



Wednesday, Feb 26, 2025 18:30 (18:30) *EDT (local Time) TQL Stadium (USA)

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

FC Cincinnati won 4-1 in their first-ever Concacaf Champions Cup clash at the Estadio Nacional Chelato Uclés in Tegucigalpa, Honduras, on February 20, 2025, with goals from Pavel Bucha (2), Kévin Denkey, and Evander, while Rodrigo Auzmendi scored for FC Motagua.

Motagua extended their winless streak in the Champions Cup to 12 matches (D-6 L-6). This was only the second time in their history that they conceded 4 goals at home, previously in a 4-2 loss to LD Alajuelense (CRC) on September 15, 2011. Against an MLS club, this was the first time they allowed 4 goals as the home team.



FC Cincinnati will aim to reach the Round of 16 for the second consecutive time. In their first experience in the tournament, they advanced past Round One against Cavalier before facing CF Monterrey, where they fell in both legs of the series.

Every time they scored the opening goal in a Concacaf Champions Cup match, they secured victory (0-2 and 4-0 vs. Cavalier, 1-4 vs. FC Motagua in Round One of 2024 and 2025).

FC Cincinnati earned 50% of the available home points in their only previous appearance (4-0 vs. Cavalier and a 1-0 loss to CF Monterrey in Round One and the Round of 16, respectively). They also secured half of the possible points in second-leg matches.

They hold a perfect record in Round One series (2024 and 2025). In their first edition, they claimed two shutout wins against Cavalier: 0-2 (Sergio Santos and Malik Pinto) and 4-0 (Alvas Powell, Aaron Boupendza, Isaiah Foster, and Gerardo Valenzuela). In that campaign, the team stood out by leading the overall statistics in shots (41) and passes (1,254).

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

Best Result: Round of 16 (1) - 2024.

Concacaf Champions Cup Record (all formats included): GP-5 W-3 D-0 L-2 (GF-11 GA-4).

Top Scorers:

Pavel Bucha (CZE) 2, Kévin Denkey (TOG) 1, Luciano Acosta (ARG) 1, Gerardo Valenzuela (USA) 1, Aaron Boupendza (GAB) 1, Sergio Santos (BRA) 1, Alvas Powell (JAM) 1, Isaiah Foster (USA) 1, Malik Pinto (USA) 1, Evander (BRA) 1.

Most Appearances: Roman Celentano (USA) 5, Matt Miazga (USA) 4, Ian Murphy (USA) 4,

Luciano Acosta (ARG) 4, Gerardo Valenzuela (USA) 4, Sergio Santos (BRA) 4, Alvas Powell (JAM) 4, Miles Robinson (USA) 4, Pavel Bucha (CZE) 4, Yuya Kubo (JPN) 4, Obinna Nwobodo (NIG) 4, Corey Baird (USA) 4.

Since 2008/09: recorded 4 matches with goals, 1 match without scoring, 2 clean sheets, 3 matches conceding goals, and no 0-0 results.

Penalty Shootouts (since 2008/09): 0.

Hat-tricks: 0.

Round of 16 Appearances: 1 (2024 vs. CF Monterrey).

Top Scorers in Concacaf Champions Cup 2025: Pavel Bucha (CZE) 2, Evander (BRA) 1, Kévin Denkey (TOG) 1.

Assists in Concacaf Champions Cup 2025: Alvas Powell (JAM) 1, Evander (BRA) 1, Lukas Ahlefeld Engel (DEN) 1.

Saves in Concacaf Champions Cup 2025: 5. Goalkeeper: Roman Celentano (USA) 5 (1 goal conceded - 0 clean sheets).

Goal Type: Open play (4).

Right-footed goals: 3. Left-footed goals: 1.

Goals inside the box: 2. Goals from outside the box: 2.

Goal chances: 16. Shots on target: 7.

Fastest goal in Concacaf Champions Cup 2025: Pavel Bucha (27' 31" vs. FC Motagua - Round One - First Leg).

Players to Watch

Kévin Denkey (TOG). Became the first Togolese player to score in the Concacaf Champions Cup since the format change in 2008/09. The forward registered six shots in the 4-1 victory in Tegucigalpa.

Pavel Bucha (CZE). Scored his first two goals in the Champions Cup, becoming the first player to net twice in a single match for FC Cincinnati. His goal in the 78th minute was the 550th goal scored by MLS clubs in the tournament since the 2008/09 season. In addition to his two goals, he recorded three shots and completed 40 passes with a 90% accuracy rate.

Roman Celentano (USA). Kept a clean sheet in 2 of the 3 matches played in Round One (against Cavalier in 2024). The American goalkeeper has recorded 14 saves in 5 Concacaf Champions Cup appearances.



FC Motagua will seek a return to the Round of 16, just as they successfully did in 2023 against Pachuca (1-1 aggregate, advancing on the away goals rule). In 2018 (vs. Tijuana), 2020 (vs.



Atlanta United), and 2022 (vs. Seattle Sounders), they were eliminated at this stage.

FC Motagua's last four-goal victory was a 4-0 win over Municipal (Jerry Bengtson, Odis Borjas, Amado Guevara, and Mario Guerrero) in the first leg of the 2011/12 Preliminary Round at Estadio Nacional (July 28, 2011). Their highest-scoring win in Concacaf Champions Cup history was a 5-0 triumph against Juventus FC in the 1993 edition.

Las Águilas Azules are winless in their last 12 Champions Cup matches, scoring just 2 goals in their last 8 games (L-6 D-6): 1-1 vs. Club América (Group E 2015/16), 0-1 and 1-1 vs. Tijuana (Round of 16 2018), 1-1 and 3-0 vs. Atlanta United (Round of 16 2020), 0-0 and 5-0 vs. Seattle Sounders (Round of 16 2022), 0-0 and 1-1 vs. Pachuca (Round of 16 2023), 0-1 and 5-0 vs. Tigres UANL (Quarterfinals 2023), and 1-4 vs. FC Cincinnati (Round One 2025).

Their last two victories in the Champions Cup came against the same opponent: Walter Ferretti, 2-0 (Félix Crisanto and Eddie Hernández) at Estadio Nacional and 1-2 (Raúl Leguías; Israel Silva and Erick Andino) at Estadio Nacional Dennis Martínez in Group E of the 2015/16 edition.

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

Best Result: Quarterfinals (2) - 2008, 2023.

Concacaf Champions Cup Record (all formats included): GP-59 W-13 D-14 L-32 (GF-50 GA-97).

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

Most 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.

Since 2008/09: recorded 10 matches with goals, 15 matches without scoring, 4 clean sheets, 21 matches conceding goals, and 2 matches ending in a 0-0 draw.

Penalty Shootouts (since 2008/09): 0.

Hat-tricks: 0.

Round of 16 Appearances: 4 (2018 vs. Tijuana, 2020 vs. Atlanta United, 2022 vs. Seattle Sounders, 2023 vs. Pachuca).

Top Scorers in Concacaf Champions Cup 2025: Rodrigo Auzmendi (ARG) 1.

Assists in Concacaf Champions Cup 2025: Rodrigo Gómez (ARG) 1.

Saves in Concacaf Champions Cup 2025: 3. Goalkeeper: Jonathan Rougier (ARG) 3 (4 goals conceded - 0 clean sheets).

Goal Type: Header (1).

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

Goals inside the box: 1. Goals from outside the box: 0.



Goal chances: 11. Shots on target: 7.

Fastest goal in Concacaf Champions Cup 2025: Rodrigo Auzmendi (40' 53" vs. FC Cincinnati - Round One - First Leg).

Players to Watch:

Rodrigo Auzmendi (HON). The forward scored with a header in the first leg, ending an eight-game drought for the Blue Eagles without a non-penalty goal in the Concacaf Champions Cup. He contributed 3 shots in the first match.

Yeison Mejía (HON). Registered 2 shots and completed 41 passes in his 66 minutes on the field during the first leg against Cincinnati in Round One. The midfielder has 13 appearances in continental tournaments and 2 goals.

Raúl Santos (HON). The experienced player led the team in passes (50) against FC Cincinnati. He also recorded the most fouls (3) in the match. The defender has 51 international appearances and 1 goal scored with FC Motagua.