

PLAYER BIOS

23 | WILL SANDS



POSITION
Defender

BORN
July 6, 2000

HEIGHT
5-10

WEIGHT
160

YEARS IN MLS
5

YEARS WITH CLUB
3

HOMETOWN
Rye, New York

BIRTHPLACE
Rye, New York

NATIONALITY
United States

COLLEGE
Georgetown

PREV. CLUB
Columbus Crew

SANDS AT A GLANCE

- Owns 49 MLS appearances, including 27 starts, with five assists over four seasons.
- In 2025, registered 19 MLS games played, including six starts, for New England.
- Signed as a Homegrown player by the Columbus Crew on Jan. 21, 2022, after developing in the New York City FC Academy.
- Won MLS Cup with Columbus Crew in 2023.
- Played 56 games over three seasons at Georgetown University, contributing to the Hoyas' NCAA College Cup victory in 2019.
- Tallied three goals in seven appearances for the U.S. U-17 National Team in 2016, and played one game at the U-15 level.
- Twin brother, James, also plays professional soccer.

HOW ACQUIRED: Acquired by New England via trade on July 31, 2024...Re-signed to a new two-year contract through the 2026 MLS season, with a one-year club option for 2027, on Nov. 25, 2024.

MLS CAREER: Across four MLS seasons, owns five assists over 49 appearances, including 27 starts...In 2025, made 19 appearances, including six starts...Also made one additional U.S. Open Cup start...In 2024, suited up for 11 appearances, including nine starts, between Columbus and New England...Started all five of his gamed played for the Revolution in 2024...Made Revolution debut in Leagues Cup action on Aug. 6 vs. Nashville SC...In 2023, won MLS Cup with Columbus Crew...Made seven appearances in 2023, all starts, before suffering a season-ending ACL injury against Charlotte FC on April 22...Made 12 appearances and five starts in 2022.

2025: Made 19 appearances and six starts...Also made one additional start in the U.S. Open Cup...**(3/1) vs. CLB:** Made season debut off the bench against former team in return from preseason injury...**(3/8) vs. PHI:** Earned first start of campaign...**(5/7) at RI:** Logged 90 minutes in second career U.S. Open Cup start...**(7/12) at ATX:** Registered third start of the season in a 90-minute shift and recorded one shot on target...**(9/27) vs. ATL:** Started and played 89 minutes in New England's 2-0 victory...Logged two shots to match career high...Helped New England secure its 10th clean sheet of the season, marking the fifth time in club history the Revolution have tallied 10-or-more shutouts...**(10/4) at MCF:** Collected second consecutive start...**(10/18) vs. CHI:** Featured in the starting lineup for the third straight match...Played all 90 minutes in the 2-2 draw in the season finale...Surpassed 2,500 career minutes played.

2024 (WITH COLUMBUS & NEW ENGLAND): Made 11 regular season appearances, including nine starts, with two assists...Made additional appearances in Leagues Cup, Concacaf Champions Cup, and MLS NEXT Pro competitions...**(3/16) vs. RBNY:** Returned to the pitch for the first time since ACL tear...**(3/17) vs. RBNYII:** Started for Columbus Crew 2 and logged 84 minutes in singular



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2024 appearance with the second team...(4/6) vs. DC: Earned first start of the season...(4/9) at UANL: Logged 30 minutes in Concacaf Champions Cup quarterfinals second-leg match...(5/18) at CHI: Registered 73 minutes in 25th MLS appearance...(7/20) at ATL: Made matchday roster for the final time with Columbus Crew...(8/6) vs. NSH: Made New England and Leagues Cup debut with substitute appearance in group stage finale...(8/24) at MTL: Made first MLS appearance for New England with a full 90-minute start...(8/31) at RSL: Featured in the starting lineup for the second consecutive game...(9/7) vs. STL: Suited up for home debut with New England and collected third straight start...Played all 90 minutes...Registered first career multi-assist performance...Featured on MLS Team of the Matchday...Missed the following six matches with a foot injury...(10/12) at CLB: Returned to action against former team and played 74 minutes in 20th career MLS start...(10/19) at MCF: Closed 2024 season with a 90-minute performance on the road in Miami.

2023 (WITH COLUMBUS CREW): Made seven appearances in league play, all starts, tallying one assist for the MLS Cup champions...(2/25) at PHI: Earned a

start for the first time in 2023...Missed the following two games in March due to a back injury...(3/25) vs. ATL: Recorded second career assist...(4/8) at DC: Logged the full 90 minutes for the second time that year...(4/22) at CLT: Placed on season-ending injury list after suffering a torn ACL...**Postseason:** Won MLS Cup with the Crew.

2022 (WITH COLUMBUS CREW): Made 12 appearances with Columbus, with five starts, and recorded one assist...Tallied two assists in five appearances, all starts, with Columbus Crew 2...(5/21) vs. LAFC: Made MLS debut as a late substitute...(8/21) vs. ATL: Marked first career assist...(8/27) at CIN: Earned first MLS start, logging 87 minutes...(8/31) vs. MCF: Posted first 90-minute performance with Columbus' senior team.

INTERNATIONAL (UNITED STATES): Represented the United States at the U-17 and U-15 levels...In 2016, tallied three goals in seven appearances for the U-17s...Made one appearance in 2015 with the U-15s in August 2015.

COLLEGE (GEORGETOWN): Played three seasons of college soccer at Georgetown University, making 56 appearances and tallying four goals and five assists...Won three straight BIG EAST Conference regular season titles in 2019-2021...Won the BIG EAST Conference tournament in 2019 and 2021...Contributed to the NCAA College Cup victory with the Hoyas in 2019...In 2021, made 22 appearances, including 21 starts, with three goals and three assists...Named a First Team All-BIG EAST selection and United Soccer Coaches First Team All-East Region honoree...Also honored by United Soccer Coaches as a First Team Scholar All-American...Named BIG EAST Defensive Player of the Week on Oct. 11, 2021 and Oct. 25, 2021...As a sophomore in 2020, earned Third Team All-BIG EAST selection and BIG EAST All-Academic honors...Made 13 appearances, including 12 starts...Tallied one assist in season opener at Villanova...In 2019, recorded one goal and one assist across 21 appearances.

PERSONAL: Full name is William Franklin Sands...Active in the community, serving as the Revolution's ambassador to the New England Amputee Soccer Foundation...Also involved with The Bionic Project, which seeks to dismantle disability bias through school programs and inclusive athletic events...avid reader and chess player...Has a twin brother, James, who plays for FC St. Pauli in Germany...Has a sister Katherine, who played soccer at Williams College and a sister, Elizabeth, who played soccer at Bowdoin College...In 2021, made 10 appearances and tallied four goals for Manhattan SC in USL League Two...In high school, attended IMG Academy as a freshman and sophomore, scoring 10 goals in 16 games in his first year...In 2018, won the Development Academy National Championship...In 2017, one of 28 players selected for U.S. Residency Program at IMG Academy, preparing for U-17 World Cup in India...Prior to IMG, developed in New York City FC's Academy program.

MLS CAREER STATISTICS

REGULAR SEASON

Year	Club	GP	GS	G	A	MINS	SHTS	SOG	FC	FS	OFF	CK	Y	R
2022	Columbus Crew	12	5	0	1	636	3	0	3	9	0	0	1	0
2023	Columbus Crew	7	7	0	2	488	2	0	6	5	0	0	1	0
2024	Columbus / New England	11	9	0	2	689	4	2	7	17	0	0	0	0
2025	New England Revolution	19	6	0	0	729	6	2	14	15	1	0	3	0
Career Totals		49	27	0	5	2542	15	4	30	46	1	0	5	0

