

"Researchers Roundtable" Presentation



ANCCIF's 60TH Anniversary Champions' Cup Projects U.S. Clubs Participation from 1963-1996

***By Steven Torres
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Quick Facts About Presenter

Currently

- Sports Public Relations & Media Operations Consultant
- President - A.N.C.C.I.F. (Association of North, Central America & The Caribbean Football Investigators)
- S.A.S.H. (Society for American Soccer History) Member

Previously

- Communications/Operations - North American Soccer League 2.0: 2013 - 2017
- Communications/Information Services - Concacaf: 2003 - 2013
- Media Officer Onsite Duties - FIFA: 2005 - 2012
Includes working game day soccer press operations in all six continental confederations
- Communications - U.S. Soccer: 1999 - 2003



A.N.C.C.I.F.

*English - Association of North, Central America & The Caribbean
Football Investigators*

*Spanish - Asociación Norte, Centroamericana y del Caribe de
Investigadores del Fútbol*

Formed in 2021

Board of Directors

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2022

A faded, sepia-toned photograph of a soccer match serves as the background. It shows several players in motion on a field, with one player in the foreground appearing to be in possession of the ball or having just kicked it. The image is slightly out of focus, emphasizing the historical nature of the content.

60-Year Anniversary of Champions' Cup

- 1962 - First official tournament of North, Central American & Caribbean Region (Concacaf)
- Third oldest club tournament in world (CONMEBOL, UEFA Tournaments Older)
- 1968-1998: Tournament winner competed against Libertadores Cup Winner for Interamericana Cup Trophy; Four confederation teams were crowned 'Champions of the Americas'
- 1999-2005: Tournament champion took part at FIFA Club World Cup & Champions' Cup Winners reached the semifinals in four of five editions
- Champions' Cup ran until 2008 when CCL officially launched

ANCCIF - 60th Champions' Cup Projects

- Throughout this year (2022) ANCCIF is putting out on its social media platforms English version of #OnThisDay game recap stories with hashtag #60THChampionsCup
- ANCCIF is putting together a historical tournament year-by-year recap with statistical information and results for each of the winning teams
- ANCCIF Members are involve in contributing to current social media platforms providing key stories and features on players, coaches, teams, videos, etc.
- More importantly, ANCCIF is also researching to confirm and complete all detailed information related to every tournament game from 1962-2008



How Can You Help?



ANCCIF Overall Research Project 1962-2008

Confirm, Complete All Details:

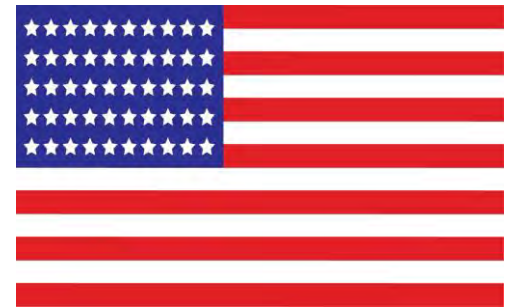
- Tournament Team Rosters/Coaches/Travel Delegation
- Tournament Games:
Schedule/Fixtures
Complete match report (with lineups, referees, goal scorers, subs, attendance)
- Team, Action Photos



Project - All U.S. Club Participation at Champions' Cup (S.A.S.H Assistance)

Two Phases

- 1963 - 1996 (prior to MLS): 59% Research Completed
- 1997 - 2008: 98% Research Completed



36 Champions Represented U.S. from 1963-2008

19 - U.S. National Challenge Cup (Open Cup) Winner

(NY Pancyprian-Freedoms-3; Maccabee AC-2; Philadelphia Ukrainian Nationals-2; NY Greek American AA-2; AAC Eagles-Chicago; Brooklyn Italians SC; Elizabeth SC; Columbus Crew; NY Hungaria; SF Greek-American AC; St. Louis Busch SC; St. Louis Kutis SC; St. Petersburg Kickers; Club España-Washington Diplomats)



11 - Major League Soccer Champions: MLS Cup

(D.C. United-3; Houston Dynamo-2; Los Angeles Galaxy-2; San Jose Earthquakes-2; Chicago Fire; Kansas City Wizards)



3 - American Soccer League Champions: ASL

(Detroit Express, Jacksonville Tea Men, Sacramento Spirit)



1 - American Professional Soccer League Champion: APSL

(San Francisco Bay Blawkhawks)



1 - North American Soccer League Champion, 1.0: NASL

(Rochester Lancers)



1 - USISL's A-League Champion

(Seattle Sounders)



23 - Other U.S. Club Qualifiers @ Champions' Cup

10 times - Open Cup Runner-up

(Brooklyn Italians SC-2; NY Inter-Giuliana SC-2; Chicago Croatian; Dallas Rockets;
NY Greek American AA; SF Greek-American AC; San Pedro Yugoslavs; Seattle Mitre Eagles)



9 - MLS Cup Runners-up

(LA Galaxy-3; New England Revolution-2; Chicago Fire-2; Colorado Rapids; Kansas City Wizards)



2 - MLS Regular Season Winners - Supporters Shield

(D.C. United, San Jose Earthquakes)

1 - APSL Runner-up

(Los Angeles Salsa)



1 - NYC's Hellenic American Soccer League

(Long Islands Stars-Hercules)

1962

No U.S. Club Representative

- U.S. Soccer Football Association (now USSF) did not send a club to compete at inaugural Confederation's eight-team tournament called Champions' Cup
- Philadelphia Ukrainian Nationals did not take part at the Champions' Cup, despite winning the 'double' as it claimed '60-'61 ASL title and '61 edition of U.S. National Challenge Cup (U.S. Open Cup)
- Mexico's CD Guadalajara "Chivas" defeated Comunicaciones FC of Guatemala in home-and-away final series to lift the newly formed Confederation's (Concacaf) first official club tournament trophy



Chivas won inaugural Champions' Cup in '62



Chivas vs. Comunicaciones (GUA) during '62 Champions' Cup Finals

1963

New York Hungaria SC

Founded: 1923

Coach: Géza Henni (Hungary)

Qualification: Champion - '62 U.S. National Challenge Cup

First Appearance

- NY Hungaria was first U.S. club to compete at Champions' Cup; Andrew "Andy" Mate was club's top goal scorer with five
- Mate's hat-trick in NY's 3:2 opening-leg victory (March 15th) against CD Oro before crowd of 35,000 at Estadio Jalisco was also first U.S. club to win on Mexican soil
- Hosted consecutive rounds of Champions' Cup games at NYC's Gaelic Park, vs. Oro and CD Guadalajara drawing fans of 1,500 (April 17th) and 2,000 (May 16th), respectively
- '62 Open Cup winner was a member of German American Soccer League (Cosmopolitan Soccer League), where it captured its fifth overall title during '61-'62 season
- Haiti's Racing Club Haïtien was awarded '63 Champions' Cup in April '64 after Chivas-Guadalajara was unable to agree with fixtures for final

Research details completed and available upon request; and any additional information are also welcomed



NY side in Mexico City prior to departing for Guadalajara



Andy Mate scores vs. hosts CD Oro (MEX) in first-leg victory in Guadalajara

1964

Philadelphia Ukrainian Nationals

Founded: 1950

Coach: n/a

Qualification: Champion - '63 U.S. National Challenge Cup

First Appearance

- Ukrainian Nationals was second U.S. club that qualified to Champions' Cup and was scheduled to compete against Club América of Mexico, however both sides withdrew from event
- Champions' Cup Final between SV Leo Victor of Suriname - Costa Rica's CS Uruguay was not played as the Confederation decided to declare the tournament abandoned without any known reasons, therefore no champion crowned
- Third-time Open Cup winner in '63, the Philadelphia club was also a member of American Soccer League, where it claimed its third consecutive title during '62-'63 season

Research Details Missing

- *Confirmation of team's withdrawal (financial or scheduling)*
- *Ukrainian Nationals' coach name*



Ukrainian Nationals was scheduled to face Club América (MEX)

1965, 1966

No U.S. Club Representative

- U.S. Soccer Football Association did not send a club to compete at '65 Champions' Cup; Despite qualifying rounds taking place in Central American & Caribbean, respectively, however the remaining tournament matches were cancelled by the Confederation for a second consecutive year and no overall champion was crowned
- Philadelphia Ukrainian Nationals did not take part in earlier rounds of Champions' Cup, despite winning its fourth consecutive ASL Championship during '63-'64 season; Meanwhile the amateur club - Los Angeles Kickers-Victoria prevented Ukrainian Nationals from another 'double' as it won '64 Open Cup
- '66 Champions' Cup was cancelled before any fixtures were announced
- Hartford SC, in its inaugural season, won '64-'65 ASL title; Meanwhile, New York Ukrainians of German American Soccer League (Cosmopolitan Soccer League) captured '65 Open Cup

1967

Philadelphia Ukrainian Nationals

Founded: 1950

Player-Coach: Ismael Ferreyra

Qualification: Champion - '66 U.S. National Challenge Cup

Appearances: 2 ('64, '67)

- Ukrainian Nationals was first U.S. club to qualify to two consecutive Champions' Cups
- Luis Pasache scored first goal for Ukrainian Nationals in 2:1 loss to hosts Alianza FC of El Salvador in opening game of North-Central American Playoff Series (Nov. 12th)
- Four-time Open Cup winner, Ukrainian Nationals finished third in '65-'66 ASL season that was won by Roma SC of Paterson, N.J.
- Alianza claimed the Champions' Cup trophy after defeating CRKSV Jong Colombia of Netherlands Antilles (Curaçao) in a playoff after both sides split the home-and-away final series

Research details completed and available upon request; and any additional information are also welcomed



Team prior to playoff game against hosts Alianza FC (SLV) at Estadio Flor Blanca in San Salvador



Captains - Guido Alvarado (Alianza) & Walter Tarnawski Ukrainian Nationals)

1968

New York Greek American Atlas Astoria SC

Founded: 1945

Coach: Alketas "Alkis" Panagoulas (Greece)

Qualification: Champion - '67 U.S. National Challenge Cup

First Appearance

- Greek American AA was third U.S. club at Champions' Cup (second from NYC); John Kosmides was the top goal scorer for club during Tournament with two, including one in a 3:2 second-leg loss against the eventual Tournament winner CD Toluca of Mexico before, 2,000 fans, at Downing Stadium (Oct. 6th)
- Prior to Toluca match, two-time German American Soccer League (Cosmopolitan Soccer League) champion had eliminated Somerset CC of Bermuda in a playoff (July 7th;) after teams split the home-and-away series
- '67 Champions: Oakland Clippers - National Professional Soccer League; and Los Angeles Wolves - United Soccer Association both declined to compete at Champions' Cup

Research Details Missing

- *Complete lineups for all three first round matches against Somerset*



Greek-American AA competed against Somerset CC (BER), CD Toluca (MEX)

1969

No U.S. Club Representative

- U.S. Soccer Football Association did not send a club to compete at '69 edition of Champions' Cup; Despite NY Greek-American AA winning its second consecutive Open Cup in '68
- '68 Champions: Washington Darts - ASL; and Atlanta Chiefs - NASL, both declined to compete at Champions' Cup
- Mexico's CD SC Cruz Azul defeated Comunicaciones FC of Guatemala in home-and-away final series to win its first Champions' Cup



Cruz Azul wins its first Champions' Cup in '69



Cruz Azul faced Comunicaciones (GUA) in '69 Final Series

1970

New York Greek American Atlas Astoria SC

Founded: 1945

Coach: Alketas "Alkis" Panagoulas (Greece)

Qualification: Champion - '69 U.S. National Challenge Cup

Appearances: 2 ('68, '70)

- Greek American AA was second U.S. club to qualify for two Champions' Cups, after claiming its third Open Cup title in '69
- 1,500 fans were in attendances at Gaelic Park as hosts lost a heartbreaker, 1:0, to CD SC Cruz Azul, in first-leg (June 30th); before also falling in second-leg in Mexico (July 12th)
- Third time a U.S. club is eliminated by the eventual Champions' Cup winner (Cruz Azul awarded its second consecutive title)
- Greek American also won its fourth German American Soccer League (Cosmopolitan Soccer League) title during '69-'70 season
- '69 Champions: Washington Darts - ASL; Kansas City Spurs - NASL, both declined to compete at Champions' Cup

Research Details Missing

- *Several first or complete names for Greek-American lineups against Cruz Azul*



Greek American AA squared off against Cruz Azul (MEX) at Champions' Cup

1971



Elizabeth SC

Founded: 1924

Coach: James Bradley

Qualification: Champion - '70 U.S. National Challenge Cup

First Appearance

- First time two U.S. clubs competed at Champions' Cup; Elizabeth SC was first team from New Jersey as it qualified to the Tournament as '70 Open Cup winner
- Hosts held defending champion CD SC Cruz Azul of Mexico to a scoreless draw in series' first-leg (Oct. 3rd), before 2,500 fans, at Farther's Grove in Union, N.J.; However, the club withdrew following the encounter therefore Cruz Azul was awarded a 2:0 Forfeit victory and advanced to final group in Guatemala City
- Elizabeth SC also captured its sixth overall German American Soccer League (Cosmopolitan Soccer League) title during '70-'71 season
- Philadelphia Ukrainian Nationals won its sixth ASL title in '70

Research Details Missing

- ***Confirmation of reason why club's withdrawal from Champions' Cup after its successful first-leg against Cruz Azul***



Rochester Lancers

Founded: 1967

Coach: Salvatore "Sal" DeRosa (Italy)

Qualification: Champion - '70 North American Soccer League

First Appearance

- First non-Open Cup winner to compete at Champions' Cup as it qualified by capturing '70 NASL Championship
- NASL side eliminated hosts Pembroke Hamilton in a thrilling series that went to overtime in Bermuda (Sept. 26th); Lancers advanced to final group stage in Guatemala after its opponent Chivas-Guadalajara of Mexico withdrew from its scheduled series
- At '71 Champions' Cup Final Group, held in March '72, Lancers played in front of an average crowd of 30,000 at Guatemala City's Estadio Mateo Flores; Rochester posted (2:0) shutout victories over SV Transvaal of Suriname, Aruba's SV Estrella and tied (1:1) Cruz Azul, before losing to hosts Comunicaciones FC (1:3) and LD Alajuelense of Costa Rica (0:1) to finish fourth overall.
- Manfred "Manny" Seissler was team's top goal scorer with three
- Cruz Azul won its third consecutive Champions' Cup title by defeating Alajuelense in playoff game at Estadio Azteca after both sides finished tied for first in final group in Guatemala

Research Details Missing

- ***Complete lineups for Lancers during first round against Pembroke Hamilton***

1972

No U.S. Club Representative

- U.S. Soccer Football Association Federation did not send a club to compete to '72 Champions' Cup; Despite crowning the following '71 Champions - New York Greeks (ASL), Dallas Tornado (NASL) and New York Hota Bavarian SC (Open Cup)
- Hosts CD Olimpia won its first Champions' Cup after defeating SV Robinhood of Suriname in thrilling two-game final series played in Honduras in early '73



CD Olimpia lifted its first Champions' Cup trophy by topping SV Robinhood (SUR) in '72 finals

1973

No U.S. Club Representative

- U.S. Soccer Football Association Federation did not send a club to compete to '73 Champions' Cups; Despite crowning the following '72 Champions - Cincinnati Comets (ASL), New York Cosmos (NASL) and Elizabeth SC (Open Cup)
- Suriname's SV Transvaal became first non-North/Central American team to lift the Champions' Cup trophy after defeating Devonshire Colts FC of Bermuda in two-game final series played in January '74



SV Transvaal with '73 Champions' Cup trophy

1974

Maccabee Athletic Club

Founded: 1971

Coach: n/a

Qualification: Champion - '73 U.S. National Challenge Cup

First Appearance

- Maccabee AC was first U.S. club from state of California (first from Los Angeles) to qualify to Champions' Cup, after winning the '73 Open Cup
- '73 Greater Los Angeles Soccer League champion was scheduled to compete against the Bermudan clubs of Devonshire Colts FC and North Village CC at the Tournament; however, all teams withdrew prior to any games played
- '73 Champions: New York Apollo - ASL; Philadelphia Atoms - NASL, both declined compete at Champions' Cup

Research Details Missing

- *Maccabee's coach name*
- *Confirmation on reason why club withdrew (financial or scheduling)*



Maccabee AC first club from The Golden State to qualify for Champions' Cup in '74

1975

No U.S. Club Representative

- U.S. Soccer Federation did not send a club to compete at Champions' Cup; Despite the NY Greek-American AA winning its fourth Open Cup title in '74
- '74 Champions: Rhode Island Oceaneers - ASL; and Los Angeles Aztecs - NASL, both declined to compete at Champions' Cup
- Mexico's Atlético Español FC won the Champions' Cup after defeating SV Transvaal FC of Suriname in a two-game final series in March '76



Formed in '71, Atlético Español was youngest club at the time, to win Champions' Cup

1976

New York Inter-Giuliana SC

Founded: n/a

Coach: n/a

Qualification: Runner-up - '75 U.S. National Challenge Cup

First Appearance

- NY Inter-Giuliana was third U.S. club that competed at Champions' Cup, after qualifying becoming first non-Open Cup winner to qualify as it finished runner-up in '75 event to Maccabee AC
- Three-time German American Soccer League (Cosmopolitan Soccer League) champion lost both Confederation Tournament encounters of the home-and-away series against Canada's Toronto Italia (June 13th; 27th)
- '75 Champions: Boston Astros/New York Apollo (co-winners) - ASL; and Tampa Bay Rowdies - NASL, all declined to compete at Champions' Cup
- Hosts CD Águila of El Salvador won the Champions' Cup after defeating Suriname's SV Robinhood in two-game final series in February '77

Research Details Missing

- *Logo, Team Details (Club Formation Year); Coach's name; Team Photo*
- *Complete lineups/goal scorers for first round matches against Toronto Italia*
- *Confirmation on reason Maccabee AC declined to compete at Champions' Cup*

1977

New York Inter-Giuliana SC

Founded: n/a

Coach: n/a

Qualification: Runner-up - '76 U.S. National Challenge Cup

Appearances: 2 ('76, '77)

- NY Inter-Giuliana qualified for second consecutive Champions' Cup after once again finishing second, to San Francisco Italian AC, at Open Cup in '76
- Three-time German American Soccer League (Cosmopolitan Soccer League) champion withdrew prior to Tournament's first round game against Club América; therefore the Mexican side was awarded 1:0 Forfeit victory (April 17th) and advanced
- Once again qualified to Champions' Cup as runner-up from the Open Cup after losing to San Francisco Italian AC in '76 final; San Francisco declined to compete at Champions' Cup
- '76 Champions: Los Angeles Skyhawks (ASL) and San Francisco Italian (Open Cup) declined to compete at Champions' Cup; NASL's Toronto Metros-Croatia was ineligible to represent U.S. at the Tournament since the team was from Canada
- Club América captured its first Champions' Cup after defeating hosts SV Robinhood of Suriname in two-game final series in January '78

Research Details Missing

- *Logo, Team Details (Club Formation Year); Coach's name; Team Photo*
- *Confirmation on reasons club withdrew (financial or scheduling)*
- *Confirmation on why Open Cup Winner San Francisco Italian AC chose not to compete*

1978

Maccabee Athletic Club

Founded: 1971

Coach: n/a

Qualification: Champion - '77 U.S. National Challenge Cup

Appearances: 2 ('74, '78)

- Maccabee AC qualified to its second Champions' Cup after claiming its third Open Cup crown in '77
- Three-time Greater Los Angeles Soccer League champion was scheduled to compete against Pumas UNAM at Champions' Cup; However, it withdrew from the Tournament, therefore Mexican side won 1:0 via Forfeit
- '77 Champions: New Jersey Americans -ASL; and New York Cosmos - NASL, both declined to compete at Champions' Cup
- First time in history, all three zone winners (Universidad Guadalajara of Mexico; Guatemala's Comunicaciones FC, Defence Force FC of Trinidad & Tobago) shared the Champions' Cup title

Research Details Missing

- *Maccabee's coach name*
- *Confirmation on reason why club withdrew (financial or scheduling)*



Maccabee AC was scheduled to meet Pumas UNAM (MEX) at '78 Champions' Cup

1979

No U.S. Club Representative

- U.S. Soccer Federation did not send a club to compete at Champions' Cup; Despite Maccabees AC winning its fourth U.S. Open Cup in '78
- '78 Champions: New York Apollo - ASL; and New York Cosmos - NASL, both declined to compete at Champions' Cup
- For several years there was an unknown club called "Soccer Universidad AC" listed incorrectly as the U.S. representative during the Champions' Cup; It also listed the club played against Tigres UNAL of Mexico in a two-game series losing 2:0 and 1:0 in July '79, respectively. ANCCIF confirmed it was an error that Soccer Universidad AC was actually misprint of official name of Pumas UNAM of Mexico (Club Universidad Nacional, A.C.). Pumas was scheduled to compete at Champions' Cup against Tigres, however the club withdrew
- El Salvador's CD FAS captured its first Champions' Cup after defeating CRKSV Jong Colombia of Netherlands Antilles (Curaçao) during '79 home-and-away final series



After tying first-leg of '79 finals, hosts FAS won the return-leg over Jong Colombia to lift its first Champions' Cup trophy

1980



Brooklyn Dodgers SC (Brooklyn Italians SC)

Founded: 1949

Coach: Lorenzo DeSimone

Qualification: Champion - '79 U.S. National Challenge Cup

First Appearance

- Brooklyn Dodgers (Brooklyn Italians) was the third NYC club competing at Champions' Cup as it qualified after winning '79 Open Cup
- Two-time Cosmopolitan Soccer League champion eliminated Hotel International FC of Bermuda in home-and-away encounters (June 22nd; 29th), before losing the next series against Mexico's CD SC Cruz Azul (Sept. 10th; 13th)
- On Sept. 13th game held Giants Stadium, a crowd of 42,324 witness Brooklyn's second-leg encounter against Cruz Azul as it was listed as a U.S. club attendance record for the Tournament; Brooklyn also missed 3 pks during that game against the Mexican side; The game was also part of doubleheader that featured NASL Conference Playoff encounter between NY Cosmos - Los Angeles Aztecs.

Research Details Missing

- *Complete match report information for Brooklyn-Hotels International Series*



Sacramento Spirit (Gold)

Founded: 1976

Coach: Bill Williams (England)

Qualification: Champion - '79 American Soccer League

First Appearance

- Sacramento Spirit (Sacramento Gold) was first club from ASL since '67 (Philadelphia Ukrainian Nationals) to qualify for Champions' Cup, after it won '79 title
- Sacramento withdrew from the Tournament after the club ceased operations in July '80, therefore its scheduled opponent Mexico's Pumas UNAM, was awarded a 2:0 Forfeit victory (June 22nd) and advanced
- '79 NASL winners Vancouver Whitecaps were ineligible to represent U.S. at Champions' Cup since the team was from Canada
- Pumas won its first Champions' Cup after finishing first in a final group over Suriname's SV Robinhood and hosts Universidad of Honduras, which took place in February '81

Research Details Missing

- *'79 Team Photo*

1981

No U.S. Club Representative

- U.S. Soccer Federation did not send a club to compete at Champions' Cup; Despite New York Pancyprian-Freedoms winning Open Cup in '80
- '80 Champions: Pennsylvania Stoners - ASL; and New York Cosmos - NASL, both declined to compete at Champions' Cup
- Hosts Suriname's SV Transvaal captured its second Champions' Cup after defeating CD Atlético Marte of El Salvador in two-game final series that took place in early '82



SV Transvaal (SUR) became first non-North/Central American team to lift the Champions' Cup trophy

1982



Brooklyn Dodgers SC (Brooklyn Italians SC)

Founded: 1949

Coach: n/a

Qualification: Runner-up - '81 U.S. National Challenge Cup

Appearances: 2 ('80, '82)

- Brooklyn Dodgers (Brooklyn Italians) qualified to its second Champions' Cup after placing second, to Maccabee AC, at Open Cup in '81
- Brooklyn was scheduled to compete against CD Vida; However, the three Cosmopolitan Soccer League champion withdrew prior to start of the Tournament, therefore, Honduran team received a 1:0 Forfeit victory (May 9th)
- Brooklyn finished second at '81 Open Cup, losing to Maccabee AC in the final; However, Maccabee AC declined to compete at Champions' Cup
- '81 Champions: Carolina Lightnin' (ASL); Chicago Sting (NASL); and Maccabee AC (Open Cup) all declined to compete at Champions' Cup

Research Details Missing

- '82 Team Photo; Coach's name
- Confirmation the reason why the team withdrew (financial or scheduling)



New York Pancyprian-Freedoms

Founded: 1974

Coach: Dimitrios "Mimis" Papaioannou (Greece)

'Qualification: Champion - '80 U.S. National Challenge Cup

First Appearance

- NY Pancyprian-Freedoms was fourth NYC club to qualify to Champions' Cup after winning '80 Open Cup and was granted permission by U.S. Soccer to compete in the Tournament
- • Four-time Cosmopolitan Soccer League champion was scheduled to compete against Pumas UNAM; However, the NY withdrew prior to start of Tournament, therefore, the Mexican sided received a 1:0 Forfeit victory (May 9th)
- Hosts Pumas won its second Champions' Cup after defeating SV Robinhood of Suriname in two-game final series

Research Details Missing

- '82 Team Photo
- Confirmation the reason why the team withdrew (financial or scheduling)

1983



Detroit Express

Founded: 1981

Coach: Brian Tinnion (England)

Qualification: Champion - '82 American Soccer League

First Appearance

- Detroit Express was first club from Michigan to qualify to Champions' Cup; and third overall ASL team after winning its first title in '82
- Detroit withdrew prior to the Tournament's match against Independiente FC of El Salvador (Mar. 20th) there the Central American side was awarded a 1:0 Forfeit victory and advanced to next round
- '82 NASL Champion New York Cosmos declined to compete at Champions' Cup

Research Details Missing

- *Confirmation the reason why the team withdrew (financial or scheduling)*



New York Pancyprian-Freedoms

Founded: 1974

Coach: Dimitrios "Mimis" Papaioannou (Greece)

Qualification: Champion - '82 U.S. National Challenge Cup

Appearances: 2 ('82, '83)

- NY Pancyprian-Freedoms qualified to its second Champions' Cup after claiming '82 Open Cup
- Four-time Cosmopolitan Soccer League champion eliminated CD Motagua of Honduras in its home-and-away pairings thanks to a key 3:1 second-leg victory at NYC's Metropolitan Oval (Apr. 26th); NY, however, lost its next series against Mexico's Atlante FC after 3:2 overtime thriller in the second-leg (June 14th), before 5,000 fans, at Hofstra University Stadium
- Atlante won its first Champions' Cup by defeating SV Robinhood of Suriname in home-and-away final series in early '84

Research Details Missing

- *Complete match report information for second-leg of Motagua Series*

1984



Jacksonville Tea Men

Founded: 1980

Coach: Dennis Violet (England)

Qualification: Champion - '83 American Soccer League

First Appearance

- Jacksonville Tea Men was first club from state of Florida to qualify to Champions' Cup and fourth team from ASL after winning the title in '83
- After a scoreless draw in first-leg (Apr. 21st), Jacksonville eliminated Chirilanco FC of Panama with a 4:0 victory in second-leg held at Gator Bowl Stadium (Apr. 28th) as Jorge Berrio, Mike Fall, Steve Ralbovsky and Micky Zivaljevic were goal scorers; However, Jacksonville withdrew prior to start of the Tournament's next round matches
- '83 NASL Champion Tulsa Roughnecks declined to compete at Champions' Cup

Research Details Missing

- *Confirmation the reason why the Jacksonville withdrew (financial or scheduling)*



New York Panyprian-Freedoms

Founded: 1974

Coach: Dimitrios "Mimis" Papaioannou (Greece)

Qualification: Champion - '82 U.S. National Challenge Cup

Appearances: 2 ('82, '83, '84)

- Four-time Cosmopolitan Soccer League Champion, NY Panyprian-Freedoms secured its third consecutive berth to Champions' Cup after winning its third Open Cup in '83
- After receiving a 1:0 Forfeit victory against Hotels International FC of Bermuda (Apr. 6th), NY eliminated Mexico's Puebla FC via penalties, 4:2, after both series games ended in draws (0:0; 2:2), at Hofstra University Stadium (June 16th; 19th); First time since '63 Tournament that a U.S. club eliminates a Mexican side
- NY hosted another two-game series, this time at Metropolitan Oval (Sept. 29th; Oct. 2nd), against CD Vida of Honduras, where it also had to go to the pk shootout, 5:3, after a pair of 1:1 draws
- Scheduled to face Chivas-Guadalajara and Haiti's Violette AC in Tournament's Triangular Final Group; However, NY and Chivas could not agree on fixture dates, therefore both sides were disqualified in February '85 and the Haitian team lifted the Champions' Cup

Research Details Missing

- *Confirmation of team lineups series encounter against Puebla and Vida*
- *Confirmation reasons for NY's disqualification from playing triangular final*

1985



Chicago Croatian

Founded: 1949

Coach: Frank Basan

Qualification: Runner-up - '84 U.S. National Challenge Cup

First Appearance

- Chicago Croatian was first club from state of Illinois (and Chicago) to qualify to Champions' Cup after finishing second, to NYC's AO Krete, in '84 Open Cup Final
- Despite playing in front of crowd of 20,000 in both Honduras' Stadiums Francisco Morazán (Apr. 28th) and Nacional (May 1st) in San Pedro Sula and Tegucigalpa, respectively, the two-time National Soccer League of Chicago dropped its two-game series against hosts CD Olimpia
- '84 Open Cup winner AO Krete; and NASL Champion Chicago Sting both declined to compete at Champions' Cup
- Trinidad & Tobago's Defence Force FC claimed its second Champions' Cup after defeating CD Olimpia in home-and-away final series in January '86

Research Details Missing

- *Confirmation why AO Krete declined to compete at Champions' Cup*

1986

San Francisco Greek-American AC

Founded: 1949

Coach: Lothar Osiander (Germany)

Qualification: Champion - '85 U.S. National Challenge Cup

First Appearance:

- Greek-American AC was second club from California (first from San Francisco) that competed in Champions' Cup after qualifying as '85 Open Cup winner
- Nine-time San Francisco Soccer Football League Champion lost a home-and-away series against Bermuda's Pembroke Hamilton (Mar. 22; May 18)
- ASL and NASL ceased operations in '84 and '85, respectively
- Hosts LD Alajuelense won its first Champions' Cup after defeating SV Transvaal of Suriname in two-game final series in February '87

Research Details Missing

- *Team logo*
- *Complete match report information from both series against Pembroke Hamilton*

1987

San Pedro Yugoslavs

Founded: 1950

Coach: n/a

Qualification: Runner-up - '86 U.S. National Challenge Cup

First Appearance

- San Pedro Yugoslavs was third club from state of California that qualified to Champions' Cup after finishing second at the Open Cup in '86
- Four-time runner-up in Greater Los Angeles Soccer League, San Pedro was scheduled to face-off against Club América in home-and-away series; However, the California side withdrew from the Tournament, therefore the Mexican side was awarded 2:0 victory on each encounter (Mar. 31st; Apr. 29th)
- Club América won its second Champions' Cup after defeating Defence Force FC of Trinidad & Tobago in home-and-away final series

Research Details Missing

- '87 Team Photo; Logo; Coach's name
- Confirmation the reason why San Pedro withdrew (financial or scheduling)



St. Louis Kutis SC

Founded: 1947

Coach: Jim Henson

Qualification: Champion - '86 U.S. National Challenge Cup

First Appearances

- St. Louis Kutis was the first club from state of Missouri (and St. Louis) to compete in Champions' Cup, after qualifying as Open Cup winner of '86
- Eight-time Amateur Open Cup winner was eliminated by CF Monterrey of Mexico in its home-and-away series (Apr. 15th; 21st)

Research Details Missing

- Complete match report from first-leg between St. Louis Kutis-Monterrey

1988



Seattle Mitre Eagles

Founded: 1984

Coach: Mike Mikacenic

Qualification: Runner-up - '87 U.S. National Challenge Cup

First Appearance

- Seattle Mitre Eagles was first club from state of Washington at Champions' Cup as it qualified by finishing second at Open Cup in '87
- After receiving a Tournament's first round bye, Seattle lost the first-leg of its home-and-away series against Mexico's CD SC Cruz Azul (May 11th); then the two teams played to a scoreless draw in the second-leg held at Memorial Stadium (June 2nd)
- A member of Washington State League First Division where it also won '82 edition U.S. Amateur Cup as Seattle Croatia

Research details completed and available upon request; and any additional information is also welcomed



Washington Diplomats (Club España)

Founded: 1987

Coach: Hugo Berly (Chile)

Qualification: Champion - '87 U.S. National Challenge Cup

First Appearance

- Washington Diplomats was first club from the D.C. area to compete in the Champions' Cup; It earned its Tournament's berth to the year before as the amateur side Club España which won the Open Cup
- After receiving a Tournament's first round bye, the newly member of ASL lost both home series matches at RFK Stadium against CA Monarcas Morelia of Mexico by the same 2:1 result (June 28th; 30th); Jean Harbor and Leonel Suazo were the goal scorers for the Diplomats
- CD Olimpia of Honduras won its second Champions' Cup after defeating Trinidad & Tobago's Defence Force FC in two-game final series

Research details completed and available upon request; and any additional information are also welcomed

1989

San Francisco Greek-American AC

Founded: 1949

Coach: n/a

Qualification: Runner-up - '88 U.S. National Challenge Cup

Appearances: 2 ('86, '89)

- San Francisco Greek-American competed it is second Champions' Cup after qualifying as the runner-up from '88 edition of Open Cup
- Hosts held Pumas UNAM to a 2:2 draw in the series' first-leg (Mar 22nd) before 3,646 fans at Oakland's Newark Memorial Stadium; However, 13-time San Francisco Soccer Football League Champion was eliminated after losing the return-leg in Mexico (Apr. 19th)
- Andy Atuekbu was San Francisco's top scorer at the Tournament with two
- '88 ASL Champion Washington Diplomats declined to compete at Champions' Cup

Research Details Missing

- '89 Team Photo; Club's Logo
- Complete match report information from first-leg between San Francisco-Pumas



St. Louis Busch SC

Founded: n/a

Coach: Joe Olwig

Qualification: Champion - '88 U.S. National Challenge Cup

First Appearance

- St. Louis Busch was second team from St. Louis, Missouri to compete at Champions' Cup after qualifying as '88 Open Cup winner
- St. Louis also became first club, since '63 Tournament, to defeat a Mexican team, in regulation time, after John Johnson's goal gave hosts a 1:0 first-leg (Mar. 14th) victory against Leones Negros Universidad de Guadalajara; However, St. Louis was knocked out of the Tournament on aggregate score after dropping the second-leg (Apr. 25th) at Estadio Jalisco
- Pumas lifted the Champions' Cup trophy for the third time in its history after defeating Cuba's FC Pinar del Río in home-and-away series in February '90

Research Details Missing

- Complete match report information from first-leg between St. Louis-Leones Negros
- Complete match report information from first-leg between San Francisco-Pumas

1990



New York Greek American Atlas Astoria SC

Founded: 1945

Coach: n/a

Qualification: Runner-up - '89 U.S. National Challenge Cup

Appearances: 3 ('68, '70, '90)

- NY Greek-American AA qualified to its third Champions' Cup after finishing second at '90 Open Cup
- First time two U.S. clubs square off against each other during Champions' Cup as four-time Cosmopolitan Soccer League champion lost the home-and-away series to St. Petersburg Kickers at Tournament's opening round (Apr. 28th; May 13th)
- '89 ASL Champion Fort Lauderdale Strikers declined to compete at Champions' Cup



St. Petersburg Kickers FC

Founded: 1957

Coach: n/a

Qualification: Champion - '89 U.S. National Challenge Cup

First Appearance

- St. Petersburg Kickers locked in its berth to the Champions' Cup after winning '89 Open Cup over the Greek-American
- Despite losing the second-leg to NY (May 13th), 1:0, St. Petersburg's 2:0 first-leg Apr. 28th) victory secured them a spot into next round; However, the 11-time Florida Suncoast Soccer League champion dropped a hard-fought 1:0 decision to Mexico's Club América at Tampa's Pepin/Rood Stadium (Oct. 9th)
- Club América claimed its third Champions' Cup after defeating FC Pinar del Rio of Cuba in the home-and-away final series in March '91

Research Details Missing

- *Complete match report information from series between St. Petersburg-NY*
- *Complete match report information from single game encounter St. Petersburg-Club América*

1991



American Athletic Club Eagles

Founded: 1940

Coach: Henryk Apostel

Qualification: Champion - '90 U.S. Open Cup

First Appearance

- AAC Eagles was second club from Chicago to compete at Champions' Cup after qualifying as Open Cup winner in '90
- Four-time National Soccer League of Chicago champion lost home-and-away series to Bermuda's Pembroke Hamilton Zebras (Apr. 27th; May 5th)
- Wojciech Krzyskow scored the first goal for a Chicago club at the Tournament
- '90 American Professional Soccer League champion Maryland Bays declined to compete at Champions' Cup

Research details completed and available upon request; and any additional information is also welcomed



Brooklyn Italians SC

Founded: 1949

Coach: Mike Rybak (Russia)

Qualification: Runner-up - '90 U.S. Open Cup

Appearances: 3 ('80, '82, '91)

- Brooklyn Italians secured its berth into Champions' Cup after placing second in '90 Open Cup
- After losing first-leg in Bermuda 3:1 (Apr. 13th), the four-time Cosmopolitan Soccer League champion advanced to the next round after posting a 3:0 second-leg victory (Apr. 27th) against Dandy Town Hornets at Brooklyn College Soccer Field; Jean Yves was Brooklyn's top scorer in Tournament with two
- Brooklyn, then, withdrew prior to its Tournament second round matches against Puebla; therefore, the Mexican side received a 1:0 Forfeit victory (June 1st) and advanced to next stag
- Puebla won its first Champions' Cup after defeating Police FC of Trinidad & Tobago in home-and-away final series

Research Details Missing

- *Confirmation on why Brooklyn Italians withdrew from Champions' Cup (finance or scheduling)*

1992



Dallas (Richardson) Rockets

Founded: 1989

Coach: Phil Jones

Qualification: Runner-up - '91 U.S. Open Cup

First Appearance

- Dallas Rockets (formerly Richardson Rockets in '91) was first Texas club to compete in Champions' Cup, after secured its berth with a second-place finish, to Brooklyn Italians SC, at Open Cup the previous year
- '91 Sunbelt Independent Soccer League (United Soccer League) champion posted a 5-2-1 overall record in its first Champions' Cup as it eliminated Cemcol-Crown of Belize (March 22th; 28th), Bermuda's Hamilton International (Apr. 11th; May 2nd) and Tauro FC of Panama (May 16th; 20th) in its respective two-game series; 8,500 fans at Rose Stadium in Tyler, Tex. (Aug. 1st) witness Dallas drop a heartbreaking 2:1 decision to Club América during first-leg. Mexican side completed the series sweep taking the second-leg (5:1) at Estadio Azteca (Aug. 5th); Eloy Salgado was Dallas' Top Scorer in Tournament with five
- '91 Open Cup winner Brooklyn Italians had declined the Champions' Cup berth as it instead competed in the '91 edition of Cup Winners Cup

Research Details Missing

- *Complete match report with lineup information for Dallas Rockets against Cemcol-Crown, Hamilton International, Tauro FC and Club America*



San Francisco Bay Blackhawks

Founded: 1989

Coach: Laurie Calloway (England)

Qualification: Champion - '91 American Professional Soccer League

First Appearance

- San Francisco Bay Blackhawks was second club from California's Bay Area to compete at Champions' Cup as it qualified as '91 APSL Champion
- San Francisco won six of its eight Tournament matches (6-2 overall ledger) as it eliminated AFC Euro Kickers of Panama (Mar. 25th; 28th), Belize's La Victoria (Apr. 18th; Mar 3rd) and Real CD España of Honduras (June 14th; 16th) in its two-leg series, before its showdown against Club América; After losing 3:1 the first-leg at Estadio Azteca (Aug. 9th), San Francisco fell a goal short in aggregate score during the second-leg (Aug. 16th) as it posted a 2:1 victory against Club América, before a crowd of 25,400, at Spartan Stadium; Peter Isaacs was San Francisco's top scorer in the Tournament with three
- Club América captured its fourth Champions' Cup after defeating LD Alajuelense of Costa Rica in single game final played at California's Santa Ana Bowl in January '93

Research Details Missing

- *Complete match report with lineup information for San Francisco Bay Blackhawks vs. AFC Euro Kickers, La Victoria, Real CD España*

1993

Long Island Stars-Hercules

Founded: n/a

Coach: n/a

Qualification: n/a

First Appearance

- Little known internationally of Long Island Stars-Hercules and how it qualified as U.S. representative to the Champions' Cup; the club withdrew prior to its opening round matches against Juventus FC of Belize; therefore, Central American team received consecutive 2:0 Forfeit victories (May 23rd; June 3rd) and advanced to the Tournament's next round
- Only information found on L.I. Stars-Hercules, is it was member of Astoria Queens' based league called Hellenic American Soccer League that was founded in 1948
- San Jose Oaks, which won '92 Open Cup, passed on competing at the Champions' Cup and instead decided to competed in '93 edition of Cup Winners Cup; Also '92 APSL champion Colorado Foxes also declined to compete
- Costa Rica's Deportivo Saprissa lifted Champions' Cup for the first time after finishing atop of final group held in Guatemala that included León of Mexico, Suriname's SV Robinhood and hosts CSD Municipal

Research Details Missing

- *Any and all details concerning Long Island Stars-Hercules are welcomed*

1994



Los Angeles Salsa

Founded: 1993

Coach: Rick Davis

Qualification: Runner-up - '93 American Professional Soccer League

First Appearance

- Los Angeles Salsa was third club from L.A. to compete at the Champions' Cup, as it qualified as '93 APSL runner-up, to Colorado Foxes; Colorado declined its Tournament berth
- After losing the first-leg (Jan. 29th), 1:0, in El Salvador, Los Angeles was eliminated from its home-and-away as it could only get a 2:2 tie in the return-leg (Feb. 6th) against Alianza FC at Fullerton's Titan Stadium; Paulinho was Los Angeles' top scorer at the Champions' Cup with two
- California's CD Mexico won '93 edition of Open Cup; However, it decided to compete in Cup Winners Cup in '94, instead of Champions' Cup
- CS Cartaginés of Costa Rica captured its first Champions' Cup after defeating Mexican side Atlante FC in the single game final held at Spartan Stadium in San Jose, California in February '95

Research details completed and available upon request; and any additional information are also welcomed

1995

No U.S. Club Representative

- U.S. Soccer Federation did not send a club to compete at Champions' Cup as Montreal Impact were '94 APSL Champion and were ineligible to represent U.S. at the Tournament
- San Francisco Greek-American AC won its second Open Cup in '94; However, the club was scheduled to compete against Tecos UAG of Mexico in '95 edition of Cup Winners Cup, but later withdrew
- Champions' Cup '95 would be last time a U.S. club do not compete the event
- Hosts Deportivo Saprissa of Costa Rica won its second Champions' Cup after finishing first in final group that included CSD Municipal of Guatemala, Costa Rica's LD Alajuelense and CS Moulien of Guadeloupe



Deportivo Saprissa became first Costa Rican club to win two Champions' Cups in '95



Saprissa enters pitch before later lifting '95 trophy

1996

Seattle Sounders

Founded: 1994

Coach: Neil Megson (England)

'96 Qualification: Champion - '95 A-League

First Appearance

- Seattle Sounders was second club from state of Washington to compete at Champions' Cup, after qualifying as the inaugural A-League champion in '95
- Champions' Cup was delayed most of the year and was completed in summer of '97; Seattle eliminated SV Transvaal in a home-playoff encounter (June 17th 1997) thanks to a hat-trick by Charles "Chugger" Adair, before 2,153 fans, at Federal Way HS Stadium to secure the hosts a spot into Tournament's Final Group in Guatemala (July '97)
- Seattle became the first U.S. club, since '71 Tournament, to compete in Champions' Cup Final Group; However, it lost to both Mexican teams - CID Necaxa, CD SC Cruz Azul and hosts Comunicaciones FC
- United Soccer League's Richmond Kickers captured '95 Open Cup; However, it declined its Champions' Cup berth and instead competed at '96 edition of Cup Winners Cup
- Cruz Azul finished first in Champions' Cup Final Group and lifted its fourth title

Research details completed and available upon request; and any additional information are also welcomed



Seattle Sounders was the last non-MLS club to represent U.S. at Champions' Cup



Seattle in action vs. Cruz Azul at Guatemala City's Estadio Mateo Flores

Overall Champions' Cup Records - Top 12 U.S. Clubs 1963 - 1996

| Teams | Appearances | Win-Lose-Tie |
|--------------------------------|-------------|--------------|
| San Francisco Bay Blackhawks | 1 | 6-2-0 |
| Dallas Rockets | 1 | 5-2-1 |
| Rochester Lancers | 1 | 3-3-1 |
| New York Greek American AA | 3 | 3-6-0 |
| New York Pancyprian-Freedoms | 3 | 2-3-5 |
| Brooklyn Dodgers (Italians) SC | 3 | 2-5-1 |
| New York Hungaria SC | 1 | 1-1-2 |
| Jacksonville Tea Men | 1 | 1-0-1 |
| St. Louis Busch SC | 1 | 1-1-0 |
| St. Petersburg Kickers | 1 | 1-2-0 |
| Seattle Sounders | 1 | 1-3-0 |
| Elizabeth SC | 1 | 0-1-1 |

Overall Champions' Cup Records - Top 12 U.S. Clubs 1963 - 2008

| Teams | Appearances | Win-Lose-Tie |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|--------------|
| D.C. United* | 8 | 13-7-6 |
| Chicago Fire | 3 | 6-3-2 |
| Los Angeles Galaxy* | 5 | 5-4-5 |
| San Francisco Bay Blackhawks | 1 | 6-2-0 |
| San Jose Earthquakes | 3 | 5-3-0 |
| Dallas Rockets | 1 | 5-2-1 |
| Houston Dynamo | 2 | 3-3-2 |
| Kansas City Wizards (Sporting KC) | 2 | 3-3-2 |
| Rochester Lancers | 1 | 3-3-1 |
| New York Greek American AA | 3 | 3-6-0 |
| New York Pancyprian-Freedoms | 3 | 2-3-5 |
| Brooklyn Dodgers (Italians) SC | 3 | 2-5-1 |

**D.C. won '98 Champions' Cup; L.A. captured 2000 edition*



Questions, Comments





Thank You
