



# CHAMPIONNAT CONTINENTAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

JULY 5-10 JUILLET GATINEAU CANADA



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## Newsletter

### Cuba sweeps Canada, wins Group B at U21 men's championship



GATINEAU, Canada, July 7, 2016 – Propelled by a dominant start, Cuba swept host Canada 3-0 (25-17, 25-18, 25-16) on Thursday to win Group B of the U21 NORCECA Men's Continental Championship and advance directly to the semi-final.

Miguel David Gutierrez paced Cuba with a match-high 17 points (including 13 kills from 17 attacks and three

aces), while Miguel Lopez Castro tallied 12 (including 10 kills from 19 attacks). Sharone Vernon-Evans had nine points (including eight kills from 24 attacks) for Canada, which will face Saint Vincent and the Grenadines in a quarter-final on Friday at Centre Sportif de Gatineau. Eric Loeppky added eight points for Canada (including seven kills on 14 attacks).

"The team was very enthusiastic and very strong tonight – we were playing the way we do it in the practice – very fine," Lopez Castro said. "We had a very good teamwork."

Cuba was a proficient 41-of-67 on attacks. Canada was 28-of-70. Cuba used an array of spin serves to rack up a 9-0 edge in aces.

"It was big to win this game, giving us first in the group,"Cuba's coach Jesus Angel Cruz said. "They stayed with the form that we have in our competition in Cuba, the Nacional."

Canada libero Jordan Pereira was credited with seven digs on what was a tough night for the host team.

### Guatemala earns third in Group B at U21 men's championship

GATINEAU, Canada, July 7, 2016 – Guatemala drew deep for an inspired effort to wrest third place in Group B at the U21 NORCECA Men's Continental Championship, defeating Trinidad and Tobago 3-0 (25-21, 25-12, 25-17).

The result grants Guatemala a quarterfinal matchup against Barbados at 8 p.m. Friday at Centre Sportif de Gatineau. Trinidad and Tobago will play in the 6/7 classification game on Sunday.

Guatemala (1-2) was spurred by a match-high 13 points, including nine kills, from captain Erik Flores, while Carlos Lopez scored 11 and Wagner Chacon contributed nine. For Trinidad and

Tobago (0-3), captain Marlon Phillips had 13 points (including 12 kills from a whopping 50 attacks) while Adriel Roberts had 13 (including 10 kills from 16 attacks). The story of the match was composure, as Trinidad and Tobago conceded 30 points on errors while Guatemala allowed 17.

"Just in the beginning, we were nervous,"Guatemala middle blocker Ricardo Mendoza, who had six points, said."We know how we can play ... Once things started to go our way, we grew more confident."

### USA wins Group A at U21 Men's Championship

GATINEAU, Canada, July 7, 2016 – A focused Team USA sailed through a straight-sets 3-0 (25-11, 25-12, 25-10) victory against Saint Vincent and the Grenadines at the U21 NORCECA Men's Continental Championship on Thursday.

The win sends Team USA (2-0) directly to the second semifinal at 8 p.m. on Saturday at Centre Sportif de Gatineau. Jack Cole had a match-high 10 points (including six kills on seven attacks, plus four aces), while Reese Devilbiss added nine and Jordan Ewert chipped in seven. Marcus Thomas, with five points, was the top shot for Saint Vincent (0-2).

Team USA ran off 10 points in a row to close out the first set. The most impressive sequence involved middle blocker George Huhmann laying out for a dig to sustain a rally that he finished with a kill.

"If you hustle after balls, you are going to inspire your teammates to do the same thing and help you do better overall," said the six-foot-nine Huhmann. "We know the next game is going to be pretty tough, so if we have the mindset of working hard every day, I think that will help us do better."

Dylan Missry also had an efficient effort, going 6-for-6 on attacks.