



FIVB
VOLLEYBALL
MEN'S WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP
POLAND 2014

STATISTICAL PREVIEWS
DAY 10 – SEPTEMBER 10, 2014

Pool E: Serbia - Italy (September 10)

Head-to-Head

- Serbia and Italy have met on five previous occasions at the World Championship. Serbia have won four of those five matches.
- Italy's only victory over Serbia in the competition was their victory in the 1998 gold medal match.
- Their last meeting in the competition came in the 2010 bronze medal match, which Serbia won 3-1.

Serbia

- Serbia have won their last four matches in this tournament after losing the opening match of the tournament 3-0 to hosts Poland.
- The last time Serbia won more than four in a row at the World Championship was 2006, when they won eight on the trot.
- Only one of the last 43 World Championship matches involving Serbia went to five sets. That was Serbia's 3-2 defeat against Cuba in the 2010 semifinals.

Italy

- Italy finished fourth in Pool D after losing their last two matches by 3-1. Italy have now lost five of their last seven matches in the competition.
- Only two teams survived the first group phase despite earning only five points in five matches: Australia and Italy.
- None of the last 12 World Championship matches involving Italy has been decided in straight sets.
- Ivan Zaytsev led Italy in scoring in Pool D. His 82 points were at least 22 more than the scoring totals of each of his teammates.



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Pool E: Argentina - France (September 10)

Head-to-Head

- Argentina and France have met four times at the World Championship. Each team has won twice.
- Their most recent meeting came in the second group phase in 2010. Argentina won 3-1.
- France last defeated Argentina at the World Championship in 2002, when the French prevailed 3-1 in the quarterfinals.

Argentina

- Argentina qualified for the second group phase by finishing third in Pool A. They defeated Australia, Cameroon and Venezuela, however lost to Poland and Serbia.
- Four of their Pool A matches were decided in straight sets.
- Argentina have not had to play a five-set match in their last 14 at the World Championship.

France

- France reached this stage by finishing top in Pool D. Their only defeat in this tournament came against Italy.
- France have won three in a row and their last four-match winning streak in the competition was achieved from 2002 to 2006.
- Antonin Rouzier finished the first group phase as the leading scorer in the competition. His 97 points total consisted of 91 spikes, two blocks and four serves.
- Jenia Grebennikov finished the first group phase as the tournament's most prolific digger, averaging 4.67 per set.



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Pool E: Poland - United States (September 10)

Head-to-Head

- These teams have met five times at the World Championship. Poland won on four occasions, USA on one.
- The lone US victory over Poland was their last meeting in the competition. In 1986, USA prevailed 3-0.
- Poland last defeated United States at the World Championship in 1974.

Poland

- Poland finished top in Pool A and was the only team to emerge from the group phase with a maximum 15 points.
- Poland have won 15 of the 16 sets they have played in this tournament. The only dropped set by Poland at this World Championship came in the match against Cameroon.
- No host nation has won the World Championship since 1966, when Czechoslovakia performed the feat.

United States

- In their last nine World Championship matches, USA have alternated wins and defeats. If the trend continues, USA will lose this match.
- United States reached this stage by finishing third in Pool D, losing to France and Iran and beating Italy, Belgium and Puerto Rico.
- In the first group stage, Maxwell Holt ranked second among tournament leaders in average blocks per set (0.90) and stuff blocks (19).



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Pool E: Australia - Iran (September 10)

Head-to-Head

- These sides have never met at the World Championship or any other major international competition.
- Australia have faced a fellow AVC side once at the World Championship. In 2002, they lost 3-1 against China.
- Iran have faced another AVC affiliate once in the competition. In 2010, they defeated Japan 3-1.

Australia

- Australia reached this stage by finishing fourth in Pool A. They defeated Cameroon and Venezuela and finished on five points.
- Australia have won only two of their last 16 matches at the World Championship.
- Australia have never won back-to-back matches in this competition.

Iran

- Iran reached this stage by finishing second in Pool D. They won four of their five matches in the first group stage, including their last two.
- Iran's record for most successive World Cup matches won is three. That mark was set in 1970.
- In the first group stage, Seyed Mohammad Mousavi Eraghi emerged as the tournament's leading blocker, averaging 1.50 per set and producing 30 stuff blocks.
- Teammate Farhad Ghaemi led the first group phase in receiving. His 60.66% efficiency was highest among all players at the 2014 World Championship.



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Pool F: Brazil - Bulgaria (September 10)

Head-to-Head

- Brazil and Bulgaria have met 12 times at the World Championship, with Brazil winning seven times.
- Brazil have won all of their World Championship meetings with Bulgaria by either 3-0 or 3-1.
- Their last meeting in the competition came in 2010 with Bulgaria winning in straight sets. This victory by Bulgaria followed three consecutive wins by Brazil.

Brazil

- Brazil finished first in Pool B winning all five matches and are now on a nine-match winning streak in the competition.
- Brazil can win 10 consecutive World Championship matches for the fourth time in team history.
- They can record their 99th win at the World Championship.

Bulgaria

- Bulgaria won three of their five matches in the first round and finished third in Pool C behind Russia and Canada.
- Their last two matches went to five sets winning the former and losing the latter. They can lose two five-setters in a row for the second time in the competition after 2002.
- The last time and only time Bulgaria played three five-setters in a row was back in 1962 alternating the results: W-L-W.



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Pool F: Finland - Russia (September 10)

Head-to-Head

- This will be the first meeting between Finland and Russia at the World Championship.
- Finland took only one victory against Russia at a major tournament. At the 2010 World League Finland won the last of their 10 meetings with Russia (includes Soviet Union).
- Finland have lost their last three World Championship matches against fellow European sides.

Finland

- Finland recorded their third first round win against Tunisia last Sunday of this year's competition and finished third in Pool B.
- Finland can win their fourth match of the 2014 World Championship, equalling their most wins at a single edition after four wins in 1970, 1978 and 1982.
- They can win two consecutive matches in straight sets for the first time since the 1978 World Championship.

Russia

- Russia have won all five matches of their matches at the 2014 World Championship and are on an eight-match winning streak in the competition. This is their best run since Soviet Union won 29 matches in a row between 1979 and 1986.
- Their last match against Bulgaria went to five sets. Russia can win two five-setters in a row in the competition for the second time after 2002.
- Dmitriy Muserskiy is the best server of the first round matches with 16 aces and an average of 0.89 per set.



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Pool F: Germany - China (September 10)

Head-to-Head

- China recorded three straight set wins at the World Championships against teams from Germany: West Germany in 1966 and East Germany in 1978 and 1982. They are yet to play a World Championship match against unified Germany.
- These teams have never met at another major tournament.
- China are on a nine-match losing streak at the World Championship against European sides.

Germany

- After losing their 2014 opener against Brazil, Germany won their following four matches.
- They can win five in a row for the first time as unified Germany. The last time a team from Germany won more than four consecutive matches was in 1970 when East Germany won nine in a row.
- Germany can play their first five-setter in 13 matches against China.
- Germany have the third best blocker of the first round with Marcus Böhme (15 stuff blocks).

China

- China have lost their last three World Championship matches in straight sets and can lose four consecutive matches by a 3-0 scoreline for the first time since 1986 (5 in a row including 1994).
- The last time China won a World Championship match in straight sets was in 1998 against Czech Republic. They have played 27 matches in the competition since.
- Zhi Yuan was the second best server of the first round with 14 aces and an average of 0.82 per set.



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Pool F: Cuba - Canada (September 10)

Head-to-Head

- Cuba won their only previous World Championship meeting with Canada 3-1 (1998).
- Canada won their most recent meeting at a major tournament. In the semifinal of the 2013 NORCECA Championship Canada beat Cuba in straight sets.
- Both teams have won their last World Championship meeting with a fellow NORCECA side. In both cases, the opponents were Mexico.

Cuba

- With their 3-1 loss against Brazil in the last match of the first round, Cuba recorded their 200th set loss at the World Championship.
- Cuba have won 18 of their last 19 World Championship matches that went into a fifth set decider.
- Javier Ernesto Jimenez Scull scored a total of 85 points in the first round matches.

Canada

- Canada won their last four World Championship matches and can win five in a row for the first time in team history.
- They won their last three matches in straight sets which was the first time for Canada in World Championship history.
- Canada have the best two spikers in the competition after the first round matches. Nicholas Hoag has a success rate of 59.32% and Gavin Schmitt a success rate of 56.94%.