



**EHF**  
**CHAMPIONS**  
**LEAGUE**

# MEDIA INFORMATION

**MACHINESEEKER EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE 2023/24**

MOTW Play-offs, Leg 2: Montpellier HB vs HC Zagreb

# MONTPELLIER HB (FRA) VS HC ZAGREB (CRO)

## PLAY-OFFS



Wednesday 3 April 2024, 20:45 CEST



### Playing hall

**FDI Stadium**  
1000 Av. du Val de  
Montferrand  
34090 Montpellier, France  
Capacity: 3,000

## LEG 2



### Most games vs HC Zagreb:

Andrej Golić	6
Laurent Puigsegur	6
Gregory Anquetil	5
Damien Kabengele	5
Mladen Bojinović, Cédric Burdet, Michael Guigou, Nikola Karabatic, Daouda Karaboue, Thierry Omeyer	4

### Most goals vs HC Zagreb:

Gregory Anquetil	20
Cédric Burdet	17
Michael Guigou	17
Patrick Cazal	15
Mladen Bojinović	14
Laurent Puigsegur	14

- Montpellier HB and HC Zagreb meet for the Match of the Week in the second leg of the Machineseecker EHF Champions League play-offs on Wednesday, a week after the first leg ended in 27:27.

- Montpellier led the match in Croatia by three goals (25:22) with less than 10 minutes left to play, but the French side ultimately had to settle for a draw.

- Three players finished the game on six goals each: Zagreb's Zvonimir Srna and Montpellier's Stas Skube and Diego Simonet; the Argentine centre back was awarded the Player of the Match trophy.

- The winners of this play-off tie will take on THW Kiel for a place at the TruckScout24 EHF FINAL4 2024; the German four-time titleholders went straight to the quarter-finals as the winners of group A.

- Montpellier won four of their seven matches at home in the CL group phase this season; Zagreb were victorious twice in their seven away matches.

- Montpellier aim to return to the CL quarter-finals after two years; in 2022, they lost to eventual finalists Industria Kielce for a ticket to the EHF FINAL4.

- Zagreb have not been to the quarter-finals since the 2015/16 season, when they lost to another team from France – Paris Saint-Germain Handball.

- This MOTW marks the 10th duel between the two teams: Montpellier won five times, Zagreb twice.

- The two wins for Zagreb happened in their first two duels, and the Croatian side have not beaten Montpellier since 12 December 1998.

- Bryan Monte is Montpellier's best scorer so far this season with 65 goals – 11 more than Zagreb's leading scorer, Timur Dibirov.

- The teams share a rich history in Europe's top-flight competition: Montpellier play their 24th CL season, Zagreb their 30th.

- Montpellier head coach Patrice Canayer has been in charge for all those 24 years, but he steps down after the season and will be replaced by Érick Mathé.

- Patrice Canayer led the club to two CL titles – in 2003 and 2018; Montpellier are still the only team from France that has won the trophy.

- Zagreb were four-time CL finalists in the 1990s, but have not been to the semi-finals again since 2000.

- Two Zagreb players won the CL with an other club: both Timur Dibirov and Ivan Cupic lifted the trophy twice with Vardar (in 2017 and 2019), while Cupic had previously won the title also with Kielce (in 2016).

- Both teams are the record national champions: Montpellier have won 14 league titles in France (but none since 2012), and Zagreb 31 titles in Croatia.

### Most games vs Montpellier HB:

Zlatko Horvat	4
Senjanin Maglajlija	4
Denis Špoljarić	4
Davor Cavar, Ivan Cupic, Jakov Gojun, Luka Lovre Klarica, Valter Matošević, Zvonimir Srna, Mitko Stoilov	3

### Most goals vs Montpellier HB:

Ivan Cupic	17
Zlatko Saračević	17
Igor Vori	15
Zvonimir Srna	14
Denis Špoljarić	11

### Domestic league

#### Liqui Moly StarLigue

Last 3 games:

30/03 vs Chartres	W39:36
24/03 @ Créteil	W26:35
10/03 vs Limoges	W36:34

Next game:

06/04 @ Saint-Raphaël Var HB

Standings as of 02/04:

1. PSG	22	805:653	43
2. Nantes	22	770:619	38
<b>3. Montpellier</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>716:626</b>	<b>35</b>
4. Toulouse	22	709:670	30
5. Limoges	22	709:721	24
...			
16. Dijon	22	655:770	6

### Domestic league

#### Paket24 Premijer liga

Last 3 games:

22/03 vs Porec	W43:35
02/03 @ Varazdin	W23:35
25/02 vs Sesvete	W35:22

Next game:

06/04 @ RK Nexa

Standings as of 02/04,  
championship group:

<b>1. Zagreb</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>154:107</b>	<b>8</b>
2. Sesvete	4	134:124	6
3. Nexa	4	130:122	6
4. Vinkovci	4	110:122	2
5. Porec	4	112:131	2
6. Varazdin	4	113:147	0

## PREVIOUS MATCHES IN EUROPEAN CLUB COMPETITIONS

### Montpellier HB vs HC Zagreb 5-2-2 (247:229) 12:6

15.11.1998	Badel 1862 Zagreb vs Montpellier HB, EHF Champions League – Group A	25:24 (12:11)
12.12.1998	Montpellier HB vs Badel 1862 Zagreb, EHF Champions League – Group A	21:23 (10:11)
01.03.2003	RK Zagreb vs Montpellier HB, EHF Champions League – Quarter-final	28:28 (17:16)
09.03.2003	Montpellier HB vs RK Zagreb, EHF Champions League – Quarter-final	34:25 (17:13)
24.10.2004	RK Zagreb vs Montpellier HB, EHF Champions League – Group B	27:30 (14:14)
14.11.2004	Montpellier HB vs RK Zagreb, EHF Champions League – Group B	34:29 (21:13)
27.10.2021	HC PPD Zagreb vs Montpellier HB, EHF Champions League – Group A	22:25 (13:12)
01.12.2021	Montpellier HB vs HC PPD Zagreb, EHF Champions League – Group A	24:23 (14:12)
27.03.2024	HC Zagreb vs Montpellier HB, Machineseecker EHF Champions League – Play-offs	27:27 (11:13)

## MONTPELLIER HB VS CROATIAN CLUBS 9–2–2

Season	Opponent	Home	Away	Competition
1998/99	Badel 1862 Zagreb	21:23	24:25	EHF Champions League – Group A
2001/02	Zamet Autotrans Rijeka	24:14	24:23	Cup Winners' Cup – Last 16
2002/03	RK Zagreb	34:25	28:28	EHF Champions League – Quarter-final
2004/05	RK Zagreb	34:29	30:27	EHF Champions League – Group B
2020/21	RK Nexe	37:25	23:22	EHF European League – Group C
2021/22	HC PPD Zagreb	24:23	25:22	EHF Champions League – Group A
2023/24	HC Zagreb		27:27	Machineseecker EHF Champions League – Play-offs

## DETAILS OF THE MOST RECENT DIRECT ENCOUNTER

### HC Zagreb vs Montpellier HB 27:27 (11:13) 27.03.2024 (Zagreb, CRO)

(Machineseecker EHF Champions League 2023/24 – Play-offs, Leg 1)



Referees: Jesper Kirkholm Madsen/Henrik Mortensen (Denmark).

Suspensions: : 6' – 16' (Faljic 2', Kavcic 2', Suholežnik 2' – Simonet 6', Pellas 2', Konan 4', Monte Dos Santos 2', Porte 2').

Disqualification: Simonet

Number of 7m: 5/5 – 4/4.

Attendance: 15,200.

	<b>Ante Grbavac</b>			<b>Charles Bolzinger</b>	
	<b>Matej Mandic</b>			<b>Remi Desbonnet</b>	
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	<b>Miloš Kos</b>	(5)		<b>Sebastian Karlsson</b>	
	<b>Davor Cavar</b>	(3)	(6)	<b>Diego Simonet</b>	
	<b>Patryk Walczak</b>	(1)	(4)	<b>Lucas Pellas</b>	
	<b>Adin Faljic</b>	(1)		<b>Jaime Fernandez</b>	
	<b>Luka Lovre Klarica</b>	(3)		<b>Marko Panic</b>	
	<b>Jakov Gojun</b>			<b>Arthur Lenne</b>	
	<b>Zvonimir Srna</b>	(6)	(6)	<b>Stas Skube</b>	
	<b>Zlatko Horvat</b>			<b>Kylian Prat</b>	
	<b>Karpo Sirotic</b>			<b>Karl Konan</b>	
	<b>Ivan Cupic</b>	(5)	(3)	<b>Bryan Monte</b>	
	<b>Timur Dibirov</b>	(1)	(2)	<b>Valentin Porte</b>	
	<b>Aleks Kavcic</b>	(1)	(5)	<b>Yanis Lenne</b>	
<b>Filip Glavaš</b>	(1)		<b>Alexis Berthier</b>		
<b>Matic Suholežnik</b>		(1)	<b>Veron Nacinovic</b>		

# HC ZAGREB VS FRENCH CLUBS 12-5-22



Season	Opponent	Home	Away	Competition
1965/66	SMUC Marseille	30:16	17:15	Champions Cup – Last 16
1992/93	HB Venissieux	27:18	23:19	Champions Cup – Semi-final
1993/94	USAM Nîmes	23:23	22:25	EHF Champions League – Group A
1998/99	Montpellier HB	25:24	23:21	EHF Champions League – Group A
2002/03	Montpellier HB	28:28	25:34	EHF Champions League – Quarter-final
2004/05	Montpellier HB	27:30	29:34	EHF Champions League – Group B
2008/09	Chambery Savoie HB	30:32	30:26	EHF Champions League – Main Round Group 2
2011/12	Chambery Savoie HB	28:20	28:26	VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A
2014/15	Paris Saint-Germain Handball	25:24	22:27	VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A
2015/16	Paris Saint-Germain Handball	23:25	23:34	VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A
2015/16	Paris Saint-Germain Handball	20:28	32:32	VELUX EHF Champions League – Quarter-final
2017/18	HBC Nantes	23:22	27:28	VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A
2018/19	Paris Saint-Germain HB	21:32	28:33	VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B
2018/19	HBC Nantes	27:27	20:23	VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B
2019/20	Paris Saint-Germain HB	29:37	26:37	VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A
2020/21	HBC Nantes	24:34	28:30	EHF Champions League – Group B
2021/22	Montpellier HB	22:25	23:24	EHF Champions League – Group A
2022/23	Paris Saint-Germain Handball	30:33	31:40	Machineseecker EHF Champions League – Group A
2023/24	Paris Saint-Germain Handball	28:26	31:35	Machineseecker EHF Champions League – Group A
2023/24	Montpellier HB	27:27		Machineseecker EHF Champions League – Play-offs

## MOST GOALS IN ONE GAME FOR MONTPELLIER HB VS HC ZAGREB

Patrick Cazal	10	12.12.1998	Montpellier HB vs Badel 1862 Zagreb	21:23
Gregory Anquetil	8	15.11.1998	Badel 1862 Zagreb vs Montpellier HB	25:24
Cedric Burdet	8	09.03.2003	Montpellier HB vs RK Zagreb	34:25
Michael Guigou	8	24.10.2004	RK Zagreb vs Montpellier HB	27:30

## MOST GOALS IN ONE GAME FOR HC ZAGREB VS MONTPELLIER HB

PIgor Vori	10	14.11.2004	Montpellier HB vs RK Zagreb	34:29
Zlatko Saračević	9	12.12.1998	Montpellier HB vs Badel 1862 Zagreb	21:23
Zlatko Saračević	8	15.11.1998	Badel 1862 Zagreb vs Montpellier HB	25:24

## LAST 10 GAMES IN THE MACHINESEEKER EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE



### Montpellier HB: current run – unbeaten two

27.03.2024 Zagreb CRO	@ HC Zagreb CRO	D 27:27
07.03.2024 Barcelona ESP	@ Barça ESP	W 34:37
29.02.2024 Montpellier FRA	vs Telekom Veszprém HC HUN	L 31:37
21.02.2024 Plock POL	@ Orlen Wisla Plock POL	L 22:18
14.02.2024 Montpellier FRA	vs RK Celje Pivovarna Laško SLO	W 32:21
06.12.2023 Montpellier FRA	vs GOG DEN	W 36:25
30.11.2023 Magdeburg GER	@ SC Magdeburg GER	L 28:24
23.11.2023 Porto POR	@ FC Porto POR	W 25:29
15.11.2023 Montpellier FRA	vs FC Porto POR	W 35:24
25.10.2023 Montpellier FRA	vs SC Magdeburg GER	L 25:28



### HC Zagreb: current run – winless two

27.03.2024 Zagreb CRO	vs Montpellier HB FRA	D 27:27
06.03.2024 Kiel GER	@ THW Kiel GER	L 33:22
29.02.2024 Zagreb CRO	vs Paris Saint-Germain Handball FRA	W 28:26
21.02.2024 Trondheim NOR	@ Kolstad Handball NOR	W 25:34
15.02.2024 Aalborg DEN	@ Aalborg Håndbold DEN	L 32:22
07.12.2023 Bitola MKD	@ HC Eurofarm Pelister MKD	W 22:23
29.11.2023 Zagreb CRO	vs OTP Bank - PICK Szeged HUN	W 30:25
23.11.2023 Kielce POL	@ Industria Kielce POL	L 28:24
16.11.2023 Zagreb CRO	vs Industria Kielce POL	D 22:22
26.10.2023 Szeged HUN	@ OTP Bank - PICK Szeged HUN	L 27:26

# 'PLAYER OF THE MATCH' TROPHY AWARDED AFTER EACH MOTW

#MOTW

The Match of the Week 'Player of the Match' trophy, introduced by EHF Marketing GmbH in the 2017/18 season, is awarded at all MOTWs in the Machineseeker EHF Champions League 2023/24 season.

The trophy will be handed over on court shortly after the match.

## Awarded players in the 2023/24 season:

Round 1: Tomáš Mrkva (THW Kiel)  
 Round 2: Gergő Fazekas (Orlen Wisla Plock)  
 Round 3: Arkadiusz Moryto (Industria Kielce)  
 Round 4: Elias Ellefsen á Skipagøtu (THW Kiel)  
 Round 5: Emil Nielsen (Barça)  
 Round 6: Niklas Landin (Aalborg Håndbold)  
 Round 7: Michael Damgaard (SC Magdeburg)  
 Round 8: Andreas Palicka (Paris Saint-Germain HB)  
 Round 9: Gonzalo Pérez de Vargas (Barça)  
 Round 10: Janus Smárason (SC Magdeburg)  
 Round 11: Alex Dujšebaev (Industria Kielce)  
 Round 12: Miloš Kos (HC Zagreb)  
 Round 13: Gísli Kristjánsson (SC Magdeburg)  
 Round 14: Sergey Hernández (SC Magdeburg)  
 Play-offs, leg 1: Diego Simonet (Montpellier HB)  
 Play-offs, leg 2: ...



## MONTPELLIER HB PLAYERS' CAREER STATISTICS AGAINST HC ZAGREB

Goalkeeper		GP	W	D	L	G	AVG	HI	PIM
Charles Bolzinger	FRA	2	1	1	0	0	0,00	0	0
Remi Desbonnet	FRA	1	0	1	0	0	0,00	0	0
Niels Martin	FRA	0	0	0	0	0	0,00	0	0
Player		GP	W	D	L	G	AVG	HI	PIM
Mathis Becker Fischer	FRA	0	0	0	0	0	0,00	0	0
Alexis Berthier	FRA	2	1	1	0	0	0,00	0	0
Matéo Caille	FRA	0	0	0	0	0	0,00	0	0
Mathieu Cornette	FRA	0	0	0	0	0	0,00	0	0
Thibault Dambacher	FRA	0	0	0	0	0	0,00	0	0
Adrien Dubois	FRA	0	0	0	0	0	0,00	0	0
Jaime Fernandez	ESP	1	0	1	0	0	0,00	0	0
Léo Fournié	FRA	0	0	0	0	0	0,00	0	0
Lucas Guigon	FRA	0	0	0	0	0	0,00	0	0
Ahmed Hesham	EGY	0	0	0	0	0	0,00	0	0
Sebastian Karlsson	SWE	1	0	1	0	0	0,00	0	0
Karl Konan	FRA	1	0	1	0	0	0,00	0	4'
Arthur Lenne	FRA	3	2	1	0	1	0,33	1	2'
Yanis Lenne	FRA	3	2	1	0	8	2,67	5	0
Bryan Monte	BRA	1	0	1	0	3	3,00	3	2'
Mathis Mougín	FRA	0	0	0	0	0	0,00	0	0
Veron Nacinovic	CRO	5	4	1	0	2	0,40	1 (2)	6'
Marko Panic	BIH	2	1	1	0	2	1,00	2	0
Lucas Pellas	SWE	3	2	1	0	9	3,00	4	2'
Valentin Porte	FRA	3	2	1	0	6	2,00	2 (3)	4'
Kylian Prat	FRA	1	0	1	0	0	0,00	0	0
Diego Simonet	ARG	2	1	1	0	7	3,50	6	6' (D)
Stas Skube	SLO	9	6	2	1	22	2,44	6	2'
Roland Terjek	HUN	0	0	0	0	0	0,00	0	0
Kyllian Villeminot	FRA	2	2	0	0	4	2,00	2 (2)	2'

Yanis Lenne (FC Barcelona Lassa 2017/18 – DNP); Veron Nacinovic (RK Celje Pivovarna Laško 2020/21);  
 Stas Skube (MOL-Pick Szeged 2016/17, MOL-Pick Szeged 2017/18, HC Vardar 2018/19, HC Meshkov Brest 2021/22).

## HC ZAGREB PLAYERS' CAREER STATISTICS AGAINST MONTPELLIER HB

Goalkeeper		GP	W	D	L	G	AVG	HI	PIM
Ante Grbavac	BIH	1	0	1	0	0	0,00	0	0
Matej Mandic	CRO	2	0	1	1	0	0,00	0	0
Aljaz Panjtar	SLO	0	0	0	0	0	0,00	0	0
Player		GP	W	D	L	G	AVG	HI	PIM
MGabriel Buvinic	CRO	0	0	0	0	0	0,00	0	0
Davor Cavar	CRO	3	0	1	2	7	2,33	4	2'
Yoel Cuni Morales	CUB	2	1	0	1	4	2,00	3	2'
Ivan Cupic	CRO	14	7	1	6	67	4,79	7 (3)	2'
Timur Dibirov	RUS	19	10	3	6	93	4,89	12	6'
Adin Faljic	BIH	2	0	1	1	1	0,50	1	2'
Niko Frankovic	CRO	0	0	0	0	0	0,00	0	0
Filip Glavaš	CRO	1	0	1	0	1	1,00	1	0
Jakov Gojun	CRO	5	1	1	3	1	0,20	1	6'
Zlatko Horvat	CRO	4	0	2	2	5	1,25	4	2'
Aleks Kavcic	SLO	1	0	1	0	1	1,00	1	2'
Luka Lovre Klarica	CRO	3	0	1	2	9	3,00	4	2'
Edin Klis	BIH	2	0	0	2	0	0,00	0	0
Miloš Kos	SRB	1	0	1	0	5	5,00	5	0
Paolo Kraljevic	CRO	0	0	0	0	0	0,00	0	0
Maksimilijan Molc	CRO	0	0	0	0	0	0,00	0	0
Karpo Sirotic	CRO	1	0	1	0	0	0,00	0	0
Zvonimir Srna	CRO	3	0	1	2	14	4,67	6	2'
Matic Suholežnik	SLO	1	0	1	0	0	0,00	0	2'
Patryk Walczak	POL	7	1	2	4	3	0,43	1 (3)	2'

Yoel Cuni Morales (HC Vardar 1961 2021/22); Ivan Cupic (Rhein-Neckar Löwen 2010/11, KS Vive Tauron Kielce 2014/15, KS Vive Tauron Kielce 2015/16, HC Vardar 2017/18, HC Vardar 2018/19, HC Vardar 2019/20);

Timur Dibirov (Chehovski Medvedi, Chekhov 2005/06, Chekhovskie Medvedi 2009/10, Chekhovskie Medvedi 2012/13, HC Vardar 2014/15, HC Vardar 2015/16, HC Vardar 2017/18, HC Vardar 2018/19, HC Vardar 2019/20, HC Vardar 2021/22);

Jakov Gojun (Füchse Berlin 2020/21); Matic Suholežnik (RK Celje Pivovarna Lasko 2014/15 – DNP);

Patryk Walczak (KS Vive Tauron Kielce 2016/17, HC Vardar 1961 2021/22, Sporting CP 2022/23).



**EHF**  
**CHAMPIONS**  
**LEAGUE**



# DARE TO RISE

Machineseeker EHF Champions League  
season 2023/24

**EHF Media & Communications**  
Hoffingergasse 18  
1120 Vienna, Austria  
+43 1 80 151 161  
[www.eurohandball.com](http://www.eurohandball.com)  
[media@eurohandball.com](mailto:media@eurohandball.com)

**EHF Marketing GmbH**  
Technologiestraße 10  
Building 2E, 5th level  
1120 Vienna, Austria  
+43 1 80 151 211  
[ehfcl.eurohandball.com](http://ehfcl.eurohandball.com)  
[handball@ehfmarketing.com](mailto:handball@ehfmarketing.com)