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Olympic Hockey Qualifier Women, Manukau, Auckland

Match 14
Tuesday 23 March 2004

Russia 0 - 6 United States

Tracey Fuchs	PC 2m
	PC 31m
Tracey Larson	FG 15m
Kristen McCann	FG 24m
Kate Barber	FG 66m
Keli Smith	PC 13m

Match Summary

The USA's six-goal win has kept them in mathematical contention for a top two finish. USA was never troubled in the match and raced to a 4-0 lead before half time. Two goals late in the match equalled the most goals in a match and greatest winning margin in the tournament. By the time they take the field tomorrow for their final preliminary round match against Spain, USA will know it's fate and what winning margin – if any – they will need to snatch an unlikely automatic qualifying berth. Given Spain qualified for Athens today, the USA might find they meet the Spanish at the most opportune time before they are forced to refocus for the semi finals on Friday.

It's most likely that USA will finish third or fourth in their pool, meaning a sudden death playoff on Friday against one of Pool A's similarly-ranked teams. Russia will play to avoid the wooden spoon.

Quotes

"I felt we played very good in the first half and okay in the second half. We wanted to number one win a game. We wanted to get seven or more."

On ESP (next match): "We came into the tournament wanting to play one game at a time. It's our next game and you don't talk about what could be, just what to do in your game. I think they have worked hard through tournament. They have to get up and go again and try to get better. It's not easy losing competitions."

Beth Anders, USA Coach

Stats

0 from 2	Penalty corners	3 from 8
0 from 0	Penalty strokes	0 from 0
0 from 2	Field goal shots	3 from 8

Penalty cards

Tatiana Lastochkina	Green 21m	Tara Jelley	Green 56m
Natalia Zaitchenko	Green 27m	Kate Beach	Green 56m

Next match

TBA v Spain
Wednesday 24 March – 2pm

