

#82 Honduras vs. Mexico

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They will face off for the third time in the Concacaf Nations League.

The two previous encounters took place in the quarterfinals of the 2023 edition, where Mexico advanced to the Final Four after a 4-2 win on penalties, following a 2-2 draw on aggregate.

In the first leg, held on November 17, 2023, at the “Chelato Uclés” National Stadium in Tegucigalpa, Honduras, the Catrachos secured a 2-0 win with goals from Antony Lozano (30’) and Bryan Róchez (72’). In the second leg at the Azteca Stadium in Mexico City on November 21, 2023, Mexico responded with a 2-0 victory, courtesy of a stunning free-kick from Luis Chávez (43’) and a last-minute goal from Édson Álvarez (90+11’), forcing extra time. With the aggregate score still tied, the match went to penalties, where Mexico prevailed.

The second leg of the 2024 Nations League quarterfinals between Mexico and Honduras will be played at the Nemesio Díez Stadium in Toluca, Mexico, on November 19, 2024. This venue has only hosted one previous encounter between the two teams – a 5-0 win for Mexico in a friendly prior to the 1982 FIFA World Cup qualifiers, with goals from Hugo Sánchez (4’, 89’), Agustín Manzo (25’, 88’), and José Luis González (42’).

In their last 10 meetings across all competitions, Mexico has emerged victorious seven times, with two defeats and one draw. Of Mexico’s seven wins, three came in knockout-stage matches: a 1-0 win in the 2017 Gold Cup quarterfinals on July 20 at State Farm Stadium in Glendale (Rodolfo Pizarro 4’), a 3-0 victory on July 24, 2021, in the 2021 Gold Cup quarterfinals at the same venue (Rogelio Funes Mori 26’, Jonathan dos Santos 31’, Orbelín Pineda 38’), and a 2-0 win in the second leg of the 2023/24 Nations League quarterfinals.

Honduras: 11 years without a win on Mexican soil

Honduras last tasted victory in Mexico on September 6, 2013, with a 2-1 win at the Azteca Stadium during the Concacaf qualifiers for the 2014 FIFA World Cup in Brazil. Jerry Bengtson (63’) and Carlo Costly (65’) scored for Honduras, while Oribe Peralta (5’) found the net for Mexico.

More than 11 years have passed since that triumph. In the 14 matches played since, Mexico has claimed nine wins, with three draws and two losses.

All-time series record: 45 matches

- 28 wins for Mexico
- 9 draws
- 8 wins for Honduras

- 83 goals for Mexico
- 31 goals for Honduras

Honduras (HON)

Honduras and Mexico's Thrilling CNL Quarterfinal Battle

Honduras and Mexico delivered one of the most heart-stopping quarterfinal series in CNL history during the 2023-24 edition, with the clash decided by a penalty shootout at Estadio Azteca. Honduras's best CNL performance came in 2019-20 when they secured third place by defeating Costa Rica on penalties in the third-place match.

Honduras has won five of its last six home games in the CNL, with their only recent loss being a 2-1 defeat to Jamaica in Tegucigalpa on Matchday 2 of Group B in the 2024/25 CNL League A.

CNL Record: GP-20 W-10 D-4 L-6 (GF-33 GA-19).

Top Scorers: Edwin Rodríguez (4), Antony Lozano (4), Alberth Elis (3), Brayan Moya (2), Romell Quioto (2), Bryan Róchez (2), Kervin Arriaga (2), David Ruiz-Ochoa (2), Jorge Benguché (2).

Top Assists: Luis Palma (4), Joseph Rosales (2), Alberth Elis (2), Edwin Rodríguez (2), Alexander López (2), Jorge Álvarez (2).

Saves: 39. **Goalkeepers:** Luis López (18), Edrick Menjívar (16), Harold Fonseca (5).

Players to Watch

- **Edrick Menjívar:** In nine CNL appearances, Menjívar has been a solid defensive presence for Honduras with 16 saves and six clean sheets. In the 2024-25 edition, he played three matches, achieving two clean sheets (4-0 vs. Trinidad and 0-0 vs. Jamaica).

- **Antony Lozano:** Lozano led Honduras in shots during the group stage with ten. He scored in the 3-2 victory over French Guiana on Matchday 3 of Group B in League A 2024/25, tying with Edwin Rodríguez as Honduras's top scorer with four goals.

- **Deybi Flores:** Flores led the team in passes (277) during the group stage. The midfielder completed 94% of his passes across four appearances in this edition, scoring one goal and achieving four recoveries.

Mexico (MEX)

Mexico Aims for Fourth CNL Semifinal Appearance

Mexico will look to reach the CNL semifinals for the fourth time. They have played eight matches in final stages, achieving three wins, one draw, and four losses.

Mexico was a finalist in two of the previous three CNL editions (2019/20 and 2023/24, both losses to the United States). They finished in third place in 2022/23 after a 1-0 win over Panama. Mexico won both of its penalty shootouts in CNL history (vs. Costa Rica in the 2019/20 semifinals and vs. Honduras in the 2023/24 quarterfinals).

Mexico scored in every series they've participated in throughout CNL history: Finals (2), Third Place (1), Semifinals (3), and Quarterfinals (2). Luis Chávez and Edson Álvarez scored Mexico's two goals in the 2023/24 quarterfinals (vs. Honduras in the second leg).

CNL Record: GP-16 W-9 D-3 L-4 (GF-29 GA-16).

Top Scorers: José Macías (3), Edson Álvarez (3), Uriel Antuna (2), Hirving Lozano (2), Raúl Jiménez (2), Orbelín Pineda (2).

Top Assists: Roberto Alvarado (2), Hirving Lozano (2), Uriel Antuna (2), Henry Martín (2), Luis Chávez (2).

Saves: 42. **Goalkeepers:** Guillermo Ochoa (25), Ángel Malagón (6), Carlos Acevedo (5), Raúl Gudiño (3), Rodolfo Cota (2), Hugo González (1).

Clean Sheets in History: 6.

Results by Edition: 2019/20 (League A - Runner-up), 2022/23 (League A - Third Place), 2023/24 (Runner-up).

2023/24 CNL Record: GP-4 W-2 D-0 L-2 (GF-5 GA-4). *Qualified directly to the quarterfinals based on Concacaf Ranking as of October 18, 2023 (1st place).

Players to Watch

- **Edson Álvarez:** Scored two goals in the 2023-24 edition, led in passes with 250, and was the second-highest in shots (11) for Mexico.

- **Raúl Jiménez:** Scored two goals in four CNL appearances (both in the inaugural edition). The Fulham (ENG) player has scored once in seven matches against Honduras (Concacaf qualifiers for the 2018 FIFA World Cup).

- **César Huerta:** Scored two goals in his last three appearances (friendlies against New Zealand and the United States). He participated in the 2023/24 CNL and the 2024 Copa América. As a youth player, he competed in the Concacaf U-17 Championship in Panama in 2017 and the FIFA U-17 World Cup.