



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

Pool G2: Canada v Germany

Head-to-Head

- Canada and Germany have never met before at the World Grand Prix.
- The last major tournament meeting between these countries came at the 1996 Olympic Games when Germany won in straight sets.
- The last time Canada won a set against Germany at a major tournament was the 1991 World Cup where Germany won 3-1.

Canada

- After winning twice in the opening week of the World Grand Prix, Canada lost all three in the second week.
- Two of these matches (against Puerto Rico and Czech Republic) needed a decisive fifth set, in which both of Canada's opponents prevailed.
- Canada have lost their last three five-setters in the World Grand Prix.
- Canada have won at least one set in their last four World Grand Prix matches, their longest streak since six matches in 2014-2015.

Germany

- Germany have won their last five World Grand Prix matches, after losing their opener at the 2017 World Grand Prix. Another win would mark a record six wins in a row for the team in the World Grand Prix.
- Germany won their last two matches versus Croatia and Colombia in straight sets. Once before, they won three matches in a row in straight sets at the World Grand Prix (2008-2009).
- Louisa Lippmann scored more points than any other German player in all three matches last weekend. She amassed a total of 46 points for the team.



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Pool G2: Peru v Czech Republic

Head-to-Head

- Peru and Czech Republic have met once at the World Grand Prix. In the first weekend of this year's World Grand Prix Czech Republic won 3-1.
- This was their first ever encounter in a major tournament.
- Peru have won only two of their 15 World Grand Prix meetings with CEV countries. In 1994, they won 3-1 against Netherlands and in 2016 by 3-1 against Croatia.

Peru

- Peru have won and lost three times in this World Grand Prix edition. They have also won exactly the same amount sets as they lost this edition (11).
- Peru have already lost three times in the World Grand Prix this year, the same tally as they lost in 2015 (2) and 2016 (1) combined. The last time they lost more matches in a single World Grand Prix was in 2014 (6).
- Angela Leyva has scored 104 points for Peru this season. She is one of the five players with more than 100 points in Group 2. Only Karina Ocasio (Puerto Rico) has scored more points (107).
- Both Ocasio and Leyva have scored a Group 2-high 92 spikes.

Czech Republic

- Czech Republic have won five of their six matches in the 2017 World Grand Prix. Only in 2014 they had a better start winning the first seven.
- Their last match was a five-setter, which they won against Canada. They prevailed in five of their eight matches in the World Grand Prix that were decided by a fifth set.
- Since winning against Colombia in straight sets in the first match, Czech Republic have conceded at least one set in each of the following five matches.



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Pool H2: Colombia v Poland

Head-to-Head

- Colombia and Poland have never met at the World Grand Prix.
- Colombia have played four World Grand Prix against CEV-sides, losing three in straight sets and winning one (vs Croatia) by 3-1.
- Poland have won their last eight World Grand Prix matches against CSV-countries since their loss against Brazil in 2013 (3-1).
- Poland have won 10 and lost nine in total against CSV-countries and are unbeaten against all but Brazil in this competition. They are winless in all nine World Grand Prix matches against them.

Colombia

- Colombia have won and lost exactly three matches in the 2017 World Grand Prix.
- Colombia have yet to play a five-setter in the 2017 World Grand Prix. Their only two five-setters in the competition both ended in defeat
- Dayana Segovia is Colombia's top scorer on 101 points. She is one of the five players to have topped 100 points in Group 2.
- María Alejandra Marin has 235 running sets, an average of 11.75 per set, most in Group 2 at the 2017 World Grand Prix.

Poland

- Poland started their World Grand Prix campaign with five victories before falling to Korea in their last match (3-1).
- The last time they won five of their first six was in 2014. The next six matches in that edition ended in five losses and one win.
- They can lose consecutive matches for the first time since losing the last five in the 2014 edition of the World Grand Prix.
- Only Hungary (5) have more straight sets wins than Poland (4) in the 2017 World Grand Prix.
- In Group 2, Poland have the spiker with the best success rate, Malwina Smarzek (49.72%), the best blocker Agnieszka Kakolewska (1.00 per set), the best server Joanna Wolosz (0.50 per set), the best digger Agata Witkowska (6.75 per set) and the two best receivers Martyna Grajber (65.22% efficiency) and Agata Witkowska (63.30% efficiency).



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Pool H2: Korea v Kazakhstan

Head-to-Head

- Korea and Kazakhstan have met once in the World Grand Prix. In the first weekend of this season, Korea proved too strong in straight sets.
- All matches between these teams this decade (2010-2017) have been won in straight sets by Korea (5).
- In 2010, Korea won 3-0 in the semifinals en route to the Asian Games final in which they lost against China.

Korea

- Korea have won their last four World Grand Prix matches. They can equal their best streak ever by winning five in a row. They achieved this in 1994-1995 and in 1996-1997.
- They can win six in a single World Grand Prix for the first time since 1997, when they won six and lost three.
- The last time Korea finished a World Grand Prix with a winning record was in 2011 when they won five and lost four.
- Korea have already won three matches in straight sets this season. Only in 1994 they claimed more straight set victories in a single edition as they managed to achieve it four times.

Kazakhstan

- Kazakhstan claimed their first victory in the 2017 World Grand Prix in their last match after losing each of their first five.
- They can win consecutive matches for the first time since winning four in a row in the first and second weekend of the 2016 World Grand Prix.
- Kazakhstan is one defeat away from losing their 50th match in the World Grand Prix. No country has played fewer matches (64) than Kazakhstan while losing 50 matches.
- Yekaterina Zhdanova has scored most points for the team this season (67). With 22 points, she led the team in scoring against Croatia.



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Pool I2: Bulgaria v Puerto Rico

Head-to-Head

- Bulgaria and Puerto Rico have played five matches against each other at the World Grand Prix.
- Bulgaria won the first three, one played in 2013 and two in 2015. Puerto Rico have won the last two encounters between these teams at the World Grand Prix, including the previous encounter this year.
- These teams also met at the 2002 World Championship, with Bulgaria winning in straight sets.

Bulgaria

- Bulgaria have won three and lost three matches in the 2017 World Grand Prix.
- They have won at least two sets in every match so far in the tournament. Their three losses were all decided by a fifth set.
- In total 15 of Bulgaria's 37 World Grand Prix matches have been five-setters, with Bulgaria winning eight of these and losing seven.
- Gergana Dimitrova has scored a team-high 89 points for the team this World Grand Prix.

Puerto Rico

- Puerto Rico started the 2017 World Grand Prix with three losses but recovered to win the following three.
- In 2016, they won their first six matches, their longest winning streak before these three consecutive wins.
- Karina Ocasio has scored 107 points, making her the top scorer in Group 2. Her 92 spikes are joint-most of all players in Group 2 with Angela Leyva (Peru).



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

Pool I2: Croatia v Argentina

Head-to-Head

- Croatia and Argentina have met twice in the World Grand Prix with Argentina winning the first encounter in 2015 by 3-1 and Croatia winning the second in the opening weekend this year in five sets.
- In 2014 these teams met at the World Championship in the first round. Croatia won 3-1.
- Argentina have played 25 times against CEV sides in the World Grand Prix, winning only twice. Besides the win against Croatia in 2015 they also won against Germany in five sets in 2013.

Croatia

- Croatia have lost their last four matches at the World Grand Prix and can lose five in a row for the first time since a streak of six at the beginning of the 2015 World Grand Prix. That streak started with a loss against Argentina.
- Croatia lost the first set in five of six matches they played at the 2017 World Grand Prix so far.
- Croatia have played three five-setters in the World Grand Prix so far (28 matches total). After losing the first two times, they won the last they played, against Argentina.

Argentina

- Argentina are one of the three teams without a win in the World Grand Prix this season along with Belgium and Algeria.
- Only in 2012, Argentina failed to win any match in the World Grand Prix, losing all nine.
- In their last 17 matches at the World Grand Prix they won twice, both in straight sets against Kenya.
- Argentina have won their first set only once in the World Grand Prix this season, in their match against Croatia (25-20).