

**GB Women – Latina Cup
Match 3 – Lima – 29th May 2011**

Peru 3-0 GB (25-13, 25-21, 29-27)

GB arrived for their fifth encounter with Peru in less than ten days. This time the stakes were much higher as the winner would probably progress to the final of the Latina Cup on point's difference. The stadium was full and the home fans were going wild in anticipation of this battle.

Set one began with Peru coming out firing through powerful middle Ore, Carters quick fire double reduced the deficit. The atmosphere was electric and the Peruvians were lifted by the crowd. Peru led 8-4 at the first technical. Peru increased their serve pressure through Uribe and Keldibekova to advance to the next technical 16-8 up. Taylor's introduction helped stabilise the pass and Bertelli was as reliable as ever. However Peru really powered on in the mid-end section of the set winning 25-13.

GB knew they were capable of much better and Coach Cooper reminded them of this and the game plan they needed to execute. The set started evenly with 2 blocks from Bragg before Ortiz had two quick attack kills. Peru led 8-4 at the first technical. After the technical GB came out fighting and were much more aggressive in attack. Five points from Michel and two from Sandell tied the scores at 19-19. GB was playing some excellent volleyball and the home side again could not live with the offence of the GB team. The Peru coach called a time out after which they took a two point lead. Peru then traded points to win the second set 25-21.

There were a few tactical changes to the GB starting line up in the third set produced the start they required. The offence started to find the floor with points from Beattie, Bragg, Sandell, Wicks and Michel. GB led at the first technical 8-5. The GB Women were now scrapping for every point and some of the rallies were sensational with real world class volleyball being played from both teams. The GB team were being really aggressive in offence and Sandell was hitting with real power. GB led 16-12 at the second technical. The crowd really tried to lift the home team and it seemed to have an effect with the Peruvians chipping away at the GB lead. The teams were levelled at 20-20. GB continued their aggressive offence with kills from Bragg and Sandell but intelligent playmaker Keldibekova brought the Peru team to within one point at 24-23. The crowd were all on their feet urging the Peru team to victory as the side traded points again. GB had 4 set points but the experienced Soto kept siding out for Peru. Soto then went to the serve line and brought this epic set to an end with a tough ace service.

GB once again played some amazing volleyball in this match and was strongly applauded by their opposition and the crowd after the game. The team will now play off for 3rd and 4th position against Chile.

Key Stats:

Serve Receive:	Team: 2.02 from 66 balls (Bertelli: 2.43 from 21 balls)
Kills/Efficiency:	Team: 27 / 14.77% (Sandell: 12 / 23.3%, Michel: 4 / 37.5%)
Blocks:	Team: 10 (Michel 3, Wicks 3)
MVP:	Maria Bertelli

Squad:

2. Lucy Wicks, 3. Nicola Osborne, 6. Jenn Taylor, 7. Maria Bertelli (Libero), 8. Rachel Bragg, 9. Jo Morgan, 10. Lynne Beattie (Captain), 12. Lizzie Reid, 14. Victoria Palmer, 17. Janine Sandell, 18. Grace Carter, 19. Ciara Michel