12 Conference play. Most recently, they defeated Oregon 4-0. They currently have one doubles pair nationally ranked: #35 Annabelle Andrinopoulos/Monica Malinen.

2018 FALL SEASON HONORS

2018 ITA SOUTHWEST REGIONAL CHAMPION

Salma Ewing (Oct. 22)

2018 Battle of the Bay Singles Champion

Danielle Willson (Sept. 23)

2018 Battle of the Bay Doubles Champions

Constance Branstine/Ana Neffa (Sept. 23)

2018 ITA All-American Championships

Doubles Quarterfinalists

Angela Kulikov/Rianna Valdes (Oct. 5)

2018 ITA National Fall Championships

Invitees

Salma Ewing - Singles

Angela Kulikov/Rianna Valdes - Doubles

SCOUTING UTAH

The No. 39 ranked Utah Utes hold an 11-5 record for the season and are 2-3 in conference play. They currently do not have any nationally ranked singles or doubles players. They most recently defeated Oregon 7-0.

WATCH THE TROJANS

USC's match versus Colorado will be broadcast on the Pac-12 Networks. Links to live video will be available at USCTrojans.com For additional live, in-match coverage, follow along on our Instagram and Twitter accounts @USCWomensTennis.

FALL SEASON

The 2018 fall tournament season proved to be a strong preview of what the team has to offer. Freshman Salma Ewing defeated four nationally ranked opponents and won the 2018 ITA Southwest Regionals Championship title. In addition, freshman Danielle Willson won the 2018 Battle of the Bay singles championship title, and the duo of Constance Branstine/Ana Neffa took home the doubles championship. USC's top doubles pair of junior Angela Kulikov and senior Rianna Valdes defeated five nationally ranked teams and reached the quarterfinals of the 2018 ITA All-American Championships. In addition, Ewing (singles) and Kulikov/Valdes (doubles) were invited to compete at the 2018 ITA National Fall Championships.

LAST WEEK

The USC women's tennis team successfully won both matches of their doubleheader on Wednesday (Jan. 30) to improve their season record to 3-0. The Women of Troy collected a 4-2 win over Loyola Marymount in the first match, and then claimed another 4-2 victory over San Diego in the second.

"I'm so excited that we are 3-0 after our home opener today," said head coach Alison Swain. "Doubleheaders are always really physically and mentally challenging, and I thought that we carried some confidence from our match against South Carolina into today. We really competed hard throughout both matches to collect the wins."

In the first match against LMU, the Lions had the first word of the day as Anderson/Gabrielsen defeated USC's Ewing/Neffa 6-3 on Court 2. The Women of Troy responded with a win of their own from Court 3 as Trojan tandem Jaeger/Willson as they collected a victory over the Lion pair of Juravliova/Tumosa 6-3. Court 1 was locked neck in neck, but Loyola Marymount proved triumphant as Miroshnichenko/Voracek beat Trojans Branstine/Weissmann 7-6 (2) to claim the doubles point. The Women of Troy entered singles at a 0-1 deficit.

Not one to shy away from a challenge, junior co-captain Angela Kulikov drummed up the first singles win of the day by taking down LMU's Eva Marie Voracek 6-3, 6-0 from Court 2. Soon thereafter, junior Sydney Van Alphen charged to the finish of her own match to put another point on the board for the Women of Troy. Van Alphen defeated Lion Lillian Gabrielsen 6-3, 6-2 on Court 5.

Loyola Marymount hadn't given up their fight and Siobhan Anderson proved that by notching another point for the Lions by beating USC's junior co-captain Becca Weissmann 6-2, 6-3 on Court 3. At this point USC and LMU were tied at 2-2 overall.

After losing her first set 1-6 to Lion opponent Elvira Juravliova on Court 4, sophomore Trojan Ana Neffa surged ahead to claim sets two and three for USC with winning scores of 6-3 and 6-2. The No. 87 ranked Neffa pushed USC ahead to 3-2 in the match.

Junior co-captain Constance Branstine clinched the match for the Women of Troy with her 6-2, 4-6, 6-4 victory over LMU's Camila Tumosa on Court 6.

After an hour break, it was time for USC to take on San Diego. The lineups altered a bit, and the new doubles pairs were ready to hit the court. The duo of Kulikov/Willson ran away with a 6-0 win over San Diego's Anderson/Morales on Court 1. The action turned to Court 3 where USC's Ewing/Jaeger beat San

Diego's Garcia/Kukaras 6-3 to nab the doubles point. USC led 1-0 entering singles.

Singles began with the Trojans leading through the majority of the first sets. On Court 1, Kulikov was forced to retire after cramping, conceding the point to the Toreros. Minutes later, San Diego's Nicole Anderson was also forced to retire on Court 2, giving the win to USC's Weissmann.

With the Trojans now leading 2-1 in the match, No. 99 ranked freshman Danielle Willson increased USC's lead from Court 4 with a victory over Kati Kukaras 7-5, 6-1. The Toreros responded with a win of their own as Daniela Morales beat USC's Neffa 3-6, 6-3, 6-0 on Court 3.

USC's Van Alphen closed out the day of play by clinching the match for the Women of Troy as she was victorious over San Diego's Gemma Garcia 7-6 (5), 6-2.

TROJANS DOWN UNDER

Kicking off the 2019 season was a trip overseas to Australia to compete in exhibition and regular-season matches during the 2019 Australian Open. These scheduled matches were the inaugural contests to take place on location during one of the four professional Grand Slam events.

Both the USC men's and women's teams made the international trip to participate in the collegiate matches.

Before the competition, both programs were able to explore the cities of Cairns and Melbourne and visiting interesting places like the Great Barrier Reef and a crocodile and wildlife park. At the wildlife park, the teams were able to watch crocodiles being fed, play with kangaroos and hold koala bears. In addition, they were able to watch some of the greatest tennis in the world at the Australian Open.

Junior co-captain Angela Kulikov blogged about her experience abroad for the USC Athletics website.

League Champions. She was crowned the 2017 CIF Singles champion and was named a 2017 and 2018 High School All-American. She was the 2018 Southern California Tennis MVP as well as the 2018 Pacific Coast League MVP. In addition, she was selected to the All-Pacific Coast League First Team all four years in high school.

After Willson went on a 11-match winning streak and was only one of four players in the Top 20 ranked teams to remain undefeated in dual matches with 10 wins or more (as of March 12), head coach Alison Swain rewarded her with a scholarship.

Read her full story here: <https://usctrojans.com/news/2019/3/28/usc-ripsit-blog-special-scholarship.aspx?path=wten>

ACADEMICS

The USC women's tennis team recorded a stellar cumulative GPA of 3.375. As a whole, the team was recognized as a 2018 ITA All-Academic Team. This honor is presented to a team that has a cumulative GPA of 3.20 or above (on a 4.00 scale).

Angela Kulikov and Rianna Valdes were each honored by the ITA as Scholar-Athletes for their outstanding performance in the classroom. An ITA Scholar-Athlete must be a varsity letter winner, have at least a 3.50 GPA and have been enrolled at their present school for at least two semesters.

In addition, Kulikov was selected to the Pac-12 All-Academic First Team, and Valdes earned placement on the Pac-12 All-Academic Second Team.

SWAIN

Alison Swain enters her second season as the USC women's tennis head coach. She went 13-10 (.565) in her first season at Troy.

Swain built a women's tennis dynasty at Williams College by leading the Ephs to 8 NCAA Division III team championships, including in 2017.

Swain posted an .889 winning percentage (224-28) in her 10 seasons (2008-17) at Williams, including 48-2 in NCAA tournament play. She led the Ephs to 8 NCAA team championships, including in each of her first 6 seasons (an NCAA Division III record and tying Stanford for most consecutive at any level) as well as in 2015 (going 25-0) and the 2017 campaign. In her other 2 seasons, Williams was the NCAA runnerup in 2016 and was third in 2014. She also helped Williams win 5 conference championships.

She was named the 2013 ITA National Division III Coach of the Year, was a 5-time conference Coach of the Year and twice (2010-13) was the ITA Northeast Coach of the Year. She produced 2 NCAA champion doubles teams and a trio of NCAA singles runners-up, along with 18 All-Americans, 2 ITA National Senior Players of the Year and an ITA National Most Improved Senior of the Year.

She also was an assistant professor of physical education at Williams.

After graduating from Williams in 2001 with a degree in American studies, she taught eighth grade and coached the girls' tennis team at Woodward Academy in College Park, Ga., for 3 years (2002-04), winning the region each year and getting to the state finals in 2004. She received a master's degree in education from Washington in 2006 and then taught upper schoolers at Telluride (Colo.) Mountain School for a year (2006-07) before returning to her alma mater to take the Williams head job in the summer of 2007.

Swain is a native of Bainbridge, Wash. She is a member of the board of directors of the ITA through June of 2018. She and her mother, Sue Swain, were the nation's top-ranked mother/daughter doubles team in 2003, winning both the National Mother/Daughter Indoor and Grass Court doubles tourneys. She has been an instructor in indoor cycling and downhill skiing, as well as a white water rafting guide.

WOOTTON

Chris Wootton enters his second year as the USC women's tennis assistant coach. Before coaching at Troy, he coached for one year at Williams College with Swain.

Before his year with the Ephs, Wootton was the men's graduate assistant for the University of Texas at Tyler, where he coached the Patriots to an 18-10 overall record and their eighth American Southwest Conference title. That season, UTT reached the Round of 16 at the NCAA Division III National Championships.

Before becoming a coach, Wootton competed for the men's tennis team at Mississippi College (2011-13) and the University of Texas at Tyler (2013-15) where he graduated with a bachelor's degree in business administration. While competing at UTT, Wootton was named an All-American in doubles in 2015. He is the oldest All-American in NCAA history in any sport across all divisions as he earned All-American status at age 39.

Wootton taught tennis throughout the South between the years of 1995 and 2011, when he coached over 50 NCAA college tennis players and seven ATP/WTA touring pros. In 2009, he was named the Director of Tennis at a 14-court public tennis facility in Jackson, Miss.

He played professionally for six years collecting both singles and doubles wins over top 100 ATP players.

As a youth player, Wootton was ranked in the Top 25 in both singles and doubles in the Boys 18's in the USTA in 1994. He earned the Reebok U.S. National Tennis Player of the Year Award in 1991 at the age of 15.

MANASSE

Rachel Manasse, who spent the last year as the head men's and women's tennis coach at Occidental College in Los Angeles, begins her first season as the USC women's tennis volunteer assistant coach.

During her tenure with the Tigers, both

of her teams were regionally ranked in the West for Division III. The men's team closed out the year with the No. 16 rank after Manasse brought in the No. 20 Division III men's recruiting class in the country, while the women finished the season with the No. 18 rank. In addition, both programs were named ITA All-Academic teams.

Before coaching at Occidental, Manasse was an assistant coach for the Claremont-Mudd-Scripps women's tennis team for three years. While coaching the Athenas, her team went 75-9 overall and 31-1 in Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (SCIAC) play. In addition to winning three SCIAC Championships, the Athenas competed in the NCAA Division III tournament each year, including a third place finish in 2015.

Manasse also brings a wealth of strength and conditioning knowledge as she is a certified strength and conditioning specialist by the National Strength and Condition Association and worked as a strength and conditioning coach during her time at Claremont-Mudd-Scripps.

Before coaching at the collegiate level, Manasse was the Director of Operations at RAMP Tennis Academy in Carson, Calif. and was also a tennis instructor at RAMP Tennis Academy and the Manhattan Country Club in Manhattan Beach, Calif.

Manasse graduated from California State University Long Beach in 2012 with a degree in nutrition and dietetics and a minor in chemistry. She was a member of the 49ers women's tennis team and was nationally ranked in both singles and doubles. After her collegiate career, Manasse played professionally where she earned one WTA point in doubles.

TENNIS TALENT

The USC women's tennis program has a strong legacy claiming seven team national championships, five singles national champions and two doubles championship pairs. It has produced 94 All-Americans, one Honda Award winner and other various ITA National Awards.

USC also has seven former Trojans currently competing professionally: Kaitlyn Christian, Maria Sanchez, Danielle Lao, Sabrina Santamaria, Madison Westby, Zoë Scandalis and Giuliana Olmos.

2019 WOMEN'S TENNIS ROSTER

PRONUNCIATION GUIDE

| NAME | HT | YR | EXP | HOMETOWN | HIGH SCHOOL / COLLEGE |
|---------------------|------|-----|-----|-----------------------|------------------------------------|
| Constance Branstine | 5-9 | Jr. | 1V | Orange, Calif. | Villa Park HS / UC Irvine |
| Alexa Corcoleotes | 5-10 | So. | 1V | Mountain View, Calif. | K12 Academy |
| Salma Ewing | 5-9 | Fr. | HS | Lakewood, Calif. | Laurel Springs |
| Estella Jaeger | 5-7 | Fr. | HS | Delbrück, Germany | ISP International |
| Angela Kulikov | 5-7 | Jr. | 2V | Sun Valley, Calif. | Connections Academy |
| Ana Neffa | 5-7 | So. | TR | Key Biscayne, Fla. | Homeschool / St. Thomas University |
| Rianna Valdes | 5-7 | Sr. | 3V | Boca Raton, Fla. | Allendale Academy |
| Sydney Van Alphen | 5-6 | Jr. | 2V | Newport Beach, Calif. | Connections Academy |
| Becca Weissmann | 5-7 | Jr. | 1V | Loveland, Colo. | Connections Academy / LSU |
| Danielle Willson | 5-11 | Fr. | HS | Newport Beach, Calif. | Corona del Mar HS |

HEAD COACH: Alison Swain (2nd season)

ASSISTANT COACH: Christopher Wootton (2nd season)

VOLUNTEER ASSISTANT: Rachel Manasse (1st season)

Constance **BRANSTINE**
bran-STINE

Alexa **CORCOLEOTES**
cor-co-lee-0-tis

Estella **JAEGER**
YAY-ger

Salma **EWING**
YOU-ing

Angela **KULIKOV**
KOO-lee-kov



CONSTANCE
BRANSTINE



ALEXA
CORCOLEOTES



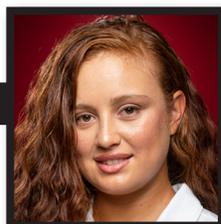
SALMA
EWING



ESTELLA
JAEGER



ANGELA
KULIKOV



ANA
NEFFA



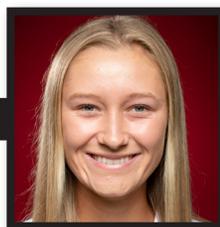
RIANNA
VALDES



SYDNEY
VAN ALPHEN



BECCA
WEISSMANN



DANIELLE
WILLSON



HEAD COACH
ALISON SWAIN



ASSISTANT COACH
CHRISTOPHER WOOTTON



VOL. ASST. COACH
RACHEL MANASSE

2019 Dual Match Results (cont'd)

17 USC 4, Baylor 2

March 16, 2019 - Indian Wells, Calif.

Doubles

#13 Kulikov/Valdes (USC) def. Kraus/Sorokolet (BU) - 6-1
Weissmann /Willson (USC) vs. Hinojosa/Barañano (BU) - 4-3
Branstine/Jaeger (USC) def. Adames/Parker (BU) - 6-1
Order of Finish: 3, 1

USC wins doubles point

Singles

#45 Salma Ewing (USC) def. #121T Jessica Hinojosa (BU) - 6-3,
2-6, 7-5
Rianna Valdes (USC) vs. #59 Livia Kraus (BU) - 7-6 (5), 1-6, 1-4
Kristina Sorokolet (BU) def. #120 Ana Neffa (USC) - 6-2, 6-3
Paula Barañano (BU) def. Becca Weissmann (USC) - 1-6, 6-3, 6-2
#118 Danielle Willson (USC) def. Stephanie Adames (BU) - 6-2, 6-0
Sydney Van Alphen (USC) def. Katelyn Parker (BU) - 6-0, 6-0
Order of Finish: 6, 5, 3, 4, 1*

13 USC 5, Oregon 2

March 23, 2019 - Eugene, Ore.

Doubles

Kulikov/Valdes (USC) def. Nasser/Wagner (UO) - 6-2
Eshet /Kahfiani (UO) def. W/eissmann/Willson (USC) - 6-1
Branstine/Ewing (USC) def. no player/no player (UO) - forfeit
Order of Finish: 3, 2, 1

USC wins doubles point

Singles

#49 Salma Ewing (USC) def. Daniela Nasser (UO) - 3-6, 7-6 (2),
1-0 (10-6)
Paiton Wagner (UO) def. Ana Neffa (USC) - 6-1, 6-4
Rifanty Kahfiani (UO) def. Becca Weissmann (USC) - 6-3, 4-6, 1-0
(10-7)
Constance Branstine (USC) def. Julia Eshet (UO) - 5-7, 7-6 (8), 6-2,
6-1
Sydney Van Alphen (USC) def. Taryn Fujimori (UO) - 6-0, 6-2*
Estella Jaeger (USC) def. no player (UO) - forfeit
Order of Finish: 6, 4, 5*, 2, 3, 1

16 USC 6, #15 California 1

March 29, 2019 - Marks Stadium | Los Angeles, Calif.

Doubles

#20 Kulikov/Valdes (USC) def. #13 Mraz/Rosenqvist (Cal) - 6-3
Weissmann /Willson (USC) vs. #23Bright/Dunk (Cal) - 2-5 susp.
Branstine/Ewing (USC) def. Stloukalova/Smith (Cal) - 6-2
Order of Finish: 3, 1

USC wins doubles point

Singles

#49 Salma Ewing (USC) def. #30 Julia Rosenqvist (Cal) - 6-4,
3-6, 6-4
#75T Angela Kulikov (USC) def. #74 Anna Bright (Cal) - 6-0, 1-6,
6-4
Rianna Valdes (USC) def. #21 Olivia Hauger (Cal) - 6-2, 3-6, 6-2
Ana Neffa (USC) vs. Katerina Stloukalova (Cal) - 7-6 (1), 3-6, 6-1
Maria Smith (Cal) def. #124 Danielle Willson (USC) - 6-1, 6-2
Constance Branstine (USC) def. Hana Mraz (Cal) - 6-3, 3-6, 6-3*
Order of Finish: 5, 3, 2, 6*, 4, 1

#7 Stanford 4, #16 USC 3

March 3-, 2019 - Marks Stadium | Los Angeles, Calif.

Doubles

1. #20 Kulikov/Valdes (USC) vs. #12 Lampl/Yee (Stan.) - 5-3 susp.
2. #18 Arbuthnott/Gordon (stan.) def. Weissmann/Willson (USC)
- 6-1
3. #41 Lord/Madurawe (Stan.) def. Branstine/Ewing (USC) - 6-2
Order of Finish: 2, 3

Stanford wins doubles point

Singles

#28 Michaela Gordon (Stan.) def. #49 Salma Ewing (USC) 6-3, 6-4
#47 Melissa Lord (Stan.) def. #75T Angela Kulikov (USC) 6-2, 6-2
#58 Caroline Lampl (Stan.) def. Rianna Valdes (USC) - 3-6, 6-3,
7-6 (4)
Ana Neffa (USC) def. #57 Janice Shin (Stan.) - 6-3, 6-4
#124 Danielle Willson (USC) def. #81 Emma Higuchi (Stan) - 6-3,
6-4
Constance Branstine (USC) def. #83 Sara Choy (Stan.) - 6-4, 6-3
Order of finish: 2, 6, 1, 5, 4, 3*