



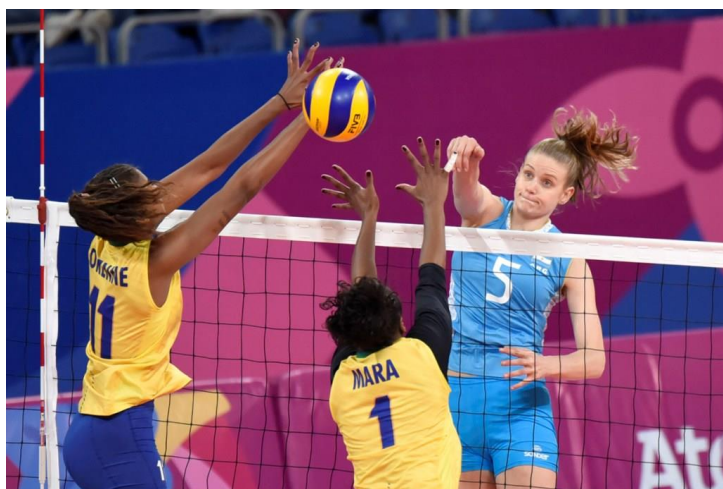
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# Newsletter



## Argentina first to clinch a spot at Pan American Games semifinals

LIMA, Peru, August 8, 2019. - Argentina with a straight set win over Brazil and United States' victory against Puerto Rico is the first team to clinch a spot at the Lima 2019 Pan American Games semifinals, regardless of the result in the last day of the preliminary round.

Argentina with 2-0 record has moved into semifinals regardless of the result against Puerto Rico (0-2) in their last pool B match on Friday; while defending champion United States (1-1) will face Brazil (1-1) with the winner moving to semifinals.

The last day of pool A will determine the semifinalists, with Dominican Republic undefeated (2-0) set to face host Peru (1-1) and Colombia (1-1) goes against Canada (0-2).

### Argentina 3, Brazil 0

Argentina with straight set win 3-0 (25-23, 25-19, 25-23) over Brazil in pool B. Argentina keeps their undefeated record 2-0 in pool B, earning important five points in ranking with an organized game plan. Brazil drops to 1-1 record. In set three, Argentina recovered from a four point deficit (11-16) for a clean sweep that puts them one foot into the medals round. Argentina controlled in attack 47-43 and aces 6-3, while Brazil did better in blocking with 5-3 margin. Argentina scored on 19 errors from Brazil and handed out 14.

Opposite player Lucia Fresco scored a match-high of 24 points with 21 kills and 2 aces on Argentina's second tournament win and outside hitter

Elina Rodriguez contributed with 11 points. Opposite Lorene Geraldo led Brazil with 18 points and Mara Ferreira added 10 points.

### United States 3, Puerto Rico 2

United States will face Brazil for a semifinal berth after their tie-break win 3-2 (25-19, 19-25, 21-25, 25-16, 15-9) to Puerto Rico in pool B. After recovering from a shocking second set (recovering from a 3-14 deficit) and falling behind 2-1, the U.S. went on to beat Puerto Rico in a long five setter to improve their record to 1-1. United States will face Brazil, who lost earlier to Argentina and has the same win-loss record, in a decisive pool A match that will offer a semifinal berth. Puerto Rico's 63-47 advantage in attacks fell short from handing out 35 point errors to United States, who committed only 18 and held a 16-7 margin blocks. Puerto Rico finished with a slim 7-6 margin aces as well. Outside hitter Sarah Wilhite was United States' leading attacker with 16 points, followed by middle blocker Hannah Tapp (5 stuff blocks) and Danielle Cuttino with 13 points each, and captain Kingdon Rishel scored 11 points. Outside hitter Stephanie Enright of Puerto Rico scored a match-high of 27 points, opposite player Paulina Prieto contributed with 20 points and Aury Cruz with 16 points.

### Dominican Republic 3, Canada 0

Dominican Republic undefeated in pool A after winning 3-0 (25-16, 25-22, 25-23) to Canada. Dominican Republic's performance in not at their best rhythm as they struggled in sets two and three to keep their distance in scores. Dominicans move into the last day of the preliminary round with a solid 2-0 undefeated record and a high possibility to qualify to semifinals. Dominican Republic held 39-32 advantage in kills and 5-3 in service points, scoring on 26 errors of Canada against 20. Canada held a slim 6-5 margin in blocks.

Middle blocker Jineiry Martinez was Dominican Republic best hitter with 13 points on 10 kills, one block and 2 aces, followed by opposite player Gaila Gonzalez with 12 points and outside hitter Bethania De La Cruz who tallied 11 points. On Canada's side, captain Brianna Beamish led with 8 points.

### Colombia 3, Perú 1

With impressive 32 points, Amanda Coneo carried Colombia into their first Lima 2019 Pan American Games victory defeating host Peru 3-1 (21-25, 22-25, 25-21, 25-22). Amanda Coneo's 32 points including 29 kills, helped Colombia silence the five thousand Peruvian supporters at the Multisport Complex El Callao to improve her team's win-loss record to 1-1 in pool A and keeping them in the battle to move into the medals round. Colombia outblocked Peru with a sizeable 12-5 advantage while Peru led by slim 57-56 attacking margin and 4-3 in aces. Colombia committed 24 errors and Peru a total of 25.

Along with Amanda's pounding force, outside hitter Margarita Martinez and opposite player Dayana Segovia contributed with 12 points apiece. Outside hitter Angela Leyva scored 27 points as Peru's leading attacker and captain Karla Ortiz scored 15 points.