



FIVB WORLD LEAGUE PREVIEWS WEEK 2 – JUNE 08-11, 2017

Pool D2: Australia - China (08 June)

Head-to-Head

- Australia and China will meet for the first time in World League history.
- These teams most recently met in a competitive match on 4 June 2016, when Australia beat China 3-1 in an Olympic qualifier in Tokyo.
- China last beat Australia on 3 August 2015, when they won in straight sets at the 2015 Asian Championships.

Australia

- Australia followed up on a five-set victory over Portugal in their 2017 World League opener with 3-1 defeats against Slovakia and Japan.
- Australia could win multiple World League matches in a single edition for the first time since 2015 (2).
- Australia lost the opening set in 11 of their last 12 World League matches. The only exception in that run was their 25-20 first-set win in their 3-1 defeat against United States on 25 June 2016.
- Only Turkey's Metin Toy (67) and China's Jiang Chuan (65) scored more points than Nathan Roberts (52) in Group 2 in the opening weekend.

China

- China beat Netherlands 3-1 and Egypt 3-0 following their five-set loss in their 2017 World League opener against Turkey last weekend.
- China could win three World League matches in a row for the first time since 2014-2015 (then 7).
- Three of China's last four wins in the World League came in straight sets.
- Only Turkey's Metin Toy (67) scored more points than Jiang Chuan (65) in Group 2 last week.



FIVB WORLD LEAGUE PREVIEWS WEEK 2 – JUNE 08-11, 2017

Pool D2: Finland - Slovakia (08 June)

Head-to-Head

- Finland and Slovakia will meet for the first time in the World League.
- These teams most recently met in a competitive match on 11 October 2015, when Finland claimed a 3-0 group stage victory over Slovakia at the 2015 European Championships.
- Slovakia last recorded a victory over Finland on 10 May 2012, when they won 3-1 in a Olympic qualifier in Sofia, Bulgaria.

Finland

- Finland kicked off their 2017 World League campaign with defeats against Slovenia (3-1), Czech Republic (3-1) and Korea (3-2).
- Finland could lose their opening four matches of a World League campaign for the third time, after 2015 and 2008.
- Finland have already lost as many matches this season as in their whole 2016 World League campaign (3).
- Antti Ropponen scored 50 points in the opening weekend, 13 more than Slovakia's top scorer Matej Patak (37).

Slovakia

- Slovakia lost just one set in their opening three World League matches this season, as they beat both Japan and Portugal in straight sets and recorded a 3-1 victory over Australia.
- Slovakia could claim four wins in a single World League edition for the first time. They recorded exactly three wins in each of their previous three participations.
- Matej Patak will celebrate his 27th birthday on the day of the match. Patak scored a team-high 37 points in this year's opening weekend.