



**FIVB**  
VOLLEYBALL  
**MEN'S WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP**  
**POLAND 2014**

**STATISTICAL PREVIEWS**  
**DAY 8 – SEPTEMBER 6, 2014**

**Pool A: Argentina - Australia (September 6)**

**Head-to-head**

- These sides have met once before at the World Championships. Argentina won 3-1 in 2002.
- They also met at the 2007 World Cup, where Argentina triumphed by the same score.
- Their most recent competitive meeting came at the 2012 Olympic Games. Argentina took that preliminary round match in straight sets.

**Argentina**

- Argentina won their last match in straight sets, beating Cameroon 3-0.
- Argentina have not won back-to-back World Championship matches in straight sets since 1990.
- Argentina have won four of their last five World Championship matches.

**Australia**

- After starting out with a victory over Cameroon, Australia lost their next two matches at the 2014 World Championship.
- Australia have lost 13 of their last 14 matches at World Championships.
- In 10 of their last 13 defeats in the competition, Australia managed to win precisely one set.



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### **Pool A: Venezuela - Serbia (September 6)**

#### **Head-to-head**

- This is the first match between these teams at the World Championship.
- They did meet four times in the 2008 World League with Venezuela winning their first ever encounter 3-1.
- Serbia won the next three, outscoring Venezuela 9-1 in sets.

#### **Venezuela**

- Venezuela have started this World Championship with a defeat, a win and another defeat.
- Venezuela have lost five of their last six matches at World Championships. All of those five losses were straight set defeats.
- None of Venezuela's last 22 matches at World Championships have gone to five sets.

#### **Serbia**

- After losing the opening match of this tournament, Serbia have responded by recording back-to-back victories, against Argentina and Australia.
- In each of their last five World Championship victories, Serbia needed four sets to finish off their opponents.
- Only one of Serbia's last 15 matches at World Championships was won in straight sets by the Serbs.



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### **Pool A: Cameroon - Poland (September 6)**

#### **Head-to-head**

- This is the first meeting between these teams at the World Championship.
- For Cameroon, this is the first meeting at the World Championship with the host nation.
- Poland have met African opposition in three previous World Cup matches. The Poles won all three without conceding a single set.

#### **Cameroon**

- Cameroon have not yet picked up a single point at the 2014 World Championship. They suffered defeat against Australia, Venezuela and Argentina.
- Cameroon have lost their last five matches at World Championships.
- Cameroon have won only one of the 10 sets they have played at this tournament.

#### **Poland**

- Hosts Poland have maintained a perfect record through three matches in this tournament.
- Poland have yet to drop a set at the 2014 World Championship.
- In 2006, Poland started their World Championship campaign with seven successive straight sets victories.



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## Pool D: United States - France (September 6)

### Head-to-head

- United States and France have met eight times at the World Championship. Their very first meeting in 1956 ended in a 3-1 victory for France.
- After France's victory in 1956, United States had a winning streak of five matches against France between 1960 and 1982.
- Their most recent meetings came in 2006 and 2010. In 2006, France grabbed their first World Championship win (3-2) over the United States since 1956, before losing again in their 2010 meeting.
- In the World League these teams have played 15 matches against each other (1990, 2007, 2012 and 2013). United States won on eight occasions, France on the other seven.

### United States

- United States are now on a W-L-W-L-W-L-W record in their last seven matches at the World Championship.
- The last time they won two matches in a row was v Cameroon and France in 2010.
- They have not won two matches in a row by a 3-0 score at the World Championship since 2002.

### France

- France can win two matches in a row at a single World Championship for the first time since three in the first group phase in 2010.
- France have a 49% win percentage in all of their World Championship matches. A win v USA would lift their percentage to 50%. USA have a winning percentage of 60%.
- Vaafuti Tavana plays for French team Toac-TUC in Toulouse.



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## **Pool D: Belgium - Iran (September 6)**

### **Head-to-head**

- Belgium won their only World Championship meeting with Iran in straight sets in 1970.
- This is also their only meeting at a major tournament.
- Belgium's other win in their total of nine World Championship matches against Asian opposition came against China in 1974.
- After losing to France, Iran have won two of their 14 matches against European teams at World Championships, including their 3-1 win against Italy in 2014.

### **Belgium**

- Belgium have won two of their last eight matches at the World Championship.
- Belgium have won two of their seven five-set matches at the World Championship.
- They have won one match in Poland. The last time they won fewer than two matches at a single World Championship was in 1962: zero wins in four matches.

### **Iran**

- Iran can win three matches at a World Championship for the first time since four wins in 1970.
- After six days of competition, Seyed Mohammad Mousavi Eraghi led all players in Poland in stuff blocks: 17. The best Belgium player with most stuff blocks at that juncture was Sam Deroo on six.
- After six days of competition, Mir Saeid Marouflakrani's average of 11 setups per set was the highest at the 2014 World Championship.



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## **Pool D: Puerto Rico - Italy (September 6)**

### **Head-to-head**

- This will be the third meeting between Italy and Puerto Rico at the World Championship. Four years ago both teams were drawn together in the second round pool phase with Italy winning 3-1.
- Their other World Championship meeting came in 1974: Italy won 3-0.
- Puerto Rico have lost all their 12 World Championship matches against European teams, including 3-0 defeats v France and Belgium in Poland.
- Italy are unbeaten in their last 10 matches with NORCECA sides at the World Championship and lost only two in their last 20 encounters.

### **Puerto Rico**

- Puerto Rico can lose their first four matches in straight sets at the World Championship for the first time since their debut at the World Championship in 1974 (eight matches).
- They can suffer a seventh consecutive defeat at the World Championship, their longest losing streak since 10 in 1974.

### **Italy**

- Italy can win three matches in a row after their opening match defeat against Iran.
- They had a streak of nine wins from 2006 until their semifinal loss against Brazil in 2010.
- They have won 3-2 and 3-1, which would suggest according they will beat Puerto Rico 3-0.
- After six days of competitions and having played three matches, Ivan Zaytsev led all players in Poland in scoring: 62 points.
- Zaytsev had a total of 59 points in four matches in this year's World League Finals.