



# Newsletter

## United States and Argentina to clash in U21 Pan American Cup title match



LA PAZ, Baja California Sur, June 11, 2022.- The United States and Argentina to clash in the title match of the sixth edition of the Women's U21 Pan American Cup at La Paz Arena in Baja California Sur.

United States arrived in the title match after winning their semifinal match to Chile 3-0 (25-11, 25-13, 25-9). This the second time the U.S. plays for the title, the first time was in 2017 when they won the gold to Argentina.

Argentina beat Mexico 3-1 (26-24, 27-25, 28-30, 25-7) in the other semifinal. Argentina was challenged by a resistant home

team up to the third set, when Mexico needed five-set points to keep their hopes alive. Argentina entirely dominated Mexico in the fourth set, leaving no doubt in their stunning finish.

Argentina and the United States met earlier in pool-play play with the U.S. winning 3-1 (25-16, 25-21, 22-25, 27-25) to advance directly into semifinals. This will also be a rematch of the 2017 gold medal match won by the Americans. Argentina also fell in 2015 to Dominican Republic.

On the other hand, Mexico and Chile will battle for the bronze medal. This is the second occasion they meet for third place; Chile took the bronze in 2015. Mexico won the event in 2013 to Dominican Republic.

### Costa Rica 3, Honduras 0

Costa Rica won the Central American clash to Honduras 3-0 (25-22, 25-15, 25-17) for ninth place. Costa Rica finished the event with 1-4 win-loss record and Honduras with 0-4, for ninth and tenth place accordingly. Costa Rica set their pace in the second set while having difficulties getting into rhythm in the first set to come out in straight sets. Costa Rica dominated Honduras with a huge 43-25 advantage in attacks; they also were more effective in blocks (8-4) and serves (9-2) but committed more errors (23-15). Once again opposite hitter Angelica Rodriguez led Costa Rica's offense scoring 16 points on 12 kills, 3 blocks and one ace, while outside hitter Nicole Mata added 11 points on 9 kills and two aces. Outside hitter Sofia Torres and middle blocker Dannia Leon chipped in with 7 points each. Outside hitter Andrea Aceituno was Honduras leading scorer with 11 points on 10 kills and one ace.

### Canada 3, Dominican Republic 0

Canada beat Dominican Republic 3-0 (25-15, 25-15, 25-22) to finish seventh place. Canada with 3-2 record and three consecutive wins finishes seventh place in the event. Dominican Republic with an overall 1-3 record takes eighth place. A late reaction from Dominican Republic in the third set coming close to recovering from a six- point deficit (15-21) might have extended the action, but Canada's determination pulled off a straight set victory. Canada's offense in attacks ended with a huge 43-16 advantage as well as a comfortable 13-6 margin in points from serves. Canada committed 23 unforced errors against 12 from Dominican Republic. Both teams scored 7 points on blocks. Outside

hitter Madysen Saris of Canada scored a match-high of 21 points, leading in aces with 6 points. Outside hitter and team captain Emoni Bush contributed with 15 points on 12 kills, one block and two aces, while Sullie Sundara picked up 12 points from 9 kills and 3 aces. Setter Ariana Rodriguez and middle blocker Vallery Martinez led Dominican Republic with 6 points each.

### United States 3, Chile 0

United States will play for the title of the sixth edition of the Women's U21 Pan American Cup after winning their semifinal match to Chile 3-0 (25-11, 25-13, 25-9). United States will battle for the gold against the winner of the second semifinal between the host Mexico and Argentina. The Americans had already won a berth to the 2023 FIVB World Championship as one of the top two finishers from NORCECA in the event with Chile beating Cuba in quarterfinals. This the second time the U.S. plays for the title, the first time was in 2017 when they won the gold to Argentina.

The U.S. dominated Chile with superiority in every skill; attacks (43-18), serves (12-2) and blocks (9-4). United States limited their unforced errors to 9 and Chile to a total of 11. Middle blocker Beanna Kelley led the Americans with 13 points on 9 kills, 3 blocks and one ace and outside hitter Mckenna Wucherer added 11 points from 7 kills, one block and three aces. From Chile, outside hitter Dominga Aylwin scored 12 points from 11 kills and one block as their leading scorer.

### Argentina 3, Mexico 1

Argentina beat Mexico 3-1 (26-24, 27-25, 28-30, 25-7) in Saturday's semifinals. Argentina was challenged by a resistant home team up to the third set, when Mexico needed five-set points to keep their hopes alive. Argentina entirely dominated Mexico in the fourth set, leaving no doubt in their stunning finish. Argentina faces the United States for the gold, they met earlier in pool-play play with the U.S. winning 3-1 (25-16, 25-21, 22-25, 27-25) to advance directly into semifinals to beat Chile. Argentina led 61-54 in attacks and prevailed by a huge margin in blocks (16-4) and aces (11-4); Mexico was the one with fewer errors (18-24).

Outside hitter Milena Margaria of Argentina scored a match-high of 20 points on 17 kills and three blocks. Middle blocker Avril Garcia and outside hitter Keila Llanos joined the party of points with 19 each; Garcia scoring the most blocks with a total of 7 points. Outside hitter and team captain Aime Topete led Mexico with 16 points on 15 kills and one ace, followed by opposite hitter Katherine Ramirez with 14 points on 13 kills and one block. Outside hitter Alexandra Goris also contributed with 10 points.