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Women's water polo, 6th day, flash quotes

2017.07.26. 12:39 CET

W39 - for the 11th place

[New Zealand-France 7-9 \(1-0, 2-2, 1-5, 3-2\)](#)

Angela Winstanley-Smith, head coach (NZL):

„I think we have done a good job and we proved that we could have won that game today, and I am disappointed we did not. However, we are tired, it has been a long tournament. Overall, it was very positive for us, we will go home and we look forward to the future. We need to change some fundamental training and preparational issues, we need to train more, we need to give the girls more support, and train harder. Being the only woman head coach in the World Championships is something I do not really think about, I am a coach and my girls do not see me any different, which is really cool. I think it shows how women's sport progresses in the world.”

Florian Bruzzo, head coach (FRA):

"I am really satisfied with the girls' performance. It is never easy to play at the right level in the last game, that is why we are so happy about our victory and final position. I think it was important whether we finished in the 11th or 12th place, that is the only way we can improve, step by step, from placement to placement. The lesson for us is that we still have to work really hard to improve ourselves and to get closer to the top teams. What I can tell about the present game is that we made some changes in the third quarter, we played more freely whereas the team of New Zealand got tired. Physically we are not among the strongest ones, that is why we have to be active and that is what helped us today."

W 40 - for the 9th place

[Netherlands-China 14-7 \(2-2, 5-2, 2-1, 5-2\)](#)

Arno Havenga, head coach (NED):

"I think we played a descent game. We controlled it from the beginning and stayed calm

throughout the whole match. That was the only thing we could do at that moment, but we aren't happy with the overall result. There were many good teams, but I still think we could've ended up a little higher than the 9th place."

Dali Gong, head coach (CHN):

"I think that Netherlands was a powerful opponent and we really wanted to be at a better position but it happened differently, we lost. It was a really interesting match and we gained experience through it."

W41 - for th 5-8th places

[Italy-Australia 18-17 \(5-3, 2-3, 1-3, 3-2, 7-6\) - o.p.](#)

Fabio Conti, head coach (ITA):

"My team put a lot of effort to win this game. For my team it is a good start at the beginning of the Olympic cycle, the future looks bright. I would like to dedicate this victory to Valeria Palmieri, who had to stay at the hotel due to an injury."

Elisa Queirolo (ITA):

"For us it was not an easy game as we were really disappointed about the result we gained against Russia, where we had a chance to win, but we were not lucky. We started off very fast today and it payed off well in the end. We will start to build our future from this match. I'm sure that we have the skills and the chance to prove ourselves within the next international competitions."

Athansios Kechagias, head coach (AUS):

"It was a decent game. My players had a very good performance. We came here for the experience, which we will use in the future. Overall, I'm happy with the result."

Rowie Webster (AUS):

"I am really proud of the performance of the Aussies, it was an equal game until the penalties. We will have one more game in the World Championships here, and in the next match we are going to give our bests, we are not competing for a medal but we still try to finish on the win. The girls put out a really good fight, unfortunately we did not come out as winners, but congratulations to the Italian team. It is amazing to be here in Budapest, the home of water polo, it is absolutely great playing in front of all these passionate fans and the crowd, and we got a few Aussie supporters as well. This is what we are training for, what we live for, we love the sport and to play a World Championships in a country that appreciates water polo so much is so exciting."

For the 5-8th place

[Hungary-Greece 10-9 \(2-4, 1-2, 5-0, 2-3\)](#)

Christina Tsoukala (GRE):

„I feel sad. We knew that this match was going to be a very difficult one. Even if we lead that didn't mean anything, because we played with Hungary in Hungary. So we had to deal with the crowd, which was like an extra player in the pool. But now we have to concentrate on the match with Australia, for the seventh place.”

Attila Bíró, head coach (HUN):

„We needed make a change on defense, a goalkeeper-change and some changes in tactics as well in the middle of the game for us to turn this one around. Thank God the girls were able to make these happen and they showed great spirit to win this fight. In the last day and a half we tried to improve mentally individually and as a teams as well and I feel the girls fought extremely hard today.

I expect a similarly close game againts Italy, we need to be on the top of our game at the end of the matches. Italy lead againts Australia by five and had to shoot penalties at the end and I would expect and I would also like the girls to fight hard and with enthusiasm two days from now.”

Orsolya Takács (HUN):

„It's really hard to stand back up on our feet like this. In the beginning, both teams had the last game in the back of their minds, especially us. We took a turn at half time, we fought for each other hand in hand. I'm happy our lead was enough at the end. Our defense got together, we scored some nice goals, which broke the opposition. We have to believe that we play great. If we believe in this, it always shows up in the pool.”

Ildikó Tóth (HUN):

„The change at goalkeeper came at the best time possible, it confused the opposition and made us more confident. Our defense got together as well, we blocked a couple of shots. We knew that if we cannot step up than we cannot win this game. I can't say that this is a cure for last game, but we are headed in the right direction to make the most out of what we'll face. Fifth place can be realistic, we have to work on getting there.”

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W43 - 1st semifinal

[Russia-United States 14-9 \(4-5, 1-6, 2-2, 2-1\)](#)

Adam Krikorian, head coach (USA)

„We have been physically strong, I think that has been a reason why we were able to be so consistent. I'm just really proud of the way we have handled a little bit of adversity today, been down two goals two separate times in the first corner. Fortunately we could have settled the nerves. You know it was one of those days when everything, the shooting was feeling good, not if I'd shot, I didn't shoot at all. The more we scored the more confident we got. But I wish we could have ended the game a little better than we did, but a coach is always looking for things to prove more.“

Rachel Fattal (USA)

"The match was good, I'm really happy that we came up with the win. I think we learned a lot from this match such as how to have a very stiff defense. Russia made us realize how important it is to have good defense. In the second half we managed to stop their offense. It's a very good team, with a lot of really fast players but luckily we managed to stop them."

Alexander Gaidukov, head coach (RUS)

"We started very well in the first quarter, but later on our defense went down. The team did everything they could, but of course there were mistakes. It's very important for us to play well on the next game, we have to prepare for it properly."

Maria Borisova (RUS)

"I'm very disappointed that we lost, we have expected the gold medal, but we have to gather our strength because in two days we will have another match for the bronze. We trust in victory."

W44 - 2nd semifinal

[Canada-Spain 10-12 \(2-4, 2-3, 2-2, 4-3\)](#)

Miguel Oca Gaia, head Coach (ESP):

„We are very satisfied, because the girls did a splendid job tonight. We've been lucky from the beginning, we have opened a hole between the scores with Canada and we've been able to keep that difference till the end of the game. So we are very satisfied.“

Haris Palvidis, head coach (CAN):

"I'm a bit sad, because I thought that things will go differently. We couldn't have played the defense that we usually play. We made too many mistakes against a very good team, that's why we lost. Now we have to gather our mistakes and try to learn from them."