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## Semi-final SWE - FRA

### A well organized Swedish defensive defence

by Paul Landuré

(photos: Stéphane Pillaud)

The success of the Swedish Team is mainly based on its stable defence, organized with well-known tactical intentions:

- an efficient line in the central defence with tall players
- securing the pivot's actions with one or two defenders
- defender well balanced in the duel 1x1 with his direct attacker
- an effective block often organized with two defenders and the goalkeeper
- the goalkeeper moves according to anticipation and perform saves with the maximum of his body surface facing the ball



**Picture 1.** French RW runs to the left side. The two pivots are positioned between the outside and half defenders, left and right side. The RB is now in the RW area. The central defence moves forward to control the two backs.



**Picture 4 - 5.** The central defender is isolated: he must protect an open space in the central area. The CB receives the ball, moves forward and tries to beat the central defender.





**Picture 6 – 7.** Both attacker and central defender lose their balance and fall down. CB continues to play. The Swedish defence controls the French attack.





**Picture 8.** The right half defender controls the LB who passes to the CB. The central defence is well positioned to control the pivot and the CB with the ball.





**Picture 8.** The CB shoots in front of the well positioned defence. The goalkeeper has anticipated his basic position: he succeeds to stop the ball with a maximum of body surface (arm and leg's right side are well coordinated).