



FIVB WORLD GRAND PRIX PREVIEWS WEEK 1 – JUNE 3 TO 5

Pool A3: Algeria v Kazakhstan

Head-to-Head

- Algeria and Kazakhstan have met twice at the World Grand Prix. Kazakhstan won both matches in straight sets.
- Besides their meeting at the World Grand Prix these teams also met at the Beijing 2008 Olympic Games. Kazakhstan won by 3-1. Algeria won the third set of the match.
- Algeria won two of their six World Grand Prix encounters against AVC sides, both against Australia in 2015.

Algeria

- Algeria lost their 2016 World Grand Prix opener 3-0 against Mexico.
- Algeria kicked-off with two straight defeats on each of their previous three World Grand Prix appearances.
- Algeria have now lost a total of 20 World Grand Prix matches, including 16 by a 3-0 scoreline.
- Yasmine Abderrahim scored a match-high 15 points in Algeria's 3-0 defeat against Mexico, including 13 spikes.

Kazakhstan

- Kazakhstan have now suffered four defeats in a row at the World Grand Prix after their 3-1 loss against Peru.
- That streak started immediately after a run of three wins, which began with a 3-0 win against Algeria (26 June 2015).
- They hope to claim their first win in a major competition this year, after having lost all seven matches at the World Olympic Qualifying tournament in May.
- Irina Shenberger scored 15 points against Peru, while Kristina Anikonova had five blocks.



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Pool A3: Peru v Mexico

Head-to-Head

- Peru won their only previous World Grand Prix encounter against Mexico, 3-0 on 28 June 2015.
- Peru won four of the last five matches against NORCECA sides at the World Grand Prix. They defeated Cuba three times and Mexico once. Only against Canada they suffered a defeat (3-0).
- Mexico have lost both encounters with CSV sides at the World Grand Prix. Besides the loss against Peru they also lost against Colombia, also in straight sets.

Peru

- Peru have now won 10 of their last 18 matches at the World Grand Prix. They had won only one of their first 18 World Grand Prix fixtures.
- Peru ended a run of four defeats in major competitions with their 3-1 victory against Kazakhstan.
- Kazakhstan was also the victim the last time Peru won, which was at the World Olympic Qualifying tournament in May.
- Angela Leyva led the scoring against Kazakhstan with 31 points, almost one-third of all points for Peru (101).

Mexico

- Mexico kicked-off their 2016 World Grand Prix campaign with a 3-0 victory over Algeria on Friday, their second straight-set win ever in the competition after a 3-0 win over Algeria in 2014.
- Mexico have now won their last three matches in the World Grand Prix (incl. 2015), their best streak ever in the competition.
- Mexico can win their opening two matches for the first time ever in the competition. On their debut in 2014, they started with one win and one defeat. Last year, they lost their opening four matches.
- Lizbeth Sainz topped Mexico's scorers list in their match against Algeria (3-0 win), with 12 points.



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Pool B3: Australia v Cuba

Head-to-Head

- Australia and Cuba have met once at the World Grand Prix. In 2015, Cuba won in straight sets.
- The previous meeting between these teams at a major tournament came at the 1982 World Championship with Cuba also winning in straight sets.
- This will be Cuba's 99th meeting with a AVC side at the World Grand Prix. Cuba won 71 of these encounters.

Australia

- Australia are still looking for their first ever win at the World Grand Prix, after 15 matches.
- Australia can end a nine-match losing streak in major tournaments. That run began after four successive wins at the 2015 Asian Championships.
- Eliza (Karley) Hynes was top scorer for Australia in the 3-0 defeat against Colombia with 11 points.

Cuba

- Cuba lost their first match at the 2016 World Grand Prix against Croatia 3-1, despite 21 points from Melissa Teresa Vargas Abreu (16 spikes, 2 blocks, 3 serves).
- They won three matches at the 2015 World Grand Prix.
- Cuba won the first set in nine of their last 38 matches at the World Grand Prix. These are also their only wins in this run.



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Pool B3: Colombia v Croatia

Head-to-Head

- Colombia and Croatia have never met at a world level tournament.
- Colombia will meet a CEV team for the first time at the World Grand Prix.
- Last year, Croatia met a CSV side at the World Grand Prix for the first time. They were defeated by Argentina (3-1).

Colombia

- This will be Colombia's 10th match at the World Grand Prix. They have won seven of the previous nine, all in 2015.
- Colombia have now won four of their last five matches in major competitions.
- Moreno Pino Kenny scored 10 attacking points and three blocks in the 3-0 win against Australia.

Croatia

- Croatia beat Cuba 3-1 in their 2016 World Grand Prix opener and they can now win two matches in a row at the World Grand Prix for the first time since a streak of four wins in 2014.
- Croatia had failed to win any of their six matches at the 2015 World Grand Prix.
- The last time Croatia won two matches in a row in any major competition was at the 2015 European Championships against Bulgaria and Russia.
- Croatia scored 11 points from blocks against Cuba.
- Samantha Fabris scored 25 points against Cuba