



FIVB WORLD GRAND PRIX PREVIEWS WEEK 4 – AUGUST 2 TO 6

Final Four: Serbia v Brazil

Head-to-Head

- These teams met twice this season in the World Grand Prix. On 8 July, Serbia won 3-0 in Ankara, Turkey. Six days later, Brazil triumphed in straight sets in Sendai, Japan.
- Brazil had won their first nine major encounters at world level before Serbia reeled off successive victories, both in the World Grand Prix.
- On 8 July, Brankica Mihajlovic paced Serbia on 23 points, with 20 of those coming off spikes.
- On 14 July, Natalia Pereira led Brazil in scoring. All of her 16 points that day came off spikes.

Serbia

- Serbia will finish the World Grand Prix in the top-4 for the first time since 2013, when they finished third.
- Serbia have never reached the final at the World Grand Prix. Two third place finishes (2011 and 2013) are their best achievements in the competition.
- They have won nine of their 11 World Grand Prix matches this season, losing only to Brazil (3-0) and Japan (3-2).
- Dating back to last season, they have now won 13 of their last 15 matches in the competition.
- They have won at least two sets in each of their last seven World Grand Prix matches.

Brazil

- Titleholders Brazil saw China save six matchpoints against Netherlands on Friday to remain alive in the competition.
- Brazil won the World Grand Prix in three of the previous four seasons.
- Brazil have won the World Grand Prix 11 times, five times more often than any other country.
- Brazil have finished in the top three 18 times, five times more often than any other country.
- Brazil finished in the top three in 12 of the previous 13 World Grand Prix seasons. The exception is 2007, when they came fifth.



FIVB WORLD GRAND PRIX PREVIEWS WEEK 4 – AUGUST 2 TO 6

Final Four: China v Italy

Head-to-Head

- These teams already met twice at the World Grand Prix this season. On 7 July, China won 3-1 in front of a home crowd in Kunshan. A week later, Italy exacted revenge in Macau (3-0).
- Italy have not won back-to-back major encounters with China since winning four in a row in World Grand Prix and World Cup from 2008 to 2011.
- China have won four of the last six encounters with Italy at world level.

China

- China defeated Brazil (3-0) and Netherlands (3-2) to finish atop Pool J1.
- Their two victories follows consecutive defeats with which they closed out the round robin stage.
- A victory for China will guarantee them their 10th top three finish at the World Grand Prix.
- China have won the World Grand Prix once (2003).

Italy

- Italy will finish the World Grand Prix in the top-4 for the first time since 2010, when they finished third.
- Italy have not reached the World Grand Prix final since 2005. Two second place finishes (2004 and 2005) are Italy's best achievement in the competition.
- Italy could win eight matches in a single World Grand Prix campaign for the first time since 2013.
- Against Serbia, Indre Sorokaite led her team on 22 points. None of her teammates had more than 11.