

#81 Suriname vs. Canada

Dr. Ir. Franklin Essed Stadium, Paramaribo, SUR.

This will be a first-ever encounter in the Concacaf Nations League.

Historically, these two teams have only met twice in Concacaf FIFA World Cup qualifiers. Their first meeting was on October 12, 1977, during the qualifiers for the 1978 World Cup in Argentina, held at the Azteca Stadium in Mexico City. Canada secured a 2-1 victory with goals from Leslie "Buzz" Parsons (33') and Milovan "Mike" Bakic (75'), while Suriname's Remie Olmberg converted a penalty in the 39th minute.

The second and most recent encounter took place on Matchday 9 of the Qatar 2022 FIFA World Cup qualifiers. Canada triumphed with a resounding 4-0 win at SeatGeek Stadium in Bridgeview, USA. Alphonso Davies (37') opened the scoring, followed by a hat-trick from Jonathan David (59', 72', 77' penalty). David became the youngest Canadian player to score a hat-trick in World Cup qualifiers, at 21 years, 4 months, and 25 days old.

Canada will come into this match riding a three-game unbeaten streak in friendlies, with two wins and a draw. They defeated the United States 2-1 on September 7, 2024, at Children's Mercy Park in Kansas City (USA), with goals from Jacob Shaffelburg (17') and Jonathan David (58'). Luca de la Torre (66') scored for the U.S. Canada followed up with a 2-1 win over Panama on October 15, 2024, at BMO Field in Toronto, thanks to goals from Cyle Larin (44') and Jonathan David (87'). José "La Pantera" Fajardo (69') scored Panama's consolation goal. Canada also held Mexico to a 0-0 draw on September 10, 2024, at AT&T Stadium in Arlington.

Suriname advanced to the Nations League quarterfinals with a dominant 5-1 victory over Guyana on October 15, 2024, at the Franklin Essed Stadium in Paramaribo. Sheraldo Becker (3', 10'), Virgil Misidjan (33'), Denzel Jubitana (51'), and Ridgeciano Haps (69') all found the net for Suriname, while Jalen Jones (13') scored for Guyana. Suriname has won two of their last four matches across all competitions (2W-1D-1L), including a 3-1 victory over Guyana on September 5, 2024, in the 2023/24 Nations League, with goals from Djevenio van der Kust (18'), Jaden Montnor (66'), and Virgil Misidjan (83'). Suriname also earned a 1-1 draw against Costa Rica on November 10, 2024, with Gleofilo Vlijter (34') scoring for Suriname and Josimar Alcócer (13') netting for Costa Rica. Their only defeat in this stretch came against Guadeloupe (0-1) on September 9, 2024, courtesy of a goal from Jordan Leborgne (67').

All-time series record: 2 matches

- 2 wins for Canada
- 0 draws
- 0 wins for Suriname
- 6 goals for Canada

- 1 goal for Suriname

Suriname (SUR)

Suriname's CNL Performance Highlights

Suriname has lost only one of its last six CNL matches (1-0 vs. Guadeloupe in the group stage of the current edition). The team remains unbeaten in four home games in CNL history (W-2 D-2). Their four home victories include: 6-0 vs. Nicaragua (Group D - League B 2019/20), 4-0 vs. Dominica (Group D - League B 2019/20), 4-0 vs. Grenada (Group B - League A 2023/24), and 5-1 vs. Guyana (Group A - League A 2024/25).

CNL Record: GP-18 W-7 D-6 L-5 (GF-33 GA-21).

Top Scorers: Geofilo Vlijter (12), Djevencio van der Kust (2), Dimitrie Apai (2), Ivenzo Comvalius (2), Virgil Misidjan (2), Sheraldo Becker (2), Ridgeciano Haps (2), Yanic Wildschut (1), Donnegy Seraino Fer, Nigel Hasselbaink, Mitchell te Vrede, Yanic-Sonny Wildschut, Jaden Montinor, Dentzel Jubitana.

Top Assists: Ivenzo Comvalius (2), Dimitri Apai (2), Denzel Jubitana (2), Kenneth Paal (2), Brian Elshot (1), Roscello Vlijter, Ryan Donk, Shaquille Pinas, Virgil Misidjan, Sheraldo Becker, Ridgeciano Haps, Geofilo Vlijter.

Saves: 50. **Goalkeepers:** Warner Hahn (27), Claidel Kohinor (16), Joey Roggeveen (4), Etienne Vaessen (3).

Players to Watch

- **Geofilo Vlijter:** Took 10 shots in Group A matches of the current edition. He is Suriname's top scorer in the CNL with 12 goals and led the scoring in the inaugural edition (2019/20) with 10 goals.

- **Sheraldo Becker:** Scored two goals on six shots and provided one assist in his two group-stage appearances in the 2024/25 CNL. The Real Sociedad (ESP) forward has netted five goals in 13 international appearances.

- **Virgil Misidjan:** Scored two goals and provided one assist during the Group A stage of the current edition. The forward took eight shots (five on target) and completed 73 accurate passes in four CNL appearances.

Canada (CAN)

Canada's CNL Journey

Canada was eliminated by Jamaica in the quarterfinals of the 2023-24 edition due to the away goal rule after a 4-4 aggregate draw. Canada reached the final in the 2022/23 edition, where they lost 2-0 to the United States in Las Vegas.

CNL Record: GP-12 W-8 D-0 L-4 (GF-27 GA-13).

Top Scorers: Jonathan David (6), Alphonso Davies (6), Junior Hoilett (3), Cyle Larin (3), Steven Vitoria (2), Lucas Cavallini (2), Jonathan Osorio (2).

Top Assists: Jonathan Osorio (4), Richie Laryea (4), Jonathan David (3), Samuel Adegugbe (2), Cyle Larin (2).

Saves: 12. **Goalkeepers:** Milan Borjan (12).

Clean Sheets in History: 5.

Results by Edition: 2019/20 (League A - Group Stage), 2022/23 (League A - Runner-up), 2023/24 (Quarterfinals).

2023/24 CNL Record: GP-2 W-1 D-0 L-1 (GF-4 GA-4). *Qualified directly to the quarterfinals based on Concacaf Ranking as of October 18, 2023 (3rd place).

Players to Watch

- **Jonathan David:** The Canadian player with the most goal contributions in the CNL, with six goals and three assists. The forward scored in all three previous CNL editions and in the 2023/24 quarterfinals against Jamaica.

- **Alphonso Davies:** Has 56 international appearances, 15 goals, and 18 assists for Canada. The Bayern Munich player scored in the 2023/24 quarterfinals against Jamaica and has two goals in CNL final stages.

- **Maxime Crépeau:** Has participated in all three previous CNL editions (one match with one clean sheet). The goalkeeper was a standout for Canada in his first Copa América appearance, crucially saving a penalty in the quarterfinal shootout against Venezuela. Crépeau finished the group stage with the most saves, totaling 15.