

**Great Britain Junior Men W/P  
European Junior Championships  
Istanbul, Turkey  
25 July to 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2003**

**Team Staff:** H.Cartwright (manager), N.Leighton & J.Read (coaches)  
**Athletes:** as coaches report

<b>Date final team names confirmed with office (office use only):</b>	10 July 2003
<b>Date selection letter sent to team from office (office use only):</b>	10 July 2003

<b>ASSEMBLY</b>					
<b>Flights</b>	<b>Excellent</b>	Good	Satisfactory	Fair	Poor
<b>Airline/s used:</b>	Turkish Airlines				
<b>Airport/s used:</b>	Manchester & Heathrow				
<b>Comments (if any - please keep brief):</b> Both flights on time. Good value.					

**Office Response**

<b>KIT &amp; DISTRIBUTION</b>					
	Excellent	Good	Satisfactory	Fair	<b>Poor</b>
<b>Comments (if any - please keep brief):</b> Due to lack of a realistic GB budget, no special kit was ordered. The cost would have fallen entirely onto the players who were already paying £300 each to go. Several players were still using the same kit issued for the 2001 European Championships.					

**Office Response**

<b>ACCOMMODATION</b>					
<b>Rooms</b>	Excellent	<b>Good</b>	Satisfactory	Fair	Poor
<b>Location</b>	Excellent	Good	Satisfactory	<b>Fair</b>	Poor
<b>Meals/Food</b>	Excellent	Good	<b>Satisfactory</b>	Fair	Poor
<b>General Service</b>	Excellent	Good	<b>Satisfactory</b>	Fair	Poor
<b>Accommodation name, address and contact numbers:</b> Akgun Hotel, Topkapy-Ystanbul					
<b>Comments (if any - please keep brief):</b> Plenty of food but very average. Hotel 20 mins by bus to the pool. No facilities to entertain the boys & few shops in walking distance.					

**Office Response**

<b>COMPETITION VENUE</b>					
<b>Location</b>	Excellent	Good	<b>Satisfactory</b>	Fair	Poor
<b>Facilities</b>	Excellent	Good	<b>Satisfactory</b>	Fair	Poor
<b>Access</b>	Excellent	Good	<b>Satisfactory</b>	Fair	Poor
<b>Support Services</b>	Excellent	<b>Good</b>	Satisfactory	Fair	Poor
<b>Competition Organisation</b>	Excellent	Good	<b>Satisfactory</b>	Fair	Poor
<b>Any local support services bought in</b>	Excellent	Good	<b>Satisfactory</b>	Fair	Poor
<b>Doping Control</b>	Yes / No				
<b>Venue name, address and contact numbers:</b> Municipal pool, Istanbul					
<b>Comments (if any - please keep brief):</b> Not very convenient given distance from the hotel but we did have dedicated transport.					

**Office Response**

<b>ADMINISTRATION</b>					
<b>Communication with office</b>	Excellent	<b>Good</b>	Satisfactory	Fair	Poor
<b>Information from Organisers</b>	Excellent	<b>Good</b>	Satisfactory	Fair	Poor
<b>Comments (if any - please keep brief):</b> Wendy, Rebekah etc worked hard to cover Yasmeen's absence. Very difficult time with so many major trips. Emphasises the need to have adequate cover for office staff.					

**Office Response**

<b>COSTINGS (For use by Water Polo Team Managers controlling own budgets only)</b>					
Flights £4186; Accommodation £6765; float £571; assembly £304. Total £11826. less £3600 contributions from the players equals £8226 cost to GB. The budget was £8200. Included are the referee's costs of approx £1150. A particularly significant amount given the level of contributions required.					

<b>RESULTS As per coaches report</b>	
<b>Full set of official results sent to office by team manager (office use only)</b>	<b>Yes / No</b>

### Water Polo Coaches Report

A squad of 12 players was selected from the qualification tournament, which took place in Lisbon, Portugal.

1	Andrew Crawford	Bolton School and City of Manchester	GK
2	Adam Marsland	Parogon SC	GK
3	Andrew McAllister	Cheltenham S&WPC	
4	Andrew Heywood	City of Manchester	
5	Mark Banwell	Cheltenham S&WPC	
6	Andrew Squires	City of Lancaster	
7	Alex Parsonage	Cheltenham S&WPC & Warley	LH
8	Thomas Curwen	City of Lancaster	
9	Matthew Pimblett	Bolton School and City of Manchester	
10	Adam Scholefield	Morley & Rotherham Metro	Capt.
11	Peter Hutchinson	Bolton School and City of Manchester	
12	Kieren Bayles	Sutton & Cheam	LH

The majority of the squad got together for two weeks prior to competition. Many thanks to the RAF in allowing free use of the swimming pool at Cranwell and allowing the squad to camp for the week. Eight days training and competition in Portugal followed this. Some, through school and work commitment managed only some of the training available. The team arrived in Istanbul the day before competition started. The morning of competition gave our first opportunity to view the two competition pools, one indoor, one outdoor. There were 16 teams competing, 4 in each group. Group C offered GB the chance to play two teams which are of world class calibre; Serbia and Italy, the third team Slovenia were group winners in their qualifying competition in Kranj.

#### First International - 26<sup>th</sup> July 1700hrs

GBR 4 v 18 Italy (1-6, 2-5, 1-3, 0-4)

The clear instruction for this game was for each and everyone to work on their individual performance. Each player has a defined role to play and the task was to ensure that they carried this out to the best of their ability.

In defence, the team were able to switch between a left hand drop and a seven metre ball line press, with relative success. In attack the team were able to read the Italian defence again with a measure of success as the score line suggests.

Overall the team played to their ability against 'professional' opposition.

Goal scorers:- Mark Banwell (2) Alex Parsonage, Andrew Heywood

Majors:- Andrew McAllister (3) Andrew Heywood (3)

Man Ups 3, scored 2 success 66%

Man Downs 6, conceded 5 success 17%

#### Second International - 27<sup>th</sup> July 1700hrs

GBR 0 v 18 Serbia & Montenegro (0-6, 0-1, 0-6, 0-5)

Serbia, are one of the truly professional outfits and favourites for this competition. They sport some world class players, who know and play the game so meticulously.

The aim of this game was once again to improve on personal performance and specific roles as identified in the video feedback from previous games. The team concentrated on counter defence, in attack, holding position to protect the ball on the arc.

After watching the Serb team demolish Slovenia 28-1 the day before, we were quite pleased at some of the defending.

It was a pleasure to witness GB being able to move the ball as well as the opposition allowed.

Majors:- Matthew Pimblett

Man Ups 4, scored 0 success 0%

Man Downs 1, conceded 1 success 0%

### Third International - 28<sup>th</sup> July 1500hrs

GBR 4 v 13 Slovenia (0-4, 1-2, 1-5, 2-2)

A very disappointing start to a tough game. Within three minutes the side were 3 goals adrift. The opposition were outclassing the GB team in all areas. Nevertheless, the team kept their composure and structure, for the rest of the game.

Goal scorers:- Alex Parsonage, Andrew Heywood, Thomas Curwen, Adam Scholefield.  
Majors:- Andrew McAllister 3, Andrew Heywood 3.  
Man Ups 6, scored 1, success 17%  
Man Downs 6, conceded 3, success 50%

29<sup>th</sup> July was a rest day from competition after the completion of the 1<sup>st</sup> phase of the tournament. The standings for each group were:-

#### Preliminary Round Group Placings

Pos.	Group A	Group B	Group C	Group D
1	Spain 5pts	Hungary 6pts	Serbia & Montenegro 6pts	Croatia 6pts
2	Greece 5pts	Russia 4pts	Italy 4pts	Slovakia 4pts
3	Turkey 2pts	France 2pts	Slovenia 2pts	Germany 2pts
4	Israel 0pts	Netherlands 0pts	Great Britain 0pts	Georgia 0pts

The second phase of the competition paired 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> placings in group C & D together. With scores carried over from phase one, GB were drawn against Germany and Georgia.

### Fourth International - 30<sup>th</sup> July 1815hrs

GBR 1 v 12 Germany (0-5, 0-2, 0-2, 1-3)

Having already played Germany twice this year in Poland (3-5, 5-10), it was very disappointing to record this result. The team worked the ball well around the arc and was rewarded with the extra man up when the ball was fed to the centre forwards. Unfortunately the final execution in man up was not there.

Goal scorer:- Andrew Squires  
Majors:- Alex Parsonage 2, Adam Scholefield, Kieren Bayles, Andrew Squires, Mark Banwell, Andrew Crawford,  
Man Ups 8, scored 1, success 12.5%  
Man Downs 5, conceded 3, success 40%

### Fifth International – 31st July 1430hrs

GBR 4 v 7 Georgia (1-0, 0-3, 2-3, 1-1)

A good start to this game, the team was worthy leaders playing much the more positive play. However, it was our inability to score from the man up situations that was most frustrating.

Goal scorers:- Thomas Curwen 2, Andrew Heywood, Kieren Bayles.  
Majors:- Thomas Curwen 3, Kieren Bayles, Peter Hutchinson, Andrew Squires.  
Man Ups 8, scored 3, success 37½%  
Man Downs 6, conceded 3, success 50%

### Sixth International – 1st August 1600hrs

GBR 6 v 5 Israel (2-0,2-1,1-2,1-2)

This was our final game of the tournament, all were delighted to record a win in the tournament. The first half of the game was a delight to watch. Everything that had been asked for was carried out. The second half should have seen off the opposition, again it was in man up, we failed to capitalise, the Israeli's countered punishing our attack.

Goal scorers:- Alex Parsonage 2, Thomas Curwen, Andrew Heywood, Matthew Pimblett, Andrew McAllister.  
Majors:- Andrew McAllister 2, Alex Parsonage, Thomas Curwen.  
Man Ups 4, scored 1, success 25%  
Man Downs 4, conceded 1, success 75%

## Final Placings

1 <sup>st</sup> Serbia & Montenegro (15-10)	2 <sup>nd</sup> Hungary
3 <sup>rd</sup> Croatia (8-7, in golden goal)	4 <sup>th</sup> Spain
5 <sup>th</sup> Greece 8-7	6 <sup>th</sup> Italy
7 <sup>th</sup> Russia 12-9	8 <sup>th</sup> Slovakia
9 <sup>th</sup> Germany 7-6	10 <sup>th</sup> France
11 <sup>th</sup> Netherlands 13-6	12 <sup>th</sup> Slovenia
13 <sup>th</sup> Georgia 7-3	14 <sup>th</sup> Turkey
15 <sup>th</sup> Great Britain 6-5	16 <sup>th</sup> Israel

## GB Top Guns

Thomas Curwen	4
Andrew Heywood	4
Alex Parsonage	4
Mark Banwell	2
Adam Scholefield	1
Andrew Squires	1
Kieren Bayles	1
Matthew Pimblett	1
Andrew McAllister	1

Total 19

## Major Kings

Andrew McAllister	8
Andrew Heywood	6
Thomas Curwen	4
Alex Parsonage	3
Kieren Bayles	2
Andrew Squires	2
Matthew Pimblett	1
Adam Scholefield	1
Mark Banwell	1
Peter Hutchinson	1
Andrew Crawford	1

## Summary

Overall success in Man Up 26%. Overall success in Man down, 39%.

The teams' performance was overall satisfactory. All our resources are fed into qualifying for these championships. Speaking with many of the coaches from the other Federations, it is quite clear that they are able to get the squad of players together for a substantially longer period prior to competition.

1<sup>st</sup> place Serbia 5½ hours per day from age of 9 years.

8<sup>th</sup> place Slovakia 3½ hours per day.

9<sup>th</sup> place Germany 16 meetings since January.

10<sup>th</sup> place France failed to qualify 2001. Established National Academy 2002

11<sup>th</sup> Netherlands twice weekly meetings Zeist, 36 matches since January.

There is no short cut to developing the standard of players for European competition. The clubs need to take responsibility for ensuring quality time in the water. If GB is serious about competing in Europe, more resources must be released if we are ever to be a fighting force in this arena.

Norman Leighton  
Coach