Brazil's Golden Girls win World Grand Prix

Two golden performances



Mr. Jizhong Wei, FIVB President

nother gold for Brazil and another well-organized tournament in Japan.

It is hard not to sound like a broken record when speaking of either nation and their ability to perform at the highest level, but one has to applaud both for their exceptional work at the 2009 FIVB World Grand Prix in Tokyo this summer.

The gold-medal-winning Brazilian women proved yet again that they are almost in a league of their own these days, brushing aside the competition to win their fifth WGP title in six years and eighth overall.

And yet with so much success — I struggle to recall the last time Brazil entered a competition and didn't win it — the players remain refreshingly humble and appreciative of each and every victory. In addition to their incredible work ethic, the other thing that impressed me about their game was the way they enjoyed themselves, although it goes without saying that it is much easier to play with a smile on your face when you are constantly winning.

Nevertheless, it was an impressive sight to see Brazil playing so well so early in the new Olympic cycle and their performance in Tokyo will serve as the benchmark all other teams will strive to equal on the road to the 2012 London Games.

The hosts also deserve blue-ribbon praise for once again putting on a terrific event that was watched by millions of TV viewers worldwide.

Such a smoothly orchestrated Final Round meant the Brazilians weren't the only ones with smiles on their faces at the competition.

Mr. Jizhong Wei, FIVB President

■ Brazil underscored their global domination by going 5-0 in the Final Round of the 2009 FIVB World Grand Prix at the Tokyo Metropolitan Gymnasium, winning their eighth title in the process on August 23 in the Japanese capital.





The Brazilians may soon run out of fingers to count their Grand Prix titles on

Defending champions and World No. 1 Brazil produced an amazing run in the month-long competition. In their final clash against Japan, Brazil stayed cool under pressure to power past the fighting hosts in a four-set thriller 25-21, 25-27, 25-19, 25-19.

Welissa Sassa Gonzaga scored a matchhigh 19 points for Brazil, while Maiko Kano led Japan with 14, including 11 kills from 27 attempts.

With a flawless performance, the formidable Brazil made a clean sweep of the



FIVB President Jizhong Wei presents Brazil's Sheilla Castro with the MVP award

In this Issue

FIV

Editorial Volleyball

- Brazil's Golden Girls win World Grand Prix
- Qualifying for World Championships comes to close
- Egypt, Germany advance in WL qualifiers
- Brazil's Jr. Men repeat as World Champs
- Drawing of Lots held for Club WCH
 Beach Volleyball
- Brazilian women, European men dominate heading into break
- Germans, Ukrainians win gold at Youth World Championships

Technical & Development

- FIVB Coaching Course in England described as 'best ever'
- Tech team gathers analysis from Junior, Youth tournaments
- Mikasa unveils dynamic new volleyball for kids

Quick Sets

News from Planet Earth



Holland's Manon Flier goes on the attack

competitive round-robin Final Round to compile 10 points, enough to once again see them top the medal podium.

"It's great to win the World Grand Prix again. I admit that it was a tough match against Japan. They are becoming much stronger each year," said Brazil's head coach Jose Roberto Lagas Guimaraes.

World champion and three-time winners Russia also finished on a high note after they sent 2007 champion The Netherlands packing in three sets 25-20, 25-23, 25-21 to finish second.

Tall and towering Gamova Ekaterina of Russia was the top scorer with 22 points, 20 of them through devastating spikes, with Debby Stam claiming 11 points for The Netherlands. Russia claimed nine points from four wins against one loss to finish as runner-up.

European powerhouse The Netherlands and up-and-coming Germany collected seven points each from two wins against three losses, but the latter had a better points ratio to take the consolation third place, with the Dutchwomen placing fourth.

Fist-pumping Germany, the World No. 12 that finished eighth at the tournament last year, saved the best for last at the prestigious tournament by crushing an offform China, bronze medalists at last year's Beijing Olympics, 3-1 (25-14, 23-25, 25-21, 25-14) on the final day of competition.

2009 World Grand Prix - Final Standings Teams Teams Brazil **Poland** Thailand 2 3 Germany 9 USA 4 **The Netherlands Puerto Rico** 10 11 Dominican Rep.

12

Korea

Japan

2009 Final Round Best Players			
Best Spiker: Tatiana Kosheleva		RUS	
Best Blocker: Fabiana Claudino	•	BRA	
Best Server: Manon Flier		NED	
Best Libero: Kerstin Tzscherlich		GER	
Best Setter: Yoshie Takeshita		JPN	
Best Scorer: Manon Flier	=	NED	
Most Valuable Player: Sheilla Castro	•	BRA	

Egypt, Germany advance in World League qualifiers

Egypt and Germany will host Japan and Venezuela, respectively, on September 18-19 for two berths at the 2010 FIVB World League competition.

Germany defeated Mexico twice without dropping a set in August during the first preliminary leg of the inaugural World League Qualifying Tournament, while Egypt posted two straight-sets victories over Iran in early September.

The two challengers will now face Japan, the 15th-place team from the 2009 World League, and Venezuela, the last-place finisher from 2009, in two final qualifying legs for a chance to partake in next year's elite men's international tournament.

2009 FIVB Men's Junior Volleyball World Championship



Pune, India 31 July - 9 August 2009

Brazil's Jr. Men repeat as World Champs

In an epic championship battle, Brazil edged Cuba 30-28, 21-25, 25-22, 23-25, 15-8 on August 9 to capture the 2009 FIVB Men's Junior World Championship gold medal at the Balewadi Sports Complex in Pune, India.

Brazil has now won the last two FIVB Men's Junior World Championships and four overall (1993, 2001, 2007 and 2009). Cuba's silver-medal performance matches the country's best-ever showing in the event at the 1987 tournament. Argentina beat India for the bronze.

Brazil's Mauricio Silva was named the tournament's Most Valuable Player.



Cuba's Wilfredo Leon delivers the goods

Final Standings Rank Teams Rank Teams Brazil **Poland** 9 1 2 Cuba 10 **France** 3 **Argentina** China 11 4 India 12 Canada 5 Russia 13 **Egypt** 6 Belgium 14 Tunisia 15 **Belarus**

16

Greece

2009 World League – Final Standings
(NB: This is a corrected version of the standings
nublished in the August edition)

USA

8

Rank	Teams	Rank	Teams
1	Brazil	9	France
2	Serbia	10	Bulgaria
3	Russia	11	Poland
4	Cuba	12	Netherlands
5	Argentina	13	China
6	USA	14	Korea
7	Italy	15	Japan
8	Finland	16	Venezuela

MEN & WOMEN

2010 FIVB WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Qualifying for Men's, Women's Worlds comes to close





It's been a long, exciting journey from the start of qualifiers for the 2010 FIVB Men's and Women's World Championships way back on November 29, 2008. But at the completion of the final three men's qualifying tournaments and the final two women's events on the last weekend of August, the wait to see who the hosts and defending champions will do battle with next year is finally over.

As expected, the Argentine Men's National Team ruled South American Pool A on home soil, easily booking their ticket at the expense of Colombia, Bolivia and Chile.

Things didn't go quite as expected in Asia Pool H, however, as Iran (2-1) managed to wrest one of two berths available from Korea (1-2), who suffered a straight-sets loss to group winner Japan (3-0) on the final day. Korea, which has appeared at seven of the last nine World Championships, was considered

24 Qualified

Men's teams

4

Brazil (defending

champions)

Italy (hosts)

Argentina

Australia

Bulgaria

Canada

China

Cuba

Cameroon

24 Qualified

Women's teams

Russia (defending

champions)

Japan (hosts)

Algeria

Brazil

Canada

China

Costa Rica

Croatia

Cuba

USA

a favorite to advance along with Japan. Elsewhere on the final weekend, Canada and Mexico advanced from the NORCECA Playoff Round in Guadalajara, Mexico at the expense of Dominican Republic and Panama. The Canadians swept through the group, winning all three matches without dropping a set, while Mexico qualified for its first World Championship appearance since 1982 by finishing with a 2-1 record.

On the women's side, four teams finalized their tickets to the Final Round at competitions in Mexico and Chinese Taipei.

Canada and Costa Rica advanced from a tough NORCECA Playoff Round in Tijuana that also featured Mexico and



Egypt's Saleh Fathy spikes against Nigeria



China's Ping Chen uncorks against Australia

Trinidad & Tobago. Canada finished the round-robin competition undefeated to top the group, while Costa Rica finished as runners-up with a 2-1 record.

In Asia, Korea booked its spot with an unbeaten run over Kazakhstan, Taipei and New Zealand. Kazakhstan, at 2-1, finished second to also progress.

Italy will host the 2010 FIVB Men's World Championship from September 24-October 10, while Japan will welcome the 2010 FIVB Women's World Championship from October 29-November 14.

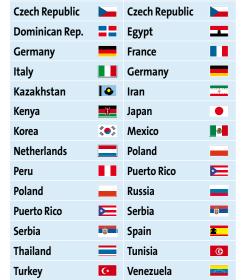
Drawing of Lots held for Club World Championship in Doha

The Drawing of Lots for the FIVB Men's Club World Volleyball Championship Doha 2009, featuring eight of the world's best men's Volleyball clubs, was completed in Doha, Qatar on August 13. Egypt's Zamalek, Dinamo from Russia, Puerto Rico's Corozal and Trentino Volley from Italy have been drawn in Pool A, while Iran's Payakan, Poland's PGE Skra Belchatow, hosts Qatar's Al Arabi Doha and one more club from South America (to be determined at the beginning of October following a tournament featuring South American clubs) are in Pool B.



FIVB Volleyball Events Director Piero Rebaudengo, center, and local organizers draw lots for the Club World Championship

The Club World Championship will take place from November 3-8, 2009.



ΙΙςΔ

MEN & WOMEN

Brazilian women, European men dominate heading into break

SWATCH SFIVE WORLD TOUR 2009

The players earned a well-deserved weeklong break in early September after 67 straight days of competition in eight European countries on the SWATCH FIVB World Tour.

The last three stops were in Norway, Finland and the Netherlands, with a few surprises making for interesting viewing and sending a message to the top pairs that no team can be taken for granted.

Kristiansand

Brazil's Maria Antonelli and Talita Antunes won their fourth international title of the season when they rolled to gold at the Otera Open in cold and damp conditions in Norway.

The pair defeated Doris and Stefanie Schwaiger 21-14, 18-21, 15-12 in what was the first-ever appearance by an Austrian team in an international Beach Volleyball final.

On the men's side, the final featured two European pairs for only the ninth time in the 23-year history of the SWATCH FIVB World Tour. Russia's Dmitri Barsouk and Igor Kolodinsky defeated Aleksandrs Samoilovs and Ruslans Sorokins of Latvia 21-13, 21-16 in 38 minutes.

The 14th-seeded Latvians advanced to their country's first-ever gold medal match by posting one of the season's biggest upsets by eliminating top-seeded Alison Cerutti and Harley Marques of Brazil from gold-medal contention 21-18, 17-21, 17-15 in 63 minutes.

Aland

Juliana Felisberta Silva and Larissa Franca successfully defended their PAF Open title in Finland on August 22 with a 21-15, 28-26 win over second-seeded Americans Jen Kessy and April Ross. It was the Brazilians ninth title of the season and 27th overall since forming their partnership in 2004. Antonelli and Antunes finished third.



Netherlands' Richard Schuil goes for the block against Germany's Jonas Reckermann at the PAF Open

For only the second time in the history of the tour, back-to-back tournaments featured All-European finals. This time Reinder Nummerdor and Richard Schuil of The Netherlands bested German world champions Julius Brink and Jonas Reckermann 21-23, 21-15, 15-11 for their first title of the season.

The Hague

Juliana and Larissa were at it again at the end of the month at the Hague Open in The Netherlands, scooping up gold with

a 21-16, 21-15 win in 37 minutes over ever-present compatriots Antunes and Antonelli. The

Brazil's Talita Antunes at the Hague Open



Larissa / Juliana BRA





title tied the SWATCH FIVB World Tour record for most gold medals (7) by either a men's or women's team in a single season.

While the Brazilians continued to own the women's side of the calendar, the Europeans continued to dominate the men's. To the delight of the home crowd, Dutchmen Nummerdor and Schuil won their second straight tournament with a 21-17, 18-21, 15-10 victory in 58 minutes over third-seeded Adrian Gavira Collado and Pablo Herrera of Spain.











MEN & WOMEN

Germans, Ukrainians win gold at Youth World Championships

SWATCH FIVB'09
YOUTH WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Germany's Christine Aulenbrock and Victoria Bieneck defeated Russia's Irina Chaika and Ekaterina Karapischenko on August 23 in Alanya, Turkey to win the women's gold medal at the 2009 SWATCH FIVB Youth World Championships for players under the age of 19. Ukraine's Sergiy Popov and Valeriy Samoday took the men's gold.

The five-day, double gender event was held for the first time in Turkey and featured 76 men's and women's teams representing 26 nations. The medal matches were televised live throughout Turkey on D Spor.

Starting out strong with precise hitting, serving and defense, 17-year-old Aulenbrock of Georgsmarierhutte and 18-year-old Bieneck of Berlin won the gold medal match over last year's bronze medallists Chaika and Karapischenko of Moscow, 21-18, 21-15 in 36 minutes on center court.

"We are overcome with joy to be able to beat a team as talented as Chaika and Karapischenko and win the SWATCH FIVB Youth World Championship," said Aulenbrock after the match. "It's unbelievable. They won last year's European under-18 championship and finished third last year in the Youth World Championship. I lost to them with a different partner last year in the European event. We played hard today and very much like a team although this was our first major tournament together. We helped each other on the court and it all came together like we had hoped."

Aulenbrock and Bieneck, who gave their country its second straight and third overall gold medal in this event, went undefeated at 7-0 in Alanya and Bieneck was selected as the





The winner's podium at the Youth World Championships in Alanya, Turkey

SWATCH Best Player of the Tournament. Also undefeated in their march to the championship with seven consecutive victories were Ukraine's Popov and Samoday, who overcame Russia's Andrey Bolgov and Ruslan Bykanov 21-16, 21-18 in a 42-minute final in front of an enthusiastic crowd on center court.

"The feeling of winning a world championship at 18 years old is almost overwhelming, but we had a great tournament and the results speak for themselves," said Popov, who was also selected as the SWATCH Best Player of the Tournament. "Valeriy is a great partner. We have played five years together most of the time and we are both exhausted but very happy to win this championship for the Ukraine. Turkey is a great country and even though it was hot and humid, the facility was great and the tournament was excellent. The Russians are a very strong team but we were definitely more on our game today."

Spain's Kevin Medina and Cesar Menéndez beat Germany's Michal Bargmann and Felix Quecke in three sets (16-21, 23-21,16-14) to claim the bronze.



Brazil's Harley Marques stretches for the Mikasa at the Haque Open

FIVB Coaching Course in England described as 'best ever'



Instructors and participants of the Level II Coaching Course gather in Norwich, Great Britain

The English Volleyball Association wrapped up Level I and Level II Coaching Courses at the end of August that were described by the head FIVB Instructor as the best he had ever participated in. The glowing praise came from veteran FIVB Instructor Gustavo Meczyk, who said "Everything was perfect: the accommodations, the organization, the gym, the class, the group, the restaurant. Whatever we needed to make a

The courses ran from August 17-30 in Norwich, with Meczyk and Sue Gozansky instructing the Level II class and Nejat Sancak of Turkey and Hans Voigt of Germany leading the Level I course.

The courses are part of a broader FIVB strategy to help Great Britain prepare for the 2012 London Olympic Games by furthering the development of Volleyball through the education of officials and other projects for coaches and athletes.

Tech team gathers analysis from Junior, Youth tournaments

The FIVB Development Commission launched a new technical development team to conduct the first technical evaluations of youth and junior championships this year.

The analysis is expected to be published on the FIVB website in early 2010.

The aim is to allow us to follow the progress of young players as their skills develop from the amateur level to the professional, which will be an interesting and educational process.

The development teams recorded technical videos and other information on everything from ages and height to how many jump spin serves a team or player uses during a match.

"The material can be used to identify future stars of the sport and track their career development," said FIVB Technical & Development Director Helgi Thorsteinsson. "It will be interesting to see how a certain player develops over his or her career, for example, as the data will show how they mature from age 18 until 28 or even 38."

Technical evaluations were conducted at the Men's Junior Volleyball World Championship in Pune, India, the Women's Junior Volleyball World Championship in Baja California, Mexico, and the Boys' Youth Volleyball World Championship in Jesolo and Bassano del Grappa, Italy

Mikasa unveils dynamic new volleyball for kids

MIKASA

The FIVB was pleased to report in early September that Mikasa has un-

veiled its latest ball for children, the Mikasa SKV5 Kids Volleyball.

good course."

The FIVB-inspected Kids Volleyball sets a new standard for entry-level (or first-contact) balls with its dynamic material and unique 8-panel design. Weighing in at a scant 170 grams (+/- 10 grams), the ball

is lighter, softer and slightly smaller than regulation orbs. The rubber materi-

al not only encourages children to touch and play with the ball but also takes the sting out of hitting it, making a fun game of Volleyball even more fun.

The SKV5 Kids Volleyball will be available on the market this autumn.

The new Mikasa SK5V Kids Volleyball

FIVB Technical Courses and Seminars Calendar - September 09

COUNTRY	ТҮРЕ	DATES		DAYS
		From	То	DATS
Dominican Republic	Coaches Level I	September 2	September 13	12
United Arab Emirates	IRCC Refereeing	September 25	October 1	7
Kuwait	Middle Player Seminar	September 27	October 1	5
Thailand	Setting Seminar	September 28	October 2	5
Bahrain	IRCC Refereeing	September 30	October 4	5

FIVB Volleyball Cooperation Programme Calendar - September 09

COUNTRY	ТҮРЕ	DATES		DAYS
COUNTRY		From	То	DATS
Guyana	VCP Teachers	September 1	September 5	5
Gabon	VCP Young Players	September 10	September 14	5

World Volley News

Official Bulletin of the FIVB

FIVB founded in 1947 President: Mr. Jizhong Wei

Château Les Tourelles Chemin Edouard-Sandoz 2-4 CH-1006 Lausanne

Tel: +41 21 345 35 35 Fax:+41 21 345 35 45

Web Site : **www.fivb.org** E-mail : **press@fivb.org**

Editor: Communication Department

No.43 • September 2009

Ouick Sets

SWATCH boss clocks in



New SWATCH Ltd. President Arlette-Elsa Emch dropped by the SWATCH FIVB World Tour event in Klagenfurt, Austria in early August. There she witnessed first-hand the investment her company has made in the sport of Beach Volleyball since 2003. Emch said her company is "solidly committed to the sport. By looking at the athletes and the fans in the stands, we are reaching our target audience."

Bede bids farewell



One of the greatest Beach Volleyball players in the history of the sport, Brazil's Shelda Bede, announced her retirement this summer. The 36-year-old Bede, who won two Olympic silver medals and 34 FIVB tournaments, will bring the curtains down on her illustrious 15-year career at the Barcelona Open this month.

Brazil rule Junior/Youth rankings

Brazil climbed to the top of the FIVB Women's Youth and Junior World Rankings with a bronze-medal performance at the 2009 FIVB Women's

2009 Global Calendar - Competitions and Events - Volleyball & Beach Volleyball

DATES	EVENT	COUNTRY	ORG.	M/W
Aug 28/Sep 6	FIVB Boys Youth Volleyball World Championship	Jesolo, Bassano del Grappa, Italy	FIVB	M
Sep 3-13	2009 Men's European Championships Final Round	Izmir and Istanbul, Turkey	CEV	W
Sep 5-13	15th Asian Senior Women's Volleyball Championship	Vietnam	AVC	W
Sep 9-13	Women's Final Four	Lima, Perú	CSV	W
Sep 8-13	SWATCH FIVB World Tour Open	Barcelona, Spain	FIVB	W
Sep 9-13	European Championship Tour – English Masters	Blackpool, England	CEV	M/W
Sep 12-24	XVI Bolivarian Games	Sucre, Bolivia	CSV	M/W
Sep 16-19	European Championship Final	Sochi, Russia	CEV	M/W
Sep 16-20	2009 SWATCH FIVB Junior World Championships	Blackpool, England	FIVB	M/W
Sep 20-28	Norceca's Continental Championship	Bayamon, Puerto Rico	NORCECA	W
Sep 25/Oct 4	2009 Women's European Championships Final Round	Lodz, Wroclaw, Bydgoszcz, Katowice, Poland	CEV	W
Sep 26/Oct 5	15th Asian Senior Men's Volleyball Championship	Philippines	AVC	M
Sep 27/Oct 4	2009 Men's African Nations Championship	Casablanca, Morocco	CAVB	M
Sep 28/Oct 4	Women's South American Championship	Porto Alegre, Brazil	CSV	W
Oct 3-10	2009 Women's African Nations Championship	Algiers, Algeria	CAVB	W
Oct 7-11	European Championships – Masters Final Round	Loutraki, Greece	CEV	M/W
Oct 7-11	South American Club Tournament	Brazil	CSV	M
Oct 8-18	Norceca's Continental Championship	Bayamon, Puerto Rico	NORCECA	М
Oct 17-18	GM Capital Challenge Cup – 1st Round - Home Matches	Various	CEV	M/W
Oct 24-25	GM Capital Challenge Cup – 1st Round – Away Matches	Various	CEV	M/W
Oct 26/Nov 1	SWATCH FIVB World Tour Open	Sanya, China	FIVB	M/W

Junior Volleyball World Championship in Baja California, Mexico from July 16-25, and gold medals at the Youth Worlds and Junior and Youth Conti-



nental Championships. It is the first time Brazil has topped the rankings since August 2007. Previous World No. 1 China stumbled to 14th place after two sub-standard performances at the Junior Worlds (10th) and Youth Worlds (13th).

Press conferences online



For the first time ever, the FIVB posted videos of press conferences on its website this summer. Fans can find them in the Match Info section on the World League Final Round subpages, together with the usual text reports of the press conferences. The videos were posted by former Italian star Andrea Zorzi, who blogged his "Follow Me" project for the third World League season in a row.

FIVB Homologated sports material & equipment 2009

FIVB EXCLUSIVE APPROVED VOLLEYBALL BALLS

MIKASA

MVA 200 / MVP 200 (colour, synthetic leather)

Exclusive game ball

for all FIVE Competitions incl. OG 2012

FIVB APPROVED VOLLEYBALL BALLS

MIKASA

MVA 300 / MVP 200NC (colour, synthetic leather)

MOLTEN

IV5XC (MTV5SLIT) (colour, synthetic leather)

GALA

BV 5091S (colour, synthetic leather)

QUINGDAO-SYNSHEEN

"Star" VB 215-34 (colour, synthetic leather)

FIVB INSPECTED VOLLEYBALL BALLS

MIKASA SV-2 School MIKASA VP500 Park Volley MIKASA SKV5 Kids Volleyball

BEACH VOLLEYBALL BALLS

MIKASA

VLS 200 (colour) Beach

Exclusive game ball for all FIVB Competitions

incl. OG 2008

MOLTEN

BV5000 (colour) Beach

CAMBUCI "Penalty"

Beach Volley Pro

HOMOLOGATED POSTS, PADS, ANTENNAE, NETS, REFEREES' CHAIRS

SENOH

Posts, pads, nets with antennae & referees' chairs are exclusive for all FIVB Competitions incl. OG 2012

SHOES AND UNIFORMS

ADIDAS Shoes & uniforms

ASICS Shoes & uniforms

CHAMPION Uniforms

DACAPO Uniforms

DESCENTE Shoes & uniforms

GRANDSPORT Uniforms

MIKASA Uniforms

International Referees supplier for Volleyball

MIZUNO Shoes & uniforms

NIKE Shoes & uniforms

OLYMPIKUS Shoes & uniforms

FIVB APPROVED
SYNTHETIC SPORTS FLOORS

GERFLOR TARAFLEX

Exclusive for all FIVB Competitions

incl. OG 2012

Taraflex Sport M Plus (7 mm thickness colour Teal 6431 and Coral 6146) over wood sub floors

or synthetic sub floors

Taraflex Sport Performance Plus (9 mm thickness same colours as above)

over concrete sub floors

MONDO

MONDOFLEX

Blue Laguna H23 + Rose Flamingo H41

FIVB RECOMMENDED
SYNTHETIC SPORTS FLOORS

GERFLOR TARAFLEX

TARAFLEX Sport M Plus

(7 mm thickness colour Teal 6431

and Coral 6146)

MONDO

MONDOSPORT HP-E PVC indoor floor Blue Laguna H23 + Rose Flamingo H41

DESCOL

PULASTIC Combi, 2000 and ZS

National Federations are requested to select material from the list of the FIVB approved sports material