





MEDIA GUIDE

VELUX EHF FINAL4 2020



powered by

Dear media representative,

Welcome to the 11th edition of the VELUX EHF FINAL4 in Cologne's LANXESS arena. In this media guide you will find all the essential information you will require over the weekend. It contains instructions how to cover the event remotely, key contacts and also a complete overview of the four teams taking part in the event.

If you have any questions over the weekend, please do not hesitate to ask. We hope you enjoy your time either in Cologne or covering the event from your homes or offices.

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I SAFETY FIRST — HOW WE'RE KEEPING THE TEAMS' WELFARE PRIORITY

This will be a very different and unique VELUX EHF FINAL4 but one that the EHF and EHF Marketing are committed to make the event safe for everyone who will be involved. With the health of all participants paramount, all players and officials arriving in Cologne will isolate in a bubble and unable to mix with anybody outside of it. Each team will undergo three tests for Covid-19 – two upon their arrival to Cologne and one on the day they arrive in Cologne. Only after receiving a negative test can players and officials move freely within the bubble, in compliance with protective measures.

EHF Marketing managing director David Szlezak said: "We will be doing everything in our power to ensure the health and safety of players and officials are protected. We have left no stone unturned in our preparation for the event to be able to give each team the confidence that it will be played in secure surroundings. Although it will be a strange experience to witness our most prestigious club competition event without spectators, we respect and understand that regulations enforced by the authorities."

The 'bubble' explained

As soon as teams arrived at the airport in Cologne, they were placed in the so-called 'bubble' once they arrived at the hotel. Players and officials from the clubs are no longer able to have contact with anyone outside the bubble. They arrived on a separate team bus before they were taken to their accommodation and tested once more. In the hotel teams are living on separate floors with a separate dining room for officials. Training for each team will take place in four different halls halls, again with strict rules, where nobody out of the bubble is forbidden from accessing the floor or surrounding area.

The test regime

To prevent any potentially Covid-19 positive player travelling to Cologne, all four teams underwent a test twice before arriving. Having arrived in Cologne the entire teams were tested again at their hotel, with tests carried out with the cooperation of the Wisplinghoff Laboratory in Cologne, one of the leading labs in Germany. Only after a negative test are players able to move freely around the bubble. Throughout the duration of the event, EHF Marketing will be working in close cooperation with the German health authorities to ensure the protocols are kept in place.

Working zones

In order to restrict and control movement of personnel who are involved in the event, seven work zones have been designated to prevent any potential spread of Covid-19. The seven work seven work zones are designed in such a way that there is as little overlap as possible between the individual areas and groups of people during the organisation and implementation of the VELUX EHF FINAL4 2020. Each zone and the respective assigned group of people will have their own entrance/access to the LANXESS arena. The respective zones have to be entered and left at the designated and marked entrances and exits.

Looking ahead to 2021

The safety protocols in place mean that for the first time, volunteers will not be able to play their special roles in the event. Every year, around 200 volunteers from all over Europe have actively contributed to the final tournament of the EHF Champions League, with enthusiastic and hard-working faces volunteering in fields of media, logistics, accommodation and visitors. Given this year's situation, and in line with the strict health and safety protocols, no volunteers will be on site, with the tasks now undertaken by EHF and EHF Marketing staff. David Szlezak added: "Volunteers are the beating heart of this event and we are truly saddened that we will not be able to welcome them to Cologne. We know many volunteers return year after year in order to play their part at the VELUX EHF FINAL4, but this year we were faced with no option to keep things in-house in order to protect teams and staff. Without promising too much, we naturally hope that the 2021 event will be a different proposition."

I TV PARTNERS BROADCASTING THE VELUX EHF FINAL 4 2020

A large worldwide TV audience is guaranteed to watch the VELUX EHF FINAL4 2020. Thanks to 40 television partners in 80 territories, handball fans from all corners of the globe will watch the rearranged climax to the VELUX EHF Champions League 2019/20 season. Chinese CCTV has been the last Broadcaster to be confirmed by EHF Marketing, broadcasting this event for the very first time for the Chinese market and completing a long list of TV partners for this event. For all these territories where there is no TV broadcaster set, EHFTV will offer the spectacle of these four games totally for free. The broadcaster partners who will be showing the action in the four nations involved have already announced their panel of experts and studio line-up for the coverage. Spain's TV3 Catalunya will have former Barça captain and legend Victor Tomàs present in Cologne as an expert, while beIN Sports be on-site with the analysis of a handball duo who have followed the competition last seasons, François Xavier Houlet and Thomas Villechaize. Hungarian network SportTV will also have a Hungarian legend, Attila Borsos, present inside the LANXESS arena as an expert, and Eurosport, who have exclusive rights in Germany to show the event, will have Pascal Hens in its Eurosport studio for the event.

AUT - ORF Sport+ (Final match)

BIH - Arenasport1

BLR - Belarus5

CAN - beIN Sports XTRA

CHN - SPORTS cctv com

CRO - HTV2

CRO - Arenasport

CZE - Sport2

DEN - TV3 MAX (Semi-finals)

DEN - DR2 (Final day)

ESP - Esports3

ESP - Teledeporte

FIN - areena.yle.fi

FRA – beIN Sports 1 (including Monaco, Andorra,

Luxembourg, Mauritius, Madagascar and French

overseas territories)

GER - Eurosport 1

GEO - Silk Universal

GRE - Cosmote Sport 7HD

HUN - Sport1

ISL - Viaplay

ISR - Sport1

ITA - Sky Italy

KOS - RTV21

KOS - Arenasport 1

LTU - LRT Plius

LUX - ApartTV

MAC - (Macau) - TDM Sport

MENA Region - beIN Sport ME (23 terrritories in total)

MKD - Arenasport 1

MNE - Arenasport 1

NOR - V Sport1

POL - nsport+

POR - SPORT.TV5 (Including Angola, Mozambique

and Cape Verde)

ROU - Digi Sport

ROU - Telekom Sport 1

ROU - LookTV

RUS - Igra

SLO - ŠPORT TV 1

SRB - Arenasport 1

SUI - MySports

SVK - Sport2

SWE - V Sport extra

TUR - SPOR SMART 2

UKR - Xsport

USA – beIN Sports XTRA (Including US' territories

and possessions)

Worldwide - ehfTV.com (Geo-restrictions could apply).

I EXPERIENCE THE EVENT IN A NEW DIMENSION

Thousands of passionate fans around the globe will witness the legendary atmosphere inside the LANXESS arena this year. With the event being played behind-closed-doors without spectators for the first time, EHF Marketing have gone to great lengths to ensure fans watching at home can still experience that same spine-tingling feeling as if they were in the arena ready to support their team.

Thanks to augmented reality, not even Covid-19 can stop the production of the breath-taking opening shows that the VELUX EHF FINAL4 is famous for. Augmented reality technology will be used at a VELUX EHF FINAL4 for the very first time and will see elements added in to the opening show and also during each match. Fans will get to experience each game as if they were still in the arena with a specially-adapted entertainment programme created to fit the small screen, with TV production paying particular attention to supporters' needs for entertainment.

What would a VELUX EHF FINAL4 be without Markus Floth, DJ Peter Vikström and the TV crew? Markus, the Face of the EHF Champions League, will be inside the LANXESS Arena to bring his voice and presenting expertise to everyone at home. Together with Peter spinning the tunes, the atmosphere for a VELUX EHF FINAL4 is complete. EHF Marketing managing director David Szlezak said: "It goes without saying that this VELUX EHF FINAL4 will not be the same inside an arena without fans, but we are committed to keeping fans entertained with a variety of new and high-tech features to make them feel they are in the arena support their teams and we are excited to see how fans will react to what is going to be a unique event. In Markus and Peter we have two people who have the knowledge, talent and passion to recreate the atmosphere that will be sorely missed inside the area. However, with their skills being transferred to TV, fans will still be able to turn the volume up and have fun from the safety of their living rooms."



I BECOME A VIRTUAL FAN

The time has come for the handball fans to shine! With VELUX EHF FINAL4 2020 getting closer, handball fans around the globe have the chance to become VIRTUAL FANS at December's prestigious event. To be virtually present in Cologne, all handball lovers have to do is put on their shirts and record a short video showing how they cheer, clap and dance in the stands. For the most creative ones that are used, fans will receive exclusive goodie bags with official VELUX EHF FINAL4 merchandise.

The videos will be displayed next to the playing court on large LED-screens during the matches. Read more about the campaign here: https://www.eurohandball.com/en/news/en/become-a-virtual-fan-at-the-velux-ehf-final4-2020/

■ SEMI—FINAL 1: BARÇA (ESP) VS PARIS SAINT—GERMAIN HANDBALL (FRA)



Monday 28 December 2020, 18:00 CET anxess arena, Cologne, Germany

Referees: Mirza Kurtagic / Mattias Wetterwik (SWE)

PREVIOUS ENCOUNTERS IN THE EUROPEAN CLUB COMPETITIONS

Barça vs Paris Saint-Germain HB 5-0-1 (203:186) 10:2

20.10.2013	PSG Handball vs FC Barcelona, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group C	29:33 (17:17)
15.02.2014	FC Barcelona vs PSG Handball, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group C	38:28 (19:9)
12.11.2016	Paris Saint-Germain Handball vs FC Barcelona Lassa, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	33:26 (15:12)
03.12.2016	FC Barcelona Lassa vs Paris Saint-Germain Handball, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	35:32 (14:14)
19.10.2019	Barça vs Paris Saint-Germain HB, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	36:32 (19:15)
01.12.2019	Paris Saint-Germain HB vs Barça, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	32:35 (17:16)

GROUP B



Club contact

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fcbarcelona.cat



FCBHandbol



@FCBHandbol



@FCBHandbol

Kit colours

Light

Player shirt: light green Player short: light green GK shirt: blue or yellow

Dark

Player shirt: blue and red Player short: blue GK shirt: green or black



Playing hall Palau Blaugrana Av. Aristides Maillol, s/n 08028 Barcelona Spain Capacity: 7,250

BARÇA

- Finished the 2019/20 group phase with 26 points thanks to 13 straight victories and an impressive goal difference of +105 after 14 group matches, winning group A. Aleix Gomez is the team's top scorer, with 62 goals.
- Currently the best team of the 2020/21 season with eight victories from eight matches, extending their series to 21 EHF Champions League wins in a row.
- Have their 16th EHF Champions League semi-final ahead and are the record winners, with eight trophies.
- Are record participants in the VELUX EHF FINAL4 with now their eighth appearance and two trophies (2011, 2015).
- Left wing Casper Mortensen is out after meniscus surgery, while centre back Aron Palmarsson is in doubt for Cologne due to a patellar tendon injury.
- If he is fit to play, Palmarsson will become the first player ever with nine participations in the EHF FINAL4, with Kiel, Veszprém and Barcelona.
- Have won all 17 matches of the current season of the Spanish Asobal league, including a 37:27 result at runners-up Bidasoa Irun.

Past achievements

EHF Champions League

Participations (including 2020/21 season): 24

Winner (8): 1995/96, 1996/97, 1997/98, 1998/99, 1999/00, 2004/05, 2010/11, 2014/15

Final (3): 2000/01, 2009/10, 2012/13

Semi-final (5): 2007/08, 2013/14, 2016/17, 2018/19, 2019/20

Quarter-final (4): 2005/06, 2006/07, 2011/12, 2015/16

Last 16 (2): 2003/04, 2017/18

Main Round (1): 2008/09

Other

EHF Cup: Winners 2002/03, Runners-up 2001/02 Cup Winners' Cup: Winners 1993/94, 1994/95 (IHF) European Champions Cup: 1990/91 IHF Super Globe: 2013, 2014, 2017, 2018

Spanish league: 27 titles (1969, 1973, 1980, 1982, 1986, 1988-92, 1996-2000, 2003,

2006, 2011-20) Spanish Cup: 25 titles

FC B

21

MATCHES Longest winning run

46

GOALS Most goals

82

GOALS Most goals both teams

I EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE CLUB RECORDS

 Biggest win
 17:43 (9:21) v HC Bosna Sarajevo BIH (a), 19.11.2011

 Biggest defeat
 31:21 (13:10) v SG Flensburg-H. GER (a), 23.02.2007

41:31 (20:15) v THW Kiel GER (a), 06.04.2008

Longest unbeaten run 21 matches (21.09.2019 – 02.12.2020) **Longest unbeaten run** 21 matches (21.09.2019 – 02.12.2020)

Longest losing run 2 matches (eight times)

Longest run without win 3 matches (30.05.2010 – 03.10.2010) 3 matches (03.06.2017 – 17.09.2017)

 Most goals
 46 v KIF Kolding DEN 46:36W (h), 17.10.2009

 Most goals opponent
 41 v THW Kiel GER 41:31L (a), 06.04.2008

41 v SG Flensburg-Handewitt GER 39:41L (a), 31.05.2014

 Most goals both teams
 82 v KIF Kolding DEN 46:36W (h), 17.10.2009

 Fewest goals
 21 v ABC Braga POR 21:21D (a), 09.11.1997

 21 v SC Pick Szeged HUN 22:21L (a), 23.10.2004

21 v Portland San Antonio ESP 25:21L (a), 25.02.2006 21 v SG Flensburg-Handewitt GER 31:21L (a), 23.02.2007

21 v Rhein-Neckar Löwen GER 22:21L (a), 20.09.2015

Fewest goals opponent 11 v Aalborg Handball DEN 11:31W (a), 15.03.2015

Fewest goals both teams 38 v Elgorriaga Bidasoa ESP 23:15W (h), 20.04.1996

38 v Vardar Vatrost. Skopje MKD 12:26W (a), 06.11.2004

I EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE RECORD

	MP	W	Т	L	GF GA	GD	PTS	Stage
1995/96 FC Barcelona ESP	8	5	2	1	213:173	+40	12:4	Winner
1996/97 FC Barcelona ESP	12	10	1	1	358:264	+94	21:3	Winner
1997/98 FC Barcelona ESP	12	9	1	2	358:284	+74	19:5	Winner
1998/99 FC Barcelona ESP	12	8	3	1	357:289	+68	19:5	Winner
1999/00 FC Barcelona ESP	12	10	0	2	345:271	+74	20:4	Winner
2000/01 FC Barcelona ESP	12	8	2	2	316:281	+35	18:6	Runner-up
2003/04 FC Barcelona ESP	8	5	1	2	262:212	+50	11:5	Last 16
2004/05 FC Barcelona Cifec ESP	14	8	0	6	400:360	+40	16:12	Winner
2005/06 FC Barcelona-Cifec ESP	10	9	0	1	293:244	+49	18:2	Quarter-final
2006/07 FC Barcelona-Cifec ESP	10	8	0	2	314:263	+51	16:4	Quarter-final
2007/08 FC Barcelona ESP	14	11	0	3	475:407	+68	22:6	Semi-final
2008/09 FC Barcelona Borges ESP	10	6	0	4	307:275	+32	12:8	3rd MR Gr. 4
2009/10 FC Barcelona Borges ESP	16	13	1	2	545:461	+84	27:5	Runner-up
2010/11 FC Barcelona Borges ESP	16	10	3	3	501:451	+50	23:9	Winner
2011/12 FC Barcelona Intersport ESP	14	11	0	3	459:357	+102	22:6	Quarter-final
2012/13 FC Barcelona Intersport ESP	16	13	0	3	488:404	+84	26:6	Runner-up
2013/14 FC Barcelona ESP	16	12	1	3	535:426	+109	25:7	Third Place
2014/15 FC Barcelona ESP	16	14	1	1	527:408	+119	29:3	Winner
2015/16 FC Barcelona Lassa ESP	16	12	1	3	480:431	+49	25:7	Quarter-final
2016/17 FC Barcelona Lassa ESP	18	13	1	4	517:460	+57	27:9	Fourth Place
2017/18 FC Barcelona Lassa ESP	16	10	2	4	463:433	+30	22:10	Last 16
2018/19 Barça Lassa ESP	18	15	0	3	614:506	+108	30:6	Third Place
2019/20 Barça ESP	14	13	0	1	485:380	+105	26:2	EHF FINAL4*
2020/21 Barça ESP	8	8	0	0	290:223	+67	16:0	
Total:	318	241	20	57	9902:8263	+1639	502:134	

^{*} to be played 28/29 December 2020





Xavi Pascual

- former Barça player, who first became goalkeeper coach at the club in 2005 before taking over from Manolo Cadenas as head coach four years later
- won 49 titles in his first 10 years in charge, including two CL titles, in 2011 and 2015
- won all possible titles with Barça in historic 2014/15 season, emulating Valero Rivera's (7 out of 7) success in 1999/2000
- also coached Romanian national team for two years (2016-18)

EC trophies: CL 2011, 2015

EHF Champions League winners in the squad: 7 players, 1 coach

2 titles: Aitor Arino (Barcelona 2011, 2015), Raul Entrerrios (Barcelona 2011, 2015), Aron Palmarsson (Kiel 2010, 2012), Gonzalo Perez des Vargas (Barcelona 2011, 2015), Cedric Sorhaindo (Barcelona 2011, 2015) + coach Xavi Pascual (Barcelona 2011, 2015)

1 title: Ludovic Fabregas (Montpellier 2018), Luka Cindric (Vardar 2017)

I TEAM ROSTER

No	. First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	cm	kg g2	20/21
1	Gonzalo	Perez de Vargas	sESP	Goalkeeper	10.01.1991	Toledo, ESP	190	93	1
C 9	Raul	Entrerrios	ESP	Centre Back	10.02.1981	Gijon, ESP	195	89	13
10	Cedric	Sorhaindo	FRA	Line Player	07.06.1984	La Trinite, FRA	192	110	5
11	Jure	Dolenec	SLO	Right Back	06.12.1988	KRANJ, SLO	191	95	13
13	Aitor	Ariño	ESP	Left Wing	05.10.1992	Penarth, GBR	187	81	22
18	Blaz	Janc	SLO	Right Wing	20.11.1996	Brezice, SLO	185	85	22
19	Timothey	N'guessan	FRA	Left Back	18.09.1992	Massy, FRA	196	105	12
20	Aleix	Gómez	ESP	Right Wing	07.05.1997	Sabadell, ESP	182	71	30
22	Thiagus	Petrus	BRA	Line Player	25.01.1989	Juiz de Fora, BRA	199	100	2
23	Mamadou	Diocou	ESP	Right Wing	10.03.2000	Fassada, SEN	180	71	
24	Dika	Mem	FRA	Right Back	31.08.1997	Paris, FRA	194	90	43
25	Luka	Cindric	CRO	Centre Back	05.07.1993	Ogulin, CRO	182	90	23
28	Alex	Pascual Garcia	ESP	Left Wing	13.02.2000	Vigo, ESP	175	83	3
34	Aron	Palmarsson	ISL	Centre Back	19.07.1990	Reykjavik, ISL	193	96	29
35	Domen	Makuc	SLO	Centre Back	01.07.2000	Postojna, SLO	188	82	6
36	Kevin	Møller	DEN	Goalkeeper	20.06.1989	Tondern, DEN	200	103	1
37	Haniel Vincius	Langaro Inoue	BRA	Left Back	07.03.1995	Umuarama, BRA	196	100	13
72	Ludovic	Fabregas	FRA	Line Player	01.07.1996	Perpignan, FRA	198	100	27
82	Luis	Frade	POR	Line Player	11.09.1998	Rio Tinto, POR	194	115	12



Gonzalo Perez de Vargas

@perezdvargas

Goalkeeper

- formed in Barcelona: returned to the club in 2014 after stints with Granollers and Tolouse focused on gaining experience
- voted best CL goalkeeper in 2016/17 and all Spanish domestic competitions since 2014/15; MVP of the ASOBAL league in 2016/17
- represented Spain in all age categories; forms duo with Veszprém's Rodrigo Corrales
- medallist at four consecutive EHF EUROs, starting in 2014

EC trophies: CL 2011, 2014

EURO: G 2018, G 2020, S 2016, B 2014



@aitorarino13



Aitor Arino

Left wing

- born in Wales, but started to play handball when he was seven years old at school in Barcelona, and he has been donning the Barça shirt since 2004
- used to play centre back as well
- played for Spain at all youth levels, replaced injured Angel Fernandez at EURO 2018
- his father, Sergi, was also a handball player, for Granollers and Barça in the 1980s

EC trophies: CL 2015

EURO: G 2018, G 2020; WCh: G 2013



Aron Palmarsson

@aronpalm

Centre back

- joined Barca from Veszprém early in 2017/18 season
- before joining Veszprém in 2015, the versatile, tactical and technically skilled Icelander was with THW Kiel for six years
- holds record, alongside retired Momir Ilic, of eight EHF FINAL4 participations
- MVP of the EHF FINAL4 in 2014 and again in 2016

CL: 2010, 2012 EURO: B 2010





Raul Entrerrios



@raulentrerrios

Centre back

- new captain of Barça following Victor Tomas' retirement after 2019/20 season
- initially planned to retire after 2020 Olympics but added another year to his contract once Tokyo Games were postponed until 2021
- played for two Spanish clubs Leon and Valladolid before joining Barça in 2010
- best centre back of domestic ASOBAL league for six seasons in a row (2014-20)

EC trophies: CL 2011, 2015; CWC 2005, 2009

OG: B 2008; EURO: G 2018, 2020, S 2006, 2016, B 2014; WCh: G 2005, B 2011



Luka Cindric

Centre back

- joined Barça in the summer of 2019, arriving from Kielce
- won CL with Vardar in 2017, scoring last-second winner in semi-final against Kielce
- joined Kielce in 2018/19 but stayed just one season in Poland
- voted EHF Player of the Year in 2017, and best Croatian player in 2017 and 2018
- key member of the Croatian national team

EC trophies: CL 2017 EURO: S 2020. B 2016



Ludovic Fabregas

Line player

- · one of key players in new French generation, including Timothey N'guessan, Dika Mem and Melvyn Richardson
- joined Barca after winning CL in 2018 with Montpellier, scoring six goals in the final
- CL All-star line player in 2016/17, and best young player in 2018/19
- youth world champion in mountain biking before turning to handball at age 15

EC trophies: CL 2018 WCh: G 2017, B 2019; OG: S 2016



Dika Mem

Right back

- best CL right back in 2017/18; scored over 70 goals both in 2017/18 and 2018/19
- joined Barca from French club Tremblay in 2016 at age 19, soon became key player
- at 21, had already captured two WCh medals and EHF EURO bronze with France
- · won both world and EHF EURO titles in youth age category events; also named best right back at Junior WCh 2017

EURO: B 2018; WCh: G 2017, B 2019



Aleix Gomez

Right wing

- young talent coming through club's youth ranks since 2009
- for years he was sharing right wing position with recently retired captain Victor Tomas
- leading scorer for Barça in 2018/19 and 2019/20 group phases, voted best young player in CL 2019/20 All-star Team
- had first national team appearance at WCh 2019, two years after being named best right wing of Junior WCh 2017 where he won gold with Spain

EURO: G 2020



@luka_cindric25





@chiki lf27

@dikamem

@aleixgomez11



Kevin Møller

6

@ kevinkam16

Goalkeeper

- played in Norway, Denmark and Germany before arriving in Barça in the summer of 2018
- after three seasons he will go back to his previous team, Flensburg in the summer of 2021
- playing his best season with the Catalan club in the Spanish League and being a
 driving force in some important matches as the two wins agains Kiel in group phase



Alex Pascual



@alexpascual.28

Left wing

- started to play football at Barça young categories and he moved to handball at the age of 13
- has played all his career at Barça and made his debut with first team in 2018
 - just one year later was already settled in the team
 - elected best left wing in ASOBAL League 2019/20
- son of coach Xavi Pascual



Timothey N'Guessan



@timoute19

Left back

- started playing handball at age 11, signed by Chambery when he was 19
- arrived at Barça in summer 2016 and has extended his contract with Catalan side until 2022
- after an irregular season for some physic problems and missed EHF EURO, he comes back stronger this season

EURO: B 2018, WCh: G 2017, B 2019, OG: S 2016



Thiagus Petrus



@thiagus petrus

Line player

- came to Barça in 2018 from Pick-Szeged and extended his contract until 2023
- · specialist in defence and key player for Xavi's Pascual system
- started handball in Brazil and came to Europe in 2012 to play for Spanish La Rioja, then he went to Hungary
- · regular player in the Brazilian national team

@frade98



Luis Frade

Line player

- first season at Barca, where he arrived from Portuguese Sporting
- signed a contract for four seasons (2024) with Catalan Club
- awarded as best line player at U21 World Championship in 2019
- did karate when he was young and also played football and basketball, at the age of 12
 he started handball



Cedric Sorhaindo

0

@tchoufy10

Line player

- arrived in Barcelona in summer 2010 as unknown player from French second division
- playing his 11th season with Barça (and last one), where he becomes one of top
 players in the world
- second captain behind Raúl Entrerrios, he also has been French captain for three years, some months ago he decided to give up the captaincy

EC trophies: CL 2011, 2015

EURO: G 2010, 2014, B 2018, WCh: G 2019, OG: G 2012, S 2016



Jure Dolenec



@juredolenec11

Right back

- joined Barça in the summer of 2017 from Montpellier and has a contract until 2022
- named best right back of the French league in 2016/17
- · key player for the Slovenian national team
- one of the three Slovenian players of the team togehther with Blaz Janc and Domen Makuc

WCh: B 2017



Blaz Janc



@janc8

- **Right wing**
 - joined Barça in summer 2020 from Kielce and sign a contract for four seasoons
- can play both on the wing and back position
- one of the biggest talents of Slovenian handball
- made CL debut at age 15 and scored more than 100 CL goals as teenager
- best right back at M20 EHF EURO 2014
- top scorer for Slovenia at the Rio 2016 Olympics

WCh: B 2017

GROUP A



Club contact

Club Address

Paris Saint-Germain Handball 82 avenue Georges Lafont 75016 Paris France

Media contact Matthieu Brelle-Andrade

+33 6 52 53 74 13 mbrelleandrade@psg.fr





PSGHand



@psghand



@psghandofficiel

Kit colours

Light

Player shirt: white Player short: white GK shirt: green

Dark

Player shirt: blue Player short: blue GK shirt: green



Playing hall

Stade Pierre de Coubertin 82, Avenue Georges Lafond 75016 Paris France Capacity: 3,500

PARIS SAINT-GERMAIN HANDBALL

- Were beaten twice In the 2019/20 group phase by their semi-final opponents Barcelona and also lost against Szeged. Finished second ranked in group A with 22 points and +55 goals.
- Started the 2020/21 season with two defeats against Flensburg and Brest. Now have a balanced result with three victories and three defeats, currently in fourth position in group A.
- Two top players left PSG to join VELUX EHF FINAL4 opponents this summer: Playmaker Sander Sagosen (Kiel) and goalkeeper Rodrigo Corrales (Veszprém).
- Have not won the trophy in the EHF Champions League so far. Their only final participation was in 2017, when they lost against Vardar and their current coach Raul Gonzalez.
- Nikola Karabatic has been out since October after he tore his ACL in a French league match. He was replaced by Dutch Luc Steins, who arrived from Toulouse and is eligible to play in Cologne. Besides Karabatic, there are no major injuries in the team.
- Defence boss Viran Morros can win his fourth EHF Champions League trophy after two titles with Ciudad Real (2008, 2009) and one with his semi-final opponents Barcelona (2015).
- Have won all 13 matches in the French league so far, including the ones against Nantes, Montpellier and Dunkerque in the last weeks, and top the table with a clean record.

Past achievements

EHF Champions League

Participations (including 2020/21 season): 9

Runners-up (1): 2016/17

Semi-final (3): 2015/16, 2017/18 (3rd), 2019/20 Quarter-final (3): 2013/14, 2014/15, 2018/19

Last 16 (1): 2005/06

Other

EHF Cup: Quarter-finals 2006/07, Last 16 2003/04

French league: 7 titles (2013, 2015-20)

French cup: 4 titles

League Cup: 3 titles

Trophee des Champions: 4 titles



9

MATCHES Longest winning run

42

GOALS Most goals

72

GOALS Most goals both teams

I EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE CLUB RECORDS

Biggest win
Biggest defeat

Longest winning run

Longest unbeaten run Longest losing run

Longest run without win

Most goals opponent
Most goals both teams

Fewest goals

42:24 (22:10) v THW Kiel GER (h), 12.03.2017 44:28 (22:12) v THW Kiel GER (a), 10.12.2005 9 matches (08.10.2017 – 17.02.2018)

9 matches (27.05.2018 – 14.11.2018)

10 matches (11.02.2017 – 03.06.2017) 4 matches (23.11.1996 – 18.01.1997)

4 matches (23.11.1996 – 18.01.1997) 42 v THW Kiel GER 42:24W (h), 12.03.2017

44 v THW Kiel GER 44:28L (a), 10.12.2005 72 v THW Kiel GER 44:28L (a), 10.12.2005

20 v Celje Pivovarna Lasko SLO 20:26L (h), 11.01.1997

20 v Caja Cantabria Santander ESP 26:20L (a), 18.01.1997 20 v MVM Veszprém HUN 28:20L (a), 28.11.2015

Fewest goals opponent 18 v HC Banik Karvina CZE 21:18W (h), 09.10.2005 18 v RK Celje Pivovarna L. SLO 27:18W (h), 13.10.2019

Fewest goals both teams 39 v HC Banik Karvina CZE 21:18W (h), 09.10.2005

I EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE RECORD

	MP	W	T	L	GF GA	GD	PTS	Stage
1994/95 1996/97 PSG Asnières FRA	6	1	0	5	131:161	-30	2:10	4th Gr. D
2005/06 Paris Handball FRA	8	4	1	3	212:229	-17	9:7	Last 16
2013/14 PSG Handball FRA	14	7	1	6	429:402	+27	15:13	1/4-finals
2014/15 Paris Saint-Germain Handball FRA	14	8	1	5	395:367	+28	17:11	1/4-finals
2015/16 Paris Saint-Germain Handball FRA	18	14	1	3	557:496	+61	29:7	Third Place
2016/17 Paris Saint-Germain Handball FRA	20	15	2	3	622:543	+79	32:8	Runner-up
2017/18 Paris Saint-Germain Handball FRA	18	14	1	3	550:498	+52	29:7	Third Place
2018/19 Paris Saint-Germain Handball FRA	16	14	0	2	514:445	+69	28:4	1/4-finals
2019/20 Paris Saint-Germain HB FRA	14	11	0	3	444:389	+55	22:6	EHF FINAL4*
2020/21 Paris Saint-Germain Handball FRA	6	3	0	3	190:184	+6	6:6	
Total:	134	91	7	36	4044:3714	+330	189:79	

^{*} to be played 28/29 December 2020





Raul Gonzalez Gutierrez

- former stalwart of BM Valladolid and a member of the Spanish national team
- started his coaching career at Atletico Madrid and Ciudad Real, working in a team with Talant Duishebaev
- moved to Vardar in 2013/14, won the CL in 2017, and joined PSG in the summer of 2018
- also coached the Macedonian national team between 2017 and 2019 as successor of Lino Cervar
- voted best coach in the CL 2016/17 All-star Team

EC trophies: CL 2017

EHF Champions League winners in the squad:

4 + 1 coach

3 titles: Viran Morros (Ciudad Real 2008, 2009, Barcelona 2015), Nikola Karabatic (Montpellier 2003, Kiel 2007, Barcelona 2015)

1 title: Vincent Gerrard (Montpellier 218, Dainis Kristopans (Vardar (2019), coach Raul Gonzalez (Vardar 2017)

I TEAM ROSTER

N	o. First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	cm	kg	g 20/21
1	Vincent	Gerard	FRA	Goalkeeper	16.12.1986	Woippy, FRA	189	104	1
6	Luc	Steins	NED	Centre Back	22.03.1995	Voerendaal, NED	172	76	
9	Adama	Keita	FRA	Left Wing	05.06.1997	Paris, FRA	185	81	5
1) Dainis	Kristopans	LAT	Right Back	27.09.1990	Ludza, LAT	215	135	16
1	l Benoit	Kounkoud	FRA	Right Wing	19.02.1997	Versailles, FRA	188	78	11
1	2 Yann	Genty	FRA	Goalkeeper	26.12.1981	Enghien les Bains, FRA	185	89	1
1	4 Ferran	Sole Sala	ESP	Right Wing	25.08.1992	Sant Quirze, ESP	192	88	8
1	5 Henrik	Toft Hansen	DEN	Line Player	18.12.1986	Skive, DEN	200	106	12
1	3 Nedim	Remili	FRA	Right Back	18.07.1995	Creteil, FRA	195	94	21
2) Mathieu	Grebille	FRA	Left Wing	06.10.1991	Paris, FRA	198	94	6
2	l Kamil	Syprzak	POL	Line Player	23.07.1991	Plock, POL	206	120	16
2	2 Luka	Karabatic	FRA	Line Player	19.04.1988	Strasbourg, FRA	202	108	13
2	3 Viran	Morros	ESP	Back	15.12.1983	Barcelona, ESP	199	99	
2	4 Mikkel	Hansen	DEN	Centre Back	22.10.1987	Helsingør, DEN	192	93	46
4	4 Nikola	Karabatic	FRA	Left Back	11.04.1984	Nis, SRB	196	104	11
7:	l Elohim	Prandi	FRA	Left Back	24.08.1998	Istres, FRA	193	96	10
9	9 Dylan	Nahi	FRA	Left Wing	30.11.1999	Paris, FRA	192	94	10



Vincent Gérard

@gerardvin

Goalkeeper

- former player of Dunkerque, Istres and Montpellier, signed for PSG in summer of 2019 to replace retired Thierry Omeyer again, after also doing so in the national team
- his exuberant celebrations have instantly made of him a fan favourite
- named best goalkeeper at WCh 2017; French No. 1 since Omeyer retired

EC trophies: CL 2018

OG: S 2016; WCh: G 2017, B 2019; EURO: B 2018



Mathieu Grébille

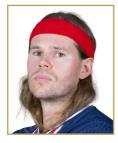


@mat_grebille

Left wing

- had played for Montpellier throughout his career before joining PSG in summer of 2020
- · former back court player who turned winger after shoulder injury in 2017, a year after tearing ligaments in his knee
- found his way back to the national team and won bronze at WCh 2019
- has passion for tattoos and drawings, sharing them on his social media channels

EURO: G 2014; WCh: G 2015, B 2019; OG: S 2016



Mikkel Hansen



@mikkelhansen24

Left back

- IHF Player of the Year in 2011, 2015 and 2018; also MVP and best scorer at WCh 2019
- played EHF FINAL4 four times (Barça, Kobenhavn and PSG twice) but has yet to lift the trophy
- son of former Danish international Flemming, having grown into a top player at GOG
- his headbands have become a collectors' item among PSG fans
- holds record for most CL goals in one season: 141 in 2015/16

OG: G 2016; EURO: G 2012, S 2014; WCh: G 2019, S 2011, 2013



Luc Steins



@luc_steins

- Centre back
- joined Paris in November to make up for Nikola Karabatic's long-term injury
- had been playing in Toulouse since 2019
- arrived in France in 2016, first played for Massy in the national second league, before joining Tremblay, then Toulouse
- will play his first ever EHF Champions League game at the VELUX EHF FINAL4
- At 173 cm, one of the smallest players in the Champions League this season



Luka Karabatic

Luka Karabati

Line player



@lukakarabatic

- · was a national-level tennis player until the age of 19, before choosing handball
- began in Montpellier, moved to Aix, then joined PSG insummer of 2015
- PSG is the third club where he plays alongside his brother, Nikola
- took over the captaincy following Thierry Omeyer's retirement in 2019

OG: S 2016; EURO: G 2014; WCh: G 2015, 2017, B 2019



Dainis Kristopans



Right back

- joined PSG in summer of 2020 after playing for Vardar and Füchse Berlin in 2019/20
- born in small Latvian town, Ludza, he started his career at local club Latgols
- spent nearly six years at Tatran Presov, winning Slovakian domestic league five time
- won his first CL title in 2019 with Vardar, moved to Berlin half a year later

EC trophies: CL 2019



Nedim Remili

6

@nedim_remili

Right back

- signed with PSG in the summer of 2016 from his only previous club, Créteil
- · Kamel, his father, was a professional handball player
- very regular scorer of PSG in the CL, finished on 81, 80 and 80 goals in the past three seasons
- made national team debut in 2016, won first prize the following year.

WCh: G 2017, B 2019



Ferran Solé

@ferransole14

- Right wing
- joined PSG in summer of 2020, his third French club after Granollers and Toulouse
- at age 28 he is set to make his CL debut
- part of Spanish national team that won EHF EURO titles in 2018 and 2020.
- named best right wing of EHF EURO 2018 and WCh 2019
- was top scorer of EHF Cup 2015/16, with 70 goals for Granollers

EURO: G 2018, 2020



Yann Genty

Goalkeeper

- started handball when he was 4, but took on goalkeeping as a teenager, when his club's goalkeeper took on fencing, to later become an olympic champion
- played for various French sides, including Chambéry, before arriving in Paris in 2020
- played his first CL games this season, but has important European experience on his back, including the 2016 EHF Cup Finals
- played his first games with France in June 2019, aged 37, before taking part in the EHF EURO 2020, his first international competition

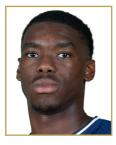


Adama Keita

@adama_keita9

Left wing

- born in a handball family, four of his seven siblings play handball, his older brother,
 Mahamadou, is a professional at Sporting CP
- joined Paris Saint-Germain in 2015 before signing his first professional contract in 2018
- aged 23, he's often seen as the number 3 on the wing, behind Mathieu Grébille and Dylan Nahi
- only professional player in PSG this season not to ever have played on his national team



Dylan Nahi



odylan_nahi99

Left back

- played his first game with the professionnal PSG team aged 15, back in August 2015
- at 17 years and 185 days, was the youngest player ever to play at a EHF FINAL4 in 2017
- · has already signed a contract with Kielce, starting next summer
- his physical and defensive abilities make him a firm favourite for coach Raul Gonzalez



Elohim Prandi



@elohimprandi77

Centre back

- son of Pagul Prandi and M
- son of Raoul Prandi and Mezuela Servier, two high-level handball players; his mother is former captain of France national team
- joined PSG from Nimes in the summer of 2020, having signed a three-year contract
- very successful youth international, winning gold at U18 EURO in 2016 and at both U19 and U21 World Championships



Benoit Kounkoud

Right wing



- just like so many French handball players before him (Jackson Richardson, Daniel Narcisse), he was born on the Reunion island, in the middle of the Indian Ocean
- arrived in French mainland in 2014, immediately joined PSG, and has never left so far
- one of the three PSG players at the FINAL4 to have only ever played for Paris until now
- played the EHF EURO 2016 with France after only nine appearances with the PSG professional team



Kamil Syprzak

@kamil_syprzak

Line player

- aged 2019, he joined Paris in 2019, after playing for four seasons in Barcelona
- captain of the Polish national team, he is the leader of the new handball generation in his country
- with his 206 cm height, he is an excellent defender and Raul Gonzalez's second choice on the line player position

WCh: B 2015



Henrik Toft Hansen



@henrik toft

Line player

- · born in a family of five kids, all but one of them playing on the line player position in handball
- his older brother Rene was elected Best Defender of the Champions League in 2015
- his wife, Ulrika, is a former Swedish national handball player
- arrived in Paris in 2018, after playing for Flensburg-Handewitt, Hamburg and Bjerringbro-Silkeborg

EC trophies: CL 2013

OG: G 2016, EURO: G 2012, WCh: G 2019, S 2013



Viran Morros



@viranmorros

Back

- former left-back, is now a defensive specialist
- joined PSG in 2018 after playing for seven years with FC Barcelona
- won the EHF Champions League three times in his career, twice with Ciudad Real and once with Barcelona
- has hinted that this season might be his last, as he intends to stop playing handball after the Tokyo Olympics

EC trophies: CL 2008, 2009, 2015

EURO: G 2018, 2020, S: 2016, B 2014, WCh: G 2013, B 2011

I SEMI-FINAL 2: THW KIEL (GER) VS TELEKOM VESZPRÉM HC (HUN)



Monday 28 December 2020, 20:30 CET Lanxess arena, Cologne, Germany



Referees: Andreu Marin / Ignacio Garcia Serradilla (ESP)

PREVIOUS ENCOUNTERS IN THE EUROPEAN CLUB COMPETITIONS

THW Kiel vs Telekom Veszprém HC 10-1-11 (626:627) 21:23

24.01.1996	THW Kiel vs Fotex Veszprém SE, EHF Champions League – Group A	28:25 (17:15)
13.02.1996	Fotex Veszprém SE vs THW Kiel, EHF Champions League – Group A	23:21 (11:9)
25.10.2002	THW Kiel vs Fotex KC Veszprém, European Championship for Club Teams – Semi-final	23:31 (11:15)
24.02.2007	MKB Veszprém KC vs THW Kiel, EHF Champions League – Quarter-final	39:36 (19:20)
01.03.2007	THW Kiel vs MKB Veszprém KC, EHF Champions League – Quarter-final	39:32 (22:15)
18.10.2012	MKB Veszprém KC vs THW Kiel, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	31:30 (14:15)
17.02.2013	THW Kiel vs MKB Veszprém KC, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	32:21 (17:13)
21.04.2013	THW Kiel vs MKB Veszprém KC, VELUX EHF Champions League – Quarter-final	32:31 (15:16)
27.04.2013	MKB Veszprém KC vs THW Kiel, VELUX EHF Champions League – Quarter-final	28:29 (14:12)
31.05.2014	MKB-MVM Veszprém vs THW Kiel, VELUX EHF Champions League FINAL4 – Semi-final	26:29 (13:13)
30.05.2015	THW Kiel vs MKB-MVM Veszprém, VELUX EHF Champions League FINAL4 – Semi-final	27:31 (13:13)
17.10.2015	MVM Veszprém vs THW Kiel, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	29:27 (17:15)
06.12.2015	THW Kiel vs MVM Veszprém, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	25:24 (11:12)
28.05.2016	THW Kiel vs MVM Veszprém, VELUX EHF Champions League FINAL4 – Semi-final	28:31 (15:12, 25:25)
15.10.2016	Telekom Veszprém vs THW Kiel, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	21:19 (13:10)
15.02.2017	THW Kiel vs Telekom Veszprém, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	25:27 (15:15)
08.10.2017	Telekom Veszprém HC vs THW Kiel, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	26:24 (12:15)
07.02.2018	THW Kiel vs Telekom Veszprém HC, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	22:20 (14:9)
21.09.2019	Telekom Veszprém HC vs THW Kiel, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	31:37 (13:16)
12.02.2020	THW Kiel vs Telekom Veszprém HC, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	29:28 (15:15)
28.10.2020	THW Kiel vs Telekom Veszprém HC, EHF Champions League – Group B	31:31 (18:20)
02.12.2020	Telekom Veszprém HC vs THW Kiel, EHF Champions League – Group B	41:33 (19:19)

GROUP B



Club contact

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Media contact Christian Robohm +49 1635306300 christian.robohm@thwhandball.de



thw-handball.de



thwhandball

@thw handball



@thwhandball

Kit colours

Light

Player shirt: white Player short: white Goalkeeper shirt: black

Dark

Player shirt: black Player short: black Goalkeeper shirt: red



Playing hall Wunderino-Arena-Kiel Europaplatz 1 24103 Kiel Germany Capacity: 10,285

THW KIEL

- had the lowest numbers of victories of all four VELUX EHF FINAL4 participants in the 2019/20 group phase nine but finished on top of group B with 20 points and a goal difference of +39.
- Took only one point from the last four group matches of the 2020/21 group phase (including a draw and a defeat against their semi-final opponent Veszprém) and are currently fifth ranked with seven points from eight matches.
- Niklas Ekberg needs six goals to become top scorer of the 2019/20 season. Currently he is on 70 goals five below Hugo Descat (Montpellier).
- Have their seventh participation at the VELUX EHF FINAL4 ahead and were the first team to win the trophy twice in Cologne (2010, 2012), but have also waited for their next title for more than eight years.
- Left back Nikola Bilyk has been out with a torn ACL since September and will miss almost the rest of the season. Magnus Landin, Pavel Horak and Domagoj Duvnjak just returned from COVID infections. They all missed Kiel's top Bundesliga match against Rhein-Neckar Löwen on Wednesday.
- Before this match, Kiel had won 10 of their 11 Bundesliga matches this season and were defeated only by Wetzlar.
- The second match in Cologne either the final or the placement match will be Kiel's 300th EHF Champions League game.

Past achievements

EHF Champions League

Participations (including 2020/21 season): 23 Winners (3): 2006/07, 2009/10, 2011/12

Runners-up (4): 1999/2000, 2007/08, 2008/09, 2013/14

Semi-final (6): 1996/97, 2000/01, 2012/13, 2014/15, 2015/16, 2019/20

Ouarter-final (7): 1998/99, 2002/03, 2004/05, 2005/06, 2010/11, 2016/17, 2017/18

Group Phase (2): 1994/95, 1995/96

Other

EHF Cup: Winners 1997/98, 2001/02, 2003/04, 2018/19

Champions Trophy: Winners 2006/07; Runners-up: 2000/01, 2001/02, 2003/04, 2007/08

German league: 21 titles German cup: 11 titles



MATCHES Longest unbeaten run

GOALS Most goals

GOALS Most goals both teams

I EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE CLUB RECORDS

26:50 (13:24) v Banik OKD Karvina CZE (a), 22.10.2006 **Biggest win Biggest defeat**

42:24 (22:10) v Paris SG Handball FRA (a), 12.03.2017 11 matches (02.10.2014 - 22.03.2015)

Longest winning run Longest unbeaten run Longest losing run

17 matches (22.10.2011 - 11.10.2012)

3 matches (07.02.1996 - 19.03.1996) 3 matches (30.05.2015 - 17.09.2015)

3 matches (30.04.2016 - 29.05.2016) 3 matches (29.04.2017 - 24.09.2017) 3 matches (19.11.2020 - 02.12.2020)

Longest run without win

5 matches (15.02.2017 - 22.03.2017) 50 v Banik OKD Karvina CZE 26:50W (a), 22.10.2006

Most goals Most goals opponent Most goals both teams **Fewest goals**

44 v FC Barcelona ESP 44:37L (a), 13.04.2008 81 v FC Barcelona ESP 44:37L (a), 13.04.2008 13 v Badel 1862 Zagreb CRO 22:13L (a), 25.03.2000

Fewest goals opponent 15 v SKA Minsk BLR 21:15W (h), 12.01.1997

15 v SKA Minsk BLR 15:27W (a), 10.11.1996

Fewest goals both teams

35 v Badel 1862 Zagreb CRO 22:13L (a), 25.03.2000

I EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE RECORD

	MP	W	T	L	GF GA	GD	PTS	Stage
1994/95 THW Kiel GER	6	3	0	3	137:136	+1	6:6	2nd Gr. B
1995/96 THW Kiel GER	6	3	0	3	151:148	+3	6:6	2nd Gr. A
1996/97 THW Kiel GER	10	6	1	3	247:211	+36	13:7	Semi-final
1998/99 TKW Kiel GER	8	7	0	1	229:199	+30	14:2	Quarter-final
1999/00 THW Kiel GER	12	7	1	4	319:283	+36	15:9	Runner-up
2000/01 THW Kiel GER	10	5	1	4	279:255	+24	11:9	Semi-final
2002/03 THW Kiel GER	8	4	1	3	234:211	+23	9:7	Quarter-final
2004/05 THW Kiel GER	10	8	0	2	336:274	+62	16:4	Quarter-final
2005/06 THW Kiel GER	10	8	0	2	346:293	+53	16:4	Quarter-final
2006/07 THW Kiel GER	14	11	1	2	517:420	+97	23:5	Winner
2007/08 THW Kiel GER	16	13	0	3	533:462	+71	26:6	Runner-up
2008/09 THW Kiel GER	16	12	1	3	548:461	+87	25:7	Runner-up
2009/10 THW Kiel GER	16	14	1	1	534:444	+90	29:3	Winner
2010/11 THW Kiel GER	14	9	2	3	456:393	+63	20:8	Quarter-final
2011/12 THW Kiel GER	16	12	3	1	496:414	+82	27:5	Winner
2012/13 THW Kiel GER	16	11	0	5	518:457	+61	22:10	Fourth Place
2013/14 THW Kiel GER	16	13	1	2	491:427	+64	27:5	Runner-up
2014/15 THW Kiel GER	16	12	0	4	498:421	+77	24:8	Fourth Place
2015/16 THW Kiel GER	20	10	1	9	579:567	+12	21:19	Fourth Place
2016/17 THW Kiel GER	18	7	2	9	449:474	-25	16:20	Quarter-final
2017/18 THW Kiel GER	18	9	2	7	478:467	+11	20:16	Quarter-final
2019/20 THW Kiel GER	14	9	2	3	437:398	+39	20:8	EHF FINAL4*
2020/21 THW Kiel GER	8	3	1	4	239:236	+3	7:9	
Total:	298	196	21	81	9051:8051	+1000	413:183	

^{*} to be played 28/29 December 2020





Filip Jicha Coach



- took over from Alfred Gislason in 2019, becoming only the third THW head coach since 1993, after Noka Serdarusic (1993-2008) and Gislason (2008-19)
- worked as an assistant to Gislason in the 2018/19 season
- led Kiel to the domestic title in his first season and was awarded best Bundesliga coach of 2019/20
- as player he was part of the golden generation in 2007-15
- twice CL top scorer, he ended his career in Barcelona in 2017

EC trophies: CL 2010, 2012; EHF Cup 2006 (as player)

EHF Champions League winners in the squad: 2 players + 2 coaches

2 titles: coach Filip Jicha (2010 and 2012 as a player of THW Kiel), goalkeeper coach Matthias An dersson as player of Kikel (2007) and Flensburg (2014)

1 title: Domagoj Duvnjak (Hamburg 2013), Steffen Weinhold (Flensburg 2014)

I TEAM ROSTER

	No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	cm	kg g	20/21
С	1	Niklas	Landin	DEN	Goalkeeper	19.12.1988	Søborg, DEN	201	102	
	3	Sven	Ehrig	GER	Right Wing	26.06.2000	Kiel, GER	197	95	2
С	4	Domagoj	Duvnjak	CRO	Centre Back	01.06.1988	Dakovo, CRO	197	99	21
	5	Sander	Sagosen	NOR	Centre Back	14.09.1995	Stavanger, NOR	192	88	45
	6	Harald	Reinkind	NOR	Right Back	17.08.1992	Tønsberg, NOR	195	95	26
	7	Magnus	Landin	DEN	Left Wing	20.08.1995	Helsingør, DEN	196	88	12
	9	Oskar	Sunnefeldt	SWE	Centre Back	21.04.1998	Mölndal, SWE	197	84	3
	13	Steffen	Weinhold	GER	Right Back	19.07.1986	Fuerth, GER	191	94	17
С	17	Patrick	Wiencek	GER	Line Player	22.03.1989	Duisburg, GER	201	110	15
	18	Niclas	Ekberg	SWE	Right Wing	23.12.1988	Ystad, SWE	191	89	43
	21	Dario	Quenstedt	GER	Goalkeeper	22.09.1989	Burg, GER	193	98	2
	23	Rune	Dahmke	GER	Left Wing	10.04.1993	Kiel, GER	189	85	10
	24	Miha	Zarabec	SLO	Centre Back	12.10.1991	Novo Mesto, SLO	177	77	18
	28	Pavel	Horak	CZE	Left Back	28.11.1982	Přerov, CZE	198	113	1
	61	Hendrik	Pekeler	GER	Line Player	02.07.1991	Itzehohe, GER	203	101	21
	99	Mattias	Andersson	SWE	Goalkeeper	29.03.1978	Malmö, SWE	186	95	

^{*} THW Kiel use the three-man captaincy



Niklas Landin

©

@niklaslandin

Goalkeeper

- joined Kiel in the summer of 2015 after three seasons with Rhein-Neckar Löwen, and finally won his first Bundesliga title in 2019/20
- undisputed No. 1 after departure of Andreas Wolff to Kielce in 2019
- captain of world-title winning Danish national team, has been named IHF World Player of the Year 2019

EC trophies: EHF Cup 2013, 2019

OG: G 2016; WCh: G 2019, S 2011, 2013; EURO: G 2012, S 2014



Magnus Landin



@magnuslandin

Left wing

- younger brother of goalkeeper Niklas Landin
- joined THW and his brother at the start of 2018/19 season
- tall winger (1.97 metre), who had debut in Danish national team at age 20
- previously played for KFUM Kobenhavn and KIF Kolding Kobenhavn

EC trophies: EHF Cup 2019

WCh: G 2019



Sander Sagosen



@sandersagosen

Left back

- joined Kiel in summer of 2020 after three seasons with PSG
- started career at Haslum (NOR), developed into world star at Aalborg (DEN)
- part of All-star Team at last five WCh and EHF EURO events
- broke record for most goals scored (65) at an EHF EURO, in 2020
- leader of a new generation of Norwegian players, who have won three international medals since 2017

WCh: S 2017, S 2019; EURO: B 2020



Domagoj Duvnjak



@domagojduvnjak88

Centre back

- Croatian international, playing for Kiel since 2014/15, after five seasons at Hamburg
- IHF World Player of the Year 2013 and MVP of EHF EURO 2020, All-star Team member at EHF EURO 2014 and WCh 2013 and 2017
- one of three THW team captains, alongside Niklas Landin and Patrick Wiencek
- has more than 200 caps for Croatia and over 1,200 goals in the Bundesliga

EC trophies: CL 2013, EHF Cup 2019

OG: B 2012; WCh: S 2009, B 2013; EURO: S 2010, 2020, B 2012, 2016

@patrickwiencek



Patrick Wiencek

attick wielice

Line player

- is the boss of the THW defence and one of the three team captains
- joined THW in 2012, previously played for Essen and Gummersbach
- named German handball player of the year in 2019
- missed Germany's golden EHF EURO 2016 due to a knee injury
- · forms line player quartet in national team with Pekeler, Kohlbacher and Golla

EC trophies: EHF Cup 2019; CWC 2011

OG: B 2016



Hendrik Pekeler

Line player

- first played for THW in 2008/09, later joined Bergischer HC and TBV Lemgo
- had breakthrough as successor of Bjarte Myrhol at Rhein-Neckar Löwen
- returned to Kiel in 2018 as two-time German champion and EHF EURO champion
- awarded best defender of EHF EURO 2020

EC trophies: CL 2010

EHF EURO: G 2016, OG: B 2016



Harald Reinkind

Right back

- · Norwegian back, who arrived in Germany in 2014 from FyllingenBergen
- first played for Rhein-Neckar Löwen until he joined Kiel in 2018, sharing right-back position with Steffen Weinhold
- three-time German champion, with Löwen (2016, 2017) and Kiel (2020)
- Norwegian international since 2011, won WCh 2019 silver and EHF EURO 2020 bronze

WCh: S 2017; EURO: B 2020



Niclas Ekberg

Right wing

- joined Kiel after 2012 Olympics, where he was silver medallist and top scorer; previously played for AG Kobenhavn and started his career at Ystad
- MVP of EHF Cup Finals 2019 and Kiel's best scorer that EHF Cup season
- can become CL top scorer 2019/20 if scores at least six goals at EHF FINAL4 in December; named All-star right wing of CL 2019/20 season

EC trophies: EHF Cup 2019

OG: S 2012



@hendrikpekeler

@haraldreinkind

@ekbergniclas18



Dario Quenstedt

0

@darioquenstedt21

Goalkeeper

- signed as replacement for Andreas Wolff, who left for Kielce in 2019
- played for SC Magdeburg from 2007 until 2019, except two seasons at Nettelstedt (2011-2013)
- was the number one for Kiel at the start of the season, when Niklas Landin had meniscus surgery
- has played 15 matches in the national team for Germany, was expected to play the EHF EURO 2020, but Johannes Biter was chosen



Mattias Andersson

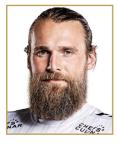


@mattiasa_1

Goalkeeper

- · officially goalkeeper coach at THW Kiel and with the German national team
- returned to the court in autumn, when Niklas Landin was injured, part of the squad again since then
- · the only player who has won the Champions League with both Kiel and Flensburg
- was SG's hero in the final against Kiel in 2014
- played for Großwallstadt between his time in Kiel (2001-08) and Flensburg (2011-18)

EC trophies: CL 2007, 2014 EHF Cup 2002, 2004, CWC 2012 EURO: G2000, OG: S 2012



Pavel Horak



@plonka82

Left back

- officially a back, but usually only plays in defence for Kiel
- played for four different German clubs from 2006 to 2017, including EHF Cup winners Göppingen and Berlin
- · has played more than 850 Bundesliga matches
- joined Kiel in 2019 after two seasons with Belarusian champions Meshkov Brest
- 130 caps for the Czech national team, the biggest success was sixth at the EURO 2018

EC trophies: EHF Cup 2011, 2012, 2015



Miha Zarabec



mzarabec @

Centre back

- at 178 cm, the smallest THW player at the VELUX EHF FINAL4
- playing his fourth season at Kiel; had three years with Celje before
- a classical playmaker with strengths in one-against-one actions
- as Duvnjak and Sagosen fill the gap on left back, gets more playing time than expected

EC trophies: EHF Cup 2019

WCh: B 2017



Rune Dahmke

Left wing



@runedahmke

- his father played for THW and he had a THW season ticket as a Kiel-born boy
- started on loan at THW farm team Altenholz, then got a full contract at THW and became number one in his position in 2015
- successor of Gudjon Valur Sigurdsson; now has less playing time than Magnus Landin
- surprisingly appointed for the EHF EURO 2016 after only five international matches, then became part of the starting seven and sensationally took gold with Germany

EC trophies: EHF Cup 2019

EURO: G 2016



Oskar Sunnefeldt



@oskarsunnefeldt

Left back

- signed by Kiel in October as replacement for long-term injured Nykola Bilyk, who tore his ACL in August
- played for Danish club SonderjyskE in the 2019/20 season
- before his Danish venture, only played for his home club Sävehof in Sweden, for which he made his first league debut at the age of 18
- steered Sävehof to their domestic title in the 2018/19 season, scoring 229 goals and received the "Best newcomer of the year" award
- had his CL debut for Kiel on 21 October, scoring twice at the 31:23 at Aalborg



Steffen Weinhold



@steffenweinhold13

Right back

- · arrived at Kiel from Flensburg in 2014 as freshly crowned Champions League winner
- in his 14th Bundesliga season, other previous clubs were Nordhorn and Großwallstadt
- has played 125 international matches for Germany, but will not play the WCh 2021 due to family reasons
- likes cycling through Kiel and has a huge collection of caps

EC trophies: CL 2014; EHF Cup 2008, 2019

EURO: G 2016; OG: B 2016



Sven Ehrig





@svenehrig

- the second Kiel-born player in the THW squad alongside Rune Dahmke
- partly on loan for THW farm team TSV Altenholz
 - made his Bundesliga debut in November 2019 against Hannover
- had his Champions League debut in the 2020/21 season against Nantes and scored his only two Champions League goals so far at Barcelona

GROUP B



Club contact

Club address

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Media contact

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handballveszprem.hu



Veszpremhandballteam



@telekomVeszprem



@handballVeszprem

Kit colours

Light

Player shirt: white Player short: white GK shirt: black

Player shirt: red/black Player short: black GK shirt: yellow



Playing hall Veszprém Arena Külso Kadartai ut 8200 Veszprém Hungary

Capacity: 5,096

TELEKOM VESZPRÉM HC

- Were second-ranked in group B with 20 points (equal with Kiel) after 10 victories and four defeats in the 2019/20 group phase. Petar Nenadic is their top scorer, with 62 goals.
- Beat their semi-final opponent Kiel 41:33 at home in the 2020/21 group phase and drew in Kiel (33:33) – the first ever draw between the teams in 22 EHF Champions League matches so far.
- Are currently second ranked behind Barça in group B of the 2020/21 group phase, with 13 points after six victories, one draw and one defeat (against Aalborg).
- Have been EHF Champions League finalists four times and lost all finals. In 2002 against Magdeburg, 2015 against Barcelona, 2016 versus Kielce after the first ever penalty shootout in the final and 2019 against Vardar. Have their sixth FINAL4 participation ahead.
- Yahia Omar and Patrik Ligetvári tested positive to Covid-19 at the beginning of December but will be back for Cologne.
- Have just won the top match of the Hungarian league, 36:24, at EHF Champions League participants Pick Szeged and top the domestic table with 13 victories from 13 matches.
- The club just extended the contracts of Blaz Blagotinsek, Vladimir Cupara, Manuel Strlek, Andreas Nilsson, Mate Lekai (until 2023) and Rogerio Moraes (until 2022).

Past achievements

EHF Champions League

Participations (including 2020/21 season): 26 Final (4): 2001/02, 2014/15, 2015/16, 2018/19

Semi-final (5): 2002/03, 2005/06, 2013/14, 2016/17, 2019/20

Ouarter-final (9): 1997/98, 1998/99, 1999/00, 2003/04, 2004/05, 2006/07, 2008/09.

2009/10, 2012/13

Last 16 (4): 1993/94, 2010/11, 2011/12, 2017/18 Group Phase (3): 1994/95, 1995/96, 2007/08

Cup Winners' Cup: Winners 2008, Finalists 1997 SEHA-league: 3 titles (2015, 2016, 2020)

Hungarian league: 26 titles Hungarian Cup: 27 titles



Longest winning run

GOALS Most goals

EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE CLUB RECORDS

Biggest win Biggest defeat Longest winning run

Longest unbeaten run Longest losing run

Fewest goals

Fewest goals opponent

Fewest goals both teams

Longest run without win

Most goals Most goals opponent

Most goals both teams

GOALS Most goals both teams 38:17 (18:9) v HC Granitas Kaunas LTU (h), 06.11.2004 30:18 (16:8) v Badel Zagreb CRO (a), 24.01.1995

12 matches (17.11.2018 - 01.06.2019) 12 matches (17.11.2018 - 01.06.2019)

3 matches (16.01.1996 - 08.02.1996) 3 matches (12.11.2017 - 26.11.2017)

4 matches (09.01.1999 - 31.10.1999)

46 v MSK SIRS Povazska B. SVK 46:26W (h), 07.10.2006 46 v MSK SIRS Povazska B. SVK 30:46W (a), 21.10.2006

39 v THW Kiel GER 39:32L (a), 01.03.2007

39 v KS Vive Tauron Kielce POL 39:38La7m (a), 29.05.16 77 v KS Vive Tauron Kielce POL 39:38La7m (a), 29.05.16

15 v TEKA Santander ESP 25:15L (a), 15.03.1995 13 v SO Chambery FRA 29:13W (h), 18.11.2001

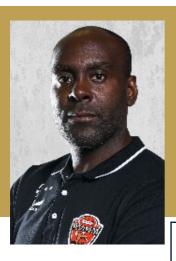
13 v Panellinios AC Athens GRE 19:13W (h), 17.11.2002 32 v Panellinios AC Athens GRE 19:13W (h), 17.11.2002

I EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE RECO

	MP	W	T	L	GF GA	GD	PTS	Stage
1994/95 Fotex Veszprem HUN	6	2	2	2	131:147	-16	6:6	3rd Gr. A
1995/96 Fotex Veszprem HUN	6	3	0	3	147:144	+3	6:6	3rd Gr. A
1997/98 Fotex KC Veszprém HUN	8	5	1	2	228:204	+24	11:5	Quarter-final
1998/99 Fotex KC Veszprém HUN	8	3	1	4	200:188	+12	7:9	Quarter-final
1999/00 Fotex KC Veszprém HUN	8	4	0	4	203:202	+1	8:8	Quarter-final
2001/02 Fotex KC Veszprém HUN	12	9	0	3	310:267	+43	18:6	Runner-up
2002/03 Fotex KC Veszprém HUN	10	8	0	2	276:238	+38	16:4	Semi-final
2003/04 Fotex KC Veszprém HUN	10	7	0	3	306:276	+30	14:6	Quarter-final
2004/05 Fotex KC Veszprém HUN	10	7	0	3	317:259	+58	14:6	Quarter-final
2005/06 MKB Veszprém KC HUN	12	9	0	3	373:318	+55	18:6	Semi-final
2006/07 MKB Veszprém KC HUN	10	7	0	3	338:288	+50	14:6	Quarter-final
2007/08 MKB Veszprém KC HUN	6	2	2	2	184:171	+13	6:6	3rd Gr. F
2008/09 MKB Veszprém KC HUN	12	8	0	4	351:320	+31	16:8	Quarter-final
2009/10 MKB Veszprém KC HUN	14	11	0	3	419:368	+51	22:6	Quarter-final
2010/11 MKB Veszprém KC HUN	12	9	0	3	373:338	+35	18:6	Last 16
2011/12 MKB Veszprém KC HUN	12	7	0	5	321:322	-1	14:10	Last 16
2012/13 MKB Veszprém KC HUN	14	11	0	3	410:348	+62	22:6	Quarter-final
2013/14 MKB-MVM Veszprém HUN	16	11	1	4	477:410	+67	23:9	Fourth Place
2014/15 MKB-MVM Veszprém HUN	16	13	1	2	480:423	+57	27:5	Runner-up
2015/16 MVM Veszprém HUN	20	15	2	3	600:539	+61	32:8	Runner-up
2016/17 Telekom Veszprém HUN	20	13	2	5	549:511	+38	28:12	Third Place
2017/18 Telekom Veszprém HC HUN	16	9	2	5	466:439	+27	20:12	Last 16
2018/19 Telekom Veszprém HC HUN	20	15	0	5	589:543	+46	30:10	Runner-up
2019/20 Telekom Veszprém HC HUN	14	10	0	4	448:386	+62	20:8	EHF FINAL4*
2020/21 Telekom Veszprém HC HUN	8	6	1	1	276:230	+46	13:3	
Total:	300	204	15	81	8772:7879	+893	423:177	

^{*} to be played 28/29 December 2020





David Davis

- succeeded Ljubomir Vranjes as head coach in October 2018
- guided Veszprém to the CL final in his first season in charge,
- and steered the team to the EHF FINAL4 again in 2019/20
- three-time CL winner as a player with Ciudad Real. also world champion and EURO silver medallist with Spain
- started coaching career in 2014 as assistant to Raul Gonzalez at Vardar, before leading the women's team of the Macedonian club to the EHE FINAL 4 2017 in Budanest
- guided Egypt to eighth place at the WCh 2019, their highest ranking since 2001

EC trophies: CL 2006, 2008, 2009; EHF Cup 1995 WCh: G 2005; EURO: S 2006; OG: B 2008 (all as player)

EHF Champions League winners in the squad:

6 players, 2 coaches

4 titles: goalkeeper coach Arpad Sterbik (2006, 2008, 2009 Ciudad Real, 2017 Vardar Skopje)

3 titles: coach David Davis (2006, 2008, 2009 as player of Ciudad Real)

1 title: Andreas Nilsson (2013 HSV Hamburg), Rodrigo Corrales (Barcelona 2015), Manuel Strlek (Kielce 2016), Jorge Maqueda (Vardar 2017), Rogerio Moraes (Vardar 2019), Vuko Borozan (Vardar 2017)

I TEAM ROSTER

	No. First name		Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	h Place of birth		kg g	20/21
	2	Dejan	Manaskov	MKD	Left Wing	26.08.1992	Veles, MKD	181	78	18
	5	Yahia	Omar	EGY	Right Back	09.09.1997	Giza, EGY	197	96	33
	12	Márton	Székely	HUN	Goalkeeper	02.01.1990	Budapest, HUN	194	92	
	13	Rogerio	Moraes Ferreira	BRA	Line Player	11.01.1994	Abaetetuba, BRA	204	129	15
	15	Kent Robin	Tönnesen	NOR	Right Back	05.06.1991	Partille, SWE	194	90	4
	16	Vladimir	Cupara	SRB	Goalkeeper	19.02.1994	Beograd, SRB	198	105	1
	18	Andreas	Nilsson	SWE	Line Player	12.04.1990	Trelleborg, SWE	197	110	37
	22	Nikolaj	Markussen	DEN	Left Back	01.08.1988	Gribskov, DEN	211	95	2
	23	Patrik	Ligetvári	HUN	Left Back	13.02.1996	Várpalota, HUN	201	104	
	24	Gasper	Marguc	SLO	Right Wing	20.08.1990	Celje, SLO	181	84	22
	25	Rasmus	Lauge Schmidt	DEN	Left Back	20.06.1991	Randers, DEN	193	96	22
	26	Manuel	Strlek	CRO	Left Wing	01.12.1988	Zagreb, CRO	181	79	12
	31	Blaz	Blagotinsek	SLO	Line Player	17.01.1994	Celje, SLO	202	110	1
	33	Daniil	Shishkarev	RUS	Right Wing	06.07.1988	Kostanay, KAZ	190	85	5
	34	Petar	Nenadic	SRB	Centre Back	28.06.1986	Beograd, SRB	198	95	47
	35	Kentin	Mahe	FRA	Centre Back	22.05.1991	Paris, FRA	186	86	8
	36	Rodrigo	Corrales Rodal	ESP	Goalkeeper	24.01.1991	Cangas, ESP	202	99	
	55	Jorge	Maqueda Peno	ESP	Right Back	06.02.1988	Toledo, ESP	197	105	7
С	66	Máté	Lékai	HUN	Centre Back	16.06.1988	Budapest, HUN	190	83	6
	87	Vuko	Borozan	MNE	Left Back	09.04.1994	Cetinje, MNE	202	113	36



Vladimir Cupara

Goalkeeper



@cupara16

- came to Veszprém in 2019 from Kielce, where he spent one season after a three-year stint at Abanca Ademar Leon
- debuted for Serbian national team in 2016; played his second EHF EURO in 2020
- started his professional career at boyhood club Red Star Belgrade
- loves to express his emotions on the court and share them with the fans



Manuel Strlek

@strlek manuel 17

Left wing

- · Croatian wing, who had CL debut with Zagreb at age 18
- played for Kielce for six seasons, and won the CL with them in 2016, before moving to Veszprém in the summer of 2018
- · voted CL 2019/20 All-star left wing, after scoring 42 times that season
- made debut in Croatian national team in 2010, at EHF EURO 2010 in Austria

EC trophies: CL 2016

OG: B 2012; WCh: B 2013; EURO: S 2010, B 2012, 2016



Rasmus Lauge Schmidt



@rasmuslauge25

Left back

- joined Veszprém in summer of 2019 after six seasons in Germany
- one of the few players who have played at both THW Kiel and SG Flensburg-Handewitt
- arrived in Hungary as Olympic, world and European champion with Denmark
- made debut for Denmark in 2010, but did not become a regular starter until Thomas Mogensen ended his national team career after EHF EURO 2014
- intelligent and inventive playmaker with a good shot and fine skills

OG: G 2016; WCh: G 2019, S 2011, 2013; EURO: G 2012



Petar Nenadic



@pepa_n_34

Left back

- Serbian back who arrived at Veszprém from Füchse Berlin in summer of 2018
- series of strong performances sw him win EHF Player of the Year 2019 award
- has played at eight different clubs in his career, including Barcelona and Szeged
- his father and brother also play handball, his wife is part of national volleyball team

EC trophies: EHF Cup 2015

EURO: S 2012

@lekaimate



Mate Lekai

Centre back



- suffered from several injuires at Celje and once famously played second half of domestic league final with broken finger
- previously played for Pler and Szeged in Hungary
- key player for Veszprém, who was named Hungarian player of the year in 2017



Blaz Blagotinsek

@blagi4

Line player

- experienced Slovenian international, who arrived at Veszprém in 2016
- · voted best defender of the CL in 2018/19 and again in 2019/20
- previously played four seasons at Celjein his native Slovenia
- made national team debut for Slovenia at age 18 in 2012

WCh: B 2017



Jorge Maqueda



@maqueda15

Right back

- world-class defender, who arrived at Veszprém in summer of 2020 after two seasons with league rivals Szeged
- previously played for Barca, Alcobendas, Aragon, Nantes, and Vardar
- lost EHF Cup final with Nantes in 2013 but won CL final with Vardar four years later
- won world title in 2013 and EHF EURO in 2020 with Spain

EC trophies: CL 2017

WCh: G 2013, B 2011: EURO: G 2020, S 2016, B 2014



Gasper Marguc





@gaspermarguc

- came to Veszprém in 2014 from Celje, where he had played since 2009
- had his best CL season for Veszprém in 2015/16, scoring 78 goals
- once scored 18 goals from 18 attempts for Celje in two matches against THW Kiel's legendary goalkeeper Thierry Omeyer
- played at WCh 2013 when Slovenia placed fourth, and in 2017 when they won bronze

WCh: B 2017



Rodrigo Corrales

Goalkeeper

- after three season with PSG, he joined Veszprém in 2020
- started his professional career at Barcelona where he spent 7 years
- in 2014 made a debut in the Spanish national team

EC trophies: CL 2015 EURO: G 2018, 2020



Vuko Borozan

Left back

- joined Veszprém in 2019 after incomplete three seasons with Vardar
- did not travel with the Macedonian club for the VELUX EHF FINAL4 2019 when Vardar won the trophy for the second time
- · had stints with Karlovac, Metalurg and Nettelstadt-Lübbecke before Vardar
- · Montenegrin sport person of the year

EC trophies: CL 2017

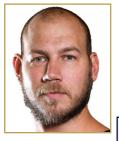


Rogerio Moraes Ferreira

Line player

- joined Veszprém in summer of 2019 after three seasons with Vardar
- · previously played for Kiel
- won the CL two times with Vardar, in 2017 and 2019
- · the Brazilian player is known for his great defending

EC trophies: CL 2017, 2019



Andreas Nilsson

Line player

- this season is the Swedish line player's sixth with Veszprém
- in 2016, he was voted for the "Handballer of the year" in Sweden
- finished twice as runners-up with Veszprém in the EHF FINAL4

EC trophies: CL 2014

OG: S 2012



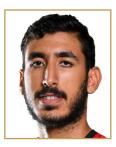
@vukoborozan87



@nilssonandreas1

@rogeriomoraes11

@yahiaomar5



Yahia Omar

Right back

- joined Veszprem in 2019 from the Egyptian club Zamalek
- drew attention of David Davis during his tenure with the Egyptian national team
- rose to the prominence in 2020/21 season and before the VELUX EHF FINAL 2020 became the first choice option on the right back position



Kentin Mahe

@kentinmahe35

Centre back

- joined Veszprém in 2018 after spells with Flensburg, Hamburg, Gummersbach and Dormagen, where he was coached by his father Pascal
- Men's 20 EURO 2010 MVP and top scorer (49 goals); MVP of EHF Cup Finals 2015
- made debut in French national team in 2010, now one of the key players
- lost all three EC finals he played in: CL 2018/19 with Veszprém, EHF Cup 2014/15 with Hamburg, and CWC 2011/12 with Gummersbach

OG: S 2016; WCh: G 2015, 2017; EURO: B 2018



Dejan Manaskov



@dmanaskov11

- left wing
- sons of Macedonian handball legend Pepi Manaskov, Dejan and younger brother Martin are both national team players
- left wing who has been playing for Veszprém since 2017
- · previously played CL for Macedonian rivals Vardar and Metalurg
- his international club portfolio also includes HSG Wetzlar and Rhein-Neckar Löwen



Daniil Shishkarev

Right wing

- the Russian wing moved to Veszprém after having spent six season with Vardar
- made a debut in the Russian nationa team in 2009
- also played for Kazakhstan before as he was born there

EC trophies: CL 2017, 2019

II 3/4 PLACEMENT MATCH: LOSER SF1 VS LOSER SF2

Tuesday 29 December 2020, 18:00 CET Lanxess arena, Cologne, Germany

Referees: Ivan Pavicevic / Milos Raznatovic (MNE)

I FINAL: WINNER SF1 VS WINNER SF2

Tuesday 29 December 2020, 20:30 CET Lanxess arena, Cologne, Germany

Referees: Matija Gubica / Boris Milosevic (CRO)

I POTENTIAL HEAD-TO-HEADS

PREVIOUS ENCOUNTERS IN THE EUROPEAN CLUB COMPETITIONS

Barça vs THW Kiel 14-2-11 (790:786) 30:24

22.04.2000	THW Kiel vs FC Barcelona, EHF Champions League – Final	28:25 (15:14)
29.04.2000	FC Barcelona vs THW Kiel, EHF Champions League – Final	29:24 (15:12)
25.03.2001	THW Kiel vs FC Barcelona, EHF Champions League – Semi-final	28:24 (12:11)
31.03.2001	FC Barcelona vs THW Kiel, EHF Champions League – Semi-final	33:28 (14:11)
20.04.2002	THW Kiel vs FC Barcelona, EHF Cup – Final	36:29 (19:13)
28.04.2002	FC Barcelona vs THW Kiel, EHF Cup – Final	28:24 (14:8)
05.03.2005	THW Kiel vs FC Barcelona, EHF Champions League – Quarter-final	30:25 (13:14)
12.03.2005	FC Barcelona vs THW Kiel, EHF Champions League – Quarter-final	33:27 (17:14)
06.04.2008	THW Kiel vs FC Barcelona, EHF Champions League – Semi-final	41:31 (20:15)
13.04.2008	FC Barcelona vs THW Kiel, EHF Champions League – Semi-final	44:37 (19:20)
19.10.2008	FC Barcelona Borges vs THW Kiel, EHF Champions League – Group C	27:31 (15:15)
23.11.2008	THW Kiel vs FC Barcelona Borges, EHF Champions League – Group C	33:26 (16:11)
11.10.2009	FC Barcelona Borges vs THW Kiel, EHF Champions League – Group D	27:30 (17:20)
14.02.2010	THW Kiel vs FC Barcelona Borges, EHF Champions League – Group D	30:32 (15:17)
30.05.2010	FC Barcelona Borges vs THW Kiel GER, VELUX EHF Champions League FINAL4 – Final	34:36 (20:17)
03.10.2010	THW Kiel vs FC Barcelona Borges, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	28:28 (14:10)
05.12.2010	FC Barcelona Borges vs THW Kiel, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	32:29 (13:15)
24.04.2011	FC Barcelona Borges vs THW Kiel, VELUX EHF Champions League – Quarter-final	27:25 (14:15)
01.05.2011	THW Kiel vs FC Barcelona Borges, VELUX EHF Champions League – Quarter-final	33:36 (15:19)
24.04.2016	THW Kiel vs FC Barcelona Lassa, VELUX EHF Champions League – Quarter-final	29:24 (16:12)
30.04.2016	FC Barcelona Lassa vs THW Kiel, VELUX EHF Champions League – Quarter-final	33:30 (13:14)
01.10.2016	FC Barcelona Lassa vs THW Kiel, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	26:25 (10:13)
05.03.2017	THW Kiel vs FC Barcelona Lassa, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	27:27 (13:15)
23.04.2017	THW Kiel vs FC Barcelona Lassa, VELUX EHF Champions League – Quarter-final	28:26 (16:15)
29.04.2017	FC Barcelona Lassa vs THW Kiel, VELUX EHF Champions League – Quarter-final	23:18 (13:9)
19.11.2020	THW Kiel vs Barça, EHF Champions League – Group B	26:32 (15:16)
26.11.2020	Barça vs THW Kiel, EHF Champions League – Group B	29:25 (13:12)

I POTENTIAL HEAD-TO-HEADS

PREVIOUS ENCOUNTERS IN THE EUROPEAN CLUB COMPETITIONS

Barça vs Telekom Veszprém HC 14-1-6 (600:558) 29:13

13.04.1986 19.04.1986	VAEV Epitök SC vs FC Barcelona, Cup Winners' Cup – Semi-final FC Barcelona vs VAEV Epitök SC, Cup Winners' Cup – Semi-final	27:25 (13:12) 29:19 (13:10)
21.02.1998	Fotex KC Veszprém vs FC Barcelona, EHF Champions League – Quarter-final	33:28 (19:13)
01.03.1998	FC Barcelona vs Fotex KC Veszprém, EHF Champions League — Quarter-final	32:27 (13:15)
31.01.1999	Fotex KC Veszprém vs FC Barcelona, EHF Champions League — Quarter-final	29:29 (14:15)
07.02.1999	FC Barcelona vs Fotex KC Veszprém, EHF Champions League — Quarter-final	29:24 (16:11)
14.11.1999	Fotex KC Veszprém vs FC Barcelona, EHF Champions League – Group D	23:31 (13:16)
04.12.1999	FC Barcelona vs Fotex KC Veszprém, EHF Champions League — Group D	25:21 (13:13)
13.12.2003	FC Barcelona vs Fotex KC Veszprém, EHF Champions League – Last 16	33:29 (18:15)
20.12.2003	Fotex KC Veszprém vs FC Barcelona, EHF Champions League – Last 16	31:26 (16:14)
25.04.2010	FC Barcelona Borges vs MKB Veszprém KC, EHF Champions League – Quarter-final	33:27 (17:15)
01.05.2010	MKB Veszprém KC vs FC Barcelona Borges, EHF Champions League – Quarter-final	33:34 (19:15)
27.03.2011	FC Barcelona Borges vs MKB Veszprém KC, VELUX EHF Champions League – Last 16	28:21 (14:13)
02.04.2011	MKB Veszprém KC vs FC Barcelona Borges, VELUX EHF Champions League – Last 16	30:26 (15:8)
01.06.2014	FC Barcelona vs MKB-MVM Veszprém, VELUX EHF Champions League FINAL4 – Place 3/4	26:25 (9:10)
31.05.2015	FC Barcelona vs MKB-MVM Veszprém, VELUX EHF Champions League FINAL4 – Final	28:23 (14:10)
22.10.2016	FC Barcelona Lassa vs Telekom Veszprém, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	26:23 (16:11)
11.02.2017	Telekom Veszprém vs FC Barcelona Lassa, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	22:25 (14:13)
04.06.2017	Telekom Veszprém vs FC Barcelona Lassa, VELUX EHF Champions League FINAL4 – Place 3/4	34:30 (18:17)
22.09.2018	Barça Lassa vs Telekom Veszprém HC, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	31:28 (17:14)
09.02.2019	Telekom Veszprém HC vs Barça Lassa, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	29:26 (15:15)

Paris Saint-Germain HB vs THW Kiel 5-1-7 (379:384) 11:15

14.12.2003	THW Kiel vs Paris Handball, EHF Cup – Last 16	34:27 (19:12)
21.12.2003	Paris Handball vs THW Kiel, EHF Cup – Last 16	30:32 (14:19)
04.12.2005	Paris Handball vs THW Kiel, EHF Champions League – Last 16	21:28 (11:13)
10.12.2005	THW Kiel vs Paris Handball, EHF Champions League – Last 16	44:28 (22:12)
16.11.2014	Paris Saint-Germain Handball vs THW Kiel, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	25:27 (13:12)
22.11.2014	THW Kiel vs Paris Saint-Germain Handball, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	33:29 (14:15)
12.11.2015	THW Kiel vs Paris Saint-Germain Handball, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	26:30 (10:16)
21.11.2015	Paris Saint-Germain Handball vs THW Kiel, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	37:30 (18:12)
29.05.2016	Paris Saint-Germain Handball vs THW Kiel, VELUX EHF Champions League FINAL4 – Place 3/4	29:27 (15:11)
25.09.2016	THW Kiel vs Paris Saint-Germain Handball, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	28:27 (15:15)
12.03.2017	Paris Saint-Germain Handball vs THW Kiel, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	42:24 (22:10)
17.09.2017	THW Kiel vs Paris Saint-Germain Handball, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	22:25 (10:12)
04.03.2018	Paris Saint-Germain Handball vs THW Kiel, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	29:29 (16:11)

Paris Saint-Germain HB vs Telekom Veszprém HC 6-1-4 (299:302) 13:9

19.04.2014	PSG Handball vs MKB-MVM Veszprém, VELUX EHF Champions League – Quarter-final	26:28 (14:12)
26.04.2014	MKB-MVM Veszprém vs PSG Handball, VELUX EHF Champions League – Quarter-final	31:26 (12:12)
12.04.2015	Paris Saint-Germain Handball vs MKB-MVM Veszprém, VELUX EHF Champions League – Quarter-final	24:24 (10:12)
19.04.2015	MKB-MVM Veszprém vs Paris Saint-Germain Handball, VELUX EHF Champions League – Quarter-final	34:28 (16:12)
25.10.2015	Paris Saint-Germain Handball vs MVM Vészprem, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	29:27 (16:12)
28.11.2015	MVM Veszprém vs Paris Saint-Germain Handball, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	28:20 (16:14)
20.11.2016	Telekom Veszprém vs Paris Saint-Germain Handball, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	28:29 (14:15)
27.11.2016	Paris Saint-Germain Handball vs Telekom Veszprém, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	28:24 (14:12)
03.06.2017	Telekom Veszprém vs Paris Saint-Germain Handball, VELUX EHF FINAL4 – Semi-final	26:27 (11:11)
12.11.2017	Paris Saint-Germain Handball vs Telekom Veszprém HC, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	33:28 (19:14)
18.11.2017	Telekom Veszprém HC vs Paris Saint-Germain Handball, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	24:29 (12:12)

I IMPORTANT REGULATIONS

WHAT FOLLOWS IF A MATCH FNDS IN A DRAW

All matches of the VELUX EHF FINAL4 shall be played in 2 x 30 minutes with a half-time break of 15 minutes.

If a semi-final match or the final (place 1/2) ends in a draw, there will be a five-minute break followed by one extra time of 2 x 5 minutes, there will be a one minute break at half-time for the changeover of teams.

If the 3/4 Placement Match ends in a draw, there shall be no extra time, the match will be decided directly by penalty throws.

If penalty throws are needed to decide the match, the procedure is as follows:

- Prior to the penalty throws, each team shall name five players eligible to play at the end of the match by handing the referees a list of numbers. These players shall then take one throw each, alternating with their opponents. Each team is free to determine the sequence in which throwers will take their throws.
- The goalkeepers may be freely selected from the match report and exchanged in accordance with the Rules of the Game. Goalkeepers may take throws and throwers may perform as goalkeepers.
- At the Technical Meeting the teams will be informed at which goal the penalty throws will be taken. The team taking the first penalty throw shall be determined by the referees by drawing lots. The team winning the draw may choose whether it wishes to throw first or last.

- If the scores are equal after the first round of penalty throws, it shall be continued until a decision is reached. In the second round, the other team shall start. Again five players shall be named who are eligible to play (the players named before may be named once again).
- In the second round, a decision is reached when a goal difference arises after both teams have taken one throw each.
- Eligible players are players entered in the match report that have not been disqualified or suspended at the time of the final whistle.
- Serious infractions committed during penalty throws shall be sanctioned by disqualification.

If a thrower is disqualified or suffers an injury, an eligible substitute player shall be supplementary named.

- While the throws are being taken, only the player taking the throw, the current goalkeeper and the referees may enter the respective half of the playing court.
- If the number of eligible players falls below five, players may be named to take a second throw in the same round.

I 2019/20 SEASON RECAP

Like in the most of the sports in Europe the Covid-19 pandemy has interrupted also the national teams and club competitions under the EHF umbrella. The VELUX EHF Champions League 2019/20 has been paused and the Last 16 and the guarter-final matches cancelled.

Facts & figures of the season

0 teams in group A or B won or remained unbeaten in all their 14 group matches.

26 points, earned by Barça, were (together with PSG in the 2018/19 season) the highest number of all teams since the start of the previous playing system in 2015/16.

41 straight unbeaten home CL matches was the impressive series from PSG (started in November 2014 and lasted until 1 December 2019, when Barça ended the series with a 35:32 victory in France.

79 goals represent the highest scoring match in the group phase, when Barça beat Aalborg 44:35.

75 goals were scored by Montpellier's Hugo Descat, making him the top scorer of the group phase.

176 matches have been played so far in the 2019/20 season.

370 goals conceded by Szeged in 14 matches represents the most effective defence in groups A/B.

485 goals scored by Barça in 14 matches represents the most effective attack in groups A/B.

10,046 goals (more than ever in the previous playing system) were scored in the group phase

12,377 fans (Elverum vs PSG) in Lillehammer was the highest number of spectators so far in 2019/20

I ALL-STAR TEAM 2019/20

Over 50,000 fans cast their votes to decide the All-star Team line-ups

Handball fans across the world have voted in their thousands to determine the EHF Champions League 2019/20 All-star teams. Last season's voting took place in unique circumstances with the Covid-19 pandemic leading to a number of matches being cancelled and EHF FINAL4s postponed. However, that did not deter over 50,000 fans voting for their favourite players.



I TOP SCORERS 2019/20*



75 goals

Hugo Descat

Montpellier HB

Rank	Player	Club	Goals
1	Hugo Descat (FRA)	Montpellier HB (FRA)	75
2	Barys Pukhouski (BLR)	HC Motor Zaporozhye (UKR)	74
3	Niclas Ekberg (SWE)	THW Kiel (GER)	70
4	Timur Dibirov (RUS)	HC Vardar (MKD)	69
5	Sebastian Barthold (NOR)	Aalborg Handbold (DEN)	65
	Alex Dujshebaev (ESP)	PGE VIVE Kielce (POL)	65
	Vladislav Ostroushko (UKR)	HC Eurofarm Rabotnik (MKD)	65
8	Valentin Ghionea (ROU)	Sporting CP (POR)	64
	Sigvaldi Björn Gudjonsson (ISL)	Elverum Handball (NOR)	64
	Sander Sagosen (NOR)	Paris Saint-Germain HB (FRA)	64
	Gøran Johannessen (NOR)	SG Flensburg-Handewitt (GER)	64
12	Bogdan Radivojevic (SRB)	MOL-Pick Szeged (HUN)	63
13	Aleix Gómez (ESP)	Barça (ESP)	62
	Petar Nenadic (SRB)	Telekom Veszprém HC (HUN)	62
	Josip Sarac (CRO)	RK Celje Pivovarna Lasko (SLO)	62
16	Dragan Gajic (SLO)	Telekom Veszprém HC (HUN)	61
	Ante Kuduz (CRO)	C.S. Dinamo Bucuresti (ROU)	61
18	Lukas Sandell (SWE)	Elverum Handball (NOR)	60
19	Emil M. Jakobsen (DEN)	GOG (DEN)	59
	Blaz Janc (SLO)	PGE Vive Kielce (POL)	59
21	Aidenas Malasinskas (LTU)	HC Motor Zaporozhye (UKR)	58
	Harald Reinkind (NOR)	THW Kiel (GER)	58
	Teemu Tamminen (FIN)	Cocks (FIN)	58
24	Alexander Blonz (NOR)	Elverum Handball (NOR)	57
25	Bence Banhidi (HUN)	MOL-Pick Szeged (HUN)	55
	Diogo Branquinho (POR)	FC Porto Sofarma (POR)	55

^{*} status before the EHF FINAL4 2020

| PAST WINNERS

Year	Club	Nation
2020	TBD on 29 December 2020	
2019	HC Vardar	MKD
2018	Montpellier HB	FRA
2017	HC Vardar	MKD
2016	Vive Tauron Kielce	POL
2015	FC Barcelona	ESP
2014	SG Flensburg-Handewitt	GER
2013	HSV Hamburg	GER
2012	THW Kiel	GER
2011	FC Barcelona Borges	ESP
2010	THW Kiel	GER
2009	BM Ciudad Real	ESP
2008	BM Ciudad Real	ESP
2007	THW Kiel	GER
2006	BM Ciudad Real	ESP
2005	FC Barcelona-Cifec	ESP
2004	RK Celje Pivovarna Laško	SLO
2003	Montpellier HB	FRA
2002	SC Magdeburg	GER
2001	Portland San Antonio	ESP
2000	FC Barcelona	ESP
1999	FC Barcelona	ESP
1998	FC Barcelona	ESP
1997	FC Barcelona	ESP
1996	FC Barcelona	ESP
1995	Elgorriaga Bidasoa	ESP
1994	TEKA Santander	ESP

I ALL-TIME CLUB STANDINGS 1993-2020

TR	Name of the club	MP	W	D	L	GF:FA	GD	PW:PL	NP	%
1	Barça ESP	318	241	20	57	9902:8263	+1639	502:134	(24)	78,93%
2	Telekom Veszprém HC HUN	300	204	15	81	8772:7879	+893	423:177	(25)	70,50%
3	THW Kiel GER	298	196	21	81	9051:8051	+1000	413:183	(23)	69,30%
4	SG Flensburg-Handewitt GER	224	134	19	71	6585:6154	+431	287:161	(16)	64,06%
5	HC PPD Zagreb CRO	293	121	31	141	7603:7717	-114	273:313	(27)	46,59%
6	Montpellier HB FRA	232	128	15	89	6646:6352	+294	271:193	(20)	58,41%
7	RK Celje Pivovarna Laško SLO	252	114	15	123	7126:7035	+91	243:261	(23)	48,21%
8	Lomza Vive Kielce POL	186	106	17	63	5559:5304	+255	229:143	(14)	61,56%
9	BM Atletico Madrid ESP	144	111	5	28	4502:3803	+699	227:61	(10)	78,82%
10	MOL-Pick Szeged HUN	206	99	17	90	5723:5660	+63	215:197	(18)	52,18%
11	Paris Saint-Germain Handball FRA	134	91	7	36	4044:3714	+330	189:79	(10)	70,52%
12	Chekhovskie medvedi RUS	176	75	18	83	5250:5200	+50	168:184	(18)	47,73%
13	HC Vardar 1961 MKD	161	75	17	69	4456:4526	-70	167:155	(14)	51,86%
14	Rhein-Neckar Löwen GER	134	72	17	45	3971:3774	+197	161:107	(9)	60,08%
15	HSV Hamburg GER	98	68	9	21	3088:2670	+418	145:51	(7)	73,98%
16	Portland San Antonio ESP	100	64	6	30	2929:2594	+335	134:66	(9)	67,00%
17	Abanca Ademar Leon ESP	122	61	8	53	3440:3386	+54	130:114	(12)	53,28%
18	KIF Kolding Kobenhavn DEN	118	54	9	55	3330:3361	-31	117:119	(12)	49,58%
19	Orlen Wisla Plock POL	136	44	11	81	3594:3833	-239	99:173	(13)	36,40%
20	HC Motor UKR	99	42	11	46	2903:2941	-38	95:103	(8)	47,98%
21	HC Meshkov Brest BLR	119	35	12	72	3250:3486	-236	82:156	(11)	34,45%
22	HC Metalurg MKD	102	35	6	61	2516:2718	-202	76:128	(10)	37,26%
23	Kadetten Schaffhausen SUI	106	31	9	66	2966:3133	-167	71:141	(11)	33,49%
24	HBC Nantes FRA	59	30	10	19	1748:1673	+75	70:48	(4)	59,32%
25	Rk Gorenje Velenje SLO	72	32	1	39	2050:2046	+4	65:79	(7)	45,14%
31	Aalborg Håndbold DEN	71	22	7	42	1972:2097	-125	51:91	(6)	35,92%
34	Elverum Handball NOR	62	20	5	37	1693:1815	-122	45:79	(6)	36,29%
40	FC Porto POR	42	17	5	20	1162:1183	-21	39:45	(4)	46,43%

I NUMBERS FROM THE PREVIOUS YEARS IN COLOGNE

ALL-TIME FACTS AND FIGURES FROM THE PREVIOUS 10 FDITIONS

A record 13 goals by Juanin Garcia in a single match, 65 strikes by Kiril Lazarov, seven participations of Barcelona, seven different winners between 2013 and 2019, three trophies for a Croat with nine fingers – this is what you need to know from the previous 10 editions of the EHF FINAL4 in Cologne before the start of the 2020/21 season.

clubs have won the EHF FINAL4 two years in a row.

O players or clubs have been part of all 10 EHF FINAL4 events between 2010 and 2019.

- 1 player has won the EHF FINAL4 two years in a row: Croatian right wing Ivan Cupic lifted the trophy with Vardar in 2017, one year after winning the title with Kielce in 2016.
- 1 coach has been part of EHF FINAL4 events with two different teams: Talant Dujshebaev, who led Ciudad Real/Atletico Madrid in 2010-2012 and Kielce in 2016.
- 1 club from groups C/D has ever won the title: Montpellier HB in 2017/18. From the 2020/21 season the CL only includes groups A/B.
- 1 time three clubs from the same country qualified for the EHF FINAL4: Montpellier HB, HBC Nantes and PSG from France in 2018.

	All-time ranking VELUX EHF	FINAL4:						
:	1 Barça Lassa ESP	14	8	0	6	430:409	+21	16:12
:	2 THW Kiel GER	12	5	0	7	344:351	-7	10:14
;	3 HC Vardar MKD	6	4	0	2	161:156	+5	8:4
- 4	4 PGE Vive Kielce POL	8	4	0	4	242:254	-12	8:8
!	5 Telekom Veszprém HC HUN	10	4	0	6	291:291	0	8:12
- 0	6 HSV Hamburg GER	4	3	0	1	125:121	+4	6:2
1	7 BM Atletico Madrid ESP	6	3	0	3	161:156	+5	6:6
	B Paris Saint-Germain Handball FRA	6	3	0	3	162:165	-3	6:6
11	9 Montpellier HB FRA	2	2	0	0	60:54	+6	4:0
:	10 SG Flensburg-Handewitt GER	2	2	0	0	71:67	+4	4:0
:	11. AG Kobenhavn DEN	2	1	0	1	49:46	+3	2:2
:	12 HBC Nantes FRA	2	1	0	1	59:60	-1	2:2
:	13 Rhein-Neckar Löwen GER	2	0	0	2	59:63	-4	0:4
:	14 Füchse Berlin GER	2	0	0	2	45:51	-6	0:4
:	15 Chekhovskie Medvedi RUS	2	0	0	2	55:70	-15	0:4

MOST MATCHES PLAYED

Momir Ilic (Kiel, Veszprém)	16
Aron Palmarsson (Kiel, Veszprém, Barcelona)	16
Joan Cañellas (Ciudad Real, Madrid, Kiel, Vardar)	14
Ivan Cupic (Rhein-Neckar, Kielce, Vardar)	14
Laszlo Nagy (Barcelona, Veszprém)	14
Chema Rodriguez (Ciudad Real, Madrid, Veszprém)	14
Arpad Sterbik (Ciudad R., Madrid, Barcelona, Vardar, Veszprém)	14
Victor Tomas Gonzalez (Barcelona)	14



Momir Ilic (Kiel, Veszprém)



Aron Palmarsson (Kiel, Veszprém)

- 1 non-European player has been awarded MVP of an EHF FINAL4 so far: Montpellier's Diego Simonet from Argentina in 2018.
- **1** goalkeeper has been awarded MVP so far: Vardar's Arpad Serbik in 2017.
- 1 EHF FINAL4 final was decided by a penalty shoot-out, when Kielce beat Veszprém 39:38 to the title in 2016.

2

players have won the EHF FINAL4 with two different clubs: Tobias Reichmann with Kiel and Kielce, and Ivan Cupic with Kielce and Vardar.

- 2 coaches have won the EHF FINAL4 twice: Alfred Gislason (THW Kiel in 2010, 2012) and Xavi Pascual (Barcelona in 2011, 2015).
- **2** EHF FINAL4 debutants reached the final in 2018: Montpellier and Nantes.
- 2 sons of CL winning fathers have won the trophy: Talant Dujshebaev's son Alex with Vardar in 2017, and Jackson Richardson's son Melvyn with Montpellier in 2018. Jackson Richardson had won the title with Portland San Antonio in 2001
- 3 times only have the title holders returned to the EHF FINAL4 the following year: 2011 champions Barcelona in 2012, 2012 champions Kiel in 2013, and 2017 champions Vardar in 2018.

- 3 times the EHF FINAL4 final was a duel between two clubs from the same nation: Barcelona vs Ciudad Real in 2011, Flensburg vs Kiel in 2014, and Montpellier vs Nantes in 2018.
- 4 Spanish coaches have won the EHF FINAL4 so far: Xavi Pascual with Barcelona, Talant Dujshebaev with Kielce, and Raul Gonzalez and Roberto Parrondo Garcia both with Vardar.
- 4 matches so far at EHF FINAL4 events have gone past the regular paying time of 60 minutes, and two of them even went to a penalty shoot-out: Hamburg beat Barcelona 30:29 after extra time in the 2013 final; Flensburg defeated Barcelona 40:39 after penalties in their 2014 semi-final; Veszprém beat Kiel 31:28 after extra-time in the 2016 semi-final, a day before losing the final against Kielce 39:38 after penalties.
- 4 times a club from Germany has won the title, but not since 2014.

5

years now (2015-2019) no German teams have been in the final; Kiel can end the wait at the postponed 2020 edition on 28/29 December.

4 straight years, from 2014 to 2017, Veszprém qualified for the EHF FINAL4; no other team has had more consecutive appearances at European club handball's pinnacle event, but Veszprém are still aiming for their first title in Cologne.

MOST GOALS IN ONE GAME



13 goals Juanin Garcia FC Barcelona, Borges

Player's name

Juan Garcia (FC BarcelonaBorges)
Petar Nenadic (Telekom Veszprém)
Filip Jicha (THW Kiel)
Filip Jicha (THW Kiel)
Kiril Lazarov (BM Atletico Madrid)
Domagoj Duvnjak (HSV Hamburg)
Siarhei Rutenka (FC Barcelona)

Goals Date

13 (30.05.2010 vs THW Kiel, 34:36) 12 (01.06.2019 vs PGE Vive Kielce, 33:30) 11 (30.05.2010 vs FC Barcelona Borges, 36:34) 11 (26.05.2012 vs Füchse Berlin, 25:24) 11 (26.05.2012 vs AG Kobenhavn, 25:23) 11 (01.06.2013 vs THW Kiel, 39:33)

11 (01.06.2014 vs MKB-MVM Veszprém, 26:25)

MOST PENALTY MINUTES

1 1 1 1 7 7 1 1 1 1 1 1		0.01
Laszlo Nagy (Barcelona, Veszprém)	14	20'
Nikola Karabatic (Barcelona, Paris)	10	18'
Mirsad Terzic (Veszprém)	10	18'
Igor Vori (Hamburg, Paris)	5	14' (D)
Luka Karabatic (Paris)	6	14'
Renato Sulic (Veszprém)	7	14' (D2
Istvan Timuzsin Schuch (Veszprém)	7	12'
Christian Zeitz (Kiel, Veszprém)	10	12'
Mateusz Kus (Kielce)	2	10'(D)
Didier Dinart (Ciudad Real, Madrid)	6	10'
Magnus Jernemyr (Barcelona)	6	10'
Michal Jurecki (Kielce)	6	10'
Domagoj Duvnjak (Hamburg, Kiel)	8	10'(D)
Rene Toft Hansen (Kobenhavn, Kiel)	8	10'
Patrick Wiencek (Kiel)	8	10'
Filip Jicha (Kiel, Barcelona)	12	10'

- 5 goals is the biggest winning margin in an EHF FINAL4 final, and this feat has been achieved three times so far: Kiel beat Madrid 26:21 in the 2012 final, Barcelona defeated Veszprém 28:23 in 2015, and Montpellier downed Nantes 32:27 in 2018.
- 5 different nations are represented by the 10 champions since the introduction of the EHF FINAL4 in 2010: France (1 Montpellier 2018), Germany (4 Kiel 2010, 2012; Hamburg 2013; Flensburg 2014), North Macedonia (2 Vardar 2017, 2019), Poland (1 Kielce 2016), and Spain (2 Barcelona 2011, 2015).
- 5 different German clubs have qualified for EHF FINAL4 events: Kiel, Hamburg, Rhein-Neckar Löwen, Flensburg and Berlin, and three of them won the title: Kiel, Hamburg and Flensburg.

7

times Barcelona have played at EHF FINAL4 events between 2010 and 2019, a record. Kiel (six times), Veszprém (five), Kielce (four), Vardar, Ciudad Real/ Atletico Madrid, Kielce and PSG (three all) are next in line.

7 different clubs have won the last eight editions (2012-19): Kiel, Hamburg, Flensburg, Barcelona, Kielce, Vardar (twice) and Montpellier.

- 7 different clubs won the trophy in Cologne, and three of them did it twice: Kiel (2010, 2012), Barcelona (2011, 2015) and Vardar (2017, 2019). Hamburg (2013), Flensburg (2014), Kielce (2016) and Montpellier (2018) are all one-time winners of the EHF FINAL4.
- 8 times Aron Palmarsson and Momir Ilic have been part of the EHF FINAL4, more than any other player: Palmarsson played at the LANXESS arena in Cologne with Kiel (including the golden years 2010 and 2012), Veszprém and Barcelona; Ilic with Kiel and Veszprém.

10

straight years the four best clubs of the EHF Champions League Men season have met in the LANXESS arena in Cologne, and the tradition continues in 2020/21.

- 11 times, a player has scored 10 or more goals in a single EHF FINAL4 match. One player has achieved the feat twice at the same event: PSG's Mikkel Hansen in 2016. Kiel's Filip Jicha also reached double digits on two ocassions: in the final of 2010 and in the semi-final of 2012.
- 13 goals in a single EHF FINAL4 match is still the record, set by Barcelona's Juanin Garcia at the inaugural tournament in 2010. Veszprém's Petar Nenadic came close to the record in 2019, scoring 12 times in the semi-final against Kielce. Four different players have scored 11 times in one match; Kiel's Filip Jicha achieved that feat two times.
- 15 years after their first triumph under a different playing system in 2002/03, coach Patrice Canayer and left wing Michael Guigou lifted the trophy again with Montpellier HB in 2017/18.
- 15 different clubs have been part of the 10 EHF FINAL 4 events.

40

matches have been played at the 10 EHF FINAL4 editions so far

MOST GOALS SCORED BY ONE TEAM

Date	Match	Final score
01.06.2013	Semi-final: FC Barcelona-SG vs Flensburg-Handewitt Semi-final: THW Kiel vs HSV Hamburg Final: KS Vive Tauron Kielce vs MVM Veszprém	39:41 a7m 33:39 39:38 a7m



41 goals

- 21 goals at a single EHF FINAL4 tournament is the record, set by Juanin Garcia in 2010, who netted eight times for Barcelona in the semi-final and 13 times in the final. Mikkel Hansen scored 20 goals for PSG at the 2016 edition.
- 65 goals scored in total by Kiril Lazarov (for Atletico Madrid, Barcelona and Nantes) is the highest number for any player. Next on the all-time EHF FINAL4 top scorers list are Momir Ilic (58) and Filip Jicha (56).
- 80 is the highest amount of goals in a single EHF

FINAL4 match so far: Flensburg beat Barcelona 41:39 after extra time and penalties in the semifinal of 2014.

- 231.3 goals have been scored on average at the 10 EHF FINAL4 tournaments so far, which means an average of over 57.8 goals per match.
- 251 goals were scored at the first edition of the EHF FINAL4 in 2010, which is still the record. The 2016 and 2019 editions each had 245 goals. The fewest goals (191) were scored in 2012.

770,000

spectators have attended the 40 matches of the 10 EHF FINAL4 events so far, with the sold-out LANXESS arena in Cologne hosting nearly 20,000 fans per match.

2,313

goals in total have been scored in the 40 EHE FINAL4 matches so far.

ALL-TIME TOPSCORERS

Player's name	MP	G
Kiril Lazarov (Ciudad Real, Atlético, FC Barcelona, Nantes)	12	65
Momir Ilic (Kiel, Veszprém)	16	58
Filip Jicha (Kiel, Barcelona)	12	56
Laszlo Nagy (Barcelona, Veszprém)	14	55
Aron Palmarsson (Kiel, Veszprém)	16	52
Ivan Cupic (Rhein-Neckar, Kielce, Vardar)	14	49
Mikkel Hansen (Barcelona, Kobenhavn, Paris)	10	48
Siarhei Rutenka (Barcelona)	10	47
Victor Tomas Gonzalez (Barcelona)	14	47
Juan Antonio Garcia Lorenzana (Barcelona)	18	44
Nikola Karabatic (Barcelona, Paris)	10	38
Jesper Brian Nöddesbo (Barcelona)	11	38



I ALL—TIME EHF FINAL4 RECORDS

Most goals in one match both teams:

80 31.05.2014 FC Barcelona-SG Flensburg-Handewitt 39:41a7m

Barça Lassa and PGE Vive Kielce scored 75 goals on 2 June 2019 in the regular playing time of the Place 3/4 game Barça Lassa-PGE Vive Kielce 40:35 (20:16)

Least goals in one match:

21	Füchse Berlin	27.05.2012	vs AG Kobenhavn	L21:26
21	BM Atletico Madrid	27.05.2012	vs THW Kiel	L26:21

Least goals in one match both teams:

47	27.05.2012	Füchse Berlin-AG Kobenhavn	21:26
47	27.05.2012	THW Kiel-BM Atletico Madrid	26:21
47	04.06.2017	Paris Saint-Germain Handball-HC Vard	dar 23:24

Biggest win:

+8 30.05.2010 Chekhovskie Medvedi-BM Ciudad Real 28:36

Most goals at half-time:

20	FC Barcelona Borges	30.05.2010	vs THW Kiel	(20:17)
20	Barca Lassa	02.06.2019	vs PGE Vive Kielce	(20:16)

Most goals at half-time both teams:

27	30.05.2010	FC Barcelona Borges-THW Kiel	(20:17)	
3/	30.03.2010	rc barceiona borges-i nivi kiei	(20.1/)	

Least goals at half-time:

9	Füchse Berlin	27.05.2012	vs AG Kobenhavn	(9:13)
9	HSV Hamburg	02.06.2013	vs FC Barcelona Intersport	(11:9)
9	FC Barcelona	01.06.2014	vs MKB-MVM Veszprém	(9:10)
9	HC Vardar	01.06.2019	Barca Lassa-HC Vardar	(16:9)

Least goals at half-time both teams:

10	01 06 2014	FC Barcelona-MKB-MVM Veszprém	(9.10)

Biggest gap at half-time:

+7	KS Vive Targi Kielce	02.06.2013	vs THW Kiel	(19:12)
+7	Barça Lassa	01.06.2019	vs HC Vardar	(16:9)

Biggest change from half-time score to full-time score:

7	01.06.2019	Barça Lassa-HC Vardar	27:29 (16:9)
6*	28.05.2016	THŴ Kiel-MVM Veszprém	28:31 (15:12, 25:25)
5	29.05.2010	BM Ciudad Real-THŴ Kiel	27:29 (15:12)
5	30.05.2010	FC Barcelona Borges-THW Kiel	34:36 (20:17)
5	26.05.2012	BM Atletico Madrid-AG Kobenhavn	25:23 (12:15)
5**	29.05.2016	KS Vive Tauron Kielce-MVM Veszprém	39:38 (13:17, 29:29, 35:35)

Most 18' 18'	penalty minute KS Vive Tauro Barça Lassa	e s: n Kielce	28.05 02.06	5.2016 5.2019		vs Paris Saint-Germain Handb vs PGE Vive Kielce	oall 28:26 40:35
Most 34'	penalty minute 02.06.2019				e Kie	elce	40:35
Least 0	penalty minut FC Barcelona	es: 01.06.:	2014	FC Barc	elon	a-MKB-MVM Veszprém	26:25
Least 6'	penalty minute 01.06.2014				1VM	Veszprém	26:25
Most 1	7m throws: PGE Vive Kield	ce	02.06	5.2019	Bar	ça Lassa-PGE Vive Kielce	40:35
Most 5	7m throws botl 02.06.2019			PGE Viv	e Kie	elce	40:35
Least 0 0	7m throws: THW Kiel THW Kiel					Real-THW Kiel g-Handewitt-THW Kiel	27:29 30:28
Least 1	7m throws bot 01.06.2014			-Hande	witt-	THW Kiel	30:28
	7m throws sco PGE Vive Kield		02.06	5.2019	vs E	Barça Lassa	40:35
Most !	7m throws sco	red both		s: 5.2019	Bar	ça Lassa-PGE Vive Kielce	40:35
Least 0 0 0	7m throws sco THW Kiel THW Kiel THW Kiel	29.05.2 31.05.2	2010 2014 2014	BM Ciud MKB-M\ SG Flens	lad F VM V sbur	Real-THW Kiel /eszprém-THW Kiel g-Handewitt-THW Kiel	27:29 26:29 30:28
Least 1	7m throws sco 01.06.2014				witt-	THW Kiel	30:28
Disqualifications: Garcia Roberto Parrondo (BM Atletico Madrid) 27.05.2012 vs THW Kiel 26:21 Denis Buntic (KS Vive Targi Kielce) 02.06.2013 vs THW Kiel 31:30 Renato Sulic (MKB-MVM Veszprém) 31.05.2014 vs THW Kiel 26:29 Renato Sulic (MKB-MVM Veszprém) 30.05.2015 vs THW Kiel 27:31 Piotr Chrapkowski (KS Vive Tauron Kielce) 31.05.2015 vs THW Kiel 28:26 Domagoj Duvnjak (THW Kiel) 31.05.2015 vs KS Vive Tauron Kielce 28:26 Mateusz Kus (KS Vive Tauron Kielce) 28.05.2016 vs Paris Saint-Germain Handball 28:26 Igor Vori (Paris Saint-Germain Handball) 28.05.2016 vs KS Vive Tauron Kielce 28:26 Jorge Maqueda (HC Vardar) 27.05.2018 vs Paris Saint-Germain Handball 29:28 Blaz Blagotinsek (Telekom Veszprém HC) 71.06.2019 vs PGE Vive Kielce 33:30 Thiagus Petrus (Barça Lassa) 02.06.2019 vs PGE Vive Kielce 40:35							

I MULTIPLE IVINNERS OF THE EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

Viran Morros aims for his fourth trophy

After Arpad Sterbik (last club Telekom Veszprem) ended his fabulous career with four EHF Champions League titles, he will support his club as goalkeeper coach at Cologne. This means that none of the current EHF Champions League players have more than three titles on his account.

Nikola Karabatic, Viran Morros (both Paris Saint-Germain), Jonas Källman (Pick Szeged) and Ivan Cupic (HC Vardar) are the only treble winners in the 16 squads of the whole season - and as Karabatic is ruled out by a knee injury, PSG defence boss Viran Morros will be the only one, who will have a chance to fight for his fourth EHF Champions League trophy at Cologne on 29 December.

In total, seven players of the 2019/20 VELUX EHF FINAL4 are multiple winners with at least two trophies (marked in bold), while five more multiple winners are part of the coaching staff of the four participants (marked in gold).

Andrej Xepkin is still the most successful player in history with seven trophies (6 with Barcelona, 1 with Kiel), followed by three former Barcelona teammates, who won the title six times with Barcelona and two more with six trophies in more than one club.

All multiple EHF Champions League winners:

7 titles in 2 clubs:

Andrei Xepkin (Barcelona 1995/96, Barcelona 1996/97, Barcelona 1997/98, Barcelona 1998/99, Barcelona 1999/2000, Barcelona 2004/05, Kiel 2006/07)

6 titles in 1 club:

David Barrufet (Barcelona 1995/96, Barcelona 1996/97, Barcelona 1997/98, Barcelona 1998/99, Barcelona 1999/2000, Barcelona 2004/05)

Carlos Antonio Ortega (Barcelona 1995/96, Barcelona 1996/97, Barcelona 1997/98, Barcelona 1998/99, Barcelona 1999/2000, Barcelona 2004/05)

Xavier o'Callaghan (Barcelona 1995/96, Barcelona 1996/97, Barcelona 1997/98, Barcelona 1998/99, Barcelona 1999/2000, Barcelona 2004/05)



6 titles in 2 clubs:

Tomas Svensson (Irun 1994/95, Barcelona 1995/96, Barcelona 1996/97, Barcelona 1997/98, Barcelona 1998/99, Barcelona 1999/2000)

6 titles in 3 clubs:

Siarhei Rutenka (Celje 2003/04, Ciudad Real 2007/08, Ciudad Real 2005/06, Ciudad Real 2008/09, Barcelona 2010/11), Barcelona 2014/15)

5 titles in 1 club:

Enric Masip (Barcelona 1995/96, Barcelona 1996/97, Barcelona 1997/98, Barcelona 1998/99, Barcelona 1999/2000)

Inaki Urdangarin (Barcelona 1995/96, Barcelona 1996/97, Barcelona 1997/98, Barcelona 1998/99, Barcelona 1999/2000)

Rafael Guijosa (Barcelona 1995/96, Barcelona 1996/97, Barcelona 1997/98, Barcelona 1998/99, Barcelona 1999/2000)

5 titles in 2 clubs:

Mateo Garralda (Barcelona 1995/96, Barcelona 1996/97, Barcelona 1997/98, Barcelona 1998/99, San Antonio 2000/01)

5 titles in 3 clubs:

Jose Javier Hombrados (Santander 1993/94, San Antonio 2000/01, Ciudad Real 2005/06, Ciudad Real 2007/08. Ciudad Real 2008/09)

4 titles with three clubs:

Uros Zorman (Celie 2003/04, Ciudad Real 2007/09, Ciudad Real 2008/09, Kielce 2015/16)

4 titles in 2 clubs:

Arpad Sterbik (Ciudad Real 2005/06, 2007/08, 2008/09, Vardar 2016/17)

Didier Dinart (Montpellier 2002/03, Ciudad Real 2005/06, Ciudad Real 2007/08, Ciudad Real 2008/09) Fernando Barbeito (Barcelona 1995/96, Barcelona 1996/97, Barcelona 1997/98, San Antonio 2000/01)

Olafur Stefansson (Magdeburg 2001/02, Ciudad Real 2005/06, Ciudad Real 2007/08, Ciudad Real 2008/09)

Thierry Omeyer (Montpellier 2002/03, Kiel 2006/07, Kiel 2009/10, Kiel 2011/12)

3 titles in 1 club:

Victor Tomas (Barcelona 2004/05, Barcelona 2010/11, Barcelona 2014/15)

Alberto Entrerrios (Ciudad Real 2005/06, Ciudad Real 2007/08, Ciudad Real 2008/09)

David Davis (Ciudad Real 2005/06, Ciudad Real 2007/08, Ciudad Real 2008/09)

Jonas Källman (Ciudad Real 2005/06, Ciudad Real 2007/08, Ciudad Real 2008/09)

Petar Metlicic (Ciudad Real 2005/06, Ciudad Real 2007/08, Ciudad Real 2008/09)

Rolando Urios (Ciudad Real 2005/06, Ciudad Real 2007/08, Ciudad Real 2008/09)

Christian Zeitz (Kiel 2006/07, Kiel 2009/10, Kiel 2011/12)

Dominik Klein (Kiel 2006/07, Kiel 2009/10, Kiel 2011/12)

Henrik Lundström (Kiel 2006/07, Kiel 2009/10, Kiel 2011/12)

Kim Andersson (Kiel 2006/07, Kiel 2009/10, Kiel 2011/12)

Marcus Ahlm (Kiel 2006/07, Kiel 2009/10, Kiel 2011/12)

Jose Manuel Sierra (Barcelona 1997/98, Barcelona 1998/99, Barcelona 1999/2000)

Josep Espar (Barcelona 1997/98, Barcelona 1998/99, Barcelona 1999/2000)

Patrik Cavar (Barcelona 1997/98, Barcelona 1998/99, Barcelona 1999/2000)

Roger Magrina (Barcelona 1997/98, Barcelona 1998/99, Barcelona 1999/2000)

3 titles in 2 clubs:

Viran Morros (Ciudad Real 2007/08, Ciudad Real 2008/09, Barcelona 2014/15)

Tobias Reichmann (Kiel 2009/10, Kiel 2011/12, Kielce 2015/16)

Ivan Cupic (Kielce 2015/16, Vardar 2016/17, Vardar 2018/19)

3 titles in 3 clubs:

Nikola Karabatic (Montpellier 2002/03, Kiel 2006/07, Barcelona 2014/15) - currently injured

2 titles in 1 club:

Michael Gougou (Montpellier 2002/03, Montpellier 2017/18)

Ales Pajovic (Ciudad Real 2005/06, Ciudad Real 2007/08)

Roberto Garcia Parrondo (Ciudad Real 2007/08, Ciudad Real 2008/09)

Alexandru Dedu (Barcelona 1997/98, Barcelona 1998/99)

David Barbeito (Barcelona 1996/97, Barcelona 1995/96)

Demetrio Lozano (Barcelona 1998/99, Barcelona 1999/2000)

Iker Romero (Barcelona 2004/05, Barcelona 2010/11)

Jesus Olalla (Barcelona 1996/97, Barcelona 1995/96)

Juan Perez (Barcelona 1996/97, Barcelona 1995/96)

Laszlo Nagy (Barcelona 2004/05, Barcelona 2010/11)

Quino Soler (Barcelona 1997/98, Barcelona 1998/99)

Andreas Palicka (Kiel 2009/10, Kiel 2011/12) Aron Palmarsson (Kiel 2009/10, Kiel 2011/12)

Christian Sprenger (Kiel 2009/10, Kiel 2011/12)

Daniel Narcisse (Kiel 2009/10, Kiel 2011/12)

Filip Jicha (Kiel 2009/10, Kiel 2011/12)

Momir Ilic (Kiel 2009/10, Kiel 2011/12)

Aitor Arino (Barcelona 2010/11, Barcelona 2014/15)

Raul Entrerrios (Barcelona 2010/11, Barcelona 2014/15)

Jesper Nöddesbo (Barcelona 2010/11, Barcelona 2014/15)

Gonzalo Perez de Vargas (Barcelona 2010/11, Barcelona 2014/15)

Danijel Saric (Barcelona 2010/11, Barcelona 2014/15)

Joan Saubich (Barcelona 2010/11, Barcelona 2014/15)

Cedric Sorhaindo (Barcelona 2010/11, Barcelona 2014/15)

Timur Dibirov (Vardar 2016/17, Vardar 2018/19)

Rogerio Moares (Vardar 2016/17, Vardar 2018/19)

Igor Karacic (Vardar 2016/17, Vardar 2018/19)

Vlado Nedanovski (Vardar 2016/17, Vardar 2018/19)

Daniil Shishkarev (Vardar 2016/17, Vardar 2018/19)

Stojance Stoilov (Vardar 2016/17, Vardar 2018/19)

2 titles in 2 clubs:

Krzystof Lijewski (HSV Hamburg 2013, Kielce 2016)

Vid Kavticnik (THW Kiel 2006/07, Montpellier 2017/18)

Dejan Peric (Celje 2003/04, Barcelona 2004/05)

Jerome Fernandez (Barcelona 2004/05, Ciudad Real 2008/09)

Lars Krogh Jeppesen (Barcelona 2004/05, Kiel 2006/07)

Mikhail Jakimovich (Santander 1993/94, San Antonio 2000/01)

Nenad Perunicic (Irun 1994/95, Magdeburg 2001/02) Oleg Kisselev (Irun 1994/95, San Antonio 2000/01)

Juan Munoz (Santander 1993/94, Barcelona 1996/97)

Mattias Andersson (Kiel 2006/07, Flensburg 2013/14)

I METAL ARM WAVES GOODBYE AFTER 10 YEARS

It saw daylight on 28 May 2010, place of revelation was the German Sports and Olympic Museum in Cologne, on the shores of the river Rhine, from where you can see the LANXESS arena.

The new trophy of the EHF Champions League Men had been crafted earlier, but on this day in May 2010, it got its final touch from two Austrian metal artists, Herbert and Stefan Gahr, during the Opening Ceremony on the eve of the first ever VELUX EHF FINAL4 in Cologne.

Simply different from all trophies in other major sports

When the curtain was raised and the trophy revealed, reactions were varying. This trophy was simply different from all trophies in other major sports: A unique metallic arm, a mesh of stainless steel and brass, forged in fire by the Austrian sculptors, who bond the ball to the arm for the first time that night.

The idea behind the trophy: to reinvent the ultimate prize and think beyond the ordinary cup. Artist Stefan Gahr on how the process shaped up in his mind: "I looked through hundreds of snapshots of top handball games and the mighty throwing arm had caught my eye. Symbolising the throwing arm of a player, the moment between victory and defeat, is encapsulated in this sculpture."

Then EHF President Tor Lian, Mayor of Cologne Jürgen Roters, and the team captains of the four participants in the inaugural EHF FINAL4 were truly impressed. From that moment this trophy was in the hearts of all players and fans. The tens of thousands of fans flocking to Cologne each year, were offered the opportunity to take pictures with the most coveted arm in European handball. It became a real tradition that each year the trophy, newly created, was presented to the fans during the opening party on the night before the semi-final. While the previous cup was damaged during Kiel's winners party in 2007, this massive trophy turned out to be unbreakable, no matter the intensity of the celebrations.

On 29 December 2020, 10 years and six months after it was raised for the first time, the metal arm waves goodbye. A new trophy – this time an identical design for the men's and women's editions of the EHF Champions League – will be handed over in May and June 2021.





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