



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

Final Wrap-up

All South American squads have been proving again and again their development, but there still seems to be a way to go before reaching the level of Brazil. The defending FIFA Beach Soccer World Cup champions controlled the actions in the final match against Argentina and rejoiced at another title with a 6-1 triumph. The 3rd place play-off saw the Uruguayans defeating Venezuela 5-1 and thus securing their berth in this year's showpiece, to be played from July 17 to 27 in Marseille, France.

Individual awards

Best Goalkeeper: Diego (URU)
Top Scorer: Ezequiel Hilaire (ARG) – 7 goals
Best Player: André (BRA)

Match 12 – 3rd & 4th Play Off - Sunday, April 27

FINAL SCORE: Venezuela 1 x 5 Uruguay

The *Charrúas* gave a clear statement on why they have been in the world's top 3 for the last couple of years as they faced the Venezuelans with authority to reach a comfortable win and reach South America's third berth in the FIFA Beach Soccer World Cup 2008, to be played in Marseille.

Venezuela			Uruguay		
#	PLAYER	Starters	#	PLAYER	Starters
1	CASAL	x	1	DIEGO	x
2	ROMERO		3	RICAR	x
13	CENTENO		4	COCO	x
4	CARDONE	x	5	PAMPERO	x
5	FERREIRA		7	PARRILLO	
3	JIMENEZ	x	9	OLI	
7	QUINTERO	x	10	FABIAN	x
8	LANDAETA		11	MATIAS	
11	LONGA	x	12	LEANDRO	
22	MORENO		14	MARTIN	
Head coach: Roby Cavallo			Head coach: Venancio Ramos		

Referees:

1st referee: Hernan Fernandez (ARG)
 2nd referee: Alberto Magno (BRA)
 3rd referee: Pablo del Puerto (ARG)

SCORE CHART:

Goal Scorer	Time left	Period	VEN	URU
#9 Oli (URU)	0'33	1 st	0	1
#14 Martín (URU)	10'56	2 nd	0	2
#11 Matías (URU)	5'04	2 nd	0	3
#7 Quintero (VEN)	4'37	2 nd	1	3
#10 Fabián (URU)	3'47	2 nd	1	4
#11 Matías (URU)	9'34	3 rd	1	5

TEAM	CARDS			
	Player	Card*	Period	Time left
Venezuela	#8 Landaeta	Y	3 rd	4'01
Uruguay	#3 Ricard	Y	3 rd	4'01
	#5 Pampero	R	3 rd	0'24
	#11 Matías	R	3 rd	0'24

* Y: yellow; R: red

Quote from #1 Diego (URU)

We knew from the start that our team was supposed to be in the top 3, and that was our main goal. Even after yesterday's semifinal loss, we kept focused and confident. You have to praise the development of other countries, though: each team has shown strengths here in Buenos Aires and it is a sure thing that qualifying for the FIFA Beach Soccer World Cup will be tougher and tougher with time.

Match 13 – Final – Sunday, April 27

FINAL SCORE: Brazil 6 x 1 Argentina

In spite of facing an inspired home squad fresh from qualifying for the FIFA Beach Soccer World Cup 2008, the Brazilians showed what world champions are made of and steadily built a 5-goal lead that lifted them to the title at Buenos Aires.

Brazil			Argentina		
#	PLAYER	Starters	#	PLAYER	Starters
1	MAO	x	1	SALGUEIRO	X
3	BUENO		3	CASADO	
4	BETINHO		5	FRANCESCHINI	X
5	DANIEL		6	PARADISI	
6	BRUNO	X	8	DALLERA	
7	SIDNEY	X	9	MINICI	
8	JR.NEGAO	X	10	HILAIRE F.	X
9	ANDRE		14	HILAIRE S.	X
11	BURU	x	19	HILAIRE E.	X
12	WAGNER		22	DELIA	
Head coach: Alexandre Soares			Head coach: Hector Francisco Petrasso		

Referees:

1st referee: Javier Betancor (URU)

2nd referee: Pedro Infante (VEN)

3rd referee: Erick Chavarría (CRC)

SCORE CHART:

Goal Scorer	Time left	Period	BRA	ARG
#19 Hilaire E. (ARG)	3'55	1 st	0	1
#9 André (BRA)	0'25	1 st	1	1
#9 André (BRA)	11'53	2 nd	2	1
#11 Buru (BRA)	5'12	2 nd	3	1
#8 Jr. Negão (BRA)	4'09	3 rd	4	1
#5 Daniel (BRA)	1'40	3 rd	5	1
#7 Sidney (BRA)	0'07	3 rd	6	1

TEAM	Player	CARDS		
		Card*	Period	Time left
Brazil				
Argentina	#3 Casado	Y	1 st	4'24
	#8 Dallera	Y	3 rd	4'10
	#19 Hilaire E.	Y	3 rd	4'10

* Y: yellow; R: red

Quote from #11 Buru (BRA)

We have been used to playing at home, so we were expecting to face some serious obstacles here in Buenos Aires, mainly it being the first time we had to secure our FIFA Beach Soccer World Cup berth on the pitch. It was a tough tournament all the way, and I am glad we could play at our best when pressure was on. It is definitely a great way to prepare for our first world showdown away from Brazil.

Quote from #19 Hilaire E. (ARG)

Even though it was a very close match till the 2nd period, it is still very difficult to match the Brazilians throughout all 36 minutes of play. They were far superior and they deserved the title. Still, we are really happy for hosting our first official tournament successfully and with the way the team behaved when playing at home.

Results

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

Venezuela 1 x 5 Uruguay (*Play-Off 3rd-4th*)
Brazil 6 x 1 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 top 3 teams – Brazil, Argentina and Uruguay - are the South American representatives in the FIFA Beach Soccer World Cup 2008, which will be played from July 17 to 27 in Marseille, 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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