

# Concacaf GOLD CUP PRELIMS

## MARTINIQUE vs. SURINAME

Stade Municipal Pierre-Aliker

Suriname celebrated their first-ever win in the Gold Cup Prelims, with Gyran Kerk scoring the historic opening goal – his first in six international appearances.

This victory also marked Surinam's first official win over Martinique. Their only two previous triumphs had come in friendlies: a 3-1 win on April 11, 1968, and a 7-0 rout on September 30, 1968.

With the result, Suriname snapped an eight-match winless streak against Martinique (3 losses, 5 draws) and maintained their unbeaten record against the same opponent in Paramaribo across all competitions (2 wins, 1 draw). That includes a 7-0 friendly on September 29, 1968, a 0-0 draw a day later, and now a 1-0 win on March 21, 2025, in the first leg of the Gold Cup Prelims.

Martinique saw their two-match winning streak in the Prelims come to an end and failed to score for the first time in this stage.

This was the fourth meeting between Suriname and Martinique in Gold Cup qualifying history, with each side now claiming one victory and two matches ending in draws. Martinique's lone win came on November 8, 2006, during the group stage on the road to the 2007 Gold Cup, when Rodrigue Audel scored in the 61st minute. Surinam's win came in the 2025 Prelims. The two draws were on September 9, 2012 (2-2 – Kévin Parsemain 3', Djenhael Mainge 22' for Martinique; Ronny Aloema 25' pen., Donovan Loswijk 90+2' for Surinam) and on September 7, 2014 (0-0).

The 1-0 scoreline between these two sides has only occurred twice: Martinique's win on November 8, 2006 (Rodrigue Audel 61'), and Surinam's win on March 21, 2025 (Gyran Kerk 52').

Suriname managed to keep a clean sheet against Martinique for just the fourth time in 14 all-time meetings across all competitions – two goalless draws (September 30, 1968, and September 7, 2014) and two wins (7-0 in 1968, and 1-0 in 2025).

Martinique's loss ended a three-match unbeaten run in all competitions (1 win, 2 draws) and marked their second defeat in their last five outings (2 losses, 1 win, 2 draws). On the other hand, Surinam ended a two-match losing skid in all competitions.

Suriname had not won an official home match in Paramaribo by a 1-0 scoreline since defeating the Cayman Islands on September 2, 2011, in the qualifiers for the 2014

FIFA World Cup in Brazil. That day, Friso Mando scored from the spot in the 11th minute – 13 years, 6 months, and 19 days ago.



**Gold Cup Appearances: (8)** (1993, 2002, 2003, 2013, 2017, 2019, 2021, 2023)

**Gold Cup Record:** 26 GP 7-W 2-D 17-L (31 GF – 60 GA)

**Best Gold Cup Result:** Quarterfinals (2002)

**Top Scorers in the Gold Cup:** Kevin Parsemain (5), Kévin Fortuné (3), Patrick Burner (3), Emmanuel Rivière (2)

**Most Appearances in the Gold Cup:** Daniel Herelle (14), Stéphane Abaul (10), Kevin Parsemain (9), Jean-Sylvain Babin (9), Sébastien Crétinoir (9), Kévin Fortuné (9), Johnny Marajo (8), Jordy Delem (7), Christof Jougon (7), Karl Vitulin (7)

**Most Saves in the Gold Cup (2009–2025):** Kévin Olimpa (25), Loic Chauvet (19), Yannis Clementia (15)

**Most Assists in the Gold Cup (2009–2025):** Johan Audel (3), Kevin Fortune (2), Florent Poulolo (2), Enrick Reuperné (2), Stéphane Abaul (2), Cyril Mandouki (2)

#### **Players to Watch:**

**Brighton Labeau.** Fired off a shot in the loss to Suriname. The captain featured in all 3-group stage matches of the 2023 Gold Cup, scoring once against Costa Rica. He also played in the 2023 Prelims, netting goals against Saint Lucia and Puerto Rico.

**Florent Poulolo.** Completed 67% of his clearances against Suriname (4 of 6). He also delivered 28 accurate passes (97% completion rate) and recorded 1 ball recovery in the first leg of the 2025 Prelims.

**Enrick Reuperné.** Has played in 9 Gold Cup matches for Martinique (3 in Group B of 2021, 2 in the 2023 Prelims, 3 in the 2023 group stage, and 1 in the 2025 Prelims).

**Johnny Marajo.** Has scored 2 goals in 31 international appearances with Martinique. The striker played 71 minutes in the first leg against Suriname before being subbed off for Tarik Cavelan.



**Gold Cup Appearances: (2)** (2021, 2023)

**Gold Cup Record:** 5 GP 2-W 1-D 2-L (4 GF – 5 GA)

**Best Gold Cup Result:** Group stage (2021)

**Top Scorers in the Gold Cup:** Gleofilo Vlijter (2), Nigel Hasselbaink (1), Gyrano Kerk (1)

**Most Appearances in the Gold Cup:** Warner Hahn (5), Sheraldo Becker (4), Diego Biseswar (4), Kelvin Leerdam (4), Dion Malone (4), Gleofilo Vlijter (4), Ridgeciano Haps (4)

**Most Saves in the Gold Cup (2009–2025):** Warner Hahn (11)

**Most Assists in the Gold Cup (2009–2025):** Ivenzo Comvalius (2), Damil Dankerlui (1)

#### **Players to Watch:**

**Gleofilo Vlijter.** Took 3 shots against Martinique in the 2025 Prelims (including a missed penalty). He scored 2 goals in his 3 matches at the 2023 Gold Cup (vs. Costa Rica and Guadeloupe in Group C). Vlijter is the all-time top scorer for Suriname in CNL history with 12 goals.

**Gyrano Kerk.** The Royal Antwerp FC (BEL) striker came up clutch with the game-winner in the 1-0 win over Martinique in the Preliminary Round first leg. He has 6 caps for the national team, with 1 goal and 2 assists.

**Ridgeciano Haps.** Completed 33 passes, took 1 shot, and made 2 clearances in the first leg against Martinique. The Venezia FC (ITA) defender appeared in 3 group stage matches at the 2021 Gold Cup. He has 2 goals and 4 assists in 20 international appearances.

**Warner Hahn.** Came up big with 1 save and 1 clearance to preserve the clean sheet in the 1-0 win over Martinique. The goalkeeper has 3 group stage appearances at the Gold Cup and 2 more in the Prelims.