



EUROPEAN HANDBALL 2023

31 MINUTES

EHF
CONGRESS

EHF

EUROPEAN HANDBALL
FEDERATION

3.1 MINUTES OF THE 13th ORDINARY EHF CONGRESS IN VIENNA / AUT 2021

3.2 MINUTES OF THE 6th EXTRAORDINARY EHF CONGRESS IN VIENNA / AUT 2021

3.3 MINUTES OF THE 1st CONFERENCE OF PRESIDENTS IN LUXEMBOURG / LUX 2022

3.4 MINUTES OF THE 1st CONFERENCE OF PRESIDENTS IN LUXEMBOURG / LUX 2022

EHF
CONGRESS

1st ORDINARY EHF CONGRESS 2023

EHF
CONGRESS

KEY EVENTS 2023

FEB



15
EHF Beach Handball
EURO Draw

MAR



28
EHF Finals Women Draw

APR



20
Women's EHF EURO 2024
Qualifiers Draw
EHF Finals Men Draw
30
EHF EC Women Final:
first leg

MAY



07
EHF EC Women Final:
second leg
09
EHF FINAL4 Women Draw
10
Men's EHF EURO 2024
Final Tournament Draw
13-14
EHF Finals Women
23
TruckScout24 EHF FINAL4
Draw
24-28
EHF Beach Handball EURO
27-28
EHF Finals Men
28
EHF EC Men Final: first leg

JUN



3-4
EHF FINAL4 Women
3
EHF EC Men Final: second leg
8-11
ebt Finals
17-18
TruckScout24 EHF FINAL4
20-22
European Games
26
EHF Excellence Awards
27
EHF Champions League
Group Phase Draw
29 Jun-2 Jul
Men's/Women's 17 EHF
Beach Handball EURO

JUL



3-7
Men's 17 European Open
6-16
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8-16
Women's 19 EHF
Championships
18
EHF European League
Qualification Round Draw
EHF European Cup
Rounds 1 & 2 Draw
21
EHF European League Men
Group Phase Draw
24-29
European Youth
Olympic Festival

AUG



3-13
Women's 17 EHF EURO
5-13
Women's 17 EHF
Championships

SEP



14
EHF Congress

OCT



12-15
EHF Beach Handball
Champions Cup

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The digital report features extended articles, videos, more stats and extra photos.



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Project manager:

Simona Margetić

Design and implementation:

Warp Design -
Emily Brown, Aaron Kelly, Gavin Franklin & Jonathan Goodwin

Content:

Joanne Harris
Marsha Brown
Eric Willemsen
Anthony Tomas

Photography:

kolektiff images, EHF/M archive

European Handball Federation

Media and Communication Department

media@eurohandball.com

X (formerly Twitter): @EHF_Activities

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

I WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL THOSE WHO HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO THE SUCCESSFUL ACTIVITIES, BE IT ON A VOLUNTARY OR PROFESSIONAL LEVEL. YOU CONTINUOUSLY NOT ONLY KEEP THE SPORT ON TRACK...YOU DRIVE IT FORWARD!

DEAR READERS,

2023 was a rich year! Although even years are normally the ones in the spotlight due to the EHF EUROs – with the next coming in January – the calendar year 2023 was nonetheless exciting for European handball.

Not only club competitions on the highest level with our EHF FINAL4 events bringing crowds of people to the venues: one may not be surprised about almost 20,000 people in Cologne, but the 20,022 sold out MVM Dome in Budapest was more than proof for the attractiveness of women's handball; the national team qualifications for EHF EUROs and World Championships present an ever-growing stage for all federations and especially see the mid-ranked and smaller nations get more involved and, with their quality, prove the commitment to the performance level.

Not to forget about beach handball with all its activities and events attracting fans as well as media.

The younger age category events across the summer months continue successfully and European handball is looking forward to the new format with the men's events. Overall, glancing at the results and in addition to

the titles and medals in EHF competitions, European organisers on a continent and world level have presented our sport in a more than effective way to the outside world, and European teams in indoor and beach handball persistently showed their strength in the rankings.

Competitions seem to be the core business of handball, but the technical level even more proves to be a success story: all these education measures, seminars, webinars with thousand of participants from Europe and other continents are significantly contributing to the progress of the handball sport.

You may realise that the 2023 EHF Congress comes at the end of the text, however, it has to be noted that the cooperation on a sport-political level and the coordination in the field of organisation and administration is a precondition for a balanced development; this held up both in times of crises and challenges of the recent years. Jumping ahead 12 months, in December 2024, it will be my pleasure to welcome the leaders of handball to Vienna for the 17th Conference of Presidents and the 16th Extraordinary EHF Congress, to exchange information, hold valuable discussions, and extrapolate results that will benefit the sport in the years to come.

Overall, I would like to thank all those who have contributed to the successful activities, be it on a voluntary or professional level. You continuously not only keep the sport on track... you drive it forward!

Please enjoy all of the information provided through this report and find at the end, and in the text of the Secretary General, more information on the year 2024 – a feature year starting with the biggest EHF EURO event so far and ending in mid-December with the highlight weekend in Vienna!

Yours sincerely,

Michael Wiederer
President

An aerial, high-angle photograph of a large arena during a night event. The arena is filled with a large audience, and the central stage is brightly lit with white and red lights. A large screen at the front of the stage displays a person in a white outfit. The arena is surrounded by a dark structure, and the overall atmosphere is vibrant and energetic. The text "FROM THE PLAYING COURT" is overlaid in a white box with blue text in the center-right of the image.

**FROM THE
PLAYING COURT**

COLOGNE, GERMANY

TRUCKSCOUT24 EHF FINAL4

SC MAGDEBURG WIN THEIR SECOND TITLE AFTER 21 YEARS



SC Magdeburg emerged as the surprising winners of the Machineseecker EHF Champions League 2022/23, overcoming injury woes throughout the season to take the title by beating Barlinek Industria Kielce 30:29 after extra time.

Magdeburg had previously won the EHF Champions League just once, in 2002, and had not featured in the competition since 2005/06. They finished second in the group phase and won two breathless quarter-final encounters with Orlen Wisla Plock 52:50 on aggregate.

During the first of those matches, Icelandic left back Gisli Kristjansson was injured, but he made it back on court for the EHF FINAL4. Another injury in the semi-final against Barça, which Magdeburg won 40:39 in a shoot-out, saw Kristjansson leave the court early.

But the Iclander made it back for the final and proved talismanic for his side, scoring six goals and ending up as MVP of the tournament. SCM right back Kay Smits was

also crucial – after steering Magdeburg to Cologne with an outstanding performance in the quarter-finals, the Dutchman netted 12 in the semi-final and eight in the final.

Kristjansson's recovery was a remarkable story for a team that suffered a series of injuries across the season. Fellow Iclander Ómar Ingi Magnusson was ruled out early on, and key players including Magnus Saugstrup, Oscar Bergendahl and Philipp Weber were also injured. Amazingly, all three of the latter were named in the squad for the EHF FINAL4.

Kielce finished as runners-up for a second year running. Goalkeeper Andreas Wolff's saves steered the Polish side to the final thanks to a 25:24 victory against Paris Saint-Germain Handball, and Wolff was also important in keeping the final fairly level until the last moments.

2022 champions Barça failed in their attempt to become three-time consecutive winners but bounced back from their loss to Magdeburg in the semi-final to take third place with a

comfortable 37:31 victory over Paris. Barça's wings made the difference in a match which allowed the coaches to rotate their squads and give all players time on court.

The placement match saw Barça's Aleix Gómez score four goals, a tally which made him the EHF FINAL4 all-time top scorer with a total of 70 goals – two more than Kiril Lazarov and Mikkel Hansen.

GOG right back Emil Madsen was the season top scorer for the Machineseecker EHF Champions League as a whole, with 107 goals from 18 matches. PSG's Kamil Syprzak, despite playing in the EHF FINAL4, was unable to catch Madsen – although he did net 103 times in just 16 games.

The LANXESS arena was once again sold out for the weekend, with 19,750 fans attending the games.



19,750
SPECTATORS IN THE ARENA (SOLD OUT)

81m
CUMULATIVE AUDIENCE tuned in for the highlight event

1816
MINUTES OF STREAMING ON TWITCH

35
BROADCASTERS

63m
FANS REACHED via respective digital channels



BUDAPEST, HUNGARY

EHF FINAL4 WOMEN

VIPERS KRISTIANSAND TAKE THIRD TITLE IN A ROW



20,022 
SPECTATORS IN THE ARENA
world attendance record for women's handball match

 **9.3m** CUMULATIVE
AUDIENCE
was reached
across the globe

1085  MINUTES OF
STREAMING
ON TWITCH

32 BROADCASTERS

22m FANS REACHED
via respective
digital channels

A record-setting crowd of 20,022 fans – the most to ever attend a women's handball match – watched the semi-finals of the EHF FINAL4 Women 2023 at the MVM Dome in Budapest. The previous record for women's handball matches stood at 19,467 spectators set at the final of the IHF Women's World Championship 2013 between Serbia and Brazil in Belgrade on 22 December 2013.

The weekend made history in many ways, not least as Vipers Kristiansand became just the second team ever to secure three titles in a row.

Vipers defeated Györi Audi ETO KC 37:35 in the semi-final, the highest-scoring match in the history of the EHF FINAL4. Györ trailed by five goals after the first half before mounting an impressive comeback steered by captain Stine Oftedal, but Vipers proved too strong in the end.

EHF FINAL4 debutants FTC-Rail Cargo Hungaria won the second semi-final 30:29 over Team Esbjerg in a thrilling game. The Budapest-based team benefitted from loud local support and mounted a big turnaround in the second half to take the win and a place in the final.

In the final, Vipers goalkeeper Katrine Lunde was outstanding. She finished the game with 16 saves and a 47 per cent save rate, and by leading the Norwegian side to victory became the first player in history to win the EHF Champions League seven times.

Vipers' Anna Vyakhireva became the first right back in history to seal the MVP award at the EHF FINAL4, with excellent performances in both games in Budapest. She racked up 11 goals across the two matches played on the final weekend and won her first EHF Champions League Women trophy.

Meanwhile, Henny Reistad was Esbjerg's second top scorer in the placement match with five goals, which made her the all-time top goal scorer at the EHF FINAL4 as she reached a 60-goal tally – three more than the previous record held by former Györ players Nycke Groot and Anita Görbicz. Despite this performance, Györ were able to win bronze in a nailbiting finish which saw them emerge victorious 28:27.

Reistad was also the top scorer for the Champions League season as a whole, with a huge 142 goals scored across 20 matches. That put her some distance ahead of Vipers' Markéta Jerábková and CSM Bucuresti's Cristina Neagu in second place, both with 118 goals.



FLensburg, GERMANY

EHF FINALS MEN

FÜCHSE BERLIN END GRANOLLERS' FAIRY TALE AND CLAIM TROPHY

Although EHF Finals Men 2023 hosts SG Flensburg-Handewitt missed out on a spot in the final weekend of the EHF European League Men 2022/23, there was some comfort for German fans as FÜCHSE BERLIN emerged as victors after a weekend of exciting handball.

Germany had two teams in the final four standing – Berlin and Frisch Auf GÖPPINGEN. They were paired against Montpellier HB and Fraikin BM. Granollers respectively in the semi-finals.

Granollers produced an outstanding performance to beat GÖPPINGEN and become the first Spanish team in the final of a second-tier European club competition since 2007. Rangel de Rosa and Marc Guardia in goal proved decisive in helping their team to a 31:29 victory, after Granollers trailed by two at half-time.

A strong team effort led by goalkeeper Dejan Milosavljev and wing Hans Lindberg took Berlin to the final. Montpellier had the better start, but Berlin slowly clawed their way back and the score was level at the break. In the second half, Berlin steamed ahead to take a 35:29 victory.

There was another turnaround in the 3/4 placement match, as GÖPPINGEN's early errors left them down in the first half. In the second half, the German side were stronger and former Montpellier goalkeeper Marin Segó made key saves to take Frisch Auf to a 33:29 win.

Berlin looked dominant from the early stages of the final, although Granollers made a good start. The 'Foxes' were up by four at half-time and eventually took a 36:31 win to lift the trophy – despite Granollers' continued efforts, buoyed by strong fan support. It was FÜCHSE's 15th victory in 16 EHF European League games.

One of the keys to the win was the 2023 IHF Men's World Championship and Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games MVP Mathias Gisdell – but right back and captain Fabian Wiede was named MVP of the EHF Finals Men after scoring six goals in the final, much to his supporters' delight.

Kadetten Schaffhausen right wing Odinn Thor Rikhardsson was the competition's top scorer. He scored 110 goals in 13 matches, ahead of Ihor Turchenko (HC Motor/97) and finalist Antonio Garcia Robledo from Granollers, who scored 94 times since the start of the group phase.



8.7m
CUMULATIVE AUDIENCE

28
BROADCASTERS

4,300
people visited
the Arena



7m
FANS REACHED
via respective
digital channels

GRAZ, AUSTRIA

EHF FINALS WOMEN

THIRD TIME A CHARM FOR IKAST HANDBOLD



Two Danish and two German sides made it to the EHF Finals Women 2023 in Graz, Austria – Ikast Handbold, Nykøbing Falster Håndbold, BV Borussia 09 Dortmund, and Thüringer HC.

Ikast entered the final weekend undefeated throughout the EHF European League season but with the shadow of two previous EHF Finals Women semi-final defeats hanging over them. In the semi-final against Thüringer HC, Ikast started slow but soon took a big lead and with Jessica Ryde solid in goal cruised to a 31:26 victory.

In the second semi-final, EHF European League debutants Nykøbing kept pace with Dortmund. Despite a four-goal deficit at half-time, the Danish side remained steadfast and Nikita Van der Viet and Elma Halilcevic's efforts brought them into contention. With Dortmund failing to score for seven minutes, the game was tied at full time and again by the end of extra time, forcing a penalty shootout.

Cecilie Greve was the heroine of the hour for Nykøbing in the shootout, with three straight saves taking her team to an all-Danish final against Ikast with a 35:33 win.

The German placement match went Dortmund's way thanks to strong defensive efforts, and a 54 per cent efficiency in goal by Yara ten Holte.

In the final, Nykøbing took an early lead, but Ikast came out of the dressing room after the break on fire and turned around a two-goal deficit into a two-goal lead. They then stretched out to secure a 31:24 win.

Left wing Emma Friis won the EHF Finals Women 2023 MVP award with another great performance - after four goals in the semi-final, she netted 11 against Nykøbing. Ingvild Bakkerud was also important for Ikast in their victory, and Ryde again stood strong in goal.

THC left back Annika Lott ended the tournament as the EHF European League top scorer for the season, netting 86 goals in 14 matches – four more than Nykøbing's Elma Halilcevic. Ten Holte stood out for Dortmund in goal with 140 saves (37.7 per cent) in 12 matches, while Ryde was the most efficient goalkeeper of the season with a save efficiency of almost 40 per cent.

The EHF European League Women had earlier seen a new world record set, with 11,112 fans watching Dortmund play Siófok KC in their last group phase match.



6.9m
CUMULATIVE AUDIENCE

28
BROADCASTERS

1,500
Spectators in the arena



1m FANS REACHED
via respective digital channels



NOVI SAD, SERBIA

EHF EUROPEAN CUP MEN

VOJVODINA WIN MAIDEN EUROPEAN TITLE



A seven-goal win in the first leg of the final had given Vojvodina a good chance of winning the EHF European Cup Men, yet their rivals Nærbø IL had hoped for a strong comeback on home court.

However, the Norwegian side was unable to win the trophy for the second straight year, as Vojvodina celebrated another victory, this time 25:23, and earned their first ever continental title.

The two rivals relied mainly on defence in the first half, and while Nærbø's lead reached three goals at 10:7, Vojvodina drew level 10:10 before the break. Then, powered by Barys Pukhouski in attack, the Serbian team took a 17:15 lead in the 43rd minute, virtually ending Nærbø's hopes of an aggregate win.

A team from Serbia had not won a European club competition since 2001 when RK Jugovic Kac triumphed at the Challenge Cup. So, Vojvodina not only claimed their maiden continental title but ended a 22-year-long wait for Serbian handball.

Pukhouski, who was Vojvodina's top scorer with seven goals, won the third-tier European club competition for the second time in his career after a triumph at the Challenge Cup with SKA Minsk in 2013, while their goalkeeper Fran Lucin recorded 11 saves for a 32 per cent save rate, also contributing to the team's success.

Nærbø's ultimately failed bid was nonetheless aided by right wing Theodor Svensgård; he was their top scorer in the game, netting eight times.

Though the victory was duly celebrated, this title was not the ultimate dream for the ambitious club from Novi Sad, who have big plans for the future. In the next few years, Vojvodina are hoping to play in the Machineseecker EHF Champions League and, so far, they are well on the way to that goal, participating in the group matches of the EHF European League Men in 2023/24.

VOJVODINA NOT ONLY CLAIMED THEIR MAIDEN CONTINENTAL TITLE BUT ENDED A 22-YEAR-LONG WAIT FOR SERBIAN HANDBALL.



ANTALYA, TÜRKIYE

EHF EUROPEAN CUP WOMEN

ANTALYA KONYAALTI BSK WINS FIRST EUROPEAN TROPHY FOR TÜRKIYE



Turkish side Antalya Konyaalti BSK became their nation's first winners of a European trophy during the 2022/23 season.

Following a six-goal defeat in the first leg at their Spanish rivals Club Balonmán Atlético Guardes, Antalya Konyaalti BSK needed a strong comeback, and they got it; a 33:20 victory at home which secured them the EHF European Cup Women title.

Antalya began strongly, opening a 6:2 lead by minute nine and never looked back, leading by nine goals at half-time, with their goalkeeper Sevilay Öcal Imamoglu, to thank. She stood like a wall, boasting a 57 percent efficiency (eight saves) in the first half alone. Overall, she stopped 12 balls for a 42.6 percent save rate.

Atlético were unable to hit back after the restart, as Antalya's lead reached double digits at 19:9 in the 37th minute, by which point they were well on course to score almost twice as many goals as in the first leg – 33 compared to 17. The biggest contributor to that total was Sanja Premovic who scored nine goals.

Sandra Santiago, Atlético's best scorer in the competition, added seven goals to her tally and ended the season with 69 strikes.

But the day belonged to the team from Antalya, who wrote history as they became the first ever Turkish winners of any European club competition.

In the past, women's teams from Türkiye had reached the final of the Challenge Cup – the predecessor of the EHF European Cup Women – three times, but lost each time. Muratpasa Belediyesi BSK were defeated by French sides Mios Biganos and H.A.C.Handball in 2011 and 2012, respectively, while Kastamonu Belediyesi GSK came up short against Spain's Rocasa Gran Canaria in 2016.

In 2023, Konyaalti, coached by Birol Ünsal, managed to win the trophy in their debut European season. After beating Greece's A.E.S.H.Pylea, HC Galychanka Lviv from Ukraine, Portugal's Sport Lisboa e Benfica,

fellow Turks Izmir BSB SK and Slovakian side MKS IUVENTA Michalovce in the previous rounds, Antalya saw off Atlético in the final to complete their fairytale.

IN THE PAST, WOMEN'S TEAMS FROM TÜRKIYE HAD REACHED THE FINAL OF THE CHALLENGE CUP – THE PREDECESSOR OF THE EHF EUROPEAN CUP WOMEN – THREE TIMES, BUT LOST EACH TIME.

WOMEN'S 19 EHF EURO

THREE GOLD MEDALS IN A ROW FOR HUNGARY

Hungary became the first team in history to win three titles in a row at the W19 EHF EURO in Romania in July, extending their winning streak to 21 games. Their 35:26 win against Denmark in the big final in Pitești completed an excellent comeback after they were down four goals in the first half.

Hungary's 21-game winning streak – three editions in a row of the W19 EHF EURO – is unprecedented at this level and puts them third in the all-time medal standings, behind Denmark and Russia.

Denmark, the last team to beat Hungary in the competition back in 2017, led by as many as four goals, but collapsed under the pressure in the second half, where Hungary were absolutely flawless, dominating in attack via impossible-to-stop breakthroughs from their backs.

Hosts Romania clinched bronze with a dominant performance against Portugal, 39:32, their fourth-ever medal in the competition.

Romania were the top attack in the competition, with 254 goals, or an average of 36.2 goals per match.

Sweden provided an excellent defence to clinch fifth place, taking a clear 29:25 win against France, after France could only muster nine goals in the first half of their placement match. And Switzerland proved once again they are an emerging side in women's handball, sealing their best-ever finish at the W19 EHF EURO, seventh, after a 37:32 win over Montenegro.

The tournament as a whole beat the record for the highest number of goals scored on average at a W19 EHF EURO. The teams collectively netted 3,292 times in 56 matches or 58.7 goals per game, beating the previous record, 53.4, set at Slovenia 2021, by five goals.

Hungarian centre back Petra Simon was named MVP of the tournament after scoring 43 goals and delivering plenty of assists.

She is the second Hungarian player in a row to clinch this title, after Blanka Kajdon at the W19 EHF EURO 2021.

Goalkeeper Klara Zaj was also named to the All-star Team after previously being awarded as best goalkeeper of the W17 EHF EURO 2021.

Another member of the All-star Team at the W17 EHF EURO 2021 confirmed her credentials. Danish left back Julie Scaglione picked up another All-star award, capping a season that also saw her win the EHF European League Women with Ikast Håndbold. Scaglione was also the top scorer of the tournament with 68 goals.

Danish left wing Mathilde Vestergaard, a key cog in the squad, joined Scaglione as one of the competition's best players.

The All-star Team also included Portuguese right back Luciana Rebelo, after amazing performances, including scoring nine goals in the first 17 minutes of the semi-final against Portugal; Romanian right wing Mihaela Mihai; Montenegrin line player Andrea Brajovic; and French defender Fatou Karamoko.



MONTENEGRO

WOMEN'S 17 EHF EURO

FRENCH TRIUMPH IN MONTENEGRO

France triumphed at the Women's 17 EHF EURO in Montenegro, winning gold by beating Denmark 24:19 in front of more than 600 spectators in Podgorica.

It was the second gold medal for France in the under-17 age group, with the previous one won in 2007. They have also won two bronze medals, in 2005 and 2019. Denmark have three gold medals to their name in this age group.

Denmark had the better start to the final, but France were soon ahead and remained that way until the buzzer.

In the bronze medal match this time around it was Germany who ended the match as victors, defeating Croatia 31:27. Following an equal start, Germany took control in the second quarter and never looked back with goalkeeper Lena Lindemann making sure they stayed in front.

Hungary, champions in 2021, finished fifth after defeating hosts Montenegro 27:24 in the placement match while Serbia edged out the Netherlands to claim seventh place. It was the first time in five editions of the tournament that Hungary had missed out on the semi-finals. A loss to France in the preliminary round, followed by a draw with Denmark, was enough to knock the champions out of contention.

Swiss left wing Eva Baumann finished the tournament as top scorer, with 55 goals, six more than Hungarian right back Virag Fazekas. Fazekas was, however, named to the All-star Team of the competition.

Danish goalkeeper Andrea Nørklit was named MVP of the tournament, with fellow Dane Anne Dolberg recognised as the best left back. Champions France had one member of the All-star Team, centre back Melissa Chantelly.



German defender Ruslana Litvinov and left wing Alissa Katarina Wele both won spots on the All-star Team, which was completed by Serbian goalkeeper Tatjana Cinku, Montenegrin line player Andela Guberinic, and Croatian right wing Lucija Renic.



YAC COMPETITIONS



W19 EHF EURO
Romania

W19 EHF CHAMPIONSHIP
Lithuania

W19 EHF CHAMPIONSHIP
Kosovo

W17 EHF EURO
Montenegro

W17 EHF CHAMPIONSHIP
Türkiye

W17 EHF CHAMPIONSHIP
Azerbajjan

1ST SPAIN
2ND SLOVENIA
3RD LITHUANIA

1ST HUNGARY
2ND DENMARK
3RD ROMANIA

1ST SPAIN
2ND FAROE ISLANDS
3RD LITHUANIA

1ST ITALY
2ND AUSTRIA
3RD POLAND

1ST FRANCE
2ND DENMARK
3RD GERMANY

1ST AUSTRIA
2ND TÜRKIYE
3RD FINLAND



NAZARÉ, PORTUGAL

EHF BEACH HANDBALL EURO

GOLD FOR GERMANY AND HUNGARY

The EHF Beach Handball EURO 2023 was held in Nazaré, Portugal, in May. Hungary took their first title in the men's competition, while Germany won their third women's trophy.

The tournament saw 16 men's and 16 women's teams compete on the golden Portuguese sands. In the men's competition, neither Hungary nor silver medallists Germany topped their respective preliminary round groups with both suffering losses along the way. They were drawn in the same main round group, which Hungary won ahead of Germany; but both won their quarter-final and semi-final games to set up the final.

In that last game, Hungary were strong and took a 2:0 victory over their rivals. Denmark beat hosts Portugal for bronze, again 2:0.

In contrast, Germany were undefeated throughout the women's competition. Spain pushed them hard in the semi-finals, forcing a shootout after winning the second set 24:16, but Germany took the shootout 7:6 to secure their spot in the gold medal match.

First-time finalists Netherlands won three matches in the preliminary round, before slumping to third in their main round group – but they beat Norway 2:0 in the quarter-finals and Portugal 2:0 in the semi-finals to set up the final against Germany. That too went to a shootout, which Germany won 7:4.

Spain beat Portugal for bronze, leaving the hosts without a medal in either competition.

Despite their lack of medals, several Portuguese players made the tournament's All-star Teams – men's best defender Francisco Santos and MVP Gabriel Conceição, as well as women's best defender Catarina Oliveira.

Germany's Moritz Ebert and Denmark's Ditte Folden Vind were voted best goalkeepers. Women's top scorer María Asunción Batista Portero was also the women's MVP, while her Spanish compatriot Domingo Jesús Luis Mosquera was the men's top scorer.

Switzerland (men) and Hungary (women) received the tournament's Fair Play Team awards.



IZMIR, TÜRKİYE

YAC 17 EHF BEACH HANDBALL EURO

HUNGARY AND NETHERLANDS CLAIM GOLD

Hungary were the main candidates for gold in both events of the YAC 17 EHF Beach Handball EURO 2023 in Izmir, Türkiye. The men's team lived up to that billing and defeated Spain 2:0 in the final, but the women's team – which had not dropped a set coming into their final – lost 2:1 against Netherlands after a thrilling shootout. Bronze went to Sweden in both events.

It was a matter of 'save the best for last' on Sunday afternoon in Izmir as the women's final provided the YAC 17 EHF Beach Handball EURO 2023 with a breathtaking ending. The Netherlands and Hungary shared the first two sets, leaving the decision about the gold medal to an enthralling shootout.

The first seven shooters on each side made no mistakes before the Netherlands were the first who failed to convert an attempt. However, with the title just a single point away, Hungary then suddenly missed as well. And after Esmee Stege had put the Dutch in

front again, their defender Nienke Slippens blocked the next Hungarian shot by Krisztina Décsei, the MVP of the women's event, to help Netherlands win the shootout 15:13 – and thus the European title.

The Dutch lifted the trophy for a third time, after their back-to-back triumphs in 2016 and 2017. They were the only team across both genders to win all their matches in Izmir. The Netherlands have been to at least the semi-finals in all six editions of the YAC EHF Beach handball EURO since 2016.

In the men's final, Hungary had defeated Spain 2:0 in two close sets (21:20, 26:23), with the tournament's MVP Bulcsú Hován (18 points) and Balázs Hajdú (14) their leading scorers. Spain's Max Tejedor Sierra also scored 14 points.

It was the third year in a row that former two-time winners Spain (2016, 2017) have lost the final – in 2021 against Sweden, in 2022 and in 2023 against Hungary.



In the women's bronze medal match, Sweden defeated Spain 2:1; in the men's event, Sweden beat Germany 2:0 for bronze.

Norway's Mathilde Fjelddalen was the top scorer of the women's competition with 112 points, edging out Lucía Martínez of Spain, who finished with 111.

Julius Mellqvist scored 42 points in Sweden's two matches on Sunday and raised his tally for the tournament to 129, overtaking Croatia's Simun Jerkan, who previously led the top-scorer standings and finished second with 114 points.



OTHER COMPETITIONS



M17 EUROPEAN YOUTH OLYMPIC FESTIVAL

- 1ST GERMANY
- 2ND SLOVENIA
- 3RD HUNGARY

W/17 EUROPEAN YOUTH OLYMPIC FESTIVAL

- 1ST FRANCE
- 2ND ROMANIA
- 3RD POLAND

M17 EUROPEAN OPEN

- 1ST SPAIN
- 2ND FRANCE
- 3RD SWEDEN

EBT FINALS MEN

- 1ST HIR-SAT BHC (HUN)
- 2ND BHC ZAGREB (CRO)
- 3RD HEI BEACH HANDBALL (DEN)

EBT FINALS WOMEN

- 1ST THE DANISH BEACHHANDBALL DREAM (DEN)
- 2ND CATS A.M. TEAM ALMERIA (ESP)
- 3RD WESTSITE AMSTERDAM (NED)

EHF BEACH HANDBALL CHAMPIONS CUP MEN

- 1ST RÖDDBY BEACH BOYS (DEN)
- 2ND E.F.E. – OS TIGRES / LEVEL (POR)
- 3RD BHT PETRA PLOCK (POL)

EHF BEACH HANDBALL CHAMPIONS CUP WOMEN

- 1ST THE DANISH BEACHHANDBALL DREAM (DEN)
- 2ND OVB BEACH GIRLS (HUN)
- 3RD BEACH BASIS SCHLEISHEIM (GER)

EUROPEAN MASTERS GAMES 2023

Women 33+/43+

- 1ST FIF/HØJ (DEN)
- 2ND ANGYALOK (HUN)

Men 35+

- 1ST MASTERS PORTO (POR)
- 2ND HK PÖTSI (FIN)

Men 45+/50+

- 1ST KOLDING IF (DEN)
- 2ND BUDAPEST OLD BOYS 50 (HUN)

Men 55+

- 1ST HC VIIMSI (EST)
- 2ND BUDAPEST OLD BOYS 55 (HUN)

28TH IHF MEN'S WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

- 1ST DENMARK
- 2ND FRANCE
- 3RD SPAIN

26TH IHF WOMEN'S WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

- 1ST FRANCE
- 2ND NORWAY
- 3RD DENMARK



ZÜRICH, SWITZERLAND

WOMEN'S EHF EURO 2024 QUALIFIERS DRAW

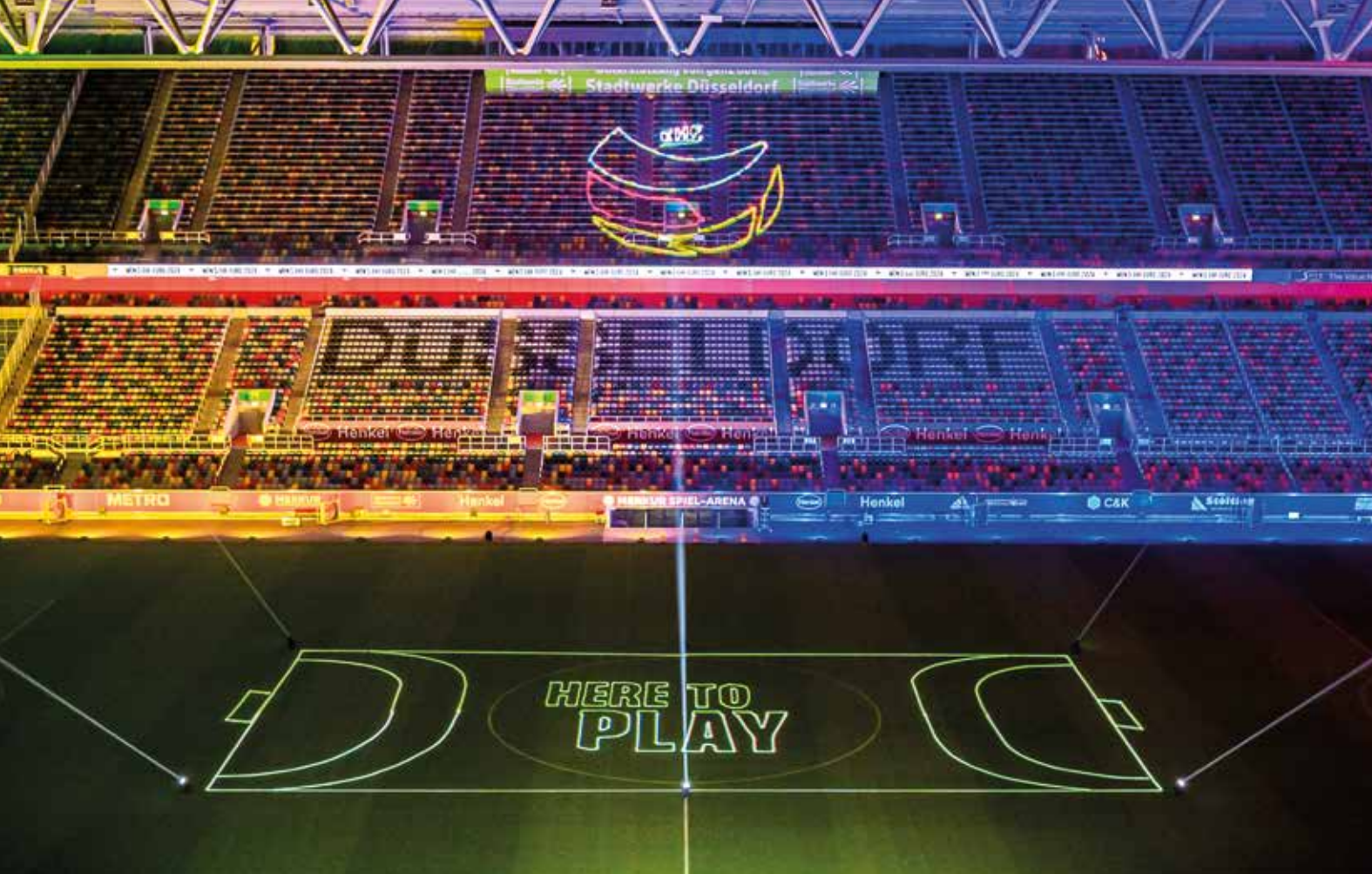
The draw for the Women's EHF EURO 2024 Qualifiers took place on 20 April in Zürich, Switzerland. A total of 31 teams are in the running for the 20 places available at the final tournament, where they will join co-hosts Austria, Hungary and Switzerland and defending champions Norway.

The Women's EHF EURO 2024 will be the first edition of the European championships with 24 teams, with the preliminary round set to take place in Basel (Switzerland), Innsbruck (Austria) and Debrecen (Hungary). The main round will be played in Debrecen and Vienna, with two groups of six, and Vienna is also the location for the final weekend between 13 and 15 December 2024.

The teams were drawn into seven groups of four teams and one group of three, owing to the withdrawal of Great Britain from the Qualifiers.

The top two teams in each group, plus the four best third-placed teams, will qualify for the final tournament.

QUALIFIERS WOMEN'S EHF EURO 2024			DRAW RESULT	
GROUP 1	GROUP 2	GROUP 3	GROUP 4	
CRO	GER	NED	FRA	
ROU	SVK	CZE	SLO	
GRE	UKR	POR	ITA	
BIH	ISR	FIN	LAT	
GROUP 5	GROUP 6	GROUP 7	GROUP 8	
ESP	MNE	SWE	DEN	
MKD	SRB	ISL	POL	
LTU	TUR	FAR	KOS	
AZE	BUL	LUX		



DÜSSELDORF, GERMANY

MEN'S EHF EURO 2024 FINAL TOURNAMENT DRAW

The Men's EHF EURO 2024 will take place in Germany between 10 and 28 January 2024, and will be the first European championship since the move to 24 teams to be hosted by a single nation.

The draw for the final tournament took place on 10 May 2023 in Düsseldorf, with the 24 teams drawn into six groups. In the preliminary round, two groups will play in each of Berlin, Mannheim and Munich.

Handball record on the opening day

However, group A, consisting of hosts Germany, Olympic champions France, North Macedonia, and Switzerland, will start their competition in Düsseldorf. The opening day of competition is on track to set a record for the most spectators to ever watch a handball match, with more than 50,000 fans expected

to watch France play North Macedonia and Germany to play Switzerland at the MERKUR Spiel-Arena in Düsseldorf, before the group moves to Berlin for the rest of the preliminary round.

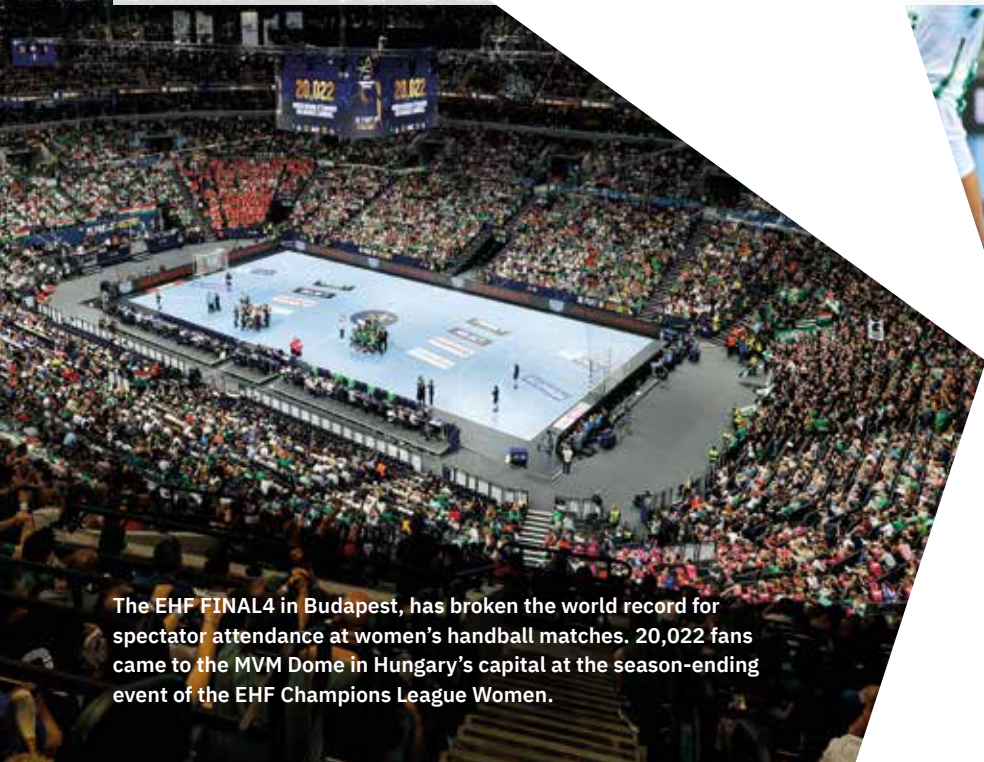
The main round will take place in Cologne and Hamburg, with the final weekend also at the LANXESS Arena in Cologne where the new EHF EURO trophy will be presented to the eventual winners.

New silverware for the winners

The trophy was unveiled at the draw in May. The redesigned trophy updates the previous plate, with a similar circular design in line with the EHF brand.



KEY COMPETITION MILESTONES AND RECORDS



The EHF FINAL4 in Budapest, has broken the world record for spectator attendance at women's handball matches. 20,022 fans came to the MVM Dome in Hungary's capital at the season-ending event of the EHF Champions League Women.



Andrea Lekic's fifth goal against MKS Zagłębie Lubin on 19 November made her the fourth player ever to reach 1,000 goals in the EHF Champions League Women.

In April, Faroe Islands (above right), Georgia and Greece, sealed their maiden berth for the EHF EURO. The upcoming Men's EHF EURO 2024 in Germany will be their first-ever senior European Championship.



Nikola Karabatic (right) started his 22nd and last EHF Champions League season in September 2023. French legend tops the ranking of most seasons played in 22 out of 31 editions of the premium club competition. Among women, Montenegrin Jovanka Radicevic tops the list starting her 20th season this autumn.



11,112 fans attended Borussia Dortmund's final group match against Siófok KC in the Westfalenhalle, breaking the all-time attendance record for the second tier women's competition.

Winning the third EHF Champions League title with Viper Kristiansand, Kristine Lunde (above right) became only the second player in the history of the competition to win seven titles as a player.





EHF CONGRESS

EHF CONGRESS DEFINES FRAMEWORK OF EUROPEAN HANDBALL

The Member Federations of the European Handball Federation came together in Basel for the 16th Ordinary EHF Congress on Thursday 14 September 2023. The decision on 16 motions formed the core of the Congress.

The congress in Switzerland also marked another milestone in European handball history, as the European Handball Federation put sustainable acting at the forefront of its doing.

One of the key motions passed was a motion for an alternate refereeing structure. It proposed to amend the EHF Statutes by deleting the position of the member refereeing from the EHF Competitions Commission and to put the entire area of refereeing on a professional level.

The EHF Congress also approved the explicit inclusion of the 'Pyramid System of Sports Structures' into the EHF Statutes. The idea

is to secure a continuous line of regulations and responsibilities within the sport. It ensures competitions on a respective level are carried out by a single source, and the system together with the respective regulations and guidelines are in use by all levels of the sport.

Also approved was a motion that proposed to amend and rearrange the EHF Statutes by adding the 'spirit of peace and understanding' to the relevant points, and another to

amend the statutes by including specified ethical standards and the principle of good governance.

The Congress also approved the calendar sovereignty of the European Handball Federation meaning that the statutes will be amended to reflect that the sole authority to coordinate and define the overall handball competitions and activities calendar in Europe lies with the EHF.



EHF SETS AMBITIOUS GOAL TO MAKE HANDBALL "EUROPE'S MOST SUSTAINABLE SPORT"

EHF Sustainability Strategy

At the congress, the first draft of an 'EHF Sustainability Strategy' was presented to the Member Federations.

The EHF Office had been working on the draft strategy together with German expert Christopher Jahns – and the strategy's vision is bold as it would like to turn handball into "the most sustainable sport by 2027".

Underneath that vision, three goals have been set:

- Follow the ambition towards climate neutrality
- Be Europe's thought leader for fairness and governance in sport
- Foster an equal, inclusive and skilled handball ecosystem and community

In order to reach these goals, three action fields – the EHF as an organisation, the federation's tournaments & events and the EHF's handball ecosystem and partners – were identified, and six strategic priorities were named.

- Climate action & energy
- Waste, consumption, recycling
- Equality and inclusion
- Health & education
- External governance (corruption, doping safety, incentives)
- Internal governance, reporting & communications



The proposed route to 2027 included that, for each of the priorities and three action fields, a subject with KPIs, targets and measures is set.

In order to turn the draft into the federation's final sustainability strategy, the EHF wants to involve its stakeholders.

"Integrating our stakeholders' perspectives into the final strategy is key for us and a core piece of the puzzle in order to be successful," said EHF Secretary General Martin Hausleitner.

"We understand the growing importance of sustainability for professional sports, not only on the ecological level, but also when it comes to the social and governance perspective.

"We have a mountain to climb, but together with our member federations we are now taking a first and important step towards a sustainable future for European handball."

A broadcast booth with three people, laptops, microphones, and a water dispenser. The scene is set in a modern, brightly lit room with large windows in the background. Three individuals are seated at a wooden desk. On the left, a man in a dark suit jacket and light purple shirt is speaking into a microphone. In the center, a man in a light blue button-down shirt is listening. On the right, a woman in a white shirt is smiling. Two laptops are open on the desk; the one on the left has a blue play button logo. A large water dispenser with a gold water bottle and a gold water tray are on the right. A blue banner with white text is visible at the bottom of the frame. The text 'FROM THE DIGITAL WORLD' is overlaid in a white box with blue text.

**FROM THE
DIGITAL WORLD**

HERE TO PLAY

The Men's EHF EURO 2024 campaign slogan 'Here to play' is the core message of the championship which is played in January 2024. Used on social media and highlighted on several occasions in the lead-up to the tournament, its aim is to show that the handball community comes together with the same energy, will, and dedication, even though we all come from different places and speak different languages.

The campaign slogan will be seen in social media and highlighted throughout the tournament.

MANIFESTO

A core part of 'Here to play' is the competition's manifesto, launched in September.

The manifesto reads: "We all speak different languages. But we all laugh the same. We fight, we cheer, we grieve, we try. Maybe for different reasons but always with the same energy. It's not our heritage that makes us

different. It's how much we are willing to give. Our ambitions. Our will. Our dedication. We might come from different places. But we come for the same reason. We are here to play."

Fans were encouraged to get involved by recording their own versions of the manifesto to be in the chance of winning a signed jersey or ball.

AMBASSADORS

The Men's EHF EURO 2024 has a number of high-profile ambassadors on board to promote the campaign message and the tournament.

They include handball legends Stefan Kretzschmar, Uwe Gensheimer, Johannes Bitter, Luc Abalo, Víctor Tomás, Emily Bölk and Dominik Klein, Swedish football player Fridolina Rolfö, comedian Bülent Ceylan and 2019 world and 2022 European decathlon champion Niklas Kaul.

The ambassadors represent each of the six host cities and will help promote the tournament.

OFFICIAL SONG

The official song also harks back to the 'Here to play' campaign message. 'Here to celebrate' will be sung by German reggae and hip-hop/rap band Culcha Candela, whose four members - Mateo, Chino, Johnny Strange and Don Cali – will also be ambassadors for the preliminary round in Berlin.

"Berlin is our home, we are real Berlin city boys. The city has shaped us and this is where we get our inspiration," says the band, adding: "Handball is a hard but at the same time fair sport that is fresh and creates a good atmosphere and has a base in Berlin, just like our music."

'Here to celebrate' is a new edition of the world-famous and popular classic song 'Celebration' which will be reinterpreted by Culcha Candela to then be heard in the six arenas of the EHF EURO. The song was released on 27 October and was heard live for the first time in Munich in early November.

Luc Abalo



Víctor Tomás



Fridolina Rolfö



Scan the QR code and check more from the Men's EHF EURO 2024!



DARE TO RISE

The EHF Marketing campaign for the EHF Champions League 2023/24, 'Dare to Rise', follows the success of the 30th-anniversary season digital campaign, 'Handmade History'.

The 360-degree campaign will be seen across all fields of the competition with the slogan 'Dare to Rise'.

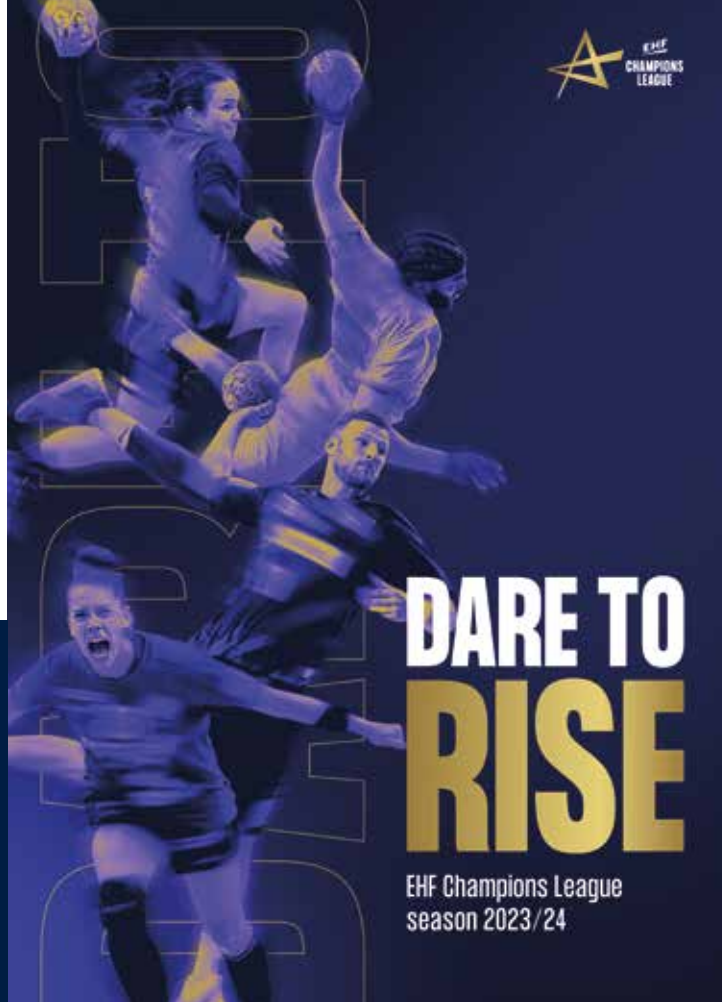
Dare to Rise is intended to inspire players and fans to overcome challenges, face their fears, and reach their full potential. It encourages them to step out of their comfort zone, set their goals higher, and push themselves beyond their perceived limits.

DARE TO RISE DOCUMENTARY

The launch of the campaign was accompanied by a behind-the-scenes documentary focused around the TruckScout24 EHF FINAL4 2023, with never-before-seen content from the showpiece European club handball event in Cologne.

The documentary, narrated by Spanish legend Victor Tomas, premiered on 5 September and features interviews with key players of the EHF FINAL4, including SC Magdeburg coach Bennet Wiegert, Barça star Dika Mem, and Industria Kielce coach Talant Dujšebaev.

Scan the QR code and watch the Dare to Rise documentary.



ALL IN – GREATNESS IS EARNED

In October 2023, with the start of the EHF European League Men 2023/24 group matches looming, a new seasonal campaign for Europe's second-tier club competition was launched.

The campaign's pay-off 'ALL IN – Greatness is earned' underlines that success in the EHF European League can only come through hard work, dedication, and relentless effort. The campaign has also been produced for the EHF European League Women, which will see its 2023/24 group phase throw off in January.

The central idea behind the campaign is that there are no givens in the EHF European League. Only the players and teams who are willing to go all in will be able to earn greatness.

'ALL IN – Greatness is earned' highlights the work ethic of the players, who are pushing themselves to the limit each week in pursuit of glory. It inspires players and fans alike to embrace the journey that comes with striving for greatness. It also showcases the league as one of Europe's top-level competitions.

The launch of the campaign was marked by a promo video produced by Infront and the EHF Marketing GmbH, which featured the dynamic brushstroke element first introduced for the EHF Finals 2023 and emphasised the hard work a player has to deliver – on and off the court – in order to succeed.

The official hashtag of the campaign is #Allin.



EMPOWER TO INSPIRE

To coincide with International Women's Day 2023 in March, the EHF launched a campaign promoting women in handball. 'Empower to inspire' had several different angles, including the launch of a female commentators project, and website and social media series showcasing women in the sport.

EMPOWER YOUR VOICE

The 'Empower your voice' project is aimed at addressing the low numbers of female commentators in handball. The EHF launched a search for female commentators for the 'world feed' coverage of EHF events – looking for women keen to put their voice to handball matches.

Four candidates were chosen from a diverse range of backgrounds and three of them - Nikki Schreurs, Nina Bargel-Neuhaus and Alexandra Mair – were able to attend a workshop in Romania at the W19 EHF EURO, where they learned from expert commentators Paul Bray and Glen Mackay and delivered test commentary during the matches. The fourth

candidate, British wheelchair basketball Paralympian, Clare Griffiths, would join a later workshop.

Mair joined EHF commentator Chris O'Reilly for a watchalong at the EHF Beach Handball Champions Cup 2023 in October 2023 in her first live appearance.

EMPOWER TO INSPIRE

'Empower to inspire' was a special website series with five articles featuring female players who are strong both on and off the court, inspiring many.

The series kicked off by focusing on Sweden's Jenny Carlson, who has overcome the challenges of a chronic illness to shine as a top handball player. Despite suffering from colitis and wearing a stoma bag, Carlson has succeeded at club and national level – and has spoken openly about the challenges she faces.

France's Estelle Nze Minko has won all handball's major titles, and the series showed how she uses her star power to

advocate for female athletes and help raise awareness of how challenging periods can be.

The third feature looked at how Andrea Lekic is dedicated to working with children and future stars of handball, including through the EHF's Respect Your Talent programme. Her work may change a life – and Crina Pintea, the fourth subject, spoke about how her life changed through handball and how she is working to use her profile to change more lives.

Finally, wheelchair handball star Joyce van Haaster opened up about how she came back to the sport after her career was ended through cancer.

WHAT IS EQUALITY FOR ME

The campaign also featured a video featuring EHF Champions League players, both male and female, talking about what equality means to them. Their answers referred to handball but also life in general. The video ran on the EHF social media channels during March 2023.



From left to right:

Paul Bray (expert commentator), Jelena Bagaric (EHF Media), Alexandra Mair, Nina Bargel-Neuhaus and Nikki Schreurs (candidates), Glen Mackay (expert commentator).



“

My whole world turned upside-down, but soon I thought: This becomes the match of my life. I can't start losing so there will only be one winner, and that winner will be me.

Joyce van Haaster

Scan the QR code and read the 'Empower to inspire' series!



'THE SPIN — WE TALK HANDBALL'

The EHF gets the handball stars behind the mic with the introduction of 'The Spin – We talk handball' in September 2023. The new podcast series has become an instant hit with fans across the globe – no wonder, as the line-up of guests so far includes the likes of Nikola Karabatic, Barabara Arenhart, Alex Dujšhebaev, Eduarda Amorim, Ludovic Fabregas, or Markéta Jeřábková.

Hosted by Spanish legend right wing Víctor Tomás, Danish beach handball great Martin Vilstrup, and German handball journalist Bengt Kunkel, 'The Spin' takes an in-depth look at Europe's top flight each week with a range of invited players, coaches, and journalists. The launch of the podcast was greatly appreciated by the fans, who have been treated to hearing the news and views of their favourite sport from some of the very best players.

The show went big already in its very first episode, with guest Nikola Karabatic. Ahead of what will be his final season as a player, Karabatic gave the lowdown on his and Paris Saint-Germain Handball's goals for the campaign, and how he feels about calling time on his remarkable career.

But Karabatic marked only just the beginning. In the next episode, the guys were joined behind the mic by Krim and Brazil goalkeeper Barbara Arenhart, who took the listeners on a journey through her nomadic, multinational career. Alex Dujšhebaev tuned in to talk about Industria Kielce and the Spanish national team. Czech ace Markéta Jeřábková dropped by to share the secrets behind Ikast Handbold's brilliant start to the EHF Champions League season. Ludovic Fabregas provided insight on Telekom Veszprém HC's ambitions to finally lift the trophy this season.

Andrea Lekic talked about passing the 1,000-goal mark in the EHF Champions League. And former player Jesper Nøddesbo joined an episode to talk about his big transition to Barça and to give insights on what his life looks like outside the sport.

Fans can listen to 'The Spin' through all known podcast platforms, and they actually watch the shows live on the Home of Handball YouTube channel.

Scan the QR code and read
'The Spin – We talk handball'



THE SPIN

WE TALK HANDBALL

LISTEN TO THE
PODCAST ON

Available on
YouTube

EHF EXCELLENCE AWARDS 2022/23

The inaugural EHF Excellence Awards 2022/23 celebrated the best players of the season during a gala night in Vienna on 26 June 2023, moderated by handball legends Anja Althaus and Victor Tomas.

The ceremony honoured – for both genders – the best goalkeeper, left wing, left back, centre back, right back, right wing, and line player, plus best defender and rookie of the season. Out of those players, a season MVP was selected for both genders. Beach handball also got their female and male players of the season awarded the MVP title.

Scan the QR code and watch the EHF Excellence Awards highlights!



BEST 7 AND THE MVP OF THE SEASON WOMEN

MVP KATRINE LUNDE

Goalkeeper: Katrine Lunde (NOR)

Vipers and Norway legend entered the history books winning her sixth EHF EURO crown and seventh EHF Champions League title.

Left wing: Emma Friis (DEN)

Quickly developed into a dazzling wing player for EHF EURO runners-up Denmark and EHF European League winners Ikast Handbold.

Left back: Cristina Neagu (ROU)

The superstar doesn't consider slowing down, became all-time EHF EURO top scorer across both genders in 2022.

Centre back: Henny Reistad (NOR)

Driving force behind Norway's run to yet another European title in 2022, was named MVP of EHF EURO 2022.

Right back: Nora Mørk (NOR) & Ana Gros (SLO)

Hard to choose between those two greats of the game, who both received the exact same amount of votes.

Right wing: Angela Malestein (NED)

Truly peaked in a season that saw her club FTC-Rail Cargo Hungaria reach the EHF FINAL4 for the first time.

Line player: Vilde Ingstad (NOR)

Unmissable piece in the puzzle called Norway, which again no opposing team managed to solve at the EHF EURO 2022.

Defender: Kathrine Heindahl (DEN)

Contributing class and experience, a leading player in Denmark's run to the EHF EURO 2022 final.

BEST 7 AND THE MVP OF THE SEASON MEN

MVP SIMON PYTLICK

Goalkeeper: Niklas Landin (DEN)

Just failed to make it to the TruckScout24 EHF FINAL4 2023 with THW Kiel, but did win a third straight world title with Denmark.

Left wing: Timur Dibirov (RUS)

Evergreen who keeps producing the goods year after year, also for HC PPD Zagreb in what was the last season in his thirties.

Left back: Simon Pytllick (DEN)

Instrumental player for both GOG, who reached their first Machineseecker EHF Champions League quarter-final, and the Danish national team.

Centre back: Luc Steins (NED)

Once 'just' a replacement for injured Nikola Karabatic, meanwhile a leading player for both PSG and the Dutch national team.

Right back: Mathias Gidsel (DEN)

One of the frontrunners of a new generation of outstanding Danish talents, helped Denmark win a third straight world title.

Right wing: Hans Lindberg (DEN)

Keeps peaking and reaching for new heights well into his forties, key player for EHF European League winners Füchse.

Line player: Ludovic Fabregas (FRA)

Remains one of the very best in his position, even though he didn't win an international trophy with neither Barça nor France in the 2022/23 season.

Defender: Thiagus Petrus (BRA)

Rock-solid defender since many years for Barça, and the only non-European member of the team of the season.

ROOKIES OF THE SEASON

MEN

Domen Makuc (SLO)

With Barça since 2020, it has only been a matter of time until his true potential was going to shine – as it did in 2022/23

WOMEN

Pauletta Foppa (FRA)

Already a European and Olympic champion with France, the Brest line player is still in the early years of her career

BEACH HANDBALL MVPs

MEN

Gabriel Conceição (POR)

Still a teenager and one of the young guns that impressed for Portugal at their home EHF Beach Handball EURO, where he was named MVP

WOMEN

Asun Batista (ESP)

One of the all-time greats of beach handball, who starred for Spain at the EURO in Portugal by becoming both top scorer and MVP



THE BEST OF THE BEST

From left to right:

Timur Dibirov
(Left wing, RUS)

Domen Makuc
(Rookie of the season, SLO)

Ana Gros
(Right back, SLO)

Simon Pytlick
(Left back, DEN)

Angela Malestein
(Right wing, NED)

Thiagus Petrus
(Defender, BRA)

Gabriel Conceição
(Beach handball MVP, POR)

Asun Batista
(Beach handball MVP, ESP)

Hans Lindberg
(Right wing, DEN)

HALL OF FAME

One of the highlights of the inaugural EHF Excellence Awards gala was the induction of 60 legendary players of the game to the Hall of Fame. The 60 stars were honoured for their outstanding performances on and off the court and their overall contribution to European handball in the last 30 years.

The illustrious list of the first inductees included seven-time EHF Champions League winner Andrei Xepkin, French Olympic, world and European champion Thierry Omeyer, Macedonian legend Kiril Lazarov, six-time EHF Champions League winner Bojana Popovic, and three-time EHF EURO champion Gro Hammerseng-Edin.



HALL OF FAME

MALE LEGENDS

LEFT WING:

STEFAN KRETZSCHMAR
GUDJON VALUR SIGURDSSON
MICHAEL GUIBOU
NIKOLAJ JACOBSEN
XAVIER O'CALLAGHAN

RIGHT WING:

VICTOR TOMAS
IRFAN SMAJLAGIC
LASSE SVAN
VID KAVTICNIK

LEFT BACK:

DANIEL NARCISSÉ
SIARHEI RUTENKA
MOMIR ILIC
FILIP JICHA

LINE PLAYER:

MAGNUS WISLANDER
DRAGAN SKRBIĆ
CHRISTIAN SCHWARZER
CARLOS PRIETO
BJARTE MYRHOE

CENTRE BACK:

JACKSON RICHARDSON
IVANO BALIC
ENRIQUE MASIP
TALANT DUJSHEBAEV
STEFAN LOVGREN

GOALKEEPER:

THIERRY OMEYER
TOMAS SVENSSON
ARPAD STERBIK

RIGHT BACK:

KIRIL LAZAROV
OLAFUR STEFANSSON
LASZLO NAGY

DEFENDER:

ANDREI XEPKIN
OLA LINDBREN
DIDIÉ DINART

FEMALE LEGENDS

LEFT WING:

MAJA SAVIC
PETRA CUMPLOVA-KHEKOVA
CHRISTINA RÖSLYING-CHRISTIANSEN

RIGHT WING:

CRISTINA VARZARU
IRIS MOORHAMMER (HABLE)
STEPHANIE CAND
LINN-KRISTIN RIEGELHUTH-KOREN

LEFT BACK:

BOJANA PETROVIC (POPOVIC)
NARCISA LECUSANU
AUSRA FRIDRIKAS

LINE PLAYER:

HEIDI LOKE
LUDMILLA BODNIEVA
BEGONA FERNANDEZ

CENTRE BACK:

ANITA GÖRBIČ
CAMILLA ANDERSEN
NODJIALEM MYARO
IRINA POLTORATSKAYA (DIBIROVA)
GRO HAMMERSING-EDIN

GOALKEEPER:

VALERIE NICOLAS
JELENA GRUBISIC (BUMBAKI)
CECILIE LEGANGER
KATALIN PALINGER

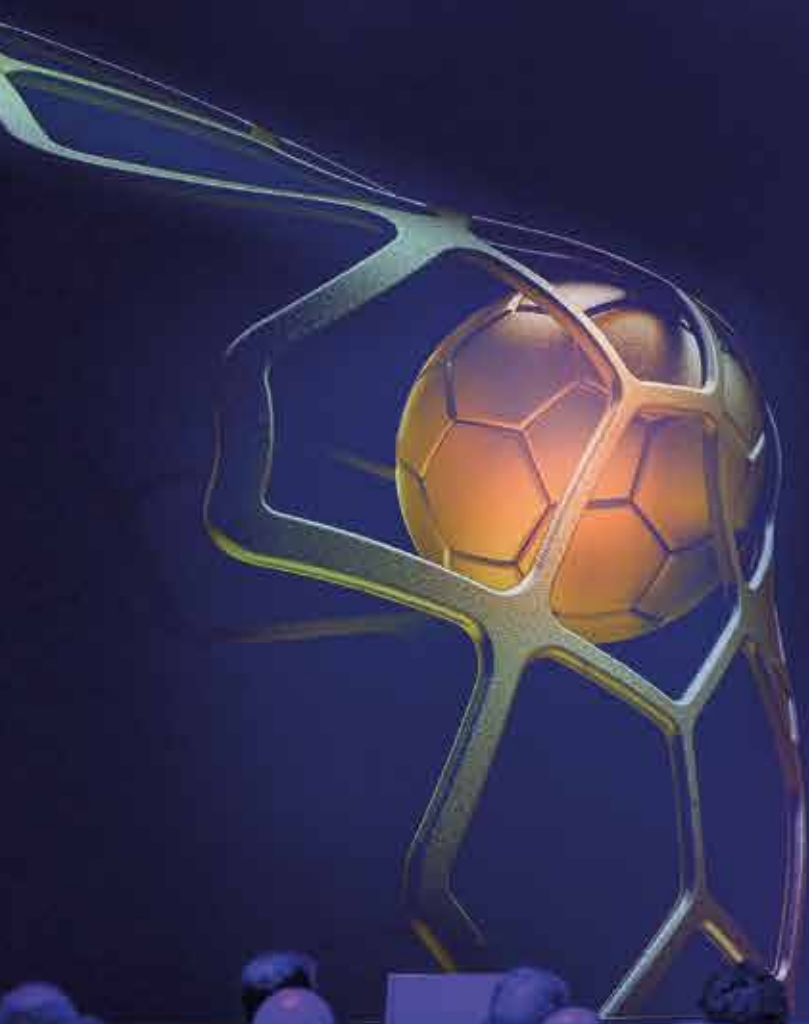
RIGHT BACK:

GRIT JURACK
KATARINA BULATOVIC
METTE VESTERGAARD

DEFENDER:

ANJA ALTHAUS
EDUARDA AMORIM TALESKA
LINNEA TORSTENSSON





METaverse, NFT, WEB 3.0:
Which trends are truly relevant for professional sports?



Motasem El Bawab
N3XT SPORTS



Damlan Browarnik
Infront Lab



Thomas Euler
Liquidteam



FROM THE CONFERENCE ROOMS



RINCK CONVENTION SEMINAR

DISCUSSING THE FUTURE OF COACHING EDUCATION

42 representatives from 36 national federations gathered in Vienna in March for the RINCK Convention Seminar.

Focusing on the future of coaching education, the seminar aimed to shape the relaunch of the EHF RINCK convention, which is planned for 2024.

Launched in 2000 and named after the first Methods Commission chairman, Claude Rinck, the convention aims for coordinating and mutually recognising standard guidelines and certificates for coaches' education in Europe.

"It was an invaluable opportunity to share solutions and knowledge based

on actual experience. I believe that this kind of opportunity to discuss matters concerning the coaching education system will strongly, widely, and positively impact the quality of coaches in the upcoming years," added Marcin Smolarczyk from the Polish Handball Federation.

WOMEN'S EHL CONVENTION

EHF BRINGS WOMEN'S HANDBALL LEAGUES TOGETHER

The European Handball Federation brought together more than 40 representatives of Europe's women's handball leagues for the first EHF Women's Handball League Convention on the fringes of the EHF FINAL4 Women 2023 in Budapest in June 2023.

"The leagues play an important part in the further development of women's handball.

However, on the European level they are not as organised yet as their male counterparts. We consider it vital that they are fully integrated and today we have made the first steps towards this goal," EHF Secretary General Martin Hausleitner said.

The meeting included an introduction to the Men's European Handball League Board

(EHLB) by its chairman Nikolas Larsson, and an overview of the leagues' tasks in the development of national handball by Hausleitner. Vanessa Khalfa, head of France's Ligue Féminine de Handball, and Frank Bohmann, managing director of the German men's Bundesliga, presented best practice examples.

EUROPEAN HANDBALL TALKS

EHF BRINGS WORLD OF HANDBALL TOGETHER

The European Handball Talks organised by the EHF Marketing GmbH, returned in 2023 after a three-year break, with two days of information, discussions and networking taking place on the fringes of the TruckScout24 EHF FINAL4 2023 in Cologne.

The European Handball Talks brought together 200 guests from both inside and outside the world of handball, to generate new ideas to improve European club competitions.

The key note speech was given by Norwegian business philosopher Anders Indset, who lives in Germany and was a semi-professional handball player in the second German division for TV Gelnhausen.

Indset told the audience that a "humane capitalism" would be the way of the future, and identified six takeaways for a successful future in both life and for sports business: use analytic skills; train self-trust and ownership; use your voice to activate and inspire people; use the power of the team; get better through voluntary work; and appreciate success.

The first day focused heavily on new technology including the Metaverse, NFTs and Web 3.0, and how handball and sports could use these to engage with fans and sponsors.

On day two, brands, target groups, media rights and fan-created content were on

the agenda. Martin Skigaard Skammelsen, Marketing Manager Aalborg Håndbold, explained the concept and the growth of his club in terms of VIP and fan experience.

Other topics included reaching 'generation Z' through social media, and a major part of the second day of the European Handball Talks was about sports marketing and sponsorship.

The event concluded with a speech by Peter Hutton, former CEO of Eurosport, former vice president of Fox Sports, advisor to Meta and many sports leagues.

Hutton said he thought leagues and sports should not rely on pay TV income anymore, but should distribute their content free of charge to a wider audience in order to grow sport.

"We learnt how to inspire people and partners, and the experts inspired us," said the event's organiser, David Szlezak, Managing Director of EHF Marketing GmbH.



EHF GOALKEEPER SUMMIT

GOALKEEPING IN THE FOCUS OF INAUGURAL SUMMIT

In October 2023 some 42 goalkeepers, experts, coaches and players gathered in Vienna for the inaugural EHF Goalkeeper Summit.

The summit aimed to look at key topics in goalkeeping, such as how goalkeeping has changed through the years, what happens to the brain of a goalkeeper the more they train, and why mental preparation is so critical.

Speakers included Mats Olsson, World Championship gold medallist with Sweden and current goalkeeping coach of the Norwegian women's national team, and renowned sports psychologist Prof. Dr. Sc. Renata Baric.

Olsson's talk delved into goalkeepers' physical preparation, while fellow Swede Claes Hellgren gave a detailed explanation of the development of goalkeeper techniques.

The event received positive feedback from the attendees. Pedro Vieira, assistant coach and goalkeeper coach for Swiss club Kadetten Schaffhausen, said: "The event is rich,

innovative, something you cannot lose. You have the top speakers here. We go not only for talks on training itself, but also the psychology and physical conditioning, covering so many different areas for goalkeepers.

"We heard new things, new ideas, new tendencies, the game is changing and the people here are perfect for teaching us how it is changing and how to respond to this."

Baric said it was important for goalkeepers and their coaches to continue to learn, and events like the Goalkeeper Summit were the ideal forum to gather and share ideas.

"In a top sport everyone's reached a certain level of technical preparation of equipment, everything is already high-level and if you want to be really successful then you should focus on the small details and everything that can help you to take advantage in something small step is important. You can find some new resource of knowledge or experience from your colleagues," Baric said.



7TH EHF SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE

SHARING KNOWLEDGE IN PORTO

The 7th edition of the EHF Scientific Conference took place in Porto on 23/24 November 2024.

A total of 39 presentations were given by speakers from 12 different nationalities as more than 100 participants from all over Europe either gathered at the Porto University or followed the conference online to share knowledge and learn from each other.

Central theme of the conference this time was "Sustainability in Handball – Circle of a Handball Life" – with the topic of sustainability being the focus of the opening words by EHF Methods Commission Chairman Pedro Sequeira and EHF Secretary General Martin Hausleitner.

Four keynote speakers then put the spotlight on different aspects of the sport.

"It is important to know what you ask, because the game offers the answers," was the insight offered by Jose Antonio Silva as he concluded his talk on the contribution of

research in handball match analysis to the work of coaches.

Susana Povoas, EHF expert and professor at the University of Maia in Portugal presented findings of the 'Handball 4 Health' project.

Hans Holdhaus, Head of the EHF Anti-Doping Unit, laid out a strong mission statement that "Our goal is clean handball – we want handball without doping." He went on to explain that doping mainly occurs unintentionally in handball and that the aim of this mission needs to be education.

Niels Rossing, associate professor at the Aalborg University in Denmark, provided a riveting speech on the lessons that can be learned from the Happy League – an international handball community of children and youngsters with cognitive disabilities.

On the final day, Norwegian professor Tina Pill Torabi offering a talk on the 'Closed Kinetic Chain Upper Extremity Stability Test' (CKQUEST) and its relevance to performance

in elite team handball players with shoulder pain, previous pain or without shoulder pain.

The topic of preventing and understanding injuries was also addressed by Danish academic Jesper Bencke at a pre-conference workshop on acute knee injuries in handball educating many.

The topic of children's sports was underlined by the head of development in the Danish Handball Federation, Lars Møller, who elaborated on the development of the game and rules for children's handball.

Dr. Fernando Gomes, from the University of Lisbon, spoke about the effects of Small-sided Games (SSGs) formats on the technical performance of young handball players under 11 years of age.

Another insightful EHF Scientific Conference concluded with all these, plus many more topics addressed.



FROM SPONSORSHIPS

MACHINESEEKER & TRUCKSCOUT24

THE PARTNERSHIP CONTINUES THROUGHOUT 2023/24 SEASON

It was announced during the final of the TruckScout24 EHF FINAL4 2023 in Cologne that Machineseeker's partnership with EHF Marketing had been prolonged into the 2023/24 season, meaning the premier men's European club handball competition would remain known as the Machineseeker EHF Champions League for another season.

Machineseeker is Europe's leading operator of online marketplaces for used machines and commercial vehicles, and their extended partnership means their brand will be exposed at all matches in the Machineseeker EHF Champions League, and they will feature prominently at the TruckScout24 EHF FINAL4.

"The Machineseeker EHF Champions League showcases the best of the best in European handball and fits perfectly with our profile as a market leader with leading marketplaces across Europe. We are looking forward to entering our second season as the title partner of this premium competition and to achieving impactful and powerful visibility with the Machineseeker and TruckScout24 brands," said Sven Schmidt, Managing Director of Machineseeker Group.

David Szlezak, Managing Director of the EHF, added, "The sponsorship extension follows a strong performance of the competition in the 2022/23 season, including a great collaboration with Machineseeker. Of the many innovative promotions at the TruckScout24 EHF FINAL4, the presentation of the official handballs was my personal highlight. We are looking forward to taking the competition to the next level together with Machineseeker again next season."



GORENJE AND THE MACHINESEEKER EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

LONG-TERM PARTNERSHIP WITH STRONG EFFECTS AND POSITIVE RESULTS

When Gorenje, part of the Hisense Group, became premium partner of the Machineseeker EHF Champions League in 2022, it marked the logical next step in an ongoing successful cooperation. After five seasons as regional partner of Europe's premium club competition, the Gorenje brand has upgraded its commitment until the end of the 2024/25 season.

The enhancement of the partnership ensures Gorenje a presence at all arenas plus inclusion in all marketing activities and communications of the Machineseeker EHF Champions League.

This includes the brand's activation in the fan village at the TruckScout24 EHF FINAL4 in Cologne. Also, Gorenje keep striving to advance activations on different digital channels.

The expansion of the partnership between Gorenje and the Machineseeker EHF Champions League reflects the strong efforts and positive results achieved in previous seasons. The competition's reach on digital and TV has been growing steadily and considerably since Gorenje's entry as a sponsor in the 2017/18 season.



MODULAR SYSTEM

Polish company Modular System, a designer and manufacturer of mobile modular spaces, has become a new official partner of the Machineseecker EHF Champions League for the 2023/24 season. The agreement, signed between EHF Marketing and Modular System, builds on an existing partnership after the company was an official partner of the TruckScout24 EHF FINAL4 2023 in June.

Mariusz Brudnicki, Vice President of Modular System, said, “Recognising the business and image benefits of supporting handball, after our experiences with the marketing partnership for the TruckScout24 EHF FINAL4 2023, we have made the decision to expand our sponsorship activities. I believe that participating in the creation of such a prestigious competition as the Machineseecker EHF Champions League will not only strengthen our commitment to the handball community but, above all, will bring tangible business and marketing benefits to both sides.”

David Szlezak, EHF Marketing Managing Director, added, “We are thrilled to welcome Modular System to the premium European men’s club handball competition and even happier that our partnership at the TruckScout24 EHF FINAL4 bore fruit so quickly. The sponsor line-up for the season is impressive and we can be proud of how our premium competition will appear, both in the arenas and on screen. Together with Modular Systems and our other partners we are looking forward to bringing the Machineseecker EHF Champions League to the next level.”



MOL GROUP

Having started as partner at TruckScout24 EHF FINAL4, MOL Group, a leading integrated Central Eastern European oil and gas corporation, has now signed up as official partner of Europe’s premier club handball competition

MOL Group were present as the official event partner at the TruckScout24 EHF FINAL4 2023 in Cologne, and has since signed a three-year agreement to become an official partner for the Machineseecker EHF Champions League. The deal, brokered by EHF Marketing, was confirmed on Friday 16 June in Cologne on the eve of the TruckScout24 EHF FINAL4 2023.

Peter Pantl, MOL Group Corporate Communications & Marketing Vice President, said, “As a regional company, we believe that sponsoring sports is an effective tool for reaching communities, as the love of sports is shared by all of us, and with that we can reach masses at such a cross-border, prestigious, international event. Few things carry as many good, supportive messages as sports: incredible effort, fair play, teamwork, and what is at least as important: sport can create unity - these are values that the MOL Group also proudly represents.”

David Szlezak, EHF Marketing Managing Director, said, “We are delighted to welcome MOL Group to the flagship European men’s club handball competition. With their strong and consistent impact, the MOL Group will perfectly mirror the go-to-market strategy, which EHF Marketing introduced in 2022. With this new partnership we aim to set sponsorship trends of the present decade such as storytelling, authenticity and strong narratives, based on joint objectives to engage with the handball community.”



DEUTSCHE BAHN

ALL ON TRACK FOR THE MEN'S EHF EURO 2024

Germany's national railway company, Deutsche Bahn, has signed up as an official partner of the Men's EHF EURO 2024 taking place in the country from 10-28 January. In Germany. It marks the first time that Deutsche Bahn engages in international handball.

As official partner, Deutsche Bahn receives title and logo rights as well as extensive TV exposure, including presence on LED boards, floors stickers and media backdrops. And as the championship's mobility partner, Deutsche Bahn will help significantly to reduce the tournament's carbon footprint. All 24 participating national teams, tournament officials, organising committee members and EHF staff will travel between the venues by train.

And, of course, fans visiting the matches are encouraged to do the same with special DB Fan Tickets. Ticket holders in Germany as well as fans arriving from abroad benefit

from reduced ticket prices when travelling to the matches within Germany on ICE and IC/EC trains, and local trains if they have booked them at the same time. The DB Fan Ticket is only valid in conjunction with an admission ticket to the EHF EURO 2024.

Additionally, the championship will be promoted across railway stations in Germany and in dedicated TV spots aired in the lead-up to the tournament, with games taking place in Düsseldorf, Berlin, Mannheim, Munich, Hamburg, and Cologne.

Commenting on the agreement, EHF Secretary General Martin Hausleitner said: "We are proud and happy to welcome such a prestigious partner as Deutsche Bahn on board the Men's EHF EURO. Sustainability is a key part of the good governance aspect of our Master Plan for European handball and becomes more and more important for our stakeholders. Reducing the environmental impact of the EHF's events is a very important step and one of our key ambitions."

Michael Peterson, Member of the DB Management Board for Long Distance Passenger Transport, also underlined the sustainability aspect.

"A new mobility partner, we now bring all DHB teams to their matches fast, in comfort and in a climate-friendly way. The Men's EHF EURO 2024 in Germany is all about green mobility: National teams and their fans can reach all six match venues by ICE several times an hour," Peterson said.

Mark Schober, CEO of the German Handball Federation, added: "Our six host cities - Düsseldorf, Berlin, Mannheim, Munich, Hamburg, and Cologne - are easily reachable by train. We want to make use of this infrastructure to reduce the tournament's carbon footprint which occurs because of the necessary travels. This agreement marks an additional and huge step for the German Handball Federation towards ecological sustainability."



GORENJE AND THE EHF EURO

OFFICIAL PARTNER FURTHER ENHANCES ITS INVOLVEMENT

Gorenje has been a familiar brand name involved in all three Men's EHF EURO events since 2018. The successful appliance brand, part of Hisense Europe's portfolio, has strengthened its strong engagement in European handball in May 2023 by becoming an Official Partner for the next four EHF EURO events: both the Men's and Women's EHF EUROs in 2024 and 2026.

Building on the success of the men's events, Gorenje has now for the first time entered the sponsorship line-up for the women's editions in 2024 and 2026 on a long-term agreement, brokered by the European Handball Federation's exclusive media and marketing partner, Infront Sports & Media.

"We are delighted to prolong our long-term cooperation with Gorenje for the upcoming four EHF EUROs. Over the past years, we have created a strong partnership enabling Gorenje to activate its sponsorship on a global scale and enjoy the benefits of the biggest European handball

competition," said Martin Hausleitner, EHF Secretary General.

"It makes us proud that the fruitful partnership resulted in Gorenje becoming an Official Partner for the Women's EHF EURO in 2024 and 2026, marking another step forward in the development of women's game."

Alenka Potočnik Anžič, Marketing Director Hisense Europe, underlines the "superior return on investment" and an "impressive increase in media exposure" Gorenje has gained from its sponsorship of top-class European handball.

"The decision to prolong our partnership was therefore self-evident. By becoming the Official Partner of Men's and Women's EHF EUROs in 2024 and 2026 we will further strive to increase Gorenje brand awareness and strengthen our (leading) position in key European markets," Potočnik Anžič said.

"Continuously increasing handball media audience is offering the Gorenje brand a great

platform to engage with our consumers. I am extremely proud that for the first time, we are entering also the field of women's handball. Our commitment to supporting gender equality is an important building block of our ESG strategy and I am happy we are bringing it also to the level of sports sponsorships."



OTHER EHF/EHFM SPONSORS

MERCHANDISE FOR THE FANS, FROM THE FANS

The 'Fanmade history' contest in 2023 marked the first time EHF Marketing GmbH and its official sports supplier, Danish sports and fashion brand **hummel**, launched a design contest. Handball fans and artists worldwide got the chance to submit their creative ideas for the official merchandise for the marquee events of the EHF Champions League season: the TruckScout24 EHF FINAL 4 2023 in Cologne and the EHF FINAL4 Women 2023 in Budapest.

Sketches, drawings, and designs were entered from across Europe before the seven best designs made it to the fan voting phase, in which more than 1,200 votes were cast to decide the winner.

The exclusive 'fanmade' merchandise line of T-shirts and hoodies was exclusively available for purchase on-site at both the EHF FINAL4 Women 2023 and the TruckScout24 EHF FINAL4 2023.

ALWAYS ON TARGET AT EHF NATIONAL TEAM EVENTS

In May 2023, **BENZ Sport** became the official goal partner of EHF national team competitions until 2026. The leading German sports equipment manufacturer will supply official goals for the Men's and Women's EHF EURO 2024 and 2026 as well as younger age category EHF EURO events and future European Wheelchair Handball championships.

The new equipment was used for the first time at the Women's 19 and Women's 17 EHF EURO events in Romania and Montenegro in the summer of 2023. Manufactured in the BENZ Sport factory in Winnenden, near Stuttgart, the top-of-the-range BLACKLINE handball goal will be seen across the national team events, while a new product for the EHF's wheelchair handball events will be developed.

OFFICIAL HANDBALLS GET NEW FRESH LOOK

Near the end of the 2022/23 season, EHF's official supplier **SELECT** presented the designs for the new-look official match balls for the 2023/24 season of the EHF Champions League and the EHF European League – again with no difference in design between the balls used in men's and women's competitions. One of the characteristics of the new design of the EHF Champions League ball is the iconic pattern of the EHF Champions League trophy mirrored in the golden print on the ball.





GROWING HANDBALL

VIDEO REPLAY INTRODUCED FOR EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

The start of the new 2023/24 season in the EHF Champions League Women and Machineseeker EHF Champions League saw a major innovation, with the introduction of video replays in all arenas.

The system gives referees the option to immediately watch a situation on a TV screen if they were not able to see the complete action on the court or if they wish to check again before reaching a final decision.

The EHF signed a five-year partnership agreement with leading French audio and video solutions company VOGO to implement the move. The agreement will enable the use and further development of VOGO's solution for video refereeing.

The system in use is VOGO's VOGOSPORT ELITE video replay solution, combined with the already used VOKKERO SQUADRA ONE communication system. VOKKERO SQUADRA ONE provides not only a high audio quality in any noisy environment and a strong robustness to interferences but also enables the EHF to make the next step to improve the referees' performance. VOGOSPORT ELITE solution includes a TV broadcast stream and six raw camera shots, for the referees to rewatch the match action in case of a doubt.

Christophe Carniel, chairman and CEO of VOGO, said: "We are delighted and proud to be supporting the EHF with our VOGOSPORT equipment. After obtaining FIFA's VAR, VAR Light and VOL certification, this new contract demonstrates that our live & replay solution has become a must-have in the world of sport."

Martin Hausleitner, EHF Secretary General, said: "The European Handball Federation is thrilled to start a long-term partnership with VOGO, after we already successfully cooperated at previous events. It is our goal to develop the competitions in all areas of the game, and it was a natural step to integrate the video refereeing system to our top-tier club competitions."

Michael Wiederer, EHF President said: "Overall, the EHF is not only focusing on further development on a technical level, but specifically on the point where decisions are made by the involved protagonists and on the court in order to secure transparency in this intensive sport."

GROWING THE HANDBALL COMMUNITY THROUGH DATA

In 2019, the EHF began a process to transform its digital landscape. At the heart of the strategy is data and the EHF's ambition, as set out in the EHF Master Plan, not only to grow the handball community but also to strengthen the federation's relationship with those following the sport.

Already in the first year of the project, more than 200,000 contacts were added to the database, with a focus in the initial phase purely on reaching handball fans. By the end of 2023, this figure had risen to over 650,000, and by 2027 the EHF has set itself the target of getting in contact with 3.5 million fans around the world.

In order to engage with the sport's fans, the EHF has also initiated new business processes, using email marketing campaigns (e.g. 'Home of Handball' newsletter, ticket alert, and competition-specific emails) to provide fans with personalised

communications tailored to their interests. Further developments are ongoing with automated app and website notifications being introduced alongside automated marketing processes.

Acting as a hub within this digital environment is a technology stack comprising marketing tools that allow the EHF to collect and process the data received from its owned channels as well as additional data sets coming from its ticketing and merchandising partners. These digital tools allow for audiences to be identified and segmented, which aids in creating personalised and automated campaigns.

In a second phase, implemented from the beginning of 2023, the scope of the project has been expanded to the sport's stakeholder community, including clubs, federations, coaches, referees, managers, and officials. A new newsletter 'Inside the

EHF' has been launched and a programme of webinars covering coaching, teaching, and technical topics as well as sports business has been developed to cater for the needs of a community that has already grown to more than 15,000 worldwide.

As the EHF looks to the next stages of its data strategy, the federation is taking account not only of the rapidly changing demands of the sports market, but also the ever-stricter rules around the collection and processing of personal data. Sponsors are increasingly looking beyond advertising and brand awareness and want to reach and engage with their potential customers directly through personalised digital campaigns. Also, at the same time, the move to further protect personal data on an EU-level makes the direct relationship with fans and stakeholders and the collection of first-party data via the EHF's owned channels ever more important.

WIDE-RANGING EHF WEBINAR SERIES PROVES POPULAR

The popular EHF webinars series explored a vast range of topics in 2023, with at least one webinar each month looking at different aspects of handball.

The webinars, led by handball and sports experts from a wide range of backgrounds, were attended by hundreds of participants – with a session on modern goalkeeper training in July led by Mattias Andersson and Vanja Radic attracting over 1,200 attendees.

Topics covered through the year were as wide-ranging as defence systems, beach handball, nutrition, athletes' development and the influence of menstruation on performance. A series of grassroots webinars looked at how

to get children involved in the sport and what coaches should take into account when teaching young people in handball.

At the end of the year, the webinar series expanded into business development and marketing, with sessions on social media and sponsorship.

The webinar series will continue in 2024.

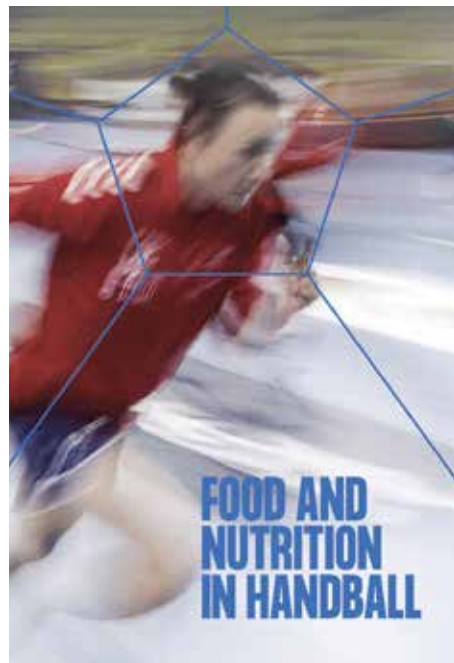


Scan the QR code and visit the EHF Activities website for more information!



DATE	TITLE	LECTURER
17/01/2023	Integration and affirmation of young players in elite teams	Talant Dujšebaev
21/02/2023	Defence systems philosophy	Dragan Djukic, Hrvoje Horvath, Francis Avila, Magnus Andersson
21/03/2023	Benefits of being coached by women	Raphaëlle Tervel and Nerea Pena
28/03/2023	The positive effect of beach handball on injury prevention	Alexander Novakovic
11/04/2023	Gaming and e-sports	Markos Kern
25/04/2023	Nutrition in handball	Alejandro Martinez
16/05/2023	Mini beach handball	Alexander Gehrler
31/05/2023	Daily routine of a player in the EHF FINAL4	Carmen Martín and Linn-Kristin Riegelhuth Koren
01/06/2023	The menstruation influence in performance	Sara Zipp and Anja Althaus
13/06/2023	Key factors for athletes' development	Ricardo Clarijs and Roger Font
16/06/2023	Refereeing communication with coaches	Paivi Mitrunen, Maike Merz and Xavi Sabate
19/06/2023	Team timeout	Helle Thomsen and David Davis
19/07/2023	Kids Handball Festival best practice	Mateusz Zielinski, Jure Natek, Nina Kozlan and Paulina Batistic
31/07/2023	Modern goalkeeper training	Mattias Andersson and Vanja Radic
23/08/2023	7 vs 6 - a problem or a solution?	Bent Dahl and Kim Rasmussen
07/09/2023	Handball at school	Carlos Prieto and Luisa Estriga
18/10/2023	Philosophy and specification of mini handball	Julian Bauer and Milan Petronijevic
24/10/2023	Analysis of YAC competitions	Mark Hawkins
30/10/2023	Social media success: tips and best practice	Mario Leo
16/11/2023	How to be successful on TikTok	Arthur Guisasola
30/11/2023	ABC Strength and Conditioning	Dragos Luscan
06/12/2023	Sponsorship 101: how to attract sponsors	Kaj Owen and Maximilian Giegerich

EHF MANUALS PROVIDE CRUCIAL ADVICE TO COACHES AND PLAYERS



As part of its programme of education, the EHF Competence Academy & Network has published a series of manuals to support players and coaches understand specific aspects of handball.

In 2023, three key manuals were published: Food & nutrition in handball; Mentally fit in handball: Psychological skills training manual for coaches; and the Kindergarten handball manual.

Scan the QR code and read the EHF manuals!



Each manual takes readers through the key aspects of the topic and best practice. The nutrition manual, co-authored by Alejandro Martínez Rodríguez, Carmen Manchado López and José Miguel Martínez Sanz of the University of Alicante, explores the energy requirements of a game of handball and how players should fuel for a match and for daily training.

The mental health manual, authored by Renata Barić of the University of Zagreb, offers a detailed insight into psychological skills training (PST) in handball. Meanwhile the kindergarten handball manual, written by Vanessa Patucca-Bourgeois, helps those introducing the sport to children aged between three and five years.

All manuals can be downloaded from eurohandball.com.

HANDBALL HEALS

The Turkish Handball Federation launched an initiative designed to contribute to Türkiye's post-earthquake recovery process through sports.

The #HandballHeals initiative, focusing on those provinces most affected by the huge earthquakes in south-west Türkiye in February, is supported by partners around the world, including the EHF. The EHF Social Fund contributed approximately €20,000, or one-third of the envisaged costs, to the initiative.

The earthquakes on 6 February 2023 caused immense destruction. The official death toll stands at around 50,000, and about 1.5 million people lost their homes. Türkiye's men's handball captain Cemal Kütahya and his family were among those to lose their lives.

In the wake of the earthquakes, professional handball clubs in the affected region had to withdraw from national competitions, and sports facilities were either destroyed, damaged or used to accommodate victims or store disaster relief material.

Following the earthquake, the Turkish Handball Federation provided relief materials



and organised outdoor handball activities for children living in temporary tent camps.

However, the #HandballHeals initiative is aimed at developing a sustainable and longer-term plan to support recovery efforts. It envisages an outdoor handball field for every tent camp within the next two years, allowing children and adults to play handball continuously. The federation will also enlarge and empower its volunteer base and provide disaster awareness and management education to handball stakeholders.

In the long run, the federation plans to lobby the authorities to construct earthquake-resistant handball halls while also supporting handball clubs and teams in the affected region for long-term growth and resilience.



The initiative will also establish street handball as a major component of the Turkish handball system rather than a one-time emergency case instrument and develop beach handball in the region.

#HandballHeals will have an estimated annual budget of €60,000 to cover equipment, transport and personnel costs, but the Turkish Handball Federation said it is also currently in need of size 0 and 1 balls suitable for outdoor play, outdoor handball fields and markings, portable goalposts and bags and clothing for players.

The initiative will be supported not only by the EHF but by other international organisations, national federations and local stakeholders.

RESPECT YOUR TALENT

RESPECT YOUR TALENT GOES FROM STRENGTH TO STRENGTH

Since 2019, the Respect Your Talent (RYT) programme has inspired and educated up-and-coming stars of the game, and 2023 was no different.

The RYT philosophy is based around professionalising a holistic career approach, and helping aspiring players gather awareness, knowledge and skills to become an even better, more complete athlete. RYT also serves as a central source of competence, assisting the European handball family with training and network opportunities to foster sustainable pathways of young players.

In 2023, there was plenty of RYT activity. In January, 30 of the most talented male players from the M18 category gathered in Vienna, Austria. This was the second RYT Camp for boys.

Luka Stepančić of OTP Bank-Pick Szeged, former Spanish international Carlos Prieto, assistant coach of HC Erlangen Ólafur Stefánsson and Slovenia legend Vid Kavtičnik were the event's ambassadors, with Stepančić

and Stefánsson taking part in their first RYT event.

At the W17 and W19 EHF EUROs and EHF Championships there were a series of Player of the Match events. From these, 30 W17 talents selected in the All-star Teams, were invited to the December girls' camp in Vienna.

The girls' camp focused on the 'female player journey', with ambassadors Andrea Lekić, Anja Althaus, Carmen Martin and Jelena Grubišić leading the participants through five stages: 'navigating your journey', by building a dual career; 'fuelling your journey', through nutrition, recovery and fitness; 'stabilising your journey' through mental fitness; 'protecting your journey', with sessions on sports law and anti-doping; and 'sharing your journey', through media. Nutrition, recovery and fitness is a new topic on the programme, introduced for the first time at the camp.

Also in December, the EHF launched the RYT App, which is available on Apple and Google stores. The app includes training

sessions from all five off-court topics (dual career, media, sports law, anti-doping, mental fitness), ambassadors' tips and tricks, and quizzes for young talents to brush up their knowledge. Throughout the digital training sessions in the app and by collecting so-called 'talents' (a specific points system), the young athletes can take part in online ambassador sessions, where different off-court topics are discussed with ambassadors.

EHF Secretary General Martin Hausleitner said: "Many female team sports are on an unprecedented rise. Handball is one of them. Keeping the balance, staying healthy, and performing well in such a dynamic environment is challenging. This requires competences. RYT wants to contribute to young players being better able to deal with handball's manifold demands. And what better way to learn than with your international peers, and directly from some of the world's best handball players and leading experts? This is the unique RYT Camp spirit."

Scan the QR code and download the Respect Your Talent App!



iOS



ANDROID



EHF President Michael Wiederer added: "It is of huge importance to the EHF to support young handball players in building their future. Systematically investing in their talent is key here. The RYT App is a brand new source of inspiration and knowledge. We connected a large team of topical experts and world-class players to create easy, short, gamified and hands-on training sessions, having the talents and their concrete career challenges in mind. Via the App, we want to give every young player the opportunity to access most relevant resources to help them take more control of their personal journey."

To date, more than 1,500 young boys and girls have participated in RYT activities, including 150 camp participants. A total of 25 ambassadors and 12 topical experts have led the young talents through the programme.

I'M REALLY HAPPY, SATISFIED AND HONOURED, BECAUSE IN THESE LAST YEARS WE HAVE BEEN MAKING SUCH A WONDERFUL PROJECT BIGGER AND BIGGER. WE ARE NOW HAVING MORE AND MORE TALENTED HANDBALL PLAYERS ACROSS EUROPE KNOWING WHAT IT MEANS TO 'RESPECT YOUR TALENT'.

ANDREA LEKIĆ, RYT AMBASSADOR





EHF

**EUROPEAN HANDBALL
FEDERATION**

**FROM THE
BOARDROOM**

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (EXEC)

AUT MICHAEL WIEDERER
President

MNE PREDRAG BOŠKOVIĆ
First Vice President

DEN HENRIK LA COUR
Vice President Finances

SRB BOŽIDAR ĐURKOVIĆ
Chairman CC

POR PEDRO SEQUEIRA
Chairman MC

HUN GABRIELLA HORVATH
Chairwoman BC

SWE STEFAN LÖVGREN
Member

ESP FRANCISCO V. BLÀZQUEZ GARCIA
Member

SLO FRANJO BOBINAC
Member

NOR BENTE AKSNES
Member

GER MARK SCHOBER
Chairman NB

ESP XAVIER O'CALLAGHAN
Chairman PHB

SLO MARTA BON
Chairwoman WHB (until 09/2023)

POR LEONOR MALLOZZI
Chairwoman WHB (from 10/2023)

COMPETITIONS COMMISSION (CC)

DEN JAN KAMPMAN
Member Men's Competitions

FIN PÄIVI MITRUNEN
Member Women's
Competitions

MKD DRAGAN NACHEVSKI
Member Refereeing
(released from all duties on
25 May 2023)

FRA GAËL PELLETIER
Member Men's Club
Competitions

DEN THOMAS HYLLE
Member Women's Club
Competitions

METHODS COMMISSION (MC)

NED MONIQUE TIJSTERMAN
Member Methods and Coaching

GER PATRICK LUIG
Member Education and Training

CRO LIDIJA BOJIĆ-ČAČIĆ
Member Youth, School and
Non-Competitive Sport

ESP CARMEN MANCHADO LOPEZ
Member Development

BEACH HANDBALL COMMISSION (BC)

POL MAREK GÓRALCZYK
Member Events
and Competitions

CZE JIŘÍ OPAVA
Member Officiating

ITA MARCO TRESPIDI
Member Game Design
and Coaching

POR MARIO BERNARDES
Member Development
and Promotion

FINANCE DELEGATION (FD)

Nominated by EXEC

AUT MICHAEL WIEDERER
President

DEN HENRIK LA COUR
Vice President Finances

MNE PREDRAG BOŠKOVIĆ
First Vice President

TECHNICAL DELEGATION (TD)

Nominated by EXEC

SRB BOŽIDAR ĐURKOVIĆ
Chairman CC

HUN GABRIELLA HORVATH
Chairwoman BC

POR PEDRO SEQUEIRA
Chairman MC

TECHNICAL REFEREEING COMMITTEE (TRC)

Nominated by EXEC

MKD DRAGAN NACHEVSKI
Chairman (released from all
duties on 25 May 2023)

GER JUTTA EHRMANN-WOLF
Female Referees

NOR ØYVIND TOGSTAD
Elite Refereeing

LAT ZIGMARS SONDRORS
Development

FRA DENIS REIBEL
Grassroots

EHF GEORGE BEBETSOS
Special Projects

EHF SERVICES & INFRASTRUCTURE GMBH (EHF SI)

Nominated by EXEC

AUT MARTIN HAUSLEITNER
Managing Director

AUT BERNHARD BINDER
Managing Director

EHF SERVICES & INFRASTRUCTURE GMBH ADVISORY BOARD (EHF SI AB)

AUT MICHAEL WIEDERER
Chairman | EHF President

DEN HENRIK LA COUR
Member | EHF Vice President
Finances

MNE PREDRAG BOŠKOVIĆ
Member | EHF First Vice President

COMPTROLLERS (COMPT)

AUT ROBERT PRETTENTHALER
Member

SVK JANKA STAŠOVÁ
Substitute

GER THOMAS LUDEWIG
Member

EUROPEAN HANDBALL COURT OF ARBITRATION COUNCIL (ECC)

ITA MICHELE COLUCCI
President

ESP MARTA UTOR
Vice President

FRA RÉMY LEVY
Vice President

COURT OF HANDBALL (COH)

GRE IOANNIS KARANASOS
President

CRO MATEA HORVAT
Member

GER ANDREAS THIEL
Vice President

NED ANDRÉ HOMMEN
Member

ROU SORIN-LAURENTIN DINU
Vice President

SUI YVONNE LEUTHOLD
Member

ISR SHLOMO COHEN
Member

MLT ALAN GRIMA
Member

EST URMO SITSI
Member

COURT OF APPEAL (COA)

AUT MARKUS PLAZER
President

HUN ILONA TORDAI
Member

MDA NICOLAE VIZITIU
Vice President

POL ROBERT CZAPLICKI
Member

GEO KETEVAN KOBERIDZE
Member

KOS IZET GJINOVCI
Member

SRB MILAN PETRONIJEVIĆ
Member

INITIATOR OF PROCEEDINGS (IOP)

Nominated by EXEC

POR RUI COELHO
Initiator of Proceedings

CYP PANOS ANTONIOU
Substitute Initiator of Proceedings

EHF ANTI-DOPING UNIT (EAU)

Nominated by EXEC

AUT HANS HOLDHAUS
Chairman

SOCIAL FUND

Nominated by EXEC

FRA JEAN BRIHAULT
EHF Honorary President

SWE ARNE ELOVSSON
EHF Honorary Member

ITA RALF DEJACO
EHF Honorary Member

NATIONS BOARD (NB)

GER MARK SCHOBER
Chairman

FRA NODJIALEM MYARO
Member

EST PIRJE ORASSON
Vice Chairwoman

POR LEONOR MALLOZZI
Member

**DEN MORTEN STIG
CHRISTENSEN**
Member

SUI INGO MECKES
Member

NATIONS COMMITTEE MEN (NCM)

SUI INGO MECKES
Chairman

FRA BERTRAND GILLE
Member

FIN JARI HENTTONEN
Vice Chairman

GER MARK SCHOBER
Member

**DEN MORTEN STIG
CHRISTENSEN**
Member

IRL FINTAN LYONS
Member

NATIONS COMMITTEE WOMEN (NCW)

FRA NODJIALEM MYARO
Chairwoman

EST PIRJE ORASSON
Member

POR LEONOR MALLOZZI
Vice Chairwoman

ITA PAOLA FIORILLO
Member

CZE ŠÁRKA DROZDOVÁ
Member

ROU CRISTINA VARZARU
Member

EUROPEAN HANDBALL LEAGUE BOARD (EHLB)

Nominated by the Leagues

SWE NIKOLAS LARSSON
Chairman

LUX THIERRY WAGNER
Member (until xx/20xx)

GER FRANK BOHMANN
Vice Chairman

FRA ETIENNE CAPON
Member

SUI PATRICE HITZ
Member

CRO SINIŠA OSTOIĆ
Member

PROFESSIONAL HANDBALL BOARD (PHB)

ESP XAVIER O'CALLAGHAN
Chairman | Representative Clubs

SWE NIKOLAS LARSSON
Vice Chairman | Representative
Leagues

DEN MORTEN STIG CHRISTENSEN
Member | National Teams

GER MARK SCHOBER
Member | National Teams

SLO GREGOR PLANTEU
Member | Clubs

GER FRANK BOHMANN
Member | Leagues

DEN MICHAEL SAHL HANSEN
Member | Players

GER MARCUS ROMINGER
Member | Players

MNE PREDRAG BOŠKOVIĆ
Member | Executive Committee

SWE STEFAN LÖVGREN
Member | Executive Committee

EHF COMPTROLLERS' COUNCIL

AUT ROBERT PRETTENTHALER
EHF Comptroller

GER THOMAS LUDEWIG
EHF Comptroller

SVK JANKA STAŠOVÁ
EHF Substitute Comptroller
(activated in 2021)

GER JENNIFER KETTEMANN
Comptroller | MFCH Representative

NOR PER GEIR LØVSTAD
Comptroller | WFCH Representative

WOMEN'S HANDBALL BOARD (WHB)

SLO MARTA BON
Chairwoman
(until September 2023)

POR LEONOR MALLOZZI
Chairwoman | Representative
National Teams
(from September 2023)

FRA NODJIALEM MYARO
Member | National Teams

SLO DEJA IVANOVIĆ
Member | Clubs

MNE RADMILA PETROVIĆ
Member | Clubs

EHF MEN'S CLUB BOARD (MCB)

AUT MICHAEL WIEDERER
Chairman | EHF President

MNE PREDRAG BOŠKOVIĆ
Member | EHF First Vice President

DEN HENRIK LA COUR
Member | EHF Vice President
Finances

AUT MARTIN HAUSLEITNER
Member | EHF Secretary General

SRB JELENA ERIĆ
Member

ESP ELENA BORRAS ALCARAZ
Member

POL MONIKA LISTKIEWICZ
Member

NOR BENTE AKSNES
Member | Executive Committee

**ESP FRANCISCO V. BLÁZQUEZ
GARCIA**
Member | Executive Committee

HUN JÁNOS SZABÓ
Member | MFCH

GER THORSTEN STORM
Member | MFCH

SUI PETER LEUTWYLER
Member | MFCH

GER GERD BUTZECK
Member | Managing Director MFCH

EHF ADVISORY BOARD (AB)

AUT MICHAEL WIEDERER
Chairman | EHF President

MNE PREDRAG BOŠKOVIĆ
Member | EHF First Vice
President

DEN HENRIK LA COUR
Member | EHF Vice President
Finances

AUT MARTIN HAUSLEITNER
Member | EHF Secretary General

ESP XAVIER O'CALLAGHAN
Member | MFCH President

HUN JÁNOS SZABÓ
Member | MFCH Representative

HUN ZSOLT ÁKOS JENEY
Member | WFCH President

GER GERD BUTZECK
Member | FCH Managing
Director

EHF WOMEN'S CLUB BOARD (WCB)

HUN ZSOLT ÁKOS JENEY
Member | WFCH President

NOR PER GEIR LØVSTAD
Member | WFCH

FRA NICOLAS ROUE
Member | WFCH

AUT GERHARD HAIDVOGEL
Member | WFCH

SWE STEFAN ALBRECHTSON
Member | WFCH



**FROM THE
HEADQUARTERS**

EUROPEAN HANDBALL FEDERATION

GENERAL MANAGEMENT

MICHAEL WIEDERER

President & Chief Executive Officer
(CEO)

MARTIN HAUSLEITNER

Secretary General
& Chief Operations Officer (COO)

MARKUS GLASER

Chief Sports Officer (CSO)

BERNHARD BINDER

Chief Finance Officer (CFO)

STRATEGIC BUSINESS

MICHAEL WIEDERER

President

MARTIN HAUSLEITNER

Secretary General

VESNA LAZIĆ

PA to the President

MARSHA BROWN

Corporate Liaison

ALENKA CUDERMAN

Women's Handball Coordinator/
Master Plan Coordinator

FINANCE & OPERATIONS

BERNHARD BINDER

Chief Finance Officer (CFO)

KATHARINA KOGLER

Finances EHF

NATALYA BELLAN

Finances EHF Marketing

DANUTA KLUZ

Front Office Manager

HASIJA DIZDAREVIC

Facility Management

COMPETITIONS

MARKUS GLASER

Chief Sports Officer (CSO)

INES TAEKKER

Club Team Competitions

MARCOS BESTILLEIRO

Referee Programme

GEORGE BEBETSOS

Referee Programme

NADEZHDA LACINA

Anti-Doping Unit

ANNIKA SILLER

Competitions Department Coordinator

ATTILA HEIM

Head of National Teams

RIMA SYPKUS

National Team Competitions

MAXIMILLIAN RIEDE

YAC Coordinator

TOBIA PISANI

Beach Handball Manager

ALEXANDRA HORVÁTH

Beach Handball Coordinator

SPORT & GAME SERVICES

DORU SIMION

Senior Director Sport & Game Services

CLAUDIA BRANTL

International Transfers & Players
Database Management

EVA REIHOFFER

Player Transfers Assistant
(Junior Coordinator)

NOEMI SZECSENYI

Grassroots Coordinator

JOAO MONTEIRO

Grassroots – Education Path
& Internal Support

EHF EURO EVENTS

JOHANNES MÜLLER

Director EHF EURO Events

PHILIPP MORITZ

Event Infrastructure

BEATA KOZLOWSKA

Event Infrastructure

MATE KOZMA

Event Organisation

EDINA TURI

Event Organisation

NATÁLIA RÁCZ

Junior Associate

BALAZS NAGY

Intern

LEGAL MANAGEMENT

MONIKA FLIXEDER

Senior Director Legal Management

TIJANA ŽIVKOVIĆ

In-House Lawyer

NICO JULIAN HOFER

In-House Lawyer

EHF MEDIA & COMMUNICATIONS

THOMAS SCHÖNEICH

Director Media & Communications

RICHARD TURNER

Graphic Design

JELENA BAGARIC

TV & Media Operations

SIMONA MARGETIC

Editorial Content Lead

DANIEL HENSHAW

Communications

IOANA PATACHI

Digital Content Lead

JOSEPH BANHOLZER

Social Media

XAVI VEGAS

Social Media

SERGI LALIGA

Social Media

CLEMENS MARTINEK

Content Strategy

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

CHRISTOPH GAMPER

Senior Director Information Technology

CHARLY MUSIC

Recurring Operations & Support

PETER GROSSCHMIDT

Implementation & Support

LARS ERICHSEN

Documentation & eLearning

JERRY NICOLAS

Online Experience & Fan Data

GABOR BIHARY

Digital Project Manager

ISAAC ATRIPATRI

Assistant Project Manager IT/
System Application Developer

MICHAEL HELL

Technical Facility Management

SAM TURNER

Intern

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT & MARKETING

JJ ROWLAND

Director Business Development & Marketing

ELEONORA D'ESTE

CRM Project

CHRISTOPH MAKOVEC

Marketing & Ticketing

LENA SPERGER

Brand Manager

MIJA TERAZ

Marketing Associate

MATTEO TEDESCO

NT Competitions Marketing Implementation

FRIDA LA COUR

Intern

EHF MARKETING GMBH

EHF Marketing GmbH is the marketing arm and subsidiary of the European Handball Federation. The company works closely with marketing and media partners, as well as with Europe's leading clubs to release the full potential of the sport on the international sports market.

STRATEGY

DAVID SZLEZAK

Managing Director

MARIE VLASÁKOVÁ

PA to the Managing Director

JAKOB GRAUSENBURGER

Strategy

SALES

ZOLTÁN NAGY

Director Sales

EMIL LUNDIN

Sales

MEDIA

MIGUEL MATTEO

Director Media

LUCA FRIEDEL

Media

KAMIL KOTVAN

Media

KATHARINA HACKER

Brand

VIKTORIYA SLYNCHUK

Brand

EVENTS

LISA WIEDERER

Director Events

JANA LEUKEL

Events

LILI GABRIELLA PREKOP

Events until 30.11.2023

LIV KATHRINE BERG OLSEN

Events

LAURENZ PÖLZLEITNER

Events

PARTNER

KARL GUSTAVSSON

Director Partner

TIM GROS

Partner

HANNAH HAUSWALDT

Partner

ORGANISATION & CLUBS

NINA KERNMAYER

Assistant Managing Director /
Organisation & Clubs

PATRICK STANZL

Organisation & Clubs

JANNE GREMMEL

Organisation & Clubs

DARIO TRIGILIA

Organisation & Clubs

NADINE BRANDFELLNER

Organisation & Clubs (Maternity leave)

IMPLEMENTATION

GEORG RIECK

Director Implementation

TOMAS EITUTIS

Implementation

OLIVER LAABER

Implementation

ETIENNE BOUMAZA

Implementation

NEW EHF HEADQUARTERS UNDER CONSTRUCTION

At the end of 2022 the EHF and Raiffeisen Property Holding International (RPHI) announced plans to build the new 'European Handball House' in Vienna.

The new headquarters for the federation will be in the central Neu Marx area in Vienna's third district. Construction began in the first quarter of 2023. The official opening is scheduled for 14 December 2024 as of when the 'European Handball House' will be the new home for more than 80 employees of the EHF and its subsidiary, EHF Marketing GmbH.

"Since its foundation in 1992, the EHF has been residing in Vienna, making it the only international team sports federation based in Austria," said EHF President Michael Wiederer. "With the new building, the EHF is once again underlining its close and long-term commitment to the city and the country."

With several meeting rooms including a lecture hall of more than 250 square metres

and a TV studio, the new headquarter offers optimal conditions for the successful further development of European handball. The 'European Handball House' will not only be a workplace, but also a meeting location for the European handball family as well as the venue for draws, international handball conferences and congresses.

The topic of sustainability was widely considered in the planning, with a photovoltaic system of 240 square metres being installed on the roof. The building is constructed with thermal component activation, which will have a positive effect on the indoor climate all year round.

"With the 'European Handball House', we are creating a place for the future-oriented development of European handball with its more than 350 clubs and top competitions such as the EHF EUROs and the EHF Champions League," said EHF Secretary General Martin Hausleitner.



EHF SERVICES & INFRASTRUCTURE GMBH FOUNDED

In close coordination with legal experts and tax advisors, the European Handball Federation opted for organising its properties in form of a separate company which is fully owned by the EHF. Based on

the agreement with the company building the new house, the handling procedure will be steered via the EHF Services & Infrastructure GmbH (EHF SI). In a first step, SI serves to build the new house.

After moving into the new office space, the EHF SI will run the new office building and thus accommodate the European Handball Federation and EHF Marketing GmbH.

FROM THE SECRETARY GENERAL

If we look back beyond the start of 2023, many of the steps taken have been instrumental in the success of the past 12 months, the EHF has diligently followed the Masterplan to develop the handball whilst sustaining the 'Circle of a Handball Life' with vitality and content. The intense collaborations with our member federations have seen significant growth in the areas of grassroots handball, school activities, and the development of future talents - a fact that we are extremely proud of.

As we move into 2024, we are excited to continue with our corporate strategem to strengthen the sport and to secure the future of the game for the next generation. The transfiguration of handball will see the animation of the EHF Sustainability Strategy, the implementation of its Board, which will give the organisation and the sport another layer of stability. The presentation of the EHF's plans to go beyond the standard sustainable conformities was well received by its members at the 16th Ordinary EHF Congress in Basel, and in the new year this is another project that will move forward.

Turning to the handball environment, it has been exciting to watch the development of the new home of handball over the past year, we have gone from breaking ground to completing several floors. As the year turns, the building will be capped, and the internal arrangement will begin. The professionals have eagerly followed the construction through the weekly updates from the site camera stills.

Lending a word from the President, the legacy of European handball will continue from this new building that will hold space for 120 employees, which will also be the home base for all our internal board and committee meetings.

Both on and off the court, the EHF is ready to kick-start the year with a record-breaking Men's EHF EURO in Germany, and summer 2024 will see the newly reconfigured competition system incorporate 24 teams into the Younger Age Category events, as well as see enhanced TV production for the YAC EURO events following on from the success of the 2022 M20 in Portugal; this will bring a whole new level of exposure to the young

athletes. There is so much action to look forward to, including the four Final4 events of the men's and women's Champions and European Leagues. With a full competition programme over the next 12 months to come, the year will close with a premier in the realm of women's handball, as we present the EHF EURO with 24 teams; the host nations of Austria, Hungary, and Switzerland will be ready to welcome the handball family from 28 November to 15 December.

Off the court, we once again take aim at the future with the Grassroots Convention and the Leadership Conference to be held on the fringes of the event in Germany, where we will bring the heads of handball together for another stimulating exchange of information. The EHF will also continue to strengthen and develop the relationship with our members; cooperation is truly the key to our success. Therefore in March, I look forward to welcoming the representatives of the National Federations to Denmark for the 14th Conference for Secretaries General. The European Handball Federation will also

wholly engage at the stakeholder level as the inaugural meeting of the Women's European Handball League Board will take place in May; with this step, in the 2025 electoral period, the WEHLB will be incorporated formally into the EHF structure. Moreover, one of the final organisational events in December will be the second edition of the Women's Handball Conference, first seen in Slovenia in 2022.

But, as always, none of the aforementioned activities and successes are possible without the unwavering dedication and every single hour of hard work given by the 88 professionals. I send them all into the seasonal break with my thanks, and as we now will take a well-deserved break with our loved ones, I sign off with my best wishes to you and yours!

Yours in sport,

Martin Hausleitner
Secretary General





KEY EVENTS 2024

JAN

10-28 Men's EHF EURO 2024

MAR

21 Men's EHF EURO 2026 Qualifiers Draw

APR

18 Women's EHF EURO 2024 Final Tournament Draw

MAY

11-12 EHF Finals Women

18 EHF EC Finals (men and women): first leg

25 EHF EC Finals (men and women): second leg

25-26 EHF Finals Men

JUN

1-2 EHF FINAL4 Women

8-9 TruckScout24 EHF FINAL4

13-16 ebt Finals

JUL

4-7 YAC16 Beach Handball EURO

10-21 Men's 20 EHF EURO

11-14 Beach Handball Championships

AUG

7-18 Men's 18 EHF EURO

OCT

10-13 EHF Beach Handball Champions Cup

NOV/DEC

28 Nov-15 Dec Women's EHF EURO 2024

14 Dec EHF Excellence Awards

EHF

EHF
**SERVICES &
INFRASTRUCTURE**

EHF
MARKETING

European Handball Federation

Hoffingergasse 18
1120 Vienna
Austria

+43 1 80 151 0

office@eurohandball.com
eurohandball.com

EHF Marketing GmbH

Technologiestraße 10
1120 Wien
Austria

+43 1 80151210