



Disappointment as English players Czech out

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England's interest in the Czech Open ended as all singles and doubles entries bowed out in the early stages in Olomouc.

Liam Pitchford and Sam Walker both had a chance to finish top of their qualifying groups and Pitchford kept up his side of the bargain with a 4-2 victory over Leonardo Mutti of Italy.

However, a 4-3 win for China's Li Yieji over Qui Dang of Germany was enough to take him through, with Pitchford left in second place.

Walker needed a win over Abdel-Kader Salifou and it was a tight match which swung both ways before the Englishman was beaten on deuce in the deciding seventh.

David McBeath, having lost his first two group matches, ended on a high with a win over Slovakia's Adam Brat.

With Denise Payet and Hannah Hicks already out of the singles, Tin-Tin Ho had a chance to win her group today but was defeated 4-1 by Russia's world No 136 Olga Vorobeve.

In the doubles, Ho and Austria's Amelie Solja won their first preliminary-round match against Czech opposition but were then defeated in a close match by Nina Mittelham of Germany & Sarah De Nutte of Luxembourg.

And Walker & McBeath, who also won their first match against host-nation opponents, were then overcome, also in a tight encounter, in the second preliminary round by Cristian Pletea & Hunor Szocs of Romania.



David McBeath and Sam Walker (ITTF picture by Jan Brychta)

Full results

Women's Singles

Qualifying Group 19

Katerina Tomanovska (CZE) bt Hannah Hicks 4-0 (11-6, 11-8, 11-5, 13-11)

Sarah De Nutte (LUX) bt Hicks 4-1 (11-8, 13-11, 11-7, 7-11, 11-5)

Group 22

Tin-Tin Ho bt Nikoleta Puchovanova (SVK) 4-2 (11-4, 11-3, 11-13, 12-10, 8-11, 11-7)

Olga Vorobeva (RUS) bt Ho 4-1 (11-2, 3-11, 11-5, 11-5, 13-11)

Group 25

Daria Trigolos (BLR) bt Denise Payet 4-0 (11-4, 11-6, 11-5, 11-2)

Kinga Stefanska (POL) bt Payet 4-0 (11-9, 11-7, 11-6, 11-4)

Men's Singles

Qualifying Group 10

Li Yieji (CHN) bt Liam Pitchford 4-3 (8-11, 11-9, 12-10, 11-9, 11-13, 4-11, 12-10)

Pitchford bt Qiu Dang (GER) 4-2 (11-7, 11-6, 5-11, 11-13, 11-7, 11-8)

Pitchford bt Leonardo Mutti (ITA) 4-2 (14-12, 10-12, 13-11, 5-11, 11-8, 11-5)

Group 17

Darko Jorgic (SLO) bt David McBeath 4-0 (11-6, 11-6, 11-6, 11-7)

Tomislav Pucar (CRO) bt McBeath 4-2 (13-11, 9-11, 11-6, 7-11, 11-7, 11-6)

McBeath bt Adam Brat (SVK) 4-1 (11-4, 12-10, 10-12, 11-5, 11-9)

Group 36

Denis Ivonin (RUS) bt Sam Walker 4-0 (11-6, 11-5, 13-11, 11-9)
Walker bt Juan Lamadrid (CHI) 4-1 (11-13, 11-8, 11-8, 11-7, 11-5)
Abdel-Kader Salifou (FRA) bt Walker 4-3 (12-10, 5-11, 11-5, 9-11, 9-11, 11-9, 12-10)

Women's Doubles

Preliminary Round 1

Tin-Tin Ho & Amelie Solja (AUT) bt Zdena Blaskova & Katerina Cechova (CZE) 3-1 (11-5, 7-11, 13-11, 11-8)
Lin Chia-Hsuan & Tsai Yu-Chin (TPE) bt Hannah Hicks & Denise Payet 3-0 (12-10, 11-3, 11-8)

Preliminary Round 2

Nina Mittelham (GER) & Sarah De Nutte (LUX) bt Ho & Solja 3-2 (11-8, 9-11, 8-11, 11-9, 11-9)

Men's Doubles

Preliminary Round 1

Sam Walker & David McBeath bt Antonin Gavlas & Tomas Tregler (CZE) 3-0 (11-4, 11-8, 11-5)

Preliminary Round 2

Cristian Pletea & Hunor Szocs (ROU) bt Walker & McBeath 3-2 (13-11, 4-11, 11-9, 9-11, 13-11)

Under-21 Women's Singles

Round of 32

Tin-Tin Ho bt Nathalie Marchetti (BEL) 3-2 (11-7, 11-5, 11-13, 9-11, 11-3)

Round of 16

Mizuki Morizono (JPN) bt Ho 3-1 (7-11, 16-14, 11-6, 11-5)

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