



Match reports – 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2007

## Geneva Beach 2007 : Semi-finals

*in blue: comments on tchoukball which could help you understand the actions and comments. See the drawings at the end. Please do not hesitate to ask for more if needed.*

### **Women: 2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> : GB-ROC**

Beach Stadium, Geneva, 19 :30.  
Score : 7-11, 12-10, 11-7, 12-10

Thanks to a very good defence in the English team, with Charlotte Vanner (centre) always present in 2<sup>nd</sup>-zone shots, GB came really close to the level of Taiwan. The Asians were often too slow to catch the British shots, but finally used their tactics and their very precise shots to defeat Eastern Region.

Note that Kate Eastwood, British left shooter, showed her best with her powerful and intelligent shots, and scored more than 15 points. The level of the British team this year is really impressive, and the very tight scores (GB almost won the fourth set, which would have brought the set score to 2-2), show that the level of Taiwan, who were always considered as the leading team in the Tchoukball world (one only defeat ever), is soon to be reached by European teams!

### **Men: CH2-ROC**

Beach Stadium, Geneva, 20 :30.  
Score : 0-3

The Swiss men really showed their best tonight, and produced really impressive moves. With the strong and precise shots of Gaétan Meyer, and the great defence of players such as Michael Besomi or Gilles Diacon, the Swiss scared their opponents more than once. Nevertheless, the Asians and their perfect self-control, their extremely quick attacks and their impressive technical level in the air left no real opportunity for the Swiss to defeat them.

Moreover, it seems that their technical preparation was not really adequate: unfortunately for them, very few shots were made in 2<sup>nd</sup> zone (*behind the first two defenders who're defending at the line*), while the Swiss were well-trained to catch these kind of shots. The capacity of the Swiss to block fast low balls was still impressive, but not enough, considering the frequent and fast frame-changes (*since in tchoukball each team can score on both frames, a pass that goes from one frame (one side) to the other is often used to weaken the defence, who tends to be focusing on the frame where the action is happening and is then surprised by a sudden side-change*) and precision of the Taiwanese shots. (*they tend to shoot precisely where there is some space between the defenders*)

### **Men: CH1-CAN**

Beach Stadium, Geneva, 21 :45.  
Score : 3-0 (14-16, 14-16, 11-15)

1<sup>st</sup> set: 16-14 for CAN

The swiss Team played a very precise and strict game tactics. Almost all their attacks scored a point.

Very few mistakes were made on both sides but the strong and fine shots of Nicolas Brisebois made it through a weakened defence on the Swiss side. Maybe their unusual positions (3 people on one frame, 2 on the other) (*usually in beach tchoukball there are two people on each frame (shooters) and one in the centre of the field, hence the unusualness of the Swiss positions*) left an open door to the Canadians to score on Schmocker and Remolif, two good players but lacking some back-up in defence.

2<sup>nd</sup> set: 16-14 for CAN

Both teams were really involved in this set, and the Swiss game finally seemed free. The extremely quick actions and very intelligent play made it difficult for the defenders to follow and be efficient (on both teams!)



A spectacular shot from Bruno Remolif, one of the youngest in the team, on a frame-changing pass by his brother Jean-Loup Remolif brought the Swiss to a tie (13-13). Later his short ball (or "lost point" in French) (*shot which doesn't land in the field: either in the forbidden zone or outside the lines*) at the end of the set, crossing the whole field to land in the opposite forbidden zone (=outside the field), gave Canada the second set.

3<sup>rd</sup> set: 15-11 for CAN

The Canadians brought their best team on the field (all the five players were already playing in Kaohsiung in 2004, in the indoor world championships), which was probably just too much for the Swiss. They missed several "easy" defences, and started shooting more and more short balls. Although a frame-change of their players (*the players who were playing on one frame play on the other*) allowed them to score three points and join Canada at 10-10, the players from Québec were too motivated and involved.

The last point, shot by Jean-Loup Remolif, was considered by the Taiwanese referee to be a short ball despite the two teams said it was out (= good, *the Swiss would have scored the point*). The Canadian Bruno Collard, first witness as a 1<sup>st</sup>-zone defender, with help of his colleagues, tried to call it but the Asian referee seemed sure of himself, calling this shot short, and giving Canada the victory. (*Such "fair-play" actions, as calling the ball out here by the Canadian team although it would have given their opponent a point) are common in tchoukball...*)

The whole match was punctuated by calls made by both teams, contesting the referees' decisions. In many cases, the ball had to be replayed or the decision changed after discussion between the two referees.

### **Women: CH1-CAN**

Beach Stadium, Geneva, 22:50.

Score : 3-0 (11-8, 11-3, 11-9)

1<sup>st</sup> set: 11-8 for CH1

At the beginning, the Swiss game seemed a little less efficient than Sunday night against Taiwan. They still scored the four first points, but the Canadians, motivated with Kim Mantha (n°1) at the Centre, managed to come back and finally lead by 7-6. Nevertheless, the very strong Swiss on one side (Fanny Betrix and Vanessa Rechik), extremely efficient in defence and powerful in their attacks, left few opportunities for the Canadians to score on their frame. On the other side of the field, the captain Mélanie Jacquet and her perfect shots made it very difficult for the players from Quebec to keep up with the Swiss game.

2<sup>nd</sup> set: 11-3 for CH1

In the second set, both teams made much less faults, but the Swiss optimism and mental strength overcame the Canadians, who seemed less precise in their defence schemes, and were maybe lacking some experience, which would have helped them follow the quick and lucid actions of the Swiss.

3<sup>rd</sup> set: 11-9 for CH1

Although the Swiss scored the first two points, the Canadians quickly put their heads up and showed a very athletic, impressive level to win the lead (6-3). The Swiss seemed a little unsettled, and played less precisely, but after a change in the team decided by coach Maxime Donzé, they made it to the tie (9-9) and, thanks to the tremendous 30°-shots (*close to the line, but not a "liner". A "liner" is a shot that looks a little bit like a bowling shot in the move, it simply brushes the net on the frame and lands right next to the line (180°). A "30°-shot" is made "downwards" (the arm of the shooter is above him), but in a certain way so that the shot lands approximately with an angle of 30° from the line*) of Melanie Jaquet (captain) and the impressive defence of Fanny Betrix, often perfectly backed up by the Centre Irina Dinbergs, brought the Swiss to the victory (11-9).



**Finals schedule:**

For 3<sup>rd</sup> rank, Women: CAN-GB (today, 13:00)  
 For 3<sup>rd</sup> rank, Men: CH1-CH2 (today, 14:00)  
 Final, Women: CH1-ROC (today, 15:30)  
 Final, Men: CAN-ROC (today, 17:00)

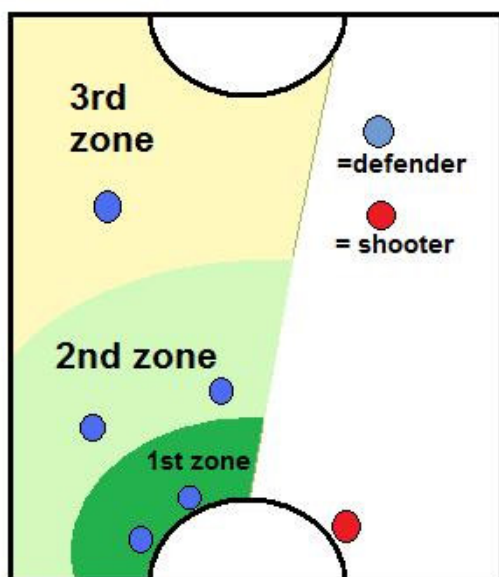
**Results of all the Semi-Finals:**

19h00 – 53 – F ROC-GB 3-0 (7-11, 12-10, 11-7, 12-10)  
 20h00 – 54 – H ROC-CH2 3-0 (15-6, 15-11, 15-9)  
 21h00 – 55 – H CAN-CH1 3-0 (16-14, 16-14, 15-11)  
 22h00 – 56 – F CAN-CH1 0-3 (8-11, 3-11, 9-11)

These results are also available on our website [www.genevabeach.ch](http://www.genevabeach.ch)

**Explanations:**

Defence “zones” (and shot “zones”) :



Shot angles (shot “names”)

