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CHAMPIONSHIPS

**WATER. WONDER.
WELCOME.**



Women's water polo, 1st day, flash quotes

2017.07.16. 11:07 CET

W1 Group A:

Italy-Canada 10-4 (1-2, 2-0, 3-0, 4-2)

Fabio Conti, head coach (ITA):

„This match went really well because when you open a tournament with a good introduction and debut, it makes you to think positively. We also learned that it's essential to play game after game, therefor every match is a final.”

Domitilla Picozzi (ITA):

„We came here well prepared, charged and ready. We had to break the ice at the tournament and we managed to do that so we feel amazing rightnow.”

Alogbo Krystina (CAN):

„I'm a bit disappointed. I thought that we were about to win that game, especially in the first half when we were really close. We started a little bit on off and we were unable to do it but it's the first game. There's a lot of games to come. So hopefully we can turn it around and we'll win the next ones.”

Teocharis Pavlidis, head coach (CAN):

„I'm disappointed. We had difficulties in the second half of the game. They scored some goals that we could have avoided and that's why I'm disappointed. We shouldn't have received this kind of goals. We made them an easy opportunity to win because of our mistakes. It's a series, we'll play better in the second game.”

W2 A csoport:

Brazília-Kína 4-11 (2-4, 0-2, 2-1, 0-4)

Eduadro Abla, head coach (BRA):

„We can't have a lot substitution during the game so we get tired for the middle of the

match. Thus it was not easy to concentrate. The next game will be more difficult because Italy is a very experienced team. We want to prove ourselves as a team."

Dali Gong, szövetségi kapitány (Kína):

"The first game is always a little bit nervous and this game was also. In the first period we have some mistakes but after that we changed tactics and it took the result."

Mariana Duarte (BRA):

"We have a really young team. Our average is like twenty years, so the lack of experience is really huge for us. We hope to make better games and gain some experience. We didn't train that much together because we don't have the support of our country. The girls are here to learn more about water polo and to try our best to be better in every game ahead of us."

W3 Group B

New Zealand-Spain 2-10 (0-3, 1-1, 0-2, 1-4)

Angie Winstanley-Smith, head coach (New Zealand):

"I feel good. We defended very well. If we can make use of our opportunities better then we can become competitive. It's a good adventure for us. The girls are playing really well. That's all that I can ask for."

Casie Bowry (NZL):

"We missed some opportunities but we're happy with the result. We should convert those opportunities to be more competitive."

Laura Ester Ramos (ESP):

"It was an easy match, where we could let go of the tension and start with a victory, which is important and now we can prepare for the next one, against the US. This will be a more complicated match but we will try to win to be able to continue the championship."

Miki Oka, head coach (Spain):

"We had a great match, from the third part we could play more calmly. The match against the US will be more difficult, because they are a potential team, but we will try to give our best to continue the championship."

W4 Group B

Republic of South Africa-United States 2-24 (0-6, 0-7, 2-5, 0-6)

Adam Krikorian, head coach (USA):

„It's always great to get a game under a belt. To prepare us for next game and the game after that. We are pleased with the win but we are more pleased with getting a game under a belt. I'm not sure it will help us to prepare, only time will tell. There is always nervous feelings any time you play the first game.“

Rachel Fattal (USA):

„It was good. It was the first game here and I think for the first game we did it well. I think we have a good team and I'm excited and I think we gonna get better each game we play together. It's gonna be very good hopefully.“

Marcelle Manson (South Africa):

„We are all amateur players, so it's a great honour for us playing against these amazing players. Our team is very young that's why we are satisfied with our game. We are happy with the two goals that we scored because we appreciate all the small results.“

W6 Group C:

Netherlands-France 17-2 (7-0, 5-0, 3-1, 2-1)

Florian Bruzzo, head coach (FRA):

„We have to be realistic, this is our quality, to fight against the best teams and do our best. The Dutch team is very strong, one of the strongest among all participants and I suppose, they will fight for the final, together with the host team of Hungary. It also means that our group is very strong, but we can describe all groups like this. The organisation is very good, we feel nice here in Budapest. We will have a tough match against Hungary in the next round, we will not be favourites, but we would like to celebrate victory against Japan and win matches also in the placement round.“

Geraldine Mahieu (FRA):

„I am happy to score a goal against such a great team like the Netherlands, we appreciate every tiny success. The atmosphere is fabulous here in Budapest, but honestly, it is very hard to play matches like this when we conceded so many goals. We play very emotional water polo, and it will be very tough to play against the host team in the next round. We keep our heads up and try everything on Tuesday.“

Lieke Klaassen (NED):

„This result was absolutely what we expected. It was an easy game to play, but we actually should have scored much more goals. Last week we also played them in Utrecht and we won that match 18-2. If you look back to the first and second quarter, where the score was already 12-0, it should have been much more in the rest of the game. We only scored five goals there. We really missed some great chances, we often hit the crossbar.

I expect an easy game against Japan as well, although it will be tougher this time. But it is

all about the game against Hungary. We will play with them for the group victory. For now that is our focus, after that we will focus on the next victories."

Arno Havenga, head coach (NED):

„We played really strong and the result should have been better. We played very strong in the first half especially. This should have been better in the last two quarters, however. We need to stay focused. The key for the victory was simply the big quality difference between the two teams. We are just better on all fronts."

W7 Group C:

Australia-Kazakhstan 16-4 (4-1, 4-1, 4-2, 4-0)

Isobel Bishop (AUS):

"It was a really good start for us because we want to show a better performance than in Kazan. The venue is great, Budapest done a very good job, Hungarian crowd is awesome, so happy to be here in this pool. All is very exciting."

Kamila Zakirova (KAZ):

„The match was really heavy for us, we gave our best, we fight for each ball, but Australia is a strong team, and unfortunately the result showed it at the end of the game. The organization is amazing, there are a lot of spectators on the stands, it is really nice to play here."

Andrey Sazykin, head coach (KAZ):

"We could not cope with the pressing of the Australian team. We have chances but we didn't take our opportunities. We will try to slow down the tempo of Greece in the next match and we will wait for our chance for counter attacks. Our main goal on this championship is to qualify for the best 12 from the preliminaries, however, our group is really strong. If we succeed, every further match will be a miracle and a bonus for us. The atmosphere of Alfred Hajós Complex is incredible, it is enough just to look up the tribunes, they are filled. It is really great honour to be here."

W5 Group C:

Japan-Hungary 11-20 (1-4, 3-8, 2-5, 4-3)

Katho Hideo, head coach (JPN):

„I'm very satisfied with my team, because our players swam and fought very well this evening. We have never played in front of such a great audience before, it was exceptional, especially on an opening day. We have to take into consideration that three of our players are very young. In the next round, against the Netherlands, we will play against as a strong team as the Hungarians are, but we had some experience against the Dutch ladies since we played against them twice in China in recent weeks. I don't know at the moment what our

tactics will be on Tuesday."

Yamamoto Minori (JPN):

„It was a very tough game physically, because we play rarely against the strongest teams of the world. Personally, it was an advantage for me that I'm a little bit stronger than my teammates, therefore I could score four goals. I'm very happy for that, because I could help my team. I will focus also against the Netherlands to be as good as today."

Attila Bíró, head coach (Hungary):

„This game was like a Brasil football game: we scored but we got a lot of goals. We should prove our defense for the next game. But honestly I can be satisfied because we won our first game and it is really important in the beginning of an international event."

W8 Group D:

Russia-Greece 9-7 (2-1, 4-3, 2-3, 1-0)

Ekaterina Prokofyeva (RUS):

„We are satisfied with our performance tonight, everything what we have in plans we realized, without emotions we played our game which resulted the victory. We are not the first time here, I like the city, organization is great. Organizers made spectacle for the us, for the water polo and for the sport at all."

Eleni Xenaki (GRE):

"The first game of a championship is always hard and we had a bad game today. Especially on offense, but we had problems on defense as well, they scored four goals from center. We have to stop this next time. We have to fix our problems and we have to look forward to our next games."