



# Inside the Lines

Official Newsletter of the Tampa Bay Bowl Association Fall 2024



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## ReliaQuest Bowl Honored For Corporate Philanthropy.



The Tampa Bay Bowl Association and ReliaQuest Bowl has been named as a **2024 One Tampa Bay Honoree for Corporate Philanthropy** by the *Tampa Bay Business Journal*. It is the third year that the bowl has received the award which recognizes businesses and nonprofit organizations that go above and beyond giving back to the Tampa Bay community. The recognition stems primarily from its Charitable Giving Initiative which donates more than \$500,000 to dozens of area non-profit organizations each year. Since the

program was started in 2016 the bowl has contributed over \$4 million to more than 195 charities.

This giving is in addition to the \$176 million contributed to universities over the bowls history as well as more than \$1.2 Billion in estimated economic impact for the region and millions of dollars in exposure each year.

“The Bowl is an economic engine for the region and contributes millions to universities each year, but it is so much more and through our Charitable Giving Initiative we can do even more to help the day-to-day lives of local residents,” explains Bowl President/CEO Jim McVay.

The Bowl selects recipient organizations that assist people in need through a wide variety of causes including disadvantaged youth, the disabled, the homeless, military veterans, and more. And through numerous initiatives such as medical

research, food banks, mental health, youth enrichment and others.

“The Bowl has a tremendous impact not only on Wheelchairs for Kids but the entire Tampa Bay area,” notes Wheelchairs for Kids Executive Director Madeline Robinson. “Most people think of it as a football game, but it is so much more.”

Learn more about the ReliaQuest Bowl’s Charitable Giving Initiative and the organizations it has supported online at [www.reliaquestbowl.com/giving-back](http://www.reliaquestbowl.com/giving-back).



# 2024 Season Going Down to the Wire

The 2024 College Football Season has been a blur and here we are with just a few weeks left before conference championship weekend. Though it has gone by quickly it has been one of the most exciting seasons in recent memory with not only the number of upsets but also quite a few surprise teams along the way. Schools like Indiana, BYU, Miami and SMU have joined the top tier of the rankings with the usual big names. And this all coincides with the expanded playoff which has more teams late in the season



still looking at a chance to become a part of the new format.

With new teams joining the Big Ten and SEC this season, the competition has not only gotten harder, but more teams from each conference are in contention in mid-November. Four of the top five teams are from the Big Ten and the SEC has no less than six teams that are still in play for the conference championship game.

The final two weeks of the season are setting up what should be an amazing conference championship weekend and post season.



## COLLEGE FOOTBALL PLAYOFF

Rankings as of November 19th

|               |      |               |     |                 |     |                    |     |                   |     |
|---------------|------|---------------|-----|-----------------|-----|--------------------|-----|-------------------|-----|
| 1. Oregon     | 11-0 | 6. Notre Dame | 9-1 | 11. Tennessee   | 8-2 | 16. Colorado       | 8-2 | 21. Arizona State | 8-2 |
| 2. Ohio State | 9-1  | 7. Alabama    | 8-2 | 12. Boise State | 9-1 | 17. Clemson        | 8-2 | 22. Iowa State    | 8-2 |
| 3. Texas      | 9-1  | 8. Miami      | 9-1 | 13. SMU         | 9-1 | 18. South Carolina | 7-3 | 23. Missouri      | 7-3 |
| 4. Penn State | 9-1  | 9. Ole Miss   | 8-2 | 14. BYU         | 9-1 | 19. Army           | 9-0 | 24. UNLV          | 8-2 |
| 5. Indiana    | 10-0 | 10. Georgia   | 8-2 | 15. Texas A&M   | 8-2 | 20. Tulane         | 9-2 | 25. Illinois      | 7-3 |



As of November 18th

| Team           | Conf. | Overall | Team              | Conf. | Overall |
|----------------|-------|---------|-------------------|-------|---------|
| Texas          | 5-1   | 9-1     | LSU               | 3-3   | 6-4     |
| Texas A&M      | 5-1   | 8-2     | Vanderbilt        | 3-3   | 6-4     |
| Georgia        | 6-2   | 8-2     | Arkansas          | 3-4   | 5-5     |
| Tennessee      | 5-2   | 8-2     | Florida           | 3-4   | 5-5     |
| Alabama        | 4-2   | 8-2     | Oklahoma          | 1-5   | 5-5     |
| Ole Miss       | 4-2   | 8-2     | Auburn            | 1-5   | 4-6     |
| South Carolina | 5-3   | 7-3     | Kentucky          | 1-6   | 4-6     |
| Missouri       | 3-3   | 7-3     | Mississippi State | 0-6   | 2-8     |



As of November 18th

| Team       | Conf. | Overall | Team           | Conf. | Overall |
|------------|-------|---------|----------------|-------|---------|
| Oregon     | 8-0   | 11-0    | Rutgers        | 3-4   | 6-4     |
| Indiana    | 7-0   | 10-0    | Michigan       | 3-4   | 5-5     |
| Ohio State | 6-1   | 9-1     | USC            | 3-5   | 5-5     |
| Penn State | 6-1   | 9-1     | UCLA           | 3-5   | 4-6     |
| Iowa       | 4-3   | 6-4     | Nebraska       | 2-5   | 5-5     |
| Minnesota  | 4-3   | 6-4     | Michigan State | 2-5   | 4-6     |
| Illinois   | 4-3   | 7-3     | Northwestern   | 2-5   | 4-6     |
| Washington | 3-4   | 5-5     | Maryland       | 1-6   | 4-6     |
| Wisconsin  | 3-4   | 5-5     | Purdue         | 0-7   | 1-9     |

# Bowl Supporters Celebrate College Football Season at Johnson Pope Happy Hour Huddle

More than 400 ReliaQuest Bowl supporters celebrated the 2024 college football season at the **Happy Hour Huddle at Splitsville Presented by Johnson Pope**. Guests gathered to network and play games at the entertainment concept located at the Sparkman Wharf complex on Tampa's Downtown Waterfront. It was the perfect way to kick off the bowls fall VIP event calendar. Bowl sponsors, Club Members, local media and other VIP guests enjoyed a variety of food as well. Guests also mixed in a variety of games including bowling, darts, ping pong, shuffleboard and billiards. There

was also a special photo area where they could take photos in stadium tunnel themed setting with different fun props to post on social media.

The Huddle was one of many VIP events that ReliaQuest Bowl VIP Club Members and Sponsors get to attend leading up to the big game.

For more information on the ReliaQuest Bowl VIP Club Membership program and how you can get the best seats to the game and invites for our other VIP events contact Blake Guthrie at [blake@reliaquestbowl.com](mailto:blake@reliaquestbowl.com) or (813) 874-2695.



## Welcome New Supporters New Sponsors

CASA CAMÍ

Jackson's

FLORIDA AVENUE  
BREWING CO.

HOME SAFETY SOLUTIONS

JOHNSON POPE BOKOR RUPPEL & BURNS, LLP  
COUNSELORS AT LAW

International Plaza  
AND BAY STREET

StaffEX

## New VIP Club Members

(As of November 19th)

ASI Landscape Management

MCC Brokerage

AWS Title Services LLC

Kuducom

Bochner PLLC

L2 Business Solutions

Bradley

Presenting Powerfully  
by Debbie Lundberg

Centre Club

QPWB, PA

Jim Henning

Raymond James

Compass Real Estate

Red Fox Medical Courier

Connie Gage

RxBenefits

Ellison Construction

Jim Shea

Emotional Vaccines

Seacoast Bank

GeoPoint Surveying

Site Serve

Holiday Inn Tampa Westshore

Source1 Solutions

Inferno Women's Football

TECO

Foundation

JW Marriott Clearwater Beach



## WORLD-CLASS CARE GAME-CHANGING MEDICINE

BEST HOSPITALS  
USNews  
RANKED IN  
8 SPECIALTIES  
2024-2025

BEST REGIONAL HOSPITALS  
USNews  
TAMPA-ST. PETERSBURG  
REGIONAL HOSPITALS  
2024-2025

Tampa General is a proud partner of the ReliaQuest Bowl.

Tampa General continues to lead the nation with award-winning care powered by academic medicine. And once again, we're named the #1 hospital in Tampa Bay. Our specialized team performs more procedures, has more expertise and delivers better outcomes, providing world-class care to our region and beyond.

TGH Tampa General Hospital

USFHealth  
Morsani College of Medicine

TGH.org

Region's Only  
Academic Health System  
\*University-Based Program



2024-2025

# Calendar of Events

Note: All events, locations, dates and times are subject to change. \*\* (indicates event open to general public all others are invitation-only)

## OCTOBER 29 RELIAQUEST BOWL HUDDLE AT SPLITSVILLE PRESENTED BY JOHNSON & POPE

The ReliaQuest Bowl kicks off its fall event calendar with a festive evening at Splitsville in the Sparkman Wharf entertainment complex in downtown Tampa sponsored by Johnson & Pope. (Invitation only)



## DECEMBER 29 CLEARWATER BEACH DAY PRESENTED BY VISIT ST PETE - CLEARWATER\*\*

Join the school marching bands and cheerleaders as they enjoy the sun and beaches at the Hilton Clearwater Beach Resort & Spa. Enjoy this fun day which will also feature live music, a tug-of-war and other contests from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Sponsored by Visit St. Pete-Clearwater, the Hilton, Amplify Clearwater, Allegiant, St. Pete Clearwater International Airport, 93.3FLZ, 970WFLA and 620 WDAE Radio



## DECEMBER 30 RELIAQUEST BOWL PARADE & PEP RALLY\*\*

Eclectic Ybor City is the site of this festive celebration featuring the ReliaQuest Bowl Parade and a pep rally with the college marching bands & cheerleaders. The parade will also include floats, high school marching bands from around the country along with the two college bands! This free family event is sponsored by the City of Tampa, Ybor City, Mix 100.7, US 103.5, 98Rock, 970 WFLA and 620 WDAE Radio. Be there early. The Parade starts at 5:30 p.m. and runs along 7th Avenue.

## DECEMBER 12 LMCU CONTRACT SIGNING PARTY

Bowl supporters will celebrate the announcement of our teams and welcome the participating college head coaches to the Tampa Bay area. The party will be held in the West Club Lounge of Raymond James Stadium. (By invitation only)

## DECEMBER 26 TEAM WELCOMES

Bowl officials and media greet the participating teams as they arrive at the team hotels. (TBD)

## DECEMBER 27 SPOUSES WELCOME

Spouses of both teams' coaching staff will enjoy a special luncheon at Casa Cami. (Private event)

## PLAYERS HOSPITAL VISIT

Players from both teams will brighten the day for children at Tampa General Hospital (no fans please).

## DECEMBER 28 BUSCH GARDENS TEAM OUTING\*\*

Both teams and their fans will enjoy the unique blend of thrilling rides, live shows and animal exhibits. Admission tickets are available at buschgardens.com or at the front gate.

\*\* (indicates event open to general public all others are invitation-only)

Note: All events, locations, dates and times are subject to change.



## DECEMBER 29 TAMPA LAW GRIDIRON GALA

This is a prestigious evening event for bowl sponsors, VIP's and the college administrators at the Marriott Waterstreet (by invitation only).

## DECEMBER 30 BATTLE OF THE BANDS AT BUSCH GARDENS\*\*

Join the two college marching bands at Busch Gardens as they square-off for a special "Battle of the Bands" performance. Admission to park required. Time TBD.



## DECEMBER 31 PREGAME BOWL BASH\*\*

Bowl fans can warm-up for the big game with live music, displays and a pep rally. Food & refreshments will be available for purchase. The fun begins at 9:00 a.m. on the south plaza outside the stadium between the 5/3 Bank Gate and Gate D, so come out early.

## TAMPA GENERAL HOSPITAL PREGAME SHOW\*\*

Enjoy a colorful pregame show featuring the pageantry of high school and college bands along with numerous special activities including skydivers. A popular ReliaQuest Bowl tradition you won't want to miss. The show begins at 11:20 a.m.

## RELIAQUEST BOWL 2024\*\*

The ReliaQuest Bowl matching two of college football's best teams from the SEC and Big Ten Conference. Kickoff is scheduled for 12:00 p.m. (Gates open 10:30 a.m.).

## RELIAQUEST HALFTIME SHOW

Wait until you see this colorful show featuring more than 2,500 performers!

## Official Game Sponsors

