

### Wednesday, February 5, 2025

20:00 (20:00) \*EDT (local)

## Forge FC (CAN) vs. CF Monterrey (MEX)

Hamilton Stadium (CAN)



#### Head-To-Head

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

Forge FC has participated in 2 editions of the Champions Cup, and curiously, all of their matches have been against Mexican clubs. In 2022, in the Round of 16, they faced Cruz Azul, a series that the Canadian team lost with an aggregate score of 1-4. Similarly, in the 2024 edition, they faced Club Guadalajara in the first round, a series they also lost with an aggregate score of 2-5. The Canadian club lost all of their matches in the CCC (4). Forge FC is one of the 3 Canadian clubs that have never won a game in the history of the CCC, along with Serbian White Eagles FC in 1975 and 1976, and Cavalry FC in 2024.

CF Monterrey, on the other hand, will face a Canadian club 49 years after their first and so far, last meeting, which took place in the 1975 edition. In the North American Round, they played against Serbian White Eagles FC, a series that the Mexican team won with an aggregate score of 1-3. The goals in the first leg were scored by Alfredo "El Alacrán" Jiménez and José Sánchez at the now-defunct Estadio Tecnológico in Monterrey on July 5, 1975. In the return leg on July 13, 1975, at Centennial Park in Toronto, Canada, the match ended in a 1-1 draw. Mike Wareika scored for the local team, while Rubén Corbo scored for "Rayados."

Forge FC qualifies for the 2025 Champions Cup by winning the 2024 Canadian Premier League Shield.

The club will participate for the second consecutive time and third time overall in the CCC.

Forge FC has lost all four matches it played in the CCC, all against Liga MX opponents (0-1 and 3-1 vs. Cruz Azul in 2022 and 1-3 and 2-1 vs. CD Guadalajara in 2024).

Forge FC has scored goals in its last 3 CCC matches, however, it never scored more than 1 goal in a single match. Additionally, the Canadian team always started losing in each of its tournament games.

Its best international performance was in the 2021 Scotiabank Concacaf League when it reached the semifinals, where it was eliminated by FC Motagua (HON).

#### Champions Cup appearances (all formats included): 3rd (2022, 2024, 2025).

Debut: 2022 (round of 16).

Last participation: 2024 (First Round).

CCC record: W-0 D-0 L-4 (GF-3 GA-9).

**Best result**: Round of 16 (1) 2022.

Top scorers: Terran Campbell (CAN) 1, David Choinière (CAN) 1, Kevaughn Tavernier (CAN) 1.

**Players with most appearances in the CCC**: Alexander Achinioti-Jönsson (SWE) 4, Kyle Bekker (CAN) 4, Garven Metusala (HAI) 4, Alessandro Hojabrpour (CAN) 4, Tristan Borges (CAN) 4, Terran Campbell (CAN) 4, Dominic Samuel (CAN) 4, David Choinière (CAN) 4, Noah Jensen (CAN) 3, Kwasi Poku (CAN) 3.

**Forge FC since 2008/09**: It has scored goals in three matches, failed to score in one game, and conceded goals in 4 matches.

#### Players to watch:

**David Choinière (CAN)**: He scored Forge FC's first-ever goal in the Champions Cup (vs. Cruz Azul in the 2022 round of 16). He has 19 appearances in Concacaf club tournaments and has scored 5 goals.

**Tristan Borges (CAN):** He has played in all 4 of Forge FC's matches (2022 and 2024 editions). The forward has 14 international appearances (scored 1 goal vs. FAS in the 2021 Scotiabank Concacaf League).

**Jordan Hamilton (CAN)**: He was part of the Toronto FC roster when they lost the 2018 Champions Cup final to CD Guadalajara. He participated in 3 editions of the Champions Cup and scored 1 goal (in 2019).

# CF MONTERREY

The five-time winners of the Concacaf Champions Cup will play in the tournament for the 13th time.

They qualified for the 2025 edition as the best team in the general table of Liga MX 2023/24. The Mexican team holds the best winning percentage (72%) in the history of the CCC since 2008/09.



Rayados is the club with the most wins since the format change in the 2008/09 edition of the CCC (44). Along with Cruz Azul, they are the teams with the most consecutive titles (3) (2010/11, 2011/12, and 2012/13).

CF Monterrey will play its 30th two-legged series in the history of the Champions Cup, having won 23 of them (79%) and being eliminated 6 times: 3 times by Central American clubs, 2 times by Mexican teams, and 1 time by an MLS representative. Rayados holds the record for the most victories in the knockout stage with 28 wins in the CCC since 2008/09.

CF Monterrey achieved 10 wins in its last 12 CCC matches (losing the last two games against Columbus Crew in the 2024 semifinals). In addition to winning 6 of the 8 matches in the 2024 edition, the team achieved 4 victories in 2021 when they won the title for the last time.

**Champions Cup appearances (all formats included):** 13th (1975, 1987, 1994, 2004, 2005, 2010/11, 2011/12, 2012/13, 2016/17, 2019, 2021, 2024, 2025).

Debut: 1975 (Second Round).

CCC record (all formats included): W-51 D-18 L-12 (GF-157 GA-68).

**Titles:** (5) 2010/11, 2011/12, 2012/13, 2019, 2023.

**Top scorers**: Humberto Suazo (CHI) 16, Aldo De Nigris (MEX) 16, Abraham Carreño (MEX) 9, Neri Cardozo (ARG) 7, Maximiliano Meza (ARG) 6.

**Players with most appearances**: Aldo de Nigris (MEX) 30, Walter Ayoví (ECU) 30, Neri Cardozo (ARG) 28, Jonathan Orozco (MEX) 27, Jesús Zavala (MEX) 27.

**CF Monterrey since 2008/09**: It has scored goals in 56 matches, failed to score in only 5 games, kept 30 clean sheets, conceded goals in 31 matches, and has drawn 2 times with a 0-0 scoreline.

Players to watch:

**Brandon Vázquez (USA)**: He was Rayados' top scorer (4 goals) and had the most shots (19) after 8 appearances in the last edition, where the team reached the semifinals. He scored in the First Round, Round of 16, and Quarterfinals in 2024.

**Germán Berterame (MEX)**: He scored 10 goals in 21 appearances in the Apertura 2024 of Liga MX. The Argentina-born, Mexican nationalized player netted 2 goals in the 2024 CCC after 7 matches (vs. Comunicaciones and Inter Miami).

**Gerardo Arteaga (MEX)**: He led the total pass category (398) for Monterrey in the past competition. He played in every match (8) and was involved in the assist for Germán Berterame's goal in the quarterfinals against Inter Miami.

