

## MEN – #1 Anders Mol / Christian Sorum (NOR)

- NOR gained berth by finishing 1st in Qualifying
- NOR has played in one World Championship as a team (placed 3rd in 2019)
- Finishes during qualifying period (1, 5, 5, 1, 1, 1, 2, 3, 1, 1, 1, 3, 1, 1, 1, 17, 9, 5)
  - Played 18 events, 13 semifinals, 13 medals (10 golds, 1 silver, 2 bronzes)
  - 90-9 match record, 181-39 set record
  - 37-1 in pool play, 30-5 in bracket play, 11-2 in semifinals, 2-0 in Bronze medal match, 10-1 in Gold medal match
  - 76-4 when winning the first set, 12-5 when losing the first set, 2 wins by forfeit, 21-5 in third sets
- Began their partnership in July 2016 when Mol was 19 years old and Sorum 20... their first event together was in Klagenfurt in 2016... they advanced from the qualifier, went 3-0 in pool play and won one elimination bracket match before losing in three sets to #3 seeds Ben Saxton and Chaim Schalk of CAN
- Entering Tokyo the duo has played 33 FIVB World Tour tournaments (12 golds, 2 silvers, 2 bronzes)... they are 14-2 in medal matches and have won a medal all 16 times advancing to the semifinals... they have advanced to the semifinals in 16 of their 33 events (48%), to the finals 14 times (42%) and won 12 times (36%)
- Only 6 other countries have won more FIVB gold medals in their history than this duo has (12)
- NOR's 12 wins since the start of 2018 are equal to the total from the next highest three teams (all have 4 each)
- NOR won the 2019 test event in Tokyo, losing just one set (to USA's Taylor Crabb / Jake Gibb)
- In September 2019 both players competed in an FIVB one-star event in Oslo but with different partners... Mol and Nils Ringoen won a gold, defeating Sorum and Markus Mol (Anders' younger brother) in the title match... Sorum and Markus Mol defeated Mathias Berntsen (the Mols' cousin) and Hendrik Mol (the older Mol brother)
- NOR has a 52-19 record against the field... they trail against just one team (2-3 against #2 ROC) and are tied against two teams (4-4 against #9 NED and 2-2 against #19 POL)
- This is the 1st Olympics for Mol... this year's event begins 25 years to the date his mother (Merita Berntsen) competed in the 1996 Olympics
- Mol has played 40 FIVB tournaments prior to Tokyo... he has played 33 times with Sorum, 5 times with his cousin Mathias Berntsen (1 bronze), and 1 time each with Nils Ringoen (gold) and Bjarne Huus (bronze)
- Before teaming with Sorum in July 2016, Mol played the CEV U-20 European Championship with Sorum's younger brother Aleksander, and the duo won a gold medal
- Mol's first ever World Tour event was in Stavanger in 2014 (a week before he turned 17), and his first match was against USA's Phil Dalhausser and Sean Rosenthal (lost 21-12, 21-9)
- This is the 1st Olympics for Sorum
- Sorum has played 55 FIVB tournaments prior to Tokyo... he has played 33 times with Mol, and has advanced to the semifinals twice in his 22 events with the other 9 partners... his other partners include his cousin Mathias Berntsen, and Mol's brothers Hendrik and Markus
- In Iran in February 2016, Sorum eliminated Mol in the qualifier (in Mol's second World Tour event)
- Sorum and Mol next played each other for the bronze medal in Portugal in July 2017, with Mol winning
- Sorum's first career World Tour main draw match came against 2016 Olympian Jefferson Santos Pereira and Cherif Samba (also a 2016 Olympian and seeded #3 in Tokyo for QAT)