

# 2019 NORCECA

# U21 Pan Am Cup

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# Newsletter

## Cuba and Canada advance to semifinals

SANTO DOMINGO, Dominican Republic, May 7, 2019 – Cuba and Canada, the two already qualified teams to the U21 World Championship, advance to the semifinals of the Pan American Cup as winners of their respective pools on Tuesday.

In Wednesday's quarterfinals, United States will play Chile while Colombia will meet Puerto Rico as the four teams stayed in competition for the last ticket available to the world championship in Bahrain.

Cuba is qualified as NORCECA champion and Canada as one of the not qualified five top world ranked teams.

### Colombia 3, Chile 2

Colombia edged Chile in five sets 3-2 (25-18, 25-21, 18-25 19-25, 15-12) in a duel between South American teams for second place in Pool B. Leiner Aponza led Colombia with 18 points while his brother Daniel had 6 blocks among her 11 points. Ronnie Mosqueira and Andres Guzman contributed 13 and 11 points in the victory. Vicente Ibarra had a match-



high 21 points for Chile followed by Manfred Borgstedt with 16. Colombia prevailed despite their 50 unforced errors.

### Dominican Republic 3, Puerto Rico 2

The Dominican Republic outplayed Puerto Rico in five sets 3-2 (20-25, 25-19, 25-23, 18-25, 15-9) in a classic battle between teams of NORCECA. Bayron Valdez scored a tournament-high 26 points while middle blocker Dawilín Méndez added 11 points, including 6 blocks. Wily Varela led four Puerto Ricans who reached double figures in scoring with 20 points. Carlos Negrón had 16 while Pedro Molina and Johan Leon each had 13 points.

### Cuba 3, United States 0

Cuba defeated the United States 3-0 (25-21, 25-15, 25-19) for its third consecutive victory and the first place in Pool A. José Romero, opposite of Cuba, finished as their highest scorer with 10 points of attack, 4 blocks and 4 aces for a total of 18 units. For the United States, top scorer Ryan Wilcox scored 12 points. Cuba won with solid advantage in the blocks (11-2), was also superior in attack (29-24) and services (10-7).

### Canada 3, Peru 1

Canada claimed first place in Pool B after defeating Peru 3-1 (25-9, 26-28, 25-15, 25-15). The Canadian squad dominated their rivals in the attacks (46-30), blocking (9-2) and services (14-4). The unforced errors were similar: 31 Canada and 32 Peru. Alexis Tournier led the Canadian offense with 15 points, followed in the attack by Xander Ketrzynski with 14, Coltyn Liu 12 and Matthew Neaves 10. Sebastián Calvera was the highest scorer in Peru with 10 tallies.