# Real Estelí (NCA) vs. CAI (PAN)

Estadio Independencia, Estelí

**•** Real Estelí will be the first Nicaraguan club to play in a semifinal of an official Concacaf competition.

• As for Panamanian teams, C.A.I. will play in the semifinals for the first time in the club's history, and at the same time, it will be the 5th semifinal appearance for Panamanian clubs in Concacaf's official competitions. Árabe Unido and Plaza Amador played in the semifinals of the 2017 Scotiabank Concacaf League, and in the 2018 edition of the same tournament, Tauro and Árabe Unido also participated, with the exception that none of them managed to qualify. Out of the 4 participations, all 4 were Eliminated.

**Series in the 2023 Central American Cup:** They will face each other for the second time. In the first meeting, CAI won 2-1 with goals from Carlos Small and Jefferson Murillo, while Ewerton Bezerra scored for Real Estelí on August 22, 2023, at Rommel Fernández Stadium in Panama City.

**A logo with a crown on it

Description automatically generatedReal Estelí (NCA)**

**Record in the Central American Cup:** GP-6 W-4 D-1 L-1 (GF-8 GA-4)

**Top Scorers:** Juan Barrera (NCA) 2, Arley Bonilla (COL) 1, Ewerton Bezerra (BRA) 1, Harold Medina (NCA) 1, Bancy Hernández (NCA) 1, Marvin Fletes (NCA) 1.

**Assists:** Byron Bonilla (NCA) 2, Harold Medina (NCA) 2, Henry García (NCA) 1, Leyvin Balanta (COL) 1.

**Record in the quarter-finals:** GP-2 W-1 D-1 L-0 (GF-3 GA-2)

**Saves: 16. Goalkeeper:** Douglas Forvis (CRC) 16.

**Players to Watch:**

**Juan Barrera (NCA).** Is the top scorer (2) for Real Estelí in the 2023 CCAC with his brace against CD FAS in the group stage (2-0). He has made 6 shots and 134 successful passes**.**

**Douglas Forvis (CRC).** Kept a clean sheet in 4 of his 6 appearances in the 2023 CCAC with 16 saves and 14 clearances. Completed 92% of his passes.

**Harold Medina (NCA).** Scored 1 goal and provided 2 assists. Alongside Byron Bonilla, he had the most shots (16) for Real Estelí. The 21-year-old midfielder has the most fouls against him (14) on his team.

**Ebert Martínez (NCA).** Is one of the leaders in total clearances (35) and ball recoveries (16) - tied with Héctor Hurtado (CAI) - in the 2023 CCAC. He has made 3 shots and 181 passes.

**A logo of a football team

Description automatically generated Club Atlético Independiente CAI (PAN)**

**Record in the Central American Cup:** GP-6 W-4 D-2 L-0 (GF-14 GA-4)

**Top Scorers:** Carlos Small (PAN) 5, Jorge Serrano (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, Rafael Águila (PAN) 1**.**

**Assists:** Marlon Ávila (PAN) 2, Víctor Ávila (PAN) 2, Jorge Serrano (PAN) 1, Rafael Aguila (PAN) 1, Sergio Cunningham (PAN) 1, Jefferson Murillo (COL) 1.

**Record in the quarter-finals:** GP-2 W-1 D-1 L-0 (GF-3 GA-1)

**Saves: 26. Goalkeeper:** Eddie Roberts (PAN) 26.

**Biggest Win:** 5-0 vs. CD FAS (Víctor Ávila, Rafael Águila, Carlos Small, Jorge Serrano, Ángel Valverde), Rommel Fernández Stadium, Panama City (August 29, 2023).

**Players to Watch:**

**Carlos Small (PAN).** Was CAI's top scorer in the quarter-finals with (2 goals). He is the team's leading scorer in the 2023 CCAC with (5 goals) and shots (14). Small has 9 goals in 15 international club appearances (including stints with CAI, Plaza Amador, and Árabe Unido).

**Héctor Hurtado (PAN).** The midfielder is one of the leaders in passes (300) in the 2023 CCAC and has the most ball recoveries (16) alongside Ebert Martínez (Real Estelí).

**Eddie Roberts (PAN).** Is the goalkeeper with the **most saves (26**) in the 2023 CCAC. In the quarter-finals, he helped his team reach the semi-finals with 6 saves in the series against Motagua. He did not concede goals in 2 matches, and to date has only allowed 4 goals.

**Jorge Serrano (PAN).** Is the player with the most fouls received in the **entire 2023 CCAC (19**). The midfielder scored 2 goals, provided 1 assist, made 10 shots, completed 158 successful passes, and recovered 7 balls in 6 appearances.