

European Volleyball Championships 2011 for Men

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Following the 2010 FIBA Basketball Championship for Women in Brno, Ostrava and Karlovy Vary, a most successful event for the Czech players who won the unexpected silver medals, the Czech audience will get a chance to see players of another ball game, even more popular than basketball, viz. volleyball. The Czech men's representation team won the surprising 10th place at the 2010 World Cup in Italy after they had beaten the previous world champions, the US team, 3:0 but had unluckily lost 2:3 to the new world champions from Brazil.

The championships will be hosted in Austria and the Czech Republic. The anticipated tough events will take place in two Austrian and two Czech cities. The Austrian cities are Vienna and Innsbruck. The two host cities initially chosen by the Czech organizing committee, i.e. Prague and Liberec, were recently changed to Prague and Karlovy Vary, may be because the latter was a successful host of the basketball championship finals.

Jan Svoboda, coach of the Czech representation team, used the following words to assess the position of the Czech players in Pool B: „ We did not want to get Russia or Serbia before the drawing took place. Now we are in one group with Russia, Portugal and Estonia. Portugal has also been European teams, and we were very glad we win the World Cup qualification event after heartbreaking finish. And Estonia would not choice from the fourth, easiest group, tough pool, and it will not be an easy task But it is our aim.”

The top European tournament comes Czech Republic exactly after ten years. The the fourth place in Ostrava in 2001. Four pools, each of four teams, means sixteen teams. The winners (first position) of each pool will go directly through to the final eight matches, the runners-up (second and third positions) will fight for the next four places out of the final eight, and those finishing on the fourth position will quit the tournament. So the task for the Czech team is to end up as second or third in the pool, with the possibility to face further competitors from Pool D, i.e. Poland, Germany, Bulgaria and Slovakia.



one of the top had managed to the 3:2 have been our either. It is a to go through.

back to the Czech team won

PHILATELIC NEWSLETTER VOLLEYBALL

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May 28, 2011