



## **Competition Day 2 - Wednesday 17 May 2017**

**UKR v RUS**  
**0 – 3**  
**(18-25 / 20-25 / 20-25)**

The second day of the competition started with UKR v RUS.

RUS took an early 4-1 lead with some strong serves from MEDNIKOVA (3) and errors from UKR. UKR asked for a time out at 6-1 in favour of RUS. This did not stop MEDNIKOVA (3) again to keep on serving to the first technical time out 8-1. UKR got the ball back only to hit it out and RUS went on to serve with ARBATSKAIA (8).

MEDNIKOVA (3) hit helped get the ball back but only momentarily, as it could not be picked up after a strong hit from ZAKREVSKAIA (15).

Miscommunication between the UKR players saw the ball drop on the floor and the score increased to 12-4 for RUS.

UKR got the ball back and managed to get to 7 points. A strong hit from MEDNIKOVA (3) again gave the ball back to RUS at 14-7.

The second technical time out at 16-8 was in favour of RUS. A strong serve from PANINA (5) got another point for RUS but UKR claimed it back and used it with an effective block reaching a score of 17-10 still in favour of RUS. Then MEDNIKOVA (3) put an end to it with a powerful middle hit.

At 21-13, PODLIESNA (3) tipped the ball right behind the RUS block and followed suit with another counter attack. UKR increased the score by one point only to lose the serve at 22-14.

An ace from PODLIESNA (3) at 23-16 gave an extra point but a hit in the net backcourt gave the set point to RUS. At 24-17 the ball was back on the UKR side with KOZYNA (11) serving. However the set was given to RUS after the server threw the ball and caught it back without hitting it.



The second set started with a change in line up for UKR with PRYVALYKHINA (1) coming in to bring some experience in the game. KUNSTMAN (9) serves saw the score go up to 4-1 in favour of Russia. UKR got the ball back and a strong block from PRYVALYKHINA (1) kept the ball on their side. UKR crept back at 4 all but served out. Again PRYVALYKHINA (1) reverse hit gave the ball back to UKR and serve. UKR took the lead at 6-5 but that was short lived as RUS increased the pressure at the block. However UKR fought back and got to the first technical time out at 8-7.

All the balls were being given to PRYVALYKHINA (1) to hit but this did not always work. RUS came back at 14-12 and to the second technical time out at 16-13. UKR did not give up and piled on the hits with PODLIESNA (3) and efficient blocks to get to 17 all.

An ace serve by HURANSKA (8) saw UKR match RUS at 19-19 only to lose the ball again. PERMIAKOVA (2) was substituted for SMIRNOVA (13) for the serve but after hitting out, RUS lost the ball back in favour of UKR. Miscommunication in the UKR team saw them give a point away to RUS followed by another one due to poor passing at 22-20. RUS increased the pressure on the serve and finished the set 25-20.

The third set started strongly for UKR putting the pressure on RUS and quickening the pace, thereby taking a comfortable lead at 6-2. Again the impact of PRYVALYKHINA (1) on the game was obvious with UKR reaching the first technical time out 8-2 in their favour. UKR continued their one-woman show with PODLIESNA (3) at the serve reaching 10-4.

Again a RUS substitution of PERMIAKOVA (2) for SMIRNOVA (13) at the serve was successful as RUS got back to a 3-point difference at 11-8 still in favour of UKR. UKR took a time out to slow RUS down. RUS increased in confidence in the serve and BISAEVA (6) took the team to a 13-12 lead with UKR forced to ask again for a time out. UKR got the ball back at 15-14 but served out thereby giving RUS the advantage at the second technical time out at 16-14. RUS slowly edged away from UKR by taking a 18-16 lead. They increased the pressure at the serve and through the outside to get to 22-17. UKR substituted

PRYVALYKHINA (1) for BEZPROSVANNA (7) at the serve. They gained a couple of points but then RUS stroke back and scored at 23-17. A strong hit from KUNSTMAN (9) through the outside gave them a match ball followed by a hit out from UKR. RUS won the set 25-20 and the game 3-0.

Best Scorer: RUS – MEDNIKOVA (3) - 14 points  
UKR – PRYVALYKHINA (1) – 19 points



**JPN v NED**  
**1-3**  
**(12-25 / 9-25 / 25-20 / 14-25)**

The first point of the first set went to Japan but the game quickly took up speed with both teams fighting in defence to pick up the ball. OSADA (12) aced the serve at 3 all and a ball out from NED gave another point to JPN.

The score was tight at 5-5 but then NED took off and got to the first technical time out at 8-6. Strong serves from ZHAO (12) saw JPN take their first time out at 11-7 for NED. ZHAO (12) then continued until 15-8 and was stopped by a block. The second technical time out went to NED at 16-8. JPN came back in the game with a series of good serves from KIKUCHI (9) to take them to 11-18 but were stopped by a block. JPN substituted player OSADA (12) for HATA (2) at 20-12 in favour of NED. Then NED took off and finished the set 25-12.



NED started off strongly by leading 4-1 but JPN fought back with some great defence. They reached the first technical time out at 8-3 with a series of strong serves from KOPPERS (7). Clever play from JPN saw them come back 5-11 but the NED attacks were too strong for them. LIST (8) continued with strong serving forcing JPN to call for a time out at 15-5 in NED favour. A strong block from VAN MARUM (3) took NED to the second technical time out 16-5 hence give NED a 11 point lead. LIST (8) took NED to 18-6 and then served out. NED substituted ZHAO (12) for VAN DAM (10) at 19-6 and then BRANDSMA (6) for VAN MARUM (3). This gave additional energy to NED and they reached 20-7. A block from KANEKI (7) momentarily stopped the progression of NED but quick

thinking at the net from VAN DER HAAR (5) saw the ball come back to NED at 22-8. Another two aces from the NED side with VAN DAM got NED at set point 24-9. VAN DER HAAR (5) finished the set for NED 25-9

The third set started with the same energy as the first one on both sides with NED quickly taking the lead at the first technical time out 8-4. Quick reactions at the net from JPN allowed them to stay in the race and grab one point at a time. NED started losing a bit of concentration and gave away some crucial points. VAN DER HAAR (5) strong hit through the outside brought the team back in the game and they resumed their progression leading 12-9. However JPN kept on pressing in defence and would not let anything drop.



Clever play by STINISSEN (1) got the ball back to NED but JPN's efficient block took the point, bringing the score difference to one point at 14-13. KIKUCHI (9) ace at 14 all was crucial but could not help save the ball from a strong hit by NED. However JPN got to the second technical time out at 16-15. JPN started clocking points following errors from NED and strong serve from OSADA (12). They were soon 3 points ahead at 18-15 but the NED block momentarily stopped them. JPN took another point and NED had no other choice but to ask for a time out at 19-16 in favour of JPN. ZHAO (12) came back on the court for VAN DAM (10) to try and calm the team down a bit and she did just that.

However this was short lived with LIST (8) serving out at 21-17 for JPN. VAN MARUM (3) returned on the court and ZHAO (12) scored with a second hand tip to reduce the margin to 4 points. JPN was still leading 23 to 19 and NED asked for a time out. The end of the set was very tense with both teams fighting for each point. NED got back to 25-22 but then served out hence ended the set at 25-22 in favour of JPN.

The fourth set started with a hit out from JPN but miscommunication within the NED team gave the point back to JPN at 1 all. Both teams were trying too hard and hitting out on both sides.

KOPPERS (7) put pressure on the serve to get to 5-2 but JPN got the ball back and returned the favour. They were soon at 5 all. NED then applied more pressure on the serve and reached 8-5 for the first technical time out. STINISSEN (1) at the serve took the team ahead to a comfortable 10 points lead with the front court stopping the JPN hitters from going through and forcing them to make mistakes. The second technical time out was reached at 16-5 for NED with STINISSEN (1) still serving. JPN got the ball back with a clever shot from SHITO (5). NED started making mistakes but got the ball back at 17-8 thanks to a net touch from JPN.

Strong at the net, NED surged ahead to a 20-8 lead. JPN had no other choice than to ask for a time out. This worked well as JPN got the ball back but soon let it go. NED substituted VAN MARUM (3) for BRANDSMA (6) who served in the net. JPN substituted SUMITOMO (3) for HATA (2) (who is the youngest player of the competition at 16) at a score of 21-10. With both teams missing their serves at 23-13 and a good block from NED, KOPPERS (7) only had to serve in but the JPN block delayed the end of the game. A block from BRANDSMA (6) finished the game at 25-14 hence winning the game 3-1.

Best Scorer:           NED – LIST – 14 points  
                              JPN – NISHIIE – 10 points

## USA v CHN

(25-23 / 25-18 / 25-17)

This game was a remake of the 2016 Rio Paralympics final and did not disappoint the spectators.

The first set started like a bomb with a series of powerful hits on both sides. CHN quickly got in the lead at 3-1 but a great block from USA stopped them. Captain ERICKSON (6) did not wait to show her full power and hit hard at the opponent taking USA to 3 all. CHN geared up and put pressure on the serve, resulting in leading 8-4 at the first technical time out.

A great hit by SHIFFLETT (3) followed by a great defence saw USA crawl back 6-8. KANAHELE (14) second hand gave the serve back to USA at 8-9 with EDWARDS serving and BURKLAND (7) following with the hits. At 10 all, ERICKSON (6) backcourt hit again saw the ball come back to USA but it was short lived. The rhythm increased and both teams were neck to neck until USA applied more pressure on the serve with NIEVES (16) to the second technical time out (16-12).



USA continued their serving streak to 19-12. CHN caught up at 21-15 in favour of USA and captain ERICKSON used the same power in the serve as in attack and took the team to 23-15. CHN asked for a time out in order to refocus the players. Substitution took place on the USA side with DOSTY (8) coming in for KANAHELE (14) but this did not prevent CHN from winning the point. After a

long rally, CHN hit out and gave USA their first set point. At 24-18, USA made a hitting mistake and allowed CHN to take on one more point. USA asked for a time out to motivate the team to score one last point. Block out from USA saw another point going to CHN at 24-20. KANAHELE (14) got back on court but that did not prevent CHN from serving an ace and then tipping the ball to reach 24-23. BURKLAND had to hit twice hard in order to finish the set 25-23.

In the second set, the same scenario as the first set took place with both teams fighting to get ahead of the game. USA got an early lead, which they kept going until the first technical time out at 8-4.

In spite of WANG (7) best effort, another block out from ERICKSON followed by a hit from EDWARDS (17) took the score to 10-6 in favour of USA. WANG (7) fought hard at the net to put the ball down and together with QIU (2) managed to block BURKLAND (7).

At 13-8 in favour of USA, CHN asked for a time out. USA kept on serving strong but XU (10) hit even stronger and got CHN to 14-10. NIEVES (16) served and defended a great hit from XU (10) to take USA to the second technical time out at 16-11. USA moved ahead and did not allow CHN to score a point thanks to some great serving from NIEVES (16) and hits from ERICKSON (6) again. CHN took another time out at 20-11 trying to stop the USA machine. The time out worked and CHN got a chance at serving with GONG (6). She managed two points before the ball went back to the USA at 21-13. After blocking, ZU (10) served out and USA substituted KANAHELE (14) for DOSTY (8). At 22-16 WANG (7) hit the ball as hard as she could and got the serve back to CHN. At 23-16, USA gained the serve back but hit the net. Then it was back and forth with USA still leading 24-18 and wanting to finish the game. An error by CHN gave the set to USA 25-18.



In the third set, the battle continued between the two powerhouses with a slight advantage to USA leading early in the set (3-2). CHN soon caught up at 6-6 and got to the first technical time out at 8-7 with a powerful hit from WANG (7).

CHN surged ahead at 11-8 but three aces from EDWARDS (17) saw USA come back and lead 12-11. EDWARDS continued with the ace festival until the second technical time out at 16-11 and CHN piled on the mistakes at the net. A net touch stopped the serving and CHN tried to get back in the game to no avail. They were blocked at the net by BURKLAND (7). A block touch saw the serve go back to CHN at 17-13. A hit by SCHIFFLETT (3) gave the advantage back to USA. At 22-15, a service block out by CHN saw USA edge closer to the end of the set. A net touch by BURKLAND (7) followed by strong hit from WANG gave hope back to CHN at 24-17 but it was only short lived as ERICKSON (6) finished the set in the same way she started – with a bang.

Best Scorer: CHN – Wang – 10 points  
USA – Erickson - 22 points