



Volleyball New Zealand

PO Box 615 - Wellington
New Zealand

Ph: +64 4 473 9763

Fax: +64 4 473 9764

Email: om@volleyballnz.org.nz

Website: www.volleyballnz.org.nz

MEDIA RELEASE: 4th July 2008

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

New Zealand University Women's Beach team's underway in World University Beach Volleyball Championship

Two New Zealand womens team are competing in the 4th World University Beach Volleyball Championship being held in Hamburg Germany. Anna Scarlett and Susan Blundell are the number 1 New Zealand pair with a second team - Hayley Griffiths and Shannon Bagge also competing.

Some of the greatest beach volleyball talents are attending the World University Championship for Beach Volleyball between July 1st and 6th. They will show how dynamic and invigorating beach volleyball is. Among the athletes taking part in the event some are among the top athletes of their countries and others will have this as their future goal. It is expected many of these athletes participating in Hamburg this summer will be seen competing in the Olympic Games 2012 in London. University Championships are the steppingstones of tomorrow's sport elite.

Twenty eight teams from 20 countries are competing in the Women's championship. The first days of competition saw the teams play in pool play to be seeded for the knockout stages of the tournament. The New Zealand teams had mixed success, with Blundell and Scarlett winning against Canada and Japan in their pool, then losing to USA. Bagge and Griffiths lost to Hong Kong, Germany and Austria in their Pool.

In the first round of the double elimination brackets Blundell and Scarlett defeated Brazil, and Bagge and Griffiths lost to the Czech Republic. Bagge and Griffiths now face Japan to stay alive in the tournament, whereas Scarlett and Blundell face the USA in the winner's side of the draw and have a 'double life'.

Results from Pool Play

Featherstone-Fendrick USA defeated **Blundell-Scarlett NZL** 2-0 (23-21, 21-18)

Blundell-Scarlett NZL defeated Bansley-Danilova CAN 2-0 (21-11, 21-13) 0:33

Kaneda-Nakatsuka JPN lost to **Blundell-Scarlett NZL** 0-2 (20-22, 17-21) 0:36

Bagge-Griffiths NZL lost to Kong-Tse HKG 0-2 (15-21, 18-21) 0:34

Fleming-Hüttermann GER defeated **Bagge-Griffiths NZL** 2-0 (21-9, 21-11) 0:29

Bagge-Griffiths NZL lost to Jirak-Rimser AUT [17] 0-2 (7-21, 10-21) 0:24

Round 1 Double Elimination

Blundell-Scarlett NZL defeated Nascimento-Souza BRA 2-0 (21-16, 21-14) 0:34

Goliasova-Weissova CZE defeated **Bagge-Griffiths NZL** [12] 2-0 (21-9, 21-13) 0:30

For further information on the event go to:

<http://hsp-hh-alt.sport.uni-hamburg.de/wubc2008/neu/en/championship/results/women-mainreshtm/#c635>

