

# Antigua GFC (GUA) vs. CD Águila (SLV)

GROUP C

Estadio Pensativo, Antigua

6-AGO

- This will be one of the unprecedented matches in the 2nd edition of the Central American Cup.
- Antigua GFC debuted with a 4-1 victory against Port Layola in their return to Concacaf club tournaments 4 years after participating in the 2020 Concacaf League edition. There, they faced C.A.I. (PAN) in the preliminary round, eliminating them in penalties (2x4), and CD Marathón (HON) in the round of 16 also in penalties, this time with a score favorable to the Honduran club (4x3). Additionally, the Guatemalan club will face a rival from El Salvador for the second time in its official tournament history, having previously played against Alianza FC in the 2016-17 Champions Cup, in Group F, drawing 1x1 (August 23, 2016), and losing 1x3 on Matchday 6 (October 18, 2016).
- Club Águila will seek its first victory against Guatemalan clubs in the Central American Cup, as in their only encounter they lost 1x4 to Comunicaciones FC (August 23, 2023), with Carlos Salazar scoring for Águila and Jorge Aparicio, José Corena x2, and Lynner García scoring for Comunicaciones.
- This will be the 43rd match between Águila and Guatemalan clubs where the Salvadoran club, which has 6 wins, 26 losses, and 8 draws, trails in the series.



## Antigua (GUA)

- The 4-1 victory against Port Layola of Belize was the first in 4 appearances in Concacaf club tournaments, with a record of 5 draws and 3 losses, where they had previously faced teams from El Salvador, United States, Panama, Canada, Honduras, and Belize.
- In their debut in the 2024 Central American Cup, Antigua managed to score as many goals (4) as in their 3 previous international participations combined. Manfred Russell, Mauro Portillo, Nicolás Martínez, and Edgar Pacheco had scored the 4 goals in their earlier appearances.
- Top scorers in the CCAC: José Ardón (GUA) 3, Dennis Ramírez (GUA) 1.
- Assists in the CCAC: Romario da Silva (BRA) 2, José Galvez (GUA) 1.
- Saves: Luis Morán (GUA) 2.

### Players to watch:

- **José Ardón (GUA)**. Scored a hat-trick on his debut in the CONCACAF Central American Cup. The captain made 5 shots against Port Layola and achieved 95% passing accuracy.

- **Cristian Hernández (ARG)**. He was one of the standout players for Antigua in their international debut, with 2 shots, 4 ball recoveries, 1 clearance, and 57 successful passes.
- **Romario da Silva (BRA)**. The 34-year-old forward provided 2 assists in the opening match of the Central American Cup 2024. He made 3 shots against the Belizean team.



## CD Águila (SLV)

- The Salvadoran club will seek to advance beyond the group stage of the Central American Cup for the first time after being eliminated in its initial participation in 2023, where it shared a group with CS Herediano, Comunicaciones, Real España, and Diriangén.
- CD Águila has in its trophy cabinet the 1976 Concacaf Champions Cup trophy after defeating SV Robinhood of Suriname 8-3 on aggregate.
- **Participations in the CCAC:** 2 (2023 and 2024).
- **Record in the CCAC:** GP-4 W-1 D-0 L-3 (2GF-9GA).
- **Top scorers in the CCAC:** Darwin Cerén (SLV) 1, Carlos Salazar (COL) 1.
- **Assists in the CCAC:** Herberth Díaz (SLV) 1.
- **Players with the most appearances in the CCAC:** Rafael García, Julio Sibrián, Kevin Melara, Dixon Rivas, Melvin Cartagena, Darwin Cerén, Gerson Mayén, Duvier Riascos, Lucas Ventura, Brayan Paz (4 games).
- **Saves:** Benji Villalobos (SLV) 7, Rafael García (URU) 4.
- CD Águila has scored goals in 2 games, failed to score in 2 matches, kept 1 clean sheet, conceded goals in 3 games, and never drew with a 0-0 score.
- Sole victory in the CCAC: 1-0 vs. Diriangén (Darwin Cerén), Group C, Las Delicias Stadium in Santa Tecla (AUG-17-2023).

### Players to watch:

- **Darwin Cerén (SLV)**. Played in all 4 matches and scored the goal in CD Águila's only victory in their previous participation in the Central American Cup (vs. Diriangén) in 2023. He has participated in 5 editions of the Concacaf Gold Cup (18 matches).
- **Carlos Salazar (COL)**. Was one of the team's top scorers last season in Salvadoran football (27 goals in 47 appearances). He scored 1 goal vs Comunicaciones in 3 appearances in the 2023 edition of the Central American Cup.
- **Alexander Larín (SLV)**. Was a champion in Guatemalan football in the Clausura 2022 of the National League. He has 33 appearances and 3 goals scored in international tournaments with team's CD FAS, Herediano, Alianza FC, and Comunicaciones.