

Enschede UWH tournament

8th September 2012

The trip to Enschede, Netherlands was roughly an eight-hour journey by car from Zurich. A big thanks to Sylvania for offering her vehicle to drive us there. Team Suisse consisted of five players 'from' CH and a few more, including Tal, an Israeli-born dedicated UWH player - who is known throughout his country as the guy who always wears red speedos, so he had the perfect look for joining our team! - and a few boys from neighbouring Dutch teams.

To keep the drivers alert and the atmosphere in good spirit, to complement the music in the car Fanny and Sylvania

came up with the «referee-dance», so termed because Martin and Philipp were explaining (to the newbies in particular) the different signs and gestures that one is to make in order to have a clean game in the water. This proved to be useful, as some of us, author included, had the chance to referee a game between other opposing teams.

This tournament was my first as an UWH player, never mind representing Switzerland. Our host, Marco, the organiser of the tournament, was busy making and spraying the Piranha trophies when we knocked on his door to announce our arrival. He had offered us to sleep over at his apartment the first night. After having filled our tummies



Ivan, Fanny, Remco, Sylvania, Tal, Maurits, Martin, Robert, Philipp, Jan

26 Enschede UWH tournament

with scrumptious steaks, fillets and ribs at a local Argentinian steak house we were all more than ready for bed.

After a good night's rest and a wicked breakfast with toast and tea, we set off to the pool at the humungous university campus. It was to be a splendid day in the sun, with much underwater time. The games were awesome! I had to quickly learn how the subbing worked (i.e. who to substitute with whom when the lungs were out of breath), so as not to mess up the games.

Overall it was quite frantic at first to get my positioning straight, and where exactly I should be to intercept a pass and score, or even to continue swimming and then make a passing shot. I

was pretty exhausted after only the first game, never mind after the sixth. I was able to pass a few times that led to a goal or two and I do remember scoring my first goal! What a feeling of triumph that was both for my team and me!

We were 7 teams competing for the Golden Snorkel, which was the name of the tournament in Enschede. Team Suisse came fourth, missing third place by a mere point. Oh well, better luck next time! Nevertheless, we all had fun, especially playing together as a team and though there were occasional remarks and critiques - perhaps even shouts - the atmosphere of my first tournament as a package was one I will remember for a long time to come.



Learning from Steven Kars the puck master :-)

Sunday was a new day with loads of new things to learn. A well-known player, Steven Kars, who had represented both Canada and USA at World Championships, had joined the tournament the previous day, and had been invited to give a clinic to the tournament participants. He started with a question and answer session to identify the aspects that would make a good underwater hockey player, went on to puck skills and followed this up with some formations that we should practice to further improve our game. Of course all video cameras and iPhones were set on him to record all relevant information!

Steven explained some dry-land skill

exercises that one could do on the floor in front of the television or when playing with the dog. We all listened attentively like school children in a classroom. After the poolside theory session had concluded, we all jumped in the pool to practice the newly acquired skills. Thereafter we played some proper games to see whether any of the theory would show up in play. And luckily it did!

After a long day and weekend in the pool and sun we were ready for a last great meal and the drive back to Switzerland!

Ivan Jivkov

Ihr Kopier-Profi helio-blitz GmbH

Stallikonerstrasse 73, 8903 Birmensdorf
Tel 043-222 48 48, Fax 043-222 48 49
E-Mail: info@helio-blitz.ch



Kopieren

- Planplots schwarz/weiss und farbig
- Grosskopien
- Fotokopien A5 bis A3
- Flugblätter
- Hellraumfolien s/w oder farbig
- Laserfarbkopien bis A3 Überformat
- Broschüren

Ausrüsten

- Ringbinden, heften, falzen, leimen und laminieren
- Sortieren, heften - auch mit farbigen Deckblättern

Service

- Abhol- und Lieferservice
- Beratung in allen Kopierfragen

Spezielles

- Grossformat-Scans auf Wunsch mit Sicherung auf externem Datenträger

Materialverkauf

- Papier in 30 Farben
- Zeichenpapier
- Folien
- Papierverkauf