



Olimpia (HON) vs. CAI (PAN)

GROUP C

Estadio Nacional Chelato Uclés, Tegucigalpa

1-AGO

They will face each other for the second time in the Central American Cup.

In their previous match, CAI drew 1-1 in Group B on August 2, 2023, at the National Stadium in Tegucigalpa with a goal from Carlos Small (51') and Jorge Benguché for Olimpia at 64'.

Olimpia's last official match in international tournaments was on August 29, 2023, against Xelajú (GUA) in Group B of the 2023 Central American Cup, winning 2-0 with goals from José Mario Pinto (44') and Yustin Arboleda (54'), while the Panamanian club's last official international match was in the second leg of the semifinals of the 2023 Central American Cup against Real Estelí FC (NCA) on November 2, 2023, drawing 2-2 with goals from Rafael Águila (14') and Davis Contreras (63') for CAI, and Bancy Hernández (46') and Arley Bonilla (81') for the Nicaraguan club, who won the series by better aggregate score 3-2.



CD Olimpia (HON)

CD Olimpia will play its second Central American Cup after winning the 2023 Apertura tournament in Honduras. The current champion of Honduras had a strong start to the 2024 season, defeating Génesis FC 3-0 away with goals from Yustin Arboleda, José Mario Pinto, and Jerry Bengtson.

CD Olimpia holds the record for the most titles in Honduras with 38. Its coach, Argentine Pedro Troglio, has won 9 trophies, including one international when he led the team to win the Scotiabank Concacaf League in 2022.

In its first appearance, Olimpia was eliminated in the group stage, outperformed by CAI and Real Estelí. It won its last two matches in the tournament's history (2-4 vs. FAS and 2-0 vs. Xelajú).

CD Olimpia previously won the Concacaf Champions Cup in 1972 and 1988 and the Scotiabank Concacaf League in 2017 and 2022.

Qualification: Champion of the 2023 Apertura and the 2024 Clausura tournaments in Honduras.

Appearances in the Central American Cup: 2 (2023 and 2024).

Best result in the CCAC: Group stage in 2023.

Record in the CCAC: 4 games played, 2 wins, 1 draw, 1 loss (7GF-4GA).

Top scorers in the CCAC: Jorge Benguché (HON) 3, Carlos Pineda (HON) 1, Kevin López (HON) 1, Yustin Arboleda (COL) 1, José Pinto (HON) 1.

Assists in the CCAC: Yustin Arboleda (COL) 2, Edwin Rodríguez (HON) 1, José Pinto (HON) 1, Edwin Solano (HON) 1, Jhonatan Paz (HON) 1, Carlos Sánchez (HON) 1.

Players with the most appearances in the CCAC: Jorge Álvarez, Edwin Solano, José Pinto, Maylor Núñez, Edrick Menjívar, Jorge Benguché, Yustin Arboleda (4 games).

Saves: Edrick Menjívar (HON) 12.

Players to watch:

Yustin Arboleda (COL). He has scored 8 goals in his 23 appearances in Concacaf club tournaments, including his previous participations with Universitario and CD Marathón. He scored 1 goal in his 4 matches of the 2023 Central American Cup with Olimpia. He was crucial in the latest national trophies with 17 goals scored in 41 appearances in the 2023/24 season (second top scorer of the 2024 Clausura in Honduras with 11).

Jerry Bengtson (HON). The captain and forward of the Leones have an extensive track record in Concacaf club tournaments with 10 goals scored in 36 matches. He is also just 7 goals away from taking over the goal-scoring record of Wilmer Velásquez in the National League of Honduras (189 against 196 by Velásquez, former Olimpia player).



CA Independiente (PAN)

Club Independiente won 2-1 against San Francisco in their last match of the Panamanian league with goals from Anthony Stewart and Davis Contreras. They are tied in second place in the Western group with Universitario, each having six points.

Club Atlético Independiente returns to the Central American Cup after winning the 2023 Apertura in Panama

CAI was eliminated in the semifinals of the inaugural edition by Real Estelí with a 3-2 aggregate score (1-0 and 2-2).

Carlos Small, currently playing for Real España (Honduras), is the team's top scorer in the Central American Cup with 5 goals.

CAI was one of the clubs with the most penalty goals (2) in the first edition of the tournament, alongside Herediano and Cartaginés.

Qualification: Champion of the 2023 Clausura Tournament in Panama.

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

Best result in the CCAC: Semifinals in 2023.

Record in the CCAC: 8 games played, 4 wins, 3 draws, 1 loss (16GF-7GA).

Top scorers in the CCAC: Carlos Small (PAN) 5, Jorge Serrano (PAN) 2, Rafael Águila (PAN) 2, Víctor Ávila (PAN) 1, Gilberto Hernández (PAN) 1, Héctor Hurtado (PAN) 1, Anthony Stewart (PAN) 1, Jefferson Murillo (COL) 1, Ángel Valverde (PAN) 1, Davis Contreras (PAN) 1.

Assists in the CCAC: Marlon Ávila (PAN) 2, Víctor Ávila (PAN) 2, Jorge Serrano (PAN) 1, Rafael Águila (PAN) 1, Sergio Cunningham (PAN) 1, Jefferson Murillo (COL) 1, Carlos Small (PAN) 1.

Players with the most appearances in the CCAC: Eddie Roberts, Sergio Ramírez, Sergio Cunningham, Rafael Águila, Héctor Hurtado, Jorge Serrano, Carlos Small, Orman Davis, Víctor Ávila (8 games), Jefferson Murillo, Marlo Ávila (7 games), Davis Contreras (6 games).

Saves: Eddie Roberts (PAN) 33.

Players to watch:

Eddie Roberts (PAN). He was the second goalkeeper with the most saves (33) in the 2023 Central American Cup. He made 6 saves in the quarterfinals (vs. Motagua) and 7 in the semifinals (vs. Real Estelí).

Héctor Hurtado (PAN). The midfielder was the third player with the most passes (333) behind Celso Borges (Alajuelense) who led with 477 and Marlon López (Real Estelí) with 336 in the inaugural edition of the tournament. He was the second player with the most recovered balls (19) behind Ebert Martínez (Real Estelí) who finished with 22.