



**FIFA Beach Soccer World Cup 2008 Qualifier CONMEBOL Buenos Aires
Buenos Aires, Argentina – April 23 - 27**

Day 3

Favourites Brazil and hosts Argentina have secured their FIFA Beach Soccer World Cup 2008 berths this Saturday, as both teams advanced to the final of the CONMEBOL qualifier in Buenos Aires. The defending world champions defeated Venezuela 8 -3, while the Argentineans outbattled Uruguay 5-3. On Sunday at 12:00 (GMT-3) Uruguay and Venezuela will battle for the third South American ticket to Marseille in the tournament's 3rd place play-off.

Match 10 – Semi-final 1 - Friday, April 26

FINAL SCORE: Brazil 8 x 3 Venezuela

This year's edition of the FIFA Beach Soccer World Cup will be played outside of Brazil for the first time ever, but the mythical *Canarinho* made sure to secure its presence right away, as the defending world champions defeated Venezuela and advanced to the final of the CONMEBOL qualifier. Brazil and Argentina will face-off for the continental title on Sunday, while Venezuela has its last shot at an unprecedented FIFA Beach Soccer World Cup berth when they meet Uruguay for the 3rd place.

Brazil			Venezuela		
#	PLAYER	Starters	#	PLAYER	Starters
1	MAO	X	1	CASAL	X
2	CAMILO		2	ROMERO	
3	BUENO		13	CENTENO	
4	BETINHO		4	CARDONE	X
7	SIDNEY	X	5	FERREIRA	
8	JR.NEGAO	X	7	QUINTERO	X
9	ANDRE		9	RODRIGUEZ	X
10	BENJAMIN	X	10	KLEUDES	
11	BURU	X	11	LONGA	X
12	WAGNER		22	MORENO	
Head coach: Alexandre Soares			Head coach: Roby Cavallo		

Referees:

- 1st referee: Erick Chavarría (CRC)
- 2nd referee: Franklin Quesada (CRC)
- 3rd referee: Hernán Fernandez (ARG)

SCORE CHART:

Goal Scorer	Time left	Period	BRA	VEN
#10 Benjamin (BRA)	9'42	1 st	1	0
#7 Quintero (VEN)	6'16	1 st	1	1
#9 André (BRA)	3'57	1 st	2	1
#3 Bueno (BRA)	3'07	1 st	3	1
#2 Camilo (BRA)	1'45	1 st	4	1
#9 André (BRA)	8'03	2 nd	5	1
#9 André (BRA)	6'52	2 nd	6	1
#11 Buru (BRA)	1'49	2 nd	7	1
#7 Quintero (VEN)	8'30	3 rd	7	2
#7 Sidney (BRA)	8'11	3 rd	8	2
#2 Romero (VEN)	7'37	3 rd	8	3

TEAM	CARDS			
	Player	Card*	Period	Time left
Brazil	#10 Benjamin	Y	2 nd	1'30
	#7 Sidney	Y	3 rd	7'52
Venezuela				

* Y: yellow; R: red

Quote Alexandre Soares (head coach BRA)

It is great when we are able to score early in the game and keep control of the tempo. This is what gave me the opportunity to give some more playing time to a few players that had not been used so often in the first two matches. This is vital before a tough match like the one we expect to have in Sunday's final, because in the end having all of our 10 players ready for the battle is what will make the difference.

Match 11 – Semi-final 2 - Friday, April 26

FINAL SCORE: Argentina 5 x 3 Uruguay

An exciting clash between two of the grittiest, most powerful squads in the continent saw the Argentineans stepping up after being down twice and coming off with a victory that lifted them to their fourth straight FIFA Beach Soccer World Cup. The Uruguayans will now face Venezuela on Sunday at 12:00 with a trip to Marseille at stake.

Argentina			Uruguay		
#	PLAYER	Starters	#	PLAYER	Starters
1	SALGUEIRO		1	DIEGO	
3	CASADO		3	RICAR	
5	FRANCESCHI NI		4	COCO	
6	PARADISI		5	PAMPERO	
8	DALLERA		6	PICO	
9	MINICI		7	PARRILLO	
10	HILAIRE F.		10	FABIAN	
14	HILAIRE S.		11	MATIAS	
19	HILAIRE E.		12	LEANDRO	
22	DELIA		14	MARTIN	
Head coach: Hector F. Petrasso			Head coach: Venancio Ramos		

Referees:

1st referee: Erick Chavarría (CRC)
2nd referee: Franklin Quesada (CRC)
3rd Referee: Alberto Magno (BRA)

SCORE CHART:

Goal Scorer	Time left	Period	ARG	URU
#4 Coco (URU)	0'57	1 st	0	1
#10 Hilaire F. (ARG)	8'55	2 nd	1	1
#7 Parrillo (URU)	8'51	2 nd	1	2
#9 Minici (ARG)	8'49	2 nd	2	2
#19 Hilaire E. (ARG)	2'06	2 nd	3	2
#5 Franceschini (ARG)	10'43	3 rd	4	2
#3 Ricar (URU)	3'59	3 rd	4	3
#19 Hilaire E. (ARG)	0'23	3rd	5	3

TEAM	CARDS			
	Player	Card*	Period	Time left
Argentina				
Uruguay	#10 Fabián	Y	3 rd	9'50
	#14 Martín	Y	3 rd	0'24

* Y: yellow; R: red

Quote from Hector Francisco Petrasso (head coach ARG)

We have been working hard for years looking to improve, and having taken part of the previous FIFA Beach Soccer World Cups has already been a tremendous experience for the boys. Now, getting to travel to Marseille in the first edition being played away from Brazil is an honour. It is never easy to battle back against such a tough team like Uruguay: normally, when they score first, they simply take control of the match with their defensive prowess. I am glad we could control the ball consciously and play our game.

Results and match schedule (GMT -3)

April 23 (Tuesday) – Matches

Chile 8 x 5 Peru
Brazil 8 x 3 Uruguay
Argentina 2 x 1 Venezuela

April 24 (Wednesday) – Matches

Venezuela 5 x 4 Chile
Paraguay 4 x 6 Brazil
Peru 0 x 8 Argentina

April 25 (Thursday) – Matches

Venezuela 7 x 5 Peru
Uruguay 5 x 4 Paraguay
Argentina 6 x 5 Chile (2 x 1 a.e.t.)

April 26 (Friday) – Matches

Brazil 8 x 3 Venezuela (*Semi-final 1*)
Argentina 5 x 3 Uruguay (*Semi-final 2*)

April 27 (Saturday) – Matches

Noon – Venezuela vs. Uruguay (*Play-Off 3rd-4th*)
Followed by – Brazil vs. Argentina (*Final*)

Final standings – Group Stage

<u>Group A</u>	Team	Points	Goals sc.	Goals rec.	Goal diff	Red Cards	Yellow Cards
1	Argentina*	8	16	6	+10	0	1
2	Venezuela*	6	13	11	+2	0	1
3	Chile	3	17	16	+1	0	3
4	Peru	0	10	23	-13	1	7

<u>Group B</u>	Team	Points	Goals sc.	Goals rec.	Goal diff	Red Cards	Yellow Cards
1	Brazil*	6	14	7	+7	0	2
2	Uruguay*	3	8	12	-4	0	0
3	Paraguay	0	8	11	-3	0	4

* *Clinched semifinal berth*

The seven countries playing the FIFA Beach Soccer World Cup 2008 Qualifier CONMEBOL Buenos Aires were drawn into two groups. The top two teams from each of them qualified for the semi finals. The two finalists – Brazil and Argentina - plus the 3rd-placed team will be the South American representatives in the FIFA Beach Soccer World Cup 2008, which will be played from July 17 to 27 in Marseilles, France. Right now, there are five other teams that have already secured their berths: France (host country); Senegal and Cameroon (Africa); El Salvador and Mexico (CONCACAF).

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