

The logo for the Concacaf Gold Cup Prelims. It features the word "Concacaf" in white, "GOLD CUP" in large yellow letters, and "PRELIMS" in white, all on a dark blue background.

Concacaf GOLD CUP PRELIMS

TRINIDAD & TOBAGO vs. CUBA

Ato Boldon Stadium

Cuba suffered their second defeat in the Gold Cup Prelims, having previously been handed a forfeit loss against French Guiana in 2021 after failing to show up due to visa issues with their players.

Yasniel Matos (CUB) scored the first goal of the Gold Cup Prelims and netted his third career goal in 31 international appearances.

Cuba are now winless in their last five matches against Trinidad & Tobago across all competitions (2 draws, 3 losses). The last Cuban win over the "Soca Warriors" dates back to December 16, 2012, in the Final of the Caribbean Zone qualifiers for the 2013 Gold Cup, with a 1-0 victory thanks to a goal from Marcel Hernández in the 113th minute.

Trinidad & Tobago recorded their second-ever victory on Cuban soil, the first coming on August 20, 2008, during the qualifiers for the 2010 FIFA World Cup in South Africa, when they won 3-1 (Jeniél Márquez 88' / Keon Daniel 22', 61', Cornell Glen 69') – 16 years, 7 months, and 1 day ago.

This was the 8th meeting between the two sides in Gold Cup qualifying matches. It marked Trinidad & Tobago's third win in this type of contest:

- 3-1 on January 20, 2007, in the semifinal in Port of Spain (own goal by Jenier Molina 41', Gary Glasgow 57', Densill Theobald 73' / Leonel Duarte 76')
- 1-0 on November 18, 2012, in Group 8 play in Scarborough (Ataullah Guerra 67')
- 2-1 on March 21, 2025, in the first leg of the Prelims in Santiago de Cuba (Yasniel Matos 6' / Isaiah Lee 20', Steffen Yeates 53')

Trinidad & Tobago remain unbeaten in Gold Cup Prelims (2 wins, 1 draw). They previously defeated Montserrat 6-1 and drew 1-1 with French Guiana, both in 2021.

Isaiah Lee (TRI) scored his first-ever Gold Cup Prelims goal, which also marked his first international goal. His teammate Steffen Yeates also opened his Prelims scoring account.

This was Trinidad & Tobago's fourth 2-1 victory over Cuba in their head-to-head history. The last time the Soca Warriors defeated Cuba by that scoreline was in a friendly on November 19, 2003, in Port of Spain. On that day, Aurtis Whitley (12') and a

Jeniél Márquez own goal (23') gave the home side the win, while Maykel Galindo (47') scored for the Cubans – 21 years, 4 months, and 2 days ago.



Gold Cup Appearances: (12) (1991, 1996, 1998, 2000, 2002, 2005, 2007, 2013, 2015, 2019, 2021, 2023)

Gold Cup Record: 39 GP 10-W 11-D 18-L (53 GF – 71 GA)

Best Gold Cup Result: 3rd Place (2000)

Top Scorers in the Gold Cup: Arnold Dwarika (4), Kevin Molino (4), Kenwyne Jones (4), Stern John (3), Russell Latapy (3), Reon Moore (3)

Most Appearances in the Gold Cup: Aubrey David (14), Joevin Jones (14), Kevin Molino (13), Marvin Andrews (11), Alvin Jones (11), Khaleem Hyland (10), Angus Eve (10), Kenwyne Jones (10)

Most Saves in the Gold Cup (2009–2025): Marvin Phillip (33), Nicklas Frenderup (18), Jan Williams (15)

Most Assists in the Gold Cup (2009–2025): Kenwyne Jones (3), Khaleem Hyland (2), Duane Muckette (2), Levi García (2), Neveal Hackshaw (2)

Players to Watch:

Isaiah Lee. Found the back of the net with the equalizer in the 2-1 win over Cuba in the first leg of the Preliminary Round. The forward has Gold Cup experience, having played minutes against Guatemala in the 2021 edition.

Alvin Jones. Delivered the assist to Steffen Yeates for the winning goal against Cuba at the Antonio Maceo Stadium in Santiago de Cuba. The defender also recorded 1 shot, 25 successful passes, and 1 ball recovery in the Prelims first leg.

Joevin Jones. The captain boasts 93 caps, 14 goals, and 8 assists. He has featured in 4 Gold Cup editions (2013, 2015, 2019, and 2023), scoring against Guatemala in 2015. He is also the team's all-time top scorer in the CNL with 5 goals.

Andre Rampersad. Led the team in shots (2) against Cuba. The HFX Wanderers (CAN) midfielder is nearing his 20th international cap. His lone international goal came at the 2023 Gold Cup in Group A play against Jamaica.



Gold Cup Appearances: (11) (1998, 2002, 2003, 2005, 2007, 2011, 2013, 2015, 2019, 2021, 2023)

Note: In 2021, Cuba did not play their Prelims match against French Guiana due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Gold Cup Record: 31 GP 3-W 2-D 26-L (22 GF – 108 GA)

Best Gold Cup Result: Quarterfinals (2003, 2013, 2015)

Top Scorers in the Gold Cup: Léster Oriel Moré (3), Ariel Martínez (3), Reynier Alcántara (2), José Alfonso (2), Jeniel Márquez (2), Maykel Reyes (2)

Most Appearances in the Gold Cup: Jeniel Márquez (20), Odelín Molina (16), Alain Cervantes (13)

Most Saves in the Gold Cup (2009–2025): Odelín Molina (26), Sandy Sánchez (23), Diosvelis Guerra (20)

Most Assists in the Gold Cup (2009–2025): Alberto Gómez (2), Ariel Martínez (1), Liban Pérez (1), Jaime Colomé Valencia (1), Maykel Reyes (1)

Players to Watch:

Maykel Reyes. Delivered the assist for the opening goal in the 2-1 loss to Trinidad and Tobago. The captain has played in 8 Gold Cup matches (2015, 2019, 2023) and scored in two editions—against Guatemala in 2015 and Canada in 2023.

Onel Hernández. Has 4 goals and 2 assists in 13 caps for the national team. The Norwich City (ENG) striker featured in the 2022/23 and 2024/25 Concacaf Nations League campaigns and scored in both editions.

Yasnier Matos. Scored Cuba's lone goal against Trinidad and Tobago in the 2025 Gold Cup Prelims. The CSD Municipal (GUA) forward recorded 2 shots in the first leg (1 on target and 1 goal). He also played 168 minutes in the 2023 Gold Cup.

Alejandro Delgado. Led the team in total passes (59) during the series against Trinidad and Tobago. The midfielder posted 80% passing accuracy, added 1 shot, and made 1 ball recovery.