



**\*\*PRESS RELEASE\*\***

April 30, 2008

Team Canada played their final game of the tournament against Spain yesterday in the Federation of International Polo (FIP) 8<sup>th</sup> Polo World Championship.

Canada came on strong early in the first chukker of play. Brandon Philips converted a penalty 2 and scored an early field goal, giving Team Canada a 2 goal advantage after the first period of play.

Spain came back in the second chukker with a penalty 2 conversion and 2 goals from the field to Canada's one field goal, scored by Marcelo Abbiati. Canadian hopes remained high throughout the first half of the game, with both Brandon Philips and Kyle Fargey scoring goals in the third chukker. These 2 goals were matched by 2 from Spain and the score was tied at 5-5 at the half.

Team Canada needed to beat Spain by 2 goals in order to qualify for the semi-finals. A series of penalties awarded to the Spaniards in the second half, however, prevented the Canadians from achieving this goal. Robert Stenzel and Brandon Philips scored for Canada in the fifth chukker, but were outscored by 3 penalty conversions and two field goals from Spain. With a final score of 10-7, Spain secured a position in the semi-finals.



Sofia and Delfina Abbiati in the Team Canada tent.





Team Canada (L to R): Derek Wolstenholme, Kyle Fargey, Cody Offen, Marcelo Abbiati, Dave Offen, Brandon Philips, Robert Stenzel, Dayelle Fargey, Don Pennycook.

Team Canada, New Zealand, England and South Africa have all been eliminated from the world championship, with Spain, Chile, Mexico and Brazil qualifying for the semi-finals.

The Canadian team and coaches will attend a reception at the residence of the Canadian Ambassador to Mexico this evening.

For more information, contact Megan Kozminski for Polo Canada, or visit [www.polocanada.ca/](http://www.polocanada.ca/)

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