



FOR REAL! REAL SALT LAKE CAPTURES 2009 MLS CUP IN PENALTIES OVER LA GALAXY

*In Yet Another Comeback Effort, Utah Side Wins First MLS Title 5-4 in PK's
Following 1-1 Draw in Regulation and Overtime;
Utah Side Returns to SLC International Airport Monday Afternoon, Fans
Encouraged to Meet Team in Terminal 1 at 1:30 p.m. MT
Subhead #3*

SEATTLE (Sunday, November 22, 2009) – Another wait was worth it in the end for **Real Salt Lake**, as the Utah side captured the **MLS Cup 2009** crown in its first trip to the League's title match via a **5-4 win in penalty kicks** over the **Los Angeles Galaxy** following a **1-1 draw** through 120 minutes of intense regulation and added extra time play. A vocal crowd of **46,011 at Qwest Field** watched Real Salt Lake's second match in a row decided in the seventh round of kicks from the penalty spot, and after MLS Cup MVP **Nick Rimando** saved Galaxy FW **Edson Buddle's** attempt it would be DF **Robbie Russell** that would convert past Los Angeles netminder **Josh Saunders**, setting off a wild celebration for the RSL players on the field and thousands of team's faithful fans in the stands that made the journey to Seattle.

A choppy first half would start roughly for Real Salt Lake, as playmaker **Javier Morales** was injured (left LCL sprain) in a challenge by Galaxy MF **David Beckham** just 15 minutes in, and while the Argentine tried to grind through the knock he would be forced from the match midway through the stanza. Things got worse in the 41st minute for Zion's Lions, who paid for turning the ball over at midfield. Two quick passes by Beckham and MF **Landon Donovan** would spring FW **Mike Magee**, as his re-direct past Rimando at his right post gave the Western Conference champs the 1-0 advantage heading into the locker room.

The Utahns would turn things around right out of the gates after the interval – the pressure immediately putting LA in a bind after a collision between RSL FW **Robbie Findley** and Galaxy GK **Donovan Ricketts** after a loose ball in the Galaxy area resulted in an injury to the goalkeeper's right hand that would later force him from the contest. The match would become square at 1-1 in the 64th minute, when Findley swooped in at the top of the six-yard box to collect FW **Yura Movsisyan's** blocked effort and slotted it through traffic and into the right side of goal, setting up a tense final half hour of regulation – including seven minutes of stoppage time that would ultimately give way to added extra time.

After trading a handful of decent, but ultimately fruitless, chances through the two added extra time periods, the League's championship would come down to penalties – a situation Real Salt Lake capitalized on last weekend in the Eastern Conference Championship at Chicago. RSL

would never trail in PK's, as Rimando stopped **Jovan Kirovski's** effort in the third round and Buddle's shot in the seventh round to set up Russell's heroics.

For a complete recap of MLS Cup 2009 at Qwest Field in Seattle, click on the link below:
http://real.saltlake.mlsnet.com/news/team_news.jsp?ymd=20091123&content_id=7703180&vkey=news_rsl&fext=.jsp&team=t121

MLS Cup Champion Real Salt Lake Returns Home to SLC Int'l Airport at 1:30 p.m. MT on Monday

Real Salt Lake will return from the Pacific Northwest with the **MLS Cup** in tow on Monday afternoon at approximately **1:30 p.m. MT** at Salt Lake City International Airport after taking the League's 2009 title in thrilling fashion in penalty kicks tonight over the Los Angeles Galaxy. Fans and media are invited to welcome home the team at the base of the escalators in Terminal One baggage-claim area as the team's Jet Blue "RealBlue" flight touches down.

RSL Match Notes:

- Real Salt Lake's MLS Cup victory marks the first professional title in a major professional league for a team from the state of Utah – and the first of any kind since the Utah Stars won the American Basketball Association's crown in 1971.
- The second half goal by **Robbie Findley** was his third of the 2009 MLS Cup Playoffs, tying him with the **Landon Donovan** for the most this postseason, while his four points (3G, 1A) were the most in MLS' "second season" in 2009.
- After M/F **Clint Mathis** replaced Morales and MF **Ned Grabavoy** entered at the halftime break, all four RSL players with MLS Cup experience were on the field to finish the match, the duo joining starters **Nick Rimando** and MF **Andy Williams**.
- Grabavoy replaced MF **Will Johnson**, who suffered from a bout of food poisoning on matchday and expired his usually limitless energy in 45 minutes of play before being subbed out at the half.
- With would will be considered a draw in the record books, Real Salt Lake's postseason record now stands at 3-1-3 all-time, while it's undefeated streak to end the season reached five games (3-0-2 including the regular season finale against Colorado).

**Real Salt Lake vs. Los Angeles Galaxy
November 22, 2009 -- Qwest Field**

Scoring Summary:

LA -- Mike Magee 2 (Landon Donovan 1, David Beckham 1) 41

RSL -- Robbie Findley 3 (unassisted) 64

Penalty-kick shootout:

LA -- David Beckham (Goal)

RSL -- Clint Mathis (Goal)

LA -- Gregg Berhalter (Goal)

RSL -- Robbie Findley (Goal)

LA -- Jovan Kirovski (Saved)

RSL -- Kyle Beckerman (Saved)

LA -- Landon Donovan (High)

RSL -- Ned Grabavoy (Goal)

LA -- Mike Magee (Goal)

RSL -- Andy Williams (Saved)

LA -- Chris Klein (Goal)
RSL -- Chris Wingert (Goal)
LA -- Edson Buddle (Saved)
RSL -- Robbie Russell (Goal)

Real Salt Lake -- Nick Rimando, Robbie Russell, Nat Borchers, Jamison Olave, Chris Wingert, Andy Williams, Kyle Beckerman, Javier Morales (Clint Mathis 22), Will Johnson (Ned Grabavoy 46), Robbie Findley, Yura Movsisyan (Fabian Espindola 75).

Substitutes Not Used: Jean Alexandre, Tony Beltran, Pablo Campos, Chris Seitz

Los Angeles Galaxy -- Donovan Ricketts (Josh Saunders 66), Sean Franklin, Gregg Berhalter, Omar Gonzalez (A.J. DeLaGarza 89), Todd Dunivant, David Beckham, Mike Magee, Chris Birchall (Chris Klein 79), Jovan Kirovski, Edson Buddle, Landon Donovan.

Substitutes Not Used: Alan Gordon, Dema Kovalenko, Eddie Lewis, Yohance Marshall

	Los Angeles Galaxy	Real Salt Lake
total shots:	13 (Landon Donovan 3, Mike Magee 3)	19 (Robbie Findley 5)
shots on goal:	3 (3 tied with 1)	4 (Robbie Findley 2)
fouls:	22 (David Beckham 4, Jovan Kirovski 4)	19 (Fabian Espindola 4)
offsides:	5 (Edson Buddle 3)	8 (Robbie Findley 6)
corner kicks:	7 (David Beckham 7)	4 (Andy Williams 2)
saves:	3 (Donovan Ricketts 2)	2 (Nick Rimando 2)

Misconduct Summary:

RSL -- Will Johnson (caution; Tactical Foul) 14
LA -- Chris Birchall (caution; Reckless Tackle) 39

Referee: Kevin Stott
Referee's Assistants: C.J. Morgante; Rob Fereday
4th official: Baldomero Toledo
Time of game: 2:47
Attendance: 46,011
Weather: Cloudy -and- 45 degrees

All statistics contained in this boxscore are unofficial

www.RealSaltLake.com / www.RioTintoStadium.com /
www.RSLtotheCore.com