



RENT A CROWD
STADIUM SEATING
CAPACITY 5000



ISOLOTTO STADIUM
VENUE FOR WORLD
CUP WALKING FOOTY



ITALY 2022



Australia vs France

Today was a dead rubber for us. The game was highlighted by seemingly random and rapid changes of players. No one appeared in overall control. One lesson learnt from this competition is that we need a strong team manager for each team whose job it is to liaise with the coach and determine who comes on and who is off with consideration given to players positional skills. Despite this we held France to 3-1. The Over 50's also lost their game. In the evening, we had a lovely dinner with Roger and Iliana and Andrew and Lorraine (both Over 50's team members).

Despite not winning a match our group will take home lots of great memories - the oppressive heat, the shitty hotel, the missed goals and the fact that the organisers lost our friggen national anthem!!!!

Final Day

On this last day of competition we finally got to the pomp and ceremony that was worthy of this competition. The Isolotto Stadium has a great grandstand with three artificial pitches. Players marched onto the ground, shook hands, generally doing all you would expect. It was a proud moment to see our two Aussie refs (Steve and Allan), officiating in a number of the matches. The spectators were enthusiast and there was very friendly banter between the various country men and women.

Overall, because of the quite disastrous organisation by the Italians, the comp was a disappointment. Not because neither the 50s or the 60s made it to the finals, but because on most days, scheduled events (dinners, excursions) were not forthcoming and the accommodation is absolutely below par. The time of year chosen for the event, was quite stupid. The heat was sapping. This is the normal weather for Florence at this time of the year so what were they thinking! The tournament ended with all the nations being together on the pitch and national anthems being played. They tried to skip us because “they could not find our anthem”!! Not to be deterred our team gave a lusty rendition of Advance Australia Fair. We look forward to a much better arranged tournament next time, both from the competition organisers and from our own perspective.

Playing in the spirit of the game



The Indonesian team was given a rousing send off at the end of the tournament.

They played all their games in the right spirit. They had travelled as far as we had but had a difficult time getting their visas until their government stepped in to fast track them. The team received their documents literally hours before they took off!



