

Women`s Qualifying Tournament for XXVIII Olympic Games, Auckland

FIH (www.worldhockey.org) LIVE COMMENTARY: Game 15: IRL v GER

23 March 2004

Start Time: 17:00

1 IRL

Eimear Cregan (PC)

29:50

1 GER

Marion Rodewald (PC)

34:13

Final Score - IRL 1 GER 1

| Time | Commentary |
|--------------|---|
| 70:00 | Full time. What a game. A well researched IRL have troubled GER into a draw, and perhaps will feel they could have had a win. GER now need to win or draw in their next match to qualify. IRL still in the hunt. PC count: IRL 4 GER 6. Field shots: IRL 4 GER 0. |
| 69:23 | An open game as the last minute rolls over. IRL attacking still although GER looking dangerous on the counter. |
| 67:32 | IRL still on the attack. All 11 GER players are in deep defence as they try and hang onto the draw. |
| 64:40 | IRL with a second wind now as they make another charge at the GER defence. GER defence under great pressure although IRL not able to find space for a shot. |
| 61:49 | IRL captain McVicar deflects a shot at the goal and is just wide after a Symmons cross from the right. The crowd making a huge amount of noise at the ground now as both teams try to find an extra something. |
| 60:20 | The variation left is flicked over the crossbar by Bachmann. A close miss for GER. IRL clear the ball up their end into attack. |
| 59:31 | Ersting-Krienke makes a great trap, drag and then bursts at the IRL defence. She earns a corner (their 7th) after being tripped outside the circle. |
| 57:11 | The game being played in the middle of the field. No goal shots from either team. GER defenders marking very tightly now on the IRL forwards, and IRL marking zone. |
| 52:40 | GER now starting to appear to be getting their game back on track. Their midfield is holding the ball for longer and so their strikers are getting touches. IRL still working hard, but haven`t been into their circle for some time. |
| 48:10 | Its a very close game with IRL and GER both having chances in attack, although IRL with slightly more possession in the last 5 mins. GER strikers starved of the ball so far for most of the match. |
| 43:45 | The variation left to Rinne is flicked high over the net. IRL rebound straight up into their attack. |
| 43:10 | GER attack down their right and the cross is lifted by Platt (IRL GK). GER corner. Their 6th. |
| 41:14 | IRL bounce into attack. GER allowing IRL strikers too much room. They are able to make traps in space and then run into gaps. IRL goalshooting or final pass is letting them down. |
| 39:30 | GER into attack since the IRL corner although they cannot penetrate their circle. IRL defending well but are under pressure. |
| 37:06 | The variation to the left post is missed by IRL. GER smash the ball into attack. |
| 36:42 | The 2nd half is underway and IRL push into attack. They earn their 4th corner from a GER foot after a free hit from the sideline. |
| 35:00 | Half time. What a great game played in front of very loud IRL fans. IRL took the game to GER against expectations and are deserved to be at 1-1. PC count: IRL 3 GER 5. Field shots: IRL 3 GER 0. |
| 34:13 | Goal Rodewald equalises for GER with a rebound goal from the left after Rinne`s hit is saved by Platt. 1-1. |
| 33:54 | The hit is deflected by IRL over the backline, GER long corner. GER hit the ball in and earn their 5th corner from and IRL foot. |
| 33:12 | The GER hit is stopped by Platt but GER earn another corner when the ball is trapped behind her. |
| 32:42 | GER earn their 3rd corner. Not clear as to what the corner was for. IRL players very unhappy with the decision. |
| 31:17 | IRL working hard now in the midfield, plus they are minus Orbiso, their regular centre midfielder wthough injury. An amazing game with GER looking a little bewildered at the IRL charge. |
| 29:50 | Goal Cregan smashes the ball at the GER defence and the ball is deflected in! IRL 1-0. |
| 29:13 | IRL push into attack again and they earn their 3rd corner. |
| 28:40 | IRL still defending, although had their best chance to score a goal with a 3 on 1 with the GER keeper, Walter. A poor finish with the ball pushed into Walter let GER off the hook. |
| 26:20 | GER have the ball in their attacking half now. One senses that IRL`s initial charge and indeed their chance to take the game against all expectations has drifted away. |
| 22:45 | The high flick by Rinne flies over the net. IRL regain the ball and push forward yet again. |
| 22:11 | The GER low flick is saved by Platt. GER earn another corner. |
| 21:42 | GER push IRL out of attack and they earn their 1st corner for the game. |
| 19:22 | Burke almost scores for IRL as she slides and only just misses a cross from the right wing. |
| 18:49 | The IRL flick is stopped by GER defenders and cleared wide. IRL remain in attack. |
| 18:23 | IRL earn their 2nd corner from GER obstruction. |
| 17:15 | IRL still putting GER defence under pressure. Amazing atmosphere here at the hockey with a large and vocal group od IRL supporters (parents!) screaming in support. IRL with 3 good chances to score in the last 2 mins that go begging. |

- 12:16** IRL are passing the ball around their midfield with speed and accuracy at the moment which is causing GER some trouble. IRL attacking their circle 3 times in the last 5 mins although unable to get a shot away.
- 07:38** Symmons` flick flies high and wide of the goal to the left. GER rebound into attack.
- 07:03** IRL earn their first corner for the game from a GER foot.
- 06:23** A midfield game now as both teams try hard to gain an ascendancy. IRL taking the game up to GER at present.
- 02:43** An even start to the match with GER into attack, and now IRL with the ball under control in their attacking 25.
- 00:51** GER the favourites for this match, although IRL have the potential to trouble any side. A win to GER will see them qualify to Athens.