

Mulhouse Spring UWH Tournament 27th May 2012

As previously reported, our nearest neighbours in Mulhouse, France, like holding tournaments. Once a year is not enough for them, they hold one in Spring and another in Autumn.

With the help of Martin and Sylvania respectively, the Mulhouse men's and women's teams had both qualified for the French national championships for the first time ever. Sylvania had helped the ladies team to an excellent mid-table finish in St Malo in March, and 10th June was the big day for the Mulhouse men. So this year's Spring tournament was not only a friendly invitational tournament, it was also the last chance for the Mulhouse men to play together as a team before the Nationals.

The Swiss team numbered only four players - Claudiane and Martin from Zürich, and Dinah and Favio from Geneva - so we had to borrow two players for each game to make up the numbers. But that still made us only six, so all of us still had to play the whole day without a substitute. In addition, Martin also played for the Mulhouse men's team in their games against Strasbourg and the Mulhouse women. And that's not to mention the refereeing!

We lost our first game against the Mulhouse men and were likely to do the same against Strasbourg, as they were a much stronger team. However, we had reckoned without a bit of Colombian strong-arm intimidation tactic to level the playing field...



Martin, Claudiane, Favio, Dinah

18 Mulhouse UWH tournament

As Strasboug were hammering our goal, Favio did what would have been a superbly powerful clearance off the goal line. However, the Strasboug captain, Olivier, had his head on the bottom of the pool right next to the goal tray, and Favio's clearance only went about 30cm before it smashed straight into Olivier's mask, with blood everywhere. The game was paused for about 10 minutes while Olivier cleaned himself up, but when it restarted, we didn't seem to have intimidated Strasboug at all, as they still ran all over us, scoring six or more goals for no reply.

Despite the heavy loss on the scoreline, we had actually played better against Strasboug than we had against the Mulhouse men, so we

were in good shape for our final game against the Mulhouse women. Both Dinah and Claudiane were playing in their first ever tournament, but rose to the challenge well, and despite the Mulhouse women putting up a spirited fight, we were still able to take victory, to finish the tournament in third place out of four. And Claudiane scored her very first tournament goal!

Tired bodies were rejuvenated with a delicious after-tournament buffet of some excellent home-cooked food provided by the Mulhouse players, washed down with a keg of Kronenbourg beer, the pride of Alsace. We look forward to the Autumn tournament!

Martin Reed



www.tauchbasis.ch

Die für den **Basis**
Tauchsport

Jungstrasse 8, 8050
Zürich
Telefon 044 301 00 11
Telefax 044 303 04 84
inauen@tauchbasis.ch

PADI / CMAS / SSI & TDI
Verkauf, Miete, Schulung
und Füllstation

