



FIVB
VOLLEYBALL
WOMEN'S WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP
ITALY 2014

STATISTICAL PREVIEWS
DAY 7 – OCTOBER 02, 2014

Pool E: Dominican Republic – Azerbaijan

Head-to-head

- These nations have met once at a World Championship. In 2006, Azerbaijan won 3-1.
- This match at Sapporo (JPN) was the only between these nations in major tournaments.

Dominican Republic

- Dominican Republic have booked seven wins in their last seven World Championship matches, as many as in their previous 28 matches in the competition combined.
- Dominican Republic have played four five-setters at this World Championship (won them all), most of all teams at the 2014 World Championship.
- Dominican Republic have won their last four matches against European nations. They can win five in a row, as many as they won in their other 23 matches against CEV teams combined.

Azerbaijan

- In their third participation at World Championships, Azerbaijan could already equal their best mark in terms of matches won. In 2006, they won four compared to three thus far in 2014.
- Azerbaijan have played seven matches against NORCECA teams at World Championships, winning the last six. They only lost against Cuba in 1994.
- Azerbaijan lost five of their first six matches at World Championships (1994, 2006), but have a positive balance since: seven wins, six defeats.



Pool E: Germany – Japan

Head-to-head

- The last World Championship match between Germany and Japan ended 3-1 in 2002.
- Japan have won five of their last six major tournament matches against Germany, including their last, at Plock in the 2013 World Grand Prix (3-2).
- These teams meet each other for the first time in a major tournament in 2014. In the past five years, they always met at least once. Japan won five and Germany won two in this span.

Germany

- Germany have lost three straight World Championship matches for the first time since 2006. They have never lost more than three in a row as a reunified nation (since 1994).
- By losing against China, Germany saw a seven match winning streak against Asian adversaries at the world championships end, a string in which they had won the last three in straight sets.
- Germany can win their 75th match at World Championships (GER, FRG, GDR combined). They will be the fifth nation to reach this mark.

Japan

- Japan have lost their last two matches in the tournament. They have not lost three in a row since 1998-2002, when they had a four-match losing streak.
- Japan have lost three matches at the 2014 World Championship. In 2010, they lost three in the whole tournament.
- Japan have won at least one set in every match in 2010 and in every match in 2014 thus far (17 straight matches). This is their longest streak since winning at least one set in their first 45 matches at World Championships (1960-78).



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Pool E: Italy – Belgium

Head-to-head

- Italy and Belgium have played each other in one World Championship match. In 1978, Italy won in straight sets in the second group stage.
- At the 2013 European Championship, Belgium claimed their first ever victory against Italy in a major tournament (3-1 in the group stage). They lost their previous three major matches against the Italians.
- Italy have always won at least one set in major tournament matches against Belgium.

Italy

- Italy have fared well against CEV nations at the last two World Championships. They won seven of eight, only Czech Republic pulled off a five-set win against them in 2010.
- Italy have given up at least one set in each of their last three matches, immediately after registering five straight set victories in a row.
- Italy have won at least two sets in each of their last 12 World Championship matches, their outright longest such streak in the competition.

Belgium

- Belgium conceded 109 points in their five-set defeat against Dominican Republic on Wednesday, almost as many as in their two matches prior to this encounter. In wins against Azerbaijan (54 conceded) and Puerto Rico (56), they conceded a combined 110.
- Belgium are in their third World Championship. The most victories for them in a single tournament is four in 1956, a number they could equal with a win against Italy.
- Belgium play their second match against a CEV side at this World Championship. In Pool D, they beat Azerbaijan in straight sets.



Pool E: Croatia – China

Head-to-head

- China have won three of four encounters against Croatia at major tournaments.
- One of these four matches was a World Championship match. In 1998, China won 3-2.
- This is the first time Croatia and China meet in a match scheduled after the first round of a major tournament.

Croatia

- Croatia have won their last three matches at this World Championship, equalling the nation's record set in 1998. Another win would give them their outright longest streak ever in the competition.
- Croatia have won at least one set in each of their last four World Championship matches, their longest streak ever.
- On Wednesday, Croatia beat Japan. It was the seventh time Croatia met an AVC side in the competition, the most they have faced opposition from any federation in the competition.
- Croatia's win against Japan was their fourth against an Asian nation, outright most against a single association. Until yesterday, they had three wins against AVC and CEV nations.

China

- China have lost only two sets at this World Championship, fewest of all nations. United States follow with three sets conceded.
- China have won six straight World Championship matches, most since winning 20 straight from the 1982 second group stage to their 1990 semifinal. Their first loss in 1990 came in the final against Soviet Union.
- China have lost three of their last 13 World Championship matches, all against CEV sides. In 2010, Russia, Serbia and Poland proved too strong.



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Pool F: Serbia – Kazakhstan

Head-to-head

- Serbia and Kazakhstan have met in two major tournament matches, both won by the former.
- At the Beijing 2008 Olympic Games, Serbia won 3-1, while they won 3-0 at the 2011 the World Grand Prix.
- Kazakhstan have lost 13 matches in total at World Championships five of which came against CEV nations. They have never beaten a European side in the tournament.

Serbia

- Serbia have opened their World Championship with five victories in six matches. Only in 2006, they did better with six wins in the first six.
- Serbia have won four of six previous matches against AVC nations at World Championships, including their last two.
- Serbia have won at least one set in each of their six matches against Asian sides at World Championships.

Kazakhstan

- Kazakhstan have reached the second round for the first time at their third World Championship. They have won two matches this year, one more than in 2006 and 2010 combined.
- After winning back-to-back matches at the World Championship for the first time in history (v MEX, THA), Kazakhstan suffered a 3-0 defeat against Brazil.
- Kazakhstan's last eight World Championship matches have been decided in straight sets (2 wins, 6 defeats).



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Pool F: Turkey – Russia

Head-to-head

- These teams have met each other once at the World Championship. In 2010 at Osaka (JPN), Russia won 3-1 in the first round.
- This year, the teams met three times at the World Grand Prix. Turkey won the first encounter, Russia the following two.
- Turkey and Russia have played one match in Italy before. At Monza in a 2011 European Championship quarterfinal, Turkey won in straight sets.

Turkey

- Turkey have won four of 11 World Championship matches against fellow CEV sides, but none of their last three. In 2014, Serbia and Bulgaria proved too strong.
- Among European sides since 2003, only Italy (6) have booked more victories against Russia in major tournaments than Turkey (3).
- In 28 World Championship matches, Turkey registered 13 wins to 15 defeats, with results mainly alternating (win, loss, win, loss, etc). They never had more than two consecutive similar results in terms of winning and losing.

Russia

- After suffering their first defeat at World Championships since November 2006 last Sunday, Russia rebounded well by beating Bulgaria 3-1.
- Russia have given up at least one set in each of their last three World Championship matches. The last time they did this in four straight: four consecutive 3-1 victories in November 2006.
- Russia are unbeaten in their last 19 matches against CEV sides (since 1986) at the World Championship. They won 10 of these in straight sets.
- Russia are one shy of winning 150 sets at World Championships since the dissolution of the Soviet Union (world championships since 1994). Including the Soviet Union era, they have won a tournament-high 379 sets.



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Pool F: Brazil – Netherlands

Head-to-head

- Netherlands have beaten Brazil once in 19 major tournament matches. They decided a five setter in their favour at the World Grand Prix in 2007.
- Brazil have conceded a total of only 10 sets against Netherlands in 19 major tournament matches. Five of these 10 came in only two matches.
- Brazil and Netherlands have met at six World Championships, including in each of the previous four. Brazil won all six matches, including four in straight sets.

Brazil

- Just like in 2006 and 2010, Brazil have started their World Championship with only victories. In each of the previous two tournaments, their first defeat came in the final (both times against Russia).
- Brazil have lost only two of their last 29 World Championship matches. Their last defeat in Second Round/2nd Group stage match came 12 years ago, in 2002 against USA (3-0).
- Brazil have won four of their first six matches in straight sets. The only nations that claimed sets off Brazil are CEV sides (Turkey and Serbia).

Netherlands

- Six of Netherlands' last seven World Championship matches were decided in straight sets. They won four and lost two of these.
- Netherlands have lost three of their first six matches, most since 1998. In 2002, 2006 and 2010, they lost only two of their opening six encounters.
- Netherlands lost in straight sets against Serbia on Wednesday. They can suffer their first back-to-back defeats without winning a set since 2002, when Korea and Cuba were stronger.



Pool F: Bulgaria – United States

Head-to-head

- These teams have met four times in main tournaments, but these matches never occurred within a shorter time span than 15 years. This will now change – the nations are set to meet for the second time in two years.
- The most recent encounter between these teams came in the preliminary round of the 2013 World Grand Prix. United States won in five sets.
- Bulgaria are unbeaten in two matches against United States at World Championships. In 1956 and 1998, the Bulgarians won 3-1 and 3-0 respectively.

Bulgaria

- Bulgaria have a solid balance against NORCECA teams, winning 10 of 14 matches at world championships. United States are only their second opponents from this region at world championships since the end of the 2002 tournament. The others were Canada in this year's first round (3-0 win).
- Bulgaria have claimed at least one set in each of their last five World Championship matches. This is their longest streak since 1978-82 (also five). Their last longer streak came in the 1974 tournament, in which they claimed a set in all of their 10 matches.
- Bulgaria are one win shy of becoming the ninth nation with 50+ victories in the competition.

United States

- United States are the only nation with maximum points after six matches (18).
- United States can start a World Championship with seven victories for only the second time, after winning their first 10 matches in 2002. Back then, their first defeat came in the final against Italy.
- United States have won nine of their last 11 matches against teams from Europe, including all three matches in 2014 (against Netherlands, Russia and Turkey). The two defeats in that span came against Russia and Italy in 2010.