



Ostrava wins the U15 home tournament

The last, 15th part of the regular season of the U15 category tournaments was hosted by Ostrava. A high-paced tournament and tough matches were expected, as four teams (Ostrava, Pardubice, Bratislava and Stargard) are fighting for qualification for the final tournament. However, everything turned out completely differently due to circumstances.

Early Friday morning offered the start of the tournament, where the home team challenged Science City Jena. Jena, who had arrived on Thursday, looked a bit sleepy and lost the match so heavily. In the second match, we had the opportunity to see a Polish duel between the teams Korona 1919 Krakow and PGE Spójnia Stargard. Stargard arrived as one of the favorites to win the tournament because after previous tournaments they could boast a balance of 9 - 1. Already entering the match, it indicated that something was happening, Stargard was losing from the beginning and Krakow seized the opportunity and built a slight lead. In the second half, Krakow completely broke away from the chain and demolished Stargard with a more than thirty-point difference. However, looking at the roster, it was confirmed that Stargard arrived at the tournament without its player leaders in this category. In the last match of the first round of the tournament, the Czech-Slovak derby took place between the teams BK VIVIDBOOKS Pardubice and BK Inter Bratislava. Beksa confirmed its role as the favorite and won with ease. The first surprise result occurred in the match between Krakow and Jena. Krakow, apparently satisfied with the win in the Polish derby, did not perform well, and Jena, excited by the defeat by Ostrava, fought with enthusiasm and overtook the Polish team like a steam locomotive.

Saturday could be called a black day for Jena, which lost twice by a single basket. How thin the line is between success and failure. First, they lost to Beksa, which was definitely happy to win, because at least the entire first half they were the worse team and, on top of that, they had a match record of 12-0 until this match, which they maintained with all their might. Jena lost the second match to Bratislava, which also arrived at the tournament with an incomplete squad, which does not reduce the performance or the credit of the players involved. The lead in the match was transferred from side to side throughout the match. However, the ending went better for Inter, who won by a single basket. There are even tears on the faces of Jena players, which I would not consider a weakness, but on the contrary, a manifestation of their love for basketball, where every loss is regrettable. So, my respect for this team, its play, performance and behavior throughout the tournament. In the last match of the day, Beksa played Krakow. Beksa gambled in the morning match with Jena and it was no different with Krakow. The first quarter was still balanced, then Krakow gained a significant advantage with its high-quality physical play. In the end, Beksa managed to reach the difference of one three-point shot, but Krakow skillfully guarded the win. And another surprise is in the world, Beksa records its first defeat of the season.

On Sunday, Jena at least got some satisfaction with a big win over Stargard, who lost the chance to qualify for the final tournament. Krakow couldn't handle their match with Bratislava and is losing by a big margin. Despite this win, Inter probably lost the chance to participate in the final tournament. And finally, the match between Ostrava and Beksa. An even match was expected between two teams that already have a certain qualification for the final tournament. However, the opposite was true, Ostrava completely dominated the match and showed that they were well prepared for the tournament. We don't mention Ostrava much in the article, but they gave an almost flawless performance and deservedly won gold medals and a ticket to the final tournament, where we look forward to their performances.

Final tournament standings:

1. Academy NH Ostrava (Czech Republic)

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2. BK VIVIDBOOKS Pardubice (Czech Republic)
3. BK Inter Bratislava (Slovakia)
4. Korona 1919 Krakow (Poland)
5. Science City Jena (Germany)
6. PGE Spójnia Stargard (Poland)

The following players received individual awards:

MVP:

Ondřej Kičmer (Academy NH Ostrava)

All-star team:

Adam Skoupil (BK VIVIDBOOKS Pardubice)

Alex Milošević (BK Inter Bratislava)

Witold Michnik (Korona 1919 Krakow)

Ben Macholdt (Science City Jena)

Jan Duniecki (PGE Spójnia Stargard)

Top scorer of the tournament:

Jakub Ptáček (Academy NH Ostrava) - 103 points (20.6 points per game)

On the website you can find all the results, including statistics, as well as a rich photo gallery.

Also visit the video section or our YouTube channel.

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