

 BIOGRAPHIES

Jamison Olave

Jamison Olave has been playing professional soccer since he began his career in Colombia in 2001. When he joined Real Salt Lake (RSL) from Cali Deportivo in 2008, the physical Colombian defender introduced himself to forwards across the league and immediately impressed with his rare blend of power and speed. After his first start in April 2008, Olave became a permanent fixture, starting 23 of RSL's last 26 contests while helping turn the team's backline into one of the league's most improved defenses. As fierce and competitive as he is between the lines, Olave is likeable off the field, making him a favorite both inside the locker room and in the stands, thus the nickname "Gentle Giant." In November 2008, Olave agreed to a long-term contract with Real Salt Lake that will keep him through the 2012 Major League Soccer season.

Olave lives in Salt Lake City with his wife Diana Marcela. His other family members, including his mother, Luz Mosquera, and his two children, Anderson Olave, and Luara Olave, remain in Medellín. His brothers Edison and Jeison, are both math teachers in Medellín.

What made you pursue the career you have chosen?

"Since I was a little boy I have loved soccer. It is what I enjoy the most and what could be better than working in the field that one enjoys the most."