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**NORCECA**  
Volleyball Confederation
October 2014  
Year. 12 - No. 111

# Newsletter

## Mexico and Cuba undefeated in U23 Pan Am Cup

HAVANA, Cuba, October 7, 2014 – Mexico and Cuba are still undefeated after three days in the second U23 Men's Pan American Cup, a qualifier to next year's FIVB World Championship of the age group.

In the closest match on Tuesday, Mexico edged Dominican Republic (27-25, 29-31, 19-25, 25-22, 15-13) in grueling five-set battle that lasted 2 hours and three minutes to improve their win-loss record to 3-0 and 12 points while the losers fell to 2-1 with 12 points.

Cuba increased to 15 points and a 3-0 mark following their third straight-set victory, this time over El Salvador 25-15, 25-17, 25-17.

In a match between winless teams, Guatemala defeated Trinidad & Tobago 3-1 (25-18, 23-25, 25-21, 25-16). The Guatemalans gained four points (1-2, 5) while the Trinidadians scored their first point (0-3, 1).

On Wednesday's action, Mexico play Trinidad & Tobago, Guatemala meet El Salvador and Dominican Republic challenge Cuba. The top two ranked teams at the end of the competition taking place at the Sport City Coliseum in Havana will secure berths in the 2015 FIVB World Championship.

Mexico 3, Dominican Republic 2

In a battle between undefeated teams, Mexico was stronger than Dominican Republic in the tie-breaker to prevail in a close five-setter (27-25, 29-31, 19-25, 25-22, 15-13) for their third straight victory. Julian Duarte (17), Humberto Ceballos (15) and Alexis Garay (13) led the winning attack. Dominican Republic's Luis Adames had a tournament-high 35 points in the losing cause, followed by Henry Lopez with 19.

Guatemala 3, Trinidad & Tobago 1

Guatemala scored their first win by overcoming Trinidad and Tobago 3-1 (25-18, 23-25, 25-21, 25-16). The winning offense

was led by Axel Menendez (12), and Carlos Lopez and Gerardo Gonzalez with 10 apiece. The top scorers of the match were the Trinidadians Newton Grant (17) and Brandon Legall (13). Guatemala led in spikes (48-38), as well as the services (2-0), and they also made fewer errors (30-42). On the other hand, the Trinidadians showed better blocking (12-6).

Cuba 3, El Salvador 1

Cuba beat El Salvador in straight sets (25-15, 25-17, 25-17) to extend their winning streak.

The home side did not need all their starting players and only the outside hitter Abraham Alfonso reached double digits (16), while Felix Chapman and Inovel Romero contributed nine and eight points, respectively. Mauricio Rivas finished with eight as the best of the losers. Cuban offensive was decisive (42-21), as well as their blocks (8-2) and services (2-0).



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