



Pool B – Tuesday 2 May
20:30

Italy 0

New Zealand 5

FULL TIME: NZL regaining form at just the right time to secure the No. 3 spot in Pool B. NZL will meet FRA in the crossover round while ITA will face SCO in the 9-12 bracket.

69 Match winding down with ITA building for a final attack

66 NZL with a break away but ITA defence has the numbers

64 ITA with the counter attack but stopped by NZL

64 NZL shot saved by LILLIU

63 NZL PC

62 Action calming down after NZL's quick scores

60 NZL Elizabeth RYAN's shot goes sailing head high past the goal opening

58 ITA Giorgia CUCCU with a nice run into the circle but her shot is blocked by NZL

56 NZL shot blocked high into the filming tower

55 PC NZL

**** Goal: Stacey CARR (NZL) ****

54 Another great goal as Stacey Carr smashes the ball into the right corner

**** Goal: Elizabeth RYAN ****

52 Beautiful goal as a diving Elizabeth RYAN re-directs a long pass into the upper left corner of the goal

48 Play travelling from one end of the pitch to the other without much control from either team

45 ITA still attacking with numbers but the NZL defence looks comfortable

44 Matilde CANAVOSIO intercepts the variation to the left

43 NZL PC. NZL full of confidence and running

41 Good speed from Matilde CANAVOSIO gets her on the outside of the NZL defence on the right but her shot is kicked away by the NZL GK

39 NZL break free down the right but Elizabeth RYAN shoots wide with two players in support and only the ITA GK to beat

**** Goal: Krystal FORGESSON (NZL) ****

37 NZL Goal. NZL's PC conversions continue with FORGESSON deflecting high into the net from the penalty spot. A good reward for the striker after her hard work in the first half

37 NZL PC

36 NZL surge forward to try and consolidate their control of the match

36 Second half underway

35 HALF TIME: A goal seconds before half time gives NZL control of the match

**** Goal: Clarissa ESHUIS (NZL) ****

- 35 NZL Goal. Clarissa ESHUIS crushes the shot into the backboard after the ball was rolled to her on the left
- 35 NZL PC. CARR earns NZL a PC with 35 seconds remaining in the half
- 34 Yellow Card Stella GIROTTI. GIROTTI receives a yellow card for a stick obstruction and the ITA coach leaves the dug out to protest vigorously
- 33 Another half chance for ITA is cleaned up by NZL
- 33 NZL out under pressure but Daniela POSSALI's weak push towards goal is easily kicked away by Anita WAWATAI. A good move for ITA with play flowing down the right before being crossed into the circle
- 31 FORGESSON works back again to make a desperate tackle for NZL
- 29 Angled cross-field pass from right to left by MALEY releases Stacey CARR into space deep in attack but she is well tackled by Mercedes SALESSI
- 28 NZL struggle to gain control of the ball inside their defensive circle but win free hit a crucial stage
- 28 FORGESSON forced to make a diving tackle as Francesca FAUSTINI begins her run into the circle
- 27 Untidy tackling from both teams has ground the rhythm of the match to a halt
- 26 Yellow Card Suzie MUIRHEAD. MUIRHEAD receives a yellow card for her second stick obstruction
- 26 Green Card Frances KREFT (NZL)
- 24 Free hit from the top of the circle towards the right post just evades the outstretched stick of HARRISSON
- 23 MUIRHEAD drives NZL towards the circle with three passages of play
- 22 Raised free hit allows NZL to settle
- 21 Turnover gives ITA possession which they use to counter attack down the right wing
- 21 Bouyed by the goal, NZL press again and win long corner on the left

**** Goal: Di WEAVERS (NZL) ****

- 19 NZL Goal. The first shot from WEAVERS is run down by ITA but she recovers the rebound and flicks the ball into the net
- 18 Repeat PC. Shot from Di WEAVERS hits the GK's pads and then rolls onto the foot of an ITA defender
- 18 Repeat PC. Shot become stuck under ITA GK Roberta LILLIU
- 17 NZL PC. Jane MALEY and MUIRHEAD earn NZL their first PC
- 14 Krystal FORGESSON is looking the most dangerous of the NZL strikers. She is making good position to receive the ball down each wing and is applying defensive pressure when ITA have possession
- 14 Green Card Suzie MUIRHEAD (NZL) for a stick obstruction
- 12 Neither team can gain the advantage with possession rebounding quickly from end to end
- 11 Two NZL free hits into the circle in a row are covered easily by ITA
- 10 NZL find space down the left and take ball to edge of the circle
- 8 NZL turnover but ITA throw a loose pass into the circle and give possession back

8	NZL looking to take ball out of their half but the players upfield are standing still and not trying to find space on the lead
7	Great chance missed on the left post by Matilde CANAVOSIO. She had time to trap the ball and convert but couldn't control the chance
6	ITA PC. NZL have two chances to cover a cross from the right but they can't control the ball and ITA force first PC of the match
5	Turnover from ITA allows Charlotte HARRISSON to dribble into the circle on the left but ITA recover and make the tackle
4	NZL take ball into attack but a loose pass into the circle gives ITA possession
3	Early possession for both teams in midfield with ITA having slightly better of the play
1	Match underway
0	A critical match for both teams with the loser eliminated from World Cup contention. A win or draw for NZL will advance them to the 5-8 playoffs. If ITA win, they will take NZL's spot in this phase and the world number six will be left to fight out the bottom four places
0	The umpires for this match are Jean DUNCAN (SCO) and Belen GONZALEZ (ESP)