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Sub-19 Masculina de Voleibol
Guatemala del 21 al 29 de Mayo 2022



USA undefeated Champion at U19 Pan Am Cup and Costa Rica wins last berth to Worlds

GUATEMALA CITY, Guatemala, May 28, 2022.- The United States won the championship match of the fourth edition of the Boys U19 Pan Am Cup beating Mexico 3-0 (25-22, 25-18, 25-18) on Saturday in Guatemala City.

This is the U.S. first gold medal in the history of the event; they won a bronze medal over Mexico in the first edition of 2011. For Mexico this is their second consecutive silver medal, in the past edition of 2019 they fell to Cuba and they also have a gold medal winning the championship to Chile in 2017.

The United States finished the Pan Am Cup with 5-0 win-loss record and Mexico with 4-2.

In the first set, the United States had to work hard to catch up from a four point deficit almost the entire set up to 18 all and going forward for the gold medal sweep.

The American team held a huge 39-18 advantage in kills, a 9-7 margin in blocks and a comfortable 5-2 margin in serves. Mexico committed fewer errors than the United States (22-31).

Outside hitter and captain Sean Kelly led the United States with 15 points on 14 kills and one block, joined by outside hitter Sterling Foley with 14 points on 8 kills, a match-high of 5 blocks and one ace, and opposite hitter Finn Kearney with 13 points on 9 kills, one block and a match-high of 3 aces.

Mexico's leading scorer was outside hitter Ines Antonio Vargas with 8 points.

Puerto Rico won the bronze medal over Chile 3-0 (25-17, 25-19, 25-19). This is Puerto Rico's second bronze medal, their first was in 2017 beating Colombia; they also have a silver medal from the first edition of the event in 2011 falling to Brazil in the championship match.

Puerto Rico, who qualified to the FIVB World Championship early winning their pool in the preliminary round, concludes with a 4-1 record and finishes third and Chile finishes fourth with 2-4.

Puerto Rico dominated Chile from start to finish by an overwhelming 42-27 attacking advantage, a 9-4 blocking margin and superiority in serves by a 5-2 margin. Chile committed fewer unforced errors than Puerto Rico (19-22).

Three outside hitters from Puerto Rico scored double-figures, led by Sebastian Sanchez (17), Victor Torres (14) and Diego Lopez (12). Outside hitter Ian Gei was Chile's top scorer with 12 points. In the match for fifth place, Costa Rica defeated Guatemala 3-0 (25-19, 30-28, 29-27) to qualify for the 2023 FIVB U19 World, the last of four vacancies available for the event.

The Individual awards of the event, for their outstanding performance are as follows:

- MVP**, Sean Kelley (USA)
- 1st Best Spiker**, Sean Kelley (USA)
- 2nd Best Spiker**, Víctor Alfonso Torres (PUR)
- 1st Best Blocker**, David Nassar Córdoba (CRC)
- 2nd Best Blocker**, Goran Rafaeli (CHI)
- Best Setter**, Tread Rosenthal (USA)
- Best Opposite**, Finn Kearney (USA)
- Best Libero**, Kallen Larson (USA)
- Best Receiver**, Kallen Larson (USA)
- Best Server**, Finn Kearney (USA)
- Best Digger**, Kallen Larson (USA)
- Best Scorer**, Franklyn De Jesus Reyes (DOM)

5th Costa Rica 3, Guatemala 0

Costa Rica defeated Guatemala 3-0 (25-19, 30-28, 29-27) to qualify for the 2023 FIVB U19 World Championship and finished fifth place. Costa Rica earned the last of four vacancies available for the event, joining the United States, Puerto Rico and Mexico as NORCECA representatives for the Worlds. Costa Rica ends the event in fifth place with 2-3 win-loss record and Guatemala in sixth with 3-3 record, with an exciting Central American duel on extended scores in the sets two and three, with Costa Rica failing four-match points (24-20) before their euphoric celebration.

Costa Rica led 37-32 in attacks, 11-6 in blocks and 4-3 in serves, while committing one more error (33-32) than Guatemala. Outside hitter Stanley Grant topped Costa Rica with a match-high of 15 points, on 12 kills, 2 blocks and one ace; middle blocker and captain David Cordoba joined in with 11 points, on 5 kills and a match-high of 6 blocks, and outside hitter Kevin Parra added 9 points. Guatemala's top performers were outside hitter Pedro Villatoro (9), middle blocker Sergio Paz (9) and opposite hitter Ferdinando Gonzalez (7).

7th Dominican Republic 3, Honduras 1

Dominican Republic finished seventh place after defeating Honduras 3-1 (19-25, 25-13, 25-12, 25-13). Dominican Republic concluded the event with a 2-4 2in-loss record and Honduras with 0-5.

Dominican Republic quickly recovered from falling in the first set, prevailing with a huge 40-19 advantage in attacks and a comfortable 5-2 margin in serves. Honduras held a slim 7-6 margin in blocks.

Dominican Republic allowed 35 points from errors and scored on 43 from Honduras. Dominican opposite hitter Franklyn De Jesus Reyes carried his team to beat Honduras with a match-high of 24 points on 19 kills, 3 blocks and 2 aces.