



FIVB
VOLLEYBALL
WOMEN'S WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP
ITALY 2014

STATISTICAL PREVIEWS
DAY 1 - SEPTEMBER 23, 2014

Pool A:

Argentina - Croatia

- This will be the first ever World Championship meeting between Argentina and Croatia.
- Each of Croatia's last seven World Championship matches ended in straight sets: three wins, four losses.

Dominican Republic - Germany

- Dominican Republic and Germany have met six times before at the World Championship. Germany won four matches, including the most recent encounter in 2006 (3-0), and Dominican Republic triumphed twice.
- Germany can win their 22nd World Championship match since the German reunification in 1990. That would be one more than the 21 matches they won as West Germany. They also won 30 as East Germany.

Italy - Tunisia

- The sole World Championship meeting between these teams came back in 1978, a 3-0 win for Italy.
- Italy are looking to become the first hosts to win the world title since Japan in 1967. They are already the last team to win the tournament on their home continent as they claimed the 2002 title in Germany.

Pool B:

Canada - Cameroon

- Canada and Cameroon have never met before at the World Championship.
- Canada have lost their last nine matches, a team record. Their previous worst streak was seven (1974).

Serbia - Turkey

- Serbia (2006) and Turkey (2010) have both won one World Championship match against the other.
- Serbia are coming off two defeats and can lose three in a row for the first time in team history.

Brazil - Bulgaria

- Brazil and Bulgaria have gone head-to-head six times at the World Championship. Both teams have won on three occasions. Their most recent meeting in 2002 ended in a 3-0 win for Brazil.
- Brazil have won 21 of their last 23 matches. Their only two defeats in this period came in the 2006 and 2010 final, losing in five sets against Russia on both occasions.
- Bulgaria are on a three-match losing streak. They last lost more matches in a row in 1986-1998 (6).



Pool C:

Netherlands - Kazakhstan

- Netherlands beat Kazakhstan 3-2 in their only previous meeting at the World Championship (2006).
- Netherlands have won their opening match of a World Championship campaign in each of their last five participations. They last failed to win their opener in 1990, a 3-1 loss against the Soviet Union.

Russia - Thailand

- This will be the first World Championship match between Russia and Thailand
- Russia have won 22 of their last 23 matches, starting with the 2002 bronze medal match. Their only loss in this series was against Brazil (3-1) in the 2006 second group stage and their only two five-setters were the 2006 and 2010 finals against Brazil, which both ended in a 3-2 win for Russia.

United States - Mexico

- This will be the first World Championship meeting between United States and Mexico in 40 years and their fourth in total. USA won their first encounter in 1970, but Mexico retaliated with two wins in 1974.
- United States are coming off three losses, most recently losing the 2010 semifinal and bronze medal match. They can lose four World Championship matches in a row for the first time since 1994-1998.

Pool D:

China - Puerto Rico

- China have won all four World Championship matches against Puerto Rico in straight sets.
- China can equal a club record of winning five matches in a row against a specific opponent. They previously did so against Italy in 1982-1998.

Japan - Azerbaijan

- Japan and Azerbaijan have never met before at the World Championship.
- Japan have hosted the World Championship a record four times, including the last two editions (2006 and 2010). Nevertheless, they have a better winning record outside of Japan (74%, 60 wins out of 81 matches) than on home soil (67%, 22 wins out of 33 matches).

Cuba - Belgium

- This will be the first World Championship match between Cuba and Belgium.
- At the 2010 World Championship, Cuba finished in 12th place, their worst ever result in the tournament.