

**Great Britain Junior Women's Water polo
European Junior Women's Championships
Bari, Italy
1 -8 August 2004
(travelled 30 July – 09 August)**

Team Staff: Sarah Dunsbee (Manager)
Sue Langston, Sue Webb (coaches)
Penny Porter (Physiotherapist)

Athletes: Anne Hagen Leah Hagen Charlotte Hanson Victoria Hawkins (Manchester)
Stephanie Holme Aine Hoy Victoria Ibbertson Rosie Morris
Carol Mohan Sarah Pimblett Hannah Wild Angela Winstanley-Smith
Rachel Yeoman

Date first & final team names confirmed with office (office use only):	16 July 2004
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ASSEMBLY						Office Response
Flights	Excellent	Good	Satisfactory	Fair	Poor	
Airline/s used:	Ryan Air					
Airport/s used:	Stansted					
Comments (if any - please keep brief): No problems with flights, Although the travel itself was extremely tiring due to the limited airports available and the amount of travel in England to get to Stansted. Independent assembly to Stansted by team.						

KIT & DISTRIBUTION						Office Response
	Excellent	Good	Satisfactory	Fair	Poor	

ACCOMMODATION						Office Response
Rooms	Excellent	Good	Satisfactory	Fair	Poor	
Location (From pool and other facilities)	Excellent	Good	Satisfactory	Fair	Poor	
Meals/Food	Excellent	Good	Satisfactory	Fair	Poor	
General Service	Excellent	Good	Satisfactory	Fair	Poor	
Accommodation name, address and contact numbers: Residence Moderno, Via E. Carafa, 20, 70124 Bari, Italy						

TRAINING & COMPETITION VENUE						Office Response
Location (From hotel and other facilities)	Excellent	Good	Satisfactory	Fair	Poor	
Facilities	Excellent	Good	Satisfactory	Fair	Poor	
Access	Excellent	Good	Satisfactory	Fair	Poor	
Optional support Services (access to sports science etc)	Excellent	Good	Satisfactory	Fair	Poor	
Venue name, address and contact numbers: Through main championship coordinators						

ADMINISTRATION						Office Response
Communication With office	Excellent	Good	Satisfactory	Fair	Poor	
Information from Organisers	Excellent	Good	Satisfactory	Fair	Poor	

COSTING (For use by Water Polo Team Managers controlling own budgets only)
Flights £1600 Hotel/sundries at £7690 Sundries £2500 Total spend looking to be around £12,000

RESULTS	
Full set of official results sent to office by team manager (office use only)	Yes / No

Coaches Report

The preparation for the Junior Team was a training camp in Zeist, training with the Dutch Youth and Junior teams in Holland. We then returned home for a weekend of competition against the Youth Boys at Nottingham University before having four rest days. We travelled out to Bari on 30th July for two essential days to get used to the heat and outdoor playing conditions.

GB Junior Team:

1.	Rosie Morris (GK)	86
2.	Charlotte Hanson	85
4.	Anne Hagen	85
5.	Leah Hagen	85
6.	Stephanie Holme	87
7.	Vicky Ibbertson	86
8.	Aine Hoy	87
9.	Hannah Wild (Capt)	85
10.	Angela Winstanley-Smith	85
11.	Sarah Pimblett	87
12.	Carol Mohan	85
13.	Vicky Hawkins	85
15.	Rachel Yeomans (GK)	87

In Bari the hotel and pool facilities were good. We had two training sessions before the first match day. The pool was a short bus journey from the hotel and the transport ran to time causing no problems for our team.

1st August:

Match 1 v Slovakia: Won 11-7 (6-2 ; 0-1 ; 2-3; 3-1)

We had drawn the first game of the tournament against an unknown quantity in Slovakia. The start of the first period was close but our fitness and driving game took us to an early lead. In the 2nd and 3rd periods we allowed their centre forward to dominate and Slovakia scored their extra-man opportunities.

We improved our tactical play by the 4th period controlling their attacks and winning the game comfortably.

Goal scorers: Angi Winstanley-Smith (4); Hannah Wild (3); Carol Mohan and Victoria Ibbertson (2).

XMA: 6 / 11 scored (54%)

XMD: 2 / 6 saved (33%)

2nd August:

Match 2 v Spain: Drew 9-9 (3-5; 2-1; 3-2; 1-1)

After watching the Spanish play Holland on day 1 we knew they were a fast and an extremely physical team. We played a zone defence to counter their dominating centre-forward attack. The defence was successful and we were able to attack with confidence. The result was a well-earned draw.

Goal scorers: Carol Mohan (3); Leah Hagen & Angi Winstanley-Smith (2); Anne Hagen & Hannah Wild (1).

XMA: 4 / 7 scored (57%)

XMD: 5 / 7 saved (62%)

3rd August:

Match 3 v Holland: Lost 5-10 (0-2; 3-3; 0-4; 2-1)

Our 3rd game was the toughest game in our group. The Dutch are a fast, strong and intelligent team and having trained with them we knew it was going to be difficult. Their main strength is the counter-attack and they were well trained at using the 35 clocks to anticipate their breaks. Our team worked hard and Rosie Morris had an awesome match in goal stopping many 1v0 shots.

Goal scorers: Angi Winstanley-Smith (3); Anne Hagen & Carol Mohan (1).

XMA: 1 / 7 scored (14%)

XMD: 3 / 5 saved (60%)

4th August:

Match 4 v Portugal: Won 9-3 (3-0; 2-0; 4-1; 0-2)

After our first round group results we had to play off in Group G for places 9 to 13 only losing out on a top eight position on goal difference.

The first game against Portugal was relatively comfortable. For the majority of the game the Portuguese struggled against our press defence and counter-attack. In the final quarter we lost concentration allowing the opponents to take advantage and score two goals.

Goal scorers: Carol Mohan (5); Angi Winstanley-Smith (2); Anne Hagen & Leah Hagen (1).

XMA: 7 / 10 scored (70%)

XMD: 5 / 5 saved (100%)

5th August:

Match 5 v France: Drew 4-4 (1-0; 2-1; 1-2; 0-1)

The Team were nervous going into this match, knowing we should win but having lost recently to France in April didn't help in controlling the nerves. We played a good defence against this unpredictable team only conceding four goals. In attack we didn't take our chances and looked reluctant to shoot at times, missing some crucial extra-man attacks resulting in a disappointing draw. This put us under pressure to go into our 6th and final game having to score heavily in case this group went to goal difference.

Goal scorers: Victoria Ibbertson (2); Leah Hagen & Angi Winstanley-Smith (1).

XMA: 3 / 9 scored (33%)

XMD: 2 / 3 saved (66%)

6th August:

Match 6 v Ukraine: Won 17-5 (4-1; 3-2; 2-1; 8-1)

We knew we had to score heavily and concede little in this important game. The girls were confident and positive about controlling the game and achieving our aim. The game was extremely physical bordering on brutal at times. The depleted Ukrainian Team who only travelled with seven players were given the benefit of the doubt on numerous occasions by the match officials allowing them to stay competitive to the end making our task even more difficult. The girls kept their cool under very difficult circumstances deserving their final margin of 12 goals. We had to wait overnight to find out the French Teams' final match result for clarification of our final classification. We were delighted to find that the French had been kept to a draw by the Slovaks, which meant we finished in 9th place.

Goal scorers: Carol Mohan (8); Angi Winstanley-Smith (4); Anne Hagen (3); Leah Hagen & Victoria Ibbertson (1)

XMA: 6 / 9 scored (66%)

XMD: 2 / 6 (33%)

Summary

The aim of this tournament was to be competitive and remain in the top 10 teams.

We only lost one game to the eventual champions, Netherlands, which was a great achievement, the best run of results for the Junior Women in a long time. I am extremely proud of the professionalism and dedication of the young women in this team. They were determined to excel and we came close to reaching the top eight draw, something that would have made this '85 age group stand out as they really do deserve.

Carol Mohan was joint Top Goal Scorer of the tournament with Barbara Bubka of Germany – which was an outstanding achievement for both Carol and the Team.

The full classification was:

1	Holland
2	Greece
3	Russia
4	Germany
5	Hungary
6	Italy
7	Spain
8	Czech Republic
9	Great Britain
10	France
11	Slovakia
12	Portugal
13	Ukraine

Once again to finish in the top ten at a major tournament was a great feeling.

The new training programme we have adopted and the plans put into place by the National Performance Director have started to prove it's worth.

We are still not accustomed to playing at this level of competition over so many days, but the increased fitness levels paid off especially for playing in a 30m pitch.

We still need a lot of work in our main weak areas such as physical strength and long shooting. This will be our main aim with the next age group born 87 and younger.

Goal Scorers:

Carol Mohan	19
Angi Winstanley-Smith	16
Anne Hagen	6
Leah Hagen	5
Victoria Ibbertson	5
Hannah Wild	4

Majors For (XMA):

Angi Winstanley-Smith	16
Leah Hagen	9
Anne Hagen	7
Victoria Ibbertson	6
Victoria Hawkins	4
Carol Mohan	2
Sarah Pimblett	1

Majors Against (XMD):

Hannah Wild	5
Angi Winstanley-Smith	5
Leah Hagen	5
Charlotte Hanson	4
Victoria Ibbertson	4
Carol Mohan	4
Sarah Pimblett	3
Anne Hagen	2
Victoria Hawkins	2
Aine Hoy	1
35	

55

45

Acknowledgements

Hannah Wild captained the team with pride and always led by example.

Carol Mohan was the Teams' top goal scorer closely followed by Angi Winstanley-Smith.

Our player of the season went to Rosie Morris for an outstanding performance as goalkeeper. Rosie, only having taken on the goalkeeper role from September 2003, worked so hard to improve and the team were able to put their trust in her at the heart of our defence.

We presented Carol Mohan & Anne Hagen as the Top GB Junior '85 players for their consistent high standard of play and dedication to the team over the past two years.

I would like to thank Sarah Dunsbee for the unrelenting amount of work and stress she deals with behind the scenes on our behalf.

Thanks to Penny Porter for her work with the physical conditioning of the girls, working on their land based programmes and hard work to keep them injury-free throughout the year.

Also, many thanks to Sue Webb, my indispensable Assistant Coach, who works so hard at my side for this Junior Team and not only keeps the girls going but also takes care of my wellbeing too.

Sue Langston.

Junior Women's Team Coach.