

****LAFC vs Club Leon

**Sunday June 4, 2023 – Second Leg**

 **9:00 PM (7:00 PM) - BMO STADIUM, LOS ÁNGELES**

**Club León defeated Los Angeles FC 2-1 (William Tesillo and Ángel Mena; Denis Bouanga for LAFC) in the first leg of the 2023 SCCL final at Estadio León on May 31, 2023.**

This will be the fourth meeting between both teams, with two victories for Club León and one for LAFC.

The SCCL series between Mexican and American teams favors the Mexicans: W-4 D-2 L-2 (58% effectiveness). The final between LAFC and Club León is the sixth in the SCCL between rivals from the United States and Mexico, with three titles for the Mexicans (Cruz Azul in 1997, CF Monterrey in 2011/12, and Tigres UANL in 2020) and two for the Americans (DC United in 1998 and Seattle Sounders in 2022).

American championship-winning coaches in the history of the SCCL: Bruce Arena (DC United) in 1998, Brian Schmetzer (Seattle Sounders) in 2022.

Argentine championship-winning coaches throughout the history 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.

LAFC has scored 15 goals, completed 2777 passes, recovered 106 balls, and provided 12 assists in the 2023 SCCL. Meanwhile, Club León has scored 15 goals, provided 11 assists, completed 2689 passes, and is the team with the most shots (100), shots on target (47), and shots against the post (4) in the 2023 SCCL.

Club León lost with the same scoreline (2-1) in their last 2 away matches: against Violette (QF 2023) and 2-1 against Tigres UANL (SF 2023).

LAFC won 7 out of their 12 matches in the SCCL (58%-win rate) and achieved 5 clean sheets in those matches (repeating the final scoreline in 5 out of the 7 victories).

Club León has scored goals in 17 out of their last 19 matches and kept 6 clean sheets in the SCCL ERA, with 5 of them in the last 2 editions (2022 and 2023).

Club León has won 4 first leg matches in the knockout phase of the SCCL, of which they have emerged victorious in 2 of the second legs.

****Los Angeles FC 

**RECORD IN THE SCCL:** GP-12 W-7 D-1 L-4 (GF-24 GA-11) / 61% effectiveness.

**HOME RECORD:** GP-5 W-3 D-1 L-1 GF-10 GA-3.

**TOP SCORERS IN THE SCCL ERA:** Carlos Vela (MEX) 8, Denis Bouanga (FRA) 7, Kwadwo Opoku (GHA) 3, Diego Rossi (URU) 2, Timothy Tillman (GER) 1, Latif Blessing (GHA) 1, José Cifuentes (ECU) 1, Kellyn Acosta (USA) 1.

**TOP SCORERS IN THE 2023 SCCL:** Denis Bouanga (FRA) 7, Carlos Vela (MEX) 3, Kwadwo Opoku (GHA) 2, José Cifuentes (ECU) 1, Timothy Tillman (GER) 1, Kellyn Acosta (USA) 1.

**ASSISTS IN THE 2023 SCCL:** 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, Sergi Palencia (ESP) 1.

**SAVES IN THE 2023 SCCL: (26). John McCarthy (USA) 31.**

John McCarthy (USA) is the goalkeeper with the most saves (31) and clearances (21) in the 2023 SCCL and is the player with the most minutes on the field (677').

**TOP SCORERS IN FINALS:** Diego Rossi (URU) 1, Denis Bouanga (FRA) 1. TOP ASSISTERS IN FINALS: Mark-Anthony Kaye (CAN) 1, Sergi Palencia (ESP) 1.

**RECORD IN SECOND LEG MATCHES (SCCL ERA):** 4 GP: 3W-0D-1L.

**TOP PLAYERS:**

**Diego Palacios (ECU):** He leads in balls recovered (16) and ranks fourth in passes (287). He had the most ball recoveries in the first leg of the final with 5. He has played all 12 matches with LAFC in the history of the competition.

**Carlos Vela (MEX):** He has directly contributed to 46% of LAFC's goals (8 goals and 3 assists in 12 appearances). In the 2023 SCCL, he has scored 3 goals, provided 2 assists, and received 12 fouls against him. Alongside Diego Palacios (ECU), he has played all 12 matches for LAFC in the SCCL. He scored 5 goals in 5 matches in the 2020 SCCL.

**Denis Bouanga (FRA):** He has contributed to 60% of LAFC's goals in the 2023 SCCL (7 goals and 2 assists) and is the top scorer in the 2023 edition with 7 goals. Bouanga is the leader in shots with 30 and has the most assists for the team with 3.

**José Cifuentes (ECU):** He had the most passes in the first leg with 46 (39 accurate and 7 inaccurate).

**Aaron Long (USA):** He has the highest pass accuracy (95%) among LAFC players, along with Ilie Sánchez (ESP) (93%) and Giorgio Chiellini (ITA).

León 

 **RECORD IN THE SCCL** (including CONCACAF Champions Cup): GP-33 W-14 D-9 L-10 (GF-51 GA-36) / 51.5% effectiveness.

 **AWAY RECORD:** GP-17 W-3 D-5 L-9 (GF-14 GA-24). 27.5% efficiency.

 **BEST RESULT:** Runner-up in 1993, 3rd place in the Champions Cup in 1998, and finalist in the 2023 edition. In the 1993 Concacaf Champions Cup, there was no final to determine the champion. Instead, it was a series among the top 4 teams, with Saprissa crowned as champions.

 **RECORD IN THE SCCL ERA:** GP-19 W-10 D-3 L-6 (GF-33 GA-22) / 58% effectiveness.

 **TOP SCORERS IN THE SCCL ERA:** Elías Hernández (MEX) 5, Ángel Mena (ECU) 4, Víctor Dávila (CHI) 3. **ALL-TIME TOP SCORERS IN SCCL: Milton Queiroz (BRA) 7.**

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

 **ASSISTS IN THE 2023 SCCL:** Ángel Mena (ECU) 3, Elías Hernández (MEX) 2, Byron Castillo (ECU) 1, Joel Campbell (CRC) 1, Lucas Di Yorio (ARG) 1, Lucas Romero (ARG) 1.

 **SAVES IN THE 2023 SCCL: (15). Rodolfo Cota (MEX) 15.**

 **Rodolfo Cota (MEX) has been a two-time champion (2009/10 with Pachuca and 2018 with CD Guadalajara), winning the Golden Glove Award and being named to the Best XI of the tournaments.**

 **RECORD IN SECOND LEG MATCHES (SCCL ERA):** GP-8 W-5 D-1 L-2.

 **TOP PLAYERS:**

 **Ángel Mena (ECU):** Scored a penalty goal and provided an assist in the first leg. He has a total of 4 goals in 9 appearances in the SCCL and becomes the first Ecuadorian player to score in the first leg of a final in the SCCL.

 **William Tesillo (COL):** In addition to scoring a goal, he had 2 clearances, 2 balls recovered, and was the leader in accurate passes (42) with a 91% success rate.

**Joel Campbell (CRC):** Completed the second-most shots (3) in the first leg in just 32 minutes on the field.

 **Víctor Dávila (CHI):** He has scored 3 goals and has 13 shots in the 2023 SCCL.

Brian Rubio (MEX): Scored 2 goals in 7 appearances and is one of the players with the most shots for Club León with 13 in the 2023 SCCL.

 **Lucas Romero (ARG):** Leads in passes (371) in 638 minutes played and has the most balls recovered, with 14 in the 2023 SCCL for Club León.

 **Fidel Ambriz (MEX):** One of the players with the most passes (46) in the first leg. He is the youngest scorer in the current edition at 20 years, 1 month, and 13 days. The midfielder has 213 accurate passes and has a 93% passing accuracy.

 **Elías Hernández (MEX):** Has scored 2 goals and provided 2 assists in the 2023 SCCL. Hernández is the leading scorer for Club León since the format change in 2008-09 (5 goals and 3 assists) and is 2 goals away from matching the Brazilian Milton Queiroz as the club's all-time leading scorer with 7 goals.

**Data and Records from the First Leg Match Club León vs LAFC**

With the 2-1 defeat, Los Angeles FC (USA) ended their best streak of consecutive games without a loss (3W-1E) in the history of the competition.

Los Angeles FC (USA) has lost both of their only played Finals matches in 2020, a single-match final against Tigres UANL (MEX), and now the first leg against León (MEX). Both matches ended with the same scoreline, 2-1.

It is the 5th defeat for MLS clubs in Final matches (5/9), 55%.

 Los Angeles FC (USA) is the first MLS club to lose a first leg of a Final in the history of the competition. The only previous instances of non-winning records were 2-2 draws of Real Salt Lake against Monterrey in 2011 and Seattle Sounders against Pumas UNAM in 2022.

Denis Bouanga (GAB) is the first African player to score a goal in Final matches in the history of the competition and 2nd all-time leading scorer for Los Angeles FC (USA) in the history of the competition, with 7 goals, Bouanga's goal is only the 5th goal scored by MLS teams in SCCL Final matches.

With the defeat, Los Angeles FC (USA) extended their winless streak to 15 consecutive matches against Mexican clubs on Mexican soil (11D-4E). In fact, it was the 45th defeat (77.6%) in 58 matches for American clubs on Mexican soil.

This is the 3rd time that the first leg of the final ends with a 2-1 scoreline in favor of the home team. According to records, no home team that won the first leg by that scoreline has become champion; they all lost the title in the second leg:

Jong Colombia (CUW) 2-1 Alianza (SLV), 1967. Jong Colombia lost 3-0 in the second leg and 5-3 in the extra game.

Cruz Azul (MEX) 2-1 Pachuca (MEX), 2010. Cruz Azul lost 1-0 in the second leg.

León (MEX) 2-1 Los Angeles FC (USA), ¿?

In the records of Final matches, only one MLS club did not win the first leg but still won the title, which was Seattle Sounders in 2022 against Pumas UNAM. However, there is also a record of a club that did not win the first leg and did not become champion, which was Real Salt Lake against Monterrey in 2011. Both of those matches ended in draws.