

## **Day 1 – Ladies Europeans**

With Ireland's Ladies Squash Team having a comprehensive win against Italy in yesterday's European Team Championships, they came through their tie against Germany today with another 3/0 win securing their place in the semi finals this coming Friday here in France. After the last of the pool matches scheduled tomorrow, win or lose, they will come up against Holland, seeded 2nd or France, seeded 3rd in the Championship and will be pushing hard to knock either country down a notch and take a well earned position above their current 4th place European ranking.

First up was 3rd string, Laura Mylotte. With Germany serving, control of the game was quickly taken by Mylotte keeping her opponent, Pamela Hathaway, at the back of the court & winning 11/7 in the first. In the second game Germany took the lead on and off throughout the game but Ireland finally closed it 12/10. The third game closely mirrored the second but again Mylotte closed the match out with a stunning drop from the back of the court giving Ireland a 3/0 win.

Next up was the number 1 string, Madeline Perry against Germany's Sina Wall. Unfortunately for Germany today, Wall's game posed no threat for Perry as Ireland cruised through the match with a very comfortable 3/0 win closing each game 11/3.

Last up was Aisling Blake, number 2 string, playing Kathrin Rohrmueller. With Germany serving, Blake struggled to take control in the first game but kept Germany's neck and neck climb on the wrong side of the score board, winning the first game 15/13. Blake closed the second game at 11/6 and was well and truly in the zone for what was the final game, winning it 11/3 and another 3/0 win for Ireland.

Play begins tomorrow at 10am Irish time when Ireland play England in what is expected to be their toughest tie of the Championship so far.

## **Day 2 - Ladies Senior Europeans 2010**

Today's play at the Squash Europeans was a tough one for the Irish Ladies team. Ireland went down 2 games to 1 with Madeline Perry being the victor for Ireland. Ireland put out their top team but England proved to be too strong on the day for the number 2 and 3 string, Aisling Blake and Laura Mylotte. However, Perry won her game in style! It took Ireland a game to really get started, England winning 11/6 in the first. Perry immediately put the pressure on in the second game causing England's Jenny Duncalf to, uncharacteristically, hit 4 consecutive shots into the tin. Perry maintained the pressure through the 2nd and 3rd game, winning them 11/6, 11/9. In the fourth, Ireland started in much the fashion as the last two games and such was Perry's adept touch on the ball, Ireland shot off to an 8/2 lead - the chance of a 3/1 win look extremely positive.

But that wasn't to be as Duncalf once again started to dominate, forcing errors while England's score rose steadily from 4/9 down to win the fourth game 11/9. With 2 games a piece, one game remained and England took a solid 7/2 lead.

Then, in what was a reversal of fortune, Ireland started a steady methodical climb from 7/2 down, not bowing to the pressure and relinquishing serve only once more to win the match 11/8 in the fifth.

Ireland meet France tomorrow in the semi finals. Play is scheduled to start at 12.30 (11.30 Irish time).

### **Day 3 - Ladies Senior Europeans 2010**

It was a disappointing day for the Irish Ladies at the European today as they went down 2-1 to France in the semi finals. The tie got under way with the number 3 string first to play - Laura Mylotte V Maud Duplomb. With Mylotte serving, Ireland took control early and moved Duplomb around, creating the openings to close the rallies, reaching a 5/2 lead. France equalled the pace but eventually closed the gap at 7/7, pushing on to take the game 11/8. With France serving in the second, Mylotte began to drill the ball to the back and attack at the front creating a 9/2 lead and taking the second game 11/5. One game all, Duplomb ejected herself back into the game catching Ireland on the back foot and forcing too many errors enabling France to take the next two games 11/4, 11/5 giving a 3/1 win to France;

Next to play was the 1st string, Madeline Perry V Camille Serme. Perry had a slow start gaining 8 points before France closed out the first game at 11/8. The second game had the resurgence of the dynamic skill associated with Perry's game. Ireland pushed to the back and struck early at the front in both the second and third game closing them at 11/8 and 11/9. With Perry increasing the tempo, Serme struggled to maintain composure while Ireland finished the match 11/4 in the fourth game leaving it 1 game all heading into the third and final match.

Last up was the 3rd string, Aisling Blake V Isabelle Stoehr. France took an early lead keeping Ireland off balance and pushed through to take the first game 11/7. One game down, the intensity increased in the second game and in what seems customary in Blake's game, a power struggle began between both players with a neck and neck climb before France closed it out at 11/9. Ireland two games down and pressure mounting, France capitalised on this, forcing too many error and taking the match at 11/5 leaving France to face Holland tomorrow in the Final.

Ireland play England for 3rd & 4th place tomorrow at 11.30 (10.30 Irish time)

Ireland lost out to England in their final game but finished a very respectable 4<sup>th</sup> place overall. Congratulations to the Madeline, Aisling, Laura and Zoe, Elvy Da Costa (Coach) and Joan Gorham (Team Manager).