

## Jamaica vs. Mexico: Final score 0-1

The first half was a terrible and uneventful one for both sides, and it absolutely deserved to end 0-0.

Jamaica had chances on the break when Mexico gave the ball away -- which El Tri did frequently -- but did almost nothing with them. Meanwhile, Mexico's attack looked nowhere near as good as they did on Friday, and they struggled to create chances. Their best opportunity came in the 33rd minute, when 'Chicharito' Javier Hernandez turned and hit a low drive from 20 yards that Donovan Ricketts got a fingertip to, tipping it wide. El Tri made no personnel changes to start the second half, but did instantly change the way they attacked. In the first half, Pablo Barrera and Andres Guardado regularly cut inside from the wings. Early in the first half, they decided to attack 18-year-old right back Alvas Powell, and it paid off. In the 48th minute, Carlos Salcido found space to cross on an overlapping run and lofted a ball into the center of the box for de Nigris. He found a space between Jamaica's two central defenders and nodded a simple finish into the roof of the net to give Mexico the only goal they'd need. Jamaica had their best chances to hit back from set pieces in the 54th minute. Jose Corona had to come up with a massive save on Marvin Elliott, who headed a free kick by Jermaine Hue to the far post, finding the outstretched arms of the Mexican keeper. On the ensuing corner, Corona made a second, albeit more routine save. Both teams made substitutions around the hour mark in order to change the game. Mexico took off the ineffective Barrera for Gerardo Flores in the 59th minute. Later, de Nigris came off for Giovano dos Santos. Jamaica changed formation in an attempt to find a goal, bringing off Je-Vaughan Watson and Ryan Johnson for strikers Darren Mattocks and Jermaine Beckford, switching to a 4-4-2. Their only great chance to equalize came in the 73rd minute on a cross from Powell. Elliott had yet another chance to score an equalizer for his team with a header, but put his effort into the ground, making a save easy for Corona. The Reggae Boyz never truly threatened Mexico after that, as El Tri held on for a crucial win. [SBNation.com](http://SBNation.com)