



**Clockwise from top left:** Germany-India in the final of the 1936 Games in Berlin (© IOC); action from the Germany-Spain game at the 2008 Champions Trophy in Rotterdam; China will be a force to reckon with in Beijing; New Zealand won the 1976 Games in Montreal (© IOC); Argentina celebrates a goal at the 2008 Champions Trophy in Monchengladbach; Belgium upset World Champions Germany at the 2007 European Nations Championships in Manchester to earn their Olympic berth.

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## Beijing Olympic Hockey: All set to go!

The highly-anticipated hockey event at the Beijing 2008 Olympic Games will begin on Sunday 10th August, with all 12 women's teams ready to burst into action. Many of the teams at the Games are currently riding high on a wave of confidence that they hope will take them all the way to Olympic Gold.

Current World Champions Netherlands have not won Olympic Gold for 24 years, a record that they are desperate to change. They are arguably the favourites for the tournament, but there are many who believe that Argentina, winners of the 2008 Champions Trophy in Mönchengladbach, could be the side to defeat them.

Having never won Olympic Gold, is this the year that "Las Leonas" and the

sensational Luciana Aymar finally bring home the biggest prize in world hockey?

However, it is far from a two horse race, with both 2004 Olympic champions Germany and host nation China well in contention. Despite not having their most successful of years, it would also be foolish to write off 1996 and 2000 champions Australia. They have a habit of performing in the big tournaments, and could produce the goods here in Beijing. Every team here has the ability to upset the odds, making it arguably the most open competition in recent history.

This tournament unquestionably has the potential to live long in the memory - a perfect salute to 100 Years of Hockey at the Olympics!

Program of the Day (Women) --- 10 August 2008	
08:30 Japan v New Zealand	18:30 Argentina v USA
10:30 China v Spain	20:30 Netherlands v South Africa
18:00 Australia v Korea	21:00 Germany v Great Britain

### Player to Watch: Marilyn Agliotti (NED)



This 29-year-old is a natural goal scorer who always seems to be in the right place at the right time. Unquestionably the form player for her side, she finished as joint top scorer at this year's Samsung Champions Trophy with five goals and was nominated for the 2007 FIH World Player of the Year award.

### Hockey Celebrates 100 Years at the Olympic Games

Every day we travel back in time to celebrate a century of Olympic hockey.

**London 1908:** Hockey's first Olympic appearance saw England defeat Ireland 8-1 to win Gold, with star striker Reggie Pridmore scoring 10 goals in the tournament.

**Antwerp 1920:** A unified GB faced challenges from Denmark, Belgium and France, but again Britain proved to be the top side, winning all three of their matches to take Gold.



**Tomorrow:** Amsterdam 1928, Los Angeles 1932 & Berlin 1936

Left: Great Britain's winning team (1920) © IOC

## A House for the Hockey Family!

Very much like the tournament itself, the Hockey House – an Olympic hockey-themed meeting place to relax and socialise – is ready to go! It will be a great place to unwind after a long day, and to share a drink with all of the FIH Olympic Hockey team here in Beijing.

The Hockey House has been set up on the entrance floor of the Yanshan Hotel, where the majority of the FIH entourage are staying, and will feature an impressive display to celebrate 100 Years of Olympic Hockey. Footage from past Olympics will be shown on television screens, with other elements featuring equipment and images of legendary teams and players from our sport. The most eye catching aspect of the Hockey House is a timeline featuring facts and photos throughout hockey's Olympic past.

The Hockey House will also be showing coverage of other sports events in Beijing, giving you the chance to watch the action taking place at other venues. It is available to be enjoyed by the entire hockey family.

Come and relax in a very special environment. We look forward to seeing you there!



## In the Press: Beijing Could Be Better for the Brain

Scientists at Nottingham Trent University in England recently discovered that the Beijing weather conditions could actually *improve* the brain functions of athletes competing there, according to a University media release.

Working with members of the Great Britain Olympic Women's hockey squad, the study showed that when suffering from heat stress, individuals were able to draw on previously unknown reserves of 'cognitive ability', allowing them to process and correctly react to mental tasks quicker.

## 100 Years Olympic Hockey Facts

- The last Olympic Games without a hockey event was the 1924 edition in Paris.
- The first ever hockey Olympic final was played on 31 October 1908 in London. England took Gold by defeating Ireland 8-1.
- Australia and the Netherlands have made most Olympic appearances on the women's side with 6 participations each, while India, absent in Beijing, is the record holder in the men's event - with a stunning 18 participations.
- Australia's Rechelle Hawkes is the most decorated player in Olympic hockey history, having won three gold medals at Seoul 1988, Atlanta 1996 and Sydney 2000. At the 2000 Sydney Olympics, Hawkes was also given the honour of reciting the Athletes' Oath on behalf of all the athletes at the Opening Ceremony.
- The Keller family of Germany are hockey's first family when it comes to winning Olympic medals. Erwin Keller won a silver medal in 1936 in Berlin. His son Carsten was the skipper of the German team that won the gold in Munich 1972. Andreas, son of Carsten, won a gold medal at Barcelona 1992, and two silver medals at Los Angeles 1984 and Seoul 1988. Natascha Keller, sister of Andreas and daughter of Carsten, won gold at Athens 2004. In Beijing, Natascha is back for seconds while brother Florian is going for his first medal with the German men.

## How They Qualified...

Australia – 2007 Oceania Cup: Silver medallists  
 Argentina – Winners of the 2007 Pan American Games  
 China – Host Nation / 2006 Asian Games Winners  
 Germany – 2007 EuroHockey Nations: Winners  
 Great Britain – 2007 EuroHockey Nations: 3rd place  
 Japan – 2006 Asian Games: Silver medallists  
 Korea – Winners of the Olympic Qualifier in Victoria (CAN)  
 Netherlands – 2007 EuroHockey Nations: Silver medallists  
 New Zealand – 2007 Oceania Cup: Gold medallists  
 South Africa – 2007 African Olympic Qualifier: Winners  
 Spain – Winners of the Olympic Qualifier in Baku (AZE)  
 USA – Winners of the Olympic Qualifier in Kazan (RUS)



Men Pool A
11 Aug 08:30 GER v CHN
11 Aug 18:00 KOR v NZL
11 Aug 20:30 ESP v BEL
13 Aug 10:30 CHN v KOR
13 Aug 18:30 BEL v GER
13 Aug 20:30 NZL v ESP
15 Aug 08:30 ESP v CHN
15 Aug 18:00 BEL v NZL
15 Aug 20:30 KOR v GER
17 Aug 10:30 KOR v BEL
17 Aug 18:30 NZL v CHN
17 Aug 21:00 GER v ESP
19 Aug 10:30 GER v NZL
19 Aug 18:30 KOR v ESP
19 Aug 21:00 CHN v BEL

Men Pool B
11 Aug 10:30 PAK v GBR
11 Aug 18:30 AUS v CAN
11 Aug 21:00 NED v RSA
13 Aug 08:30 RSA v AUS
13 Aug 18:00 CAN v PAK
13 Aug 21:00 NED v GBR
15 Aug 10:30 NED v CAN
15 Aug 18:30 PAK v AUS
15 Aug 21:00 RSA v GBR
17 Aug 08:30 GBR v CAN
17 Aug 18:00 PAK v CHN
17 Aug 20:30 AUS v NED
19 Aug 08:30 NED v PAK
19 Aug 18:00 CAN v RSA
19 Aug 20:30 AUS v GBR

Men Pool A	Men Pool B
Belgium	Australia
China	Canada
Germany	Great Britain
Korea	Netherlands
New Zealand	Pakistan
Spain	South Africa

Current Men's World Rankings
(only participating teams are listed)
Australia (1)
Germany (2)
Netherlands (3)
Spain (4)
Korea (5)
Pakistan (7)
Great Britain (8)
New Zealand (11)
Belgium (12)
South Africa (13)
Canada (15)
China (17)

Men Classification Day 1
21 Aug 08:30 9th/10th Place
21 Aug 11:00 7th/8th Place
21 Aug 18:00 Semifinal 01
21 Aug 20:30 Semifinal 02

Men Classification Day 2
23 Aug 08:30 11th/12th Place
23 Aug 11:00 5th/6th Place
23 Aug 18:00 Bronze Medal Match
23 Aug 20:30 Gold Medal Match
23 Aug 22:30 Medal Ceremony

Women Pool A
10 Aug 10:30 CHN v ESP
10 Aug 18:00 AUS v KOR
10 Aug 20:30 NED v RSA
12 Aug 10:30 AUS v ESP
12 Aug 18:30 CHN v RSA
12 Aug 20:30 NED v KOR
14 Aug 08:30 CHN v NED
14 Aug 18:00 ESP v KOR
14 Aug 20:30 RSA v AUS
16 Aug 10:30 AUS v NED
16 Aug 18:30 KOR v CHN
16 Aug 21:00 ESP v RSA
18 Aug 10:30 KOR v RSA
18 Aug 18:30 NED v ESP
18 Aug 21:00 CHN v AUS

Women Pool B
10 Aug 08:30 JPN v NZL
10 Aug 18:30 ARG v USA
10 Aug 21:00 GER v GBR
12 Aug 08:30 ARG v GBR
12 Aug 18:00 USA v JPN
12 Aug 21:00 GER v NZL
14 Aug 10:30 USA v GER
14 Aug 18:30 JPN v ARG
14 Aug 21:00 NZL v GBR
16 Aug 08:30 NZL v USA
16 Aug 18:00 GER v ARG
16 Aug 20:30 GBR v JPN
18 Aug 08:30 GER v JPN
18 Aug 18:00 GBR v USA
18 Aug 20:30 ARG v NZL

Women Pool A	Women Pool B
Australia	Argentina
China	Germany
Korea	Great Britain
Netherlands	Japan
South Africa	New Zealand
Spain	USA

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