



DOMINICAN REPUBLIC TEAM PROFILE - Women's



In 1974, the Dominican Republic made its first appearance at the Volleyball World Championship when the national women's team competed in Mexico, finishing in 21st spot. Four years later they participated again, this time in the Russian city of Moscow, improving by two places to 19th. By 1997, the women's team was growing from strength to strength collecting the bronze medal at the NORCECA Continental Championship before finishing in 11th spot at the 1998 World Championships in Japan.

In 1999, a 4th place finish at the Pan-American Games in Canada was followed by a silver medal at the Continental Championship held in the city of Santo Domingo, after losing the final 3-2 to world champions Cuba.

By 2002, many of the national Dominican Republic players were good enough to play in the Pro-Leagues of Europe, (Italy and Spain in particular) and this helped the development of the players. A silver medal at the Pan-American Cup in Mexico was another superb result after losing the final 3-1 to Cuba again. But 2002 finished on a disappointing note after the national team finished 13th at the World Championship.

However, 2003 became a fruitful and historical year for the Dominican Republic with the Dominican Republic participating in the Montreux Volley Masters Tournament for the first time. The tournament provided a good launch pad for the season which saw the Dominicans finish second behind USA at the II Women's Pan-American Cup in Mexico, after beating Cuba in a strong five set battle in the semis. This was a key result for the Dominican Republic in preparation for the XIV Pan-American Games on their home soil, which they won for the first time to become the Pan-American Champions showing an outstanding superiority that concluded with the selection of five Dominican Players in the All Star Team.

After this extraordinary victory the Dominican Republic finished second at the International Volleyball Challenge Tournament in Hong Kong behind China before collecting the bronze medal at the 2003 NORCECA's Women's Continental Championship, granting them the opportunity to deserve the wild card for the 2003 World Cup where they will be making their first appearance.

Results:

Norceca Continental Championship in the Dominican Republic (September)

Bronze medal play off: The Dominican Republic beat Canada 3-0 (25-22, 25-19, 25-21)

Semifinal: The Dominican Republic lost to Cuba 3-2 (25-23, 25-22, 20-25, 20-25, 15-11)

The Dominican Republic beat Trinidad & Tobago 3-0 (25-12, 25-8, 25-14)

The Dominican Republic beat Canada 3-2 (22-25, 25-20, 25-21, 21-25, 15-8)

The Dominican Republic beat Puerto Rico 3-0 (25-23, 25-16, 25-16)

Pan American Games in the Dominican Republic (August)

Final: The Dominican Republic beat Cuba 3-2 (25-16, 25-17, 14-25, 26-28, 15-13)

Semifinal: The Dominican Republic beat Brazil 3-2 (25-18, 23-25, 23-25, 25-14, 15-13)

The Dominican Republic beat Puerto Rico 3-1 (25-23, 25-22, 18-25, 33-31)

The Dominican Republic beat Venezuela 3-0 (26-24, 25-19, 25-18)

The Dominican Republic beat Mexico 3-0 (25-23, 25-13, 25-18)

Team Roster

1 Vargas Valdez Annerys, 2 Angeles Rojas Rosalin, 3 Bautista Yudelkys, 5 Carrera Pichardo Evelyn, 7 Mercedes Heredia Sofia, 9 Arias Doñe Nuris, 10 Cabral de la Cruz Milagros, 11 Gonzalez Sanchez Juana, 12 Jackson Cabrera Francia, 14 Rivera Brens Prisilla, 15 Rodriguez Andino, 16 Moreta Perez Kenia.