



Action from the first day of men's Olympic competition (Pakistan - Great Britain and China - Germany), watched by important guests: IOC President Jacques Rogge, FIH President and IOC Member Els van Breda-Vriesman and IOC Honorary President Juan Antonio Samaranch.

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Australia's Abbott makes his mark

For the last ten years, the Australia number 32 shirt has been made famous by Hockeyroos legend Nikki Hudson, but now it seems that the Kookaburras have their own superstar wearing that iconic number.

22-year-old Des Abbott is supposed to be finding his feet at international level, but his terrific hat-trick in his side's 6-1 victory over Canada yesterday firmly announced his Olympic arrival.

New Zealand produced a good fight back against Korea, thanks to penalty corner king Hayden Shaw. With his side trailing 1-0 at the break, the big defender scored three unstoppable drag flicks in the second half to send the Blacksticks on their way to a hard earned 1-3 victory. Spain powered to a 4-2 victory over Belgium, with Pol

Amat, Santi Freixa, Xavi Ribas and Victor Sojo finding the back of the net.

The Netherlands also hit good form, with penalty corner expert Taeke Taekema scoring a brace in their 5-0 triumph over South Africa. In the morning session, China put up a great fight before finally being over-run by world champions Germany. Christopher Zeller, Florian Keller (2) and Carlos Nevado all got on the score sheet against the host nation.

Great Britain played exceptionally well in their 4-2 defeat of Pakistan, with James Tindall opening the scoring after just 52 seconds. Rob Moore, Ashley Jackson and Matt Daly also hit the back of the net to give GB a boost after the heavy defeat that the women's side suffered to Germany on Day 1.

Player to Watch: Fu Baorong (CHN)



Creating as many goals as she scores, Fu Baorong is the star of the China front line and is feared by defenders the world over. China may have finished fourth at Athens 2004, but if Fu is on form then the side have a genuine chance of getting among the medals in Beijing.

Program of the Day (Women) --- 12 August 2008

08:30 Argentina v Great Britain
10:30 Australia v Spain
18:00 USA v Japan

18:30 China v South Africa
20:30 Netherlands v Korea
21:00 Germany v New Zealand

Hockey Celebrates 100 Years at the Olympic Games

Every day we travel back in time to celebrate a century of Olympic hockey.

London 1948: Newly-independent India won gold by crushing former colonial masters Great Britain 4-0.

Helsinki 1952: Policeman Balbir Singh scored 13 goals as India won Gold

yet again, with the Netherlands on the wrong end of a 6-1 thrashing in the final.

Melbourne 1956: India made it an incredible 6 consecutive Gold medals with a 1-0 win over rising power Pakistan.

Tomorrow: Rome 1960, Tokyo 1964 & Mexico 1968



Left: Great Britain plays Pakistan at the London 1948 Olympic Games

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Rogge & Samaranch support their teams!

The hockey venue was attended by two very special guests yesterday, with IOC President Jacques Rogge and IOC Honorary President Juan Antonio Samaranch enjoying the clash between Spain and Belgium.

Dr Rogge and his family supported his native Belgium, whilst Mr Samaranch cheered on his countrymen Spain. They were accompanied by HRH Prince Philippe of Belgium, HRH Crown Prince of Spain Prince Felipe of Asturias and FIH President and IOC member Els van Breda Vriesman.

"I know the hockey stadium since last year's test tournament when I had a penalty shoot out with the FIH President. It's a nice hockey stadium here, and I wish good luck to all of the teams during the Olympic Games."

Lord Sebastian Coe – Chairman of the London Organising Committee for the Olympic Games – was also in attendance.



Royals turn out in force!

On Sunday, the match between The Netherlands and South Africa was treated to a visit from HRH Willem-Alexander Prince of Orange and his wife, HRH Princess Maxima.

They sat through the wind and the rain to support their national hockey team, and their efforts were rewarded as their side ran out 6-0 winners. The royal couple also returned to the stadium on Monday to watch Netherlands men take on South Africa. On Monday, IOC member HSH the Sovereign Prince Albert II of Monaco was present during the match between Australia and Canada.

Day 3: The Games to Watch...

The opening day of the women's tournament featured no less than 31 goals and 26 different scorers in just six games, and the signs suggest that the second round could be just as spectacular!

The first match of the day sees world number two side Argentina facing Great Britain in Pool B (08:30). Argentina could only manage a draw against the USA on Sunday, and will be looking for all three points against a GB side that were crushed 5-1 by Germany in their opening match.

Australia and Spain are next up in what could be an entertaining Pool A clash (10:30). The Hockeyroos fought back from 4-1 down to beat Korea 5-4 on Sunday, whilst Spain will be aiming to bounce back from their 3-0 loss to China.

The evening session begins at 6pm, with two in-form teams meeting in the shape of USA and Japan in Pool B. Japan will need to re-create the form that took them to a 2-1 victory over New Zealand if they are to break down the strong American defensive unit.

Germany, impressive against GBR on Sunday, take on New Zealand at 21:00 to complete the Pool B action for the day. In Pool A, China will enter their 18:30 match against South Africa as strong favourites after proving too strong for Spain in their previous match. However, the game of the day is certainly the match between The Netherlands and Korea (20:30). With Korea's defensive weaknesses ruthlessly exposed by Australia on Day 1, changes will have to have been made to cope against a team that scored six times without conceding.

We hope that you enjoy what should be another outstanding day of hockey!



Women Pool A

10 Aug 10:30 CHN v ESP 3:0 (2:0)
 10 Aug 18:00 AUS v KOR 5:4 (1:4)
 10 Aug 20:30 NED v RSA 6:0 (2:0)
 12 Aug 10:30 AUS v ESP
 12 Aug 18:30 CHN v RSA
 12 Aug 20:30 NED v KOR
 14 Aug 08:30 CHN v NED
 14 Aug 18:00 ESP v KOR
 14 Aug 20:30 RSA v AUS
 16 Aug 10:30 AUS v NED
 16 Aug 18:30 KOR v CHN
 16 Aug 21:00 ESP v RSA
 18 Aug 10:30 KOR v RSA
 18 Aug 18:30 NED v ESP
 18 Aug 21:00 CHN v AUS

Women Classification Day 1

20 Aug 08:30 9th/10th Place
 20 Aug 11:00 7th/8th Place
 20 Aug 18:00 Semifinal 01
 20 Aug 20:30 Semifinal 02

Women Pool B

10 Aug 08:30 JPN v NZL 2:1 (2:1)
 10 Aug 18:30 ARG v USA 2:2 (2:1)
 10 Aug 21:00 GER v GBR 5:1 (2:1)
 12 Aug 08:30 ARG v GBR
 12 Aug 18:00 USA v JPN
 12 Aug 21:00 GER v NZL
 14 Aug 10:30 USA v GER
 14 Aug 18:30 JPN v ARG
 14 Aug 21:00 NZL v GBR
 16 Aug 08:30 NZL v USA
 16 Aug 18:00 GER v ARG
 16 Aug 20:30 GBR v JPN
 18 Aug 08:30 GER v JPN
 18 Aug 18:00 GBR v USA
 18 Aug 20:30 ARG v NZL

Women Classification Day 1

22 Aug 08:30 11th/12th Place
 22 Aug 11:00 5th/6th Place
 22 Aug 18:00 Bronze Medal Match
 22 Aug 20:30 Gold Medal Match
 22 Aug 22:30 Medal Ceremony

Women Pool A

1. Netherlands	1	1	0	0	6:0	3
2. China	1	1	0	0	3:0	3
3. Australia	1	1	0	0	5:4	3
4. Korea	1	0	0	1	4:5	0
5. Spain	1	0	0	1	0:3	0
6. South Africa	1	0	0	1	0:6	0

Women Pool B

1. Germany	1	1	0	0	5:1	3
2. Japan	1	1	0	0	2:1	3
3. Argentina	1	0	1	0	2:2	1
3. USA	1	0	1	0	2:2	1
5. New Zealand	1	0	0	1	1:2	0
6. Great Britain	1	0	0	1	1:5	0

Goalscorers Women

1. Eileen HOFFMANN (GER) 2 goals
 Shelly LIDDELOW (AUS) 2 goals
 Maartje PAUMEN (NED) 2 goals
 2 more players 2 goals
 2. 21 players 1 goal

Men Pool A

11 Aug 08:30 GER v CHN 4:1 (1:1)
 11 Aug 18:00 KOR v NZL 1:3 (1:1)
 11 Aug 20:30 ESP v BEL 4:2 (2:1)
 13 Aug 10:30 CHN v KOR
 13 Aug 18:30 BEL v GER
 13 Aug 20:30 NZL v ESP
 15 Aug 08:30 ESP v CHN
 15 Aug 18:00 BEL v NZL
 17 Aug 10:30 KOR v BEL
 17 Aug 18:30 NZL v CHN
 17 Aug 21:00 GER v ESP
 19 Aug 10:30 GER v NZL
 19 Aug 18:30 KOR v ESP
 19 Aug 21:00 CHN v BEL

Men Classification Day 1

21 Aug 08:30 9th/10th Place
 21 Aug 11:00 7th/8th Place
 21 Aug 18:00 Semifinal 01
 21 Aug 20:30 Semifinal 02

Men Pool B

11 Aug 10:30 PAK v GBR 2:4 (0:3)
 11 Aug 18:30 AUS v CAN 6:1 (3:0)
 11 Aug 21:00 NED v RSA 5:0 (2:0)
 13 Aug 08:30 RSA v AUS
 13 Aug 18:00 CAN v PAK
 13 Aug 21:00 NED v GBR
 15 Aug 10:30 NED v CAN
 15 Aug 18:30 PAK v AUS
 15 Aug 21:00 RSA v GBR
 17 Aug 08:30 GBR v CAN
 17 Aug 18:00 PAK v RSA
 17 Aug 20:30 AUS v NED
 19 Aug 08:30 NED v PAK
 19 Aug 18:00 CAN v RSA
 19 Aug 20:30 AUS v GBR

Men Classification Day 2

23 Aug 08:30 11th/12th Place
 23 Aug 11:00 5th/6th Place
 23 Aug 18:00 Bronze Medal Match
 23 Aug 20:30 Gold Medal Match
 23 Aug 22:30 Medal Ceremony

Men Pool A

1. Germany	1	1	0	0	4:1	3
2. Spain	1	1	0	0	4:2	3
3. New Zealand	1	1	0	0	3:1	3
4. Belgium	1	0	0	1	2:4	0
5. Korea	1	0	0	1	1:3	0
6. China	1	0	0	1	1:4	0

Men Pool B

1. Australia	1	1	0	0	6:1	3
2. Netherlands	1	1	0	0	5:0	3
3. Great Britain	1	1	0	0	4:2	3
4. Pakistan	1	0	0	1	2:4	0
5. Canada	1	0	0	1	1:6	0
6. South Africa	1	0	0	1	0:5	0

Goalscorers Men

1. Desmond ABBOTT (AUS) 3 goals
 Hayden SHAW (NZL) 3 goals
 2. Florian KELLER (GER) 2 goals
 Taeke TAEKEMA (NED) 2 goals
 3. 23 players 1 goal