

**2024/2025**  
**TRISTATE RUGBY WOMEN'S ALL CONFERENCE PLAYERS**



**COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY**

**Anna Champ**

New Orleans, LA  
Graduate Student  
Forward

"Champ is the acknowledged best player on the Columbia team."

**Briana Franco**

Morristown, NJ  
Senior  
Forward

"Bri somehow manages to be in the right place at the right time and can read where the play is going to be."



**DREW UNIVERSITY**

**Claire Driscoll**

St. Paul Minnesota  
Senior  
Scrum Half/ Fly Half

Claire is a leader both on the field and off the field. Her dedication to DWRFC had led to her to be appointed as the On Field Captain and President of the Club. She is an exceptional athlete with true Rugby Intelligence and a play maker.



**FAIRFIELD UNIVERSITY**

**Hannah Bershefsky**

Trumbull, CT  
Senior  
Prop

2024 NCR Women's DII All-American. Arguably the best scrummager in the conference...and the country. Plays with unparalleled ferocity. 4-year starter.



## **FAIRFIELD UNIVERSITY**

### **Kayla Fox**

Brewster, NY

Senior

Hooker

2024 NCR Women's DII All-American. Team Captain. LO throws over 80% success rate. Incredible IQ in the open field. Stout defender.

### **Grace Eberl**

Buffalo, NY

Freshman

Back Row

Incredible athlete who took to rugby like a fish to water. Physical player. Fit athlete. Courageous. Jumps in the LO's. Strong scrum shape. Fearless defender.

### **Serena Koshy**

Albertson, NY

Senior

Fly-half

Pure 10 and game-manager. Unselfish. High catch/pass skills. Knew exactly how to attack space and command the structure.



## **FORDHAM**

### **Kari Smith**

Brewster, NY

Sophomore

#8

I'm nominating Kari for outstanding on field leadership. Her determination and dedication to the game exceeds all expectations and she inspires others to learn our sport to the highest level. I could easily see Kari playing at a high level after college.

### **Elena Stoddard**

LaGrange, IL

Senior

Scrumhalf

I'm nominating Elena for her brilliance and athleticism. Not only is she incredibly gifted academically she also is a former captain and vice-president. She honors her commitments to excellence on the field and has led our team to achieve the same excellence she strives for in everything she does.



**MARIST**

**Megan Chang**

Queens, NY

Senior

Flyhalf

Meg sets the tone for us on both sides of the ball and is our leader on the field with her talent, voice, and knowledge of the game. Her intensity, resiliency, and exceptional play elevates the play of everyone around her. Meg scored 19 tries, executed our offense with precision as the Flyhalf, and made countless dominant tackles and created turnover ball consistently. Her leadership as a captain helped guide and inspire a young team to a very successful fall season, going 7-1 overall. Next year, Meg has committed to play rugby in grad school at Life University - one of the best programs in the country, which is a testament to her talent level and what she brings to a rugby team.

**Syd Weiss**

Middlebury, CT

Sophomore

Inside Center

Syd is an exceptional athlete and plays the game with great physicality on both sides of the ball. She was our leading scorer this fall, running in 22 tries and also kicking 22 conversions - for a total of 154 points. She is still learning the game of rugby but her fierceness on the pitch and the pace she plays with make her a force to be reckoned with. Whether she was making dominant tackles or full field runs, she had a tremendous impact on our success this past fall season, going 7-1 overall. Syd was also selected as an All-American by NCR for her outstanding play this past fall.



**MOLLOY UNIVERSITY**

**Jenna Flynn**

Oceanside, NY

Senior

Inside Center

Jenna is an exceptional rugby player, known for her remarkable speed and agility on the field. Her ability to effortlessly find gaps in the defense allows her to score with ease, making her a constant threat to opponents.

**Kelly McCarthy**

Rockville Centre, NY

Senior

Flanker

Kelly's strong physicality and tactical intelligence makes her a force on the field. She drives through defense and hits tackles hard. Kelly's infectious energy and constant words of encouragement keeps the team together and motivated no matter what the score at the game is or what conditioning drill the team is in the middle of.



## **MONTCLAIR STATE UNIVERSITY**

### **Mia Pedalino**

Oradell, NJ

Junior

Scrumhalf and flyhalf, outside and inside centers

Mia has been a dedicated player for 3 years. She has never missed a game and rarely missed a practice in the last 3 years! Mia's passion to improve every game/practice is like no other. She is also on the executive board of the Women's Rugby Club. She will always be a great asset to the team!

### **Crystal Agüero**

Jersey City, NJ

Senior

Lock, Forward Flanker, 8man, and Scrummie

Crystal joined the team three years ago and has been nothing but a great team player to the team. Not just on the field, but also on the back end has a captain and president of the team. She's a strong leader and player. We are looking forward to seeing her continue to grow as a player!



## **NEW PALTZ**

### **Liam Gorlin**

Merrick, NY

Sophomore

Flyhalf

Liam Gorlin joined our team last semester and quickly picked up the sport. Each practice, she has come excited to learn, cheer on her teammates, and push herself to be the best player she could be. Within her first few games, she was running past the opposing teams, scoring tries, and hitting incredible tackles. Though she has noticeably worked exceptionally hard, I have chosen to nominate Liam because of her humble attitude and the respect she shows for all of her teammates, our opposing teams, and game officials. No matter what the score of the game is, she remains calm and encouraging towards everyone. This is an incredible character trait to hold throughout such an aggressive sport and I believe Liam should receive this award for that reason.

### **Danalee Gutierrez**

Cortlandt Manor, NY

Freshman

Scrumhalf

Danalee Gutierrez is our "rookie captain" this semester, a position awarded to players that show excitement for the sport, work ethic in their contribution to the team, a welcoming attitude toward all players, and an ability to stay organized in their first semester on the team. As soon as Danalee, or as we know her, Dani, joined the team, it was clear that she was just who we needed to keep our team energized and connected with one another. She excitedly took on every opportunity to learn during her first semester and has now continued this excitement in her readiness to share her knowledge with the incoming players of this semester. Anyone who walks by our team practicing will surely hear her voice first, cheering on her teammates even as she is catching her own breath. I nominate Danalee both for the incredible player she has worked to be and for the hype person she is at heart. I believe she should receive this award as a recognition of the enthusiasm and work ethic she has shown this past year.



**Theresa Olson**

Midland Park, NJ  
SR/Grad Student

**Aidan Hoover**

New Paltz, NY  
Senior  
Scrumhalf & Flyhalf

Both Theresa (T) and Aidan embody what every coach hopes their players will be like. They love the game, they'd do anything for their team, they lead by example, and they're always striving to do and be better.



**STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY**

**Julia Lindner**

Brooklyn, NY  
Junior  
Scrumhalf

Julia has come leaps and bounds since joining as a timid Freshman. I still remember her first day at practice unsure if she would return. Julia is now the captain of the squad and a force to be reckoned with. As scrumhalf she reads the field so well and has perfect ball placement with her passes. She's versatile on the field, she can run and cut through the defense or can defend the line very well. She also has a mean juke and stiff arm. Julia has met and surpassed every challenge put in front of her on the pitch. She is always smiling, positive, and the team respects her.

**Kristen Hutz**

Montana  
Graduate Student  
Fullback & Wing

Kristen came to us as a first year Graduate student, with no rugby experience. She immediately took off running, literally. She picked up the sport very quickly and became one of the team's leading scorers. Incredibly fast, fit and resilient. Kristen is one of our best tacklers, reads the field incredibly well on offense and defense. She is definitely a player you wish you had more time with.



**TCNJ**

**Kira Rubiano**

West Windsor, N

Junior

Scrum Half

Kira is truly one of the most essential players on our team. On the field, her talent is hard to match. She has an incredible ability to read the game, anticipate plays, and create opportunities for her teammates. She's a natural playmaker, and it shows every time she steps onto the field.

As the president of our team, she takes on a role that most people don't fully understand. The amount of behind-the-scenes work that goes into that position is huge, and Kira handles it with ease. She's constantly working with her e-board to make sure everything is running smoothly, whether it's handling logistics, planning events, or solving any problems that pop up. It's a lot to manage, but she does it all without skipping a beat, and always with the team's best interests in mind.

Beyond that, Kira is always pushing herself to get better. She plays with different teams and women's clubs to challenge herself and bring new skills to the table. Even with all the extra responsibilities she has, she never lets her passion for the sport or her commitment to the team slip.

Kira cares deeply about the club and her teammates. Her leadership is genuine, and her positive energy is contagious. She makes it a point to support everyone around her, and she's a true role model for all of us.



**TCNJ**

**Kaylee Rose Ofstead**

Catonsville (Baltimore County), MD

Sophomore

7s: Hooker, 15s: Flanker

As a new coach at TCNJ, I've had the opportunity to evaluate the players with fresh eyes, and from day one, Kaylee has stood out to me. On the field, she's always making crucial tackles and plays that shift the momentum. While she may not be the flashiest player, her quiet, consistent contributions are what truly make her a key part of both the defense and offense. Whether it's breaking through the line of defense or being the first to support a breakaway, Kaylee is always in the right spot at the right time.

What really separates her from others, though, is her commitment to improvement. I often see Kaylee arriving early to practice, putting in extra work on her skills before the rest of the team even shows up. This kind of dedication is invaluable, and it shows in the way she plays—always at the top of her game, always pushing herself to be better.

Off the field, Kaylee continues to make an impact. As the team Treasurer, she ensures everything runs smoothly and contributes to the behind-the-scenes work that keeps the team organized and functioning well. She's also a leader on the swim team and has been a model of consistency.

What I value most as a coach is a player who doesn't just focus on their own development but also on the success of the entire team. Kaylee does this time and time again. Whether it's offering tips to new or struggling players, or leading by example with her work ethic and attitude, she shows true leadership and selflessness.



**VASSAR COLLEGE**

**Sabine Weil**

Marlborough School, Los Angeles, CA

Sophomore

Flyhalf

Switched from center as a freshman to flyhalf and has started all games. Good distribution and solid tackler.

**Sophia Bailey**

Washington & Liberty HS, Arlington, VA

Junior

Scrumhalf

Top try scorer for Vassar this Fall with 34 tries. Good pace, excellent pass and very competitive.