



22:00 (21:00) *EDT (local time)

#15 FC Motagua (HON) vs. FC Cincinnati (USA)

Estadio Chelato Uclés (HON)

This will be the first time they meet in the Concacaf Champions Cup and in their history.

FC Motagua has faced U.S. opponents 10 times, with only one victory more than 41 years ago in the first leg of the 1983 edition in the North and Central America Round, when they defeated NY Pancyprian Freedoms 2-1 on April 10, 1983, at the Estadio Nacional in Tegucigalpa. The goals for the Honduran team were scored by Angel "Toño" Obando and Luis "Chito" Reyes, while Evagoras Christofi scored for NY Pancyprian Freedoms.

Since that victory, FC Motagua has lost 6 times and drawn 3 times, marking their worst streak of consecutive matches without a win against U.S. teams. This was only surpassed by Olimpia's winless streak (L-8, D-3) between the 1999 and 2014-15 editions.

For FC Cincinnati, it will be the first time in their history that they face a Central American club.

In their 2024 debut tournament, they lost the series against CF Monterrey. In the first leg on March 7, 2024, at TQL Stadium in Cincinnati (USA), they lost 0-1 with a goal from Brandon Vázquez. In the return leg on March 14, 2024, at BBVA Stadium in Monterrey (MEX), they lost 2-1, with goals from Luis Romo and Brandon Vázquez for the "Regio" club, while Luciano Acosta scored for FC Cincinnati.



FC Motagua qualified by winning its play-in series in the Central American Cup. This will be the club's 21st appearance and its first since the 2023 edition. Its best result came in 2008 and 2023, when it reached the quarterfinals.

Las Águilas Azules will look to return to the Round of 16, just as they did successfully in 2023 against Pachuca (1-1 aggregate, advancing on the away goals rule). In 2018 (vs. Tijuana MEX), 2020 (vs. Atlanta United USA), and 2022 (vs. Seattle Sounders USA), they were eliminated at this stage.

FC Motagua is currently on an 11-match winless streak in the CCC, scoring just once in its last seven outings (6D-5L): 1-1 vs. Club América MEX (Group E, 2015/16), 0-1 and 1-1 vs. Tijuana MEX (R16, 2018), 1-1 and 3-0 vs. Atlanta United USA (R16, 2020), 0-0 and 5-0 vs. Seattle Sounders USA (R16, 2022), 0-0 and 1-1 vs. Pachuca MEX (R16, 2023), 0-1 and 5-0 vs. Tigres UANL (QF, 2023).

The club's last two victories in the CCC came against the same opponent, Walter Ferretti: a 2-0 win (Félix Crisanto and Eddie Hernández) at Estadio Tiburcio Carías Andino and a 1-2 victory (Raúl Leguías; Israel Silva and Erick Andino) at Estadio Nacional Dennis Martínez in Group E of 2015/16.

Appearances in the Concacaf Champions Cup (including all formats): 21st (1969, 1971, 1974, 1975, 1977, 1983, 1986, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1995, 2003, 2008, 2010/11, 2011/12, 2015/16, 2018, 2020, 2022, 2023, 2025).

Debut: 1969 (First Round).

Last participation: 2023 (Quarterfinals).

Champions Cup record (including all formats): GP-58 W-13 D-14 L-31 (GF-49 GA-93).

Best result: Quarterfinals (2) 2008, 2023.

Top scorers: Amado Guevara (HON) 4, Jerry Bengtson (HON) 2, Erick Andino (HON) 2, Eddie Hernández (HON) 2.

Players with the most CCC appearances: Marcelo Pereira (HON) 10, Jorge Claros (HON), Sergio Mendoza (HON), Johnny Leverón (HON), Donaldo Morales (HON), Amado Guevara (HON), Omar Elvir (HON), Carlos Discua (HON) 9.

FC Motagua since 2008/09: Scored in 9 matches, failed to score in 15 games, recorded 4 clean sheets, conceded goals in 20 matches, and played to a 0-0 draw twice.

Players to watch.

Walter Martínez (HON). Has played 47 international matches (including the Champions Cup, Concacaf League, and Central American Cup). His only goal came in the 2018 CCC against Tijuana.

Yeison Mejía (HON). Scored 2 goals (both against Tauro FC in the Group Stage) in 7 matches (352 minutes played) in the 2024 Concacaf Central American Cup. He has 12 appearances in international club tournaments, including 5 matches in the 2022 Scotiabank Concacaf League with Real España.

Marlon Licón (HON). Kept 2 clean sheets in 3 matches during the 2024 Central American Cup. He will reach 10 appearances in Concacaf club tournaments, having played in 2 Scotiabank Concacaf League matches, 3 Central American Cup matches, and 4 Champions Cup matches, all with FC Motagua.



FC Cincinnati qualified as the top-ranked club in the overall standings of the 2024 Major League Soccer (MLS) season. This will be the club's second appearance after making its debut in 2024. Its best result so far is reaching the Round of 16.

In the 2024 Round One series, FC Cincinnati secured two victories without conceding a goal against Cavalier: 0-2 (Sergio Santos and Malik Pinto) and 4-0 (Alvas Powell, Aaron Boupendza,



Isaiah Foster, and Gerardo Valenzuela).

Head coach Patrick Noonan's (USA) squad led all teams in total shots during the 2024 Round One series (41 total attempts against Cavalier).

They were the second-ranked team in total passes during the 2024 Round One (1,254), trailing only CF Monterrey, who eliminated them in the Round of 16 (1,368). FC Cincinnati suffered back-to-back defeats in the Concacaf Champions Cup: 0-1 and 2-1 vs. CF Monterrey.

Appearances in the Concacaf Champions Cup (including all formats): 2nd (2024, 2025).

Debut: 2024 (Round of 16).

Last participation: 2024 (Round of 16).

Champions Cup record (including all formats): GP-4 W-2 D-0 L-2 (GF-7 GA-3).

Best result: Round of 16 (1) 2024.

Top scorers: Luciano Acosta (ARG) 1, Gerardo Valenzuela (USA), Aaron Boupendza (GAB), Sergio Santos (BRA), Alvas Powell (JAM), Isaiah Foster (USA), Malik Pinto (USA).

Players with the most appearances: Roman Celentano (USA), Matt Miazga (USA), Ian Murphy (USA), Luciano Acosta (ARG), Gerardo Valenzuela (USA), Sergio Santos (BRA) 4, Bret Halsey (USA), Kipp Keller (USA), Alvas Powell (JAM), Miles Robinson (USA), Pavel Bucha (CZE), Yuya Kubo (JPN), Obinna Nwobodo (NIG), Malik Pinto (USA), Corey Baird (USA), Aaron Boupendza (GAB) 3.

FC Cincinnati since 2008/09: Scored in 3 matches, failed to score in 1 game, recorded 2 clean sheets, conceded goals in 2 matches, and has never played to a 0-0 draw.

Players to watch.

Luciano Acosta (ARG). Contributed to FC Cincinnati's last two goals in the CCC (1 goal vs. CF Monterrey and 1 assist vs. Cavalier FC). The midfielder has played the last four MLS seasons, recording 72 goals and 74 assists.

Bret Halsey (USA). Delivered three assists in the 2024 CCC series against Jamaica's Cavalier. He was involved in goals in both legs of the 2024 Round One against Cavalier.

Roman Celentano (USA). Kept a clean sheet in both Round One matches against Cavalier. The goalkeeper has registered 9 saves in 4 CCC appearances.