



Newsletter



Mexico wins pool B and advanced into semifinals at Women's U21 Pan Am Cup

LA PAZ, Baja California Sur, June 8, 2022.- Mexico won pool B and advanced into semifinals of the sixth edition of the Women's U21 Pan American Cup that qualifies the top two NORCECA finishers to the 2023 FIVB World Championship being held at La Paz, Baja California Sur.

Mexico swept Chile 3-0 (25-17, 25-12, 25-20) to win pool B unbeaten with 2-0 record and 10 points, while Argentina and the United States, also unbeaten will battle to for pool C. The South Americans beat Costa Rica 3-0 (25-12, 25-12, 25-11) and the U.S. defeated Canada 3-0 (25-17, 25-19, 25-22).

Cuba made their debut in pool A defeating Puerto Rico 3-1 (23-25, 25-16, 29-27, 25-22). Puerto Rico finished pool-play with a 1-1 record. Pool A final positions will be decided on the last day of pool-play with Cuba (1-0) facing Dominican Republic (0-1).

The two top ranked pool winners will advance into semifinals while the third pool winner will play quarter finals alongside second places in each pool. Day three of the event starts with Costa Rica (0-2) facing Canada (0-2), followed by Dominican Republic (0-1) against Cuba (1-0), Chile (0-1) vs. Honduras (0-1) and Argentina (2-0) meets the United States (2-0).

Cuba 3, Puerto Rico 1

Cuba started the Women's U21 Pan American Cup defeating Puerto Rico 3-1 (23-25, 25-16, 29-27, 25-22). Cuba came from losing the first set in their first outing in pool A pulling off their first victory of the event that qualifies two NORCECA teams to the 2023 FIVB World Championship. In the second set, Puerto Rico kept the pressure as Cuba failed three-set points (24-20) and then another three before the close 29-27 finish for Cuba. Puerto Rico concludes pool-play with 1-1 record and 4 points and waits for their final position to learn if they advance into the next round. The final stats of the match show the close win for Cuba who led 48-46 in attacks, 14-11 in blocks and 12-11 in serves. Cuba committed 21 unforced errors and Puerto Rico with 25. Cuban middle blocker Lisania Grafort scored a match-high of 24 points, including the most aces with 7 points, 13 kills and 4 blocks. Her teammates outside hitter Claudia Tarin and opposite hitter Yalain De La Peña contributed with 15 and 14 points respectively. Three outside hitters led Puerto Rico's offense, Grace Lopez with 18 points, Valeria Flores with 13 points and Elena García with 12 points.

Argentina 3, Costa Rica 0

Argentina beat Costa Rica 3-0 (25-12, 25-12, 25-11) to claim their second win. With 2-0 record and 10 points in pool C, Argentina is guaranteed at least second place resuming pool-play against the United States. Costa Rica has 0-2 record and will face Canada. Argentina held advantage over Costa Rica with overwhelming margins, 24-15 in attacks, 11-2 in aces and 9-3 in blocks, and committing fewer errors (15-21). Opposite hitter Constanza Perez led Argentina scoring 11 points on 7 kills and 3 aces, outside hitter Milena Margaria and middle blocker Josefina Ossvald tallied 8 points apiece. From Costa Rica, opposite hitter Angelica Rodriguez scored 9 points all on kills.

United States 3, Canada 0

United States defeated Canada 3-0 (25-17, 25-19, 25-22) and will face Argentina for the top spot of pool C. The U.S. and Argentina remain unbeaten and will battle to win pool C, the two top ranked pool winners will advance into semifinals while the third pool winner will play quarter finals alongside second places in each pool. Canada (0-2) will face Costa Rica (0-2) in their last pool-play match. The United States dominated Canada scoring on 29 opponent errors while limiting their own to 10 and prevailing in serves by a slim 6-5 margin; Canada led 34-31 in attacks and both teams scored 9 points on blocks. Opposite player Merritt Beason topped the U.S. with 11 points on 7 kills, two blocks and two aces, outside hitter Norah Sis followed with 10 points on 8 kills and 2 blocks, and outside hitter Chloe Chicoine added 8 points. Canadian outside hitter Madysen Saris scored a match-high of 15 points on 11 kills, 3 blocks and one ace. Also contributing to Canada's scoring offense was outside hitter and captain Emoni Bush collecting 12 points all on kills and outside hitter Sullie Sundara chipped in with 10 points on 7 kills, 2 blocks and one ace.

Mexico 3, Chile 0

Mexico won pool B and advanced into semifinals after sweeping Chile 3-0 (25-17, 25-12, 25-20). Host Mexico finished the preliminary round with 2-0 record and 10 points to move directly into the semifinals. Chile (0-1) will face Honduras (0-1) to decide pool B second place and who will be in the quarterfinals. Mexico's presence over the net overwhelmed their opponent with a huge 45-24 margin in attacks, they also held a comfortable 6-1 advantage in serves. Both teams scored 6 points on blocks and committed 18 unforced errors. Three Mexican players scored double-figures led by outside hitter and team captain Aime Topete with 16 points on 13 kills and 3 aces; opposite hitter Katherine Ramirez contributed with 14 points on 11 kills, one block and two aces, and outside hitter Alexandra Goris registered 13 points on 12 kills and one ace. Chile had opposite hitter Petra Schwarzaman as leading scorer with 9 points.