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# Newsletter

## Powerful performances from Dominican Republic and United States at NORCECA U-20

GUATEMALA CITY, Guatemala, July 9, 2014. - Defending Champions of Dominican Republic and United States had a spectacular debut at the Women's U-20 NORCECA Continental Championship in its second day of actions in Teodoro Palacios Flores Gymnasium in Guatemala City.

Both Dominicans and Americans beat their opponents by bulky scores. Dominican Republic was too much for the Central American squad in Pool A with a final score of 3-0 (25-3, 25-9, 25-8). United States powered up against St. Lucia with a 25-5, 25-4, 25-3 victory in Pool C.

Costa Rica also made their debut with a solid victory over Martinique 3-0 (25-12, 25-12, 25-5) in Pool B.

Thursday's matches feature decisive first placing matches with Dominican Republic facing Cuba, United States meets Mexico and the hosts Guatemala against Costa Rica in a Central American classic battle.

### Dominican Republic 3, Nicaragua 0

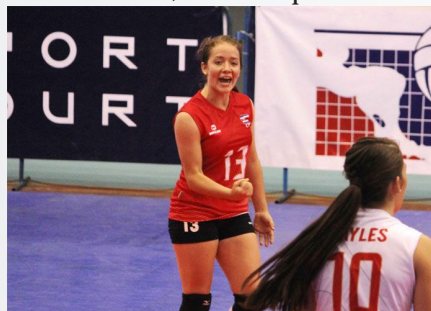


Defending champions Dominican Republic defeated Nicaragua 25-3, 25-9, 25-8 in their first match of the Women's U-20 NORCECA Continental Championship on Wednesday at Teodoro Palacios Flores Gymnasium. Dominicans were too much for Nicaragua who struggled all the way without finding

a way to counterattack. The winners proved their intentions to fight for their title giving no chance for mistakes. Dominican Republic beat Nicaragua with superiority and huge advantage in spikes by 23-8, as well as in the blocking category by 12-1 and in service points by 3-1. Dominican Republic took advantage of Nicaragua's

37 unforced errors while sustaining only 10 of their own. Outside hitter Brayelin Martinez was Dominican Republic maximum scorer with 11 points, with 3 blocks included; she was joined by opposite Galia Gonzalez with 9 points. For the Nicaraguan side, outside hitter Florelisa Smith topped with 8 points.

### Costa Rica 3, Martinique 0



Costa Rica earned their first victory at the Womens' U-20 NORCECA Continental Championship defeating Martinique 3-0 (25-12, 25-12, 25-5) in Pool B. Costa Rica with more skills to show took a considerable easy victory in their debut in the tournament, while Martinique has a 0-2 win-loss record.

The Central American team took advantage of Martinique's 32 unforced errors, they held advantage in spikes by a 28-9 margin, and definitely harmed the Caribbean team with their efficient serves by a 14-3 margin. Opposite Tatiana Sayles led Costa Rica scorers with 10 points all in kills, middle blockers Maria Alfaro and Melissa Rodriguez contributed with 8 and 6 points respectively, and outside hitter Tania Carazo chipped in with 6 points. Martinique's top scorer was outside hitter Laetitia Nivan with 5 points.

### United States 3, St. Lucia 0



United States defeated St. Lucia 3-0 (25-5, 25-4, 25-3) in the closing match of the second day of actions of the Women's U-20 NORCECA Continental Championship. United States powered up in their first appearance in the tournament, jumping to a comfortable straight set victory. USA blocked St. Lucia's offensive line with an

11-0 margin; they pushed strongly with a huge advantage in kills by 38-3 and superiority in service points by 6-0. USA had only 9 unforced errors while St. Lucia committed 20. Opposite player Hayley Hodson and middle blocker Rhamat Alhassan scored 13 points apiece to top USA's scorers. Mikaela Foecke contributed with nine points to the winning cause, with 4 blocks included.

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