

USA and Cuba to play for tile at NORCECA U19

HAVANA, Cuba, June 28, 2016 – History repeats itself as defending champions United States and runner-ups Cuba will meet again for the gold medal at the NORCECA U19 Boys' Volleyball Continental Championship on Wednesday night at Ciudad Deportiva Coliseum in Havana.



The two finalists, who are granted of tickets to next year's FIVB World Championship, will play for the continental title for second edition in a row and third time of the past four biennial competitions.

In Tuesday's semi finals United States survived a tough five-set battle with Mexico while Cuba swept Nicaragua in straight sets.

United States were crowned at home in 2014 while Cuba finished atop of the standings in 2010 in Mexico.

In Wednesday's actions, Dominican Republic and Jamaica will play for fifth place and Antigua will face Costa Rica for the seventh position. Mexico and Nicaragua are set to meet for the bronze medal.

United States 3, Mexico 2

United States needed five sets to overcome Mexico 3-2 (17-25, 25-18, 25-23, 23-25, 17-15). The American offensive was spread out among Brandon Browning, Jaylen Jasper and Joel

Schneidmiller who finished with 17 points apiece, while Samuel Lewis had 11. However Mexico's Ray Stephens (19) was the match best scorer followed by Jesús Valenzuela (16) and Miguel Sarabia (13).



Cuba 3, Nicaragua 0

Cuba dominated Nicaragua 3-0 (25-18, 25-18, 25-14) in their semi-final match. José Carlos Romero (13) and Christian Rojas (12) led the Cuban offense, but the match best scorer was the tall and slim player Jonny Zeledón (15) supported by his team mate Byron Hernández (11).

Jamaica 3, Costa Rica 0

Jamaica defeated Costa Rica 3-0 (25-17, 28-26, 27-25) and will go for the fifth place. Once again, opposite hitter Jovan Thomas led Jamaica as the match best scorer (15), followed by Javarie James (13), Shavar James (11) and Andrew Jones (10). On the Costa Rica side, outside hitters Manrique Carazo (13) and José Andrés Ortiz (11) scored in double-digits.

Dominican Republic 3, Antigua 0

Dominican Republic swept Antigua and Barbuda 3-0 (25-11, 25-18, 25-16) and will oppose Jamaica in the game for fifth place. Bayron Valdéz, outside hitter, led again the Dominican offensive (24) in a match where the attack was the main weapon of the winners (30-13).