

FIFA Beach Soccer World Cup 2008 Qualifier Benidorm Benidorm, Spain – May 11 - 18

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Day 6 Recap

Final group standings

<u>Group A</u>	Team	Points	Goals sc.	Goals rec.	Goal diff	Red Cards	Yellow Cards
1	Spain*	9	19	3	+16	0	1
2	Germany*	6	12	10	+2	0	3
3	Belarus*	3	7	10	-3	0	1
4	Romania	0	7	22	-15	1	2

<u>Group B</u>	Team	Points	Goals sc.	Goals rec.	Goal diff	Red Cards	Yellow Cards
1	Russia*	6	14	7	+7	0	3
2	Czech Republic*	5	13	12	+1	0	3
3	Latvia*	3	10	13	-3	0	4
4	Netherlands	2	8	9	-1	1	4

<u>Group C</u>	Team	Points	Goals sc.	Goals rec.	Goal diff	Red Cards	Yellow Cards
1	Italy*	8	10	5	+5	0	4
2	Greece*	3	9	6	+3	2	8
3	Norway*	3	8	11	-5	0	0
4	Azerbaijan	3	6	11	-5	0	2

<u>Group D</u>	Team	Points	Goals sc.	Goals rec.	Goal diff	Red Cards	Yellow Cards
1	Portugal*	9	26	6	+20	0	2
2	England*	5	7	9	-2	1	3
3	Estonia*	3	11	9	+2	0	1
4	Georgia	0	4	26	-22	2	6

<u>Group E</u>	Team	Points	Goals sc.	Goals rec.	Goal diff	Red Cards	Yellow Cards
1	Ukraine*	9	17	9	+8	1	5
2	Poland*	6	11	7	+4	0	1
3	Slovakia	3	12	16	-4	0	3
4	Andorra	0	9	17	-6	0	6

<u>Group F</u>	Team	Points	Goals sc.	Goals rec.	Goal diff	Red Cards	Yellow Cards
1	Switzerland*	9	23	7	+16	0	3



2	Hungary*	6	10	8	+2	0	1
3	Lithuania	3	9	22	-13	0	1
4	Austria	0	6	11	-5	0	0

*clinched 1/8 final berth

The 24 teams in the European Zone Qualifier to be played from May 11 to 18 were drawn into 6 groups of 4 teams from which sixteen teams will go to the next round and so on towards the semi finals, where we will officially know the 4 teams that qualify for the FIFA Beach Soccer World Cup 2008 Marseille.

Results and match schedule (GMT+1)

May 11 (Sunday) – Matches

9:00am Hungary 3 x 1 Austria
Ukraine 6 x 2 Andorra
Followed by England (3)2 x 2(2) Estonia ap*
Norway 4 x 3Greece
Followed by Czech Rep 5 x 4 Netherlands
Germany 8 x 3 Romania
Followed by Slovakia 1 x 4 Poland
Followed by Lithuania 3 x 14 Switzerland
Followed by Azerbaijan 2 x 4 Italy
Followed by Latvia 1 x 4 Russia
Followed by Georgia 3 x 15 Portugal
Followed by Belarus 0 x 5 Spain

May 12 (Monday) – Matches

9:00am Germany 3 x 1 Belarus
Czech Rep 7 x 5 Latvia
Followed by Norway 2 x 3 Azerbaijan
England 4 x 1 Georgia
Followed by Ukraine 7 x 4 Slovakia
Hungary 6 x 2 Lithuania
Followed by Poland 4 x 2 Andorra
Followed by Switzerland 4 x 3 Austria
Followed by Italy (2)1 x 1(1) Greece ap*
Followed by Russia (0)4 x 4(1) Netherlands ap*
Followed by Portugal 5 x 2 Estonia
Followed by Spain 8 x 2 Romania

May 13 (Tuesday) – Matches

9:00am Andorra 5 x 7 Slovakia
Netherlands 2 x 4 Latvia
Followed by Estonia 7 x 0 Georgia
Greece 5 x 1 Azerbaijan
Followed by Romania 2 x 6 Belarus
Austria 2 x 4 Lithuania



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Followed by Poland 3 x 4 Ukraine
Followed by Switzerland 5 x 1 Hungary
Followed by Italy 5 x 2 Norway
Followed by Russia 6 x 2 Czech Rep
Followed by Portugal 6 x 1 England
Followed by Spain 6 x 1 Germany

May 14 (Wednesday) – Rest Day

May 15 (Thursday) – 1/8 finals

10:15am M37 Czech Republic 4 x 1 Hungary
11:30 M38 Italy 4 x 3 Belarus
12:45 M39 Portugal 8 x 1 Latvia
14:00 M40 Germany 3 x 4 Greece
15:15 M41 Russia 6 x 0 Estonia
16:30 M42 Ukraine 6 x 0 England
17:45 M43 Poland 3 x 4 Switzerland
19:00 M44 Spain 6 x 3 Norway

May 16 (Friday) – Quarter finals

15:15 M45 Greece 0 x 8 Portugal
16:30 M46 Ukraine 3 x 8 Italy
17:45 M47 Russia 3 x 2 Switzerland
19:00 M48 Czech Republic 1 x 7 Spain

May 17 (Saturday) – Semi finals

17:45 M49 Portugal 2 x 1 Russia
Followed by M50 Italy (3)3 x 3(4) Spain *ap

May 18 (Sunday) – 3rd & 4th play-off/Final

17:45 M51 Russia x Italy
Followed by M52 Portugal x Spain

*ap: After penalties



Match reports

Match 49 – Semi final 1– Friday, May 16

FINAL SCORE: Portugal 2 x 1 Russia

It's clear that Russia has loads of potential and that they've steadily evolved into a team that has its place amongst the World's finest. But next time they may just wish that they don't have to face Portugal on their way to a final of the FIFA Beach Soccer World Cup Qualifier. The Russian force started quite well and took a 0-1 lead early in the first period. For a long time it seemed that the Lusitanians weren't going to be able to break down the well organised Russian defence, who countered every attack Madjer and co set up. Until at the end of the second period, the Portuguese demonstrated why they are widely regarded as tournament favorites after their stunning performances here in Benidorm. Portugal again showed their immense quality by overcoming a strong and always determined Russian side with goals by Belchior and Madjer to clinch a spot in the final of the Benidorm showdown.

Portugal			Russia		
#	PLAYER	Starters	#	PLAYER	Starters
1	Rodrigues	X	1	Bukhlitskiy	X
3	Hernán	X	2	Gorchinskiyy	
4	Torres		6	Shushin	X
5	Sousa	X	7	Shkarin	X
6	Alan	X	8	leonor	X
7	Madjer	X	9	Shaykov	X
10	Belchior		10	Shakmelyan	
12	Paulo Graça		12	Gorodnov	
13	Tiago		18	Khmara	
18	Bilro		19	Dankov	
Head coach: Jose Miguel Mateus			Head coach: Nikolay Pizarov		

Referees:

- 1st Stolker (NED)
- 2nd Cviklinskis (LTU)
- 3rd Borisevics ((LVA)
- 4th Slyva (LTU)

SCORE CHART:

Goal Scorer	Time left	Period	POR	RUS
#8 Leonov	1	5'38	0	1
#10 Belchior	2	4'10	1	1
#7 Madjer	2	0'14	2	1



TEAM	CARDS			
	Player	Card*	Period	Time left
Portugal	#13 Tiago	Y	2	4'10
Russia	#1 Bukhlitsky			

* Y: yellow; R: red

Quote Madjer(Portugal striker)

For us, knowing who our opponent in the semi finals was, was not an issue: if you want to reach high like we do, you must not choose your fixtures; you simply have to win matches", stated confident Madjer. This was a very complicated game, the Russians were physically stronger in the outset of this game, but we never lost our concentration and kept on believing in ourselves. Who we play tomorrow isn't really important, but as I have a lot of friends in the Spanish team, I would prefer to play them in the final.

Match 50 – Semi final 2– Friday, May 16

FINAL SCORE: Italy (3)3 x 3(4) Spain

The hosts of this World Cup Qualifier put up a mind-blowing Beach Soccer exhibition in the second semi final of day five at the Benidorm showpiece and defeated the Azzurri 6-7 after Penalties. Led by an inspiring Amarelle, the red fury got back in a game that until three minutes from the final whistle was as good as lost for the Spaniards. the 30-year-old captain had another scenario in mind and had a moment that made one think back of when living legend Zinedine Zidane won the game for 'Les bleus' against England at the 2002 FIFA World Cup™. Amarelle scored two goals in an exhilarating end to the third period and obliged both teams to decide the encounter on the penalty spot. Pasquali missed Italy's third, which puts Spain in the final and condemns the Italians to stride for third place tomorrow.

Italy			Spain		
#	PLAYER	Starters	#	PLAYER	Starters
1	Spada	X	1	Roberto	X
2	Leghissa	X	2	Jorge	
3	Fumagalli		3	Antonio	
5	Feudi	X	4	Crisitan T.	
6	Pavone		5	Juanma	X
7	Pasquali	X	6	Nico	X
8	Corosiniti		8	Javi Alvarez	X
10	Maradona		10	Amarelle	X
11	Palmacci	X	11	Miguel	
12	Zanini		13	Dona	



Head coach:	Head coach:
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Referees:

- 1st Grzelinski (POL)
- 2nd Herbaly (HUN)
- 3rd Walder (SUI)
- 4th Ivanov (UKR)

SCORE CHART:

Goal Scorer	Time left	Period	ITA	ESP
#6 Nico	7'58	1	0	1
#6 Pavone	7'29	2	1	1
#2 Leghissa	3'17	2	2	1
#2 Leghissa	1'58	2	3	1
#10 Amarelle	2'55	3	3	2
#10 Amarelle	1'16	3	3	3

Penalties

#10 Amarelle	0	1
#11 Palmacci	1	1
#8 Javi Alvarez	1	2
#2 Leghissa	2	2
#6 Nico	2	3
#3 Fumagalli	3	3
#5 Juanma	3	4
#7 Pasquali	missed	

TEAM	Player	CARDS		
		Card*	Period	Time left
Italy	#8 Corosiniti	Y	3	11'58
	#8 Corosiniti	Y+R	3	4'09
	#7 Pasquali	Y	3	1'17
	#6 Pavone	Y	3	1'17
Spain	#11 Miguel	Y	2	4'11
	#6 nico	Y	3	4'56

* Y: yellow; R: red

Quote Amarelle(Spain captain)

I couldn't feel any prouder. It was the very first time we got behind in this tournament, and we realized a great come back. I think it's a great way to give something back to the fans, who lifted us up when we needed them the most.



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