# News etter



# Puerto Rico, Dominican Republic, Colombia and El Salvador with succesful start

SAN SALVADOR, El Salvador, July 4, 2023.- Puerto Rico, Dominican Republic, Colombia and El Salvador with successful start in Women's Volleyball of the 2023 San Salvador Central American and Caribbean Games at the Sports Palace Carlos El Famoso Hernández.

In Pool A, Puerto Rico defeated Mexico 3-1 (25-15, 25-20, 21-25, 25-23) in the opening match of the CAC Games, while defending champion Dominican Republic started over Costa Rica 3-0 (25-7, 25-11 25-17).

Colombia beat Cuba 3-1 (25-21, 25-18, 18-25, 26-24) in the first match of Pool B and Host El Salvador took down Trinidad & Tobago in straight sets 3-0 (25-17, 25-23, 25-21).

Day two of the event starts at 10:30 with Colombia (1-0) against Trinidad & Tobago (0-1), at 13:30 Puerto Rico (1-0) against Costa Rica (0-1), followed by Dominican Republic (1-0) against Mexico (0-1) at 17:00 and host El Salvador (1-0) facing Cuba (1-0) at 20:00.

## Puerto Rico 3, Mexico 1

Puerto Rico defeated Mexico 3-1 (25-15, 25-20, 21-25, 25-23) in the opening match of the Women's Volleyball tournament. Puerto Rico stormed past Mexico in the first set and second sets, jumping an early six-point lead (12-6) and a four-point lead (13-9) respectively. Mexico's offensive efforts kicked in the third, recovering from a four-point deficit (8-12) up to a 25-20 win and forcing a fourth close set win for Puerto Rico. Both teams scored 10 points from blocks and Puerto Rico held a 3-1 advantage in points from serves, but Puerto Rico's offense in points from attacks, 61 to 47, were the major difference in their Pool A opening win. Unforced errors were balanced, Puerto Rico with 25 and Mexico a total of 22. Opposite hitter Brittanny Abercrombie of Puerto Rico scored a matchhigh of 26 points from 25 kills and one ace. Outside hitter Paola Santiago added 20 points on 16 kills, two blocks and two aces. Outside hitter Elaine Vazquez also contributed to the win with 18 points (16 kills, 2 blocks). On Mexico's side, outside hitter Melanie Parra and Grecia Castro led with 14 and 13 points respectively; Parra on 12 kills and one ace, and Grecia all on kills. Team captain Andrea Rangel and middle blocker Jocelyn Urias scored 10 points each.

## Dominican Republic 3, Costa Rica 0

Dominican Republic started over Costa Rica 3-0 (25-7, 25-11 25-17). Defending champion Dominican Republic, aiming for their eight CAC title, had no difficulties in earning their first Pool A victory prevailing 42-16 in points from kills, 10-6 in blocks and 3-1 in points from serves. Dominicans finished with 12 unforced errors and Costa Rica with 20. Dominican Republic used all his players, with outside hitter Yonkaira Peña and opposite Gaila Gonzalez as top scorers with 11 points each. Gonzlez scored a match-high of 4 points on blocks. Outside hitter Brayelin Martinez



added 8 points. Outside hitter Tamara Espinoza and opposite hitter Tatiana Sayles led Costa Rica with 8 and 7 points respectively.

#### Colombia 3, Cuba 1

Colombia beat Cuba 3-1 (25-21, 25-18, 18-25, 26-24) to start their 2023 San Salvador campaign. Cuba improved in defense to lead the third set from the beginning to keep up with Colombia's 2-0 set lead and forcing a fourth set. Colombia with three kills in a row and two opponent errors came from behind (14-19) to an even 19 in the fourth set, for a dramatic 26-24 win while trailing a Cuban set point (23-24). Colombia's blocking was stronger than Cuba's with a 13 to 8 advantage. Cuba dominated in kills 57 to 51, and both teams were leveled in aces (3-3). Colombia benefited from 27 unforced Cuban errors against 20. Colombian opposite hitter Dayana Segovia led all scorers with 16 points on 14 kills and two blocks. Also standing out were outside hitters Ana Karina Olaya and Laura Grajales who tallied 12 and 11 points respectively. Middle blocker Melissa Rangel joined in with a match-high of 5 kills from blocks, out of her 11 scoring points. Cuba's outside hitter Ailama Cese topped her team with 15 points on 14 kills and one ace. Middle blocker Dayana Martinez contributed with 13 points on 10 kills and 3 blocks. Opposite Dezirett Madan scored 12 attacking points and outside hitter Diaris Perez added 10.

#### El Salvador 3, Trinidad & Tobago 0

Host El Salvador took down Trinidad & Tobago in straight sets 3-0 (25-17, 25-23, 25-21). El Salvador came from behind in 0-4 in the first set gaining confidence to start off winning. In the second set their impressive recovery from a seven-point deficit (3-10) shut down Trinidad & Tobago's momentum for a close 25-23 win and went on to lead third set from start to finish. El Salvador earned their first Pool B victory with advantage only in points from attacks 38 to 26, while Trinidad & Tobago led with a huge 12 to 4 in blocking points and a considerable 10 to 6 in points from aces. El Salvador scored on 27 opponent errors while committing 13. Outside hitter Gabriela Funes of El Salvador was the match leading scorer with 16 points on 13 kills and three aces. Team captain Adriana Flores added 10 attacking points contributing in the win. Opposite Krystle Esdelle led Trinidad & Tobago with 13 points followed by outside hitter Channon Thompson with 12 points. Team captain Jalicia Ross scored the most blocks with 5 points and middle blocker Kaylon Cruickshank led in aces with 5 points.



