



FIVB WORLD GRAND PRIX PREVIEWS WEEK 3 – JULY 20 TO 23

Pool G1: China v Russia

Head-to-Head

- China have won each of their last four encounters with Russia at world level.
- Only once before have China enjoyed a longer winning run versus Russia in major competitions. They won six in a row against them from 1993 to 1995.
- China have won their last three against Russia in the World Grand Prix. They have never won four in a row against them in the competition.

China

- China (199) could become the second team, after Brazil, to win 200 World Grand Prix matches.
- China have won five of their seven 2017 World Grand Prix matches, also suffering straight-set defeats against United States and Italy.
- China could equal their total number of defeats in the World Grand Prix campaigns of 2015 and 2016 (both 3).
- Only in 2010 (4) and 2011 (3) have China had more than two straight-set defeats in a single World Grand Prix campaign.

Russia

- This is the first time Russia have lost five of their opening seven matches of a World Grand Prix campaign.
- Russia lost more matches in only five of their previous 20 World Grand Prix campaigns – 1995 (8), 1996 (7), 1993 (6), 2014 (6) and 2015 (6).
- This is only the second time Russia have lost consecutive World Grand Prix matches in straight sets, after they suffered back-to-back 3-0 defeats against Brazil and Serbia in the semifinal and third place play-off in the 2011 tournament.
- Russia have lost each of their last five World Grand Prix five-setters. They had won five consecutive matches in the tournament that had gone to a deciding set before this run.



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Pool G1: Japan v Serbia

Head-to-Head

- Japan have lost their last two major encounters with Serbia, following a straight sets victory over them in the World Grand Prix last season.
- These teams also met last weekend, with Serbia completing a straight sets victory over hosts Japan in Sendai.
- They have each won four of the eight World Grand Prix matches facing each other.

Japan

- Japan have won four of their seven 2017 World Grand Prix matches, with three of those victories coming in a deciding set.
- Prior to the start of this year's World Grand Prix, Japan had lost nine of their previous 10 five-setters in the tournament.
- Japan could win more than four matches in a single World Grand Prix campaign for the first time since 2014 (8).

Serbia

- Serbia have won six of their seven 2017 World Grand Prix matches, with the only exception the straight-set defeat against Brazil.
- Only twice before have Serbia won more matches in a single World Grand Prix campaign – 10 in both 2011 and 2013.
- Only one of Serbia's seven 2017 World Grand Prix fixtures has not been decided in straight sets, the 3-1 victory against Thailand.
- Serbia have won four of their last five World Grand Prix matches that have gone to a deciding set, having been victorious in only three of their first 14 five-setters in the competition.



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Pool H1: Italy v Dominican Republic

Head-to-Head

- Italy have won 17 of their 21 encounters with Dominican Republic at world level, but have only won two of their last four.
- The Dominicans' last major victory over Italy came at the 2014 World Championship, where they defeated the hosts in straight sets.
- Their most recent World Grand Prix encounter took place in the 2015, won 3-0 by Italy in Saitama, Japan.
- Italy have won 12 of the 14 matches in the World Grand Prix. Their only losses both came in five sets.

Italy

- Italy (99) are one short of losing 100 World Grand Prix matches (W111).
- Italy have won five consecutive World Grand Prix matches, after beginning the 2017 campaign with two defeats.
- Italy could equal their longest World Grand Prix winning streak. They have been victorious in six in a row on four previous occasions, most recently from 2012 to 2013.
- Only two of those four six-match winning streaks came in a single World Grand Prix campaign (2005 and 2007).
- Paola Egonu scored a team-high 23 points in Italy's 3-1 win over Turkey on Friday.

Dominican Republic

- Dominican Republic have won four of their seven 2017 World Grand Prix matches, with all three defeats coming against CEV opposition (Netherlands twice and Russia).
- Each of Dominican Republic's last eight World Grand Prix defeats have been against CEV opposition, including one versus Italy in that run.
- Dominican Republic's last three World Grand Prix matches have all gone to a deciding set (W2-L1).
- No player scored more points for Dominican Republic in their 3-2 victory over Thailand on Friday than Gina Mamburu (25).



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Pool H1: Thailand v Turkey

Head-to-Head

- Turkey have won both of their two World Grand Prix encounters with Thailand.
- Their first meeting at world level took place in the 2012 World Grand Prix. Turkey won 3-1 in Ningbo, China.
- A year later in the same competition, Turkey emerged victorious in straight sets in front of a home crowd in Ankara.

Thailand

- Thailand have lost 12 of their last 13 World Grand Prix matches, with the only exception in that run the straight-set victory against Brazil in their fifth fixture of this year's tournament.
- Thailand have won the opening set in only three of their last 22 World Grand Prix matches.
- Thailand won the opening set in their last match, the 3-2 defeat against Dominican Republic. They could take the first set in consecutive World Grand Prix fixtures for the first time since their final match of the 2013 tournament and the first two fixtures of the 2014 edition.
- Chatchu-On Moksri scored a team-high 23 points in Thailand's 3-2 defeat against Dominican Republic on Friday.

Turkey

- Turkey have lost 10 of their last 11 World Grand Prix matches, with the only exception in that run the 3-1 victory against Belgium in their second fixture of this year's tournament.
- Only one of those 11 matches has gone to a deciding set, the defeat against Brazil on 9 July 2017.
- The fewest number of wins Turkey have recorded in a single World Grand Prix campaign is two in 2015.
- Meryem Boz was Turkey's top points scorer in their 3-1 defeat against Italy on Friday, with 19.