



#53 Dep. Saprissa (CRC) vs. Comunicaciones FC (GUA)

Estadio Ricardo Saprissa, San Juan de Tibás, CRC

Tuesday, October 29, 2024

Deportivo Saprissa and Comunicaciones FC drew 1-1 in the first leg of the Play-In at Estadio Cementos Progreso, Guatemala City, GUA (10-23-2024). (Diego Casas scored for the home team, and Javon East tied the game. **East's goal was the 300th in CCAC history**).

All-time series:

Deportivo Saprissa and Comunicaciones have faced each other 31 times in various Concacaf club tournaments, with Saprissa winning 14 times, losing 10, and drawing 7.

Deportivo Saprissa won 3-2 in the 2023 UNCAF Interclub Cup final with goals from (Esteban Santana and Álvaro Saborío x2; and for Comunicaciones, Dwight Pezzarossi and Sergio Morales) at LA Memorial Coliseum in Los Angeles, winning the Cup for the fifth time.

The last two encounters before the first leg of the Play-In in the CCAC-24 took place in the quarterfinals of the 2021 Scotiabank Concacaf League. Comunicaciones won the series 5-5 on aggregate via the away goal rule and went on to win the title that year.

Saprissa 4-3 Comunicaciones (Orlando Sinclair, Mariano Torres, David Guzmán, and David Ramírez; Óscar Santis x3), first leg of the quarterfinals, Estadio Ricardo Saprissa, San Juan de Tibás (10-21-2021).

Comunicaciones 2-1 Saprissa (Rafael Lezcano and Juan Luis Anangonó; Kendall Waston), second leg of the quarterfinals, Estadio Doroteo Guamuch Flores, Guatemala City (11-03-2021).

Results in the Concacaf Champions Cup:

Comunicaciones 1-0 Saprissa (Félix McDonald), Second Round (first leg) – Estadio Doroteo Guamuch Flores, Guatemala City (08-03-1973).

Saprissa 4-0 Comunicaciones (Wilberth Barquero, Hernán Morales, Gerardo Solano, and Carlos Solano), Second Round (second leg) – Estadio Ricardo Saprissa, San Juan de Tibás (08-10-1973).

Saprissa 0-1 Comunicaciones (Óscar Sánchez), Third Round (first leg) – Estadio Ricardo Saprissa, San Juan de Tibás (08-06-1978).

Comunicaciones 2-0 Saprissa (Óscar Sánchez x2), Third Round (second leg) – Estadio Doroteo Guamuch Flores, Guatemala City (08-13-1978).

Saprissa 0-3 Comunicaciones (Eric Aremengor, Raúl Chacón, and Óscar Sánchez), First Round (first leg) – Estadio Ricardo Saprissa, San Juan de Tibás (05-04-1986).

Comunicaciones 0-2 Saprissa (William Guardia and Rafael Solano), First Round (second leg) – Estadio Doroteo Guamuch Flores, Guatemala City (05-18-1986).

Comunicaciones 1-0 Saprissa (Jewison Bennett), Second Phase (Group 2) – Estadio Doroteo Guamuch Flores, Guatemala City (04-22-1998).

Saprissa 2-1 Comunicaciones, Second Phase (Group 2) – Estadio Ricardo Saprissa, San Juan de Tibás (05-06-1998).



Deportivo Saprissa (CRC)

Deportivo Saprissa won 4 of their last 8 matches in the CCAC: 4-0 vs. Motagua (in the 2023 Play-In), 5-0 vs. Guanacasteca, 3-2 vs. Managua, and 1-0 vs. Municipal in Group D of 2024. They were unable to win their last 3 games (0-0, 0-3 vs. Antigua GFC in the quarterfinals, and 1-1 vs. Comunicaciones in the Play-In).

Deportivo Saprissa won 4 of their last home matches in the CCAC (4-0 vs. FC Motagua, 5-0 vs. AD Guanacasteca, and 1-0 vs. Municipal). Their last home defeat was against Antigua GFC (0-3) in the second leg of the 2024 quarterfinals.

Saprissa is undefeated in Play-In matches with one win and two draws. The 7 goals scored in the Play-In were netted by different players: Michael Chirinos (HON), Ariel Rodríguez (CRC), Warren Madrigal (CRC), Kendall Waston (CRC), Orlando Sinclair (CRC), Luis Paradela (CUB), Javon East (JAM).

Deportivo Saprissa has participated in 37 editions of the Concacaf Champions Cup (1963, 1965, 1969, 1970, 1971, 1973, 1974, 1975, 1977, 1978, 1983, 1986, 1987, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1995, 1996, 1998, 1999, 2002, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2008, 2008/09, 2009/10, 2010/11, 2014/15, 2015/16, 2016/17, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2024).

Participation in the CCAC: 2 (2023 and 2024).

Best result: Quarterfinals in 2023 and 2024 (played the Play-In in both editions).

CCAC record: MP-15 W-7 D-5 L-3 (GF-29 GA-13). *Includes Play-In matches.

Top Scorers in the CCAC: Javon East (JAM) 7, Ariel Rodríguez (CRC) 6, Orlando Sinclair (CRC) 5, Jefferson Brenes (CRC) 3, Michael Chirinos (HON) 2.

Assists: **Javon East** (JAM) 4, Jorkaef Azofeifa (CRC) 2, Ariel Rodríguez (CRC) 2, Ulises Segura (CRC) 2, Mariano Torres (ARG) 2, Orlando Sinclair (CRC) 1, Jefferson Brenes (CRC), Kendall Waston (CRC), Michael Chirinos (HON), David Guzmán (CRC), Jeffry Valverde (CRC).

Players with the most appearances in the CCAC: Esteban Alvarado, Javon East (15 matches), Jeffry Valverde, Ariel Rodríguez, Fidel Escobar (13), Kendall Waston (11), Orlando Sinclair, Youstin Salas, Kliver Gómez, Jefferson Brenes (10).

Saves: Esteban Alvarado (CRC) 50 (16 in the 2024 edition).

Top Scorers in the 2024 edition: Javon East (JAM) 3, Jefferson Brenes (CRC) 2, Ariel Rodríguez (CRC) 2, Mariano Torres (ARG) 1, Luis Díaz (CRC), Orlando Sinclair (CRC).

Assists: Javon East (JAM) 2, Mariano Torres (ARG) 2, Jefry Valverde (CRC), Ariel Rodríguez (CRC).

Goal opportunities (96). Shots on target (38).

Youngest scorer in the CCAC: Warren Madrigal (CRC) 19 years, 3 months, 2 days (vs. Motagua - Play-In 2023).

Oldest scorer in the CCAC: Mariano Torres (ARG) 37 years, 2 months, 12 days (vs. AD Guanacasteca - Group D 2024).

Play-In participation: (2) 2023 (Eliminated FC Motagua of Honduras 6-2 on aggregate).

Top Scorers in Play-In: Michael Chirinos (HON) 1, Ariel Rodríguez (CRC), Warren Madrigal (CRC), Kendall Waston (CRC), Orlando Sinclair (CRC), Luis Paradela (CUB), Javon East (JAM).

Players to follow:

Javon East (JAM). The Jamaican scored the 300th goal in CCAC history in the 1-1 draw against Comunicaciones. East has scored 7 goals and has 4 assists in 15 games. In the 2024 edition, he has scored three goals.

Esteban Alvarado (CRC). He made one save and one clearance against Comunicaciones. Alvarado reached 50 saves in CCAC history (34 in 2023 and 16 in 2024). He has recorded 8 clean sheets in 15 matches and conceded 13 goals.

Ariel Rodríguez (CRC). He has contributed to the goals in Deportivo Saprissa's last 3 home victories (1 goal vs. Motagua, 1 assist vs. Guanacasteca, and 1 goal vs. Municipal). The forward has scored 6 goals and provided 2 assists in 13 CCAC appearances.



Comunicaciones FC (GUA)

Comunicaciones will seek to qualify for the 2025 edition of the Concacaf Champions Cup as they did in the 2024 Play-In, defeating CS Cartaginés of Costa Rica in a penalty shootout (5-4) after a 2-2 draw across both matches in the series.

Comunicaciones FC has participated in 28 editions of the Concacaf Champions Cup (1962, 1969, 1971, 1973, 1978, 1980, 1982, 1983, 1984, 1986, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 2002, 2003, 2009/10, 2011/12, 2013/14, 2014/15, 2015/16, 2020, 2022, and 2024).

The "Cremas" are winless in their last four matches (D-2 L-2) against Costa Rican opponents and have lost two of their last games across both CCAC editions. In 9 encounters against Costa Rican teams in the CCAC, Comunicaciones has a record of four losses and five draws.

Participation in the CCAC: 2 (2023 and 2024).

Best result: Quarterfinals in 2023 and 2024 (played the Play-In in both editions).

CCAC Record: MP-15 W-5 D-6 L-4 (GF-21 GA-17). *Includes Play-In matches.

Top Scorers in the CCAC: Diego Casas (URU) 4, José Corena (COL) 3, Jorman Aguilar (PAN) 3, Erik González (GUA) 2, Carlos Mejía (GUA) 2, Jorge Aparicio (GUA) 2, Antonio López (MEX) 1, Lynner García (GUA), Gerardo Gordillo (GUA), Azarías Londoño (PAN).

Assists: Antonio López (MEX) 4, Azarías Londoño (PAN) 2, Jorge Aparicio (GUA) 2, José Contreras (GUA) 1, Jorman Aguilar (PAN), Anderson Ortiz (GUA), José Corena (COL), Carlos Mejía (GUA).

Players with the most appearances in the CCAC: Antonio López, Erik González (15 matches), José Contreras, Fredy Pérez, Stheven Robles (14), José Corena, José Carlos Pinto, Lynner García (12), Gerardo Gordillo (10), Juan Anangón, Jorge Aparicio (8).

Saves: Fredy Pérez (GUA) 56 (35 in the 2024 edition), Arnold Barrios (GUA) 2.

Top Scorers in the 2024 CCAC: Diego Casas (URU) 4, Carlos Mejía (GUA) 2, Azarías Londoño (PAN) 1.

Goal opportunities (56). Shots on target (20).

Youngest Scorer in the CCAC: Azarías Londoño (PAN) – 23 years, 1 month, 24 days (vs. Marathón - Group B 2024).

Oldest Scorer in the CCAC: Carlos Mejía (GUA) – 32 years, 317 days (vs. Alajuelense - quarterfinals - Leg 1 - 2024).

Play-In Participation: (2) 2023 (defeated Cartaginés in the penalty shootout).

Top Scorers in the Play-In: Gerardo Gordillo (GUA) 1, Jorman Aguilar (PAN), Diego Casas (URU).

Players to follow:

Diego Casas (URU). He is the team's top scorer with (4) goals and leads in shots with (16). The Uruguayan scored the goal in the 1-1 draw against Deportivo Saprissa in the first leg.

Azarías Londoño (PAN). He made (2) shots against Saprissa in the first leg of the Play-In. The forward has scored 1 goal, made 10 shots, and provided 2 assists in the 2024 edition.

Erik González (GUA). He was the player with the most passes (87) and recoveries (4) in the first leg of the Play-In. The midfielder has played in all 15 of Comunicaciones FC's matches across both CCAC editions.