



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

Interview



Photo: Facebook

Michael Foxall

All experts across Europe knows this EWH veteran for sure even he is living on the other end of the world. Michael Foxall, Australian Electric Wheelchair Hockey legend and goal scoring machine of the national side, is going to take part of his third World Championships. In an exclusive interview with EWH2014.com he talks about long trip to Munich and development of the Australian EWH in the last few years.

EWH2014.com: WC 2014 is getting closer, the tension increases. Mr. Foxall, are you looking forward to this event and what is your expectation concerning the organization?

Michael Foxall: I know myself and the Australian team are looking forward to the competition every minute it gets closer. The opportunity to travel and play in a competition of this calibre does not come along that often for our boys, we are pumped!

EWH2014.com: Your team has to fly to the other end of the world for representing your colors gold and green. There were also rumors Australia will not come to Munich. How difficult was it to be able to participate at WC 2014?

Michael Foxall: Yes it is a long way to travel, unfortunately a challenge the Australian team has to meet. Yet every person on the squad are honoured to represent Australia in Germany. There were a few moments of doubt on whether we could practically get everything done in time. There has been a huge effort from our support staff, families, players and both AEWHA (Australian Electric Wheelchair Hockey Association) and IWAS to help make this possible.

[EWH2014.com](#): Australia has been drawn to group B together with European Champions Netherlands, Switzerland and Denmark. Explain your feelings concerning that drawing?

Michael Foxall: At this level of competition there are no easy matches. We will go out there and give 100% every minute and hope to get a few results go our way. Netherlands, Switzerland and Denmark are all class teams and play the game in the spirit of the game, we look forward to taking them all head on.

[EWH2014.com](#): Australia finished last in Italy 2010. Why are you optimistic that your team will be able to play a better role this time?

Michael Foxall: The positive to take out of that competition is that we will hopefully be underestimated this time. The players from that squad who are returning are determined to not let that be repeated. There are a number of factors in our favour this time which were against us last time. All we can do is represent the jersey with pride and give it 100%.

[EWH2014.com](#): Most of the EWH players are living in Europe and don't know much about the Australian EWH. Please, tell us something about it, for example about your league and the development in the last years?

Michael Foxall: In the last few years it has been somewhat of a rebuilding time for AEWH. We unfortunately don't have the player pool to choose from like other nations, however we have a small but committed group.

[EWH2014.com](#): Everyone is talking about the new classification system. Do you think it's introduction has a deep impact to the game and which nations could benefit from this? Will it help Australia to move forward?

Michael Foxall: It will be interesting to see how it does play out for the championship. I think it could change tactics somewhat for teams who may have had an abundance of strength and depth in their stick players previously. I think it will help Australia moving forward and hopefully bring players into the game.

[EWH2014.com](#): Last question: Who is going to win this tournament?

Michael Foxall: It is hard to make a comment, because we don't know how teams will be affected by the classification system and also their current form. So I'll play it safe and say Australia or home team Germany.



Michael Foxall at the World Championships 2010 in Italy (Photo: Flickr/FIWB)