



CALGARY FOOTHILLS SOCCER CLUB MEDIA KIT

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Foothills WFC

Calgary Foothills WFC has participated in the United Women's Soccer (UWS) league since 2017. The team won the Western Conference Championship in 2018, 2019, and 2022 and was voted UWS franchise of the year in 2019. The Foothills Women have put on incredible displays in their regular season, taking them to the UWS National finals twice. The first time was in 2019 when we hosted the National Championship in Calgary in front of 1,500 fans at Mount Royal University. The final was against Los Angeles Galaxy soccer club, which edged a close final 1-0, with the winning goal coming from current Olympique Lyonnais and USA star Catarina Macario. 2022 was a record-breaking season, with the team winning all its conference games and entering the National Championship with a 100% winning record. After a dominant 4-1 win in the semi-final, we came up against the very strong Chicago Mustangs, who came out on top of a close game, with Chicago winning the game 2-1. This year, Foothills WFC has put together two Pro-Am women's teams. One will continue its success in the UWS league, and the other will participate in the inaugural League 1 Alberta Exhibition series.

Jay Wheeldon, Technical Director of Calgary Foothills Soccer Club and League 1 Women's says, "The UWS team has been an integral part of our program this past few years, enabling players to progress onto National team programs and professional playing opportunities. We are proud to continue our association with the UWS and provide our players with the highest level of Pro-Am soccer to compete in. We are excited for another summer of high-quality soccer and the chance to improve on our 2022 season."

Jay continues, "Adding the League 1 pathway to our current women's program was a key component in the launch of the exhibition series and allows us to expand the quality and depth of our female program. We have some exceptional youth players developing at the Club and a strong history within our alumni, and we are proud to be a part of this new venture!"

Foothills FC

Calgary Foothills FC has participated in numerous friendlies over the last few seasons and has a direct affiliation with Calgary's professional team, Cavalry FC. These exhibitions provided opportunities for the next generation of footballers, such as Victor Loturi, Aribim Pepple, and Gareth Smith Doyle, who have since gone on to professional soccer. Prior to the pandemic, Calgary Foothills FC participated in the USL League Two (USL2), a semi-professional developmental soccer league sponsored by United Soccer Leagues in the United States and



Canada. The team had its best season in 2018, only losing once in 14 games, and became Western Conference champions. Foothills FC advanced to the league final for the second time in three seasons and won the 2018 Championship 4-2 after extra time over Reading United AC. Now that soccer is back in motion, Foothills FC has joined League 1 Alberta for its inaugural season.

Jay explains, "This has been a project in the making for several years. We are excited to be a part of the growth here in Canada. We are focused this season on being successful on the field but also on providing opportunities that will support the goals of future professional players."

About United Women's Soccer (UWS) League

UWS is a national Pro-Am league composed of professionally operated clubs within the United States and Canada. UWS provides high-level competition for college players, aspiring and former professionals, and international stars. The overarching goal of this league is to achieve equality of opportunity for women's soccer. In a time when there are several professional and amateur leagues for men's soccer across North America, a huge gap exists between the college and professional ranks on the women's side. UWS fills that gap by providing a pathway to pro for the amateur player.

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Home Game Schedule | UWS

Date	VS	Location
May 28, 3:00pm	Los Angeles SC	Broadview Park 2005 Broadview Rd NW, Calgary, AB T2N 3H8
June 11, 3:00pm	FC Arizona	Broadview Park 2005 Broadview Rd NW, Calgary, AB T2N 3H8
June 17, 3:00pm	Santa Clarita Blue Heat	Broadview Park 2005 Broadview Rd NW, Calgary, AB T2N 3H8
July 7, 7:00pm	Reno Vikings	Broadview Park 2005 Broadview Rd NW, Calgary, AB T2N 3H8



[Season Ticket Link](#)



[Photos](#)

About League 1 Alberta Exhibition Series

League 1 Alberta is the province of Alberta's Pro-Am, standards-based senior league. Founded in 2023 and in its inaugural exhibition season, the League will launch with five teams on both the men's and women's sides. League 1 Alberta will serve as a stepping stone between the high-performance youth level, elite amateur, and professional levels of the game within Alberta. League 1 Alberta's goal is to showcase and develop Canada's future soccer stars, coaches, and match officials by providing an important platform to showcase themselves.

Our League 1 Sponsors

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Home Game Schedule | League 1 Women's (Foothills WFC)

Date	VS	Location
May 12, 8:00pm	Edmonton Scottish United SC	Macron Performance Centre 111 Exploration Ave SE, Calgary, AB T3S 0B6
May 26, 5:30pm	St Albert Impact	Broadview Park 2005 Broadview Rd NW, Calgary, AB T2N 3H8
July 1, 5:30pm	Edmonton BTB WSC	Broadview Park 2005 Broadview Rd NW, Calgary, AB T2N 3H8
July 21, 5:30pm	Calgary Blizzard WSC	Broadview Park 2005 Broadview Rd NW, Calgary, AB T2N 3H8



[League 1 Women's Season Ticket Link](#)

Home Game Schedule | League 1 Men's (Foothills FC)

Date	VS	Location
May 12, 5:30pm	Edmonton Scottish United SC	Macron Performance Centre 111 Exploration Ave SE, Calgary, AB T3S 0B6
May 26, 8:00pm	St Albert Impact	Broadview Park 2005 Broadview Rd NW, Calgary, AB T2N 3H8
June 16, 7:00pm	Edmonton BTB WSC	Broadview Park 2005 Broadview Rd NW, Calgary, AB T2N 3H8
July 21, 8:00pm	Cavalry FC U21	Broadview Park 2005 Broadview Rd NW, Calgary, AB T2N 3H8



[League 1 Men's Season Ticket Link](#)



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Player Features

Below are a few of our players who are achieving great things inside and outside of the soccer world. These players are available for interviews and to join any on-screen programming you have going on throughout our season (from May to July).

Mya Jones - Foothills WFC (UWS and League 1 Teams)



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Mya Jones is a rising star in the world of soccer who has made a name for herself both at the collegiate level and in international competition. Jones attended the University of Memphis where she quickly established herself as one of the top players in the conference.

During her freshman season in 2019, Jones was named the American Athletic Conference (AAC) Rookie of the Year. She continued to impress over the next few years, earning several first team all-conference nods as well as one second team all-conference and rookie team selection. In 2020, Jones was named the AAC Midfielder of the Year. Jones' success at the collegiate level is indicative of her talent and effect on women's soccer. She was part of two conference championship teams and one regular season championship team, helping to lead the University of Memphis to success on the field.

Jones has also had international experience, having played for the Canadian National Team at the U15-U20 levels. This experience has undoubtedly contributed to her success and development as a player.

Jones has continued to excel while playing for the Foothills UWS team where she was named the 2022 UWS MVP and Western Conference Attacking Player of the Year. Jones' impressive list is a testament to her skill, and she is sure to continue making waves in the soccer world in the years to come.

"I am excited to return to Calgary Foothills, to not only play for my hometown club but to play in front of aspiring youth of Calgary and to pave a path for them to pursue. I hope that this year we can win not only our conference but the entire league. We had a successful year in 2022, I hope we can carry this momentum into this coming season." - Mya Jones

Sarah Dilling - Foothills WFC (UWS and League 1 Teams)



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Sarah Dilling is a talented soccer goalkeeper who graduated from the University of Texas at El Paso in 2015. Dilling has had an illustrious career, with numerous accolades to prove it.

Dilling's achievements include being named the UWS Goalkeeper of the Year in 2022 and earning a spot on the UWS All Conference First Team in the same year. She was also named to the UWS Western Conference Second Team in 2021, showcasing her consistent performance over multiple seasons. In 2018 and 2022, she has been part of two UWS West Conference Championship-winning teams.

Dilling represented Team Canada at the World University Games in 2017, showcasing her skills on an international stage. She was also part of the Canadian National Program from 2010 to 2013.

During her time at the University of Texas at El Paso, Dilling was a standout player, earning numerous awards, including NCAA Conference USA First Team in 2014. She was also named the UTEP Soccer MVP and UTEP Athletics Athlete of the Year in the same year, highlighting her outstanding contribution to the university's athletic program. Dilling's achievements speak to her exceptional abilities as a goalkeeper and her dedication to the sport.

“I am so excited to take the next step with Foothills WFC this year. Losing in the National Championship last season added fuel to the fire and I am more motivated than ever. I'm excited to show that Foothills WFC is one of the top teams in North America and that we are ready to be one of Canada's first women's professional teams.” - Sarah Dilling



Lara Kazandjian - Foothills WFC (UWS and League 1 Teams)



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Lara Kazandjian has become a standout player for Calgary Foothills in recent years. Still a young player currently attending Creighton University, Kazandjian has demonstrated her abilities through numerous achievements.

Kazandjian's success in the UWS league is recognized by her being named to the All Conference UWS First Team in 2022. At Creighton University, Kazandjian also excels on the field, earning a spot on the All Big East First Team in 2022.

Kazandjian's international experience includes playing for the Canadian national teams at the U15, U17, and U20 levels. In addition, Kazandjian has played for the Armenian national senior team, allowing her to showcase her talent on an international scale and contribute to the development of soccer in Armenia.

Her experience at the international and collegiate levels, as well as her dedication to the sport, make her a valuable asset to any team and a promising player for the future.

"I'm very excited to be a part of the team this year and be in a high-level training environment. I'm hoping to inspire Canada's youth players by winning a UWS championship." - Lara Kazandjian

Mohamed El Gandour - Foothills FC (League 1 Team)



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Mohamed El Gandour is an outstanding soccer player who has made a name for himself in the Canadian university soccer scene. He attended and played at Mount Royal University, where he received the U SPORTS Academic All-Canadian award, demonstrating his commitment to both academics and athletics.

El Gandour began his soccer career as an academy player with Southwest United before being drafted by Cavalry in the U SPORTS 2020 draft. Since then, he has featured in the Foothills U23 and Cavalry AMSL teams.

During his time at Mount Royal, El Gandour set records as the all-time leading goalscorer for the Cougars. He was also named to the U SPORTS All-Rookie Team, and his contributions were further recognized in 2021-22 when he was named the U SPORTS Men's Soccer Player of the Year. In his graduating year, El Gandour was named to the U SPORTS Second Team All-Canadian list, finishing the regular season with impressive stats including 961 minutes in 12 games, 12 points (8G-4A), and 45 shots.

With his talent and record-breaking achievements, El Gandour is a player to watch on the field. He has high expectations for the upcoming season with Foothills FC and is sure to continue making a significant impact on the sport of soccer.

"I am excited to play for Calgary Foothills in League 1 this season and continue to improve as a player. This will be a great opportunity for players to showcase themselves at a high level." - Mohamed El Gandour

Tom Field - Foothills FC (League 1 Team)



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Tom Field is a life-long soccer player who has honed his skills through years of experience. He began his career at Brentford Academy in the UK, where he made 21 appearances for the then Championship side. His international career took place overseas, where Field played in Scotland for Dundee and then Canada.

Field's exceptional level of play and experience in the sport were recognized when he was signed by Cavalry FC for the last two seasons. He made 12 appearances in the team's 2021 season where his presence significantly contributed to the team's success.

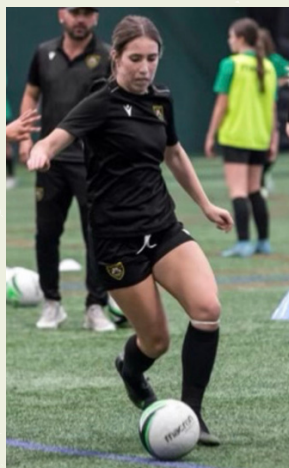
With his impressive track record and experience, Field is sure to continue making significant contributions to Foothills FC.

"I'm really looking forward to helping this league grow and develop and to playing alongside some talented youngsters to try and help them any way I can." - Tom Field

Emma Nicholson - Foothills WFC (League 1 Team)



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Emma Nicholson has played in the UWS Academy since 2022. Joining the inaugural League 1 roster provides her the opportunity to test her skills against some of the best talent in Alberta.

In 2019, while playing two years up, she was part of the Calgary Foothills 2004 girls' team that won the Youth National Championship. In 2022, she was a key player for the 2006 girls' team that won the Alberta Youth Soccer League Championship, showcasing her versatility and ability to succeed at different levels of play.

Nicholson made her UWS debut in 2022 against FC Arizona, playing the full game and contributing to her team's 2-1 win. As Nicholson continues to hone her skills and grow as a player, she is sure to make significant contributions to the Foothills WFC League 1 team this summer.

"I'm really looking forward to challenging myself in the League 1 environment. I'm excited to represent my club and play with a talented group of players!" - Emma Nicholson

Ella Djuranic - Foothills WFC (League 1 Team)



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Ella Djuranic is a talented young soccer player who has already achieved great things in her career. Currently playing at the University of Calgary, Djuranic has established herself as a valuable member of her team.

One of Djuranic's most impressive achievements came when she played a year up as part of the 2002 girls' team that won the Youth National Championship. She began playing with Foothills WFC at the U11 level and continued with the Club until she graduated to the University of Calgary. With her already impressive track record, Djuranic is sure to continue making waves this summer.

"I'm grateful for this opportunity to play with a talented group of girls. I'm excited to represent this Club that has supported me for many years." - Ella Djuranic