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Colombia and Peru win in five thrilling sets



ICA, Peru, September 8, 2014. - The second day of actions at the II Women's U-23 Pan-American Cup featured Colombia in Pool B and Peru in Pool A with thrilling wins in nerve wrecking five sets.

Colombia faced defending champions Dominican Republic who battled head to head with the South American squad dominating 3-2 (20-25, 25-19, 22-25, 27-25, 15-6) for their first victory in the tournament. Colombia and Dominican Republic stand with 1-1 win-loss record, while Cuba won to Costa Rica and remains undefeated.

The hosts had their fans cheering at the venue in Ica as they weren't subdued by Mexico's solid blocking with victory of 3-2 (22-25, 25-23, 23-25, 25-23, 18-16). Peru along with Argentina are unbeaten with 2-0 win-loss record and tomorrow's match has raised high expectations to win reach the semifinals.

Colombia 3, Dominican Republic 2

Colombia surprised Dominican Republic in a well disputed match that extended to a tie-break (20-25, 25-19, 22-25, 27-25, 15-6) to even both team's win-loss record 1-1. From the first whistle both teams engaged in brutal duel, remembering the feat of the 2012 U-20 World Championship in Czech Republic where the Caribbean won in four sets. With solid serves (10-2) and superior spiking (64-50) Colombians were led by Amanda Coneo (22), joined by Ivonee Montano (20) and Diana Arrechea (14), while the Dominicans led in blocking (11-8) and Yonkaira Peña leading all scorers (26), followed by Brayelin Martinez (20), the other double-digit scorers.

Argentina 3, Trinidad and Tobago 0
Argentina defeated Trinidad and Tobago 3-0 (25-14, 25-10, 25-16) to capture their second win in Pool A. The South Americans showed a solid and structure display in their second pool match, having no difficulties in beating an inexperienced Trinidad and Tobago. Argentina improves

their win-loss record 2-0 while Trinidad and Tobago drops to 0-2. Argentina showed their dominance with a huge 31-15 advantage in kills, as well in service points by 14-2; in blocking they had a 6-5 margin.

Cuba 3, Costa Rica 0
Cuba prevailed over Costa Rica without any complications 3-0 (25-10, 25-15, 25-15) and leads Pool B with two victories. The outstanding serves of the Caribbean's were dominant, with 16 aces, 8 of them scored by left outside hitter Regla Garcia, top scorer of the match with 15 points, followed by middle blocker Yelennis Diaz (13) and opposite player Melissa Vargas (10), while three bench players had the opportunity to contribute with the winning cause, especially versatile Dayami Sanchez (5). Mijal Hines (7) and Tania Carazo (6) were once again Costa Rica's top scorers in their team efforts campaign where Cuba exceeded in kills (35-22) and blocking (8-2), even if in unforced errors they were almost even (14-16), in a match that lasted 56 minutes, as well as yesterday's match between where Costa Rica lost to Dominican Republic in three sets.

Peru 3, Mexico 2
Captain Angela Leyva led Peru to beat Mexico in five thrilling sets 22-25, 25-23, 23-25, 25-23, 18-16. It was an exciting duel where Angela Leyva registered a math-high of 26 points to keep Peru unbeaten in Pool A as Mexico pushed strong to recover from yesterday's loss to Argentina. The home girls didn't give up easily as Mexico subdued their efforts blocking them from start to finish. Peru topped Mexico in kills with 62-52 advantage, while Mexico surpassed in the blocking (19-10) and service categories (7-5). There was little difference in unforced errors, with Peru committing a total of 34 and Mexico 36. Joining Leyva for the winners was opposite player Maguilaura Frias and middle blocker Andrea Urrutia with 18 and 13 points respectively. Also with double-figures, outside hitter Lisbeth Sainz led Mexico's scorers with 20 points, middle blocker Jocelyn Urias with 18, opposite player Andrea Rangel with 13 and middle blocker Patricia Valle with 10.