

# Mexico vs. Panama

SoFi Stadium

**This will be the 5th meeting between these two teams in the Concacaf Nations League, with Mexico winning all four previous encounters.**

**October 15, 2019** – MEX 3x1 PAN, Group B (Roberto Alvarado 28', José Juan Macías 75', Rodolfo Pizarro 90+2' / Carlos Salcedo own goal 42').

**November 15, 2019** – PAN 0-3 MEX, Group B (Raúl Jiménez 8', penalty 85', Édson Álvarez 70').

**June 18, 2023** – PAN 0-1 MEX, Third Place (Jesús Gallardo 4').

**March 21, 2024** – PAN 0-3 MEX, Semifinal (Édson Álvarez 40', Julián Quiñones 43', Orbelín Pineda 67').

**This will be their second final in a Concacaf-organized tournament, the first being the 2023 Gold Cup final at SoFi Stadium in Los Angeles, where Mexico claimed a 1-0 victory thanks to Santiago Giménez's 88th-minute goal, securing its 12th Gold Cup title.**

**Panama is the Central American team with the most final appearances in Concacaf tournaments, having played three Gold Cup finals (2005, 2013, 2023). Now, it will become the first Central American team to contest the Nations League final.** Meanwhile, for Mexico, this will be their **17th final**, of which **15 were in the Gold Cup (12 titles, 3 runner-up finishes) and 2 in the Nations League (2 runner-up finishes).**

**Mexico holds a 15-match unbeaten streak against Panama in all competitions (13W-2D), their longest streak without defeat in this rivalry.** Panama's only two victories over Mexico came **just before this streak began**, both in the **2013 Gold Cup**:

- **Group Stage (July 7, 2013)** – MEX 1-2 PAN (Marco Fabián 45' / Gabriel Torres penalty 7', 48').
- **Semifinal (July 24, 2013)** – MEX 1-2 PAN (Luis Montes 25' / Blas Pérez 12', Román Torres 60').

Before those two Panamanian wins, Mexico had a **13-game unbeaten streak against Panama (9W-4D) from 1938 to 2013.**

**Mexico's biggest wins in the series:**

- **MEX 7-1 PAN**, FIFA World Cup Qualifier for Korea & Japan 2002 (September 3, 2000, Estadio Azteca) – Víctor Ruíz p20', José Manuel Abundis 35', Miguel

Zepeda 44', Cuauhtémoc Blanco penalty 47', 90+1', Rafa Márquez 54', Ramón Ramírez 75' / Julio Dely Valdés 48'.

- **MEX 5x0 PAN**, FIFA World Cup Qualifier for Germany 2006 (September 7, 2005, Estadio Azteca) – Luis Pérez 31', Rafa Márquez 54', Jared Borgetti 59', Francisco Fonseca 75', Pavel Pardo 76'.

**Historical series:** 30 matches

- **22 wins, 57 goals – Mexico**
- **6 draws**
- **2 wins, 16 goals – Panama**

## **Mexico (MEX)**

**Results by edition:** 2019/20 (League A - Runner-up), 2022/23 (League A - 3rd Place), 2023/24 (Runner-up).

**Concacaf Nations League record:** P-19 W-11 D-3 L-5 (35GF - 18GC).

**Top scorers:** Raúl Jiménez (5), José Macías (3), Henry Martín (3), Edson Álvarez (3), Uriel Antuna (2), Hirving Lozano (2), Orbelín Pineda (2).

**Top assists:** Roberto Alvarado (2), Hirving Lozano (2), Uriel Antuna (2), Henry Martín (2), Luis Chávez (2), Raúl Jiménez (2).

**Saves in CNL:** 48. **Goalkeepers:** Guillermo Ochoa (28), Luis Malagón (9), Carlos Acevedo (5), Raúl Gudiño (3), Rodolfo Cota (2), Hugo González (1).

**Clean sheets:** (8).

### **Players to watch:**

**Raúl Jiménez (MEX)** scored **Mexico's fastest-ever goal in the CNL (00m47s)**, which is also the **4th fastest in tournament history**. With his brace, he reached **5 goals in CNL**, leading the all-time Mexican scorers in Nations League history. His double was the **122nd in the history of the tournament** across all teams. Mexico moved into **6th place in most braces scored (4)**, joining Guatemala, Bahamas, Turks & Caicos, and the Dominican Republic. Jiménez now has **37 international goals**, ranking **4th in Mexico's all-time scoring list**, just **2 goals away from surpassing Cuauhtémoc Blanco (38) and entering the historical Top 3**.

**Santiago Giménez.** Scored the goal that gave Mexico the **2023 Gold Cup title** in the final against Panama (1-0). The forward is set to reach **10 CNL appearances (1 assist)**.

**Edson Álvarez.** The captain recorded **3 ball recoveries, 5 clearances, and completed 89% of his passes against Canada in the semifinals.** He leads Mexico in **total passes (232) in the competition.** Scored **3 goals in 13 CNL appearances** (2 vs. Panama in the 2019/20 Group B stage and 2023/24 semifinals).

**Julián Quiñones.** Scored against Panama in the **2023/24 Nations League semifinal (3-0).** He has **2 appearances in the current edition and 1 shot on target.**

**Johan Vásquez.** A key defensive figure for Mexico in the semifinal against Canada. The Genoa (ITA) player had **2 shots, 3 recoveries, 5 clearances, and 26 completed passes** against Les Rouges.



## Panama (PAN)

**Results by edition:** 2019/20 (League A), 2022/23 (League A - 4th Place), 2023/24 (League A - 4th Place).

With a **1-0 win over the United States,** Panama snapped a **5-game losing streak against North American teams in CNL.** It was just the **second time** they have scored against these teams and the **first time they have kept a clean sheet.** This marked Panama's **4th victory in 29 all-time meetings against the U.S.,** and only their **second 1-0 win,** the previous one coming in the **FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022 qualifiers,** at Estadio Rommel Fernández on October 10, 2021 (Aníbal Godoy 54').

**Nations League record:** P-21 W-11 D-3 L-7 (32GF - 20GC).

**Top scorers:** José Fajardo (5), Cecilio Waterman (4), Édgar Bárcenas (4), José Rodríguez (3), Gabriel Torres (3), Éric Davis (2), Adalberto Carrasquilla (2).

**Top assists:** Édgar Bárcenas (4), Adalberto Carrasquilla (4), Alberto Quintero (3), Ismael Díaz (2), Freddy Góndola (1), Éric Davis, Cristian Martínez, Fidel Escobar, José Córdoba.

**Saves:** 51. **Goalkeepers:** Orlando Mosquera (32), Luis Mejía (9), José Calderón (6), César Samudio (4).

**Clean sheets in history:** (10).

**Players to watch:**

**Cecilio Waterman (PAN)** scored his **4th CNL goal,** his **first in a semifinal,** and his **second in a direct elimination match** (2023 quarterfinals vs. Costa Rica). His goal against the U.S. was his **first-ever goal against them in all competitions,** and it became **the latest goal ever scored by Panama in CNL history (92m57s),** surpassing **Édgar Bárcenas' goal against Martinique on June 9, 2022 (92m46s).** Waterman is now tied with **Bárcenas for second place** in Panama's all-time CNL scorers list (4 goals each).

**Adalberto Carrasquilla.** Provided the **assist for Waterman's goal** and completed **87% of his passes in the semifinals**. The **2023 Gold Cup Golden Ball winner** has scored **2 goals and delivered 4 assists in Nations League history**. Carrasquilla has reached **20 CNL appearances**, making him **Panama's all-time leader in matches played** in the competition.

**Aníbal Godoy.** The current captain has faced **Mexico 15 times in his career** across multiple tournaments: **Gold Cup (4 matches), Concacaf Qualifiers (5 matches), Concacaf Nations League (3 matches), and friendlies (3 matches)**.

**José Fajardo.** Panama's **all-time top scorer in Nations League history (5 goals in 14 appearances)**. He registered **4 shots and scored against Costa Rica in this edition**. He has played in **all four CNL editions and scored in the last three**.

**Orlando Mosquera.** Made **5 saves in the current tournament** and kept a **clean sheet in 2 of 3 matches**. He has **32 career CNL saves**. With the win over the U.S., he recorded **6 career CNL clean sheets**, tying him for **second place among goalkeepers with the most shutouts in CNL history**, alongside **Kishmar Primus (BRB), Eloy Room (CUW), Milan Borjan (CAN), and Charles Tillett (BLZ)**.