

British Gas Women's Water Polo team beat France 11-7

There was a great atmosphere in the Liverpool Aquatics Centre on 29 October 2009 as the British Gas Women's Water Polo team took on France in the first of three matches.

Playing against a team from the European 'A' Championships was a tough prospect for the LEN European 'B' Champions, but with strong home support the British Gas side entered the match confidently.

Getting off to a slow start, the match saw only a handful of shots on goal and by half time the teams were tied at 4-4.

After the break the British Gas team entered the pool with a renewed vigor creating more chances on goal. Good attacking play from Britain's Hannah Wild and some excellent goals from Fran Leighton saw Britain push ahead and finish the match 11-7.

World Class Programmes Manager, Joanna Wray, said: "Overall the match was good, we didn't play at our best but it is the first time the juniors have come back together to play with the senior squad since their respective Europeans.

"The last time we played France was in a competition in January where we beat them in the preliminaries 8-7 but then lost to them in the final 4-7. Hopefully the result yesterday and the game today and tomorrow will show we have taken this next step above them to beat them consistently."

The British Gas team will now face the French side in two more matches in Manchester as they continue to prepare for the European A qualifying competition to be held next April.

Matches are free to attend and anyone wishing to support the team should turn up at the venue.

6pm Friday 30 October, Manchester Aquatics Centre

4pm Saturday 31 October, Manchester Aquatics Centre

The team, and everyone at British Water Polo, would like to thank the City of Liverpool Water Polo Club for their help in coordinating the match.

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