



FIVB MEN'S WORLD OLYMPIC QUALIFICATION PREVIEWS DAY 3 – MAY 31, TOKYO

Australia - Canada

Head-to-head

- Australia and Canada previously met at the World Olympic Qualification tournament in 2004. Australia won in straight sets.
- Their last meeting came at the 2015 World Cup, when Canada won after a thrilling five-setter. Australia won two sets with 34-32 and 29-27 and even the decisive fifth needed more points than usual (20-18).
- In 2014, these teams met four times at the World League, with Australia winning three (3-2, 3-2, 3-1) and Canada one (3-1).

Australia

- Australia followed up a 3-0 defeat against Iran in their opening match with a 3-1 win over Venezuela on day two.
- Australia have won both their previous two matches against a NORCECA country at the World Olympic Qualification tournament: 3-0 against Puerto Rico in 2012 and 3-0 against Canada in 2004.
- Australia's last 3-0 victory at the World Olympic Qualification tournament came on 10 June 2012, when Australia beat China in straight sets to secure a ticket to the London 2012 Olympic Games.
- Australia have conceded a tournament-low 149 points at the 2016 edition. Japan are next with 161 points.
- Thomas Edgar scored a match-high 22 points in Australia's 3-1 win over Venezuela on Sunday (19 spikes).

Canada

- Canada are still waiting for their first win after two five-set defeats against Poland and Iran.
- Canada could lose their first three matches at the World Olympic Qualification tournament for the first time in the last 20 years. In both 1996 and 2000, Canada claimed their first win in match three.
- No team has scored more points in their opening two matches at the 2016 World Olympic Qualification tournament than Canada (207). Poland follow with 206 points.
- With 27 points, Gavin Schmitt topped all scorers in Canada's 3-2 defeat against Iran, while Nick Hoag and Justin Duff both contributed 14 points.
- No player has scored more points at the 2016 World Olympic Qualification tournament than Schmitt (44). France's Antonin Rouzier is next with 41 points.



China - Venezuela

Head-to-head

- The last encounter between the teams at a World Olympic Qualification tournament was in Tokyo in 2012. China won 3-1 but both countries failed to qualify for the Olympic Games in London.
- China and Venezuela met once at the Olympic Games. In 2008, China proved too strong in the group stage (3-2).
- That match at the Olympic Games was their most recent meeting besides the World Olympic Qualification tournament.

China

- China came up with a 3-0 win over hosts Japan on Sunday to offset their first day defeat against France (3-1).
- China could win back-to-back matches by a 3-0 scoreline at the World Olympic Qualification tournament for the first time since a 3-0 win over Canada in their final match in 2004 and a 3-0 win over Puerto Rico in their 2008 tournament opener.
- China have won their previous match against a CSV country at the World Olympic Qualification tournament, the 3-1 victory over Venezuela in 2012.

Venezuela

- Venezuela have lost their first two matches, both by a 3-1 scoreline (against Japan and Australia).
- The last time Venezuela lost their opening three matches at the World Olympic Qualification tournament was in 1996.
- Venezuela have now lost their last six matches at the World Olympic Qualification tournament. Their last victory in the competition came against Puerto Rico in their third match of the 2012 edition.
- Only Australia (148) have scored fewer points at the 2016 World Olympic Qualification tournament than Venezuela (160).
- Kervin Martin Pierua Urbina has scored a tournament high five aces. Japan's Kunihiro Shimizu and Canada's Gavin Schmitt are also on five aces this edition.



Iran - France

Head-to-head

- France won the last encounter between these teams at the World Olympic Qualification tournament in straight sets in 2004.
- These teams met twice at the 2014 World Championship. In the first round, France won 3-1, but both teams progressed to the next round.
- In the third round these teams met again. France won 3-2 and eliminated Iran while themselves progressed to the final four. In the semifinals France were defeated by Brazil.

Iran

- Tournament leaders Iran have won their opening two matches. They came from two sets down to beat Canada 3-2 on Sunday and recorded a straight-set victory over Australia on day one.
- Iran could win their first three matches at the World Olympic Qualification tournament for the first time in the past 20 years. In 2012, they suffered their first defeat in match three (3-1 against Australia) after wins over Korea and China.
- Only Canada's Gavin Schmitt (44) and France's Antonin Rouzier (41) have scored more points at the 2016 World Olympic Qualification tournament than Amir Ghafour (38).

France

- France failed to convert four match points in set three to lose 3-2 against Poland on day two. France kicked off their 2016 World Olympic Qualification tournament campaign with a 3-1 win against China
- France have now lost two of their last 12 matches at the World Olympic Qualification tournament.
- Earvin Ngapeth contributed a match-high 22 points in France's five-set defeat against Poland.
- Only Canada's Gavin Schmitt (44) has scored more points at the 2016 World Olympic Qualification tournament than Antonin Rouzier (41).
- Rouzier is on a tournament-high 38 spikes (from 70 attempts).



Poland - Japan

Head-to-head

- These teams last met at the World Olympic Qualification tournament in 1996 when Poland proved too strong in Patras, Greece (3-1).
- These teams met twice at the Olympic Games. In 1968, Japan won 3-0 en route to their silver medal.
- In 1976, Poland won 3-2 in the semifinal before grabbing the Olympic gold medal.
- Their last world level meeting came at the 2015 World Cup when Poland won 3-1.

Poland

- Unbeaten Poland started their 2016 World Olympic Qualification tournament campaign with five-set wins over Canada and France.
- Poland came from two sets down to beat France 3-2 on Sunday. They survived four match points in the third set (31-29).
- Poland have a perfect record at the World Olympic Qualification tournament in the last 20 years, winning all of their previous 11 matches in the competition (1996, 2004, 2008, 2016).
- Only Canada (207) have scored more points at the 2016 World Olympic Qualification tournament than Poland (206).
- Dawid Konarski scored a team-high 19 points in Poland's 3-2 win over France on day two.

Japan

- Hosts Japan failed to record back-to-back wins when they lost in straight sets against China on day two.
- Japan could lose consecutive matches at the World Olympic Qualification tournament for the first time since a run of five defeats in 2004.
- Japan could lose back-to-back matches by a 3-0 scoreline for the first time in the competition in the past 20 years.
- Kunihiro Shimizu scored a team-high 16 points in Japan's 3-0 defeat against China, including 14 spikes from 29 attempts.
- Shimizu has scored a total of 37 points at the 2016 World Olympic Qualification tournament, fourth-most behind Canada's Gavin Schmitt (44), France's Antonin Rouzier (41) and Iran's Amir Ghafour (38).
- Shimizu has scored a joint-high five aces this edition, alongside Venezuela's Kervin Martin Pierua Urbina and Schmitt.