

**Women`s Qualifying Tournament for XXVIII Olympic Games, Auckland**

FIH (www.worldhockey.org) LIVE COMMENTARY: Game 6: USA v JPN

20 January 2004

Start Time: 12:00

**1 USA**

Tracey Fuchs (PC) 33:43

**3 JPN**

Akemi Kato (PC) 16:16

Sakae Morimoto (PC) 46:26

Sachimi Iwao (PC) 54:19

**Final Score - USA 1 JPN 3**

Time	Commentary
<b>70:00</b>	<b>Incident</b> Full time. A close first half at 1-1, and then a 2-0 second half from JPN. JPN dominated the vast majority of the second half, with the USA unable to break the JPN midfield press for long periods. A big win for JPN who now head Pool B with 2 wins. PC count: USA 3 JPN 9. Field shots: tba
<b>68:09</b>	USA with the ball under control and in their half now as JPN defend their lead. USA passing the ball around their defence, looking for avenues of attack.
<b>66:36</b>	USA working the ball forward although still struggling to break the tight JPN defence and midfield structure. Time the main enemy for USA as their desperation to try and break through is causing mistakes.
<b>64:58</b>	The flick shot is saved by Storrar and USA clear. JPN regain the ball and they stay in attack.
<b>64:12</b>	JPN with their 9th corner after USA did not retreat 5 yards on a free hit.
<b>63:01</b>	JPN into attack and Storrar with another great save as she taps the ball over the crossbar from a hard JPN shot from the top of the circle. Like the World Cup in 2002, Storrar is keeping the score close.
<b>60:41</b>	USA push into attack for the first time in 15 mins. JPN leaving 2 players high and defend with just 9 players.
<b>57:45</b>	USA under a huge amount of pressure in the midfield. They struggle to move into attack with limited space from the hard running JPN midfielders. JPN also looking very dangerous on the counterattack after an intercept.
<b>54:19</b>	<b>Goal</b> Iwao scores a sliding deflection goal from the variation to the right post.
<b>53:56</b>	JPN pouring on the pressure. They win their 8th corner from a USA foot.
<b>51:56</b>	JPN still in control of the ball and deep in attack.
<b>50:31</b>	Storrar saves the high flick and USA manage to clear to the sideline.
<b>50:05</b>	JPN earn their 7th corner from a USA foot after attacking down the right.
<b>48:02</b>	JPN into attack and holding the ball after the goal. USA back under significant pressure.
<b>46:26</b>	<b>Goal</b> Morimoto scores from the variation back to the pushout. JPN leading 2-1.
<b>46:08</b>	JPN earn their 6th corner and first for the half from a USA foot.
<b>43:32</b>	USA have bounced back into attack after weathering the initial barrage from JPN. They have the ball deep in their attacking half for the last 2 mins.
<b>40:28</b>	JPN almost score again after a shot from the right that just misses the left post. Its all JPN at the moment with the ball deep in their attack.
<b>35:42</b>	JPN off to a great start with Komori almost scoring. Storrar makes a sliding save and USA manage to regain the ball.
<b>35:00</b>	<b>Incident</b> Half time. 1-1. As expected, a close match with neither team dominant in either possession or field position. PC count: USA 3 JPN 5.
<b>34:57</b>	The ball is saved by the USA runner and cleared to the other end. Half time siren sounds.
<b>34:43</b>	JPN into attack straight after the restart and they earn their 5th corner from a USA foot.
<b>33:43</b>	<b>Goal</b> Fuchs flicks the ball over Terazono (JPN GK) from the variation left.
<b>33:24</b>	USA earn their 3rd corner from a JPN foot. End to end hockey at the moment.
<b>30:58</b>	JPN miss the trap at the top of the circle although recover. Komori`s shot is saved by Storrar. JPN long corner.
<b>30:22</b>	JPN earn their 4th corner after a USA stick check. Danger here for USA.
<b>27:46</b>	An even game continues with both teams with equal time with the ball. USA with better field position with the ball mainly in their half.
<b>25:45</b>	The corner hit is stopped by the USA defence and they regain control of the ball.
<b>25:22</b>	JPN earn their 3rd corner from a USA foot.
<b>24:20</b>	The hit is stopped by the JPN runner (Iwao) and they immediately counter deep into attack.
<b>23:34</b>	USA earn their 2nd corner after a push in the circle by a JPN defender. JPN unhappy with the decision.
<b>21:37</b>	USA fighting back with a good 3 or 4 mins in attack although struggling to create a goal shot. JPN working very hard in

defence to try and keep the USA out of their circle.

**16:16 Goal**

Kato puts JPN ahead with a slap shot under Storrar.

**15:56** JPN counterattack through Morimoto down the right and she earns them their 2nd corner from a USA foot.

**15:13** The trap is missed and the ball goes to the sideline.

**14:40** USA earn their first corner after breaking down the right side. JPN raised ball.

**13:39** JPN with greater field position in the last few mins. USA unable to push past the JPN press.

**12:16** A close match at the moment with no team able to create more than a few attacking moves. Neither team with a goal shot in the last 8 mins.

**04:20** The hit is saved by the USA runner and they manage to clear. JPN regain the ball and stay in attack.

**03:45** After an even first 3 mins, JPN earn their first corner.

**01:43** Two teams very closely ranked with JPN(11) and USA(10) seeing this as a critical game in making the top 4 in the pool. JPN coming off a big win yesterday will go in as favourites.