



FIVB MEN'S WORLD OLYMPIC QUALIFICATION PREVIEWS DAY 1 – MAY 28, TOKYO

Iran - Australia

Head-to-head

- Iran and Australia have met at each of the last three World Olympic Qualification tournaments.
- In 2012, Australia won 3-1 and eventually qualified for the Olympic Games in London, while Iran failed to qualify.
- Iran won in straight sets in 2004 and 2008, but on both occasions they failed to make it to the Olympic Games, while Australia did qualify in 2004.
- Their most recent meeting came at the 2015 World Cup when Australia won in straight sets.

Iran

- Iran are hoping to qualify for their first Olympic Games.
- Iran could become the fifth side representing the AVC to qualify for the Olympic Games, after Australia, China, Japan and Korea.
- Four years ago, Iran finished third at the World Olympic Qualification tournament behind Serbia and opponents Australia.
- Iran have lost only two of their last eight World Olympic Qualification matches. One of these defeats was the last match against Australia on 5 June 2012.

Australia

- The first Olympic Games at which Australia were present were the 2000 Olympic Games in Sydney when they hosted the competition.
- Since 2000, Australia qualified for the Olympic Games of 2004 and 2012 as the best performing Asian side at the World Olympic Qualification tournaments.
- Australia have won their last two matches at a World Olympic Qualification tournament. Both wins came against AVC sides as they defeated Korea Republic (3-1) and China (3-0).



China - France

Head-to-head

- The last time these teams met at a World Olympic Qualification tournament came in 2004 when France won in straight sets.
- In the last 10 years, China and France have met nine times at world level tournaments, eight in the World League and one at the World Championship. France won eight of these meetings.
- China's only win in this streak came at the 2010 World League when they won one of the four encounters (3-1).

China

- China have been present at two Olympic Games. In 1984 they finished eighth and in 2008 fifth.
- In 1984, they qualified for the Olympic Games after replacing one of the teams withdrawing from the tournament due to the Soviet-led boycott. In 2008, China hosted the Olympic Games.
- In 2012, China failed to qualify for the Olympic Games after finishing fifth at the World Olympic Qualification tournament behind Serbia, Australia, Iran and Japan.
- The last five World Olympic Qualification matches of China all ended in an alternate win/loss: L-W-L-W-L. They beat Japan and Venezuela 3-1.
- China have won their opening match in straight sets at the previous two World Olympic Qualification tournaments they participated in, against Korea Republic in 2004 and Puerto Rico in 2012.

France

- France have participated three times at the Olympic Games (1988, 1992 and 2004). In Seoul 1988 they finished eighth, their best result ever.
- In 1988 they qualified as the European champions. In both 1992 and 2004 they qualified through the World Olympic Qualification tournament.
- At the 2004 World Olympic Qualification, France won all seven matches in Tokyo.
- France have lost only one of their last 10 matches at the World Olympic Qualification tournament; 3-1 against Bulgaria in Sofia 2012. That 3-1 was a crucial loss as they failed to qualify while Bulgaria did.
- France are the reigning World League and European champions.



Poland - Canada

Head-to-head

- The last time Poland and Canada met at a world level tournament was the World Cup in 2015 when Poland won 3-1.
- In 2012, they met four times at the World League with Poland winning three of these in straight sets and the other one by 3-1.
- These teams met once at the Olympic Games. In 1976, Poland won in straight sets in the group stage against hosts Canada. Poland eventually won gold while Canada finished ninth and last.

Poland

- Poland were crowned Olympic champions once. They won all six matches at the 1976 Montreal Olympic Games.
- Poland have participated eight times in the Olympic Games, only Brazil (13), United States (10) and Italy (10) have been present at more.
- They finished in fifth place at the last three Olympic Games (2004, 2008, 2012).
- Poland have qualified for the Olympic Games through the World Olympic Qualification tournaments of 1996, 2004 and 2008, winning each of their matches.
- In 2012, they qualified for the Olympic Games with a second place at the 2011 World Cup.
- They have not lost any set in their last four World Olympic Qualification matches. They won in straight sets against Kazakhstan, Puerto Rico, Indonesia and Portugal.

Canada

- Canada have participated three times at the Olympic Games (1976 (hosts), 1984 and 1992). Their best result came in 1984 when they finished fourth.
- They qualified for the 1984 and 1992 Olympic Games as the NORCECA champions.
- Canada are present at the World Olympic Qualification tournament for the first time since 2004 (Tokyo).
- Canada won four and lost three in their last participation. They finished fourth in the ranking behind France, Australia and China, failing to qualify.



Japan - Venezuela

Head-to-head

- Japan and Venezuela most recently met at the World Olympic Qualification in Tokyo in 2012 with Japan winning in straight sets.
- Their last meeting at a world level tournament was at the World Cup in 2015 when Japan won in straight sets.
- These teams have met once at the Olympic Games. In 2008 Venezuela won 3-0. This is still Venezuela's only win at the Olympic Games so far.

Japan

- Japan won three medals at the Olympic Games - gold in 1972, silver in 1968 and bronze in 1964.
- Japan are one of three NOCs with a medal sweep in men's volleyball, alongside Soviet Union (G3-S2-B1) and Russia (G1-S1-B2)
- Japan have participated eight times at the Olympic Games, only Brazil (13), United States (10) and Italy (10) have been present at more.
- Japan have been present at the World Olympic Qualification tournament ever since 1996. Only in 2008 they qualified for the Olympic Games as the best Asian side.
- Japan lost their World Olympic Qualification match of 2012 in straight sets against Iran. They have not lost back-to-back matches in this tournament since 2004 when they lost five in a row.

Venezuela

- Venezuela participated once in the Olympic volleyball tournament. In 2008 they finished in ninth place.
- Four years ago, Venezuela finished seventh at the World Olympic Qualification tournament only leaving Puerto Rico behind.
- Venezuela have lost their last four matches at the World Olympic Qualification winning only one set (3-1 loss against China). Their last win came against Puerto Rico in 2012 (3-0).