

Ice Fernz

New Zealand Women's Ice Hockey Team



4 April 2019

New Zealand Ice Fernz defeat Turkey 4-2

Tonight's game between the New Zealand Ice Fernz and the Turkish women's ice hockey team was one tinged with respect and comradery. At the request of the Turkish team, the start of the game was delayed so that both teams could join on the ice to pay their respects to the victims of the Christchurch terrorist attacks.

Based on both team's performance so far in the IIHF Tournament, selecting a favourite could have been determined by the toss of a coin. Turkey started the competition with an emphatic 6-3 win over the feisty Croatian team, before going down 5-3 to Chinese Taipei on Tuesday. The Ice Fernz had a similar record, having been beaten 3-0 by Chinese Taipei in their opening game and escaping with a narrow 2-1 win over Iceland on Tuesday.

However, from the drop of the puck, the game started with the Ice Fernz exerting early sustained pressure. Turkey endured numerous shots for the majority of the first period, but were able to repel the Kiwi attack, even during a lengthy 5-on-3 penalty kill. The Turks took the opportunity when they could, and Cagla Baktiroglu broke away from the Ice Fernz defence to find Grace Harrison's five-hole. Turkey 1-0 up.

The second period started with New Zealand maintaining its composure, and were soon rewarded. A Jaimie Jones slap shot from the blue line rebounded off the Turkish goalie's blocker. The resultant loose puck was collected by Jasmine Horner-Pascoe, who circled around behind the goal and found an unhassled Hannah Shields, who slotted it home over a sprawled Turkish goalie.

The Ice Fernz went on the penalty kill, when a questionable interference call went against Hannah Shields at the 12-minute mark. With less congestion on the ice, Horner-Pascoe added further to her tournament tally with a fine individual effort that beat the Turkish net minder and finally put the Ice Fernz ahead 2-1. Exiting the penalty box, Hannah Shields, received a perfect pass from the rear and put the shot on goal. It was initially thought that Turkish Goalie Sera Dogramaci had secured the puck in her catcher, but the goal judge deemed her catcher had crossed the line, and awarded the goal.

As momentum built, Jemma Read and Caitlin Orr combined to fire the puck into a medley of players camped in the Turkish zone. The puck fell to Reagyn Shattock's stick, who deftly shot it home for her first ever IIHF point and New Zealand's fourth goal.

With Lochlyn Hyde starting the third period between the pipes, New Zealand failed to take advantage of a power play, placing themselves under unnecessary pressure. Turkey again pounced, and were unpressured as they converted a two-on-one play into their second goal of the game.

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With 10 minutes to run, New Zealand faced their first 5-on-3 penalty kill. Turkey rallied but were unable any to orchestrate any real threat and the few shots on goal were dealt with by some stellar defence from Lilly, Hyde and Co.

Any chance for Turkey to pull the goalie for an extra player was thwarted by continuing pressure from the Fernz and New Zealand were untroubled with a 4-2 margin through to the final buzzer. Hyde finished her 20 minutes in goal with 8 shots on goal, while Harrison faced 15 shots in her spell in goal.

This was the Ice Fernz's' best game of the tournament so far. There was more consistency in passing and greater awareness of unmarked receivers, with a growing confidence amongst the puck carriers. Apart from a few lapses in concentration, the Ice Fernz defence was solid, with most Turkish puck carriers venturing into the Fernz end met with a wall of black and frequently man-handled off the puck.

The NZ Ice Fernz will face off against tournament hosts Romania tomorrow night in what promises to be an exciting game. With a boisterous Romanian crowd expected for the game, the game is sure to be played with intensity and passion.

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Background information

The games can be viewed in New Zealand at the following hours

April 6: NZ v Romania at 6am NZ Time

April 7: NZ v Croatia at 10pm NZ Time

Go to <https://www.iihf.com/en/events/2019/wwiib/gamecenter/playbyplay/6372/5-isl-vs-nzl>

The full squad is:

NZ Ice Fernz team List		
Name	Province	Position
Terryn Bruce	Auckland	Defence
Hannah Cross	Southern	Defence
Harriet Fuller	Auckland	Forward
Kirstin Gerken	Southern	Forward
Hope Gregory	Queenstown	Forward
Grace Harrison	Auckland	Goalie
Abbey Heale	Southern	Forward
Caitlin Heale	Southern	Forward
Jasmine Horner-Pascoe	Auckland	Forward
Lochlyn Hyde	Auckland	Goalie
Jaimie Jones	Auckland	Defence
Rebecca Lilly	Southern	Defence
Rikki-Lee McLean	Queenstown	Defence
Helen Murray	Auckland	Forward
Rachael Neville-Lamb	Auckland	Defence
Caitlin Orr	Southern	Forward
Jemma Read	Auckland	Forward
Ashley Richmond	Auckland	Defence
Reagyn Shattock	Auckland	Forward
Hannah Shields	Auckland	Forward
Danielle Strayer	Queenstown	Defence
Krystie Woodyear-Smith	Canterbury	Defence

Links to further information

Information on the tournament can be found at <https://www.iihf.com/en/events/2019/wwiib>

Follow the Ice Fernz on their Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/IceFernz/>

and on Puck Yeah NZ <https://www.facebook.com/puckyeahnz/>

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