# Favorites start off on the right foot at Pan Am Cup

SANTO DOMINGO, Dominican Republic, July 2, 2016 – Opening day at the XV Women's Pan American Cup passed without surprises as the favorite teams came out triumphant from their first contest on Saturday.

In Pool A, Canada defeated Colombia in the only match that went beyond three sets, while Puerto Rico and hosts Dominican Republic scored straight set victories over Mexico and Venezuela, respectively.

In Pool B, defending champions United States swept Peru, Argentina blanked Costa Rica and Cuba won in straight sets over Trinidad & Tobago.

# Canada 3, Colombia 1



Canada outplayed Colombia 3-1 (25-21, 18-25, 25-16, 25-21) in the first match of Pool A. The winners

outscored their opponents 55-35 in spikes, 10-6 in blocks and 8-7 in aces. Shainah Joseph led four Canadian players with double figures by scoring 18 points, including one block and three aces. Daniel Brisebois contributed 14 points in the victory while Lucille Charuk and Michaela Reesor finished with 13 points apiece. Colombia's Kenny Pino had a matchhigh 20 points and Dayana Segovia had 10 points in the losing cause.

#### Puerto Rico 3, Mexico 0



Puerto Rico started its campaign with a straight-set 3-0 (25-19, 25-19, 25-23) win over Mexico in Pool A.

Puerto Rican coach Juan Carlos Nuñez rotated his players and everyone saw action in the match. Karina Ocasio and Stephanie Enright were the best scorers for the winning side with 11 and 10 points, respectively. Daly Santana came off the bench to contribute 8 points. Bibi Candelas topscored Mexico with 8 points, followed by Karina Flores and Andrea Rangel who tallied seven apiece.

### Dominican Republic 3, Venezuela 0



Bethania de la Cruz landed six aces and finished with 13 points to lead the 3-0 (25-16, 25-11, 25-16) victory of hosts

Dominican Republic over Venezuela in the last match of Pool A in opening day. Gina Mambru contributed 9 points while Brayelin Martinez and Lisvel Eve each chipped in with 6 points. Luz Delfines was the top scorer of Venezuela with 13 points. The winners scored 10 aces compared to only two by the defeated side.

## Argentina 3, Costa Rica 0



Argentina swept Costa Rica 3-0 (25-11, 25-17, 25-15) in the first match of Pool B. The Argentineans

relied on their

strong serves scoring 13 aces, including four by setter Yael Castiglione. Julieta Lazcano and Lucia Fresco were the top scores for the winners with 10 and 9 points, respectively. Mijal Hines had 11 points for Costa Rica.

### Cuba 3, Trinidad & Tobago 0



Cuba cruised past Trinidad & Tobago earning a 3-0 (25-20, 25-14, 25-19) victory in Pool B. The Cubans

outblocked the Trinidadians 13-6 and also held the advantage in aces 6-2. Heidy Rodriguez and Sulian Matienzo led the winners with 13 and 11 points, respectively, and Damara Lescay chipped in with 9 points, including five blocks. Krystle Esdelle and Channon Thompson had 12 and 11 points in the losing effort.

### United States 3, Peru 0



Micha Hancock fired eight aces to carry United States to a 3-0 (25-20, 25-19, 27-25) victory over Peru in

Pool B. Hancock, who did not start in any of the three sets, finished one ace short of tying the tournament's record established by compatriot Nicole Brannagh with 9 against Puerto Rico in the first edition of the event in 2002 in Mexico. Rhamat Alhassan was the top scorer for USA with 12 points, followed by Madison Kingdon with 10. Hancock and Nikki Taylor each contributed 8 points. Peru's Angela Leyva led all the players in the match with 16 points while teammates Carla Rueda and Maguilaura Frias finished with 10 points apiece.

#### Year-by-Year Results

Year	Gold	Silver	Bronze
2002	CUB	DOM	CAN
2003	USA	DOM	CUB
2004	CUB	USA	DOM
2005	CUB	DOM	BRA
2006	BRA	CUB	DOM
2007	CUB	BRA	DOM
2008	DOM	BRA	ARG
2009	BRA	DOM	PUR
2010	DOM	PER	USA
2011	BRA	DOM	USA
2012	USA	BRA	CUB
2013	USA	DOM	ARG
2014	DOM	USA	PUR
2015	USA	DOM	ARG

#### **Medal Table**

Team	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
USA	4	2	2	8
CUB	4	1	2	7
DOM	3	7	3	13
BRA	3	1	3	7
PER	0	1	0	1
ARG	0	0	3	3
PUR	0	0	2	2
CAN	0	0	1	1