



FIVB
VOLLEYBALL
MEN'S WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP
POLAND 2014

STATISTICAL PREVIEWS
DAY 2 – AUGUST 31, 2014

Pool A: Venezuela - Argentina (August 31)

Head-to-Head

- Venezuela have won two of their three World Championship matches against Argentina, losing the last one 3-0 in 2010.
- Venezuela have lost their last three World Championship matches against teams from the Americas.
- Argentina won two of their three matches against teams from the Americas at the 2010 World Championships, including a match against Venezuela. They lost against USA.
- Argentina have won their last four matches against Venezuela at World Championships, Pan American Games and South American Championship.

Venezuela

- Venezuela's best rank in their previous 10 participations is a 10th place in 1960. They finished 19th in 2010.
- They have lost their last six World Championship matches, since a 3-1 win against Iran in 2006.
- The last time they had a longer losing streak was a nine-match run from 1986 to 2002.
- They have lost their last three World Championship matches in straight sets. They last lost four consecutive matches by a 3-0 scoreline in 1986-1990.

Argentina

- Argentina's best rank in their previous 10 participations is a 3rd place in 1982. They finished 9th in 2010.
- Argentina have won 41 and lost 39 World Championship matches and their set balance is 154-153.
- They won their last two matches at the 2010 World Championship.
- They also began 2010 by winning their first two matches, including their first group phase match, vs Venezuela.
- That 3-0 win against Venezuela is Argentina's last World Championship win in straight sets.



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Pool A: Cameroon - Australia (August 31)

Head-to-Head

- Cameroon won their only previous match against Australia at the World Championships 3-1 in the 2010 first round group phase.
- This is their only encounter at a major tournament.
- Australia have won two and lost four matches against African teams at Olympic Games, World Championships and World Cup. Their last win came against Tunisia at the 2007 World Cup.

Cameroon

- Cameroon finished 15th (1990) and 13th (2010) in their previous two World Championships.
- One of their two wins at the World Championships came against Australia (3-1) in 2010. The other win was against Venezuela (3-0) in 1990, who are also one of their opponents in this year's Pool A.
- Cameroon have lost their other nine matches at the World Championships.

Australia

- Australia have never finished higher than 17th (1998) in their five previous World Championships participations. They finished 19th in 2010.
- They were ranked ninth on their debut in the 2014 World League, hosting and winning the Group 2 Final Four.
- They are currently on an 11-match losing streak at the World Championships, losing their last match against Cameroon in 2010.
- Their two wins in all 23 World Championship matches came against Chile (1982) and Turkey (1998).



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Pool D: Italy- Iran (August 31)

Head-to-Head

- Italy and Iran have met three times at the World Championships. Italy have won all three encounters, 3-0 in 1970, 3-1 in 2006 and 3-2 in 2010.
- Italy and Iran met five times in this year's World League competition. The most important match-up was the bronze medal match, won by Italy in straight sets.
- In the group stage of this year's World League they played each other four times. Both teams won twice on home soil.

Italy

- Italy will partake in the World Championships for the 16th time. They have won the title three times (1990, 1994 and 1998).
- Italy finished fourth at the last World Championships after losing the bronze medal match 3-1 to Serbia.
- Italy are on a two-match losing streak. The last time they recorded a longer losing streak in the competition was back in 1986 (5 successive defeats).
- Italy are currently third on the World Ranking and also took third place in the last three world level events they participated in - the 2013 and 2014 World League and the 2012 Olympic Games.

Iran

- Iran will take part in the World Championships for the fifth time. Their best result is a 19th place in 1998 and 2010.
- Iran have won only one of their last 12 World Championship matches. Their only win in this streak came in 2010 against Japan (3-1).
- The last big event Iran took part in was the 2014 World League where they finished fourth after losing the bronze medal match against Italy.
- Iran are currently ranked 11th on the World Ranking.

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COMPETITION DAY 2 – AUGUST 31, 2014



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Pool D: Belgium - United States (August 31)

Head-to-Head

- Belgium and United States have met each other three times at the World Championships, with Belgium winning twice and USA once.
- This will be their first World Championship meeting since 1978, when Belgium beat USA 3-1. Belgium's other win came in 1966 in the Consolation Round 9-16 (3-1).
- United States' only World Championship win against Belgium came in their first meeting the competition, exactly 58 years ago on the day of this match. On 31 August 1956, USA beat Belgium in straight sets.

Belgium

- Belgium will take part for the eighth time in the World Championships and for the first time since 1978, when they finished in 18th place.
- Belgium's best result at a World Championship tournament is an eighth place which they took in 1970.
- Belgium have won only one of their last five World Championship matches. Their last victory came against USA (3-1) in 1978.
- Belgium made their debut in the World League this year finishing in 11th place.

United States

- United States will make their 15th appearance at the World Championships. In 1986 they won the title by beating the Soviet Union in the final (3-1).
- United States won the last world level volleyball event, the 2014 World League, beating Brazil 3-1 in the final.
- United States finished sixth at the last World Championship tournament, losing the play-off for fifth place against Russia in straight sets.
- United States are currently fourth on the World Ranking. Their opponents Belgium are ranked 24th.



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Pool D: Puerto Rico – France (August 31)

Head-to-Head

- Puerto Rico and France have met once in World Championship competition. In 1974, France beat Puerto Rico in straight sets.
- This will be their first meeting at a world level event since that 1974 World Championship match.
- The teams' respective best rankings at the World Championships are nine place apart as France finished third in 2002 and Puerto Rico claimed a team-best 12th place finish in 2006.

Puerto Rico

- Puerto Rico will take part in the World Championships for the fourth time. Their last participation was in 2010 when they finished 13th.
- Puerto Rico have lost their last three World Championship matches, all in 2010. Only once did they record a longer losing streak in World Championship competition: on their debut in 1974 when they lost their first 10 matches.
- The last major event they participated in was the 2014 World League, where they won two out of six matches.

France

- France will compete at the World Championships for the 15th time. Their last participation was in 2010 when they finished in 11th place.
- The last time France lost their opening match at a World Championship tournament was in 1990, a straight set defeat against the Soviet Union.
- France's best result at the World Championships is a bronze medal in 2002.
- In this year's World League, France played 14 matches, losing only three.