

# STATISTICAL PREVIEWS DAY 10 – OCTOBER 8, 2014

## Pool G: Italy - United States

#### Head-to-head

- These teams have met on seven previous occasions at the World Championship.
- Italy have won all of their last four World Championship encounters after three straight US victories.
- Team USA's last victory over Italy came at the 1986 World Championship, when they won 3-1 in the first round.
- This is a repeat of the 2002 gold medal match, which was won 3-2 by Italy.
- Their last meeting in a major competition came at the 2013 World Grand Prix. Italy won that match in five sets.

#### Italy

- Italy have won their last four matches in this tournament and also 10 of their last 11 at the World Championship.
- Italy's only defeat in their last 11 World Championship was their 3-2 defeat against Dominican Republic earlier in this tournament.
- Italy finished in the top five in each of the previous four world championships. They won the world title once (2002).
- Nadia Centoni is the second most prolific spiker in this tournament at a 49.06% success rate. Only Team USA's Kelly Murphy (52.38%) has outspiked Centoni so far.

## **United States**

- United States have yet to win their first gold medal at the World Championship. Their best finish in the competition is runners-up twice, in 1967 and 2002. They lost the 2002 final against Italy.
- United States won their first eight matches in this tournament before losing 3-0 to Brazil. United States finished their 2010 World Championship campaign with three straight defeats, a run that started with a defeat against Brazil.
- United States have won 249 sets in World Championship history.
- Kelly Murphy and Kimberly Hill lead the US in points scoring in this tournament. The two have contributed 99 points each.



# Pool H: Brazil - China

#### Head-to-head

- These teams have met six times at the World Championship. China beat Brazil four times (1974, 1978 and twice in 2002) and Brazil won twice (1994 and 2006).
- Brazil defeated China 3-2 in their 2006 meeting after trailing two sets.
- Brazil have won all of their last 14 meetings with China at the World Grand Prix, World Cup and Olympic Games (July 2008 – August 2014).

## Brazil

- Brazil are still unbeaten at the 2014 World Championship, winning all nine matches.
- Brazil have won 30 of their last 32 world championship matches, only losing those two finals in 2006 and 2010.
- Brazil have won at least two sets in each of their last 36 world championship matches.
- They can grab their fifth top 4 finish after 1994 (2), 1998 (4), 2006 (2) and 2010 (2).
- Since 2006, Brazil have won all of their world championship matches against teams representing Asia.
- Thaisa Menezes is this competition's best blocker with an average of 1.03 per set. Fabiana Claudino is in fifth place with an average of 0.78 per set.
- Brazil also have two players in the top 10 of best diggers: Camila Brait in first place with an average of 5.00 per set and Jaqueline Pereira De Carvalho Endres in fourth place with an average of 3.56 per set.

## China

- China longest winning streak (8 matches) since 1982-1990 (20 matches) ended after falling to hosts Italy in their last second round match. It was China's first defeat at the 2014 World Championship.
- China are looking for their first top 4 finish since 2002, which would be their sixth top 4 finish in total.
- China have lost only two of their 10 world championship meetings with South American sides. Both defeats came against Brazil.
- Three players of China are in the top 10 best spikers in the competition. Chunlei Zeng is in third place with a success rate of 47.37%, Ting Zhu in sixth with 45.42% and Ruoqi Hui in seventh with 44.51%.