



Flanders International Team Challenge

Women's Artistic Gymnastics

30-31/05 Ghent - Belgium

Flanders International team Challenge – Team Germany leads team qualifications, Belgium's Nina Derwael takes the all-around gold!

Let's go for this first day of competition, qualifications round! This morning, junior gymnasts took possession of the field of play. Let's remind you the competition format: Juniors and Seniors will compete separately but at the end of the day, both teams score will be combined and the best 8 team will qualify for Sunday's team final. Each team can have up to 6 gymnasts. 5 perform and the 4 best scores count.

1st subdivision: France, Turkey and Ireland

The team from France started on balance beam. Coline Devillard and Juliette Bossu were both clean and confident. Lorette Charpy missed some of her connections but was good otherwise. Marine Boyer, known for her beam work, had a shaky routine, only earning 12.800. The best gymnast for France was Lorette Charpy, with 13.200. On floor, the gymnasts experienced some troubles with their landings as two of their gymnasts went out of bounds. But their performances were very dynamic and they showed lots of expressivity. They performed well on vault before heading off to the uneven bars as their last event. Juliette Bossu impressed with great lines and a stuck dismount and so did Melanie Dos Santos, earning 14.000.

Girls from Ireland started on bars. Only four gymnasts are composing the team, which means there is no room for errors, as all the scores will count. Despite low difficulty, they performed well on bars, especially Casey Bell. On beam, Sarah Hynes and Bell unfortunately fell. Things were better on floor, where gymnasts showed good tumbling passes and choreography. They finished on vault, competing four good vaults.

Turkey had a rough start: two of their gymnasts fell on vault. Things weren't better on the uneven bars, as several gymnasts fell and showed low difficulty. On beam, Turkish girls seemed to gain confident, although two of their gymnasts fell. They finished very well on floor, showing good tumbling passes.

2nd Subdivision: Germany, Italy, the Netherlands and Great Britain

Great Britain started on floor where Georgia Mae Fenton showed all of her grace and power with a sky high double tuck. Lucy Stanhope showed a lot of expressivity. On vault, they all performed simple but clean vaults. Georgia Mae Fenton presented a great bars routine with a staldler connected to a Tkatchev. She earned 13.250. Alice Kinsella earned her team's best score on bars with a 13.450. British girls finished on beam, where they didn't seem to have any trouble, presenting clean and great routines.

Mandy Maghoub, from the Netherlands will only compete on bars, which means her teammates can't make mistakes if they want to qualify for the final. On beam, Marieke van



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Egmond from the Netherlands seemed to be a little bit nervous and fell but the rest of her routine was great. Sering Perdok had a few wobbles but otherwise was good. Van Egmond was the first gymnast to go for the Netherlands on floor and unfortunately put her hands down on her first pass. Her teammate Sering Perdok went out of bounds twice. Naomi Visser and Kirsten Polderman had great routines, Polderman earning her team's highest score on floor with 12.900. On her only event of the day, the uneven bars, Mandy Maghoub showed a very good routine, posting 12.750. Kirsten Polderman also had a good routine, showing great lines and turns. Today wasn't Marieke van Egmond's best day. After mistakes on beam and floor, she fell on bars. But she managed to finish well.

Germany started on vault, where all the gymnasts pulled out clean performances, especially Florina Harder who got a 14.550. Unfortunately, things didn't go so well for team Germany on the uneven bars as Kroll and Enderle both fell. Harder, on the other hand, continued to impress with a good routine. The most impressive performance came from Tabea Alt who earned a huge 14.600. On beam, Alt fell on her acrobatic series, while Harder presented an interesting routine with a walkover connected to a front tuck but she fell on her double turns. The girls had troubles on floor, Kröll and Föllinger stepping out of bounds. Alt went out of bounds too, on her double Arabian but finished strong.

Italy had an overall good first rotation, on the uneven bars. The highlight on this event came from Michela Redemagni (13.050). On beam, first up was Nicole Simionato, who fell. Redemagni and Sara Berardinelli showed good routines with no major error. Caterina Cereghetti was very solid and showed lots of difficulty. On floor all gymnasts delivered clean and strong routines. They finished good on vault, presenting simple but well executed vaults.

3rd subdivision: Spain, Norway, Belgium and a mixed group

This 3rd subdivision will be the last of the day. After that, the best all-around gymnasts will be crowned and we'll know the names of the best 8 teams. Remember that those junior teams will have to wait for their senior teammates to compete to know if they'd reach the final!

Emmy Haavisto showed great difficulty and execution on bars until the dismount, where she fell. France's Oréane Lechenault had a nightmare on bars where she fell twice, only scoring 10.250. Ellen Haavisto, Emmy's twin sister, made a good performance on floor with a beautiful routine. Norway seemed to do great despite having low difficulty scores.

Our Belgian team, represented by Chloé Leblicq (La Nivelloise), Nina Derwael (TK Sta Paraat – P.H.H. Hasselt vzw), Axelle Klinckaert (GymMAX vzw), Julie Meyers (TK Sta Paraat – P.H.H. Hasselt vzw), Justine Sterckx (TK Sta Paraat-P.H.H. Hasselt vzw) and Maellyse Brassart (Gym Phenix) started on beam, a difficult event to begin with.



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Justine fell on beam but the rest of the routine was clean. Julie Meyers, who had a difficult day on beam during yesterday's podium training, recovered well today and delivered a very beautiful performance. Maellyse slipped and fell on her leap series but managed to finish her routine with a great dismount. Nina Derwael, Belgian Champion, performed a beautiful and graceful routine and scored her team's best with 13.900. Last up on beam for Belgium was Chloé Leblicq. She started well but then fell off the beam.

Leblicq seemed to recover well from her fall on beam to deliver a good floor routine. Sterckx and Meyers looked great on floor, despite a slight error from Meyers, but the highlight came from Nina Derwael who showed all her expressivity and power throughout her routine. Brassart performed a great routine showing great tumbling passes and clean leaps.

On vault, Justine Sterckx fell but the other four gymnasts performed really clean vaults, especially Maellyse Brassart who posted a 14.100. The Belgian team finished on the uneven bars. Leblicq had a good routine until the dismount when she put her hands down. Both Brassart and Axelle Klinckaert fell on their bars releases but the rest was good. Axelle also touched the ground with her feet on her bars transition. Julie Meyeres finished her day very well with a well-executed bars routine. Last up on bars for Belgium was Nina Derwael. She had a great day so far. And the uneven bars are clearly her best event has she posted her team's highest score with 14.5 to take the lead in the all-around competition!

Results Juniors

Team qualifications:

1. Germany 214.800
2. France 214.500
3. Great Britain 211.150
- 4. Belgium 208.500**

All-around final:

- 1. Nina Derwael (Belgium) – 56.050**
2. Tabea Alt (Germany) - 54.750
2. Maïke Enderle (Germany) - 54.350