

A green shield with a football ball and text

Description automatically generated with low confidenceClub Leon vs. Los Angeles FC****

**Wednesday May 3, 2023 – First Leg**

**10:00 PM (8:00 PM) - Estadio Leon, León, Mexico**

This is the sixth final between teams from Liga MX and the United States, including the Concacaf Champions League, of which Mexican clubs have won 3 titles (Cruz Azul in 1997, CF Monterrey in 2011, and Tigres UANL in 2020), and American teams have won twice with DC United in 1998 and Seattle Sounders in 2022.

**Mexican teams have the advantage in the head-to-head matchups against MLS rivals: G- 7 W-3 D-2 L-2 52% success rate**

**Series in favor of Mexican teams against American clubs vs. Mexico (including the former Concacaf Champions Cup): G- 165 W- 94 D-33 L-38**

**Mexican teams have won 37 titles and have been runners-up 20 times in the history of the competition, including the Concacaf Champions Cup and the SCCL.**

Mexican clubs that have won the title: Club América (7), Cruz Azul (6), Pachuca (5), CF Monterrey (5), Pumas UNAM (3), Deportivo Toluca (2), CD Guadalajara (2), Atlante FC (2), Necaxa, Atlético Español FC, Leones Negros de la U. de Guadalajara, Puebla, and Tigres UANL.

**Mexican clubs that have been runners-up: Toluca FC (3), Tigres (3), CD Guadalajara (2), Pumas UNAM (2), Cruz Azul (2), Monarcas (2), Santos Laguna (2), León (1), Necaxa (1), Atlante (1), Club América (1).**

**Club León and LAFC will face each other for the third time in the history of the Scotiabank Concacaf Champions League, SCCL.**

**Head-to-Head Club Leon vs LAFC:**

**León 2-0 Los Angeles FC (Jean Meneses and Ángel Mena) - First leg, round of 16, Estadio de León, León (Feb 18, 2020).**

**Los Angeles FC 3-0 León (Carlos Vela x2 and Diego Rossi) - Second leg, round of 16, Banc of California Stadium, Los Angeles, CA (Feb 27, 2020).**

**Assists for Club León vs LAFC: Fernando Navarro (MEX) and Luis Montes (MEX) - 1 each.**

**Assists for LAFC vs Club León: Diego Palacios (ECU), Tristan Blackmon (USA), Eduard Atuesta (COL) - 1 each.**

**Results in finals between teams from Mexico and the United States (including the former Concacaf Champions Cup):**

* LA Galaxy 3-5 Cruz Azul (Eduardo Hurtado x2 and Jorge Campos; Benjamín Galindo, Johan Rodríguez, Héctor Adomatis, and Carlos Hermosillo x2) - Single-leg final, Concacaf Champions Cup 1997, Robert F. Kennedy Memorial Stadium, Washington (Aug 24, 1997).
* DC United 1-0 Toluca (Eddie Pope) - Single-leg final, Concacaf Champions Cup 1998, Robert F. Kennedy Memorial Stadium, Washington (Aug 16, 1998).
* CF Monterrey 2-2 Real Salt Lake (Aldo de Nigris and Humberto Suazo; Nat Borchers and Javier Morales) - First leg, SCCL 2011/12 final, Estadio Tecnológico, Monterrey (Apr 20, 2011).
* Real Salt Lake 0-1 CF Monterrey (Humberto Suazo) - Second leg, SCCL 2011/12 final, Rio Tinto Stadium, Sandy (Apr 27, 2011).
* Tigres UANL 2-1 Los Angeles FC (Hugo Ayala and André-Pierre Gignac; Diego Rossi) - Single-leg final, Exploria Stadium, Orlando, Fla, United States (Dec 23, 2020).
* Pumas UNAM 2-2 Seattle Sounders (Juan Ignacio Dinenno x2; Nicolás Lodeiro x2) - First leg, SCCL 2022 final, Estadio Olímpico Universitario, Mexico City (April 27, 2022).
* Seattle Sounders 3-0 Pumas UNAM (Raúl Ruidíaz x2 and Nicolás Lodeiro) - Second leg, SCCL 2022 final, Lumen Field, Seattle (May 4, 2022).

**Series between clubs from the United States vs. Mexico (including only SCCL ERA):**

Mexican teams vs. American clubs: Matches played: 97, Wins: 52, Draws: 20, Losses: 25.

**León vs. American clubs**: Matches played: 4, Wins: 1, Draws: 1, Losses: 2. Club León faced Los Angeles FC in the round of 16 in 2020 and Seattle Sounders in the quarterfinals in 2022.

**Los Angeles FC vs. Mexican clubs in the SCCL**: Matches played: 5, Wins: 3, Draws: 0, Losses: 1. LAFC faced León in the round of 16 in 2020, Cruz Azul in the quarterfinals in 2020, Club América in the semifinals in 2020, and Tigres UANL in the final in 2020.

To date, two matches between teams from the United States and Mexico have been decided by penalty shootouts: Toluca 2-2 (5-4) San Jose Earthquakes in the quarterfinals of the 2013/14 edition, and New England Revolution 3-3 (3-4) Pumas UNAM in the quarterfinals of the 2022 edition.

Leon 

**SCCL RECORD (include Concacaf Champions Cup):** G: 32 W-13 D-9 L-10 (GF-49 GA-35) / 50% success rate

**HOME RECORD:** G-15 W-10 D-4 L-1 (GF-35 GA-11). 76% success rate

**BEST RESULT:** Runner-up in 1993, where there was no final, and the quadrangular phase was won by Deportivo Saprissa from Costa Rica. Third place in the Concacaf Champions Cup 1998.

**RECORD IN THE SCCL ERA:** Matches played: 18, Wins: 9, Draws: 3, Losses: 6 (GF-31 GA-21) / 56% success rate.

**TOP SCORERS IN THE SCCL ERA:** Elías Hernández (MEX) 5, Ángel Mena (ECU) 3, Víctor Dávila (CHI) 3, José María Cárdenas (MEX) 2, Fidel Ambriz (MEX) 2, José Ruiz (MEX) 2, Brian Rubio (MEX) 2, Fernando Navarro (MEX) 2, Yamilson Rivera (COL) 2. **ALL-TIME TOP SCORER IN SCCL**: Milton Queiroz (BRA) 7.

**BRACES IN THE SCCL ERA: (3):** José María Cárdenas (MEX), Víctor Dávila (CHI), José Ruiz (MEX), and Yamilson Rivera (COL).

**PLAYERS WITH MOST APPEARANCES IN THE SCCL ERA:** Rodolfo Cota (MEX) 14, Elías Hernández (MEX) 12, Víctor Dávila (CHI) 11, Stiven Barreiro (COL) 10, Fernando Navarro (MEX) 8, Jean Meneses (CHI) 8, William Tesillo (COL) 8, Ángel Mena (ECU) 8, Fidel Ambríz (MEX) 8, Joel Campbell (CRC) 7.

**TOP SCORERS IN SCCL 2023:** Víctor Dávila (CHI) 3, Elías Hernández (MEX) 2, Ángel Mena (ECU) 2, Brian Rubio (MEX) 2, Iván Moreno (MEX) 1, Fidel Ambriz (MEX), Adonis Frías (ARG) 1, Lucas Di Yorio (ARG) 1.

**ASSISTS LEADER IN SCCL 2023:** Elias Hernández (MEX) 2, Ángel Mena (ECU) 2, Byron Castillo (ECU) 1, Joel Campbell (CRC) 1, Lucas Di Yorio (ARG) 1, Lucas Romero (ARG) 1.

**SAVES IN SCCL 2023: (13). Rodolfo Cota (MEX) 13.**

**Rodolfo Cota (MEX) has won 2 titles in the SCCL ERA (2009/10 with Pachuca and 2018 with CD Guadalajara) where he won the Golden Glove Award and was selected in the Best XI of the Tournament.**

**PENALTY SHOOTOUTS:** No record since the change in tournament format in 2008/09. In the Concacaf Champions Cup 1998, they defeated Luis Ángel Firpo (SLV) 3-2 on penalties after a 1-1 draw to advance to the semifinals in the single-leg quarterfinal match at Robert F. Kennedy Memorial Stadium, Washington D.C.

**RECORD IN FIRST LEG MATCHES (SCCL ERA): Matches played: 7, Wins: 4, Draws: 1, Losses: 2.**

**Argentinian coaches who have won the SCCL in history:**

The current coach of Club León is Argentinian Nicolás Larcamón, who is in his first edition of the SCCL.

Vicente Cayetano Rodríguez (Club América) in 1987, Miguel Ángel López (Club América) in 1992, Guillermo Rivarola (Pachuca) in 2009/10, Matías Almeyda (CD Guadalajara) in 2018.

In 2022, Andrés Lillini (ARG), coach of Pumas UNAM, was the runner-up after losing the final against Seattle Sounders.

**Club León is the second team with the most goals (13) and shots (84) in the SCCL 2023, and also with the most shots hitting the post (4).**

**León obtained 100% of the points when playing at home in the current edition, scoring 10 goals and conceding only 1: 2-0 against Tauro FC (Brian Rubio and Elías Hernández) in the Round of 16, 5-0 against Violette AC (Ángel Mena, Víctor Dávila x2, Lucas Di Yorio, and Elías Hernández) in the Quarterfinals, and 3-1 against Tigres UANL (Fidel Ambriz, Ángel Mena, and Adonis Frías; Raymundo Fulgencio) in the Semifinals.**

Club León has scored goals in 16 of their last 18 SCCL matches, and 5 of their 6 clean sheets in the SCCL ERA were in the last two editions (2022 and 2023).

**TOP PLAYERS.**

**Víctor Dávila (CHI)** is Club León's top scorer with 3 goals, all from open play.

Brian Rubio (MEX) has scored 2 goals in 6 appearances and is the player with the most shots on his team with 14.

**Elías Hernández (MEX)** has scored 2 goals and has 2 assists. He has scored goals in three of the last 5 home games (against Guastatoya, Tauro, and Violette). He is León's top scorer in the SCCL since its format change in 2008/09, with 5 goals and 3 assists. He is 2 goals away from equaling the record of Brazilian player Milton Queiroz (7).

**Ángel Mena (ECU)** has scored 3 goals in 8 SCCL matches. The Ecuadorian scored the only goal in the 2-0 victory against Los Angeles FC in the round of 16 of the 2020 SCCL.

**Lucas Romero (ARG)** is the leader in passes (329) in 533 minutes played and has recovered 14 balls. In the two matches against Tigres UANL, he was the player with the most passes (123) and 11 ball recoveries**.**

**Fidel Ambriz (MEX)** is the youngest goalscorer in the 2023 SCCL at 20 years, 1 month, and 13 days. The midfielder has recorded 173 successful passes with a 95% pass accuracy to date. He scored 2 goals in 5 appearances in the 2022 Concacaf U-20 Championship in Honduras.

**José Alfonso Alvarado (MEX)** was a champion in the 2021 SCCL with CF Monterrey, scoring 2 goals (against Atlético Pantoja and Columbus Crew) in 5 matches. He played 3 matches with the Mexican U-17 national team when they won the 2017 Panama U-17 Championship.

****Los Angeles FC 

**SCCL RECORD: G-11 W-7 D-1 L-3** (GF-23 GA-9) / 67% success rate.

**AWAY RECORD: G- 4 W-2 D-1 L-1** GF: 7, GA: 3, 58% success rate.

**BEST RESULT:** Runner-up in 2020 and finalist in 2023.

**TOP SCORERS IN THE SCCL ERA:** Carlos Vela (MEX) 8, Dénis Bouanga (FRA) 6, Kwadwo Opoku (GHA) 3, Diego Rossi (URU) 2, Timothy Tillman (GER) 1, Latif Blessing (GHA) 1, José Cifuentes (ECU) 1, Kellyn Acosta (USA) 1.

**HAT-TRICKS IN THE SCCL ERA:** Denis Bouanga (FRA) against Alajuelense (Round of 16 in 2023). Carlos Vela (MEX) and Denis Bouanga (FRA). The Mexican forward achieved it on 3 occasions (against Club León in the Round of 16, against Club América in the 2020 SF, and against Vancouver Whitecaps FC in the 2023 QF), while the Frenchman did it against Vancouver Whitecaps (2023 QF).

**PLAYERS WITH MOST APPEARANCES IN THE SCCL ERA:** Carlos Vela (MEX) 11, Diego Palacios (ECU) 11, Jesús Murillo (COL) 9, José Cifuentes (ECU) 8, Kwadwo Opoku (GHA) 8, Stipe Biuk (CRO) 6, Timothy Tillman (GER) 6, Kellyn Acosta (USA) 6, Denis Bouanga (FRA) 6, Ilie Sánchez (ESP) 6, John McCarthy (USA) 6.

**TOP SCORERS IN SCCL 2023:** Denis Bouanga (FRA) 6, Carlos Vela (MEX) 3, Kwadwo Opoku (GHA) 2, José Cifuentes (ECU) 1, Timothy Tillman (GER) 1, Kellyn Acosta (USA) 1.

**ASSISTS LEADER IN SCCL 2023:** Carlos Vela (MEX) 2, Ryan Hollingshead (USA) 2, Denis Bouanga (FRA) 2, Ilie Sánchez (ESP) 2, Opoku Kwadwo (GHA) 1, Timothy Tillman (GER) 1, José Cifuentes (ECU) 1.

**SAVES IN SCCL 2023: (26).** John McCarthy (USA) 26.

**John McCarthy (USA) is the saves leader in the SCCL 2023 with 26 saves and has played the most minutes for LAFC with 572 minutes.**

**TOP SCORERS IN SCCL FINALS:** Diego Rossi (URU) 1. Assists in finals: Mark-Anthony Kaye (CAN) 1.

**RECORD IN FIRST LEG MATCHES (SCCL ERA):** Matches played: 4, Wins: 2, Draws: 1, Losses: 1.

**American coaches who have won the SCCL in history:**

**Bruce Arena (DC United) in 1998, Brian Schmetzer (Seattle Sounders) in 2022.**

**Los Angeles FC (USA)** is the team with the most goals scored in the SCCL 2023 with (14), passes (2468), balls recovered (85), points (13), and assists (11).

LAFC achieved 5 clean sheets in 11 SCCL matches. LAFC won 7 out of their 11 matches (64%).

Los Angeles FC scored goals in 10 out of their 11 matches. 15 out of the 23 goals in the SCCL were scored with the left foot.

**TOP PLAYERS.**

**Ilie Sánchez (ESP)** is the leader in ball recoveries in the entire SCCL 2023 (15) and one of the players with the most successful passes (294).

**Carlos Vela (MEX)** has been involved in 48% of LAFC's goals (8 goals and 3 assists in 11 appearances). In 2023, he has scored 3 goals, provided 2 assists, and has suffered 9 fouls. Alongside Diego Palacios (ECU), he has played in all 11 matches for LAFC in the SCCL. He scored 5 goals in 5 matches in the 2020 edition.

**Denis Bouanga (FRA)** has been involved in 57% of LAFC's goals in the SCCL 2023 (6 goals and 2 assists) and is the top scorer in the 2023 edition with 6 goals (3 in the Round of 16, 2 in the Quarterfinals, and 1 in the Semifinals). He is also the leader in shots (27) and assists (3).

**Aaron Long (USA)** is the leader in pass accuracy (96%) alongside Ilie Sánchez from Spain (93%) and Giorgio Chiellini from Italy (91%).

**Kwadwo Opoku (GHA**) has scored 3 goals in 8 appearances in the SCCL (against Cruz Azul, Vancouver Whitecaps, and Philadelphia Union). He came on as a substitute in the 2020 final against Tigres UANL, replacing Daniel Musovski.

**Denil Maldonado (HON)** was the runner-up in the Scotiabank Concacaf League in 2018 and 2019 with FC Motagua from Honduras. He was also the runner-up in the U-20 championship with Honduras in 2017 in Costa Rica and finished in second place in the Concacaf Men's Olympic Qualifying Tournament for the Tokyo 2020 Olympics.

**Christian Torres (MEX)** participated in the Concacaf U-20 Championship in Honduras in 2022, scoring 1 goal in 5 appearances.