



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

### Pool D3: Greece - Estonia (11 June)

#### Head-to-Head

- Greece and World League debutants Estonia meet for the first time ever in a major international competition.
- Greece have lost six of their last nine major encounters with fellow European sides, including each of the last two.

#### Greece

- Greece have lost all five matches in the 2017 World League, winning only two sets in those five defeats.
- Greece could lose six consecutive World League matches for the first time since a run of seven in a row from 1998 to 2001.
- 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 have already lost more World League matches in 2017 (5) than in the previous two years combined (4).

#### Estonia

- Estonia have won four of their five matches in their World League debut, only suffering defeat against Tunisia (3-1).
- Estonia have won three consecutive World League matches in straight sets. They also beat Chinese Taipei in five sets in their first-ever fixture in the competition.
- Robert Täht (55) is Estonia's leading scorer in Group 3, eight fewer than Greece's top scorer (Rafail Koumentakis 63).



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

### Pool D3: Qatar - Venezuela (11 June)

#### Head-to-Head

- The only previous major encounter between these teams came in the World League last season.
- On 18 June 2016, Venezuela defeated Qatar 3-1 in Ljubljana, Slovenia.

#### Qatar

- Both of Qatar's wins in the 2017 World League have been straight-set victories against Greece.
- Qatar have lost their other three matches in this year's competition, winning only one set in those three defeats.
- Qatar could equal their total number of wins in their debut World League campaign last year (3).
- Qatar have dropped only one set in their five World League victories, in the 3-1 win against Tunisia in their maiden World League triumph last year.

#### Venezuela

- Venezuela have won seven of their last 12 World League matches (includes forfeited defeat against Austria). They had won seven of the 42 World League fixtures prior to this run.
- Venezuela have already lost more World League matches this year (3, includes forfeited defeat against Austria) than in their entire 2016 campaign (2).
- Venezuela have won each of their last three World League matches that have gone to a deciding set. They had gone 14 years without a World League five-set victory prior to this run.



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

### Pool E3: Kazakhstan - Chinese Taipei (11 June)

#### Head-to-Head

- Their two previous major encounters came in the World League last year.
- At first, Kazakhstan won 3-0 in Kozani, Greece, on 18 June 2016.
- Eight days later, visiting Chinese Taipei exacted revenge by winning 3-1 in Almaty.

#### Kazakhstan

- Kazakhstan have lost 14 of their 17 World League matches, including four of five in this year's competition.
- Kazakhstan have won one match in each of their three World League participations – versus Venezuela in 2015, Chinese Taipei in 2016 and Tunisia in 2017.
- Kazakhstan have won the opening set in only two of their last 14 World League matches, with both of those coming against Chinese Taipei.

#### Chinese Taipei

- Chinese Taipei have lost six of their last seven matches in the World League. The only exception was a 3-1 win against Montenegro at the start of this weekend.
- Chinese Taipei are waiting for the second straight set win, after achieving this in their very first World League match in 2016 against Puerto Rico.
- In the first weekend of the 2017 World League, Chinese Taipei won four sets. After two matches in the second weekend they are already on five set wins.
- Only once, they won more sets in a World League weekend, as they won all three matches on 24-26 June 2016, grabbing in a total of nine sets.



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

### Pool E3: Tunisia - Montenegro (11 June)

#### Head-to-Head

- These teams opened their 2017 World League campaign facing each other. On 2 June, Montenegro pulled out a victory in five sets in front of a home crowd in Bijelo Polje.
- Tunisia's only major victory against Montenegro came in the World League last season. On 25 June 2016, Tunisia needed five sets to knock off visiting Montenegro in Tunis.
- Two other World League meetings, both in 2015, resulted in straight sets victories for Montenegro.

#### Tunisia

- Tunisia have won three of their five 2017 World League matches. Last year they had the same record and went on to winning the sixth match 3-1 against Venezuela.
- Tunisia won the five-setter against Chinese Taipei. They have never played two five set matches in a row in the World League.
- In their last nine World League matches, Tunisia played at least four sets. The last time a match ended in straight sets was on 18 June 2016, a loss against Slovenia.
- Tunisia never recorded a straight set win at the World League.

#### Montenegro

- Montenegro have won three of their five 2017 World League matches, the same record they had at this stage of last year's competition. They went on to beat Mexico 3-1 in their sixth fixture.
- Montenegro also lost two matches in both of their previous World League campaigns (2015 and 2016).
- Montenegro could record consecutive straight-set World League victories for the first time since their opening two World League matches (2015). The first of those was against Tunisia.
- Montenegro won the opening set in each of their first five World League matches. They have claimed the first set in only five of their 14 fixtures in the competition since.



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

### Pool F3: Austria - Spain (11 June)

#### Head-to-Head

- Spain and World League debutants Austria have never before met in a major international competition.
- Austria have won and lost once against fellow CEV team Germany in the 2017 World League.
- Spain also have lost once and won once against fellow CEV teams in the 2017 World League; 3-1 win against Greece and straight set defeat against Germany.

#### Austria

- Austria have won four of their five 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's five-set victory against Mexico in their last match was the first time they had lost the opening set in a World League fixture.

#### Spain

- Spain won their opening four matches of the 2017 World League before suffering a straight-set defeat against Germany.
- Spain have already recorded one more victory than in their entire 2016 World League campaign (3).
- Spain's last two World League defeats have both been against Germany.
- Since Spain's return to the World League in 2014 after a six-year absence, they have won 14 of 23 matches (61%). From 1995 to 2008 they won only 38% of their World League fixtures (54 of 143).



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

### Pool F3: Germany - Mexico (11 June)

#### Head-to-Head

- Mexico have faced German opposition four times before in a major international competition.
- Their only victory came in the World League last year, when Mexico triumphed 3-1 in front of a home crowd in Mexico City on 19 June 2016.
- Germany's last major victory over Mexico came at the 1991 World Cup (3-0).

#### Germany

- Germany have won four of their five 2017 World League matches, equalling their best start in the competition (2012).
- In 2012 Germany went on to lose their sixth match, in five sets against Bulgaria.
- Germany have already won more matches in the 2017 World League than in their entire campaign in the competition last year (3).
- Germany have won at least one set in each of their last 15 World League matches, stretching back to a straight-set defeat against Argentina on 21 June 2014.

#### Mexico

- Mexico have won five of their 23 World League matches, with two of those victories coming in 2017 – against 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.
- Mexico have won the opening set in each of their last four World League matches, but the two most recent of those ended in five-set defeats.