



Immediate Release

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University of South Florida and Texas Tech Selected to Play in the 2017 Birmingham Bowl

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — The University of South Florida (9-2), representing the American Athletic Conference and Texas Tech (6-6), representing the Big 12 Conference, will meet in the 2017 Birmingham Bowl, game officials announced Sunday. This will be the first ever meeting between the two schools.

The 2017 Birmingham Bowl will be played Saturday, Dec. 23, at 11 a.m. CT at historic Legion Field in Birmingham, Alabama. The game will air on ESPN and Red Voice Radio.

“We are pleased to have USF return for their third Birmingham Bowl appearance and we welcome Texas Tech for their first appearance in the Birmingham Bowl. We look forward to a great match-up and an exciting game for our great city,” said Mark Meadows, Executive Director of the Birmingham Bowl. “We know the fans of these two teams will experience the unique Southern Hospitality that Birmingham is famous for during their stay.”

“This is an exciting bowl match-up and a chance for our team and this tremendous senior class to close the 2017 season with a win,” said USF head coach Charlie Strong. “It’s the third straight bowl game for our program and a chance to go out and try to beat an exciting opponent and get to double-digit wins for a second straight year. Our guys are excited to play.”

This will be USF’s third appearance in the Birmingham Bowl. The Bulls defeated East Carolina 24-7 in the inaugural Birmingham Bowl in 2006. The Bulls also defeated the South Carolina Gamecocks in last year’s Birmingham Bowl. The Bulls’ victory against the South Carolina Gamecocks in last year’s Birmingham Bowl was the highest scoring game in the 11-year history of the Bowl. It was also the first overtime in Birmingham Bowl history.

“Our football program looks forward to participating in the Birmingham Bowl,” Texas Tech head coach Kliff Kingsbury said. “South Florida is a quality program, and we look forward to seeing Legion Field packed with scarlet and black here in a few weeks.”

This will be Texas Tech’s first appearance in the Birmingham Bowl. Texas Tech’s last visit to Birmingham was in the 1989 All-American Bowl against Duke at historic Legion Field. The Red Raiders won 49-21 against Steve Spurrier’s Blue Devils.

Birmingham Bowl

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Birmingham Bowl

Historic Legion Field

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Tickets to the 2017 Birmingham Bowl are on sale now and may be purchased by phone at 877-464-9529 or online at www.birminghambowl.com. Tickets are also available at the Legion Field Box Office now through game day. Corporate packages, which include premium ticket locations, hospitality benefits, and corporate branding, are available by calling 205-733-3776 ext. 102 or by emailing mark.r.meadows@espn.com.

The Birmingham Bowl is one of 14 bowl games owned and operated by ESPN Events, a division of ESPN. For more information on the Birmingham Bowl, please visit www.birminghambowl.com. For up-to-the-minute information, please follow our social handles on [Facebook.com/birminghambowl](https://www.facebook.com/birminghambowl), [Twitter](https://twitter.com/birminghambowl), and [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/birminghambowl).

ESPN Events

[ESPN Events](http://www.espn.com/events), a division of ESPN, owns and operates a large portfolio of 31 collegiate sporting events worldwide. The roster includes three Labor Day weekend college football games; FCS opening-weekend game; 14 college bowl games, 11 college basketball events and two college award shows, which accounts for approximately 300-plus hours of programming, reaches almost 64 million viewers and attracts over 700,000 attendees each year. With satellite offices in Albuquerque, Birmingham, Boca Raton, Boise, Dallas-Fort Worth, Honolulu, Las Vegas, Montgomery and St. Petersburg, ESPN Events builds relationships with conferences, schools and local communities, as well as providing unique experiences for teams and fans.

ESPN Events also manages the Big 12 Corporate Partner Program.

Collegiate Football

[Academy Sports + Outdoors Texas Bowl](#) (Houston); [AdvoCare Texas Kickoff](#) (Houston); [Bad Boy Mowers Gasparilla Bowl](#) (Florida); [Bahamas Bowl](#) (Nassau); [Birmingham Bowl](#) (Alabama); [Cheribundi Tart Cherry Boca Raton Bowl](#) (Florida); [Camping World Kickoff](#) (Orlando, Fla.); [Celebration Bowl](#) (Atlanta); [Famous Idaho Potato Bowl](#) (Boise); [DXL Frisco Bowl](#) (Frisco, Texas); [Gildan New Mexico Bowl](#) (Albuquerque); Guardian Credit Union FCS Kickoff (Montgomery, Ala.); [Hawai'i Bowl](#) (Honolulu); [Las Vegas Bowl](#) (Nevada); [Lockheed Martin Armed Forces Bowl](#) (Dallas-Fort Worth); [MEAC/SWAC Challenge](#) (Baton Rouge, La.); [Raycom Media Camellia Bowl](#) (Montgomery, Ala.); [The Home Depot College Football Awards Presented by Gildan](#) (Atlanta) and [Zaxby's Heart of Dallas Bowl](#) (Dallas-Fort Worth)

Collegiate Basketball

[AdvoCare Invitational](#) (Walt Disney World Resort near Orlando, Fla.); [Armed Forces Classic](#) (Ramstein Air Base, Germany); [College Basketball Awards Presented by Wendy's](#) (Los Angeles); [Gildan Charleston Classic](#) (South Carolina); [Hawaiian Airlines Diamond Head Classic](#) (Honolulu); [Jimmy V Men's Classic presented by Corona](#) (New York City); [Jimmy V Women's Classic presented by Corona](#) (Hartford, Conn.); [NIT Season Tip-Off](#) (Brooklyn, N.Y.); [PK80 presented by State Farm](#) (Portland, Ore.); [Puerto Rico Tip-Off](#); [State Farm Champions Classic](#) (Chicago) and [Wooden Legacy](#) (Fullerton, Calif.)

For more information, visit the official [website](http://www.birminghambowl.com), [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/birminghambowl), [Twitter](https://twitter.com/birminghambowl) or [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/birminghambowl) pages.



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