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 For the real game



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Dominican Republic and USA top pools at Pan Am Cup

LIMA, Peru, June 17, 2015 – Defending champions Dominican Republic and United States grabbed the top positions in their respective pools advancing directly to the semifinal phase of the XIV Women's Volleyball Pan American Cup as undefeated sides.

The Dominican Republic came from behind to defeat Brazil in five sets while United States cruised to a straight-set win over Argentina.

After a day of rest on Thursday, the actions resume on Friday with the quarterfinals and the matches for final positions.

Argentina will play against Canada while Cuba will meet Puerto Rico at Eduardo Dibos Coliseum of Lima.

At Miguel Grau Coliseum of Callao, Uruguay will face Costa Rica for the positions 11 and 12.

In the qualification matches for positions 7-10, Peru meets Colombia while Brazil takes on Mexico.

Mexico 3, Costa Rica 0

Mexico blanked Costa Rica 3-0 (25-15, 25-20, 25-20) in match between winless teams in Pool A. The Mexicans overwhelmed their opponents in attacks 42-25 and clearly dominated in the aces charts 9-4. Lizbeth Sainz and Alejandra Segura were the top scorers for Mexico with 14 and 13 points, respectively, while Gema Leon added 9 tallies. Marcela Araya had 9 points for Costa Rica and Tatiana Sayñes had 8 in the loss.

Puerto Rico 3, Colombia 0

Puerto Rico booked a spot in the quarterfinals by dispatching Colombia in straight sets 3-0 (25-22, 25-16, 25-21) in decisive contest for third place in Pool A. Stephanie Enright registered 15 points to lead the scores followed by Aury Cruz and Shirley Ferrer each with 10 points. Cindy Ramirez was the best offensive player for the losers with 11 points while Amanda Coneo and Yeisy Soto finished with 10 apiece in the loss. Puerto Rico made only 12 unforced errors to 22 by Colombia. The winners led in attacks 38-34 and blocks 9-7. Both teams had six aces.

United States 3, Argentina 0

United States stormed past Argentina in straight sets 3-0 (25-18, 25-18, 25-11) in the decisive match for first place in Pool A that lasted just 68 minutes. The American side dominated from start to finish against an Argentinean team showing the effects of playing five intense sets one day earlier. Lauren Paolini led USA with 13 points, including four blocks, while Alexandra Klineman and Krista Vansant chipped in with 10 points apiece. The winners led in attacks 41-21, blocks 12-4 and aces 5-0.

Cuba 3, Canada 0

Cuba improved to a 4-1 record in Pool B by defeating Canada in consecutive sets 3-0 (25-21, 25-20, 25-20). Canada dropped to 3-2 after suffering its second loss in a row. Cuba held the top hand in attacks 44-33 and had the edge in service winners 4-3. Both teams scored with six blocks while the winners committed 19 unforced errors to 21 by the Canadians. Cuba's captain Sulian Matienzo topped the winners with 14 points, including two blocks and one ace, followed by Melissa Vargas and Alena Rojas with 13 and 12 markers, respectively. Canada's Tabhita Love led all the scorers in the match with 18 points.

Dominican Republic 3, Brazil 2

Dominican Republic made a sensational comeback to defeat Brazil in five sets 3-2 (16-25, 18-25, 25-17, 25-18, 15-10) to claim first place in Pool B. Yonkaira Peña led the victory with 26 points, including three blocks and three aces, while Gina Mambro, who has been used sporadically as she recovers from some ailments, came off the bench to score 16 crucial points, all in attacks. Lorene Geraldo was the best Brazilian with 23 points, all via spikes, while Drussyla Costa added 14 in the losing effort. Both teams had 8 blocks in the match and the Dominicans held the advantage in attacks 55-53 and service winners 5-2.

Peru 3, Uruguay 0

Peru crushed Uruguay 3-0 (25-12, 25-8, 25-10) in the match for fifth place in Pool B. In a lopsided match, Angela Leyva topped the home side with 13 points while Sofia Neves finished with 7 points as the top producer of the losers. Peru blanked the opposition in the blocking category 11-0 with Maguilaura Frias totaling three blocks among her 8 points in the game. Uruguay committed 35 unforced errors to only 12 by Peru.

