



IWAS **World Championships 2014**
Electric Wheelchair Hockey
6.8.2014 - 10.8.2014 · Munich, Germany

Interview



Photo: Facebook

Dave Inhelder

Despite of his young age the 17 years old Dave Inhelder is in the core team of the Swiss national side for years. He is also a great support for his club team, current Swiss national champion Iron Cats Zurich, and was the youngest player at the World Championships 2010 in Italy at the age of only 13. In the last few years Dave Inhelder became one of the world's best T-Stick players. In the interview with EWH2014.com he speaks about the development and position of the T-Stick players in Swiss EWH, his expectation on the upcoming WC and possible effects of the new classification system.

EWH2014.com: Mr. Inhelder, Canada canceled the wildcard, so Switzerland will participate at WC 2014. How much are you looking forward to the tournament and what is your expectation concerning the group draw?

Dave Inhelder: The whole staff is really looking forward to the WC and is totally motivated. We can be really happy with the draw. Our goal should be to beat Denmark and Australia to move to the semifinals. It's going to be hard work, but we are ready to put all our efforts into.

EWH2014.com: Just a few weeks to the 3rd IWAS Electric Wheelchair Hockey Championships in Munich, Germany. What is your expectation concerning the organization of the tournament and do you have any special requests as an athlete to the organizing committee?

Dave Inhelder: I wish that we have a comfortable accommodation and a fantastic and accessible sports hall. Of course, the schedule should be feasible for the teams and the catering excellent.

EWH2014.com: Certainly the Swiss National Team is already preparing for the WC 2014. How has your schedule been looking like until today?

Dave Inhelder: Last year we have had a few intensive and instructive training camps. In addition, a Four Nations Tournament took place in Switzerland, where our team faced Czech Republic and Slovenia. We won this tournament sovereignly. After the player selection in spring this year we participated in the Flanders Cup in Belgium where we just lost the final versus the Belgium national team.

EWH2014.com: How satisfied are you with the state of progress of the preparations for the WC?

Dave Inhelder: It's really good. We are training hard and finding more and more together as a team.

EWH2014.com: Switzerland is experiencing a genuine EWH boom in the last years. You could always feel the development of the sport, especially at club tournaments. Also the national team called attention with good results at the last World and European Championships. Where do you see the biggest mark Switzerland has to improve?

Dave Inhelder: In my opinion it's the passing game. We know that we have to develop this part of our game to close the gap to EWHs top dogs. Working on this point is important to be more effective in our attacking game. If we can achieve that, I'm sure we can reach our goals.

EWH2014.com: There are a lot of above-average T-Stick talents in Switzerland. Why do you have so many good players on that position?

Dave Inhelder: This is probably due to the fact that we didn't have too much strong physical handheld stick players for passing the ball in the past. To create an attack we needed good T-Stick players. The general training for T-Sticks is on a very high level.

EWH2014.com: You are still young, but gained a lot of experience at big tournaments. Where do you see your position in the Swiss national team?

Dave Inhelder: In the present I am in the core team and my biggest goal is to be permanently in the national team. But of course it's also important for me to help and support the new players with my experience.

EWH2014.com: WC 2014 will be played with a classification system for the first time. Can you imagine that Switzerland could benefit from it and who seems like the loser of this launch?

Dave Inhelder: I think it's good thing. This system creates the same chances for every nation concerning the physical aspects. Probably Switzerland will benefit from this and maybe the Netherlands could get a few problems. But that are just speculations.

EWH2014.com: Last question. Who will win the IWAS World Championships 2014 in Electric Wheelchair Hockey?

Dave Inhelder: I guess Germany with the home field advantage and a lot of will could defend the title. But my big favorite is and will remain the Netherlands.



Danish attack was stopped by Dave Inhelder at the World Championships 2010 (Photo: Flickr/FIWH)