



FIVB
VOLLEYBALL
MEN'S WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP
POLAND 2014

STATISTICAL PREVIEWS
DAY 4 – SEPTEMBER 2, 2014

Pool A: Argentina - Serbia (September 2)

Head-to-Head

- These sides have met twice before at the World Championship. Both matches were won by Serbia.
- In the second group stage in 2006, they met in Sendai, Japan, and Serbia were playing as Serbia and Montenegro.
- In the third round in 2010, they met in Florence. This was their last meeting at a World Championship.
- Their last meeting in a competitive match came at the 2011 World Cup. Argentina won 3-0 on 20 November 2011.

Argentina

- Argentina won their opener against Venezuela in straight sets. That was their first straight sets victory in a World Championship match since another 3-0 win over Venezuela in 2010.
- Argentina have now won their last three matches in the competition.
- Argentina have started all of their previous World Championship campaigns with either two wins or two defeats.

Serbia

- Serbia were defeated 3-0 by Poland in the opening match of this tournament.
- This broke an 11-match string of World Championship matches by Serbia without a straight sets defeat. This run followed another 3-0 defeat against Poland on 29 November 2006.
- Serbia have never started a World Championship campaign with back-to-back defeats.



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Pool A: Venezuela - Cameroon (September 2)

Head-to-Head

- They met in the classification (13th-16th place) at the 1990 World Championship. In Curitiba, Brazil, Cameroon won 3-0.
- Since then, Venezuela have met African opponents once more at World Championships. In 2002, they vanquished Egypt 3-0.
- The loss against Cameroon is Venezuela's only defeat in their last five meetings with African opposition at World Championships.

Venezuela

- Venezuela lost their opener 3-0 against Argentina.
- Venezuela have now lost their last seven matches at the World Championship. They have lost their last four in straight sets.
- Venezuela last celebrated a victory at the World Championship on 18 November 2006, when they defeated Iran 3-1.

Cameroon

- Cameroon started their campaign at the 2014 World Championship with a 3-0 defeat against Australia.
- Cameroon have lost their last three World Championship matches. They once lost four in a row in the competition (1990).
- One of Cameroon's two victories at the World Championship came against Venezuela (24 October 1990).
- Cameroon's last victory in this tournament came against Australia (3-1 in 2010).



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Pool A: Australia - Poland (September 2)

Head-to-Head

- This is the first ever meeting between these teams at a World Championship.
- They did meet four times in the 1999 World League and all four of those meetings were won by Poland.
- Their last competitive meeting came at the 2012 Olympic Games. Australia stunned the then World League holders Poland by 3-1 in their group stage encounter.

Australia

- Australia ignited their 2014 World Championship tournament with a 3-0 win over Cameroon.
- It was their first straight sets victory in the competition.
- It ended an 11-match losing streak by Australia at World Championships.
- Australia have never won back-to-back matches at the World Championship.

Poland

- Poland won the opening match of the 2014 World Championship. They defeated Serbia 3-0.
- Poland have now won their opener at each of the last four World Championships.
- At the previous three World Championships, Poland won each of their first three matches.
- Poland are tied with Australia atop Pool A. Both won their opening match by 3-0 and by 75-55 in terms of points.



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Pool D: United States - Iran (September 2)

Head-to-Head

- United States and Iran have met twice before at the World Championship. United States defeated Iran twice: 3-2 in 1970 and 3-0 in 2006.
- United States are the current FIVB Volleyball World League champions. En route to the World League final they defeated Iran 3-0 in the semifinals.
- The only other meeting at a major tournament came at the 2011 World Cup. United States defeated Iran in straight sets.

United States

- United States won their first group match on Sunday against Belgium in five sets. It marked the fifth time in six editions of the World Championship that United States won their opening match.
- They have now won 10 of their last 14 World Championship matches. Those four losses all came against European sides.
- Taylor Sander scored a match high of 24 points in USA's match against Belgium.

Iran

- Iran defeated Italy for the first time at the World Championship last Sunday (3-1). It was their sixth World Championship victory in 23 matches.
- Their victory against Italy marks the first time Iran succeeded to win their World Championship opening match, after losing in 1970, 1998, 2006 and 2010.
- Seyed Mousavi Eraghi scored a total of 16 points for Iran in their match against Italy from which eight were scored in defence.
- Alireza Nadi celebrates his 34th birthday on the day of the match.



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Pool D: Belgium - Puerto Rico (September 2)

Head-to-Head

- Belgium and Puerto Rico will meet for the first time at the World Championship.
- These teams will also team up for the first time at a major tournament.
- Belgium's most recent meetings with NORCECA sides at a major tournament came at the 2014 World League. Belgium played Canada four times, winning two of them.
- Puerto Rico have lost all of their 12 meetings with European sides at the World Championship.

Belgium

- Returning to the World Championship after an absence of 36 years, Belgium lost their match against United States (3-2). They came just five points short against the 2014 World League winners.
- Only two Belgium players reached double figures in the match against United States: Sam Deroo with 12 points and Gert Van Walle with 13 points.
- The last time Belgium lost two consecutive World Championship matches in five sets was in 1974 losing to Mexico and Cuba.

Puerto Rico

- After winning the opening match of the 2006 and 2010 World Championship, Puerto Rico lost their 2014 opening match last Sunday. France proved too strong for Puerto Rico (3-0).
- With this defeat they are currently on a four-match losing streak in the World Championship, their longest since 1974 when they lost 10 in a row.
- Puerto Rico can lose two World Championship matches in a row in straight sets for the first time since 1974 when they were defeated eight consecutive times by 3-0.



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Pool D: France - Italy (September 2)

Head-to-Head

- These teams have met six times at previous World Championships, with both winning three times.
- At the first World Championship in 1949, France defeated Italy 3-1. After that result Italy needed to wait 33 years to meet with France at a World Championship. Then, in 1982, the roles were reversed and Italy defeated France 3-1.
- The last two meetings at the World Championship were won by Italy: 3-0 in 2006 (final 5-6) and 3-1 in 2010 (third group round).

France

- France won their opening match of the World Championship, 3-0 against Puerto Rico. For the fourth consecutive time (after 2002, 2006 and 2010) France won their opener.
- In the last three editions, France also succeeded to win their second match of the World Championship.
- France can win two consecutive World Championship matches in straight sets for the first time since 1990. Back then Venezuela and Japan were defeated 3-0 each.
- Earvin Ngapeth plays in Italy at club Casa Modena.

Italy

- Italy lost their opening match of the World Championship for only the second time since 1978. Iran defeated Italy (3-1) for the first time in a World Championship.
- Italy are now on a three-match losing streak in the World Championship and can lose four in a row for the first time since 1986.
- The last time Italy lost their first two matches of a World Championship was in 1974 when Cuba and East Germany proved too strong.