

School Sport Australia Football

Tour of China, United Kingdom and Ireland

28/1/10

Boys

Game 5 vs Ireland Schoolboys

Venue: Oscar Traynor Centre, Dublin

Result: 1-3 H/T 1-1

Scorers: Tom McNeish (28th)
Ireland (21st, 44th, 63rd)

Match Report:

What a difference a day makes. The Australian boys were ready to play after yesterday's positive performance but quickly the game fell into a pattern of much kick and chase from Ireland and disjointed football from Australia. On the rare occasions Australia played the ball wide, particularly down the left flank, they looked dangerous, but all too often the ball went down the middle and was cut out. Ireland scored from a looping free kick into the 6 yard box which no Australian defender challenged for and was duly nodded in by an attacker. Australia replied when McNeish slotted home after good build up, but that was it for the first half – or so it seemed until Ireland snuck a goal in the final minute.

Australia did attack well early in the second half but to no avail, and Ireland, with a sniff of a victory piled on the pressure and scored again to finish the game 3-1.

Girls

Game 6 vs Ireland Schoolgirls

Venue: AUL Centre, Clonshaugh, Dublin

Result: 3-0 (H/T 2-0)

Scorers: Emma Stewart (28th), Stephanie Haim (40th), Liz O'Reilly (92nd)

Match Report:

This was a great comeback from the Australian girls after their disappointment of yesterday's game. Two first half goals demoralised Ireland who never really recovered as the Australians moved the ball around well in the icy conditions.

Although not threatening the scoreline until the death Australia played attractive football in the second half, maintaining possession for long periods and shutting Ireland out of the game. Especially pleasing was the concentration and commitment of the girls, ensuring that they got back on track and into a winning groove again.