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Cuba returns to the Top of the Americas



TIJUANA, México, August 16, 2014.- Cuba returned to the top of continental volleyball after beating the United States in three sets at the IX Men's Pan American Cup finals. Scores were 25-16, 25-23 and 25-23.

El capitán Rolando Cepeda terminó con 20 puntos, seguido por Osmany Uriarte, con 8. Por Estados Unidos, Taylor Crabb y Taylor Averill cerraron con nueve puntos cada uno. Cuba superó 9-7 a los norteamericanos en puntos clave de bloqueo. El capitán norteamericano Zachary La Cavera finalizó con 8 unidades, al igual que Scott Kevorken.

For the first time in history a total of five teams of the Norceca Volleyball Confederation are part of the FIVB World League. The United States, Cuba, Puerto Rico, Mexico and Canada will play at this competition in the year 2015, after their results in the final ranking of the IX Men's Pan American Cup.

USA and Cuba used to be the only representatives at the FIVB highest yearly event. Now there is a champion that advances to the First Group, while the rest of the best classified teams, will be alocated in Groups II and III. Also as representatives of the South American Confederation (CSV) Argentina and Venezuela claimed spots for FIVBWL.

Bronze for Argentina

Argentina claimed the Bronze Medal after beating Puerto Rico in five

sets. The scores were 25-21, 25-23, 20-25, 24-26 and 18-16. Maurice Torres scored 32 points for Puerto Rico, joining to the 30's club in the history of the Cup. He also aced three times. Jackson Rivera scored 15 and Mannix Roman 14, while Jose Rivera finished with 10. Argentina finished with three double-digit scorers. Rodrigo Villalba closed with 20, while Pablo Koukartsev with 17, and Facundo Imhoff with 15.

Fifth place for Venezuela

Venezuela finished in fifth place IX Men's Pan American Cup after beating Mexico in four sets (22-25, 25-20, 25-15, 25-23). Captain Kervin Pinerua finished as top scorer with a total of 19 points, with two aces. Maximo Montoya scored 13, two in aces, while Jesus Chourio closed with 11, all of them for Venezuela. For Mexico, Carlos Guerra converted 13 points and Daniel Vargas 9.

