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VOLLEYBALL
MEN'S WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP
POLAND 2014

STATISTICAL PREVIEWS
DAY 11 – SEPTEMBER 11, 2014

Pool E: Argentina - Iran (September 11)

Head-to-Head

- Argentina and Iran have met once before at the World Championships. In 1998, Argentina won 3-0 in the first round.
- These nations also met at the 2011 World Cup in which Iran won 3-2.
- Argentina have faced AVC countries 16 times at the World Championships, winning 13 of these matches, including 3-0 against Australia in the first group stage.

Argentina

- Argentina can lose three World Championship matches in a row for the first time since 2002-2006.
- They have already lost as many matches this World Championship as four years ago (3).
- Argentina have not had to play a five-set match in their last 15 at the World Championship.

Iran

- Iran can break their record of successive World Championship victories. They have won their last three now, which equals their record from 1970.
- Their only defeat in their last six World Championship matches was against France in the first group stage (3-1).
- Iran have played CSV countries three times before at the World Championships and only won the first time (3-0 against Venezuela in 1970). They lost 3-0 against Argentina in 1998 and lost 3-1 against Venezuela in 2006.



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Pool E: Serbia - United States (September 11)

Head-to-Head

- United States have met Serbia three times at the World Championships as Yugoslavia.
- United States won the first meeting in 1956, Yugoslavia won in 1998 and 2002.
- These teams met four times at the 2014 World League, with United States winning three of these meetings.
- United States defeated Serbia 3-0 in the group phase of the 2012 Olympic Games.

Serbia

- Serbia have won five World Championship matches in a row for the first time since 2006, when they won eight on the trot.
- After losing 3-0 against Poland in the opening match, they have only lost three sets in the following five matches.
- They need one more victory to equal their number of wins from the previous World Championship (6 in 2010).

United States

- United States have won back-to-back matches at the World Championship and can win back-to-back matches for the first time since they won their first three at the 2010 World Championship.
- United States have played two matches at the World Championships on 11 September. They lost 3-0 to Czechoslovakia in 1956 and defeated Turkey 3-0 in 1966.
- They have won at least one set in 10 of their last 11 World Championship matches with the only exception being the Final 5-6 in 2010, when they lost 3-0 against Russia.



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Pool E: Australia - France (September 11)

Head-to-Head

- This is the third meetings at the World Championships between these nations. France won both previous meetings (3-0 in 1982 and 3-1 in 2006).
- France and Australia also met in the final of the Final Four of the 2014 World League. Australia won that match 3-2 in Sydney.
- France have won their last eight World Championship matches against AVC nation. Their last defeat was against Korea in 1982.

Australia

- Australia have won only two of their last 17 matches at the World Championships and four in total (29 total matches).
- Their only victory in straight sets was against Cameroon in their opener this year.
- They have yet to lose a World Championship match in five sets (played two and won both).

France

- France can equal their record of winning five successive World Championship matches set in 1970.
- France have won six of their last seven World Championship matches, losing only to Italy in the first group stage.
- France have won only one of their last nine World Championship matches in straight sets. That was their opener against Puerto Rico.



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Pool E: Poland - Italy (September 11)

Head-to-Head

- This is the second time Poland and Italy play against each other at the World Championships. Poland won 3-2 after trailing 2-0 in 2002.
- These teams also met four times at the 2014 World League, which each side winning twice at home.
- Poland defeated Italy 3-1 in the group stage of the 2012 Olympic Games.

Poland

- Poland lost their first match of the tournament on Wednesday, 10 September (3-1 against USA).
- The last time they lost two in a row were their last two matches at the 2010 World Championship (3-0 against Brazil and 3-0 against Bulgaria).
- They played three times before at the World Championship on 11 September, losing all three matches by 3-1: In 1949 against Czechoslovakia and in 1956 and 1966 against Soviet Union.

Italy

- Italy have lost three in a row at the World Championship and can lose four in a row for the first time in 28 years, when they lost five in a row in 1986.
- That was also the last time they lost back-to-back matches without winning a set at the World Championship.
- They have won three of their last four matches against host nations at the World Championships, only losing against Argentina in 2002 in this span.



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Pool F: Brazil - China (September 11)

Head-to-Head

- This will be the sixth meeting at the World Championships, but the first in 28 years, when Brazil won the only time. China won all other four meetings.
- None of the five matches have been in straight sets.
- Their last meeting at a major tournament was at the 2011 World Cup when Brazil won 3-2.

Brazil

- Brazil need one more victory to reach their 100th at the World Championships.
- They can become the second nation to reach the century mark following Russia (including Soviet Union).
- Brazil have won 10 matches in a row and can win 11 consecutive World Championship matches for the first time since winning 12 in a row between 1994 and 1998.

China

- China have lost their last four World Championship matches in straight sets and can lose five consecutive matches by a 3-0 scoreline for the first time since 1986-1994.
- Their only victories in their last 10 matches were against Egypt and Mexico, their first two matches this season.
- China have played twice at the World Championships on 11 September. In 1965 they lost 3-0 against Romania and in 1966, they defeated Hungary 3-2.



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Pool F: Finland - Canada (September 11)

Head-to-Head

- Their only previous meeting at the World Championships was in 1978, when Finland won 3-0 in a 17-20 qualification match.
- Canada won three of the four meeting at the 2014 World League.
- Canada defeated Bulgaria in the first round and can win back-to-back World Championship matches against European countries for the first time. They have played European countries a total of 32 times, winning only seven.

Finland

- 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.
- The last time they lost back-to-back World Championship matches in straight sets was in 1966, when they lost four in a row without winning a set.
- Once before they played a World Championship match on 11 September. In 1966, they defeated Mongolia 3-0.

Canada

- Canada have won five World Championship matches in a row for the first time in team history.
- They need one more victory to break their record for most wins in a single World Championship. They won five matches in 1974 and in 2006.
- This will be Canada's 75th World Championship match. They have won 30 of their previous 74.



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Pool F: Germany - Bulgaria (September 11)

Head-to-Head

- This is the seventh meeting at the World Championships (including East and West Germany). Both nations have won three times.
- Bulgaria have won the last two meetings (2006 and 2010) and can become the first to win three in a row between these nations head-to-head.
- Bulgaria defeated Germany 3-0 in the quarterfinals at the 2012 Olympic Games, but finished fourth in the tournament.

Germany

- Germany have won five World Championship matches in a row for the first time as Unified Germany and The last German team to win more in a row was East Germany in 1966-1970 (10).
- Unified Germany have now lost and won 15 matches.
- Germany have played three times before on 11 September. In 1956, East Germany defeated Italy 3-2, in 1966, East Germany beat Yugoslavia 3-0 and West Germany lost against Cuba 3-0.

Bulgaria

- Bulgaria lost 3-0 against Brazil and can lose back-to-back World Championship matches for the third time and for the first time since 1978, when they lost 3-0 against Italy and Brazil.
- They have lost two in a row and can lose three in a row at the World Championship for the first time since losing four in a row in 2002.
- This will be Bulgaria's 150 World Championship match, becoming the third country to reach this total following Brazil and Russia (including Soviet Union).



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Pool F: Cuba - Russia (September 11)

Head-to-Head

- Cuba and Russia have met each other six times at the World Championships, but all meetings were with the former Soviet Union.
- Cuba only won the last meeting, in the 1990 semifinal, but lost the final against Italy.
- Russia/Soviet Union have won all four meetings at the Olympic Games (1976, 1980, 1996, 2000).

Cuba

- Cuba lost 3-2 against Canada on Wednesday. They have now lost two their last 20 matches that went into a fifth set at the World Championship.
- Cuba have won 248 sets at the World Championships and can become the eighth nation to win 250 sets.
- They won and lost one match on 11 September. In 1956, they lost 3-0 against Israel and in 1966 they defeated West Germany 3-0.

Russia

- Russia have won all six matches at the 2014 World Championship and are on a nine-match winning streak in the competition. This is their best run since Soviet Union won 29 matches in a row between 1979 and 1986.
- Russia need one more win to equal their winning total of four year ago (7).
- Russia have won at least one set in 24 of their last 25 World Championship matches, only losing 3-0 against Italy in 2006 in this span.