



Canada hit six as Qatar collapse in Vancouver World Cup match

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Saliba holds Kone's shirt after horror tackle in World Cup match

Canada moved to the brink of the World Cup knockout stages with a commanding 6-0 win over nine-man Qatar in Vancouver, a night defined by Jonathan David's hat-trick, Cyle Larin's early breakthrough and a serious injury to midfielder Ismael Kone.

Jesse Marsch's side were in [control from the opening whistle](#), sharper in every duel and relentless in their pressure. Qatar, by contrast, unravelled quickly with two red cards, minimal attacking threat and long spells spent pinned inside their own half.

The scoreline reflected the gulf in quality, but the mood inside BC Place shifted when [Kone was stretchered off after a heavy challenge](#) that saw Assim Madibo dismissed following a VAR review.

World Cup: Larin opens floodgates

Canada's early pressure paid off after 16 minutes. David's initial effort was spilled, and Larin reacted quickest to tap in from close range. It was a simple finish, but it underlined Canada's intent: direct, aggressive, and determined to seize control.

Just before the half-hour mark, David doubled the lead with the standout moment of the match. It was a crisp volley inside the area that flew beyond the goalkeeper. It was the kind of finish that reminded everyone of the forward who once tore through Ligue 1 defences.

Qatar's problems deepened soon after. Homam El Amin tripped Tajon Buchanan as the last defender. A penalty was initially awarded, but VAR moved the foul outside the box. The card, however, was upgraded to red, leaving Qatar down to ten.

Stoppage-time pressure brings a third

Canada kept pushing and were rewarded in first-half stoppage time. Larin's header forced a strong save, but David was alive to the rebound, poking in his second and Canada's third. At 3-0, the contest was effectively over.

Six minutes into the second half, the match took a grim turn. Kone went down after a forceful challenge from Madibo. Players immediately signalled for medical staff, and the midfielder received oxygen as he was carried off. VAR upgraded Madibo's yellow to a straight red, leaving Qatar with nine.

The reaction from Canada's players said everything. It was a real concern, shock, and a sudden shift in atmosphere. The match resumed, but the injury lingered over the rest of the night.

Saliba strikes and pays tribute

Kone's replacement, Nicolas Saliba, made an instant impact. After Canada won a free-kick on the edge of the area, the midfielder's precise effort into the corner to make it 4-0. His celebration was lifting Kone's shirt, it was a simple, yet powerful gesture.

Qatar's night worsened on 75 minutes. Jacob Shaffelburg's target shot should have posed no danger, but Mohammad Al Mannai diverted it into his own net. It summed up Qatar's performance: disjointed, panicked, and unable to cope with Canada's tempo.

David completes his hat-trick

Deep into stoppage time, David wrapped up his treble. Poor defending left him unmarked, and he finished clinically to seal a memorable night. For a player who struggled at club level in the previous season, this was a timely reminder of his quality.

This wasn't just about Qatar's collapse. Canada looked organised, confident and purposeful. All traits that have grown under Marsch. The pressing was coordinated, the wide play sharp, and the front pairing of David and Larin looked increasingly dangerous.

Tajon Buchanan, named player of the match, was a constant outlet on the right, combining well with Alistair Johnston. Canada's midfield moved the ball with clarity, and the back line was rarely troubled.

Qatar offer little resistance

Julen Lopetegui's Qatar side managed only two shots all match, one inside the opening minute and none on target. They had just 15 touches in Canada's half after the break. With two red cards and little attacking structure, they never threatened to change the momentum.

Canada now need only to avoid defeat against Switzerland to finish top of Group B. That would secure a round-of-32 match on home soil, a significant advantage for a team growing in confidence.

The win also marks Canada's first ever World Cup victory, a milestone that adds weight to their momentum. With David rediscovering form, Larin offering a strong focal point, and Buchanan thriving, Canada look increasingly capable of making a deeper run.

Canada close to topping group B

If Canada can take something from their final group match, the conversation shifts. A knockout tie in Canada is a daunting prospect for any opponent. The structure is there, the belief is growing, and the squad looks energised under Marsch.

The injury to Kone is a major concern. He had been one of Canada's standout performers earlier in the tournament, and his absence will be felt. The team's response, emotionally and tactically, could shape their path from here.

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