



## FIVB WORLD GRAND PRIX PREVIEWS FINALS – AUGUST 15-16

### Finals Group 2 – Country specific statistics

#### Poland

- Poland are vying to finish in the top-6 for the third time, after a sixth place finish in 2007 and 2010.
- Last year Poland finished in 15th place. No team has ever progressed to the Final Six after finishing 15th or lower in the previous World Grand Prix season. Puerto Rico (18th last year) can also achieve this feat.
- Poland have won five matches this season and can equal their second-best World Grand Prix season with two more wins. In 2007, they won seven matches while their record of eight wins was set in 2010.
- They are coming off a three-match losing streak, winning only one set in those matches. They last lost four in a row in 2013.

#### Belgium

- Belgium are aiming to become the first World Grand Prix debutants to finish in the top-6 since Serbia in 2011. Serbia took the bronze medal that year, finishing third.
- No debutants have ever won the title after Cuba won the World Grand Prix in 1993, the inaugural year.
- Seven of Belgium's nine World Grand Prix matches so far ended in straight sets: six wins, one loss.
- Lise Van Hecke ended top scorer of Group 2 in the Preliminary Round, winning a total of 180 points.

#### Netherlands

- The Netherlands are looking for their first top-6 finish since 2009 (fourth). They won the competition in 2007.
- Last weekend, the Netherlands lost their first match of the season, 3-2 to upcoming opponents Puerto Rico.
- Still, of all teams that have played nine matches so far, the Netherlands have the best record of eight wins and one loss. No other team has more than seven wins.
- The Netherlands can become the 10th team to win 200 sets in the competition. They are currently on 196.

#### Puerto Rico

- Puerto Rico's best finish in the World Grand Prix so far is a 10th place in 2009.
- They have won seven matches this season, two more than in all their four previous seasons combined.



- They have only lost matches against teams from the Low Countries this season, straight set losses against both Netherlands and Belgium.

## Finals Group 2 – Head-2-Head

### Poland v Belgium

- This will be the third meeting between Poland and Belgium in the competition. Both previous matches took place this season and the clubs are tied, a 3-1 win for Poland and a 3-0 win for Belgium.
- Belgium's Lise Van Hecke scored 23 points in that win for Belgium, nearly a third of Belgium's 75 points.
- This match will be played in Koszalin, Poland. Poland have lost their last two matches on home soil, both in straight sets (vs Germany and Japan in the 2013 season).

### Netherlands v Puerto Rico

- This matchup features both teams with most wins in the Preliminary Round of Group 2: eight wins for the Netherlands (one loss) and seven wins for Puerto Rico (two losses).
- That one loss for the Netherlands came against upcoming opponents Puerto Rico, who beat them last weekend by a 3-2 scoreline.
- In total, this will be the fourth meeting between these teams in the World Grand Prix. Netherlands have won two (both in straight sets), while Puerto Rico have won one.