



MEDIA GUIDE

EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE MEN 2020/21
GROUP PHASE

Partners



Suppliers



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Nord Stream 2 is a European project that contributes to a secure energy supply for all European countries. Our excellence is the result of efficient cooperation among a large team of experts from more than 20 countries. Respect for the environment and team spirit are at the core of our values, therefore we are a proud partner of this sport and sponsorship.

**Official Partner of the
EHF Champions League Men**



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I INTRODUCTION TO THE NEW SEASON

In almost three decades of EHF Champions League history there has hardly ever been as much excitement as for the upcoming 28th edition, and not only because all handball fans eagerly await new match action after the previous season was paused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Europe's premium competitions open their new chapter after the EHF has teamed up with Infront and DAZN for the next decade and the EHF Champions League will get a fresh look across several layers.

New brand, new playing system and new trophy

Already before the group phase draw the new attractive brand identity has been rolled out, the competition will be played in a new playing system and also the playing times have been fixed with Wednesdays and Thursdays reserved for the EHF Champions League Men and weekends for the DELO EHF Champions League. On every match day an appointment to view has been confirmed with all matches starting either at 18:45 or 20:45 (CET/CEST).

Both competitions open as usual with a group phase, though this time only two groups of eight teams are starting the long and exciting road to the EHF FINAL4.

The group phase will be followed by the play-offs and the quarter-finals, to find the four teams that will battle for the prestigious title in the LANXESS arena in Cologne.

16 elite teams on the starting grid

The number of participating teams has been reduced to 16 but not the representation of the continent's different regions and 13 countries can boast at least one club in the European top-flight. Most of the teams have a rich history in the European top-flight and besides the record holders with the biggest number of participations, like HC PPD Zagreb (27) and Telekom Veszprém HC (26), also the most decorated teams can be found with Barça (8 titles) or THW Kiel (3 titles). In total, there will be six former EHF Champions League winners on the starting grid when the race for the newly designed trophy commences on 16 September.

I WE PLAY HANDBALL: A NEW BRAND IDENTITY

We play handball. It is what we do, and it is the sport we have had in hearts ever since the European Handball Federation was born back in 1991. In the 29 years that have followed we have kept pace with an ever-evolving society that shapes the way we work and see ourselves. One thing we have not changed, however, is our commitment to staying true to the origins of handball. This spirit of an active, social community is a core part of the handball DNA even today. Since the European Handball Federation was founded, we have served each national federation, each club, thousands of players and millions of fans with respect, honesty and transparency.

A fresh approach to logo design

At the heart of the new approach is an updated and fresh representation of how the origins and successes of European handball are communicated, expressed and promoted. Therefore, subtle alterations have been made in the visual presentation of the EHF and its associated competitions with a newly developed design, created to offer consistent communication of the new handball umbrella brand across all European competitions. The shape of a handball itself is referenced throughout the entire EHF brand system. On a national team level, the circular shape of the ball is used to empower all national team competition logos.



By emphasising an individual tile on the ball – represented by the pentagon and the lines which form the stitching – the form becomes a strong abstract symbol for the club competitions, including the pentagon which is visible in the distorted version of the logo. The new EHF Champions League logo is the best example with a rejuvenated golden star forming the basis of the refreshed emblem of European handball's elite competitions.

New claims, same aims

We do play handball. We always have and always will – but the European Handball Federation does more than that. The new era is an opportunity for the EHF, EHF Marketing, players, fans and officials to not only celebrate what has been achieved so far, but to strengthen core values and beliefs from which the EHF has been built on and make handball an even greater success story. While the new brand identity heralds the start of a new era, our goals remain the same as they have always been: to encourage the public to pick up a ball and join their local club; to promote the highest profile matches on television and across our digital ecosystem; and to motivate fans to experience the spine-tingling atmosphere of a live match inside Europe's biggest handball arenas.

We are all part of the game, so if you are ready, we will let the new era begin...

I BRAND SOUND

As part of a holistic brand experience strategy, sound is an essential brand asset. Together with the sound agency WESOUND, EHF and EHF Marketing developed an acoustic identity for their brands, reflecting and representing the core of handball.

A modern brand sound approach is part of the vision of positioning handball as the most attractive indoor sport and it supports the goal of attracting a younger audience. Through the coherent and consistent use of unique and recognisable sound elements together with the consistent graphical picture conveyed, an improved connection of the competitions and their followers will be achieved. Much like the visual brand identity, the brand sound identity will acoustically connect the various leagues and tournaments which fit under the EHF umbrella.

For the EHF Brand Sound, the authors got to the core of "The Sound of Handball" and created a handball sound DNA as the recurring element across all audio-visual applications. The jump shot was identified as the most iconic and defining handball movement. Through video analysis and motion tracking, the jump shot was extracted into a rhythmic design pattern.

There are numerous application opportunities of the brand sound, which will be developed over time. First implementations of the new EHF Brand Sound will be heard in the EHF Champions League. The premium character of this tournament was translated into a modern sound design through a new EHF Champions League sound logo and anthem. Both will come to life in the arena and will consistently complement all audio-visual communications.



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I NEW DESIGN FOR THE WINNERS' TROPHY

The new ultimate prize for Europe's elite handball clubs has been revealed on the fringes of the start of 2020/21 season. One design has emerged from 27 submissions across 12 European nations to become the new EHF Champions League trophy.

With a new era of European handball on the horizon, EHF Marketing launched a public tender with the goal of finding the best possible new trophy design for the EHF Champions League. During this process, a total of 27 designs were received from companies and artists in 12 countries, making it a truly European competition. The new trophies have been created in accordance with the new brand guidelines. The winning agency was Sustain Awards by Oiko Design Office, a Spanish agency based in Barcelona, specialising in the design and production of environmentally responsible trophies.

The core idea of the trophy was to represent a goal as the main objective of the sport, to reflect the dynamic movement of a ball hitting the target and to transmit handball as a team sport by forming the net in the shape of a shield. The net itself symbolises the needed connection within a team - all for one and one for all.

For the first time, the design is the same for both men's and women's competitions and every element from the font to the logo fits the new competition identity. The materials of which the trophies consist of are aluminium cast (30% recycled aluminium) for the body and base, and recycled balls used for the sculptural ball which hits the net. A golden bath covers the trophies, making sure they are in line with the new brand image, giving them the premium touch that all trophies need. The sustainability of the materials has been a key element in the choice of the winning design. The trophies are each 80 cm high, 57 cm wide and weigh 10 kg.



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I HOME OF HANDBALL

1 July saw the launch of the newly designed Home of Handball website. The European Handball Federation and EHF Marketing in cooperation with Kraftwerk, the number one digital agency in Austria, are excited to introduce a new home and single hub for all fans, friends and the entire family of handball.

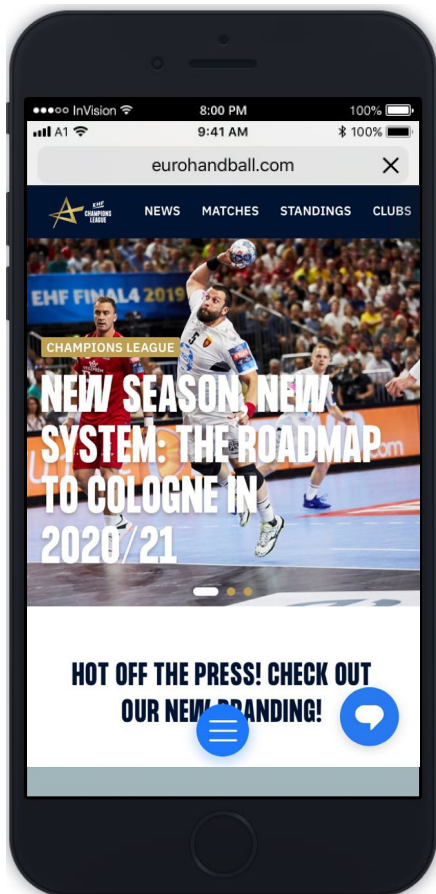
The old website was calling for an overhaul and needed rejuvenation, both visually and functionally. In a first step, the decision has been taken to merge the many different web assets onto one and from 1 July, the websites of the EHF Champions League, EHFTV, EHF FINAL4 and EHF Marketing as well as EHF national team competitions are all to be found under one single EHF roof with: eurohandball.com.

One of the main goals was to best represent the EHF's personality, culture and spirit, thus the new corporate identity. A newly-developed brand strategy will be reflected on every page, providing a modern, professional and comprehensive look and feel. Every competition is presented in its very own premium colour pallet, easily distinguishable and featuring elegant new logos.

Another one of the key objectives was a 'mobile first' strategy to accommodate mobile users. A team of designers and developers kept this focus throughout the process, ensuring the site will function on all devices.

A key element in functionality is the so-called "Home of Handball-button" on the new website. It is located at the bottom centre of the page ensuring quick navigation to key features such as 'Competitions', 'TV', 'Teams', 'Tickets', 'Home' and 'More'.

Furthermore, to ensure a real-time information stream of ongoing or upcoming handball matches EHF, EHF and Kraftwerk have developed a Live Ticker located at the very top of the page which allows the handball community to stay on the ball at all times. The Live Ticker provides live match results and follows the user on their entire journey through the new Home of Handball.



I NEW SOCIAL MEDIA SET-UP

To reflect the new digital set-up with the Home of Handball website, the EHF's social media channel structure has been adapted accordingly.

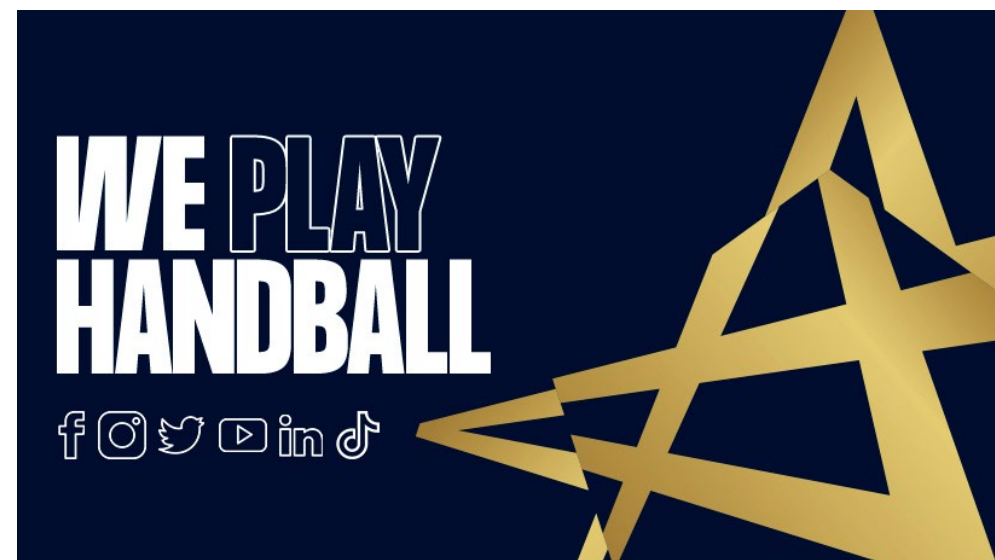
Overall, there are three pillars to the EHF's social media presence:

- **Top competitions keep their own channels**
- **'Home of Handball' approach on website is mirrored**
- **'Activities' as the EHF's educational and corporate hub**

The EHF Champions League as the premium club competition will continue to be represented on its own social media channels on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

In addition, there are the newly created Home of Handball channels, which showcase the best content from all EHF competitions, including the EHF Champions League. Handball fans worldwide can keep up to date with everything happening in European handball, from club and national team competitions to beach handball, all on one channel.

This also includes the video-sharing social network Tiktok, which is mostly used by a younger audience. For the first time, the EHF Champions League will be featured on TikTok through the Home of Handball channel.



I RELAUNCH OF EHFTV

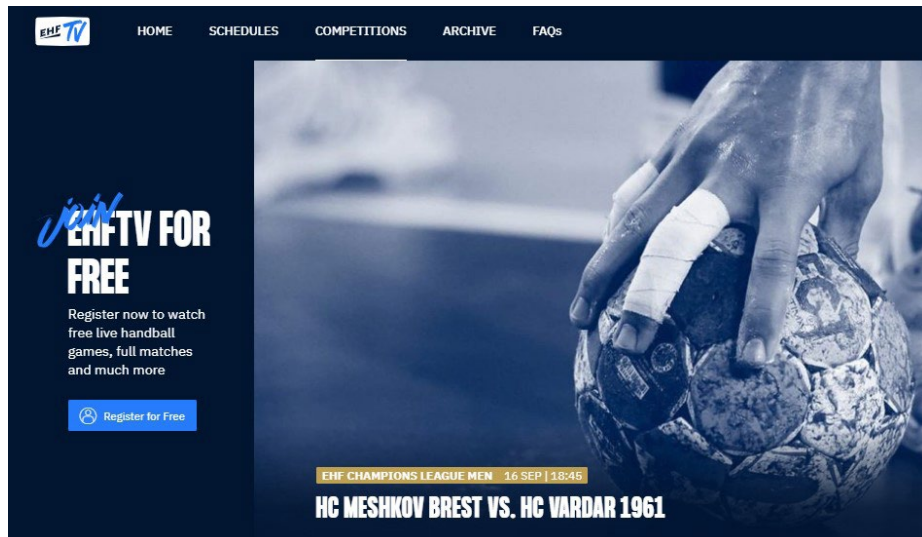
Complementing the launch of the new Home of Handball, EHFTV, the OTT portal of the EHF and EHF Marketing, has been relaunched. The new Brand identity applied to Home of Handball has been followed to create a new look for EHFTV, an OTT service powered by DAZN Group.

EHFTV has established itself over the past decade as a meeting point for all handball fans. The option to watch EHF games for free, live and on-demand, as well as the opportunity to enjoy additional content created for the EHF competitions on a regular basis, has made EHFTV a unique and highly-appreciated OTT service in the sport market. The general approach of EHFTV remains, offering the best handball content for free. This approach is complemented with the option to register to the portal for free. This registration gives the handball fans the option to watch games live and on-demand, but also allows fans to improve and personalise their fan experience during the season – and all of that for free.

On EHFTV, matches from every EHF competition are available, complemented with highlights, the best goals and saves and plenty of additional content created exclusively for the portal. As the new EHFTV has been designed to be fully adaptable to all devices, regardless of whether fans are at home or on the go, the best handball action is accessible any time and from anywhere. Once the fans enter in the re-launched EHFTV, they find an adapted filter menu, an improved navigation through the portal and the option to personalise the favourite competition and/or club directly on their registration account. These new features permit all users to find, select and enjoy the best handball in an easy manner.

Furthermore, the new and state-of-the-art video player, which also includes a multi-screen feature, guarantees the best quality and the perfect conditions to follow the EHF Champions League, whenever it is played.”

Join EHFTV and get ready for a new handball era.



I SHOWTIME FOR CHAMPIONS!

For the new era of European handball and together with digital partner DAZN, a campaign for both EHF Champions League competitions under the claim SHOWTIME FOR CHAMPIONS! was created.

The basis of the campaign are the values of handball and the characteristics of the EHF Champions League. Handball is thrilling and fast-paced, but also authentic and fair. The premium competition EHF Champions League showcases exactly this as the most dynamic and most attractive indoor team sport championship in Europe.

The strategic approach to reach a younger audience was important as well. Gen Z trend towards constant entertainment like Netflix series. Handball has this entertainment to offer – could the EHF Champions League therefore be the best TV show out there?

SHOWTIME FOR CHAMPIONS! was born. The EHF Champions League is presented in the spirit of a streaming series by showing that handball has as much to offer as the entire film and television landscape: action, drama, emotions!

We show that handball is meant for the big screen. The EHF Champions League is what everyone wants and needs to see.



The IQONIQ logo, a stylized white 'i' inside a circle, is at the top. Below it, the text "IQONIQ" is written in a large, white, sans-serif font, followed by "BECOME ONE" in a smaller font. The background features a handball player in a red jersey in mid-air. In the foreground, three mobile phones are shown displaying the IQONIQ app interface. The left phone shows a team roster, the middle phone shows a player profile, and the right phone shows a handball match in progress. The entire graphic is set against a dark purple background with a white diagonal line.

The exclusive and official Fan Engagement Platform
of the **EHF Champions League Men** and
EHF European League Men

www.iqoniq.com

MOTW SHOWCASES THE BEST OF THE BEST

The thrill of live top club handball is back and with it also the MOTW series. So what better time to re-introduce the three faces of the EHF Champions League for the 2020/21 season who will help bring the action even closer to fans watching around the world.

Following a very positive feedback from fans, media and clubs involved the Match of the Week (MOTW) project will continue in the EHF Champions League also in the new 2020/21 season.




FACES OF #ehfcl BACK IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Throughout the campaign in the EHF Champions League Men and the DELO EHF Champions League, our Faces of #ehfcl will give fans a unique blend of behind-the-scenes content and interviews with the people that matter the most: the players, staff and fans.

One of the three Faces of #ehfcl, the legendary former line player Anja Althaus (in the middle of the picture) joins forces with two experienced hosts Hannah Jackson and Markus Floth.

While Anja will continue to be the main Face in the women's European top flight also in the upcoming season, Hannah and Markus go on to lead the line during this season's EHF Champions League Men, working closely with on-site EHF mobile reporters to give fans the most comprehensive coverage of top-flight handball, with interviews and behind-the-scenes insights. Due to the current Covid-19 restrictions there will not be any on-site coverage at the start of the season, but fans will get special insights nevertheless.

So, make sure you pay our social media channels a visit to ensure you get the most of the content – and to get to know your Faces of #ehfcl

 @ehfcl
 ehf.champions.league
 @ehfcl



TV STATIONS TO BROADCAST MATCHES ALL OVER THE WORLD

The matches of the upcoming season will be shown live oall over the world with 25 TV stations and EHFTV broadcasting the matches either live or delayed.

Fans in 31 European countries will be able to watch the premium European club competition.

TV PARTNERS BROADCASTING THE EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE MEN 2020/21*

ALB – Arenasport
AUT – DAZN
BIH – Arenasport
BLR – BTRC
CRO – HRT, Arenasport
CZE – SportTV
DEN – TV3 Sports
ESP – DAZN, TV3 Catalunya
FIN – NENT Group
FRA – Eurosport
GER – DAZN
GEO – Silknet
GRE – OTE
HUN – Sport TV
ISR – Sport1
ITA – Eleven Sports
KOS – Arenasport
LTU – LRT
MKD – Arenasport

MNE – Arenasport
NED – Ziggo
NOR – NENT Group
POL – Eurosport
POR – Porto Canal, Sport TV
ROU – Digi Sport, Telekom Sports, Look Sports
RUS – Match TV
SLO – Arenasport
SRB – Arenasport
SUI – DAZN
SVK – Sport TV
SWE - NENT Group
UKR – Poverkhnost

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

* as of 15 September 2020

I PARTNERS



- Official partner of the EHF Champions League Men
- Part of the EHF family since 2018



- Official partner for fan engagement and loyalty in the EHF Champions League Men and the EHF European League Men
- Partnership will run for four years from the start of the 2020/21 season
- Platform includes a range of features such as a personalised loyalty programme, special offers for tickets and merchandise, in-app games and prizes and unique footage, as well as all aggregated content from other sites



- Official partner of the EHF Champions League Men
- Contract prolonged for 2020/21 & 2021/22 season
- Present in CRO, DEN, GER, HUN, MKD, POL and SLO
- Uniting sports fans via Simplyfans social media channels



- Official partner of the EHF Champions League Men for the 2020/21 season
- German motor oil manufacturer
- Agreement expands LIQUI MOLY's involvement in handball after the company sponsored the EHF EUROS in 2018 and 2020 and the EHF Cup Finals in 2017

I SUPPLIERS



- Official insurance supplier for EHF Champions League Men
- Present in: AUT, BIH, CRO, CZE, HUN, MKD, MNE, POL, ROU, SRB, SVK, UKR
- Cooperation prolonged until and including the 2022/23 season



- Official ball supplier for the EHF Champions League and EHF European League
- Recently signed a four-year contract extension until 2023/24
- Dedicated ball designs for EHF Champions League and EHF European League as of the 2021/22 season, so that men and women of the same competition play with the same design



- Official apparel supplier for EHF Champions League and EHF European League
- New contract from 2020/21 until 2023/24
- EHF/M webshop to be launched in autumn 2020 with special products designed according to the competition designs, merchandising at the EHF FINAL4s and EHF European League Finals



- Official flooring supplier for EHF Champions League Men
- The distinctive "lagoon blue" court first introduced to the men's competition at the start of the 2006/07 season and extended to the women's competition from 2011/12
- Cooperation extended until and including the 2025/26 season



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EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE MEN

SEASON 2020/21

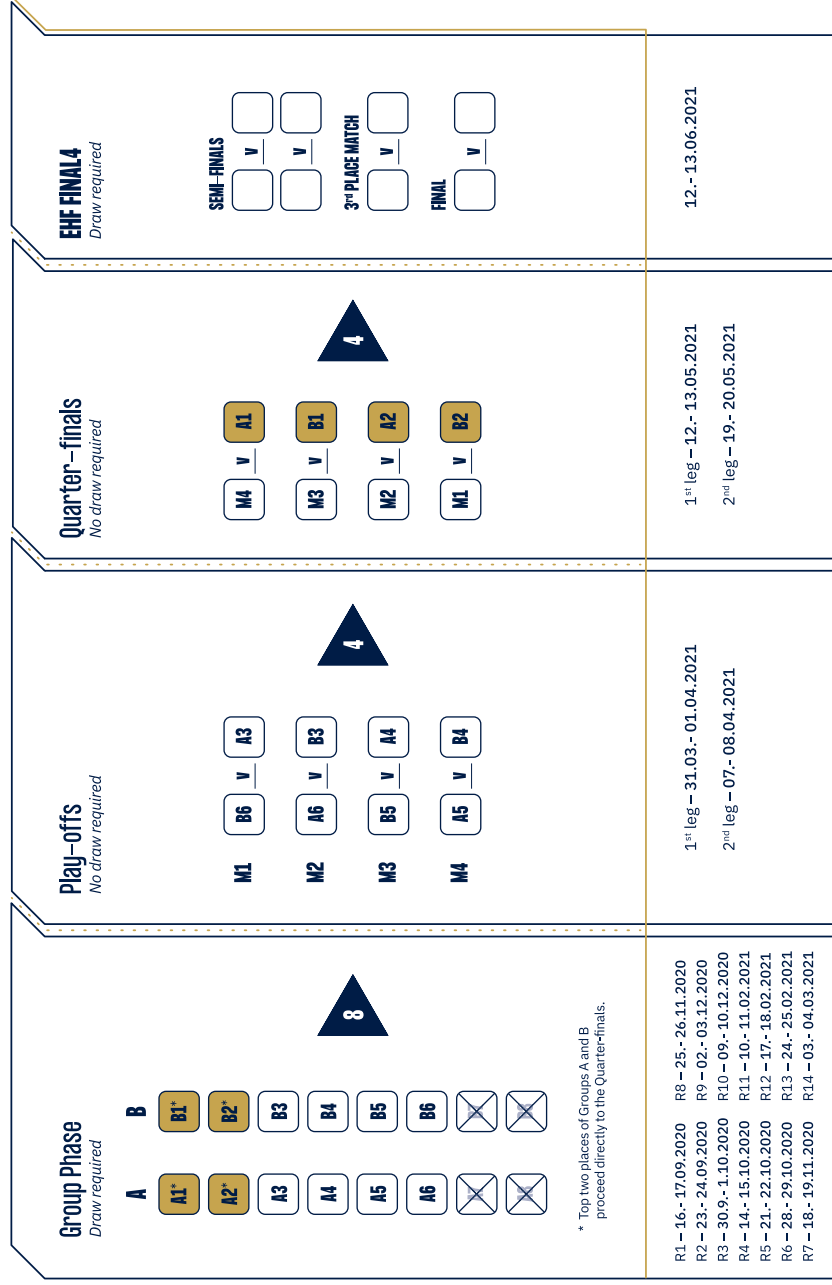
- Group A teams
- Group B teams



EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE MEN

2020/21 SEASON

Playing system and dates



* Top two places of Groups A and B proceed directly to the Quarter-finals.



**DRAMA-FREE
LIFE**

**SIMPLICITY
HOME APPLIANCES.**

Life can sometimes get dramatic. Thankfully, at least Gorenje Simplicity home appliances are completely drama-free with sleek and clean looks, a flawless user experience, and amazing value for money. Available in black or white, the classic colours that never go out of style.

I 132 GAMES, 0 DEBUTANTS, 6 FORMER CHAMPIONS

FACTS AND FIGURES: THE MOST IMPORTANT NUMBERS PRIOR TO THE START OF THE 28TH SEASON OF THE EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE MEN

The EHF Champions League Men enters the 2020/21 season with a new playing system, featuring 16 top clubs in the group phase from all over Europe. The field includes six teams who have won the trophy in the past, but no first-time participants, when the race to the EHF FINAL4 2021 in Cologne throws off on 16/17 September 2020.

Here are the most important facts and figures before the start of the season:

0

teams have won the trophy two years in a row since the implementation of the EHF FINAL4 format in 2010.

0 debutants are among the 16 teams this CL season.

1 newly designed and sustainable trophy, partly made from recycled materials including used handballs, is the award the 16 teams are playing for.

1 more draw is needed ahead of the EHF FINAL4 2021 in Cologne - for the semi-finals. Both the play-offs and the quarter-finals are determined by the final standings of the group phase.

1 new stage is implemented this season: the play-offs replace the Last 16. The eight teams finishing between third and sixth in both groups duel for four spots in the quarter-finals.

1 change compared to last season's groups A and B: Nantes replace Montpellier.

1 four-time CL winner has ended his career this spring: goalkeeper Arpad Sterbik, who won the trophy with Ciudad Real (3) and Vardar (1), retired at his club Veszprém.

2 coaches led two different teams to the CL title: Alfred Gislason won with Magdeburg and Kiel, Talant Dujšebaev with Ciudad Real and Kielce.

2

group winners and 2 runners-ups will skip the play-offs and advance to the quarter-finals directly.

2 legends won the CL both as player and as coach: Talant Dujšebaev in 1994 as player of Santander, and in 2006, 2008 and 2009 as a coach of Ciudad and in 2016 as coach of Kielce; Roberto Parrondo in 2008 and 2010 as player of Ciudad Real, and in 2019 as coach of Vardar.

3 coaches of the 16 teams have won the CL as coach: Talant Dujšebaev (coach of Kielce / won with Ciudad Real and Kielce), Xavi Pascual (Barça / Barça) and Raul Gonzalez (PSG / Vardar).

3 former CL top scorers will play in the competition again in 2020/21: Alex Dujšebaev (Kielce, top scorer in 2018/19), Mikkel Hansen (PSG, 2011/12 and 2015/16) and Kiril Lazarov (Nantes, 2005/06 for Veszprém and 2007/08 for Zagreb); Filip Jicha (2008/09 and 2009/10) is Kiel's coach.

4 teams in total, who finish seventh and eighth in group A and B, will have their European journey terminated after the group phase.

4 - which means all - participants of the VELUX EHF FINAL4 2020 are also part of the CL in 2020/21: PSG, Barça, Kiel and Veszprém.

4 fixed throw-off times on two days will make it easier for fans to follow the CL in 2020/21, with matches to be played on Wednesdays and Thursdays at either 18:45 or 20:45 CET/CEST.

6 participants in 2020/21 have won the CL in the past: Barça, Celje, Kiel, Flensburg, Kielce, Vardar.

8 times (1995-2000, 2011, 2015) Barça have won the CL - an all-time record.

8 teams in the CL 2020/21 have previously played at the EHF FINAL4: Barça, Nantes, PSG, Flensburg, Kiel, Veszprém, Kielce and Vardar.

8 of the 10 EHF FINAL4 winners are part of the CL 2020/21: Hamburg and Montpellier are missing.

9 Spanish coaches have won a total of 17 CL titles: Valero Rivera (5), Talant Dujshabaev (4), Xavi Pascual (2), Javier Cuesta, Julian Ruiz, Francisco Equisoain, Francesc Espar, Raul Gonzalez and Roberto Parrondo (1).

13 nations are represented in the CL group phase in 2020/21: Belarus, Croatia, Denmark, France, Germany, Hungary, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovenia, Spain and Ukraine.

14 titles were won by clubs from Spain: Barça (8), Ciudad Real (3), Santander, Irun and Portland (1).

15 of the 16 teams were also part of the group phase last season; Nantes are the only exception.

16 or 18 matches will be played by each of the four teams advancing to the EHF FINAL4 2021 in Cologne on 12/13 June - depending on whether they skip the play-offs or not.

18 players in the 2020/21 group phase have won the CL at least two times in the past.

27 times (including the 2020/21 season) Zagreb have been part of the CL, an all-time record.

75 goals were scored in 2019/20 by Hugo Descat (Montpellier), who led the top scorer ranking.

132 matches will be played this season: 112 in the group phase, 8 in the play-offs, 8 in the quarter-finals, and 4 at the EHF FINAL4 2021.

233 victories in 310 CL matches (as well as 20 draws and 57 defeats) give Barça the lead in the all-time CL standings, ahead of Veszprém (198 - 14 - 80 in 292 matches) and Kiel (193 - 20 - 77 in 290 matches).

I FACTS AND FIGURES – MAX AND MIN

YOUNGEST



Vasco Costa
Francisco Costa
Diogo Marques
Miguel Oliveira
Bernardo Pegas
Benjamin Szilagyi
Mitja Janc
Patrik Hegedüs
Magnus Holpert
Barnabas Rea
Leo Villain
Gautier Loredon
Martim Costa
Cezary Surgiel
Magnus Dahl Andersen
Baptiste Clay

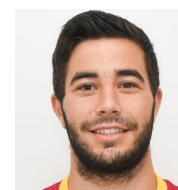
POR	FC Porto	02/12/2005
POR	FC Porto	16/02/2005
POR	FC Porto	17/03/2004
POR	FC Porto	13/01/2004
POR	FC Porto	17/09/2003
HUN	MOL-Pick Szeged	18/05/2003
SLO	RK Celje Pivovarna Laško	05/04/2003
HUN	MOL-Pick Szeged	02/03/2003
GER	SG Flensburg-Handewitt	03/02/2003
HUN	MOL-Pick Szeged	15/11/2002
FRA	Paris Saint-Germain Handball	06/11/2002
FRA	Paris Saint-Germain Handball	15/10/2002
POR	FC Porto	27/09/2002
POL	Lomza Vive Kielce	18/09/2002
DEN	Aalborg Håndbold	25/08/2002
FRA	Paris Saint-Germain Handball	14/08/2002

02/12/2005

Vasco Costa

FC Porto Sofarma

SHORTEST



Alex Pascual Garcia
Baptiste Damatrin
Oskar Kvernes
Martin Karapalevski
Miha Zarabec
Ivan Cupic
Louis Perreux
Gal Marguc
Stas Skube
Mattéo Fadhuile-Crepy
Alejandro Barbeito Soriano
Joris Limousin
Mamadou Lamine Diocou
Valiantsin Silko
Arkadiusz Moryto
Oleksandr Kasai

ESP	Barça	175
FRA	HBC Nantes	177
NOR	Elverum Handball	178
MKD	HC Vardar 1961	178
SLO	THW Kiel	178
CRO	HC Vardar 1961	178
FRA	PSG Handball	179
SLO	RK Celje Pivovarna Laško	179
SLO	HC Meshkov Brest	179
FRA	HBC Nantes	180
ESP	Barça	180
FRA	HBC Nantes	180
ESP	Barça	180
BLR	HC Meshkov Brest	180
POL	Lomza Vive Kielce	180
UKR	HC Motor	180

175 cm

Alex Pascual Garcia

Barça

LIGHTEST



Valentin Bzdynga
Artem Kozakevych
Benjamin Szilagyi
Mikkel Rasmussen
Aleix Gómez
Mamadou Lamine Soumare
Daniel Kecskes
Mark Strandgaard
Louis Perreux
Oskar Kvernes
Timur Dibirov
Cezary Surgiel
Alejandro Barbeito Soriano
Joris Limousin
Gal Marguc
Louis Despreaux

FRA	Paris Saint-Germain Handball	63
UKR	HC Motor	68
HUN	MOL-Pick Szeged	70
DEN	Aalborg Håndbold	71
ESP	Barça	71
ESP	Barça	71
HUN	MOL-Pick Szeged	72
DEN	Aalborg Håndbold	72
FRA	Paris Saint-Germain HB	72
NOR	Elverum Handball	72
RUS	HC Vardar 1961	74
POL	Lomza Vive Kielce	75
ESP	Barça	75
FRA	HBC Nantes	75
SLO	RK Celje Pivovarna Laško	75
FRA	Paris Saint-Germain HB	76

63 kg

Valentin Bzdynga

Paris Saint-Germain Handball

TEAMS BY AGE AVERAGE

TEAMS BY HEIGHT AVERAGE

TEAMS BY WEIGHT AVERAGE

Telekom Veszprém HC	30,3	Telekom Veszprém HC	196,1	Telekom Veszprém HC	104,1
THW Kiel	29,1	THW Kiel	195,1	THW Kiel	98,9
HC Vardar 1961	27,7	HC PPD Zagreb	195,0	HC PPD Zagreb	97,5
Barça	27,0	MOL-Pick Szeged	194,9	Aalborg Håndbold	95,8
HC Motor	26,9	Lomza Vive Kielce	194,4	MOL-Pick Szeged	95,1
HC Meshkov Brest	26,6	Paris Saint-Germain Handball	193,4	Lomza Vive Kielce	94,8
HBC Nantes	26,2	Aalborg Håndbold	193,1	HC Meshkov Brest	93,9
CL average	26,0	CL average	192,9	CL average	93,8
Aalborg Håndbold	25,7	HC Vardar 1961	192,8	HC Vardar 1961	93,8
MOL-Pick Szeged	25,7	SG Flensburg-Handewitt	192,7	Elverum Handball	93,5
HC PPD Zagreb	25,6	HC Motor	192,7	HC Motor	92,5
Paris Saint-Germain Handball	25,1	RK Celje Pivovarna Laško	192,1	SG Flensburg-Handewitt	92,4
SG Flensburg-Handewitt	24,9	FC Porto	192,0	Paris Saint-Germain Handball	91,8
Elverum Handball	24,8	HC Meshkov Brest	191,6	Barça	90,9
Lomza Vive Kielce	24,8	HBC Nantes	190,8	HBC Nantes	90,4
FC Porto	23,9	Elverum Handball	190,4	RK Celje Pivovarna Laško	90,1
RK Celje Pivovarna Laško	22,6	Barça	190,0	FC Porto	89,8

OLDEST



20/11/1979

Arpad Sterbik

Telekom Veszprém HC



Arpad Sterbik	ESP	Telekom Veszprém HC	20/11/1979
Kiril Lazarov	MKD	HBC Nantes	10/05/1980
Raul Enterreros	ESP	Barça	10/02/1981
László Nagy	HUN	Telekom Veszprém HC	03/03/1981
Jonas Källman	SWE	MOL-Pick Szeged	17/07/1981
Yann Genty	FRA	Paris Saint-Germain Handball	26/12/1981
Rock Feliho	FRA	HBC Nantes	13/08/1982
Borko Ristovski	MKD	HC Vardar 1961	02/11/1982
Pavel Horak	CZE	THW Kiel	28/11/1982
Radivoje Ristanovic	MNE	HC PPD Zagreb	02/12/1982
Krzysztof Lijewski	POL	Lomza Vive Kielce	07/07/1983
Timur Dibirow	RUS	HC Vardar 1961	30/07/1983
Lasse Svan	DEN	SG Flensburg-Handewitt	31/08/1983
Viran Morros de Argila	ESP	Paris Saint-Germain Handball	15/12/1983
Cyril Dumoulin	FRA	HBC Nantes	02/02/1984
Nikola Karabatic	FRA	Paris Saint-Germain Handball	11/04/1984

TALLEST



214 cm

Dainis Kristopans

Paris Saint-Germain Handball



Dainis Kristopans	LAT	Paris Saint-Germain Handball	214
Tomasz Gebala	POL	Lomza Vive Kielce	212
Nikolaj Markussen	DEN	Telekom Veszprém HC	211
Josip Vekic	CRO	HC Vardar 1961	210
Bence Banhidi	HUN	MOL-Pick Szeged	207
László Nagy	HUN	Telekom Veszprém HC	207
Kamil Syprzak	POL	Paris Saint-Germain Handball	206
Matej Ašanin	CRO	HC PPD Zagreb	206
Uladzislau Kulesh	BLR	Lomza Vive Kielce	206
Thibaud Briet	FRA	HBC Nantes	205
Gleb Kalarash	RUS	HC Vardar 1961	205
Rogério Moraes	BRA	Telekom Veszprém HC	204
Blaz Blagotinsek	SLO	Telekom Veszprém HC	203
Patrik Ligetvári	HUN	Telekom Veszprém HC	203
Simon Hald Jensen	DEN	SG Flensburg-Handewitt	203
Miklós Rosta	HUN	MOL-Pick Szeged	203

HEAVIEST



136 kg

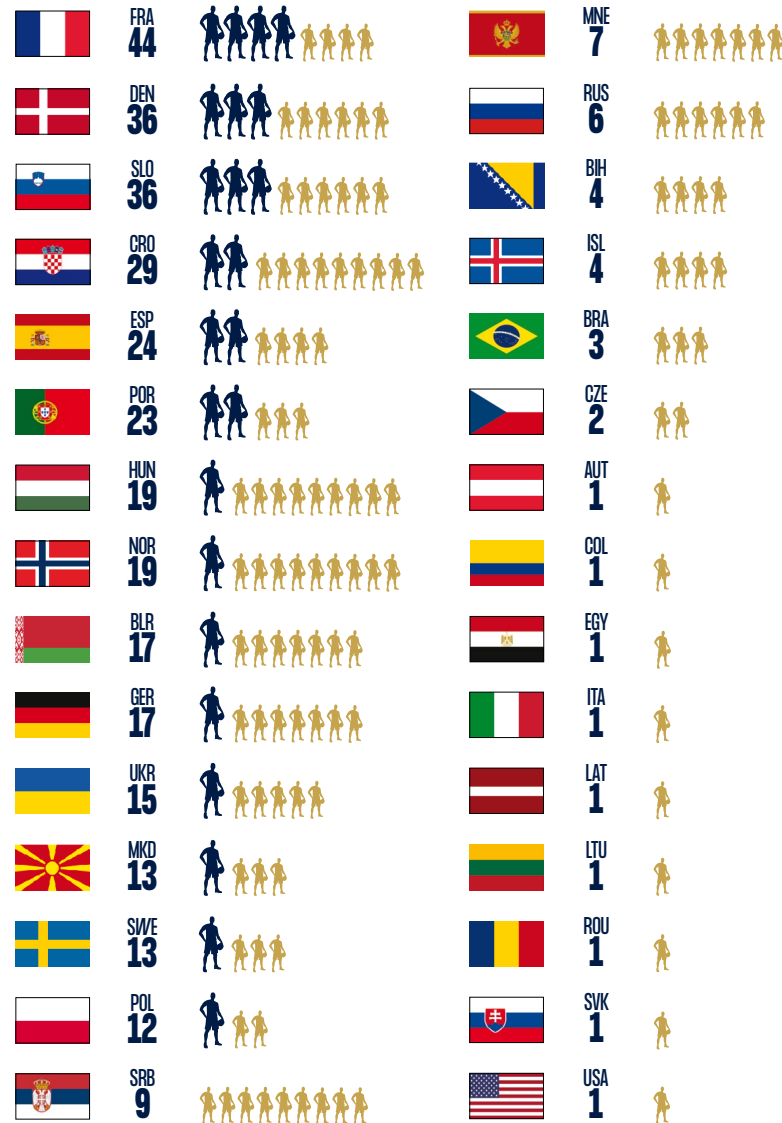
Dainis Kristopans

Paris Saint-Germain Handball



Dainis Kristopans	LAT	Paris Saint-Germain Handball	136
Rogério Moraes Ferreira	BRA	Telekom Veszprém HC	127
David Gashovski	MKD	HC Vardar 1961	127
Bence Banhidi	HUN	MOL-Pick Szeged	126
Andreas Nilsson	SWE	Telekom Veszprém HC	126
Blaz Blagotinsek	SLO	Telekom Veszprém HC	125
Tomasz Gebala	POL	Lomza Vive Kielce	124
Benjamin Jakobsen	DEN	Aalborg Håndbold	122
Kamil Syprzak	POL	Paris Saint-Germain Handball	120
Arpad Sterbik	ESP	Telekom Veszprém HC	120
Emil Nielsen	DEN	HBC Nantes	120
Valdemar Hermansen	DEN	Aalborg Håndbold	120
László Nagy	HUN	Telekom Veszprém HC	119
Vladimir Cupara	SRB	Telekom Veszprém HC	116
Viachaslau Shumak	BLR	HC Meshkov Brest	115
Matej Gaber	SLO	MOL-Pick Szeged	115

PLAYERS LIST BY COUNTRIES



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CLUBS



GROUP A PREVIEW

GROUP WITH NOTHING TO TAKE FOR GRANTED

Three of the last five winning clubs of the EHF Champions League feature in group A, and that does not even say everything about the level of the eight teams that will face each other. HC Vardar, (2017, 2019), Kielce (2016) and Flensburg-Handewitt (2014) will, of course, feature among the favourites for the two direct tickets to the quarter-finals. But they will have to face strong adversity, as Paris Saint-Germain and Szeged also feature among the candidates to reach the EHF FINAL4 next June.



NEW TOWER IN PARIS

In fact, the French side might be presented as one of the favourites in this group. They might have lost Rodrigo Corrales (Veszprem) and Sander Sagosen (THW Kiel) this summer, but they reinforced on the right-side, signing giant 2019 Champions League winner Dainis Kristopans, as well as double EHF EURO winner with Spain Ferran Sole.

Szeged were one of the two teams that beat Paris last season. The Hungarian side also defeated FC Barcelona, and these two results give you the potential of a club that has never made it to Cologne, but has always been very close. Three quarter-finals participations, in 2019, 2017 and 2015 are now calling for a FINAL4 participation. Juan Carlos Pastor, who has been at the wheel in Szeged since 2013, will enjoy the fact that his team remains almost unchanged compared to last season, Slovenian left-back Borut Mackovsek being the main signing for this season.

REIGNING CHAMPIONS WITH MANY CHANGES

If Szeged's roster is very much alike compared to 2019's, the same can not be said for Vardar. Nine new players arrived in the Macedonian capital and as many left. How coach Stevce Alusevski will be able to quickly help his team to deliver will be key for the Champions League titleholders. In Marko Vujin, Vardar got themselves and experienced player, eager to finally win a competition whose trophy he has never lifted. The pair made of national favourite Borko Ristovski and French up-and-coming Robin Cantegrel looks promising at the goalkeeper position, one that has been a problem for Vardar lately.



Flensburg also are Champions League quarter-finals regular, but have only managed to get past the last hurdle once, in 2014. 2020/21 team looks much younger than the previous version. Michal Jurecki flew back to Poland, while local hero Holger Glandorf retired.

To make up for these changes, Maik Machulla decided to give Mads Mensah Larsen his chance. The 2019 World Champion with Denmark will bring firepower on the back-court, while youngsters Franz Semper and Lasse Møller will have to prove they are able to deliver at the top level.



2016 champions Kielce find themselves in the same situation, after stalwarts Mateusz Jachlewski, Mariusz Jurkiewicz, Julen Aguinagalde, Blaz Janc and Krzysztof Lijewski all decided to either retire or to go and play someplace else. And this makes a huge hole to fill for the newcomers. For sure, Nantes' Nicolas Tournat has got huge qualities on the lineplayer position, but young Icelandics Haukur Thrastarson and Sigvaldi Gudjonsson will have pressure on their shoulders.

PORTO READY TO CONTINUE THEIR DARK HORSE RACE

But if those five teams look like favourites in the battle for the first spot, we would be silly to forget about Porto, Brest and Elverum. For its only third participation, the Portuguese side caused some havoc in the Champions League last season, beating Kielce, Kiel or Montpellier in the group phase. Their opponents will be warned.

Brest and Elverum did not manage to snatch a Last 16 ticket in March, but that does not mean they lack quality. And with the help of Stas Skube (Meshkov Brest) and Luc Abalo (Elverum), among others, there will be plenty of tough games to look out for whenever these teams enter the court.



I GROUP A HEAD-TO-HEADS

PREVIOUS EC ENCOUNTERS OF THE GROUP A TEAMS

HC Vardar 1961 vs Paris Saint-Germain Handball 1-1-2 (101:111) 3:5

13.10.2013	HC Vardar – Skopje vs PSG Handball, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group C	24:24 (9:12)
22.02.2014	PSG Handball vs HC Vardar – Skopje, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group C	35:25 (15:12)
04.06.2017	Paris Saint-Germain Handball vs HC Vardar, VELUX EHF Champions League FINAL4 – Final	23:24 (12:11)
27.05.2018	Paris Saint-Germain Handball vs HC Vardar, VELUX EHF Champions League FINAL4 – Place 3/4	29:28 (14:15)

HC Vardar 1961 vs PGE VIVE Kielce 3-1-6 (277:284) 7:13

11.04.2015	HC Vardar vs KS Vive Tauron Kielce, VELUX EHF Champions League – Quarter-final	20:22 (11:11)
19.04.2015	KS Vive Tauron Kielce vs HC Vardar, VELUX EHF Champions League – Quarter-final	33:31 (16:14)
24.10.2015	HC Vardar vs KS Vive Tauron Kielce, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	34:24 (18:14)
28.11.2015	KS Vive Tauron Kielce vs HC Vardar, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	23:20 (10:6)
12.11.2016	HC Vardar vs KS Vive Tauron Kielce, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	40:34 (18:18)
04.12.2016	KS Vive Tauron Kielce vs HC Vardar, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	27:24 (15:12)
14.10.2018	PGE Vive Kielce vs HC Vardar, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	31:27 (16:15)
01.12.2018	HC Vardar vs PGE Vive Kielce, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	28:27 (14:11)
09.11.2019	HC Vardar vs PGE VIVE Kielce, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	28:28 (17:16)
16.11.2019	PGE VIVE Kielce vs HC Vardar, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	35:25 (17:14)

HC Vardar 1961 vs FC Porto Sofarma 1-0-1 (54:57) 2:2

22.09.2019	HC Vardar vs FC Porto Sofarma, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	32:27 (14:16)
22.02.2020	FC Porto Sofarma vs HC Vardar, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	30:22 (11:10)

HC Vardar 1961 vs MOL-Pick Szeged 6-2-2 (269:257) 14:6

16.10.2004	Vardar Vatrost. Skopje vs SC Pick Szeged, EHF Champions League – Group A	24:24 (9:10)
30.10.2004	SC Pick Szeged vs Vardar Vatrost. Skopje, EHF Champions League – Group A	25:18 (13:8)
27.09.2015	HC Vardar vs MOL-Pick Szeged, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	27:23 (11:11)
28.02.2016	MOL-Pick Szeged vs HC Vardar, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	29:31 (14:13)
16.10.2016	HC Vardar vs MOL-Pick Szeged, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	30:27 (16:15)
18.02.2017	MOL-Pick Szeged vs HC Vardar, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	21:23 (11:12)
07.10.2017	MOL-Pick Szeged vs HC Vardar, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	26:26 (14:13)
18.02.2018	HC Vardar vs MOL-Pick Szeged, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	34:30 (16:14)
25.04.2019	HC Vardar vs MOL-Pick Szeged, VELUX EHF Champions League – Quarter-final	31:23 (14:12)
05.05.2019	MOL-Pick Szeged vs HC Vardar, VELUX EHF Champions League – Quarter-final	29:25 (17:9)

HC Vardar 1961 vs HC Meshkov Brest 3-1-2 (176:173) 7:5

01.10.2016	HC Vardar vs HC Meshkov Brest, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	31:27 (13:13)
04.03.2017	HC Meshkov Brest vs HC Vardar, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	30:26 (15:13)
03.11.2018	HC Vardar vs HC Meshkov Brest, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	30:23 (14:14)
24.11.2018	HC Meshkov Brest vs HC Vardar, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	31:31 (14:13)
03.11.2019	HC Vardar vs HC Meshkov Brest, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	36:31 (19:17)
23.11.2019	HC Meshkov Brest vs HC Vardar, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	31:22 (12:13)

HC Vardar 1961 vs SG Flensburg-Handewitt 3-0-1 (110:100) 6:2

21.04.2014	SG Flensburg-Handewitt vs HC Vardar – Skopje, VELUX EHF Champions League – Quarter-final	24:22 (13:14)
26.04.2014	HC Vardar – Skopje vs SG Flensburg-Handewitt, VELUX EHF Champions League – Quarter-final	27:25 (10:15)
22.04.2017	SG Flensburg-Handewitt vs HC Vardar, VELUX EHF Champions League – Quarter-final	24:26 (9:15)
27.04.2017	HC Vardar vs SG Flensburg-Handewitt, VELUX EHF Champions League – Quarter-final	35:27 (15:10)

HC Vardar 1961 vs Elverum Handball

No previous encounters in European competitions

Paris Saint-Germain Handball vs FC Porto Sofarma 1-0-1 (49:50) 2:2

17.11.2007	FC do Porto/Vitalis vs Paris Handball, Cup Winners' Cup – Round 3	30:23 (14:11)
25.11.2007	Paris Handball vs FC do Porto/Vitalis, Cup Winners' Cup – Round 3	26:20 (13:9)

Paris Saint-Germain Handball vs MOL-Pick Szeged 4-1-3 (227:223) 9:7

08.11.1997	Paris St. Germain vs SC Pick Szeged, City Cup – Last 16	24:19 (11:10)
16.11.1997	SC Pick Szeged vs Paris St. Germain, City Cup – Last 16	26:19 (12:9)
23.04.2017	MOL-Pick Szeged vs Paris Saint-Germain Handball, VELUX EHF Champions League – Quarter-final	27:30 (14:16)
29.04.2017	Paris Saint-Germain Handball vs MOL-Pick Szeged, VELUX EHF Champions League – Quarter-final	30:30 (16:17)
04.11.2018	Paris Saint-Germain HB vs MOL-Pick Szeged, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	33:31 (15:14)
24.11.2018	MOL-Pick Szeged vs Paris Saint-Germain HB, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	33:32 (16:14)
22.09.2019	Paris Saint-Germain HB vs MOL-Pick Szeged, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	30:25 (16:14)
16.02.2020	MOL-Pick Szeged vs Paris Saint-Germain HB, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	32:29 (15:18)

Paris Saint-Germain Handball vs HC Meshkov Brest 3-0-1 (125:110) 6:2

19.10.2014	HC Meshkov Brest vs Paris Saint-Germain Handball, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	28:29 (12:15)
15.02.2015	Paris Saint-Germain Handball vs HC Meshkov Brest, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	36:25 (18:14)
24.09.2017	Paris Saint-Germain Handball vs HC Meshkov Brest, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	32:28 (15:14)
24.02.2018	HC Meshkov Brest vs Paris Saint-Germain Handball, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	29:28 (19:13)

Paris Saint-Germain Handball vs SG Flensburg-Handewitt 9-0-3 (361:355) 18:6

15.10.2005	SG Flensburg Handewitt vs Paris Handball, EHF Champions League – Group H	37:24 (17:13)
13.11.2005	Paris Handball vs SG Flensburg Handewitt, EHF Champions League – Group H	33:31 (16:16)
19.09.2015	SG Flensburg-Handewitt vs Paris Saint-Germain Handball, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	39:32 (21:16)
06.03.2016	Paris Saint-Germain Handball vs SG Flensburg-Handewitt, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	35:32 (16:16)
16.10.2016	Paris Saint-Germain Handball vs SG Flensburg-Handewitt, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	27:22 (13:11)
18.02.2017	SG Flensburg-Handewitt vs Paris Saint-Germain Handball, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	33:34 (18:15)
30.09.2017	SG Flensburg-Handewitt vs Paris Saint-Germain Handball, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	33:29 (13:14)
17.02.2018	Paris Saint-Germain Handball vs SG Flensburg-Handewitt, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	29:21 (19:10)
10.11.2018	Paris Saint-Germain HB vs SG Flensburg-Handewitt, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	29:28 (12:15)
14.11.2018	SG Flensburg-Handewitt vs Paris Saint-Germain HB, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	20:27 (9:12)
06.11.2019	SG Flensburg-Handewitt vs Paris Saint-Germain HB, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	29:30 (13:14)
17.11.2019	Paris Saint-Germain HB vs SG Flensburg-Handewitt, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	32:30 (17:16)

Paris Saint-Germain Handball vs Elverum Handball 2-0-0 (56:47) 4:0

28.09.2019	Elverum Handball vs Paris Saint-Germain HB, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	22:25 (9:13)
22.02.2020	Paris Saint-Germain HB vs Elverum Handball, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	31:25 (17:13)

PGE VIVE Kielce vs FC Porto Sofarma 4-0-1 (162:134) 8:2

04.09.2009	KS Vive Targi Kielce vs FC Porto/Vitalis, EHF Champions League – Qualification Tournament 4	32:23 (14:9)
29.09.2013	KS Vive Targi Kielce vs FC Porto Vitalis, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	35:23 (16:13)
07.02.2014	FC Porto Vitalis vs KS Vive Targi Kielce, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	30:35 (14:16)
28.09.2019	FC Porto Sofarma vs PGE VIVE Kielce, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	33:30 (15:12)
15.02.2020	PGE VIVE Kielce vs FC Porto Sofarma, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	30:25 (12:12)

PGE VIVE Kielce vs MOL-Pick Szeged 6-0-2 (235:219) 12:4

17.03.2013	Pick Szeged vs KS Vive Targi Kielce, VELUX EHF Champions League – Last 16	26:25 (15:14)
24.03.2013	KS Vive Targi Kielce vs Pick Szeged, VELUX EHF Champions League – Last 16	32:27 (14:11)
04.10.2014	KS Vive Tauron Kielce vs MOL-Pick Szeged, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group D	37:32 (18:17)
06.12.2014	MOL-Pick Szeged vs KS Vive Tauron Kielce, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group D	26:27 (11:14)
20.09.2015	MOL-Pick Szeged vs KS Vive Tauron Kielce, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	31:30 (17:14)
06.03.2016	KS Vive Tauron Kielce vs MOL-Pick Szeged, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	27:26 (12:16)
09.10.2016	MOL-Pick Szeged vs KS Vive Tauron Kielce, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	27:29 (15:16)
26.02.2017	KS Vive Tauron Kielce vs MOL-Pick Szeged, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	28:24 (13:14)

PGE VIVE Kielce vs HC Meshkov Brest 9-0-1 (317:273) 18:2

19.03.2016	HC Meshkov Brest vs KS Vive Tauron Kielce, VELUX EHF Champions League – Last 16	28:32 (14:12)
26.03.2016	KS Vive Tauron Kielce vs HC Meshkov Brest, VELUX EHF Champions League – Last 16	33:30 (14:14)
24.09.2016	HC Meshkov Brest vs KS Vive Tauron Kielce, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	24:29 (14:11)
11.03.2017	KS Vive Tauron Kielce vs HC Meshkov Brest, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	35:27 (15:16)
16.09.2017	HC Meshkov Brest vs PGE Vive Kielce, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	28:25 (15:11)
03.03.2018	PGE Vive Kielce vs HC Meshkov Brest, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	33:28 (20:17)
10.11.2018	HC Meshkov Brest vs PGE Vive Kielce, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	26:35 (13:15)
17.11.2018	PGE Vive Kielce vs HC Meshkov Brest, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	34:31 (17:16)
19.10.2019	HC Meshkov Brest vs PGE VIVE Kielce, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	27:31 (9:15)
30.11.2019	PGE VIVE Kielce vs HC Meshkov Brest, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	30:24 (12:11)

PGE VIVE Kielce vs SG Flensburg-Handewitt 1-3-0 (114:113) 5:3

23.04.2016	SG Flensburg-Handewitt vs KS Vive Tauron Kielce, VELUX EHF Champions League – Quarter-final	28:28 (13:14)
27.04.2016	KS Vive Tauron Kielce vs SG Flensburg-Handewitt, VELUX EHF Champions League – Quarter-final	29:28 (14:13)
08.10.2017	PGE Vive Kielce vs SG Flensburg-Handewitt, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	25:25 (10:10)
11.02.2018	SG Flensburg-Handewitt vs PGE Vive Kielce, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	32:32 (17:21)

PGE VIVE Kielce vs Elverum Handball

No previous encounters in European competitions

FC Porto Sofarma vs MOL-Pick Szeged

No previous encounters in European competitions

FC Porto Sofarma vs HC Meshkov Brest 3-0-3 (118:139) 6:6

2004/2005	Brestskiy HC Meshkovo vs FC do Porto, EHF Champions League – Qualification Round	10:0 (0:0)*
2004/2005	Brestskiy HC Meshkovo vs FC do Porto, EHF Champions League – Qualification Round	10:0 (0:0)*
17.10.2015	Futebol Clube do Porto vs HC Meshkov Brest, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group C	29:28 (16:11)
24.10.2015	HC Meshkov Brest vs Futebol Clube do Porto, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group C	34:27 (17:12)
14.09.2019	FC Porto Sofarma vs HC Meshkov Brest, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	27:25 (9:15)
29.02.2020	HC Meshkov Brest vs FC Porto Sofarma, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	32:35 (13:17)

FC Porto Sofarma vs SG Flensburg-Handewitt

No previous encounters in European competitions

FC Porto Sofarma vs Elverum Handball 1-0-0 (29:28) 2:0

31.08.2013	FC Porto Vitalis vs Elverum Handball Herrer, VELUX EHF Champions League – Qualification Tourn Gr. 4	29:28 (13:13)
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MOL-Pick Szeged vs HC Meshkov Brest 5-0-1 (162:140) 10:2

07.10.2006	Brest HC Meshkov vs SC Pick Szeged, EHF Champions League – Group B	24:30 (14:17)
21.10.2006	SC Pick Szeged vs Brest HC Meshkov, EHF Champions League – Group B	28:23 (14:10)
14.10.2007	HC Meshkov Brest vs Pick Szeged, EHF Champions League – Group H	22:24 (12:14)
24.11.2007	Pick Szeged vs HC Meshkov Brest, EHF Champions League – Group H	33:24 (12:9)
23.10.2016	MOL-Pick Szeged vs HC Meshkov Brest, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	24:22 (11:10)
09.02.2017	HC Meshkov Brest vs MOL-Pick Szeged, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	25:23 (14:14)

MOL-Pick Szeged vs SG Flensburg-Handewitt 1-1-4 (151:173) 3:9

26.03.2011	Pick Szeged vs SG Flensburg-Handewitt, VELUX EHF Champions League – Last 16	26:27 (12:9)
03.04.2011	SG Flensburg-Handewitt vs Pick Szeged, VELUX EHF Champions League – Last 16	33:20 (18:8)
14.10.2018	MOL-Pick Szeged vs SG Flensburg-Handewitt, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	30:28 (15:14)
28.11.2018	SG Flensburg-Handewitt vs MOL-Pick Szeged, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	27:25 (14:14)
28.09.2019	MOL-Pick Szeged vs SG Flensburg-Handewitt, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	24:24 (12:12)
19.02.2020	SG Flensburg-Handewitt vs MOL-Pick Szeged, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	34:26 (17:11)

MOL-Pick Szeged vs Elverum Handball 2-0-0 (58:50) 4:0

10.11.2019	MOL-Pick Szeged vs Elverum Handball, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	32:25 (15:13)
17.11.2019	Elverum Handball vs MOL-Pick Szeged, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	25:26 (9:14)

HC Meshkov Brest vs SG Flensburg-Handewitt 0-0-6 (157:181) 0:12

26.03.2017	HC Meshkov Brest vs SG Flensburg-Handewitt, VELUX EHF Champions League – Last 16	25:26 (13:15)
02.04.2017	SG Flensburg-Handewitt vs HC Meshkov Brest, VELUX EHF Champions League – Last 16	28:26 (13:13)
11.11.2017	HC Meshkov Brest vs SG Flensburg-Handewitt, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	28:30 (15:16)
19.11.2017	SG Flensburg-Handewitt vs HC Meshkov Brest, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	37:30 (20:13)
23.03.2019	HC Meshkov Brest vs SG Flensburg-Handewitt, VELUX EHF Champions League – Last 16	28:30 (14:14)
31.03.2019	SG Flensburg-Handewitt vs HC Meshkov Brest, VELUX EHF Champions League – Last 16	30:20 (14:8)

HC Meshkov Brest vs Elverum Handball

No previous encounters in European competitions

SG Flensburg-Handewitt vs Elverum Handball 2-0-0 (60:47) 4:0

18.09.2019	SG Flensburg-Handewitt vs Elverum Handball, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	26:19 (12:9)
15.02.2020	Elverum Handball vs SG Flensburg-Handewitt, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	28:34 (14:15)

GROUP A



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- rkvardar.mk
- [RK Vardar 1961](https://www.facebook.com/RKVardar1961)
- [@HCVardar](https://twitter.com/HCVardar)
- [@rkvardar1961](https://www.instagram.com/rkvardar1961)

Kit colours

Light
 Player shirt: white
 Player short: white
 GK shirt: red

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



Playing hall

Jane Sandanski
 Bubl. Avnoj b.b
 1000 Skopje
 FYR Macedonia
 Capacity: 5,000

HC VARDAR 1961

New players, a new name and a previous owner returning to the club are the three main things that have changed ahead of the new season for two-time EHF Champions League Men winners HC Vardar 1961.

Although the future of the club was quite uncertain at the beginning of the summer, the changes mean that HC Vardar 1961 still have high aims in Europe's premier competition.

Main facts

- in June 2020, Sergej Samsonenko returned the club to previous owner Mihajlo Mihajlovski, who had managed the club for two decades
- during the summer, the club changed their name to HC Vardar 1961
- were favourites to win Macedonian championship in 2019/20, but the season was cancelled due to Covid-19
- the most successful club in Macedonian handball have former legendary player Stevche Alushovski as head coach
- despite many changes to the roster, the club extended the contracts of Dibirov, Cupic and Stoilov – all of whom were part of Vardar's two CL title triumphs

Past achievements

EHF Champions League
 Participations (including 2020/21 season): 15
 Winners (2): 2016/17, 2018/19
 Semi-final (1): 2017/18
 Quarter-final (3): 2013/14, 2014/15, 2015/16
 Last 16 (1): 2019/20
 Group Phase (6): 2001/02, 2002/03, 2003/04, 2004/05, 2007/08, 2009/10
 Last 32 (1): 1999/2000

Other
Cup Winners' Cup: Semi-finals 1998/99, 2004/05, 2010/11, Quarter-finals 2006/07
SEHA league: 5 titles (2012, 2014, 2017-19)

Macedonian league: 13 titles (1999, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2007, 2009, 2013, 2015-19)
Macedonian cup: 13 titles



8 MATCHES
 Longest winning run

40 GOALS
 Most goals

74 GOALS
 Most goals both teams

I EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE CLUB RECORDS

Biggest win	31:15 (14:8) v IFK Kristianstad SWE (h), 02.12.2017
Biggest defeat	41:19 (19:8) v FC Barcelona ESP (a), 18.10.2003
Longest winning run	8 matches (12.03.2017 – 01.10.2017)
Longest unbeaten run	15 matches (12.03.2017 – 02.12.2017)
Longest losing run	7 matches (12.10.2003 – 09.10.2004)
Longest run without win	8 matches (12.10.2003 – 16.10.2004)
	8 matches (03.10.2009 – 20.02.2010)
Most goals	40 v KS Vive Tauron Kielce POL 40:34W (h), 12.11.2016
Most goals opponent	41 v FC Barcelona ESP 41:19L (a), 18.10.2003
Most goals both teams	74 v IFK Kristianstad SWE 38:36W (h), 20.02.2016
	74 v KS Vive Tauron Kielce POL 40:34W (h), 12.11.2016
Fewest goals	12 v FC Barcelona ESP 12:26L (h), 06.11.2004
Fewest goals opponent	15 v IFK Kristianstad SWE 31:15W (h), 02.12.2017
Fewest goals both teams	38 v FC Barcelona ESP 12:26L (h), 06.11.2004

I EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE RECORD

	MP	W	T	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS	Stage
2001/02 Vardar Vatrost. Skopje MKD	6	1	1	4	152:175	-23	3:9	4th Gr. D	
2002/03 Vardar Vatrost. Skopje MKD	6	2	0	4	152:181	-29	4:8	4th Gr. D	
2003/04 Vardar Vatrost. Skopje MKD	6	0	0	6	157:210	-53	0:12	4th Gr. B	
2004/05 Vardar Vatrost. Skopje MKD	6	1	2	3	124:153	-29	4:8	3rd Gr. A	
2007/08 HC Vardar PRO – Skopje MKD	6	2	1	3	161:180	-19	5:7	4th Gr. C	
2009/10 HC Vardar PRO – Skopje MKD	10	1	1	8	253:316	-63	3:17	5th Gr. D	
2013/14 HC Vardar – Skopje MKD	14	6	3	5	376:369	+7	15:13	Quarter-final	
2014/15 HC Vardar MKD	14	8	1	5	421:396	+25	17:11	Quarter-final	
2015/16 HC Vardar MKD	18	10	2	6	527:486	+41	22:14	Quarter-final	
2016/17 HC Vardar MKD	18	14	0	4	523:477	+46	28:8	Winner	
2017/18 HC Vardar MKD	18	10	3	5	501:454	+47	23:13	Fourth Place	
2018/19 HC Vardar MKD	20	14	1	5	577:541	+36	29:11	Winner	
2019/20 HC Vardar MKD	14	5	1	8	396:444	-48	11:17	Last 16*	
Total:	156	74	16	66	4320:4382	-62	164:148		

* Last 16 and Quarter-finals cancelled due to Covid-19 pandemic



TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height	Weight
1	Borko	Ristovski	MKD	Goalkeeper	02.11.1982	Skopje, MKD	190	115
3	Patryk	Walczak	POL	Line Player	29.07.1992	Szczecin, POL	198	102
4	Tomislav	Jagurinovski	MKD	Right Back	19.08.1998	Skopje, MKD	188	81
C 5	Stojanche	Stoilov	MKD	Line Player	30.04.1987	Skopje, MKD	191	110
6	David	Gashovski	MKD	Line Player	02.09.1996	Skopje, MKD	197	127
8	Dimitar	Dimitrioski	MKD	Left Wing	16.02.1998	Prilep, MKD	183	83
9	Goce	Georgievski	MKD	Right Wing	12.02.1987	Skopje, MKD	185	83
11	Martin	Karapalevski	MKD	Centre Back	11.03.2000	Bitola, MKD	178	82
15	Christian	Dissinger	GER	Left Back	15.11.1991	Ludwigshafen, GER	202	102
18	Lovro	Jotic	CRO	Centre Back	12.11.1994	Zagreb, CRO	192	96
21	Gleb	Kalarash	RUS	Line Player	29.11.1990	Moscow, RUS	205	95
24	Ante	Gadža	CRO	Centre Back	26.08.1992	Zagreb, CRO	195	95
27	Ivan	Cupic	CRO	Right Wing	27.03.1986	Metkovic, CRO	178	78
28	Filip	Taleski	MKD	Left Back	28.03.1996	Krusevo, MKD	200	86
31	Timur	Dibirov	RUS	Left Wing	30.07.1983	Petrozavodsk, RUS	180	74
41	Marko	Vujin	SRB	Right Back	07.12.1984	Backa Palanka, SRB	201	104
44	Josip	Vekic	CRO	Right Back	16.03.1998	Metkovic, CRO	210	100
77	Robin	Cantegrel	FRA	Goalkeeper	13.02.1995	Nantes, FRA	194	77
97	Marko	Mishevski	MKD	Left Back	23.08.1999	Skopje, MKD	199	96
98	Marko	Kizic	MKD	Goalkeeper	22.01.2001	Skopje, MKD	190	89



Stevce Alushovski
Coach

- took over as coach of Vardar in early 2020, returning to the club where he had spent 10 years as player
- one of the players of the Macedonian national team with more than 200 matches
- besides Vardar, he also played for RK Pelister, RK Prespa and RK Metalurg, and won 13 domestic titles and 11 cups
- started coaching career in 2017 at RK Pelister in his home town Bitola, before joining RK Eurofarm Rabotnik in 2019

Newcomers

Walczak Patryk (TuS Lubbecke/GER)
 Tomislav Jagurinovski (HC Metalurg/MKD)
 Goce Georgievski (CSM Bucuresti/ROU)
 Lovro Jotic (HC Eurofarm Rabotnik/MKD)
 Ante Gadza (HC PPD Zagreb/CRO)
 Filip Taleski (HBW Balingen/GER)
 Marko Vujin (Sporting CP/POR)
 Josip Vekic (HC PPD Zagreb/CRO)
 Robin Cantegrel (Cesson Rennes Metropole/FRA)

Left the club

Dejan Kukulovski (HC Eurofarm Rabotnik/MKD)
 Domen Sikosek Pelko (CB Ciudad de Logrono/ESP)
 Stas Skube (HC Brest Meshkov/BLR)
 Khalifa Ghedbane (Ademar Leon/ESP)
 Jose Guilherme de Toledo (Baia Mare/ROU)
 Sergej Gorbok (retired)
 Sergej Gorpishin (unknown)
 Arturs Kugis (unknown)



Borko Ristovski

@borko12ristovski

Goalkeeper

- joined Vardar for third time in 2020, after earlier stints in 2001-03 and 2010-12
- played for more than 10 clubs in his career, including Benfica, Barça, Löwen, Gummersbach and Metalurg, and won titles in North Macedonia, Spain and Germany
- vital player of Macedonian national team with more than 100 international matches
- had high save percentage at EHF EURO 2012 in Serbia when Macedonia finished fifth



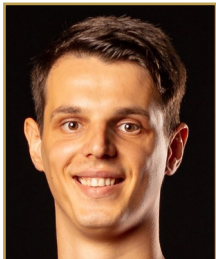
Timur Dibirov

@timurdibirov31

Left wing

- joined Vardar in 2013 for only the second club in his career
- won CL twice with Vardar, previously reached EHF FINAL4 with Chekhov in 2010
- key player of Russian national team; voted best left wing at WCh 2013
- fast-break specialist and also key in defence
- married to Irina Poltoratskaya, who steered Vardar's women's team to CL final in 2017

EC trophies: CL 2017, 2019; Cup Winners' Cup 2006



Filip Taleski

@filip.taleski28

Left back

- joined Vardar in summer of 2020 after one season at Balingen-Weilstetten in Germany
- previously played CL with Rhein-Neckar Löwen and Metalurg
- considered one of biggest talents in Macedonian handball, part of national team since WCh play-off against Greece in 2014
- made professional debut for Metalurg at age of 17



Christian Dissinger

@christiandissinger

Left back

- started career at TSG Friesenheim and played there until June 2011
- before joining Vardar in 2018 and winning CL in his first season with the club, he played for Kadetten Schaffhausen, BM Atlético Madrid, TuS N-Lübbecke and THW Kiel
- in 2016 he won gold at EHF EURO and bronze at Olympics with German national team

EC trophies: CL 2019
EURO: G 2016; OG: B 2016



Ante Gadza

@antee4

Centre back

- joined Vardar in summer of 2020 for his first club outside Croatia
- arrived from HC PPD Zagreb, where he played just one year following five seasons at another Croatian club, RK Nexa
- also played for Ivanic, Dugo Selo, Medvescak and Umag in the past
- made national team debut at age 26 in EHF EURO 2020 qualifier against Serbia



Stojanche Stoilov

@sstole555

Line player

- joined Vardar in the summer of 2010 from city rivals Metalurg, after a brief spell with Odorheiu Secuiesc
- excelled at EHF EURO 2012, where the Macedonian team finished fifth
- as team captain he led Vardar to two CL trophies, in 2017 and 2019

EC trophies: CL 2017, 2019



Marko Vujin

@markovujin41

Right back

- after one season with Sporting CP in Portugal, the experienced Serbian right back joined Vardar in the summer of 2020
- started his career at RK Sintelon; most notable other clubs were Veszprém and Kiel
- won Cup Winners' Cup in 2008 with Veszprém
- was part of the Serbian national team that won silver at EHF EURO 2012

EC trophies: CWC 2008
EURO: S 2012



Ivan Cupic

Right wing

- despite losing a finger in an accident in 2008, he has remained an important player for his club teams and the Croatian national side
- still the only player to win EHF FINAL4 two years in a row: first with Kielce in 2016, then with Vardar in 2017; and he won the CL again with Vardar in 2019
- second-best scorer of 2012 Olympic handball tournament, has won eight medals with Croatian national team since 2009

EC trophies: CL 2016, 2017, 2019
OG: B 2012; WCh: S 2009, B 2013; EURO: S 2008, 2010, 2020, B 2012, 2016

GROUP A



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Handball
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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 Lafont
75016 Paris
France
Capacity: 3,500

PARIS SAINT-GERMAIN HANDBALL

Six new players, seven players leaving – it is the first time in a long time that Paris Saint-Germain Handball have had to integrate so many new players after a summer break.

However, changes to their squad will not stop the French club from targeting another EHF FINAL4 appearance in the EHF Champions League Men.

Main facts

- the 2020/21 season will be the French side's eighth consecutive season in the EHF Champions League Men
- Paris qualified after being crowned French champions for the sixth time in a row
- PSG have already qualified for the rescheduled 2020 VELUX EHF FINAL4 in December – their fourth appearance (after 2016-18)
- the French side added five new players for 2020/21, including 2019 Champions League winner Dainis Kristopans and EHF EURO 2018 All-star right wing Ferran Sole
- departures include EHF EURO 2020 champion Rodrigo Corrales (Veszprém), Luc Abalo (Elverum) and Norwegian superstar Sander Sagosen (THW Kiel)

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

EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE CLUB RECORDS

Biggest win	42:24 (22:10) v THW Kiel GER (h), 12.03.2017
Biggest defeat	44:28 (22:12) v THW Kiel GER (a), 10.12.2005
Longest winning run	9 matches (08.10.2017 – 17.02.2018)
	9 matches (27.05.2018 – 14.11.2018)
Longest unbeaten run	10 matches (11.02.2017 – 03.06.2017)
Longest losing run	4 matches (23.11.1996 – 18.01.1997)
Longest run without win	4 matches (23.11.1996 – 18.01.1997)
Most goals	42 v THW Kiel GER 42:24W (h), 12.03.2017
Most goals opponent	44 v THW Kiel GER 44:28L (a), 10.12.2005
Most goals both teams	72 v THW Kiel GER 44:28L (a), 10.12.2005
Fewest goals	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

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*	
Total:	128	88	7	33	3854:3530	+324	183:73		

* to be played 28/29 December 2020



Raul Gonzalez Gutierrez
Coach

- 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 Dujshbaev
- 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

Newcomers

Yann Genty (Chambéry Savoie Mont Blanc HB/FRA)
Mathieu Grebille (Montpellier Handball/FRA)
Dainis Kristopans (Füchse Berlin/GER)
Sadou Ntanzi (PSG youth system)
Elohim Prandi (USAM Nîmes Gard/FRA)
Ferran Solé (Fenix Toulouse Handball)

Left the club

Rodrigo Corrales (Telekom Veszprém/HUN)
Luc Abalo (Elverum Handball/NOR)
Gudjon Valur Sigurdsson (retirement – now coach of VfL Gummersbach)
Kim Ekdahl du Rietz (retirement)
Sander Sagosen (THW Kiel/GER)
Edouard Kempf (Fenix Toulouse HB/FRA)
Robin Dourte (US Ivry Handball/FRA)

TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height	Weight
1	Vincent	Gerard	FRA	Goalkeeper	16.12.1986	Woippy, FRA	189	104
3	Valentin	Bzdynga	FRA	Right Back	19.07.2002	Lambreslez Douai, FRA	184	63
4	Baptiste	Clay	FRA	Centre Back	14.08.2002	Amiens, FRA	191	85
5	Thomas	Loppy	FRA	Line Player	05.06.2001	Medina Gounass, SEN	194	100
7	Sadou	Ntanzi	FRA	Centre Back	07.01.2000	Longjumeau, FRA	183	80
9	Adama	Keita	FRA	Left Wing	05.06.1997	Paris, FRA	185	81
10	Mathieu	Grebille	FRA	Left Wing	06.10.1991	Paris, FRA	198	94
10	Dainis	Kristopans	LAT	Right Back	27.09.1990	Ludza, LAT	214	136
11	Benoit	Kounkoud	FRA	Right Wing	19.02.1997	Le Chesnay, FRA	188	78
12	Yann	Genty	FRA	Goalkeeper	26.12.1981	Enghien les Bains, FRA	185	89
13	Louis	Despreaux	FRA	Right Back	22.02.1999	Mont Saint Aignan, FRA	194	76
14	Ferran	Sole Sala	ESP	Right Wing	25.08.1992	Sant Quirze, ESP	192	88
15	Henrik	Toft Hansen	DEN	Line Player	18.12.1986	Skive, DEN	200	106
17	Noah	Lenclume	FRA	Left Back	24.01.2002	Saint-pierre, FRA	192	80
18	Nedim	Remili	FRA	Right Back	18.07.1995	Creteil, FRA	195	94
21	Kamil	Syprzak	POL	Line Player	23.07.1991	Plock, POL	206	120
C 22	Luka	Karabatic	FRA	Line Player	19.04.1988	Strasbourg, FRA	202	108
23	Viran	Morros de Argila	ESP	Back	15.12.1983	Barcelona, ESP	199	99
24	Mikkel	Hansen	DEN	Left Back	22.10.1987	Helsingor, DEN	192	93
26	Louis	Perreux	FRA	Centre Back	28.04.2002	Lyon, FRA	179	72
44	Nikola	Karabatic	FRA	Centre Back	11.04.1984	Nis, SRB	196	104
45	Leo	Villain	FRA	Goalkeeper	06.11.2002	Les Abimes, FRA	202	79
47	Wallem-Konrad	Peleka	FRA	Left Back	18.01.2002	Stains, FRA	191	91
71	Elohim	Prandi	FRA	Left Back	24.08.1998	Istres, FRA	193	96
88	Loick	Spady	FRA	Goalkeeper	24.03.2000	Pointe à pitre, FRA	187	77
97	Andry	Goujon Bellevue	FRA	Left Back	02.09.1999	Schoelcher, FRA	193	80
98	Gautier	Loredon	FRA	Line Player	15.10.2002	Le Lamentin, FRA	200	103
99	Dylan	Nahi	FRA	Left Wing	30.11.1999	Paris, FRA	192	94



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 Gréville

@mat_greville

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



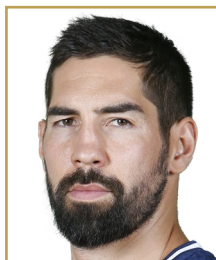
Mikkel Hansen

@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



Nikola Karabatic

@nikolakarabatic44

Left back

- IHF World Handball Player of the Year in 2007, 2014 and 2016
- won all major prizes in the sport: three CL titles and Olympics, WCh and EHF EURO with French national team
- underwent foot surgery twice in 2018/19
- won CL with all his previous clubs but not yet with PSG, despite two trips to Cologne

EC trophies: CL: 2003, 2007, 2015
OG: G 2008, 2012, S 2016; WCh: 2009, 2011, 2015, 2017, B 2003, 2005, 2019; EURO: G 2006, 2010, 2014, B 2008



Luka Karabatic

@lukakarabatic

Line player

- was a national-level tennis player until the age of 19, before choosing handball
- began in Montpellier, moved to Aix, then joined PSG in summer 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



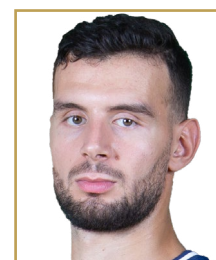
Dainis Kristopans

@dainiskristopans

Right back

- joined PSG in summer of 2020 after playing for Vardar and Fühse 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

@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

GROUP A



Club contact

Club address

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[@kielcehandball](https://twitter.com/kielcehandball)

[@kielcehandball](https://www.instagram.com/kielcehandball)

Kit colours

Light

Player shirt: yellow
Player short: blue
GK shirt: blue

Dark

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



Playing hall

Hala M.O.S.I.R. – Legionów
ul. Leszka Drogosza 2
15-116 Kielce
Poland
Capacity: 4,200

LOMZA VIVE KIELCE

Despite the loss of the two main sponsors, the ambitions at Kielce are high for the upcoming season of the EHF Champions League Men. The plan is to make it to Cologne again, with a mixture of proven experience and exciting youth.

Main Facts:

- Polish champions enter the top flight for the ninth year in a row
- champions in 2016 and played the EHF FINAL4 three more times, in 2013, 2015 and 2019
- since 2014 the team is led by iconic coach Talant Dujšebaev; his sons Alex and Daniel also play for Kielce
- squad for 2020/21 contains eight nationalities: Polish, Croatian, Montenegrin, Spanish, German, French, Belarusian, Icelandic
- the team is a mixture of international stars like Andreas Wolff, Alex Dujšebaev and Igor Karacic, alongside young talents such as Arkadiusz Moryto, Artsem Karalek, Tomasz Gebala and Branko Vujović
- first name sponsor VIVE Group ended cooperation with club after 18 years, followed by the loss of second sponsor PGE; Kielce were running crowd funding campaign to secure the 2020/21 budget, but also wish to present a new sponsor soon

Past achievements

EHF Champions League

Participations (including 2020/21 season): 18
Winners (1): 2015/16
Semi-final (3): 2012/13, 2014/15, 2018/19
Quarter-final (1): 2017/18
Last 16 (7): 1993/94, 1994/95, 2009/10, 2011/12, 2013/14, 2016/17, 2019/20
Last 32 (2): 1996/97, 1998/99
Group Matches (3): 1999/2000, 2003/04, 2010/11

Other

EHF Cup: Quarter-finals 1997/98, 2005/06
Cup Winners' Cup: Quarter-finals 1995/96

Polish league: 17 titles
Polish cup: 16 titles



18 MATCHES
Longest unbeaten run

41 GOALS
Most goals

78 GOALS
Most goals both teams

I EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE CLUB RECORDS

Biggest win	41:17 (21:8) v Rhein-Neckar Löwen GER (h), 24.03.2018
Biggest defeat	30:41 (19:19) v Fotex KC Veszprém HUN (h), 15.11.2003
Longest winning run	11 matches (25.09.2014 – 15.03.2015)
Longest unbeaten run	18 matches (15.11.2015 – 15.10.2016)
Longest losing run	5 matches (13.02.2010 – 27.03.2010)
	5 matches (19.02.2011 – 09.10.2011)
Longest run without win	6 matches (26.09.2010 – 27.11.2010)
Most goals	41 v Rhein-Neckar Löwen GER 41:17W (h), 24.03.2018
Most goals opponent	42 v Barça Lassa ESP 36:42L (h), 24.11.2018
Most goals both teams	78 v Barça Lassa ESP 36:42L (h), 24.11.2018
Fewest goals	21 v HC Bosna BH Gas BIH 25:21L (a), 27.02.2010
	21 v HC Metalurg MKD 21:20W (h), 24.11.2012
Fewest goals opponent	17 v Rhein-Neckar Löwen GER 41:17W (h), 24.03.2018
Fewest goals both teams	41 v HC Metalurg MKD 21:20W (h), 24.11.2012

I EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE RECORD

	MP	W	T	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS	Stage
1999/00 KS Iskra-Lider Market POL	6	3	0	3	173:186	-13	6:6	3rd Gr. B	
2003/04 KS 'Vive' Kielce POL	6	2	1	3	159:177	-18	5:7	3rd Gr. G	
2009/10 KS Vive Targi Kielce POL	12	5	1	6	345:344	+1	11:13	Last 16	
2010/11 KS Vive Targi Kielce POL	10	1	2	7	276:300	-24	4:16	6th Gr. A	
2011/12 KS Vive Targi Kielce POL	12	6	1	5	345:336	+9	13:11	Last 16	
2012/13 KS Vive Targi Kielce POL	16	14	0	2	469:400	+69	28:4	Third Place	
2013/14 KS Vive Targi Kielce POL	12	7	1	4	362:331	+31	15:9	Last 16	
2014/15 KS Vive Tauron Kielce POL	16	14	0	2	483:439	+44	28:4	Third Place	
2015/16 KS Vive Tauron Kielce POL	20	14	4	2	614:577	+37	32:8	Winner	
2016/17 KS Vive Tauron Kielce POL	16	9	0	7	469:451	+18	18:14	Last 16	
2017/18 PGE Vive Kielce POL	18	8	3	7	555:524	+31	19:17	Quarter-final	
2018/19 PGE Vive Kielce POL	20	9	1	10	631:624	+7	19:21	Fourth Place	
2019/20 PGE VIVE Kielce POL	14	8	2	4	421:389	+32	18:10	Last 16*	
Total:	178	100	16	62	5302:5078	+224	216:140		

* Last 16 and Quarter-finals cancelled due to Covid-19 pandemic



Talant Dujshbaev
Coach

- won many trophies during his playing career with three different national teams: CIS, Russia, and Spain
- voted IHF World Player of the Year twice, in 1994 and 1996
- enjoying successful coaching career spanning well over a decade, which saw him win the CL four times
- father of Alex and Daniel, who both play in Kielce as backs

EC trophies: CL 1994 (player), 2006, 2008, 2009, 2016 (coach); EHF Cup 1993; CWC 2002, 2003
OG: G 1992, B 1996, 2000; WCh: G 1993; EURO: S 1996, 1998, B 2000

Newcomers

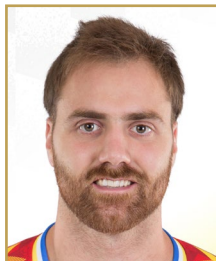
Michał Olejniczak (UKS Miś Gorzów Wielkopolski/
SMS ZPRP Gdańsk/POL)
Sebastian Kaczor (Kusy Kraków/SMS ZPRP Gdańsk)
Szymon Sićko (NMC Górnik Zabrze/POL)
Haukur Thrastarson (UMF Selfos/ISL)
Sigvaldi Gudjonsson (Elverum Handball/NOR)
Nicolas Tournat (HBC Nantes/FRA)

Left the club

Mateusz Jachlewski (TORUS Wybrzeże Gdańsk/POL)
Mariusz Jurkiewicz (retired)
Błaż Janc (Barça/ESP)
Julen Aginagalde (CD Bidasoa Irun/ESP)
Romaric Guillo (Cesson Rennes/FRA)
Doruk Pehlivan (GWD Minden/GER, on loan)

TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height	Weight
1	Mateusz	Kornecki	POL	Goalkeeper	05.06.1994	Skarzysko-Kamienna, POL	194	91
2	Branko	Vujovic	MNE	Right Back	20.04.1998	Niksic, MNE	194	96
5	Igor	Karacic	CRO	Centre Back	02.11.1988	Mostar, BIH	189	87
5	Michał	Olejniczak	POL	Left Back	31.01.2001	Gorzów Wielkopolski, POL	193	97
9	Szymon	Sicko	POL	Line Player	20.08.1997	Dabrowa Białostocka, POL	200	95
10	Alex	Dujshbaev	ESP	Right Back	17.12.1992	Santander, ESP	187	94
11	Nicolas	Tournat	FRA	Line Player	05.04.1994	Niort, FRA	200	114
12	Milosz	Walach	POL	Goalkeeper	23.11.2001	Kielce, POL	188	90
19	Krzysztof	Lijewski	POL	Right Back	07.07.1983	Ostrów Wielkopolski, POL	198	94
22	Uladzislau	Kulesh	BLR	Left Back	28.05.1996	Gomel, BLR	206	102
23	Arkadiusz	Moryto	POL	Right Wing	31.08.1997	Kraków, POL	180	76
25	Haukur	Thrastarson	ISL	Centre Back	14.04.2001	Selfoss, ISL	190	90
27	Cezary	Surgiel	POL	Left Wing	18.09.2002	Kielce, POL	186	75
32	Angel	Fernandez Perez	ESP	Left Wing	16.09.1988	Santander, ESP	192	90
C 33	Andreas	Wolff	GER	Goalkeeper	03.03.1991	Euskirchen, GER	198	105
41	Sebastian	Kaczor	POL	Line Player	15.12.2001	Kraków, POL	196	93
44	Daniel	Dujshbaev	ESP	Left Back	04.07.1997	Santander, ESP	198	98
48	Tomasz	Gebala	POL	Left Back	23.11.1995	Gdynia, POL	212	124
50	Artsem	Karalek	BLR	Line Player	20.02.1996	Grodno, BLR	96	102
84	Sigvaldi Björn	Gudjonsson	ISL	Right Wing	04.07.1994	Reykjavik, ISL	190	83



Andreas Wolff

@andi_jo_wo

Goalkeeper

- joined Kielce as his first foreign club in summer of 2019, arriving from THW Kiel
- started his career at Wetzlar before moving to Kiel in 2016
- excelled during Germany's golden EHF EURO 2016 in Poland, with over 50% save rate in final against Spain, and was named All-star goalkeeper of the tournament
- studies international management, and loves computer games and powerlifting

EC trophies: EHF Cup 2019
EURO: G 2016; OG: B 2016



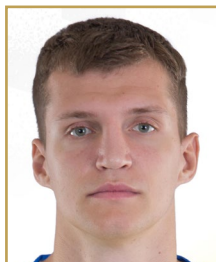
Angel Fernandez Perez

@angel_f32

Left wing

- signed for Kielce from La Rioja in summer of 2018, his first club outside Spain
- named the best left wing in the Spanish league for three consecutive years (2016-18)
- biggest moments of his career were winning gold at EHF EURO 2018 and again in 2020
- started playing football aged six in his local team Astillero

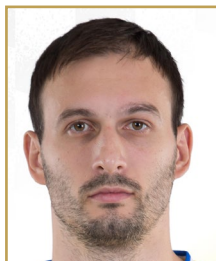
EURO: G 2018, 2020



Uladzislau Kulesh

Left back

- one of tallest players in Kielce team, at 206 cm, and one of biggest talents of Belarusian handball
- joined Kielce in summer of 2018 but missed first part of that season due to injuries
- one of his strongest weapons is powerful throw from long distance
- nicknamed 'Hercules' by coach Talant Dujshbaev for his extraordinary power



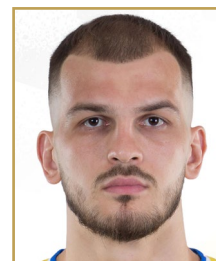
Igor Karacic

@igorkaracic

Centre back

- joined Kielce in summer of 2019, replacing fellow Croatian national team player Luka Cindric, after winning CL for second time with Vardar
- speedy and tough player, excelling in one-on-one situations but prefers giving assists over scoring himself
- born in Mostar, he plays for Croatia but brother Ivan for Bosnia and Herzegovina
- awarded MVP of EHF FINAL4 2019 and All-star centre back of EHF EURO 2020

CL: 2017, 2019
EURO: S 2020, B 2016



Artsem Karalek

@karalek_artsem

Line player

- born in Grodno, started career at local side Kronon, moved to SKA Minsk in 2014
- joined Saint-Raphael Var in France in 2016 and reached EHF Cup final in 2017/18, before moving to Kielce in Poland in summer of 2018
- born in 1996, one of biggest young talents of Belarusian handball
- made his debut in Belarusian national team at age 17



Nicolas Tournat

@nicolas_tournat

Line player

- arrived from HBC Nantes in summer of 2020 as successor of Julien Aguinagalde
- played (and lost) three European finals with Nantes: EHF Cup 2013, 2016; CL 2018
- was awarded best line player of French league in past three years (2018-20)
- scored 850 goals for Nantes in six years (2014-20)

EURO: B 2018



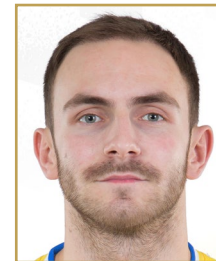
Alex Dujshbaev

@alexdujshebaev

Right back

- son of coach Talant Dujshbaev, joined Kielce at start of 2017/18 season
- had four-year stay in Vardar, winning first CL trophy in club's history in 2017
- usually plays right back but also valuable in centre back position
- key player for Spain, helped team win back-to-back EHF EURO titles in 2018 and 2020

EC trophies: CL 2017
EURO: G 2018, 2020, S 2016



Arkadiusz Moryto

@arekmoryto

Right wing

- arrived at Kielce from Zagłębie Lubin in 2018, after becoming youngest top scorer ever of Polish league in 2017/18 season, and was top scorer again in 2018/19
- awarded best wing player of Polish league in 2017 and 2018
- his role model was Ivan Cupic, who he replaced at Kielce in 2018
- has been part of Polish national team since WCh 2017

GROUP A



Club contact

Club Address
 FC Porto Sofarma
 Estádio do Dragao
 Via FC Porto,
 Portugal

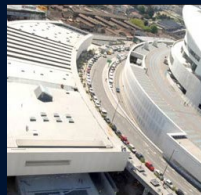
Media contact
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 joana.moreira@fcporto.pt

- fcporto.pt
- [fcportosports](https://www.facebook.com/fcportosports)
- [@FCPorto](https://twitter.com/FCPorto)
- [@fcportosports](https://www.instagram.com/fcportosports)

Kit colours

Light
 Player shirt: white and blue (stripes)
 Shorts: blue or white
 Goalkeeper shirt: black

Dark
 Player shirt: dark blue
 Player shorts: orange
 Goalkeeper shirt: grey



Playing hall
Dragao Arena
 Via Futebol Clube do Porto
 4350419 Porto
 Portugal
 Capacity: 2,225

FC PORTO SOFARMA

FC Porto return to the EHF Champions League Men group phase as the only Portuguese team in the competition. FC Porto were having a strong Champions League season in 2019/20 and secured their first ever Last 16 berth before COVID-19 left everything frozen.

In 2020/21, Porto vow to treat every match as a final and hope that will take them as far as possible in the Champions League.

Main facts

- impressed with solid results last season, including away victories at Kiel and Montpellier
- led the domestic league table in 2019/20 but were not awarded the championship when the season was cut short due to the global pandemic
- Croatian left back Ivan Sliskovic and German line player Manuel Späth are the main newcomers ahead of Swedish head coach Magnus Andersson's third season at the club
- line player Alexis Borges (Montpellier), goalkeepers Thomas Bauer (Athens) and Hugo Laurentino (retired) have left
- ranked third at the EHF Cup Finals in 2019, before returning to the Champions League for the first campaign since 2015/16

Past achievements

EHF Champions League
 Participations (including 2020/21 season): 11
 Last 16 (1): 2019/20
 Group phase (2): 2013/14, 2015/16
 Qualification (7): 1999/00, 2004/05, 2009/10, 2010/11, 2011/12, 2012/13, 2014/15

Other
 EHF Cup: 3rd: 2018/19; Group Phase: 2014/15, 2016/17; Last 16: 1998/99, 2010/11, 2011/12
 Cup Winner's Cup: Quarter-final 2000/01, 2001/02; Last 16: 1996/97, 2007/08

Portuguese league: 21 titles (1954, 1957-60, 1963-65, 1968, 1999, 2002-04, 2009-15, 2019)

Portuguese cup: 8 titles



3 MATCHES
 Longest winning run

37 GOALS
 Most goals

70 GOALS
 Most goals both teams

I EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE CLUB RECORDS

Biggest win	37:15 (16:7) v Vojvodina SRB (h), 05.12.2015
Biggest defeat	35:23 (16:13) v KS Vive Targi Kielce POL (a), 29.09.2013
Longest winning run	3 matches (01.10.2015 – 17.10.2015)
Longest unbeaten run	3 matches (01.10.2015 – 17.10.2015) 3 matches (19.10.2019 – 10.11.2019)
Longest losing run	3 matches (22.09.2013 – 12.10.2013) 3 matches (27.11.2019 – 15.02.2020)
Longest run without win	3 matches (22.09.2013 – 12.10.2013) 3 matches (07.02.2014 – 19.02.2014) 3 matches (13.10.2019 – 02.11.2019) 3 matches (27.11.2019 – 15.02.2020)
Most goals	37 v Vojvodina SRB 37:15W (h), 05.12.2015
Most goals opponent	38 v Telekom Veszprém HC HUN 38:28L (a), 13.10.2019
Most goals both teams	70 v HC Motor Zaporozhye UKR 35:35D (h), 19.10.2019
Fewest goals	20 v KIF Kolding Kobenhavn DEN 25:20L (a), 22.09.2013
Fewest goals opponent	15 v Vojvodina SRB 37:15W (h), 05.12.2015
Fewest goals both teams	43 v Dunkerque HB FRA 22:21W (h), 20.10.2013

I EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE RECORD

	MP	W	T	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS	Stage
2013/14 FC Porto Vitalis POR	10	2	1	7	241:278	-37	5:15	5th Gr. B	
2015/16 Futebol Clube do Porto POR	10	7	0	3	296:265	+31	14:6	3rd Gr. C	
2019/20 FC Porto Sofarma POR	14	6	2	6	400:410	-10	14:14	Last 16*	
Total:	34	15	3	16	937:953	-16	33:35		

* Last 16 and Quarter-finals cancelled due to Covid-19 pandemic



Magnus Andersson
Coach

- Swedish former centre back, going into his 10th season as a coach, and third with Porto after joining the club in 2018
- previously coached teams like Göppingen, Malmö and København as well as the national team of Austria
- led Göppingen to two EHF Cup titles, in 2016 and 2017
- as player a three-time Olympian and part of Sweden's golden generation, winning two world and four EHF EURO titles

EC trophies: EHF Cup 2016, 2017 (as coach)
WCh: G 1990, 1999, S 1997, 2001, B 1993, 1995; EURO: G 1994, 1998, 2000, 2002; OG: S 1992, 1996, 2000 (as player)

Newcomers

Manuel Späth (TVB 1898 Stuttgart/GER)
Nikola Mitrevski (HC Eurofarm Pelister/MKD)
Ivan Sliskovic (Frisch Auf Göppingen/GER)
Tiago Sousa (ADA ISMAI/POR)
Diogo Silva (RK Celje Pivavorno Lasko/SLO)
Martim Costa (FC Gaia/POR)
Jesus Hurtado (FC Porto youth)

Left the club

Alexis Borges (Montpellier HB/FRA)
Yoan Balazquez (Toyoda Gosei/JPN)
Angel Hernandez (Al Duhail/QAT)
Thomas Bauer (AEK H.C. Athens/GRE)
Ruben Ribeiro (unknown)
Miguel Pinto (FC Gaia/POR)

TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height	Weight
1	Alfredo	Quintana Bravo	POR	Goalkeeper	20.03.1988	Havana, CUB	201	92
4	Victor Manuel	Iturriza Alvarez	POR	Line Player	22.05.1990	Havana, CUB	200	105
7	Vasco	Costa	POR	Left Back	02.12.2005	Porto, POR	196	80
8	Tomas	Abreu	POR	Left Wing	29.01.2002	Funchal, POR	184	77
9	Manuel	Späth	GER	Line Player	16.10.1985	Ostfildern, GER	200	101
10	Miguel	Martins Soares	POR	Centre Back	04.11.1997	Porto, POR	192	83
11	Djibril Omar	Mbengue	GER	Right Back	13.05.1992	Stuttgart, GER	198	101
13	Francisco	Costa	POR	Right Wing	16.02.2005	VilaNova de Gaia, POR	185	80
14	Rui	Silva	POR	Centre Back	28.04.1993	Guimaraes, POR	186	80
C 15	Daymaro	Salina Amador	POR	Line Player	01.09.1987	Havana, CUB	200	101
16	Nikola	Mitrevski	MKD	Goalkeeper	03.10.1985	Bitola, MKD	188	84
18	Miguel	Oliveira	POR	Left Back	13.01.2004	Porto, POR	192	78
19	Ivan	Sliskovic	CRO	Left Back	23.10.1991	Split, CRO	197	98
20	Tiago	Sousa	POR	Line Player	06.12.2000	Porto, POR	186	82
21	Leonel	Fernandes	POR	Left Wing	12.03.1998	Porto, POR	186	80
23	Diogo	Branquinho	POR	Right Wing	25.07.1994	Aveiro, POR	180	83
24	Diogo	Silva da Borges	POR	Right Back	02.07.1998	Porto, POR	198	102
25	Antonio	Areia Rodrigues	POR	Right Wing	21.06.1990	Lisboa, POR	191	91
27	Andre	Gomes	POR	Left Back	27.07.1998	Braga, POR	192	94
29	Miguel	Alves	POR	Right Wing	22.07.1996	Porto, POR	188	85
33	Diogo	Marques	POR	Goalkeeper	17.03.2004	Porto, POR	190	88
44	Jesus	Hurtado Vergara	COL	Line Player	16.05.2002	Buenaventura, COL	203	94
69	Bernardo	Pegas	POR	Right Wing	17.09.2003	Porto, POR	185	89
79	Martim	Costa	POR	Left Back	27.09.2002	VilaNova de Gaia, POR	188	88
88	Fabio Ramos	Magalhães	POR	Left Back	12.03.1988	Lisboa, POR	194	100
99	Goncalo	Oliveira	POR	Goalkeeper	16.04.2002	SJ Madeira, POR	192	100



Alfredo Quintana

@quintanaporto1

Goalkeeper

- born in Havana, Cuba, Quintana arrived at FC Porto in 2010
- made his debut for Portuguese national team in 2014, against Tunisia, and played for Portugal at EHF EURO 2020
- has won six Portuguese league titles, all of them at FC Porto
- he is a decisive and very confident player



Miguel Martins

@miguelmartins10

Centre back

- arrived at FC Porto as a 15-year-old in 2013 and has not played for another club since
- was among the most productive players for Porto in the CL 2019/20, netting 43 times
- at 22, a regular starter in Portuguese national team and represented his country at EHF EURO 2020



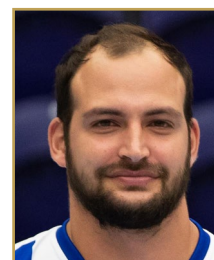
Diogo Branquinho

@diogobranquinho_

Left wing

- after several years at ABC - and winning Challenge Cup with them in 2015/16 - he joined FC Porto in 2017
- won all domestic titles (league, cup, Super Cup) with ABC and again with Porto
- very strong in counterattack, Branquinho is a regular in Portuguese national team
- made his debut for Portugal against Germany in 2016

EC trophies: Challenge Cup 2016



Daymaro Salina

@daymarosalina

Line player

- Cuba-born player who joined FC Porto in 2011 and stayed with the club ever since
- one of Porto's team captains, he has won several Portuguese league titles
- is an easy scorer and a defensive machine
- made his national team debut for Portugal against Qatar in 2016

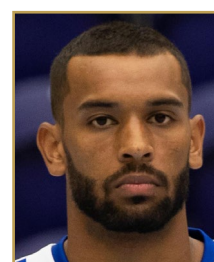


André Gomes

Left back

- joined Porto from league rivals ABC in 2017 alongside Diogo Branquinho, a year after they won the Challenge Cup with ABC
- part of Portuguese national team, sharing left-back position with Gilberto Duarte
- was Porto's second-best scorer in the CL 2019/20 with 47 goals; only Branquinho scored more (55)

EC trophies: Challenge Cup 2016



Djibril M'Bengue

@djibril_mbengue11

Right back

- German player who joined Porto in summer of 2018 after five years in Stuttgart
- right back with Senegalese roots, who has a great mentality on court
- physically strong player with an excellent shot



Rui Silva

@ruiisilva14

Centre back

- after five years at Sporting CP, he arrived at domestic rivals FC Porto in 2015 and quickly became a key player for the club
- an intelligent athlete and essential in the team's offensive maneuver
- very important in 7-against-6 tactics for his team
- assists well for the pivot, also a strong finisher



Antonio Areia

@antonioareia25

Right wing

- arrived at FC Porto in 2015 after five seasons with league rivals SL Benfica
- previously played for Belenenses, from 2008-10
- left-handed wing, who is a true expert from the penalty line
- debuted for Portuguese national team against Romania in 2014 and has been a regular ever since, also played at EHF EURO 2020

GROUP A



Club contact

Club Address
 MOL-Pick Szeged
 Deák Ferenc u. 28-30.
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 Hungary

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[pickhandball](https://www.facebook.com/pickhandball)

[@pickhandball](https://twitter.com/pickhandball)

[@pickhandball](https://www.instagram.com/pickhandball)

Kit colours

Light
 Player shirt: light blue/
 dark blue stripes
 Player short: light blue
 GK shirt: white or yellow
Dark
 Player shirt: white with blue
 sleeves
 Player short: dark blue
 GK shirt: white



Playing hall
 Varosi Sportcsarnok
 Szeged
 Temesvari Krt.33
 6726 Szeged
 Hungary
 Capacity: 3,200

MOL-PICK SZEGED

MOL-Pick Szeged have been one of the strongest sides in the regular season over the past years and have come close to an EHF FINAL4 ticket more than once, but never reached the pinnacle event in Cologne.

The disappointment has made the Hungarian side eager to show their real power and reach the final days in Europe's top flight for the first time in history.

Main facts

- goalkeeper Roland Mikler, right wing Bogdan Radivojevic, right back Jorge Maqueda and line player Bence Banhidi were all nominated for last season's All-star Team vote and Banhidi was named the pivot in the VELUX EHF Champions League 2019/20 All-star Team
- Szeged will play the upcoming season of the Champions League after an upgrade request was granted by the EHF Executive Committee
- while goalkeeper Mirko Alilovic and right back Luka Stepancic extended their contracts, defensive specialist Alen Blazevic left the club after eight seasons, for Romanian side HC Dobrogea Sud Constanta
- Borut Mackovsek arrived from Veszprém, while Jorge Maqueda left for Veszprém
- current European champion Joan Canellas underwent surgery over the summer

Past achievements

EHF Champions League

Participations (including 2020/21 season): 19
 Quarter-final (5): 1996/1997, 2003/2004, 2014/15, 2016/17, 2018/19
 Last 16 (7): 2004/2005, 2005/2006, 2006/2007, 2010/2011, 2012/13, 2015/16, 2017/18, 2019/20
 Main Round (1): 2007/2008
 Group Phase (3): 2008/2009, 2009/2010, 2011/2012
 Qualification (1): 2013/14

Other

EHF Cup: Winners 2015, Quarter-final 2001
 Last 16: 1994/95, 1999/2000
 Cup Winners' Cup: Semi-final 1993/94, Quarter-final: 2002/03, 2008/09

Hungarian league: 3 titles (1996, 2007, 2018)
Hungarian cup: 7 titles



10 MATCHES
 Longest unbeaten run

39 GOALS
 Most goals

73 GOALS
 Most goals both teams

I EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE CLUB RECORDS

Biggest win	39:24 (15:10) v HC Bosna Sarajevo BIH (h), 07.10.2007
Biggest defeat	40:17 (19:5) v FC Barcelona ESP (a), 15.02.1997
Longest winning run	7 matches (13.10.2019 – 30.11.2019)
Longest unbeaten run	10 matches (28.09.2019 – 16.02.2020)
Longest losing run	6 matches (17.10.2009 – 20.02.2010)
	6 matches (06.03.2011 – 15.10.2011)
Longest run without win	7 matches (17.10.2009 – 27.02.2010)
Most goals	39 v HC Bosna Sarajevo BIH 39:24W (h), 07.10.2007
Most goals opponent	40 v FC Barcelona ESP 40:17L (a), 15.02.1997
Most goals both teams	73 v Montpellier Aggl. HB FRA 38:35W (h), 19.11.2011
Fewest goals	17 v FC Barcelona ESP 40:17L (a), 15.02.1997
Fewest goals opponent	16 v Wisla Plock SA POL 16:26W (a), 05.10.2008
	16 v Orlen Wisla Plock POL 23:16W (h), 31.03.2019
Fewest goals both teams	39 v Celje Pivovarna Lasko SLO 20:19W (h), 08.03.2008
	39 v Orlen Wisla Plock POL 23:16W (h), 31.03.2019

I EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE RECORD

	MP	W	T	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS	Stage
1996/97 Pick Szeged HUN	8	3	2	3	205:216	-11	8:8	8:8	Quarter-final
2003/04 SC Pick Szeged HUN	10	4	0	6	269:262	+7	8:12	8:12	Quarter-final
2004/05 SC Pick Szeged HUN	8	4	2	2	190:187	+3	10:6	10:6	Last 16
2005/06 SC Pick Szeged HUN	8	3	0	5	219:218	+1	6:10	6:10	Last 16
2006/07 SC Pick Szeged HUN	8	3	2	3	202:203	-1	8:8	8:8	Last 16
2007/08 Pick Szeged HUN	12	9	0	3	361:310	+51	18:6	18:6	3rd MR Gr. 4
2008/09 Pick Szeged HUN	6	2	0	4	159:161	-2	4:8	4:8	3rd Gr. H
2009/10 Pick Szeged HUN	10	2	2	6	287:307	-20	6:14	6:14	5th Gr. A
2010/11 Pick Szeged HUN	12	5	0	7	336:351	-15	10:14	10:14	Last 16
2011/12 Pick Szeged HUN	10	3	0	7	285:316	-31	6:14	6:14	5th Gr. D
2012/13 Pick Szeged HUN	12	4	0	8	313:350	-37	8:16	8:16	Last 16
2014/15 MOL-Pick Szeged HUN	14	9	1	4	395:383	+12	19:9	19:9	Quarter-final
2015/16 MOL-Pick Szeged HUN	16	8	1	7	466:455	+11	17:15	17:15	Last 16
2016/17 MOL-Pick Szeged HUN	18	10	2	6	492:458	+34	22:14	22:14	Quarter-final
2017/18 MOL-Pick Szeged HUN	16	7	1	8	471:467	+4	15:17	15:17	Last 16
2018/19 MOL-Pick Szeged HUN	18	12	2	4	508:489	+19	26:10	26:10	Quarter-final
2019/20 MOL-Pick Szeged HUN	14	9	2	3	409:370	+39	20:8	20:8	Last 16*
Total:	200	97	17	86	5567:5503	+64	211:189		

* Last 16 and Quarter-finals cancelled due to Covid-19 pandemic



TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height	Weight
1	Barnabas	Marczika	HUN	Goalkeeper	09.05.2001	Szeged, HUN	186	84
7	Luka	Stepancic	CRO	Right Back	20.11.1990	Pula, CRO	203	105
C 8	Jonas	Källman	SWE	Left Wing	17.07.1981	Växjö, SWE	200	95
9	Richard	Bodo	HUN	Left Back	13.03.1993	Mateszalka, HUN	203	110
10	Stefan Rafn	Sigurmannsson	ISL	Left Wing	19.05.1990	Hafnarfjörður, ISL	197	101
13	Daniel	Kecskes	HUN	Right Wing	01.12.2001	Nyíregyháza, HUN	187	72
14	Joan	Cañellas	ESP	Centre Back	30.09.1986	St. Maria de Palau, ESP	198	110
15	Nik	Henigman	SLO	Left Back	04.12.1995	Ljubljana, SLO	200	100
16	Roland	Mikler	HUN	Goalkeeper	20.09.1984	Dunaujvaros, HUN	190	100
17	Bogdan	Radivojevic	SRB	Right Wing	02.03.1993	Belgrade, SRB	192	81
22	Matej	Gaber	SLO	Line Player	22.07.1991	Kranj, SLO	198	115
23	Bence	Vetesi	HUN	Centre Back	06.04.2000	Budapest, HUN	184	81
24	Martin	Stranovsky	SVK	Left Wing	12.09.1985	Nove Zamky, SVK	187	78
24	Mario	Sostaric	SLO	Right Wing	25.11.1992	Slovenj Gradec, SLO	193	93
27	Bence	Banhidi	HUN	Line Player	09.02.1995	Győr, HUN	207	126
32	Mirko	Alilovic	CRO	Goalkeeper	15.09.1985	Ljubuski, CRO	200	110
37	Stanislav	Kasperek	CZE	Right Back	11.06.1996	Prerov, CZE	202	90
39	Bruno	Bajusz	HUN	Left Wing	25.05.2001	Szeged, HUN	193	78
44	Dean	Bombac	SLO	Centre Back	04.04.1989	Koper, SLO	190	95
45	Miklós	Rosta	HUN	Line Player	14.02.1999	Győr, HUN	203	110
48	Jozsef	Toth	HUN	Line Player	23.06.1999	Szeged, HUN	195	110
51	Borut	Mackovsek	SLO	Left Back	11.09.1992	Koper, SLO	203	100
77	Luka	Krivokapic	SRB	Goalkeeper	07.02.2002	Funchal, POR	195	85
89	Dmitry	Zhitnikov	RUS	Right Back	20.11.1989	Zvolen, SVK	195	96
90	Dániel	Fekete	ROU	Left Back	14.06.1999	Székelyudvarhely, ROU	198	98
91	Patrik	Hegedüs	HUN	Left Back	02.03.2003	Kiskunhalas, HUN	196	93
92	Barnabas	Rea	HUN	Centre Back	15.11.2002	Szeged, HUN	182	85
93	Benjamin	Szilagyi	HUN	Right Wing	18.05.2003	Szeged, HUN	187	70



Juan Carlos Pastor
Coach

- Spanish mastermind of contemporary handball, winning a lot of silverware during his coaching career
- Szeged signed him in 2013 to rebuild the team and challenge Veszprém for the Hungarian title, which Szeged won in 2018
- also led Szeged to EHF Cup triumph in 2013/14
- previously worked with BM Valladolid and won Cup Winners' Cup with the Spanish side in 2008/09
- had huge success as Spain's national team coach in 2004-08, winning world title, EHF EURO silver and Olympic bronze

EC trophies: EHF Cup 2014; CWC 2009
WCh: G 2005, EURO: S 2006, OG: B 2008

Newcomers

Borut Mackovsek (Telekom Veszprém HC/HUN)

Left the club

Jorge Maqueda (Telekom Veszprém HC/HUN)
Alen Blazevic (Dobrogea Sud Constanta/ROU)



Roland Mikler

@miklerroland

Goalkeeper

- returned to Szeged in 2019 following five-year spell at domestic rivals Veszprém
- had joined Veszprém after winning EHF Cup with Szeged in 2014
- earlier in his career he played an EHF Cup final as a teenager with Dunaferri in 2003
- All-star goalkeeper at junior WCh 2005, where Hungary won bronze, and has been regular in Hungarian national team ever since

EC trophies: EHF Cup 2014



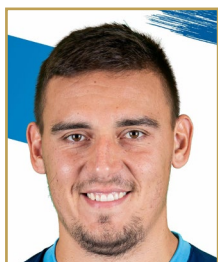
Jonas Källman

@jonas_kallman

Left wing

- three-time CL winner, signed by Szeged halfway through 2013/14 after more than a decade in Spain (Ciudad Real, Atlético Madrid) and his native Sweden (IFK Skövde)
- has shown his ability to defend in three positions
- vital in coach Juan Carlos Pastor's defensive variations and Szeged's attacking edge
- part of Sweden's national team that won silver at 2012 London Olympics

EC trophies: CL 2006, 2008, 2009; EHF Cup 2014
OG: S 2012



Richard Bodo

@bodoric9

Left back

- Hungarian international, who arrived at Szeged in 2016 from Tatabánya
- was named Hungarian Player of the Year in 2018, the year Szeged beat Veszprém to the domestic title
- made national team debut in 2012, played at WCh 2019 but missed EHF EURO 2020 due to injury



Joan Canellas

@joancanellas21

Centre back

- played for a string of top clubs in Europe before joining Szeged in 2018
- started career at Granollers before playing for Barça, Ciudad Real, Atlético Madrid, Hamburg, Kiel and Vardar, where he won the CL in 2017
- made debut for Spain in 2008, became top scorer of EHF EURO 2014, with 50 goals
- his younger brother Marc is also a professional handball player

EC trophies: CL 2017
EURO: G 2018, 2020, S 2016, B 2014; WCh: G 2013, B 2011



Dean Bombac

@dean_bombac44

Centre back

- Slovenian playmaker, returned to Szeged in 2018 following two-year stint at Kielce
- had moved to Poland after his exceptional CL 2015/16 season with Szeged, scoring 101 goals and being voted into All-star Team
- won Challenge Cup with his first club, Slovenia's RK Koper, in 2011; also had short spells at Dinamo Minsk in Belarus and PAUC in France
- flamboyant player with ability to score incredible goals

EC trophies: Challenge Cup 2011



Bence Banhidi

@banhidibence27

Line player

- only started playing at age 14, as back-court player at his local club Győr
- arrived at Szeged in 2016 after four years with Balatonfüredi KSE
- sharing playing time on the line with Slovenian defence specialist Matej Gaber
- named Junior Player of the Year in Hungary in 2015, year after his national team debut
- key player for Hungary, voted EHF EURO 2020 All-star Team line player



Luka Stepanic

@lukastepanic7

Right back

- after three seasons at PSG, he joined Szeged in 2019 to get more playing time
- Szeged is only third team in his career, which he started at Zagreb in his native Croatia
- won bronze with Croatia at WCh 2013 and added EHF EURO silver in 2020

WCh: B 2013; EURO: S 2020



Bogdan Radivojevic

@radivojevicbogdan41

Right wing

- Serbian international, who was named EHF Player of the Month in September 2019, right after joining Szeged following two seasons with Rhein-Neckar Löwen
- scored 63 goals in the group phase in his first season with Szeged
- previously played for Flensburg-Handewitt, winning the CL in 2014
- once said he "would trade everything I ever won for an EHF EURO medal with Serbia"

EC trophies: CL 2014

GROUP A



Club contact

Club Address
 HC Meshkov Brest
 Leningradskaya 4
 224028 Brest
 Belarus

Media contact
 Artur Zhol
 +375 293 74 08 43
media@bgk-meshkova.com

- meshkovbrest.by
- meshkovbrest
- meshkovbrest
- @meshkovbrest

Kit colours

Light
 Player shirt: white
 Player short: red
 GK shirt: yellow

Dark
 Player shirt: blue
 Player short: blue
 GK shirt: black



Playing hall
Sportshall Victoria
 Leningradskaya 4
 224028 Brest
 Belarus
 Capacity: 3,500

HC MESHKOV BREST

After failing to reach the EHF Champions League Last 16 for the first time in five years last season, HC Meshkov Brest hope to do better in their new campaign.

Having made some changes to their squad, the Belarusian champions are determined to reach the play-offs this time.

Main facts

- Brest won Belarusian league for seventh successive year and 12th time overall in 2019/20
- last season Brest failed to reach Last 16 for first time since 2014/15
- Spanish head coach Raul Alonso extended his contract for another season in May
- William Accambray, Nemanja Obradovic, Artsiom Kulak, Darko Dukic, Branko Kankaras and Daniel Andrejew left the club
- to replace them, Stas Skube, Dmitrii Santalov, Pawel Paczkowski and Vladimir Vranjes joined Brest in summer

Past achievements

EHF Champions League
 Participations (including 2020/21 season): 12
 Last 16 (4): 2015/16, 2016/17, 2017/18, 2018/19
 Group Phase (6): 2004/05, 2005/06, 2006/07, 2007/08, 2014/15, 2019/20
 Qualification (1): 2008/09

Other
Cup Winners' Cup: Quarter-final 2011/12
EHF Cup: Last 16 2003/04

Belarusian league: 12 titles (2004-08, 2014-20)
Belarusian cup: 11 titles



7 MATCHES
 Longest unbeaten run

36 GOALS
 Most goals

73 GOALS
 Most goals both teams

EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE CLUB RECORDS

Biggest win	34:22 (15:14) v Vojvodina SRB (h), 19.09.2015
Biggest defeat	36:17 (16:8) v GOG Gudme DEN (a), 09.10.2004
Longest winning run	5 matches (24.10.2015 – 05.12.2015)
Longest unbeaten run	7 matches (24.10.2015 – 05.03.2016)
Longest losing run	10 matches (09.10.2004 – 06.11.2005)
Longest run without win	10 matches (30.09.2006 – 10.11.2007)
Most goals	36 v RK Celje Pivovarna Lasko SLO 36:36D (a), 27.11.2016 36 v HC Motor Zaporozhye UKR 33:36W (a), 09.02.2020
Most goals opponent	41 v Barça Lassa ESP 41:32L (a), 02.12.2018
Most goals both teams	73 v Barça Lassa ESP 41:32L (a), 02.12.2018
Fewest goals	17 v GOG Gudme DEN 36:17L (a), 09.10.2004 17 v RK Gorenje Velenje SLO 27:17L (a), 30.10.2004
Fewest goals opponent	20 v TATTRAN Presov SVK 20:30W (a), 26.09.2015 20 v Aalborg Handbold DEN 20:23W (a), 08.10.2017
Fewest goals both teams	42 v HC PPD Zagreb CRO 21:21D (h), 18.02.2017

EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE RECORD

	MP	W	T	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS	Stage
2004/05 Brestskiy HC Meshkovo BLR	6	1	0	5	143:184	-41	2:10	4th Gr. C	
2005/06 Brest HC Meshkov BLR	6	1	0	5	165:183	-18	2:10	4th Gr. E	
2006/07 Brest HC Meshkov BLR	6	0	0	6	146:189	-43	0:12	4th Gr. B	
2007/08 HC Meshkov Brest BLR	6	1	0	5	154:182	-28	2:10	4th Gr. H	
2014/15 HC Meshkov Brest BLR	10	2	2	6	267:293	-26	6:14	5th Gr. A	
2015/16 HC Meshkov Brest BLR	14	9	1	4	437:383	+54	19:9	Last 16	
2016/17 HC Meshkov Brest BLR	16	5	4	7	434:439	-5	14:18	Last 16	
2017/18 HC Meshkov Brest BLR	16	4	3	9	426:466	-40	11:21	Last 16	
2018/19 HC Meshkov Brest BLR	16	4	1	11	427:479	-52	9:23	Last 16	
2019/20 HC Meshkov Brest BLR	14	4	0	10	401:431	-30	8:20	7th Gr. B	
Total:	110	31	11	68	3000:3229	-229	73:147		



TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height	Weight
C 1	Ivan	Pesic	CRO	Goalkeeper	17.03.1989	Rijeka, CRO	194	112
3	Dmitrii	Santalov	RUS	Left Back	07.04.1996	Blagoveshensk, RUS	196	99
4	Yahor	Budzeika	BLR	Right Back	01.05.2000	Baranovichi, BLR	195	88
8	Marko	Panic	BIH	Right Back	10.03.1991	Jajce, BIH	197	101
9	Alexsander	Shkurinskiy	RUS	Left Back	11.04.1995	Krasnodar region, RUS	193	90
12	Ivan	Matskevich	BLR	Goalkeeper	08.05.1991	Lepel, BLR	190	110
14	Andrei	Yurinok	BLR	Left Wing	21.09.1996	Brest, BLR	196	95
20	Stas	Skube	SLO	Centre Back	15.11.1989	Novo Mesto, SLO	179	85
21	Ilya	Usik	BLR	Goalkeeper	13.08.1998	Brest, BLR	196	87
22	Viachaslau	Shumak	BLR	Line Player	22.12.1988	Brest, BLR	202	115
24	Maksim	Baranau	BLR	Right Wing	11.04.1988	Bobruysk, BLR	190	85
25	Danila	Viarheichyk	BLR	Right Back	27.05.2000	Brest, BLR	190	90
31	Simon	Razgor	SLO	Left Wing	18.09.1985	Celje, SLO	183	86
33	Pawel	Paczkowski	POL	Right Back	14.06.1993	Swiecie, POL	195	93
34	Sandro	Obranovic	CRO	Left Back	18.10.1992	Karlovac, CRO	195	93
42	Artsiom	Selviasiuk	BLR	Line Player	08.12.1992	Brest, BLR	192	95
55	Mikita	Vailupau	BLR	Right Wing	30.07.1995	Vitebsk, BLR	186	87
66	Jaka	Malus	SLO	Centre Back	15.06.1996	Celje, SLO	190	88
76	Ilya	Tamashuk	BLR	Left Wing	28.06.2000	Brest, BLR	185	85
77	Vladimir	Vranjes	BIH	Line Player	14.12.1988	Banja Luka, BIH	200	107
98	Valiantsin	Silko	BLR	Centre Back	20.01.2000	Brest, BLR	180	80



Raul Alonso
Coach

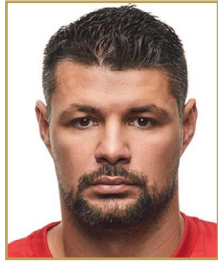
- Spanish coach, who was assistant to Manolo Cadenas until taking over as head coach when Cadenas stepped down in April 2019
- Brest finished 7th in CL group B in first season under Alonso
- spent most of his playing and coaching career in Germany
- was assistant coach at THW Kiel between 2010 and 2015 and helped them win two CL titles
- worked three seasons as head coach of Handball Tirol in Austria before moving to Brest in summer of 2018

Newcomers

Dmitrii Santalov (Chekhovskie medvedi/RUS)
Pawel Paczkowski (Telekom Veszprém HC/HUN)
Stas Skube (HC Vardar 1961/MKD)
Vladimir Vranjes (Grundfos Tatabánya KC/HUN)

Left the club

Nemanja Obradovic (HC PPD Zagreb/CRO)
William Accambray (PAUC Handball/FRA)
Artsiom Kulak (Chekhovskie medvedi/RUS)
Darko Djukic (Sporting CP/POR)
Branko Kankaras (RK Metalurg Skopje/MKD)
Daniel Andrejew (unknown)

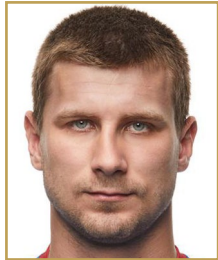


Ivan Pesic

@ivanpesic17

Goalkeeper

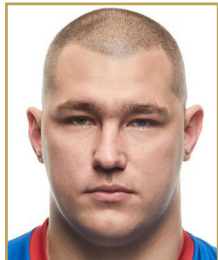
- joined Brest in 2013 under then coach, and fellow Croatian, Zeljko Babic
- also played for RK Maribor Branik, HC Zagreb and Veszprém in the past
- had kidney removed after being stabbed in 2009 night club incident, in which Veszprém teammate Marian Cozma was killed
- practiced taekwondo successfully in his childhood



Andrei Yurynok

Left wing

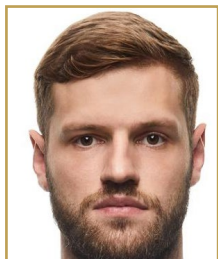
- born in Brest, but started career in Minsk (Vityaz, SKA) and joined Meshkov in 2016
- was a line player in his youth before coaches successfully put him on the left wing
- best scorer of Belarus at EHF EURO 2018 with 24 goals; also played for the national team at EHF EURO 2020



Dmitrii Santalov

Left back

- Russian national team player, who joined Brest in summer of 2020 after six years at Chekhovskie Medvedi
- shares left back position at Brest with fellow Russian player Aleksander Shkurinskiy
- born and raised in Blagoveshchensk, in far east of Russia, and joined handball academy in Chekhov, some 7,700 kms from his home town, at age 16
- studied ecology at university in Moscow



Aleksandr Shkurinskiy

@alex_shkurinskiy

Left back

- Russian left back, who joined Brest in 2017 from SKIF Krasnodar
- quickly became one of the team's key players, will share his position in 2020/21 season with fellow Russian player Dmitrii Santalov
- national team player, who competed at EHF EURO 2020 and WCh 2017 and 2019



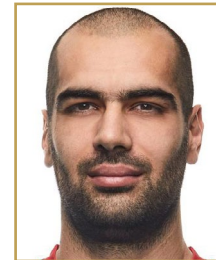
Stas Skube

@stas.skube

Centre back

- joined Brest in summer of 2020, one year after winning CL with Vardar
- made senior debut for Primo Trebnje in his native Slovenia at age 17, playing alongside his older brother Sebastian, and later also played for Velenje and Szeged
- scored personal best 72 goals in CL 2013/14 when Velenje reached Last 16
- despite his height of 1.76 metre, he is one of Slovenia's best playmakers

EC trophies: CL 2019



Vladimir Vranjes

Line player

- powerful line player, who is a defensive specialist, joined Brest in summer of 2020 from Hungarian side Tatabanya
- also played in his native Bosnia as well as Slovenia and Spain in the past, and won EHF Cup with Szeged in 2014
- Bosnian national team player, who took part in WCh 2015 and EHF EURO 2020

EC trophies: EHF Cup 2014



Marko Panic

@pana_8

Right back

- Bosnian back, who joined Brest in summer of 2019 after two seasons at Poland's Azoty-Pulawy, where he was one of the leading players
- started his career at Borac Banja Luka in his homeland in 2006, also played for Chambéry in France from 2012 to 2017 and made CL debut in 2012/13
- made national team debut in 2010, aged 19, and soon became key member of team
- has a rare quality as he shoots almost equally well with both hands



Mikita Vailupau

@vailupov_nikita

Right wing

- moved from SKA Minsk to HC Meshkov Brest in the summer of 2019
- made his debut in the Belarusian national team in 2015
- EHF EURO 2020 was his first major tournament and he finished No. 2 on the top scorers list, with 47 goals, trailing only Norway's Sander Sagosen
- hobby is painting and drawing pictures in the style of abstract expressionism

GROUP A



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- [@ElverumHandball](https://twitter.com/ElverumHandball)
- [@elverumhandball](https://www.instagram.com/elverumhandball)

Kit colours

Light
Player shirt: white
Player short: black
GK shirt: yellow

Dark
Player shirt: black
Player short: black
GK shirt: green



Playing hall

Terningen Arena
Hamarvegen 112
2418 Elverum
Norway
Capacity: 2,500

ELVERUM HANDBALL

With record-breaking crowds in Lillehammer last season and one of the most stunning summer signings, Elverum Handball have been making big statements of their intention to belong in Europe's elite club competition.

Having recorded some promising results last season, the Norwegian champions must now find another gear to compete in a tough group A.

Main facts

- entering the group phase for the sixth consecutive season since first qualifying in 2015
- announced one of the biggest signings of the summer, bringing in Olympic, world and EHF EURO champion Luc Abalo from PSG
- set attendance record for handball in Norway last season with 12,377 fans visiting Lillehammer's Hakons Hall for match against PSG
- 2010 CL winner and Norwegian men's assistant coach Borge Lund takes over as coach from Michael Apelgren, who moves to IK Sävehof
- won regular season in Norway, suffering just one defeat, and were awarded the title after play-offs were cancelled

Past achievements

EHF Champions League
Participations (including 2020/21 season): 7
Group Phase (5): 2015/16, 2016/2017, 2017/18, 2018/19, 2019/20
Qualification (1): 2013/14

Other
Cup Winners' Cup: Quarter-final 2010/11
EHF Cup: Group Phase 2012/13

Norwegian play off: 11 titles (1995, 2008, 2012-20)
Norwegian league: 4 titles (2013, 2017, 2018, 2020)
Norwegian Cup: 3 titles



4 MATCHES
Longest winning run

40 GOALS
Most goals

72 GOALS
Most goals both teams

I EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE CLUB RECORDS

Biggest win	37:26 (21:13) v RK Celje Pivovarna L. SLO (h), 01.12.2019
Biggest defeat	23:37 (12:18) v Skjern Handbold DEN (h), 27.09.2015
Longest winning run	4 matches (30.09.2018 – 03.11.2018)
Longest unbeaten run	4 matches (30.09.2018 – 03.11.2018)
Longest losing run	5 matches (15.09.2019 – 20.10.2019)
Longest run without win	10 matches (01.12.2018 – 24.11.2019)
Most goals	40 v Dinamo Bucuresti ROU 40:32W (h), 08.10.2017
Most goals opponent	37 v Skjern Handbold DEN 23:37L (h), 27.09.2015
Most goals both teams	72 v Dinamo Bucuresti ROU 40:32W (h), 08.10.2017
Fewest goals	17 v HC Metalurg MKD 18:17L (a), 24.09.2016
Fewest goals opponent	18 v HC Metalurg MKD 18:17L (a), 24.09.2016
Fewest goals both teams	35 v HC Metalurg MKD 18:17L (a), 24.09.2016

I EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE RECORD

	MP	W	T	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS	Stage
2015/16 Elverum Handball Herrer NOR	10	3	1	6	274:289	-15	7:13	5th Gr. D	
2016/17 Elverum Handball NOR	10	3	2	5	257:274	-17	8:12	5th Gr. C	
2017/18 Elverum Handball NOR	10	5	0	5	287:304	-17	10:10	4th Gr. C	
2018/19 Elverum Handball NOR	10	6	1	3	278:272	+6	13:7	3rd Gr. D	
2019/20 Elverum Handball NOR	14	1	1	12	365:419	-54	3:25	8th Gr. A	
Total:	54	18	5	31	1461:1558	-97	41:67		



TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height	Weight
1	Jesper	Gulliksen	NOR	Goalkeeper	07.09.1999	Skien, NOR	191	110
2	Oskar	Kvernes	NOR	Right Wing	10.06.2001	Brandval, NOR	178	72
4	Christopher	Hedberg	SWE	Right Wing	08.08.1992	Skövde, SWE	193	88
5	Kristian	Larsen	NOR	Line Player	22.03.2000	Sandefjord, NOR	198	103
6	Rasmus	Boysen	DEN	Back	14.10.1992	Tønder, DEN	191	100
7	Simen	Schønningesen	NOR	Right Back	21.02.1996	Fetsund, NOR	190	82
9	Simen	Pettersen	NOR	Left Back	08.04.1998	Tønsberg, NOR	190	86
12	Emil Kheri	Imsgard	NOR	Goalkeeper	06.03.1998	Hamar, NOR	196	98
14	Johan Niclas	Fingren	SWE	Left Back	19.11.1995	Kungsbacka, SWE	196	99
15	Tobias	Grøndahl	NOR	Centre Back	22.01.2001	Bærum, NOR	182	83
16	Thorsten	Fries	DEN	Goalkeeper	22.01.1993	Tønder, DEN	197	94
18	Edwin Nils	Svensson	SWE	Right Back	07.08.2000	Hjo, SWE	195	95
19	Luc	Abalo	FRA	Right Wing	06.09.1984	Ivry, FRA	182	80
20	Endre	Langaas	NOR	Line Player	05.10.1991	Trondheim, NOR	184	99
21	William	Nilsen-Nygaard	NOR	Left Wing	03.07.1995	Bærum, NOR	191	94
23	Dominik	Mathe	HUN	Right Back	01.04.1999	Nyíregyháza, HUN	197	104
29	Søren Tau	Sørensen	DEN	Line Player	18.12.1985	Odense, DEN	193	114
C 44	Thomas	Solstad	NOR	Line Player	26.02.1997	Ski, NOR	194	109
70	Carl Josef	Pujol	SWE	Centre Back	19.02.1992	Stocholm, SWE	183	78
71	Alexander	Blonz	NOR	Left Wing	17.04.2000	Stavanger, NOR	187	82



Børge Lund
Coach

@louboega

- Norwegian former centre back, who took over from Michael Apelgren as Elverum coach in summer of 2020
- Elverum is his first job as head coach after working for four years as an assistant with the Norwegian national team
- spent most of his playing career in Germany, competing for teams like THW Kiel, Rhein-Neckar Löwen and Füchse Berlin
- won CL with Kiel at inaugural EHF FINAL4 in 2010
- played more than 200 matches and scored 390 goals for Norway between 2000 and 2014

EC trophies: CL 2010 (as player)

Newcomers

Luc Abalo (Paris Sain-Germain Handball/FRA)
 Søren Tau (TTH Holstebro/DEN)
 Josef Pujol (GOG/DEN)
 Dominik Mathe (Balatonfüredi KSE/HUN)
 Christopher Hedberg (IFK Skövde/SWE)
 Edwin Aspenbäck (IFK Skövde/SWE)
 William Nilsen Nygaard (Halden Topphåndball/NOR)
 Nicolas Aaron Robinson (TUS Dotzheim 1848/GER)
 Niclas Fingren (Redbergslids IK/SWE)
 Oskar Kvernes (Elverum Academy/NOR)
 Simen Schønningesen (Ribe Esbjerg/DEN)
 Kristian Hûbert Larsen (Sandefjord Håndball/NOR)

Left the club

Magnus Fredriksen (HSG Wetzlar/GER)
 Sigvaldi Gudjonsson (PGE VIVE Kielce/POL)
 Lukas Sandell (Aalborg Håndbold/DEN)
 Sebastian Henneberg (Aalborg Håndbold/DEN)
 Didrik Linderud (FyllingenBergen/NOR)
 Sander Linderud (Sandefjord Håndball/NOR)
 Alexander Westby (Drammen HK/NOR)
 Jonas Burud (JS Cherbourg/FRA)
 Kristian Krag Ørsted (JS Cherbourg/FRA)
 Jonas Elverhøy (Sandefjord Håndball/NOR, on loan)
 Alexander Mitrovic (Fjellhammer/NOR, on loan)

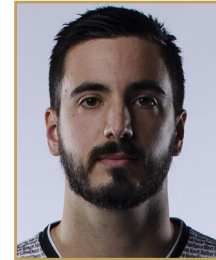


Thorsten Fries

@thorstenfries22

Goalkeeper

- joined Elverum in the summer of 2019 from SønderjyskE in his homeland, Denmark, to replace retired Norwegian international Morten Nergaard
- started career at KIF Kolding but had breakthrough with SønderjyskE
- gained his first European experience with Kolding, playing in the EHF Cup (2012/13) and the CL (2013/14)

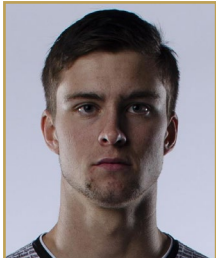


Josef Pujol

@josefpujol

Centre back

- Swedish centre back, who returned to Elverum after three seasons in summer of 2020
- played for Gummersbach (2017/18) and GOG (2018-2020) in the meantime
- gained first CL experience with Elverum before starting his Bundesliga adventure
- started his career in Hammarby, in his Swedish homeland
- won gold with Sweden's Under-21 team at Junior WCh 2013



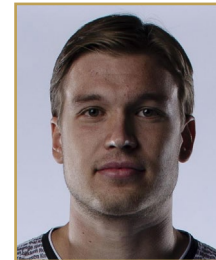
Alexander Blonz

@alexandreblonz

Left wing

- still in early stages of his career, joined Elverum from Viking HK in summer of 2019
- debuted for Norway national team at Gjensidige Cup just before WCh 2019; has since won WCh silver and EURO bronze medals
- made headlines during WCh 2019 with some stellar performances
- very fast and technically skilled wing with huge potential

WCh: S 2019; EURO: B 2020



Thomas Solstad

@thomasolstad

Line player

- joined Elverum from BK Halden in the summer of 2019
- was a regular in Norway's youth and junior national teams
- forms a reliable line player duo with Endre Langaas
- a strong player, at 194 cm and 107 kg, effective at both ends of the court

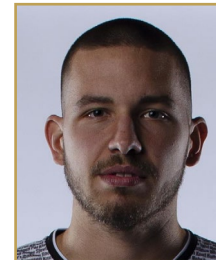


Simen Holand Pettersen

@simenptrsn

Left back

- 2020/21 is his third season with Elverum, after joining from Sandefjord IF in 2018
- son of former national team coach Gunnar Pettersen
- made debut for national team in June 2019, against Spain in EHF EURO Cup 2020
- scored 16 goals from 16 attempts in a junior international against Romania in 2017
- one of few back-court players who shoots almost equally well with both hands



Dominik Mathé

@mathedominik

Right back

- Hungarian international, who arrived at Elverum in 2020 from Balatonfüredi KSE
- 2020/21 is his first season playing in the CL
- 21-year-old right back, who gained EHF Cup experience with Balatonfüred
- had his best European season in 2018/19, scoring 48 times for the Hungarian side



Rasmus Boysen

@boysenrasmus

Left back

- joined Elverum in summer of 2019 after four years with Danish side Ribe Esbjerg
- previously played nine seasons for top Danish club Skjern Handbold (2005-14)
- big and physically strong player, whose main qualities are in defence
- well-known for displaying his extensive knowledge of handball on social media



Luc Abalo

@lucabalo19

Right wing

- joined Elverum from PSG in one of the most eye-catching CL transfers of 2020
- arrived as one of the first stars at PSG in 2012, coming from Atletico Madrid
- played EHF FINAL4 five times but never won it; did win CL with Ciudad Real in 2009
- highly successful French international, who keeps impressing with his lightning speed and extraordinary jumping skills

EC trophies: CL 2009
OG: G 2008, 2012, S 2016; EURO: G 2006, 2010, 2014, B 2018; WCh: 2009, 2011, 2017, B 2019

GROUP A



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[@SGFleHa](https://twitter.com/SGFleHa)

[@sgflensburghandewitt](https://www.instagram.com/sgflensburghandewitt)

Kit colours

Light
 Player shirt: white
 Player short: blue
 GK shirt: yellow

Dark
 Player shirt: grey
 Player short: grey
 GK shirt: red



Playing hall
Flens Arena
 Campusallee 2
 24943 Flensburg
 Germany
 Capacity: 6,300

SG FLENSBURG— HANDEWITT

30 years ago, SG Flensburg-Handewitt was founded by two former rivals. This season, the German side hope to repeat their highlight of the club's history: winning the trophy in 2014.

With some interesting new arrivals for 2020/21, coach Maik Machulla's team is eager to go all the way.

Main facts

- second ranked when the 2019/20 Bundesliga season was officially ended due to Covid-19 and could not pull off the Bundesliga hat-trick after becoming champions in 2018 and 2019
- lost six straight group matches to finish fifth in their group in 2019/20
- Maik Machulla is entering his fourth season as SG coach
- biggest name among new arrivals is Danish world, European and Olympic champion Mads Mensah Larsen, coming from Rhein-Neckar Löwen. Jens Schöngarth from Sporting CP, German international Franz Semper and Dane Lasse Møller are also new
- club legend Holger Glandorf ended his career and continues in Flensburg's administration, while Simon Jeppsson (HC Erlangen), Anders Zachariassen (GOG Handbold) and Michal Jurecki (Azoty Pulawy) left
- since October 2019, left back Simon Hald has been out after he tore his cruciate ligament in the Champions League match against his former club Aalborg

Past achievements

EHF Champions League

Participations (including 2020/21 season): 16
 Winners (1): 2013/14
 Final (2): 2003/2004, 2006/2007
 Semi-final (1): 2005/2006
 Quarter-final (8): 2004/2005, 2008/2009, 2010/2011, 2012/2013, 2015/16, 2016/17, 2017/18, 2018/19
 Last 16 (2): 2014/15, 2019/20
 Main Round (1): 2007/2008

Other

Cup Winners' Cup: Winners 2001, 2012
 EHF Cup: Winners 1996/1997
 City Cup: Winners 1998/1999

German league: 3 titles (2004, 2018, 2019)
 German cup: 4 titles



9 MATCHES
 Longest winning run

44 GOALS
 Most goals

80 GOALS
 Most goals both teams

I EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE CLUB RECORDS

Biggest win	43:24 (23:12) v RK Metalurg Skopje MKD (h), 19.10.2006
Biggest defeat	36:22 (16:10) v Montpellier HB FRA (a), 06.03.2005
	24:38 (08:19) v Renovalia C. Real ESP (h), 21.04.2011
	35:21 (19:13) v KIF Kolding DEN (a), 28.09.2014
Longest winning run	9 matches (11.10.2015 – 20.02.2016)
Longest unbeaten run	9 matches (11.10.2015 – 20.02.2016)
Longest losing run	6 matches (20.10.2019 – 01.12.2019)
Longest run without win	6 matches (20.10.2019 – 01.12.2019)
Most goals	44 v Redbergslicids IK SWE 44:33W (h), 22.11.2003
Most goals opponent	41 v Celje Pivovarna Lasko SLO 41:31L (a), 02.12.2006
Most goals both teams	80 v FC Barcelona ESP 39:41W (a), 31.05.2014
Fewest goals	17 v Montpellier HB FRA 29:17L (a), 29.04.2018
Fewest goals opponent	17 v HC PPD Zagreb CRO 20:17W (h), 09.10.2019
Fewest goals both teams	37 v HC PPD Zagreb CRO 20:17W (h), 09.10.2019

I EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE RECORD

	MP	W	T	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS	Stage
2003/04 SG Flensburg-Handewitt GER	14	10	1	3	450:401	+49	21:7	Runner-up	
2004/05 SG Flensburg-Handewitt GER	10	7	1	2	319:270	+49	15:5	Quarter-final	
2005/06 SG Flensburg Handewitt GER	12	7	0	5	372:326	+46	14:10	Semi-final	
2006/07 SG Flensburg-Handewitt GER	14	8	1	5	437:398	+39	17:11	Runner-up	
2007/08 SG Flensburg-Handewitt GER	12	4	2	6	355:356	-1	10:14	4th MR Gr. 3	
2008/09 SG Flensburg-Handewitt GER	12	8	0	4	360:329	+31	16:8	Quarter-final	
2010/11 SG Flensburg-Handewitt GER	14	11	0	3	394:354	+40	22:6	Quarter-final	
2012/13 SG Flensburg-Handewitt GER	14	9	3	2	416:384	+32	21:7	Quarter-final	
2013/14 SG Flensburg-Handewitt GER	16	12	1	3	489:441	+48	25:7	Winner	
2014/15 SG Flensburg-Handewitt GER	12	6	0	6	337:340	-3	12:12	Last 16	
2015/16 SG Flensburg-Handewitt GER	18	12	1	5	544:494	+50	25:11	Quarter-final	
2016/17 SG Flensburg-Handewitt GER	18	9	1	8	487:478	+9	19:17	Quarter-final	
2017/18 SG Flensburg-Handewitt GER	18	9	5	4	508:494	+14	23:13	Quarter-final	
2018/19 SG Flensburg-Handewitt GER	18	9	1	8	485:475	+10	19:17	Quarter-final	
2019/20 SG Flensburg-Handewitt GER	14	7	1	6	388:379	+9	15:13	Last 16*	
Total:	216	128	18	70	6341:5919	+422	274:158		

* Last 16 and Quarter-finals cancelled due to Covid-19 pandemic



TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height	Weight
1	Benjamin	Buric	BIH	Goalkeeper	20.11.1990	Maglaj, BIH	197	97
4	Johannes	Golla	GER	Line Player	05.11.1997	Wiesbaden, GER	195	110
5	Simon	Hald Jensen	DEN	Line Player	28.09.1994	Aalborg, DEN	203	114
C 11	Lasse	Svan	DEN	Right Wing	31.08.1983	Stevns, DEN	185	85
14	Hampus	Wanne	SWE	Left Wing	10.12.1993	Lundby, SWE	185	84
18	Magnus	Jøndal	NOR	Left Wing	07.02.1988	Ski, NOR	187	83
19	Marius	Steinhauser	GER	Right Wing	06.02.1993	Karlsruhe, GER	187	85
21	Jacob	Heinl	GER	Line Player	03.10.1986	Hamburg	195	100
22	Mads	Mensah Larsen	DEN	Left Back	12.08.1991	Holbæk, DEN	188	109
23	Gøran	Johannessen	NOR	Centre Back	26.04.1994	Stavanger, NOR	192	92
24	Jim	Gottfridsson	SWE	Centre Back	02.09.1992	Ystad, SWE	191	93
30	Torbjoern	Bergerud	NOR	Goalkeeper	16.07.1994	Drammen, NOR	197	90
32	Franz	Semper	GER	Right Back	05.07.1997	Leipzig, GER	190	92
64	Lasse Kjaer	Møller	DEN	Left Back	11.06.1996	Gudme, DEN	199	100
77	Magnus Abelvik	Rød	NOR	Right Back	07.07.1997	Oslo, NOR	202	92
	Rune Jessen	Hinrichsen	DEN	Line Player	16.11.2001	Ravsted, DEN	195	93
	Rasmus	Pedersen	DEN	Goalkeeper	16.07.2001	Arhus, DEN	190	80
	Ty	Reed	USA	Right Wing	18.01.1992	Alabama, USA	192	89
	Leve	Carstensen	GER	Left Wing	18.01.2002	Flensburg, GER	194	85
	Magnus	Holpert	GER	Centre Back	03.02.2003	Flensburg, GER	192	88
	Leon	Kirschberger	GER	Right Wing	01.12.2000	Berlin, GER	188	85
	Torben	Hübke	GER	Line Player	16.05.2002	Berlin, GER	198	94



Maik Machulla
Coach

- took over from Ljubomir Vranjes in 2017, who left Flensburg after 11 years, and won German league in his first and second season
- had been Vranjes' assistant since 2013, after finishing his playing career in Flensburg
- started his professional career for SC Magdeburg (1997-2002), where he won three European Cup trophies
- later played for Nordhorn (already with Vranjes), Hameln and Ahlen-Hamm, before arriving at Flensburg in 2012
- his contract with Flensburg runs until 2023

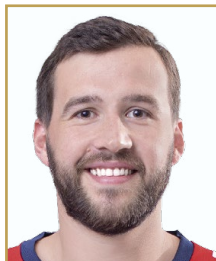
EC trophies: CL 2002; EHF Cup 1999, 2001, 2008

Newcomers

Mads Mensah Larsen (Rhein-Neckar Löwen/GER)
Franz Semper (SC DHfK Leipzig/GER)
Lasse Møller (GOG Gudme/DEN)

Left the club

Holger Glandorf (retired)
Simon Jeppsson (HC Erlangen/GER)
Michal Jurecki (KS Azoty-Pulawy/POL)
Jens Schöngarth (Sporting CP/POR)
Anders Zachariassen (GOG Gudme/DEN)

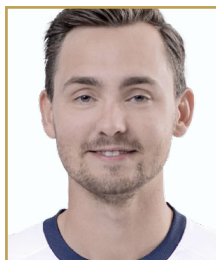


Benjamin Buric

@benjaminburic12

Goalkeeper

- joined Flensburg in 2018 arriving from Wetzlar, and won Bundesliga in his first season
- played for four clubs with his twin brother Senjamin – Maglaj, Izvidjac, Borac and Velenje – and both are Bosnian national team players
- made his name domestically with Borac, before joining Velenje in Slovenia in 2013
- played at EHF Cup Finals 2015 in Berlin, where Velenje finished fourth



Hampus Wanne

@hampusw

Left wing

- scored the last penalty in semi-final against Barcelona at EHF FINAL4 2014
- replaced Anders Eggert, who moved to Skjern, on left wing before 2017/18 season
- shares position with Norwegian left wing Magnus Jöndal
- suffered from several injuries in 2019/20 season

EC trophies: CL 2014
OG: S 2018



Magnus Jöndal

@m_jondal

Left wing

- joined Flensburg in 2018, previously spent two seasons each with Arendal (Norway) and GOG (Denmark)
- started his professional career with Follo HK in Norway, playing there for 12 years
- All-star Team left wing at World Championship 2019 and EHF EURO 2020
- key player for Norway; consistently one of the team's top scorers

WCh: S 2017, 2019; EURO: B 2020



Jim Gottfridsson

@gotte24

Centre back

- comes from Ystad, like many other Swedish handball stars
- played for Ystad from the age of eight until his 2013 transfer to Flensburg at age 21
- key player for SG in CL semi-final and final when they won the trophy in 2014
- top scorer of under-19 WCh 2012 and MVP of EHF EURO 2018 in Croatia

EC trophies: CL 2014
EURO: S 2018



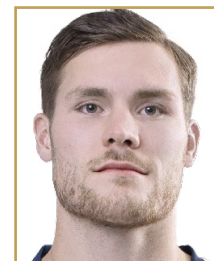
Mads Mensah Larsen

@madsmensah

Centre back

- arrived in Flensburg in 2020 from Bundesliga rivals Rhein-Neckar Löwen, replacing Michal Jurecki who returned to his native Poland
- started his career at AG København, and made it to the EHF FINAL4 in 2012
- played for Aalborg before joining his former coach Nikolaj Jacobsen at Löwen in 2014
- son of a Danish mother and a Ghanaian father

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



Johannes Golla

@johgolla

Line player

- one of Germany's biggest talents, replacing retired defence boss Tobias Karlsson
- arrived in 2018 from MT Melsungen, where he became junior national team player
- his sister, Pauline, was European under-17 champion with Germany in 2017
- had his national team debut in March 2018, is a core player for Germany now



Magnus Röd

@magnusrod

Right back

- 2020/21 is his fourth season at Flensburg, forming duo with newcomer Franz Semper
- Norwegian back who started his career at Oslo club Bækkelaget SK before joining Flensburg, his first club abroad, in 2017
- at 204 cm he is the tallest member of the squad
- one of eight Flensburg players who appeared in the WCh 2019 final

WCh: S 2017, 2019; EURO: B 2020



Lasse Svan

@lassesvan

Right wing

- team captain, joined Flensburg from GOG in 2008 and hasn't played elsewhere since
- only Flensburg player to have won the WCh, EHF EURO, OG and CL in his career
- specialist for motivation and relaxing – as his business is mental coaching
- has gradually overtaken Hans Lindberg as first choice in right wing position for Danish national team

EC trophies: CL 2014; Cup Winners' Cup 2012
OG: G 2016; WCh: G 2019, S 2011, 2013; EURO: G 2012, S 2014



GROUP B PREVIEW

BIG NAMES, LEGENDS AND A TRIO FIGHTING FOR THE TOP POSITIONS

If you need numbers to prove the incredible strength of this group, here they are: Three teams are past EHF Champions League winners and combine for 12 trophies (Barça with eight, Kiel with three, and Celje with one); six of the eight teams are past finalists; the five teams with the longest tradition in the competition - Zagreb, Veszprém, Barça, Celje and Kiel - are part of this group.

Also, five of the eight head coaches have won the EHF Champions League, as players and/or as coaches; and four teams out of the all-time top-five ranking are in this group - Barça (1), Veszprém (2), Kiel (3) and Zagreb (5).

For Veszprém, Kiel and Barça it will be special to play each other in group B, as those teams, alongside Paris Saint-Germain HB, will also face each other in the postponed VELUX EHF FINAL4 2020, which has been rescheduled to 28/29 December.

BARÇA, KIEL AND VESZPRÉM FAVOURITES FOR TOP-TWO SPOTS

This trio will likely be the main contenders for the top-two spots in group B and a direct ticket to the quarter-final.

Group B includes six players from last season's EHF Champions League All-star Team: Newly crowned IHF World Player of the Year Niklas Landin, Sander Sagosen, Niklas Ekberg (all Kiel), Aleix Gomes (Barça), Manuel Strlek and Blaz Blagotinsek (both Veszprém), as well as Veszprém coach David Davis.

With so many stars gathered in the same group, it is unavoidable that many will face one of their former clubs. Barça's Aron Palmarsson, who played a record nine times at the EHF FINAL4, will meet two of his former clubs: Kiel and Veszprém.

Nantes' top star Kiril Lazarov won the EHF Champions League in the Barça jersey and was the competition's top scorer when playing for Zagreb and Veszprém.

Also, Veszpreme left back Rasmus Lauge played for Kiel, Barça's top talent Domen Makuc just arrived from Celje, and THW coach Filip Jicha played for Barça in the past.



MOST EYES WILL BE SANDER SAGOVEN AFTER TOP TRANSFER

Still, most eyes will be on the top transfer this summer: Norwegian world star Sander Sagosen, top scorer of the EHF EURO 2020, who arrived in Kiel from Paris. In Kiel he will share the centre-back position with former IHF World Player of the Year and EHF EURO 2020 MVP Domagoj Duvnjak.

But Barça also signed a jewel: Slovenian right wing Blaz Janc, coming from Kielce and replacing club legend Victor Tomas, who has retired after spending whole his playing career at the club.

WHICH TEAMS CAN KEEP UP WITH THE BIG 3?

Aalborg Handball, one of the big surprises of the 2019/20 group phase, have undergone a huge transition. Seven players left - four of them to teams in the German Bundesliga - but mainly at home the Danish champions are capable of keeping up with the big names.

The biggest change at Zagreb occurred on the bench: Croatian legend, former Barça player and EHF Champions League winner with Hamburg in 2013, Igor Vori succeeded Veselin Vujovic. Vori will work with a talented squad and hope to form it into a candidate for a play-off spot. Two new arrivals at Zagreb will play their former clubs: Zika Mlakar (Celje) and Senjamin Buric (Nantes).

Motor Zaporozhye, under the helm of Lithuanian coach Gintaras Savukynas, failed to live up to expectations last season but will start another attempt to finish among the six best teams.

NANTES WANT TO KEEP THEIR STREAK GOING

Nantes have lost one of their top stars: line player Nicolas Tournat, who joined Kielce. But coach Alberto Entrerrios, a three-time EHF Champions League winner as a player with Ciudad Real, hopes to continue the French club's track record of always proceeding from the group phase when competing in the EHF Champions League - with 2017/18 their absolute highlight season as they reached the final in Cologne.

Most prominent newcomer for Nantes Adrian Figueras, who started the year by winning the Men's EHF EURO 2020 with Spain.

Celje celebrated their jubilee 25th anniversary season last year and want to prove once again, with the youngest team of all 16 participants in 2020/21, that experience is not the only factor that matters.

I GROUP B HEAD-TO-HEADS

PREVIOUS EC ENCOUNTERS OF THE GROUP B TEAMS

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

13.04.1986	VAEV Eritök SC vs FC Barcelona, Cup Winners' Cup – Semi-final	27:25 (13:12)
19.04.1986	FC Barcelona vs VAEV Eritök SC, Cup Winners' Cup – Semi-final	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)

Barça vs THW Kiel 12-2-11 (729:735) 26:24

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)

Barça vs Aalborg Håndbold 6-0-0 (198:140) 12:0

23.03.2014	Aalborg Handball vs FC Barcelona, VELUX EHF Champions League – Last 16	22:29 (13:15)
29.03.2014	FC Barcelona vs Aalborg Handball, VELUX EHF Champions League – Last 16	31:20 (16:11)
15.03.2015	Aalborg Handball vs FC Barcelona, VELUX EHF Champions League – Last 16	11:31 (5:16)
22.03.2015	FC Barcelona vs Aalborg Handball, VELUX EHF Champions League – Last 16	29:22 (14:9)
10.11.2019	Aalborg Handbold vs Barça, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	30:34 (14:15)
16.11.2019	Barça vs Aalborg Handbold, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	44:35 (22:17)

Barça vs HBC Nantes 3-0-1 (117:105) 6:2

07.10.2017	FC Barcelona Lassa vs HBC Nantes, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	31:25 (13:16)
02.12.2017	HBC Nantes vs FC Barcelona Lassa, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	29:25 (16:11)
24.04.2019	HBC Nantes vs Barça Lassa, VELUX EHF Champions League – Quarter-final	25:32 (12:16)
04.05.2019	Barça Lassa vs HBC Nantes, VELUX EHF Champions League – Quarter-final	29:26 (17:14)

Barça vs HC Motor

No previous encounters in European competitions

Barça vs RK Celje Pivovarna Laško 10-0-4 (461:384) 20:8

16.03.1997	Celje Pivovarna Lasko vs FC Barcelona, EHF Champions League – Semi-final	24:29 (11:14)
23.03.1997	FC Barcelona vs Celje Pivovarna Lasko, EHF Champions League – Semi-final	22:26 (14:10)
27.02.1999	Celje Pivovarna Lasko vs FC Barcelona, EHF Champions League – Semi-final	35:32 (18:18)
06.03.1999	FC Barcelona vs Celje Pivovarna Lasko, EHF Champions League – Semi-final	30:26 (19:11)
18.03.2000	FC Barcelona vs Celje Pivovarna Lasko, EHF Champions League – Semi-final	39:25 (14:14)
25.03.2000	Celje Pivovarna Lasko vs FC Barcelona, EHF Champions League – Semi-final	27:20 (13:12)
02.04.2005	Celje Pivovarna Lasko vs FC Barcelona, EHF Champions League – Semi-final	34:31 (16:15)
09.04.2005	FC Barcelona vs Celje Pivovarna Lasko, EHF Champions League – Semi-final	31:26 (16:16)
16.02.2008	FC Barcelona vs Celje Pivovarna Lasko, EHF Champions League – Main Round Group 4	39:28 (20:11)
01.03.2008	Celje Pivovarna Lasko vs FC Barcelona, EHF Champions League – Main Round Group 4	27:32 (12:15)
09.10.2010	FC Barcelona Borges vs HC Celje Pivovarna Lasko, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	44:33 (22:15)
05.03.2011	HC Celje Pivovarna Lasko vs FC Barcelona Borges, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	27:30 (15:16)
21.09.2019	Barça vs RK Celje Pivovarna Lasko, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	45:21 (21:13)
23.02.2020	RK Celje Pivovarna Lasko vs Barça, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	25:37 (14:19)

Barça vs HC PPD Zagreb 21-1-1 (696:521) 43:3

08.02.1996	FC Barcelona vs Croatia Banka Zagreb, EHF Champions League – Group B	26:16 (14:6)
26.03.1996	Croatia Banka Zagreb vs FC Barcelona, EHF Champions League – Group B	21:23 (7:11)
12.04.1997	FC Barcelona vs Badel 1862 Zagreb, EHF Champions League – Final	31:22 (17:6)
19.04.1997	Badel 1862 Zagreb vs FC Barcelona, EHF Champions League – Final	23:30 (9:14)
18.04.1998	FC Barcelona vs Badel 1862 Zagreb, EHF Champions League – Final	28:18 (10:10)
25.04.1998	Badel 1862 Zagreb vs FC Barcelona, EHF Champions League – Final	22:28 (9:10)
01.11.1998	FC Barcelona vs Badel Zagreb, European Championship for Club Teams – Final	28:22 (11:9)
10.04.1999	Badel 1862 Zagreb vs FC Barcelona, EHF Champions League – Final	22:22 (14:13)
17.04.1999	FC Barcelona vs Badel 1862 Zagreb, EHF Champions League – Final	29:18 (14:7)
24.02.2001	Badel 1862 Zagreb vs FC Barcelona, EHF Champions League – Quarter-final	17:29 (9:12)
03.03.2001	FC Barcelona vs Badel 1862 Zagreb, EHF Champions League – Quarter-final	26:23 (12:10)
27.03.2010	HC Croatia Osiguranje-Zagreb vs FC Barcelona Borges, EHF Champions League – Last 16	26:33 (12:17)
03.04.2010	FC Barcelona Borges vs HC Croatia Osiguranje-Zagreb, EHF Champions League – Last 16	36:33 (17:18)
22.10.2011	Croatia Osiguranje Zagreb vs FC Barcelona Intersport, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	30:31 (14:13)
18.02.2012	FC Barcelona Intersport vs Croatia Osiguranje Zagreb, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	29:30 (14:15)
20.10.2012	HC Croatia Osiguranje Zagreb vs FC Barcelona Intersport, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	21:32 (12:13)
16.02.2013	FC Barcelona Intersport vs HC Croatia Osiguranje Zagreb, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	35:25 (19:10)
09.04.2015	HC Prvo plinarsko drustvo Zagreb vs FC Barcelona, VELUX EHF Champions League – Quarter-final	23:25 (10:14)
18.04.2015	FC Barcelona vs HC Prvo plinarsko drustvo Zagreb, VELUX EHF Champions League – Quarter-final	43:21 (23:10)
04.11.2017	FC Barcelona Lassa vs HC Prvo plinarsko drustvo Zagreb, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	32:22 (17:8)
23.11.2017	HC Prvo plinarsko drustvo Zagreb vs FC Barcelona Lassa, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	24:32 (11:16)
28.09.2019	HC PPD Zagreb vs Barça, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	19:36 (9:21)
15.02.2020	Barça vs HC PPD Zagreb, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	32:23 (17:9)

Telekom Veszprém HC vs THW Kiel 10-0-10 (555:562) 20:20

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)

Telekom Veszprém HC vs Aalborg Håndbold 1-0-1 (56:53) 2:2

04.11.2017	Telekom Veszprém HC vs Aalborg Håndbold, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	30:24 (16:10)
26.11.2017	Aalborg Håndbold vs Telekom Veszprém HC, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	29:26 (14:13)

Telekom Veszprém HC vs HBC Nantes

No previous encounters in European competitions

Telekom Veszprém HC vs HC Motor 5-0-1 (208:155) 10:2

10.10.2013	MKB-MVM Veszprém vs HC Motor Zaporozhye, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	44:27 (20:13)
22.02.2014	HC Motor Zaporozhye vs MKB-MVM Veszprém, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	26:22 (13:13)
19.03.2016	HC Motor Zaporozhye vs MVM Veszprém, VELUX EHF Champions League – Last 16	24:29 (12:12)
26.03.2016	MVM Veszprém vs HC Motor Zaporozhye, VELUX EHF Champions League – Last 16	41:28 (23:14)
15.09.2019	Telekom Veszprém HC vs HC Motor Zaporozhye, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	40:28 (17:13)
29.02.2020	HC Motor Zaporozhye vs Telekom Veszprém HC, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	22:32 (8:17)

Telekom Veszprém HC vs RK Celje Pivovarna Laško 12-1-1 (392:339) 25:3

09.10.1994	Fotex Veszprem vs Celje Pivovarna Lasko, EHF Champions League – Qualification Round 2	22:18 (8:9)
15.10.1994	Celje Pivovarna Lasko vs Fotex Veszprem, EHF Champions League – Qualification Round 2	21:24 (12:10)
29.09.2007	MKB Veszprém KC vs Celje Pivovarna Lasko, EHF Champions League – Group F	24:24 (14:11)
18.11.2007	Celje Pivovarna Lasko vs MKB Veszprém KC, EHF Champions League – Group F	28:23 (15:14)
29.09.2012	MKB Veszprém KC vs Celje Pivovarna Lasko, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	32:22 (16:11)
01.12.2012	Celje Pivovarna Lasko vs MKB Veszprém KC, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	19:24 (9:11)
17.11.2013	Celje Pivovarna Lasko vs MKB-MVM Veszprém, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	26:31 (14:15)
23.11.2013	MKB-MVM Veszprém vs Celje Pivovarna Lasko, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	27:26 (13:10)
18.10.2014	RK Celje Pivovarna Lasko vs MKB-MVM Veszprém, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group C	21:24 (9:14)
15.02.2015	MKB-MVM Veszprém vs RK Celje Pivovarna Lasko, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group C	29:26 (15:10)
15.11.2015	RK Celje Pivovarna Lasko vs MVM Veszprém, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	27:30 (11:17)
21.11.2015	MVM Veszprém vs RK Celje Pivovarna Lasko, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	34:28 (17:15)
16.09.2017	RK Celje Pivovarna Lasko vs Telekom Veszprém HC, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	31:39 (18:16)
03.03.2018	Telekom Veszprém HC vs RK Celje Pivovarna Lasko, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	29:22 (13:11)

Telekom Veszprém HC vs HC PPD Zagreb 8-1-3 (306:287) 17:7

24.01.1995	Badel Zagreb vs Fotex Veszprem, EHF Champions League – Group A	30:18 (16:8)
15.02.1995	Fotex Veszprem vs Badel Zagreb, EHF Champions League – Group A	23:23 (11:12)
06.12.1998	Fotex KC Veszprém vs Badel 1862 Zagreb, EHF Champions League – Group A	27:25 (14:14)
09.01.1999	Badel 1862 Zagreb vs Fotex KC Veszprém, EHF Champions League – Group A	19:18 (14:8)
19.02.2000	Fotex KC Veszprém vs Badel 1862 Zagreb, EHF Champions League – Quarter-final	27:25 (13:12)
27.02.2000	Badel 1862 Zagreb vs Fotex KC Veszprém, EHF Champions League – Quarter-final	30:26 (16:12)
20.10.2013	HC Croatia Osiguranje Zagreb vs MKB-MVM Veszprém, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	22:33 (8:15)
15.12.2014	MKB-MVM Veszprém vs HC Croatia Osiguranje Zagreb, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	34:27 (19:11)
03.10.2015	HC Prvo plinarsko drustvo Zagreb vs MVM Veszprém, VELUX EHF Champions League – group A	20:21 (10:9)
21.02.2016	MVM Veszprém vs HC Prvo plinarsko drustvo Zagreb, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	27:25 (16:12)
25.03.2017	HC Prvo plinarsko drustvo Zagreb vs Telekom Veszprém, VELUX EHF Champions League – Last 16	22:23 (10:12)
01.04.2017	Telekom Veszprém vs HC Prvo plinarsko drustvo Zagreb, VELUX EHF Champions League – Last 16	29:19 (15:9)

THW Kiel vs Aalborg Håndbold 3-1-0 (116:101) 7:1

14.02.2004	THW Kiel vs AaB Handbold Aalborg, EHF Cup – Quarter-final	30:23 (12:8)
22.02.2004	AaB Handbold Aalborg vs THW Kiel, EHF Cup – Quarter-final	32:32 (15:16)
27.09.2017	THW Kiel vs Aalborg Håndbold, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	27:26 (13:12)
18.02.2018	Aalborg Håndbold vs THW Kiel, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	20:27 (11:15)

THW Kiel vs HBC Nantes

No previous encounters in European competitions

THW Kiel vs HC Motor 3-1-0 (133:115) 7:1

20.03.2014	HC Motor Zaporozhye vs THW Kiel, VELUX EHF Champions League – Last 16	28:31 (14:16)
30.03.2014	THW Kiel vs HC Motor Zaporozhye, VELUX EHF Champions League – Last 16	40:28 (20:13)
03.11.2019	HC Motor Zaporozhye vs THW Kiel, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	27:30 (13:15)
20.11.2019	THW Kiel vs HC Motor Zaporozhye, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	32:32 (16:17)

THW Kiel vs RK Celje Pivovarna Laško 6-1-3 (314:287) 13:7

28.11.2004	THW Kiel vs Celje Pivovarna Lasko, European Championship for Club Teams – Final	29:30 (17:15)
21.10.2007	RK Celje Pivovarna Lasko vs THW Kiel, Champions Trophy – Final	34:38 (17:23)
17.10.2010	HC Celje Pivovarna Lasko vs THW Kiel, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	28:34 (10:18)
27.02.2011	THW Kiel vs HC Celje Pivovarna Lasko, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	43:27 (23:16)
17.11.2012	Celje Pivovarna Lasko vs THW Kiel, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	31:28 (12:12)
21.11.2012	THW Kiel vs Celje Pivovarna Lasko, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	30:26 (13:12)
21.10.2015	THW Kiel vs RK Celje Pivovarna Lasko, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	35:32 (16:14)
28.11.2015	RK Celje Pivovarna Lasko vs THW Kiel, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	23:23 (14:14)
12.11.2017	THW Kiel vs RK Celje Pivovarna Lasko, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	26:29 (15:14)
19.11.2017	RK Celje Pivovarna Lasko vs THW Kiel, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	27:28 (14:15)

THW Kiel vs HC PPD Zagreb 6-3-5 (378:367) 15:13

15.03.1997	THW Kiel vs Badel 1862 Zagreb, EHF Champions League – Semi-final	23:23 (8:11)
23.03.1997	Badel 1862 Zagreb vs THW Kiel, EHF Champions League – Semi-final	25:23 (12:14)
19.03.2000	THW Kiel vs Badel 1862 Zagreb, EHF Champions League – Semi-final	32:21 (14:11)
25.03.2000	Badel 1862 Zagreb vs THW Kiel, EHF Champions League – Semi-final	22:13 (8:7)
24.11.2002	RK Zagreb vs THW Kiel, EHF Champions League – Group D	23:28 (8:15)
14.12.2002	THW Kiel vs RK Zagreb, EHF Champions League – Group D	24:28 (14:10)
29.03.2009	HC Croatia Osiguranje-Zagreb vs THW Kiel, EHF Champions League – Quarter-final	28:28 (13:12)
04.04.2009	THW Kiel vs HC Croatia Osiguranje-Zagreb, EHF Champions League – Quarter-final	31:27 (17:11)
21.04.2012	Croatia Osiguranje Zagreb vs THW Kiel, VELUX EHF Champions League – Quarter-final	31:31 (15:12)
29.04.2012	THW Kiel vs Croatia Osiguranje Zagreb, VELUX EHF Champions League – Quarter-final	33:27 (16:16)
28.09.2014	HC Prvo plinarsko drustvo Zagreb vs THW Kiel, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	27:25 (9:13)
26.11.2014	THW Kiel vs HC Prvo plinarsko drustvo Zagreb, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	34:27 (16:16)
17.09.2015	HC Prvo plinarsko drustvo Zagreb vs THW Kiel, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	29:22 (13:11)
03.03.2016	THW Kiel vs HC Prvo plinarsko drustvo Zagreb, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	31:29 (14:17)

Aalborg Håndbold vs HBC Nantes

No previous encounters in European competitions

Aalborg Håndbold vs HC Motor 1-0-1 (58:61) 2:2

18.10.2014	HC Motor Zaporozhye vs Aalborg Handball, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group D	25:28 (13:13)
15.02.2015	Aalborg Handball vs HC Motor Zaporozhye, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group D	30:36 (16:16)

Aalborg Håndbold vs RK Celje Pivovarna Laško 3-0-1 (117:114) 6:2

24.09.2017	Aalborg Handbold vs RK Celje Pivovarna Lasko, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	32:30 (15:13)
24.02.2018	RK Celje Pivovarna Lasko vs Aalborg Handbold, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	32:28 (15:12)
29.09.2019	RK Celje Pivovarna Lasko vs Aalborg Handbold, VELUX EHF Champions League - Group A	28:29 (14:10)
16.02.2020	Aalborg Handbold vs RK Celje Pivovarna Lasko, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	28:24 (13:9)

Aalborg Håndbold vs HC PPD Zagreb 1-0-1 (60:51) 2:2

22.09.2019	Aalborg Handbold vs HC PPD Zagreb, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	30:20 (13:11)
22.02.2020	HC PPD Zagreb vs Aalborg Handbold, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	31:30 (16:15)

HBC Nantes vs HC Motor 0-2-2 (111:117) 2:6

22.09.2016	HC Motor Zaporozhye vs HBC Nantes, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group D	26:26 (15:16)
19.11.2016	HBC Nantes vs HC Motor Zaporozhye, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group D	32:34 (19:16)
11.11.2018	HC Motor Zaporozhye vs HBC Nantes, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	30:30 (15:14)
18.11.2018	HBC Nantes vs HC Motor Zaporozhye, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	23:27 (13:12)

HBC Nantes vs RK Celje Pivovarna Laško 1-1-0 (67:56) 3:1

14.10.2018	HBC Nantes vs RK Celje Pivovarna Lasko, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	38:27 (17:13)
02.12.2018	RK Celje Pivovarna Lasko vs HBC Nantes, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	29:29 (15:19)

HBC Nantes vs HC PPD Zagreb 2-1-1 (100:97) 5:3

19.11.2017	HBC Nantes vs HC Prvo plinarsko drustvo Zagreb, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	28:27 (13:12)
17.02.2018	HC Prvo plinarsko drustvo Zagreb vs HBC Nantes, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	23:22 (12:8)
03.11.2018	HBC Nantes vs HC PPD Zagreb, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	23:20 (10:11)
24.11.2018	HC PPD Zagreb vs HBC Nantes, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	27:27 (12:12)

HC Motor vs RK Celje Pivovarna Laško 1-0-3 (120:122) 2:6

17.10.2013	HC Motor Zaporozhye vs Celje Pivovarna Lasko, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	29:32 (14:11)
15.02.2014	Celje Pivovarna Lasko vs HC Motor Zaporozhye, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	30:27 (19:15)
04.11.2018	RK Celje Pivovarna Lasko vs HC Motor Zaporozhye, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	33:28 (18:14)
25.11.2018	HC Motor Zaporozhye vs RK Celje Pivovarna Lasko, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	36:27 (18:12)

HC Motor vs HC PPD Zagreb 2-0-2 (118:117) 4:4

26.09.2013	HC Motor Zaporozhye vs HC Croatia Osiguranje Zagreb, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	31:30 (18:15)
08.02.2014	HC Croatia Osiguranje Zagreb vs HC Motor Zaporozhye, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	33:27 (16:16)
14.10.2018	HC Motor Zaporozhye vs HC PPD Zagreb, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	35:27 (17:13)
01.12.2018	HC PPD Zagreb vs HC Motor Zaporozhye, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	27:25 (14:11)

RK Celje Pivovarna Laško vs HC PPD Zagreb 10-1-11 (512:525) 21:23

27.09.1992	RK Celje Pivovarna Lasko vs RK Zagreb, Champions Cup – Qualification Round 2	18:17 (6:9)
03.10.1992	RK Zagreb vs RK Celje Pivovarna Lasko, Champions Cup – Qualification Round 2	26:17 (13:7)
11.11.1995	Celje Pivovarna Lasko vs Croatia Banka Zagreb, EHF Champions League – Qualification Round 3	25:21 (11:9)
18.11.1995	Croatia Banka Zagreb vs Celje Pivovarna Lasko, EHF Champions League – Qualification Round 3	25:20 (14:11)
04.01.1998	Celje Pivovarna Lasko vs Badel 1862 Zagreb, EHF Champions League – Group A	26:21 (13:8)
31.01.1998	Badel 1862 Zagreb vs Celje Pivovarna Lasko, EHF Champions League – Group A	26:22 (14:10)
22.03.1998	Badel 1862 Zagreb vs Celje Pivovarna Lasko, EHF Champions League – Semi-final	27:20 (14:10)
28.03.1998	Celje Pivovarna Lasko vs Badel 1862 Zagreb, EHF Champions League – Semi-final	25:24 (10:10)
26.11.2000	Celje Pivovarna Lasko vs Badel 1862 Zagreb, EHF Champions League – Group A	29:26 (12:12)
16.12.2000	Badel 1862 Zagreb vs Celje Pivovarna Lasko, EHF Champions League – Group A	22:22 (12:11)
21.02.2009	Celje Pivovarna Lasko vs HC Croatia Osiguranje-Zagreb, EHF Champions League – Main Round Group 2	22:25 (11:16)
07.03.2009	HC Croatia Osiguranje-Zagreb vs Celje Pivovarna Lasko, EHF Champions League – Main Round Group 2	31:18 (14:6)
21.09.2013	HC Croatia Osiguranje Zagreb vs Celje Pivovarna Lasko, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	24:21 (13:10)
30.11.2013	Celje Pivovarna Lasko vs HC Croatia Osiguranje Zagreb, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	26:20 (14:11)
26.09.2015	RK Celje Pivovarna Lasko vs HC Prvo plinarsko drustvo Zagreb, VELUX EHF Champions League – Gr. A	20:21 (10:9)
27.02.2016	HC Prvo plinarsko drustvo Zagreb vs RK Celje Pivovarna Lasko, VELUX EHF Champions League – Gr. A	24:23 (8:9)
24.09.2016	RK Celje Pivovarna Lasko vs HC Prvo plinarsko drustvo Zagreb, VELUX EHF Champions League – Gr. B	30:28 (14:13)
09.03.2017	HC Prvo plinarsko drustvo Zagreb vs RK Celje Pivovarna Lasko, VELUX EHF Champions League – Gr. B	23:21 (14:10)
10.11.2018	HC PPD Zagreb vs RK Celje Pivovarna Lasko, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	24:22 (11:9)
18.11.2018	RK Celje Pivovarna Lasko vs HC PPD Zagreb, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	30:21 (10:9)
10.11.2019	RK Celje Pivovarna Lasko vs HC PPD Zagreb, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	24:22 (10:8)
14.11.2019	HC PPD Zagreb vs RK Celje Pivovarna Lasko, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	27:31 (11:14)

GROUP B



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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

Already qualified for the EHF FINAL4 in December, record EHF Champions League Men winners Barça will fight for two Champions League trophies in the upcoming season.

Barça have an extensive, young and talented roster with a lot of potential to fight for both titles, but the team is now under pressure to deliver their ninth EHF Champions League title.

Main facts

- the Spanish champions are eyeing two CL titles this season, as they are also part of the delayed VELUX EHF FINAL4 2020 in December
- perennial title contenders Barça have not won the CL since 2015, and the 2019 semi-final defeat against Vardar is still hurting
- Barça are entering their first season after team captain and club legend Victor Tomas's retirement with a heart problem
- Raul Entrerrios postponed his retirement by one season to try to play in the Tokyo Olympic Games. In his last season, the Spanish national captain will also assume the Barça captancy
- the club signed four young and talented players: Blaz Janc (23), Domen Makuc (20), Luis Frade (22) and Haniel Hangaro (25)
- long-term head coach Xavi Pascual successfully introduced a new, faster playing philosophy two seasons ago and he plans to increase the tempo of the game again

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: 24 titles



13 MATCHES
Longest winning run

46 GOALS
Most goals

82 GOALS
Most goals both teams

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 winning run	13 matches (21.09.2019 – 29.02.2020)
Longest unbeaten run	16 matches (24.01.1996 – 16.03.1997)
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

EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE RECORD

	MP	W	T	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*	
Total:	310	233	20	57	9612:8040	+1572	486:134		

* to be played 28/29 December 2020



TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height	Weight
1	Gonzalo	Perez de Vargas	ESP	Goalkeeper	10.01.1991	Toledo, ESP	190	93
6	Casper Ulrich	Mortensen	DEN	Left Wing	14.12.1989	København, DEN	190	93
C 9	Raul	Enterrerios	ESP	Centre Back	10.02.1981	Gijon, ESP	195	89
10	Cedric	Sorhaindo	FRA	Line Player	07.06.1984	La Trinite, FRA	192	110
11	Jure	Dolenec	SLO	Right Back	06.12.1988	Kranj, SLO	191	95
12	Jordi	Gonzales Perez	ESP	Goalkeeper	08.05.1988	Bordils, ESP	188	85
13	Aitor	Ariño	ESP	Left Wing	05.10.1992	Penarth, WAL	187	81
15	Albert	Pujol	ESP	Left Back	15.04.1991	StQuirzedelVallès, ESP	195	90
17	Alejandro	Barbeito Soriano	ESP	Centre Back	08.08.2001	Barcelona, ESP	180	75
18	Blaz	Janc	SLO	Right Wing	20.11.1996	Brezice, SLO	187	87
19	Timothy	N'guessan	FRA	Left Back	18.09.1992	Massy, FRA	196	105
20	Aleix	Gómez Abelló	ESP	Right Wing	07.05.1997	Sabadell, ESP	182	71
22	Thiagus	Petrus	BRA	Line Player	25.01.1989	Juiz de Fora, BRA	199	100
23	Mamadou	Lamine Diocou	ESP	Right Wing	10.03.2000	Fassada, SEN	180	71
24	Dika	Mem	FRA	Right Back	31.08.1997	Paris, FRA	194	90
25	Luka	Cindric	CRO	Centre Back	05.07.1993	Ogulin, CRO	182	90
28	Alex	Pascual Garcia	ESP	Left Wing	13.02.2000	Vigo, ESP	175	83
34	Aron	Palmarsson	ISL	Centre Back	19.07.1990	Reykjavik, ISL	193	96
35	Domen	Makuc	SLO	Centre Back	01.07.2000	Postojna, SLO	188	82
36	Kevin	Møller	DEN	Goalkeeper	20.06.1989	Tondern, DEN	200	103
37	Haniel Vincius	Langaro Inoue	BRA	Left Back	07.03.1995	Umuarama, BRA	196	100
55	David	Roca Rodriguez	ESP	Right Back	09.01.2000	Barcelona, ESP	188	77
72	Ludovic	Fabregas	FRA	Line Player	01.07.1996	Perpignan, FRA	198	100
82	Luis	Frade	POR	Line Player	11.09.1998	Rio Tinto, POR	194	115



Xavi Pascual Coach

- 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

Newcomers

Blaz Janc (PGE VIVE Kielce/POL)
 Domen Makuc (RK Celje Pivovarna Lasko/SLO)
 Haniel Langaro (Dunkerque HBGL/FRA)
 Luis Frade (Sporting CP/POR)

Left the club

Victor Tomas (retired)
 Lasse Andersson (Füchse Berlin/GER)
 Abel Serdio (SPR Wisla Plock/POL)



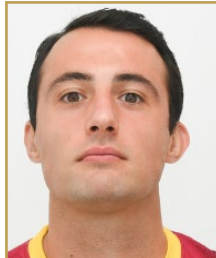
Gonzalo Perez de Vargas

@perezdvargas

Goalkeeper

- formed in Barcelona; returned to the club in 2014 after stints with Granollers and Toulouse 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



Aitor Arino

@aitorarino13

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 Palmarrsson

@aronpalm

Centre back

- joined Barça 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

@luka_cindric25

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

@chiki_lf27

Line player

- one of key players in new French generation, including Timothee N'guessan, Dika Mem and Melvyn Richardson
- joined Barça 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



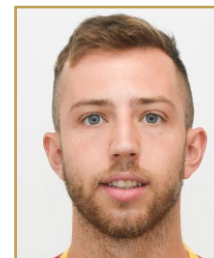
Dika Mem

@dikamem

Right back

- best CL right back in 2017/18; scored over 70 goals both in 2017/18 and 2018/19
- joined Barça 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

@aleixgomez11

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

GROUP B



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 @telekomVeszprem
 @handballVeszprem

Kit colours

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

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



Playing hall
Veszprém Arena
Külső Kádártai út
8200 Veszprém
Hungary
Capacity: 5,096

TELEKOM VESZPRÉM HC

Telekom Veszprém HC will yet again try to conquer Europe in the upcoming season, however, they may be title holders after the group phase, as the Hungarian powerhouse are set to attend the EHF FINAL4 in Cologne in December 2020.

Main facts

- Veszprém, the five-time EHF FINAL4 participants, welcome five big arrivals for the 2020/21 season
- the newcomers include current EHF EURO champions Jorge Maqueda and Rodrigo Corrales
- team was represented three times in CL 2019/20 All-star Team: coach David Davis, left wing Manuel Strlek and defender Blaz Blagotinsek
- due to the Covid-19 pandemic, Veszprém could not defend their domestic title in 2019/20 as the league ended without champions
- legendary goalkeeper Arpad Sterbik retired while Slovenian EHF EURO 2020 semi-finalist Borut Mackovsek moved to rivals Szeged
- Veszprém are one of the sides scheduled to contest the EHF FINAL4 2020 in December

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
Quarter-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

Other

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

Hungarian league: 26 titles
Hungarian Cup: 27 titles



12 MATCHES
Longest winning run

46 GOALS
Most goals

77 GOALS
Most goals both teams

I EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE CLUB RECORDS

Biggest win	38:17 (18:9) v HC Granitas Kaunas LTU (h), 06.11.2004
Biggest defeat	30:18 (16:8) v Badel Zagreb CRO (a), 24.01.1995
Longest winning run	12 matches (17.11.2018 – 01.06.2019)
Longest unbeaten run	12 matches (17.11.2018 – 01.06.2019)
Longest losing run	3 matches (16.01.1996 – 08.02.1996)
	3 matches (12.11.2017 – 26.11.2017)
Longest run without win	4 matches (09.01.1999 – 31.10.1999)
Most goals	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
Most goals opponent	39 v THW Kiel GER 39:32L (a), 01.03.2007
	39 v KS Vive Tauron Kielce POL 39:38La7m (a), 29.05.16
Most goals both teams	77 v KS Vive Tauron Kielce POL 39:38La7m (a), 29.05.16
Fewest goals	15 v TEKA Santander ESP 25:15L (a), 15.03.1995
Fewest goals opponent	13 v SO Chambéry FRA 29:13W (h), 18.11.2001
	13 v Panellinios AC Athens GRE 19:13W (h), 17.11.2002
Fewest goals both teams	32 v Panellinios AC Athens GRE 19:13W (h), 17.11.2002

I EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE RECORD

	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*	
Total:	292	198	14	80	8496:7649	+847	410:174		

* to be played 28/29 December 2020



TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height	Weight
1	Arpad	Sterbik Capar	ESP	Goalkeeper	20.11.1979	Senta, SRB	200	120
2	Dejan	Manaskov	MKD	Left Wing	26.08.1992	Veles, FRA	181	85
5	Yahia Khaled	Fathy Omar	EGY	Right Back	09.09.1997	Giza, EGY	197	96
12	Rodrigo	Corrales Rodal	ESP	Goalkeeper	24.01.1991	Cangas, ESP	200	104
12	Márton	Székely	HUN	Goalkeeper	02.01.1990	Budapest, HUN	194	96
13	Patrik	Ligetvári	HUN	Left Back	13.02.1996	Várpalota, HUN	203	114
13	Rogério	Moraes Ferreira	BRA	Line Player	11.01.1994	Abaetetuba, BRA	204	127
15	Kent Robin	Tønnesen	NOR	Right Back	05.06.1991	Partille, SWE	194	103
16	Vladimir	Cupara	SRB	Goalkeeper	19.02.1994	Belgrad, SRB	199	116
18	Andreas	Nilsson	SWE	Line Player	12.04.1990	Trelleborg, SWE	198	126
19	László	Nagy	HUN	Right Back	03.03.1981	Székesfehérvár, HUN	207	119
22	Nikolaj	Markussen	DEN	Left Back	01.08.1988	Gribskov, DEN	211	113
24	Gaspar	Marguc	SLO	Right Wing	20.08.1990	Celje, SLO	180	84
25	Rasmus	Lauge Schmidt	DEN	Left Back	20.06.1991	Randers, DEN	195	100
26	Manuel	Strlek	CRO	Left Wing	01.12.1988	Zagreb, CRO	182	87
31	Blaz	Blagotinsek	SLO	Line Player	17.01.1994	Celje, SLO	203	125
33	Daniil	Shishkarev	RUS	Right Wing	06.07.1988	Kostanay, KAZ	191	91
34	Petar	Nenadic	SRB	Centre Back	28.06.1986	Belgrade, SRB	198	93
35	Kentin	Mahe	FRA	Centre Back	22.05.1991	Paris, FRA	186	89
55	Jorge	Maqueda Pena	ESP	Right Back	06.02.1988	Toledo, ESP	197	101
C 66	Mate	Lekai	HUN	Centre Back	16.06.1988	Budapest, HUN	192	91
87	Vuko	Borozan	MNE	Left Back	09.04.1994	Cetinje, MNE	202	110



David Davis
Coach

- 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 EHF FINAL4 2017 in Budapest
- guided Egypt to eighth place at the WCh 2019, their highest ranking since 2001

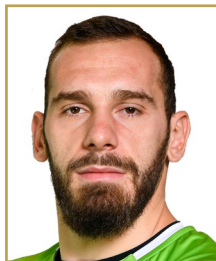
EC trophies: CL 2006, 2008, 2009; EHF Cup 1995
WCh: G 2005; EURO: S 2006; OG: B 2008 (all as player)

Newcomers

Nikolaj Markussen (Bjerringbro-Silkeborg/DEN)
Patrik Ligetvári (Logrono/ESP, back from loan)
Daniil Shishkarev (HC Vardar 1961/MKD)
Rodrigo Corrales (Paris Saint-Germain HB/FRA)
Jorge Maqueda (MOL-Pick Szeged/HUN)

Left the club

Pawel Paczkowski (HC Meshkov Brest/BLR)
Borut Mackovsek (MOL-Pick Szeged/HUN)
Dragan Gajic (Limoges Hand 87/FRA)
Mirsad Terzic (SPR Orlen Wisla Plock/POL)



Vladimir Cupara

@cupara16

Goalkeeper

- 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

@rasmuslaug25

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 saw 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



Mate Lekai

@lekaimate

Centre back

- Hungarian international, who joined Veszprém in 2014 after two seasons with Celje
- suffered from several injuries 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 Celje in his native Slovenia
- made national team debut for Slovenia at age 18 in 2012

WCh: B 2017



Jorge Maqueda

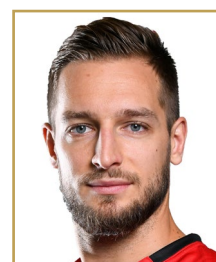
@maqueda15

Right back

- world-class defender, who arrived at Veszprém in summer of 2020 after two seasons with league rivals Szeged
- previously played for Barça, 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

Right wing

- 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

GROUP B



Club contact

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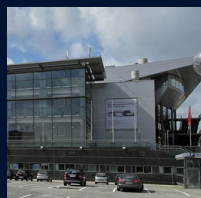
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- [@thwhandball](https://www.instagram.com/thwhandball)

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

“I want to win five titles in my first year at Kiel,” said Sander Sagosen when he arrived at THW this summer. As participants in the postponed EHF FINAL 2020 and one of the top favourites in the 2020/21 season, two Champions League trophies are in reach for Kiel in the coming year.

Main facts:

- after a five-year wait, THW took their 21st German title in 2019/20 as they were awarded the championship when the season was postponed in March amid the COVID-19 pandemic
- Kiel also had a successful campaign in the CL, winning group B and advancing to the EHF FINAL4 2020, to be played in December
- Kiel became the first German team in five years to win a CL group
- they have won the CL three times and appeared in four more finals
- Kiel were represented twice in the CL 2019/20 All-star Team, by goalkeeper Niklas Landin and right wing Niclas Ekberg
- Norwegian centre back Sander Sagosen, coming from PSG, is the biggest new arrival at the club for many years

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
Quarter-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



17 MATCHES
Longest unbeaten run

50 GOALS
Most goals

81 GOALS
Most goals both teams

I EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE CLUB RECORDS

Biggest win	26:50 (13:24) v Banik OKD Karvina CZE (a), 22.10.2006
Biggest defeat	42:24 (22:10) v Paris SG Handball FRA (a), 12.03.2017
Longest winning run	11 matches (02.10.2014 – 22.03.2015)
Longest unbeaten run	17 matches (22.10.2011 – 11.10.2012)
Longest losing run	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)
Longest run without win	5 matches (15.02.2017 – 22.03.2017)
Most goals	50 v Banik OKD Karvina CZE 26:50W (a), 22.10.2006
Most goals opponent	44 v FC Barcelona ESP 44:37L (a), 13.04.2008
Most goals both teams	81 v FC Barcelona ESP 44:37L (a), 13.04.2008
Fewest goals	13 v Badel 1862 Zagreb CRO 22:13L (a), 25.03.2000
Fewest goals opponent	15 v SKA Minsk BLR 15:27W (a), 10.11.1996
	15 v SKA Minsk BLR 21:15W (h), 12.01.1997
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 THW 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*	
Total:	290	193	20	77	8812:7815	+997	406:174		

* to be played 28/29 December 2020



TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height	Weight
C 1	Niklas	Landin Jacobsen	DEN	Goalkeeper	19.12.1988	Søborg, DEN	201	103
3	Sven	Ehrig	GER	Right Wing	26.06.2000	Kiel, GER	197	95
C 4	Domagoj	Duvnjak	CRO	Centre Back	01.06.1988	Dakovo, CRO	198	102
5	Sander	Sagosen	NOR	Centre Back	14.09.1995	Stavanger, NOR	195	102
6	Harald	Reinkind	NOR	Right Back	17.08.1992	Tønsberg, NOR	197	103
7	Magnus	Landin Jacobsen	DEN	Left Wing	20.08.1995	Helsingør, DEN	197	92
13	Steffen	Weinhold	GER	Right Back	19.07.1986	Fuerth, GER	191	99
C 17	Patrick	Wiencek	GER	Line Player	22.03.1989	Duisburg, GER	200	109
18	Niclas	Ekberg	SWE	Right Wing	23.12.1988	Ystad, SWE	191	91
21	Dario	Quenstedt	GER	Goalkeeper	22.09.1989	Burg, GER	193	101
23	Rune	Dahmke	GER	Left Wing	10.04.1993	Kiel, GER	189	85
24	Miha	Zarabec	SLO	Centre Back	12.10.1991	Novo Mesto, SLO	178	78
28	Pavel	Horak	CZE	Line Player	28.11.1982	Prerov, CZE	198	113
53	Mykola	Bilyk	AUT	Left Back	28.11.1996	Tunis, TUN	198	104
61	Hendrik	Pekeler	GER	Line Player	02.07.1991	Itzehoe, GER	203	106

* THW Kiel use the three-man captaincy



Filip Jicha
Coach

 @filda39

- took over from Alfred Gislason in 2019, becoming only the third THW head coach since 1993, after Noka Serdarsic (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)

Newcomers

Sander Sagosen (Paris Saint-Germain HB/FRA)
Sven Ehrig (TSV Altenholz/GER)

Left the club

Ole Rahmel (S.L. Benfica/POR)
Lukas Nilsson (Rhein-Neckar Löwen/GER)
Fynn Malte Schröder (TSV Kronshagen/GER)



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 København and KIF Kolding København

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



Patrick Wiencek

@patrickwiencek

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

@hendrikpekeler

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

@haraldreinkind

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

@ekbergniclas18

Right wing

- joined Kiel after 2012 Olympics, where he was silver medallist and top scorer; previously played for AG København 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

GROUP B



Club contact

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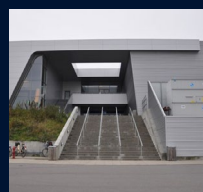
Kit colours

Light

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

Dark

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



Playing hall

Jutlander Bank Arena
Willy Brandts Vej 31
9220 Aalborg Ost
Denmark
Capacity: 5,020

AALBORG HÅNDBOLD

Few teams in the EHF Champions League Men would have been left as frustrated by the premature end to last season as Aalborg Håndbold. Having made a breakthrough as one of the surprise packages of the group phase, an enticing clash with Porto was all which stood between them and their first quarter-final appearance.

But the Danish champions are ready to go again, revitalised with exciting young talent and motivated to complete the job they started in 2019.

Main facts

- Aalborg were the surprise package of the CL 2019/20 season, including home and away wins against Flensburg-Handewitt and a draw at Szeged
- but they missed their chance to play for a first-time appearance in the quarter-final when the Last 16 was cancelled
- the Danish champions are ready to go again, revitalised with exciting young talent and motivated to complete the job
- Aalborg won their fifth Danish league title last season, adding their first gold star above the club's crest
- Aalborg enter their sixth CL season with plenty of change in the line-up as four players were snatched by Bundesliga clubs
- their squad is now entirely Scandinavian, with four Swedes and one Norwegian among the majority of Danes

Past achievements

EHF Champions League

Participations (including 2020/21 season): 6
Last 16 (2): 2013/14, 2019/20
Group Phase (3): 2010/11, 2014/15, 2017/18

Other

EHF Cup: Quarter-final 2003/04, Group Phase 2015/16
Challenge Cup: Round 4 2002/03

Danish league: 5 titles (2010, 2013, 2017, 2019, 2020)
Danish cup: 1 title (2019)



3 MATCHES
Longest winning run

37 GOALS
Most goals

79 GOALS
Most goals both teams

I EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE CLUB RECORDS

Biggest win	37:23 (17:7) v HK DROTT Halmstad SWE (h), 24.11.2013
Biggest defeat	11:31 (5:16) v FC Barcelona ESP (h), 15.03.2015
Longest winning run	3 matches (16.10.2013 – 24.11.2013)
Longest unbeaten run	3 matches (15.09.2019 – 29.09.2019)
Longest losing run	6 matches (01.12.2013 – 29.03.2014)
Longest run without win	9 matches (16.11.2014 – 16.09.2017)
Most goals	37 v HK DROTT Halmstad SWE 37:23W (h), 24.11.2013
Most goals opponent	44 v Barça ESP 44:35L (a), 16.11.2019
Most goals both teams	79 v Barça ESP 44:35L (a), 16.11.2019
Fewest goals	11 v FC Barcelona ESP 11:31L (h), 15.03.2015
Fewest goals opponent	20 v HC PPD Zagreb CRO 30:20W (h), 22.09.2019
Fewest goals both teams	42 v FC Barcelona ESP 11:31L (h), 15.03.2015

I EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE RECORD

	MP	W	T	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS	Stage
2010/11 AaB Handball DEN	10	2	2	6	311:339	-28	6:14	6th Gr. C	
2013/14 Aalborg Handball DEN	12	4	0	8	317:325	-8	8:16	Last 16	
2014/15 Aalborg Handball DEN	12	2	3	7	289:329	-40	7:17	Last 16	
2017/18 Aalborg Håndbold DEN	14	2	1	11	364:405	-41	5:23	8th Gr. B	
2019/20 Aalborg Håndbold DEN	14	7	1	6	416:420	-4	15:13	Last 16*	
Total:	62	17	7	38	1697:1818	-121	41:83		

* Last 16 and Quarter-finals cancelled due to Covid-19 pandemic



Stefan Madsen
Coach

- promoted from assistant to head coach at Aalborg Håndbold in summer of 2018
- previously worked with women's team of HC Leipzig in German Bundesliga
- combined his job at Aalborg with coaching Danish national under-21 team but stepped down from that job in May 2020, after extending his contract with Aalborg to 2023
- generally calm, analytic and communicative coach

Newcomers

Simon Gade (TTH Holstebro/DEN)
Sebastian Henneberg (Elverum Handball/NOR)
Nikolaj Læsø (Århus Håndbold/DEN)
Felix Claar (Alingsås HK/SWE)
Lukas Sandell (Elverum Handball/NOR)
Jonas Samuelsson (Skanderborg Håndbold/DEN)

Left the club

Janus Smarason (Frisch Auf Göppingen/GER)
Ómar Ingi Magnússon (SC Magdeburg/GER)
Kristian Sæverås (SC DHfK Leipzig/GER)
Mishels Liaba (Fredericia HK/DEN)
Tobias Ellebæk (Frisch Auf Göppingen/GER)
Knud Ronau (Ystads IF/SWE)
Søren Westphal (retired)

TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height	Weight
1	Simon	Gade	DEN	Goalkeeper	03.01.1997	Holstebro, DEN	194	90
2	Benjamin	Jakobsen	DEN	Line Player	09.09.1991	Hamburg, GER	191	122
3	Jonas	Samuelsson	SWE	Right Wing	10.04.1991	Skövde, SWE	193	87
4	Mikkel Lang	Rasmussen	DEN	Right Wing	03.05.2002	Aalborg, DEN	185	71
5	Victor	Klove	DEN	Left Back	27.06.2002	Brønderslev, DEN	197	93
6	Sebastian	Barthold	NOR	Left Wing	27.08.1991	Oslo, NOR	185	90
7	Felix	Claar	SWE	Centre Back	05.01.1997	Norrköping, SWE	192	97
8	Valdemar	Hermansen	DEN	Line Player	20.07.2002	Favrskov, DEN	192	120
9	Sebastian	Gammelgaard	DEN	Left Back	18.02.1994	Viborg, DEN	197	100
11	Lukas	Sandell	SWE	Right Back	03.02.1997	Reslöv, SWE	192	91
12	Sören Hansen	Brunsborg	DEN	Goalkeeper	10.03.2001	Vesthimmerland, DEN	192	105
13	Nikolaj	Dueholm	DEN	Back	15.11.1996	Aarhus, DEN	196	102
14	Magnus	Jensen	DEN	Line Player	12.07.1996	Aalborg, DEN	195	105
15	Andreas Holst	Jensen	DEN	Left Back	01.12.1994	Lemvig, DEN	201	107
16	Mikael	Aggefors	SWE	Goalkeeper	20.01.1985	Stockholm, SWE	191	90
17	Magnus Dahl	Andersen	DEN	Left Wing	25.08.2002	Frederikshavn, DEN	197	87
19	Mark	Strandgaard	DEN	Right Wing	18.05.1987	Slagelse, DEN	181	72
20	Mads	Christiansen	DEN	Right Back	03.05.1986	Næstved, DEN	194	101
21	Henrik	Møllgaard	DEN	Back	02.01.1985	Bramming, DEN	196	102
C 22	Rene	Antonsen	DEN	Line Player	04.03.1992	Vesthimmerland, DEN	196	102
23	Buster	Juul-Lassen	DEN	Left Wing	31.03.1993	Slagelse, DEN	196	95
24	Andreas	Tvedergaard	DEN	Goalkeeper	05.07.2001	Aalborg, DEN	195	78



Simon Gade

@simon.gade

Goalkeeper

- joined Aalborg from TTH in the summer of 2020
- had been with TTH for almost whole his career, except for a few seasons on loan at neighbouring clubs
- tall goalkeeper with fine reach, good reactions and strong ability for reading shots



René Antonsen

@reneantonsen

Line player

- switched from Aalborg to league rivals Ribe Esbjerg HH in 2013 but returned in 2015
- first-choice line player since Simon Hald left for SG Flensburg-Handewitt
- a strong and uncompromising line player, equally good at both ends of the court

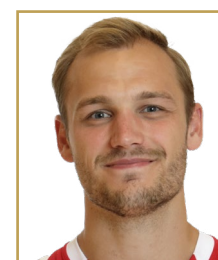


Sebastian Barthold

@sbarthold

Left wing

- Norwegian international, who joined Aalborg in 2017
- scored 65 goals in CL 2019/20 group phase, including a 12-goal outing during Aalborg's 30:20 win over Zagreb in September 2019
- previously played seven seasons at Haslum HK in his native Norway
- had national team debut for Norway in 2012



Lukas Sandell

@lukassandell

Right back

- Swedish back, who arrived in Aalborg in summer of 2020 after two seasons with another Scandinavian CL team, Elverum in Norway
- previously played for Ystad IF, where he learned a lot from legendary Kim Andersson
- has a great variety of shots and plenty of speed



Henrik Møllgaard

@henrikmlgrd

Left back

- joined from PSG in 2018 but had played in Aalborg before - from 2009 to 2012
- has also represented two other Danish top clubs, KIF Kolding and Skjern Handbold
- is a regular in the Danish national team, where he plays entirely in the defence, while he is playing at both ends of the court in Aalborg
- well into his 30s he is still a huge asset in defence as well as attack

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



Mads Christiansen

@madschr20

Right back

- returned to the club from Magdeburg in 2019 after earlier spell in Aalborg (2008-11)
- used to be a regular in Danish national team but ended his national team career after winning gold at the 2016 Rio Olympics
- was also part of Danish team that won EHF EURO in 2012
- a strong and experienced back-court player with a great variation of hard shots

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



Felix Claar

@felixclaar

Centre back

- arrived at Aalborg in summer of 2020 from Alingsas HK in his native Sweden
- had spent seven years at Alingsas, winning Swedish league in 2014 and named MVP of the league in 2018/19 and 2019/20 seasons
- made debut in Swedish national team in 2017



Mark Strandgaard

@markstrandgaardmarcher

Right wing

- Danish right wing, who joined Aalborg in the off-season in 2017 to replace Patrick Wiesmach after he moved to German side Leipzig
- previously played seven seasons for Danish league rivals GOG
- married to former professional handball player Katja Marcher, who played for Slagelse, Viborg and Odense

GROUP B



Club contact

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Media contact

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kevin.morin@hbcnantes.com

hbcnantes.com

HBCNantesOfficiel

HBCNantes

HBC Nantes

Kit colours

Light

Player shirt: grey/black
Player short: grey/black
GK shirt: yellow, blue or green

Dark

Player shirt: purple/yellow
Player short: purple
GK shirt: yellow, blue or green



Playing hall

H ARENA
Palais des Sports de
Beaulieu
7-9 rue André Tardieu
44200 Nantes, France
Capacity: 5,400

HBC NANTES

HBC Nantes and the EHF Champions League is one hell of a love story. One that saw the French side reach the final of the competition in their second participation, only to be left behind last season, taking part in the EHF Cup instead. Now, 'Le H' are back and full of ambition.

Main facts

- following a one-year absence, Nantes are back in the competition after finishing second in the Lidl Starligue last season
- Nantes have been in the competition three times in their history, even reaching the final in 2018 and losing to Montpellier 32:27
- after being led by Thierry Anti for ten seasons, Nantes are now coached by three-time champion Alberto Entrerrios, who did an excellent job at rebuilding the team last season
- local superstar Nicolas Tournat has left the club this summer to join Kielce, while Julian Emonet, Senjamin Buric and Antonio Garcia are also on their way out
- to replace them, Nantes signed two new line players, including EHF EURO 2018 and 2020 winner Adria Figueras.

Past achievements

EHF Champions League

Participations (including 2020/21 season): 4
Runners-up (1): 2017/18
Quarter-finals (1): 2018/19
Last 16 (1): 2016/17

Other

EHF Cup: Runners-up 2012/13, 2015/16; Quarter-finals 2013/14

French Cup: 1 title (2017)

French League Cup: 1 title (2015)

Trophee des Champions: 1 title (2017)



7 MATCHES
Longest winning run

38 GOALS
Most goals

69 GOALS
Most goals both teams

I EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE CLUB RECORDS

Biggest win	33:19 (16:9) v Besiktas Mogaz HT TUR (h), 01.10.2016
Biggest defeat	35:27 (15:13) v Paris SG Handball FRA (a), 01.04.2017
Longest winning run	7 matches (14.10.2017 – 10.02.2018)
Longest unbeaten run	7 matches (14.10.2017 – 10.02.2018)
	7 matches (25.02.2018 – 26.05.2018)
Longest losing run	3 matches (27.05.2018 – 23.09.2018)
Longest run without win	5 matches (18.11.2018 – 07.02.2019)
Most goals	38 v RK Celje Pivovarna L. SLO 38:27W (h), 14.10.2018
Most goals opponent	35 v Paris SG Handball FRA 35:27L (a), 01.04.2017
	35 v Paris SG Handball FRA 35:34L (a), 06.10.2018
	35 v Paris SG Handball FRA 31:35L (h), 07.02.2019
Most goals both teams	69 v Paris SG Handball FRA 35:34L (a), 06.10.2018
Fewest goals	22 v HC PPD Zagreb CRO 23:22L (a), 17.02.2018
Fewest goals opponent	19 v Besiktas Mogaz HT TUR 33:19W (h), 01.10.2016
Fewest goals both teams	43 v HC PPD Zagreb CRO 23:20W (h), 03.11.2018

I EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE RECORD

	MP	W	T	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS	Stage
2016/17 HBC Nantes FRA	14	10	2	2	433:387		+46	22:6	Last 16
2017/18 HBC Nantes FRA	20	12	4	4	581:548		+33	28:12	Runner-up
2018/19 HBC Nantes FRA	18	6	4	8	534:530		+4	16:20	Quarter-final
Total:	52	28	10	14	1548:1465		+83	66:38	



TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height	Weight
1	Cyril	Dumoulin	FRA	Goalkeeper	02.02.1984	Rillieux la Pape, FRA	200	100
2	Baptiste	Damatrin	FRA	Left Wing	29.04.2000	Saint Maurice, FRA	177	81
3	Thibaud	Briet	FRA	Left Back	14.12.1999	Rouen, FRA	205	95
4	Rok	Ovnicsek	SLO	Centre Back	29.01.1995	Slovenj Gradec, SLO	183	81
5	Milan	Milic	SRB	Right Back	14.05.1998	Aleksandrovac, SRB	198	88
6	Olivier	Nyokas	FRA	Left Back	28.06.1986	Montfermeil, FRA	187	86
7	Valero	Rivera Folch	ESP	Left Wing	22.02.1985	Barcelona, ESP	186	83
8	Alexandre	Cavalcanti	POR	Left Back	27.12.1996	Almada, POR	203	102
9	Sebastian	Augustinussen	DEN	Right Wing	06.05.1996	Aarhus, DEN	192	93
10	Dragan	Pechmalbec	FRA	Line Player	05.01.1996	Cahors, FRA	194	94
11	Adrian	Figueras Trejo	ESP	Line Player	31.08.1988	Barcelona, ESP	192	90
12	Andreas	Hofmann	FRA	Goalkeeper	29.06.2001	Marseille, FRA	185	87
C 13	Rock	Feliho	FRA	Line Player	13.08.1982	Cotonou, BEN	192	100
14	Mathieu	Bataille	FRA	Line Player	01.08.1987	Marseille, FRA	195	102
15	Aymeric	Minne	FRA	Centre Back	20.04.1997	Melun, FRA	186	76
16	Emil	Nielsen	DEN	Goalkeeper	10.03.1997	Aarhus, DEN	195	120
17	Kiril	Lazarov	MKD	Right Back	10.05.1980	Veles, MKD	193	96
18	Eduardo	Gurbindo	ESP	Right Back	08.11.1987	Pamplona, ESP	195	92
19	David	Balaguer Romeu	ESP	Right Wing	17.08.1991	Barcelona, ESP	185	91
20	Joris	Limousin	FRA	Right Wing	06.10.2000	Nantes, FRA	180	75
22	Mattéo	Fadhuile-Crepy	FRA	Left Wing	14.05.2002	Noisy le Grand, FRA	180	80
26	Théo	Monar	FRA	Line Player	06.06.2001	Fort de France, FRA	198	95
27	Guénoilé	Gaillard	FRA	Left Back	18.05.2001	Toulon, FRA	190	85
28	Lucas	De la Breteche	FRA	Centre Back	19.11.2001	Saint-Nazaire, FRA	193	85
30	Andrea	Colleluori	ITA	Goalkeeper	17.05.2000	Penne, ITA	185	82



Alberto Entrerrios
Coach

- Spanish former international and three-time CL winner
- worked at Nantes as assistant to Thierry Anti for three years before taking over as head coach prior to 2019/20 season
- played for Nantes until retirement in 2016, after spells at Ademar, Barcelona and Ciudad Real in his native Spain
- No. 3 on all-time top scorers list of Spanish national team, with 726 goals in 240 matches
- his younger brother Raul is still playing for Barça

EC trophies: CL 2006, 2008, 2009; CWC 1999, 2003
WCh: G 2005, 2013, B 2011; EURO: S 2006, B 2000; OG: B 2008

Newcomers

Adria Figueras (BM Granollers/ESP)
Mathieu Bataille (US Ivry Handball/FRA)
Milan Milic (RK Metaloplastika/SRB)
Baptiste Damatrin (HBC Nantes youth)
Thibaud Briet (HBC Nantes youth)

Left the club

Nicolas Tournat (PGE VIVE Kielce/POL)
Julian Emonet (Limoges Hand 87/FRA)
Antonio Garcia Robledo (BM Granollers/ESP)
Senjamin Buric (HC PPD Zagreb/CRO)



Emil Nielsen

@emilnielsen97

Goalkeeper

- at age 22, he joined Nantes in 2019 after two seasons at Skjern in his native Denmark
- became first-choice goalkeeper as Cyril Dumoulin was recovering from knee injury
- made international headlines in March 2018, when his numerous saves helped Skjern upset Hungarian powerhouse Veszprém in Last 16 of CL 2017/18 season
- started professional career in 2015/16 at Aarhus and was awarded best goalkeeper of Danish league right in his first season



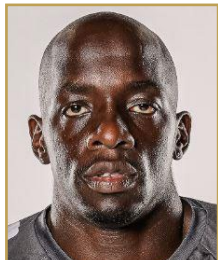
Valero Rivera

@valerorivera

Left wing

- CL winner and world champion, who returned to Nantes from Barcelona in summer of 2018, after earlier spell with French club in 2010-16
- top scorer of EHF EURO 2016, with 48 goals, and best left wing of WCh 2015
- his father, Valero Rivera sr., has been coach of Barcelona, Spain and, currently, Qatar
- married to former handball player Marion Anti, daughter of previous Nantes coach

EC trophies: CL 2015; EHF Cup 2003
WCh: G 2013; EURO: G 2018, S 2016, B 2014



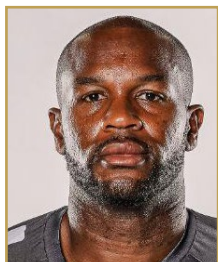
Olivier Nyokas

@nyokas_twins

Left back

- joined Nantes in 2016 after playing for PSG, Alcobendas, Créteil and Balingen
- offensive specialist who rarely defends or, when he does, moves to wing position
- at 28, made late debut for national team in 2015, was part of team that won WCh 2017
- his left-handed twin brother, Kevynn, plays for Portuguese side Benfica

WCh: G 2017



Rock Feliho

@rockfeliho

Left back

- experienced team captain, turned 38 just before 2020/21 season
- has been playing for Nantes since 2010 - with exception of two seasons at Toulouse - after several years in German Bundesliga
- played, and lost, three European finals with Nantes: CL 2018 and EHF Cup 2013, 2016
- used to score around 80 league goals per season but is now focussing only on defence
- has French and Congolese passport; played for Congo at African Championship 2012



Aymeric Minne

@aymericminne

Left back/centre back

- aged 22, he signed for Nantes in summer of 2019 after four seasons in Aix
- had joined Aix in 2015 to work with Jérôme Fernandez
- initially an offensive player, but has made huge progress as a defender as well
- one of the most talented French players of his generation



Dragan Pechmalbec

@dragan_pechmalbec

Line player

- joined Nantes in 2016 from Rennes, where he had pursued a football career before switching to handball at age 16
- first invited to French national team for Golden League game against Denmark in 2018
- born to French father and Serbian mother, who was also top-level handball player



Kiril Lazarov

@klazarov77

Right back

- Macedonian back, one of the all-time greats of the sport, who joined Nantes in 2017
- scored more than 1,000 CL goals and was competition's top scorer in 2006 and 2008
- scored 300 goals in total in three CL seasons at Barça (2014-17)
- best scorer at single EHF EURO (61 goals in 2012) and WCh (92 goals in 2009)
- will be 41 when his contract expires at the end of the 2020/21 season

EC trophies: 2015



David Balaguer

@davidbalaguer

Right wing

- like Valero Rivera, he was formed in Barcelona before joining Nantes, in 2015
- has developed into world-class wing at the French club
- was first called up for Spanish national team in 2017
- part of the Spanish team that won gold at EHF EURO 2018 in Croatia

EURO: G 2018

GROUP B



Club contact

Club Address
 HC Motor Zaporozhye
 Ivanova Str. 24
 69068 Zaporozhye
 Ukraine

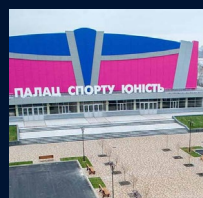
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- handball.motorsich.com
- [Handball.Club.Motor](https://www.facebook.com/Handball.Club.Motor)
- [handball.club.motor](https://www.instagram.com/handball.club.motor)

Kit colours

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

Dark
 Player shirt: blue
 Player short: blue
 GK shirt: red/black



Playing hall
Palace of Sports Yunost
 Pobeda St. 66
 69000 Zaporozhye
 Ukraine
 Capacity: 3,500

HC MOTOR ZAPOROZHYE

At the start of their eighth successive campaign in the EHF Champions League, the Ukrainian champions hope to show more stability and have positive results in the top-flight competition.

Main facts

- Motor became Ukrainian champions for the eighth consecutive season in 2019/20
- however, in the CL they failed to progress to the Last 16 after a disappointing campaign saw them finish bottom of group B
- Motor are coming off a turbulent season, in which the team was led by three different coaches
- five players left the squad over the summer and were replaced by eight newcomers
- the transition will leave coach Gintaras Savukinas, who started in the job in February 2020, with a lot to work on as Motor are looking for more stability
- Motor will want to improve their defensive game in order to boost their chances of making it to the play-offs

Past achievements

EHF Champions League
 Participations (including 2020/21 season): 8
 Last 16 (3): 2013/14, 2015/16, 2018/19
 Group Phase (4): 2014/15, 2016/17, 2017/18, 2019/20

Other
 EHF Cup: Group Phase 2012/13
 Cup Winners' Cup: Quarter-finals 2011/12

Ukrainian league: 8 titles (2013-2020)
Ukrainian cup: 6 titles (2013, 2015-19)



8 MATCHES
 Longest unbeaten run

39 GOALS
 Most goals

76 GOALS
 Most goals both teams

I EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE CLUB RECORDS

Biggest win	22:35 (9:18) v ABC/UMinho POR (a), 12.11.2016
	36:23 (21:16) v Chekhovskie Med. RUS (h), 14.09.2017
Biggest defeat	44:27 (20:13) v MKB-MVM Veszprém HUN (a), 10.10.2013
Longest winning run	6 matches (22.10.2016 – 12.02.2017)
Longest unbeaten run	8 matches (18.10.2015 – 05.03.2016)
	8 matches (08.10.2017 – 24.02.2018)
Longest losing run	6 matches (20.03.2014 – 18.10.2014)
Longest run without win	12 matches (03.03.2019 – 20.11.2019)
Most goals	39 v Naturhouse La Rioja ESP 39:37W (h), 05.03.2016
Most goals opponent	44 v MKB-MVM Veszprém HUN 44:27L (a), 10.10.2013
Most goals both teams	76 v Naturhouse La Rioja ESP 39:37W (h), 05.03.2016
Fewest goals	20 v Montpellier HB FRA 28:20L (a), 01.10.2017
Fewest goals opponent	18 v St. Petersburg HC RUS 18:24W (a), 21.11.2013
Fewest goals both teams	42 v St. Petersburg HC RUS 18:24W (a), 21.11.2013

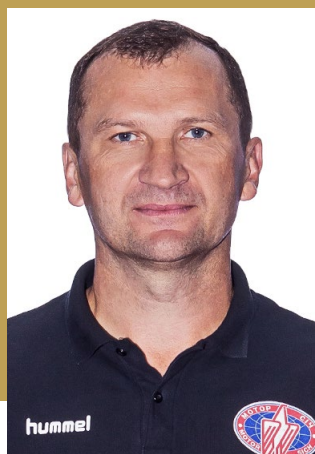
I EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE RECORD

	MP	W	T	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS	Stage
2013/14 HC Motor Zaporozhye UKR	12	4	1	7	333:367	-34	9:15	Last 16	
2014/15 HC Motor Zaporozhye UKR	10	3	0	7	283:284	-1	6:14	5th Gr. D	
2015/16 HC Motor Zaporozhye UKR	14	9	1	4	418:414	+4	19:9	Last 16	
2016/17 HC Motor Zaporozhye UKR	12	7	2	3	371:337	+34	16:8	Elimination C+D	
2017/18 HC Motor Zaporozhye UKR	12	7	3	2	352:326	+26	17:7	Elimination C+D	
2018/19 HC Motor Zaporozhye UKR	16	5	2	9	475:479	-4	12:20	Last 16	
2019/20 HC Motor Zaporozhye UKR	14	1	2	11	406:462	-56	4:24	8th Gr. B	
Total:	90	36	11	43	2638:2669	-31	83:97		



TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height	Weight
1	Rudolf	Borodai	UKR	Goalkeeper	17.03.1998	Poltava, UKR	194	84
4	Stevan	Vujovic	MNE	Left Back	07.04.1990	Cetinje, MNE	195	97
5	Iurii	Kubatko	UKR	Right Wing	28.08.1988	Zaporozhye, UKR	184	82
6	Maxim	Babichev	BLR	Line Player	07.03.1986	Minsk, BLR	196	94
7	Aidenas	Malasinskas	LTU	Centre Back	29.04.1986	Vilnius, LTU	189	84
8	Viktor	Melnicsuk	HUN	Centre Back	30.08.2001	Dobrzani, HUN	188	80
10	Barys	Pukhouski	BLR	Centre Back	03.01.1987	St.Mazorita, BLR	188	95
C 11	Zakhar	Denysov	UKR	Left Wing	01.03.1990	Ilychevsk, UKR	188	82
13	Milos	Orbovic	SRB	Right Back	02.11.1993	Vrbas, SRB	195	96
17	Ihor	Turchenko	UKR	Left Back	04.12.2000	Brovary, UKR	190	82
19	Eduard	Kravchenko	UKR	Right Wing	19.05.1996	Zaporozhye, UKR	189	83
20	Artem	Kozakevych	UKR	Right Wing	02.10.1992	Novovolynsk, UKR	182	68
22	Vladyslav	Dontsov	UKR	Right Back	22.09.1995	Zaporozhye, UKR	200	107
24	Dmytro	Horiha	UKR	Left Back	08.10.1997	Brovary, UKR	196	98
25	Pavlo	Gurkovsky	UKR	Line Player	09.10.1985	Zaporozhye, UKR	196	100
27	Ivan	Burzak	UKR	Line Player	22.02.1998	Melytopol, UKR	200	105
28	Maksym	Viunik	UKR	Goalkeeper	28.02.1996	Melytopol, UKR	192	103
31	Oleksandr	Kasai	UKR	Left Wing	14.01.1997	Zaporozhye, UKR	180	80
33	Ivan	Maroz	BLR	Goalkeeper	05.10.1992	Gomel, BLR	197	103
35	Taras	Minotskyi	UKR	Right Back	15.01.2000	Volochysk, UKR	193	86
55	Gennadiy	Komok	UKR	Goalkeeper	05.07.1987	Zaporozhye, UKR	197	110
74	Viachaslau	Bokhan	BLR	Line Player	07.04.1996	Novopolotsk, BLR	203	104
77	Dmytro	Tiutiunnyk	UKR	Line Player	07.03.1993	Uman, UKR	200	104



Gintaras Savukynas

Coach

@gintarassavukynas

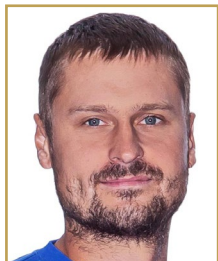
- Motor head coach since February 2020, when he replaced Rostislav Lanevich
- earlier coached Riihimaki Cocks for more than three years, after spells at national team of Lithuania (2009-13) and Belarusian side HC Meshkov Brest (2010-12)
- spent his playing career in Iceland, Switzerland and Norway, apart from his native country, Lithuania

Newcomers

Ivan Maroz (SKA Minsk/BLR)
 Vyacheslav Bokhan (SKA Minsk/BLR)
 Victor Melnichuk (Telekom Veszprém HC/HUN)
 Ivan Burzak (ZTR Zaporizhia/UKR)
 Dmitriy Horiha (Pogon Szczecin/POL)
 Igor Turchenko (HC Motor-Politehnika-Zab/UKR)
 Taras Minotsky (HC Motor-Politehnika-Zab/UKR)
 Rudolf Boroday (HC Donbass/UKR)

Left the club

Dmitry Doroschuk (unknown)
 Mateuzs Kus (Energa MKS Kalisz/POL)
 Vladislav Parovinchak (HC Gomel/BLR)
 Igor Gurin (HC Gomel/BLR)
 Alexey Ganchev (SPR Chrobry Glogow/POL)

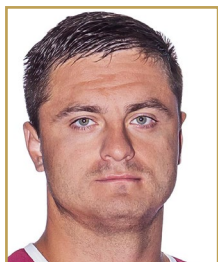


Gennadiy Komok

@komokgesha

Goalkeeper

- 2020/21 is his sixth season at Motor, though he will miss the first part of the campaign because of an achilles tendon injury
- born in Zaporozhye and started career at local rivals ZTR
- also had spell in Russian league, at St.Petersburg, in 2011/12
- was Ukraine's captain and first-choice goalkeeper at EHF EURO 2020

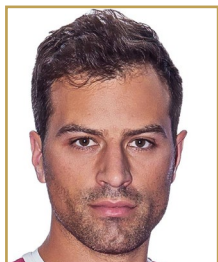


Zakhar Denysov

@denysov_zakhar

Left wing

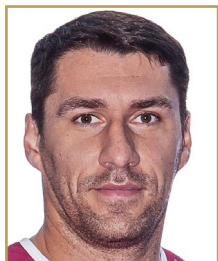
- all-rounder with experience of playing in many different positions
- Ukrainian international, named Player of the Year in Ukraine in 2019
- raised in Yuzhny and played for local team Portovik before moving to Motor in 2014
- was also a talented football player as a teenager, but focused on handball



Stevan Vujovic

Left back

- has represented clubs from nine different countries so far in his career
- joined Motor in 2019 from Dobrogea Sud (ROU); previously played for Vardar (MKD), Wetzlar (GER) and Metalurg (MKD) among other clubs
- Montenegrin international, who replaced absent sharpshooter Vuko Borozan at EHF EURO 2020
- his wife, Sanja, plays handball for Buducnost and Serbian national team

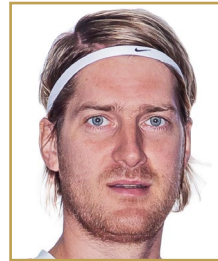


Barys Pukhouski

Left/centre back

- one of Motor's leading players, having been with the club since 2015
- second-best scorer of CL 2019/20 (74 goals), and joined fourth-best of 2018/19 (87)
- arrived at Motor from SKA Minsk, where he won the Challenge Cup title in 2013, scoring 20 times in total in the two-leg final against Handball Esch
- all-time top scorer of the Belarusian national team

EC trophies: Challenge Cup 2013



Aidenas Malasinskas

@aidenas_7_

Centre back

- joined Motor from BM Puerto Sagunto in summer of 2015 and quickly became key element in the team
- Lithuanian international, who also played for Bidasoa Irun, Granollers and La Rioja
- scored 58 goals in the CL for Motor in 2019/20 season, including a nine-goal outing against Meshkov Brest



Maxim Babichau

Line player

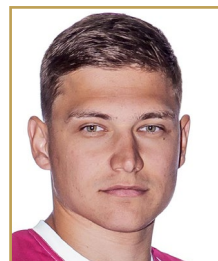
- experienced Belarusian player, joined Zaporozhye in 2017 for his first foreign club
- previously played for Arkatron Minsk, Dinamo Minsk and Meshkov Brest
- nine-time Belarusian and three-time Ukrainian champion
- regular member of Belarusian national team for more than a decade until 2018



Vladislav Dontsov

Right back

- powerful left-hander, who was born in Zaporozhye
- started career at local rivals ZTR but, at age 19, joined Motor in 2014
- played two seasons abroad - for Dinamo Chelyabinsk in Russia (2016/17) and SKA Minsk in Belarus (2017/18) - before returning to Motor in 2018



Artem Kozakevych

Right wing

- moved to Motor Zaporozhye from Portovik Yuzhny in 2014
- fast left-handed winger, who has won multiple league titles with Motor
- part of Ukrainian national team at EHF EURO 2020
- won silver with Ukraine at the Beach Handball WCh 2012

GROUP B



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Slovenia

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[rkceljepivovarnalasko](https://www.facebook.com/rkceljepivovarnalasko)

[@RKCPPL](https://twitter.com/RKCPPL)

[@rkcppl](https://www.instagram.com/rkcppl)

Kit colours

Light

Player shirt: yellow-blue
Player short: blue
GK shirt: blue, green, orange

Dark

Player shirt: blue
Player short: blue
GK shirt: blue, green, orange



Playing hall

Dvorana Zlatorog
Opekarniška cesta 15
3000 Celje
Slovenia

RK CELJE PIVOVARNA LAŠKO

RK Celje Pivovarna Lasko are one of the well-known participants in the top European competition, and raised the trophy back in 2003/04. Since then, a lot has changed, mainly in the team roster and expectations. Celje's handball philosophy is the only thing that remains the same after almost a decade: A rejuvenated team stepping into the shoes of experienced players, gaining experience with every new match, looking towards a bright future and reaching the season's goals. And for Celje, the approach seems to be working.

Main facts

- Celje won the domestic Slovenian title in 2020 for the seventh season in a row and 24th time overall
- in 2019/20, Celje finally advanced from the CL group phase again for the first time in six seasons, but the round of the Last 16 was then cancelled due to the Covid-19 pandemic
- Celje saw hardly any significant changes to their roster for 2020/21, as they remain one of the youngest teams in the CL
- however, the club did lose one of its most promising talents as 20-year-old centre back Domen Makuc signed for Barça
- Tomaz Ocvirk, former player for Celje, is heading into his third season as head coach of the Slovenian club

Past achievements

EHF Champions League

Participations (including 2020/21 season): 26

Winner (1): 2003/04

Semi-final (6): 1996/97, 1997/98, 1998/99,

1999/2000, 2000/01, 2004/05

Quarter-final (2): 2001/02, 2005/06

Last 16 (5): 1995/96, 2006/07, 2012/13, 2013/14, 2019/20

Main Round (2): 2007/08, 2008/09

Group Phase (7): 1993/94, 1994/95, 2010/11, 2014/15, 2015/16, 2016/17, 2017/18, 2018/19

Qualification (1): 2009/10

Other

EHF Cup: Quarter-finals 2009/10

Cup Winners' Cup: Semi-finals 2002/03, 2011/12

Slovenian league: 24 titles (1991-2001, 2003-08, 2010, 2014-20)

Slovenian cup: 21 times



9 MATCHES
Longest winning run

42 GOALS
Most goals

72 GOALS
Most goals both teams

I EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE CLUB RECORDS

Biggest win	37:17 (16:9) v Redberglids IK SWE (h), 18.11.2000
Biggest defeat	45:21 (21:13) v Barça ESP (a), 21.09.2019
Longest winning run	6 matches (23.03.1997 – 24.01.1998)
	6 matches (25.03.2000 – 09.12.2000)
Longest unbeaten run	8 matches (31.10.2004 – 02.04.2005)
Longest losing run	8 matches (10.02.2019 – 13.10.2019)
Longest run without win	10 matches (25.11.2018 – 13.10.2019)
Most goals	44 v HC 'Granitas-Karys' LTU 44:27W (h), 22.11.2008
Most goals opponent	45 v Barça ESP 45:21L (a), 21.09.2019
Most goals both teams	77 v FC Barcelona Borges ESP 44:33L (a), 09.10.2010
Fewest goals	17 v UHK West Wien AUT 18:17L (a), 06.04.1994
Fewest goals opponent	16 v SG Wallau-Massenheim GER 23:16W (h), 13.02.1994
	16 v Redberglids Göteborg SWE 31:16W (h), 14.11.1998
Fewest goals both teams	35 v UHK West Wien AUT 18:17L (a), 06.04.1994

I EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE RECORD

	MP	W	T	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS	Stage
1993/94 Celje Pivovarna Lasko SLO	6	2	0	4	120:116	+4	4:8	4th Gr. A	
1996/97 Celje Pivovarna Lasko SLO	10	7	1	2	254:213	+41	15:5	Semi-final	
1997/98 Celje Pivovarna Lasko SLO	10	8	0	2	268:234	+34	16:4	Semi-final	
1998/99 Celje Pivovarna Lasko SLO	10	7	1	2	290:245	+45	15:5	Semi-final	
1999/00 Celje Pivovarna Lasko SLO	10	7	0	3	294:250	+44	14:6	Semi-final	
2000/01 Celje Pivovarna Lasko SLO	10	6	1	3	292:254	+38	13:7	Semi-final	
2001/02 Celje Pivovarna Lasko SLO	8	6	0	2	232:217	+15	12:4	Quarter-final	
2003/04 Celje Pivovarna Lasko SLO	14	10	2	2	447:398	+49	22:6	Winner	
2004/05 Celje Pivovarna Lasko SLO	12	8	1	3	360:327	+33	17:7	Semi-final	
2005/06 Celje Pivovarna Lasko SLO	10	7	0	3	311:273	+38	14:6	Quarter-final	
2006/07 Celje Pivovarna Lasko SLO	8	6	0	2	272:237	+35	12:4	Last 16	
2007/08 Celje Pivovarna Lasko SLO	12	4	2	6	342:344	-2	10:14	4th MR Gr. 4	
2008/09 Celje Pivovarna Lasko SLO	10	4	0	6	296:287	+9	8:12	4th MR Gr. 2	
2010/11 HC Celje Pivovarna Lasko SLO	10	3	0	7	300:332	-32	6:14	5th Gr. A	
2012/13 Celje Pivovarna Lasko SLO	12	5	0	7	305:324	-19	10:14	Last 16	
2013/14 Celje Pivovarna Lasko SLO	12	5	1	6	322:327	-5	11:13	Last 16	
2014/15 RK Celje Pivovarna Lasko SLO	10	3	0	7	284:293	-9	6:14	5th Gr. C	
2015/16 RK Celje Pivovarna Lasko SLO	14	3	1	10	385:398	-13	7:21	7th Gr. A	
2016/17 RK Celje Pivovarna Lasko SLO	14	3	3	8	399:424	-25	9:19	7th Gr. B	
2017/18 RK Celje Pivovarna Lasko SLO	14	3	1	10	398:434	-36	7:21	7th Gr. B	
2018/19 RK Celje Pivovarna Lasko SLO	14	3	1	10	380:416	-36	7:21	8th Gr. B	
2019/20 RK Celje Pivovarna Lasko SLO	14	3	0	11	355:429	-74	6:22	Last 16*	
Total:	244	113	15	116	6906:6772	+134	241:247		

* Last 16 and Quarter-finals cancelled due to Covid-19 pandemic




TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height	Weight
1	Filip	Ivic	CRO	Goalkeeper	30.08.1992	Zagreb, CRO	195	95
3	Domen	Knez	SLO	Left Back	05.10.2001	Celje, SLO	199	92
4	Tobias	Cvetko	SLO	Left Back	10.01.1997	Celje, SLO	192	92
6	Tadej	Mazej	SLO	Left Wing	31.07.1998	Slovenj Gradec, SLO	190	87
8	Arsenije	Dragasevic	MNE	Left Back	18.07.2002	Plevlje, MNE	202	95
C 9	David	Razgor	SLO	Centre Back	13.07.1989	Celje, SLO	180	78
10	Tim	Cokan	SLO	Right Wing	07.06.2001	Celje, SLO	191	81
11	Gal	Marguc	SLO	Right Wing	16.11.1996	Celje, SLO	179	75
13	Josip	Sarac	CRO	Left Back	24.02.1998	Ljubuški, BIH	201	103
14	Matic	Groselj	SLO	Right Back	22.09.1997	Trbovlje, SLO	194	95
15	Vid	Poteko	SLO	Line Player	05.04.1991	Celje, SLO	193	94
16	Miljan	Vujovic	SLO	Goalkeeper	27.08.2000	Cetinje, MNE	196	97
18	Mitja	Janc	SLO	Centre Back	05.04.2003	Brežice, SLO	182	85
20	Nik	Cirovic	SLO	Left Back	23.03.2002	Postojna, SLO	187	86
22	Radojica	Cepic	MNE	Centre Back	29.07.2002	Plevlje, MNE	194	89
25	Tilen	Kodrin	SLO	Left Wing	14.05.1994	Celje, SLO	192	89
27	Kristjan	Horzen	SLO	Line Player	08.12.1999	Novo mesto, SLO	192	98
28	Jan	Grebenc	SLO	Left Back	18.08.1992	Ljubljana, SLO	195	95
33	Tadej	Kljun	SLO	Right Back	18.04.2001	Postojna, SLO	196	79
57	Patrik	Leban	SLO	Centre Back	07.09.1989	Ljubljana, SLO	187	94
77	Domen	Novak	SLO	Right Wing	26.04.1998	Ljubljana, SLO	182	80
90	Veron	Nacinovic	CRO	Line Player	07.03.2000	Rijeka, CRO	200	103
99	Gal	Gabersek	SLO	Goalkeeper	23.08.2001	Celje, SLO	200	90



Tomaž Ocvirk
Coach

 @tomaz_ocvirk

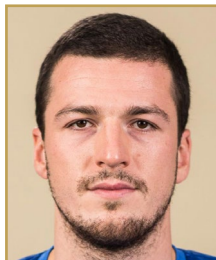
- former Celje player, who took over the position of head coach from Branko Tamse a few weeks into the 2018/19 season
- led Celje back into Last 16 for first time in six years in 2019/20
- born in Celje, he has spent his entire handball life at the club, going through the youth ranks and competing for the senior team for four seasons in the 1990s
- focused on a coaching career after his active years, and worked with youth team and as a fitness coach at Celje

Newcomers

Filip Ivić (VfL Gummersbach/GER)
Veron Načinović (Zamet Rijeka/CRO)
Tadej Mazej (RK Gorenje Velenje/SLO)
Radojica Čepić (Rudar Plevlja/MNE)
Arsenije Dragašević (Rudar Plevlja/MNE)
Tim Cokan (RK Celje Pivovarna Lasko youth)

Left the club

Klemen Ferlin (HC Erlangen/GER)
Domen Makuc (Barça/ESP)
Diogo Silva (FC Porto Sofarma/POR)
Stefan Žabič (RK Maribor/SLO, on loan)
Filip Rakita (RK Maribor/SLO, on loan)



Filip Ivic

@ivicfilip16

Goalkeeper

- joined Celje in summer of 2020 after one season with VfL Gummersbach in Germany
- Croatian international who started his career in Zagreb and made CL debut in 2010/11
- joined then CL winners Kielce in 2016, played EHF FINAL4 with Polish club in 2019
- won bronze with Croatia at WCh 2013, also played at WCh 2015 and 2017
- practiced karate as a kid, switched to handball after Croatia won world title in 2003

WCh: B 2013



Tilen Kodrin

@tkodrin

Left wing

- Celje-born player who spent his entire career at the club, apart from one season on loan with Maribor Branik (2013/14)
- has won six domestic titles in six seasons since his return to Celje in 2014
- became Slovenian international in 2016 and was part of the team that won bronze at WCh 2017; also played at EHF EURO 2020

WCh: B 2017



Josip Sarac

@saracjosip13

Left back

- talented left back, who arrived in Celje in 2018 from HRK Izvidac in his native Croatia
- scored 62 goals for Celje in CL 2019/20, after netting 21 times in his debut CL season
- led Croatia to silver at Junior WCh 2019 and was part of the senior national team that also won silver at EHF EURO 2020

EURO: S 2020



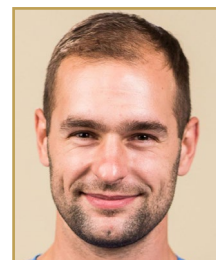
Jan Grebenc

@jangrebenc

Left back

- came to Celje in 2019 after spending one season each at Gorenje Velenje (2017/18) and Danish side Skjern Handbold (2018/19)
- started his career at RD Riko Ribnica (SLO) in 2003
- Slovenian international who was part of the team that won bronze at WCh 2017

WCh: B 2017



Patrik Leban

@pakoleban57

Centre back

- joined Celje in 2019, returning to his native Slovenia from RK Nexe in Croatia
- moved from RD Riko Ribnica to Nexe in 2017 after his national team debut
- a skilled back with an unpredictable style of play
- is a rally racing addict



Vid Poteko

@vpoteko

Line player

- Celje-born line player, who went through the club's youth ranks before making senior team debut in 2010/11
- joined Meshkov Brest for two seasons (2017-19) before returning to Celje
- played at 2016 Olympics and won bronze with Slovenia at WCh 2017

WCh: B 2017



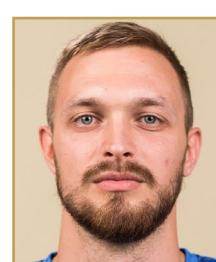
Matic Groselj

@matic.groselj

Right back

- joined Celje's youth team in 2014 and became part of senior team in 2016/17
- turning 23 at start of 2020/21, already going into his fifth CL season with Celje
- fast player with valuable qualities at both ends of the court
- Slovenian international who played at WCh 2017 where team won bronze

WCh: B 2017



Gal Marguc

@galmarguc

Right wing

- key player for Celje since his breakthrough in 2016/17, which was his third season with the team
- younger brother of Veszprém star Gasper Marguc
- highly talented youngster; next in line of world-class Celje right wings including Dragan Gajic, Blaz Janc and his brother

GROUP B



Club contact

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[@rkzagreb_official](https://www.instagram.com/rkzagreb_official)

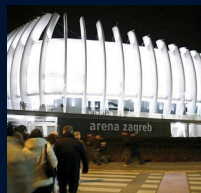
Kit colours

Light

Player shirt: white
Player short: blue
GK shirt: red

Dark

Player shirt: blue
Player short: blue
GK shirt: yellow



Playing hall

Arena Zagreb
Laniste b.b.,
10000 Zagreb
Croatia
Capacity: 15,200

HC PPD ZAGREB

When it comes to men's handball in Croatia, HC PPD Zagreb are a synonym for it. Playing the EHF Champions League from its beginning in 1993, the Croatian champions are now going into their 27th season, more than any other team.

After a rollercoaster season with two changes of the head coach position and disappointing results, Zagreb are looking forward to a new edition - with many new faces in the squad.

Main facts

- 27 appearances in 28 seasons make Zagreb the all-time record participants in the CL
- after first replacing Branko Tamse and then Veselin Vujovic, Zagreb have now put their hopes in club legend Igor Vori as head coach
- Zagreb could not add their 29th consecutive domestic title last season as the Croatian championship was cancelled due to global pandemic
- Damir Bicanic and Arian Jovic have retired and taken up new roles in the club, while Tonci Valcic has returned to Zagreb as an assistant coach
- 11 players from last season's squad are gone, most notably Zlatko Horvat, who left Zagreb for Metalurg after almost 20 years

Past achievements

EHF Champions League

Participations (including 2020/21 season): 27
Runners-up (4): 1994/95, 1996/97, 1997/98, 1998/99
Semi-final (1): 1999/00
Quarter-final (7): 2000/01, 2002/03, 2003/04, 2008/09, 2011/12, 2014/15, 2015/16
Last 16 (5): 2005/06, 2009/10, 2010/11, 2016/17, 2018/19
Main Round (1): 2007/08
Group Phase (8): 1993/94, 1995/96, 2004/05, 2006/07, 2012/13, 2013/14, 2017/18, 2019/20

Other

Cup Winners' Cup: Runners-up 2004/05, Semi-finals 2006/07
(IHF) European Champions Cup: 2 titles (1991/92, 1992/93)

SEHA League: 1 title (2013)
Croatian league: 28 titles (1992-2019)
Croatian Cup winner: 26 times



6 MATCHES
Longest winning run

38 GOALS
Most goals

69 GOALS
Most goals both teams

EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE CLUB RECORDS

Biggest win	34:15 (16:8) v HC Bosna Sarajevo BIH (h), 04.12.2010
Biggest defeat	43:21 (23:10) v FC Barcelona ESP (a), 18.04.2015
Longest winning run	6 matches (12.12.1998 – 27.02.1999)
Longest unbeaten run	6 matches (09.11.1996 – 18.01.1997)
	6 matches (12.12.1998 – 27.02.1999)
	6 matches (30.10.1999 – 05.12.1999)
	6 matches (04.10.2008 – 22.11.2008)
Longest losing run	7 matches (11.10.2012 – 16.02.2013)
	7 matches (23.03.2019 – 20.10.2019)
Longest run without win	11 matches (25.03.2017 – 23.11.2017)
Most goals	38 v Kadetten Schaffhausen SUI 38:30W (h), 23.02.2013
Most goals opponent	43 v FC Barcelona ESP 43:21L (a), 18.04.2015
Most goals both teams	69 v FC Barcelona Borges ESP 36:33L (a), 03.04.2010
Fewest goals	15 v Portland San Antonio ESP 31:15L (a), 22.10.2005
Fewest goals opponent	13 v THW Kiel GER 22:13W (h), 25.03.2000
	13 v Pelister Bitola MKD 37:13W (h), 16.10.2005
Fewest goals both teams	36 v ZTR Zaporozhye UKR 18:18D (a), 20.11.1999
	36 v HC Metalurg MKD 19:17W (h), 11.10.2014

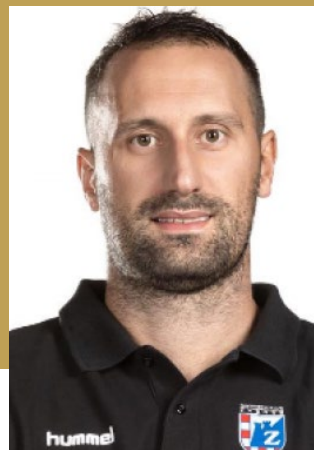
EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE RECORD

	MP	W	T	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS	Stage
1993/94 Badel 1862 Zagreb CRO	6	0	2	4	135:147	-12	2:10	4th Gr. A	
1994/95 Badel Zagreb CRO	8	5	1	2	203:203	0	11:5	Runner-up	
1995/96 Croatia Banka Zagreb CRO	6	2	1	3	138:144	-6	5:7	3rd Gr. B	
1996/97 Badel 1862 Zagreb CRO	12	6	3	3	310:294	+16	15:9	Runner-up	
1997/98 Badel 1862 Zagreb CRO	12	7	0	5	300:287	+13	14:10	Runner-up	
1998/99 Badel 1862 Zagreb CRO	12	8	1	3	288:269	+19	17:7	Runner-up	
1999/00 Badel 1862 Zagreb CRO	10	7	1	2	260:230	+30	15:5	Semi-final	
2000/01 Badel 1862 Zagreb CRO	8	4	1	3	195:192	+3	9:7	Quarter-final	
2002/03 RK Zagreb CRO	8	3	2	3	209:216	-7	8:8	Quarter-final	
2003/04 RK Zagreb CRO	10	4	0	6	273:258	+15	8:12	Quarter-final	
2004/05 RK Zagreb CRO	6	3	0	3	165:170	-5	6:6	3rd Gr. B	
2005/06 RK Zagreb CRO	8	5	1	2	212:194	+18	11:5	Last 16	
2006/07 RK Zagreb CRO	6	3	0	3	153:148	+5	6:6	3rd Gr. D	
2007/08 HC Croatia Osiguranje-Zagreb CRO	12	5	1	6	339:344	-5	11:13	3rd MR Gr. 3	
2008/09 HC Croatia Osiguranje-Zagreb CRO	12	7	3	2	357:313	+44	17:7	Quarter-final	
2009/10 HC Croatia Osiguranje-Zagreb CRO	12	6	0	6	351:335	+16	12:12	Last 16	
2010/11 HC Croatia Osiguranje ZAGREB CRO	12	6	3	3	358:319	+39	15:9	Last 16	
2011/12 Croatia Osiguranje Zagreb CRO	14	9	1	4	391:359	+32	19:9	Quarter-final	
2012/13 HC Croatia Osiguranje Zagreb CRO	10	2	1	7	266:284	-18	5:15	5th Gr. D	
2013/14 HC Croatia Osiguranje Zagreb CRO	10	4	0	6	267:282	-15	8:12	5th Gr. A	
2014/15 HC Prvo plinarsko drustvo Zagreb CRO	14	7	0	7	328:356	-28	14:14	Quarter-final	
2015/16 HC Prvo plinarsko drustvo Zagreb CRO	18	6	2	10	464:480	-16	14:22	Quarter-final	
2016/17 HC Prvo plinarsko drustvo Zagreb CRO	16	4	1	11	373:408	-35	9:23	Last 16	
2017/18 HC Prvo plinarsko drustvo Zagreb CRO	14	2	2	10	349:396	-47	6:22	8th Gr. A	
2018/19 HC PPD Zagreb CRO	16	4	3	9	407:447	-40	11:21	Last 16	
2019/20 HC PPD Zagreb CRO	14	2	1	11	343:419	-76	5:23	7th Gr. A	
Total:	286	121	31	134	7434:7494	+60	273:299		



TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height	Weight
1	Radivoje	Ristanovic	MNE	Goalkeeper	02.12.1982	Belgrade, SRB	200	105
2	Marin	Šipic	CRO	Line Player	29.04.1996	Bad Soden a.T, GER	190	107
4	Filip	Vistorop	CRO	Centre Back	29.04.1998	Mostar, BIH	194	90
5	Luka	Mrakovic	CRO	Centre Back	22.09.1994	Rijeka, CRO	190	95
7	David	Mandic	CRO	Left Wing	14.09.1997	Ljubuški, BIH	187	87
8	Josip	Božić-Pavletic	CRO	Right Wing	06.08.1994	Split, CRO	187	83
9	Luka Lovre	Klarica	CRO	Right Back	25.09.2001	Zadar, CRO	198	93
10	Senjamin	Buric	BIH	Line Player	20.11.1990	Doboj, BIH	198	100
11	Zvonimir	Srna	CRO	Left Back	18.01.1998	Dubrovnik, CRO	202	100
12	Todor	Jandric	SRB	Goalkeeper	02.06.1998	Novi Sad, SRB	199	101
13	Mario	Vuglac	CRO	Right Back	30.01.1992	Zagreb, CRO	191	92
14	Nemanja	Obradovic	SRB	Centre Back	08.01.1991	Krusevac, SRB	200	105
15	Darko	Stojnic	SLO	Line Player	03.04.1997	Ljubljana, SLO	200	113
C 16	Matej	Ašanin	CRO	Goalkeeper	04.09.1993	Zagreb, CRO	206	110
22	Miloš	Božovic	MNE	Left Back	10.12.1994	Budva, SRB	199	97
24	Vlado	Matanovic	CRO	Right Wing	29.05.1995	Rijeka, CRO	182	85
33	Valentino	Ravnic	CRO	Left Wing	20.07.1995	Zadar, CRO	190	82
44	Matej	Hrstic	CRO	Left Back	11.08.1996	Ljubuski, BIH	197	102
55	Žiga	Mlakar	SLO	Right Back	16.05.1990	Celje, SLO	193	100
71	Nikola	Grahovac	CRO	Line Player	14.12.1998	Cakovec, CRO	201	111
88	Aleks	Vlah	SLO	Centre Back	22.07.1997	Izola, SLO	191	90



Igor Vori
Coach

@igorvori09

- Zagreb club legend, who replaced Veselin Vujovic in June 2020 for his first job as head coach
- worked as an assistant to national team coach Lino Cervar at EHF EURO 2020, where Croatia won silver
- ended his illustrious active career as a line player at Zagreb in 2018, having returned to the club after spells in four other countries: France, Spain, Germany and Italy
- won CL in 2013 with Hamburg and nine medals from major events with Croatia between 2004 and 2013

EC trophies: CL 2013
WCh: G 2003, S 2005, 2009, B 2013; OG: G 2004, B 2012;
EURO: S 2008, 2010, B 2012

Newcomers

Nemanja Obradović (HC Meshkov Brest/BLR)
Senjamin Burić (HBC Nantes/FRA)
Vlado Matanović (RK Gorenje Velenje/SLO)
Todor Jandrić (RK Metaloplastika Šabac/SRB)
Žiga Mlakar (SPR Wisla Plock/POL)
Mario Vuglač

Left the club

Aleksander Špende (RTV 1879 Basel/SUI)
Kristian Bećiri (ThSV Eisenach/GER)
Ante Gadža (HC Vardar 1961/MKD)
Josip Vekić (HC Vardar 1961/MKD)
Gašper Hrastnik (unknown)
Josip Ereš (TuS Ferndorf/GER)
Nenad Kostaske (RK Eurofarm Pelister/MKD)
Zlatko Horvat (RK Metalurg/MKD)
Arian Jović (goakeepers' coach)
Damir Bičanić (club's director of international relations)



Matej Asanin

@matt16_as

Goalkeeper

- returned to Zagreb from TSG Friesenheim (GER) in the summer of 2019
- also played for Split, Varazdin (CRO), Leon (ESP), Balingen (GER) and Sporting (POR)
- part of Croatia's silver-medal team at EHF EURO 2020, also won gold with Croatia at Mediterranean Games in 2018

EURO: S 2020



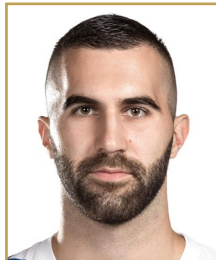
David Mandic

@david.mandic_7

Left wing

- came from Izvidac (BIH) in summer of 2018 and gained first CL experience at Zagreb
- besides being efficient in attack, he possesses great defensive skills
- reached EHF EURO 2020 final with Croatia, won gold at 2018 Mediterranean Games
- first called up to Croatian national team in mid-2017

EURO: S 2020



Milos Bozovic

@milosb_02

Left back

- Montenegrin back who arrived at Zagreb midway through 2019/20 season
- moved from Hungarian side Tatabanya; previously played for Velenje, BM Valladolid, and Ciudad Real
- Montenegrin international, was second-best scorer for his team at EHF EURO 2020

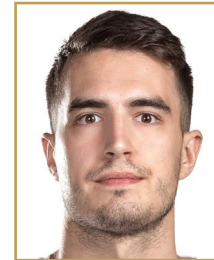


Nemanja Obradovic

@obradOvic_n

Left back

- Serbian back, joining Zagreb from Meshkov Brest in summer of 2020
- represented Metaloplastika, Valence, Metalurg, Wisla Plock and Brest in the space of five years
- national team player who competed at two EHF EUROS with Serbia
- can also cover centre-back position, having started his career as a playmaker

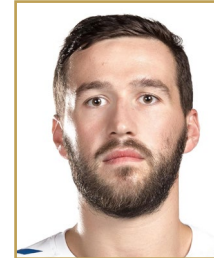


Filip Vistorop

@filipvistoropp

Centre back

- debuted in CL with Zagreb in 2018/19, scored 15 times in 2019/20 campaign
- previously gained European Cup experience with Bosnian side Zrinjski Mostar in Challenge Cup 2017/18
- helped Croatia to win historic silver medal at Junior WCh 2019

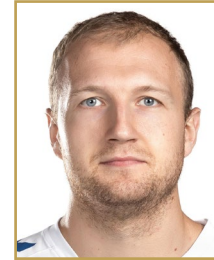


Senjamin Buric

@senjaminburic8

Line player

- returned to Zagreb in summer of 2020 after switching between the Croatian club and Nantes two times since 2016
- has considerable CL experience, also played for Velenje between 2013 and 2016
- reached EHF FINAL4 final with Nantes in 2018
- his twin brother, Benjamin, also plays for Bosnian national team, as goalkeeper, and they played in four clubs together: Maglaj, Izvidjac, Borac and Velenje



Ziga Mlakar

@zmlakar

Right back

- Slovenian back who started playing handball at age 12; occasional member of Slovenia national team
- arrived in Zagreb in 2020 from Wisla Plock, which was his first foreign club
- spent most of his career at Celje, also had brief stint with Branik Maribor in 2014/15
- had his best CL season in 2015/16, scoring 60 goals for Celje



Josip Bozic Pavletic

@josip18

Right wing

- born in Split, he spent his early playing years at Solin and Split
- joined Zagreb in 2017 after five seasons with domestic league rivals RK Nexe
- gained first European experience at Nexe before playing CL with Zagreb
- won gold with Croatian under-19 team at Junior WCh 2013 and with national team at Mediterrean Games in 2018; also played at WCh 2017 for Croatia

I IMPORTANT REGULATIONS

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN TWO OR MORE TEAMS HAVE THE SAME NUMBER OF POINTS

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

The matches shall be scored as follows:

- a) win = 2 points
- b) draw = 1 point
- c) loss = 0 points

Teams' rankings are obtained by adding up the number of points won.

GROUP PHASE

If two or more teams have scored the same number of points, the ranking will be determined as follows:

During the matches of the group:

- a) higher goal difference in all matches;
- b) greater number of plus goals in all matches;

After completion of the group if two teams have scored the same number of points:

- a) number of points in matches of the two teams directly involved;
- b) goal difference in matches of the two teams directly involved;
- c) higher number of goals scored in the away match of the two teams directly involved;
- d) goal difference in all matches of the group;
- e) higher number of plus goals in all matches of the group;

After completion of the group if three or more teams have scored the same number of points:

- a) number of points in matches of all teams directly involved;
- b) goal difference in matches of all teams directly involved;
- c) higher number of plus goals in matches of all teams directly involved;
- d) goal difference in all matches of the group;
- e) higher number of plus goals in all matches of the group;
- f) higher ranking in the group phase matches
- g) greater number of points in the group phase

* If the ranking of one of these teams is determined, the criteria are consecutively followed until the ranking of all teams is determined.

* If no ranking can be determined, a decision shall be obtained by drawing lots. Lots shall be drawn by the EHF, if possible in the presence of team managers.

PLAY-OFF AND QUARTER-FINAL MATCHES

If, after completion of the two matches, both teams have won the same number of points (no extra-time will be played), the teams' standings shall be determined by the following criteria:

- a) goal difference
- b) greater number of plus goals scored in away match
- c) penalty throws

RULES FOR EXECUTION OF PENALTY THROWS

- Prior to penalty throwing, 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 until a decision (a winner) is reached, 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 play as goalkeepers.

- The referees shall choose the goal at which throws are 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 scores are equal after the first round of penalty throwing, 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 (a winner) is reached when a goal difference arises after both teams have taken one throw each.

- Eligible players are players entered in the match report who have not been disqualified or suspended at the time of the final whistle.

- Serious infractions committed during penalty throwing shall be sanctioned by disqualification. If a thrower is disqualified or suffers an injury, an eligible substitute player shall be named supplementary.

- 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 area.

- If the number of eligible players falls below five, players may be named to take a second throw in the same round.



HISTORY AND FUTURE

I 2019/20 SEASON RECAP

Like in the most of the sports in Europe the Covid-19 pandemic 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 quarter-final matches cancelled.

VELUX EHF FINAL4 2020 postponed to December

The EHF also rescheduled the final tournament of the club season to 28 and 29 December 2020. Based on the final group phase ranking, qualified for the VELUX EHF FINAL4 are the best two teams of groups A and B: Barça, Paris Saint-Germain HB, THW Kiel, Telekom Veszprém HC.

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

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.

VELUX EHF Champions League 2019/20 All-star Team, presented by Gorenje:

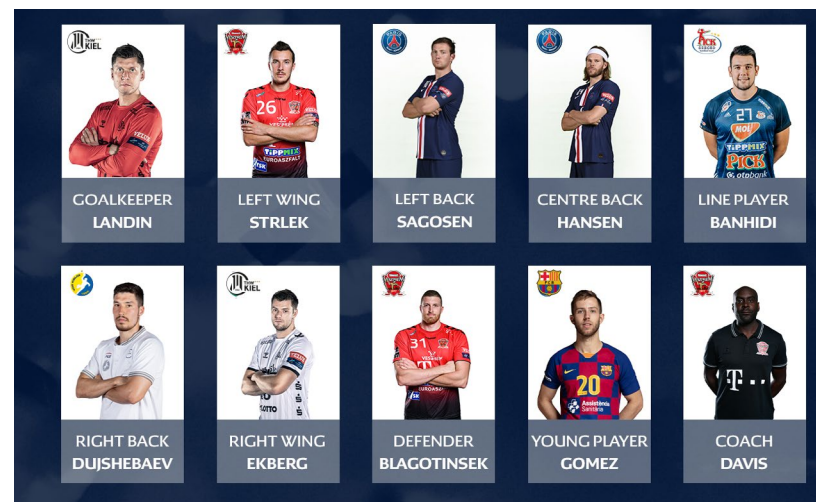
Goalkeeper: Niklas Landin, THW Kiel
Left wing: Manuel Strlek, Telekom Veszprém HC
Left back: Sander Sagosen, PSG Handball
Centre back: Mikkel Hansen, PSG Handball
Line player: Bence Banhidi, MOL-Pick Szeged

Right back: Alex Dujšhebaev, PGE VIVE Kielce
Right wing: Niclas Ekberg, THW Kiel
Defender: Blaz Blagotinsek, Telekom Veszprém HC
Young player: Aleix Gomez, Barça
Coach: David Davis, Telekom Veszprém HC

Nearly a million views for the live streaming of the press conferences

The live post-match press conferences, launched at the beginning of the 2019/20 season and streamed by clubs competing in this season's EHF Champions League competitions, have proven to be a huge hit with handball fans. The teams have been broadcasting press conferences live across their own social media channels straight after their matches to give fans even more insight. The interest in the post-match thoughts of the coaches and the players involved have been popular since the concept's introduction, with the number of combined views across both competitions already approaching one million mark after the group phase and main round respectively.

I ALL-STAR TEAM 2019/20



I ALL-STAR TEAMS OVERVIEW

S	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
GK	Darko Stanic (Metalurg)	Niklas Landin (RNL)	Roland Mikler (Veszprém)	Niklas Landin (Kiel)	Gonzalo Perez de Vargas (Barcelona)	Arpad Sterbik (Vardar)	Dejan Milosavljev (Vardar)	Niklas Landin (Kiel)
LW	Anders Eggert (Flensburg)	Timur Dibirow (Vardar)	Uwe Gensheimer (RNL)	Manuel Strlek (Kielce)	Uwe Gensheimer (PSG)	Uwe Gensheimer (PSG)	Timur Dibirow (Vardar)	Manuel Strlek (Veszprém)
LB	Filip Jicha (Kiel)	Momir Ilic (Veszprém)	Nikola Karabatic (Barcelona)	Momir Ilic (Veszprém)	Mikkel Hansen (PSG)	Sander Sagosen (PSG)	Mikkel Hansen (PSG)	Sander Sagosen (PSG)
CB	Daniel Narcisse (Kiel)	Mikkel Hansen (PSG)	Mikkel Hansen (PSG)	Dean Bombac (Szeged)	Nikola Karabatic (PSG)	Nikola Karabatic (PSG)	Kentin Mahe (Veszprém)	Mikkel Hansen (PSG)
LP	Julen Aguinagalde (Atletico)	Renato Sulic (Veszprém)	Renato Sulic (Veszprém)	Rastko Stojkovic (Brest)	Ludovic Fabregas (Montpellier)	Bjarte Myrhol (Skjern)	Julen Aguinagalde (Kielce)	Bence Banhidi (Szeged)
RB	Laszlo Nagy (Veszprém)	Kiril Lazarov (Barcelona)	Kiril Lazarov (Barcelona)	Kiril Lazarov (Barcelona)	Alex Dujšhebaev (Vardar)	Dika Mem (Barcelona)	Dainis Kristopans (Vardar)	Alex Dujšhebaev (Kielce)
RW	Ivan Cupic (Kielce)	Luc Abalo (PSG)	Victor Tomas (Barcelona)	Gasper Marguc (Veszprém)	Victor Tomas (Barcelona)	David Balaguer (Nantes)	Ivan Cupic (Vardar)	Niclas Ekberg (Kiel)
< 23	N/A	N/A	Alex Dujšhebaev (Vardar)	Darko Djukic (Besiktas)	Nedim Remili (PSG)	Romain Lagarde (Nantes)	Ludovic Fabregas (Barça)	Aleix Gomez (Barça)
DEF	Timuzsin Schuch (Veszprém)	Timuzsin Schuch (Veszprém)	Rene Toff Hansen (Kiel)	Timuzsin Schuch (Veszprém)	Luka Karabatic (PSG)	Luka Karabatic (PSG)	Blaz Blagotinsek (Veszprém)	Blaz Blagotinsek (Veszprém)
C	N/A	N/A	Talant Dujšhebaev (Kielce)	Xavier Sabate (Veszprém)	Raul Gonzalez (Vardar)	Patrice Canayer (Montpellier)	Roberto Parrondo (Vardar)	David Davis (Veszprém)

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 Dujšebaev (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	<i>TBD on 29 December 2020</i>	
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

ALL-TIME CLUB STANDINGS 1993–2020

TR	Name of the club	MP	W	D	L	GF:FA	GD	P	NP	%
1	Barça ESP	310	233	20	57	9612:8040	+1572	486:134	(24)	78,39%
2	Telekom Veszprém HC HUN	292	198	14	80	8496:7649	+847	410:174	(25)	70,21%
3	THW Kiel GER	290	193	20	77	8812:7815	+997	406:174	(23)	70,00%
4	SG Flensburg-Handewitt GER	216	128	18	70	6341:5919	+422	274:158	(16)	63,43%
5	HC PPD Zagreb CRO	286	121	31	134	7434:7494	+60	273:299	(27)	47,73%
6	Montpellier HB FRA	232	128	15	89	6646:6352	+294	271:193	(20)	58,41%
7	RK Celje Pivovarna Lasko SLO	244	113	15	116	6906:6772	+134	241:247	(23)	49,39%
8	BM Atletico Madrid ESP	144	111	5	28	4502:3803	+699	227:61	(10)	78,82%
9	PGE Kielce POL	178	100	16	62	5302:5078	+224	216:140	(14)	60,67%
10	MOL-Pick Szeged HUN	200	97	17	86	5567:5503	+64	211:189	(18)	52,75%
11	Paris Saint-Germain HB FRA	128	88	7	33	3854:3530	+324	183:73	(10)	71,48%
12	Chekhovskie medvedi RUS	176	75	18	83	5250:5200	+50	168:184	(18)	47,73%
13	HC Vardar 1961 MKD	156	74	16	66	4320:4382	-62	164:148	(14)	52,56%
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 København DEN	118	54	9	55	3330:3361	-31	117:119	(12)	49,58%
19	Orlen Wisła Płock POL	136	44	11	81	3594:3833	-239	99:173	(13)	36,40%
20	HC Motor UKR	90	36	11	43	2638:2669	-31	83:97	(8)	46,11%
21	HC Metalurg MKD	102	35	6	61	2516:2718	-202	76:128	(10)	37,26%
22	HC Meshkov Brest BLR	110	31	11	68	3000:3229	-229	73:147	(11)	33,18%
23	Kadetten Schaffhausen SUI	106	31	9	66	2966:3133	-167	71:141	(11)	33,49%
24	HBC Nantes FRA	52	28	10	14	1548:1465	+83	66:38	(4)	63,46%
25	RK Gorenje Velenje SLO	72	32	1	39	2050:2046	+4	65:79	(7)	45,14%
38	Elverum Handball NOR	54	18	5	31	1461:1558	-97	41:67	(6)	37,96%
39	Aalborg Handbold DEN	62	17	7	38	1697:1818	-121	41:83	(6)	33,07%
46	FC Porto Sofarma POR	34	15	3	16	937:953	-16	33:35	(4)	48,53%

ALL-TIME STATS 1993–2020

31

HSV Hamburg GER @ Fyllingen
Handball NOR 17:48 (10:25) 14.11.2009

Biggest wins

- 29 ZTR Zaporozhye UKR @ AS Conversano 2003 ITA 12:41 (5:19), 29.11.2003
 26 Montpellier HB FRA vs AC PAOK GRE 46:20 (26:9), 04.10.2009
 26 FC Barcelona Intersport ESP @ HC Bosna BH Gas Sarajevo BIH 17:43 (9:21), 19.11.2011

26

Montpellier HB FRA vs AC PAOK GRE
46:20 (26:9), 04.10.2009

Biggest home wins

- 25 FC Barcelona ESP vs Hapoel Rishon Le Zion ISR 42:17 (18:10), 15.11.1997
 25 Kadetten Schaffhausen SUI vs HC Bosna BH Gas Sarajevo BIH 43:18 (23:8), 09.02.2012

31

HSV Hamburg GER @ Fyllingen Handball
NOR 17:48 (10:25), 14.11.2009

Biggest away wins

- 29 ZTR Zaporozhye UKR @ AS Conversano 2003 ITA 12:41 (5:19), 29.11.2003
 26 FC Barcelona Intersport ESP @ HC Bosna BH Gas Sarajevo BIH 17:43 (9:21), 19.11.2011

18

RK Zagreb CRO vs Pelister Bitola MKD
37:13 (23:5), 16.10.2005

Biggest lead at half-time

- 17 Montpellier HB FRA vs AC PAOK GRE 46:20 (26:9), 04.10.2009
 15 MKB Veszprém KC HUN vs HC Bosna BH Gas BIH 35:18 (22:7), 14.11.2009
 15 HSV Hamburg GER @ Fyllingen Handball NOR 17:48 (10:25), 14.11.2009
 15 Kadetten Schaffhausen SUI vs HC Bosna BH Gas Sarajevo BIH 43:18 (23:8), 09.02.2012

50

THW Kiel GER @ HC Banik OKD Karvina
CZE 26:50 (13:24), 22.10.2006

Most goals

- 48 HSV Hamburg GER @ Fyllingen Handball NOR 17:48 (10:25), 14.11.2009
 47 THW Kiel GER vs CS HCM Constanta ROU 47:31 (24:18), 12.11.2006

82

FC Barcelona Borges ESP vs KIF Kolding
DEN 46:36 (23:19), 17.10.2009

Most goals both teams

- 81 FC Barcelona ESP vs THW Kiel GER 44:37 (19:20), 13.04.2008
 80 FC Barcelona ESP vs SG Flensburg-Handewitt GER 39:41 (17:18, 32:32, 36:36), 31.05.2014 (after penalty throws)

11

Aalborg Handball DEN vs FC Barcelona
ESP 11:31 (5:16), 15.03.2015

Fewest goals

- 12 AS Conversano 2003 ITA vs ZTR Zaporozhye UKR 12:41 (5:19), 29.11.2003
 12 Vardar Vatrost. Skopje MKD vs FC Barcelona ESP 12:26 (8:15), 06.11.2004

32

SG Wallau-Massenheim GER vs UHK West
Wien AUT 17:15 (7:6), 20.03.1994

Fewest goals both teams

- 32 Fotex KC Veszprém HUN vs Panellinios AC Athens GRE 19:13 (9:7), 17.11.2002
 33 Panellinios AC Athens GRE vs Fotex KC Veszprém HUN 16:17 (8:9), 30.11.2002

–9

KS Vive Tauron Kielce POL @ HC Motor Zaporozhye UKR 27:28 (19:10), 18.02.2015

Biggest deficit overcome after losing first half to win a game

- 7 HC Vardar MKD @ Barça Lassa ESP 27:29 (16:9), 01.06.2019
- 6 FC Porto Sofarma POR vs HC Meshkov Brest BLR 27:25 (9:15), 14.09.2019

–6

FC Barcelona ESP @ GOG Gudme DEN 22:22 (16:10), 14.02.1996

Biggest deficit overcome after losing first half to draw a game

- 6 HC Croatia Osiguranje-Zagreb CRO vs HC Vardar PRO – Skopje MKD 28:28 (10:16), 07.10.2007
- 6 Pevafersa Valladolid ESP vs Pick Szeged HUN 35:35 (13:19), 27.02.2010
- 6 Naturhouse La Rioja ESP vs SG Flensburg-Handewitt GER 32:32 (13:19), 19.10.2013
- 6 Orlen Wisla Plock POL @ THW Kiel GER 24:24 (15:9), 03.12.2016
- 6 Rhein-Neckar Löwen GER vs FC Barcelona Lassa ESP 31:31 (12:18), 17.09.2017
- 6 HC Motor Zaporozhye UKR vs HC Metalurg MKD 28:28 (12:18), 08.10.2017

Most goals in one half

- 26 Montpellier HB FRA vs AS Conversano 2003 ITA – 2nd half 44:25 (18:14), 10.10.2004
- 26 MKB Veszprém KC HUN vs MSK SIRS Povazska Bystrica SVK – 2nd half 46:26 (20:14), 07.10.2006
- 26 GOG Svendborg TGI Gudme DEN vs HC Banik OKD Karvina CZE – 2nd half 45:32 (19:15), 15.10.2006
- 26 THW Kiel GER @ HC Banik OKD Karvina CZE – 2nd half 26:50 (13:24), 22.10.2006

45

PGE Vive Kielce POL vs Barça Lassa ESP – 2nd half 36:42 (15:18), 24.11.2018

Most goals in one half both teams

- 44 Sportclub Magdeburg GER vs Wisla Plock SSA POL – 2nd half 40:32 (17:11), 16.11.2002
- 43 GOG Svendborg TGI Gudme DEN vs HC Banik OKD Karvina CZE – 2nd half 45:32 (19:15), 15.10.2006
- 43 Hammarby IF HB SWE vs THW Kiel GER – 1st half 36:40 (22:21), 08.11.2007

Fewest goals in one half

- 4 Granitas Kaunas LTU vs ABC Braga POR – 1st half 16:22 (4:12), 10.11.1996
- 4 Schachtjor Donetsk UKR @ ABC Braga POR – 1st half 21:15 (11:4), 16.11.1996
- 4 Vardar Vatrost. Skopje MKD vs FC Barcelona ESP – 2nd half 12:26 (8:15), 06.11.2004
- 4 Wisla Plock SA POL @ KIF Kolding Elite A/S DEN – 1st half 35:18 (19:4), 07.10.2006
- 4 RK Gorenje Velenje SLO vs Pick Szeged HUN – 1st half 17:29 (4:14), 03.10.2007
- 4 HC Vardar MKD vs THW Kiel GER – 1st half 20:31 (4:16), 12.10.2019

Fewest goals in one half both teams

- 14 Riihimäen Cocks FIN vs Abanca Ademar Leon ESP – 2nd half 19:19 (13:11), 12.09.2018
- 15 ABC Braga POR vs Schachtjor Donetsk UKR – 1st half 21:15 (11:4), 16.11.1996
- 15 Badel 1862 Zagreb CRO vs Fotex KC Veszprém HUN – 2nd half 19:18 (14:8), 09.01.1999
- 15 Skjern Handball DEN vs ZTR Zaporozhye UKR – 2nd half 16:20 (9:12), 13.11.1999
- 15 Badel 1862 Zagreb CRO vs THW Kiel GER – 1st half 22:13 (8:7), 25.03.2000
- 15 RK Zagreb CRO vs Sandefjord TIF NOR – 1st half 22:15 (10:5), 12.10.2003
- 15 Vardar Vatrost. Skopje MKD vs FC Barcelona ESP – 2nd half 12:26 (8:15), 06.11.2004
- 15 Pick Szeged HUN vs Celje Pivovarna Lasko SLO – 1st half 20:19 (8:7), 08.03.2008
- 15 HC Metalurg MKD vs Elverum Handball NOR – 1st half 18:17 (8:7), 24.09.2016

4

Kolding IF DEN @ TEKA Santander ESP – 1st half 28:16 (16:4), 25.01.1995

13

SG Wallau-Massenheim vs UHK West Wien AUT – 1st half 17:15 (7:6), 20.03.1994

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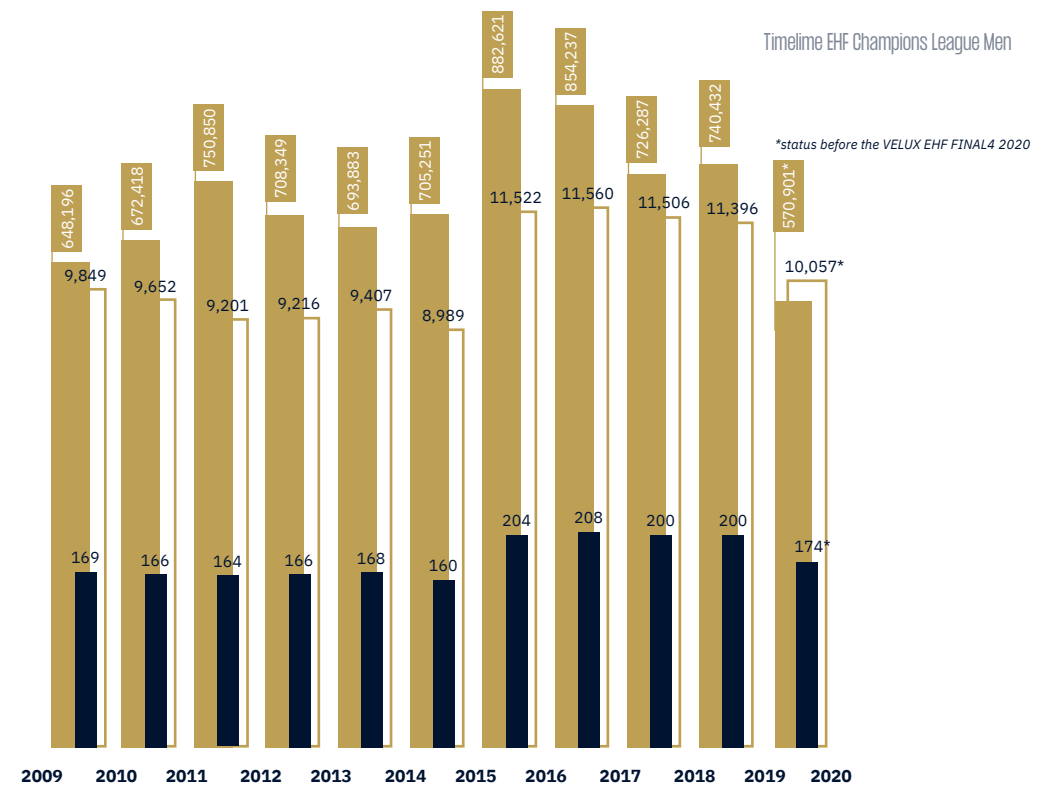
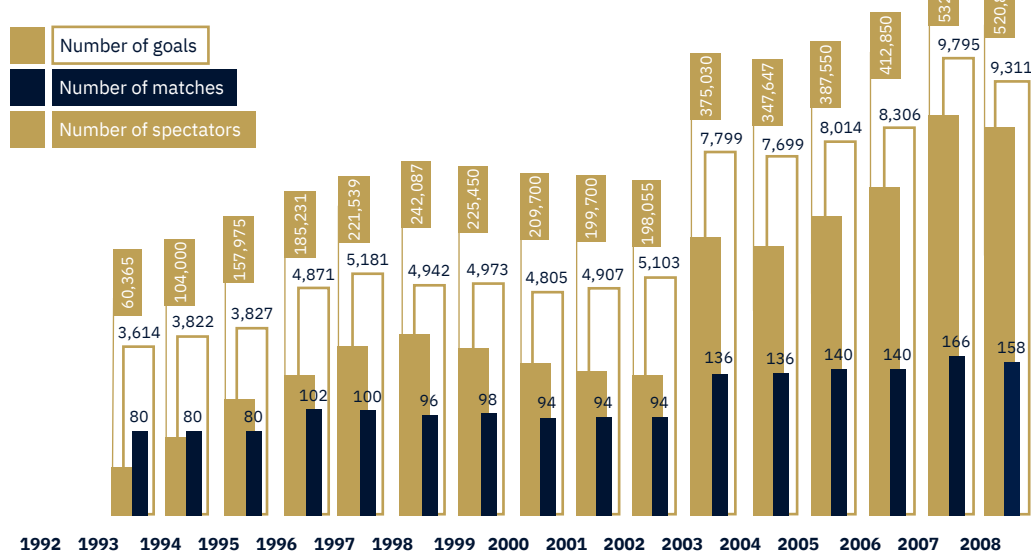
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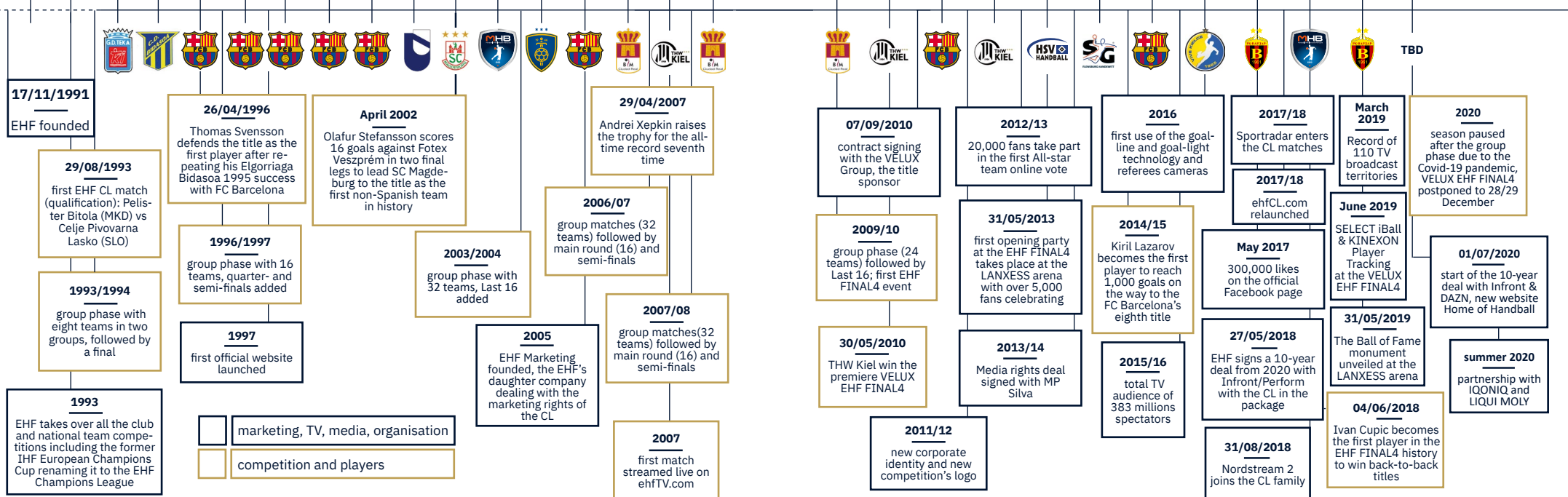
TIMELINE EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE MEN

1993 – 2019

- Number of goals
- Number of matches
- Number of spectators



*status before the VELUX EHF FINAL4 2020



I HISTORY: 27 YEARS OF EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE MEN

1993/94

**Final: ABC Braga vs TEKA Santander
22:22/21:23 (43:45)**

The inaugural year of the Men's EHF Champions League saw the classic home and away knockout matches being replaced with a totally new system. 32 teams went into two qualification rounds, eliminating 24 clubs. The remaining eight teams were placed into two groups of four teams each playing in a round-robin system. TEKA Santander and ABC Braga topped their respective groups and faced each other in the final. Santander narrowly kept the upper hand and started what should become an eight-year Spanish club winning streak in the Men's EHF Champions League.

1994/95

**Final: Elgorriaga Bidasoa Irun vs Badel Zagreb
30:20 / 26:27 (56:47)**

The final of the EHF Champions League's second season became the match of a lifetime for Irun's Nenad Perunicic, nicknamed "the canon" or "Il Conquistadore" by the fans. He was his team's key player in the final and, in his first year in Spain, not only he lifted the EHF Champions League but also the national championship trophy with Irun.

1995/96

**Final: FC Barcelona vs Elgorriaga Bidasoa Irun
23:15 / 23:23 (46:38)**

In the season that was marked by the "Bosman decision", which had substantial effects on transfer regulations and transfer fees in sport, FC Barcelona won their first EHF Champions League title. No other should be capable of dethroning the Catalan side for the next four years.

1996/97

**Final: FC Barcelona vs Badel Zagreb
31:22 / 30:23 (61:45)**

In their second consecutive EHF Champions League Final Barcelona dominated both matches against Badel Zagreb. And while the Spanish side celebrated their second EHF Champions League triumph, the Croatian side had lost their second

final. Also in 1996/97 the so called "fast break" was born due to a rule change, making handball more attractive and athletic than ever before.

1997/98

**Final: FC Barcelona vs Badel Zagreb
28:18 / 28:22 (56:40)**

Barcelona beat Zagreb once more to win their third consecutive EHF Champions League title. But at least as much news as the repeated triumph made the wedding of Barcelona player Inaki Urdangarin who married Christina, youngest daughter of Spanish King Juan Carlos and Queen Sofia, on 4th October 1997.

1998/99

**Final: Badel Zagreb vs FC Barcelona
22:22 / 18:29 (40:51)**

Once again there were tears in Zagreb and joy in Barcelona. The Spanish team beat Zagreb in their third consecutive final and lifted the EHF Champions League trophy for the fourth time in a row. Zagreb's coach Velimir Klajic had to admit that Barcelona "at this moment in time, were quite simply the best club team in the world."

1999/00

**Final: THW Kiel – FC Barcelona
28:25 / 24:29 (52:54)**

THW Kiel became the first German team to make it into the Final but even a 28:25-victory in the final's first leg was not enough to end Barcelona's EHF Champions League winning streak. Backed by half of the Spanish national team and international stars like Christian Schwarzer and Tomas Svensson, Barcelona won their fifth title.

2000/01

**Final: Portland San Antonio – FC Barcelona
30:24 / 22:25 (52:49)**

For Barcelona it was a whole new feeling to watch another team celebrating at the end of the Champions League Final. Following five consecutive titles an era came to end when Spanish King Juan Carlos handed the huge trophy to Portland San Antonio at the end of all-Spanish Final.

2001/02

Final: Fotex Veszprem vs SC Magdeburg 23:21 / 25:30 (48:51)

One year after Barcelona's dominance had ended in the EHF Champions League, the dominance of Spanish clubs also came to an end, when SC Magdeburg became the first German team to win the competition. And late at night, at the end of a glittering party, Stefan Kretzschmar and coach Alfred Gislason were still up for jokes: "Training is on the agenda. The entire team is going to run through the whole town until 08:00 tomorrow morning," they said.

2002/03

**Final: Portland San Antonio – Montpellier HB
27:19 / 19:31 (46:50)**

A new star was born during the finals of the 2002/03 EHF Champions League season. Montpellier's Nikola Karabatic scored 11 goals in the first leg in Spain and another six in front of his home fans, enabling his team to turn around the eight goal defeat from the first leg and to become the first French side to win the CL.

2003/04

**Final: Celje vs Flensburg- Handewitt
34:28 / 28:30 (62:58)**

In March 2003 the EHF had decided on a new structure for the competition. Three teams from Spain and Germany now had a starting slot. Two representatives from Hungary, Slovenia, Denmark and Croatia would start in the Group Phase. Overall 32 teams (8 groups of 4 teams each) made up the Group Phase. Flensburg had profited from the new system but Slovenian side Celje was too strong in the final.

2004/05

**Final: BM Ciudad Real vs FC Barcelona Cifec
28:27 / 27:29 (55:56)**

Following four years without being present in the final, Barcelona won their sixth EHF Champions League title. And while the spectator record for one match was 10,000 fans, the whole city celebrated Barcelona's victory. "We did a lap

of honour in the Stadion Nou Camp in front of 100,000 spectators and were celebrated by the whole town," remembers Barcelona's Dane Lars Krogh Jeppesen.

2005/06

**Final: Portland San Antonio vs BM Ciudad Real
19:25 / 28:37 (47:62)**

Spanish businessman and BM Ciudad Real president, Domingo Diaz de Mera, had put together a team that proved to be unbeatable in the 2005/06 Champions League season. Mera bought superstars from all over Europe and the team around Olafur Stefansson, Mirza Dzomba, Didier Dinart et al. paid justified Mera's expenses when they beat Spanish rival San Antonio in the final.

2006/07

**Final: SG Flensburg- Handewitt vs THW Kiel
28:28 / 27:29 (55:57)**

The EHF Champions League, through the efforts of the 2005 founded EHF Marketing GmbH, became a unified look. Since 2006, TV spectators across Europe know they are watching a men's EHF Champions League match when they see the distinct blue lagoon and black supplied by flooring specialists Gerffloor in addition to the season's individual yellow and blue handball supplied by adidas. On the sport side of things, Kiel won their first EHF Champions League title, beating arch rival Flensburg-Handewitt.

I HISTORY: 27 YEARS OF EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE MEN

2007/08

**Final: BM Ciudad Real vs THW Kiel
27:29 / 31:25 (58:54)**

In the 2007/08 season a second Group Phase with four groups of four teams each replaced the Last 16-matches and the quarter-finals. The first teams of each group qualified for the semi-finals and in the final 2006 champion Ciudad Real faced 2007 champion THW Kiel. The Spanish side prevailed and could win their second EHF Champions League trophy.

2008/09

**Final: THW Kiel vs BM Ciudad Real
39:34 / 27:33 (66:67)**

THW Kiel and BM Ciudad Real faced each other in the final for the second year in a row and even though Kiel had won the first leg of the final by five goals, it was Ciudad Real that won the EHF Champions League for a second consecutive time. Kiel were still in the lead by 20:16 after 39 minutes but with a series of 10:3 goals within 11 minutes Ciudad Real turned the match in their favour.

2009/10

**Final: FC Barcelona Borges vs HW Kiel
34:36**

In the 2009/10 season the number of participating teams in the first Group Phase was reduced from 32 to 24. Four groups of six teams each were formed and the first four teams qualified for the knockout phase which replaced the second group phase. For the first time the VELUX EHF FINAL4 tournament, which combined the Semi-finals and the Final, was held in Cologne, Germany, to decide the champion. THW Kiel won their second title when they beat Barcelona.

2010/11

**Final: FC Barcelona vs Renovalia Ciudad Real
27:24**

Since 2010 the event is known as the VELUX EHF Champions League. 40,000 fans stormed to Cologne to attend the VELUX EHF FINAL4 weekend and TV viewing audience figures went to a new height. 310 million viewers from 76

countries worldwide watched 2,800 hours of TV transmissions 2010/11. Barcelona extended their lead as the most successful club in EHF Champions League history when won their seventh title, beating Ciudad Real in the Final.

2011/12

**Final: THW Kiel vs BM Atletico Madrid
26:21**

The German powerhouse sensationally lost in their first home match of the season against Montpellier, but no other team was able to overcome THW Kiel throughout the remaining of the season. Gislason led his team to the third trophy in the club's history becoming the first coach who won with two different teams. Defending champions from Barcelona were eliminated in the quarter-finals by AG København, but the Danish side was stopped in the semi-final by Atlético Madrid, who made it to the VELUX EHF FINAL4 for the fourth time in a row.

2012/13

**Final: FC Barcelona vs HSV Hamburg
29:30 AET**

HSV Hamburg go into the new season as the defending champion. For the first time the extra-time had to decide the winner. In 20 years of EHF Champions League history there have only been two champions, Montpellier in 2003 and Celje in 2004, who neither came from Spain nor from Germany. The All-Stars team of the 20 years were announced: Goalkeeper Tomas Svensson (SWE), Left Wing Stefan Kretzschmar (GER), Left Back Filip Jicha (CZE), Line Player Andrei Xepkin (ESP), Centre Back Jackson Richardson (FRA), Right Back (Oláfur Stefansson), Right Wing Mirza Džomba (CRO), Best defender Didier Dinart (FRA)

2013/14

**Final: SG Flensburg-Handewitt vs THW Kiel
30:28**

For the third year in a row a team from Northern Germany prevailed as SG Flensburg-Handewitt took both of their opponents at the VELUX EHF FINAL4 by surprise. In the semi-final the "Vranjes boys" eliminated giants of FC Barcelona

after a penalty-shoot-out thriller and made the Cinderella story perfect by beating their neighbours from Kiel 30:28 in the final.

2014/15

**Final: FC Barcelona vs MKB-MVM Veszprem
28:23**

The defending champions from SG Flensburg-Handewitt were eliminated already in the Last 16 as well as Rhein-Neckar Löwen. The end of the three-year-old reign of Bundesliga was sealed only in Cologne as THW Kiel were unable to repeat their 2014 semi-final win against Veszprem. However, the effort of Hungarian champions for their premiere trophy were denied by FC Barcelona who rose to the throne for the eighth time in the EHF history.

2015/16

**KS Vive Tauron Kielce vs MVM Veszprem 39:38
after 7m shootout**

This final went down to history books of the Champions League as a breathtaking classic. Deep in the second half Veszprem were leading by nine goals, still Kielce put up a spirited fight to force the extra-time. Even the additional ten minutes could not solve the thriller and in the 7m shootout Kielce were luckier with Julen Aguinagalde's last effort clinched the maiden title for the Polish champions adding only fifth country to the list of winners.

2016/17

**Paris Saint-Germain Handball vs HC Vardar
23:24**

For the first time in history no German team made it to the EHF FINAL4. The sold-out arena still saw yet another edition of some showcase handball and three out of four matches ended in only one goal differences. HC Vardar beat the buzzer for two days in a row as Luka Cindric sank FC Barcelona Lassa in the semi-final and Ivan Cupic clinched the maiden title for the Macedonian team in the final against PSG sending their country into a handball frenzy.

2017/18

**HBC Nantes vs Montpellier HB
27:32**

In its 25th anniversary the European top flight once again underlined the rule that favourites cannot take anything for granted in this fierce competition. No fewer than three French teams made it to the final tournament in Cologne and after both finalists from the previous edition (Vardar and PSG) failed in the semi-finals it was a showdown between two pre-season underdogs HBC Nantes and Montpellier HB in the final. Mainly courtesy of a brilliant performance of their playmaker Diego Simonet Montpellier returned to the European throne after 15 years and became the first team from Group C or D with this achievement.

2018/19

**HC Vardar vs Telekom Veszprém HC
27:24**

The Macedonian champions unexpectedly returned to the throne. Despite losing several key players in the summer and during the season Vardar reached their third VELUX EHF FINAL4 in a row. After having stunned Barcelona in the semi-finals they held the upper hand throughout the whole final over Veszprem, whose losing streak in the Champions League finals was extended to four games. After what many saw as the club's last shot at glory tens of thousands of people were welcoming the champions in the streets of Skopje.

2019/20

EHF FINAL4 postponed

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic the CL has been paused after the group phase and the EHF FINAL4 postponed to 28/29 December 2020.



EHF FINAL4

I VELUX EHF FINAL4 2020 TO TAKE PLACE IN DECEMBER

The European Handball Federation has made a significant step forward in its “Back to Handball” strategy, as it was confirmed on Tuesday that the VELUX EHF FINAL4 2020 will take place on 28 and 29 December in Cologne.

The commitment to stage the showcase event of European club handball at LANXESS arena was underlined following the meetings of the Men’s Club Board as well as of the EHF Marketing Advisory Board on Friday last week.

The EHF, its marketing subsidiary, EHF Marketing, and club representatives commonly agreed that staging the VELUX EHF FINAL4 is of utmost importance for the promotion and reputation of European club handball.

It is furthermore the confirmation of the long-standing partnership between the EHF, EHF Marketing, the City of Cologne and LANXESS arena which has seen ten successful editions of the VELUX EHF FINAL4 since 2010.

David Szlezak, EHF Marketing Managing Director, says: “‘We play handball’ is one of our core claims. With the health situation and the VELUX EHF FINAL4 in mind, this can be translated to ‘we want to play’ because we believe it’s in the best interest of the sport and its partners.”

Gerd Butzeck, Managing Director of Forum Club Handball, says: “Forum Club Handball fully supports the decision to stage the VELUX EHF FINAL4. The significance of the event stretches way beyond the court. Holding it in Cologne in December clearly underlines the message that handball is back.”

With this decision made, preparations for the event have started at full speed and spectator concepts are being worked on. Those will be coordinated with the authorities in Cologne and in North Rhine-Westphalia as well as with partners such as the LANXESS arena.

Despite the challenging circumstances, interest in the event has remained high and less than 3% of all tickets sold have been returned.

However, to be able to create the ideal capacity concept, all tickets that have already been purchased will have to be refunded. All current ticket holders will be given the possibility to register for a ticket pre-sale for the EHF FINAL4 Men 2021.

All required steps of the refund and pre-sale registration process can be found at <https://ehffinal4.eurohandball.com>.

Depending on the set-up of LANXESS arena, a new sales process for the December event may be initiated.

The qualified teams for the VELUX EHF FINAL4 2020 are Barça, Paris Saint-Germain HB, THW Kiel and Telekom Veszprém HC.

A date for the draw will be announced by the European Handball Federation in due course.

EHF FINAL4 COUNTS DOWN TO ITS 2021 EDITION

The EHF FINAL4 is the culmination of the European handball season. The two-day event sees the best four men's teams in Europe playing to decide the ultimate winner of the EHF Champions League Men. Throughout the current season, this tournament will see even two editions played as the 2020 tournament had to be postponed to 28/29 December 2020 due to the Covid-19 outbreak and the revamped competition in 2020/21 with a new format will reach its peak on 12/13 June 2021.

Introduced in the 2009/10 season and to be played until at least 2024 in the LANXESS arena, Cologne, the decision to create a new format for the final phase of the EHF Champions League was seen as crucial for the growth of handball across Europe. The aim was to create a flagship event, one that could compete on the international sports market and make the Europe's leading club competition even more attractive to fans, partners and sponsors.

The success of all previous editions of the EHF FINAL4 up to date showed that this format has been the right strategy. It has set new standards in organisation and entertainment; it is not just

four games played over two days but a true entertainment event. Although fans have to wait for the 2020 edition until late December, the 2019 tournament is still resonating in the most handball lovers' memories as the season's highlight in European handball as nearly 20,000 spectators in the LANXESS arena and millions of fans at home watched four unforgettable handball games, unique entertainment shows and Vardar's unexpected return to the European throne.

The success of the EHF FINAL4 is also thanks to the commitment of a great number of volunteers who have been active on the weekend of the event. The application procedure for next edition is starting soon and applications are invited also in the area of media.

Full information at: ehffinal4.eurohandball.com

MEDIA ACCREDITATION

The accreditation procedure of media representatives for the EHF FINAL4 will start in March 2021.

NUMBERS FROM THE PREVIOUS YEARS IN COLOGNE

ALL-TIME FACTS AND FIGURES FROM THE PREVIOUS 10 EDITIONS

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.

0

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

0 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 Dujšebaev, 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.

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 Dujšebaev'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 Dujšebaev 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	Goals	Date
Juan Garcia (<i>FC Barcelona/Borges</i>)	13	(30.05.2010 vs THW Kiel, 34:36)
Petar Nenadic (<i>Telekom Veszprém</i>)	12	(01.06.2019 vs PGE Vive Kielce, 33:30)
Filip Jicha (<i>THW Kiel</i>)	11	(30.05.2010 vs FC Barcelona/Borges, 36:34)
Filip Jicha (<i>THW Kiel</i>)	11	(26.05.2012 vs Füchse Berlin, 25:24)
Kiril Lazarov (<i>BM Atletico Madrid</i>)	11	(26.05.2012 vs AG Kobenhavn, 25:23)
Domagoj Duvnjak (<i>HSV Hamburg</i>)	11	(01.06.2013 vs THW Kiel, 39:33)
Siarhei Rutenka (<i>FC Barcelona</i>)	11	(01.06.2014 vs MKB-MVM Veszprém, 26:25)

MOST MATCHES PLAYED

16



Momir Ilic
(Kiel, Veszprém)

16



Aron Palmarsson
(Kiel, Veszprém)

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 occasions: 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 FINAL4 events.

40

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

MOST GOALS SCORED BY ONE TEAM

Date	Match	Final score
31.05.2014	Semi-final: FC Barcelona-SG vs Flensburg-Handewitt	39:41 a7m
01.06.2013	Semi-final: THW Kiel vs HSV Hamburg	33:39
29.05.2016	Final: KS Vive Tauron Kielce vs MVM Veszprém	39:38 a7m

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

2,313

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

Final score



41 goals

FINAL4 match so far: Flensburg beat Barcelona 41:39 after extra time and penalties in the semi-final 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.

ALL-TIME TOPSCORERS

Player's name	MP	G
Kiril Lazarov (Ciudad Real, Atlético, FC Barcelona, HBC 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
	11	38



65 goals
Kiril Lazarov
Ciudad Real
Atlético Madrid
FC Barcelona
HBC Nantes

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