



# 2016 Women's NORCECA Continental Olympic Qualification Tournament

Lincoln, Nebraska, USA  
January 7-9, 2016




## USA and Dominican Republic open with victories in Nebraska

LINCOLN, Nebraska, January 7, 2016 – USA and Dominican Republic opened with victories at the 2016 Women's NORCECA Olympic Qualification Volleyball Tournament by defeating Puerto Rico and Canada, respectively, at Pinnacle Bank Arena in Lincoln, Nebraska on Thursday.

The winners of the tournament will earn a direct ticket to the Rio de Janeiro Olympic Games while the teams placed second and third move into the last chance in tournaments to be held in May.

The host United States defeated its neighbors to the north Canada 3-1 (25-18, 25-18, 25-15) to start strong in front of a heavily partisan crowd.

Nicole Fawcett scored a team match-high 14 points, while Karsta Lowe totaled 10 points as a sub in all three sets. Jordan Larson and Kelsey Robinson, who both played collegiate volleyball at the University of Nebraska in Lincoln, added 10 and nine points respectively. Canada was led by Tabitha Love and Lucille Charuk who chipped in eight points each.

The U.S. offense overwhelmed Canada with a 57-30 kill advantage. Canada held a 7-3 margin in blocks, while the Americans had a 2-0 edge in aces.

The Dominican Republic rallied past Puerto Rico 3-1 (17-25, 25-13, 25-23, 25-23).

Dominican Republic had a balanced scoring attack with Prisilla

Rivera and Brayelin Martinez leading the way with 16 points. Gina Mambu added 15 points, followed by Jineiry Martinez with 11 points coming off the bench. Puerto Rico was topped by Karina Ocasio's 19 points. Stephanie Enright tacked on 12 points.

Dominican Republic held a 5-2 margin in aces and a slim 10-9 margin in blocks. Dominican took a 50-49 advantage in kills.

