



## FIVB WORLD GRAND PRIX PREVIEWS WEEK 2 – JULY 14 TO 16

### Pool D2: Croatia v Germany

#### Head-to-Head

- This is the first World Grand Prix meeting between these nations.
- Germany won the two most recent matches against Croatia in all competition by 3-0 (2015 European Games and 2016 Olympic Qualification Tournament).
- Croatia have lost all their eight World Grand Prix matches against CEV teams.

#### Croatia

- Croatia have lost two World Grand Prix matches in a row for the first time since 2015, when they lost six in a row.
- Croatia have now won and lost 13 World Grand Prix matches.
- Croatia have taken at least one set in 14 of their last 15 World Grand Prix matches.

#### Germany

- Germany have now won three World Grand Prix matches in a row after losing 10 successive matches in the competition.
- Germany could win four successive matches in the competition for the first time since a run of five victories from 2012-2013.
- Germany have won two of their last 13 five-setters in the World Grand Prix. They had won seven of their first 13.



## FIVB WORLD GRAND PRIX PREVIEWS WEEK 2 – JULY 14 TO 16

### Pool D2: Kazakhstan v Colombia

#### Head-to-Head

- This is the fourth World Grand Prix meeting between these nations. Colombia have won twice, but Kazakhstan won the most recent meeting, 3-2 last year in Kazakhstan.
- That victory against Colombia was Kazakhstan's first in the World Grand Prix against teams from South America (W1-L8).
- For Colombia it was their first defeat against an AVC team in the competition (W5-L1).

#### Kazakhstan

- Kazakhstan have won 12 of their last 28 World Grand Prix matches, after winning only two of their first 34 in the competition.
- Kazakhstan have lost their last two home matches in the World Grand Prix. They won their four matches at home prior to these two defeats. Their home record is now six wins and nine defeats.
- They have taken at least one set in eight of their last nine World Grand Prix matches at home.

#### Colombia

- Colombia have won back-to-back World Grand Prix matches and can win three in a row for the first time since last season, when they beat Mexico, Australia and Kazakhstan respectively.
- Colombia need one more victory to have a balanced record in Kazakhstan after their victory on Friday. They lost their other two matches in Kazakhstan, both Final Round matches in Group 3 last season.
- Colombia have yet to win their first five-setter in the World Grand Prix. They have claimed nine of their 11 wins without dropping a set.



## FIVB WORLD GRAND PRIX PREVIEWS WEEK 2 – JULY 14 TO 16

### Pool E2: Korea v Peru

#### Head-to-Head

- This is the third World Grand Prix meeting between these nations. Korea have won both previous meetings, both were played in 1994.
- After these two victories against Peru in 1994, Korea have played 20 World Grand Prix matches against South American nations, winning three and losing 17.
- Peru have played seven World Grand Prix matches against Asian teams, losing the first five, winning the last two.

#### Korea

- Korea have won three of their first four World Grand Prix matches in 2017. The last time they achieved this was in 2003, when they also won their fifth match.
- Korea could win three World Grand Prix matches in a row for the first time since winning four straight in 2011.
- Korea have now won four of their last five World Grand Prix matches, as many as in their 19 matches prior to this run.
- Three Korean players reached double figures in scoring against Argentina on Friday: Kim Yeon Koun (16), Park Jeongah (16) and Yang Hyo Jin (10).

#### Peru

- After winning the first two matches in the World Grand Prix, Peru lost the following two for a 2-2 record.
- Peru have won at least one set in each of their last 16 World Grand Prix matches, their longest ever streak in the competition.
- Peru lost to Poland on Friday in a tense battle – set three and four went to Poland with a 27-25 score. Carla Rueda was the top scorer in this match with 23 total points.



## FIVB WORLD GRAND PRIX PREVIEWS WEEK 2 – JULY 14 TO 16

### Pool E2: Poland v Argentina

#### Head-to-Head

- Poland have won all six World Grand Prix matches against Argentina, including 3-0 last week in Argentina.
- Poland have not played more matches against any other nation without losing in the World Grand Prix.
- These nations also met in the 2003 World Cup and at the 1960 World Championship, with Poland winning both encounters 3-0.
- Argentina have lost 22 of their 24 World Grand Prix encounters against CEV teams, including their last eight.

#### Poland

- Despite losing a set for the first time in the 2017 World Grand Prix against Peru on Friday, Poland have a 4-0 record in this year's campaign.
- Poland could win five straight World Grand Prix matches for the first time since the last match of 2013 and the first four of 2014.
- For the first time ever, Poland could win the first five matches in a World Grand Prix campaign.
- Malwina Smarzek was Poland's only player with at least one point with spikes (16), blocks (1) and serves (1) against Peru on Friday.

#### Argentina

- Argentina have lost their first four World Grand Prix matches in 2017. This is their least successful start since 2012, when they lost all nine matches in the campaign.
- Argentina have lost their last two encounters in straight sets. The last time they took three straight 3-0 defeats was in the last four matches of 2012 and the first of 2013 (5 total).
- In their straight-set defeat on Friday against Korea, Argentina lost the third set 8-25. This equalled their lowest points total in a set in the World Grand Prix, recorded on 20 August 2011 against Brazil.
- Nine players contributed in Argentina's 55-point effort on Friday, of which Tanya Acosta scored the most: 10.



## FIVB WORLD GRAND PRIX PREVIEWS WEEK 2 – JULY 14 TO 16

### Pool F2: Bulgaria v Canada

#### Head-to-Head

- This is the third World Grand Prix meeting between these nations. Both nations have won once, both by 3-2.
- One of these meetings was in Puerto Rico as Canada won 3-2 in Carolina in 2015.
- These nations also played four World Championship matches against each other, with Bulgaria winning three, including 3-0 in 2014.
- Canada have lost 13 of their 15 World Grand Prix encounters against European teams, but won their most recent one, last week against Croatia.

#### Bulgaria

- Bulgaria have lost consecutive World Grand Prix matches in five sets, after opening the 2017 tournament with two victories.
- Bulgaria could lose three consecutive World Grand Prix matches for the first time.
- Bulgaria could equal their record for most defeats in a single World Grand Prix campaign. They lost three in the 2013, 2015 and 2016 editions.
- Dobriana Rabadzhieva is Bulgaria's top scorer on 57 points, two more than Nasya Dimitrova (55, including 10 blocks).

#### Canada

- Canada have won two and lost two of their four 2017 World Grand Prix matches.
- Canada could win three matches in a single World Grand Prix campaign for the first time.
- Canada have won the opening set in only one of their last 16 World Grand Prix matches, the 3-0 victory against Argentina in their opening fixture of this year's competition.
- Danielle Smith has 368 total attempts as setter in Canada's four matches.



## FIVB WORLD GRAND PRIX PREVIEWS WEEK 2 – JULY 14 TO 16

### Pool F2: Puerto Rico v Czech Republic

#### Head-to-Head

- This is the sixth meeting between these nations in the World Grand Prix. Puerto Rico have won twice, Czech Republic three times.
- Czech Republic won the most recent World Grand Prix encounter, 3-1 last week and can become the first team to win back-to-back matches between these countries in the competition.
- These nations also met at the 2010 World Championships, with Czech Republic winning 3-0.
- Czech Republic have won six and lost five World Grand Prix matches against NORCECA teams, while Puerto Rico have won 13 and lost 17 against CEV teams.

#### Puerto Rico

- Puerto Rico beat Canada 3-2 after opening their 2017 World Grand Prix campaign with three consecutive defeats.
- Puerto Rico could lose four of their opening five matches of a World Grand Prix campaign for the first time since losing their first eight fixtures of the 2013 edition.
- Puerto Rico lost their first four World Grand Prix five-setters, but have lost only one of eight since.
- Karina Ocasio (66) and Daly Santana (60) lead Puerto Rico in scoring.

#### Czech Republic

- Czech Republic have won their opening four matches of a World Grand Prix campaign for the second time, after they were victorious in their first seven fixtures of the 2014 edition.
- Those seven victories to begin the 2014 World Grand Prix is the only time they have had a longer winning streak than four in the competition.
- Czech Republic began the second weekend with a 3-2 victory against Bulgaria. The last time Czech Republic had consecutive World Grand Prix matches go to a deciding set was in July 2015 (lost v Puerto Rico, won v Bulgaria).
- Pavla Vincourova has a setter average of 6.1 per set.