

Dominican Republic remains undefeated in a long day



PONCE, PUERTO RICO, August 9, 2023 .- Dominican Republic and Mexico entered the court around midnight on Wednesday to close the fourth day of the XX Senior Women's Volleyball Pan American Cup at the Juan "Pachín" Vicéns Auditorium in Ponce.

The Queens of the Caribbean (3-0) came out with the victory and the leader in Group B at dawn. Meanwhile, in Group A, Canada (2-1) and Colombia (2-1) achieved their second victory.

For Thursday, the closing of the group stage, the schedule features Colombia against Peru at 2:00 p.m., Mexico versus Chile at 4:00 p.m.; Canada and the United States at 6:00 p.m.; and the long-awaited match between Puerto Rico and the Dominican Republic at 8:00 p.m.

Colombia gives their Coach a victory on his Birthday

Colombia achieved its second victory by defeating Costa Rica, 3-0 (25-13, 25-12, 25-9). The Colombian players gave the victory to their Brazilian coach Antonio Rizola Neto, who is celebrating his birthday. Colombia had total control of the game from start to finish. The Colombians scored 35 attacking points against 20 of Costa Rica, 10-0 in blocks; and 4-0 on serves. Dayana Segovia was the best scorer for the Colombian squad with 14 points (11 attacks, 2 blocks, 1 ace); Laura Grajales contributed 11 points (8 attacks, 1 block and 2 direct services); and Ana Karina Olaya with 10 points (5 attacks, 4 blocks, one ace). For Costa Rica, Marcela Araya with eight points (8 attacks); Tannia Carazo, five points (5 attacks); and Yuliana González Alfaro with two points (2 attacks). Costa Rica (0-

4) closed the preliminary round without victories, and Colombia will play tomorrow against Peru at 2:00 p.m.

Impressive win for Canada in five sets

Canada impressively defeated Peru in five thrilling (3-2) sets. Canada (2-1) achieved its second victory with a score of 25-22, 25-21, 22-25, 13-25 and 15-6. After winning the first two sets, the Canadian team suffered from a revival of Peru's offense accompanied by effective blocking and defense. Peru rallied and convincingly won the third and fourth sets to spark a fifth set. Then, Canada made a magnificent comeback in the game by mercilessly dominating the fifth set, 15-6, and taking the important victory.

Canadians Andrea Mitrovic and Hilary Howe contributed 19 points each. Mitrovic with 17 attacks, one block and one ace; Howe with 17 kills, 2 blocks; and Shainah Joseph added 11 points (10 attacks, one ace).

For Peru, captain Karla Ortiz with 17 points (14 attacks, 3 blocks); Ysabella Sánchez with 16 points (15 attacks, one block); and María Paula Rodríguez with 14 points (12 kills, 2 blocks). Peru (1-2) will face Colombia (2-1) tomorrow at 2:00 p.m., and Canada (2-1) closes the preliminary round tomorrow against the United States (3-0) at 6:00 p.m.

Argentina closed the group phase with a win

Argentina finished their participation in the group phase with a 2-2 record by defeating Chile, 3-0. The winning scores for Las Panteras were: 25-16, 25-19, 25-18. Argentina topped Chile with 45 attacking points against 36, and 8 to one in blocks. Both teams scored two points from direct serves.

Argentina scored 20 points on Chile's unforced errors and conceded 14. For Argentina, Bianca Cugno contributed with 14 points (11 kills, 2 blocks, 1 ace); Paula Nizetich with 13 points (12 attacks, 1 ace); Daniela Bulaich 10 (9 attacks, 1 block).

The Chilean captain, Beatriz Novoa, was the best scorer with 13 points, all in attacks; Karen Morales with nine points (8 attacks, 1 ace); and Florencia Giglio with eight, all in attacks. Chile ends the preliminary round tomorrow against Mexico at 4:00 p.m.