



# Paraguay at the FIFA World Cup



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The **FIFA World Cup** is an international association football competition contested by the men's national teams of the members of *Fédération Internationale de Football Association* ([FIFA](#)), the sport's global governing body. The championship has been awarded every four years since the first tournament in [1930](#), except in 1942 and 1946, due to World War II.

The tournament consists of two parts, the qualification phase and the final phase (officially called the *World Cup Finals*). The qualification phase, which currently take place over the three years preceding the Finals, is used to determine which teams qualify for the Finals. The current format of the Finals involves 32 teams competing for the title, at venues within the host nation (or nations) over a period of about a month. The World Cup Finals is the most widely viewed sporting event in the world, with an estimated 715.1 million people watching the [2006 tournament final](#).

[Paraguay](#) have appeared in the finals of the World Cup on eight occasions, the first being at the very first finals in [1930](#), where they finished in 11th position. Their last participation in the [FIFA World Cup](#) was in [2010](#).

They did not qualify for the finals in the 2018 World Cup in Russia as they ended among the last four teams in the CONMEBOL qualification group.






## Record at the FIFA World Cup

Year	Round	Position	GP	W	D*	L	GF	GA
 <u>1930</u>	Group stage	9th	2	1	0	1	1	3
 <u>1934</u>	<i>Did not enter</i>							
 <u>1938</u>								
 <u>1950</u>	Group stage	11th	2	0	1	1	2	4
 <u>1954</u>	<i>Did not qualify</i>							
 <u>1958</u>	Group stage	12th	3	1	1	1	9	12
 <u>1962</u>	<i>Did not qualify</i>							
 <u>1966</u>								
 <u>1970</u>								
 <u>1974</u>								
 <u>1978</u>								
 <u>1982</u>								
 <u>1986</u>	Round of 16	13th	4	1	2	1	4	6
 <u>1990</u>	<i>Did not qualify</i>							
 <u>1994</u>								
 <u>1998</u>	Round of 16	14th	4	1	2	1	3	2
  <u>2002</u>	Round of 16	16th	4	1	1	2	6	7
 <u>2006</u>	Group Stage	18th	3	1	0	2	2	2
 <u>2010</u>	Quarter-finals	8th	5	1	3	1	3	2
 <u>2014</u>	<i>Did not qualify</i>							
 <u>2018</u>								
 <u>2022</u>	<i>To be determined</i>							
   <u>2026</u>								
<b>Total</b>	<b>8/21</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>38</b>





















*\*Draws include knockout matches decided on penalty kicks*

## By Match

World Cup	Round	Opponent	Score	Result	Venue	Scorers
<u>1930</u>	Group stage	 <u>United States</u>	<u>0–3</u>	L	<u>Montevideo</u>	—
		 <u>Belgium</u>	<u>1–0</u>	W	<u>Montevideo</u>	<u>L. Peña</u>
<u>1950</u>	Group stage	 <u>Sweden</u>	<u>2–2</u>	D	<u>Curitiba</u>	<u>A. López,</u> <u>C. López</u> <u>Fretes</u>
		 <u>Italy</u>	<u>0–2</u>	L	<u>São Paulo</u>	—
<u>1958</u>	Group stage	 <u>France</u>	<u>3–7</u>	L	<u>Norrköping</u>	<u>F. Amarilla</u> <u>(2), J.</u> <u>Romero</u>
		 <u>Scotland</u>	<u>3–2</u>	W	<u>Norrköping</u>	<u>J. Agüero,</u> <u>C. Ré, J.</u> <u>Parodi</u>
		 <u>Yugoslavia</u>	<u>3–3</u>	D	<u>Eskilstuna</u>	<u>J. Parodi,</u> <u>J. Agüero,</u> <u>J. Romero</u>
<u>1986</u>	Group stage	 <u>Iraq</u>	<u>1–0</u>	W	<u>Toluca</u>	<u>Romerito</u>
		 <u>Mexico</u>	<u>1–1</u>	D	<u>Mexico City</u>	<u>Romerito</u>
		 <u>Belgium</u>	<u>2–2</u>	D	<u>Toluca</u>	<u>R.</u> <u>Cabañas</u> <u>(2)</u>
	Round of 16	 <u>England</u>	<u>0–3</u>	L	<u>Mexico City</u>	—
<u>1998</u>	Group stage	 <u>Bulgaria</u>	<u>0–0</u>	D	<u>Montpellier</u>	—
		 <u>Spain</u>	<u>0–0</u>	D	<u>Saint-Étienne</u>	—
		 <u>Nigeria</u>	<u>3–1</u>	W	<u>Toulouse</u>	<u>C. Ayala,</u> <u>M.</u> <u>Benítez,</u> <u>J.</u> <u>Cardozo</u>
	Round of 16	 <u>France</u>	<u>0–1</u> (a.e.t.)	L	<u>Lens</u>	—
<u>2002</u>	Group stage	 <u>South Africa</u>	<u>2–2</u>	D	<u>Busan</u>	<u>R. Santa</u> <u>Cruz, F.</u> <u>Arce</u>
		 <u>Spain</u>	<u>1–3</u>	L	<u>Jeonju</u>	<u>C. Puyol</u> <u>(o.g.)</u>
		 <u>Slovenia</u>	<u>3–1</u>	W	<u>Seogwipo</u>	<u>N. Cuevas</u> <u>(2), J.</u> <u>Campos</u>
	Round of 16	 <u>Germany</u>	<u>0–1</u>	L	<u>Seogwipo</u>	—
<u>2006</u>	Group stage	 <u>England</u>	<u>0–1</u>	L	<u>Frankfurt</u>	—
		 <u>Sweden</u>	<u>0–1</u>	L	<u>Berlin</u>	—
		 <u>Trinidad and Tobago</u>	<u>2–0</u>	W	<u>Kaiserslautern</u>	<u>B. Sancho</u> <u>(o.g.), N.</u> <u>Cuevas</u>

World Cup	Round	Opponent	Score	Result	Venue	Scorers
2010	Group stage	 <a href="#">Italy</a>	<u>1–1</u>	D	<a href="#">Cape Town</a>	<a href="#">A. Alcaraz</a>
		 <a href="#">Slovakia</a>	<u>2–0</u>	W	<a href="#">Bloemfontein</a>	<a href="#">E. Vera</a> , <a href="#">C. Riveros</a>
		 <a href="#">New Zealand</a>	<u>0–0</u>	D	<a href="#">Polokwane</a>	—
	Round of 16	 <a href="#">Japan</a>	<u>0–0</u> (a.e.t.) (5–3 pen.)	D	<a href="#">Pretoria</a>	—
	Quarter-finals	 <a href="#">Spain</a>	<u>0–1</u>	L	<a href="#">Johannesburg</a>	—

## Record by Opponent

FIFA World Cup matches (by team)						
Opponent	Wins	Draws	Losses	Total	Goals Scored	Goals Conceded
 <a href="#">Belgium</a>	1	1	0	2	3	2
 <a href="#">Bulgaria</a>	0	1	0	1	0	0
 <a href="#">England</a>	0	0	2	2	0	4
 <a href="#">France</a>	0	0	2	2	3	8
 <a href="#">Germany</a>	0	0	1	1	0	1
 <a href="#">Iraq</a>	1	0	0	1	1	0
 <a href="#">Italy</a>	0	1	1	2	1	3
 <a href="#">Japan</a>	0	1	0	1	0	0
 <a href="#">Mexico</a>	0	1	0	1	1	1
 <a href="#">New Zealand</a>	0	1	0	1	0	0
 <a href="#">Nigeria</a>	1	0	0	1	3	1
 <a href="#">Scotland</a>	1	0	0	1	3	2
 <a href="#">Slovakia</a>	1	0	0	1	2	0
 <a href="#">Slovenia</a>	1	0	0	1	3	1
 <a href="#">South Africa</a>	0	1	0	1	2	2
 <a href="#">Spain</a>	0	1	2	3	1	4
 <a href="#">Sweden</a>	0	1	1	2	2	3
 <a href="#">Trinidad and Tobago</a>	1	0	0	1	2	0
 <a href="#">United States</a>	0	0	1	1	0	3
 <a href="#">Yugoslavia</a>	0	1	0	1	3	3

## The Results



Paraguay competed at three World Cups by 1958, and after a long gap they re-appeared in 1986. Later, they achieved a streak of four participations: South Africa 2010 was Paraguay's fourth consecutive trip to the World Cup final tournament, having previously qualified for the final in 1998, 2002 and 2006. After a poor qualifying campaign, however, Paraguay failed to qualify for the tournament in 2014, missing out on the chance to play in a World Cup hosted on their own continent, in Brazil. Three times they survived the first round of the international football tournament, with the summit being in 2010 where reached the quarter-finals.

## 1930 FIFA World Cup

In the first round, Paraguay debuted and lost to the United States (0–3), to then defeat Belgium (1–0) with a goal by Luis Vargas Peña. Only one team was to advance from the group stage, and the U.S. left Paraguay behind.

Team	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	Pts
 <u>United States</u>	2	2	0	0	6	0	+6	<b>4</b>
 <u>Paraguay</u>	2	1	0	1	1	3	–2	<b>2</b>
 <u>Belgium</u>	2	0	0	2	0	4	–4	<b>0</b>

17 July 1930 (First Round)  
14:45 UYT  
(UTC–03:30)

**United States**  **3–0**  **Paraguay**  
Patenaude ⚽ 10', 15', 50'<sup>[1]</sup> Report (<https://www.fifa.com/worldcup/archive/edition=1/results/matches/match=1097/report.html>)

Estadio Parque Central, Montevideo  
Attendance: 800  
Referee: José Macías (Argentina)



### UNITED STATES:

GK **1** Jimmy Douglas  
DF **2** Alexander Wood  
MF **3** Andy Auld  
FW **4** Bart McGhee  
FW **5** Bert Patenaude  
MF **6** Billy Gonsalves  
DF **7** George Moorhouse  
MF **8** Jim Brown  
DF **9** Jimmy Gallagher  
DF **10** Raphael Tracey  
FW **11** Tom Florie (c)

### Manager:

Robert Millar



### PARAGUAY:

GK **1** Modesto Denis  
FW **2** Aurelio González  
FW **3** Delfín Benítez Cáceres  
FW **4** Diógenes Domínguez  
MF **5** Eusebio Díaz  
MF **6** Francisco Aguirre  
DF **7** José Miracca  
FW **8** Lino Nessi  
FW **9** Luis Vargas Peña (c)  
DF **10** Quiterio Olmedo  
MF **11** Romildo Etcheverry

### Manager:

 José Durand Laguna

### Linesmen:

Martin Aphesteguy (Uruguay)

Anibal Tejada (Uruguay)

20 July 1930 (First Round)  
15:00 UYT  
(UTC–03:30)

**Paraguay**  **1–0**  **Belgium**  
Vargas Peña ⚽ 40'<sup>[2]</sup> Report (<https://www.fifa.com/worldcup/archive/edition=1/results/matches/match=1089/report.html>)

Estadio Centenario, Montevideo  
Attendance: 900  
Referee: Ricardo Vallarino (Uruguay)

**PARAGUAY:**

GK **1** Pedro Benítez  
 FW **2** Aurelio González  
 FW **3** Delfín Benítez Cáceres  
 MF **4** Eusebio Díaz  
 FW **5** Gerardo Romero  
 FW **6** Lino Nesi  
 FW **7** Luis Vargas Peña (c)  
 DF **8** Quiterio Olmedo  
 DF **9** Salvador Flores  
 MF **10** Santiago Benítez  
 MF **11** Tranquilino Garcete

**Manager:**

 José Durand Laguna

**Linesmen:**

José Macías (Argentina)

Domingo Lombardi (Uruguay)

**BELGIUM:**

GK **1** Arnold Badjou  
 MF **2** August Hellemans  
 FW **3** Ferdinand Adams  
 FW **4** Gérard Delbeke  
 DF **5** Henri De Deken  
 FW **6** Jacques Moeschal  
 FW **7** Jan Diddens  
 FW **8** Louis Versyp  
 DF **9** Nic Hoydonckx  
 MF **10** Pierre Braine (c)  
 DF **11** Theodore Nouwens

**Manager:**

Hector Goetinck

## 1950 FIFA World Cup

In their return to the World Cup, Paraguay faced Sweden and Italy in Group 3. Paraguay failed to advance to the next round after a 2–2 draw against Sweden and a 2–0 loss against Italy.

Team	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
 <u>Sweden</u>	2	1	1	0	5	4	<b>3</b>
 <u>Italy</u>	2	1	0	1	4	3	<b>2</b>
 <u>Paraguay</u>	2	0	1	1	2	4	<b>1</b>
 <u>India</u>	<i>withdrew</i>						

29 June 1950  
 15:30 BRT (UTC-03)

**Sweden**  **2 – 2**  **Paraguay**  
Sundqvist ⚽ 17' Report (<https://www.fifa.com/worldcup/archive/edition=7/results/matches/match=1228/report.html>)  
Palmér ⚽ 26' López ⚽ 35'  
López Fretes ⚽ 74'

Estádio Durival Britto, Curitiba  
 Attendance: 8,000  
 Referee: Robert Mitchell (Scotland)

2 July 1950  
 15:00 BRT (UTC-03)

**Italy**  **2 – 0**  **Paraguay**  
Carapellese ⚽ 12' Report (<https://www.fifa.com/worldcup/archive/edition=7/results/matches/match=1218/report.html>)  
Pandolfini ⚽ 62'

Estádio do Pacaembu, São Paulo  
 Attendance: 26,000  
 Referee: Arthur Ellis (England)

## 1958 FIFA World Cup

For the 1958 World Cup, Paraguay surprisingly qualified ahead of Uruguay (beating them 5–0 in the decisive game) with a team that contained a formidable attacking lineup with stars such as Juan Bautista Agüero, José Parodi, Juan Romero, Cayetano Ré and Florencio Amarilla. In their first game in Sweden, Paraguay were 3–2 up against France in a game they lost 7–3. A 3–2 win over Scotland and a 3–3 draw with Yugoslavia saw Paraguay finish third in their group.

Team	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA	GAvg	Pts
 <u>France</u>	3	2	0	1	11	7	1.57	<b>4</b>
 <u>Yugoslavia</u>	3	1	2	0	7	6	1.17	<b>4</b>
 <u>Paraguay</u>	3	1	1	1	9	12	0.75	<b>3</b>
 <u>Scotland</u>	3	0	1	2	4	6	0.67	<b>1</b>


- France finished ahead of Yugoslavia on goal average

8 June 1958  
19:00 (CET)

**France**  **7 – 3** **Paraguay**   
Fontaine ⚽ 24', 30', 67' Report (<https://www.fifa.com/worldcup/archive/edition=15/results/matches/match=1386/report.html>)  
Piantoni ⚽ 52'  
Wisniewski ⚽ 61'  
Kopa ⚽ 70'  
Vincent ⚽ 83'  
Amarilla ⚽ 20', 44' (pen.)  
Romero ⚽ 50'

Idrottsparken, Norrköping  
Attendance: 16,500  
Referee: Gardeazabal (Spain)

11 June 1958  
19:00 (CET)

**Paraguay**  **3 – 2** **Scotland**   
Agüero ⚽ 4' Report (<https://www.fifa.com/worldcup/archive/edition=15/results/matches/match=1423/report.html>)  
Ré ⚽ 45'  
Parodi ⚽ 73'  
Mudie ⚽ 24'  
Collins ⚽ 74'

Idrottsparken, Norrköping  
Attendance: 12,000  
Referee: Orlandini (Italy)

15 June 1958  
19:00 (CET)

**Paraguay**  **3 – 3** **Yugoslavia**   
Parodi ⚽ 20' Report (<https://www.fifa.com/worldcup/archive/edition=15/results/matches/match=1426/report.html>)  
Agüero ⚽ 52'  
Romero ⚽ 80'  
Ognjanović ⚽ 18'  
Veselinović ⚽ 21'  
Rajkov ⚽ 73'

Tunavallen, Eskilstuna  
Attendance: 12,000  
Referee: Macko (Czechoslovakia)

## 1986 FIFA World Cup

Paraguay ended a 28-year absence from the World Cup in 1986 with a team starring Roberto Fernández in goal; Cesar Zabala, Rogelio Delgado and Juan Bautista Torales in defense; Jorge Amado Nunes and Vladimiro Schettina in midfield; midfield playmaker Julio Cesar Romero and strikers Roberto Cabañas, Ramón Hicks and Rolando Chilavert (older brother of José Luis Chilavert). In first round matches, Paraguay defeated Iraq (1–0, goal Romerito) and then tied Mexico (1–1, goal Romerito) and Belgium (2–2, both goals Roberto Cabañas). They reached the second round where they were beaten 3–0 by England.<sup>[3]</sup>

Team	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	Pts
 Mexico	3	2	1	0	4	2	+2	5
 Paraguay	3	1	2	0	4	3	+1	4
 Belgium	3	1	1	1	5	5	0	3
 Iraq	3	0	0	3	1	4	-3	0

4 June 1986 (First  
Round)  
12:00 CST

**Paraguay**  **1 – 0**  **Iraq**  
 Romero 🟦 35' [Report \(https://www.fifa.com/worldcup/archive/edition=68/results/matches/match=628/report.html\)](https://www.fifa.com/worldcup/archive/edition=68/results/matches/match=628/report.html)

Estadio Nemesio Díez, Toluca  
 Attendance: 24,000  
 Referee: Edwin Picon-Ackong (Mauritius)



#### PARAGUAY:

GK 1 Roberto Fernández  
 DF 2 Juan Torales  
 DF 3 César Zabala  
 DF 4 Vladimiro Schettina 🟡 45'  
 DF 5 Rogelio Delgado (c)  
 MF 6 Jorge Amado Nunes  
 MF 10 Adolfo Cañete  
 MF 8 Julio César Romero  
 FW 7 Buenaventura Ferreira  
 FW 11 Alfredo Mendoza 🟡 88'  
 FW 9 Roberto Cabañas  
**Substitutions:**  
 MF 16 Jorge Guasch 🟢 88'

#### Manager:

 Cayetano Ré



#### IRAQ:

GK 1 Raad Hammoudi Salman (c)  
 DF 3 Khalil Mohammed Allawi  
 DF 4 Nadhim Shaker Salim  
 DF 5 Samir Shaker Mahmoud 🟡 29'  
 DF 15 Natiq Hashim Abidoun  
 DF 22 Ghanim Oraibi Jassim  
 MF 6 Ali Hussein Shihab  
 MF 7 Haris Mohammed Hassan 🟡 67'  
 MF 14 Basil Gorgis Hanna 🟡 81'  
 FW 10 Hussein Saeed Mohammed  
 FW 8 Ahmad Radhi Amaiesh



#### Substitutions:

FW 11 Abdul-Rahim Hamed Aufi 🟢 67'  
 MF 19 Basim Qasim Hamdan 🟢 81'

#### Manager:

 Evaristo de Macedo

7 June 1986 (First  
Round)  
12:00 CST

**Mexico**  **1 – 1**  **Paraguay**  
 Flores 🟦 3' [Report \(https://www.fifa.com/worldcup/archive/edition=68/results/matches/match=680/report.html\)](https://www.fifa.com/worldcup/archive/edition=68/results/matches/match=680/report.html) Romero 🟦 85'

Estadio Azteca, Mexico City  
 Attendance: 114,600  
 Referee: George Courtney (England)



#### MEXICO:

GK 1 Pablo Larios  
 DF 2 Mario Trejo 🟡 80'  
 DF 3 Fernando Quirarte  
 DF 14 Félix Cruz  
 DF 17 Raúl Servín  
 MF 16 Carlos Muñoz  
 MF 10 Tomás Boy (c) 🟡 58'  
 MF 13 Javier Aguirre  
 FW 22 Manuel Negrete 🟡 26'  
 FW 15 Luis Flores 🟡 77'  
 FW 9 Hugo Sánchez 🟡 75'

#### Substitutions:

MF 7 Miguel España 🟢 58'  
 FW 5 Francisco Javier Cruz 🟢 77'

#### Manager:



#### PARAGUAY:

GK 1 Roberto Fernández  
 DF 2 Juan Torales 🟡 80'  
 DF 3 César Zabala  
 DF 4 Vladimiro Schettina 🟡 30'  
 DF 5 Rogelio Delgado (c)  
 MF 6 Jorge Amado Nunes  
 MF 10 Adolfo Cañete  
 MF 8 Julio César Romero  
 FW 7 Buenaventura Ferreira  
 FW 11 Alfredo Mendoza 🟡 5' 🟡 62'  
 FW 9 Roberto Cabañas

#### Substitutions:

MF 16 Jorge Guasch 🟢 62'  
 FW 20 Ramón Hicks 🟢 80'

#### Manager:



 Bora Milutinović

 Cayetano Ré

11 June 1986 (First  
Round)  
12:00 CST

**Paraguay**  **2 – 2**  **Belgium**  
Cabañas ⚽ 50', 76' Report (<https://www.fifa.com/worldcup/archive/edition=68/results/matches/match=429/report.html>)  
Vercauteren ⚽ 30'  
Veyt ⚽ 59'

Estadio Nemesio Díez, Toluca  
Attendance: 16,000  
Referee: Bogdan Dotchev (Bulgaria)




**PARAGUAY:**

GK 1 Roberto Fernández  
DF 2 Juan Torales  
DF 3 César Zabala  
DF 5 Rogelio Delgado (c)  
MF 16 Jorge Guasch  
MF 6 Jorge Amado Nunes  
MF 10 Adolfo Cañete  
MF 8 Julio César Romero ⚡ 55'  
FW 7 Buenaventura Ferreira  
FW 11 Alfredo Mendoza ⚡ 68'  
FW 9 Roberto Cabañas

**Substitutions:**

FW 20 Ramón Hicks ⚡ 68'

**Manager:**

 Cayetano Ré




**BELGIUM:**

GK 1 Jean-Marie Pfaff  
DF 5 Michel Renquin  
DF 19 Hugo Broos  
DF 13 Georges Grün ⚡ 89'  
MF 21 Stéphane Demol  
MF 6 Franky Vercauteren  
MF 22 Patrick Vervoort  
MF 8 Enzo Scifo  
MF 11 Jan Ceulemans (c) ⚡ 55'  
FW 16 Nico Claesen  
FW 18 Daniel Veyt

**Substitutions:**

DF 3 Franky Van Der Elst ⚡ 89'

**Manager:**

 Guy Thys

18 June 1986  
(Round of 16)  
12:00 CST

**England**  **3 – 0**  **Paraguay**  
Lineker ⚽ 31', 73' Report (<https://www.fifa.com/worldcup/archive/edition=68/results/matches/match=536/report.html>)  
Beardsley ⚽ 56'

Estadio Azteca, Mexico City  
Attendance: 98,728  
Referee: Jamal Al Sharif (Syria)



**ENGLAND:**

GK 1 Peter Shilton (c)  
DF 2 Gary M. Stevens  
DF 3 Kenny Sansom  
DF 5 Alvin Martin ⚡ 37'  
DF 6 Terry Butcher  
MF 16 Peter Reid ⚡ 58'  
MF 4 Glenn Hoddle  
MF 17 Trevor Steven  
MF 18 Steve Hodge ⚡ 67'  
FW 20 Peter Beardsley ⚡ 80'  
FW 10 Gary Lineker

**Substitutions:**

DF 15 Gary A. Stevens ⚡ 58'

FW 9 Mark Hateley ⚡ 80'

**Manager:**

 Bobby Robson



**PARAGUAY:**

GK 1 Roberto Fernández  
DF 2 Juan Torales ⚡ 64'  
DF 3 César Zabala  
DF 4 Vladimiro Schettina  
DF 5 Rogelio Delgado (c)  
MF 6 Jorge Amado Nunes ⚡ 60'  
MF 10 Adolfo Cañete  
MF 8 Julio César Romero  
FW 7 Buenaventura Ferreira  
FW 11 Alfredo Mendoza  
FW 9 Roberto Cabañas

**Substitutions:**

MF 16 Jorge Guasch ⚡ 64'

**Manager:**



 Cayetano Ré

## 1998 FIFA World Cup

A new generation of players helped end the World Cup drought in grand fashion, as the Albirroja reached the 1998 World Cup in France by qualifying in second place in South America, behind Argentina. The first round matches were against Bulgaria (0–0), Spain (0–0), and Nigeria (3–1; goals Celso Ayala, Miguel Ángel Benítez and José Cardozo). Paraguay qualified to the second round (Round of 16) to be defeated in a thrilling match against hosts and eventual World Champions France. France only scored through Laurent Blanc in the 114th minute, during the second half of overtime (making it the first golden goal scored in a World Cup). Paraguay's central defending duo (Carlos Gamarra and Celso Ayala) and goalkeeper José Luis Chilavert were selected for the all-star World Cup team.

Team	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	Pts
 <u>Nigeria</u>	3	2	0	1	5	5	0	<b>6</b>
 <u>Paraguay</u>	3	1	2	0	3	1	+2	<b>5</b>
 <u>Spain</u>	3	1	1	1	8	4	+4	<b>4</b>
 <u>Bulgaria</u>	3	0	1	2	1	7	–6	<b>1</b>

12 June 1998 (First Round)  
14:30

**Paraguay**  **0–0**  **Bulgaria**

Report (<https://www.fifa.com/worldcup/archive/edition=1013/results/matches/match=8728/report.html>)

Stade de la Mosson, Montpellier  
Attendance: 27,650  
Referee: Abdul Rahman Al-Zeid (Saudi Arabia)



**Paraguay**

GK **1** José Luis Chilavert (c)  
DF **4** Carlos Gamarra  
DF **5** Celso Ayala  
FW **9** José Cardozo ▼ 70'  
MF **10** Roberto Acuña  
DF **11** Pedro Sarabia  
MF **13** Carlos Paredes  
FW **15** Miguel Benítez ■ 45'  
MF **16** Julio Cesar Enciso  
MF **19** Carlos Morales ▼ 43'  
MF **21** Jorge Campos ▼ 78'  
**Substitutions:**  
DF **20** Denis Caniza ▲ 43'  
FW **18** César Ramírez ▲ 70'  
MF **7** Julio César Yegros ▲ 78'

**Manager:**

 Paulo César Carpegiani



**Bulgaria**

GK **1** Zdravko Zdravkov  
DF **2** Radostin Kishishev  
DF **3** Trifon Ivanov (c) ■ 73'  
DF **4** Ivaylo Petkov  
MF **5** Ivaylo Yordanov  
MF **6** Zlatko Yankov  
FW **8** Hristo Stoichkov ■ 45'  
FW **9** Luboslav Penev ▼ 68'  
MF **10** Krassimir Balakov  
MF **11** Ilian Iliev ▼ 77'  
MF **16** Anatoli Nankov ■ 27' ■ 89'

**Substitutions:**

FW **7** Emil Kostadinov ▲ 68'  
MF **18** Daniel Borimirov ▲ 77'

**Manager:**

Hristo Bonev

### **Assistant referees:**

Achmat Salie (South Africa)

Hussain Ghdanfari (Kuwait)

### **Fourth official:**

Nikolai Levnikov (Russia)

19 June 1998 (First  
Round)  
21:00

**Spain** 

**0-0**

 **Paraguay**

Report (<https://www.fifa.com/worldcup/archive/edition=1013/results/matches/match=8748/report.html>)

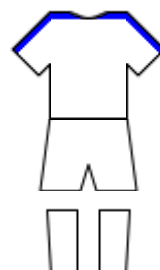
Stade Geoffroy-Guichard, Saint-Étienne  
Attendance: 30,600  
Referee: Ian McLeod (South Africa)



**Spain**

GK **1** Andoni Zubizarreta (c)  
RB **15** Juan Carlos Aguilera  
CB **5** Abelardo ▼ 56'  
CB **4** Rafael Alkorta  
LB **12** Sergi ■ 8'  
RM **17** Joseba Etxeberria  
CM **6** Fernando Hierro  
CM **18** Guillermo Amor  
LM **21** Luis Enrique  
CF **9** Juan Antonio Pizzi ▼ 52'  
CF **10** Raúl ▼ 65'  
**Substitutions:**  
FW **7** Fernando Morientes ▲ 52'  
MF **16** Albert Celades ▲ 56'  
FW **19** Kiko ■ 87' ▲ 65'

**Manager:**  
Javier Clemente



**Paraguay**

GK **1** José Luis Chilavert (c)  
DF **2** Francisco Arce ■ 76'  
DF **4** Carlos Gamarra  
DF **5** Celso Ayala ■ 30' ▼ 73' 83'  
FW **8** Arístides Rojas  
MF **10** Roberto Acuña  
DF **11** Pedro Sarabia  
FW **15** Miguel Benítez  
MF **16** Julio César Enciso ■ 45'  
DF **20** Denis Caniza  
MF **21** Jorge Campos ▼ 45'  
**Substitutions:**  
MF **13** Carlos Paredes ▲ 45'  
MF **7** Julio César Yegros ▲ 73'  
FW **18** César Ramírez ▲ 83'

**Manager:**  
 Paulo César Carpegiani

### **Assistant referees:**

Aristidis Chris Soldatos (South Africa)

Owen Powell (Jamaica)

### **Fourth official:**

Esse Baharmast (United States)

24 June 1998 (First  
Round)  
21:00

**Nigeria** 

**1-3**

 **Paraguay**

Oruma ⚽ 10' Report (<https://www.fifa.com/worldcup/archive/edition=1013/results/matches/match=8763/report.html>)  
Ayala ⚽ 1'  
Benítez ⚽ 58'  
Cardozo ⚽ 86'

Stade de Toulouse, Toulouse  
Attendance: 33,500  
Referee: Pirom Un-Prasert (Thailand)



**Nigeria**

GK **1** Peter Rufai (c)  
FW **4** Nwankwo Kanu



**Paraguay**

GK **1** José Luis Chilavert (c)  
DF **2** Francisco Arce

DF 6 Taribo West  
 FW 9 Rasheed Yekini  
 MF 11 Garba Lawal  
 MF 13 Tijani Babangida  
 MF 15 Sunday Oliseh ▼ 45'  
 DF 16 Uche Okafor  
 DF 17 Augustine Eguavoen 25'  
 MF 18 Wilson Oruma ▼ 68'  
 DF 19 Ben Iroha 38'

**Substitutions:**

DF 21 Godwin Okpara ▲ 45'  
 MF 7 Finidi George ▲ 68'

**Manager:**

 Bora Milutinović

DF 4 Carlos Gamarra  
 DF 5 Celso Ayala  
 FW 9 José Cardozo  
 DF 11 Pedro Sarabia  
 MF 13 Carlos Paredes  
 FW 15 Miguel Benítez ▼ 67'  
 MF 16 Julio César Enciso  
 FW 17 Hugo Brizuela ▼ 77'  
 DF 20 Denis Caniza ▼ 55'

**Substitutions:**

MF 7 Julio César Yegros ▲ 55'  
 MF 10 Roberto Acuña ▲ 67'  
 FW 8 Aristides Rojas ▲ 77'

**Manager:**

 Paulo César Carpegiani

**Assistant referees:**

Mohamed Al Musawi (Oman)

Mikael Milsson (Sweden)

**Fourth official:**

Masayoshi Okada (Japan)

28 June 1998  
 (Round of 16)  
 16:30

**France** 

**1 – 0**  
**(a.e.t.)**

 **Paraguay**

Blanc 113' Report (<https://www.fifa.com/worldcup/archive/edition=1013/results/matches/match=8776/report.html>)

Stade Félix-Bollaert, Lens  
 Attendance: 38,100  
 Referee: Ali Bujsaim (United Arab Emirates)



**France**

GK 16 Fabien Barthez  
 RB 15 Lilian Thuram  
 CB 5 Laurent Blanc  
 CB 8 Marcel Desailly  
 LB 3 Bixente Lizarazu  
 CM 7 Didier Deschamps (c)  
 CM 17 Emmanuel Petit ▼ 69'  
 RW 13 Bernard Diomède ▼ 76'  
 LW 6 Youri Djorkaeff  
 CF 20 David Trezeguet  
 CF 12 Thierry Henry ▼ 64'

**Substitutes:**

MF 11 Robert Pirès ▲ 64'  
 MF 14 Alain Boghossian ▲ 69'  
 FW 9 Stéphane Guivarc'h ▲ 76'

**Manager:**

Aimé Jacquet



**Paraguay**

GK 1 José Luis Chilavert (c) 19'  
 RB 2 Francisco Arce 84'  
 CB 4 Carlos Gamarra  
 CB 5 Celso Ayala  
 LB 11 Pedro Sarabia  
 CM 10 Roberto Acuña  
 CM 16 Julio César Enciso 32'  
 CM 13 Carlos Humberto Paredes ▼ 74'  
 AM 21 Jorge Luis Campos ▼ 55'  
 AM 15 Miguel Ángel Benítez 23'  
 CF 9 José Cardozo ▼ 91'

**Substitutes:**

MF 7 Julio César Yegros ▲ 55'  
 DF 20 Denis Caniza ▲ 74'  
 MF 8 Aristides Rojas ▲ 91'

**Manager:**

 Paulo César Carpegiani

**Assistant referees:**

Nimal Wickeramatunge (Sri Lanka)

Lencie Fred (Vanuatu)

**Fourth official:**  
Esse Baharmast (United States)

## 2002 FIFA World Cup

Paraguay returned to the world's greatest stage once more in the 2002 World Cup. In their first match, Paraguay tied South Africa 2–2 (goals: Roque Santa Cruz and Francisco Arce). Paraguay lost to Spain in the second game (1–3) and finally defeated Slovenia (3–1; goals Nelson Cuevas, twice, and Jorge Luis Campos) to qualify for the second round. Germany ended Paraguay's dreams in the World Cup with an 88-minute goal.

Template:2002 FIFA World Cup Group B

*All times local (UTC+9)*











2 June 2002 (First Round)  
16:30


**Paraguay**  **2–2**  **South Africa**  
Santa Cruz  39' [Report \(https://www.fifa.com/worldcup/archive/edition=4395/results/matches/match=43950006/report.html\)](https://www.fifa.com/worldcup/archive/edition=4395/results/matches/match=43950006/report.html) Mokoena  63'  
Arce  55' Fortune  90+1' (pen.)

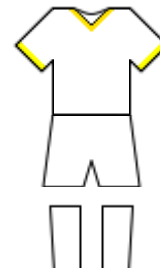
Busan Asian Main Stadium, Busan  
Attendance: 25,186  
Referee: Luboš Michel (Slovakia)



**Paraguay**

GK **22** Ricardo Tawarelli  90'  
CB **18** Julio César Cáceres  35'  
CB **5** Celso Ayala  
CB **4** Carlos Gamarra (c)  
RWB **2** Francisco Arce  
LWB **21** Denis Caniza  65'  
CM **10** Roberto Miguel Acuña  
CM **6** Estanislao Struway  86'  
CM **8** Guido Alvarenga  66'  
AM **11** Jorge Campos  73'  
CF **9** Roque Santa Cruz  
**Substitutions:**  
MF **14** Diego Gavilán  66'  
MF **16** Gustavo Morínigo  73'  
DF **17** Juan Carlos Franco  90+3'  86'

**Manager:**  
 Cesare Maldini



**South Africa**

GK **16** Andre Arendse  
RB **4** Aaron Mokoena  3'  
CB **13** Pierre Issa  9'  27'  
CB **19** Lucas Radebe (c)  
LB **3** Bradley Carnell  
RM **2** Cyril Nzama  
CM **12** Teboho Mokoena  
CM **6** MacBeth Sibaya  
LM **7** Quinton Fortune  
CF **17** Benni McCarthy  38'  78'  
CF **15** Sibusiso Zuma  45+2'  
**Substitutions:**  
MF **9** MacDonald Mukasi  27'  
FW **23** George Koumantarakis  78'

**Manager:**  
Jomo Sono

**Man of the Match:**  
Francisco Arce (Paraguay)

**Assistant referees:**  
Igor Sramka (Slovakia)  
Curtis Charles (Antigua and Barbuda)

**Fourth official:**  
Hugh Dallas (Scotland)

7 June 2002 (First  
 Round)  
 18:00

**Spain** 

**3-1**

**Paraguay** 

Morientes ⚽ 53', 69'  
 Hierro ⚽ 83' (pen.)

Report (<https://www.fifa.com/worldcup/archive/edition=4395/results/matches/match=43950022/report.html>)

Puyol ⚽ 10' (o.g.)

Jeonju World Cup Stadium, Jeonju  
 Attendance: 24,000  
 Referee: Gamal Al-Ghandour (Egypt)

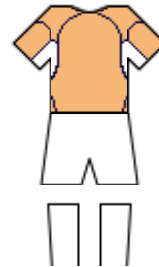


**Spain**

GK 1 Iker Casillas  
 RB 5 Carles Puyol  
 CB 6 Fernando Hierro (c)  
 CB 20 Miguel Ángel Nadal  
 LB 3 Juanfran  
 RM 21 Luis Enrique ▼ 46'  
 CM 8 Rubén Baraja ⚡ 9'  
 CM 17 Juan Carlos Valerón ▼ 85'  
 LM 11 Javier de Pedro  
 CF 7 Raúl  
 CF 10 Diego Tristán ▼ 46'  
**Substitutions:**  
 MF 4 Iván Helguera ▲ 46'  
 FW 9 Fernando Morientes ▲ 46'  
 MF 19 Xavi ▲ 85'

**Manager:**


José Antonio Camacho



**Paraguay**

GK 1 José Luis Chilavert (c)  
 CB 18 Julio César Cáceres  
 CB 5 Celso Ayala  
 CB 4 Carlos Gamarra  
 RWB2 Francisco Arce ⚡ 44'  
 LWB 21 Denis Caniza ▼ 78'  
 CM 14 Diego Gavilán ⚡ 60'  
 CM 10 Roberto Acuña  
 CM 13 Carlos Paredes  
 CF 9 Roque Santa Cruz ⚡ 80'  
 CF 20 José Cardozo ▼ 63'  
**Substitutions:**  
 FW 11 Jorge Campos ▲ 63'  
 MF 6 Estanislao Struway ▲ 78'

**Manager:**

 Cesare Maldini

**Man of the Match:**  
Fernando Morientes (Spain)

**Assistant referees:**  
Wagih Farag (Egypt)  
Brighton Mudzamiri (Zimbabwe)

**Fourth official:**  
Mohamed Guezzaz (Morocco)

12 June 2002 (First  
 Round)  
 20:30

**Slovenia** 

**1-3**

**Paraguay** 

Ačimovič ⚽ 45+1'

Report (<https://www.fifa.com/worldcup/archive/edition=4395/results/matches/match=43950040/report.html>)

Cuevas ⚽ 65', 84'  
 Campos ⚽ 73'

Jeju World Cup Stadium, Seogwipo  
 Attendance: 30,176  
 Referee: Felipe Ramos (Mexico)










**Slovenia**

GK **12** Mladen Dabanovič  
 CB **22** Spasoje Bulajič  
 CB **3** Željko Milinovič  79'  
 CB **15** Rajko Tavčar  
 RM **7** Đoni Novak  
 CM **8** Aleš Čeh (c)  
 CM **11** Miran Pavlin  15'  40'  
 LM **19** Amir Karič  68'  
 AM **18** Milenko Ačimovič  62'  
 CF **21** Sebastjan Cimirotič  
 CF **9** Milan Osterc  77'

**Substitutions:**

FW **13** Mladen Rudonja  69'  40'  
 MF **20** Nastja Čeh  81'  62'  
 FW **16** Senad Tiganj  77'

**Manager:**





Danilo Popivoda




**Paraguay**

GK **1** José Luis Chilavert (c)  
 CB **18** Julio César Cáceres  
 CB **5** Celso Ayala  
 CB **4** Carlos Gamarra  
 RWB **2** Francisco Arce  
 LWB **21** Denis Caniza  
 CM **13** Carlos Paredes  4'  22'  
 CM **10** Roberto Acuña  
 CM **8** Guido Alvarenga  53'  
 CF **20** José Cardozo  61'  
 CF **9** Roque Santa Cruz

**Substitutions:**

MF **11** Jorge Campos  53'  
 FW **23** Nelson Cuevas  61'  92'  
 MF **17** Juan Carlos Franco  92'

**Manager:**

 Cesare Maldini

**Man of the Match:**

Nelson Cuevas (Paraguay)

**Assistant referees:**

Leif Lindberg (Sweden)

Visva Krishnan (Singapore)

**Fourth official:**

Kim Young-joo (Korea Republic)

15 June 2002  
 (Round of 16)  
 15:30

**Germany** 

**1–0**

 **Paraguay**

Neuville  88' [Report \(https://www.fifa.com/worldcup/archive/edition=4395/results/matches/match=43950049/report.html\)](https://www.fifa.com/worldcup/archive/edition=4395/results/matches/match=43950049/report.html)

Jeju World Cup Stadium, Seogwipo  
 Attendance: 25,176  
 Referee: Carlos Alberto Batres  
 (Guatemala)









**Germany**

GK **1** Oliver Kahn (c)  
 RB **22** Torsten Frings  
 CB **3** Marko Rehmer  46'  
 CB **2** Thomas Linke  60'  
 LB **21** Christoph Metzelder  35'  
 RM **19** Bernd Schneider  
 CM **16** Jens Jeremies  
 CM **13** Michael Ballack  90+2'  
 LM **17** Marco Bode  
 CF **7** Oliver Neuville  90+2'  
 CF **11** Miroslav Klose





**Substitutions:**







**Paraguay**

GK **1** José Luis Chilavert (c)  
 RB **2** Francisco Arce  
 CB **18** Julio César Cáceres  
 CB **5** Celso Ayala  
 CB **4** Carlos Gamarra  
 LB **21** Denis Caniza  
 CM **15** Carlos Bonet  84'  
 CM **10** Roberto Acuña  26'  90+2'  
 CM **6** Estanislao Struway  90+1'  
 CF **20** José Cardozo  50'  
 CF **9** Roque Santa Cruz  29'

**Substitutions:**

MF 15 Sebastian Kehl  46'  
 DF 4 Frank Baumann  71'  60'  
 FW 14 Gerald Asamoah  90+2'  
**Manager:**  
 Rudi Völler

FW 11 Jorge Campos  29'  
 MF 14 Diego Gavilán  84'  
 FW 23 Nelson Cuevas  90+1'  
**Manager:**  
 Cesare Maldini

## Man of the Match:

Jens Jeremies (Germany)

## Assistant referees:

Curtis Charles (Antigua and Barbuda)

Dramane Dante (Mali)

## Fourth official:

Hugh Dallas (Scotland)




## 2006 FIFA World Cup

In 2006, Paraguay qualified for its third World Cup in a row. This time, two early defeats against England and Sweden (both 0–1) sent the team home early. The only consolation was defeating Trinidad and Tobago during the last and final group game by 2–0.

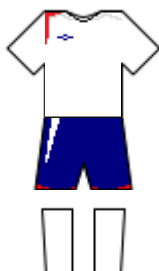
Template:2006 FIFA World Cup Group B

*All times local (CEST/UTC+2)*

10 June 2006 (First  
Round)  
15:00

**England**  **1–0**  **Paraguay**  
 Gamarra  3' (o.g.) [Report \(https://www.fifa.com/worldcup/archive/germany2006/results/matches/match=97410003/report.html\)](https://www.fifa.com/worldcup/archive/germany2006/results/matches/match=97410003/report.html)



FIFA WM Stadion Frankfurt,  
Frankfurt  
Attendance: 48,000  
Referee: Marco Rodríguez (Mexico)



**England**



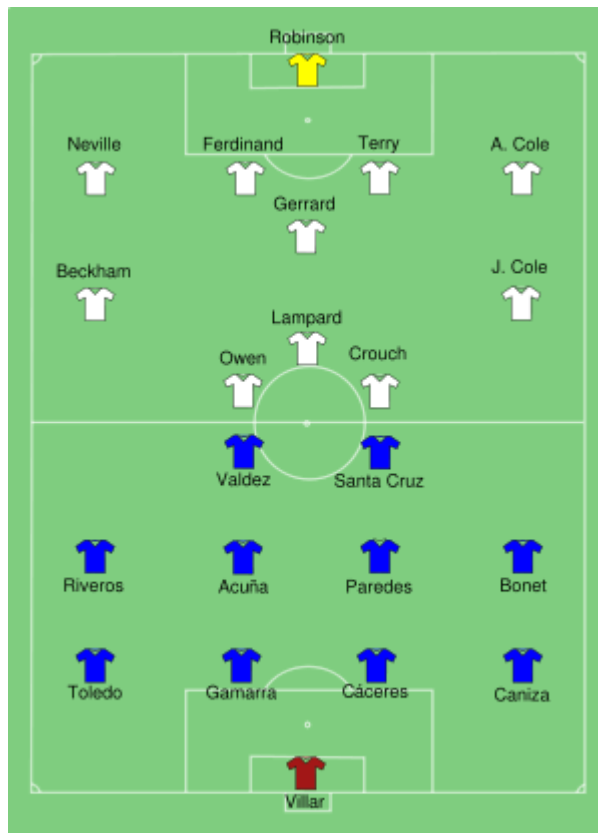
**Paraguay**

GK 1 Paul Robinson  
 RB 2 Gary Neville  
 CB 5 Rio Ferdinand  
 CB 6 John Terry  
 LB 3 Ashley Cole  
 DM 4 Steven Gerrard  19'  
 RM 7 David Beckham (c)  
 LM 11 Joe Cole  83'  
 AM 8 Frank Lampard

GK 1 Justo Villar  8'  
 RB 21 Denis Caniza  
 CB 5 Julio César Cáceres  
 CB 4 Carlos Gamarra (c)  82'  
 LB 3 Delio Toledo  68'  
 RM 6 Carlos Bonet  
 CM 13 Carlos Humberto Paredes  
 CM 10 Roberto Miguel Acuña  
 LM 16 Cristian Riveros



CF 10 Michael Owen 56'  
 CF 21 Peter Crouch 63'  
**Substitutions:**  
 MF 20 Stewart Downing 56'  
 MF 16 Owen Hargreaves 83'  
**Manager:**  
 Sven-Göran Eriksson





CF 9 Roque Santa Cruz  
 CF 18 Nelson Valdez 22'  
**Substitutions:**  
 GK 22 Aldo Bobadilla 8'  
 FW 23 Nelson Cuevas 68'  
 DF 2 Jorge Núñez 82'  
**Manager:**  
 Aníbal Ruiz

**Man of the Match:**  
Frank Lampard (England)

**Assistant referees:**  
José Luis Camargo (Mexico)  
Leonel Leal (Costa Rica)  
**Fourth official:**  
Coffi Codjia (Benin)  
**Fifth official:**  
Celestin Ntagungira (Rwanda)

15 June 2006 (First Round)  
 21:00

**Sweden**  **1–0**  **Paraguay**  
Ljungberg 89' Report (<https://www.fifa.com/worldcup/archive/germany2006/results/matches/match=97410020/report.html>)

Olympiastadion, Berlin  
 Attendance: 72,000  
 Referee: Ľuboš Micheľ (Slovakia)



Sweden



Paraguay

GK 1 Andreas Isaksson  
 RB 7 Niclas Alexandersson  
 CB 3 Olof Mellberg (c) 48'  
 CB 4 Teddy Lučić 14'  
 LB 5 Erik Edman 68'  
 DM 6 Tobias Linderöth 86'  
 RM 21 Christian Wilhelmsson 46'  
 LM 9 Fredrik Ljungberg 60'  
 AM 16 Kim Källström 68'  
 CF 10 Zlatan Ibrahimović 86'  
 CF 11 Henrik Larsson 46'  
**Substitutions:**  
 FW 20 Marcus Allbäck 60'  
 FW 18 Mattias Jonson 46'  
 FW 17 Johan Elmander 68'  
**Manager:**  
Lars Lagerbäck



GK 22 Aldo Bobadilla 54'  
 RB 2 Jorge Núñez 81'  
 CB 5 Julio César Cáceres 3'  
 CB 4 Carlos Gamarra (c) 74'  
 LB 21 Denis Caniza 62'  
 RM 6 Carlos Bonet 63'  
 CM 10 Roberto Miguel Acuña 85'  
 CM 13 Carlos Humberto Paredes 81'  
 LM 16 Cristian Riveros 62'  
 SS 9 Roque Santa Cruz 63'  
 CF 18 Nelson Valdez 62'  
**Substitutions:**  
 MF 19 Julio dos Santos 63'  
 FW 20 Dante López 85'  
 MF 8 Édgar Barreto 81'  
**Manager:**  
Aníbal Ruiz

### Man of the Match:

Fredrik Ljungberg (Sweden)

### Assistant referees:

Roman Slysko (Slovakia)

Martin Balko (Slovakia)

### Fourth official:

Jerome Damon (South Africa)

### Fifth official:

Enock Molefe (South Africa)

20 June 2006 (First  
Round)  
21:00

**Paraguay** **2-0**  
Sancho 25' (o.g.)  
Cuevas 86'  
 Report (<https://www.fifa.com/worldcup/archive/germany2006/results/matches/match=97410036/report.html>)

**Trinidad and Tobago**  
 Fritz-Walter-Stadion, Kaiserslautern  
 Attendance: 46,000  
 Referee: Roberto Rosetti (Italy)



Paraguay




## Trinidad and Tobago

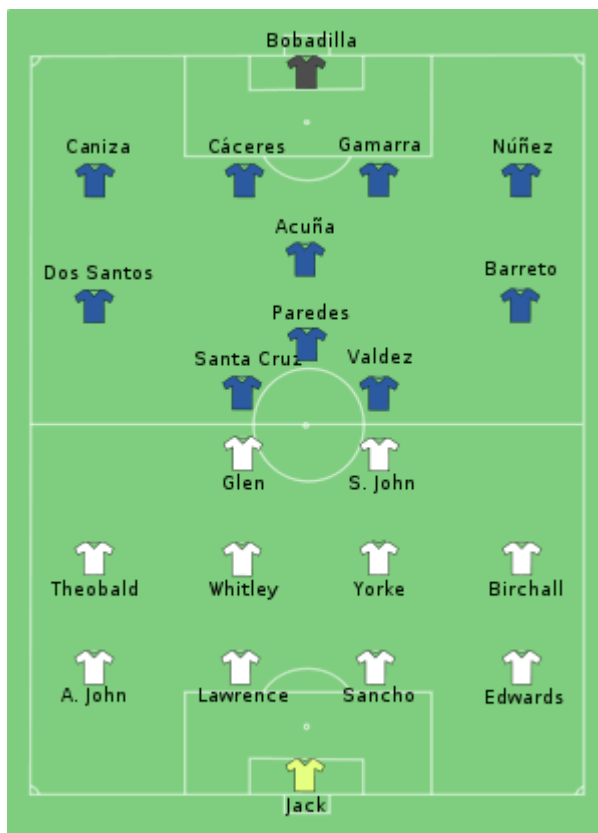
GK 22 Aldo Bobadilla  
 RB 21 Denis Caniza 89'  
 CB 5 Julio César Cáceres 77'  
 CB 4 Carlos Gamarra (c)  
 LB 2 Jorge Núñez  
 DM 10 Roberto Miguel Acuña  
 RM 19 Julio dos Santos 54'  
 LM 8 Edgar Barreto  
 AM 13 Carlos Humberto Paredes 30'  
 CF 9 Roque Santa Cruz  
 CF 18 Nelson Valdez 66'

### Substitutions:

FW 23 Nelson Cuevas 66'  
 DF 15 Julio Manzur 77'  
 DF 14 Paulo da Silva 89'


### Manager:

 Aníbal Ruiz



GK 21 Kelvin Jack  
 RB 11 Carlos Edwards  
 CB 5 Brent Sancho 45'  
 CB 6 Dennis Lawrence 31'  
 LB 3 Avery John  
 RM 7 Chris Birchall  
 CM 19 Dwight Yorke (c)  
 CM 9 Aurtis Whitley 48' 67'  
 LM 18 Densill Theobald  
 CF 14 Stern John 41'  
 CF 13 Cornell Glen  
**Substitutions:**  
 DF 15 Kenwyne Jones 31'  
 MF 16 Evans Wise 41'  
 MF 10 Russell Latapy 67'

### Manager:

 Leo Beenhakker

## Man of the Match:

Julio dos Santos (Paraguay)

## Assistant referees:

Cristiano Copelli (Italy)

Alessandro Stagnelli (Italy)

## Fourth official:

Frank De Bleeckere (Belgium)

## Fifth official:

Peter Hermans (Belgium)

## 2010 FIFA World Cup

In their fourth consecutive World Cup appearance, Paraguay eventually reached the quarter-finals. Drawn into Group F along with defending champions Italy, Slovakia and New Zealand, they opened their tournament with a draw against the Italians, holding them 1–1 thanks to a first-half goal from Antolín Alcaraz. In their second match, they beat Slovakia 2–0 with goals from Enrique Vera and Christian Riveros. Their final group match saw a goalless draw with New Zealand, clinching first place in Group F and setting up a date with Japan. Another goalless draw with the Japanese after 120 minutes went to penalties,

File:Stamps of Paraguay, 2010-08.jpg

2010 FIFA World Cup

File:Stamps of Paraguay, 2010-09.jpg

2010 FIFA World Cup

which Paraguay won 5–3, advancing them for the first time in their history to the World Cup round of eight. In the quarter-finals, they met powerhouses Spain, to whom they lost 1–0 in a game where a goal by Nelson Valdez was controversially called an offside by the referee. The game also featured each team being awarded a penalty, both of which were contained, first by Spain's Iker Casillas and then Paraguay's Justo Villar (both were also team captains for the game).

The *Albirroja* arrived back from South Africa on Monday, July 5 at 3:30 AM. Upon arrival, they were greeted by over 3,000 fans at the airport and were decorated by the President of Paraguay. Gerardo Martino announced that he would take some time to decide his future, although the Paraguayan Football Association has offered him a four-year contract to continue at the helm. Roque Santa Cruz also announced that this would be his last World Cup, but that he may play one more tournament, the Copa América in Argentina in 2011.

Template:2010 FIFA World Cup Group F

*All times local (UTC+02)*

14 June 2010 (First Round)  
20:30

Italy

1–1

Paraguay

De Rossi 63' Report (https://www.fifa.com/worldcup/archive/southafrica2010/matches/round=249722/match=300061484/report.html) Alcaraz 39'

Cape Town Stadium, Cape Town  
Attendance: 62,869  
Referee: Benito Archundia (Mexico)<sup>[4]</sup>

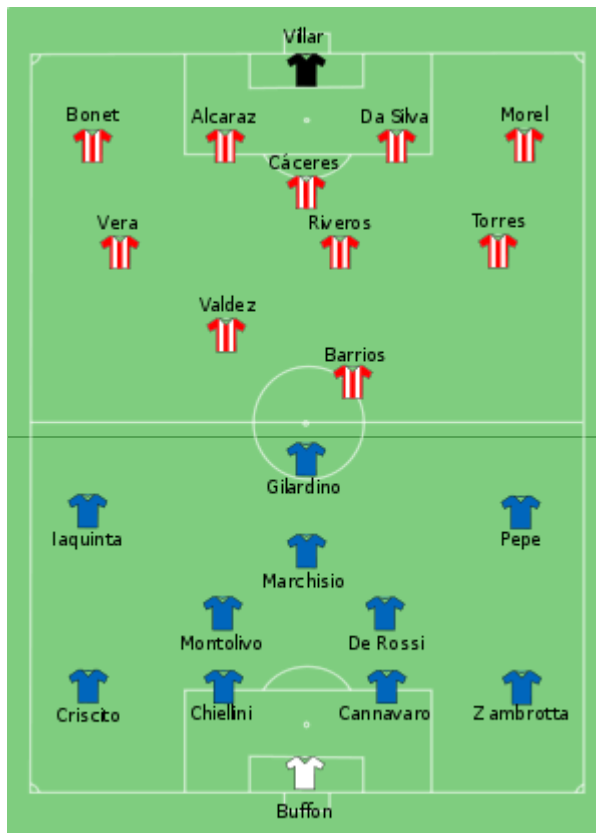


Italy<sup>[5]</sup>



Paraguay<sup>[5]</sup>

GK 1 Gianluigi Buffon 46'  
 RB 19 Gianluca Zambrotta  
 CB 5 Fabio Cannavaro (c)  
 CB 4 Giorgio Chiellini  
 LB 3 Domenico Criscito  
 CM 6 Daniele De Rossi  
 CM 22 Riccardo Montolivo  
 AM 15 Claudio Marchisio 59'  
 RW 7 Simone Pepe  
 LW 9 Vincenzo Iaquinta  
 CF 11 Alberto Gilardino 72'  
**Substitutions:**  
 GK 12 Federico Marchetti 46'  
 MF 16 Mauro Camoranesi 70' 59'  
 FW 10 Antonio Di Natale 72'  
**Manager:**  
Marcello Lippi



GK 1 Justo Villar (c)  
 RB 6 Carlos Bonet  
 CB 21 Antolín Alcaraz  
 CB 14 Paulo da Silva  
 LB 3 Claudio Morel  
 DM 15 Víctor Cáceres 62'  
 RM 13 Enrique Vera  
 CM 16 Cristian Riveros 60'  
 LM 17 Aureliano Torres 68'  
 SS 18 Nelson Valdez 76'  
 CF 19 Lucas Barrios  
**Substitutions:**  
 MF 11 Jonathan Santana 60'  
 FW 9 Roque Santa Cruz 68'  
 FW 7 Óscar Cardozo 76'  
**Manager:**  
Gerardo Martino

### Man of the Match:

Antolín Alcaraz (Paraguay)

### Assistant referees:

Héctor Vergara (Canada)<sup>[4]</sup>  
Marvin Torrentera (Mexico)<sup>[4]</sup>

### Fourth official:

Joel Aguilar (El Salvador)<sup>[4]</sup>



### Fifth official:

Juan Zumba (El Salvador)<sup>[4]</sup>



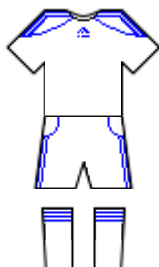
Italy vs Paraguay

20 June 2010 (First Round)  
 13:30

**Slovakia**  **0–2**  **Paraguay**

Report (<https://www.fifa.com/worldcup/archive/southafrica2010/matches/round=249722/match=300061481/report.html>)  
 Vera  27'  
 Riveros  86'

Free State Stadium, Bloemfontein  
 Attendance: 26,643  
 Referee: Eddy Maillet (Seychelles)<sup>[4]</sup>

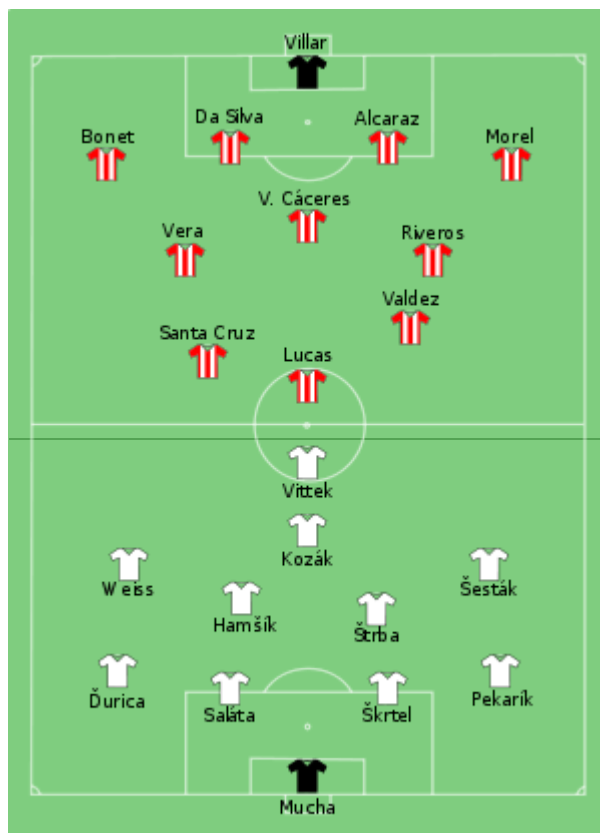


**Slovakia**<sup>[6]</sup>



**Paraguay**<sup>[6]</sup>

GK 1 Ján Mucha  
 RB 2 Peter Pekarík  
 CB 3 Martin Škrtel  
 CB 21 Kornel Saláta  
 LB 16 Ján Ďurica  
 DM 6 Zdeno Štrba  
 CM 17 Marek Hamšík  
 RW 9 Stanislav Šesták  
 LW 7 Vladimír Weiss  
 SS 8 Ján Kozák  
 CF 11 Róbert Vittek  
**Substitutions:**  
 FW 13 Filip Hološko  
 MF 15 Miroslav Stoch  
**Manager:**  
 Vladimír Weiss





GK 1 Justo Villar (c)  
 RB 6 Carlos Bonet  
 CB 14 Paulo da Silva  
 CB 21 Antolín Alcaraz  
 LB 3 Claudio Morel  
 DM 15 Víctor Cáceres  
 CM 13 Enrique Vera  
 CM 16 Cristian Riveros  
 AM 18 Nelson Valdez  
 SS 9 Roque Santa Cruz  
 CF 19 Lucas Barrios  
**Substitutions:**  
 DF 17 Aureliano Torres  
 FW 7 Óscar Cardozo  
 MF 8 Edgar Barreto  
**Manager:**  
 Gerardo Martino

**Man of the Match:**  
 Enrique Vera (Paraguay)

**Assistant referees:**  
 Evarist Menkouande (Cameroon)<sup>[4]</sup>  
 Bechir Hassani (Tunisia)<sup>[4]</sup>  
**Fourth official:**  
 Joel Aguilar (El Salvador)<sup>[4]</sup>  
**Fifth official:**  
 Juan Zumba (El Salvador)<sup>[4]</sup>

24 June 2010 (First Round)  
 16:00

**Paraguay**  **0–0**  **New Zealand**

Report (<https://www.fifa.com/worldcup/archive/southamerica2010/matches/round=249722/match=300061479/report.html>)

Peter Mokaba Stadium, Polokwane  
 Attendance: 34,850  
 Referee: Yuichi Nishimura (Japan)<sup>[4]</sup>

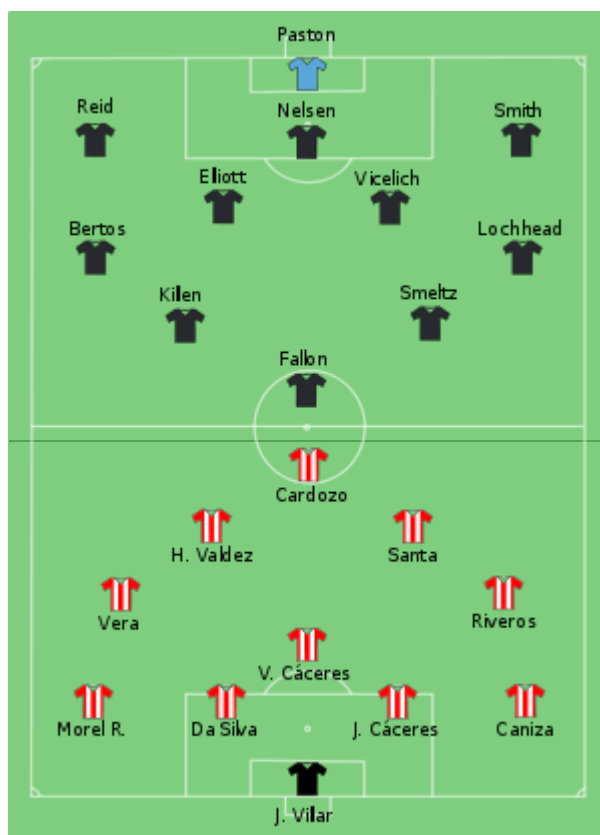


Paraguay<sup>[7]</sup>



New Zealand<sup>[7]</sup>

GK 1 Justo Villar  
 RB 4 Denis Caniza  
 CB 5 Julio Cáceres  
 CB 14 Paulo da Silva  
 LB 3 Claudio Morel  
 DM 15 Víctor Cáceres 10'  
 CM 16 Cristian Riveros  
 CM 13 Enrique Vera  
 AM 9 Roque Santa Cruz 41'  
 AM 18 Nelson Valdez 67'  
 CF 7 Óscar Cardozo 66'  
**Substitutions:**  
 FW 19 Lucas Barrios 66'  
 FW 10 Édgar Benítez 67'  
**Manager:**  
Gerardo Martino



GK 1 Mark Paston  
 RB 4 Winston Reid  
 CB 6 Ryan Nelsen (c) 56'  
 LB 19 Tommy Smith  
 CM 7 Simon Elliott  
 CM 5 Ivan Vicelich  
 RM 11 Leo Bertos  
 LM 3 Tony Lochhead  
 AM 10 Chris Killen 79'  
 AM 9 Shane Smeltz  
 CF 14 Rory Fallon 69'  
**Substitutions:**  
 FW 20 Chris Wood 69'  
 MF 22 Jeremy Brockie 79'  
**Manager:**  
Ricki Herbert

### Man of the Match:

Roque Santa Cruz (Paraguay)

### Assistant referees:

Toru Sagara (Japan)<sup>[4]</sup>

Jeong Hae-sang (Korea Republic)<sup>[4]</sup>

### Fourth official:



Koman Coulibaly (Mali)<sup>[4]</sup>

### Fifth official:

Inacio Manuel Candido (Angola)<sup>[4]</sup>

Paraguay and Japan met at the Loftus Versfeld Stadium in Pretoria on 29 June 2010. The match was decided by a penalty shootout after the score was locked at 0–0 for 120 minutes. Paraguay won the shootout and progressed to its first ever World Cup quarter-final.<sup>[8]</sup> The match was a generally unexciting affair, as Japan adopted a defensive posture while Paraguay itself maintained a solid defence. The first half produced the occasional chance on goal with Lucas Barrios having a shot saved shortly before a long distance shot from Daisuke Matsui hit the crossbar of Paraguay's goal. The second half was similar, with either side producing occasional chances to score rather than periods of dominance. The result of the deadlock was extra time, which continued goalless. A penalty shootout ensued, in which Yūichi Komano missed a spot kick for Japan. Paraguay scored all five of its penalties, clinching the win and passage to the quarter-finals.<sup>[9]</sup> After the match, Japan head coach Takeshi Okada resigned and Shunsuke Nakamura retired from international football.<sup>[10]</sup>

29 June 2010  
 (Round of 16)  
 16:00

Paraguay  0–0 (a.e.t.)  Japan

Report (<https://www.fifa.com/worldcup/archive/southafrica2010/matches/round=249717/>)

Loftus Versfeld Stadium, Pretoria  
 Attendance: 36,742  
 Referee: Frank De Bleeckere  
 (Belgium)

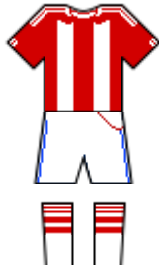
match=30006149  
7/report.html)

### Penalties

5-3

Barreto  
Barrios  
Riveros  
Valdez  
Cardozo

Endō  
Hasebe  
Komano  
Honda



Paraguay<sup>[11]</sup>



Japan<sup>[11]</sup>

GK 1 Justo Villar (c)  
RB 6 Carlos Bonet  
CB 14 Paulo da Silva  
CB 21 Antolín Alcaraz  
LB 3 Claudio Morel

DM 20 Néstor Ortigoza

CM 13 Enrique Vera

CM 16 Cristian Riveros

RW 9 Roque Santa Cruz

LW 10 Édgar Benítez

CF 19 Lucas Barrios

#### Substitutions:

FW 18 Nelson Valdez

MF 8 Édgar Barreto

FW 7 Óscar Cardozo

#### Manager:

 Gerardo Martino

75'

118'

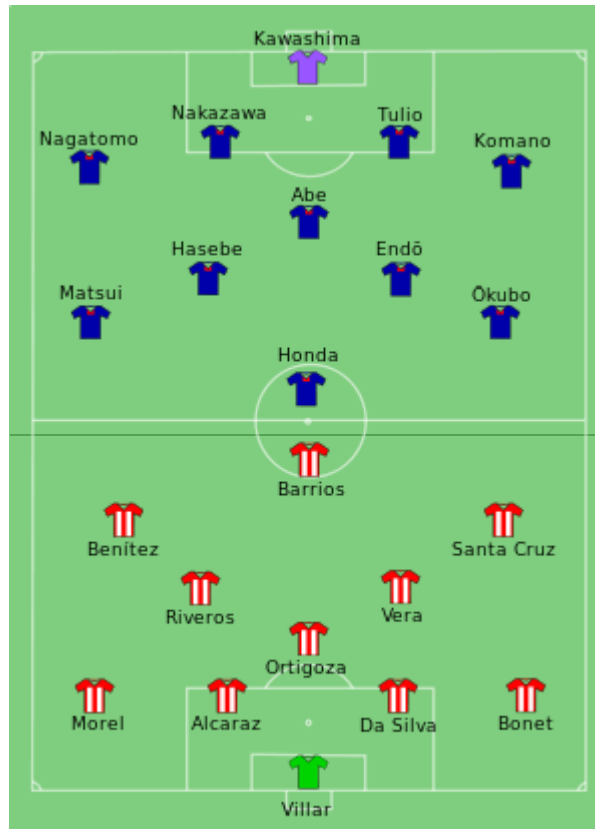
94'

60'

60'

75'

94'



GK 21 Eiji Kawashima

RB 3 Yūichi Komano

CB 22 Yuji Nakazawa

CB 4 Marcus Tulio

Tanaka

LB 5 Yuto Nagatomo

DM 2 Yuki Abe

CM 17 Makoto Hasebe

(c)

CM 7 Yasuhito Endō

RW 8 Daisuke Matsui

LW 16 Yoshito Ōkubo

CF 18 Keisuke Honda

#### Substitutions:

FW 9 Shinji Okazaki

MF 14 Kengo Nakamura

FW 11 Keiji Tamada

#### Manager:

Takeshi Okada

72'

81'

113'

58'

65'

106'

90+3'

65'

81'

106'

### Man of the Match:

Keisuke Honda (Japan)

### Assistant referees:

Peter Hermans (Belgium)

Walter Vromans (Belgium)

### Fourth official:

Peter O'Leary (New Zealand)

### Fifth official:



Matthew Taro (Solomon Islands)



On 3 July 2010, Spain defeated Paraguay 1–0 to secure entry to the semi-finals where they would meet Germany. It was the first time that Spain had progressed to the semi-final of a World Cup since 1950; while for the defeated Paraguay, the quarter-final appearance was also the country's best ever performance.<sup>[12]</sup>

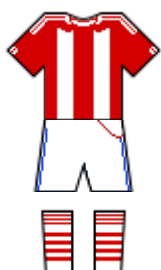
The first half of the match finished goalless, although both sides had chances to score and Paraguay's Nelson Valdez had a goal ruled out as offside. The match suddenly became eventful in the second half due to a string of penalty kicks. First, Óscar Cardozo was pulled down by Gerard Piqué in Spain's penalty area and Paraguay was awarded a penalty. Cardozo took the penalty himself but it was saved by Spain's goalkeeper Iker Casillas. Spain soon after launched an attack at the other end of the field, in which David Villa was ruled by the referee to have been brought down by Antolín Alcaraz. Xabi Alonso stepped up to take the penalty kick and seemed to have scored, only for the referee to order it be retaken because of encroachment by a Spanish player into the penalty area before the kick was taken. Xabi Alonso's retake was saved by Paraguayan goalkeeper Justo Villar. As a result, the score remained 0–0 after the three penalty kicks. Spain, however, ultimately managed to take the lead in the 82nd minute: David Villa collected a rebounded shot off the post from Pedro, to score himself off the post. The goal turned out to be the winner for Spain.<sup>[12]</sup> After the match, Spain coach Vicente del Bosque conceded that his side were not playing at their best and were starved of possession. He also noted his view that Spain's next opponents Germany were the best team at the World Cup.<sup>[13]</sup> Paraguay coach Gerardo Martino stated he would be leaving his position at the end of his contract.<sup>[14]</sup>

3 July 2010  
(Quarter-Finals)  
20:30

**Paraguay**  **0–1**  **Spain**

Report (<https://www.fifa.com/worldcup/archive/southafrica2010/matches/round=249718/match=300061506/report.html>)  
Villa ⚽ 83'


Ellis Park Stadium, Johannesburg  
Attendance: 55,359  
Referee: Carlos Batres (Guatemala)



**Paraguay**<sup>[15]</sup>



**Spain**<sup>[15]</sup>

GK **1** Justo Villar (c)  
 RB **2** Darío Verón  
 CB **14** Paulo da Silva  
 CB **21** Antolín Alcaraz 59'  
 LB **3** Claudio Morel 71'  
 DM **15** Víctor Cáceres 59' 84'  
 RM **11** Jonathan Santana 88'  
 CM **8** Édgar Barreto 64'  
 LM **16** Cristian Riveros  
 SS **18** Nelson Valdez 72'  
 CF **7** Óscar Cardozo  
**Substitutions:**  
 MF **13** Enrique Vera 64'  
 FW **9** Roque Santa Cruz 72'  
 FW **19** Lucas Barrios 84'  
**Manager:**  
 Gerardo Martino



GK **1** Iker Casillas (c)  
 RB **15** Sergio Ramos  
 CB **3** Gerard Piqué 57'  
 CB **5** Carles Puyol 84'  
 LB **11** Joan Capdevila  
 DM **16** Sergio Busquets 63'  
 RM **6** Andrés Iniesta  
 CM **8** Xavi  
 LM **14** Xabi Alonso 75'  
 SS **7** David Villa  
 CF **9** Fernando Torres 56'  
**Substitutions:**  
 MF **10** Cesc Fàbregas 56'  
 FW **18** Pedro 75'  
 DF **4** Carlos Marchena 84'  
**Manager:**  
Vicente del Bosque

**Man of the Match:**  
Andrés Iniesta (Spain)

**Assistant referees:**  
Leonel Leal (Costa Rica)  
Carlos Pastrana (Honduras)  
**Fourth official:**  
Benito Archundia (Mexico)  
**Fifth official:**  
Héctor Vergara (Canada)

## Record players

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No.	Name	Matches	World Cups
1	<u>Denis Caniza</u>	12	1998, 2002, 2006 and 2010
	<u>Roque Santa Cruz</u>	12	2002, 2006 and 2010
3	<u>Roberto Acuña</u>	11	1998, 2002 and 2006
	<u>Carlos Gamarra</u>	11	1998, 2002 and 2006
5	<u>Carlos Paredes</u>	9	1998, 2002 and 2006
6	<u>Celso Ayala</u>	8	1998 and 2002
	<u>Julio César Cáceres</u>	8	2002, 2006 and 2010
	<u>Nelson Valdez</u>	8	2006 and 2010
9	<u>Francisco Arce</u>	7	1998 and 2002
	<u>Jorge Campos</u>	7	1998 and 2002
	<u>José Luis Chilavert</u>	7	1998 and 2002
	<u>Cristian Riveros</u>	7	2006 and 2010

## World Cup goal scorers

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World Cup	Name	Goals
<u>2002, 2006</u>	<u>Nelson Cuevas</u>	3
<u>1986</u>	<u>Roberto Cabañas</u>	2
<u>1986</u>	<u>Julio César Romero</u>	2
<u>1958</u>	<u>Florencio Amarilla</u>	2
<u>1958</u>	<u>Jorge Lino Romero</u>	2
<u>1958</u>	<u>José Parodi</u>	2
<u>1958</u>	<u>Juan Bautista Agüero</u>	2
<u>2010</u>	<u>Cristian Riveros</u>	1
<u>2010</u>	<u>Enrique Vera</u>	1
<u>2010</u>	<u>Antolín Alcaraz</u>	1
<u>2002</u>	<u>Jorge Luis Campos</u>	1
<u>2002</u>	<u>Francisco Arce</u>	1
<u>2002</u>	<u>Roque Santa Cruz</u>	1
<u>1998</u>	<u>José Cardozo</u>	1
<u>1998</u>	<u>Miguel Ángel Benítez</u>	1
<u>1998</u>	<u>Celso Ayala</u>	1
<u>1958</u>	<u>Cayetano Ré</u>	1
<u>1950</u>	<u>César López Fretes</u>	1
<u>1950</u>	<u>Atilio López</u>	1
<u>1930</u>	<u>Luis Vargas Peña</u>	1

## References

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1. FIFA initially credited the goal in the 15th minute to Tom Florie, but changed it to Patenaude in 2006. During previous years, it was also listed as an own goal by Aurelio González (RSSSF (<http://www.rsssf.com/tables/30full.html#grd>)).
2. This is one of several goals for which the statistical details are disputed. The goalscorers and timings used here are those of FIFA, the official record. Some other sources, such as RSSSF, state a different scorer, timing, or both. See "World Cup 1930 finals" (<http://www.rsssf.com/tables/30full.html>). *Rec.Sport.Soccer Statistics Foundation* (RSSSF). Retrieved 15 August 2010.
3. Template:Es icon "Archived copy" (<https://web.archive.org/web/20040818102757/http://www.albirroja.com/history/history6.html>). Archived from the original (<http://www.albirroja.com/history/history6.html>) on 2004-08-18. Retrieved 2007-10-30. {{cite web}}: Unknown parameter |deadurl= ignored (|url-status= suggested) (help)
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5. "Tactical Line-up – Group F – Italy-Paraguay" (<https://web.archive.org/web/20100614222827/http://www.fifa.com/mm/document/tournament/competition/01/24/48/19/11%5f0614%5fita-par%5ftacticalstartlist.pdf>) (PDF). *FIFA.com*. Fédération Internationale de Football Association. 14 June 2010. Archived from the original (<https://www.fifa.com/mm/document/tournament/competition/01/24/48/19/11%5f0614%5fita-par%5ftacticalstartlist.pdf>) (PDF) on 14 June 2010. Retrieved 14 June 2010. {{cite web}}: Unknown parameter |deadurl= ignored (|url-status= suggested) (help)
6. "Tactical Line-up – Group F – Slovakia-Paraguay" (<https://web.archive.org/web/20100702220958/http://www.fifa.com/mm/document/tournament/competition/01/25/16/00/27%5F0620%5Fsvk-par%5Ftacticalstartlist.pdf>) (PDF). *FIFA.com*. Fédération Internationale de Football Association. 20 June 2010. Archived from the original (<https://www.fifa.com/mm/document/tournament/competition/01/25/16/00/27%5F0620%5Fsvk-par%5Ftacticalstartlist.pdf>) (PDF) on 2 July 2010. Retrieved 20 June 2010. {{cite web}}: Unknown parameter |deadurl= ignored (|url-status= suggested) (help)
7. "Tactical Line-up – Group F – Paraguay-New Zealand" (<https://www.fifa.com/mm/document/tournament/competition/01/25/68/88/42%5f0624%5fpar-nzl%5ftacticalstartlist.pdf>) (PDF). *FIFA.com*. Fédération Internationale de Football Association. 24 June 2010. Retrieved 24 June 2010.
8. Lynch, Michael (30 June 2010). "Justice done for Paraguay as Japan pay the penalty" (<https://web.archive.org/web/20100703105802/http://www.smh.com.au/world-cup-2010/world-cup-news/justice-done-for-paraguay-as-japan-pay-the-penalty-20100630-zjo7.html?autostart=1>). *Sydney Morning Herald*. Archived from the original (<http://www.smh.com.au/world-cup-2010/world-cup-news/justice-done-for-paraguay-as-japan-pay-the-penalty-20100630-zjo7.html?autostart=1>) on 3 July 2010. Retrieved 9 July 2010. {{cite news}}: Unknown parameter |deadurl= ignored (|url-status= suggested) (help)
9. Fletcher, Paul (29 June 2010). "Paraguay 0–0 Japan (5–3 pens)" ([https://web.archive.org/web/20100708090911/http://news.bbc.co.uk/sport2/hi/football/world\\_cup\\_2010/matches/match\\_55/default.stm](https://web.archive.org/web/20100708090911/http://news.bbc.co.uk/sport2/hi/football/world_cup_2010/matches/match_55/default.stm)). *BBC Sport*. Archived from the original ([http://news.bbc.co.uk/sport2/hi/football/world\\_cup\\_2010/matches/match\\_55/default.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/sport2/hi/football/world_cup_2010/matches/match_55/default.stm)) on 8 July 2010. Retrieved 9 July 2010. {{cite news}}: Unknown parameter |deadurl= ignored (|url-status= suggested) (help)
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11. "Tactical Line-up – Last 16 – Paraguay-Japan" ([https://web.archive.org/web/20100705003127/http://www.fifa.com/mm/document/tournament/competition/01/26/33/56/55\\_0629\\_par-jpn\\_tacticalstartlist.pdf](https://web.archive.org/web/20100705003127/http://www.fifa.com/mm/document/tournament/competition/01/26/33/56/55_0629_par-jpn_tacticalstartlist.pdf)) (PDF). *FIFA.com*. Fédération Internationale de Football Association. 29 June 2010. Archived from the original ([https://www.fifa.com/mm/document/tournament/competition/01/26/33/56/55\\_0629\\_par-jpn\\_tacticalstartlist.pdf](https://www.fifa.com/mm/document/tournament/competition/01/26/33/56/55_0629_par-jpn_tacticalstartlist.pdf)) (PDF) on 5 July 2010. Retrieved 29 June 2010. {{cite web}}: Unknown parameter |deadurl= ignored (|url-status= suggested) (help)
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15. "Tactical Line-up – Quarterfinal – Paraguay-Spain" (<https://www.fifa.com/mm/document/tournament/competition/01/26/72/51/60%5f0703%5fpar-esp%5ftacticalstartlist.pdf>) (PDF). *FIFA.com*. Fédération Internationale de Football Association. 3 July 2010. Retrieved 3 July 2010.

## External links

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- Paraguay at FIFA (<https://www.fifa.com/associations/association=par/>)
  - World Cup Finals Statistics (<https://www.fifa.com/worldfootball/statisticsandrecords/associations/association=par/worldcup/index.html>)
- 

Retrieved from "[https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Paraguay\\_at\\_the\\_FIFA\\_World\\_Cup&oldid=848646998](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Paraguay_at_the_FIFA_World_Cup&oldid=848646998)"

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