



## FIVB WORLD LEAGUE PREVIEWS WEEK 5 – JULY 4-9, 2017

### Final Six Group 1: Brazil - Canada (4 July)

#### Head-to-Head

- Brazil won 15 of their previous 18 World League matches against Canada.
- Brazil claimed at least one set in each of their 18 meetings with Canada in the World League. Their losses were a 3-1 defeat in 1991, and two five-set defeats in 1999 and 2012.
- Their only previous World League meeting in the Final Round came in 2013 when Brazil won in straight sets.
- These teams also met in the second week of this competition. On 9 June, Brazil won 3-1.

#### Brazil

- Brazil will finish in the top six of the World League for the 28th time, a record.
- Brazil have not won the competition since 2010. Since, they have finished as runners-up on four occasions and claimed one fifth and one sixth place.
- This season, Brazil won six of their nine World League matches, losing 3-2 to Poland, 3-1 to Bulgaria and 3-1 to Argentina.
- Of Brazil's last nine World League losses, eight came against CEV opposition.
- Only four of Brazil's last 29 World League matches have gone to a deciding set.

#### Canada

- Canada are guaranteed a top six finish in the World League for the second time, after finishing fifth in 2013.
- This season Canada won five of their nine World League matches, three of which in five sets.
- Canada won four of their last five five-setters in the competition. This follows on a run of seven successive defeats in five-setters in the World League.
- Canada have won only two of their last 16 World League matches against South American teams, a 3-2 win against Brazil in 2012 and a 3-0 win against Argentina in 2015.



## FIVB WORLD LEAGUE PREVIEWS WEEK 5 – JULY 4-9, 2017

### Final Six Group 1: France - United States (4 July)

#### Head-to-Head

- France are hoping to equal the score with United States in the World League. The US men have won nine of their 17 previous meetings, while the French are on eight wins.
- One of France's World League wins against United States came earlier this season. On 11 June, they won 3-1.
- United States won both their encounters with France in the Final Round. In 2007 they won in straight sets and in 2015 they beat the French 3-1.
- These teams also met at last year's Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro. United States won 3-1.

#### France

- France will finish in the top six for the third consecutive year, after winning the World League in 2015 and claiming a third place in 2016.
- It will be their eighth top six finish in total in the competition.
- France lost only one of their nine matches this campaign so far, the 3-2 defeat to Italy.
- France have claimed at least one set in each of their last 61 World League matches, since the 3-0 defeat to United States on 14 June 2013.
- Stephen Boyer scored a Group 1 high 165 points in the preliminary rounds. He also managed 17 aces, most of all players in Group 1.

#### United States

- United States will claim a top six finish in the World League for the 11th time. It will be their fourth consecutive finish in the top six after a first place in 2014, a third place in 2015 and a fifth place in 2016.
- The US team won four of their nine matches this World League campaign, three of which in straight sets.
- In nine of their last 10 World League participations they managed at least eight wins in the competition. Only in 2013 they failed to reach this number as they recorded four wins.
- United States lost five of their last six five-setters in the competition, with the exception being the 3-2 win against Belgium in 2016.



## FIVB WORLD LEAGUE PREVIEWS WEEK 5 – JULY 4-9, 2017

### Final Six Group 1: Russia - Canada (5 July)

#### Head-to-Head

- Russia and Canada will meet for the second time in the World League. On 18 July 2013 Canada beat Russia in a five setter.
- That is Canada's only win against Russia in a major volleyball tournament.
- Russia beat Canada three times at the world championships, twice at the world cup and once at the Olympic Games. Five of those wins came in straight sets, with the exception being the 3-2 win in their first meeting at the 1994 World Championships.
- Their Olympic Games meeting came last year in the quarterfinals in Rio de Janeiro.

#### Russia

- Russia will finish in the top six for the first time since their fifth place in the 2014 World League.
- It will be their 22nd top six finish in total. Russia last won the competition in 2013.
- Russia won five of their nine World League matches this season, including their last four.
- Russia can win five successive matches in the World League for the first time since a run of seven in 2012-2013.
- Russia could record six wins in a single World League campaign for the first time since 2014 (8 wins).

#### Canada

- Canada have lost their first match in the Final Six, a 3-1 defeat to Brazil.
- The last time Canada played in the Final Six, in 2013, they failed to beat Brazil, but managed to defeat Russia in five sets.
- Canada have only failed to win a set once in their last 36 World League matches, in the 3-0 defeat against France this year.
- Canada won four of their last five five-setters in the competition. This follows on a run of seven successive defeats in five-setters in the World League.
- Three players reached double figures in scoring against Brazil: Graham Vigrass (15), John Gordon Perrin (14) and Sharone Vernon-Evans (13).



## FIVB WORLD LEAGUE PREVIEWS WEEK 5 – JULY 4-9, 2017

### Final Six Group 1: Serbia - United States (5 July)

#### Head-to-Head

- Serbia will meet United States for the 15th time in the World League, having won nine of the previous meetings.
- Earlier this campaign, Serbia beat United States 3-1 on 2 June.
- Serbia won four of their previous five Final Round meetings with United States. Their only defeat came in the 2008 final (3-1).

#### Serbia

- Serbia will finish in the top six for the 14th time and for the third consecutive year. In 2015 they finished runners-up and last year they won the competition for the first time.
- The last team to successfully defend their World League title were Brazil in 2009-2010.
- Serbia won six of their nine World League matches this campaign, but lost their last two. They have not lost three successive matches in the competition since 2014-2015.
- Marko Ivovic was Group 1's best spiker in the preliminary round with a success rate of 53.9%.

#### United States

- United States started their Final Six campaign with a 3-2 defeat against France on Tuesday.
- United States have now lost each of their last four World League matches that were decided in a fifth set.
- Team USA started this World League season with three consecutive losses, but have not suffered back-to-back defeats in the competition since.



## FIVB WORLD LEAGUE PREVIEWS WEEK 5 – JULY 4-9, 2017

### Final Six Group 1: Brazil - Russia (6 July)

#### Head-to-Head

- Brazil and Russia will meet for the 34th time in the World League. Brazil won 20 of their previous meetings, but only one of their last five.
- Their last World League meeting came back on 17 July 2014, when Brazil won 3-1.
- Brazil and Russia also met in the semifinals of the Rio 2016 Olympic Games. The hosts won in straight sets and went on to win the gold medal.

#### Brazil

- Brazil won their first Final Six match of this season's World League, 3-1 against Canada.
- Brazil have not won the competition since 2010. Since, they have finished as runners-up on four occasions and claimed one fifth and one sixth place.
- Of Brazil's last nine World League losses, eight came against CEV opposition.
- Only four of Brazil's last 30 World League matches have gone to a deciding fifth set.
- Brazil have only once failed to win a set in their last 47 World League matches, in the 3-0 defeat to Serbia in last year's final.
- Wallace De Souza was Brazil's top scorer against Canada with 18 points.

#### Russia

- Russia lost their first Final Six match 3-0 against Canada, ending a winning run of four matches.
- They could lose consecutive World League matches for the first time since a run of four earlier this tournament (3 to 10 June).
- Russia could suffer two successive World League straight set defeats for the first time since 1997, when Cuba won twice by 3-0.
- Russia have claimed at least one set in eight of their ten matches this campaign, only failing to do so against United States on 10 June and against Canada on Wednesday.
- They could reach the World League semifinals for the first time since 2013, when they were also in a pool with Brazil and Canada and went on to lift the trophy. In that group, they lost versus Canada but defeated Brazil to progress to the next round.
- Egor Kliuka was the only Russian player to reach double figures in scoring against Canada as he netted 11 times.



## FIVB WORLD LEAGUE PREVIEWS WEEK 5 – JULY 4-9, 2017

### Final Six Group 1: France - Serbia (6 July)

#### Head-to-Head

- This will be an encounter between the last two World League winners - 2015 France, 2016 Serbia.
- Serbia have won 12 of their previous 21 World League matches against France.
- France won their last three World League matches against Serbia, including the 2015 final (3-0).
- In the Final Round, France won three of their five encounters with Serbia. Their last Final Round defeat against them came in 2006 when Serbia and Montenegro won in five sets.

#### France

- France won their first match in the Final Six, a five-set win against United States.
- France lost only one of their 10 matches this campaign so far, the 3-2 defeat to Italy.
- France have claimed at least one set in each of their last 62 World League matches, since the 3-0 defeat to United States on 14 June 2013.
- Stephen Boyer is top scorer in Group 1 with 135 points.

#### Serbia

- Serbia can remain in contention to retain their World League crown from 2016, but it would require a victory against the 2015 champions.
- Serbia are bidding to become the first side to win the World League in back-to-back seasons since Brazil managed that feat in 2009 and 2010.
- Serbia and France are the only two teams who have finished in the top three of the final standings in each of the previous two World League seasons.
- Serbia have lost three in a row in the World League, their worst run in the competition since July 2014-June 2015.