

PRESS RELEASE

N°84/2009



FINA MEN'S WATER POLO WORLD LEAGUE 2010 Favourite teams won in the first round of the European group

Lausanne (SUI), November 18, 2009 – The first round of the European group of the 2010 FINA Men's Water Polo World League was held on November 17 in six cities of the Old Continent and had the participation of 12 teams. In these initial matches, the favourite squads won their games and assured an early lead in the competition – the second round of games in Europe will now take place on December 8, 2009.

For Group A, Italy beat Germany 8-5 in Sori, with the locals Stefano Luongo, Maurizio Felugo and Massimo Giacoppo scoring two goals each for their team. On the visitors' side, Paul Schueler was the best, also with two goals.

Moving to Bordeaux, the French team could not do much against an inspired Montenegro, losing by 8-12. Aleksandar Ivovic was the most successful player for the Balkan team, with four goals.

For Group B, the team of FYR Macedonia (playing in Skopje) could not stop Croatia and also lost at home by 7-9. At the end of the two first periods, the two teams were tied at 4-4, but the visitors made the difference in the third quarter, with a 3-1 advantage. Niksa Dobud was the star in the winning team, with four goals.

In Kirishi, home team Russia controlled the operations against Greece, winning by 9-6. Vitaly Yuzchik (RUS) was the most successful player in attack, with three goals.

For Group C, the most unbalanced game of this round took place in Nis, where local team Serbia easily defeated Turkey by 19-5. Andrija Prlainovic, for the Serbians, was the best scorer of the match (and of this European round), with five goals.

Finally, in Oradea, Romania managed to beat Spain by 9-7, after a match in which the locals were always in the lead (7-3 at the end of the third quarter, and then a 4-2 advantage for the Iberians in the last period, which was not enough to reverse the situation). Andrei Iosep (ROU) was the top-scorer of the match, with three goals.

Next round (December 8, 2009): FRA-ITA, GER-MNE, GRE-MKD, CRO-RUS, TUR-ESP, ROU-SRB.

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