

CCB Europe Top 16

Sunday 3rd February: Quotes of the Day

Men's Singles

Semi-Final

Dimitrij Ovtcharov (Germany) bt Timo Boll (Germany) 11-9, 11-3, 11-3, 5-11, 4-11, 9-11, 11-7

"Even when I was three games up, I knew there was still a long way to go. Timo did not play well at the beginning and I seized the opportunity to gain the advantage but it was not over. It was important that I remained confident and to kept pushing myself. I believed in myself even when Timo levelled." Dimitrij Ovtcharov

Semi-Final

Vladimir Samsonov (Belarus) bt Daniel Habesohn (Austria) 11-9, 11-4, 9-11, 11-9, 6-11, 11-9

"It was tough game, not many rallies; tactically very demanding. I had to be focused on each ball. I am looking forward duel with my club mate Ovtcharov. I can only promise good match for the spectators." Vladimir Samsonov

Third Place

Timo Boll (Germany) bt Daniel Habesohn (Austria) 11-7, 11-4, 7-11, 9-11, 3-11, 12-10, 11-5

"I had an advantage that I finished my semi-final match hour or two before Daniel. Also, I was mentally stronger today." Timo Boll

Final

Dimitrij Ovtcharov (Germany) bt Vladimir Samsonov (Belarus) 6-11, 11-8, 11-3, 14-16, 6-11, 11-7, 12-10

"The game had so many ups and downs for both of us. I could have finished four-one but I missed the opportunity. Samsonov was always there, he looked for every chance to come back; he covered every angle and every spot on the table. Vladi had the advantage in the sixth game and even bigger in seventh but no matter how tired I was, I thought he was even more, so I kept pushing. It was a similar match like against Boll, small points made big differences. I am so happy I came back from injury and few heavy defeats." Dimitrij Ovtcharov

Women's Singles

Semi-Final

Petrissa Solja (Germany) bt Sofia Polcanova (Austria) 15-13, 4-11, 11-7, 3-11, 12-10, 11-9

“I needed time to wake up. Polcanova made a much better start. It took time before I settled into a rhythm. However, I did not lose my self-confidence. I lost few easy points in second and fourth games. I could not put the ball on the table. Sofia played very aggressively; she did not give me much time. She is very quick. I played twice in the final, I know what to expect. The most important thing is think about it like about any other match.” Petrissa Solja

Semi-Final

Bernadette Szocs (Romania) bt Natalia Partyka (Poland) 11-8, 9-11, 11-8, 10-12, 14-12, 9-11, 11-2

“I won the title in the same venue last year and that gave confidence even in the hardest moments of the match. I have played at the top level for the past three years and a lot of things have changed. I already played against Partyka five times. She was always better than me but in our last encounter at the World Team Championships I beat her. I have reached a new level now. Solja is a good friend. I am happy we will meet.” Bernadette Szocs

Third Place

Sofia Polcanova (Austria) bt Natalia Partyka (Poland) 7-11, 11-4, 7-11, 12-10, 11-7, 11-6

“In the opening games I could not find the right pace. It took some time before I settled into a rhythm. Natalia was very difficult adversary.” Sofia Polcanova

Final

Petrissa Solja (Germany) bt Bernadette Szocs (Romania) 9-11, 9-11, 6-11, 12-10, 11-8, 11-8, 11-4

“I was very nervous at the beginning. I did not play at my best. Also, Bernadette knows my service game, she can read my spin. After I lost three games, my coach encouraged me to win at least one game, to play with less pressure. Slowly I returned into the match. I was thinking only about next point. We have played against each other since the cadet days. Who knows how many matches we played in juniors and cadets and mostly in finals. I am happy that we are playing finals as seniors now, that we both are among top European players.” Petrissa Solja