

World Cup Schedule  
Canada 2015

|                |                |
|----------------|----------------|
| <b>Group A</b> | <b>Group B</b> |
| Canada         | Germany        |
| China PR       | Côte d'Ivoire  |
| New Zealand    | Norway         |
| Netherlands    | Thailand       |
| <b>Group C</b> | <b>Group D</b> |
| Japan          | USA            |
| Switzerland    | Australia      |
| Cameroon       | Sweden         |
| Ecuador        | Nigeria        |
| <b>Group E</b> | <b>Group F</b> |
| Brazil         | France         |
| Korea Republic | England        |
| Spain          | Colombia       |
| Costa Rica     | Mexico         |

**GROUP STAGE - MATCH 1**  
**Saturday, June 6**  
Canada 1, China PR 0  
New Zealand 0, Netherlands 1

**Sunday, June 7**  
Norway 4, Thailand 0  
Germany 10, Côte d'Ivoire 0

**Monday, June 8**  
Sweden 3, Nigeria 3  
Cameroon 6, Ecuador 0  
USA 3, Australia 1  
Japan 1, Switzerland 0

**Tuesday, June 9**  
France 1, England 0  
Spain 1, Costa Rica 1  
Colombia 1, Mexico 1  
Brazil 2, Korea Republic 0

**GROUP STAGE - MATCH 2**  
**Thursday, June 11**  
Germany 1, Norway 1  
China PR 1, Netherlands 0  
Côte d'Ivoire 2, Thailand 3  
Canada 0, New Zealand 0

**Friday, June 12**  
Australia 2, Nigeria 0  
Switzerland 10, Ecuador 1  
USA 0, Sweden 0  
Japan 2, Cameroon 1

**Saturday, June 13**  
France 0, Colombia 2  
Brazil 1, Spain 0  
England 2, Mexico 1  
Korea Republic 2, Costa Rica 2

**GROUP STAGE - MATCH 3**  
**Monday, June 15**  
1:00pm: Thailand vs. Germany  
1:00pm: Côte d'Ivoire vs. Norway  
4:30pm: Netherlands vs. Canada  
4:30pm: China PR vs. New Zealand

**Tuesday, June 16**  
2:00pm: Ecuador vs. Japan  
2:00pm: Switzerland vs. Cameroon  
5:00pm: Nigeria vs. USA  
5:00pm: Australia vs. Sweden

**Wednesday, June 17**  
1:00pm: Mexico vs. France  
1:00pm: England vs. Colombia  
4:00pm: Costa Rica vs. Brazil  
4:00pm: Korea Republic vs. Spain

**ROUND OF 16**  
June 20 to 23

**QUARTERFINALS**  
June 26 & 27

**SEMIFINALS**  
June 30 & July 1

**THIRD-PLACE MATCH**  
Saturday, July 4

**CHAMPIONSHIP MATCH**  
Sunday, July 5, 4:00pm

\* All times listed are west coast  
\* Matches are televised on  
Fox, Fox Sports 1 & Fox Sports 2  
\* To view matches results and more,  
visit <www.fifa.com/womensworldcup>

Defending champion Japan  
advancing to Women's World  
Cup knockout round

By Jody Lim  
The Asian Reporter

Defending champion Japan has qualified for the knockout round of the Women's World Cup (WWC) with one match still to play in the group stage of the soccer tournament. The monthlong competition, which takes place every four years, kicked off on June 6 at Commonwealth Stadium in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. Other cities hosting matches include Vancouver, Winnipeg, Ottawa, Montreal, and Moncton.

The tournament, which for the first time features two dozen squads, originated in 1991. Past champions have included the United States (1991 and 1999), Norway (1995), Germany (2003 and 2007), and Japan (2011). Host countries have included China in 1991 and 2007, Sweden in 1995, the U.S. in 1999 and 2003, and Germany in 2011. China was scheduled as the original venue in 2003, but the tournament was moved to the U.S. due to an outbreak of severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) in China.

Canada 2015 marks significant growth of the competition, with a record 129 nations participating in the qualification process and 24 reaching the final tournament. During qualifying rounds, which were held between April 2013 and December 2014, there were 398 matches played in 79 countries by 128 participating member associations. The inaugural 1991 event featured only 12 finalists.

Team Japan is part of Group C, which also includes Cameroon, Ecuador, and Switzerland. The Nadeshiko have two wins already, having defeated Switzerland 1-0 and Cameroon 2-1. Earning six points for the two wins, Japan, the 2014 Asian Football Confederation (AFC) champion, has secured a spot in the Round of 16 knockout stage. They play Ecuador on Tuesday, June 16 to finish group play.

China PR is in Group A competing with host Canada as well as New Zealand and the Netherlands. Canada defeated China in front of the tournament's sold-out, opening-match crowd of 53,058 on a penalty kick converted by longtime Canadian national team member Christine Sinclair in second-half stoppage time. China bounced back in game two to beat the Netherlands 1-0. Having earned three points so far, the Steel Roses of China meet New Zealand on Monday, June 15, with hopes of keeping their World Cup dream alive.

New Zealand, which emerged from the Oceania Football Confederation (OFC), topped the OFC qualifying tournament by beating Papua New Guinea, Tonga, and



CANADA 2015. Rumi Utsugi (#13) of Japan tackles Gaelle Enganamouit (#17) of Cameroon (top photo) during a Women's World Cup match at BC Place stadium in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. In the bottom photo, Homare Sawa (#10) plays in Japan's match against Switzerland, also held at BC Place. Sawa, 36, has scored 83 international goals for Japan. (AR Photos/Jan Landis)

the Cook Islands. With a 0-1 loss to the Netherlands in the first match and a scoreless draw against Canada in the second, the Football Ferns are currently in last place of

Continued on page 9

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|                        |   |   |   |   |        |   |   |   |
|------------------------|---|---|---|---|--------|---|---|---|
|                        |   |   | 2 |   |        |   |   | 7 |
|                        |   |   |   | 1 |        | 8 |   | 9 |
|                        | 5 | 3 |   | 6 |        | 4 |   |   |
|                        |   | 7 |   |   |        |   |   | 3 |
|                        | 2 |   |   |   |        |   | 6 |   |
| 1                      |   |   |   |   |        | 2 |   |   |
|                        |   | 6 |   | 8 |        | 1 | 9 |   |
| 7                      |   | 4 |   | 2 |        |   |   |   |
| 8                      |   |   |   |   | 9      |   |   |   |
| Difficulty level: Hard |   |   |   |   | #27189 |   |   |   |

Instructions: Fill in the grid so that the digits 1 through 9 appear one time each in every row, column, and 3x3 box.

Solution to  
last week's  
puzzle

Puzzle #82563 (Medium)

All solutions available at  
<www.sudoku.com>.

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 8 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 9 | 7 | 6 |
| 3 | 6 | 2 | 9 | 8 | 7 | 1 | 5 | 4 |
| 9 | 7 | 5 | 1 | 6 | 4 | 8 | 2 | 3 |
| 5 | 8 | 9 | 6 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 7 |
| 4 | 1 | 7 | 8 | 5 | 3 | 6 | 9 | 2 |
| 2 | 3 | 6 | 4 | 7 | 9 | 5 | 1 | 8 |
| 1 | 5 | 8 | 3 | 4 | 2 | 7 | 6 | 9 |
| 7 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 9 | 6 | 4 | 8 | 1 |
| 6 | 9 | 4 | 7 | 1 | 8 | 2 | 3 | 5 |

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