



## Statistics and Fact Sheet – Day 2

### Notable results and upsets from Day 2 (30 Apr)

**ENG (WR12) vs TPE (WR6) Men's Group C** – England beat Chinese Taipei 3-1 with Liam Pitchford (WR65) defeating Chuang Chih-Yuan (WR16) 3-0 and Chien Chen-An (WR30) 3-1. This adds to Pitchford's run of upsets after his 3-0 win against Vladimir Samsonov on Day 1. Paul Drinkhall (WR52) also upset Chuang Chih-Yuan, 12-10 in the 5<sup>th</sup> game.

**BRA (WR10) vs POR (WR8) Men's Group B** – While not a huge upset by seedings, the score line is impressive, Brazil beat Portugal 3-0 with Portugal fielding their most experienced trio. In Kuala Lumpur two years ago Brazil finished 26<sup>th</sup>, while Portugal reached the quarterfinal.

**ENG (WR12) vs JPN (WR3) Men's Group C** – England recorded the biggest upset of day 2 taking down powerhouse Japan 3-1. Liam Pitchford (WR65) adds two more wins, beating Tomokazu Harimoto (WR13) and Jun Mizutani (WR11). In 2016 Pitchford won eight matches, here in Halmstad he has won five after only two days!

**Women's Group C** – DPR Korea leads group C after day 2 with no losses, however the group is still wide open, with TPE, ROU, NED, and POL all in the running for a berth in the last twelve.

### Notable upcoming matches on Day 3 (1 May)

❖ Sweden WR24 vs Russia WR9 – Women's Group A – Table 1 at 10:00

Sweden was unable to beat Singapore, but if they overcome Russia they will guarantee a place in the last 12.

- ▶ **Anastasia Kolish** (RUS) age 17, WR411, 2017 European Youth Champs Runner Up
- ▶ **Polina Mikhailova** (RUS) age 31, WR46, 2017 Belgium Open Runner Up
- ▶ **Yana Noskova** (RUS) age 24, WR76, 2016 Bulgaria and Belarus Quarterfinalist
- ▶ **Valeria Shcherbatykh** (RUS) age 19, WR261, 2018 European U21 Runner Up
- ▶ **Mariia Tailakova** (RUS) age 17, WR101, 2016 European Cadet Champion, 2018 European U21 Champion, 2017 Luxembourg Open Champion.
- ▶ **Filippa Bergand** (SWE) age 19, WR402, 2016 Swedish Junior Open Runner Up
- ▶ **Linda Bergstrom** (SWE) age 23, WR138, 2016 European Champs Rnd of 64
- ▶ **Matilda Ekholm** (SWE) age 35, WR37, 2015 World Champs Rnd of 16, 2016 European Mixed Runner Up. Ekholm has won 6/6 matches so far. In the group stage at 2016 WTTC Ekholm won both her matches against Russia including a 3-0 win over Mikhailova.
- ▶ **Jennifer Jonsson** (SWE) age 23, WR160, 2016 North European Champs Winner.



❖ China **WR1** vs Portugal **WR8** – Men's Group B – Table 1 at 13:00

China has come through to the third day with quick matches, while Portugal lost 3-0 to Brazil on Day 2 and China then beat Brazil 3-0.

- ▶ **Fan Zhendong** (CHN) age 21, **WR1**, 2016 World Cup Champion, 2017 World Tour Grand Finals Champion, 2017 World Championships Runner Up, nine time World Tour titleholder including 2018 Hungarian Open and 2017 China Open where he beat Ma Long 4-0 in the final.
- ▶ **Xu Xin** (CHN) age 28, **WR6**, 2013 World Cup Champion, 2-time World Tour Grand Finals Champion, 4-time Asian Cup Champion, 3-time World Doubles Champion, 2014 Asian Games Champion, was ranked number one in the world for most of 2014.
- ▶ **Lin Gaoyuan** (CHN) age 23, **WR5**, 2017 Asian Cup Champion, 2017 Austrian Open Champion. Known for his loss to Timo Boll from 10-5 up in the 7<sup>th</sup> game at the 2017 World Cup, and for his losing the same lead against Xu Xin at the 2017 World Championships.
- ▶ **Ma Long** (CHN) age 29, **WR6**, first world title was 2004 World Junior Champion, since then he has won every world title available as well as the Asian Champs, Cup, and Games. Ma recently lost to Timo Boll at the 2017 World Cup. He will be 30 years old in October.
- ▶ **Wang Chuqin** (CHN) age 17, **WR145**, lost to Tiago Apolonia at the 2018 Qatar Open. Runner Up at 2018 Hungarian Open, bronze medallist at 2017 World Junior Championships. At this age Ma Long and Fan Zhendong were already winning World Tour titles.
- ▶ **Marcos Freitas** (POR) age 30, **WR15**, has a 100% win rate against Fan Zhendong, winning their one and only match 4-0 in 2013 at the Qatar Open.
- ▶ **Tiago Apolonia** (POR) age 31, **WR36**, beat Wang Chuqin at the 2018 Qatar Open.
- ▶ **Joao Monteiro** (POR) age 34, **WR61**, 2016 Europe Top 16 Cup Runner Up, 2015 European mixed doubles champion with wife and Romanian team member Daniela Monteiro Dodean
- ▶ **Joao Geraldo** (POR) age 22, **WR86**, 2016 Slovenia U21 Champion.

Fun facts from Day 2

- Tomas Konecny (CZE) age 32, **WR94** won the first game against a Chinese player, losing 1-3 to Lin Gaoyuan. China has won every other match 3-0 so far. In 2016 WTTC they didn't lose a single match and in the men's event were not pushed to a 5<sup>th</sup> game throughout the event.
- Every match won in the Championship Division qualification and main draw is worth 250 points for a player's world ranking, provided the total points earned is in that player's top 8 results. In Kuala Lumpur 2016 Feng Tianwei won 11 matches and 2750 points! The points earned at Halmstad are valid until the next world team championships in 2020.