

## Dominican Republic and Mexico to play for pool B first place



GUADALAJARA, Mexico, August 27, 2021. - Dominican Republic and Mexico will play for first place in pool B after day two of the Women's NORCECA Continental Championship being held at Arena Astros in Guadalajara, Mexico.

Defending champion Dominican Republic and Mexico, both undefeated in pool B, will play in Saturday's stellar match to earn a direct spot into semifinals; Trinidad and Tobago (0-2) meets Costa Rica (0-2) for third place.

Pool A is unsure with United States finishing with 1-1 record, while Puerto Rico (1-0) faces Canada (0-1) to decide all three final positions.

**Dominican Republic 3, Trinidad and Tobago 0**

Dominican Republic downed Trinidad and Tobago 3-0 (25-5, 25-17, 25-12) in their second win. Defending champions Dominican Republic remained unbeaten in pool B with an easy victory over Trinidad and Tobago, on overwhelming 44-12 advantage in attacks and 11-2 in serves, while scoring on 75 opponent errors and giving away 17 points. Both teams scored 3 points on blocks. Outside hitter Bethania De La Cruz led Dominican Republic with 11 points on 7 kills, 2 blocks and 2 aces, completing the first two sets; entering from the bench in the second set, outside hitter Madeline Guillen scored 10 points. Opposite hitter Krystle Esdelle led Trinidad and Tobago with 5 points, followed by outside hitter Darlene Ramdin and middle blocker Rejeanne Wallace with 4 points each.



### United States 3, Canada 2

United States defeated Canada 3-2 (25-17, 15-25, 19-25, 25-15, 15-8) improving their record 1-1 in pool A. United States and Canada fell into some inconsistencies in a roller coaster match that keeps both teams moving forward but will have to wait until tomorrow's last pool A match (Canada vs. Puerto Rico) to learn their final positions.

In the end, USA's commanding 12-7 lead in blocks controlled Canada's attackers; both teams scored 46 points on kills and Canada held a 9-7 advantage in serves. The U.S. committed fewer errors (28-34) than Canada. Outside hitter Kara Bejema scored 14 points, on 11 kills, 2 blocks and one ace as United States leading scorer, alongside opposite hitter Danielle Cuttino and outside hitter Lindsay Stalzer with 12 points each. Kiera Van Ryk of Canada scored a match-high of 21 points on 16 kills, 2 blocks and 3 aces; her teammate Vicky Savard scored 12 points.



### Mexico 3, Costa Rica 0

Mexico beat Costa Rica 3-0 (25-14, 25-12, 25-21) to keep their perfect mark. Mexico (2-0) earned their second straight win and will play against defending champion Dominican Republic (2-0) to decide first place in pool B; the winner advances directly into semifinals. Costa Rica (0-2) will face Trinidad and Tobago (0-2) to advance into quarterfinals as third place. With a huge 11-1 margin in serves and a 36-19 in attacks, Mexico

edged Costa Rica with little complications. The home team also led 8-4 in blocks while Costa Rica finished with 20 unforced errors against 23 from Mexico.

Opposite hitter Andrea Rangel of Mexico led all scorers with 14 points on 8 kills, 3 blocks and 3 aces; outside hitter Samantha Bricio contributed with 9 points and middle blocker Patricia Valle scored 7 points. On the Central American side, outside hitter Tatiana Sayles finished with 11 points.