EuroHockey – Forsyth urges a big effort against England

Alan Forsyth urged his Scotland teammates to put in another big performance when they face England in a crucial EuroHockey Championship clash on Saturday in Antwerp.

The former Kelburne striker said he was proud of his colleagues after their 4-2 victory over Wales as Scotland, ranked No 21 in the world, four places above Wales, recorded their first victory of the EuroHockey Championships.

It was also their first victory in the top tier of European hockey since 2005. Earlier in the tournament they drew 3-3 with Ireland after leading 3-1.

A double from Dundee-born Cammy Golden, who is now playing his hockey in Holland, and goals from ex-Grove Menzieshill star Craig Falconer and experienced Nick Parkes (Surbiton) earned the Scots three vital points as they battle to avoid relegation in Pool C.

A draw against England, ranked No 6 in the world, on Saturday would see Scotland retain their position amongst the elite of European hockey.

Captain Forsyth, who plays for top English side Surbiton, said: "We got the result we deserved (against Wales).

"The Netherlands and Germany games gave us experience against quality opposition and I'm extremely proud of the performances against Ireland and Wales. "We know each other well and games against Wales are always a battle, but it was a really good game. The win is huge. We're not here just to take part, we're here to compete.

"We've done well in two out of the four games, and we're looking for another big performance in the last game against England."