



FIVB WORLD GRAND PRIX REVIEWS FINALS – AUGUST 20

China v Belgium

- After reaching the Finals in their debut season of the World Grand Prix, Belgium were beaten 3-1 by China in their first match.
- With Lise Van Hecke, top scorer of the preliminary round, out of play due to injury, Helene Rousseaux scored a total of 23 points for Belgium. She was the only Belgium player to reach double figures.
- With their victory over Belgium, China have now won two of their six World Grand Prix matches played in Tokyo. In 2009 the Finals were also held in Tokyo with China only defeating Japan in their five matches.
- China have now won their last three meetings with European sides in the Finals of the competition.

Turkey v Brazil

- Turkey ended Brazil's 18-match winning streak in the World Grand Prix and handed them their first loss since August 2013 (3-1 v Bulgaria).
- In their last 56 World Grand Prix matches, Brazil have now only been beaten by USA (2010, 2011 and twice in 2012), Bulgaria (2013) and Turkey (2014).
- Turkey also ended Brazil's unbeaten status (20 wins) in World Grand Prix matches played in Tokyo.
- Brazil have a record of nine gold medals at the World Grand Prix, but have only won the gold medal once after losing their first match in the Finals (2004).
- Turkey have now defeated five of the six former World Grand Prix winners: Brazil, China, Cuba, Russia and USA. They have yet to meet the other former winners, the Netherlands, in the World Grand Prix.
- Two Turkey players scored at least 20 points in this match: Gozde Sonsirma with 23 points and Neriman Ozsoy with 21 points.

Japan v Russia

- This was the first time Japan defeated Russia in the Finals of a World Grand Prix. Their previous Finals meetings in 1997, 2001, 2006 and 2009 were all won by Russia.
- Japan are now on a five-match winning streak after losing their first five matches in this year's World Grand Prix.
- Last season, Japan won their first match in the Finals against Italy before losing their next four.
- Russia have now lost four of their six World Grand Prix meetings with Japan played in Tokyo. The last time both teams played a World Grand Prix match in Tokyo was in the exact same fixture in 2011. Back then, Japan were also victorious (3-0).
- The last time Russia lost their first match in the Finals they finished second in the competition (2009).