

# Knockout Begins



Australia line up. Photo by Christine Rushworth

## Tension and Tears

USA and Canada matched up in the Women's division today in what must be expected to be a preview of the final. What may not have been expected is the 9-2 deficit America had created by half. USA didn't play a perfect offensive game by any means, but their combination of raw athleticism and discipline allowed them to build a significant buffer. The second half was a totally different game as both teams scored eight points each. USA defense didn't let up, but Canada found their groove and showed the calibre that they will hope to bring for the full game if they get the chance to face the favourites again for medals.

During this game, the final stages of Open power pools took place. Germany fought hard against Canada on the show pitch, and laid down a marker of their quality despite losing 14-11 in a tense and physical matchup. However the most exciting Open game of the round was between Switzerland and Japan. Down 11-10, Japan scored and broke to go back on serve and eventually won 13-12.

The day's excitement certainly didn't stop there. India completed their second win 13-12 over the Philippines in the Mixed division, which also saw Canada come back from a first half deficit to prevent the upset against a strong Great Britain. However nothing could prepare people for the excitement of the Open quarter-final double bill as the crowd were treated to two fantastic games on the show pitch.

Austria fought valiantly to come back against Japan who led at 15-11. The Europeans caught an exhilarating layout block on the goal line for a callahan, and this triggered a four point late-game run. Japan eventually held their nerve to win in sudden-death 16-15; their first goal in almost half an hour since the Austrian surge. The Japanese coach and players immediately fell to the knees, and tears quickly ensued from both sides.

The contest between Germany and Great Britain was the latest of a long rivalry at youth level. However what would have been in many of their minds was the bronze medal match at Heilbronn 2010, where Great Britain beat Germany in the cradle of German Junior Ultimate for a world bronze medal. Germany held a lead late into today's game at 12-11, but a GB flurry of 3 points put the game in their favour, and they finally won 15-13. On course for the semi-finals, GB have upset a very strong German team. Additions to the British side since Heilbronn such as Ben Poole, Ben Burak and Will Rowledge give Britain a playmaking force that is truly formidable when they are firing as a team. Whilst Germany will be distraught, it should be noted that the team displayed excellent spirit throughout the game,, retracting multiple calls at clutch moments.

In this form GB Open will be excited to have another bite at the undeniable favourites for the tournament, USA, who will be looking to continue their unbeaten run across all divisions for another day. Canada also represent in all division semi-finals, and will play Japan in both the Open and Women's Divisions. Australia squeezed past the hosts in the mixed division to face Canada, and also feature in the Women's against USA. A strong German mixed team make up the bracket play as they also get a shot at the so-far undefeated Americans.

*By Josh Coxon Kelly and Charlie Blair*

Stats Leaders

Mixed: Joe Wynder [GBR] 36 assists and 9 goals

Open: Matt Richardson [NZL] 19 assists and 23 goals

Women's: Kathryn Smith [AUS] 24 assists and 8 goals

# Tomorrow's Schedule

## Friday

Pitch	1	2	3	4 / Arena	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	Pitch
09:30									GBR v TPE Mixed	JPN v RSA Mixed		GER v SWE Women	IND v COL Mixed		IRL v PHI Mixed		09:30
11:10				CAN v AUS Mixed SF	GER v NZL Open		AUT v IRL Open			GBR v NZL Women	FIN v BEL Open	SUI v AUS Open	ITA v COL Open	SWE v MEX Open	ESP v POL Open	NED v PHI Open	11:30
13:10		USA v GER Semi-Final		CAN v JPN Open SF							COL v SWE Women						13:30
15:10																	15:10
15:30		USA v GBR Open SF		CAN v JPN Women's SF			5v6 Mixed		7v8 Mixed			9v10 Mixed	11v12 Mixed				15:30
17:10				USA v AUS Women's SF				5v6 Open		7v8 Open		COL v GER Women					17:30
19:10			3v4 Mixed														19:10



Photo by Deepthi Indukuri

## Useful Information

- Spectator tickets are now completely sold out! There will unfortunately be no way to admit anybody who doesn't already have a ticket.
- Trade night is tomorrow, and will be held in the catering tent from 13:30 - 17:30

## Player Profile

How long have you been playing: 10 years

Have you represented USA before: I played in four world championships including U23 in Toronto

Proudest Ultimate moment: Leading my college team to USAU National Finals in 2013

Greatest Ultimate achievement: Winning gold at U23s in Toronto, making the Seattle Riot team this year

Frisbee Idols: Rohre Titcomb, Gwen Ambler, Alyssa Weatherford

Funniest team member: Nora Landri – good to laugh at [and with we hope]

Sexiest kit at the tournament: Swedish hoodies

Top tips for winning: Positive energy, good team vibes, using depth, staying present (one game at a time)



Julia Snyder. Photo by Deepthi Indukuri