

Newsletter

Mexico claim gold medal at U19 Pan Am Cup

MONTERREY, Mexico, March 26, 2017 – Hosts Mexico breezed past Chile to claim the crown at the U19 Boys' Pan American Cup with a straight-set 3-0 (25-20, 25-9, 25-20) at Nuevo Leon Gymnasium on Saturday night.

Both teams have qualified to the age-group FIVB World Championship to be held in Bahrain from August 18 to 27. Puerto Rico, the third qualified team to the world event, took the bronze medal with a 3-1 (16-25, 25-18, 25-23, 27-25) victory over Colombia.

Raymond Stephens, named the Most Valuable Player of the competition, led Mexico with 19 points, including seven aces. He also claimed the honors as best received and best server. Miguel Sarabia finished with 14 points while Diego Gonzalez and Alex Tellez each contributed 10 points in the victory.

"This title is the result of the hard work by the boys and the contribution from the state associations that provided us with talented players," said Mexican coach Gabriela Alarcon. "I am very happy and now we have to prepare for the world championship."

Puerto Rican Gabriel Garcia, who set a U19 Pan Am record by scoring 43 points in the preliminary round against Colombia, once again punished the South American side with 37 points to lead his side victory in the match for third place.

Garcia finished as the best scorer of the tournament amassing 130 points in five matches. Pedro Molina added 22 points in the victory,



including seven aces, while Colombia's Carlos Llanos topped the defeated side with 21 points.

In the first match of Saturday, the Dominican Republic defeated Costa Rica 3-0 (25-21, 25-22, 25-16) to finish in fifth place.

Bayron Valdez was again the top scorer for the Dominican team with 20 points while Frantony Segura added 14. Costa Rica's Mariano Salas had 13 points in the loss.

