

## 22 Munich UWH tournament

### 10th Anniversary Munich Bier & Brezen Tournament

21st July 2012

«Confusion» might be the best way to describe the method by which the Suisse team selection was drawn together for the 10th anniversary Munich Bier & Brezen Pokal, so named because it celebrated ten years since the founding of underwater hockey in Munich.

Even right up to the last minute, it still seemed to be a reign of confusion, as we were being joined by players that we didn't know, being let down by players that we didn't know, and so on. This confusion continued during the tournament, with random Dutch players jumping in for our games to make up our numbers. It was very kind of them to offer to help, but it did make any kind of team strategy very difficult to formalise when we rarely had the same people in the water.

For every one of our games during the morning session we had been drawn to play in white, and unfortunately we lost every one. However, given that we were playing against the Belgium national selection, Czech men, Slovenian men and Munich men, perhaps it was stronger teams to blame for our run of defeats, not colour incompatibility.

The afternoon session started in the same way, with two more games in white and two more defeats, albeit at the hands of two more strong teams, Strasbourg and Galathea from the Netherlands (the team that had been lending us players for the morning session).

For the rest of the day, however, we were drawn in black, and suddenly our luck changed, with three successive victories against the Czech Women, «Munich Fun» and «Les Cigognes», otherwise known as Mulhouse, Martin's team in the French league. Maybe this colour thing did have something to do with it? Or maybe the fact that they were three weaker teams may have helped a bit too. :-)

For our final match we were also playing in black, and playing against the Munich Women, to whom we had never lost. However, the Munich women were having no truck with the form book, as they stopped both our runs of successes in their tracks to romp away to a comfortable 3-1 victory, putting us in seventh place out of 11.

And there was only one thing to say about the tournament party: «Bavarian beer, yum!»

Martin Reed



Gaëtan of Team Suisse  
holding possession against  
Kevin of Les Cigognes



*Martin and Favio working together to win the puck*



*«Team Suisse Plus»: Craig, Paul, Gaëtan, Favio, Sylvania, Martin, Molly-Sue, Michiel, plus Dutch helpers...*