# Match 30: Clemson (16-13, 7-10 ACC) at Virginia Tech

November 22, 2023 • Blacksburg, Va.

	2023 SCHEDULE	& RESULTS	<u> </u>
Date	Opponent	WATCH	Time/Result
Fri., Aug. 25	# Middle Tennessee	ACCNX	W, 3-1
Sun., Aug. 27	# Wofford	ACCNX	W, 3-0
Wed. Aug. 30	at South Carolina	SEC+	L, 1-3
Fri., Sept. 1	^ Western Carolina	ACCNX	W, 3-0
Sat. Sept. 2	^ South Alabama	ACCNX	L, 0-3
Sun. Sept. 3	^ Green Bay	ACCNX	W, 3-0
Thurs., Sept. 7	\$ vs. Winthrop	N/A	W, 3-2
Fri., Sept. 8	\$ at #3 Florida	SECN	L, 0-3
Sat., Sept. 9	\$ vs. Sacramento State	N/A	W, 3-2
Thurs., Sept. 14	% vs. Houston Christian	N/A	W, 3-1
Fri., Sept. 15	% at Tulane	N/A	W, 3-0
Sat., Sept. 16	% vs. UTEP	N/A	W, 3-2
Wed., Sept. 20	* #13 Georgia Tech	ACCN	L, 1-3
Fri., Sept. 22	* NC State	ACCNX	L, 0-3
Fri., Sept. 29	* at Wake Forest	ACCNX	L, 0-3
Sun., Oct. 1	* Virginia Tech	ACCNX	W, 3-2
Fri., Oct. 6	* at Virginia	ACCNX	W, 3-1
Sun., Oct. 8	* at #7 Pitt	ACCNX	L, 0-3
Fri., Oct. 13	* Miami	ACCNX	W, 3-2
Sun., Oct. 15	* Florida State	ACCNX	L, 0-3
Fri., Oct. 20	* North Carolina	ACCNX	L, 2-3
Sun., Oct. 22	* Duke	ACCNX	L, 0-3
Fri., Oct. 27	* at Syracuse	ACCNX	W, 3-0
Sun., Oct. 29	* at Boston College	ACCN	W, 3-0
Fri., Nov. 3	* Notre Dame	ACCNX	W, 3-1
Sun., Nov. 5	* Louisville	ACCNX	L, 1-3
Fri., Nov. 10	* at Notre Dame	ACCNX	W, 3-1
Fri., Nov. 17	* at NC State	ACCNX	L, 0-3
Sun., Nov. 19	* at Duke	ACCNX	L, 0-3
Wed., Nov. 22	* at Virginia Tech	ACCNX	1 p.m.

Bold indicates home match at Jervey Gym

# - Big Orange Bash, ^ - Clemson Invitational, \$ - Gators Invitational (Gainesville, Fla.), % - Tulane Invitational (New Orleans, La.),  $\ast$  - ACC match

PROGRAM HISTORY				
PROGRA	AM HISTORY			
First Year of Volleyball	1977			
All-Time Record	906-697			
All-Time Record in Jervey Gym	427-222			
All-Time ACC Record (34 Years)	292-336			
Last NCAA Tournament Appearance	2009			
NCAA Tournament Appearances	8			
Last NIVC Tournament Appearance	2022			
NIVC Tournament Appearances	2 (2018, 2022)			
ACC Regular-Season Championships	2 (1997, 2007)			
ACC Tournament Championships	1 (1997)			

CLEMSON		HISTORY	VS. VT	<b>VIRGINIA TECH</b>		
Record:	16-13	Clemson Record:	23-14	Record:	13-14	
Home:	7-7	Last Win:	10/1/23	Home:	6-6	
Away:	5-6	Lust Will.	W. 3-2	Away:	3-8	
Neutral:	4-0	Trend:	W1	Neutral:	4-0	
Non-Conf.:	9-3	Tronu.	***	Non-Conf.:	10-1	
ACC:	7-10			ACC:	3-13	
Head Coach: Jackie Simpso	n Kirr    3rd season			Head Coach: Marci Byers		
at Clemson:	41-49			4th Season at Virginia Tech		
Total (5th season)	58-88			at VT:	42-61	
Assoc. HC: Taylor Unroe    31	rd season			Asst. Coach: John Wasielewski		
Asst. Coach: Dan O'Keefe    2nd season				Asst. Coach: Kevin Cardoza		
Asst. Coach: Quinn Lukens			Asst. Coach: Caleb Adams			
Dir. of Ops: Haley Bilbruck			Dr. of Ops: Morgan Goodman			
				-		

#### **NEED TO KNOW**

#### **RPI**

- Clemson clocked in on the first official RPI of 2023 at 51 before climbing to 45 prior to the eighth week of action
- This marked the highest Clemson has been on a RPI report since the Tigers finished at 38 on the final RPI in 2008
- Clemson currently sits 69th in the RPI through games on Nov. 19
- . The Tigers are the ninth highest team in the ACC in RPI standings

#### **BLOCKING POWER**

- The Tigers have become a force at the net during the 2023 campaign led by graduate transfer Adria Powell
- As a team, Clemson is sixth in the ACC with 237 total blocks and sits 104 in the NCAA through the Duke match
- The Tigers are averaging 2.24 blocks per set, which ranks seventh in the ACC and 104 in the NCAA
- For reference, on Nov. 1, 2022, Clemson sat 14th in the ACC in total blocks with 162 and 15th in blocks per set with 1.72
- Powell leads the way for Clemson in total blocks (135) to rank third in the ACC and sits third in blocks per set (1.29)
- . Following the 13th week, Powell sits 26th country in total blocks and 27th in blocks per set

#### **NOTEWORTHY SEASON**

- Clemson's 16 wins is the most in a single-season since 2018 when Clemson finished the regular season with 17 and finished with 19 following the NIVC Tournament
- The Tigers have also won seven ACC matches in 2023 to mark the most under Head Coach Jackie Simpson Kirr and the most since 2018
- Through the first 20 games of the season, Clemson posted a 12-8 record to mark the best start in program history since 2014 (14-6) maintained this through the first 25 matches with a 15-10 record for the best record through 25 matches since 2014 as well
- The Tigers recorded their 900th victory in program history after defeating Virginia Tech in Jervey Gym on Oct. 1, 2023 happened
  in the 46th year of competition and held a 900-690 overall record
- Welcomed 1,393 fans to Jervey Gym against NC State on Sept. 22 for the most fans in attendance during the Simpson Kirr era

#### **FOREIGN TOUR**

- The Clemson volleyball team went on a 15-day foreign tour at the beginning of June traveling to Paris, Croatia and Bosnia
- The team participated in training sessions and a two-day tournament in Bosnia Clemson split into two different teams to allow for every player to get ample amounts of playing time and learn the systems
- Clemson also did multiple off-court team building activities including: ATVing through the mountains of Bosnia, two different boat days, sightseeing and becoming immersed in different cultures

DOUBLE-DOUBLES						
NAME	DATE	KILLS	DIGS	ASSISTS		
Kennedy Wagner	8/27/23	16	10			
Mckenna Slavik	8/30/23		16	37		
Mckenna Slavik	9/1/23		10	27		
Mckenna Slavik	9/7/23		11	43		
Mckenna Slavik	9/9/23		15	44		
Katie Culumovic	9/15/23		10	15		
Mckenna Slavik	9/20/23		12	31		
Mckenna Slavik	9/29/23		16	21		
Mckenna Slavik	10/1/23		11	52		
Kennedy Wagner	10/06/23	13	16			
Mckenna Slavik	10/13/23		17	41		
Mckenna Slavik	10/20/23		18	39		
Mckenna Slavik	10/22/23		10	22		
Mckenna Slavik	10/27/23		11	32		
Mckenna Slavik	10/29/23		11	30		
Mckenna Slavik	11/3/23		11	37		
Mckenna Slavik	11/10/23		10	39		

## MILESTONES/TRENDS

- Mckenna Slavik moved into third all-time on Clemson's career assist list against Pitt (4,334). She also surpassed 1,000 digs against Miami. She currently has 4,633.
- Devan Taylor surpassed 1,000- career digs at Tulane. Taylor is broke into the top 10 on Clemson's career list last weekend and climbed to No. 9

UPCOMING MILESTONES	HAS	NEEDS
Azyah Dailey 400 kills	346	54
McKenna Gildon 200 digs	154	46
Katie Hurta 200 kills	138	62
Mia McGrath 400 kills	371	29
Adria Powell 350 blocks	344	6
Adria Powell 600 kills	598	2
Kate Simington 100 blocks	75	25
Mckenna Slavik 4,700 assists	4,690	10
Devan Taylor 1,300 digs	1,221	79
Kennedy Wagner 50 aces	38	12

STATISTICAL LEADERS				
CATEGORY	NAMES	No.		
Points	Adria Powell	305		
Attacks	Kennedy Wagner	622		
Kills	Kennedy Wagner	219		
Kills per Set	Kennedy Wagner	2.38		
Hitting Percentage	Adria Powell	.296		
Assists	Mckenna Slavik	827		
Assists Per Set	Mckenna Slavik	8.80		
Service Aces	Kennedy Wagner	38		
Service Aces Per Set	Kennedy Wagner	0.41		
Digs	Devan Taylor	384		
Digs Per Set	Devan Taylor	3.62		
Blocks	Adria Powell	135		
Blocks Per Set	Adria Powell	1.29		

# Roster

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## **KENNEDY WAGNER**

Fr. • OH • 6-0 • Valparaiso, Ind. • Valparaiso HS

	SP	Kills	K/S	Digs	Blocks	PTS
2023	92	219	2.38	135	36	279
Career	92	219	2.38	135	36	279

Season Highs: 17 kills, 16 digs, 5 aces, 3 blocks (6x)

- Has hit double-digit kills in 11 matches
- Named Big Orange Bash Tournament MVP & ACC Rookie of the Week
- Posted first double-double vs. Wofford 17 kills, 10 digs
- Second double-double at Virginia 13 kills, 16 digs
- Had 14 kills, three aces and three blocks against Winthrop
- Tallied four aces against Green Bay and Miami & five against Tulane
- Leads team with 38 aces

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#### **MAGGIE PATTERSON**

 So. • DS/L• 5-7 • Gaffney, S.C • St. Joseph's Catholic School

 SP
 Digs
 D/S
 Assists
 Aces
 PTS

 2023
 Career
 1
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0

**Season Highs:** 

- ACC Academic Honor Roll (2022)
- Appeared in one match during her freshman campaign
- Finished with three service attempts against Presbyterian (8/27/22)
- A two-time All-Region selection in HS
- Helped St. Joseph's Catholic School become three-time State Champions
- Selected to the North/South game in 2021
- AAU National Champion Runner-Up in 2021 with Axis Elite Volleyball

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## **COURTNEY NIX**

Fr. • DS/L • 5-9 • Harrisburg, N.C. • Cannon School

	SP	Digs	D/S	Assists	Aces	PTS
2023	10	16	1.60	2	2	2.0
Career	10	16	1.60	2	2	2.0

Season Highs: 10 digs, 2 aces, 1 assist (2x)

- Started the season opener vs. Middle Tennessee appeared in five matches
- Tallied 10 digs against MTSU and two aces
- First Team All-State selection 2019-21
- Helped lead Cannon School to a NCISAA Volleyball State Championship Runner-Up performance in 2020
- 2021 AVCA Phenom Watchlist and 2020-22 JVA Watch List
- Guided CUVC 17 Premier Bid to club's first USAC Nationals berth in 2022

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#### **KITTY SANDT**

Fr. • S • 6-0 • Western Springs, Ill. • Nazareth Academy

	SP	Assists	A/S	Kills	Digs	PTS
2023						
Career						

**Season Highs:** 

- Helped guide Nazareth Academy to a state title in 2021
- Guided Nazareth Academy to a third-place finish at state in 2019
- Named a 2021 All-State Second Team and All-Conference selection
- Selected as an AAU All-American in 2021
- Named a JVA All-American in 2019
- Was a team captain and guided Sports Performance club volleyball to a second place finish at the AAU National Championship in 2021

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#### **AŹYAH DAILEY**

Jr. • OH • 6-2 • Port Charlotte, Fla. • Port Charlotte HS

	SP	Kills	K/S	Digs	Blocks	PTS
2023	95	212	2.23	52	60	243.5
Career	173	346	2.00	94	88	394.5

Season Highs: 15 kills (2x), 5 blocks (4x), 17 points (2x)

- Tied a career-high with 15 kills at South Carolina and vs. North Carolina
- Hit .526 with 12 kills and five blocks vs. Middle Tennessee
- 2023 Big Orange Bash All-Tournament Team
- Hit .421 with nine kills and three blocks against South Alabama
- Has tallied double-digit kills in seven matches this season
- Clocked 14 kills and five blocks against Virginia Tech (10/1/23)
- $\bullet$  Tallied 11 kills with a .409 hitting percentage against Boston College

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## **BECCA MICELLE**

 So. • DS/L• 6-3 • Naples, Fla. • Community School of Naples

 SP
 Digs
 D/S
 Assists
 Aces
 PTS

 2023
 53
 63
 1.19
 13
 7
 7

 Career
 155
 222
 1.43
 35
 26
 26

Season Highs: 2 aces, 7 digs, 3 assists

- Appeared in 22 matches this season
- Tallied seven digs at Notre Dame for a season-high
- Has seven aces in 2023, including two against Notre Dame in Jervey Gym
- ACC Academic Honor Roll (2022)
- Finished 2022 with 159 digs to average 1.56 per set
- Clocked a career-high 16 digs in a five-set match against The Citadel (9/3/22)
- Tallied 19 service aces (2022)

9



#### **AVA HEWITT**

Fr. • MH • 6-0 • Los Angeles, Calif. • Sierra Canyon School

			,			
	SP	Kills	K/S	Blocks	Blk/Set	PTS
2023	4	1	0.25	2	0.50	2
Career	4	1	0.25	2	0.50	2

Season Highs: 1 kill, 1 block (2x)

- Appeared in four sets in 2023
- Tallied two blocks this season against Western Carolina & Wake Forest each
- Appeared in 96 sets her senior season at Sierra Canyon with 107 kills on 244 attempts
- Maintained a .395 hitting percentage as a junior tallying 153 kills through 96 sets
- Finished high school with 260 kills, 153 blocks (14 solo) and one ace
- Played club volleyball with City Volleyball Club

# Roster

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## **KATERYNA TKACHENKO**

Sr. • OH • 6-2 • Lubny, Ukraine • Oregon State

	SP	Kills	K/S	Digs	<b>Blocks</b>	PTS
2023	42	63	1.50	8	11	70.5
Career	295	732	2.48	247	77	793.5

Season Highs: 9 kills (2x), 3 digs, 3

- Appeared in 19 matches this season
- · Finished with nine kills and three blocks at Duke
- Led Clemson with six kills and 7.5 points against Duke
- Tallied nine kills with a .818 hitting percentage against Louisville
- Clocked eight kills, two digs and one block at Pitt
- Transfered from Oregon State as a senior
- Appeared in 74 matches for the Beavers

**12** 



#### **KATIE CULUMOVIC**

Gr. • S/DS • 5-5 • Simpsonville, S.C. • Mississippi State

	SP	Digs	D/S	Assists	Aces	PTS
2023	17	29	1.71	47	3	5
Career	106	137	1.29	259	15	19

Season Highs: 15 assists, 10 digs, 1 ace (3x)

- Appeared in eight matches
- Posted her first Tiger double-double at Tulane (15 assists, 10 digs)
- Finished with 14 assists against Houston Christian
- Tallied nine assists and seven digs against South Alabama
- Member of the 2021 MSU team that made the NCAA Tournament for the first time in program history
- Tallied 212 career assists including 123 during her sophomore campaign

**13** 



#### **ADRIA POWELL**

Gr. • MB • 6-2 • Hubbard, Ohio • Ohio State

	SP	Kills	K/S	Blocks	Blk/S	PTS
2023	105	195	1.86	135	1.29	305
Career	399	598	1.50	344	0/86	847.5

Season Highs: 14 kills, 8 blocks (2x), 7 digs, 4 aces

- Clocked 17.5 points (14 kills, four blocks, one ace) against Notre Dame
- Clemson Invitational All-Tournament Team selection
- Finished with at least one blocks in every match this season at least three in 26
- Had eight kills, seven blocks and four aces against Virginia Tech
- Tallied 12 kills and a .550 hitting percentage against Syracuse
- Transfered from Ohio State as a graduate transfer
- Played 294 sets over 93 games for the Buckeyes

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## **AUDREY ARMBRUSTER**

Fr. • S/OH • 5-11 • Cincinnati, Ohio • Mount Notre Dame

	SP	Assists	A/S	Kills	Digs	PTS
2023	15	75	5.00	1	15	5.5
Career	15	75	5.00	1	15	5.5

Season Highs: 38 assists, 2 aces (2x), 7 digs

- Appeared in five matches
- Posted 38 assists and six digs in the reverse sweep against UTEP
- Tallied first kill at Tulane
- Had double-digit assists in every match of the Tulane Invitational
- On the JVA Watchlist (2021 & 2022)
- Helped guide Elevation to being OVR Champions in 2021 and 2022
- Intends to major in helath sciences or business

**15** 



#### **KATE SIMINGTON**

Fr. • MH • 6-4 • Excelsior, Minn. • Minnetonka HS

	SP	Kills	K/S	Blocks	Blk/Set	PTS
2023	106	149	1.41	75	0.71	192.5
Career	106	149	1.41	75	0.71	192.5

Season Highs: 12 kills, 7 blocks, 13 points

- Named to the Tulane All-Tournament Team
- Tallied 12 kills and two blocks against Virginia Tech
- Finished with nine kills and four blocks against Winthrop
- $\bullet\,$  Hit .700 with seven kills off 10 attempts against Green Bay
- Clocked seven kills vs. Wofford and four blocks vs. MTSU
- $\bullet$  Finished with 10 kills against UTEP for her first double-digit kill performance
- $\bullet$  Finished with seven blocks (1 solo, 6 assisted) against Western Carolina

**16** 



#### **DEVAN TAYLOR**

Jr. • DS/L • 5-9 • Spring, Texas• Klein HS

	SP	Digs	D/S	Assists	Aces	PTS
2023	106	384	3.62	107	17	22
Career	328	1,221	3.72	313	62	75

Season Highs: 23 digs, 8 assists, 3 aces

- Started every match at libero
- Recorded 23 digs vs. Houston Christian and 20 vs. Sacramento State
- Named to the Gators Invitational All-Tournament Team
- Surpassed 1,000 career digs against Tulane
- Tallied double-digit digs in 24 matches
- Three-time ACC Academic Honor Roll selection
- Tallied a career-high 29 digs vs. Virginia Tech (9/23/22)

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## **MCKENNA SLAVIK**

Gr. • S • 6-1 • Saint Charles, Ill. • Saint Charles East HS

	SP	Assists	A/S	Kills	Digs	PTS
2023	94	827	8.80	81	271	128
Career	489	4,690	9.59	329	1,114	542

Season Highs: 52 assists, 18 digs, 3 aces (4x), 8 kills

- Surpassed 4,000 career assists vs. South Alabama to become the fourth Tiger and fifth-active Division I player to reach the milestone
- . Clocked 30 assists at Pitt to move into third all-time on Clemson's list
- Tallied 17 digs against Miami to surpass 1,000 on her career
  Finished with a season-high 18 digs against North Carolina
- 2023 Preseason All-ACC & 2022 All-ACC Second Team
- Tied career-high of 52 assists vs. Virginia Tech for the seventh time in her career

# Roster

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#### **SOPHIE CATALANO**

So. • OPP • 5-10 • Pittsburgh, Pa. • Pine-Richland HS

	SP	Kills	K/S	Digs	Blocks	PTS
2023	14	0	0.00	5	0	2
Career	109	6	0.06	43	1	26.5

Season Highs: 1 ace (2x), 2 digs

- Appeared in 14 sets over seven matches
- Tabbed two digs and an ace at Virginia
- 2022 ACC Academic Honor Roll
- Had at least one ace in 12 matches
- Finished with a career-game vs. The Citadel clocking six kills, eight digs, one assist and one ace (9/3/22)
- Clocked three aces vs. Jacksonville State (9/2/22)

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#### **MIA MOORE**

So. • OPP • 6-0 • Frisco, Texas • Frisco Heritage HS

	SP	Kills	K/S	Digs	Blocks	PTS
2023	15	21	1.40	5	6	24.5
Career	32	49	1.53	12	11	55

Season Highs: 6 kills, 3 digs, 3 blocks

- · Recorded six kills and one block assist vs. Winthrop
- Added four kills and one block assist at Florida
- Tallied two kills, three digs and three blocks against South Alabama
- Appeared in eight matches, starting two as a freshman
- Finished with a season-high eight kills at Notre Dame (10/2/22)
- Had five kills, two assists and two digs at ETSU (9/9/22)
- Clocked four kills and one dig against Jacksonville State (9/2/22)

23



## **MIA McGRATH**

So. • OH • 5-11 • Deerfield, III. • Loyola Academy

	SP	Kills	K/S	Digs	Blocks	PTS
2023	98	159	1.62	164	22	190.5
Career	216	371	1.72	405	34	439

Season Highs: 15 kills, 14 digs, 4 aces (2x), 4 blocks

- Tallied 15 kills and three blocks in the reverse sweep of UTEP
- Recorded 17 points (13 kills, 4 aces) in the five-set win against Miami
- Clocked 12 kills, eight digs and three assists vs. Western Carolina
- Finished with 14 digs against Houston Christian
- Had 10 kills, seven digs and one block assist against South Carolina
- 2022 ACC All-Freshman Team
- Finished with 212 kills, 241 digs, 28 aces, 24 assists and 12 blocks in 2022

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#### **KATIE HURTA**

RFr. • OPP • 6-1 • Palos Hills, III. • Penn State

	SP	Kills	K/S	Digs	Blocks	PTS
2023	66	137	2.08	41	21	150
Career	71	138	1.94	43	21	151

Season Highs: 19 kills, 6 digs, 3 blocks (2x)

- Led the Tigers with 19 kills against Sacramento State
- Had three block assists vs. Winthrop and Tulane
- Clocked 16 kills in the reverse sweep of UTEP
- Finished with 16.5 points (15 kills, 2 blocks) at Virginia
- Named to Gators Invitational & Tulane Invitational All-Tournament Team
- Transfered from Penn State as a redshirt freshman
- 2022 Gatorade Player of the Year in Illinois

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# **McKENNA GILDON**

Fr. • DS/L • 5-10 • Plano, Texas • Liberty HS

	SP	Digs	D/S	Assists	Aces	PTS
2023	92	154	1.67	25	17	18
Career	92	154	1.67	25	17	18

Season Highs: 3 aces, 11 digs (4x), 5 assists

- Tallied a season-high 11 digs against Florida, Georgia Tech, North Carolina & Notre Dame
- Finished with three assists and two aces vs. Florida
- Recorded nine digs and two aces vs. Sacramento State
- Had nine digs in back-to-back games against Wake Forest & Virginia Tech
- Clocked her first ace against Green Bay at least one in 10 matches
- Tabbed a career-high three aces at Notre Dame

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#### **CAROLINE SELE**

 So. • S/RS • 6-2 • San Juan Capistrano, Calif. • St. Margaret's Episcopal School

 SP
 Assist
 A/S
 Kills
 Digs
 PTS

 2023
 Career
 3
 15
 5.0
 0
 0
 0
 1.5

Season Highs:

- 2022 ACC Academic Honor Roll
- Appeared in two matches as a freshman

• Tallied a season-high 15 assists, one block and one ace against Georgia Tech (11/18/22)

- Served twice against Presbyterian (8/27/22)
- Named the San Joaquin League Player of the Year (2021)
- Was a captain her senior year of high school

P	RO	GR	AM	<b>FAC</b>	TS

Clemson University				
Nickname	Tigers			
Location	Clemson, S.C.			
Colors	Clemson Orange & Regalia			
Founded	1889			
Enrollment	27,341			
President	Dr. James P. Clements (Maryland-Baltimore County '85)			
<b>Director of Athletics</b>	Graham Neff (Georgia Tech '06)			
Facility/Capacity	Jervey Gym (2,000)			

#### **GRATITUDE • GRACE • GRIT**

**GRATITUDE** requires a present mindset. When we enter a moment with gratitude, we acknowledge that there is an opportunity for future success in every result, every interaction and every decision. Through the lens of gratitude, challenges become opportunities.

**GRIT** is powerful. It is one of the best indicators of an individual's success in life. Enthusiasm is common, but endurance is rare. Grit is a catalyst for endurance. We engage in a moment with grit when we align our actions and passion with our purpose.

Failure cannot exist where there is **GRACE**. When we evaluate a moment with grace, we are able to see something for what it is rather than what we wanted it to be. Volleyball is a game of errors; life is a series of lessons. Grace allows us to respond rather than react to a moment.

# **Quick Facts**

#### **MEDIA SERVICES CLEMSON ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS** Women's Volleyball Contact Valerie Johnson (Central Michigan '18) Email vjohns4@clemson.edu 712-269-4149 Phone Assoc. AD - Communications Jeff Kallin (Clemson '06) Email kallin@clemson.edu **CLEMSON ATHLETICS** Website ClemsonTigers.com IPTAY Office Phone 1-800-CLEMSON Social Media @ClemsonVB (X) @ClemsonVB (Instagram) @ClemsonTigers (Main Athletics) **ACC MEDIA RELATIONS**

**Claudia Close** is the volleyball athletic communications contact at the ACC office. She can be reached via email at CClose@theacc.org.

#### INTERVIEW

Interviews are available by request with select players and **Head Coach Jackie Simpson Kirr**. Contact **Valerie Johnson** via phone or email to coordinate all interview requests. Players are available at the discretion of the women's volleyball staff upon request.

#### MORE INFORMATION



ACC STANDINGS							
SCH00L	CONF	CPCT.	OVERALL	PCT.	STREAK		
Florida State	15-2	.882	22-8	.733	W7		
Pitt	14-2	.875	23-4	.852	W3		
Louisville	14-3	.824	23-4	.852	L1		
Georgia Tech	13-4	.765	22-5	.815	W1		
NC State	11-6	.647	21-7	.750	W4		
Miami	10-6	.625	17-9	.654	W1		
Duke	10-7	.588	19-9	.679	W2		
Wake Forest	8-9	.471	17-11	.607	L3		
Clemson	7-10	.412	16-13	.552	L2		
Boston College	6-10	.375	17-13	.567	W1		
North Carolina	6-11	.353	12-14	.462	L2		
Notre Dame	5-12	.294	11-14	.440	W1		
Virginia Tech	3-13	.188	13-14	.481	W1		
Virginia	3-13	.188	10-16	.385	L1		
Syracuse	0-17	.000	2-25	.074	L17		

CLEMSON ON PAPER							
Statistics: As of 11/19/23	National Rank	Conference Rank	Value				
Aces Per Set (332 ranked)	143	7	1.55				
Assists Per Set (332 ranked)	249	12	10.82				
Blocks Per Set (332 ranked)	104	7	2.24				
Digs Per Set (332 ranked)	227	7	13.58				
Hitting Percentage (332 ranked)	194	11	.202				
Kills Per Set (332 ranked)	246	14	11.75				
Match W-L Pctg. (331 ranked)	150	10	.552				
Opp Hitting Percentage (332 ranked)	192	10	.212				
Team Assists (332 ranked)	226	10	1,147				
Team Attacks Per Set (332 ranked)	245	8	33.14				
Team Digs (332 ranked)	216	6	1,439				
Team Kills (332 ranked)	227	11	1,246				
Team Service Aces (332 ranked)	138	5	164				
Team Total Attacks (332 ranked)	215	5	3,513				
Team Total Blocks (332 ranked)	104	6	237				

CLEMSON'S RECORD WHEN						
	Overall	ACC				
LOCATION						
Home	7-7	3-6				
Away	5-6	4-4				
Neutral	4-0	0-0				
RANKING						
vs. Ranked Opponent	0-4	0-3				
MATCH LENGTH						
3-Set Matches	6-9	2-8				
4-Set Matches	5-3	3-2				
5-Set Matches	5-1	2-1				
STATISTICAL LEADERS						
CU hits .250 or better	6-1	3-1				
CU hits below .250	10-12	4-9				
Opp. hits .250 or better	1-8	0-7				
Opp. hits below .250	15-5	7-3				
CU has higher attack %	14-0	6-0				
CU has lower attack %	2-13	1-10				
Teams have same attack %	0-0	0-0				
CU has more kills	9-1	4-0				
CU has fewer kills	7-12	3-10				
Same number of kills	0-0	0-0				
3 players with 10+ kills	3-1	2-0				
3 players hit .300+ (min. 10 attempts)	6-1	2-1				
CU hits 30+ kills	16-12	7-10				
CU allows 30+ kills	14-13	7-10				
CU has more aces	11-2	3-2				
CU has fewer aces	4-11	3-8				
Same number of aces	1-0	1-0				
CU has more digs	8-5	3-4				
CU has fewer digs	7-7	4-5				
Same number of digs	1-1	0-1				
CU has more blocks	8-4	3-4				
CU has fewer blocks	6-8	3-5				
Same number of blocks	2-1	1-1				

# **Head Coach Jackie Simpson Kirr**



Jackie Simpson Kirr, a two-time All-American setter at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, completed her second season at the helm of the Clemson Volleyball program in 2022 after serving as the associate head coach and the team's offensive and recruiting coordinator for four seasons. Simpson Kirr joined the staff on April 24, 2017 and was promoted to head coach on May 6, 2021.

Since arriving at Clemson, Simpson Kirr has helped guide the Tigers to two postseason appearance, including the first since 2009 with an appearance in the National Invitational Volleyball Championship (NIVC) in 2018 and 2022 and has mentored seven different players that earned All-ACC accolades on 10 occasions. Simpson Kirr has also raised the bar when it comes to recruiting. After bringing in two recruiting classes that were given honorable mention recognition by the AVCA, Clemson's 2020 recruiting class was tabbed No. 24 in the nation and was just one of two recruiting classes in the nation to feature four All-Americans.

In 2022, Simpson Kirr led the Tigers back to the NIVC for the first postseason appearance since 2018 and the first under her tutelage. In the second season with Simpson Kirr at the helm, Clemson defeated in-state rival South Carolina, 3-2, for the first time since 2014 and the first in Jervey Gym since 2013. The Tigers also defeated Notre Dame, 3-2, for the first time since 2014 and marked the second time Clemson has defeated the Fighting Irish on the road to snap an eight-game losing streak. Under Simpson Kirr's direction, three Tigers garnered ACC All-Conference honors with Camryn Hannah and Mckenna Slavik picking up All-ACC Second Team honors and Mia McGrath earning ACC All-Freshman accolades. Slavik also moved up two spots on Clemson's Career List tallying 3,863 career assists to sit fifth, while off the court, Slavik garnered College Sports Communicator Academic All-District honors. Redshirt freshman Jacyn Bamis garnered ACC Freshman of the Week honors to become the first Tiger to earn an ACC weekly honor since March 2021.

In her first season as head coach, Simpson Kirr led the Tigers to accomplishing numerous feats, including defeating Rutgers in three sets on Sept. 17 for the first win Clemson has had over a Big Ten opponent since 1999. Under her guidance, Clemson started the season 10-3 to mark the best start since 2014 and also started 2-0 in ACC action for the first time since 2011. The Tigers posted a perfect 8-0 mark against non-conference opponents in Jervey Gym and finished with 59 block solos on the year, the most in both areas since 2014. The 2021 season also played host to the third-fewest attack errors in program history, and the 12-win season is the most wins in the inaugural season of a head coaches' tenure since Jolene Hoover won 27 in 1993.

During the unprecedented 2020 campaign, Simpson Kirr and the Tigers opened the season with a 3-2 upset victory over No. 12 Miami (Fla.). Then freshman outside hitter Hannah finished with a standout first season in the Clemson Orange and Regalia under Simpson Kirr's direction. Hannah picked up All-ACC Second Team and ACC All-Freshman Team honors after leading all freshman in the ACC in kills and kills per set. She also garnered an AVCA All-Region East selection and AVCA All-American Honorable Mention. Simpson Kirr guided freshman Cate Long to finish eighth in the NCAA for total aces (38). Both Hannah and Long also garnered a combined four All-ACC weekly honors during the year.

In 2019, Simpson Kirr and the Tigers went 3-0, including a sweep over SEC foe Georgia and a four-set win over a 2019 NCAA tournament qualifier in Kennesaw State, to win the annual Big Orange Bash tournament. Clemson's 2019 non-conference slate was also highlighted by the program's first-ever win over Central Arkansas as well as victories over Appalachian State and Oral Roberts. Simpson Kirr and the Tigers made history in the month of October that year when Clemson downed four straight ACC opponents, a first for the program since 2012. Outside hitter Kaylin Korte garnered Second Team All-ACC status for the second time of her career, having done so in 2017, after Korte tied for fifth in the conference in kills (3.58/set). Additionally, freshman setter Slavik was one of just five Power-5 freshman setters to average at least 9.70 assists per set.

In 2018, Simpson Kirr mentored then redshirt-sophomore Brooke Bailey, a transfer from Ohio State, who earned Second Team All-ACC honors after she finished the regular season ranked fifth in kills (3.71/set) against ACC

opponents. Additionally, former Clemson setter Gabby Easton and right side hitter Solei Thomas were named to the All-ACC Freshman Team. Easton was the top freshman setter in the conference after leading all freshmen in the ACC in assists during the regular season with 1,278 (10.74/set), which also put her at No. 3 overall in the ACC. Her 10.74 assists per set average was also good for fifth in the nation among all freshmen and ranked third among Power-5 freshmen. Easton's 1,278 assists were also the second most by a freshman in program history, a milestone that she reached with two matches remaining in Clemson's regular season. Thomas ranked second on the team in kills after averaging 2.89 kills per set in 2018. Thomas totaled 17 double-digit kill matches, including a career-best 20 kills against Appalachian State (Sept. 1, 2018). Both Easton and Thomas were named ACC Freshman of the Week on two occasions each. The 2018 ACC postseason awards announcement marked the first time since 2011 Clemson collected three ACC postseason selections. In the spring of 2018, Clemson's incoming recruiting class was given the highest honorable mention by PrepVolleyball.com.

Additionally, Simpson Kirr has had three players in Slavik, Korte and Bailey earn spots on a USA Volleyball Collegiate National Team. Slavik is a two-time selection securing a spot on the 2022 U.S. Collegiate National Team-Anaheim and another on the 2020 U.S. Collegiate National Team-Anaheim in the spring of 2020, but was unable to compete due to the coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19), which caused the cancelation of the event. Both Korte and Bailey earned spots on the 2018 U.S. Collegiate National Team-Detroit.

Since joining the Tigers' staff, Simpson Kirr has lured five Power-5 transfers to Clemson in outside hitters Adria Powell (Ohio State), Bailey (Ohio State) and Korte (Illinois), setter Caroline Pearson (Arizona State) and defensive specialist/setter Katie Culumovic (Mississippi State). In 2017, Simpson Kirr guided Korte to Second Team All-ACC status, who led the team in kills (3.36/set) and attempts (9.67/set). In the Tigers' opening match of 2017, a win over Bethune-Cookman, Simpson Kirr steered Pearson to tally 57 assists, which was second-most in a four-set match among all ACC players in 2017.

Simpson Kirr was the head coach at George Mason in Fairfax, Virginia from 2015-16. In her first season with the Patriots, she led the team to the best Atlantic-10 finish in program history and its best overall record since 2010. While at the helm of the Patriot program, Simpson Kirr served on the AVCA All-American Selection Committee in 2016, during which time she was the East Region Committee Chair. She also earned the AVCA's 30-under-30 Award in 2015, a prestigious national honor awarded to the top 30 volleyball coaches, at any level, under the age of 30.

Prior to her time at George Mason, Simpson Kirr was an assistant coach at lowa for the 2014 season. She also previously served as an assistant coach at Marquette (2013-14), East Carolina (2010-13) and Winona State in Winona, Minnesota (2008-09).

Simpson Kirr was a standout setter both on the court and in the classroom at Wisconsin from 2004-07. She led the Badgers to four NCAA Tournament appearances, including two Elite Eight berths. Simpson Kirr was a two-time AVCA All-American and a two-time All-Big Ten selection. She ranks second all-time in Wisconsin program history in career assists and is 19th all-time among Big Ten setters.

Simpson Kirr earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Letters & Science – Sociology from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 2008. She earned a Master of Science degree in Exercise & Sport Science – Sport Psychology from East Carolina in 2013.

#### **COACHES AND STAFF**



Taylor Unroe Associate Head Coach 3rd Season Florida (2014)



Dan O'Keefe Assistant Coach 2nd Season Saint Xavier (2017)



Quinn Lukens
Assistant Coach
2nd Season
Wisconsin (2015)



Haley Bilbruck Director of Operations 3rd Season Southeast Missouri State (2019)

# **2023 TV Roster**



#2 • Kennedy Wagner Freshman • OH



#3 • Maggie Patterson Sophomore • DS/L



#4 • Courtney Nix Freshman • DS/L



#6 • Kitty Sandt Freshman • S



#7 • Azyah Dailey Junior • OH (Asia)



#8 • Becca Micelle Sophomore • DS/L (mih-CELL-ee)



#9 • Ava Hewitt Freshman • MH



#11 • Kateryna Tkachenko Junior • OH (kah-TEE-ah kah-CHEN-ko)



#12 • Katie Culumovic Graduate • S/DS (cuh-LUM-uh-vik)



#13 • Adria Powell Graduate • MB



#14 • Audrey Armbruster Freshman • S/OH



#15 • Kate Simington Freshman • MH (SIME-ee-ton)



#16 • Devan Taylor Junior • DS/L



#18 • Mckenna Slavik Graduate • S



#20 • Sophie Catalano



#22 • Mia Moore Sophomore • OPP



#23 • Mia McGrath Sophomore • OH



#25 • Katie Hurta Redshirt Freshman • OPP



#28 • McKenna Gildon Freshman • DS/L



#30 • Caroline Sele Sophomore • S/RS (SEE-lee)



Jackie Simpson Kirr Head Coach (KEER)

ClemsonTigers.com



Taylor Unroe Associate Head Coach



Dan O'Keefe Assistant Coach



Assistant Coach



Haley Bilbruck Director of Operations