



#50 Antigua GFC (GUA) vs. LD Alajuelense (CRC)

Estadio Pensativo, Antigua Guatemala, GUA
Tuesday, October 22, 2024

It will be an unprecedented match; they will face each other for the first time in an international tournament.



Antigua GFC (GUA)

Club Deportivo Antigua GFC defeated Saprissa 3-0 on aggregate in the quarterfinals. Antigua GFC is the first team to win a quarterfinal series without conceding a goal in both matches (0-0 and 0-3).

Antigua GFC will play in the semifinals of the Central American Cup for the first time. In their debut tournament in the CCAC, they remain unbeaten (3W-3D), having faced teams from Belize, El Salvador, Panama, Honduras, and Costa Rica.

They kept a clean sheet in 3 of their last 5 matches, not conceding goals in the quarterfinals against Saprissa, and overall have 20 saves and 79 clearances. They are the team that has faced the most shots from opponents (96). They scored 10 goals in their first participation, 8 of them in the second half. Additionally, they have not conceded any goals in the last 30 minutes of play. The 3 goals they conceded came from open play.

In previous editions of CONCACAF club tournaments, Antigua GFC never managed to advance past the first stage of any tournament, having always been eliminated in the group stage of the 2016/17 CONCACAF Champions League, the preliminary round of the 2019 Scotiabank Concacaf League, and the Round of 16 in 2020.

CCAC Participation: 1 (2024).

Best result: Semifinals 2024.

Record: GP-6 W-3 D-3 L-0 (GF-10 GA-3).

Top scorers in the CCAC: Santiago Manuel Gómez (ARG) 4, José Ardón (GUA) 3, Dennis Ramírez (GUA) 1, Dewinder Bradley (GUA), Romario da Silva (BRA).

Assists: Romario da Silva (BRA) 3, José Gálvez (GUA) 1, Cristian Hernández (ARG), José Espinoza (GUA).

Players with the most appearances: Luis Morán, José Ardón, Ángel Díaz, José Gálvez, Robinson Flores, Romario Da Silva, Dewinder Bradley (6 matches), Óscar Castellanos, Alexander Robinson, Santiago Manuel Gómez, Cristian Hernández, José Espinoza (5 matches), Dennis Ramírez, Ditter Lang, Brandon De León (4 matches).

Saves: Luis Morán (GUA) 20.

In the 2024 CCAC, they scored goals in 4 matches, did not score in two, kept three clean sheets, conceded goals in three games, and had two 0-0 draws (vs. Águila and Deportivo Saprissa).

Biggest wins: 4-1 vs. Port Layola FC (José Ardón x3 and Dennis Ramírez), Group C (Round 1), FFB Stadium, Belmopan (30-JUL-2024); 0-3 vs. Deportivo Saprissa (Santiago Manuel Gómez x2 and Dewinder Bradley), quarterfinal second leg, Estadio Ricardo Saprissa, San Juan de Tibás (1-OCT-2024).

How the goals were scored in the 2024 CCAC: Play (8), Header (2).

Goal opportunities: 68. Shots on goal: 23.

Youngest scorer in the CCAC: Dennis Ramírez (GUA) - 22 years, 11 months, and 11 days (vs. Port Layola).

Oldest scorer in the CCAC: Romario da Silva (BRA) - 34 years, 5 months, and 9 days (vs. CAI of Panama).

Fastest goal in the CCAC: Santiago Manuel Gómez (ARG) vs. Deportivo Saprissa – quarterfinal second leg (4 minutes).

Hat-trick: José Ardón (GUA) vs. Port Layola - Round 1 - Group C 2024.

Players to watch:

Santiago Manuel Gómez (ARG): He had a standout performance in the series against Deportivo Saprissa, scoring a brace in the quarterfinal second leg. The Argentine has scored 4 goals, received 10 shots, and has a 44.4% shooting accuracy.

Luis Morán (GUA): His secure hands helped Antigua GFC advance to the semifinals with 9 saves in the two quarterfinal matches against Saprissa, including saving a penalty. Morán has achieved five clean sheets in 11 appearances in Concacaf club tournaments.

Romario da Silva (BRA): The Brazilian participated in 4 of the 10 goals scored by his team (1 goal vs. CAI and 3 assists). Additionally, he was on the field for every match with 13 shots.



LD Alajuelense (CRC)

Liga Deportiva Alajuelense eliminated Comunicaciones 3-2 on aggregate in the quarterfinals and became the last team to qualify for the semifinals. The 2023 edition champion is the team with the most points (16), goals scored (14), and assists (10) in the 2024 edition.

Alajuelense is unbeaten in the CCAC after 16 matches (W-12 D-4) and 1 title (2023). It is the only club to have scored in every one of its matches (16) and holds the record for the most goals scored in the tournament's history (38). They have not kept a clean sheet in the 2024 edition (scoring 14 goals and conceding 8).

LDA has won 4 consecutive away matches in CCAC history (3-0 vs. Real Estelí (2023 final), 4-3 vs. LA Firpo, 2-1 vs. Alianza FC (Group B - 2024), and 2-1 vs. Comunicaciones FC (2024 quarterfinals). They earned 22 out of a possible 24 points away from home (W-7 D-1).

The defending CCAC champion achieved 4 wins and 4 draws in the knockout stage. They drew their two previous semifinal matches and advanced through penalty shootouts (eliminating CS Herediano 5-4 after a 4-4 aggregate draw).

CCAC Participation: 2 (2023 and 2024).

Best result: Champions of the inaugural 2023 edition.

Record: GP-16 W-12 D-4 L-0 (GF-38 GA-15).

Top scorers in the CCAC: Diego Campos (CRC) 6, Aarón Suárez (CRC) 5, Johan Venegas (CRC) 3, Michael Barrantes (CRC) 3, Joshua Navarro (CRC) 3, Freddy Góndola (PAN) 3, Joel Campbell (CRC) 3, Alexander López (HON) 2, Anderson Cardoso (BRA) 2.

Assists: Carlos Mora (CRC) 4, Joshua Navarro (CRC) 4, Aarón Suárez (CRC) 4, Anderson Cardoso (BRA) 3, Johan Venegas (CRC) 2.

Players with the most appearances: Celso Borges (16 matches), Joshua Navarro, Leonel Moreira (14 matches), Aarón Suárez (12 matches), Alexis Gamboa, Carlos Martínez, Ian Lawrence (11 matches), Alexander López (10 matches), Joel Campbell, Giancarlo González, Michael Barrantes (9 matches).

Saves: Leonel Moreira (CRC) 49 (17 in the 2024 edition), Miguel Ajú (CRC) 6.

In the CCAC: LDA scored in 16 matches, kept 5 clean sheets, and conceded goals in 11 matches.

Biggest win: 5-1 vs. Motagua (Joshua Navarro x2, Doryan Rodríguez, Michael Barrantes, Johan Venegas; Agustín Auzmendi), Group D (Round 5), Estadio Alejandro Morera Soto, Alajuela (31-AUG-2023).

Top scorers in the 2024 CCAC: Diego Campos (CRC) 5, Anderson Cardoso (BRA) 2, Aarón Suárez (CRC) 1, Rahir Parkins (CRC), Jonathan Moya (CRC), Santiago Van Der Putten (CRC).

Assists: Aarón Suárez (CRC) 4, Anderson Cardoso (BRA) 3, Iago Falqué (ESP) 1, Diego Campos (CRC), Celso Borges (CRC).

How the goals were scored in the 2024 CCAC: Play (9), Header (3), Penalty (1), Own goal (1).

Goal opportunities: 72. Shots on goal: 38.

Youngest scorer in the CCAC: Santiago Van Der Putten (CRC) - 20 years and 63 days (vs. Comunicaciones - Group B 2024).

Oldest scorer in the CCAC: Michael Barrantes (CRC) - 40 years and 56 days (vs. Real Estelí, 2023 final).

Fastest goal in history: Joshua Navarro (CRC) vs. Motagua (Group D - 2023): 4 minutes.

Penalty shootouts: (1). Victory (5-4) vs. Herediano (2023 semifinals). The aggregate score was tied 4-4 (2-2 in the first leg and 2-2 in the second leg).

Semifinal participations: (2) 2023 (eliminated CS Herediano) and 2024 (will face Antigua GFC).

Top scorers in the semifinals: Carlos Mora (CRC) 1, Johan Venegas (CRC), Celso Borges (CRC), Joel Campbell (CRC).

Semifinal record: GP-2 W-0 D-2 L-0 (GF-4 GA-4).

Players to watch:

Diego Campos (CRC): He is the top scorer of the 2024 edition (6 goals vs. CD Marathón - brace -, Luis Ángel Firpo, Alianza FC - brace - and Comunicaciones). Additionally, he provided 1 assist and leads in shots (19) and shots on target (9).

Anderson Cardoso (BRA): The Brazilian forward has scored 2 goals, provided 3 assists, and made 14 attempts in 500 minutes on the field in the 2024 CCAC. He also completed 86% of his passes (166 accurate touches).

Celso Borges (CRC): He is the only player on Alajuelense's roster to have played all 16 matches in the CCAC. In the quarterfinals, he led in effective passes with (127). The LDA captain has made (856) passes in the two editions and scored a goal in the 2023 semifinals against CS Herediano.