

WOMEN CHAMPIONS CUP



La Habana, Cuba - June 3-8, 2015

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DE VOLLEYBALL



NORCECA
Volleyball Confederation

Dominican Republic and Puerto Rico get victories in Havana

HAVANA, Cuba, June 5, 2015 – Dominican Republic and Puerto Rico successfully opened their campaigns at the NORCECA Women's Final Four Champions Cup where two tickets are available for the World Cup in Japan, the first Olympic Qualifier for Rio de Janeiro, 2016.

Dominican Republic defeated Canada 3-1 (25-20, 17-25, 25-19, and 25-22) to claim their first victory despite the resistance showed by the opponents. Puerto Rico defeated Cuba 3-1 (25-17, 23-25, 25-23, 25-17) in the second match of the afternoon at Ciudad Deportiva Coliseum in Havana.

The Canadians gave the surprise by taking away the second set even though they battled since the beginning to destabilize the Dominicans fifth at the World Championship in 2014.

The match, that lasted almost two hours, was very emotive, particularly in the fourth set when the Canadians built a 5-point rally to take the lead 21-17. However the Caribbean girls were able to pay back with the same coin coming from behind with a 7-point rally (24-21) before closing the match.

Lisvel Eve Mejia (13), Gina Mambrú (12) and Prisilla Rivera (10), stood out in the attack for the winning team, although the top-scorer of the match was Canada's Tabitha Love (21), followed Brittney Page and Kyla Richey each with, 10 points.

Aurea Cruz (17) and Karina Ocasio (16) topped the offense by the Puerto Ricans. For the host team, the 15-year-old player, Melissa Vargas was the top-scorer (23), followed by her teammate Sulian Matienzo (12) in a match that lasted an hour and 42 minutes.

