



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

Pool D3: Greece - Qatar (10 June)

Head-to-Head

- These sides have met twice in a major encounter, both in the World League.
- Last weekend, Qatar beat Greece 3-0 in Barcelona, Spain.
- Their only previous World League encounter came last season. Visiting, Qatar triumphed in straight sets in Thessaloniki, Greece.

Greece

- This will be Greece's 150th World League match (W53-L96).
- Greece have lost all four matches in the 2017 World League, winning only two sets in those four defeats.
- Only in 1993, 1995 and 1996 have Greece had a longer losing streak from the beginning of a World League campaign. They lost their opening eight fixtures in all three of those years.
- Greece lost only four World League matches in 2015 and 2016 combined.

Qatar

- Qatar have lost three consecutive World League matches, after beating Greece in straight sets in their opening fixture of the 2017 campaign.
- This is Qatar's longest World League losing streak.
- Qatar have dropped only one set in their four World League victories, in the 3-1 win against Tunisia in their maiden World League triumph last year.
- Of Qatar's four World League wins, two have come against Greece (both 3-0).



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Pool D3: Venezuela - Estonia (10 June)

Head-to-Head

- These sides have never met in a major international competition.
- Estonia will face South American opposition for the first time in a major competition.

Venezuela

- Venezuela have won seven of their last 11 World League matches (includes forfeited defeat against Austria). They had won seven of the 42 World League fixtures prior to this run.
- Venezuela could win multiple World League matches against CEV opposition in a single year for the first time since 2003, when they beat Spain twice and Poland once.
- Those two wins against Spain in 2003 was also the last time Venezuela won consecutive World League matches against CEV opposition.

Estonia

- Estonia have won three of their four matches in their World League debut, only suffering defeat against Tunisia (3-1).
- Estonia have won consecutive World League matches in straight sets (versus Montenegro and Qatar). They also beat Chinese Taipei in five sets in their first-ever World League fixture.
- Robert Täht (42) is Estonia's leading scorer in this year's World League. He has amassed just three points fewer than Venezuela's top scorer Ronald Jose Fayola Hurtado (45).



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Pool E3: Montenegro - Kazakhstan (10 June)

Head-to-Head

- These sides meet for the first time in a major international encounter.
- Kazakhstan have not won any of their previous 11 major encounters with opponents from Europe.

Montenegro

- Montenegro began their 2017 World League campaign with wins against Tunisia and Chinese Taipei, but then lost versus Estonia and Chinese Taipei.
- This is only the second time Montenegro have lost consecutive World League matches, after last year when they were beaten by Venezuela and Tunisia.
- Montenegro lost two matches in both of their previous World League campaigns (2015 and 2016).
- Montenegro won the opening set in each of their first five World League matches. Since then, they have claimed the first set in only four of their 13 fixtures in the competition.
- Marko Bojic (51) and Bozidar Cuk (50) have both reached 50 points in Group 3 this year.

Kazakhstan

- Kazakhstan lost their opening three matches in the 2017 World League, but won their fourth fixture 3-1 against Tunisia.
- That was Kazakhstan's third win in 16 World League matches. Their other two victories were 3-2 versus Venezuela in their first-ever fixture in the competition on 12 June 2015 and a straight-set triumph against Chinese Taipei on 18 June 2016.
- Kazakhstan have won only two sets in their seven previous World League matches against CEV opposition.



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Pool E3: Tunisia - Chinese Taipei (10 June)

Head-to-Head

- Their only previous meeting in a major international competition took place last weekend. Tunisia won 3-1 in Bijelo Polje, Montenegro.
- For Tunisia, the win snapped a seven-match losing streak in major encounters with opponents representing Asia.

Tunisia

- Tunisia have won five of their last seven World League matches, with both defeats in that run coming in 2017 – 3-2 against Montenegro and 3-1 versus Kazakhstan.
- In this season's World League, Tunisia have won both matches they have lost the opening set, and lost both fixtures they have won the opening set.
- Tunisia could equal 2016 (3) as their year with most World League wins.
- Tunisia could become the second team, after Greece (2), to win multiple World League matches against Chinese Taipei.

Chinese Taipei

- Chinese Taipei's 3-1 win against Montenegro ended a run of five consecutive World League defeats, including their opening three matches of the 2017 campaign.
- Chinese Taipei have won consecutive World League matches only once before, a run of three in a row during their debut campaign last year.
- Only three of Chinese Taipei's 12 World League matches have been finished in three sets (one win, two defeats).



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

Pool F3: Spain - Germany (10 June)

Head-to-Head

- These teams have met twice in a major international competition.
- Both of these meetings were contested in the World League last year. The first match was won 3-1 by Spain in Mexico City.
- Eight days later, Germany defeated Spain by the same score in Almaty, Kazakhstan.

Spain

- Spain have won all four matches in the 2017 World League.
- Only twice before have Spain had a longer winning streak from the beginning of a World League campaign – 2002 (8) and 2015 (5).
- Spain have already recorded one more victory than in their entire 2016 World League campaign (3). That ended with a 3-1 defeat against Germany, their last defeat in the competition.
- Since Spain's return to the World League in 2014 after a six-year absence, they have won 14 of 22 matches (64%). From 1995 to 2008 they won only 38% of their World League fixtures (54 of 143).

Germany

- Germany lost their last match 3-1 against Austria after beginning their 2017 World League campaign with three consecutive victories.
- Germany could win four of their first five matches of a World League campaign for the first time since 2012.
- Germany won three matches in their entire 2016 World League campaign, with one of those coming against Spain.
- Germany have won at least one set in each of their last 14 World League matches, stretching back to a straight-set defeat against Argentina on 21 June 2014.



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Pool F3: Mexico - Austria (10 June)

Head-to-Head

- These sides have never met in a major competition.
- Coming into this World League season, Mexico had won only one of their last 13 major encounters with opponents from Europe.
- Austria lost their only previous major encounter with opposition representing North and Central America, their 3-0 defeat against Cuba at the 1956 World Championship.

Mexico

- Mexico's 2017 World League campaign has consisted of two defeats against Spain and wins versus Greece and Qatar.
- Mexico could win more than two matches in a single World League campaign for the first time. They also won two in 2014, their debut in the competition.
- Only one of Mexico's five World League wins has come after losing the opening set, 3-2 versus Turkey on 7 June 2014.

Austria

- Austria have won three of their four matches in their debut World League season (including awarded victory for Venezuela forfeiting).
- Austria's only defeat was the 3-1 loss versus Germany in their second fixture. They reversed that result in their fourth match.
- Austria have won the opening set in all four of their World League matches (including awarded win versus Venezuela).