



FIVB
VOLLEYBALL
MEN'S WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP
POLAND 2014

STATISTICAL PREVIEWS
DAY 13 – SEPTEMBER 14, 2014

Pool E: Serbia - Iran (September 14)

Head-to-Head

- These sides have met once before at the World Championship. In 1970, Serbia (then: Yugoslavia) defeated Iran 3-2.
- Serbia have won all of their last 10 World Championship matches against sides representing the Asian and Oceanian federation AVC. They last lost a match against an AVC side in this competition in 1970, when they fell to DPR Korea in straight sets.
- Their most recent meetings in a major competition came in the 2013 World League. Each team beat the other once in five sets.

Serbia

- Serbia have been eliminated from third round contention. The highest they can finish in Pool E is fourth.
- Serbia had finished in the top four in each of the previous four World Championships.
- Their back-to-back defeats in their last two matches follow a string of five victories.

Iran

- Iran can qualify for the third round by overtaking United States or Poland (or both).
- Iran are already guaranteed a massive improvement on their previous best finish, which is 19th.
- Coming off a defeat against hosts Poland, a result that ended a streak of four victories.



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Pool E: Argentina - United States (September 14)

Head-to-Head

- These teams have met on six previous occasions at the World Championship. USA have won five of the previous six, including their most recent meeting in the competition. In the first round in 2010, the US prevailed 3-1.
- Argentina's only victory over United States in this competition dates back to 1990, when the South Americans won 3-0 in the group stage.
- USA have won 14 of their 17 encounters with Argentina in major competitions.

Argentina

- Argentina cannot finish higher than fifth in Pool E.
- At best, they can match their finish from 2010, which was ninth place.
- Their victory over Italy on Saturday ended a three match losing streak.

United States

- United States will be certain of a third round berth with a victory by 3-0 or 3-1.
- United States are in search of their second World Championship title. They won it all in 1986.
- USA have won their last four matches in this tournament.



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Pool E: Poland - France (September 14)

Head-to-Head

- Poland have defeated France in each of their previous three matches at the World Championship. Poland won all of those three matches in straight sets.
- All of the three matches above took place between 1949 and 1960.
- Their three meetings in 2013, in the World League (twice) and at the European Championship, were all won by France.

Poland

- Poland will reach the third round unless they lose to France by 3-0 or 3-1 and Iran beat Serbia by 3-0 or 3-1 and United States win.
- Poland have won seven of their eight matches in this tournament and have only lost to United States.
- Poland are looking for their second World Championship title. They won the trophy in 1974.

France

- France have already qualified for the third round and are certain to finish in the top six. Including this tournament, they will have finished in the top six in three of the last four World Championships.
- France's best finish in the competition is third place in 2002.
- France have won their last five matches. This is their longest winning streak in the competition since 1970 (also five).



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Pool E: Australia - Italy (September 14)

Head-to-Head

- They have met once before at the World Championship. In 1982, Italy recorded a fairly lopsided victory over Australia (15-1, 15-1, 15-8).
- Italy have won all of their nine encounters with Australia in major competitions and on seven occasions, Australia failed to win a single set.
- They met in the World League earlier this year. On 18 July, Italy coasted to a 3-0 victory in the Final Round before a home crowd in Florence.

Australia

- Australia have lost six of their last seven, including each of their Pool E matches.
- Whatever happens, Australia are guaranteed their best finish in the competition. They had never finished higher than 17th coming in.
- Their two victories in this tournament are also already a team record at a single World Championships.

Italy

- Italy have lost their last five matches, which is their longest losing streak at the World Championship when they also lost five.
- The last time Italy lost more than five matches in a row in this competition was from 1966 to 1970 when they were defeated in nine straight.
- Unlike at the previous six World Championships, Italy can no longer finish in the top six. The 1986 World Championship was the last in which Italy finished lower than sixth (11th).



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Pool F: Brazil - Russia (September 14)

Head-to-Head

- These teams have met on nine previous occasions at the World Championship. Brazil has won the last two meetings, each of which came after the dissolution of the Soviet Union.
- The first seven meetings were won by the Soviet Union, which later continued as Russia.
- This is a sequel to two gold medal matches in the competition. In 1982, Soviet Union beat Brazil 3-0 and in 2002 Brazil beat Russia 3-2. The latter match is their most recent meeting at the World Championship.
- These teams also met in the final of the 2012 London Olympic Games. Russia won that match 3-2.

Brazil

- Brazil have won their last 12 matches at the World Championship, including all eight in this tournament.
- Brazil are guaranteed a place in the third round and therefore a top six finish. Brazil have finished in the top six in each of the last nine World Championships.
- Brazil are bidding to become the first team to win this competition four times in a row.

Russia

- Russia have won their last 11 matches at the World Championship.
- This is their longest winning streak since triumphing 29 times in a row from 1974 to 1986. They achieved this as the Soviet Union.
- Russia and Brazil are the only remaining unbeaten teams in this tournament.



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Pool F: Finland - Bulgaria (September 14)

Head-to-Head

- The two previous World Championship meetings between these teams were won in straight sets by Bulgaria. They took place in 1952 and 1966.
- Bulgaria have won nine of their 12 meetings in major competitions.
- Their last meeting at a major competition came at the 2009 European Championship. Bulgaria won in straight sets.

Finland

- Finland's defeat against China was their third in succession in this competition.
- Finland can no longer reach the third round and the match against Bulgaria will be their last in this tournament.
- Finland's best final classification at the World Championship is 11th place in 1952.

Bulgaria

- Bulgaria have lost their last four matches in this tournament.
- This is their longest losing streak in the competition since 2002, when they also dropped four in a row.
- Bulgaria are guaranteed to finish outside the top eight and cannot improve on their seventh place finish from years ago.



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Pool F: Germany - Canada (September 14)

Head-to-Head

- These teams have met four times at the World Championship, with both teams winning twice.
- Germany (as East Germany) won their first encounter which was followed by two victories from Canada over East Germany.
- Their last World Championship meeting, four years ago, ended in a 3-0 victory for (unified) Germany.
- These teams also met in four different encounters in the 1992 World League. Canada won all four.

Germany

- Germany can secure their best ever finish as unified Germany. As such, they have never finished higher than eighth.
- To reach the third round and at least a sixth place finish, Germany must avoid a 3-0 or 3-1 defeat against Canada.
- Germany lost their opening match of this tournament, then won six in a row and are now coming off a defeat against Russia.

Canada

- Canada started this tournament with a defeat before reeling off six straight victories. That winning streak was halted by Brazil in straight sets.
- Canada's best finish in the competition is ninth place in 1994.
- Canada must beat Germany by 3-0 or 3-1 in their final Pool F match to reach the third round.



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Pool F: Cuba - China (September 14)

Head-to-Head

- This is the first meeting between these teams at the World Championship.
- Cuba have won 12 of their 15 meetings with China in major competitions.
- Their most recent encounter in a major competition came in this year's World League and Cuba took the contest in five sets.

Cuba

- Cuba are coming off a 3-0 victory against Bulgaria. It ended a string of 11 matches in this competition in which Cuba had not won in straight sets.
- Cuba have been eliminated from third round contention, having finished runners-up at the 2010 World Championship.
- Cuba cannot finish higher than fifth in Pool F.

China

- China's victory over Finland ended a string of five defeats in straight sets for this team.
- China can no longer reach the third round and their only chance of escaping from last place in Pool F involves a victory over Cuba.
- China will improve on their 2010 finish regardless. Four years ago, they came 19th.