

Arkansas Razorbacks

RAZORBACKS | SEC CHAMPIONSHIPS



SEC TEAM TITLES

Having claimed 22 SEC cross country titles over the past 32 conference meets, the Razorbacks have the most conference championships by a wide margin. Florida follows with six.

Arkansas won nine SEC Championships in cross country from 2013 to 2021, its longest stretch after winning five straight twice (91-95 & 98-02).



SEC INDIVIDUAL TITLES

In 2019 Katie Izzo became the 11th Razorback to claim an SEC title, improving Arkansas' total to 16 overall.

Amy Yoder (1997-99) and Dominique Scott (2013-15) each claimed three consecutive individual titles. Deena Drossin (1991-92) was a double winner the first two years the Razorbacks were in the league.



WOMEN'S NATIONAL POLL

NCAA COACHES TOP 30

- | | | | |
|---------------------|------------------------|----------------|--------------------|
| 1. NORTHERN ARIZONA | 8. NOTRE DAME | 16. LIPSCOMB | 24. FURMAN |
| 2. NC STATE | 9. OREGON STATE | 17. IOWA STATE | 25. COLORADO STATE |
| 3. GEORGETOWN | 10. VIRGINIA | 18. OLE MISS | 26. HARVARD |
| 4. BYU | 11. ARKANSAS | 19. WASHINGTON | 27. UTAH VALLEY |
| 5. STANFORD | 12. CALIFORNIA BAPTIST | 20. COLORADO | 28. GONZAGA |
| 6. OKLAHOMA STATE | 13. ALABAMA | 21. UTAH | 28. SYRACUSE |
| 7. FLORIDA | 14. OREGON | 22. WISCONSIN | 30. DUKE |
| | 15. MICHIGAN STATE | 23. TENNESSEE | |

NO. 11 ARKANSAS AMONG FIVE NATIONALLY RANKED TEAMS CONTENDING FOR SEC TITLE

COLUMBIA, SC – Contenders for the team title at the 2023 SEC Cross Country Championships will include five nationally ranked conference teams led by No. 7 Florida and followed by No. 11 Arkansas. The 6,000m race will be held Friday morning at the Charwood Golf Club.

The three other SEC schools who enter the meet nationally ranked are defending champion Alabama at No. 13 along with No. 18 Ole Miss and No. 23 Tennessee.

"The mission is still the same," said first-year Arkansas women's distance coach Megan Elliott. "Obviously, the goal is to win a title, so I think the team is dialed in. That's going to be a tall task with Florida and Alabama, along with some others. The mission is still that same even though the coaching is different."

In the three previous times South Carolina has hosted the SEC Cross Country Championships – 1997, 2005, and 2010 – the result has been a team runner-up for the Razorbacks each time with Florida winning twice (97, 10) and Tennessee once (05). Arkansas' Amy Yoder won the first of three individual titles in 1997.

Over the past five seasons Arkansas has dominated the conference, winning 12 of 14 SEC Championships contested. The Razorbacks were runner-up in 2022 at the conference outdoor and cross country meets to Florida and Alabama, respectively.

Alabama scored 36 points in winning the 2022 SEC cross country title as Arkansas totaled 74 as runner-up with Ole Miss third with 83. It was just the second time the Razorbacks were runner-up since 2012 with the current conference configuration, having built a nine-year winning streak from 2013 to 2021.

While Florida had the individual winner in Parker Valby last season, the Gators finished fifth in team scoring. Transfers from Alabama and New Mexico into the Florida program have raised their profile for the 2023 campaign.

"Florida is the favorite, so we have our work cut out for us to try to bring home a title," noted Elliott.

Florida recently finished fifth at Wisconsin's Nuttycombe Invitational amid a field full of nationally ranked teams. Valby claimed the individual title over NC State's Katelyn Tuohy by 12-plus seconds. The second Gator in the field, Alabama transfer Flomena Asekol, placed 16th. In 2022, Asekol finished seventh in the SEC meet as Alabama's fourth runner.

"Our kids have been working really hard since August and it's been a progression through September and October," said Elliott. "Now is that championship time

of the season, so they're excited. We just have to contain those nerves and focus on the execution.

"That will be crucial since at a SEC meet the field isn't as dense as a Pre-Nationals or bigger invitational meets. So, we're going to have to key on certain individuals and where they are in the race."

A young Razorback crew has one senior in Laura Taborda, who competed for Ole Miss in the 2022 SEC meet, placing 18th as the Rebels fourth runner.

Arkansas returns three freshmen from its top six a year ago with Sydney Thorvaldson, Mia Cochran and Mary Ellen Eudaly, who were second, third and sixth among the Razorbacks while placing 11th, 12th, and 27th among the field.

"We're hoping to make that big step," said Elliott. "We made a good step at Pre-Nationals, and we're hoping to step it up another notch or two in the post-season."

A freshman who joined the Arkansas program this season is Paityn Noe, who has had an immediate impact as she led the Razorbacks to a team title in winning the Chile Pepper Festival and placed third in the Pre-Nationals meet hosted by Virginia as Arkansas finished runner-up to BYU.

Noe clocked 16:09.4 to win the 5,000m Chile Pepper race, the fastest winning time by a freshman. Then her debut over 6,000m at Panorama Farms had her posting an impressive 19:49.6.

"Paityn had a really strong finish to her outdoor season through the summer, so that's kind of spring boarded her into where she's at now," stated Elliott. "She will combine with the experience of Sydney Thorvaldson and they are interchangeable as our leaders. Between those two they will probably be our front leaders."

"Paityn is taking care of business. Everything is new and she's really excited. She wants to make her mark as a Razorback. Obviously, she did that in Iowa in high school and now she is here at Arkansas just trying to make her mark. She's young, so we need to be diligent and stay composed when we see higher level competitors starting with the SEC meet."

Others who have been among the Arkansas top seven among three meets this season include Nyah Hernandez, Heidi Nielson, and Mackenzie Rogers, who each competed in the 2022 SEC meet.

Joining the SEC fray this year is Tiana LoStracco, a transfer from Bradley, who placed 11th in the Missouri Valley conference meet in 2022 when Bradley claimed the team title.

Arkansas Razorbacks

RAZORBACK SEC CHAMPIONS

16 titles by 11 individuals

2 triple champions, 1 double

2019	Katie Izzo
2015	Dominique Scott
2014	Dominique Scott
2013	Dominique Scott
2011	Kristen Gillespie
2008	Catherine White
2006	Brooke Upshaw
2002	Christin Wurth
2001	Andreina Byrd
2000	Lilli Kleinmann
1999	Amy Yoder
1998	Amy Yoder
1997	Amy Yoder
1994	Megan Flowers
1992	Deena Drossin
1991	Deena Drossin

• Among its 22 SEC titles in cross country over the past 32 editions of the conference meet, the Razorbacks won nine consecutive titles, the longest established by a women's team in SEC history. Previously, Arkansas put together a streak of five titles, twice, in 1991-1995 and 1998-2002.

• SEC success for the Razorbacks has included a total of 45 conference titles among the three seasons (22 cross country, 13 indoor, 10 outdoor). Arkansas completed its seventh SEC triple crown in 2020-21.

• In 2019, the Razorbacks totaled 21 points in claiming the SEC title, placing five runners among the top 10 for the second consecutive year. It was Arkansas' lowest score in the SEC since 2006 when they totaled 17. The 1999 Razorbacks produced a perfect score of 15 points, sweeping places first through fifth.

• Winning the 2019 NCAA Cross Country Championship, Arkansas completed a sweep of three NCAA titles after claiming the 2019 NCAA Indoor and NCAA Outdoor Championships. The Razorbacks joined Texas (1986) as the only programs to win three NCAA titles in the same year, while Oregon (2016-17) accomplished a trio of NCAA titles in an academic year.

• Additional NCAA team titles for the Razorbacks occurred in 2021 & 2023 with NCAA Indoor championships, bringing the total to 7.

• Arkansas last swept both men's and women's team titles in 2021. It has been accomplished 19 times since the Razorbacks competed in their first SEC meet in 1991.

HOG FACTS

SEC CHAMPIONSHIPS | RECENT TOP 3 TEAM FINISH & POINTS

2022	Alabama	36	Arkansas	74	Ole Miss	83
2021	Arkansas	68	Ole Miss	83	Alabama	91
2020	Arkansas	41	Alabama	57	Ole Miss	97
2019	Arkansas	21	Ole Miss	93	Missouri	159
2018	Arkansas	24	Florida	69	Ole Miss	116
2017	Arkansas	35	Georgia	88	Ole Miss	103
2016	Arkansas	46	Ole Miss	76	Missouri	125
2015	Arkansas	38	Miss State	95	Vanderbilt	112
2014	Arkansas	32	Vanderbilt	85	Alabama	140
2013	Arkansas	32	Texas A&M	123	Kentucky	134
2012	Florida	61	Arkansas	70	Vanderbilt	119

RAZORBACK NOTES

Paityn Noe has led the Razorbacks in the past two meets, winning the Chile Pepper Festival 5k in 16:09.4 and placing third as the top freshman in the Pre-Nationals 6k meet held at Panorama Farms in Virginia.

Racing in her first ever 6k, Noe produced a time of 19:49.6 on the course that will host the National Championships this season.

Sydney Thorvaldson is the top returner from the 2022 SEC Championships for Arkansas, placing 11th as the second Razorback finisher and second best freshman in the field.

After leading Arkansas in the 2023 Oklahoma State Cowboy Preview with a victory over a 3,000m course, Thorvaldson was second in the Chile Pepper Festival 5k, and sixth in the Pre-Nationals 6k, finishing as the second Razorback behind Noe in each race.

Mia Cochran, placed 12th as the third best freshman in the 2022 SEC Championships, finishing third among the Razorbacks.

Cochran was also third among the team in the Pre-Nationals 6k race, placing 15th in the field. Previously, she was fifth among the Arkansas squad in the 3k

Preview at Oklahoma State and the 5k at Chile Pepper Festival.

Laura Taborda, a transfer to the program from Ole Miss, Taborda placed 18th in the 2022 SEC Championships, fourth among the Rebel squad.

This season Taborda finished fourth among the Arkansas team in placing 27th at the Pre-Nationals and was third among the Razorbacks in finishing third overall in the Chile Pepper Festival.

Mary Ellen Eudaly finished sixth among the Arkansas crew in the 2022 SEC Championships, placing 27th among the field.

In the Pre-Nationals, she completed Arkansas' team score as the fifth runner, placing 40th. Earlier in the season she was the third runner for the Razorbacks and finished third at the Cowboy Preview 3k. In the Chile Pepper Festival 5k, Eudaly was the sixth Arkansas runner in placing 11th in the field.

Nyah Hernandez, Heidi Nielson, and Mackenzie Rogers have each been part of the Razorbacks top 7 this season. Nielson placed 43rd, Hernandez 56th, and Rogers 90th in last year's conference meet.

ARKANSAS TOP 7 FINISHERS | RECENT SEC CHAMPIONSHIPS

Athletes in bold are on the Razorback 2023 roster

2022	4) Isabel Van Camp	11) Sydney Thorvaldson	12) Mia Cochran	21) Katie McClure	26) Gracie Hyde	27) Mary Ellen Eudaly	32) Taylor Ewert
2021	3) Krissy Gear	10) Isabel Van Camp	12) Lauren Gregory	18) M. Underwood	25) Logan Jolly	28) Julia Paternain	35) Carmie Prinsloo
2020	4) Lauren Gregory	7) Logan Jolly	9) Abby Gray	10) Taylor Ewert	11) Krissy Gear	15) M. Underwood	16) Corie Smith
2019	1) Katie Izzo	2) Taylor Werner	4) Carina Viljoen	5) Devin Clark	9) Lauren Gregory	13) Maddy Reed	36) Abby Gray
2018	2) K. Robinson	3) Lauren Gregory	4) Carina Viljoen	6) Taylor Werner	9) Sydney Brown	10) Maddy Reed	16) Micah Huckabee
2017	2) Taylor Werner	6) Carina Viljoen	7) Therese Haiss	8) Lauren Gregory	12) Nikki Hiltz	13) Ashton Endsley	16) Sydney Brown

RAZORBACK TOP 7 FINISHERS | 2023 SEASON

Sept. 1 3k	1) Sydney Thorvaldson	2) Paityn Noe	3) Mary Ellen Eudaly	4) Laura Taborda	6) Mia Cochran	7) Heidi Nielson	10) Nyah Hernandez
Sept. 29 5k	1) Paityn Noe	2) Sydney Thorvaldson	3) Laura Taborda	4) Heidi Nielson	10) Mia Cochran	11) Mary Ellen Eudaly	12) Mackenzie Rogers
Oct. 14 6k	3) Paityn Noe	6) Sydney Thorvaldson	15) Mia Cochran	27) Laura Taborda	40) Mary Ellen Eudaly	58) Nyah Hernandez	70) Heidi Nielson

CROSS COUNTRY | Top 10 Team Finish at SEC Championships since 2012

YEAR	SITE	FIRST	SECOND	THIRD	FOURTH	FIFTH	SIXTH	SEVENTH	EIGHTH	NINTH	TENTH
2022	Oxford	Alabama	Arkansas	Ole Miss	Kentucky	Florida	Tennessee	LSU	TAMU	Vandy	Auburn
2021	Columbia, Mo.	Arkansas	Ole Miss	Alabama	Kentucky	Tennessee	Florida	Missouri	Vandy	Auburn	LSU
2020	Baton Rouge	Arkansas	Alabama	Ole Miss	Kentucky	LSU	Vandy	Missouri	Georgia	Florida	Miss St
2019	Lexington	Arkansas	Ole Miss	Missouri	Tenn	Alabama	Vandy	Kentucky	Georgia	TAMU	Auburn
2018	Auburn	Arkansas	Florida	Ole Miss	Georgia	Missouri	Vandy	Tenn	Kentucky	Alabama	TAMU
2017	Athens	Arkansas	Georgia	Ole Miss	Missouri	Miss St	Kentucky	Alabama	TAMU	Vandy	Tenn
2016	Fayetteville	Arkansas	Ole Miss	Missouri	Miss St	Vandy	Alabama	Kentucky	Florida	Auburn	Georgia
2015	College Station	Arkansas	Miss St	Vandy	Alabama	Ole Miss	Auburn	Florida	Missouri	TAMU	Georgia
2014	Tuscaloosa	Arkansas	Vandy	Alabama	Missouri	Miss St	TAMU	Florida	Kentucky	Auburn	Georgia
2013	Gainesville	Arkansas	TAMU	Kentucky	Florida	Vandy	Alabama	Missouri	Tenn	Ole Miss	Miss St
2012	Nashville	Florida	Arkansas	Vandy	Ole Miss	Kentucky	Georgia	LSU	TAMU	S Carolina	Miss St

ARKANSAS | Team finish at SEC Championships

Year	Place	Score	2015	1st	38	2006	1st	17	1997	2nd	68
2023			2014	1st	32	2005	2nd	51	1996	2nd	77
2022	2nd	74	2013	1st	32	2004	2nd	57	1995	1st	40
2021	1st	68	2012	2nd	70	2003	3rd	103	1994	1st	31
2020	1st	41	2011	2nd	61	2002	1st	39	1993	1st	37
2019	1st	21	2010	2nd	61	2001	1st	35	1992	1st	52
2018	1st	24	2009	3rd	87	2000	1st	43	1991	1st	30
2017	1st	35	2008	1st	46	1999	1st	15			
2016	1st	46	2007	1st	39	1998	1st	25			

ARKANSAS WOMEN | 2023 SEASON RECAP

Cowboy Preview | Greiner Course 3,000m | Friday, Sept. 1 Teams (6 schools)

1. Arkansas	16
2. Oklahoma State	53
3. SMU	68
4. Tulsa	105
5. Oklahoma	149
6. Central Oklahoma	190

Individuals | Arkansas top 5 spread 11.7s

1. Sydney Thorvaldson	10:14.1
2. Paityn Noe	10:14.8
3. Mary Ellen Eudaly	10:22.6
4. Laura Taborda	10:24.1
6. Mia Cochran	10:25.8
7. Heidi Nielson	10:27.4
10. Nyah Hernandez	10:42.6
17. Mackenzie Rogers	10:49.3

Chile Pepper Festival | Agri Park 5,000m | Friday, Sept. 29 Teams (34 schools)

1. Arkansas	20
2. SMU	89
3. Western Colorado	121
4. UT Arlington	169
5. Arkansas State	220
6. Central Arkansas	232

Individuals | Arkansas top 5 spread 65.6s

1. Paityn Noe	16:09.4
2. Sydney Thorvaldson	16:44.1
3. Laura Taborda	16:49.8
4. Heidi Nielson	16:56.9
10. Mia Cochran	17:15.0
11. Mary Ellen Eudaly	17:17.0
12. Mackenzie Rogers	17:17.6

53. Nyah Hernandez	18:16.3
67. Tiana LoStracco	18:30.7
126. Chachi Gonzales	19:04.1

Virginia Pre-National Panorama Farms 6,000m | Saturday, Oct. 14 Teams (24 schools)

1. BYU	32
2. Arkansas	90
3. Virginia	104
4. Oregon	117
5. Tennessee	135
6. Wake Forest	218
7. Cal Poly	301
8. Michigan	327
9. Washington State	345
10. Villanova	351

Individuals (Scoring place) | Arkansas top 5 spread 61.4s

3. Paityn Noe	19:49.6
6. Sydney Thorvaldson	19:58.9
15. Mia Cochran	20:17.4
27. Laura Taborda	20:38.0
40. Mary Ellen Eudaly (39)	20:51.0
58. Nyah Hernandez (56)	21:06.2
70. Heidi Nielson (68)	21:14.3
73. Mackenzie Rogers	21:15.2
107. Tiana LoStracco	21:36.6

B Race

88. Chachi Gonzales	22:31.7
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National Rankings

7. Florida
11. Arkansas
13. Alabama
18. Mississippi
23. Tennessee

Regional Rankings

South Central 1. Arkansas, 3. Texas A&M, 4. LSU
South 1. Florida, 2. Alabama, 4. Mississippi, 5. Tennessee, 7. Auburn, 11. Vanderbilt, 12. Mississippi State
Southeast 13. Kentucky
Midwest 6. Missouri