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## Newsletter

# Puerto Rico and Chile start on the right foot in Guatemala

GUATEMALA CITY, Guatemala, April 29, 2013 – Puerto Rico and Chile opened with victories in the battle for the last berth available to the FIVB Volleyball Girl's U18 World Championship at the Pan American Cup on Monday.

Puerto Rico defeated Colombia in four sets (25-21, 19-25, 25-23, 25-15) while Chile crushed hosts Guatemala in straight sets (25-18, 25-11, 25-7).

The winners of the preliminary round in Pool B get an automatic ticket to the age-group world championship in Nakhon Ratchasima, Thailand from July 26 to August 4.

In Pool A, where teams are already qualified to Thailand, Dominican Republic defeated Brazil 3-1 (25-21, 27-25, 10-25, 25-18) in the closest match of opening day while defending champions Argentina beat Peru in straight sets (25-16, 25-17, 25-21).

### Puerto Rico v Colombia

Puerto Rico started the tournament on the right foot with a positive reaction after dropping the second set. The winners held a huge 18-4 advantage in blocking and also dominated in aces 6-1. Patricia Montero was the best scorer of Puerto Rico with 23 points. Colombia's top scorer was Armanda Coneo with 15.

### Argentina v Peru

Defending champions Argentina looked very strong against a much younger Peruvian squad. The best scorers for Argentina were Elina Rodriguez and Sol Piccolo with 16 and 14 points respectively. The winners dominated the game at the net with a 9-1 advantage in the blocking category. Katherine Regalado topped Colombia with 11 points.

### Dominican Republic v Brazil

Dominican Republic came out on top against Brazil in a well contested match between two strong sides. The South Americans took the third set by wide margin but the Caribbean team came back to close the victory in the next one. Brayelin Martinez led Dominicans with 19 points followed by Galia Gonzalez with 18

while Maria Garcia chipped in 10 points. Brazilian Drussyla Costa had a match-high 21 points.

### Chile v Guatemala

Chile earned their first victory over hosts Guatemala to close first day actions. The home girls put up a fight in the first set, but slowly lost to a more experienced Chile who was better in the blocking category by 9-4 and in service points by 8-3. Chile had in Catalina Melo its top scorer with 16 points, Catalina Pulgar contributed with 14 and Laura Sotomayor added 11.

