



Drinkhall through Olympic Qualifier Group Stages

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Paul Drinkhall lost 2-4 to Carlos Machado, but will still progress through to the main draw on count-back.

Entering his final group stage game of the 2016 Rio Olympic Qualifiers, Paul Drinkhall was top of his group with two wins from two matches.

His opponent was the Spanish Carlos Machado, world ranked #98. The pair had previously met in the same competition, but for the London 2012 Olympic Qualifiers and it was Machado who took the spoils that day, 4-2.

In a similar fashion to Paul's first group stage game against Florent Lambiet, Paul got off to a slow start.

The 2016 English National Champion was unable to capitalize on three game points in the first game, losing 10-12. And in the second game he lost 7-11.

Paul turned the match around in the third and fourth sets, taking them 13-11 and 11-4 respectively, to tie the match level at 2-2.

However, he was not able to build upon the momentum and his Spanish opponent took full advantage, claiming the final two games 8-11 and 6-11.

It means that there is a three-way tie in group 11, with Paul Drinkhall, Carlos Machado and Florent Lambiet all winning 2 out of 3 of their group stage games.

On count-back, it is Lambiet who finishes top, Machado second and Drinkhall third.

Paul Drinkhall will have to face one of the top 16 seeds in the next stage of the competition. He cannot play Liam Pitchford, as they are from the same country and he also cannot face Tiago Apolonia, as Tiago is in the same pot as Liam.

For the full draw see the attachment below.

Update – tomorrows matches

Liam Pitchford will face Elia Schmid at 12.30pm tomorrow.

Paul Drinkhall will face Simon Gauzy at 1.30pm tomorrow.

Full Results

2016 ITTF-European Olympic Qualification Tournament, Halmstad,
SWE Apr 12 -Apr 16



Men's Singles (Qual Groups)

Group	Player	1	2	3	4	Wins	Losses	Points	Position
Group 11									
1	DRINKHALL Paul ENG		2-4	4-3	4-0	2	1	5	1
2	MACHADO Carlos ESP	4-2		2-4	4-1	2	1	5	2
3	LAMBIET Florent BEL	3-4	4-2		4-2	2	1	5	3
4	GUNDUZ Ibrahim TUR	0-4	1-4	2-4		0	3	3	4

Group 11

1	1	3	11:40 12/4/2016 Table 1	DRINKHALL Paul ENG	vs	LAMBIET Florent BEL	5-11, 6-11, 11-8, 11-5, 11-7, 11-13, 13-11	4-3	DRINKHALL Paul
2	2	4	11:40 12/4/2016 Table 2	MACHADO Carlos ESP	vs	GUNDUZ Ibrahim TUR	11-8, 5-11, 11-9, 14-12, 11-5, -, -	4-1	MACHADO Carlos
3	1	4	16:40 12/4/2016 Table 3	DRINKHALL Paul ENG	vs	GUNDUZ Ibrahim TUR	11-4, 11-9, 11-6, 11-8, -, -, -	4-0	DRINKHALL Paul
4	2	3	16:40 12/4/2016 Table 4	MACHADO Carlos ESP	vs	LAMBIET Florent BEL	11-2, 8-11, 12-14, 11-8, 13-15, 6-11, -	2-4	LAMBIET Florent
5	1	2	12:40 13/4/2016 Table 5	DRINKHALL Paul ENG	vs	MACHADO Carlos ESP	10-12, 7-11, 13-11, 11-4, 8-11, 6-11, -	2-4	MACHADO Carlos
6	3	4	12:40 13/4/2016 Table 6	LAMBIET Florent BEL	vs	GUNDUZ Ibrahim TUR	13-11, 13-11, 12-14, 11-4, 10-12, 11-8, -	4-2	LAMBIET Florent

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