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Newsleiter

Peru, Argentina, Dominicans and Mexico open with victories

HERMOSILLO, Mexico, July 18, 2023.- Peru, Argentina, Dominican Republic and Mexico open the fifth edition of the U23 Women's Pan American Cup with victories at the Sonora Arena in Hermosillo, Mexico.

Peru opened defeating Cuba 3-1 (23-25, 25-22, 25-19, 25-20), Argentina started with a straight set win 3-0 (25-12, 25-10, 25-14) over Costa Rica, defending champion Dominican Republic beat Canada 3-0 (26-24, 25-18, 25-15) and Mexico took down without setbacks Honduras 3-0 (25-11, 25-13, 25-14).

Day two of competitions starts with Canada (0-1) facing Cuba (0-1) at 2:00pm, Honduras (0-1) against Argentina (1-0) at 4:00pm, followed by Peru (1-0) against Dominican Republic (1-0) at 6:00pm and host Mexico (1-0) at 8:00pm against Costa Rica (0-1).



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Mexico 3, Honduras 0

Mexico took down without setbacks Honduras 3-0 (25-11, 25-13, 25-14). Mexico started the first set jumping to an early 8-0 advantage. The host moved into the next two sets with overwhelming superiority against Honduras in their Pool B opening match. Mexico held a huge 47 to 19 advantage in points from attacks as well as a 16-2 margin in points from serves. Honduras scored 2 points from blocks against one from Mexico. Both teams committed similar unforced errors, Honduras a total of 11 and Mexico 14. Outside hitters Carla Esquer and Sofía Maldonado led Mexico with 13 and 10 points respectively. Middle blocker Arleth Marquez scored a match-high of 6 aces. Opposite hitter Rocío Duron topped Honduras with 10 points.

Dominican Republic 3, Canada 0

Defending champion Dominican Republic beat Canada 3-0 (26-24, 25-18, 25-15) in their debut. The party of points in the first set was tied on numerous occasions, reaching an even 23 while Canada snatched a set point before the Dominicans started on top. Dominican Republic came back stronger to finish with comfortable advantages in the last two sets. All the elements of the game were balanced, with Dominican Republic leading 37 to 31 in attacks, 8 to 6 in blocks and 7 to 4 in points from serves. Dominicans scored 24 points on errors from Canada and committed 16. Three Dominican players scored double digits, led by outside hitter Madeline Guillen with 14 points (9 kills, 2 blocks, 3 aces), outside hitter Flormarie Heredia with 12 points (10 kills, one block, one ace) and opposite hitter Alondra Tapia with 10 points (9 kills, one blocks). Canada's outside hitters Raya Srinx and Jasmine Rivest topped with 11 and 10 points respectively. Team captain, opposite Lucy Borrowski added 7 points.

Argentina 3, Costa Rica 0

Argentina started with a straight set win 3-0 (25-12, 25-10, 25-14) over Costa Rica. Argentina managed to control the entire game from start to finish in their opening victory in Pool B. Argentina's advantages in attacks, 39 to 10 and in points from serves, 17 to one, were to thank for their strong debut. They also held a slim 1-0 in blocks. Costa Rica committed fewer errors (18-25). Outside hitter Nicole Perez of Argentina was the leading scorer of the match with 10 points, from 8 kills and two points from serves. Her teammates opposite Constanza Perez and middle blocker Josefina Ossvald registered nine points each. Ossvald scored a match-high of 4 aces. Outside hitter Nicole Mata topped Costa Rica with 4 points.

Peru 3, Cuba 1

Peru opened the U23 Women's Pan American Cup defeating Cuba 3-1 (23-25, 25-22, 25-19, 25-20). Peru led the first set with a five-point advantage, while Cuba earned their way to move on top on opposite Claudia Tarin serves. Peru battled to recover and earn their first win in Pool A. The South Americans held a 50 to 46 advantage in points from attacks and a comfortable 11-7 margin in blocks. Cuba did better in points from serves 7 to 3. Peru scored 34 points from Cuban errors and handed out 26. With impressive 27 points, opposite Maria Paula Rodriguez of Peru led all scorers on 23 kills and four blocks. Outside hitter Daniela Muñoz and team captain Alondra Alarcon contributed in the win with 11 and 10 points respectively. On Cuba's side, outside hitter and team captain Hhitney James led with 15 points (13 kills and two aces), joined by outside hitter Yalain De La Peña with 14 points (13 kills and one block) and opposite Claudia Tarin who finished with 12 points (10 kills and two aces).