



# Newsletter

## Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico and Mexico with strong debut



AGUASCALIENTES, Mexico, August 11, 2021. - Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico and Mexico started with a strong debut at the Women's U23 Pan American Cup in the Olympic Gymnasium of Aguascalientes, event that offers four tickets to the first edition of the Junior Pan American Games to be held in Cali, Colombia from November 25 to December 5.

All three beat their respective opponents in straight sets; defending champion Dominican Republic was too much for Trinidad and Tobago (25-8, 25-5, 25-5) in pool A, while Puerto Rico beat Guatemala (25-17, 25-15, 25-17) and host Mexico downed Costa Rica 3-0 (25-11, 25-16, 25-18).

Day two features Trinidad and Tobago (0-1) facing Suriname in pool A, while Costa Rica (0-1) plays Puerto Rico (1-0) and Guatemala (0-1) meets Mexico (1-0) in pool B; Dominican Republic (1-0) has the day off.

### Dominican Republic 3, Trinidad and Tobago 0

Defending champion Dominican Republic swept Trinidad and Tobago 3-0 (25-8, 25-5, 25-5). Dominican Republic had no difficulties in dominating Trinidad and Tobago in pool A, with a huge 32-5 margin in attacks and 12-0 in serves, while scoring on 30 opponent errors. Trinidad and Tobago led in blocks by 3-1 and benefited from 10 Dominican errors. Dominican Outside hitter Madeline Guillen led all scorers with 15 points, 9 on kills and 6 aces; outside hitter Jailene Caraballo contributed with 8 points, including 4 aces and middle blocker Sthefany González added 7 points. Middle blocker Natassia Baptiste led Trinidad and Tobago scorers with 5 points.

### Puerto Rico 3, Guatemala 0

Puerto Rico made their debut at the Women's U23 Pan American Cup with a 3-0 (25-17, 25-15, 25-17) victory over Guatemala in pool B. Guatemala managed to put up a better performance during the first and third sets, but Puerto Rico's strength in attacks and

serves took their momentum and the win. Puerto Rico succeeded by a comfortable 30-21 margin in attacks, joined by 3-2 advantage in blocks and 4-3 in serves, while allowing 38 points on errors and Guatemala 23. Outside hitter Nahirka Malpica was Puerto Rico's best scorer with 10 points, 9 kills and one ace, followed by outside hitter Maria Verrier with 9 points, on 7 kills and 2 blocks, and middle blocker Paola Martell with 6 points. For Guatemala, outside hitter Naomi Monney topped with 13 points, 12 on kills and one ace.



### Mexico 3, Costa Rica 0

Mexico opened defeating Costa Rica 3-0 (25-11, 25-16, 25-18). Mexico's well directed serves neutralized Costa Rica who led in set three 11-7 reading the home team's attacking system. Mexico led by a huge 10-1 margin in serves, 31-20 in kills and 8-5 in blocks.

The winners scored on 26 opponent errors while handing out 19 points on unforced errors. Three Mexican players scored double digits, outside hitter Atenas Gutiérrez with a match-high of 19 points, opposite Marian Ovalle with 11 points and outside hitter Grecia Castro with 10 points. Outside hitter María Sofía Arroyo led Costa Rica with 10 points and Tamara Espinoza contributed with 7 points.