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Newsletter

Puerto Rico and Mexico complete the Final Four

SAN JOSE, Costa Rica, June 27, 2014.- Puerto Rico and Mexico completed the semifinalists at the NORCECA Girls' U18 Continental Championship who will be battling for the three tickets available to the 2015 FIVB World Championship of the age-group.

In Saturday's semifinals Puerto Rico square off against United States and Mexico meet Dominican Republic. Once again Costa Rica and Guatemala clash in another Central American classic for fifth place.

Honduras face Trinidad & Tobago for seventh place while St. Lucia finished in ninth position.

Puerto Rico 3, Guatemala 0

Puerto Rico reached the semifinals after defeating Guatemala 3-0 (25-13, 25-19, 25-19). Puerto Rico committed a series of unforced errors that allowed the Central American team to get closer in the last two sets. Puerto Rico's attacks proved to be too much for Guatemala, with a 41-12 advantage and the Caribbean team was also superior in the blocking category by 7-2 and in service points by 9-5. Alejandra Negron scored a match-high 14 points topping Puerto Rico, followed by Joseline Coronel with 10 points, 2 blocks and 3 aces included.

Mexico 3, Costa Rica 0

Mexico won their quarterfinal match over hosts Costa Rica in straight sets (25-11, 25-15, 25-13). Mexico completely neutralized Costa Rica's strategy with advantages of 28-13 in spikes, 10-3 in blocks and 12-1 in serves. Their consistent spikes and serves showed they're prepared for next round. Mexico's offensive was led by Kathya Garcia with 14 points including 6 aces; Karina Flores contributed 10 points, three blocks and aces included.

Honduras 3, St. Lucia 0

Honduras beat St. Lucia by 3-0 (25-13, 25-13, 25-22) for their first win. Honduras took advantage of St. Lucia's unforced errors in the first two sets, and had difficulties in passing

during the third set before recovering. Honduras' serves made the difference beating St. Lucia with a huge margin of 15-4 and they also held advantage in spikes by 30-12. Both teams committed a similar number of errors, Honduras with 29 and St Lucia with 28. The best scorers for Honduras were Mercedes Caballero with 9 points, Lilian Alcerro chipped in with 8 points and outside hitter Miriam Lobo added 7 points.



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