

# A Mixed Bag

## Views of Batumi City

Jane and I decided to spend the afternoon seeing something of Batumi and (more importantly) getting local SIM cards with data for our mobiles (WIFI being a bit hit-or-miss).

We took the earlier Arbiters' Bus to the venue and a very helpful volunteer called us a taxi, explained to the driver in Georgian what we needed, and we set off into town. SIM cards successfully purchased and (at least in my case) installed, we now had working google maps and confidence to explore a bit further.



A confused conversation in a mixture of sign language, directions on google maps and an English-Georgian-speaking accomplice on the phone later, and we set off in the taxi again for the Central Station. We'd passed this each day, and the hotel reception had said there was a shopping mall there too. *So, in search of shoes...*

It certainly looks impressive from the outside, and there was indeed a store selling clothes and shoes (nothing suitable in Imogen's size) and a pleasant café where we had a coffee and some chocolate. Other than that, there were just several empty retail units, so a bit disappointing. At least we know not to bring the girls shopping here on the Rest Day!

Google Maps said that it was a 45-minute walk back to Batumi cable car, at the top of which we'd also heard there were shops. So, we decided against another taxi. The route was a little disconcerting, taking us through the docks and across some disused railway lines, but we got there safely!



The views from the cable car were really impressive, and on a clear day would be even more so.



No shops at the top except one souvenir place and a café, but the trip was worth it for the views.

We now know where the playing venue is in relation to the rest of Batumi!



*View from the cable car station at the top – the playing venue circled*



*Batumi Sports Palace – you can just see the Olympiad signs on the hoardings behind and to the left of the venue.*

## **Round 4**

Meanwhile, back at the playing hall...

### **Women's Team v Hong Kong**

The Women's Team for round 4 had been decided the previous evening. Co-incidentally, they had also played together as a team in several rounds of the 2016 Olympiad in Baku, Azerbaijan.

They were quietly confident going into the games.



A secure win from Olivia early on led the team to their eventual 4-0 victory.

Bo.	134	🇧🇯 Hong Kong (HKG)	Rtg - 71	🇨🇪 Wales (WLS)	Rtg	0 : 4
61.1	☐	Anandpara, Jayendra Saloni	1326 - WFM	■	Smith, Olivia	2013 0 - 1
61.2	■	Leung, Hoi Ting	1284 - WCM	☐	Sivarajasingam, Venetia	1771 0 - 1
61.3	☐	Ng, Sau Wai	1222 - WCM	■	Camp, Imogen A L	1940 0 - 1
61.4	■	Li, Joy Ching	1137 - WCM	☐	Sivarajasingam, Shayanna	1788 0 - 1



Good play from all the team, although Venetia's and Imogen's shortness of time did give Team Captain Leonid near heart-failure!

Venetia's game lasted 4 ½ hours, although her result was never in doubt once out of the opening.

All-in-all a good solid win for Wales.

***Venetia just having completed the full set of points for Wales Women.***

### Open Team v Saudi Arabia



Wales looked to be standing very well in the match against Saudi Arabia, but time pressure turned a winning position into a loss on board 4. Fortunately, the team managed to scrape a **2-2** draw from the match. It could have ended much worse.

***Wales Open Team – R4***

Better luck next round!

Bo.	142	🇸🇦 Saudi Arabia (KSA)	Rtg - 114	🇨🇪 Wales (WLS)	Rtg	2 : 2
71.1	CM	☐ Al Ghamdi, Ahmed M	2126 - FM	■	Strugnell, Carl	2327 ½ - ½
71.2	CM	■ Masrahi, Abdulrahman A	1879 -	☐	Blackburn, Jonathan L B	2185 ½ - ½
71.3		☐ Al Thebaiti, Ahmed M	1988 -	■	Bullen, Alex	2098 0 - 1
71.4		■ Al Mutairi, Hassan S	1809 -	☐	Pleasants, Allan J	2090 1 - 0

### Looking Forward




Leonid has his Press Pass 😊

## Women – Round 5 pairings – El Salvador



We didn't quite make it back to **Playing Hall 1**, even with the 4-0 win last round, although actually the players prefer the second hall; it is more spacious, less crowded with press and spectators, and the drinks and toilets are easier and quicker to access!

We have a real chance to meet this goal for the next round. **El Salvador** is another team of young players performing above their ratings, although they did lose 4-0 to **England** earlier in the tournament. Let's see if we can match that!

Bo.	71	 Wales (WLS)	Rtg -	94	 El Salvador (ESA)	Rtg
46.1	WFM	<input type="checkbox"/> Richmond, Jane	2053 - WFM		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ortez, Andrea	1772
46.2	WFM	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Smith, Olivia	2013 - WCM		<input type="checkbox"/> Hernandez, Bera	1778
46.3	WCM	<input type="checkbox"/> Sivarajasingam, Venetia	1771 - WCM		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Santos, Judith	1702
46.4	WCM	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Camp, Imogen A L	1940 - WCM		<input type="checkbox"/> Garcia Mendez, Alcira Guadalupe	1741

## Open – Round 5 pairings – Bahrain

Another close pairing from which any final score is possible; definitely a match to follow closely!

Bo.	114	 Wales (WLS)	Rtg -	125	 Bahrain (BRN)	Rtg
64.1	FM	<input type="checkbox"/> Strugnell, Carl	2327 - FM		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ayyad, Husain	2243
64.2		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bullen, Alex	2098 - FM		<input type="checkbox"/> Ayyad, Maher	2106
64.3		<input type="checkbox"/> Pleasants, Allan J	2090 - CM		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Al-Ghasra, Ali	2096
64.4		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rayner, Francis	2083 -		<input type="checkbox"/> Bukhalaf, Khalil	1914