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Olympic Hockey Qualifier Women, Manukau, Auckland

Match 21 (3rd Pool A v 4th Pool B)
Friday 26 March 2004

Great Britain 0 - 2 Korea

Jin Kyoung Kim
Jeong Sook Park

FG 19m
FG 29m

Match Summary

The tournament's top seeds have been knocked out of the Athens Olympics qualifying race with a disappointing performance against Korea. The space and width given to Korea in the midfield put unbearable pressure on the Great Britain deep defence and if not for better finishing, they would have conceded more than the two first half goals. After struggling to convert their opportunities earlier in the tournament, Korea found some form in front of the net. Great Britain looked the more dangerous team early in the match but their usually tight defensive structure was dismantled by Korea after they weathered pressured in the opening stages. Once Korea began to make inroads through the Great Britain, they dictated the tempo of the match and although Great Britain tried to lift the level of their play, only Rhona Simpson's deflected shot off the cross bar from close range looked like reversing the trend of the match. Korea are now one win from Athens and will meet the winner of the Ireland/USA clash for the final place on Saturday.

Quotes

"I am devastated. To make a comment about today's match, you really have to look back to the beginning of the tournament. We came here not only to qualify for the Olympics, but also to contend for the medals. In my time as GB coach and also with England, I never imagined that we wouldn't go to the Olympics. To say I'm hugely disappointed is a massive understatement. Today's match was all about the midfield. We turned over possession at critical times and there were a couple of poor decisions by our defenders."

Tricia Heberle, GBR Coach

"I am happy because the space that the GB defenders had was stretched and we were able to create chances. Our midfield attacked more than other days. We trained for that yesterday and I am happy because that was the result today."

On decision to play Seong Eun Kim: "She has a cut on her knee and she wanted to play. I told her that maybe it wasn't possible but she wanted to play"

On next match: "Ireland and USA are quite different teams, but I think that Ireland are a lot better for us."

Kim Sang Ryul, KOR Coach

Stats

0 from 3	Penalty corners	0 from 4
0 from 0	Penalty strokes	0 from 0
0 from 3	Field goal shots	2 from 18

Penalty cards

Mandy Nicholson
Rhona Simpson

Green 42m
Yellow 56m

Jin Kyoung Kim

Yellow 61m

Next match

v (Loser) Ireland/USA
Saturday 27 March – 12pm

v (Winner) Ireland/USA
Saturday 27 March – 3pm

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

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