



**Pool A – Tuesday 2 May**  
**09:00**

**England 3**

**Japan 0**

TIME: Confident display from ENG to take top spot in Pool A

69 Turnover from ENG in defence gives Kaori CHIBA a reverse stick shot. On the way to goal, the shot is touched by IWAO in mid air and it rebounds off the left post to safety

68 ENG are making JPN defend inside their circle

67 DANSON looks dangerous inside the circle again but three JPN defenders converge to win possession

65 From the long corner, the ball travels to mid-circle, where WRIGHT hits the right post with a push in amongst heavy traffic

65 DANSON creates space for a reverse stick shot but her effort is easily covered by JPN GK

63 ENG on top again with ball in JPN half

60 ENG have lifted their tempo again to match JPN

58 IWAO is trying to lift her team but the midfielder is being closely watched by ENG

57 Green Card Sachimi IWAO (JPN) for a bad tackle

56 JPN wrestling a more even share of attacking possession from ENG

53 JPN win possession and move in attack again but they lose control on the right

53 Let-off for ENG with a turnover in defence allowing JPN a free run into the circle. A pass from Sakae MORIMOTO to Chie AKUTSU was a good one but the ball hit AKUTSU's foot with an open goal beckoning

51 Lack of control inside the circle denies Sally WALTON a chance to shoot after she had made a good lead to receive the ball

50 Cross from the right gives Sachimi IWAO a half-chance but her effort is easily kicked away by the ENG GK

50 JPN currently able to mount a series of possessions inside ENG half

47 JPN are having to work hard for every possession with ENG not allowing any space for the ball carrier to create play

45 RICHARDSON eliminates three players on a run into the circle but she loses control and play breaks down for ENG

43 ENG are doing a good job of breaking through the JPN press in this match, something that JPN has used to their advantage so far in the tournament

**\*\* Goal: Jo ELLIS (ENG) \*\***

40 ENG Goal. An angled, bouncing pass from left to right into the circle finds it way through a pack of players to ELLIS who deflects it into the right corner

38 JPN have increased their pressure on ENG to begin the second half

36 Second half underway

35 HALF TIME: Good first half from ENG with pressure on JPN causing multiple turnovers and possession in scoring range

**\*\* Goal: Crista CULLEN (ENG) \*\***

35 ENG Goal. CULLEN's diving drag flick loops over the JPN GK and crashes off the top of the backboard

34 Repeat PC. Flick from Kate WALSH strikes foot of JPN defender

33 ENG PC. Quickly taken free hit from RICHARDSON at the top of the circle travels to WRIGHT and she receives a heavy tackle to win a PC for ENG

32 Opportunistic backstick from Jo ELLIS almost sneaks its way inside the left post but the JPN GK manages to keep it out

32 Rika KOMAZAWA gets her stick to the ball just in time to stop the shot from Helen GRANT

32 Ball deflected over back line by Akemi KATO. ENG long corner on the left

31 ENG free hit at top of the circle

30 Green Card Helen RICHARDSON (ENG) for failing to retreat five yards on a JPN free hit

27 ENG putting JPN under a lot of pressure deep in defence

27 RICHARDSON and DANSON combine again but this time her high reverse stick shot is well saved by JPN GK Rie TERAZONO

25 The ENG deep defenders are playing high up the pitch to press the JPN defence and give them little room to get the ball into attack

24 Quick counter attack from JPN turnovers is giving ENG good flow through the midfield with Lucilla WRIGHT creating danger

21 ENG gaining a measure control with more possession

19 Long ball out of defence nearly catches ENG but Mel CLEWLOW covers well to win possession off Sakae MORIMOTO

17 CULLEN makes a desperate diving tackle at the top left of the circle to stop a JPN shot at goal

17 JPN keep their pressure on the ENG defence but are unable to control the ball inside the circle

16 A pair of ENG turnovers gives JPN possession attack but CULLEN cleans up again inside the circle

15 Crista CULLEN blocks the shot by Mayumi ONO at the top of the circle and then wins the rebound

14 JPN PC. Free hit from the right strikes foot of ENG defender inside the circle

**\*\* Goal: Alex DANSON (ENG) \*\***

13 ENG Goal. Free hit from Helen RICHARDSON is smashed into the circle and after the ball rebounds off a JPN stick, DANSON reacts first and lifts it high into the net from near the penalty spot

12 ENG work ball down the pitch and win a free hit on the edge of the circle to the left

10 Tomomi KOMORI shoots from the top of the circle but her shot is easily covered ENG GK Beth STORRY

8 Ball finds its way to Rebecca HERBERT on the right but she is forced wide by the JPN defence and her shot hits the side of the goal

- 8 ENG win possession and counter attack
- 7 JPN keep ball in attack on the right
- 7 Deflection attempt by Kaori CHIBA near the penalty spot is well covered by the ENG defence
- 6 JPN PC. With their first entry deep into ENG half, JPN earn PC with free hit on the edge of the circle striking foot of ENG defender
- 4 Possession swapping regularly but no team can take hold of the ball in attack
- 2 Neither team able to take play out of the midfield
- 1 Match underway
- 0 Lucilla WRIGHT is playing her 150th international match today while Alex DANSON and Lisa WOODING are playing their 50th
- 0 Both ENG and JPN have already qualified for the Samsung Hockey World Cup with this match to determine the top team in Pool A ahead of the semi finals on Thursday
- 0 The umpires for this match are Carolina de la FUENTE (ARG) and Soledad IPARRAGUIRRE (ARG)