

Men`s Qualifying Tournament for XXVII Olympic Games, Madrid

Game 7 - JPN v POL

03 March 2004

Start Time: 14:00

4 JPN

Kenichi Katayama (FG)	13:10
Takahiko Yamabori (PC)	19:02
Naohiko Tobita (PC)	61:32
Kenichi Katayama (FG)	69:31

4 POL

Artur Mikula (FG)	07:09
Piotr Mikula (PC)	09:40
Zbigniew Juszczak (PS)	33:13
Piotr Mikula (FG)	50:22

Full Time - JPN 4 POL 4

Time	Commentary
70:00	Full time: 2 comebacks from JPN where they trailed by 2 goals in each half. Vital point gained by both teams, although POL will be disappointed they let the win slip with just 30 seconds to go. PC count: JPN 3 POL 1.
69:31	Goal Katayama scores a goal to steal a draw from POL with 30 seconds to go. The ball fell to the JPN captain from a right side cross.
68:56	POL managing to hold off the JPN attack and have pushed the play back into the midfield.
64:39	JPN with all the momentum at the moment. Their forwards are running hard and the POL defence is stretched as they try to keep up. Time the enemy for JPN.
61:32	Goal Tobita roofs a flick into the net. JPN team jubilant as they trail now by just 1 goal.
59:58	Penalty corner to JPN. Their 3rd and the first for the half. Both teams attacking in the last 5 mins.
54:26	Incident Yellow card to POL. Marcin Nychowiak for a poor tackle.
52:51	POL still deep in attack with space and are looking like scoring another goal. JPN deep defence is not as tight as it needs to be.
50:55	Incident Yellow card to JPN. Poor tackle by Makoto Karuo.
50:22	Goal P Mikula scores a backside push under Takahashi (JPN GK) after a good buildup down the left. JPN on the back foot in the last 4 mins.
49:05	Rachwalski misses a good opportunity to put POL 4-2 ahead with his shot in space in front of the GK goes wide. JPN fortunate.
46:19	POL playing with tremendous passion. Each tackle and pass is noticeably being done with much intensity. JPN struggling now to push into attack with POL defence and midfield pushed high.
39:58	An even start to the 2nd half with both teams having entries into their circle. No goal shots for the half.
35:00	Half time: A close game with a strong comeback from JPN after trailing 0-2 after 10 mins. PC count: JPN 2 POL 1.
33:13	Goal Z Juszczak flicks low left to score and take POL to a 3-2 lead.
33:02	Incident Penalty stroke to POL. JPN stick check on a POL attacker in the circle. JPN very unhappy with the decision.
31:16	A great save by Takahashi (JPN GK) after POL broke into the circle and tried to push past him.
30:35	POL have pushed out the JPN attack and now the game is being played in the midfield.
27:07	End to end hockey as both JPN and POL have forays into their circles. The pace of the game has definitely lifted in the last 5 mins.

- 24:16** A great save on the line by the giant Z Juszczak off the JPN flick. POL manage to clear and attack for the first time in 5 mins.
- 22:54** JPN earn their 2nd corner.
- 22:33** Ito almost scores for JPN with a diving slap shot from the left. His shot is just wide. JPN doing all the attacking in the last 10 mins.
- 19:02 Goal**
Yamabori flicks low and right to score the equaliser.
- 18:27** JPN holding the ball with more confidence now as the half progresses. They earn their first corner.
- 13:10 Goal**
JPN captain Katayama scores after 3 mins of holding the ball in the JPN attack. POL marking left Katayama free with space in the circle and he easily hit the ball past the POL GK after a left wing cross.
- 09:40 Goal**
P Mikula easily deflects the push pass into the net. POL players jubilant as they lead 2-0.
- 09:01** POL earn their 1st corner for the game from a JPN stick check. JPN defenders not happy with the decision.
- 07:09 Goal**
A Mikula opens the score for POL with a hard shot from the top of the circle and a right side attacking move.
- 06:30** The game is starting to open up now as both teams use the midfield space to attack each other with speed. POL with the first shot at goal for the game, although is well saved by Takahashi (JPN GK).
- 03:57** Both teams currently feeling each other out with no entry into an attacking circle. POL playing with 3 high strikers. JPN with just 1.
- 01:07** With cloudy skies, the temp is warmer than the 0C of yesterday`s opening games. Both teams will see this as a critical game in their attempts to qualify for Athens, being closely ranked.