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Newsletter

Argentina, Puerto Rico, Chile and Brazil off to a winning start



LIMA, Peru, July 31, 2019. - Argentina, Puerto Rico, Chile and Brazil are off to a winning start on opening day at the eighteenth Lima 2019 Pan American Games in the Multisport Complex El Callao.

Maurice Torres with impressive 31 points carried Puerto Rico over host Peru 3-1 (25-14, 25-20, 21-25, 25-11) and Argentina swept Cuba 3-0 (28-26, 25-22, 25-22) in pool A.

Chile beat United States 3-1 (25-17, 25-17, 17-25, 25-22) with a dynamic performance in pool B and Brazil opened with a 3-1 (25-23, 25-19, 22-25, 25-22) win over Mexico.

On day two of the event pool A matches are Peru (0-1) facing Argentina (1-0) and Cuba (0-1) against Puerto Rico (1-0); while in pool B United States (0-1) plays against Mexico (0-1) and Brazil (1-0) faces Chile (1-0).

Puerto Rico 3, Peru 1

Maurice Torres with impressive 31 points carried Puerto Rico in pool A to win the Lima 2019 Pan American Games opening match over Peru 3-1 (25-14, 25-20, 21-25, 25-11). Puerto Rico's serves unsettled Peru's receivers by a huge 13-5 margin with opposite Maurice Torres acing 7 points from his match-high of 31 points. The winners also led in attacks 44-32 and in blocks 9-6. Puerto Rico managed to recover from losing the third set from host Peru, who battled strong jumping to a comfortable six point lead (14-8) and extended to a finishing 25-21 score. Also contributing in Puerto Rico's first tournament victory was middle blocker Jonathan Rodriguez with 10 points including 4 aces and outside hitter Sequiel Sanchez with 9 points. On Peru's side, outside hitter Alvaro Hidalgo and opposite Eduardo Romay led with 12 points apiece.

Argentina 3, Cuba 0

Argentina swept Cuba 3-0 (28-26, 25-22, 25-22) in their first victory. Despite Cuba's solid 10-5 blocking advantage, Argentina subdued Cuba's hitters in pool A as the party of points in the first set was intense. Both teams scored 47 points on attacks and Argentina scored on 25 points on opponent errors while limiting their own to 13. Outside hitter Nicolás Bruno led Argentina with 14 points on 13 kills and one block, followed by middle blocker Gaston Fernandez and outside hitter Lisandro Zanotti with 9 points each. Cuba used a balanced attacking offense between outside hitters Marlon Yant (15 pts.), Miguel Lopez (14 pts.) and Osniel Mergarejo (11 pts.).



Chile 3, United States 1

Chile kicked off the Lima 2019 Pan American Games beating United States 3-1 (25-17, 25-17, 17-25, 25-22) in pool B. Chile's dynamic performance and strength took United States off guard in the first two sets but USA's hard effort recovery lasted only for a four set overtime South American victory. Chile led in blocks 10-7 and United States in attacks 50-44; both teams aced four points, while Chile committed fewer unforced errors (20-34).

Chilean outside hitter Vicente Parraguire scored a match-high of 20 points, his brother Tomas chipped in with 13 points all on kills and captain Dusan Bonacic scored 12 points. Outside hitter Colton Cowell topped United States with 17 points; joined by opposite Kyle Ensing with 13 points all on kills and middle blocker Price Jaman added 11 points.

Brazil 3, Mexico 1

Brazil opened with a 3-1 (25-23, 25-19, 22-25, 25-22) win over Mexico in pool B. Despite Mexico's tough resistance, Brazil prevailed with 52-48 margin in attacks, 11-9 in the blocking category and a slim 3-2 margin in serves and 30-31 in errors. With 22 points Brazil's opposite Aboubacar Dramé topped all hitters on 20 kills and 2 blocks; Matheus Bispo dos Santos contributed with 13 points and Lucas Loh with 12 points all on kills. Outside hitter Jorge Barajas and opposite Ridl Garay led Mexico's offense with 15 and 13 points accordingly.