## Field Hockey:

# HUSKIES SECURE THE SHOOTOUT WIN



**ABOVE: A UConn field hockey player watches the ball against the Duke Blue Devils during a sunny Sunday matchup. The Huskies concluded their home stretch with the non-conference game on Oct. 19, 2025.**
PHOTO BY EMMA MEIDINGER, PHOTO EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

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The shootout reached its fifth round after 80 minutes of play, and when the game was on the line, Lucy Zich — who had recently been named the Big East Freshman of the Week — scored the decisive goal. University of Connecticut won the shootout, 3-1 and defeated Rutgers, 4-3. The win brings UConn's record to 3-1 and leaves the Scarlet Knights at 2-3 this season.

Laura Loycke scored unassisted at 6:34 in the first quarter to give Rutgers a 1-0 lead. UConn maintained the pressure in the second quarter, earning four penalty corners and making eight shots. During that time, Rutgers goalie Emily Nicholls stopped seven shots from Zich, Abby Davidson, and Maya Everett. UConn then scored at 19:32, when Charlotte Ritter scored unassisted to tie the game 1-1 before halftime.

In the third quarter, the scoring began immediately. Within 56 seconds, Lauren Iaccio scored from a corner insert by Ella Gandy, with an assist from Eden Doucelin, to give Rutgers a 2-1 lead at 30:56. UConn quickly responded with its own corner set piece. At 34:41, Olivia McKenna and Ritter combined to set up Zich, who then tied the score at 2-2.

UConn took its first lead of the game late in the fourth quarter. At 52:53, Lene Reiche assisted Emma Larit, making it 3-2 UConn with about seven minutes left in regulation. Rutgers answered with less than four minutes remaining. At 56:23, Anna Cogdell scored unassisted to tie the game at 3-3 and sent it to extra time.

The teams then played two 10-minute periods of 7-on-7 sudden-victory overtime. Four seconds into the second overtime, UConn defender Fien Hollander was issued a green card at 70:04, leaving UConn short a player for two minutes. At 70:45, Frederique Vernooij missed a shot wide while Rutgers had the advantage, but UConn managed to kill the penalty. During both overtime periods, UConn's defense prevented any shots on goal and held Rutgers to just one off-target attempt, sending the game to a shootout.

In the five-round shootout, neither Davidson nor Cogdell scored in the first round. In the second round, Reiche scored for UConn, while Natalie McKenna stopped Talia Schenck. In the third round, Ritter scored to make it 2–0 before Olivia Fraticelli got Rutgers on the board to make it 2–1. Nicholls denied Olivia McKenna in the fourth round, but Natalie McKenna kept UConn in front by stopping Martha Goodridge. In the fifth round, Zich scored against Nicholls, ending the shootout at 3-1.

UConn finished with 15 total shots compared to Rutgers' 13, with 12 shots on goal to Rutgers' eight. The Huskies also led 12-6 in penalty corners. Natalie McKenna made five saves in regulation and stopped three of four shooters in the shootout, securing the victory. UConn's next match is against Villanova on Sept. 18 as Big East Conference play begins.




**BELOW: UConn's Ava Eyre stands during the Huskies' game against the Georgetown Hoyas during a home match on a clear afternoon. The Huskies hosted their Big East rival on Oct. 17, 2025, to kick off a critical weekend homestand.**
PHOTO BY NORA MARIANO, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS.

## Cross Country:

# UCONN ROLLS THROUGH HARTFORD INVITE IN SEASON OPENER

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Maybe it was the new uniforms. Perhaps it was the irrepressible joy of meet day after oh-so-long of an off season. It also may have been the want to get out of West Hartford before the torrential downpours began — which will last most of the week, by the way.

Whatever "it" was, it certainly catalyzed the UConn women's cross country team in its season-opening demolition of the field at the University of Hartford Invitational on Saturday.

UConn finished first by a combined two minutes (54:12, exactly two minutes ahead of Southern Connecticut State's 56:12 mark) and boasted a combined score of 16. The six Huskies who ran finished first, second, third, fourth, sixth and ninth and sported an average time of 10:50 each in the women's three-kilometer run.

Anique Poulin and Samantha Moore — UConn's burgeoning sophomore duo — finished within three milliseconds of each other for first place, with Poulin, who set a new course and personal record, winning at 10:39.20.

Moore also set a personal best at 10:39.50, finishing nearly 12 seconds ahead of third place and half a stride short of first.

Venerable Calista Mayer, a four-year veteran who finished 10th in the 800-meter at the Big East Outdoor Track and Field Championships in May, finished third with a time of 10:50.40. Just behind her was freshman Alexandra Morgan, who finished inside the top five in her first collegiate race with a time of 10:53.60.

The lone gap between the first five Huskies and the first five finishers was Southern Connecticut State's Erin Sola, a junior who almost picked off Morgan at the finish line but fell to fifth at 10:55.

A second Husky freshman, Katie McMorrow, finished 14 seconds behind Sola in sixth at 11:09.50 after staving off Southern Connecticut's Mckenzie David, who finished in seventh two seconds later.

The last Connecticut runner, freshman Alyssa Suriano, finished ninth at 11:20.60, capping off a brilliant afternoon for UConn that saw all runners finish inside the top 10.

Other teams competing included — in order of finish — Southern Connecticut State, New Haven, Hartford, Molloy College, Roger Williams University, Clark College (Mass.), Manhatanville University, Bridgeport University and St. Elizabeth University.

The season-opening win gives Connecticut momentum before it heads up to Hanover, N.H. on Friday for the Dartmouth Invitational. Most of the team is expected to make the trip up, including the six who ran this weekend in Hartford.




**UConn women's cross country team trains in sunny weather. The team trained throughout the week to prepare for the Hartford Invitational on Saturday.**
PHOTO COURTESY OF @UCONNTFXC ON INSTAGRAM.