

JAMES G. PRESSLY STADIUM AT PERCY BEARD TRACK

The Gator soccer team plays all of its home games at one of the finest collegiate soccer stadiums in the nation, James G. Pressly Stadium at Percy Beard Track. In the 13-year history of Florida soccer, the Gators have amassed a home record of 121-19-10 (.840) record and have been ranked nationally in the top 10 for average and total attendance every season. The Gators ranked eighth in the nation with its 2007 total attendance of 16,889 (average of 1,299 per match).

An overflow crowd of 5,222 filled the Pressly Stadium complex when Florida and then No. 1-North Carolina met on Oct. 11, 1998 for one of the top regular-season matches of the 1998 season. That crowd was the second largest regular-season crowd of the 1998 women's soccer season and ranks among the top-20 crowds all-time for women's collegiate soccer. Florida opened the 1999 season with another overflow crowd, when 4,745 fans joined in the pre-match festivities, which included the unveiling of the NCAA Championship sign.

Pressly Stadium was the site of the 1997 Southeastern Conference Tournament and the UF-Vanderbilt championship match drew a SEC record crowd of 2,520. Florida played host to NCAA First & Second Round action in 2007, the 10th time in the program's 13-year history that NCAA play was held at Pressly Stadium.

Lights were added to the stadium for the 1997 season and the first night match

played at Pressly Stadium versus SEC rival Kentucky drew the fifth-largest crowd in school history of 3,425. In 2008, Florida will play five of its nine home matches under the lights.

During the spring and summer of 1995, the stadium underwent a major \$750,000 facelift so that the facility could accommodate soccer. In order to meet specifications, the pole vault and long jump pits were moved from the infield to outside of the track, providing the new soccer field with a playing area of approximately 115 yards by 70 yards. In addition to redesigning the infield, 2,500 aluminum seats were added to the already existing 2,000-seat concrete grandstand, bringing total grandstand capacity to 4,500.

The renovation effort also included adding new restrooms, permanent concession stands, ticket booths, storage rooms and an air-conditioned split-level pressbox. In the spring of 2007, the scoreboard in the stadium's southeast corner was updated. A Daktronics scoreboard using the latest in LED technology cost was added at a cost of approximately \$200,000 and serves both UF's soccer and track and field teams.

The stadium was named the James G. Pressly Stadium at Percy Beard Track in the spring of 2004 following a generous gift from James G. Pressly, a West Palm Beach attorney and a 1972 graduate of the UF College of Law. The track has long held the name Percy Beard Track after

the former Gator head track & field coach Percy Beard, who guided the Gators from 1937 to 1964.

Pressly Stadium is conveniently located adjacent to Florida's Lemerand Athletic Center. This multistory 43,000 square foot building, which opened in August of 1995, contains the locker room, equipment storage, training and sports medicine plus coaches' offices for the Gator soccer team. The Lemerand Athletic Center underwent more than \$1,400,000 in renovations in 2006 and among the end results is a

more spacious locker room for the Gator soccer team.

Through the 2008 season, the Gator soccer team has exclusive use of the Florida Soccer Practice field, located near the Florida Softball Stadium on the corners of Hull and Museum Roads on the UF campus. Next season, Florida's practice field will move across the street where it will be adjacent to Florida's Lacrosse Stadium. Groundbreaking for the lacrosse facility is set for the summer of 2008.

“Our fans make playing at home such an exciting atmosphere. The Gator fans really get into the matches and it is fun to be greeted onto the field by the tunnel formed by the fans. The Gainesville community supports Gator athletics so well - people even recognize me off the field and wish me luck. It’s amazing to play at home - I love it!”

Ameera Abdullah



The James G. Pressly Stadium overflowed with Gator fans at the 1998 UF-North Carolina match. That crowd of 5,222 ranked as the second-largest regular-season crowd of the 1998 season.

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The atmosphere at the James G. Pressly Stadium is always exciting. Many fun promotions are planned for the 2008 season, including a reunion of Florida's 1998 NCAA Championship team



The 2009 Florida soccer team will be the first to use the program's new practice field, which will be part of UF's Lacrosse Facility. The soccer team will have exclusive use of the field.



The Gator Soccer Practice Field opened in the fall of 1997 and is used exclusively by the Florida soccer team.



Recent renovations to the Lemerand include a new locker room for the Gator soccer team.



Gator fans are invited to welcome the team to the field prior to pre-match introductions.



In addition to Autograph Day, fans can come to the field post-match to meet the Gator players.

DID YOU KNOW?

Florida has ranked among the nation's top 10 in average attendance every season in the history of Gator soccer.

All-Time Top 5 James G. Pressly Stadium Soccer Crowds

Rank Crowd School (Date)

1. 5,222 . . . Florida vs. North Carolina (10/11/98)
2. 4,745 . . . Florida vs. Florida State (8/27/99)
3. 4,442 . . . Florida vs. Florida State (9/2/95)
4. 3,859 . . . Florida vs. Georgia (9/29/07)
5. 3,472 . . . Florida vs. Florida State (9/28/01)

Pressly Stadium Team Records:

Most Goals: 11 Florida 11, LSU 0 (9/24/99)
Highest combined score: 11 Florida 11, LSU 0 (9/24/99)

Pressly Stadium Individual Records:

Most Goals: 4 Abby Wambach vs. LSU (9/24/99)
 Sarah Yohe vs. LSU (9/24/99)
 3 five players a total of 12 times
Most Points: 9 Abby Wambach (4G, 1A) vs. LSU (9/24/99)
 8 Sarah Yohe (4G, 0A) vs. LSU (9/24/99)
 Danielle Fotopoulos (3G, 2A) vs. Mississippi (10/18/98)