



2024 CONCACAF W Gold Cup

Costa Rica vs. Paraguay / Group C

Shell Energy Stadium, Houston, TX

February 22

Costa Rica and Paraguay have faced each other twice in their history, and it will be the first time in a Concacaf tournament.

Paraguay won 3-1 the last time they faced Costa Rica (Rebeca Fernández x2 and Jessica Martínez; Emilie Valenciano) in the match for 5th Place at the Pan American Games Chile 2023, at Estadio Sausalito, Viña del Mar (31-OCT-2023).

Costa Rica's only victory against Paraguay was in the match for the Bronze Medal at the Pan American Games Lima 2019: 1-0 (goal by Daniela Cruz), at Estadio San Marcos, Lima (9-AUG-2019).

Costa Rica has 2 consecutive victories, both in RTWGC 2024, where they scored 21 goals and only conceded 1 (2-1 vs. Haiti and 0-19 vs. Saint Kitts). Alexa Herrera (3) and Gloriana Villalobos (2) scored the goals in these victories.

In their last two preparation matches before CWGC, Costa Rica lost 0-4 against Seattle Reign on February 9 at Estadio Alejandro Morera Soto with goals from Bethany Balcer, Tziarra King, and Jordyn Huitema, and 0-2 against the Houston Dash on February 16.

Paraguay couldn't secure a win after their participation in the Pan American Games Santiago 2023, where they defeated Costa Rica (3-1) in the match for 5th place. They played 2 International Friendlies against Russia (0-3 and 1-1) and lost in their last preparation match before the Concacaf W Gold Cup, 0-2 against Panama at Universidad Latina de Penonomé in Coclé, Panama. Panama's goals were scored by Kenia Rangel and Hilary Jaen.



Qualification for the Concacaf W Gold Cup: First Place in Group C of League A.

Record in RTWGC 2024: GP-4 W-3 D-0 L-1 (GF-32 GA-2).

Top scorers in RTWGC 2024: María Paula Salas (7), Melissa Herrera (4), Priscila Chinchilla (3), Raquel Rodríguez (3), Gloriana Villalobos (3), Alexa Herrera (3).

Assists: Melissa Herrera (7), Gloriana Villalobos (4), Raquel Rodríguez (3), Alexandra Pinell González (3), Daniela Cruz (2).

How the goals were scored: From open play (23), headers (5), free kicks (1), penalties (3).



Goal-scoring opportunities (97). Shots on target (27).

Saves: 7. Goalkeepers: Daniela Solera (7), Priscilla Tapia. Clean sheets: 2.

Biggest victory: 0-19 vs. Saint Kitts (League A / Group C - Matchday 6).

Record in Concacaf W 2022: GP-5 W-2 D-0 L-3 (GF-7 GA-6).

Participations in the FIFA Women's World Cup 2 (Canada 2015, Australia/New Zealand 2023).

Players to watch:

Daniela Solera. Played in all 3 matches at the FIFA Women's World Cup Australia/New Zealand 2023, where she was the goalkeeper with the most saves in the group stage (28). In RTWGC, she made 7 saves in 3 matches, conceded 2 goals, and kept 1 clean sheet.

María Paula Salas. Scored 7 goals and had 10 shots on goal in the 19-0 victory against Saint Kitts, which helped Costa Rica qualify for the group stage of the Concacaf W Gold Cup.

Raquel Rodríguez. The team captain scored 3 goals and provided 3 assists in the victories (11-0 and 0-19) against Saint Kitts in Group C of League A. Rodríguez ended RTWGC with 20 shots. In addition to scoring 3 goals, she had 5 shots on goal, with 3 hitting the posts and 9 being deflected.

Melissa Herrera. Scored 4 of Costa Rica's 29 goals in RTWGC 2024, including a hat-trick, and provided 7 assists. In the 19-0 victory against Saint Kitts and Nevis, she contributed with 5 assists.



Paraguay (PAR)

Qualification for the Concacaf W Gold Cup: Fourth Place in the CONMEBOL Copa America 2022.

Record in the 2022 CONMEBOL Copa America: GP-6 W-4 D-0 L-2 (GF-10 GA-12).

Top scorers in the CONMEBOL Copa America: Jessica Martínez (3), Rebeca M. Fernández Valiente (2).

Participations in the FIFA Women's World Cup (0).

Players to watch:

Jessica Martínez. Scored 3 goals in 5 appearances and was selected in the Best XI in the CONMEBOL Copa America Colombia 2022. Scored 4 goals in 4 appearances in the Chile 2023 Pan American Games.

Lice Chamorro. Scored 1 goal against Ecuador in the Copa America Femenina Colombia 2022. In the playoffs for the FIFA Women's World Cup 2023, she scored a goal against Chinese Taipei.



Rebeca Fernández. Scored goals against Chile and Bolivia in the CONMEBOL Copa America Colombia 2022. In the Chile 2023 Pan American Games, she scored 4 goals against Jamaica, Paraguay, and Costa Rica (2).

Alicia Bobadilla. Played in 6 matches in the Copa America Colombia 2022 and kept a clean sheet against Bolivia. Participated in the playoffs for the FIFA Women's World Cup Australia/New Zealand 2023 against Chinese Taipei and Panama.

