



## **Inter Miami (USA) vs. CF Monterrey (MEX)**

Wednesday April 3, 2024 Chase Stadium, Fort Lauderdale, USA.

They will face each other for the first time in the CCC, and for Inter Miami, making its debut in the 2024 edition, it will be the second match against a Liga MX rival. Previously, they defeated Cruz Azul in Group 10 of the Leagues Cup 2023: 2-1 (Robert Taylor and Lionel Messi; Carlos Antuna), at DRV PNK Stadium, Fort Lauderdale (July 21, 2023).

Inter Miami (USA) is the first MLS team that, in its first two matches in its debut season, achieved a draw and a victory (in that order), in home and away series. In 2015, the Whitecaps (CAN) representing the MLS had accomplished this, but it was on different matchdays in the group stage in 2015.

Inter Miami became the fourth MLS team to advance in a round by eliminating another team from the same league in its debut tournament. The first to do so was Los Angeles Galaxy against DC United in 1997, followed by Real Salt Lake against Columbus Crew in 2011, and Philadelphia Union against Atlanta United in 2021.

Inter Miami is the 8th team in the history of the CCC that, in its second match in its debut appearance, won with a 3-1 scoreline. Additionally, it is the third MLS club to achieve this result. Previously, San Jose Earthquakes defeated CD Olimpia (HON) in 2002, and New England Revolution beat LD Alajuelense (CRC) in 2003 with the same scoreline.

For CF Monterrey, it will be the 17th match against MLS opponents, of which they only lost to the Seattle Sounders in the group stage in the 2011-12 edition and to Atlanta United (1-0) in the quarter-finals in 2019 but were not eliminated in the series; CF Monterrey won 3-1 on aggregate.

CF Monterrey has achieved 5 consecutive qualifications in knockout stages against MLS rivals and has never been eliminated by a Major League Soccer team.

For the third time, CF Monterrey will face an MLS opponent in the quarter-finals: in 2019, they won (3-0) at home against Atlanta United and lost 0-1 away but won the series 3-1 on aggregate, and in 2021, on their way to their last title, they drew away (2-2) against Columbus Crew and won (3-0) at home to win the series 5-2 on aggregate.

The top scorer in the series against MLS clubs is Aldo de Nigris (MEX) with 5 goals. The active players with the most goals are: Jesús Gallardo (MEX), Maxi Meza (ARG), and Brandon Vázquez (USA), all with 2 goals.



## Inter Miami (USA)

Inter Miami eliminated Nashville in the round of 16 with an aggregate score of 5-3. Inter Miami remains undefeated after its first participation in the CCC (W-1-D-1).

Lionel Messi and Luis Suárez, the top scorers in the CONMEBOL qualifiers, accounted for 62% of Inter Miami's shots in the round of 16 matches (13 out of 21).

Inter Miami has the best shot conversion rate in the CCC 2024 (23.8%) with an average of 10.5 shots per game, 11 of which were on target, 5 deflected, and 5 goals scored.

**Record in the CCC 2024:** GP-2, W-1, D-1, L-0 (GF-5 GA-3).

**Top scorers in the CCC 2024:** Lionel Messi (ARG) 2, Luis Suárez (URU) 2, Robert Taylor (FIN) 1.

**Assists in the CCC 2024:** Luis Suárez (URU) 2, Sergio Busquets (ESP) 1, Lionel Messi (ARG) 1, Diego Gómez (PAR) 1.

**Saves in the CCC 2024:** 2. Goalkeepers: Drake Callender (USA) 2 (3 goals conceded).

**Biggest win:** (3-1) vs. Nashville SC (Luis Suárez, Lionel Messi, and Robert Taylor), round of 16 (First leg) at Chase Stadium, Fort Lauderdale (March 13, 2024).

How the goals were scored: From open play (3), headers (2). Goal-scoring opportunities (21). Shots on target (11).

### Players to watch:

**Lionel Messi (ARG).** Scored two goals, provided one assist, had 4 shots with 2 on target and 2 off target, and was the player with the most shots (8) in the series against Nashville SC in the round of 16.

**Luis Suárez (URU).** Scored two goals, provided two assists, and took 5 shots in the match against Nashville SC.

**Robert Taylor (FIN).** The Finnish player scored the last goal against Nashville SC. He played 40 minutes and contributed with 4 shots in the second leg of the round of 16 at Chase Stadium. Taylor has scored 5 goals in 8 matches between the CCC and Leagues Cup.



## CF Monterrey (MEX)

CF Monterrey has the best winning percentage in the Concacaf Champions League (CCL) at 74% and is the team with the most victories in knockout matches with 27.

Every time CD Monterrey played in the quarterfinals of the CCL (7 times), they managed to advance to the next phase, including different formats: 2004 (vs. CD FAS), 2005 (vs. Municipal), 2010/11 (vs. Toluca), 2011/12 (vs. Morelia), 2012/13 (vs. Xelajú), 2019 (vs. Atlanta United), and 2021 (vs. Columbus Crew).

The Liga MX team is undefeated in 7 away matches in the CCL (W-6 D-1) and scored goals in all those matches. They have achieved 3 consecutive away victories. Their last defeat without scoring goals was against Atlanta United (1-0) in the quarterfinals in 2019. Rayados ended up winning the series on aggregate goals.

Their only loss in the quarterfinals was against Atlanta United in the second leg in 2019: 1-0, with Josef Martínez scoring at the Mercedes-Benz Stadium in Atlanta. Apart from that, they have had 9 victories and 4 draws.

CF Monterrey has played in 28 two-legged series in the history of the CCL and advanced in 22 of them (79%), being eliminated in 5, but none against a US opponent (3 against Central American clubs and 2 against Mexican rivals).

CF Monterrey has won 8 consecutive matches in the CCL (against Comunicaciones in Round One and Cincinnati in the round of 16), including their last championship in 2021.

Since 2008/09, CF Monterrey has won first-leg away matches in knockout stages 8 times (3 with clean sheets) and has won the series in all of them.

The team coached by Argentine Fernando Ortiz ranks first alongside Cincinnati in goals scored (10), assists (9) - tied with Nashville SC - and shots (59) in the 2024 CCL.

**Appearances in the Concacaf Champions League (Since 1962):** 12 (1975, 1987, 1994, 2004, 2005, 2010/11, 2011/12, 2012/13, 2016/17, 2019, 2021, 2024).

**Best Result: Champion (5)** 2010/11, 2011/12, 2012/13, 2019, 2021.

**Record in the CCL (Since 1962):** GP- 77, W-49, D-18, L- 10 (GF-150 GA-61).

**Top scorers in the history of the CCL:** Humberto Suazo (CHI) 16, Aldo De Nigris (MEX) 16, Abraham Carreño (MEX) 9, Neri Cardozo (ARG) 7.

**Players with the most appearances in the CCL:** Aldo de Nigris (MEX) 30, Walter Ayoví (ECU) 30, Neri Cardozo (ARG) 28, Jonathan Orozco (MEX) 27, Jesús Zavala (MEX) 27, Hiram Mier (MEX) 26, José María Basanta (ARG) 26, Humberto Suazo (CHI) 26.

CF Monterrey since 2008/09: Has scored goals in 52 matches, kept clean sheets in 30, conceded goals in 27 games, and drawn twice with a score of (0-0).

Record in first-leg matches in KO rounds: GP- 18, W- 14, D- 4, L- 0.

Biggest win (since 2008/09): Universitario 0-6 Monterrey (Abraham Carreño, Humberto Suazo x2, Jesús Corona, Neri Cardozo, Luis Madrigal), group stage 2012/13.

**Penalty shootouts (since 2008/09):** 0. Eliminated on penalties in the semifinals of the Concacaf Champions Cup 2005 against Deportivo Saprissa after a 3-3 draw in the final score.

**Hat-tricks:** Abraham Carreño (vs. Herediano - group stage 2011/12), Ángel Reyna (vs. Universitario - group stage 2012/13).

**Participations in the quarterfinals:** 2004 (vs. CD FAS), 2005 (vs. Municipal), 2010/11 (vs. Toluca), 2011/12 (vs. Morelia), 2012/13 (vs. Xelajú), 2019 (vs. Atlanta United), 2021 (vs. Columbus Crew), and 2024 (vs. Inter Miami).

**Record in quarterfinals:** GP- 14, W- 9, D- 4, L- 1.

**Top scorers in quarterfinals:** Humberto Suazo (CHI) 4, Walter Ayoví (ECU) 2, Maximiliano Meza (ARG) 2, Guillermo Franco (MEX) 2.

**Qualifications to semifinals:** CF Monterrey has qualified for the semifinals 7 times: 2004 (vs. CD FAS), 2005 (vs. Municipal), 2010/11 (vs. Toluca), 2011/12 (vs. Morelia), 2012/13 (vs. Xelajú), 2019 (vs. Atlanta United), 2021 (vs. Columbus Crew).

**Record in the 2024 CCL:** Played 4, Won 4, Drawn 0, Lost 0 (GF-10 GA-2).

**Top scorers in the 2024 CCL:** Brandon Vázquez (USA) 3, Germán Berterame (ARG) 1, Alfonso González (MEX), Jesús Gallardo (MEX), Rodrigo Aguirre (URU), Héctor Moreno (MEX), Jesús Corona (MEX), Luis Romo (MEX).

**Assists in the 2024 CCL:** Maximiliano Meza (ARG) 4, Germán Berterame (ARG) 1, Stefan Medina (COL) 1, Jesús Gallardo (MEX) 1, Jordi Cortizo (MEX) 1, Rodrigo Aguirre (MEX) 1.

**Saves in the 2024 CCL:** 16. Goalkeepers: Esteban Andrada (ARG) 16. (2 goals conceded - 2 clean sheets).

**How the goals were scored:** From open play (7), headers (3).

**Goal-scoring opportunities** (59). Shots on target (27).

**Players to watch:**

**Maximiliano Meza (ARG):** Provided three assists in the round of 16 against FC Cincinnati. The Argentine has played 15 matches in the CCL, scored 4 goals, provided 7 assists, and has been a champion twice with CF Monterrey in the CCL (2019 and 2021)

**Brandon Vázquez (USA):** He is Monterrey's top scorer in the 2024 CCL with (3) goals. The forward from the United States national team scored goals in both round of 16 matches and has the most shots on goal for the team with (9).

**Luis Romo (MEX):** He scored his first goal in the history of the CCL in the second match against FC Cincinnati after 9 appearances between Cruz Azul and Monterrey. Romo has taken 5 shots in the current edition.

**Esteban Andrada (ARG):** With two clean sheets, he is one of the goalkeepers with the most saves in the 2024 CCL with (16), alongside Jonathan Fonkel from Robinhood.