



Action from the sixth day of women's Olympic competition: Germany vs. China, Netherlands vs. Argentina, Spain vs. USA and Korea vs. Japan.

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Grand finale for China women!

The women's hockey finalists have been decided! Last night, China defeated 2004 Olympic champions Germany before the stadium turned from red to orange as The Netherlands thrashed Argentina.

The crowds turned out in their thousands to watch China play a stunning match with Germany. The host nation fell behind thanks to Natascha Keller's early strike, but Lihua Gao equalised four minutes before half time. Germany went 2:1 up just after half time when Janine Beermann netted, but Ma Yibo scored China's first penalty corner in 21 attempts to level the scores. The crowd went wild with excitement when Yudiao Zhao made the score 3:2, and China's defenders dramatically cleared a penalty corner in the last seconds to take their place in the Olympic final.

The Netherlands destroyed Argentina with a devastating performance, with Maartje Paumen scoring a hat-trick to break the women's record for the most goals in a single Olympic hockey tournament. The Netherlands were by far the better side, dominating the match from start to finish. Paumen scored two powerful penalty corners before Marilyn Agliotti added a third to effectively kill the match before half time. Paumen added another penalty corner in the second half. Ellen Hoog scored The Netherlands fifth with Marine Russo and Alejandra Gulla hitting the target for Argentina.

Earlier in the day, Spain defeated USA with an extra time "Golden Goal" winner from Rocio Ybarra to seal seventh place, while Korea took ninth as Jeong Sook Park scored twice in a 2:1 win over Japan.

Program of the Day (Men) --- 21 August 2008
08:30 9/10 Place: Belgium v Canada 18:00 Semifinal: Netherlands v Germany
11:00 7/8 Place: New Zealand v Pakistan 20:30 Semifinal: Spain v Australia

Player to Watch: Pol Amat (ESP)



Now 30 and playing in his 4th Olympic Games, Pol Amat is one of the world's most feared strikers and is still very much at the top of his game.

Dubbed "The Ronaldinho of hockey" by none other than Maurits Hendriks, his brilliance in the forward line could inspire Spain all the way to Gold in Beijing.

Hockey Celebrates 100 Years at the Olympic Games

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

Sydney 2000: A second Gold medal came the way of Australia women on home soil, literally blowing away the rest of the opposition.

The most notable result en-route to the final was a devastating performance against The Netherlands, with The Hockeyroos destroying their illustrious opponents 5:0. The team then took Gold by defeating Argentina 3:1 in the tournament final.



Australia men came agonisingly close to reaching the final themselves, losing on penalty strokes to The Netherlands who went on to defend their Olympic title by defeating Korea, also on penalty strokes.

Tomorrow: Athens 2004

The Netherlands, here seen in their pool stage encounter with South Africa, fell to later Champions Australia 0:5. © IOC

Men's Pool Phase – Facts and Figures

Ahead of the men's semi-finals, here are some interesting statistics from the pool phase of the competition.

Goals per match: 135 goals have been scored in 30 matches so far at Beijing 2008. The average of 4.50 goals per match is slightly less than the 5.07 goals per match in the Athens 2004 Olympics.

Match with most goals: Ten goals were scored in the Pool B demolition of South Africa by Australia (10-0). The result equalled the Kookaburras' biggest victory in the competition, a 10-0 triumph against Mexico in 1972.

Biggest Win: The 10-0 victory by Australia marked the first time a team had reached double digits in the Olympic Games since South Korea crushed Egypt 11-0 in Athens in 2004.

Fastest Goal: James Tindall (GBR) and Jamie Dwyer (AUS) share the distinction for fastest goal of the group stage, both having netted a second minute goal.

Penalty Corner Goals Teams: Canada (4-for-11) and Netherlands (10-for-28) have posted the best penalty conversion percentage in the group phase at 36%. Spain are bottom of the table on 12% (3-for-25).

Penalty Stroke Goals: Three of the 135 goals in the group phase came from a penalty stroke. The goalscorers were Taeke Taekema (NED), Woon-Kon Yeo (KOR) and Muhammad Saqlain (PAK).

Milestone: On 11 August, Muhammad Waqas (PAK) scored the 2,750th goal in Olympic hockey history.

Milestone: On 17 August, Luke Doerner scored Australia's 250th goal in Men's Hockey at the Olympic Games.

Milestone: On 19 August, Taeke Taekema's 2nd goal was Holland's 250th in the history of Olympic Men's Hockey.

Wolfgang Schäuble visits hockey!

Wolfgang Schäuble, German Minister of Interior, visited the Olympic Green Hockey Stadium yesterday evening to watch Germany women play their semi-final match against China. Dr Schäuble watched the match in the company of FIH President and IOC member Els van Breda Vriesman and DHB President Stephan Abel. Also present was German IOC Vice President Thomas Bach and Klaus Wowereit, the Mayor of Berlin. All were said to have enjoyed their hockey experience, despite Germany falling to defeat to the host nation.



Stephan Abel, Wolfgang Schäuble, Els van Breda Vriesman

Men's Semi-Finals Preview: Clash of the titans!

The four highest ranked international teams in the world have proven exactly why they occupy those positions by reaching the semi-finals at Beijing 2008. The first semi-final sees Pool B winners The Netherlands taking on Pool A runners-up Germany at 18:00 in what should be a great clash between two giants of European hockey. Fellow European side Spain face a tough clash against defending champions Australia at 20:30.

The Netherlands v Germany: What a match this promises to be! The always entertaining Netherlands are renowned for their free-flowing style of play, and have three-time World Player of the Year Teun de Nooijer in their ranks. They also have a goal scoring machine in penalty corner expert Taeke Taekema, who has scored ten times in five matches. After a slow start, Germany – lead by Timo Wess, arguably the world's finest central defender – finally hit top gear against New Zealand, reaching the semi-finals with a 3:1 victory.

Spain v Australia: Despite winning their group, Spain will be the underdogs against the current world number one team. It is not hard to understand why, with the Kookaburras having scored 24 times in just five matches so far. Spain only scored nine goals in their pool matches, but have the tournament's best defensive record, conceding on average just one goal a game. Spain are well capable of getting revenge on a team that defeated them at the same stage at Athens 2004.

Also taking place is the classification match for 9th/10th place, with Belgium taking on Canada at 08:30. Then, at 11:00, New Zealand will play Pakistan with the winner claiming a 7th place finish at Beijing 2008.



German captain Timo Wess is chasing the last major title he hasn't won yet: with World Cup, European Championship and Champions Trophy under his belt, Olympic glory is next on the list.

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

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 2:2 (2:0)
12 Aug 18:00 USA v JPN 1:1 (0:1)
12 Aug 21:00 GER v NZL 2:1 (0:1)
14 Aug 10:30 USA v GER 2:4 (1:1)
14 Aug 18:30 JPN v ARG 1:2 (0:0)
14 Aug 21:00 NZL v GBR 1:2 (1:1)
16 Aug 08:30 NZL v USA 1:4 (0:2)
16 Aug 18:00 GER v ARG 0:4 (0:0)
16 Aug 20:30 GBR v JPN 2:1 (1:0)
18 Aug 08:30 GER v JPN 1:0 (0:0)
18 Aug 18:00 GBR v USA 0:0 (0:0)
18 Aug 20:30 ARG v NZL 3:2 (1:1)

Women Pool A

	M	W	D	L	Goals	P
1. Netherlands	5	5	0	0	14:3	15
2. China	5	3	1	1	14:4	10
3. Australia	5	3	1	1	17:9	10
4. Spain	5	2	0	3	4:12	6
5. Korea	5	1	0	4	13:18	3
6. South Africa	5	0	0	5	2:18	0

Women Pool B

	M	W	D	L	Goals	P
1. Germany	5	4	0	1	12:8	12
2. Argentina	5	3	2	0	13:7	11
3. Great Britain	5	2	2	1	7:9	8
4. USA	5	1	3	1	9:8	6
5. Japan	5	1	1	3	5:7	4
6. New Zealand	5	0	0	5	6:13	0

Goalscorers Women

- Maartje PAUMEN (NED) 11 goals
 - FU Baorong (CHN) 5 goals
 - Alejandra GULLA (ARG) 5 goals
 - Seon Ok LEE (KOR) 5 goals
- For more info, visit www.worldhockey.org.

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 2:5 (2:2)
13 Aug 18:30 BEL v GER 1:1 (1:1)
13 Aug 20:30 NZL v ESP 0:1 (0:0)
15 Aug 08:30 ESP v CHN 2:1 (1:1)
15 Aug 18:00 BEL v NZL 2:4 (0:3)
17 Aug 10:30 KOR v BEL 3:1 (0:1)
17 Aug 18:30 NZL v CHN 2:2 (1:2)
17 Aug 21:00 GER v ESP 1:0 (1:0)
19 Aug 10:30 GER v NZL 3:1 (2:0)
19 Aug 18:30 KOR v ESP 1:2 (0:1)
19 Aug 21:00 CHN v BEL 1:3 (1:2)

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

Men Pool A

	M	W	D	L	Goals	P
1. Spain	5	4	0	1	9:5	12
2. Germany	5	3	2	0	12:6	11
3. Korea	5	2	1	2	13:11	7
4. New Zealand	5	2	1	2	10:9	7
5. Belgium	5	1	1	3	9:13	4
6. China	5	0	1	4	7:16	1

Men Pool B

	M	W	D	L	Goals	P
1. Netherlands	5	4	1	0	16:6	13
2. Australia	5	3	2	0	24:7	11
3. Great Britain	5	2	2	1	10:7	8
4. Pakistan	5	2	0	3	11:13	6
5. Canada	5	1	1	3	10:17	4
6. South Africa	5	0	0	5	4:25	0

Women Classification 20 Aug

- 08:30 9th/10th KOR v JPN 2:1 (1:0)
 11:00 7th/8th ESP v USA 2:2 (1:1)
 3:2 GG
 18:00 Semifinal GER v CHN 2:3 (1:1)
 20:30 Semifinal NED v ARG 5:2 (3:0)

Women Classification 22 Aug

- 08:30 11th/12th RSA v NZL
 11:00 5th/6th AUS v GBR
 18:00 Bronze Medal GER v ARG
 20:30 Gold Medal CHN v NED
 22:30 Medal Ceremony

Men Classification 21 Aug

- 08:30 9th/10th BEL v CAN
 11:00 7th/8th NZL v PAK
 18:00 Semifinal NED v GER
 20:30 Semifinal ESP v AUS

Men Classification 23 Aug

- 08:30 11th/12th CHN v RSA
 11:00 5th/6th KOR v GBR
 18:00 Bronze Medal Match
 20:30 Gold Medal Match
 22:30 Medal Ceremony

Goalscorers Men

- Taeke TAEKEMA (NED) 10 goals
 - Jong Hyun JANG (KOR) 5 goals
 - Desmond ABBOTT (AUS) 4 goals
 - Jamie DWYER (AUS) 4 goals
- For more info, visit www.worldhockey.org.