

Pool Play Ends



GB Mixed's Harry Mason consoles his opposition. Photo by Claire Bake

Undefeated

Competition is heating up in London as players move ever closer to knockout play. USA Mixed showed good early morning form against Ireland, as a diving Khalif El-Salaam spectacularly retained possession to complete Simon Higgins' greatest. Getting up to throw the assist for 16 - 0, Khalif and the team showed their class by achieving the second 17 - 0 defeat of the tournament.

A much closer game came shortly afterwards in the Women's division as powerhouse nations Japan and Canada met in a 2nd versus 3rd seed matchup. Canada utilised their height to overcome a 3 - 0 deficit and take the 14 - 12 win. India got even closer to Chinese Taipei, but couldn't find their second victory and narrowly lost in sudden-death.

The Great Britain home crowd was treated to a triple bill as all teams played on neighbouring pitches in the fourth game slot. Colombia Women made life very difficult for the hosts as they ran away with a 17-5 victory on the show pitch. However things looked brighter for GB in the next pitch along as the Open squad turned around a 5-1 deficit to beat Australia in sudden-death. Their victory required a 5 point streak from 12-8 down, and echoes a similar feat when GB Junior Open rallied a 5 point close-out to beat Australia at the WUGC in Vancouver 2008. As was the case then, the GB victory knocks their antipodean rivals

from the quarter final knockout brackets. Shortly after the Open win, GB Mixed completed an emotional 15-13 victory against Japan. The tears from both teams in the spirit circle were testament to the passion on display from all players in this exciting game.

The two North American powerhouses are set for what could be their closest tests in the Open division yet. USA have to face an athletic Austrian side whose offense has seemed largely untroubled so far, and Canada will face Germany who are the only Open team other than them and USA to hold an undefeated record. In the Women's division, only Australia have the chance of breaking up the current top four of Colombia, Japan, Canada and USA. The Mixed division is wide open outside of North America, with Great Britain, Germany and Australia all vying for the second and third semi final spots.

As all divisions squeeze down to the knockout brackets, Thursday's play holds potential for the most exciting games yet as medal dreams hang in the balance for many teams.

By Josh Coxon Kelly

Tomorrow's Schedule

Thursday

Pitch	1	2	3	4 / Arena	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	Pitch
09:30	RSA v IND Mixed	TPE v COL Mixed	IRL v IRL Mixed	JPN v COL Women		MEX v SWE Open		IRE v DEN Open	POL v ESP Open	MEX v PHI Open		GER v SWE Women	Pitch Maintenance				09:30
11:30	USA v AUT Open	IRL v GBR Open		SUI v JPN Open	COL v AUS Open		CAN v GER Open			NZL v ITA Open	USA v CAN Women	AUS v NZL Women					11:30
13:10																	13:10
13:30		RSA v TPE Mixed	IRL v IND Mixed				CAN v GBR Mixed	AUS v GER Mixed									13:30
15:10																	15:10
15:30	Open			Open	CAN v GER Women		1H v 2G Open		3G v 4H Open	3H v 4G Open	5E v 6F Open	v 5E Open	USA v SWE Women		COL v AUS Women	1G v 2H Open	15:30
17:10	Quarter-Final			Quarter-Final													17:10
17:30		Open	GBR v NZL Women	Open			USA v CAN Mixed	GER v JPN Mixed	GBR v AUS Mixed								17:30
19:10		Quarter-Final		Quarter-Final													19:10

Player Profile

Name: Oliver Goosen

Age: 22

Team: South Africa Mixed captain

Club team: University of Cape Town Flying Tigers

Sickest play: I completed a world's greatest with one of my teammates, we both laid out for it. My foot was on the line so it didn't count, but it was still cool

Best achievement: I captained my team to two Cape Town Summer League victories

Best kit: Us, hands down. New Zealand's is pretty cool too I guess

Pump up song: I like peace and quiet!

What other team would you play for: Japan. I like how they play, very quick

Best thing about London so far: The Science Museum. It was really good! They had an exhibit about cravings that was really interesting

Anything else: I started 10 Magazine in South Africa recently, an online magazine for SA Ultimate. A shout out would be great!

Useful Information

- The volunteers are doing an awesome job. Make sure to give them a smile and say thanks when you see them!
- E.R.I.C have given 41 hats for the spirit captains of each team (pick these up from information desk), 25 hats as spirit of the game prizes for the show pitch, and finally 300 stickers for your water bottles to grab from the VC tent. Spread the word!
- Efforts with litter have been fantastic. Keep up the good work!
- The tournament doctor would like to remind you all to wash your hands before eating



Oliver Goosen. Photo by Claire Baker



Photo by Deepthi Indukuri