



Top ranked duos lead opening day at Pan Am Games

TORONTO, Canada, July 13, 2015. - The top ranked duos lead opening day of the XVIII Pan American Games Toronto 2015 at the double gender Volleyball Beach tournament at the Chevrolet Beach Volleyball Centre.

Brazil and United States in both genders, Canada, Uruguay and Costa Rica in the women's division, joined by Mexico, Cuba, Chile and Puerto Rico in the men's field began the tournament with solid performances in day one of pool-play round.

In women's Pool B, Brazilians Liliane Maestrini and Carol Maximo dominated Nicaragua's Elia Machado and Lolette Rodriguez without difficulties by 2-0 (21-7, 21-13); and Karen Cope along with Natalia Alfaró of Costa Rica gave a great battle coming from behind to defeat Francisca Rivas and Pilar Mardones of Chile 2-1 (16-21, 21-14, 15-11). Kelley Larsen

and Betsi Metter of United States and Galindo sisters of Colombia won their matches in Pool C prevailing over two Central American teams. Ivonne Soler with Laura Molina of El Salvador, and Maria Jose Orellana, pairing with Blanca Recinos of Guatemala respectively.

The US duo Larsen/Metter beat Soler/Molina of El Salvador 2-0 (21-12, 21-14) while Andrea and Claudia Galindo of Colombia defeated Guatemala's Orellana/Recinos 2-0 (21-14, 21-15).

In Pool A, the home team of Melissa Humana-Paredes and Taylor Piske controlled the actions against Chante Smith-Johnson and Ileann Powery of Cayman Islands 2-0 (21-8, 21-10); while Eugenia Nieto and Fabiana Gomez of Uruguay beat 2-0 (21-15, 21-15) Lina Bernier and Eva Torruella of Puerto Rico.

In the men's field, Chilean cousins Marcos and Esteban Grimalt in Pool D, prevailed over Carlos Talavera and David Vargas of El Salvador 2-0 (21-18, 21-12). In Pool B, Alvaro Morais and Victor Felipe of Brazil defeated in 43 minutes a Eargenell De Cuba and Daniel Mitchel of Aruba in straight sets 21-10, 21-13.

Mexican Lombardo Ontiveros and Juan Virgen also in Pool B struggled mostly in the second

set to overcome a deficit against Jackson Henriquez and Jesus Villafañe of Venezuela; they finally took their first win 21-15, 21-18.

Nivaldo Diaz and Sergio Gonzalez of Cuba in Pool C beat 2-0 (21-19, 21-12) Argentina's Ian Mehamed and Nicolas Capogrosso after a well disputed first set.

In another Pool C match, Ian Satterfield and Miles Evans of United States took down the tough St. Lucia's duo of Julian Bissette and Joseph Clercent 21-18 and 21-11, while Puerto Rico's Roberto Rodriguez and Erick Haddock prevailed fast over Daniel Williams and Fabian Whitfield of Trinidad and Tobago 2-0 (21-12, 21-15) in Pool D.

Pool play results Monday July 13

Women: Pool A CAN d CAY 2-0 (21-8, 21-10); URU d PUR 2-0 (21-15, 21-15) Pool B BRA d NCA 2-0 (21-7, 21-13); CRC d CHI 2-1 (16-21, 21-14, 15-11) Pool C USA d ESA 2-0 (21-12, 21-14); COL d GUA 2-0 (21-14, 21-15)

Men: Pool B BRA d ARU 2-0 (21-10, 21-13); MEX d VEN 2-0 (21-15, 21-18) Pool C CUB d ARG 2-0 (21-19, 21-12); USA d LCA 2-0 (21-18, 21-11) Pool D CHI d ESA 2-0 (21-18, 21-12); PUR d TTO 2-0 (21-12, 21-15)