

WP World Cup (W), Surgut, Day 2: Favorites keep on dominating

Game 5. ESP vs. CHN 13-7 (2-2, 4-2, 4-2, 3-1)

Results & Teams

Game 5. ESP  vs. CHN  13-7 (2-2, 4-2, 4-2, 3-1)

Referees: Severo (ITA), Drury (USA)

Extra Man: ESP 4/5, CHN 1/8

Penalty: ESP 0/1, CHN 1/1

Best player of the match: Anna Espar Llaquet (ESP)

SPAIN: Marta Bach Pascual, Anna Espar Llaquet (3), Beatriz Ortiz Munoz (4), Matilde Ortiz Reyes, Helena Lloret Gomez (1), Clara Espar Llaquet (1), Pilar Pena Carrasco (2), Anna Gual Rovirosa (1), Paula Crespi Barriga, Paula Leiton Arrones (1), Maria Elena Sanchez Gonzalez.

CHINA: Ying Zhai (1), Xiaohan Mei, Dunhan Xiong, Xinyan Wang (2), Nong Guo, Jiawen Lu, Wang Huan (2), Panyi Zhang, Xiao Chen (1), Jing Zhang (2), Yineng Shen.

Report

Spain marched on defeating China. Scoring two more goals than their opponents in each quarter except the first, they were happy to record their first win in Surgut. They needed it badly to preserve some adequate chances to avoid Group B's leader in 1/4 finals. Perhaps, it was not the best shooting game. The Asians looked stumbled after a sensitive defeat they got from Australia at their opener. Spain was no way fresh too, as they lost to host Russia the very same evening. This is why both teams took their time entering the new encounter, and experimented with the tempo, and line-ups and various game's modes.



Photo: Credit to UgraMegaSport

Miguel Angel Oca's side opened the score first after two and a half minutes after the kick-off. Pilar Pena was hot ready finishing a home-set trick drilled right for the man-up, punishing Xinyan Wang occasionally excluded, 1-0. Huan Wang gave tit for her name-sister, offering her version of the left corner shot, 1-1. Dunhan Xiong shone bring with her backhand power kill, which was duly responded by the Spanish captain, converting another extra-man combination on offer, 2-2. 3 times more hits were greeted in the 2nd period.

There came a long scoring pause for almost 3 minutes, when teams fought hard, pressed each other full court, and were quite efficient defensively. Spanish did a little better than their opponents, and 4 of their shots reached destination. China's response was just two, 6-4 at the large break. Best scorer of the Day 1 Anna Espar was more than timid or rather Chinese did not let her shine. She did not convert her penalty moment, and was to be sat having upset Yineng Shen, which was on guard the goals of team China, in the third quarter twice (through the man-up and the last hope buzzer). Her efforts, however, were backed by teammates as Paula Leiton produced a beautiful contra-attack shot, and Anna Gual Rovirosa worked out her second-chance scoring trial. Zhang and Wang were again here to respond, which was definitely not enough for revival, 10-6. The last period saw Chinese creating a lot of moments. They forced opponents to commit faults and earned extra-man chances, which were of no fruits, 13-7.



Photo: Credit to UgraMegaSport

Quotes

Beatriz Ortiz Munos, team Spain #4, 4 goals:

We have just had a good match, China is a good team. We are happy to celebrate the first win at the FINA World Cup in Surgut, and we are going to improve our game step by step. We could not show our best in the first half today, so I believe we will analyze the reasons for it and draw conclusions to be better competitive before the coming decisive clashes.

Miguel Angel Oca, team Spain head coach:

We have been good in defense today, and easily constructed a lead of 2 goals. We tried to save this advantage and did not give back initiative to our opponents. We played consistently from the very first till the last minutes of the game, and I am grateful to my players for their devotion. We gave the chance to exhibit for our second goalkeeper, and Maria Elena Sanchez Gonzalez did a good job. My compliments to China as well, they are not an easy opponent, they are interesting to play against and they are a good team.

Dali Gong, team China head coach:

We played better than yesterday. We did not win, but we kept on fighting till the very end. We are a young team, and in the games like this we badly feel we miss our two major players, who have not come to Surgut because of their injuries. The first half was better for us, whereas in the second we experienced some mistakes. Our opponents deserved the win, they even surprised me with the spirit they showed in their game. As I have said, a lot of my players are young, and their could not keep their energy up till the last minutes. This is one of the reasons why we have lost the game.

Game 6. NZL vs. CAN 4-11 (1-1, 2-3, 0-4, 1-3)
Results & Teams

Game 6. NZL 🇳🇿 vs. CAN 🇨🇦 4-11 (1-1, 2-3, 0-4, 1-3)

Referees: Naumov (RUS), Teixido (ESP)

Extra Man: NZL 2/10, CAN 3/9

Penalty: NZL 1/1, CAN 1/2

Best player of the match: Elyse Lemay Lavoie (CAN)

NEW ZEALAND: Jessica Ann Milicich, Isabella Frances Lattey Morrison, Bernadette Gabrielle Doyle, Gabryel Patricia Masina Oloapu, Alexandra Rose Boyd, Emily Charlotte Nicholson (1), Emmerson Joy Houghton (2), Katie Mary McKenty, Morgan Leigh McDowall (1), Kirsten Patricia Hudson, Kate Janelle Enoka.

CANADA: Krystina Alogbo, Axelle Crevier, Emma Louise Wright (3), Monika Catharina Eggens (2), Kelly Blair McKee (1), Joelle Bekhazi, Elyse Lemay Lavoie (3), Hayley Ann McKelvey (1), Gurpreet Kaur Sohi (2), Kindred Ayre Paul (2), Clara Anna Maria Vulpisi.

Report

Do not think, it was a clear win for Canada that never looked in doubt. North Americans were meant to demonstrate their shooting guns and maybe have another double digit victory, but could not take that easy. On the contrary, they kind-heartedly allowed “Kiwis” to trail them two period long, and sought the right way back on track only after the large break. There were a lot of swimming and spared chances, and exclusions in the game, registering 19 faults in sum and 3 penalty chances.



Photo: Credit to UgraMegaSport

There was an astonishing tie on the scoreboard after the first 8 minutes. Emma Louise Wright kicked off the glass, dished by Monika Eggens, and was immediately responded by Emmerson Joy Houghton confidently made use of the penalty shot, 1-1. 4 more shots ateam followed, which could not have changed anything in the game's flow.

Canadians put efforts to make it a 2-4 game in their favor, but were almost caught in at the close. Kelly Blair McKee did not succeed at the 5m standard and her vis-à-vis of New Zealand Emily Charlotte Nicholson set in a high cross doughout, 3-4.



Photo: Credit to UgraMegaSport

Early in the third, however, everything got settled and came back to the habitual order. New Zealand could not handle with the ball delivery to the more or less appropriate shooting positions, whereas Canada did it well to secure a marvelous 4. Emma Louise Wright did not miss her man-up and the penalty points, and her teammate Paul Kindred Ayre twice showcased her shooting technique, 3-8.

The game was almost done for the time-being. New Zealand knew right away, they have lost the momentum to avange. The last quarter dig out the gap even further, and the match-up sealed at 4-11 for the Maple Leaves.

Quotes

Angela Winstanley-Smith, team New Zealand head coach:

Traditionally Canada is in the top 4 teams in the world, and we played them in Budapest, and knew what to get ready for. They are really a good team, well drilled and very well disciplined. I am proud of my girls, that they fought till the end and never gave up. But now we have to forget about this game and get ready for the game of tomorrow.

Paul Kindred Ayre, team Canada #11, 2 goals:

We played against a good team. New Zealand came out well organized, and they knew what exactly they have to do get us a good run for a money. They did a good job, limiting our counter-attack, and this is why it was not that strong as we needed it to be. We tried to follow our system well. We were not perfect and this game will help us get ready for the next clashes in Surgut, which will be very important, among them, tomorrow's encounter with the team USA.

Game 8. RSA vs. USA 1-26 (1-7, 0-10,0-4, 0-5)

Results & Teams

Game 8. RSA 🇷🇸 vs. USA 🇺🇸 1-26 (1-7, 0-10, 0-4, 0-5)

Referees: Florestano (USA), Johnson (AUS)

Extra Man: RSA 0/1, USA 11/13

Penalty: RSA 0/0, USA 1/1

Best player of the match: Paige Hauschild (USA)

SOUTH AFRICA: Bianca Ann Prinsloo, Kieren-Ashleigh Paley, Nicola Emma Macleod, Georgia Janice Moir, Hallendorff Amica, Christine Elizabeth Abrahamse, Hanna Gail Muller, Zandre Smit (1), Claire Ann Whyte, Chloe Meecham, Kelsey White (3), Palesa Nompumelelo Ntombikayse Hlela.

USA: Jordan Raney (3), Stephanie Haralabidis (4), Rachel Fattal, Paige Hauschild (6), Margaret Steffens (2), Jamie Neushul (2), Kiley Neushul (1), Kaleigh Gilchrist (4), Makenzie Fischer (3), Alys Williams (1), Amanda Longan.

Report

USA gave a lesson to South Africa. Overall champions took their chance right to improve statistics. Competition Day 2 of the FINA Women's World Cup in Surgut registered a very impressive win, the most impressive, to be precise, so far in the group round. 26 goals to 1, which only came from South African ladies early on start. Extra-man chances spoke loudly for the overwhelming favorites. Team USA was dominating, and setting pace, and showcasing various models to score. Getting warm in the first quarter at 1-7, they turned to 10-0 in the next 8 minutes. Whatever difficult it may be for the American coaches to keep on motivated their star-players to stay tuned, they did it right. The gap grew larger and larger, and reached 25 goals.



Photo: Credit to UgraMegaSport

Adam Krikorian and C made use of a staggering 11/13 man-up moments, and their opponents spared their only chance, which came at 1:23 to the final buzzer. The only penalty shot was duly performed by the American side. Paige Hauschild turned out to be the best scorer of the game, and of the day, on 6 goals, and deservedly won the best player of the match award.



Photo: Credit to UgraMegaSport

Quotes

Paige Hauschild, team USA #5, best player of the match, 6 goals:

We came out strong. We treated our opponent as any other team. You never know what to expect, each opponent can bring surprises. We came out and played the way we knew we should play. Such a good scoring result was done as the game went on. We tried to play our best. I hope, it was a good preparation for us before tomorrow's game against Canada. We are very excited about the coming battle.

Jason Sileno, head coach of the team South Africa:

For us it was a very difficult game. The only thing we could offer was 100 percent of our energy against 100 percent professional team. It was a very difficult situation. USA is the best team in the world for the recent 6 years. And we are young, since the last year's Championships in Budapest we have changed 9 players retiring. So we have 9 players under the age of 22, very inexperienced. This is not an excuse. We are very happy to be in Surgut, we are very proud. We will learn experience and hope to get improved and have better results.

Game 7. AUS vs. RUS 8-14 (2-0, 3-7, 0-5, 3-2)

Results & Teams

Game 7. AUS  vs. RUS  8-14 (2-0, 3-7, 0-5, 3-2)

Referees: Savinovic (CRO), Brooks (NZL)

Extra Man: AUS 1/6 RUS 4/8

Penalty: AUS 1/2 RUS 1/1

Best player of the match: Olga Gorbunov (RUS)

AUSTRALIA: Lilian Hedges, Keesja Gofers (1), Hannah Buckling (1), Bronte Halligan, Isobel Bishop, Bronnen Knox (2), Rowie Webster (2), Amy Ridge, Zoe Arancini (2), Alice Williams, Gabriella Palm.

RUSSIA: Maria Bersneva, Ekaterina Prokofyeva (3), Elvina Karimova (3), Olga Gorbunova (4), Alena Serzhantova (1), Anastasia Simanovich (1), Anna Timofeeva, Evgeniia Soboleva (1), Evgeniia Ivanova, Daria Ryzhkova (1), Anna Karnaukh.

Report

Host Russia earned their second win as Australia remained on 2 points. It was a driving story with a lot of fire.



Photo: Credit to UgraMegaSport

Australians lead first, and then were caught and eaten. The loud crowd's support turned out to be the 8th player in the swimming-cup for Russia, as their opponents missed that badly.

Australian Captain Rowie Webster kicked off the glass, killing a penalty shot for 1-0. Halligan Bronte then worked out for a cross shot, which Maria Berseneva could not have postponed, 2-0. A "10 goals parade" came in the 2nd quarter, improving the stats and changing the game's flow. Australia kept on the balance as Russia's Elvina Karimova and Ekaterina Prokofieva set in their extra goals trailing two actions ones by Keesja Gofers and Hannah Buckling, 4-2. A minute later, Olga Gorbunova produced a cross goal, which was of bad need for her team to stay competitive. This goal so hardly earned turned out to be the crucial point for the match-up.



Photo: Credit to UgraMegaSport

Winged by the fans ardent support, Alexander Gaydukov coached side did not only level the chances, but substantially improved them to make it a 4-7 game by the close of the 1st half. Australians could not find the remedy against this pressure in the large break. They were left and locked inside their defensive area, and a few counter-attacks which they did launch missed fire and accuracy.

Olga Gorbunova were again on the shooting line and succeeded to score twice. Elvina Karinova, Anastasiia Simanovich and Daria Ryzhkova supported her break and booked their nation's lead at 7, one period left in the match-up, 5-12. The game was almost done irrelevant of the last quarter. Competitors looked poised to fight, but had no energy. No side could convert extras. Australia pulled back 1 goal, but knew, it would not stop the Red Machine, 8-14.



Photo: Credit to UgraMegaSport

Quotes

Athanasios Kechagias, team Australia head coach:

Russia was better today, and they have deservedly won the race. For us, we had a plan in our mind, we tried to put in control on the offense. We did not want to concede easy goals at counter-attacks. But one can't predict everything. The game turned out to be different. We have been competitive in the first half, but the result of the game counts at the end. And now we have what we have. We shall go through it and think of the next encounter against Spain.



Photo: Credit to UgraMegaSport

Olga Gorbunova, team Russia #6, best player of the match, 4 goals:

This game was great, it ended successfully for us, but we shall better forget the result and be concentrated on the next clashes. It was important for us to win this game to rank first in our group and have easier opponent in the quarter-finals. We have this plan well executed so far, and I hope we will be able to proceed in the same nature.



Photo: Credit to UgraMegaSport

Olga Kamardina, FINA correspondent in Russia

Competition Day 2 of the FINA Women's Water Polo World Cup 2018, launched the day before in Surgut, Russia, saw another big wins of favorites. Defending World Cup and reigning European bronze medalists Spain met no major challenges defeating China, which stood as a problem for Australia's opener. "Stingers" tonight had another uneasy game to go against host nation, which turned out to be very tense and kept everyone in suspense till the last seconds. Diametrically different stories unfolded as North American teams played South Africa and New Zealand. Both rookies had a good practice and confirmed their good shape, as their rising opponents came away learning experience and conceding a lot of goals.

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Photo: Credit to UgraMegaSport

FINA Women's Water Polo World Cup 2018

Competition results

Day 2, 4 September, 2018

Match #5. 15:00 ESP  vs. CHN  13-7 (2-2, 4-2, 4-2, 3-1)

Match #6. 16:30 NZL  vs. CAN  4-11 (1-1, 2-3, 0-4, 1-3)

Match #8. 18:00 RSA  vs. USA  1-26 (1-7, 0-10, 0-4, 0-5)

Match #7. 19:30 AUS  – RUS  8-14 (2-0, 3-7, 0-5, 3-2)

Progress points after Competition Day 2:

Group A: Russia 4, Australia 2, Spain 2, China 0.

Group B: USA 4, Canada 4, New Zealand 0, RSA 0.
