



## Columbus Crew (USA) vs. Los Angeles FC (USA)

### Lower.com Field (USA)

Los Angeles FC won 3-0 in the first leg (Denis Bouanga x2 and Nathan Ordaz), at BMO Stadium, Los Angeles, USA (March 5, 2025).

LAFC secured its fifth win in seven home matches (5W-2L) and recorded back-to-back clean sheets at home for the second time in club history. The previous instance came in consecutive 3-0 victories against Whitecaps FC and Philadelphia Union in 2023. This is also the first time LAFC has ever started a two-legged series at home in the Champions Cup. In the previous five series where they played the second leg away, they advanced on all occasions (in 2020 against Club León, in 2023 against LDA Alajuelense, Vancouver Whitecaps, and Philadelphia Union, and in 2025 against Colorado Rapids).

As an away team in Concacaf Champions Cup (excluding finals), LAFC has played five matches (2W-1D-2L). However, in away games played within the United States, the club is winless in its last two outings (1D-1L)—a 1-1 draw against Philadelphia Union in 2023 and a 2-1 loss to Colorado Rapids in 2025. Despite not winning either match, LAFC still advanced both times.

Columbus Crew suffered back-to-back away defeats, both ending in 3-0 scoreline—the 2024 final against CF Pachuca and the 2025 Round of 16 first leg against Los Angeles FC. This marks the first time in club history that Columbus Crew has lost two consecutive away matches by a three-goal margin in the Concacaf Champions Cup.

This was the fifth time Columbus Crew played the first leg of a series away from home. The club has advanced on three occasions (against CD Árabe Unido in 2002/03, Real Estelí in 2021, and Houston Dynamo in 2024) and has been eliminated once (against Monarcas Morelia in 2002/03). This is also the third time Columbus has lost the first leg of a series on the road.

Columbus Crew became the fourth MLS club to lose a first-leg away match by a 3-0 margin. Historically, no team in this situation has managed to overturn the deficit and advance. The previous instances include San Jose Earthquakes against CF Pachuca (MEX) in 2002 and LD Alajuelense (CRC) in 2003/04, Atlanta United against CF Monterrey (MEX) in 2019 and CF América (MEX) in 2020, and Austin FC against Violette AC (HAI) in 2023.

These two teams have faced each other six times between MLS and the 2024 Leagues Cup final, including two finals over the past two years in both competitions.

### Head-to-Head Matches

LAFC 2-0 Columbus Crew (Laurent Ciman and Adama Diomandé), Matchday 4, Banc of California Stadium, Los Angeles, USA (June 23, 2018).

Columbus Crew 0-3 LAFC (Mark-Anthony Kaye, Adama Diomandé, and Carlos Vela), Matchday 3, MAPFRE Stadium, Columbus, USA (May 11, 2019).

Columbus Crew 0-2 LAFC (Carlos Vela and José Cifuentes), Matchday 4, Lower.com Field, Columbus, USA (May 21, 2022).

Columbus Crew 2-1 LAFC (Cucho Hernández and Yaw Yeboah; Denis Bouanga), Final, Lower.com Field, Columbus, USA (December 9, 2023).

LAFC 1-5 Columbus Crew (Nathan Ordaz; Christian Ramírez x2, Cucho Hernández, Diego Rossi, and Alexandru Măţan), Matchday 24, BMO Stadium, Los Angeles, USA (July 13, 2024).

### 2024 Leagues Cup Final

Victory for Columbus Crew 3-1 (Cucho Hernández x2 and Jacen Russell-Rowe; Olivier Giroud), at Lower.com Field, Columbus, USA (August 25, 2024).



## COLUMBUS CREW (USA)

**Concacaf Champions Cup Appearances (including all formats):** 6th (2003, 2009/10, 2010/11, 2021, 2024, 2025).

**Best Result: Runner-up (1) 2024.**

**Record (including all formats):** GP-32 W-13 D-8 L-11 (GF-42 GA-46).

**Top Scorers:** Steven Lenhart (USA) 4, Andrés Mendoza (PER) 3, Emilio Rentería (VEN) 3, Diego Rossi (URU) 3, Guillermo Barros Schelotto (ARG) 2, Gyasi Zardes (USA) 2, Robbie Rogers (USA) 2, Juan Camilo Hernández (COL) 2, Jacen Russell-Rowe (CAN) 2.

**Most Appearances:** Emmanuel Ekpo (NIG) 14, Eddie Gaven (USA) 13, Adam Moffat (SCO) 12, Eric Brunner (USA) 12, Andy Iro (ENG) 11, Steven Lenhart (USA) 11, Darlington Nagbe (USA) 11, Brian Carroll (USA) 10, Emilio Rentería (VEN) 10.

**Since 2008/09:** 21 matches with goals, 7 matches without scoring, 9 clean sheets, 19 matches conceding goals, 1 match ending 0-0.

**Penalty Shootouts (since 2008/09):** 1 (1 win). (4-3 vs. Tigres UANL in the 2024 quarterfinals after a 2-2 aggregate draw: 1-1 and 1-1).

**Hat-tricks: (0).** None recorded.

**Round of 16 Appearances:** 4 (2003 vs. Árabe Unido, 2021 vs. Real Estelí, 2024 vs. Houston Dynamo, 2025 vs. Los Angeles FC).

**Round of 16 Record:** GP-7 W-4 D-1 L-2 (GF-11 GA-6).

**Round of 16 Top Scorers (since 2008/09):** Edson Buddle (USA) 3, Gyasi Zardes (USA) 2, Kyle Martino (USA) 1, Bradley Wright-Phillips (ENG) 1, Jonathan Mensah (GHA) 1, Pedro Santos (POR) 1, Alexandru Măţan (ROU) 1, Cucho Hernández (COL) 1.



**Saves in CCC 2025:** 6. Goalkeepers: Patrick Schulte (USA) 6. (3 goals conceded - 0 clean sheets).

**Goal Attempts:** 9 goal opportunities, 4 shots on target.

**Players to Watch:**

**Diego Rossi (URU).** Took 1 shot and delivered 4 corner kicks in the first leg. The Uruguayan has scored 5 goals in his 13 Concacaf Champions Cup appearances.

**Darlington Nagbe (USA).** The midfielder is one match away from tying Scottish player Adam Moffat as the third most-capped Columbus Crew player in Concacaf Champions Cup history (12 matches). He led the team in passes (70) and ball recoveries (4) against LAFC.

**Max Arfsten (USA).** Came on as a substitute in Columbus Crew's opener and was the player with the most shots (2) against Los Angeles FC (1 shot on target and 1 off the post). He also completed passes with 90% accuracy.



**Concacaf Champions Cup Appearances (including all formats):** 3rd (2020, 2023, 2025).

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

**Record (including all formats):** GP-16 W-9 D-1 L-6 (GF-29 GA-14).

**Top Scorers:** Denis Bouanga (FRA) 9, Carlos Vela (MEX) 8, Kwadwo Opoku (GHA) 3, Diego Rossi (URU) 2, Nathan Ordaz (SLV) 1, Timothy Tillman (GER) 1, Latif Blessing (GHA) 1, José Cifuentes (ECU) 1, Kellyn Acosta (USA) 1, Aaron Long (USA) 1, Mark Delgado (USA) 1.

**Most Appearances:** Carlos Vela (MEX) 13, Diego Palacios (ECU) 13, Denis Bouanga (FRA) 11, Timothy Tillman (GER) 11, Jesús Murillo (COL) 10, José Cifuentes (ECU) 10, Kwadwo Opoku (GHA) 10, Aaron Long (USA) 10, Ryan Hollingshead (USA) 10.

**Since 2008/09:** 14 matches with goals, 2 matches without scoring, 7 clean sheets, 9 matches conceding goals, 0 matches ending 0-0.

**Penalty Shootouts (since 2008/09):** None recorded.

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

**Round of 16 Appearances:** 3 (2020 vs. León, 2023 vs. Alajuelense, 2025 vs. LA Galaxy).

**Round of 16 Record:** GP-5 W-3 D-0 L-2 (GF-10 GA-5).

**Round of 16 Top Scorers:** Denis Bouanga (FRA) 5, Carlos Vela (MEX) 3, Diego Rossi (URU) 1, Nathan Ordaz (SLV) 1.

**Top Scorers in CCC 2025:** Denis Bouanga (FRA) 2, Aaron Long (USA) 1, Mark Delgado (USA) 1, Nathan Ordaz (SLV) 1.

**Assists in CCC 2025:** Denis Bouanga (FRA) 1, David Martínez (VEN) 1, Jeremy Ebobisse (CMR) 1.

**Saves in CCC 2025: 5.** Goalkeepers: Hugo Lloris (FRA) 5. (2 goals conceded - 2 clean sheets).

**Goal Types:** Open play (4), header (1). Right-footed goals: 3. Left-footed goals: 1.

Goals from inside the box: 3. Goals from outside the box: 0.

**Goal Attempts:** 42 goal opportunities, 28 shots on target.

**Fastest Goal in CCC 2025:** Denis Bouanga (19' 37" vs. Columbus Crew - first leg Round of 16).

#### **Players to Watch:**

**Denis Bouanga (GAB)** Reached nine goals in the Concacaf Champions Cup, becoming the club's all-time top scorer in the competition. He also matched Carlos Vela (MEX) as the LAFC players with the most braces (2) and became the highest-scoring African player in the Champions Cup since the 2008/09 season.

**Nathan Ordaz (USA)** Scored his first goal in the tournament, becoming the youngest U.S.-born player to find the net for the club in Concacaf Champions Cup history at **21 years, one month, and 20 days old**.

**Igor Jesús (BRA)**. Tied with Ryan Hollingshead for most passes (127) and ball recoveries (6). The Brazilian midfielder has played 280 minutes and boasts an 86% pass accuracy.

**Hugo Lloris (FRA)**. Has made 5 saves and recorded 2 clean sheets in his 3 appearances. The 2018 World Cup champion with France has a 94% success rate in goal kicks (49 successful passes).