

## Dep. Saprissa (CRC) vs. Antigua GFC (GUA)

Estadio Ricardo Saprissa Aymá, San Juan de Tibás, CRC Tuesday, October 1st, 2024 22:00 (20:00) \*EDT (Local Time)

They drew 0-0 in the first leg match at Pensativo Stadium, Antigua Guatemala (September 24, 2024).

- 7th 0-0 draw in the history of the CCAC, it's the 2nd that occurs in the first leg of the quarterfinals, after Comunicaciones (GUA) 0-0 CS Herediano (CRC) on September 2, 2023.
- - Dennis Ramírez (GUA) from Antigua GFC became the first footballer to receive a direct red card after a VAR review in the history of the CCAC.
- Antigua GFC (GUA) remains undefeated in the tournament (2W-3D) but has accumulated 2 games without a win (2D).
- It's the 4th goalless draw in international competitions for Antigua GFC (GUA), having previously drawn in the CONCACAF League against Forge FC (CAN) on August 8, 2019, against C.A.I. (PAN) on October 21, 2020, and a goalless draw against New York Red Bulls (USA) in the Champions Cup 2016-2017 on September 27, 2016.
- It's the 4th home draw for Antigua GFC (GUA) in international competitions (4D-1W-1L); in fact, the last home defeat of the "aguacatero" club was against Alianza FC 3x1 (SLV) on October 18, 2016, in Champions Cup 2016-2017.
- - 2nd goalless draw at home for Antigua GFC (GUA) in the tournament; in fact, it's the club with the most 0-0 home draws in the history of the Central American Cup (2).
- Javier López (ESP) is the first European coach to lead a match in the quarterfinals of the competition; indeed, he is the first Spanish coach to manage a club in the knockout phase of the competition.
- Vladimir Quesada (CRC), coach of Saprissa (CRC), reached 13 games directed in the competition with the "Costa Rican" club, moving up to the 2nd place of coaches with the most games directed in the history of the tournament.
- As of the date (September 24, 2024), 3 penalties have been missed in the tournament;
  Luis Morán (GUA) from Antigua GFC (GUA) becomes the first goalkeeper to save a penalty in regular time in the history of the tournament, as the previous penalty was shot outside, and the subsequent one hit the post.
- - 2nd goalless draw for Saprissa (CRC) in the tournament, previously drew 0-0 against Universitario (PAN) on August 23, 2023.
- Saprissa (CRC) had not drawn a goalless match against a Guatemalan club in Guatemala since December 3, 1993 (30 years, 9 months, and 21 days ago), when the game belonging to J02 of the Final Quadrangular for the Champions Cup 1993 title ended 0-0 against CDS Municipal, a game that took place at the Dorotheo Guamuch Flores Stadium in Guatemala City.
- Saprissa (CRC) becomes the first club in the history of the Central American Cup where 2 footballers each missed their penalty shot.

- Saprissa (CRC) becomes the first club to be awarded a penalty after a VAR review in the history of the tournament.
- Saprissa (CRC) continues without being able to win the first leg of the quarterfinals phase in the competition, as the first leg of the 2023 edition against Real Estelí (NCA) was lost 1-0.

## **S Deportivo Saprissa (CRC)**

Deportivo Saprissa won 4 of their last 6 matches in the Central American Cup: 4-0 vs. Motagua (in the 2023 Play-In), 5-0 vs. Guanacasteca, 3-2 vs. Managua, and 1-0 vs. Municipal in Group D of 2024. They have gone 2 matches without losing or conceding goals (1-0 vs. Municipal in Group D and 0-0 vs. Antigua GFC in the first leg of the quarterfinals). Their last loss was an away game against Real Estelí (2-1) in Round 4 of Group D of the 2024 edition.

The four-time champion of Costa Rica will seek to advance past the quarterfinals for the first time after being eliminated by Real Estelí in 2023. They have not won in 3 matches across the two editions (2 draws, 1 loss).

Deportivo Saprissa was the team that scored the most header goals (5) in the 2023 edition. In the 2024 edition, they have scored 10 goals, none from headers (7 from open play, 1 from a penalty, and 1 own goal). The 5 goals conceded in the 2024 CCAC were all in the first half.

Deportivo Saprissa won their last 3 home games without conceding: 4-0 vs. Motagua (Ariel Rodríguez, Kendall Waston, Orlando Sinclair, and Luis Paradela) in the 2023 Play-in, 5-0 vs. Guanacasteca (Javon East, Luis Díaz, Orlando Sinclair, Jefferson Brenes, and Mariano Torres), and 1-0 vs. Municipal (Ariel Rodríguez) in Group D of 2024.

They remain unbeaten at home in the CCAC (5 wins, 1 draw), conceding goals in only 1 match (2-2 vs. Real Estelí in the 2023 semifinals).

They have not conceded goals in the 3 previous matches against Guatemalan rivals in the history of the CCAC (2 wins, 1 draw). They also won all 3 home games against teams from Guatemala: 5-0 vs. Cobán Imperial in 2023 and 1-0 vs. Municipal in 2024.

Participations in the CCAC: 2 (2023 and 2024).

Best result in the CCAC: Quarterfinals 2023 and 2024.

**CCAC record**: Played 13, Won 7, Drawn 4, Lost 2 (Goals For 28, Goals Against 9). \*Includes Playin matches.

**Top scorers in the CCAC**: Javon East (JAM) 6, Ariel Rodríguez (CRC) 6, Orlando Sinclair (CRC) 5, Jefferson Brenes (CRC) 3, Michaell Chirinos (HON) 2.

Assists: Javon East (JAM) 4, Jorkaeff Azofeifa (CRC) 2, Ariel Rodríguez (CRC) 2, Ulises Segura (CRC) 2, Mariano Torres (ARG) 2, Orlando Sinclair (CRC) 1, Jefferson Brenes (CRC), Kendall Waston (CRC), Michaell Chirinos (HON), David Guzmán (CRC), Jeffry Valverde (CRC).

Players with the most appearances in the CCAC: Esteban Alvarado, Javon East (13 matches), Jefry Valverde (12), Ariel Rodríguez, Fidel Escobar (11), Orlando Sinclair, Youstin Salas (10), Pablo Arboine, Ulises Segura, Kendall Waston, Kliver Gómez, Jefferson Brenes (9), Jorkaeff Azofeifa, David Guzmán (8).

Saves: Esteban Alvarado (CRC) 46 (12 in the 2024 edition).

**Highest scoring victories**: 5-0 vs. Cobán Imperial (Ariel Rodríguez, Javon East x2, and Orlando Sinclair), Group A (Round 5) - 2023 Central American Cup, Ricardo Saprissa Stadium, San Juan (August 29, 2023); 5-0 vs. Guanacasteca (Javon East, Luis Díaz, Orlando Sinclair, Jefferson Brenes, and Mariano Torres), Group D (Round 1) - 2024 Central American Cup, Ricardo Saprissa Stadium, San Juan (July 31, 2024).

CCAC 2024 record: Played 5, Won 3, Drawn 1, Lost 1 (Goals For 10, Goals Against 4).

**Top scorers**: Jefferson Brenes (CRC) 2, Ariel Rodríguez (CRC) 2, Javon East (JAM) 2, Mariano Torres (ARG) 1, Luis Díaz (CRC), Orlando Sinclair (CRC).

Assists: Javon East (JAM) 2, Mariano Torres (ARG) 2, Jefry Valverde (CRC), Ariel Rodríguez (CRC).

Scoring opportunities (62). Shots on target (26).

**Youngest scorer in the CCAC**: Warren Madrigal (CRC) 19 years, 3 months, and 2 days (vs. Motagua - Play-In 2023).

**Oldest scorer in the CCAC**: Mariano Torres (ARG) 37 years, 2 months, and 12 days (vs. AD Guanacasteca - Group D 2024).

Fastest goal: Javon East vs. AD Guanacasteca (13 seconds - Group D 2024).

Participations in quarterfinals: 2 (2023, eliminated by Real Estelí).

Quarterfinal record: Played 3, Won 0, Drawn 2, Lost 1 (Goals For 2, Goals Against 3).

Quarterfinal top scorers: Javon East (JAM) 1, Orlando Sinclair (CRC).

## Players to watch:

**Javon East (JAM)**. Made 3 shots in the first leg against Antigua GFC. The Jamaican forward has scored two goals and provided two assists in the 2024 CCAC. East has six goals and 4 assists in 13 matches.

**Jefferson Brenes (CRC)**. Made 3 shots, 65 passes, and 4 ball recoveries in the first match. He has scored 2 goals in the 2024 CCAC (vs. Guanacasteca and Managua) and leads the team in shots (11). The midfielder has scored three goals and has one assist in the CCAC.

**Ariel Rodríguez (CRC)**. Scored goals in the last 2 group stage matches (penalty vs. Real Estelí in week 4 and from open play vs. Municipal in week 5). The forward has scored 6 goals and 2 assists in 10 matches. Missed a penalty in the first leg against Antigua GFC."



Club Deportivo Antigua GFC is undefeated in their debut tournament in the CCAC (2 wins, 3 draws), where they have faced teams from Belize, El Salvador, Panama, Honduras, and Costa Rica.

Antigua GFC kept a clean sheet in the first quarterfinal match and managed to recover from the red card of Dennis Ramirez and two missed penalties by Deportivo Saprissa (one saved and one hit the post).

They drew in their last two matches (1-1 vs. Olimpia in Group C and 0-0 vs. Saprissa in the quarterfinals).

The team, coached by Spanish manager Javier López, scored goals in three away matches (4-1 vs. Port Layola and 1-1 vs. Olimpia, both in Group C 2024).

The last six goals scored in the CCAC were all in the second half. José Ardón, who scored the first goal against Port Layola (Round 1), marked the only goal in the first period. In their previous 5 matches, they never managed to lead at halftime.

Additionally, they did not concede any goals during the last half hour of play. The 3 goals allowed were from open play.

Record in the CCAC: Played 5, Won 2, Drawn 3, Lost 0 (Goals For 7, Goals Against 3).

**Top scorers in the CCAC**: José Ardón (GUA) 3, Santiago Manuel Gómez (ARG) 2, Dennis Ramírez (GUA) 1, Romario da Silva (BRA).

**Assists in the CCAC**: Romario da Silva (BRA) 3, José Gálvez (GUA) 1, Cristian Hernández (ARG), José Espinoza (GUA).

Players with the most appearances in the CCAC: Luis Morán, José Ardón, Ángel Díaz, José Gálvez, Robinson Flores, Romario Da Silva, Dewinder Bradley (5 matches), Ditter Lang, Óscar Castellanos, Alexander Robinson, Santiago Gómez, Cristian Hernández, José Espinoza, Dennis Ramírez (4), Guillermo Carbonell, Brandon De León (3).

Saves: Luis Morán (GUA) 16.

Goal types in the CCAC 2024: Open play (5), Header (2).

**Scoring opportunities** (58). Shots on target (19).

**Youngest scorer**: Dennis Ramírez (GUA) - 22 years, 11 months, and 11 days (vs. Port Layola - Round 1 - Group C 2024).

**Oldest scorer**: Romario da Silva (BRA) - 34 years, 5 months, and 9 days (vs. CAI - Round 3 - Group C - 2024).

Fastest goal: José Ardón (GUA) vs. Port Layola - Round 1 - Group C 2024 (13 MIN 26 SEC).

Hat-trick: José Ardón (GUA) vs. Port Layola - Round 1 - Group C 2024.

## Players to watch:

**Luis Morán (GUA)**. He had a brilliant performance in the first leg against Saprissa where he kept a clean sheet and made 5 saves (including a penalty saved from Ariel Rodríguez). The goalkeeper has kept clean sheets in 4 out of 10 Concacaf club tournaments.

**Romario da Silva (BRA**). He has been involved in 4 of the 7 goals for Antigua GFC in the CCCAC (1 goal vs. CAI and 3 assists). He was the leading assist provider for Antigua GFC in the group stage with (3). He took 11 shots and has played in 100% of the matches in his debut tournament.

**José Espinoza (GUA**). He took the most shots (2) and was closest to scoring against Deportivo Saprissa (1 shot on goal and 1 hit the post). The midfielder has played in 4 matches."