

## WOMEN – #5 Mariafe Artacho / Taliqua Clancy (AUS)

- AUS gained berth by finishing 5th in Qualifying
- AUS has played in one World Championship as a team (placed 3rd in 2019)... the bronze was the second one ever won by Australia in a World Championships
- Finishes during qualifying period (1, 9, 3, 1, 2, 9, 1, 3, 4, 1, 5, 9, 1)
  - Played 13 events, 9 semifinals, 8 medals (5 golds, 1 silver, 2 bronzes)
  - 59-14 match record, 123-47 set record
  - 22-5 in pool play, 24-4 in bracket play, 6-3 in semifinals, 2-1 in Bronze medal match, 5-1 in Gold medal match
  - 49-4 when winning the first set, 10-10 when losing the first set, 1 win by forfeit, 19-7 in third sets
- Began their partnership in May 2012... played one FIVB Challenger event (9th), one World Tour event (9th) and the FIVB U-21 World Championships (3rd) before splitting up... the pair reunited in October 2017 and won their first two World Tour events (going undefeated in both)
- The qualification was ranked by using a team's best 12 finishes and AUS had just 13 tournaments played, by far the fewest of any team that qualified through points (next fewest was 18)
- AUS won 4 golds in 2018 (no other women's team won more than 2 and the most a men's team won was 3)... in the COVID-shortened 2020 season, they won 1 gold, tied for the lead among all women's teams
- Entering Tokyo the duo has played 25 FIVB World Tour tournaments (7 golds, 1 silver, 4 bronzes, 1 fourth)... they have reached the semifinals in 15 of the 25 events (63%), been in the finals 8 times (32%), and won 7 times (28%)
- The 7 golds won by the team are the only 7 wins for each player in their FIVB careers... the duo owns 7 of the 13 World Tour golds ever won by Australian women
- In their career together on the FIVB World Tour, AUS is 18-7 against teams seeded in the top 4
- AUS has won all 5 of the Australia National Tour events they have competed in as partners
- AUS has a 28-15 record against the field... they have a losing record against just 4 other teams in the field, 3 of which they have only played once (1-4 against #19 CZE)
- This is the 2nd Olympics for Artacho (finished 19th in 2016 with Nicole Laird)
- Artacho has an 0-3 match record in Olympics, including 0-3 in pool play
- Artacho has played 53 FIVB tournaments prior to Tokyo... she has played 24 times with Clancy, 14 times with Nicola Laird (best of 9th), 7 times with Jessyka Nguamo (1 silver), 3 times with Brittany Kendall (best of 5th twice), 3 times with Phoebe Bell (best of 25th), and 1 time each with Sarah Battaglione and Taylor Schulz
- Artacho's first ever World Tour event was in July 2007 in Montreal when she was 13 years old
- On the Australian Beach Volleyball Tour, Artacho has been part of the championship team in 4 of the past 6 seasons (with 4 different partners)
- This is the 2nd Olympics for Clancy (finished 5th in 2016 with Louise Bawden)
- Clancy has a 4-1 match record in Olympics, including 3-0 in pool play
- Clancy has played 74 FIVB tournaments prior to Tokyo... she has played 24 times with Artacho, 47 times with Louise Bawden (1 bronze) and 3 times with Eliza Hynes (best of 41st)
- To begin Clancy's FIVB career, 30 of her first 44 match losses came in three-set matches
- Clancy has the best win percentage (7-1, 88%) in FIVB gold medal matches of any player in Tokyo who has played in at least two finals
- In Clancy's only AVP event in her career (Waikiki in 2018), she led all players in blocks (1.43 bpg), aces (1.14 apg) and hitting percentage (.529)