

**England Senior Men's Water Polo Team
Jackerson Memorial Tournament
Prague, Czech Republic
17-18 May 2003**

Team Staff

Taylor, Mark. *Coach.*
Baker, Stephen *Manager* Hammersmith Penguin.
Detko, Tadek. Referee

Athletes

Banwell, Mark. *	Cheltenham.	Bowers, Neil.	Lancaster. Capt.
Bush, David.	Bristol.	Crawford, Andrew. *	Manchester.
Curwen, Tom. *	Lancaster.	Evans, Chris.	Hammersmith Penguin.
Figes, Craig.	Bristol.	King, Ashley.	Rotherham.
Martin-Dye, Graham.	Hammersmith Penguin.	Taylor, David.	Cheltenham.
Thomas, Michael.	Cheltenham.	Thresher, Matthew.	Bristol.
Williams, Daniel.	Polytechnic		

* New cap

Date first & final team names confirmed with office (office use only):	03 March & 25 April 2003
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ASSEMBLY					
Flights	Excellent	Good	Satisfactory	Fair	Poor
Airline/s used:	Czech				
Airport/s used:	Heathrow & Manchester				
Comments (if any - please keep brief):					

Office Response

KIT & DISTRIBUTION					
Comments (if any - please keep brief): Only new players were issued with kit					

Office Response

ACCOMMODATION					
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: Hotel Domov Mladeze, Francouzska 1/585, 120 00 Praha 2					
Comments (if any - please keep brief): The accommodation provided by the Czechs is cheap but below par for athletes.					

Office Response <i>Alternative accommodation was requested by the office but due to the flooding in Prague no other hotels were available in this area.</i>

COMPETITION VENUE (if appropriate)					
Location (from pool and other facilities)	Excellent	Good	Satisfactory	Fair	Poor
Facilities	Excellent	Good	Satisfactory	Fair	Poor
Access	Excellent	Good	Satisfactory	Fair	Poor
Support Services	Excellent	Good	Satisfactory	Fair	Poor
Competition Organisation	Excellent	Good	Satisfactory	Fair	Poor
Any local support services bought in	Excellent	Good	Satisfactory	Fair	Poor
Doping Control	Yes / No				
Venue name, address and contact numbers:					
Comments (if any - please keep brief):					

Office Response

ADMINISTRATION					
Communication with office	Excellent	Good	Satisfactory	Fair	Poor
Information from Organisers	Excellent	Good	Satisfactory	Fair	Poor
Comments (if any - please keep brief):					

Office Response

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

WATERPOLO
<p>Final Positions: 1- France – 6 pts, 2- Czech Republic – 4 pts, 3- England – 2 pts, 4- Switzerland – 0 pts.</p> <p><u>V France 3-10 (0-3, 2-1, 0-3, 1-3)</u> An ideal game for the young players against a team consistently at the top of the Euro B division with all the skill and strength.</p> <p>An ideal yardstick for both these players (and when more experienced players return) to measure their performance and development.</p> <p>The game was never in doubt with the France gaining a 3 goal advantage and early. Their close control, strength and team play was excellent.</p> <p>The game saw a debut goal for Mark Banwell.</p> <p><u>V Czech Republic. 7-8 (1-3, 1-1, 3-3, 2-1)</u> An entertaining game where the young players had the chance in a close game against the hosts to explore team play at an international level. A one goal defeat after trailing by 3 at one stage and 2 shots against the bar in the last minute was probably a little unfair. However, losing is as good an experience in a close game as a win.</p> <p>Three goals from Craig Figes once again showed him as top class.</p> <p><u>V Switzerland. 7-2 (0-0, 3-1, 1-1, 3-0)</u> A very handy result given that the last time these two teams met it was a 6-7 reversal.</p> <p>After a 0-0 first period, England took a 4-1 lead by the beginning of the third period.</p> <p>Although England won by 7-2, the game was always a tight and tense affair.</p> <p>The Swiss are coached by a Hungarian, so this was an added difficulty in overcoming a tricky opponent.</p>

Coach report

1. Summary.

This event served the team objectives by dint of the ability to introduce some younger players to the team in a low pressure event as part of the redevelopment of the England team for the 2006 Commonwealth Tournament.

Third was a reasonable return, on a better day the team may have made second, as it lost by one to the home Czech side.

2. Team.

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|------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Banwell, Mark. * | Cheltenham. |
| 2. Bowers, Neil. | Lancaster. Capt. |
| 3. Bush, David. | Bristol. |
| 4. Crawford, Andrew. * | Manchester. |
| 5. Curwen, Tom. * | Lancaster. |
| 6. Evans, Chris. | Hammersmith Penguin. |
| 7. Figes, Craig. | Bristol. |
| 8. King, Ashley. | Rotherham. |
| 9. Martin-Dye, Graham. | Hammersmith Penguin. |
| 10. Taylor, David. | Cheltenham. |
| 11. Thomas, Michael. | Cheltenham. |
| 12. Thresher, Matthew. | Bristol. |
| 13. Williams, Daniel. | Polytechnic. |

Taylor, Mark. *Coach.*

Baker, Stephen *Manager* Hammersmith Penguin.

- New cap.

3. Statistics.

Final Positions:

**1- France – 6 pts, 2- Czech Republic – 4 pts, 3- England – 2 pts,
4- Switzerland – 0 pts.**

Goalscorers.

Figs 5

Martin-Dye, Williams 3 each

Thomas 2

Banwell, Bowers, Evans, Thresher 1 each

Major statistics.

<u>Versus</u>	<u>For</u>	<u>Conv</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>Pen</u>	<u>Con</u>	<u>Against</u>	<u>Conv</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>Pen</u>	<u>Conv</u>
France	2	1	50	0	0	5	3	60	0	0
Czech Republic	7	3	43	0	0	4	4	100	0	0
Switzerland	3	0	0	1	1	4	1	25	0	0
Total	12	4	33	1	1	13	8	61	0	0

Individual majors.

Thresher 5, Williams 2, Banwell, Bowers, King, Evans, Martin-Dye, Taylor 1 each

4. Team performance.

Following the success of the North Sea Cup, the opportunity was taken to rest a number of the more established players and to give the opportunity to some of the younger and lower ranking players. As was expected, they gave a good account of themselves and learned a lot against good European opposition. An average age of 23 allows the team to develop over a 3 year period to the Commonwealth tournament whilst gaining valuable experience.

Individual match reports.

V France 3-10 (0-3, 2-1, 0-3, 1-3)

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An entertaining game where the young players had the chance in a close game against the hosts to explore team play at an international level. A one goal defeat after trailing by 3 at one stage and 2 shots against the bar in the last minute was probably a little unfair. However, loosing is as good an experience in a close game as a win.

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A very handy result given that the last time these two teams met it was a 6-7 reversal.

After a 0-0 first period, England took a 4-1 lead by the beginning of the third period.

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The Swiss are coached by a Hungarian, so this was an added difficulty in overcoming a tricky opponent.

5. Other matters.

Finance.

Not a cheap venue due to the expensive air fares. A total trip cost of £5550.

Accommodation.

Student hostel accommodation in the centre of Prague.

Facilities.

The pool is an outdoor 30 x 20m pool used for diving and water polo.

Medical.

There were no medical problems.

Preparation.

Following the North Sea Cup a single day get together at Bristol University.

6. Additional matters.

Tad Detko attended as referee.

Mark Taylor. Team Coach.

S.W.Baker. Team Manager.