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**SPORT COURT**

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## Canada scores thrilling victory over Brazil

LIMA, Peru, June 13, 2015 – Defending champions Dominican Republic, Argentina, Colombia, Canada, Cuba and United States scored victories in day one at the XIV Women's Pan American Cup taking place in Lima and Callao, Peru.

All the teams got their win in straight sets with the exception of Canada which needed five sets before prevailing against Brazil.

Dominican Republic beat Uruguay, Argentina blanked Costa Rica, Colombia swept Mexico, Cuba outplayed Peru and United States downed Puerto Rico.

The preliminary round continues on Sunday with six matches –three at each venue.

### Argentina 3, Costa Rica 0

Argentina defeated Costa Rica 3-0 (25-14, 25-14, 27-25) in Pool A. The South American side dominated their less experienced rivals in blocks 6-2 and in aces 7-4. After two one-sided sets, the Central Americans played more relaxed which reflected on the close score in the third set. Leticia Boscacci was the best scorer for Argentina with 15 points, while Sol Piccolo and Patricia Ollaitaguerre contributed 14 and 10 points, respectively. Marcela Araya led Costa Rica with 11 points as the only players on the losing side with double digits. Mijail Hines and Evelyn Sibaja finished with 8 points apiece.

### Colombia 3, Mexico 0

Colombia downed Mexico in straight-sets 3-0 (25-20, 25-21, 25-20) in the second match of Pool A. The South Americans had the top hand in attacks with a big difference of 44-26 and led in serving aces 7-5. The Mexicans held the advantage in the blocking category 10-7. Amanda Coneo was the best Colombian in offense with 18 points while Cindy Ramirez and Yeisy Soto contributed 14 and 10 points, respectively. Dulce Carranza led Mexico with 10 points followed by Lizbeth Sainz with 9 points.

### United States 3, Puerto Rico 0

United States cruised to a straight-set 3-0 (25-22, 25-12, 25-18) in the last match of day one in Pool A. After a close first set, the Americans dominated the rest of the way. The winners outscored their opponents in attacks (44-30), blocks (7-4) and aces (5-0). Alexandra Klineman and Krista Vansant reached double digits in the scoring charts for the United States while Stephanie Enright finished with 12 points for Puerto Rico.

### Dominican Republic 3, Uruguay 0

Defending champions Dominican Republic opened their campaign with a cruising victory over Uruguay in straight-sets 3-0 (25-10, 25-14, 25-8) in Pool B. The strong serves and effective defense at the net proved to be the keys for the Dominican victory against the smaller Uruguayans. Yonkaira Peña led the balanced Dominican offense with 10 points, followed by Brayelin Martinez with 7 and Cindy Rondon and Ana Binet each with 6 tallies. Sofia Neves tallied 8 for Uruguay.

### Cuba 3, Peru 0

Cuba overcame a resilient Peru to score a straight-set 3-0 (25-21, 25-22, 25-22) victory in the second match of Pool B. Young Melissa Matos was the main offensive weapon for Cuba with 21 points relying on potent spikes and great jump services while Alena Rojas and Yanet Alvarez each had 10 points. Angela Leyva and Maguilaura Frias finished with 15 and 12 points, respectively, for Peru. Cuba relied on its traditional power style against a Peruvian team that battled back in the second and third sets keeping the fans on the edge of their seats.

### Canada 3, Brazil 2

Canada came back from one set down and edged Brazil 3-2 (15-25, 25-14, 15-25, 28-26, 15-9) in the last match of Pool B in opening day. After two sets of ups and downs for both teams, the Brazilian side dominated the third set and seemed to be on track for the victory when the Canadians made adjustments and started to receive and block better winning the nail-biting fourth set. In the tie-breaker at 1-0, Brazil lost player Gabriela Rocha Da Silva with a left knee injury and Canada dominated the rest of the way. Lucille Chanuk (16), Jamie Thibault (15), Brittney Page (14) and Tabitha Love (12) topped Canada. Karoline Tomena led Brazil with 13 points.

