

**Tunisia V Great Britain Men**  
**International Volleyball Challenge Match**  
**M'Saken Tunisia Friday**  
**6 August 2010**

GB men's Volleyball team took one step closer to fulfilling their growing potential when they comprehensively defeated the national team of Tunisia 3-0 in M'Saken this evening. A look at the rankings on the [www.fivb.org](http://www.fivb.org) website will show that the Tunisians are currently ranked number 22. They are currently preparing to play in a Qualifying round for the 2011 FIVB World League against Japan, before taking their place in the World Championships in Italy in October. Disappointed at losing the first official international of the current tour Head Coach Harry Brokking and his young team had been working flat out in the weights room and on the training court attending to the details which went slightly wrong in that first match and there is no doubt that the work undertaken is reaping dividends as the team continues to progress. A few disputed points in the first set only served to increase GB's focus and they controlled a hotly contested first set to win 26-24, only slight blip was having to switch Peter Bakare who had started the match for Nathan Bennett, after a couple of unforced errors.

Tunisia fought back to lead 8-4 at the first technical time-out, and still led by 4 when Brokking called for a time-out at 10-14. Two serve aces from Mark McGivern and a super defensive play from libero, Digger Dan Hunter, finished off by Dami Bakare crashing yet another huge spike through the home team's defence levelled the score at 18-18. Dami Bakare was hitting with frightening efficiency from somewhere way above most human blocking height as GB took the lead for the first time in the set. Each and every play called for cool heads making the right plays to counteract everything the Tunisians threw at them. GB finally took the set 32-30 when the introduction of the double substitution brought Ben Pipes and Yassir Sliti into the action, more blocking prowess was also introduced when Peter Bakare was introduced back into the front line.

Young Nathan French who had been playing at a high level throughout the match having cut out the passing errors from the previous match, combining with the experienced Andy Pink, took charge in the 3rd set as GB led from start to finish to finish the match well in control by 25-19. This was an excellent win for the young GB team who have now notched victories against three national teams who have qualified for the finals of the upcoming World Championship finals.