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Newsletter

Cuba and Argentina to clash for the Lima 2019 Pan American Games Gold Medal

LIMA, Peru, August 3, 2019.- Cuba and Argentina will clash for the eighteenth Lima 2019 Pan American Games Gold Medal Match on Sunday at the Multisport Complex El Callao in Lima, Peru.

Cuba swept Brazil 3-0 (25-16, 25-22, 25-21) and Argentina won to Chile 3-1 (25-21, 23-25, 28-26, 25-17) in Saturday's semifinals.

This is Cuba's tenth title match, winning on five occasions while Argentina has reached the Pan American Games title match on other two occasions, winning them both (1995, 2015), aiming to win twice in a row.

In the bronze medal match, Brazil will face Chile.

In placing matches, Puerto Rico won fifth place over United States and Mexico beat host Peru for seventh place.

Semifinal Cuba 3, Brazil 0

Cuba swept Brazil 3-0 (25-16, 25-22, 25-21) on Saturday's first semifinal. Cuba advances to their tenth Pan American Games Gold medal match, winning on five occasions; the last time they reached the final match was in 2011 at the Guadalajara Games where they lost to Brazil. Cuba waits for the winner of the other semifinal between defending champion Argentina and Chile. Cuba's dominant display over the net slowed down Brazil from start to finish with advantage in attacks 39-37 and in blocks 7-3. Brazil controlled the serving category by a 6-1 margin. Cuba scored on 29 Brazil errors while



limiting theirs to 12. Cuba's scoring attack was led by Osniel Mergarejo with 17 points all on kills; Miguel Angel Lopez registered 12 points on 9 kills and 3 aces, while Marlon Yang scored 11 points on 9 kills and 2 aces. Carlos Eduardo Barreto (Kadu) with 12 point all on kills was Brazil's only player with double-figures.

Semifinal Argentina 3, Chile 1

Argentina won their semifinal match to Chile 3-1 (25-21, 23-25, 28-26, 25-17). Argentina has reached the Pan American Games title match on other two occasions, winning them both (1995, 2015), aiming to win twice in a row after battling strong against a resilient Chilean squad. Chile will meet Brazil in their first ever Pan American Games medal match.

Over four thousand spectators witnessed Argentina's semifinal victory, overcoming Chile with 65-57 advantage in kills, 3-1 margin in aces and finished with fewer errors (23-30). Chile outblocked Argentina 8-3. Argentina's top hitter and the only one with double-figures was captain Nicolas Bruno who scored 16 points all on kills. Chilean outside hitter Vicente Parraguirre scored a match-high of 20 points all on kills; middle blocker Gabriel Araya contributed with 14 points including four blocks, while opposite player Tomas Parraguirre and captain Dusan Bonasic registered 12 points apiece.

Mexico 3, Peru 1

Mexico beat Peru 3-1 (27-25, 26-24, 25-27, 25-13) to finish seventh place. Mexico found their way to outplay host Peru up to set four with a comfortable scoring margin to finish their Pan American Games campaign with 1-3 win-loss record. Mexico held 59-50 margin in attacks and a slim 5-4 advantage in aces, while both teams scored 13 points on blocks. Mexico committed 22 unforced errors against 26 by Peru. Opposite player Daniel Vargas of Mexico scored a match-high of 25 points including 22 kills and 2 aces. Outside hitter Jorge Barajas added 17 points to Mexico's victory, while middle blocker Jonathan Martinez and outside hitter Gonzalo Ruiz tallied 11 and 10 points accordingly. Middle blocker Alvaro Urueña and opposite Eduardo Romay scored 20 points apiece in Peru's loss.

Puerto Rico 3, United States 2

Puerto Rico won fifth place over United States 3-2 (22-25, 25-21, 25-22, 20-25, 15-8). Today's performance was slower than what both Puerto Rico and United States showed in their previous matches. Puerto Rico led 60-58 in kills and 8-7 in aces; USA led in blocks 9-6. Puerto Rico scored on 33 USA errors while committing 27. Puerto Rican captain Maurice Torres topped all scorers with 23 points on 21 kills and 2 aces; Pablo Guzman contributed with 18 points, Jonathan Rodriguez with 13 points and Pelegrin Sanchez added 10 points. Outside hitter Samuel Holt scored 11 points as USA leading hitter, followed by 10 points by Colt Cowell, playing only three sets. Puerto Rico finishes the competition with 2-2 record for fifth place; United States ends with 1-3 record.