



**Tuesday February 25, 2025 22:00 (19:00) \*EDT (local Time)**

## **Los Angeles FC (USA) vs. Colorado Rapids (USA)**

### **BMO Stadium (USA)**

They will face each other for the second time in the Concacaf Champions Cup. Colorado Rapids won 2-1 at Dick's Sporting Goods Park, Colorado, USA (February 19, 2025). The goals for Colorado Rapids were scored by Djordje Mihailovic (2), while Aaron Long scored for Los Angeles FC.

Colorado Rapids secured their fifth victory in 13 Champions Cup matches, their first-ever match against another MLS team in the competition, and their first win. This was their fourth win in seven home matches in Champions Cup history, having never drawn at Dick's Sporting Goods Park (W-4 L-3).

Los Angeles FC suffered three consecutive losses in the Concacaf Champions Cup for the first time in their history, marking their longest losing streak in 14 tournament matches. It was also their fourth away defeat in seven games.

They have faced each other 14 times in total (12 in Major League Soccer MLS), once in the Leagues Cup in 2024. In those 14 meetings, Los Angeles FC has recorded 8 wins, 5 losses, and 1 draw (0-0) in the 2023 MLS season in Colorado.

They were semifinal rivals in the 2024 Leagues Cup. Los Angeles FC won 4-0 with goals from Mateusz Bogusz, Kei Kamara, Denis Bouanga, and Lewis O'Brien at BMO Stadium, Los Angeles (August 21, 2024).



The runners-up of the 2020 and 2023 editions will look to advance to the Round of 16 for the third time, having previously eliminated Club León and LD Alajuelense in their two previous participations. They have won 7 of their last 13 matches in Concacaf Champions Cup history, repeating the final score in 5 of those 7 victories, all by 3-0.

L AFC has completed 5 two-legged series, recording 3 victories and 2 defeats. Their 2 losses came in their most recent participation (vs. LD Alajuelense and Club León in the Round of 16 and the final, respectively).

The club, founded in 2014, must overturn the series at home. They secured identical results in 2 of their last 3 home matches in the Champions Cup: 3-0 vs. Vancouver Whitecaps (2023 quarterfinals) and 3-0 vs. Philadelphia Union (2023 semifinals). They lost 1-0 to Club León in the 2023 final, their last home appearance in the tournament.

In 2020, they managed to overturn a series after losing the first leg: a 2-0 defeat vs. León in the Round of 16 first leg (Jean Meneses and Ángel Mena) at Estadio León, followed by a 3-0 victory in the second leg (Carlos Vela x2 and Diego Rossi) at Banc of California Stadium, Los Angeles.

**Appearances in the Concacaf Champions Cup** (all formats included): 3 (2020, 2023, 2025).

**Best Result: Runner-up** (2) - 2020, 2023.

**Overall Record in Concacaf Champions Cup** (all formats included): GP-14 W-7 D-1 L-6 (GF-25 GA-14).

**Top Scorers:** Carlos Vela (MEX) 8, Dénis 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, Aaron Long (USA) 1.

**Most Appearances:** Carlos Vela (MEX) 13, Diego Palacios (ECU) 13, Jesús Murillo (COL) 10, José Cifuentes (ECU) 10, Kwadwo Opoku (GHA) 10, Denis Bouanga (FRA) 9, Timothy Tillman (GER) 9, Aaron Long (USA) 8, Ryan Hollingshead (USA) 8, Ilie Sánchez (ESP) 8, John McCarthy (USA) 8, Stipe Biuk (CRO) 8.

**Since 2008/09:** recorded 12 matches with goals, 2 matches without scoring, 5 clean sheets, 9 matches conceding goals, and no 0-0 results.

Penalty Shootouts (since 2008/09): 0.

Hat-tricks: 1. Denis Bouanga (FRA) vs. Alajuelense (Round of 16 - 2023).

Round of 16 Appearances: 2 (2020 vs. León and 2023 vs. Alajuelense).

**Top Scorers in Concacaf Champions Cup 2025:** Aaron Long (USA) 1.

**Assists in Concacaf Champions Cup 2025:** Denis Bouanga (FRA) 1.

**Saves in Concacaf Champions Cup 2025:** 2. Goalkeeper: Hugo Lloris (FRA) 2 (2 goals conceded - 0 clean sheets).

Goal Type: Header (1).

Goal chances: 13. Shots on target: 11.

Fastest goal in Concacaf Champions Cup 2025: Aaron Long (85' 59" vs. Colorado Rapids - Round One - Leg 1).

### **Players to Watch:**

**Denis Bouanga (FRA).** Took 7 shots against Colorado Rapids. The forward has contributed to 11 of LAFC's last 16 goals in the Concacaf Champions Cup (7 goals and 4 assists). He was the tournament's top scorer in 2023 with 7 goals.

**Aaron Long (USA).** Scored a late consolation goal in the first leg in Colorado. The team captain has made 23 appearances in the history of the Concacaf Champions Cup between LAFC and New York Red Bulls. Long netted his first goal in the tournament, marking the club's 25th in Champions Cup history and the first header scored. The American defender became the second-oldest player to score for LAFC in the competition at 32 years, 4 months, and 6 days,



only behind Carlos Vela (MEX), who scored twice against Vancouver Whitecaps in 2023 at 34 years, 1 month, and 10 days.

**Hugo Lloris (FRA).** The 2018 FIFA World Cup champion with France made his Concacaf Champions Cup debut with 2 saves but conceded 2 goals from set pieces (a penalty and a free kick).



Colorado Rapids will seek to qualify for the Round of 16 of the Concacaf Champions Cup for the third time, having been eliminated by Toronto FC in 2018 and Comunicaciones FC in 2022.

Colorado Rapids have won 2 of their last 6 matches in the Concacaf Champions Cup (1-0 vs. Comunicaciones in the 2022 Round of 16 and 2-1 vs. LAFC in Round One 2025). They did not concede goals in their previous 2 second-leg matches in the knockout stage.

Colorado Rapids are winless in their last 3 away matches, failing to score in all of them: 2-0 vs. Santos Laguna (Group B 2011/12), 0-0 vs. Toronto FC (Round of 16 2018), and 1-0 vs. Comunicaciones (Round of 16 2022).

The Colorado-based team has recorded all three possible results in second-leg matches of the knockout stage in Champions Cup history (W-1 D-1 L-1). However, none of those decisive matches resulted in progression to the next round.

**Appearances in the Concacaf Champions Cup** (all formats included): 5 (1998, 2011/12, 2018, 2022, 2025).

**Best Result:** Round of 16 (2) - 2018, 2022.

**Concacaf Champions Cup Record** (all formats included): GP-13 W-5 D-2 L-6 (GF-15 GA-20).

**Top Scorers:** Djordje Mihailovic (USA) 2, Macoumba Kandji (SEN) 2, Andre Akpan (USA) 2, Omar Cummings (JAM) 1, Jeff Larentowicz (USA) 1, Quincy Amarikwa (USA) 1, Brian Mullan (USA) 1, Max (BRA) 1, Eddie Ababio (USA) 1.

**Most Appearances:** Scott Palguta (USA) 6, Wells Thompson (USA) 6, Steward Ceus (HAI) 5, Joseph Nane (CMR) 5, Macoumba Kandji (SEN) 5, Omar Cummings (JAM) 5, Sanna Nyassi (GMB) 5.

**Since 2008/09:** recorded 7 matches with goals, 4 matches without scoring, 2 clean sheets, 9 matches conceding goals, and 1 match ending in a 0-0 draw.

**Penalty Shootouts (since 2008/09): 1 (1 loss) vs. Comunicaciones FC (4-3) after a 1-1 draw in regulation time in the 2022 Round of 16.**

**Hat-tricks: 0.**

**Round of 16 Appearances: 2** (2018 vs. Toronto FC and 2022 vs. Comunicaciones FC).

**Top Scorers in Concacaf Champions Cup 2025:** Djordje Mihailovic (USA) 2.



**Saves in Concacaf Champions Cup 2025: 6.** Goalkeeper: Zack Steffen (USA) 6 (1 goal conceded - 0 clean sheets).

Goal Type: Penalty (1), Free kick (1).

Right-footed goals: 2. Left-footed goals: 0.

Goals inside the box: 1. Goals from outside the box: 1.

Goal chances: 8. Shots on target: 4.

**Fastest goal in Concacaf Champions Cup 2025:** Djordje Mihailovic (47' 51" vs. Los Angeles FC - Round One - Leg 1).

### Players to Watch

**Djordje Mihailovic (SRB).** The midfielder scored both goals against Los Angeles FC in the first leg of Round One 2025, both from set pieces (penalty and free kick). He has scored 5 goals against LAFC in 5 matchups. Mihailovic netted his third Concacaf Champions Cup goal, with 2 for his current club and 1 with CF Montréal (CAN) in 2022. His first goal of the match (penalty, 48') was the first penalty goal in Colorado Rapids' history in the tournament (since 1998), while his second goal (80') was the club's first free-kick goal in Champions Cup history since the 2008-09 season. Mihailovic became the second player in club history to score 2 goals in a single Champions Cup match, following **Macoumba Kandji (SEN)** on August 17, 2011, against Isidro Metapán (SLV) in Matchday 2 of Group B in the 2011-12 edition.

**Kevin Cabral (FRA).** The French forward was one of Colorado Rapids' most active shooters in the first leg (3 shots) in what was his Concacaf Champions Cup debut.

**Zack Steffen (USA).** The former Manchester City player was one of the key figures in the first-leg victory with 6 saves and 2 clearances. Additionally, the US national team goalkeeper was flawless in his distribution, completing 100% of his passes from the back.