

Day 4, Friday, 29th August 2008

by
Damon Shaw and Magda Wielgosz

Day 3 results

URU vs. SRB: 1-7
TUR vs. FRA: 3-8
KGZ vs. UKR: 0-4
POR vs. SVK: 1-1
MAS vs. BRA: 1-23
CZE vs. ISR: 8-6
CHN vs. SLO: 3-5
GBR vs. KAZ: 6-12



URU vs. SRB: 1:7 (0:6)

With both teams having qualified, this match was only about deciding who would top the group and who would avoid Slovenia in the quarter final. Uruguay didn't seem too bothered and were more concerned about avoiding picking up suspensions going into the inevitable game versus the hosts. Within 15 seconds, Serbia rattled the bar after stealing the ball and counter attacking with pace. It wasn't much longer that Uruguay held out and it was an unfortunate own goal that gave Serbia the lead. After 10 minutes of the game Uruguay were trailing 4-0, mainly through opportunistic Serbian efforts. Serbia tried to test the second choice goalkeeper on occasion and

Santiago Perez was unable to keep out some powerful strikes. Lapse defending and a lack of pressure on the attackers gave Serbia a freedom deep in opposition territory, which allowed them such opportunities to strike at goal. Uruguay still tried to attack and had some good moves, but nothing that troubled the Serbian defence. The second half was much more even and Nicolas Piroto added to his tally in the only real positive for Uruguay. Serbia will be confident going into the quarter final with a draw that pairs them with either China or Kazakhstan.

CZE vs. ISR: 8:6 (3:2)

Second do or die match today - Israel vs. Czech Republic. Winner of this game plays in the top eight. From the beginning both teams tried to defeat their opponent's defense. However Czech Republic players presented more effective futsal and they scored the first goal. The game was getting more aggressive just after the Czechs scored their second goal. In that moment Israel players picked up the game and 5 minutes before the end of the first part Lior Cohen (ISR) scored the first goal for Israel. Afterwards we could see some very good defenses by the goalkeeper of Israel. The last two minutes of the first half the both the Czechs and Israelis managed two successful shots. The first half finished with a Czech lead 3:2. In the second half we saw a tough and close game with many shots on goal. In the 27th minute Yehuda Zisman (ISR) scored the equalizer and during the next five minutes his friends scored two more goals. Israel was leading 5:3. In the 34th minute Czech Republic had an opportunity to score after the 6th foul of Israel but missed. After that David Cupak (CZE) got a second yellow card in this game and that forced his team to play with three. 2 minutes later they lost a 6th goal. After Yoni Tapiero's own goal and two Czech goals one minute before the end the scoreboard showed a draw 6:6. 27

seconds before the end after Vaclav Belada's (CZE) penalty kick the Czechs were almost sure to play in the top eight. 2 seconds to end Martin Hardina (CZE) increased the lead to 8:6.

CHN vs. SLO: 3:5 (2:3)



The Slovenians scraped through last night with a narrow win over Kazakhstan but China would join them in the quarter final with a result against the hosts. China took a shock lead against the hosts through a deflected free kick, but Slovenia pulled one back just a couple of minutes later through Andrej Rutar. China restored their advantage almost immediately as Fei Yan finished from an acute angle as he received an inch perfect pass to the far post. Slovenia managed to draw level and scored seconds before the interval to take in a half time lead. The hosts, who are hoping to make full use of home advantage all but secured the victory, and first place in the group with their 4th goal from Daniel Pantic. China kept themselves within touching distance of the draw they needed to qualify but could never restore the lead they held for much of the first half. In the end, when news of the Kazakhstan result came through, and China were trailing 4-3, they simply played out time as they had done enough to go through on goal difference. Slovenia bagged a fifth seconds from time, but it didn't change a thing and both Slovenia and China qualify and will meet Uruguay and Serbia respectively in a battle for the semi-final.

MAS vs. BRA: 1:23 (0:10)



Malaysia had the worst record so far, and then they had to face Brazil. Not something that any team having conceded 27 goals in two matches would want. Malaysia went on to record the biggest defeat of the tournament so far as Brazil racked up a 23-1 victory. Malaysia couldn't keep the Brazilians out as they ran riot in the Malaysia half. Clayton Szabo scored a double hat trick, and with three other hat tricks, Brazil will certainly be well represented in the top scorer charts. Malaysia suffered from a lack of ability to close down the Brazilians and to track their deft movements, but they did, the few times they had the ball, try to go forward and had a few shots on goal to their credit.

The reports from the other four games can be found on www.susa.org/wufc2008

Quarter final fixtures

All matches will be played in Koper Elementary School Sports Hall and Bonifika Sports Hall, Koper, which are located next to each other.

14:15
Kazakhstan vs. Turkey (25)
Israel vs. Kyrgyzstan (26)

16:30
Slovakia vs. Malaysia (27)
France vs. Great Britain (28)

18:45
Ukraine vs. Czech Republic (29)
Brazil vs. Portugal (30)

21:00
Slovenia vs. Uruguay (31)
Serbia vs. China (32)

Final Group Standings

Group A

		Played	Pts	GS:GC	Diff
1	SLO	3	9	14:6	8
2	CHN	3	4	17:11	6
3	KAZ	3	4	20:15	5
4	GBR	3	0	7:26	-19

Group B

		Played	Pts	GS:GC	Diff
1	BRA	3	9	33:5	28
2	CZE	3	6	24:14	10
3	ISR	3	3	21:11	10
4	MAS	3	0	2:50	-48

Group C

		Played	Pts	GS:GC	Diff
1	UKR	3	9	12:3	9
2	POR	3	4	7:5	2
3	SVK	3	2	3:6	-3
4	KGZ	3	1	1:9	-8

Group D

		Played	Pts	GS:GC	Diff
1	SRB	3	9	19:4	15
2	URU	3	6	10:14	-4
3	FRA	3	3	11:10	1
4	TUR	3	0	10:22	-12

The top two teams from each group will contest places 1-8 and the bottom two team places 9-16

Brainteasers

1. FC Barcelona, AS Roma, Sporting CP and Benfica are all top European Clubs with a futsal team, but who are Real Madrid trying to take over to join their rivals in the Futsal world?

2. The UEFA Champions' League Draw was made today, but the Futsal version is already well under way. Which Slovenian side will be present in the Main Round which takes place next month?

Answers will be online before the matches tomorrow!

Photos

For more pictures visit www.facebook.com

