



LD Alajuelense (CRC) vs. NE Revolution (USA)

Thursday, March 14, 2024, Alejandro Morera Soto Stadium, Alajuela (CRC).

New England Revolution won the first match 4-0 with goals from Nicholas Lima, a brace from Tomás Chancalay, and Esmir Bajraktarevic at Gillette Stadium, Foxborough on March 6, 2024.

New England achieved their third victory in the Concacaf Champions Cup (CCC), their best streak in the Concacaf club tournament. The MLS team won 4 of their last games and only drew once.

For the first time in 11 CCC matches, New England scored 4 goals in a single game, and it was the third consecutive game they didn't concede goals in the CCC, their best record.

New England Revolution became the 4th MLS team to win a game with a 4-0 scoreline against Costa Rican rivals. Previously, Atlanta United did it against CS Herediano in 2019, Philadelphia Union against Deportivo Saprissa in 2021, and New York City against Santos de Guápiles in 2022. For the first time, an MLS team defeated a Costa Rican team 4-0 in the first game of a two-leg series; the previous 4 times occurred in the second leg.

All MLS teams that scored 4 goals against Costa Rican rivals have advanced to the next phase.

This will be the 6th match in CCC history between these two teams, with two wins each and one draw. LD Alajuelense has eliminated New England twice.

Series Results:

Alajuelense 4-0 NE Revolution (Erick Scott x2, Alejandro Alpízar, and Rolando Fonseca), first leg, First Round in Alajuela (March 23, 2003).

New England Revolution 3-1 Alajuelense (Taylor Twellman, Wolde Harris, and Pat Noonan; Rolando Fonseca), second leg, First Round, in Foxborough (March 26, 2003).

New England Revolution 0-0 Alajuelense, quarter-finals (first leg) in Bermuda (February 22, 2006).

Alajuelense 1-0 NE Revolution (Carlos Hernández), quarter-finals (second leg) in Alajuela (March 8, 2006).

New England Revolution 4-0 Alajuelense (Nicholas Lima, Tomás Chancalay x2, and Esmir Bajraktarevic), first leg, Round of 16, Gillette Stadium, Foxborough (March 6, 2024).



Alajuelense (CRC)

The 0-4 defeat in the first match for LD Alajuelense was their sixth in the last 8 games, with a record of six defeats and two victories.

For the second time in 139 matches played in the Concacaf Champions Cup (CCC), LD Alajuelense lost a game with a 0-4 scoreline, not experiencing such a defeat since 2003 when they were defeated by Club América in the quarter-finals, marking a gap of 20 years and 325 days.

Whenever LD Alajuelense conceded 4 goals in a first-leg match, they were eliminated, and this was the second time they conceded 4 goals, making them the Costa Rican team that has lost the most matches with this scoreline.

Alajuelense lost their last 2 home matches without scoring goals in the CCC. They scored 9 goals in their last 2 victories: 5-2 against DC United (Round of 16) and 4-2 against FC Montreal (Semifinals) in 2014/15.

The winners of the Concacaf Champions Cup in the 1986 and 2004 editions have never advanced past the round of 16 since the change in format in 2008/09. They reached the quarter-finals in the 2013/14 edition (against Árabe Unido) and 2014/15 edition (against DC United). At that time, teams were directly classified from the group stage.

Never in the history of the CCC has a team that lost 4-0 in the first leg of the round of 16 (since 2008/09) managed to reverse the series in their favor. Real Estelí lost 4-0 against Columbus Crew in Managua in 2021 and then lost 0-1 in the second leg.

LD Alajuelense scored goals in only one of their last five matches in the history of the CCC (a 2-1 victory against Los Angeles FC in the second leg of the round of 16 in 2023). Of their last 10 goals in the CCC, 8 were scored in the second half. Their last 3 goals came from open play, penalty, and free-kick.

Appearances in the Concacaf Champions Cup (Since 1962): 27 (1962, 1968, 1971, 1973, 1986, 1988, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2006, 2008/09, 2011/12, 2012/13, 2013/14, 2014/15, 2021, 2023, 2024).

Best Result since 1962: Champion in 1986 and 2004, semifinals (2) 2013/14, 2014/15.

Record in the CCC (Since 1962): GP-141 W-70 D-25 L-46 (GF-244 GA-161).

Top Scorers since 2008/09: Jonathan McDonald (CRC) 6, Allen Guevara (CRC) 4, Pablo Gabas (ARG) 4, Armando Alonso (CRC) 3, Jerry Palacios (HON) 3.

Players with the most appearances (since 2008/09): Johnny Acosta (CRC) 24, Porfirio López (CRC) 19, Patrick Pemberton (CRC) 18, Ariel Rodríguez (CRC) 18, José Salvatierra (CRC) 18, Johan Venegas (CRC) 17.

Record in second leg matches in the Knockout Phase (since 2008/09): GP: 7 W-3 D-0 L-4.

Highest-scoring victory (since 2008/09): 5-2 vs. DC United (Eithel Rodríguez, José Ortíz x2, Johan Venegas, and Jonathan McDonald; Fabián Espíndola and Steven Bimbaum), quarter-finals 2014/15, at Estadio Alejandro Morera Soto, Alajuela (26-FEB-2015).

Penalty shootouts: 0.

Hat-tricks: 0.

Participations in the round of 16: 2002 (vs. Club América), 2003 (vs. NE Revolution), 2021 (vs. Atlanta United), 2023 (vs. Los Ángeles FC), 2024 (vs. NE Revolution).

Record in the round of 16: GP-9 W-4 D-0 L-5.

Top Scorers in Round of 16: Rolando Fonseca (CRC) 3, Erick Scott (CRC) 2, Giancarlo González (CRC) 1, Aarón Suárez (CRC) 1, Alejandro Alpízar (CRC) 1, Luis Marín (CRC) 1, Wilmer López (CRC) 1.

Saves in CCC 2024: 5. Goalkeeper: Leonel Moreira (CRC) 5. (4 goals conceded).

Opportunities to score goals (7). Shots on target (3).

Players to watch:

Leonel Moreira (CRC). Made 5 saves and 18 passes in the 4-0 defeat against New England. The goalkeeper has played in 10 editions of the CCC. In the last three rounds of 16 matches, he has made 21 saves.

Edward Cedeño (PAN). The Panamanian midfielder led his team in passes (57), with two balls recovered in the first match.

Michael Barrantes (CRC). Took two shots in the first match. The experienced midfielder, who won the Scotiabank Concacaf League 2019 and the Concacaf Central American Cup 2023, has played 18 matches in the CCC.



New England Revolution (USA)

New England Revolution secured their third victory in the 2024 Concacaf Champions Cup after winning the two-legged series in Round One against Club Atlético Independiente of Panama (0-1 and 3-0) and against Alajuelense in the round of 16 (4-0).

New England Revolution lost both times they played away against LD Alajuelense between 2003 and 2006 (4-0 and 1-0).

They never managed to score more than one goal when playing as visitors and only scored goals in 2 out of their 5 away games.

New England Revolution is one of the teams with the most shots in the 2024 Concacaf Champions Cup with 39, with 30 of them being in Round One.



Appearances in the Concacaf Champions Cup (Since 1962): 5 (2003, 2006, 2008/09, 2022, 2024).

Best Result: Quarter-finals in 2006, 2022.

Record in the Concacaf Champions Cup (Since 1962): GP-11 W-5 D-1 L-5 (GF-15 GA-15).

Top Scorers in the history of the Concacaf Champions Cup: Tomás Chancalay (ARG) 4, Adam Buksa (POL) 2, Nacho Gil (ESP) 1, Mark-Anthony Kaye (CAN) 1, Sebastian Lletget (USA) 1, Mauricio Castro (HON) 1, Esmir Bajraktarevic (USA) 1, Nick Lima (USA) 1.

Players with the most appearances in the Concacaf Champions Cup: Matthew Polster (USA) 5, Dejuan Jones (USA) 5, Carles Gil (ESP) 4, Andrew Farrell (USA) 4, Emmanuel Boateng (GHA) 4.

Record in second leg matches in the KO Phase (since 2008/09): GP-3 W-1 D-0 L-2.

Most goals scored in a victory (since 2008/09): 4-0 vs. Alajuelense (Nick Lima, Tomás Chancalay x2, and Esmir Bajraktarevic), round of 16 - 2024.

Penalty shootouts: 1 Lost in penalties 4-3 against Pumas UNAM after a 3-3 draw.

Hat-tricks: 0

Participations in the round of 16: 2003 and 2024 (vs. Alajuelense).

Record in the round of 16: GP-3 W-2 D-0 L-1 (GF-7 GA-5).

Top scorers in the round of 16: Tomás Chancalay (ARG) 2, Taylor Twellman (USA) 1, Wolde Harris (JAM) 1, Pat Noonan (USA) 1, Esmir Bajraktarevic (USA) 1, Nick Lima (USA) 1.

Goal scorers in the 2024 Concacaf Champions Cup: Tomás Chancalay (ARG) 4, Nacho Gil (ESP) 1, Mark-Anthony Kaye (CAN) 1, Esmir Bajraktarevic (USA) 1, Nick Lima (USA) 1.

Assists in the 2024 Concacaf Champions Cup: Giacomo Vrioni (ALB) 2, Carles Gil (ESP) 1, Esmir Bajraktarevic (USA) 1, Nick Lima (USA) 1, Nacho Gil (ESP) 1, Dejuan Jones (USA) 1.

Saves in the 2024 CCC: 8. Goalkeepers: Henrich Ravas (SVK) 8. (0 goals conceded - 3 clean sheets).

How goals were scored: from open play (7), penalty (1).

Goal-scoring opportunities (39). Shots on target (17).

Players to watch:

Tomás Chancalay (ARG): He has scored two goals in the 2024 CCC against CAI and Alajuelense and has taken 9 shots. With his two goals, he became the club's all-time leading scorer in the tournament with 4 goals and became the second player to score two goals in the same game, after Adam Buksa (POL) achieved it against Pumas UNAM (MEX) in 2022.



Esmir Bajraktarevic (USA): He scored 1 goal and had 2 shots in the first leg of the round of 16 against Alajuelense. The 18-year-old forward has 1 goal and 1 assist in 152 minutes played in the history of the competition. **Bajraktarevic became the youngest player from New England at 18 years, 11 months, and 25 days to score a goal in the Concacaf Champions Cup**, breaking the record held by **Taylor Twellman** (USA) for 20 years and 346 days, who scored against LD Alajuelense on March 26, 2003, at 23 years and 25 days old.

Nick Lima (USA): The right-back scored the first goal and provided the assist for Esmir Bajraktarevic's goal in the 4-0 victory against LD Alajuelense.