







## United States and Dominican Republic unbeaten



MORELIA, Mexico, September 28. 2015.- United States and Dominican Republic are still unbeaten after at the NORCECA Women's Continental Championship at day two of the competition being held at Bicentenario Auditorim at Morelia, Michogram

In Pool A, United States defeated Canada while Dominican Republic downed Trinidad and Tobago in Pool B, both in straight sets and on are underway of reaching the semifinals as well as earning a spot to the NORCECA Olympic Qualification Tournament.

The preliminary round concludes on Tuesday.

Cuba 3, Costa Rica 0

Cuba improved their record (1-1) while beating Costa Rica 3-0 (25-14, 25-15, 25-21). Cuba in Pool A earns their first win to improve their record (1-1) with seven points; Costa Rica has 0-2 record. Cuba fell into Costa Rica's rhythm, keeping the scores always close. On occasions Costa Rica held advantage gaining more confidence as they pressured the Caribbean team with strong serves. Cuba engaged in miss communications putting themselves on a difficult spot. Finally, Cuba settled and won in straight sets. Cuba beat Costa Rica with 36-21 margin in spikes and with huge advantage in blocks 12-4. Costa Rica led in aces 3-2. Errors were similar, Cuba (22) and Costa Rica (25). Cuban Opposite Heidy Rodriguez scored 22 points for a match-high, 19 on kills and 3 blocks; she was the only one with double digits on her team. Mijal Hines topped Costa Rica with 11 points, all in kills.

Dominican Republic 3, Trinidad and Tobago 0
Dominican Republic powered up against Trinidad and Tobago 3-0 (25-16, 25-14, 25-17) for their second consecutive win. Dominican Republic has a 2-0 record and eight points in Pool B, while Trinidad and Tobago remains win-less. Dominican Republic gave a rest to staring players and during the match used different variations in their line-up. Trinidad and Tobago scored on powerful kills especially by Channon Thompson and also held off Dominican Republic with blocking. Dominican Republic took advantage of 32 Trinidad and Tobago errors; they had a good margin in aces (6-1) and held a 29-24 advantage in spikes. In the blocking category, Trinidad and Tobago scored one point more (9-8). Dominican Republic top scorers were Yonkaira Peña (8), Gaila Gonzalez (7) and Annerys Vargas (7). Outside Hitter Channon Thompson led Trinidad and Tobago with 12 points.

United States 3, Canada 0

United States beat Canada 3-0 (25-15, 25-17, 25-19) to remain undefeated in Pool A. United States used all their players in a victory that keeps them with perfect record (2-0) and ten points; Canada drops to 1-1, remaining with three points. United States outscored Canada with a huge 42-22 margin in spikes and 8-6 in blocking, and scored on 24 Canadian errors. Both teams scored two points on aces. Jordan Larson-Burbach (9), Kelsy Robinson (9), Nicole Fawcett (8) and Karsta Lowe (6) led United States' victory, while Tabitha Love (8) and Shanice Marcelle (6) did their piece for Canada.

Puerto Rico 3, Mexico 2

Puerto Rico 3, Mexico 3, Puerto Rico 3-2 (25-20, 23-25, 25-16, 18-25, 15-11) in Pool B. Puerto Rico earned their first win of the tournament for a 1-1 record and a total of five points; Mexico drops to 1-1 and stands with seven points. The first set started off strong with long rallies and Puerto Rico was able to hold off Mexico mostly by their middle blockers. Puerto Rico held advantage in the second set as Mexico had many unforced errors but they persevered in strong spikes to tie the match. Puerto Rico dominated Mexico in the third set with a more organized performance. In the fourth Mexico's serves really hurt Puerto Rico to extend the match to a tie-breaker. Puerto Rico managed to control Mexico with margin in blocking 12-9, while Mexico held 64-57 advantage in kills. Both teams scored on 3 aces. Puerto Rico scored on 34 errors by Mexico. Karina Ocasio tallied 17 points as Puerto Rico's top scorer, also contributing were Aury Cruz (14), Alexandra Oquendo (13), Estephanie Enright (12) and Lynda Morales (11). Mexico was led by Opposite Dulce Carranza scored 27 points for a match-high, on 23 kills and 4 block, followed by Andrea Rangel with 22 points and Lizbeth Sainz chipped in with 11 points.

