



Cuba and Mexico spectacular in Day two

MEXICO CITY, Mexico, May 22, 2016. – Cuba and Mexico showed spectacular performances while beating Costa Rica and Colombia respectively in day two of the XI Men's Pan American Cup at Olympic Gymnasium Juan de la Barrera. Cuba had an impressive first outing, dominating Costa Rica in Pool B while building an unbreakable wall with their blocking and effective kills. Cuba will meet against Canada to determine first place of their group.

The host Mexico gave a spectacular show for the crowd as they downed Colombia in thrilling five sets to remain unbeaten in Pool C. Mexico fought strongly to beat Colombia, especially in a long first set (32-20). Argentina, who also captured a second win, will meet Mexico to top Pool C.

Dominican Republic made their debut proving their intentions in reaching the finals as they overcame an intense duel against Chile in Pool A. The match between Dominican Republic and United States will decide the winner in that pool.

The preliminary round concludes on Monday starting with Colombia v Honduras, the second match features Dominican Republic v United States, followed by Canada v Cuba and in the closing match the clash between Mexico and Argentina.



Dominican Republic 3, Chile 1

Dominican Republic opened the XI Men's Pan American Cup with victory over Chile 3-1 (25-20, 18-25, 26-24, 25-23). Opposite Pedro Garcia of Dominican Republic scored impressive 26 points as the best scorer of the match, joined by Henry Tapia with 15 points. Outside hitter Vicente Parraguire led Chile with 17 points and Dusan Bonacic added 11. Dominicans prevailed over Chile with a 51-41 advantage in spikes, 6-4 in blocking and 8-7 in service points. In errors, Dominican Republic finished with 40 and Chile with 29.

Argentina 3, Honduras 0

Argentina won their second consecutive match in straight sets defeating Honduras 25-10, 25-19, 25-16. The South American team showed different rotations while using all their players; they had some trouble in the second set when Honduras got into better rhythm but they still controlled the actions. Argentina improved their win-loss record 2-0 and stands with ten points in Pool C, while Honduras remains win-less 0-2. Argentina held advantage in all categories, with advantage 28-24 in spikes, 7-1 in blocks and 6-1 in serves. Argentina scored on 24 errors from their opponent and committed 19. Argentina's top scorer was middle blocker Fabian Flores with 10 points and opposite German Johansen contributed with 9. Luis Salgado led Honduras with 9 points.

Cuba 3, Costa Rica 0

Cuba made their debut beating Costa Rica with impressive blocking 3-0 (25-11, 25-16, 25-18). Cuba held a huge blocking advantage of 14-1 in blocking, 7-1 in serves and 38-24 in spikes. Costa Rica committed 16 unforced errors and Cuba 19. Costa Rica scored several points with strong spikes despite Cuba's effectiveness. In Pool B, Cuba earns five points in their first win, while Costa Rica finishes the preliminary round with 0-2 win-loss record. Opposite Dariel Albo topped Cuba's scorers with 16 points, outside hitter Osniel Melgarejo added 10 points, while middle blocker Livan Osoria and outside hitter Abraham Alfonso tallied 9 points apiece. Costa Rica was led by outside hitter Alberto Blanco with 8 points.



Mexico 3, Colombia 2

Mexico wins spectacular five-setter to Colombia (32-30, 25-20, 25-27, 23-25, 15-13). The home crowd cheered for Mexico in the most intense match of the day, with Colombia battling after losing the first two sets. Mexico held advantage in kills by 76-60 and serves 8-1, while Colombia was better by far in blocking 16-8. Mexico gave away 38 points in errors and Colombia 28. Outside hitter Jorge Barajas led Mexico with 24 points; also contributing in the winning campaign were Ivan Marquez (15), Samuel Cordova (13), Tomas Aguilera (12) and Gonzalo Ruiz (10). Leading all scorers was Colombian Ronald Jimenez with 30 points.