



# Newsletter

## Dominican Republic and Mexico to clash for Women's U23 Pan Am Gold



over Suriname 3-0 (25-14, 25-13, 25-15) advancing for the first time ever to the Cup's title match.

### Guatemala 3, Trinidad and Tobago 0

Guatemala beat Trinidad and Tobago 3-0 (25-19, 25-17, 25-18) in their first win and will face Costa Rica for fifth place. For the second occasion in the event Guatemala and Costa Rica meet, this time for fifth place, Costa Rica won the Central American clash in pool-play. The game went smoothly for both sides; Guatemala led 26-24 in attacks and 7-3 in serves, and Trinidad and Tobago in blocks 8-6.

Guatemala scored on 35 opponent errors while committing 19. Guatemala's leading scorers were outside hitter Naomi Monney with 11 points on 10 kills and one ace, middle blocker Ivana Sopegno scored 9 points including 4 blocks and outside hitter Jimena Castellanos alongside setter Andrea Chávez added 6 points each; Chavez with 5 aces.

Middle blocker Destiny Leon of Trinidad and Tobago was the match top scorer with 14 points, 9 on kills, 2 blocks and 3 aces; Natassia Baptiste contributed with 10 points on 7 kills and 3 blocks.

### Dominican Republic 3, Puerto Rico 0

Dominican Republic beat Puerto Rico 3-0 (25-12, 25-16, 25-12) in semifinals to defend their U23 Women's Pan American title. Defending champion Dominican Republic enjoyed their fourth consecutive victory to progress into their fifth Gold Medal match, the same number of editions of

AGUASCALIENTES, Mexico, August 14, 2021. - Dominican Republic and Mexico will clash for the Gold Medal of the Women's U23 Pan American Cup on Sunday at the Olympic Gymnasium of Aguascalientes.

Defending champion Dominican Republic, progressed to the title match for the fifth time in a row, the same number of editions of the event, after winning in semifinals to Puerto Rico 3-0 (25-12, 25-16, 25-12). In the other semifinal, host Mexico prevailed

the event. Outside hitter Vielka Peralta of Dominican Republic scored a match-high of 15 points, the only player finishing with double digits, followed by Madeline Guillen registered 9 points. Middle blocker Paola Martell topped Puerto Rico with 8 points, accompanied by outside hitter Nahirka Malpica and middle blocker Karolina Rodríguez with 7 and 6 points respectively.

Dominican Republic subdued Puerto Rico with 28-20 margin in kills, 9-3 in blocks and 7-5 in aces, while committing only 12 unforced errors compared to 30 from Puerto Rico.



### Mexico 3, Suriname 0

Mexico swept Suriname 3-0 (25-14, 25-13, 25-15) in semifinals to advance for the first time the title match of the Women's U23 Pan American Cup.

Mexican Atenas Gutiérrez started the second set from the service line and left it with a 14-1 score, including four aces; she led all scorers with 12 points. Her teammate Marian Aylin Ovalle collected 10 points on 8 kills and two blocks.

Suriname's Margaret Ketura was her team's best scorer with 10 points. Mexico overpowered Suriname with a huge 36-18 margin in attacks, 5-2 in blocks and 9-4 in serves.

Suriname committed one less unforced error than Mexico (25-26).