



**Fina**  
WORLD  
CHAMPIONSHIPS

**WATER. WONDER.  
WELCOME.**



# Men's water polo, 6th day, flash quotes

2017.07.27. 12:39 CET

**For 11th place:**

**[Brazil-Kazakhstan 5-9 \(1-4, 2-2, 0-1, 2-2\)](#)**

**Angelo Coelho, head coach (BRA):**

*„We made a lot of mistakes in the first half. After that it was truly difficult for us to set up our defence.“*

**Murat Shakenov (KAZ):**

*„We were leading up until the end of the match. Everything went according to our plan.“*

**For 9th place**

**[Japan-Spain 11-13 \(2-1, 4-6, 3-4, 2-2\)](#)**

**Omoto Yoji, head coach (JPN):**

*„I am really happy that we were able to play water polo in such an excellent country. We aren't very happy that we were not able to qualify and to beat the European countries, but it was after all a great experience.“*

**David Martin, head coach (ESP):**

*„We always finished the championships amongst the best teams. Unfortunately now we had difficult games, but it's very important to finish the championships with two victories against Kazakhstan and Japan. We are preparing for the next championship. We have to play more for more experience. We will see.“*

**For 5-8th places:**

**[Montenegro-Russia 9-8 \(1-1, 4-2, 2-4, 2-1\)](#)**

**Vladimir Gojkovic, head coach (MNE):**

*„It's always hard to be playing for a specific placement, and this game against Russia was tough. We had a very good defense, and focused on our attack, as well. I'm overall happy with the result, and for some of our younger players, this is an amazing experience. Now, we'll see how it goes in two days, when we'll be playing for 5th place.“*

**Drasko Brguljan** (MNE):

*„Today we played much better than last time against the Greek team. We are such a team which is able to win the game with their defensive tactics, as we never play games with large number of scores. If we continue to be so good in our defense, we should not worry. Our team is still young, several older players have already withdrawn. Ivovic will return to the team and together with him we are going to be much stronger.“*

**Sergey Evstigneev**, head coach (RUS):

*„It was a tough game, we started off well but made some serious mistakes around the end. It is always hard to play against teams of the Balkan. We have to win the next game.“*

**Roman Shepelev** (RUS):

*„It was a good game, unfortunately we missed some important positions. The game was really close. Next time, we are going to go for victory!“*

#### **Australia-Italy 4-8 (2-4, 2-2, 0-0, 0-2)**

**Elvis Fatovic**, head coach (AUS):

*„I think that this is our best-played match so far on this tournament. We played against one of the best teams of the Championships, so it was a tough game. We had a very good defence, and I'm quite happy with the result. Our aim was to reach the top 8. I hope that we will have the same approach, when we play against Russia for a possible 7th place.“*

**Lachlan Hollis** (AUS):

*„It was a good game and we were really good, especially in the first half. The Italians came out hard, and were strong, but I don't think that we were a lot behind. We gave our best today, and we'll definitely give our best tomorrow as well, which will be our last match at the tournament.“*

**Alessandro Campagna**, head coach (ITA):

*„We put a lot of effort into scoring the first goals, and we ended up leading in the first quarter, which we maintained throughout the whole match. Tomorrow we will face Montenegro, that has five well experienced players that are used to playing at an international level. So, even if they change some of the players, it will be a very good match.“*

**Alessandro Nora** (ITA):

*„Obviously, we wanted to be among the best four, but after the game against Croatia we now go for the 5th place, we'll for sure try to be as good as we can against Montenegro. We feel great here in Budapest, it is definitely a nice place for water polo as it's a beautiful city and the audience is remarkable mostly during the important matches.”*

## **1st semifinal**

### **Greece-Hungary 5-7 (1-2, 3-3, 0-1, 1-1)**

#### **Theodoros Vlachos head coach (GRE):**

*"I think we played a very a good match against one the best water polo team in the world. We had very good defense, but we had some problems with our attacks. The crowd didn't affect us negatively, although it really effected Hungary positively. We had a lot of goal posts, but that's part of water polo, however we could had been a bit luckier in some shots."*

#### **Tamás Márcz, Head Coach (HUN):**

*"We've changed a little on our game, we wanted to force the game to the right side, because the greek national team seemed to have a weak spot there. I asked the players not to fall apart in offense, because we needed to be patient, I knew that the goal would come. We also changed our six to five strategy, everything in a bit to make our game even more perfect. From the beginning, we were calm, and we stayed like that till the end of the game."*

#### **Krisztián Manhercz (HUN):**

*"Our defense was outstanding, we have only had a single goal in the second half of the semifinals in two quarters together, which was three seconds before the end. Viktor Nagy pulled the blind today and we helped him with the blocks. Now we want to deal with a little bit of being in the final after celebrating a little we will start preparing for our final opponent. "*

#### **Gergő Zalánki (HUN):**

*"It's always a good match, if we win, and we did it a little bit more exciting because we did not succeeded always with the shots, but Viktor Nagy was almost impossible to strike through, and our defense worked out well."*

#### **Balázs Hárαι (HUN):**

*"We won, we did not think it would be such a hard game physically. The Greeks picked up the sword, although it doesn't change the final result. We could serve the amazing audience who were here tonight in great number. We thank them very much, they made us feel very special tonight."*

## **2nd semifinal**

### **Serbia-Croatia 11-12 (1-1, 4-4, 4-4, 2-3)**

**Milos Cuk (SRB):**

*“Today we did not find ourselves in this situation. I'm sorry for the missed final, but it is sport. After the match we shake hands, they were better today. We must forget this as soon as possible and concentrate on the Greeks and to leave with a bronze medal.”*

**Gojko Pijetlovic (SRB):**

*It may be good that this has happened, maybe not, time will show. We do not want to deal with those outside of the pool have happened, we have to analyze our own game. We should not mourn a lot because we have to play the best against Greece not to interrupt our medal series. Although we are not use to lose, we should learn from this. We were defeated from a great team, congratulations to them and I wish them a great deal of success for the big finals.*

**Ivica Tucak, head coach (CRO):**

*„It definitely is a huge victory, which we will now celebrate. At the end of the day, we came here for the gold medal. Hungary has an amazing team, but I think we have what it takes to win.”*

**Ivan Marcelic (CRO):**

*„This was an extremely tough game. Serbia has been our hardest rival on this tournament so far. We both played a fantastic game, but, fortunatelly, we won.”*