MASL Championship

Baltimore Blast vs. Soles de Sonora

Game 1: Friday, April 7th @ Royal Farms Arena 8:05 p.m. EST
Game 2 (and potential mini game): Sunday, April 9th @ Centro de Usos Multiples 9:05 p.m. EST

Baltimore Blast: 14-6
First Place in the Eastern Division
First Round: The Blast dropped the opening game of the series in Baltimore but were able to come back on the road. After defeating the Heat in game two 7-4 the Blast were able to win the mini game 4-1 to advance.
Second Round: The Blast hosted the Milwaukee Wave and earned a 8-7 overtime victory in game one. Traveling to Milwaukee the Wave were able to win game two but the Blast would respond with a 2-1 victory in the mini game to advance.

This puts the Blast in the league championship series for the 7th season in a row. They have been in 9 of the last 10 championship finals and during that span have 4 league titles.

Soles de Sonora: 17-3
First Place in Southwest Division
First Round: Swept Baja with score of 10-7 and 17-3.
Second Round: Sonora matched up against the San Diego Sockers in the Western Conference Championship series. After winning on the road in San Diego game one 7-3 Soles returned home and edged out an 11-10 victory in game two to advance.

After entering the MASL in the 2015-16 season, Sonora has earned their way to a second consecutive championship series after having the best record in the MASL during the 2016-17 regular season.

Baltimore Players to Watch:

Vini Dantas leads the Blast in postseason points with 13 coming off 6 goals and 7 assists. Juan Periera, Pat Healey, and Tony Donatelli have all contributed 6 points to add to the Blast offense which is averaging 4.8 goals per game this postseason.

Tony Donatelli finished 3rd in the MASL in assists with 23 and leads the Blast with 42 points on the season. Vini Dantas leads the Blast in goals with 20 while last season's championship MVP, Lucas Roque, has recorded 13 points in 12 games this season. The Blast offense enters averaging 5.7 goals per game in the regular season.

Defensively, reigning MASL Defender of the Year Pat Healey leads a defense allowing an average of only 3.5 goals per game in the regular season. Adriano Dos Santos leads the Blast in blocks while William Vanzela has finished another season leading the MASL in goals allowed average. Vanzela ended the regular season allowing 3.34 goals per game which was his fourth consecutive season leading the league.

Blast Regular Season Leaders:

Points:
Tony Donatelli (42)
Vini Dantas (31)
Andrew Hoxie (23)

Goals:
Vini Dantas (20)
Tony Donatelli (19)
Andrew Hoxie (17)

Assists:
Tony Donatelli (23)
Vini Dantas (11)
Jonatas Melo/ Pat Healey (8)

Blocks:
Adriano Dos Santos (24)
Pat Healey (18)
Tony Donatelli/ Jonatas Melo (12)

Blast Postseason Leaders:

Points:
Vini Dantas (13)
Juan Pereira, Pat Healey, Tony Donatelli (6)

Goals:
Vini Dantas (6)
Juan Pereira (4)
Tony Donatelli, Andrew Hoxie, Daniel Peruzzi (4)

Assists:
Vini Dantas (7)
Pat Healey (5)
Adriano Dos Santos (3)

Blocks:
Pat Healey (8)
Jereme Raley (5)
Nelson Santana (4)

The Competition- Soles de Sonora:

Reigning MVP Franck Tayou led the MASL in points and goals this season. He recorded 72 points and 57 goals making him a strong contender to repeat as league MVP. Enrique Canez finished 9th in the MASL in points with 42 and 6th in goals with 32. The Sonora offense led the league averaging 11.5 goals per game and they have 8 players who have recorded 20 points or more on the season.

Defensively, Damien Garcia and Raymundo Contreras lead Soles who give up an average of 6 goals per game. Similar to the Blast, goalkeeper Diego Reynoso started every game in net for Soles this season. He finished 8th in the league with a 5.94 GAA and he recorded a .695 save percentage through the regular season. Soles de Sonora are coached by Luis Jamie Borrego.