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Newsletter



Dominican Republic Wins second consecutive Pan Am Games Gold Medal beating Brazil

SANTIAGO, Chile, October 26, 2023. - Dominican Republic won its second consecutive Gold Medal at the Pan American Games after defeating Brazil 3-0 (26-24, 25-16, 25-19) in the final of the Women's Volleyball tournament at the 19th edition of the Games Santiago 2023, held at the Arena Parque O'Higgins.

The Dominican Republic has now earned three gold medals in the history of the Pan American Games (Santo Domingo 2003, Lima 2019, and Santiago 2023) and also holds a bronze medal from Toronto 2015. For Brazil, this is their third bronze medal (Mexico 1955, San Juan 1979, Santiago 2023).

Dominican Republic finished the event undefeated 5-0 and Brazil with a 4-1 win-loss record.

After 48 years, Mexico won a medal at the Pan American Games by defeating Argentina in five sets 3-2 (22-25, 25-23, 22-25, 25-18, 15-13) for the bronze medal. The last time Mexico reached a Pan American Games podium was in 1975 when they won the bronze medal against Canada. Mexico also won bronze medals in Cali 1971 and Sao Paulo 1955. Their first-ever medal was gold in 1955.

MVP, Niverka Marte (DOM)

1st Best Spiker, Brayelin Martínez (DOM)

2nd Best Spiker, Yonkaira Peña (DOM)

1st Best Blocker, Neila Ortiz (PUR)

2nd Best Blocker, Lorena Viezel (BRA)

Best Setter, Ivone Martínez (MEX)

Best Opposite, Sabrina Machado (BRA)

Best Libero, Camila Gomez (COL)

Best Receiver, Shara Venegas (PUR)

Best Digger, Carla Ruz (CHI)

Best Server, Yonkaira Peña (DOM)

Best Scorer, Beatriz Novoa (CHI)

Gold Medal Dominican Republic 3, Brazil 0

Dominican Republic won its second consecutive Gold Medal at the Pan American Games after defeating Brazil 3-0 (26-24, 25-16, 25-19). The Dominican Republic has now earned three gold medals in the history of the Pan American Games (Santo Domingo 2003, Lima 2019, and Santiago 2023) and also holds a bronze medal from Toronto 2015. For Brazil, this is their third bronze medal (Mexico 1955, San Juan 1979, Santiago 2023). Dominican Republic finished the event undefeated 5-0 and Brazil with a 4-1 win-loss record. In the first set, the Dominican Republic came from behind 14-17 as Brazil, led by outside hitter Sabrina Machado and middle blocker Lorena Viezel, had the lead. However, thanks to the offensive efforts of the Martínez sisters, Brayelin and Jineiry, along with Candida Arias, the Dominicans tied the score at 17 points, and went on to win a thrilling 26-24 finish. In the second set, opposite hitter Gaila González and outside hitter Yonkaira Peña joined the Dominican offensive, neutralizing Brazil and building a significant lead of 15-7, which proved unbeatable. Despite Dominicans offensive errors, Sabrina Machado and Tainara helped Brazil recover from a four-point deficit (6-10) in the third set. Lorena, with precise blocking, contributed to keeping the score tied at 13 points. Eventually, the Dominican Republic regained control, sealing the gold medal with a direct serve point from Brayelin Martínez and a comfortable 25-19 lead. The Dominicans outperformed Brazil in every skill of the game, kills (43-31), blocking (11-8), and serves (3-1). Both teams committed 19 unforced errors. Outside hitter Yonkaira Peña led the Dominican offense with 13 points, followed by opposite Gaila González with 12 points and outside hitter Brayelin Martínez with 11 points. The top scorer of the match was Brazilian Sabrina Machado with 14 points. Middle blocker Lorena Viezel scored a match-high of 5 points on blocks.

Bronze Medal Mexico 3, Argentina 2

After 48 years, Mexico won a medal at the Pan American Games by defeating Argentina in five sets 3-2 (22-25, 25-23, 22-25, 25-18, 15-13) for the bronze medal.

The last time Mexico reached a Pan American Games podium was in 1975 when they won the bronze medal against Canada. Mexico also won bronze medals in Cali 1971 and Sao Paulo 1955. Their first-ever medal was gold in 1955.

Mexico recovered from an unstable start in the first set. Argentina, led by their captain Daniela Bulaich and outside hitter Candela Salinas, took a 6-point lead (14-8). However, Mexico managed to stabilize their attack with Grecia Castro and Karen Rivera. Argentina's blocks stopped them from recovering and led them to commit consecutive errors. Despite Argentina resistance to Mexico's pressure evening the score to 19 in the second set, Mexico, led by opposite hitter Karen Rivera and captain Jocelyn Urias, evened the match to one set each. Opposite hitter María De La Paz Corbalán, along with middle blockers Bianca Farriol and Avril García, helped Argentina win the third set. But in the fourth set, Mexican outside hitter Aimé Topete played a crucial role in forcing a tie-break by scoring three consecutive attack points. Mexico won the fifth set and the bronze medal with a 78-65 advantage in attacking points and 6-0 in service points. Argentina dominated in blocking 12-8 and made fewer unforced errors 17-27. Grecia Castro of Mexico led all scorers with 26 points (22 attacks, one block, 3 aces). Karen Rivera also contributed to the victory with 23 points (19 attacks, one block, 3 aces), and Aimé Topete scored 20 points from direct attacks. Daniela Bulaich and María De La Paz Corbalán scored 15 points each from direct attacks for Argentina. Avril García added 14 points, including a match-high of 8 blocks.

Puerto Rico 3, Cuba 0

Puerto Rico swept Cuba (25-23, 26-24, 25-19) for seventh place. Puerto Rico finished the event with a 2-4 record and Cuba 0-5. Puerto Rico also beat Cuba in pool-play. Despite Cuba's 13-5 huge margin in blocking, Puerto Rico earned the win leading 43-42 in attacks, 6-1 in aces and scoring on 22 opponent errors against 10 of their own. Ivania Ortiz topped Puerto Rico's scorers with 15 points all on kills. Destiny Skerrett followed with 13 points all on kills as well and Neira Ortiz registered 12 points on 8 kills, 2 blocks and 2 aces. Ivy Vila led Cuba with 14 points all on kills. Dayana Martínez added 11 points on 6 kills, 4 blocks and one ace and Yalain De La Peña contributed 10 points on 7 kills and 3 blocks.

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MIKASA



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