

Volleyball: Cuba wins bronze in U21 Pan American Cup (f)

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Havana, May 29 (ACN) - Cuba's U21 women's national team defeated the Dominican Republic 3-1 to win the bronze medal in the North, Central America and Caribbean (Norceca) Pan American Volleyball Cup, held in Nogales, Mexico, with the gold medal going to the United States.

According to the website www.norceca.net, Wilfredo Robinson's disciples overcame the Dominicans in the first two sets, 25-22 and 25-20, fell in the third, 14-25, and sealed the success in the fourth, 26-24, after an hour and 31 minutes of play.

The statistics of the match reflect the evenness of the challenge, with the best results for the largest of the Antilles in the attack, 50-48, but they were surpassed by the Quintana Roo in blocking and service, 9-11 and 6-7, in that order, and were tied 25-25 in their own errors.

The top scorer of the match was Dominican Katielle Altagracia Alonzo Vargas, who accumulated 21 points, 19 in attack, one in blocking and one in service, followed by Cuban Claudia Tarin (16/13-2-1).

For Cuba, Lisania Grafort (13/12-1-0), Edilseidys Reyes (11/4-3-4), Yensy Kindelán (10/8-2-0) and Witney James (10/10-0-0) also stood out with double digits, as well as Ariana Rodríguez (12/8-4-0).

Robinson's pupils also won against Belize and Puerto Rico, in group A, and Costa Rica, in the quarterfinals, and lost to Mexico, in section A, and the United States, in the semifinals.

The undefeated United States team, which did not lose a set in its four outings on the court, ratified its status as the favorite to win the tournament by beating Mexico 3-0 (25-13, 25-16 and 25-21), which reached the title match without a setback in its four previous matches.

Puerto Rico and Guatemala finished fifth and seventh by beating Costa Rica 3-0 (25-17, 25-21 and 25-21) and Belize (25-19, 25-11 and 25-22), respectively.

Participating in the Cup guarantees attendance to the 2024 edition, which will be a qualifier for the 2025 World Cup.

The Cubans also took advantage of their presence in the Norceca continental competition to continue their preparation for the U21 world championship to be held in Mexico from August 17 to 26.

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