

23rd July, 2010

AUSTRALIAN U17 WOMEN FALL OUT OF MEDAL CONTENTION AT WORLDS

The Australian U17 Women's team will aim to finish fifth after being knocked out of medal contention by host nation France, 69-59, in their Quarter Final match at the 2010 FIBA U17 World Championship for Women in Toulouse, France overnight.

Playing in front of 1,500 fans, the home side did the damage in the third quarter, forcing Australia in to the Classification Finals for fifth-eighth place.



Australian head coach Peter Lonergan said "I would like to give full credit to [French head coach] Arnaud Gupillotte and his wonderful team.

Tonight's game speaks volume about France.

They are resilient and energised.

It was a battle and we knew it would be that way.

Regarding our performance, we missed too many shots.

We witnessed a wonderful basketball performance in front of passionate basketball fans."

Australia shooting just 34 percent from the field, combined with their main scorers in some foul trouble, allowed France to take the victory.

Gretel Tippett top-scored with 17 points and combined with Tayla Roberts in the opening quarter to jump out to an early 12-6 lead; Roberts and Stephanie Talbot led the Aussies with seven points apiece, Tippett had six points and.

But France fought back and a Sara Chevaugeron 3-pointer gave the French a one-point lead, 20-19, at the first break.

Roberts would add only two points in the remaining three quarters to reach just nine points for the game, her lowest tally at the championship.

The teams went basket for basket in the second quarter, with neither able to take the ascendancy.

France to a 32-20 advantage into the third term and despite grabbing a number of second chances throughout the quarter, the Australians were not able to capitalise, allowing the host nation out to an eight-point lead at the final break, 49-41.

A Tessa Lavey basket brought the Australians back within three points with 1:31 to play, but Australia was forced to foul and France iced the game from the free throw line.

The Australians will play Japan at 11.00pm tonight AEST, the winner will advance to the playoff for fifth place to meet the winner Russia v Spain in the other Classification Final, the losers will meet in the seventh place playoff game.

Play-by-play will be available thanks to FIBA Live Stats for the group matches at france2010.fiba.com.

In the Semi Finals France will take on Belgium who beat Japan 93-70. China and the United States meet in the other semi after ousting Russia and Spain respectively.

[\[Box Score\]](#)

Quarter by quarter:

1: FRA 20 AUS 19
H: FRA 32 AUS 30 (12-11)
3: FRA 49 AUS 41 (17-11)
F: FRA 69 AUS 59 (20-18)

FRANCE 69 (S Cevaugeon 13, C Stievenard 12, J Cornelié 10) def

AUSTRALIA 59 (G Tippett 17, S Talbot 10, T Roberts 9)

In Toulouse, France

Australian U17 Women World Championship Schedule

Friday July 16: Australia 58 def Spain 57

Saturday July 17: China 92 def Australia 75

Sunday July 18: Australia 77 def Argentina 57

Tuesday July 20: Australia 88 def Mali 39

Wednesday July 21: Belgium 67 def Australia 61

Friday July 23: Quarter Finals: France 69 def Australia 59

Saturday July 24: Classification Finals: Australia v Japan 15:00 (11.00pm AEST)

Sunday July 25: Classification Finals and Finals

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