



Newsletter

Puerto Rico wins first NORCECA title ever and Arturo Iglesias named MVP



DURANGO, Mexico, August 23, 2021. - Puerto Rico won their first Men's NORCECA Continental Championship title and Arturo Iglesias named the Most Valuable Player in Durango, Mexico.

Puerto Rico defeated Canada 3-0 (25-18, 25-21, 25-23) in the gold medal match, making history with their first Continental Championship win and Mexico earned the bronze medal defeating reigning champion Cuba 3-1 (22-25, 25-18, 30-28, 27-25).

Individual awards were handed out during the closing ceremony recognizing their outstanding performance

- Most Valuable Player: Arturo Iglesias, PUR
- Setter: Pedro Rangel, MEX
- 1st Outside Hitter: Miguel Ángel López, CUB
- 2nd Outside Hitter: Brandon Koppers, CAN
- 1st Middle Blocker: José Israel Masso, CUB
- 2nd Middle Blocker: Dawilin Ramill Méndez, DOM
- Opposite Hitter: Henry Omar Tapia, DOM
- Liberero: Dennis Del Valle, PUR
- Best Receiver: Carlos López, GUA
- Best Digger: Dennis Del Valle, PUR
- Best Server: Josué De Jesús López, MEX
- Best Scorer: Henry Omar Tapia, DOM

Gold Medal Puerto Rico 3, Canada 0

Puerto Rico won their first NORCECA Men's Continental Championship title defeating Canada 3-0 (25-18, 25-21, 25-23) in the gold medal match. Puerto Rico made history on Monday night with their first championship win, adding their one silver medal and two bronze; Canada finishes second for sixth occasion, they also have one

gold and 14 bronze medals. Puerto Rico concludes the NORCECA Championship with a 4-1 win-loss record and Canada with a 3-3 record. Opposite hitter Gabriel García led Puerto Rico to gold with 11 points on 10 kills and one ace, outside hitter Pelegrin Vargas registered 10 points and middle blocker Jonathan Rodríguez collected 9 points. Canada's top scorers were outside hitter Brandon Koppers with 14 points on 12 kills and 2 blocks, and opposite hitter Xander Ketrzynski added 11 points.

Bronze Medal Mexico 3, Cuba 1

Mexico earned the Bronze Medal defeating reigning champion Cuba 3-1 (22-25, 25-18, 30-28, 27-25). This is Mexico's third bronze medal match in the history of the event, finishing with a 4-1 win-loss record and Cuba ending fourth with 3-2. Mexico's thrilling third set win impressed with an extended 30-28, recovering from a five-point deficit (14-19) and then missing five set points. Cuba did the same in the fourth set, battling to reach a tie-break recovering from a four-point deficit (14-18) but came off short. Despite Cuba's overwhelming 10-5 margin in blocks and a 10-6 margin in serves, Mexico ended with the win on 52-43 advantage on kills and gave up fewer points (33-41) on unforced errors. Mexican Opposite hitter Diego González scored a match-high of 22 points on 19 kills, 2 blocks and one ace. Outside hitter Josué López contributed with 13 points on 11 kills and 2 aces, followed by middle blocker Axel Tellez Rodríguez with 11 points.

5th place United States 3, Dominican Republic 1

United States finished fifth place in the Men's NORCECA Continental Championship defeating Dominican Republic 3-1 (21-25, 25-22, 25-22, 25-21). United States had a rocky start having difficulties controlling the Dominican Republic's strong serves. With a 15-7 margin in blocks and 52-38 in attacks, the U.S came out winners. Dominican Republic led 7-4 in serves and committed fewer errors (25-38). The U.S. finishes the event with a 4-2 win-loss record and Dominican Republic with 2-4. Jake Hanes from United States led all scorers with 21 points, 15 in kills, 4 in blocks and 2 aces; also contributing in the winning effort were outside hitter Spencer Olivier with 17 points on 12 kills and 2 blocks, outside hitter Brett Wildman scored 14 points and middle blocker Merrick McHenry added 11 points. On the Dominican side, outside hitter Henry López scored 17 points on 13 attacks, one block and 3 aces, accompanied by opposite hitter Henry Tapia with 13 points on 8 attacks, one block and 4 aces.

7th place Guatemala 3, Trinidad and Tobago 0

Guatemala swept Trinidad and Tobago 3-0 (25-22, 25-22, 25-21) for seventh place. Guatemala (1-4) scored on 31 opponent errors and led 2-1 in serves, Trinidad and Tobago (0-5) held a 9-5 advantage in blocks and scored 18 points on Guatemala's errors; both teams finished with 37 points on attacks. Outside hitter Carlos López led Guatemala with 16 points on 13 kills, 2 blocks and one ace, joined by outside hitter Gerardo González with 12 points on 10 kills and 2 blocks. With a match-high of 24 points, outside hitter Daynte Stewart led Trinidad and Tobago.