



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

### Pool D2: Germany v Colombia

#### Head-to-Head

- Germany and Colombia will meet for the first time at a world level tournament.
- Germany have lost 12 of their last 14 World Grand Prix matches against South American opposition, including their last three. Their only wins in this streak came against Peru.

#### Germany

- Germany opened their 2017 World Grand Prix campaign with a 3-1 defeat against Korea, but have won all four matches since.
- Germany could win five matches in a single World Grand Prix campaign for the first time since 2012 (6).
- Germany could equal their longest World Grand Prix winning streak – five from 2012 to 2013. They have never won five consecutive fixtures in the competition in a single year.
- Germany have won only two of their last 13 World Grand Prix five-setters.

#### Colombia

- Colombia have won three consecutive World Grand Prix matches, after beginning their 2017 campaign with straight-set defeats against Czech Republic and Peru.
- Colombia could win four consecutive World Grand Prix matches for the second time, after 2015.
- Colombia have lost both of their previous World Grand Prix five-setters (in 2016 against Kazakhstan and Peru).



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

### Pool D2: Kazakhstan v Croatia

#### Head-to-Head

- Croatia are unbeaten in their four matches against Kazakhstan at world level of which three came in the World Grand Prix.
- Kazakhstan claimed only one set in these previous four matches, in their first World Grand Prix encounter in 2014.
- Croatia have won the opening set in each of their four meetings with Kazakhstan.

#### Kazakhstan

- Kazakhstan (49) are one short of 50 World Grand Prix defeats.
- Kazakhstan have lost six consecutive World Grand Prix matches, including all five in 2017.
- This is Kazakhstan's worst start to a World Grand Prix campaign since 2013, when they lost their opening seven fixtures.
- Kazakhstan have won only two sets in the 2017 World Grand Prix (one against both Germany and Colombia).

#### Croatia

- Croatia have lost four of their five 2017 World Grand Prix matches, with the exception the 3-2 victory against Argentina in their second fixture.
- That is Croatia's only victory in a World Grand Prix five-setter (L2).
- Croatia have had only one longer World Grand Prix losing streak than their current run of three – six in 2015.
- That six-match losing streak in the 2015 World Grand Prix included the only time Croatia have lost consecutive fixtures in the competition in straight sets (against Czech Republic and Netherlands).



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

### Pool E2: Peru v Argentina

#### Head-to-Head

- This will be the second World Grand Prix meeting between Peru and Argentina. In 2014, Argentina won in straight sets.
- These teams have also met four other times at other world level tournaments with two wins each.
- Argentina prevailed in their most recent meeting, a 3-2 win at the 2015 World Cup.
- Peru's last win over Argentina in a world level tournament came at the 1999 World Cup (3-1).

#### Peru

- After winning the first two matches in the World Grand Prix but lost the following three.
- Peru have lost three matches in a row in the World Grand Prix and could lose four in a row for the first time since suffering nine consecutive defeats in 2011.
- On Saturday, Peru lost 3-0 to Korea. This broke a streak of 16 World Grand Prix matches in which they won at least one set, their longest ever streak in the competition, which started on 4 July 2015.
- Three Peruvians reached double figures in scoring on Saturday: Carla Rueda (16), Angela Leyva (11) and Jessenia Uceda (10).

#### Argentina

- Argentina are still winless after five matches in the 2017 World Grand Prix. Only in 2012, they had such streak since the start of a campaign as they lost all nine.
- Argentina losing streak of five matches is their longest in the competition since the last six matches of 2013 and the first of 2014 (seven total).
- Argentina have lost their last three encounters in straight sets. The last time they took four straight 3-0 defeats was in the last four matches of 2012 and the first of 2013 (5 total).
- Lucia Fresco scored 17 of Argentina's 49 points against Poland on Saturday (3-0 defeat), 14 spikes and three blocks.



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

### Pool E2: Poland v Korea

#### Head-to-Head

- Poland have won three of the previous five World Grand Prix meetings with Korea, all three in straight sets.
- Korea beat Poland once in straight sets and once in a five-setter.
- Poland won the opening set in four of their five World Grand Prix matches against Korea.

#### Poland

- For the first time ever, Poland have won the first five matches in a World Grand Prix campaign. Four of those five wins came in straight sets.
- Poland could win six straight World Grand Prix matches for the first time since the last two matches of 2009 and the first four of 2010.
- Poland have already won as many World Grand Prix matches in 2017 as they did in 2016. Last year, they booked five wins in eight matches.
- Agnieszka Kakolewska and Malwina Smarzek shared the top scoring honours for Poland against Argentina on Saturday (3-0 win) with 14 points each..

#### Korea

- On Saturday against Peru (3-0 win), Korea improved their 2017 World Grand Prix record to four wins and one defeat. The last time they achieved this was in 2003.
- Korea have won three World Grand Prix matches in a row for the first time since winning four in a row 2011.
- Korea won the last three matches in straight sets. They never won four consecutive World Grand Prix matches in straight sets.
- Korea have now won five of their last six World Grand Prix matches, as many as in their 20 matches prior to this run.



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

### Pool F2: Czech Republic v Canada

#### Head-to-Head

- Czech Republic have won both previous two World Grand Prix matches with Canada, both in 3-0, both last year.
- Canada have also faced Czechoslovakia twice at a world tournament.
- At the 1974 World Championships, Canada won 3-1 and at the 1986 World Championships, Czechoslovakia won in straight sets.

#### Czech Republic

- After winning the first four matches of the campaign and losing the fifth, Czech Republic have a 4-1 record in the World Grand Prix this season.
- On Saturday, Puerto Rico inflicted them their first straight-set loss since 1 August 2015 against Netherlands. Their streak of 11 matches without a 3-0 defeat was their longest ever in the tournament.
- Michaela Mlejnkova became Czech Republic's top scorer against Puerto Rico on Saturday with 12 points. She compiled these points in only the second and the third set, as she spent the first set on the bench.

#### Canada

- Canada have won two and lost three matches in the 2017 World Grand Prix. For the first time this season, they have taken back-to-back defeats.
- Canada outscored Bulgaria 103-101 in points on Saturday, however still took the loss: 3-1. This was Canada's 25th defeat in the World Grand Prix (compared to 6 wins).
- For the first time in team history, Canada could win three World Grand Prix matches in a single campaign.
- Elisabeth Wendel claimed the top scoring honours in that match against Bulgaria, tallying 24 points: 16 spikes, four blocks and four serve winners. All three numbers were leading marks for her team.



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

### Pool F2: Puerto Rico v Bulgaria

#### Head-to-Head

- This will be the fifth World Grand Prix encounter between these nations. Bulgaria won the first three, but Puerto Rico the most recent one last year.
- Bulgaria have won the first set in each of the four World Grand Prix matches against Puerto Rico.
- These nations have also met at the 2002 World Championships, with Bulgaria winning 3-0.

#### Puerto Rico

- In the first weekend of the 2017 World Grand Prix, Puerto Rico lost all three matches. In week two, they won both of their encounters thus far.
- These two wins included a 3-0 victory over Czech Republic. They can win consecutive matches in straight sets for the first time since 2014 when Cuba and Peru both suffered a straight set defeat against Puerto Rico.
- Puerto Rico could win three World Grand Prix matches in a row for the first time since winning six straight at the beginning of the 2016 season.
- Puerto Rico had five players scoring nine or more points against Czech Republic. Karina Ocasio headed her team with 16 points.

#### Bulgaria

- Bulgaria beat Canada 3-1 on Saturday to improve their tournament record to three wins, two defeats. This victory against Canada was their 25th in the World Grand Prix, compared to only 11 defeats.
- Bulgaria have won at least two sets in all of their five World Grand Prix matches in 2017.
- Since June 2016, Bulgaria have alternated two wins with two defeats: win-win-loss-loss-win-win-loss-loss, and Saturday's win. According to this rhythm, they will win this match.
- Bulgaria had four players reaching double figures in points scored against Canada. Miroslava Paskova headed her team with 20 points.