



Newsletter



Cuba and Mexico move into Semifinals

DURANGO, Mexico, August 20, 2021. - Defending champion Cuba and Mexico moved into the Men's NORCECA Continental Championship semifinals to be held on Sunday at Auditorio del Pueblo in Durango, Mexico.

Cuba reached the semifinals winning pool B after defeating United States 3-0 (25-23, 25-23, 25-20) and Mexico topped pool A sweeping Canada 3-0 (25-21, 28-26, 25-21).

Saturday's quarterfinals feature a North American battle between United States and Canada; and a Caribbean faceoff between Puerto Rico and Dominican Republic.

Puerto Rico 3, Trinidad and Tobago 0

Puerto Rico secured a spot in the quarterfinal round after defeating Trinidad and Tobago 3-0 (25-17, 25-16, 25-18). Puerto Rico resumed pool A with 2-1 record; they await the result between Mexico and Canada to know if they finish in second or third position. Trinidad and Tobago 0-3 will play placing matches for 5-8 positions. With a 48-23 margin in attacks, 4-1 in blocks and 5-2 in serves, Puerto Rico had no setbacks in defeating Trinidad and Tobago who committed fewer errors (18-25) than the winning side. Outside hitter Pelegrin Vargas topped Puerto Rico's scorers with 11 points all on kills, opposite Gabriel García, who only played the first two sets, contributed with 10 points on 8 kills, one block and one ace. Trinidad and Tobago was led by Daynte Stewart with a match-high of 14 points.

Dominican Republic 3, Guatemala 1

Outside hitter Henry Tapia carried Dominican Republic into quarterfinals scoring 27 points in his teams' victory over Guatemala 3-1 (29-31, 25-16, 25-19, 25-19). Dominican Republic with 1-2 record ended the preliminary round third place in pool B and moved into the event's quarterfinal round. Guatemala with 0-3 will play for positions 5-8. Experienced Henry Tapia led all scorers with 27 points on 22 kills, 3 blocks and 2 aces, followed by outside hitters Henry López and Hector Cruz with 17 and 16 points respectively, while middle blocker Dawilin Méndez added 11 points including 4 aces. Four Guatemalan players scored double digits, led by Carlos López (16), Gerardo González (13), Jason Hernández (12) and José Rodrigo Carrillo (11). Dominicans stopped Guatemalans with a comfortable 13-7 margin in blocks, 65-50 in attacks and 5-1 in serves. Guatemala committed 21 unforced errors and Dominican Republic committed 27.

Cuba 3, United States 0



Defending champion Cuba reached the semifinals after defeating United States 3-0 (25-23, 25-23, 25-20). Cuba finished the preliminary round first in pool B to move directly into semifinals and the U.S. second will play either Canada or

Puerto Rico in quarterfinals on Saturday. Cuba led 36-25 in attacks, 10-6 in blocks and 1-0 in service points; the U.S. committed 28 unforced errors in comparison to 35 from the Cuban side. Outside hitter Miguel Angel López was Cuba's leading scorer with 13 points, opposite Jesús Herrera contributed with 11 points and middle blocker José Israel Masso along with outside hitter Julio Cesar Cardenas added 9 tallies each. For United States, middle blocker Spencer Olivier led with 10 points.

Mexico 3, Canada 0

Mexico defeated Canada 3-0 (25-21, 28-26, 25-21) to top pool A and move into the semifinals undefeated and Canada finished third place in pool A to play the quarterfinals against United States, who lost to Cuba and finished second of pool B.

The home team was better in blocking 9-4 and serves 3-1, while Canada held 39-30 advantage in attacks. Mexico scored on 36 opponent errors while allowing 24. Opposite Diego González was Mexico's leading scorer with 13 points, followed by outside hitter Josué López who scored 9 points. Canada's opposite Xander Ketrzynski scored 16 points and outside hitter Brandon Koppers contributed with 10 points.