

CD TENERIFE



Tenerife impress on away-day rout

By Chris Todd

At last we are seeing the real new look CD Tenerife!

After a shaky start to the season the squad is now practically back to full strength and the results have improved greatly. Ten new signings were made in the summer but due to one thing or another only three of the new players were able to start matches. We basically had a new system but the old team on the pitch. Now manager López Garai can pick his preferred team with the only exception being English lad Sam Shashoua who has been injured. He should however make his debut on September 22 against the newly promoted Fuenlabrada in Santa Cruz at a 7pm kick off. After the last set of results hopes are quietly confident that we can have a good season. The fans have shown great loyalty once again with season ticket sales matching last season at around the 11,200 mark. Not bad considering that the team has not been able to win two consecutive games since March 2018!

07/09/2019

CD Tenerife 0:0 UD Las Palmas

The Canarian Derby came a bit too early with both sides under full strength and not yet in form. Pre-match talk was all about Las Palmas wonderkid Pedri who had signed for FC Barcelona a few days before. The Catalan giants stumped up

€6 million for the services of the 16 year old and immediately loaned him back to Las Palmas for the season. Pedri in fact hails from Tacoronte in Tenerife and he really is one that slipped through the blanquiazul net.

The Derby was a tad 'lite' compared to previous passionate affairs it has to be admitted. Having said that, the pre-match atmosphere in the streets surrounding the Heliodoro Stadium was very much Carnival-like. The recent huge forest fires on the island of Gran Canaria had created a sense of solidarity between all Canarians, so much so that the Las Palmas team entered the pitch with "Gracias Tenerife" written on their yellow shirts. The game itself was a story of two halves, Tenerife dominated the first half and the visitors the second. Despite the lack of goals it was an intense contest which could have gone either way. When Luis Milla received a deserved red card on 72 minutes it was a case for Tenerife of attempting to hold on for the point in the last part of the match. The blanquiazules defended resolutely and in fact almost nicked a win when an Isma López effort missed by inches in the last minute. But there was still time for more drama as Las Palmas were awarded a penalty only to have it overturned by VAR for a previous offside. That was a huge relief as to lose a Derby in the



Tenerife fans are really getting behind the new team this season

last minute is something all fans dread.

At the final whistle the 0:0 result can be described as about right. The 1,000 or so yellow-clad away fans celebrated but really with the extra player they should have won. A lost chance by Las Palmas to win their first Derby in Tenerife in 19 years.

15/09/2019

Albacete 0:4 CD Tenerife

A simply stunning away victory for Tenerife against an Albacete side who reached the play-offs last season. Seven years had passed since the blanquiazules had last scored four goals away from home and that was in the league below, so this victory was extra special. Only seconds were on the clock

when Alex Bermejo put Tenerife ahead after some fine work down the wing by Luis Pérez. Instead of resting on their laurels they went for the second and on thirteen minutes they were 0:2 thanks to a Róbert Mazáñ volley from outside the box. There was only going to be one winner and when new striker Miérez scored the third on 72 minutes it was good as game over. The Argentinean striker made a good impression on his full debut with his tenacity and determination, he could be a key player this season. It was only a matter of time before Tenerife added to their total and a fourth goal was scored by Dani Gómez in the closing stages.

From Albacete the squad travelled to Murcia where they

will hold a five day mini-stage before their match against Elche on September 19 at 6pm. They will then fly back

to the island the following day before preparing for the home game against Fuenlabrada on September 22. ■



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