

## United States and Puerto Rico are leaders in their groups



**PONCE, Puerto Rico, August 7, 2023.-** The United States and Puerto Rico are undefeated and hold first place in Groups A and B, respectively, of the XX Senior Women's Volleyball Pan American Cup, after completing the second day at the Auditorium Juan "Pachín" Vicéns de Ponce.

The American team (2-0) is undefeated and leads in Group A by defeating Costa Rica 3-0 (0-2); and Peru (0-1) debuted today with a defeat against Canada (1-1). In Group B, Puerto Rico (2-0) is undefeated and leads with the victory against Argentina (1-1) in five sets, 3-2; and the Dominican Republic, reigning champions, debuted with a 3-0 win against Chile.

Colombia and Mexico had the day off today.

### First victory for Canada in the Women's Pan American Cup against Costa Rica

Canada achieved its first victory by beating Costa Rica 3-0 (25-12, 25-17, 25-15) on Monday. After losing the first set, Costa Rica made adjustments and took an early lead in the next two sets but were unable to hold it and Canada took the win. Canada (1-1) dominated Costa Rica (0-2) in spikes, 41-22, in blocks, 8-3, and in serves, 8-3. Vicky Savard, from Canada, was the best scorer of the match with 16 points (13 kills, 2 blocks, one ace); Nyadholi Thokbuorn with 13 points (7 kills, 3 blocks, 3 aces); and Sydney Grills with 11 points (8 kills, 3 aces). For Costa Rica, Tannia Carazo with nine points (7 attacks, 2 aces); Marcela Araya with five points (5 attacks); and Lakysa Nicolle Thompson with 5 points (3 kills, 2 blocks). Costa Rica will play tomorrow against Peru at 2:00 p.m. and Canada has the day off.

### Peru lost in its Pan American Cup debut against the United States

Peru lost 3-0 (25-23, 25-20, 25-13) to the United States of America in the second day. United States of America is undefeated at 2-0 in Pool A with six straight sets. With 12 blocks for points, the North American team dominated Peru, which had three. Likewise, the United States dominated in attacks, 40-37, and in serves they finished even, 4-4. Logan Eggleston was the top scorer for the United States with 15 points (14 attacks, one block), Stephanie Samedy with

13 points (11 attacks, one block, one ace) and Madeleine Gates with 11 points (6 attacks, 5 blocks). For Peru, Karla Ortiz with 12 points (12 attacks), María Paula Rodríguez with 10 points (10 in attacks); and Ysabella Sánchez with nine points (7 attacks, one block and ace). Peru (0-1) will play tomorrow against Costa Rica (0-2) at 2:00 p.m., and the United States (2-0) against Colombia (1-0) at 4:00 p.m.

### Dominican Republic starts their title defense with a victory against Chile

Dominican Republic, champion of the last two editions (2021/2022) of the Women Senior Pan American Cup, debuted with a 3-0 (25-23, 25-15, 25-15) against Chile. The champions started their tournament debut a bit cold with a close first set against Chile, but then they showed their power on court to win in three sets. The Dominicans dominated the Chileans in attacks, 43-23; in blocks they were even, 9-9, and in direct services, 5-5, as well. Gaila González was the best scorer for the Dominican Republic with 14 points (12 kills, one block, one ace); Madeline Guillén with nine attacking points and Cándida Arias with seven points (5 kills, 2 blocks). For Chile, Beatriz Novoa scored 14 points (12 kills, 2 blocks), followed by Karen Morales with eight points (5 kills, 3 blocks) and Florencia Giglio with six points (2 kills, 2 blocks, 2 direct serves). Dominican Republic will play tomorrow at 8:00 p.m. against Argentina, and Chile has the day off.

### Puerto Rico's blocking was the key against Argentina in the fifth set

Puerto Rico and Argentina staged a five-set battle to close the second day. Puerto Rico (2-0) marches undefeated in Group B by defeating Argentina (1-1) with scores of 20-25, 25-18, 25-18, 23-25 and 15-7. The Boricuas made 22 blocking points, eight of them from middle blocker Paola Rojas who shined in the fifth set in her team's victory. With the set tied, 6-6, the Puerto Ricans scored six consecutive points to take the lead, 12-6, and define the match. Puerto Rican Brittany Abercrombie was the top scorer with 18 points (15 kills, 2 blocks, 1 ace); Pilar Victoria with 17 points (15 attacks, 2 blocks); and Paola Santiago with 15 points (11 attacks, 3 blocks and an ace). From Argentina, Bianca Cugno with 13 points (9 kills, 3 blocks, one ace); Bianca Farriol with 13 points (8 kills, 5 blocks); and Candelaria Herrera with nine points (8 attacks, one block). Puerto Rico will play tomorrow against Mexico (0-1) at 6:00 p.m., and Argentina (1-1) against the Dominican Republic (1-0) at 8:00 p.m.