



## #52 Real Estelí FC (NCA) vs. CS Herediano (CRC)

Estadio Independencia, Estelí, NCA

Thursday, October 24, 2024

They will face each other for the second time in their history, the first being a single match due to the COVID-19 pandemic in the Scotiabank Concacaf League, with a 1-0 victory for Real Estelí in San José, Costa Rica on November 24, 2020, with a goal by Jorge Betancourt, which earned them a spot in the quarterfinals.



### Real Estelí FC (NCA)

**Real Estelí FC eliminated CD Águila 2-1 on aggregate in the quarterfinals and advanced to the semifinals for the second consecutive year. The club based in Estelí, Nicaragua, is the second team with the most points (29) and victories (8) in CCAC history (7 clean sheets in 16 matches). They achieved a 50%-win rate (winning 8 of 16 matches). The runner-up of the inaugural edition has lost 1 of its last 7 matches.**

Real Estelí earned 21 out of a possible 24 points at home in the CCAC, with a 72.4% success rate. The 5 draws were away games. Their only home loss was in the 2023 final (0-3) against LD Alajuelense.

In the 2023 semifinals, they eliminated Club Atlético Independiente of Panama 3-2 on aggregate (1-0 and 2-2). They won the match played at Estadio Independencia in Estelí: 1-0 (Abel Méndez).

They have played 6 matches in the CCAC against Costa Rican teams, recording 2 wins, 2 draws, and 2 losses. Their 2 wins were at home against Saprissa in both editions (1-0 in the 2023 quarterfinals and 2-1 in Group D of 2024). They also faced Alajuelense and AD Guanacasteca.

**CCAC Participation:** 2 (2023 and 2024).

**Best result:** Runner-up of the inaugural 2023 edition.

**Record:** GP-16 W-8 D-5 L-3 (GF-20 GA-14).

**Top scorers:** Byron Bonilla (NCA) 4, Juan Vieyra (ARG) 2, Juan Barrera (NCA) 2, Harold Medina (NCA) 2, Bancy Hernández (NCA) 2, Arley Bonilla (COL) 2.

**Assists:** Byron Bonilla (NCA) 3, Bancy Hernández (NCA) 2, Abel Méndez (ARG) 2, Harold Medina (NCA) 2, Henry García (NCA) 1, Leyvin Balanta (COL), Agenor Báez (NCA), Josué Quijano (NCA).

**Players with the most appearances:** Ebert Martínez (16 matches), Marvin Fletes, Byron Bonilla (15), Josué Quijano, Harold Medina (14), Óscar Acevedo (13), Bancy Hernández (11), Fabián Monserrat, Arley Bonilla, Marlon López, Douglas Forvis, Leyvin Balanta (10).

**Saves:** Douglas Forvis (NCA) 27, Jason Vega (NCA) 6 (6 in the 2024 edition).

In the CCAC: Real Estelí scored goals in 13 matches, failed to score in 3, kept 7 clean sheets, conceded goals in 9 matches, and had 1 goalless draw (vs. CD Águila – 2024 quarterfinal second leg).

**Biggest win:** 3-0 vs. Managua (Óscar Acevedo, Josué Quijano, and Juan Ignacio Vieyra), Group D (Round 3) - Estadio Independencia, Estelí (14-AUG-2024).

**Top scorers in the 2024 CCAC:** Byron Bonilla (NCA) 3, Juan Vieyra (ARG) 2, Harold Medina (NCA) 1, Josué Quijano (NCA), Óscar Acevedo (NCA).

**Assists:** Bancy Hernández (NCA) 2, Agenor Báez (NCA) 1, Byron Bonilla (NCA), Josué Quijano (NCA).

**How the goals were scored in the 2024 CCAC:** Play (5), Header (1), Free kick (2).

**Goal opportunities:** 54. Shots on goal: 20.

**Youngest scorer in the CCAC:** Harold Medina (NCA) - 21 years and 190 days (vs. Olimpia - Group B 2023).

**Oldest scorer in the CCAC:** Juan Barrera (NCA) - 34 years and 105 days (CD FAS - Group B 2023).

**Fastest goal:** Byron Bonilla (NCA) vs. Saprissa (Group D - 2023): 6 minutes.

**Semifinal participations:** (2) 2023 (eliminated CAI) and 2024 (will face CS Herediano).

**Semifinal record:** GP-2 W-1 D-1 L-0 (GF-3 GA-2).

**Top scorers in the semifinals:** Arley Bonilla (COL) 1, Abel Méndez (ARG), Bancy Hernández (NCA).

**Players to watch:**

**Bancy Hernández (NCA):** He scored 2 goals and provided 2 assists in 11 matches in the Central American Cup. He scored a goal in the 2023 semifinals against Club Atlético Independiente in the second leg in Panama City.

**Byron Bonilla (NCA):** He has scored 3 goals, made 15 shots, and provided 1 assist in the 2024 CCAC edition. He has played in 15 matches, scoring three goals and providing three assists, two of his goals coming from free kicks.

**Ebert Martínez (NCA):** The 22-year-old midfielder was the only Real Estelí player to feature in all 16 CCAC matches, making 33 ball recoveries across the two editions.



## CS Herediano (CRC)

**Club Sport Herediano drew 0-0 against Motagua in the second leg of the quarterfinals and advanced to the semifinals thanks to the away goals rule after a 2-2 draw in Tegucigalpa. CS Herediano remains unbeaten in regular time in the history of the CCAC with 7 wins and 7 draws.**

In the 2024 edition, they are unbeaten with (W-3 D-3). In 2023, they were eliminated in the semifinals by eventual champions Alajuelense, 5-4 in a penalty shootout after a 4-4 aggregate draw (2-2 in the first leg and 2-2 in the second leg).

Along with Antigua GFC, CD Águila, and Diriangén, CS Herediano is one of the teams to have conceded only 3 goals in 2024. They have kept 6 clean sheets in CCAC history.

LD Alajuelense has won 3 matches in the 2024 edition, all by 1-0 scoreline with goals scored in the second half (1-0 vs. Tauro, 1-0 vs. Diriangén, and 0-1 vs. San Francisco). They scored 100% of their goals in the second half (6).

**CCAC Participation:** 2 (2023 and 2024).

**Best result:** Semifinals 2023 and 2024.

**Record:** GP-14 W-7 D-7 L-0 (GF-21 GA-13).

**Top scorers in the CCAC:** Jesús Godínez (MEX) 3, David Sayago (ARG) 2, Fernán Faerron (CRC) 2, Alejandro Bran (CRC) 2, José de Jesús González (MEX) 2, Jhon Jairo Ruiz (CRC) 2.

**Assists:** Haxzel Quirós (CRC) 3, Gerson Torres (CRC) 2, John Jairo Ruiz (CRC) 2, Elías Aguilar (CRC) 2, Ronaldo Araya (CRC) 2.

**Players with the most appearances:** Miguel Basulto (14 matches), Aarón Cruz, Elías Aguilar (13), Haxzel Quirós, Gerson Torres (12), Darryl Araya, Fernán Faerron, Ronaldo Araya, Yeltsin Tejeda, Everardo Rubio (10), John Jairo Ruiz, Allan Cruz (9), Jesús Godínez, Andy Rojas (8).

**Saves:** Aarón Cruz (CRC) 34 (11 in the 2024 edition), Anthony Walker (CRC) 3 (3 in 2024).

In the CCAC: CS Herediano scored goals in 12 matches, failed to score in 2, kept 6 clean sheets, conceded goals in 8 matches, and had two 0-0 draws (vs. Comunicaciones – 2023 quarterfinal first leg; vs. FC Motagua – 2024 quarterfinal second leg).

**Top scorers in the 2024 CCAC:** John Jairo Ruiz (CRC) 2, José de Jesús González (MEX) 2, Yendrick Ruiz (CRC), Everardo Rubio (MEX).

**Assists:** Elías Aguilar (CRC) 2, Darryl Araya (CRC), Ronaldo Araya (CRC), Marcel Hernández (CUB).

**How the goals were scored in the 2024 CCAC:** Play (4), Header (2).

**Goal opportunities:** 50. Shots on goal: 23.

**Youngest scorer in the CCAC:** Andy Rojas (CRC) - 17 years and 268 days (vs. Comunicaciones - Group C - 2023).

**Oldest scorer in the CCAC:** Yendrick Ruiz (CRC) - 37 years and 132 days (vs. San Francisco - Group A 2024).

**Fastest goal:** Jesús Godínez (MEX) vs. CD Águila (Group C - 2023): 21 minutes.

**Penalty shootouts:** (1). Defeat (5-4) vs. Alajuelense (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 by Alajuelense) and 2024 (will face Real Estelí).

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

**Top scorers in the semifinals:** Allan Cruz (CRC) 1, Gerson Torres (CRC), José de Jesús González (MEX), Everardo Rubio (MEX).

**Players to watch:**

**Elías Aguilar (CRC):** He has two assists and is the player with the most shots for the team in the 2024 edition. The midfielder has played 39 matches in international Concacaf club tournaments, scoring 3 goals and providing 6 assists.

**Miguel Basulto (MEX):** He is the player with the most matches for CS Herediano in the CCAC (14). The defender has made 291 passes (91% accuracy) and 4 ball recoveries in the 2024 edition.

**Everardo Rubio (CRC):** He scored a penalty against Alajuelense in the 2023 semifinals. In the current edition, he has played 4 matches, delivering 228 passes (90% accuracy).