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Olympic Hockey Qualifier Women, Manukau, Auckland

Match 5
Saturday 20 March 2004

Germany 2 - 1 Ukraine

Alexandra Kollmar

PC 57m
FG 58m

Yana Vorushylo

FG 39m

Match Summary

After yesterday's draw between New Zealand and Great Britain, Germany took the early advantage in Pool A with a patchy win against Ukraine. It was a patchy performance from the Germans who had to rely on two goals in as many minutes late in the match to claim the points after Ukraine had taken an unexpected lead in the second half. Germany had the better of the match in terms of possession and territory, but play too often broke down across the strike line as the Ukraine defence continually repelled their attacking movements. Germany would have expected a win in this match and anything other than three points would have been a disaster.

It was another performance of endeavour and hard work that ultimately went unrewarded for Ukraine. With two tough matches remaining, they must now realistically rely on a combination of other results and success against New Zealand and Great Britain – two of Pool A's fancied teams – to sneak into the playoff matches for the fifth Olympic berth.

Quotes

"I didn't think before the game about the outcome. We wanted to win and wanted the three points and are satisfied. Ukraine have three or four very skilled players and build their game plan around them. We are different."

On the 2nd half: "We changed a few things technically to try and earn more corners."

Markus Weiss, GER Coach

On GBR (next match): I don't think Great Britain would have learned a lot from us today. They are physical and break down the play and counter attack. We will need to watch this.

Heike Latzsch, GER Player

"We played very well and had some good opportunities but unfortunately we didn't have much luck. We have a lot of young players without much experience and at the end of the match we became tired. Our goalkeeper was very good today but it was enough for us to win."

On NZL (next match): "New Zealand is a very strong team. We played them at the World Cup in Australia and know what to expect. We will use tomorrow to prepare very hard for that match."

Tetyana Zhuk, UKR Coach

Stats

1 from 4	Penalty corners	0 from 1
0 from 0	Penalty strokes	0 from 0
1 from 10	Field goal shots	1 from 5

Penalty cards

Nil Nil

Next match

v GBR
Sunday 21 March – 12.30pm

v NZL
Monday 22 March – 4.30pm

The words "World Hockey" in a large, white, outlined font, overlaid on a background image of hockey players.

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