



# MATCH NOTES

# CLEMSON VOLLEYBALL

#OWNTODAY

## Match 33: Clemson (19-13, 8-10 ACC) at UTEP

December 6, 2023 • El Paso, Texas

### 2023 SCHEDULE & RESULTS

Date	Opponent	WATCH	Time/Result
<b>Fri., Aug. 25</b>	# Middle Tennessee	<b>ACCNX</b>	<b>W, 3-1</b>
<b>Sun., Aug. 27</b>	# Wofford	<b>ACCNX</b>	<b>W, 3-0</b>
Wed. Aug. 30	at South Carolina	SEC+	L, 1-3
<b>Fri., Sept. 1</b>	^ Western Carolina	<b>ACCNX</b>	<b>W, 3-0</b>
<b>Sat. Sept. 2</b>	^ South Alabama	<b>ACCNX</b>	<b>L, 0-3</b>
<b>Sun. Sept. 3</b>	^ Green Bay	<b>ACCNX</b>	<b>W, 3-0</b>
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
<b>Wed., Sept. 20</b>	* #13 Georgia Tech	<b>ACCN</b>	<b>L, 1-3</b>
<b>Fri., Sept. 22</b>	* NC State	<b>ACCNX</b>	<b>L, 0-3</b>
Fri., Sept. 29	* at Wake Forest	ACCNX	L, 0-3
<b>Sun., Oct. 1</b>	* Virginia Tech	<b>ACCNX</b>	<b>W, 3-2</b>
Fri., Oct. 6	* at Virginia	ACCNX	W, 3-1
Sun., Oct. 8	* at #7 Pitt	ACCNX	L, 0-3
<b>Fri., Oct. 13</b>	* Miami	<b>ACCNX</b>	<b>W, 3-2</b>
<b>Sun., Oct. 15</b>	* Florida State	<b>ACCNX</b>	<b>L, 0-3</b>
<b>Fri., Oct. 20</b>	* North Carolina	<b>ACCNX</b>	<b>L, 2-3</b>
<b>Sun., Oct. 22</b>	* Duke	<b>ACCNX</b>	<b>L, 0-3</b>
Fri., Oct. 27	* at Syracuse	ACCNX	W, 3-0
Sun., Oct. 29	* at Boston College	ACCN	W, 3-0
<b>Fri., Nov. 3</b>	* Notre Dame	<b>ACCNX</b>	<b>W, 3-1</b>
<b>Sun., Nov. 5</b>	* Louisville	<b>ACCNX</b>	<b>L, 1-3</b>
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	W, 3-0
Thu., Nov. 30	! vs. Eastern Kentucky	ESPN+	W, 3-0
Fri., Dec. 1	! vs. Ball State	ESPN+	W, 3-2
Wed. Dec. 6	! at UTEP		9 p.m.

Bold indicates home match at Jervey Gym

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

### PROGRAM HISTORY

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First Year of Volleyball	1977
All-Time Record	909-697
All-Time Record in Jervey Gym	427-222
All-Time ACC Record (34 Years)	293-336
Last NCAA Tournament Appearance	2009
NCAA Tournament Appearances	8
Last NIVC Tournament Appearance	2023
NIVC Tournament Appearances	3 (2018, 2022, 2023)
ACC Regular-Season Championships	2 (1997, 2007)
ACC Tournament Championships	1 (1997)

### 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
Mckenna Slavik	11/22/23	--	15	28

### CLEMSON

Record:	19-13
Home:	7-7
Away:	6-6
Neutral:	6-0
Non-Conf.:	11-3
ACC:	8-10

Head Coach: Jackie Simpson Kirr || 3rd season

at Clemson:	44-49
Total (5th season)	61-88
Assoc. HC: Taylor Unroe    3rd season	
Asst. Coach: Dan O'Keefe    2nd season	
Asst. Coach: Quinn Lukens    1st season	
Dir. of Ops: Haley Bilbruck    3rd season	

### HISTORY VS. UTEP

Clemson Record:	1-0
Last Win:	9/15/23
	W, 3-2
Last Meeting:	9/15/23
	W, 3-2
Trend:	W1

### UTEP

Record:	23-9
Home:	12-0
Away:	7-5
Neutral:	4-4
Non-Conf.:	12-4
CUSA:	11-5

Head Coach: Ben Wallis  
5th Season at UTEP  
at UTEP: 87-52

Asst. Coach: Nick Petrovic  
Asst. Coach: Courtney Johnson  
Asst. Coach: Lexie Torres  
Manager: Jorge Araiza

### NEED TO KNOW

#### NIVC HISTORY

- The 2023 selection to the NIVC is Clemson's third selection in program history
- The Tigers advanced to the third round of 2023 after defeated Ball State in five sets
- Clemson's opening round sweep against ECU in 2023 marks the first postseason win since 2018
- Clemson first made the NIVC in 2018 and advanced to the third round before dropping a three-set match to College of Charleston
- The Tigers defeated both Alabama A&M and Radford that season to advance to be one of the final eight teams
- Last season, Clemson was selected and played Kent State in the opening round in Lynchburg, Va.

#### 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 has 262 total blocks (71 solo, 382 assisted) and is averaging 2.24 per set
- 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 (149) and in blocks per set (1.28)
- Azyah Dailey has contributed 67 blocks to follow Powell. Dailey is averaging 0.63 per set after having three solo and 64 assisted

#### NOTEWORTHY SEASON

- Clemson's 19 wins ties for the most in a single-season since 2018 when Clemson finished the regular season with 17 and ended the season with 19 following two wins in the NIVC Tournament
- 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 also won eight ACC matches in 2023 to mark the most under Head Coach Jackie Simpson Kirr and the most since 2018
- With the eight wins, Clemson tied for eighth in the ACC to mark the highest finish since 2012 when the Tigers tied for fourth with a 12-8 record
- 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

#### 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 sits 68th in the RPI through Selection Sunday on Nov. 26

### MILESTONES/TRENDS

- Mckenna Slavik moved into third all-time on Clemson's career assist list against Pitt. She currently has 4,806. She also surpassed 1,000 digs against Miami.
- Devan Taylor surpassed 1,000 career digs at Tulane. Taylor is broke into the top 10 on Clemson's career list vs. VT and climbed to No. 8 vs. Ball State - she's 3 away from No. 7 and 30 from No. 6

#### UPCOMING MILESTONES

	HAS	NEEDS
Azyah Dailey 400 kills	374	26
McKenna Gildon 200 digs	170	30
Katie Hurta 200 kills	150	50
Mia McGrath 400 kills	388	12
Adria Powell 400 blocks	358	42
Adria Powell 900 points	891	9
Kate Simington 100 blocks	76	24
Mckenna Slavik 4,900 assists	4,806	94
Devan Taylor 1,300 digs	1,269	31
Kennedy Wagner 50 aces	39	11

### STATISTICAL LEADERS

CATEGORY	NAMES	No.
Points	Adria Powell	348.5
Attacks	Kennedy Wagner	656
Kills	Azyah Dailey	240
Kills per Set	Kennedy Wagner	2.34
Hitting Percentage	Mckenna Slavik	.302
Assists	Mckenna Slavik	943
Assists Per Set	Mckenna Slavik	8.98
Service Aces	Kennedy Wagner	39
Service Aces Per Set	Kennedy Wagner	0.40
Digs	Devan Taylor	432
Digs Per Set	Devan Taylor	3.69
Blocks	Adria Powell	149
Blocks Per Set	Adria Powell	1.28

# Roster

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## KENNEDY WAGNER

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

	SP	Kills	K/S	Digs	Blocks	PTS
2023	98	229	2.34	138	38	291
Career	98	229	2.34	138	38	291

**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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## AZYAH DAILEY

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

	SP	Kills	K/S	Digs	Blocks	PTS
2023	106	240	2.26	58	67	275
Career	184	374	2.03	100	95	426

**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 eight matches this season
- Clocked 14 kills and five blocks against Virginia Tech (10/1/23)
- 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	63	83	1.32	15	9	9
Career	165	242	1.47	37	28	28

**Season Highs:** 2 aces, 11 digs, 3 assists

- Appeared in 25 matches this season
- Finished with a season-high 11 digs against Virginia Tech
- Tallied seven digs at Notre Dame
- Has eight 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)

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## AVA HEWITT

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

	SP	Kills	K/S	Blocks	Blk/Set	PTS
2023	13	12	0.92	10	0.77	17.5
Career	13	12	0.92	10	0.77	17.5

**Season Highs:** 6 kills, 4 blocks (2x)

- Appeared in 13 sets in 2023
- Finished with six kills and four blocks (one solo, three assisted) against ECU
- Clocked back-to-back kills in the third set at Virginia Tech
- Tallied two blocks this season - against Western Carolina & Wake Forest each
- Had three kills and four blocks against Ball State
- 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	Blocks	PTS
2023	53	92	1.74	9	14	101.5
Career	306	761	2.49	248	80	824.5

Season Highs: 15 kills, 3 digs, 3 blocks

- Appeared in 22 matches this season
- Tallied a season-high 15 kills against Ball State
- Finished with nine kills and three blocks at Duke
- Recorded eight kills and one block solo at Virginia Tech
- Tallied nine kills with a .818 hitting percentage against Louisville
- Transferred from Oregon State as a senior
- Appeared in 74 matches for the Beavers

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## KATIE CULUMOVIC

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

	SP	Digs	D/S	Assists	Aces	PTS
2023	19	36	1.89	49	4	6
Career	108	144	1.33	261	16	20

Season Highs: 15 assists, 10 digs, 1 ace (4x)

- Appeared in 10 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

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## ADRIA POWELL

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

	SP	Kills	K/S	Blocks	Blk/S	PTS
2023	116	224	1.93	149	1.28	348.5
Career	410	627	1.53	358	0.87	891

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

- Had career-high 21 points vs. Ball State with 14 kills, six blocks and three aces
- Clocked 17.5 points (14 kills, four blocks, one ace) against Notre Dame
- Finished with at least one blocks in every match this season - at least three in 27
- Had eight kills, seven blocks and four aces against Virginia Tech
- Tallied 12 kills and a .550 hitting percentage against Syracuse
- Transferred 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 health sciences or business

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## KATE SIMINGTON

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

	SP	Kills	K/S	Blocks	Blk/Set	PTS
2023	109	151	1.39	76	0.70	195
Career	109	151	1.39	76	0.70	195

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
- Hit .700 with seven kills off 10 attempts against Green Bay
- Clocked seven kills vs. Wofford and four blocks vs. MTSU
- Finished with 10 kills against UTEP for her first double-digit kill performance
- Finished with seven blocks (1 solo, 6 assisted) against Western Carolina

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## DEVAN TAYLOR

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

	SP	Digs	D/S	Assists	Aces	PTS
2023	117	432	3.69	119	22	27
Career	339	1,269	3.74	325	67	80

Season Highs: 24 digs, 8 assists, 3 aces (2x)

- Started every match at libero
- Finished with 24 digs against Ball State
- Recorded 23 digs vs. Houston Christian and 20 vs. Sacramento State
- Surpassed 1,000 career digs against Tulane
- Tallied double-digit digs in 26 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	105	943	8.98	95	296	149.5
Career	500	4,806	9.61	343	1,139	563.5

Season Highs: 59 assists, 18 digs, 3 aces (4x), 8 kills

- Tallied a career-high 59 assists against Ball State
- 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



# Roster

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## SOPHIE CATALANO

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

	SP	Kills	K/S	Digs	Blocks	PTS
2023	15	1	0.07	5	0	3
Career	110	7	0.06	43	1	27.5

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

- Appeared in 15 sets over seven matches
- Tabbed two digs and an ace at Virginia
- Had the match-winning kill against EKU
- 2022 ACC Academic Honor Roll
- Had at least one ace in 12 matches in 2022
- Finished with a career-game vs. The Citadel clocking six kills, eight digs, one assist and one ace (9/3/22)

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## MIA MOORE

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

	SP	Kills	K/S	Digs	Blocks	PTS
2023	16	22	1.38	5	6	25.5
Career	33	50	1.52	12	11	56

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)

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## MIA McGRATH

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

	SP	Kills	K/S	Digs	Blocks	PTS
2023	109	176	1.61	190	24	211.5
Career	227	388	1.71	431	36	460

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

- Hit .444 going 8-for-18 with no errors against Ball State
- 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 and Ball State
- 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, Ill. • Penn State

	SP	Kills	K/S	Digs	Blocks	PTS
2023	72	149	2.07	46	22	162.5
Career	77	150	1.95	48	22	163.5

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
- Transferred 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	101	170	1.68	28	19	20
Career	101	170	1.68	28	19	20

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	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

## PROGRAM FACTS

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)
Director of Athletics	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

<b>Women's Volleyball Contact</b>	<b>Valerie Johnson</b> (Central Michigan '18)
Email	vjohns4@clemson.edu
Phone	712-269-4149
<b>Assoc. AD - Communications</b>	<b>Jeff Kallin</b> (Clemson '06)
Email	kallin@clemson.edu

### CLEMSON ATHLETICS

<b>Website</b>	ClemsonTigers.com
<b>IPTAY Office Phone</b>	1-800-CLEMSON
<b>Social Media</b>	@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

SCHOOL	CONF	CPCT.	OVERALL	PCT.	STREAK
Pitt	16-2	.889	26-4	.867	W6
Florida State	16-2	.889	23-9	.719	L1
Louisville	15-3	.833	25-4	.862	W2
Georgia Tech	13-5	.722	23-6	.793	W1
NC State	12-6	.667	22-7	.759	W5
Duke	10-8	.556	19-10	.655	L1
Miami	10-8	.556	18-11	.621	W1
Boston College	8-10	.444	19-13	.594	W3
Clemson	8-10	.444	19-13	.594	W3
Wake Forest	8-10	.444	17-12	.586	L4
North Carolina	7-11	.389	13-14	.481	W1
Notre Dame	5-13	.278	11-15	.423	L1
Virginia	4-14	.222	11-17	.393	W1
Virginia Tech	3-15	.167	13-16	.448	L2
Syracuse	0-18	.000	2-26	.071	L18

## CLEMSON ON PAPER

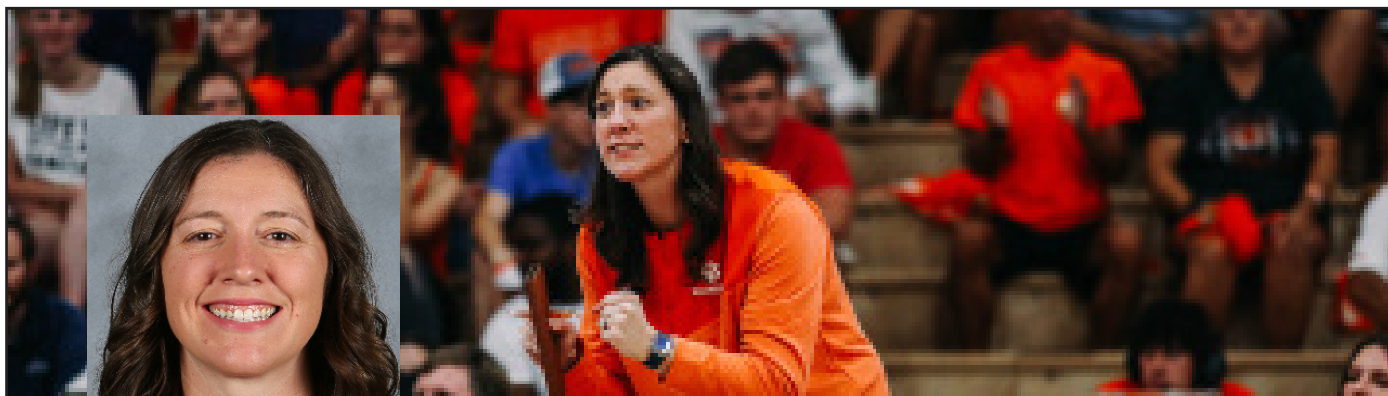
### Statistics: As of 12/3/23

	National Rank	Conference Rank	Value
Aces Per Set (92 ranked)	5	1	2.12
Assists Per Set (96 ranked)	32	4	12.88
Blocks Per Set (95 ranked)	27	4	2.62
Digs Per Set (96 ranked)	59	6	12.62
Hitting Percentage (94 ranked)	15	1	.328
Kills Per Set (96 ranked)	24	3	14.00
Match W-L Pctg. (49 ranked)	1	1	1.00
Opp Hitting Percentage (96 ranked)	36	4	.215
Team Assists (96 ranked)	8	2	103
Team Attacks Per Set (96 ranked)	77	6	30.88
Team Digs (96 ranked)	25	4	101
Team Kills (96 ranked)	8	2	112
Team Service Aces (88 ranked)	3	1	17
Team Total Attacks (96 ranked)	22	4	247
Team Total Blocks (95 ranked)	6	2	21

## CLEMSON'S RECORD WHEN...

LOCATION	Overall	ACC
Home	7-7	3-6
Away	6-6	5-4
Neutral	6-0	0-0
<b>RANKING</b>		
vs. Ranked Opponent	0-4	0-3
<b>MATCH LENGTH</b>		
3-Set Matches	8-9	3-8
4-Set Matches	5-3	3-2
5-Set Matches	6-1	2-1
<b>STATISTICAL LEADERS</b>		
CU hits .250 or better	8-1	3-1
CU hits below .250	11-12	5-9
Opp. hits .250 or better	2-8	0-7
Opp. hits below .250	17-5	8-3
CU has higher attack %	16-0	6-0
CU has lower attack %	3-13	2-10
Teams have same attack %	0-0	0-0
CU has more kills	12-1	5-0
CU has fewer kills	7-12	3-10
Same number of kills	0-0	0-0
3 players with 10+ kills	4-1	2-0
3 players hit .300+ (min. 10 attempts)	7-1	2-1
CU hits 30+ kills	19-12	8-10
CU allows 30+ kills	16-13	8-10
CU has more aces	14-2	4-2
CU has fewer aces	4-11	3-8
Same number of aces	1-0	1-0
CU has more digs	11-5	4-4
CU has fewer digs	7-7	4-5
Same number of digs	1-1	0-1
CU has more blocks	10-4	3-4
CU has fewer blocks	7-8	4-5
Same number of blocks	2-1	1-1

# Head Coach Jackie Simpson Kirr



**Education:** Wisconsin (UG - 2008) || East Carolina (Masters - 2013)  
**Years at Clemson:** Three as Head Coach || Seven Total

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 cancellation 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 Iowa 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



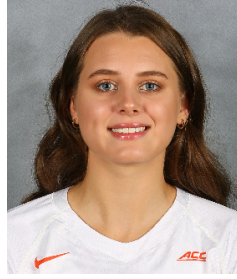
#7 • Azyah Dailey  
Junior • OH  
(Asia)



#8 • Becca Michelle  
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  
Sophomore • OPP



#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)



Taylor Unroe  
Associate Head Coach



Dan O'Keefe  
Assistant Coach



Quinn Lukens  
Assistant Coach



Haley Bilbruck  
Director of Operations