

Mexico remains undefeated at NORCECA Final Four

NOGALES, Sonora, June 18, 2022.-After two days of competition, Mexico remained undefeated at the NORCECA Women's Final Four Qualification Tournament being held in Nogales, Sonora.

Mexico improved 2-0 defeating Cuba in straight sets 3-0 (28-26, 25-19, 25-20) and is the favorite to qualify to the 2023 FIVB Final Challenger Cup; while Puerto Rico earned their first win by defeating Costa Rica 3-0 (28-26, 25-19, 25-20).

On the last day of competition, Costa Rica (0-2) meets Cuba (1-1) and Puerto Rico (1-1) closes with Mexico (2-0).

Puerto Rico 3, Costa Rica 0

Puerto Rico earned their first win by defeating Costa Rica 3-0 (28-26, 25-19, 25-20). Puerto Rico won a dramatic first set after failing three set points and moving into the second set with strength to jump to an early six-point lead (14-8), finishing in three straight dominating with sets, a 47-32 advantage in kills and benefiting from 24 Costa Rican errors. Puerto Rico also led 6-2 in blocks, but Costa Rica held a slim 2-1 margin in serves. Three players scored double-figures in Puerto Rico's offense, led by opposite hitter Elissa Alcantara with 17 points on 15 kills and 2 blocks, outside hitter Valeria Vazquez and team captain Sofia



Victoria added 11 points each. Costa Rica was headed by outside hitters Tamara Espinoza with 11 points all on kills and Tania Carazo with 10 points also on kills.

Mexico 3, Cuba 0

Mexico remained undefeated after winning in straight sets 3-0 (25-22, 25-19, 25-22) to Cuba. Mexico improved their record 2-0, the only undefeated team and is the favorite to qualify to the 2023 FIVB Final Challenger Cup. The host prevailed 44-34 in attacks and held a slim 5-4 margin in serves; Cuba led 7-6 in blocks. Mexico committed 18 unforced errors and benefited from 20 Cuban errors. Outside hitter Samantha Bricio topped Mexico with 13 points on 12 kills and one ace, joined by outside hitter Grecia Castro with 9 points on 7 kills and two aces, while middle blocker Jocelyn Urias tallied 7 points. Cuban middle blocker Laura Suarez finished with 11 points on 8 kills, 2 blocks and one ace. Middle blocker Dayana Martinez chipped in with 9 points and outside hitter Claudia Tarin scored 7 points.



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