

STATISTICAL PREVIEWS DAY 3 – SEPTEMBER 25, 2014

Pool A:

Germany - Tunisia

- Germany won both previous World Championship meetings with Tunisia.
- On 4 September 1986 East Germany won 3-0 in the first group stage before West Germany also won in straight sets in the qualification round 13-16 four days later.

Croatia - Dominican Republic

- This will be the first match between Croatia and Dominican Republic in a major tournament.
- All of Croatia's three previous World Championship matches against NORCECA teams ended in straight sets: 3-0 defeats against Cuba (1998) and USA (2010) and a 3-0 victory against Cuba in 2010.

Argentina - Italy

- In 1982, Italy beat Argentina 3-0 in what was their only previous meeting at the World Championship.
- In that match, Argentina amassed just 22 points, winning just two points in set three.

Pool B:

Canada - Brazil

- Brazil beat Canada 3-1 in the first group stage in 1978 and the second group stage in 1982, their only two previous World Championship meetings.
- In all five other meetings at major tournaments since then (1984 and 1996 Olympic Games, 1991 and 1995 World Cup and the 2003 World Grand Prix) Brazil won in straight sets.

Cameroon - Serbia

- This will be the first ever meeting between Cameroon and Serbia in a major tournament.
- Serbia have won all their three previous World Championship meetings with CAVB nations, in straight sets.

Turkey - Bulgaria

• Turkey and Bulgaria have never met at a World Championship before.



 These teams have met five times at the European championship, with Bulgaria winning the first four meetings (all in straight sets), but Turkey taking the victory in their most recent meeting in 2005 (3-1).

Pool C:

Thailand - Mexico

- Thailand and Mexico have never before met at the World Championship.
- This will also be their first meeting at a major tournament.

Kazakhstan - Russia

- This will be the first World Championship match between Kazakhstan and Russia.
- Russia have played a former Soviet Republic twice before at the World Championship. In 1994, they beat Ukraine 3-1 and in 2006 they won with the same result against Azerbaijan.

Netherlands - United States

- This will be the sixth meeting between Netherlands and United States at the World Championship. United States won all previous five.
- In 1970, 2002 and 2006 United States won in five sets. In 1956 and in their most recent meeting in 2010 United States won in straight sets.

Pool D:

Puerto Rico - Azerbaijan

- Azerbaijan won their only previous World Championship meeting with Puerto Rico (3-0 in 2006).
- Puerto Rico are winless in all previous 13 meetings with CEV sides at the World Championship, taking only one set.

Cuba - Japan

- Cuba and Japan have met six times at the World Championship. Cuba won their last four meetings (twice in 1978, once in 1990 and 2006) while Japan claimed victory in their first two meetings (1970 and 1974).
- Their most recent meeting at a major tournament was at the 2012 World Grand Prix. Cuba beat Japan 3-1 in the preliminary round.

Belgium - China

- Belgium and China have never before met at the World Championship.
- They played each other earlier this year at the 2014 World Grand Prix. China beat Belgium 3-1 in the final round.