26 UW-Hockey Grenoble Tournament

Grenoble Tournament 19th of January, 2014

With 2 weeks of training under the belt in 2014, we proudly represented Switzerland at the Grenoble tournament in January. By "we" I mean: Philipp, Johanna, Robin, Richard, Krishna, Ivan, Katherine, Szusza, Silvania and yours truly. That means that, except for Antarctica, every continent was represented in our team, and the only country represented by more than one person was... South Africa. Enough stats: after a 4h-long drive, we arrived in Grenoble on Saturday the 18th of January, and spent the evening wandering around town and having great pizza at a charming Italian restaurant together. Coming from Zürich, the pizza

prices meant we were already financially break-even at this point. Of course, all of this was just the prelude to the real goal of our trip: the tournament on Sunday. With very little opportunity to get accustomed to the pool (which was 3.1 m deep at one end and 1.8 m at the other), we played our first game against the junior team of Moirans. We got off to a very good start, as Philipp opened the score within the first minutes of the game. The rest of the game was pretty evenly matched, and we lost 2-3 in the end, sadly conceding the decisive goal in the dying moments of the game. Still, we were happy about our first game, and confidently looking forward to our next game against the women's team of the hosting club of Grenoble. This



Katherine, Zsuzsa, Krishna, Ivan, Robin, Brecht, Johanna, Philipp, Silvania, Richard

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turned out to be 9 women and one bear of a man who seemed to play every position in their line-up at once. We lost this game 5 to 2. On a positive note: some footage of this game made regional TV in France, and I scored my first ever tournament goal (mostly thanks to preparatory work by Philipp though).

One more game that springs to mind was our game against Clermont: we played our very best hockey against them, but still they beat us badly with seven to nil. We missed some very good goal scoring opportunities, and were thus left feeling very frustrated, but also proud that we didn't go down without a fight. Afterwards, it turned out some men on the Clermont team won the French national competition last season, and were probably also on the French national team that won the

world championships.

In the end, despite not achieving a great result in the rankings, all of us felt very satisfied about the tournament: we played better than expected, and the rookies among us once again learned a lot about how UWH is really played. All that was left to do was to drive back from Grenoble to Zürich. The 4h ride was livened up by excellent driving by Richard and Robin (an astonishing feat, after a tough day in the back line of our squad) and great music as chosen by DJ Ivan; we listened to everything ranging from German toddler's songs to New Zealandian drinking songs. This capped off a weekend of good hockey and great fun. Bring on the next one!

Text: Brecht Fotos: Philipp



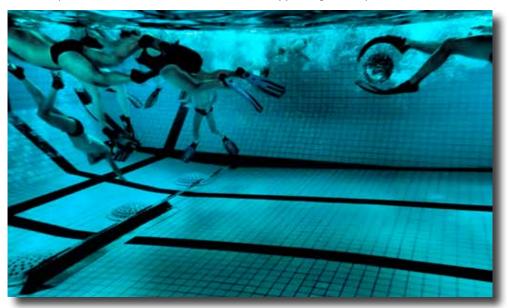
Aufwärmen mit «Puck an der Leine». Brecht und Philipp

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Johanna (Johanna versucht in Bern eine UWH-Gruppe zu gründen.)



Irgendwie ist der Boden nicht gerade...

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Abends in der Bar. Robin, Zsuzsa, Richard

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