

## 2024 CONCACAF W Gold Cup

## Canada vs. El Salvador / Group C

Shell Energy Stadium, Houston, TX February 22

Canada and El Salvador will face each other for the first time at the senior level in a Concacaf competition.

Canada won their last three friendly matches: 2-0 against Brazil (goals by Jordyn Huitema and Deanne Rose), 5-0 (Nichelle Prince x2, Cloé Lacasse, Simisola Awujo, and Adriana Leon), and 1-0 (Quinn) against Australia. Canada has won 4 of their last 5 matches (only losing to Brazil 0-1 in an international friendly in October 2023).

Canada's last draw was in their debut in the FIFA Women's World Cup Australia/New Zealand (0-0) against Nigeria in Melbourne. Since then, they have had 6 wins and 2 losses.

**Brenda Cerén**, the hero in El Salvador's qualification for the Concacaf W Gold Cup by scoring three goals in the victory against Guatemala, has scored from penalty kicks in El Salvador's last 3 wins. She scored goals against Martinique (0-2) and Nicaragua (4-1) and a hat-trick in the Prelims.

El Salvador has 8 consecutive victories across all competitions (including RTWGC 2024, Prelims, and the 2023 Central American and Caribbean Games).

## Canada (CAN)

**Qualification for the Concacaf W Gold Cup:** Winner of the Concacaf playoff against Jamaica for the Paris 2024 Olympic Games.

Record in the Concacaf W 2022: GP-5 W-4 D-0 L-1 (GF-12 GA-1).

Top scorers in the Concacaf W 2022: Jessie Fleming (3), Julia Grosso (3).

**Participations in the FIFA Women's World Cup: 8** (Sweden 1995, USA 1999, 2003, China 2007, Germany 2011, Canada 2015, France 2019, Australia/New Zealand 2023).

**Participations in the Olympic Games: 4** (Beijing 2008, London 2012, Rio 2016, Tokyo 2020).

Players to watch:



**Jessie Fleming:** Played in all 7 matches for Canada in the Concacaf W 2022, scoring 3 goals (including both games in the playoff against Jamaica). She has scored 19 goals in 123 international appearances.

**Ashley Lawrence:** Has scored 8 goals in 126 international appearances. Played in all 3 matches in the FIFA Women's World Cup 2023, as well as featuring in the Concacaf W 2022 and the playoff against Jamaica.

**Jordyn Huitema:** Has scored 18 goals in 73 international appearances. Participated in the last 2 editions of the FIFA Women's World Cup: one match in France 2019 and 3 matches in Australia/New Zealand 2023. Played in all 7 matches of the Concacaf W 2022 and scored 2 goals (including the playoff against Jamaica).

**Julia Grosso:** Has scored 3 goals in her 57 international appearances. Played in the last 2 editions of the FIFA Women's World Cup (France 2019 and Australia/New Zealand 2023). Scored 3 goals and provided 1 assist in the Concacaf W 2022 in Mexico, where she won the Golden Boot Award for having played fewer minutes among the 4 players who scored 3 goals.



**Qualification for the Concacaf W Gold Cup:** Defeated Guatemala 3-1 in the Prelims with three goals from Brenda Cerén, while Ana Martínez scored for Guatemala, at Dignity Health Sports Park, Carson, on February 17, 2024.

Record in RTWGC 2024: GP-6 W-6 D-0 L-0 (GF-24 GA-2).

**Top scorers in RTWGC 2024:** Brenda Cerén (5), Danya Gutiérrez (4), Samaria Gómez (4), Danielle Fuentes (4), Victoria Sánchez (3).

**Assists:** Brenda Cerén (3), Victoria Sánchez (2), Andrea Amaya (2), Danielle Fuentes (1), Samaria Gómez.

How the goals were scored: From open play (16), Penalty kicks (3), headers (3), free kicks (1), own goal (1).

Scoring opportunities created: 119. Shots on target: 51.

Saves: 11. Goalkeepers: Idalia Serrano (11), Samantha Valadez (0). Clean sheets: 4.

**Biggest victory:** 9-1 vs. Martinique (League B / Group B - Round 2).

## Players to watch:

**Brenda Cerén:** Scored a hat-trick after 10 shots in the 3-1 victory against Guatemala. Was the top scorer in RTWGC with 5 goals. Scored a goal every 5 shots in RTWGC, where she finished with 25 shots and 3 assists in 6 appearances.

**Danielle Fuentes:** Took 4 shots against Guatemala in the Prelims and completed 49 successful passes with 8 recoveries.



**Victoria Sánchez:** Achieved a 96% passing accuracy in the victory against Guatemala in the Prelims. Scored 3 goals and provided 2 assists in her 6 appearances in RTWGC 2024. Scored 1 goal in 4 appearances in the qualifiers for the Concacaf W 2022.

**Idalia Serrano:** Ended the night with 6 saves in the victory against Guatemala in the Prelims. Has recorded 11 saves, 4 clean sheets, and 15 clearances (2 goals conceded) in 6 appearances throughout the journey to reach the group stage of the Concacaf W Gold Cup.

