

Argentina and Cuba move into Semifinals



MEXICO CITY, Mexico, May 23, 2016. - Argentina and Cuba moved into the XI Men's Pan American Cup semifinals finishing on top of their respective Groups at the Olympic Gymnasium Juan de la Barrera in Mexico City.

In the quarterfinals, United States faces Canada and Mexico meets Dominican Republic.

Colombia 3, Honduras 0

Colombia prevailed over Honduras 3-0 (25-22, 25-20, 25-21). Colombia finishes third in Pool C with 1-2 record while Honduras with 0-3 mark, in fourth place. Both teams will play the classification round for places

7-10. Colombia led in blocks (10-5) and aces (4-0). Honduras led in kills (43-40). The South American team scored on 21 errors from their opponent and committed 15. Opposite Juan Moreno of Colombia led his team with 17 points and outside hitter David Renteira chipped in with 11 points. Middle blocker Luis Matamoros was Honduras top scorer with 11 points, and Luis Salgado with Ornello Watler scored 10 points apiece.

United States 3, Dominican Republic 1

United States topped Pool A after defeating Dominican Republic 3-1 (25-20, 25-23, 26-28, 25-17) United States and Dominican Republic battled hard keeping the scores very close. After losing set three, the Americans came back stronger to finish winning. United States finishes pool-play with 2-0 record and Dominican Republic with 1-1. The advantage in skills was minor; United States led in blocking (9-5) and aces (6-5), while the Dominicans did better in kills (49-48). The winners scored on 38 errors by Dominican Republic and committed 29. Outside hitter Gregory Petty was USA's leading scorer with 15 points, 13 on kills and 2 aces; followed by opposite Carson Clark with 14 points, 11 on kills, 2 on blocks and 1 ace. Also with double digits, middle blocker Jeffrey Jendryk (13) and Torey Defalco (10). Leading all scores was Dominican Pedro Garcia with 19 points, on 16 kills and 3 blocks. Henry Lopez contributed with 14 points.

Cuba 3, Canada 2

Cuba downed Canada in five thrilling sets 20-25, 25-17, 25-21, 23-25, 15-13 to win Pool B. Cuba and Canada spiked hard in a tough battle that lasted a little over two hours. Cuba won the fifth set via a failed serve by Canada. Cuba wins Pool B with 2-0 record and eight points and Canada finishes second with 1-1 record and seven points. Cuba held a 12-9 advantage in blocking and scored on 48 errors by Canada, who topped in kills (49-46) and aces (7-2). Cuba committed 36 unforced errors. Opposite Dariel Albo led Cuba's scorers with 16 points, 15 on kills and 1 block, middle blocker Luis Sosa also scored 16 points, on 10 kills and 6 blocks; Abrahan Alfonso and Osniel Melgarejo contributed with 11 points apiece. On the Canadian side, opposite Bradley Gunter scored 21 points on a match-high on 16 kills and 5 aces, outside hitter Stephen Maar added 16 points, on 15 kills and 1 ace, and middle blocker Braden Mclean scored 10 points.

Argentina 3, Mexico 1

Argentina won to the home team 3-1 (25-18, 25-21, 26-28, 25-22) in the closing match of the preliminary round. With the victory, Argentina won Pool C and earned a hall pass into the semifinals. Argentina held a huge 60-48 advantage in kills over Mexico and in aces 4-2. Both scored 10 points on blocking. Argentina had 29 unforced errors and Mexico 27. Opposite Bruno Lima of Argentina topped all scorers with 23 points, 19 on kills, 3 blocks and 1 ace. Also contributing with the win were Nicolas Lazo (14), Jan Martinez (12) and Fabian Flores (10). Mexican outside hitter Jorge Barajas led his team with 17 points, 15 on kills and 2 blocks, and Tomas Aguilera added 10 points, 8 on kills and 2 blocks.