

**EHF**

EUROPEAN HANDBALL  
FEDERATION

# EUROPEAN HANDBALL 2025



# KEY EVENTS 2025

FEB/MAR



**26 FEBRUARY**

EHF Beach Handball  
EURO draws

**20 MARCH**

Women's EHF EURO 2026  
Qualifiers draw

APR



**9–10**

Men's Competitions  
Conference

**15–18**

EHF Youth Club Trophy:  
qualification tournaments

MAY



**3–4**

EHF Finals Women

**10**

EHF European Cup Women  
Finals; first leg

**12–13**

Women's Competitions  
Conference

**15**

Men's EHF EURO 2026 draw

**18**

EHF European Cup Men  
Finals: first leg

EHF European Cup Women  
Finals: second leg

**24–25**

Maschinensucher EHF Finals

**25**

EHF European Cup Men  
Finals: second leg

**31–1 JUNE**

EHF FINAL4 Women

JUN



**5–8**

ebt Finals

**14–15**

EHF Youth Club Trophy:  
final tournament

TruckScout24 EHF FINAL4

**27**

EHF Champions League  
2025/26 draws

**30–4 JULY**

Men's 19 European Open

JUL



**3–6**

YAC 17 EHF Beach Handball  
EURO

**8–13**

EHF Beach Handball EURO

**9–20**

Women's 19 EHF EURO

**12–20**

Women's 19 EHF  
Championship

**18**

EHF European League Men  
2025/26 draw

**21–26**

European Youth Olympic  
Festival

**30–10 AUGUST**

Women's 17 EHF EURO

AUG



**4–8**

Women's 17 EHF  
Championship

SEP



**19–21**

EHF Congress

**30**

EHF Wheelchair EURO draw

OCT



**2–3**

EHF Goalkeeper Summit

**13–19**

Women's EHF EURO 2026  
Qualifiers & EHF EURO Cup

**16–19**

EHF Beach Handball  
Champions Cup

NOV



**13–14**

8th EHF Scientific  
Conference

**20**

EHF European League  
Women 2025/26 draw

**26–30**

EHF Wheelchair EURO

**26–30**

Respect Your Talent Camp

# KEY EVENTS 2026

## JANUARY–FEBRUARY

**15 JAN–1ST FEBRUARY** Men's EHF EURO 2026

## MARCH

**2–8** Women's EHF EURO 2026 Qualifiers  
& EHF EURO Cup

**26** Men's EHF EURO 2028 Qualifiers draw

## APRIL

**6–12** Women's EHF EURO 2026 Qualifiers  
& EHF EURO Cup

**16** Women's EHF EURO 2026 draw

## MAY

**16–17** EHF Finals Women;  
EHF European Cup Women finals, first  
leg

**23–24** EHF European Cup Men finals,  
first leg;  
EHF European Cup Women finals,  
second leg

**30–31** Winamax EHF Finals 2026;  
EHF European Cup Men finals, second  
leg

## JUNE

**6–7** Raiffeisen Bank EHF FINAL4 2026

**4–7** ebt Finals

**13–14** TruckScout24 EHF FINAL4 2026

**29–3 JULY** European Open

## JULY–AUGUST

**1–5** YAC17 EHF Beach Handball EURO

**8–19** Men's 20 EHF EURO  
& EHF Championships 2026

**9–12** EHF Beach Handball Championship

**29 JULY–2 AUGUST** EUSA

**29 JULY–9 AUGUST** Men's 18 EHF EURO & EHF  
Championships 2026

## SEPTEMBER

**25–27** Women's EHF EURO Cup 2026 Finals

## OCTOBER

**15–18** EHF Beach Handball Champions Cup

## NOVEMBER

**2–8** Men's EHF EURO 2028 Qualifiers

## DECEMBER

**19** EHF Excellence Awards 2026

**3–20** Women's EHF EURO 2026

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EHF Business Report online

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# FROM THE PRESIDENT

“AS WE LOOK AT THE ROAD AHEAD AND THE PIVOTAL YEAR OF 2026, THE PRIORITY OF THE EUROPEAN HANDBALL FEDERATION WILL BE THE FURTHER ELEVATION OF CLUB AND NATIONAL TEAM HANDBALL.”

## A VISION FOR THE FUTURE: NEXT LEVEL. EVERY GAME.

**As 2025 draws to a close, we find ourselves at the culmination of an extraordinary cycle, one characterised by spectacular action across both club and national team handball.**

We stand on the verge of 2026 with immense enthusiasm, ready to embrace the challenges and opportunities ahead, all driven by a bold vision for the future of European handball.

It was truly an exceptional year for the sport, marked by a constant stream of high-level competition and dedicated collaborative progress; 2025 was defined by exhilarating handball court action, highlighted by the EHF FINAL4 events in Cologne and Budapest that showcased the absolute pinnacle of club handball. Our unwavering commitment to developing the sport's future was evident in the successful and high-quality Younger Age Category EHF EUROs and Championships, as well as the inaugural Youth Club Trophy.

Beyond the court, our collective sport continued its strong forward trajectory on organisational and technical fronts through a continuous schedule of informative conferences, seminars, conventions, summits, and webinars.

It is essential to recognise that this significant progress was enabled by the diligent work of numerous EHF bodies and, crucially, the close cooperation and strategic partnerships with our dedicated professionals.

The momentum culminated with the 17th EHF Ordinary Congress in Andau, Austria. This was far more than a procedural event — it was a definitive declaration of our ambition, encapsulated by the theme: ‘Next Level. Every Game.’

Looking beyond 2030 and into the deep future of our sport, the Congress was a critical junction, providing a new mandate to elevate every single aspect of European handball. The discussions and decisions made were squarely focused on sustained growth and excellence.

The significant achievements in 2025 could not have been accomplished without the dedication, tenacity, and competence of our partners and stakeholders. Their belief in our mission to take European handball to the next level is a powerful engine for our shared success, from the biggest EHF EURO stages to the grassroots level.

Simultaneously, the focus of the national team efforts is now firmly centred on the highly anticipated Men's EHF EURO 2026 co-hosted by Denmark, Norway, and Sweden, an

event designated to embody ‘Pure Greatness’.

Beach handball, with the attractiveness of a dynamic sport in a different environment and its growing media popularity, continues to be a relevant part of our sport; in 2025, this was clearly seen from the top events held in Türkiye and Portugal. In addition to other activities, we are working on the elevation of wheelchair handball; here, we can also register the growing interest.

As we look at the road ahead and the pivotal year of 2026, the priority of the European Handball Federation will be the further elevation of club and national team handball. Substantial opportunities are awaiting our Member Federations, both within the competitive arena and through strategic partnerships.

Moreover, to redefine the future of our sport, the EHF Executive Committee has ratified key enhancements to solidify the long-term vitality of the club ecosystem. This notably includes the expansion of the EHF Champions League and the introduction of a revamped playing format for the EHF European League. These changes collectively assure a substantial increase in high-level match fixtures for our fans and clubs.

Mid-term, the revision of the qualification systems for major events, in particular, the

European qualification to the 2031 IHF World Championships, starting in 2028 — a calendar adaptation, and, as a flagship event, the European Handball Games in September 2030 will boost handball Europe-wide.

Next to the visible part of the sport, all the activities in the areas of technical work, the many conferences, webinars — simply the work on the expert level — are key for the development of the sport and will be continued in the coming year.

We look forward to continuing the handball journey with you in 2026, and we are ready to continue to dedicate ourselves to advancing European handball, truly expressing the spirit of ‘Next Level. Every Game.’ — now with a renewed mandate and a bold vision that stretches to 2030 and far beyond!

**Yours sincerely,**



**Michael Wiederer**  
President

A group of 15 business professionals, 12 men and 3 women, are posed for a group photo on a lush green golf course. They are arranged in two rows, with some standing slightly behind others. The group is dressed in professional business attire, including suits, blazers, and button-down shirts. The background features a clear blue sky and a well-maintained golf course with some trees in the distance. A semi-transparent white banner with blue text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

**LEADING THE GAME**



# EHF CONGRESS 2025

## EHF CONGRESS 2025: NEXT LEVEL. EVERY GAME

Headlined 'Next Level. Every Game' the 17th Ordinary EHF Congress took place in Andau, Austria, in September 2025.

The focus of Congress was on the elections for the EHF Executive Committee, the Technical Commission, the legal bodies and the Nations Committees for men and women.

EHF President Michael Wiederer was confirmed in office for a third term, lasting from 2025 to 2029. The 69-year-old Austrian was first elected at the EHF Congress in 2016 after serving as the EHF's Secretary General since 1992.

Also elected for a third term were 1st Vice President Predrag Boskovic (Montenegro) and Vice President Finances, Henrik La Cour (Denmark).

The chairpersons of the EHF's three technical commissions were also confirmed in office for the next four

years. Bozidar Djurkovic (Serbia) will chair the Competitions Commission. Pedro Sequeira (Portugal) will remain at the helm of the Methods Commission, as will Gabriella Horvath (Hungary) as chair of the Beach Handball Commission.

The four members of the Executive Committee (EXEC) elected at Congress were Stefan Lövgren (Sweden, re-elected), and three first-time members: Mesut Cebi (Türkiye), Tjark de Lange (Netherlands) and Randi Gustad (Norway).

### MOTIONS PASSED BY CONGRESS

Three motions were submitted by the EHF to Congress. Two related to the EHF Statutes, with the first one (related to Article 4.1.7) aiming to improve the voting process for further members/ gender representatives to bodies such as the EXEC to uphold the integrity and fairness of the process.

The second motion (related to Article 4.1.11) sought clarification when it comes to the delegation of decision-making authority from the Congress to the EXEC.

The third motion related to the legal regulations (Article 38.1). An amendment was sought regarding the recognition of sanctions of EHF member federations, also enabling the EHF Initiator of Proceedings alongside the relevant member federation, to extend sanctions imposed on a national level to EHF competitions.

All motions received the necessary majority from the EHF Congress.

Overall, the EHF Congress was carried out in full harmony and allowed, in addition to the first meetings of the new commissions, many talks on the level of national federations and EHF representatives.



## AWARDS FOR NATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS

The 17th Ordinary EHF Congress closed with awards being handed over to several federations.

For the organisation of three or more competitive EHF events in the period from 2021 to 2025 the following federations were awarded: Austria, Azerbaijan, Croatia, Georgia, Hungary, North Macedonia, Montenegro, Portugal, Slovenia and Slovakia.

The Danish Handball Association received the 'Award of Honour' for being the 'Top Nation of European Handball' in 2023 and 2024.

In beach handball, the 'Award of Honour' went to Spain for 2023 and to Croatia for 2024.

Milan Petronijevic from Serbia, member of the Court of Appeal since 2012 and long-standing EHF Expert for coaching and member of the EHF Rinck Convention Experts Panel, was presented with the EHF's Special Award for his services to European handball.





**PLAYING THE GAME**



COLOGNE, GERMANY

# TRUCKSCOUT24 EHF FINAL4 2025

MAGDEBURG WIN ALL-GERMAN FINAL TO TAKE THIRD TITLE



20,074 

SPECTATORS IN THE  
LANXESS ARENA  
(sold out; first time over 20K  
for Cologne event)

36  BROADCASTERS  
(worldwide coverage  
on EHFTV)

63m  CUMULATIVE  
TV AUDIENCE

80m  digital reach  
around the event

**A packed LANXESS arena witnessed another episode of EHF Champions League history in June 2025, as SC Magdeburg defied the odds to claim their third title.**

The German club had finished only fourth in group B of the Machineseecker EHF Champions League 2024/25. They reached the final weekend after defeating Dinamo Bucuresti in the play-offs and One Veszprém HC in the quarter-finals by a single goal, winning 28:27 in Hungary thanks to Gisli Kristjánsson's buzzer-beater.

Magdeburg joined defending champions Barça, Fühse Berlin, and HBC Nantes in Cologne. Berlin and Nantes had also come through the play-offs, both having finished the group stage in third place.

In the semi-finals, Berlin were dominant against Nantes, but the second semi-final was a much tighter affair. The game was level at the break and level throughout the second half, despite three red cards for

Barça, but the last action was key. Nikola Portner saved Melvyn Richardson's last attempt on goal and Tim Hornke netted in the last second to send Magdeburg to the final.

There, Kristjánsson led Magdeburg's attack, scoring eight times — leading to his second TruckScout24 EHF FINAL4 MVP award, after he also won this trophy in 2023. Just like two years previously, Kristjánsson was playing with an injured shoulder, but still produced a series of stunning shots to lead Magdeburg to victory.

The other crucial factor in Magdeburg's win was goalkeeper Sergey Hernandez, who stopped 18 shots during the match, while Fühse's goalkeeper Dejan Milosavljev could not replicate his semi-final performance. Magdeburg also defended extremely well against the EHF Champions League top scorer Mathias Gidsel, who scored seven goals during the match to bring his season total to 135.

The final weekend was also noteworthy for other reasons. A total of 20,074 spectators watched the matches inside LANXESS arena, setting a new attendance record, and 13,000 tickets were sold for the 2026 edition almost as soon as Magdeburg were crowned 2025 champions.

The 25-camera TV production brought the event to fans around the world, with 36 official broadcasters transmitting to over 80 territories. In Germany, home country of the two finalists, a new audience record was set, with DAZN, DF1 and DYN broadcasting the final.

In addition to Machineseecker and TruckScout24 as the title sponsors of the competition and the final event, long-standing partner brands such as MOL, Modular Systems, the Croatian National Tourist Board and the Istria Tourist Board brought innovation and energy to the arena grounds. Newcomers like Winamax, Avi Prod Netzbau and Kieback&Peter were also represented at the event.



BUDAPEST, HUNGARY

# EHF FINAL4 WOMEN 2025

GYÖR CROWNED CHAMPIONS IN BUDAPEST FOR THE SEVENTH TIME



The EHF Champions League Women 2024/25 season came to an end in Budapest as May turned to June, with a seventh trophy for defending champions Györi Audi ETO KC.

Györ took the title once again by defeating EHF FINAL4 Women debutants Odense Håndbold 29:27 in what turned out to be an exciting and close match. While Györ had a strong start, Odense fought back from a seven-goal deficit by bringing in legendary goalkeeper Katrine Lunde. However, they could not do enough to deliver the veteran Norwegian an eighth Champions League title.

Both Györ and Odense reached Budapest through group B of the competition, alongside fellow final weekend participants Team Esbjerg. Odense finished third in the group behind Györ and Esbjerg, before defeating Storhamar Handball Elite in the play-offs and edging out FTC-Rail Cargo Hungaria by a single goal in the second leg

of the quarter-finals, after a home draw in the first leg.

Meanwhile, Györ beat 2024 runners-up HB Ludwigsburg and Esbjerg defeated CSM Bucuresti in their quarter-finals; group A winners Metz Handball won the French derby against Brest Bretagne Handball for their ticket to Budapest.

In the semi-finals, Lunde was critical for Odense's comeback against Metz, helping her team to close up an early deficit and force the match into overtime, where they secured their 31:29 victory. That broke Metz's 15-match winning streak and gave Odense their first-ever tilt at the trophy. Meanwhile Esbjerg and Györ were close throughout their semi-final, but Györ held on for a 29:28 win.

In the third-place match, Esbjerg ended on a high with their second successive bronze medal against Metz, winning 30:27. It was the first time that a father and his daughter had met on opposite sides of a match in

Budapest: Esbjerg head coach Tomas Axnér leading his team to victory against Metz and their left back Tyra Axnér.

Györ line player Kari Brattset Dale was named MVP of the EHF FINAL4, scoring six goals in the final and being key to the winners' defence too. Meanwhile, Esbjerg's Henny Reistad delivered yet another world-class campaign in the 2024/25 season, netting 154 goals and breaking her own record of 142 goals from the 2022/23 season to earn the top scorer crown once again. The Norwegian star has also scored 93 total goals at the EHF FINAL4 and is the all-time top scorer of the event in Budapest (since 2014).

Overall, the EHF FINAL4 Women 2025 proved once again the popularity of the women's game, attracting almost 19,500 spectators for the final and broadcasting across the Continent to millions more fans.



EHF  
FINAL4

19,500

spectators in the MVM Dome



32

BROADCASTERS  
(worldwide coverage  
on EHFTV)

80m

digital reach  
around the event



HAMBURG, GERMANY

# MASCHINENSUCHER EHF FINALS 2025

FLensburg DEFEND TITLE THANKS TO OUTSTANDING MVP KEVIN MØLLER

For the second year in a row, the final weekend of the EHF European League Men was held at the Barclays Arena in Hamburg – and, for the second year in a row, SG Flensburg-Handewitt claimed the trophy.

They became the first side to defend the European League trophy since the competition's inception in 2021.

After winning their semi-final against tournament debutants MT Melsungen in overtime, Flensburg were dominant in the final. They defeated Montpellier Handball 32:25, largely thanks to the outstanding performance from goalkeeper Kevin Møller. After 18 saves against Melsungen, the Danish world champion increased his number in the final to 19, and was named MVP of the Maschinensucher EHF Finals 2025.

THW Kiel took third place, beating Melsungen 37:31. Spanish left wing Ian Barrufet, on loan to Melsungen from Barça, finished the season as the youngest-ever European League top scorer with 81 goals.



GRAZ, AUSTRIA

# EHF FINALS WOMEN 2025

THÜRINGER HC BEAT IKAST IN DRAMATIC FINAL FOR THEIR FIRST EUROPEAN TROPHY

Thüringer HC took their first-ever European trophy at the EHF Finals Women 2025 in Graz, Austria, in May, beating 2023 champions Ikast Håndbold 34:32 in a high-octane final.

Ikast were after their eighth European trophy, and looked on course to repeat their previous triumph, but saw a substantial early lead disappear after the break.

THC's Austrian left back Johanna Reichert added 13 goals in the final, and 29 during the weekend, to raise her season tally to 110 goals from the start of the group phase. Reichert was also named the MVP of the EHF Finals Women 2025.

In the match for third place, JDA Bourgogne Dijon Handball beat HSG Blomberg-Lippe 32:27. It was the best international result for Dijon since they were runners-up in the Challenge Cup 20 years ago, and the first time in three meetings in the season that Dijon had managed to defeat Blomberg-Lippe.



# EHF EUROPEAN CUP MEN

## HC ALKALOID WIN MAIDEN EUROPEAN TITLE

Macedonian team HC Alkaloid emerged as the EHF European Cup Men 2024/25 victors after a smooth run through the competition.

The success came early in the club's history — founded only in July 2021, Alkaloid played the EHF European League Men group matches in 2023/24 before taking the third-tier trophy in 2025.

Alkaloid's route to the final saw them claim eight victories, one draw and lose just one game, against Runar Sandefjord in the second leg of the semi-finals. However, they had done enough in the first leg at home to claim a place in the final against AEK Athens.

Alkaloid went on to win the first leg of the final in Greece 29:25; the second leg was called off and the match, and the trophy, awarded to the Macedonian side after a review by the Court of Handball.



# EHF EUROPEAN CUP WOMEN

## HISTORY-MAKERS VALUR LIFT EHF EUROPEAN CUP WOMEN TROPHY

**Valur became the first Icelandic women's team to win a European club competition when they beat Spain's Conservas Orbe Zendar Bm Porrino in a thrilling two-leg final of the EHF European Cup Women 2024/25.**

In the first leg Valur held a four-goal lead at the break, but Porrino fought their way

back into the game, drawing level with seven minutes to go and taking the lead in the 58th minute. Valur responded, retaking the advantage, but Porrino's Micaela Casasola netted in the last second to secure a 29:29 draw.

The second leg was another rollercoaster with Valur pegging back Porrino's initial

lead and then stopping their visitors from scoring for a full 14 minutes of the first half. The Icelandic side led by six goals with 16 minutes remaining, but Porrino again responded, and Valur clung on to victory by a single goal, 25:24.

Valur ended their campaign unbeaten at home, and with a total of eight wins through the competition.



PODGORICA, MONTENEGRO

# WOMEN'S 19 EHF EURO 2025

GERMANY CROWNED W19 EHF EURO 2025 CHAMPIONS



# CHAMPIONS

**Germany won their first-ever Women's 19 EHF EURO trophy in Podgorica in July, beating Spain 34:27 in the final.**

The match was the culmination of the biggest edition of the competition to date, with the number of participating teams expanding to 24 from 16 and enabling more nations to compete in the top-tier Younger Age Category event.

Germany had topped their preliminary and main round groups — with Spain second in both cases — recording four wins and drawing with Spain. They narrowly defeated hosts Montenegro in the quarter-finals, before beating Denmark more decisively in the semi-finals.

Spain saw off Croatia comfortably in the quarter-finals, and earned a five-goal victory against Austria to take them through to another encounter with Germany in the final. There, Spain led early on and took a four-goal lead into the break.

However, Germany were never out of

contention and in the third quarter steadily clawed their way level to eventually take the lead for the first time in the 51st minute. From there, they never looked back en route to their debut title.

Centre back Belen Rodriguez scored nine goals for Spain in the final, while line player Aylin Bornhardt netted the same number for Germany. Goalkeepers Goundo Gassama and Lena Lindemann also had excellent games, with Gassama making 10 saves and Lindemann 13.

Denmark beat Austria by a huge margin of 38:14 in the bronze-medal match, earning themselves their eighth W19 EHF EURO medal in history.

France finished fifth, after this group of players took the W17 EHF EURO 2023 title, while Hungary were denied the chance of a fourth successive W19 EHF EURO medal after they finished seventh with losses to Czechia and Denmark in the preliminary and main rounds, followed by defeat by

Montenegro in the cross-matches.

Seven nations were represented in the W19 EHF EURO 2025 All-star Team, led by Montenegrin centre back Natalija Lekic. Lithuanian left back Gabija Pilikauskaite was the tournament top scorer with 83 goals, adding to her achievements after also being top scorer at the W17 EHF Championship 2023 in Azerbaijan.

Danish left back Anne Dolberg Plougstrup made it three awards in a row, as she was also in the All-star Teams at both the W17 EHF EURO 2023 and the 2024 IHF Youth World Championship, while Rodriguez made her second consecutive All-star Team after winning the MVP title at the Youth World Championship.

The other All-star Team members all won their first individual awards: goalkeeper Goundo Gassama (Spain); left wing Chiara Rohr (Germany); line player Aurelie Egbaimo (Austria); right back Lara Däuble (Germany); and right wing Blandine Gros (France).



27.6m  
video views

900,000  
INTERACTIONS

MORE THAN  
300  
CONTENT  
PIECES  
published  
on digital  
channels



PODGORICA, MONTENEGRO

# WOMEN'S 17 EHF EURO 2025

## SLOVAKIA WIN HISTORIC GOLD AT WOMEN'S 17 EHF EURO

**Slovakia took their first gold medal in any women's competitions by defeating Croatia in a second-half masterclass at the Women's 17 EHF EURO 2025.**

For both sides, it was the first final of a women's competition; Slovakia started their journey to the Women's 17 EHF EURO from the qualification round, where they won all three games to qualify for the final tournament.

Slovakia took the lead just before the break and continued to build their advantage in the second half, ultimately taking a 34:30 victory.

Montenegro clinched bronze with a 22:20 win against Spain, overturning a three-goal deficit at half-time.

The tournament was the first W17 EHF EURO featuring 24 sides. Eight countries were represented in the All-star Team, led by Montenegrin centre back and MVP Martina Knezevic. Turkish right back Gazel Dikme was the top scorer with 66 goals.



COLOGNE, GERMANY

# EHF YOUTH CLUB TROPHY

## GOG WELL-DESERVED WINNERS OF FIRST EHF YOUTH CLUB TROPHY

**Danish club GOG took the debut title in the EHF's new competition for under-18 men's club teams, the Youth Club Trophy, beating Veszprém Handball Academy 37:28 at the LANXESS arena in Cologne.**

A total of 16 youth teams from across Europe participated in the new competition, playing four qualification tournaments before the winners — GOG, Veszprém, HC Eurofarm Pelister and Barça — progressed to the semi-finals. These were held at the TSV Bayer Sportcenter on the same weekend as the TruckScout24 EHF FINAL4, with the final taking place before the last day of the top-tier European club competition.

GOG won their semi-final easily against Pelister, while Barça and Veszprém had to play overtime, with the Hungarian club

winning four seconds before the end, to decide who would progress to the final. But there, GOG proved too strong to claim the title. Barça beat Pelister 55:28 in the third-place match.





# YAC COMPETITIONS



WOMEN'S 19  
EHF CHAMPIONSHIP 2025  
Georgia

1ST UKRAINE  
2ND SLOVAKIA  
3RD ITALY

WOMEN'S 17  
EHF CHAMPIONSHIP 2025  
Kosovo

1ST ITALY  
2ND FINLAND  
3RD UKRAINE





VILNIUS, LITHUANIA

# EHF EUROPEAN WHEELCHAIR HANDBALL CHAMPIONSHIP 2025

PORTUGAL POWER TO GOLD AT EHF WHEELCHAIR EURO 2025



EHF EUROPEAN WHEELCHAIR HANDBALL CHAMPIONSHIP 2025

The EHF Wheelchair EURO 2025 was the first European Championship played under the four-a-side rules – with mixed-gender teams of four players – and had a record nine participating nations, underlining the international growth of the sport.

Portugal claimed gold. They had a clean run to the final, not dropping a set, before meeting France in the gold-medal match. After winning the opening set 7:6 they missed a chance to close out the match in the second set. However, Portugal then powered to victory with a clean 7:0 win in the deciding set. Both sides booked themselves a ticket to the 2026 World Championship.

Lithuania beat Croatia in the bronze-medal match 2:1 after a third-set shootout.

Maria Relvas (Portugal) and Lorenzo Enzo Edjang (Spain) were named the tournament MVPs, while Portugal's Ricardo Queiros was the top scorer with 52 points.





# OTHER COMPETITIONS



## MEN'S 19 EUROPEAN OPEN 2025

**1ST** SPAIN  
**2ND** ICELAND  
**3RD** CROATIA

## MEN'S 17 EUROPEAN YOUTH OLYMPIC FESTIVAL 2025

**1ST** ICELAND  
**2ND** GERMANY  
**3RD** CROATIA

## WOMEN'S 17 EUROPEAN YOUTH OLYMPIC FESTIVAL 2025

**1ST** GERMANY  
**2ND** SWITZERLAND  
**3RD** ICELAND

## EUROPEAN MASTERS HANDBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Women +33

**1ST** SCANDI STARS  
**2ND** ALL STARS  
**3RD** MARISTAS ALGEMESI

Men +35

**1ST** CPB RENNES +35  
**2ND** FC PORTO VINTAGE  
**3RD** CAT +45

Men +55

**1ST** BUDAPEST OLD BOYS  
**2ND** ODESA  
**3RD** VETERANOS PROIN

Women +43

**1ST** LYNGE UGGELOESE  
**2ND** FIF HANDBALL  
**3RD** OAR GRACIA

Men +45

**1ST** BM GRANADA VETERANOS +45  
**2ND** CPB RENNES +45  
**3RD** VETERANOS PAN MOGUER +45

Men +50

**1ST** KOLDING IF  
**2ND** CD VETERANOS BM SEVILLA +50  
**3RD** ESFERA ANDEBOL MASTERS +50





ALANYA, TÜRKİYE

# EHF BEACH HANDBALL EUROS 2025

GERMANY AND SPAIN SHINE AT BEACH HANDBALL EURO COMPETITIONS

**The summer of 2025 saw Alanya, Türkiye, host both the men's and women's EHF Beach Handball EUROS and YAC17 EHF Beach Handball EUROS**

Germany claimed the title in both the men's events, while Spain lifted the senior and YAC women's trophies. Spain also took silver in the men's competitions, with Norway twice runners-up on the women's side.

In the senior competitions, history was made for both the German men and Spanish women as neither had ever won the Beach Handball EURO previously.

Germany shone throughout the tournament, losing one match to Croatia in the main round after a clean preliminary round. In the final Spain took the first set, but Germany took the second to force the shootout. They won that in dramatic fashion, 12:10, winning 2:1 overall to add gold to their previous silver medals from 2023 and 2004. Croatia took bronze after beating Hungary.



Spain's gold adds to their bronze medals from 2017, 2021 and 2023. They had lost two matches on the way to the final, but victory over France and Spain in the quarter and semi-finals took them to the clincher against Norway. As in the men's final, this went to a shootout, which Spain won 9:6.

The bronze medallists were Germany, after winning against the Netherlands in the placement match.

Both MVPs of the tournament were Spanish: Pablo Martin Ruiz on the men's side, and Sara Hernandez on the women's. Germany's Oliver Middell and Dutch player Lisanne Bakker were named best goalkeepers; Valentino Valentakovic (Croatia) and Elisabeth Hammerstad (Norway) best defenders. Czechia and Poland, respectively, won the men's and women's fair play awards. Lucian Bura (Croatia) was the top men's scorer with 143 points, and Meike Kruijer (Netherlands), scored 148 points in the women's tournament.



The Spanish women's team were flawless in their final of the YAC 17 EURO against Norway, winning 2:0 comfortably. Germany also won 2:0 in the men's YAC 17 EURO final against Spain, ending Spanish hopes of taking both YAC 17 gold medals.

Czechia beat Hungary for the men's bronze medal, and France took third place in the women's tournament.

The tournament MVPs were both Spanish: Hugo Guerrero and Carlota Bravo. Bjarne Rollmann and Milena Grimm of Germany won the best goalkeeper awards, while the best defenders were Bence Habda (Hungary) and Petra Gudelj (Croatia). Croatia took the fair play awards on both the men's and women's sides. Czech player Matouš Khek was the men's top scorer with 168 points, and Serbian Jelena Mirkovic topped the women's scoring with 141 points.





# EHF BEACH HANDBALL EURO 2025 RANKINGS

## MEN'S EHF BEACH HANDBALL EURO 2025

- |             |              |
|-------------|--------------|
| 1. Germany  | 9. Poland    |
| 2. Spain    | 10. Sweden   |
| 3. Croatia  | 11. Norway   |
| 4. Hungary  | 12. Türkiye  |
| 5. France   | 13. Bulgaria |
| 6. Portugal | 14. Czechia  |
| 7. Denmark  | 15. Ukraine  |
| 8. Italy    | 16. Malta    |

## WOMEN'S EHF BEACH HANDBALL EURO 2025

- |                |              |
|----------------|--------------|
| 1. Spain       | 9. Sweden    |
| 2. Norway      | 10. Portugal |
| 3. Germany     | 11. Poland   |
| 4. Netherlands | 12. Ukraine  |
| 5. Denmark     | 13. Croatia  |
| 6. Greece      | 14. Türkiye  |
| 7. Hungary     | 15. Slovakia |
| 8. France      | 16. Bulgaria |

## YAC17 EHF BEACH HANDBALL EURO 2025

### MEN'S 17 EHF BEACH HANDBALL EURO 2025

- |            |                |               |             |
|------------|----------------|---------------|-------------|
| 1. Germany | 6. Croatia     | 11. Serbia    | 16. Türkiye |
| 2. Spain   | 7. Netherlands | 12. Poland    | 17. Romania |
| 3. Czechia | 8. Sweden      | 13. Lithuania | 18. Italy   |
| 4. Hungary | 9. Switzerland | 14. Bulgaria  |             |
| 5. France  | 10. Norway     | 15. Ukraine   |             |

### WOMEN'S 17 EHF BEACH HANDBALL EURO 2025

- |            |            |               |                 |
|------------|------------|---------------|-----------------|
| 1. Spain   | 6. Sweden  | 11. Türkiye   | 16. Switzerland |
| 2. Norway  | 7. Czechia | 12. Serbia    | 17. Slovakia    |
| 3. France  | 8. Croatia | 13. Bulgaria  | 18. Italy       |
| 4. Germany | 9. Romania | 14. Ukraine   |                 |
| 5. Hungary | 10. Poland | 15. Lithuania |                 |



# ELITE ACTION HIGHLIGHTED BEACH HANDBALL YEAR

## NEW AND OLD CHAMPIONS CROWNED ON THE SAND IN 2025

**The season reached a spectacular finish in October in Porto Santo, Portugal, where Nazaré and Málaga raised their maiden EHF Beach Handball Champions Cup trophies. Earlier in June, Zagreb and Almeria triumphed at the ebt Finals in Trapani, Italy.**

Zagreb overthrew the 2024 champions EFE Os Tigres to claim their fourth men's trophy at the ebt Finals 2025, while Almeria beat Niterói to clinch their second women's title. Aarhus (men) and Zagreb (women) were third-placed.

The All-star Team, voted by almost 4,000 fans, included MVPs Asuncion Batista Portero and Ivan Juric, best goalkeepers Thais Petrucci and Oliver Middell, and best defenders Lucia Lesac and Ignacio Palomino. Top scorers were Pauline Borrmann (165

points) and Lennart Wörmann (157 points), while The Danish Beachhandball Dream (women) and Beach Handball Tilburg (men) received the Fair Play awards.

In the Champions Cup 2025, Nazaré BHT dethroned defending champions GRD Leça in a shootout, while Köln claimed bronze. Málaga's women's team also won the final shootout against GRD Leça to claim the title, while Red Velvet BHC Aqvital finished third.

Portuguese players Sara Pinho and Bruno Oliveira were MVPs. Best goalkeepers were Sonora Solano and Moritz Ebert, Linnet Popping and Thiago De Oliveira Barcello won best defenders, while Lili Uhrin (159 points) and Jakob Magne Merrild (174 points) were top scorers. Red Velvet (women) and London Beach Handball (men) took the Fair Play awards.

# COMPETITION RANKING LISTS



## IHF MEN'S U21 HANDBALL WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP 2025

- |                         |                        |                            |
|-------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. <b>Denmark</b>       | 12. <b>Croatia</b>     | 23. Argentina              |
| 2. <b>Portugal</b>      | 13. <b>Switzerland</b> | 24. Korea                  |
| 3. <b>Faroe Islands</b> | 14. <b>Hungary</b>     | 25. <b>North Macedonia</b> |
| 4. <b>Sweden</b>        | 15. <b>Romania</b>     | 26. USA                    |
| 5. <b>Germany</b>       | 16. Japan              | 27. Brazil                 |
| 6. Egypt                | 17. <b>Serbia</b>      | 28. Bahrain                |
| 7. <b>Slovenia</b>      | 18. <b>Iceland</b>     | 29. Saudi Arabia           |
| 8. <b>Norway</b>        | 19. <b>Poland</b>      | 30. Uruguay                |
| 9. <b>Spain</b>         | 20. Algeria            | 31. Mexico                 |
| 10. <b>France</b>       | 21. Tunisia            | 32. Canada                 |
| 11. <b>Austria</b>      | 22. Morocco            |                            |

## IHF MEN'S U19 HANDBALL WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP 2025

- |                        |                          |             |
|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------|
| 1. <b>Germany</b>      | 12. <b>Czechia</b>       | 23. Bahrain |
| 2. <b>Spain</b>        | 13. <b>Slovenia</b>      | 24. Kosovo  |
| 3. <b>Denmark</b>      | 14. Japan                | 25. Korea   |
| 4. <b>Sweden</b>       | 15. <b>Austria</b>       | 26. Kuwait  |
| 5. Egypt               | 16. Saudi Arabia         | 27. Algeria |
| 6. <b>Iceland</b>      | 17. <b>Portugal</b>      | 28. Uruguay |
| 7. <b>Hungary</b>      | 18. <b>Croatia</b>       | 29. Guinea  |
| 8. <b>Norway</b>       | 19. <b>Faroe Islands</b> | 30. Morocco |
| 9. <b>France</b>       | 20. Tunisia              | 31. USA     |
| 10. <b>Serbia</b>      | 21. Brazil               | 32. Mexico  |
| 11. <b>Switzerland</b> | 22. Argentina            |             |

## IHF MEN'S U17 HANDBALL WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP 2025

- |                   |                  |                 |
|-------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| 1. <b>Germany</b> | 5. Argentina     | 9. Iran         |
| 2. Egypt          | 6. Brazil        | 10. Puerto Rico |
| 3. <b>Spain</b>   | 7. Tunisia       | 11. Morocco     |
| 4. Qatar          | 8. United States | 12. South Korea |

## WOMEN'S 19 EHF EURO 2025

- |               |                     |
|---------------|---------------------|
| 1. Germany    | 14. Norway          |
| 2. Spain      | 15. Iceland         |
| 3. Denmark    | 16. Türkiye         |
| 4. Austria    | 17. Netherlands     |
| 5. France     | 18. Switzerland     |
| 6. Montenegro | 19. Slovenia        |
| 7. Hungary    | 20. Faroe Islands   |
| 8. Croatia    | 21. Portugal        |
| 9. Romania    | 22. Finland         |
| 10. Czechia   | 23. North Macedonia |
| 11. Poland    | 24. Lithuania       |
| 12. Serbia    |                     |
| 13. Sweden    |                     |

## WOMEN'S 17 EHF EURO 2025

- |                 |                     |
|-----------------|---------------------|
| 1. Slovakia     | 14. Slovenia        |
| 2. Croatia      | 15. Portugal        |
| 3. Montenegro   | 16. Poland          |
| 4. Spain        | 17. Iceland         |
| 5. Switzerland  | 18. Norway          |
| 6. Denmark      | 19. Austria         |
| 7. Hungary      | 20. Lithuania       |
| 8. France       | 21. Romania         |
| 9. Czechia      | 22. North Macedonia |
| 10. Serbia      | 23. Türkiye         |
| 11. Germany     | 24. Faroe Islands   |
| 12. Sweden      |                     |
| 13. Netherlands |                     |

## WOMEN'S 19 EHF CHAMPIONSHIP 2025

- |             |                  |
|-------------|------------------|
| 1. Ukraine  | 6. Luxembourg    |
| 2. Slovakia | 7. Israel        |
| 3. Italy    | 8. Great Britain |
| 4. Belgium  | 9. Georgia       |
| 5. Kosovo   | 10. Bulgaria     |

## WOMEN'S 17 EHF CHAMPIONSHIP 2025

- |             |                  |
|-------------|------------------|
| 1. Italy    | 5. Israel        |
| 2. Finland  | 6. Latvia        |
| 3. Ukraine  | 7. Kosovo        |
| 4. Bulgaria | 8. Great Britain |

## MEN'S 19 EUROPEAN OPEN 2025

- |            |                  |
|------------|------------------|
| 1. Spain   | 7. Faroe Islands |
| 2. Iceland | 8. Estonia       |
| 3. Croatia | 9. Lithuania     |
| 4. Sweden  | 10. Netherlands  |
| 5. Poland  | 11. Finland      |
| 6. Egypt   |                  |

## MEN'S 17 EUROPEAN YOUTH OLYMPIC FESTIVAL 2025

- |            |                    |
|------------|--------------------|
| 1. Iceland | 6. Portugal        |
| 2. Germany | 7. Norway          |
| 3. Croatia | 8. North Macedonia |
| 4. Hungary |                    |
| 5. Spain   |                    |

## WOMEN'S 17 EUROPEAN YOUTH OLYMPIC FESTIVAL 2025

- |                |                    |
|----------------|--------------------|
| 1. Germany     | 6. Hungary         |
| 2. Switzerland | 7. Norway          |
| 3. Iceland     | 8. North Macedonia |
| 4. Netherlands |                    |
| 5. France      |                    |

## EUROPEAN MASTERS MEN +35

- |                          |                              |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. CPB Rennes +35        | 7. CD Masters Almeria        |
| 2. FC Porto Vintage      | 8. ACD Monte Masters         |
| 3. Veteranos Proin       | 9. Handbol Terrassa +35      |
| 4. CH Banyoles           | 10. CD Veteranos Sevilla +35 |
| 5. Tropics Ciudad Malaga | 11. CM Maristas Ademur       |
| 6. Balonmano Lalin       | 12. Veteranos PAN Moguer +35 |

## EUROPEAN MASTERS MEN +45

- |                             |                               |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. BM Granada Veteranos +45 | 7. BM Osuna Madrid            |
| 2. CPB Rennes +45           | 8. CB Mostoles                |
| 3. Veteranos PAN Moguer +45 | 9. Esfera Andebol Masters +45 |
| 4. Handbol Sant Fost        | 10. Veteranos Gades           |
| 5. Masters Slovakia         | 11. CS Veteranos Sevilla +45  |
| 6. Sagrada Familia Malaga   | 12. Naval Masters Istanbul    |

## EUROPEAN MASTERS MEN +55

- |                      |                         |
|----------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Budapest Old Boys | 5. HC Viimsi            |
| 2. Odesa             | 6. MAFC Masters         |
| 3. CAT +45           | 7. Oldi Szczecin        |
| 4. Silesia Polska    | 8. Handbol Terrassa +55 |

## EUROPEAN MASTERS WOMEN +33

- |                          |
|--------------------------|
| 1. Scandi Stars          |
| 2. All Stars             |
| 3. Maristas Algemesi     |
| 4. Oppegaard             |
| 5. Angyalok              |
| 6. Handbol Banyoles      |
| 7. Towanda BM Almeria    |
| 8. BM La Roca            |
| 9. Club Deportivo ASAB   |
| 10. Sakarya Veteran Team |

## EUROPEAN MASTERS MEN +50

- |                                |
|--------------------------------|
| 1. Kolding IF                  |
| 2. CD Veteranos BM Sevilla +50 |
| 3. Esfera Andebol Masters +50  |
| 4. BM Granada Veteranos +50    |
| 5. M50 Portugal                |
| 6. HM Ostrava                  |

## EUROPEAN MASTERS WOMEN +43

- |                            |
|----------------------------|
| 1. Lyngse Uggeloese        |
| 2. FIF Handball            |
| 3. OAR Gracia              |
| 4. Veteranas Granada       |
| 5. Esfera Andebol Masters  |
| 6. Aliaga Veteran Handball |
| 7. APD HandRoma            |





**EXCELLING IN THE GAME**

# EHF EXCELLENCE AWARDS

## REISTAD AND GIDSEL NAMED MVPs OF THE 2024/25 SEASON

Two superstars and the season's top scorers in their respective EHF Champions League competitions — European champion with Norway Henny Reistad and world champion with Denmark Mathias Gidsel — were named as the MVPs of the 2024/25 season, with the announcement taking place at the EHF Champions League 2025/26 group phase draw in Vienna in late June.

Reistad and Gidsel were selected as part of the “Team of the Season” earlier in June, after voting for the EHF Excellence Awards 2025 concluded.

At the same time, two under 21 players were announced as the Best Young Players of the season. Swiss right wing Mia Emmenegger, who played her debut EHF FINAL4 this season with Team Esbjerg, and Spanish left wing for MT Melsungen, Ian Barrufet — the EHF European League Men top scorer — took the prestigious titles.

## TEAM AND THE MVP OF THE SEASON — WOMEN

### MVP HENNY REISTAD

#### Left wing: Chloé Valentini

Selected for a second year running, France's top scorer at the Women's EHF EURO 2024. Scored 58 goals for Metz on their way to fourth at the EHF FINAL4 Women 2025.

#### Left back: Estelle Nze Minko

Won her second EHF Champions League title with Győr in 2025; was second top-scorer. Also helped France to their fourth place at the Women's EHF EURO 2024.

#### Centre back: Henny Reistad

The top scorer of the EHF Champions League Women season with Team Esbjerg, netting 154 goals as Esbjerg took third overall. Also won her third European title in December for Norway.

#### Right back: Dione Housheer

Had a breakout season in 2024/25; was Győr's top scorer and joint fifth overall in the EHF Champions League, with 91 goals,

additionally the Netherlands' top scorer at the EHF EURO 2024.

#### Right wing: Viktória Györi-Lukács

Another Győr player and Champions League champion, shone with 42 goals as Hungary won their first EHF EURO medal for 12 years in December. Also won this award in 2024.

#### Line player/Defender: Kari Brattset Dale

Picked up both major titles last season: the EHF Champions League with Győr, and EHF EURO gold for Norway. Was critical to both her club and country, and is also named best defender for her efforts.

#### Goalkeeper: Katrine Lunde

Won her seventh EHF EURO at the age of 44 in December 2024, and was pivotal in Odense Håndbold's second place in Budapest. Remains one of the best in the business.

## TEAM AND THE MVP OF THE SEASON — MEN

### MVP MATHIAS GIDSEL

#### Left wing: Emil Jakobsen

Won the world title and the EHF European League Men trophy last season. Scored 45 goals for Denmark at the World Championship, and was top scorer at the EHF Finals in Hamburg.

#### Left back: Felix Claar

Won his first Champions League title with SC Magdeburg in Cologne. Award adds to his centre back at the Excellence Awards 2024.

#### Centre back: Gisli Kristjánsson

Named MVP of the TruckScout24 EHF FINAL4 as Magdeburg won the Champions League in Cologne, becoming second player to win the MVP award twice.

#### Right back: Mathias Gidsel

Missed out on an EHF Champions League title this season, but was top scorer and won the World Championship — where he was also top scorer and MVP.

#### Right wing: Mario Sostaric

Picked up silver for Croatia at the

IHF World Championship where he was the All-star right wing, and was second top scorer in the Champions League with 130 goals.

#### Line player: Ludovic Fabregas

Takes this award for a second year running, after winning world championship bronze for France, and being an important part of the One Veszprém squad in the Champions League.

#### Defender: Magnus Saugstrup

A wall for Denmark and SC Magdeburg, making 13 steals as Denmark won the world title in January. The only player to win both the World Championship and Champions League 2025.

#### Goalkeeper: Emil Nielsen

Unstoppable for his club and country this season, making the most saves in the Champions League and at the 2025 World Championship, and winning the award for a second year in a row.

## YOUNG PLAYERS OF THE SEASON

### WOMEN

#### Mia Emmenegger – Switzerland/Team Esbjerg

Made an impact when she moved to Esbjerg mid-season, her first EHF FINAL4. Crucial for Switzerland in their 12th-place finish at the EHF EURO.

### MEN

#### Ian Barrufet – Spain/MT Melsungen

Youngest-ever top scorer of the European League, netting 81 times as Melsungen reached the EHF Finals. Named in Spain's World Championship team, scoring 11 times in six matches.

## BEACH HANDBALL MVPs

### WOMEN

#### Asun Batista – Spain/CATS A.M. Team Almeria

MVP of the ebt Finals 2025 as CATS A.M. Team Almeria won the women's trophy, and key at the EHF Beach Handball EURO 2025 where Spain won their first gold medal. Also named beach handball MVP at the EHF Excellence Awards 2023.

### MEN

#### Oliver Middell – Germany/12Monkeys Köln BHC

Best men's goalkeeper of the EHF Beach Handball EURO 2025 and the ebt Finals 2025, winning gold at the EURO and finishing fourth at the ebt Finals. Also scored two goals at the EURO.



# EXCELLING IN THE GAME







**INTRODUCTION & KEYNOTE**

WELCOME & INTRODUCTION  
PRESENTED BY: PREDRAJ BOŠKOVIC | EHF FIRST VICE PRESIDENT

FROM TRANSACTIONS TO PARTNERSHIP - TRANSFORMATION  
AND EVOLUTION IN THE BUSINESS OF SPORT AND MEDIA  
PRESENTED BY: LUKAS ZAJANCAUSKAS | SN1 CONSULTING

**EHF**  
EUROPEAN HANDBALL  
FEDERATION

13:32:34

**EHF**  
**EUROPEAN HANDBALL**  
**FUTURE**  
2025 Women's Competitions Conference  
12 - 13 May 2024 - Austria

**INTRODUCTION & KEYNOTE**

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**EHF**  
EUROPEAN HANDBALL  
FEDERATION

**DISCUSSING THE GAME**



# COMPETITIONS CONFERENCES

## SETTING A PATH TO THE FUTURE

The EHF held conferences in April and May 2025 focusing on men's and women's competitions, respectively, with wide-ranging programmes looking at both national and club handball, and how to keep growing the sport. Both conferences were represented by all stakeholder groups, including active players and coaches.



## KEYNOTES FROM WIEDERER AND HAUSLEITNER

EHF President Michael Wiederer and Secretary General Martin Hausleitner gave keynote addresses at both conferences.

Wiederer underlined the importance of flagship events on top level for both national team and club competitions.

He said there was a need to look at the playing structures for club competitions — something which was discussed during breakout sessions by groups tasked with examining what handball has at the moment, what does it want and what is it able to have in the future.

Hausleitner focused on national team competitions, including the economic impact of the EHF EUROs and the benefits of the agreement signed in 2020 with the EHF's exclusive media and marketing partner Infront.

## MAINTAINING MOMENTUM

Among the other presentations at the Men's Competitions Conference was the presentation of research by Prof. Dr. Gerhard Hrebicek of the European Brand Institute on the strength of handball as a brand.

Hrebicek said supporting a sports team often transcends social, economic, or cultural boundaries. In the context of European handball, this had created an opportunity to cultivate one of the most engaged ecosystems in the sporting world.

He added that since 2008, the advertising value of the sport has grown sevenfold, equating to a 12 per cent compound annual growth rate. However, handball needed to consolidate its brand to maintain this momentum and evolve its digital capabilities further.

Another keynote came from Jamie Pugh, Manager at the Sports Business Group of Deloitte, who highlighted the shifts sports organisations should embrace to remain relevant and resilient in a changing global market. Pugh warned that handball must adapt its competition structures, embrace digital, understand younger audiences, and lead with purpose — or risk being left behind.

## WOMEN'S SPORT CHANGING THE GAME

At the Women's Competitions Conference, Deloitte knowledge and insights lead Jenny Haskel presented statistics showing the rapid growth of women's sport in recent years. She said the journey to fandom for women was different to that of men, and this meant women's sports needed to look at their commercial partnerships in fresh ways.

Lukas Zajancauskas, Commercial Director of boutique consultancy SN1, spoke about the changes to the global sports media rights market, which was slowing in a challenging macroeconomic climate amid shifts in media consumption following the Covid-19 pandemic. Zajancauskas said the EHF was ahead of the curve in some ways with its focus on quality rather than quantity, but said continued evolution was crucial to sustain this leading position.

# EHF SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE

## SCIENTIFIC COMMUNITY GATHERS IN ZAGREB

**The 8th EHF Scientific Conference welcomed over 150 participants from around the world, with Europe well-represented but other nations such as Japan, Qatar and Saudi Arabia on the list.**

The conference took place on 13 and 14 November in Zagreb, with a full programme of keynote lectures and breakout presentations.

The conference gave coaches and others directly involved in the sport a chance to discuss current developments with researchers from around the world. It began with the keynote presentations, after EHF Secretary General Martin Hausleitner and EHF Methods Commission Chairman Pedro Sequeira opened proceedings.

The keynotes covered topics including injury prevention, mental health, safeguarding, position-aware player evaluation, and reimagining coach education and development.

Participants also took part in a varied programme of breakout sessions, including focuses on the physical elements of handball, game-specific examinations, strength and training, the future of beach handball, and the efficiency of talent development systems.



# EHF GOALKEEPER SUMMIT

## GOALKEEPERS IN THE SPOTLIGHT

**The EHF Goalkeeper Summit 2025, held in Vienna in October, saw 130 participants from 28 different countries gather to focus on goalkeepers' coaching. This was the second edition of the event, first held in 2023.**

Participants heard from lecturers Mats Olsson, Mattias Andersson, Amandine Leynaud and Bobby White, all bringing different perspectives and experience to the table.

The programme included two days of theoretical sessions with goalkeeper positioning, techniques and tactics, followed by practical sessions and exercises with players from the Vienna-based Fivers club.

The main focus was on getting the basics right: positioning, reading and understanding the game. However, the lecturers said it was important to see how goalkeeping coaching

was developing, and hearing from goalkeepers and coaches from a range of backgrounds and handball cultures.

The consensus was that goalkeeper coaches are a vital part in the success

of any handball team, and that events such as the summit were critical to share knowledge and transfer theory into practice.







**GROWING THE GAME**



# RESPECT YOUR TALENT

## LUNDE, VYAKHIREVA, ARENHART, BROCH, LINDBERG, VRANJES AND MORROS JOIN RYT PROGRAMME

**Established in 2019, the EHF's Respect Your Talent (RYT) programme is dedicated to helping young players gather awareness, knowledge and skills alongside the game to become an even better, more complete athlete.**

In 2025, the programme continued to thrive, providing many opportunities for the stars of tomorrow to benefit from the knowledge and experience of legends of the game.

At each of the summer's Younger Age Category events — the Women's 19 EHF EURO and EHF Championship, and Women's 17 EHF EURO and EHF Championship — the Players of the Match were invited to special RYT events hosted by RYT ambassadors. A total of 314 young players participated in the sessions, ahead of being part of the programme on an ongoing basis.

This year's line-up of ambassadors included new recruits Katrine Lund and

Anna Vyakhireva, who joined existing ambassadors Ana Gros, Anja Althaus, Andrea Lekic and Carmen Martin at the W19 EHF EURO. At the W17 EHF EURO, Barbara Arenhart participated for the first time alongside existing ambassadors Andrea Lekic and Katarina Bulatovic.

Althaus led the session at the W19 EHF Championship, while Martin ran the equivalent event at the W17 EHF Championship.

In November 2025, 31 players from 24 countries who were identified at the YAC tournaments took part in the RYT camp in Vienna, led by ambassadors Arenhart, Gros, Martin, Jelena Bumbak (nee Grubisic), and Yvette Broch — the latter making her debut in the programme.

It was the second camp of the year, following the camp held from 16 to 19 January for 30 male players identified in the 2024 YAC events. Taking part in the 2025 men's camp were long-time

ambassadors Vid Kavticnik and Carlos Prieto, as well as new ambassadors Hans Lindberg, Viran Morros and Ljubomir Vranjes.

The camp's topics were the players' journey: what a journey to the top looks like, and what needs to be considered off court for athletes to be the best versions of themselves. The three-day camps, including presentations and discussions, also included input from experts in different fields such as psychology, nutrition and media.

The RYT programme was also busy throughout the year away from the physical sessions, with plentiful resources on core topics such as handling social media, dual career, sports law, anti-doping, mental fitness and nutrition, all available on the RYT app. The app is not just restricted to those who are part of the programme.

Meanwhile the EHF ran a series of RYT online sessions hosted by ambassadors, on a wide variety of issues.





# SUSTAINABILITY IN FOCUS IN 2025

**Following the publication of the Sustainability Roadmap for 2023-2030, the issue of sustainability was in focus throughout 2025 for the EHF.**

In April 2025 the EHF published the findings of a survey of member federations carried out in February and March 2025. The survey provided detailed insights into the state of sustainability in handball in Europe. Of the 52 EHF member federations, 29 responded to the survey, which was conducted online.

Environmental, social, and governance pillars were all examined by the survey, and its results highlighted that sustainability is a significant topic for European handball federations, with a particular emphasis on social and governance aspects.

There were numerous positive findings from the survey. 59 per cent of the federations that participated either already have or are working on a sustainability strategy. 69 per cent of respondents have already implemented specific social sustainability activities and support environment actions. 37 per cent of the responding federations

have personnel whose task it is to address sustainability initiatives.

The survey also revealed challenges experienced by national federations, with 48 per cent of the participating federations reporting obstacles related to financial resources and funding. However, there is evidence of increasing government funding and budget within handball federations for sustainability initiatives. While reporting to government institutions is important, most federations do not consider tracking their progress outside of those obligations as vital.

There was agreement among the participating federations for the sharing of best practice examples, practical toolkits and guidelines, and the integration of sustainability education.

Meanwhile the EHF is making progress on the Sustainability Roadmap. On environmental sustainability issues, the new EHF House in Vienna achieved the gold standard 'Klimaaktiv' certificate issued by the Austrian government. At the Men's EHF EURO 2024 in Germany sustainability was a key focus,

with a cooperation with Deutsche Bahn to limit emissions caused through plane travel.

Automotive safety company DEKRA became an official referee partner of the Men's and Women's EHF EURO 2026, highlighting the EHF's commitment to safety and sustainability, and the EHF EURO Bid Book for 2030-2032 puts a focus on environmental sustainability.

The EHF has implemented a number of governance initiatives, including putting in place transparent democratic and communication processes; a gender equality strategy and initiatives; a transparent three-level legal system; creating the EHF Anti-Doping Unit, a fraud detection system and a whistleblowing platform.

New social responsibility initiatives include the new EHF Youth Club Trophy, to encourage the development of club handball, and further support of the development of wheelchair handball. The Respect Your Talent programme continues to thrive and grassroots activities across the continent are supported through federations' Master Plan projects.

# BEACH HANDBALL RESEARCH

## RESEARCH STUDIES SHED LIGHT ON SHOOTOUTS AND PHYSICAL DEMANDS ON REFEREES



**Two important research studies focusing on beach handball were published in 2025.**

In Understanding psychological pressure in beach handball shootouts, EHF Expert and sports psychologist Bojana Jelcic examined the mental factors coming into play when a beach handball match goes into a shootout.

The publication focused on the psychological dynamics of the shootout in beach handball. However, the psychological foundations and methodological approaches presented, are also applicable to other sports with comparable high-pressure scenarios.

Meanwhile a study carried out by the European Handball Federation's Beach Handball Commission in partnership with Qatari-based orthopaedic and sports hospital, Aspetar, revealed the physical demands placed on beach handball referees through physical activity and environmental conditions.

The report identifies strategies for beach handball referees to cope with, in particular, hot conditions, after the study showed the impact of warm weather on referees' core temperatures and hydration levels

# EHF MASTER PLAN

## MORE COUNTRIES SIGN MASTER PLAN AGREEMENTS

**Eight more federations signed Master Plan agreements with the EHF in 2025 – Albania, Andorra, the Netherlands, Kosovo, Estonia, Ireland, Finland and Armenia.**

The European Handball Master Plan was created in 2020 following significant research involving fans, clubs, players, federations and leagues. The strategic plan, designed to take the EHF and the sport through to 2027, is aimed at making handball more attractive to fans; at increasing the number of active players, coaches and officials; and creating additional value for the sport.

Under the Master Plan, EHF member federations can, based on a strategic long-term development plan presented to the EHF, create projects and initiatives for their sustainable development and growth and apply for tailor-made EHF Master Plan 360° support. For commonly agreed projects and initiatives, targets and key

performance indicators need to be set and budget allocated.

The new signatories in 2025 bring the total number of federations to have signed Master Plan Agreements to 28. All the federations have targeted grassroots growth, with a focus in many nations of developing handball for children and fostering a love of the sport from a young age.

Alongside this, 19 federations became the first signatories of the new Christensen Grassroots Charter in September 2025. Presented at the Extraordinary EHF Congress in December 2024 in Vienna, the Charter outlines rights, duties and responsibilities of the EHF and signatory member federations when it comes to the development of grassroots handball.

Its purpose is to further develop such activities by supporting, monitoring, measuring and rewarding federations who commit to grassroots handball and show outstanding results.

The first signatories are: the Faroe Islands, Denmark, Malta, Türkiye, Georgia, Serbia, Hungary, Germany, Montenegro, the Netherlands, Slovenia, Kosovo, Portugal, Switzerland, Croatia, Estonia, Belgium, Scotland, and England.

MASTER PLAN AGREEMENTS

**2022:** Croatia, Georgia, Latvia, Malta, Scotland

**2023:** Belgium, England, Germany, Great Britain, Italy, Luxembourg, Montenegro, Slovenia, Switzerland, Türkiye

**2024:** Czechia, Faroe Islands, Israel, Portugal, Serbia

**2025:** Albania, Andorra, Netherlands, Kosovo, Estonia, Ireland, Finland, Armenia

# CRISTENSEN GRASSROOTS CHARTER

## FIRST FEDERATIONS SIGN CHRISTENSEN GRASSROOTS CHARTER

**On the eve of the 17th Ordinary EHF Congress in Andau, Austria, the European Handball Federation and 19 member federations set another milestone for the development of grassroots handball in Europe, becoming the first signatories of the new Christensen Grassroots Charter.**

The Charter outlines rights, duties and responsibilities of the EHF and signatory member federations when it comes to the development of grassroots handball.



Its purpose is to further develop such activities by supporting, monitoring, measuring and rewarding federations who commit to grassroots handball and show outstanding results.

Every member federation can file an application to the EHF to become a signatory to the Grassroots Charter. The EHF then starts the assessment process to ensure that the applicant meets the relevant requirements. Upon signing the charter, the member federation agrees to follow its guidelines.



CHRISTENSEN GRASSROOTS CHARTER SIGNATORIES

Belgium	Malta
Croatia	Montenegro
Denmark	Netherland
England	Portugal
Estonia	Scotland
Faroe Islands	Serbia
Georgia	Slovenia
Germany	Switzerland
Hungary	Türkiye
Kosovo	



# EHF AND LEARN HANDBALL FORGE COACHING PARTNERSHIP

THE NEW COOPERATION AIMS AT SIGNIFICANTLY INCREASING THE ACCESSIBILITY AND QUALITY OF HANDBALL COACHING IN EUROPE

**The EHF and Learn Handball, one of the most widely used digital platforms for handball coaching, have entered into a visionary partnership with the aim of enabling access to top-level exercises and training plans to as many coaches, clubs and players as possible.**



Learn Handball was founded in 2016 by Norway's record international and line player Bjarte Myrhol and his brother Atle Myrhol. Swiss playmaker and current national team head coach Andy Schmid and Swiss line player Viktor Glatthard joined the team in 2019. Currently there are more than 750 clubs and 50,000 users registered.

As part of the partnership, the European Handball Federation has acquired a minority share which will give the EHF a board seat and the ability to support and align the platform's development with the broader European handball strategy.

Learn Handball, available online and as app, offers tailored training plans designed to make everyday life easier for youth handball coaches, regardless of their level of experience.

The platform provides flexible, age-appropriate content for boys and girls aged 6 to 16+, giving all children the same opportunity to experience joy, development, and mastery through handball.

# REFEREE COURSES

PACKED PROGRAMME OF REFEREE LEARNING IN 2025

**The EHF ran a series of courses for referees in 2025, for both the indoor and beach handball disciplines.**

For indoor handball, there were six EHF Young Referee Programme courses held across the year, with a total of 41 pairs of referees taking part.

There were also two EHF Candidate Referee courses, both held in the summer alongside the Men's 19 EHF European Open in Sweden, and the Women's 19 EHF Championship in Georgia. A total of 13 pairs participated in the courses, and 11 passed.

On the beach handball side, the EHF Beach Handball Candidate Referee Programme included three courses for a total of 10 pairs of referees from 10 countries. The initiative was launched to support the next generation of beach handball referees and the course included workshops, learning sessions, physical and theoretical testing and on-site officiating.



In addition, one EHF Candidate Delegate course was held in May and 17 candidates successfully completed the course.

# EHF WEBINARS IN 2025

A SERIES OF ONLINE LECTURES WITH AN IN-DEPTH PRESENTATION ON MOST REQUESTED AND INTERESTING TOPICS FROM THE HANDBALL COURTS FOLLOWED BY A Q&A WITH THE PARTICIPANTS.



- Marc de Sousa | Wheelchair Handball four-a-side | 24.02.2025
- Patrick Luig | EHF “RINCK” Convention Relaunch 2024 | 18.03.2025
- Joyce Van Haaster | Empower to Inspire: Wheelchair Handball | 23.04.2025
- Xavi Pascual | Tactics for Numerical Inferiority and Superiority | 06.05.2025
- Filipe Duque & Vanessa Bourgeais | Benefits and Challenges of Kindergarten Handball | 15.09.2025
- Ana Kristensen & Gonzalo Perez de Vargas | Goalkeeping insights — Inspiring Future Generations | 30.09.2025
- Jesper Bencke, Tanja Sarenac, Robert Novotny | Injury prevention in Handball: Science, Practice, and Individualized Approaches | 23.10.2025
- Jennie Linnell & Ljubomir Vranjes | Managing mental health in handball | 19.11.2025
- Jan De Bellis (JANO Filder Academy/GER), Magnus Guldanger (Skanderborg Håndbold/DEN) and Aleix Causa Roca (BM Granollers/ESP) | How Academies Support Top Talents | 02.12.2025
- Clara Lidman & Camilla Bevensee | Breaking the menstruation taboo | 09.12.2025
- Carlos Ortega, Staffan Olsson | Offensive Transition | 10.12.2025

# MANUALS AND ANALYSES

## EHF MANUALS PROVIDE CRUCIAL GUIDANCE FOR COACHES AND PLAYERS

**EHF Experts continue to work to provide helpful manuals and analyses for coaches, players and everyone else involved in handball to guide best practice and foster new thinking around the sport.**

In 2025 the key publications included: an injury prevention manual, a manual focusing on beach handball shootouts, and analyses of the Women’s EHF EURO 2024 and 2024 Younger Age Category competitions.

The injury prevention manual examined why injuries occur, and which are the most common injuries for handball players. It looked at how to prevent these injuries through strength, technical and balance training, and how coaches can integrate

injury prevention into handball practice.

EHF Expert and sports psychologist Bojana Jelcic looked at the mental factors coming into play when a beach handball match goes into a shootout in her manual, identifying four psychological factors and presenting methods and strategies for dealing with high-pressure situations.

Finally, the EHF EURO and YAC analyses looked at the key trends to emerge from the Women’s EHF EURO 2024 and the summer’s Younger Age Category events. The analyses examined issues such as the importance of goalkeepers to teams’ defence, the number of goals scored and where they were scored from, and the age and playing backgrounds of participating players.





A photograph of a handball match celebration. In the center, a male referee in a black shirt with a white 'A' on his chest and a female player in a black jersey with 'RPMIX' and 'TCL' logos are raising their right fists. To the left, another female player in a green jersey with 'RPMIX' and 'TCL' logos is also raising her right fist. The background is a large, dimly lit arena filled with spectators, many of whom are wearing red clothing. The text 'PROMOTING THE GAME' is overlaid in a blue, bold, sans-serif font on a white rectangular background in the center-right of the image.

**PROMOTING THE GAME**

# GIVING WOMEN'S HANDBALL A VOICE

2025 SAW THE LAUNCH OF AN EHF PROJECT UNLIKE ANY SEEN BEFORE IN HANDBALL, AND INDEED SEEN RARELY, BUT INCREASINGLY, AMONG MAJOR SPORTS FEDERATIONS: HER PLAYGROUND, A PLATFORM GIVING WOMEN'S HANDBALL ITS OWN VOICE.



The platform encompasses a microsite on the official EHF website eurohandball.com, a Facebook page and an Instagram profile.

Operating under the slogan, “She grows. We win,” Her Playground celebrates and shines a light on women in and around the game — their challenges, their triumphs and issues that concern them. The catchphrase “She grows. We win” reflects the fact that when women thrive, everyone benefits.

The “She grows” part of the slogan refers to the individual journey of strength, confidence, skills, persistence and self-discovery — areas that are elemental in handball. The “We win” couplet extends the individual story to the collective, that is, the support system, teammates, community and future generations that benefit from every woman’s journey.

Through the launch of Her Playground, the EHF join a global effort from sports federations to develop the women’s arm of their discipline and women’s sport in general.

## TABOO TOPICS BROUGHT INTO THE SPOTLIGHT

Her Playground is an unprecedented concept in handball, and so are the topics addressed through the platform.

In the first months, numerous areas surrounding the menstruation cycle were highlighted, from stigma to working with the cycle to a best-case example from Denmark regarding education of coaches. In October, inspired by Breast Cancer Awareness Month, Her Playground looked at breast injuries in sport and handball — another emerging area that has been under-researched due to a historic lack of female-only studies.

## YAC AND SENIOR SURVEY

To gain increased understanding of how elite female athletes view their sport, two online surveys were conducted in 2025. The first involved 261 players aged 15 to 19 competing at the women’s Younger Age Category events over the summer, with 31 countries represented. The second took place during the national team week in October, with 328 open-age female players from 35 countries participating.

The players were polled on various areas: Their consumption of women’s handball regarding watching matches and interacting on social media, media representation and the perception of women’s handball, role models, career path and the future of the women’s game.

From the two groups, there were areas of crossover and interesting variances. One difference was the players’ perception of the public view of women’s handball. The dominant answers from the YAC players were negative, while the most prominent responses from the open-age players were positive, highlighting a discrepancy in how the athletes feel their game is appreciated. However, both groups overwhelmingly agreed that women’s handball needs more visibility.

The two groups also agreed on the most important role models in women’s handball: The Norwegian trio of Stine Oftedal Dahmke, Nora Mørk and Henny Reistad.



# ROLE MODELS PROJECT

## ENCOURAGING GIRLS TO BE ACTIVE AND PARTICIPATE IN SPORT

In the context of encouraging girls to be active and participate in sport, they need to have women they can look up to and aspire to be — they need to see women breaking boundaries in a largely male-dominated area. Therefore, a women's handball platform aiming to inspire would not be complete without the involvement of the athletes themselves.

Four well-known handball players were chosen as the **Her Playground ambassadors**: Norwegian goalkeeper Katrine Lunde, French back Estelle Nze Minko, Serbian playmaker Andrea Lekic and Dutch wheelchair handball goalkeeper Joyce van Haaster.

The four were invited to the project based on a number of criteria, including their performance on court, in terms of elements such as hard work and success but also regarding characteristics like persistence, integrity, respect, positivity and passion for the sport. Who they are off court was also considered, specifically areas such as life experience, education and media presence, as well as characteristics like emotional intelligence, authenticity, a desire to help others by sharing knowledge and experience, and an ability to overcome adversity.

The four were a key part of the launch of Her Playground and will have ongoing roles as the platform continues forward.

WHO THEY ARE OFF COURT WAS ALSO CONSIDERED, SPECIFICALLY  
AREAS SUCH AS LIFE EXPERIENCE, EDUCATION AND MEDIA PRESENCE



FOLLOW/ HER PLAYGROUND HERE!



Instagram



Facebook

# DARE TO RISE

## CONTINUING TO HIT NEW HEIGHTS

The EHF's successful 'Dare to Rise' series of exclusive documentaries on the Home of Handball YouTube channel, focused on the stars of the Machineseeker EHF Champions League, continued in 2025.

In February, the focus was OTP Bank – PICK Szeged goalkeeper Roland Mikler, highlighting the defining moments in the Hungarian's long career. Mikler opened up about his family life and his moments of self-doubt, as well as talking about his longevity in the game.

In September the series premiered its biggest episode yet: a feature-length documentary about the epic final weekend of the competition, the TruckScout24 EHF FINAL4 2025 in Cologne. Fans were invited to relive the weekend through the eyes of its stars: SC Magdeburg goalkeeper Sergey Hernandez and his Barça counterpart Emil Nielsen, Füchse Berlin's Mathias Gidsel, and more.

Packed with drama and emotion, the documentary has had thousands of views since it premiered.



# HANDBALL MASTERMINDS

## HANDBALL MASTERMINDS SHINES A LIGHT ON THE EXPERTS

The EHF's new 'Handball Masterminds' series on the Home of Handball YouTube channel launched in mid-2025 with its first episode, an in-depth conversation with Györi Audi ETO KC head coach Per Johansson. Johansson was the first coach to feature in the new series, which aims to reveal the philosophy of some of the sport's top coaches.



So far, four episodes of the series have been released. In episode two, legendary Spanish coach Xavi Pascual – now at One Veszprém HC – discussed the highs and lows of his extraordinary career. Episode three put the focus on goalkeeping as Swedish goalkeeper and coach Mats Olsson talked about both his own career, and the way he has approached training the likes of Katrine Lunde since taking up coaching.

The fourth instalment in the series, released just ahead of the Men's EHF EURO 2026, turned the spotlight on Danish head coach Nikolaj Jacobsen, one of the most successful coaches in handball with numerous world, European and Olympic medals to his name.





# CAPITALISING ON THE GAME

# DEKRA

## EHF AND DEKRA EXTEND AND STRENGTHEN COOPERATION IN EUROPEAN HANDBALL

The EHF and international expert organisation DEKRA expanded their cooperation as of the start of the 2025/26 season. DEKRA has become the Official EHF Referee Partner in several club and national team competitions, including the EHF Champions League, the EHF European League, the EHF's youth national team competitions and the EHF Wheelchair Handball Championship.

The new partnership covers around 1,300 matches per season. It will initially run for 2025/26 and 2026/27. The EHF and DEKRA also announced a refereeing partnership for the Men's and Women's EHF EUROs 2026 in March 2025.

As part of the agreement the DEKRA logo will be visible on the referees' shirts and all of the federation's 130 referees pairs were kitted out with DEKRA-branded referee shirts in neon orange, neon yellow and also DEKRA's own corporate green colour.

LED perimeter advertising was added for youth national team competitions such as the Men's 20 EHF EURO and Women's 19 EHF EURO.

At the final weekends of the EHF Champions League and the European League, DEKRA will present the fair play

announcement ahead of the matches.

The cooperation also includes a range of sustainability services which the EHF will be commissioning from DEKRA. DEKRA will work with the EHF and local organisers to calculate and benchmark the carbon footprint and environmental impact of events including the EHF EURO and EHF FINAL4.

The EHF goal of making handball one of the most sustainable sports in Europe will be further supported through a series of workshops with DEKRA experts.

Martin Hausleitner, EHF Secretary General, said: "Our extended cooperation sees DEKRA being present as official refereeing partner in almost all EHF competitions. There could not be a better brand-fit with our referees, as neutrality, objectivity and precision are the common values we share. We are very pleased about this broad and comprehensive partnership."

Uta Leitner, Executive Vice President Communications and Brand Management at DEKRA, added: "Actively supporting the EHF with our expertise in the area of sustainability will turn the collaboration into a genuine, active partnership. We are very much looking forward to getting started at the beginning of the 2025/26 season."



# GRUNDFOS

## GRUNDFOS EXTENDS SPONSORSHIP OF EHF EURO TO 2030

Grundfos, a global leader in advanced water technology and pump solutions, will continue to be an official partner of the Men's and Women's EHF EUROs in 2026, 2028 and 2030, following the extension of the company's sponsorship agreement with the EHF.

As a long-standing partner, Grundfos has been showing its support for the European handball community for almost two decades, teaming up with the sport to strengthen the societal impact of handball events and raise awareness for the world's water and climate challenges.

The 'Grundfos Player of the Match' initiative, introduced at the Men's EHF EURO 2020, has become a symbol of this commitment — turning standout performances on the court into support for water and sanitation projects in vulnerable communities.

Martin Hausleitner, EHF Secretary General, said: "We are proud to see Grundfos prolonging its engagement and are looking forward to further raising awareness of sustainable actions through our partnership. Together with Grundfos, we have a chance to attract attention to the importance of sustainability, as we aim to become one of the most sustainable team sport federations, underlining the social, governmental, and environmental responsibility of European handball."

Ulrik Gernow, Grundfos EVP and COO, said: "At Grundfos, we believe partnerships should drive meaningful impact. Handball, a sport rooted in passion, unity and performance, mirrors the spirit we bring to everything we do."



## LIDL EXTENDS SPONSORSHIP OF EHF EUROS TO 2028

International retailer Lidl will continue to be the official fresh food partner of the Men's and Women's EHF EUROS following an extension of the sponsorship agreement for the championships in 2026 and 2028 – a total of four final tournaments.

This marks a decade of successful partnership between Lidl and the European Handball Federation's flagship national team tournament with the first sponsorship having been signed for the Men's EHF EURO 2018.

The prolongation – brokered by Infront, the EHF's exclusive media and marketing partner for the EHF EUROS – offers significant visibility for Lidl, across both TV and digital assets.

One of the prominent features is Lidl's presentation of the "Best Young Player" award, which was introduced at the Women's EHF EURO 2024, shining a spotlight on the brightest talents coming up in European handball.

Lidl will also reintroduce its "Kids Team", aiming to encourage future generations to adopt a healthy, active lifestyle and participate in team sports.

Martin Hausleitner, EHF Secretary General, said the partnership extension underlined the strength of the European Championships as a powerful platform for sponsors and partners to increase their brand exposure as well as for activation to reach handball fans across Europe and worldwide.



## JOSERA PETFOOD BECOMES OFFICIAL PARTNER OF EUROPEAN HANDBALL FEDERATION

Josera Petfood has become an official partner of the European Handball Federation. The partnership, brokered by Infront Sports, the EHF's long-standing and exclusive media and marketing partner, includes extensive advertising presence at the Men's EHF EURO 2026 in January and the Women's EHF EURO 2026 in December.

Josera will also support the EHF's younger age category in 2026, with the company's handball campaign 'We all love to play' to be integrated into the EHF's wider activation strategy.

As sleeve sponsor at the EHF EUROS, the Josera logo will be present on all players' jersey sleeves. The company will also be visible through LED animations, with clips on video cubes and on interview backdrops.

Josera was also a partner of the Men's EHF EURO 2024 in Germany.

EHF Secretary General Martin Hausleitner said: "We are happy to have found a perfect partner with Josera. We noticed at the EHF EURO 2024 how well the 'Josera and EHF' match works. It's a collaboration that's not only fun for us, but also for the millions of handball fans across Europe. It's a perfect fit, and we look forward to living up to the Josera motto 'We all love to play!'"

# KINEXON

In January 2025, the EHF and KINEXON Sports extended their long-term partnership for an additional four EHF EURO tournaments. The new agreement, effective from 2025 to 2028, covers the integration of KINEXON real-time player and ball-tracking technology at the Men's EHF EUROs 2026 and 2028, and the Women's EHF EUROs 2026 and 2028.

The partnership's goal is to bring the experience for all stakeholders to the next level, enabling a wide range of applications, and revolutionising both team performance analysis and the fan experience.

Since 2020, KINEXON Sports' tracking technology has been an integral part of all EHF EURO matches, capturing, measuring, and analysing the real-time movements and positions of players and the official iBall of SELECT.

# WÜRTH

Würth, a leading company in the development, production, and sale of fastening and assembly materials, continues to expand its international sports sponsorship activities and extends its partnership with Infront, the exclusive marketing partner of the European Handball Federation.

With this, the company remains official partner of the Men's and Women's EHF EUROs 2026 and 2028.

After a successful start with the Men's EHF EURO 2024 in Germany, Würth is continuing its commitment.

The agreement now concluded will expand the company's presence at four European handball championships: the men's and women's tournaments in both 2026 and 2028.



# YAC TV PARTNER – AMC NETWORKS

## EHF AND AMCNI CNE SIGN FOUR-YEAR BROADCAST DEAL FOR YOUTH COMPETITIONS

The EHF and AMC Networks International – Central and Northern Europe (AMCNI CNE), the operator of TV channels Sport1 and Sport2, agreed a long-term TV deal for the exclusive broadcast of the EHF's youth national team competitions in three countries.

The agreement will see AMCNI CNE broadcast the EHF's youth tournaments – the Women's 19 and Women's 17 EHF EUROs as well as the Men's 20 and Men's 18 EHF EUROs – across its platforms in Hungary, Czechia and Slovakia from 2025 to 2028. AMCNI CNE will provide extensive coverage of these key national team tournaments each summer across linear (Sport1 and Sport2) and digital channels.

AMCNI CNE has been the broadcast partner for the EHF's top club competitions, including the Machineseeker EHF Champions League and the EHF Champions League Women, in Hungary since 2015.



The signing of this broadcast deal underscores the EHF's commitment to the growth and development of its younger age category events over the years to come,

which has seen the federation take over responsibility for TV production as well as media and marketing sales for its top youth competitions.



# GERFLOR

## DONATIONS TO NATIONAL FEDERATIONS

In cooperation with the official floor supplier for EHF competitions, Gerflor, the EHF made a number of donations to national federations in 2024.

In 2025, playing courts provided by Gerflor were donated to England, Greece and Sweden.

Such donations are made available for national federations whose teams are participating in the EHF EURO Qualifiers. Federations can apply floors under the obligation that they will be used in the qualifier matches, thereby ensuring a uniform look across Europe when the games are played.



# SELECT

## 10TH BALL DESIGN MARKS 10TH SEASON OF COOPERATION WITH SELECT SPORT

The EHF and EHF Marketing began their cooperation with SELECT Sport for the 2016/17 season, when SELECT began producing balls for the EHF Champions League. SELECT designed their 10th Champions League ball for the TruckScout24 EHF FINAL4 2025 and EHF FINAL4 Women 2025, with the ball remaining in use for the 2025/26 seasons of the Machineseeker EHF Champions League and EHF Champions League Women.

The ball also marked a sustainability milestone as the first official match ball of the EHF Champions League made with recycled materials, with 41 per cent of its polyurethane derived from recycled PET bottles.

SELECT also produces balls for the EHF EUROs and the ball designed for the Men's EHF EURO 2026 uses recycled materials as well.

The contracts between the EHF, EHF Marketing and SELECT are currently in place until 2028, having been extended in 2024. SELECT also remains the official resin supplier to the EHF EUROs.

Peter Knap, SELECT Sport CEO, said: "We are very happy to celebrate 10 years of collaboration with the EHF Marketing. We are proud that we are going into the 10th season as the Official Ball supplier of the EHF Marketing — and we are looking forward to continuing our great partnership and enjoying many more exciting handball games together."

David Szlezak, Managing Director EHF Marketing, said: "Next to the main protagonists on the court, the players, handballs are an essential part of the game, and we are happy to have a partner like SELECT, with whom we are developing the European club competitions. The 10-season long partnership with SELECT Sport is something we are very proud of and happy to celebrate."

# MACHINESEEKER

In summer 2025, the Machineseeker Group extended its title partnership of the EHF Champions League Men for a fourth year. The company — Europe's leading operator of online marketplaces for used machines and commercial vehicles — first became the title partner of the competition, known as the Machineseeker EHF Champions League, for the 2022/23 season.

The prolongation of the partnership capitalises on the outstanding results of the previous years and underlines the perfect fit between the Machineseeker Group's key markets — from Spain to Scandinavia and Eastern Europe — and European club handball.

In 2024/25, Machineseeker was also the presenter of the EHF Finals 2025 in Hamburg. The Maschinensucher EHF Finals 2025 were the pinnacle event of the EHF European League Men 2024/25, with a packed arena witnessing SG Flensburg-Handewitt's triumph in the competition.

David Szlezak, EHF Marketing Managing Director said: "The sponsorship extension

follows a strong performance of the competition in the 2024/25 season, including a great collaboration with Machineseeker, which was even extended to the EHF Finals for the first time."



# TRUCKSCOUT24

TruckScout24, part of the Machineseeker Group, was the title sponsor of the EHF FINAL4 Men in Cologne for a fourth year in a row in 2024/25.

TruckScout24 has extended its support of the biggest event in European club handball for a fifth year, and the TruckScout24 EHF FINAL4 2026 will gather the four best teams of the season in the pinnacle event hosted at Cologne's LANXESS arena on 13 and 14 June next year.

At the TruckScout24 EHF FINAL4 2024 and 2025, the partnership included the opportunity for fans to climb into a hot air balloon and enjoy the view over the LANXESS arena and the city of Cologne.





# GORENJE

Leading European home appliance manufacturer Gorenje continued and deepened its long-term partnership with EHF Marketing in 2025.

Gorenje has been a partner of the EHF Champions League since 2017, and a premium partner since 2022. In 2025, the company became an official partner of both the Machineseeker EHF Champions League and the EHF Champions League Women. Under the expanded agreement, Gorenje will be present in all arenas and will be included in all marketing activities of the men's and women's editions of the EHF Champions League.

The company, part of the Hisense Group, was already an advertising rights holder at the EHF FINAL4 Women in 2024 and 2025. It is eager to use this partnership to empower women's sport.

Gorenje is known for interactive fan activities on the court and in the fan zone of the TruckScout24 EHF FINAL4, as well as in digital activations over the years.



# MODULAR SYSTEM

Poland-based company Modular System, known for the design and creation of modern, mobile modular spaces, extended its existing partnership with the Machineseeker EHF Champions League. The agreement follows two years of successful partnership, beginning at the TruckScout24 EHF FINAL4 2023.

Modular System is now in its third season as an official partner of the Machineseeker EHF Champions League. It benefits from a range of visible and non-visible rights in the competition, including exposure at all matches, as well as a digital presence on eurohandball.com and the OTT streaming platform EHFTV.

A digital goal wall in the branded Modular System container was one of the highlights in the fan zone of the TruckScout24 EHF FINAL4 2025, where the company also presented a half-time activation where fans could win tickets for the 2026 event by completing a giant puzzle.

# MOL

Hungarian oil and gas provider MOL Group continued as an official partner of the Machineseeker EHF Champions League in 2024/25, having first signed an agreement with EHF Marketing for the 2023/24 season.

MOL was also an event partner of the EHF FINAL4 2025.

Activations last season included the MOL selfie cam, which offered fans the possibility to support their team even from home. Fans had to upload a selfie to get a chance to be displayed on the big screen or the LED animation in the arena.

Last season MOL also launched a new activation, the 'MOL Beat'. During the MOL Beat fans had to keep big balloons in the air to get a chance to win MOL t-shirts, which were shot from t-shirt guns.

# RAIFFEISEN BANK INTERNATIONAL

Raiffeisen Bank International (RBI), headquartered in Austria, with its subsidiaries in Central and Eastern Europe has been a partner of the EHF Champions League since 2024/25. The bank is a premium partner of the EHF Champions League Women and an official partner of the Machineseecker EHF Champions League, and was the first partner to sponsor both the men's and women's competitions.

At the EHF FINAL4 Women 2025, RBI offered an interactive memory game, linking the handball skills of the fans with their banking knowledge.

Raiffeisen Bank director of marketing and communications in Hungary, Veronika Yalcinkaya, said the partnership had strengthened its bonds with customers, who had given positive feedback. Yalcinkaya added that it was important to support the women's game, particularly in the bank's core Central and Eastern European markets.



# WINAMAX

Winamax, a French betting provider committed to the protection of minors and combating gambling addiction, joined the European handball family as an official event partner of the TruckScout24 EHF FINAL4 2025, its first involvement in

the sport. During the final weekend in Cologne, Winamax contributed to creating an unforgettable atmosphere through dance cams that encouraged fans to show off their dance skills for a chance to win a signed jersey from their favourite

team. Following this successful debut, the collaboration continues for the 2025/26 season, with Winamax becoming an official partner of the Machineseecker EHF Champions League in Germany and France.

# CROATIAN NATIONAL TOURIST BOARD AND ISTRIA TOURIST BOARD

The Croatian National Tourist Board and Istria Tourist Board have been the official destination partners of the Machineseecker EHF Champions League since February 2024.

The Croatian National Tourist Board and Istria Tourist Board brought a holiday feeling to the TruckScout24 EHF FINAL4 2025, hosting a chill-out area with fans in the pattern of the Croatian flag, red and white.

During the 2024/25 season, a new engaging activation took place in Aalborg and Berlin, the 'Truffle Hunt'. Fans had to find the red envelope below one of the big present boxes after dribbling through a slalom parkour. The activation was developed based on one of the touristic activities Croatia and the region of Istria is known for: Truffle hunting.







EHF  
17<sup>th</sup> ORDINARY EHF CONGRESS  
19/20 SEPTEMBER 2025 ANDALUSIA

NEXT LEVEL.  
EVERY GAME.

NEXT LEVEL.  
EVERY GAME.

17<sup>th</sup> ORDINARY EHF CONGRESS 2025

NEXT LEVEL.  
EVERY GAME.

# HOUSING THE GAME

# FROM THE BOARDROOMS

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (EXEC)

<b>AUT MICHAEL WIEDERER</b> President	<b>HUN GABRIELLA HORVATH</b> Chair   Beach Handball Commission	<b>GER MARK SCHOBER</b> Chair   Nations Board
<b>MNE PREDRAG BOŠKOVIĆ</b> First Vice President	<b>SWE STEFAN LÖVGREN</b> Member 1	<b>ESP XAVIER O'CALLAGHAN</b> Chair   Professional Handball Board
<b>DEN HENRIK LA COUR</b> Vice President Finances	<b>TUR MESUT ÇEBİ</b> Member 2	<b>POR LEONOR MALLOZZI</b> Chair   Women's Handball Board
<b>SRB BOZIDAR ĐURKOVIĆ</b> Chair   Competitions Commission	<b>NED TJARK DE LANGE</b> Member 3	
<b>POR PEDRO SEQUEIRA</b> Chair   Methods Commission	<b>NOR RANDI GUSTAD</b> Member 4	

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (EXEC) For the electoral period 2021 - 2025		
<b>ESP FRANCISCO V. BLAZQUEZ GARCIA</b> Member 2	<b>SLO FRANJO BOBINAC</b> Member 3	<b>NOR BENTE AKSNES</b> Member 4

## FINANCE DELEGATION (FD)

Nominated by EXEC

**AUT MICHAEL WIEDERER**  
President

**MNE PREDRAG BOŠKOVIĆ**  
First Vice President

**DEN HENRIK LA COUR**  
President Finances

**EHF MARTIN HAUSLEITNER**  
Secretary General

**EHF BERNHARD BINDER**  
Finance Officer

## TECHNICAL DELEGATION (TD)

Nominated by EXEC

**SRB BOZIDAR ĐURKOVIĆ**  
Chair | Competitions Commission

**POR PEDRO SEQUEIRA**  
Chair | Methods Commission

**HUN GABRIELLA HORVATH**  
Chair | Beach Handball Commission

## EHF SERVICES & INFRASTRUCTURE GMBH (EHF SI)

Nominated by EXEC

**EHF MARTIN HAUSLEITNER**  
Managing Director

**EHF BERNHARD BINDER**  
Managing Director

## EHF SERVICES & INFRASTRUCTURE GMBH ADVISORY BOARD

(EHF SI AB)

**AUT MICHAEL WIEDERER**  
Chair | EHF President

**EHF MARTIN HAUSLEITNER**  
Member | EHF SI Managing Director

**MNE PREDRAG BOŠKOVIĆ**  
Member | EHF First Vice President

**EHF BERNHARD BINDER**  
Member | EHF SI Managing Director

**DEN HENRIK LA COUR**  
Member | EHF Vice President Finances

## COMPETITIONS COMMISSION (CC)

**DEN JAN KAMPMAN**  
Member Men's Competitions

**FIN PÄIVI MITRUNEN**  
Member Women's Competitions

**FRA GAEL PELLETIER**  
Member Men's Club Competitions

**HUN ZSOLT ABROK**  
Member Women's Club Competitions

## COMPETITIONS COMMISSION (CC)

For the Electoral Period 2021 - 2025

**DEN THOMAS HYLLE**  
Member Women's Club Competitions



**TECHNICAL REFEREEING COMMITTEE (TRC)**

Nominated by EXEC | For the electoral period 2021 - 2025

**GER** Jutta Ehrmann-Wolf  
Female Referees

**LAT** Zigmars Sondors  
Development

**EHF** George Bebetosos  
Special Projects

**NOR** Øyvind Togstad  
Elite Refereeing

**FRA** Denis Reibel  
Grassroots

The next nomination of the TRC to serve the electoral period 2025 – 2029 will take place at the end of January 2026.

## METHODS COMMISSION (MC)

**ROU CRISTINA GEORGINA VARZARU**  
Member Analysis and Coaching

**GER PATRICK LUIG**  
Member Education and Methods

**ESP CARMEN MANCHADO LOPEZ**  
Member Research and Innovation

**CRO LIDIJA BOJIĆ-ČAČIĆ**  
Member Grassroots and Development

The next nomination of the IHF Medical Commission/Member Europe to serve EHF Methods Commission for the electoral period 2025 – 2029 will take place in early 2026.

**METHODS COMMISSION (MC)**

For the electoral period 2021 - 2025

**NED MONIQUE TIJSTERMAN**  
Member Methods and Coaching

**RUS MARINA GILLARD**  
IHF Medical Commission |  
Member Europe

## BEACH HANDBALL COMMISSION (BC)

**MNE EMIR BESLIJA**  
Member Events and Competitions

**CZE JIRI OPAVA**  
Member Officiating

**ITA MARCO TRESPIDI**  
Member Game Design and Coaching

**POR MARIO BERNARDES**  
Member Development and Promotion

## BEACH HANDBALL COMMISSION (BC)

For the electoral period 2021 - 2025

**POL MAREK GÓRALCZYK**  
Member Events and Competitions

## COMPTROLLERS (COMPT)

**AUT ROBERT PRETTENTHALER**  
Member

**GER THOMAS LUDEWIG**  
Member

**NED JOOST GRUNDEKEN**  
Substitute

**COMPTROLLERS (COMPT)**

For the electoral period 2021 - 2025

**SVK JANKA STASOVA**  
Substitute

## COURT OF HANDBALL (COH)

**AUT MARKUS PLAZER**  
President

**GER ANDREAS THIEL**  
Vice President

**ROU SORIN-LAURENTIN DINU**  
Vice President

**ISR SHLOMO COHEN**  
Member

**EST URMO SITSI**  
Member

**MLT ALAN GRIMA**  
Member

**TUR AVNI MUTLU**  
Member

**SUI YVONNE LEUTHOLD**  
Member

**NED ANDRÉ HOMMEN**  
Member

**CZE LIBENA SRAMKOVA**  
Member

## COURT OF HANDBALL (COH)

For the electoral period 2021 - 2025

**GRE IOANNIS KARANASOS**  
President

**CRO MATEA HORVAT**  
Member

## COURT OF APPEAL (COA)

**GRE IOANNIS KARANASOS** | President

**GEO LEVAN GELASHVILI** | Member

**MKD MARJAN NACHEVSKI** | Member

**MDA NICOLAE VIZITIU** | Vice President

**CRO DOMAGOJ GRAHOVAC** | Member

**SVK ZUZANA FÜLEOVA** | Member

**HUN ILONA TORDAI** | Member

**POL ROBERT CZAPLICKI** | Member

COURT OF APPEAL (COA) For the electoral period 2021 - 2025A

<b>AUT</b> MARKUS PLAZER President	<b>SRB</b> MILAN PETRONIJEVIĆ Member
<b>GEO</b> KETEVAN KOBERIDZE Member	<b>KOS</b> IZET GJINOVCI Member †05.08.2024

**SOCIAL FUND**  
Nominated by EXEC

**FRA** JEAN BRIHAULT  
EHF Honorary President

**SWE** ARNE ELOVSSON  
EHF Honorary Member

**ITA** RALF DEJACO  
EHF Honorary Member

**EUROPEAN HANDBALL COURT OF ARBITRATION COUNCIL (ECC)**

**ITA** MICHELE COLUCCI  
President

**CRO** MATEA HORVAT  
Vice President

**ESP** MARTA UTOR  
Vice President

EUROPEAN HANDBALL COURT OF ARBITRATION COUNCIL (ECC) For the electoral period 2021 - 2025

**FRA** REMY LEVY  
Vice President

NATIONS BOARD (NB)

<b>GER</b> MARK SCHOBER	Chair
<b>EST</b> PIRJE ORASSON	Vice Chair
<b>POR</b> LEONOR MALLOZZI	Member
<b>ESP</b> ELENA BORRAS ALCARAZ	Member
<b>GBR</b> STEPHEN NEILSON	Member
<b>DEN</b> TORSTEN LAEN	Member

EHF ANTI–DOPING UNIT (EAU) Nominated by EXEC

**AUT** HANS HOLDHAUS  
Chair

**INITIATOR OF PROCEEDINGS**

**POR** RUI COELHO  
Initiator of Proceedings (IoP)

**CYP** PANOS ANTONIOU  
Substitute Initiator of Proceedings (SIoP)

**NATIONS BOARD (NB)** For the electoral period 2021 - 2025

**DEN** MORTEN STIG CHRISTENSEN  
Member †01.11.2024

**SUI** INGO MECKES  
Member

**FRA** NODJIALEM MYARO  
Member

**NATIONS COMMITTEE MEN (NCM)**

**SVK** IVAN SABOVIK  
Chair

**GBR** STEPHEN NEILSON  
Member

**FRA** VINCENT GERARD  
Vice Chair

**POL** RADOSLAW WASIAK  
Member

**GER** MARK SCHOBER  
Member

**DEN** TORSTEN LAEN  
Member

**NATIONS COMMITTEE MEN (NCM)** For the electoral period 2021 - 2025

**SUI** INGO MECKES  
Chair

**FRA** BERTRAND GILLE  
Member

**FIN** JARI HENTTONEN  
Vice Chair

**IRL** FINTAN LYONS  
Member

**DEN** MORTEN STIG CHRISTENSEN  
Member †01.11.2024

**NATIONS COMMITTEE WOMEN (NCW)**

**EST** PIRJE ORASSON  
Chair

**POR** LEONOR MALLOZZI  
Vice Chair

**ESP** ELENA BORRAS ALCARAZ  
Member

**BUL** ROSEN DOBREV  
Member

**FRA** NODJIALEM MYARO  
Member

**HUN** KATALIN PALINGER  
Member

**NATIONS COMMITTEE WOMEN (NCW)** For the electoral period 2021 - 2025

**CZE** ŠÁRKA DROZDOVÁ | Member

**ITA** PAOLA FIORILLO | Member

**ROU** CRISTINA VARZARU | Member



## PROFESSIONAL HANDBALL BOARD (PHB)

ESP XAVIER O’CALLAGHAN	Chair  Member Clubs
SWE NIKOLAS LARSSON	Vice Chair   Member Leagues
GER MARK SCHOBER	Member National Federations
DEN TORSTEN LAEN	Member National Federations
SLO GREGOR PLANTEU	Member Clubs
GER FRANK BOHMANN	Member Leagues
MNE PREDRAG BOŠKOVIĆ	Member Executive Committee
SWE STEFAN LÖVGREN	Member Executive Committee

The two seats allocated to the ‘Member Players’ will be nominated in early 2026.

## PROFESSIONAL HANDBALL BOARD (PHB)

For the electoral period 2021 - 2025

DEN MORTEN STIG CHRISTENSEN Member National Federations †01.11.2024	DEN TORBEN VINTHER Member Players (from 10/2023)
DEN MICHAEL SAHL HANSEN Member Players (until 10/2023)	GER MARCUS ROMINGER Member Players

## WOMEN'S HANDBALL BOARD (WHB)

POR LEONOR MALLOZZI Chair   Member National Federations
HUN KATALIN PALINGER Member National Federations
SLO DEJA IVANOVIC Member Clubs
NOR KAMILLA SUNDMOEN Member Club

GER CHRISTOPH WENDT Member Leagues
---------------------------------------

POL KAROLINA BRYL-PROKOP Member Leagues
--

NED TJARK DE LANGE Member Executive Committee
--

NOR RANDI GUSTAD Member Executive Committee
--

The two seats allocated to the ‘Member Players’ will be nominated in early 2026.

## WOMEN'S HANDBALL BOARD (WHB)

For the electoral period 2021 - 2025

NOR BENTE AKSNES Member Executive Committee	MNE RADMILA PETROVIĆ Member Clubs	ESP ELENA BORRAS ALCARAZ Member Players (EXEC nominated)
ESP FRANCISCO V. BLAZQUEZ GARCIA Member Executive Committee	DEN TRINE NIELSEN Member Clubs	POL MONIKA LISTKIEWICZ Member Leagues (EXEC nominated)
FRA NODJIALEM MYARO Member National Teams	SRB JELENA ERIĆ Member Players (EXEC nominated)	SLO MARTA BON Member Leagues (EXEC nominated)

## EUROPEAN HANDBALL LEAGUE BOARD (EHLB)

Nominated by the leagues

SWE NIKOLAS LARSSON Chair
------------------------------

FIN TANELI TIILIKAINEN Member
----------------------------------

GBR EWAN HUNTER Member
---------------------------

GER FRANK BOHMANN Vice Chair
---------------------------------

SUI PATRICE HITZ Member
----------------------------

SLO MIHA PANTELIC Member
-----------------------------

## EUROPEAN HANDBALL LEAGUE BOARD (EHLB)

For the electoral period 2021 - 2025

LUX THIERRY WAGNER Member	CRO SINISA OSTOIC Member
FRA ETIENNE CAPON Member	

## EHF MEN'S CLUB BOARD

AUT MICHAEL WIEDERER Chair   EHF President	HUN JÁNOS SZABÓ Member   Board Member MFCH
MNE PREDRAG BOŠKOVIĆ Member   EHF First Vice President	GER THORSTEN STORM Member   Board Member MFCH
DEN HENRIK LA COUR Member   EHF Vice President Finances	SUI PETER LEUTWYLER Member   Vice President MFCH
EHF MARTIN HAUSLEITNER Member   EHF Secretary General	GER GERD BUTZECK Member   Representative MFCH

## EHFM WOMEN'S CLUB BOARD

### HUN ZSOLT ÁKOS JENEY

Member | WFCH President

### FRA NICOLAS ROUE

Member | Board Member WFCH

### SWE STEFAN ALBRECHTSON

Member | Board Member WFCH

## EHFM WOMEN'S CLUB BOARD

For the period 2021 - 2025

### NOR PER GEIR LØVSTAD

Member | Board Member WFCH

### AUT GERHARD HAIDVOGEL

Member | Board Member WFCH

### SWE EMIL BERGGREN

Member | Board Member WFCH

## EHF MARKETING GMBH ADVISORY BOARD

### AUT MICHAEL WIEDERER

Chair | EHF President

### MNE PREDRAG BOŠKOVIĆ

Member | EHF First Vice President

### DEN HENRIK LA COUR

Member | EHF Vice President Finances

### EHF MARTIN HAUSLEITNER

Member | EHF Secretary General

### AUT BERNHARD BINDER

Member EHF Chief Finance Officer

### ESP XAVIER O'CALLAGHAN

Member | MFCH President

### HUN JÁNOS SZABÓ

Member | MFCH Representative

### HUN ZSOLT ÁKOS JENEY

Member | WFCH President

### GER GERD BUTZECK

Member | FCH Managing Director (until 06/2026)

### SLO GREGOR PLANTEU

Member | FCH Managing Director (from 07/2026)

## EHFM COMPTROLLERS' COUNCIL

### AUT ROBERT PRETTENTHALER

EHF Comptroller

### GER THOMAS LUDEWIG

EHF Comptroller

### NED JOOST GRUNDEKEN

EHF Substitute Comptroller

### GER EIKE KORSEN

Comptroller

### GER JENS GENGE

Comptroller

## EHFM COMPTROLLERS' COUNCIL

For the period 2021 - 2025

### GER JENNIFER KETTEMANN

Comptroller | MFCH Representative

### NOR PER GEIR LØVSTAD

Comptroller | WFCH Representative

### SVK JANKA STAŠOVÁ

EHF Substitute Comptroller

# FROM THE HEADQUARTERS

## GENERAL MANAGEMENT

### MICHAEL WIEDERER

President & Chief Executive Officer (CEO)

### MARTIN HAUSLEITNER

Secretary General & Chief Operations Officer (COO)

### MARKUS GLASER

Chief Sports Officer (CSO)

### BERNHARD BINDER

Chief Finance Officer (CFO)

## STRATEGIC BUSINESS

### MICHAEL WIEDERER

President

### MARTIN HAUSLEITNER

Secretary General

### VESNA LAZIĆ

PA to the President

### DANUTA KLUZ

Organisation & Projects

### MARSHA BROWN

Corporate Liaison

### ALENKA CUDERMAN

Respect Your Talent Coordinator

### ANNA LAMPRECHT

Women's Handball, EHF Masterplan & Sustainability Coordinator

## FINANCE & OPERATIONS

### BERNHARD BINDER

Chief Finance Officer (CFO)

### KATHARINA KOGLER

Accounting & Payroll Accounting

### NATALYA BELLAN

Accounting & Payroll Accounting

### DAVID LANNER

Finance & Reporting Assistant

### PAULA PREGESBAUER

Front Office

### VITA BEZPALKO

Front Office

### HASIJA DIZDAREVIĆ

Facility Management

## LEGAL MANAGEMENT

### MONIKA FLIXEDER

Senior Director Legal Management

### NICO JULIAN HOFER

In-House Lawyer

### JAKOB FENZ

In-House Lawyer

### MARCEL BOROS

In-House Lawyer



## COMPETITIONS

<b>MARKUS GLASER</b> Chief Sports Officer (CSO)
<b>INES TAEKKER</b> Club Team Competitions
<b>TOBIAS SCHEDER</b> Club Team Competitions
<b>MARCOS BESTILLEIRO</b> Officiating
<b>GEORGE BEBETSOS</b> Officiating
<b>NADEZHDA LACINA</b> Anti-Doping Unit (EAU) / Playing Halls
<b>ANNIKA SILLER</b> Competition Projects
<b>MAXIMILLIAN RIEDE</b> National Team Competitions
<b>RIMA SYPKUS</b> National Team Competitions
<b>MATTEO TEDESCO</b> National Team Competitions
<b>EURICO NICOLAU</b> Beach Handball
<b>MADLENA DONCHEVA</b> Beach Handball

## SPORT & GAME SERVICES

<b>DORU SIMION</b> Senior Director Sport & Game Services	<b>JOAO MONTEIRO</b> Education / Sport Management
<b>CLAUDIA BRANTL</b> International Transfers / Players Eligibility	<b>MATEJ NEKORANEC</b> Technical Services / Education
<b>EVA REIHOFR</b> International Transfers / Sport Management	<b>EIKO SAATHOFF</b> Development Programmes & Special Projects
<b>NOEMI SZECSENYI</b> Grassroots / Sport Management	

## EHF EURO EVENTS

<b>JOHANNES MÜLLER</b> Director EHF EURO Events	<b>EDINA TURI</b> Event Organisation (ML)
<b>BEATA KOZLOWSKA</b> Event Infrastructure	<b>WILHELM JELINEK</b> Event Organisation
<b>BRIEUC DELCAMP</b> Event Infrastructure	<b>NATÁLIA RÁCZ</b> Event Logistics & Guest Management
<b>MATE KOZMA</b> Event Organisation	

## MEDIA & COMMUNICATIONS

<b>THOMAS SCHÖNEICH</b> Director EHF Media & Communications	<b>JELENA BAGARIĆ</b> TV & Media Operations	<b>XAVI VEGAS</b> Social Media
<b>SIMONA MARGETIĆ</b> Editorial Content Lead	<b>CLEMENS MARTINEK</b> Content Strategy & Marketing	<b>SERGI LALIGA</b> Social Media
<b>IOANA PATACHI</b> (ML) Digital Content Lead	<b>ANA BREŇČIĆ</b> Communications	<b>RICHARD TURNER</b> Corporate Design
<b>LUCA FRIEDEL</b> Digital Content Lead	<b>JOSEPH BANHOLZER</b> Social Media	

## INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

<b>CHRISTOPH GAMPER</b> Senior Director Information Technology	<b>GABOR BIHARY</b> Project Management Office, IT Project Mgmt.
<b>CHARLY MUSIC</b> Recurring Operations & Support	<b>ISAAC ATRIPATRI</b> IT Scouting Coordinator, IT EURO Program Management, IT Project Management
<b>EDIS KOVAČEVIĆ</b> Back Office & Operations	<b>NIKOLA STEVANOVIĆ</b> IT Infrastructure Assistance
<b>PETER GROSSSCHMIDT</b> Application Management, Infrastructure Management, IT Project Management	<b>MICHAEL HELL</b> Office Technician & Facility Management
<b>LARS ERICHSEN</b> Documentation & eLearning	

## BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT & MARKETING

### JJ ROWLAND

Director Business Development  
& Marketing

### MIJA TERAZ

Marketing / Digital / Promotion

### IAGO FERNANDEZ

Marketing / Digital / Data / CRM

### CHRISTOPH MAKOVEC

Marketing Operations / Ticketing

### LARA NOVOTNY

Brand Management

### LUKAS LEITNER

Marketing

# EHF MARKETING GMBH

## STRATEGY

**DAVID SZLEZAK** | Managing Director

**MARIE VLASAKOVA**

Personal Assistant to the  
Managing Director

## PARTNERS

**HANNAH HAUSWALDT**

**JOHANNA THOMAS**

## SALES & HOSPITALITY

**ZOLTAN NAGY** | Director

**NIKLAS BRAUN**

**LARA BARTH**

## EVENTS

**LISA WIEDERER** (ML) | Senior Director

**JANA LEUKEL**

**THERESA ZEUNER** (ML)

## IMPLEMENTATION

**GEORG RIECK** | Senior Director

**TOMAS EITUTIS**

**NIKO RUDIĆ**

## MEDIA

**MIGUEL MATEO MARCELLÁN**

Senior Director

**KAMIL KOTVAN**

**MELINA KROTTMAYER**

## RIGHTS, STRATEGY & EXPLOITATION

**AURÈLE WEYENETH** | Director

**JAKOB GRAUSENBURGER**

**CAROLINA VELASCO**

## BRAND MARKETING & CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS

**MICHAEL DUCHEK**

**MATEA CVITKOVIĆ**

**SANA IMTIAZ**

**FANNI UJHELYI**

## DIGITALISATION

**DARIO TRIGILIA**

**PHILIPP SEITZ**

# EHF MARKETING CELEBRATES

## 20 YEARS OF HISTORY

**The start of the 2025/26 season marked 20 years since the foundation of the marketing arm of the European Handball Federation, EHF Marketing (EHFM).**

Official celebrations took place in August as part of the season-starting club workshops in Vienna with representatives of the 32 teams of the Machineseecker EHF Champions League and the EHF Champions League Women, as well as members of staff from the EHF and EHFM in attendance.

EHF President Michael Wiederer took the audience on a short time travel, from the developments and challenges in European handball in the 1990s and early 2000s that eventually led to the foundation of EHFM on 1 July 2005. From the humble beginnings with less than a handful of people running the operations all the way to the present, when almost 30 people are part of the EHFM.

Close cooperation with participating clubs in these competitions is a core pillar of EHFM's

daily business, and Wiederer praised the way different stakeholders came together to cooperate and make European club handball a success.

At the anniversary celebrations, EHF Marketing David Szelezak officially welcomed the guests, including club representatives and employees. Looking back to 20 years of

EHF Marketing, medals of recognition were awarded to former Chief Finance Officer Andrea Moser, former EHF Comptroller Helmut Schebeczek, EHF Chief Sports Officer Markus Glaser, EHF Executive Committee Member Franjo Bobinac, and EHFM Advisory Board members Gerd Butzeck and Xavier O'Callaghan.





# FROM THE SECRETARY GENERAL

## Building the Future: A Review of Strategic Progress in 2025

As we look back on another year of significant progress, 2025 stands as a powerful testament to our shared commitment to developing European handball in all its vital dimensions—athletic, structural, and strategic. This period was characterised by proactive development and collective success, setting an accelerated pace for the decade ahead. On the court, the calendar delivered a relentless schedule of high-quality competitions across Europe, reaffirming the sport's magnetic appeal and strengthening its visibility on the global stage. Off the court, we successfully charted a definitive course of long-term institutional development that will shape the future of European handball for many years to come, ensuring stability and continuous elevation.

One of the year's central and most ambitious achievements has been the comprehensive advancement of the new

competition systems for both national teams and clubs. These initiatives were not undertaken lightly. They followed extensive and thorough consultation across the entire handball community, involving players, coaches, clubs, and federations. The resulting frameworks are meticulously designed to inject greater transparency, foster competitive balance, and secure long-term sustainability for our core sporting product. They represent a crucial step in modernising the international and club calendars in a way that maximises benefits across the board, providing greater security and competitive clarity for players, clubs, federations, commercial partners, and, most importantly, our passionate fans alike. This holistic approach ensures that innovation serves the fundamental health of the sport.

Women's handball continued to stand prominently and centrally on our agenda throughout 2025. Building on the foundational milestones of previous years, we significantly accelerated discussions and critical decision-

making processes to drive robust future development of women's handball. This focus extended beyond just refining competitions; it encompassed strengthening the wider ecosystem supporting female athletes, coaches, officials, and leaders. This dedicated work remains essential as we position women's handball for a stronger, more visible, and more impactful role across the European sporting landscape, aiming for equality of opportunity and maximum exposure.

In parallel with our sporting and structural developments, planning for the next crucial cycle of audiovisual and marketing rights for the EHF EURO events progressed significantly. This tendering process is not merely a major commercial milestone; it is a profound strategic opportunity. It allows us to ensure that our flagship competitions - the cornerstones of our brand - continue to grow exponentially in global reach, maintain the highest standards of production quality, and amplify the financial and promotional value for all our stakeholders. As we diligently prepare



OFF THE COURT, WE SUCCESSFULLY CHARTED A DEFINITIVE COURSE OF LONG-TERM INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT THAT WILL SHAPE THE FUTURE OF EUROPEAN HANDBALL FOR MANY YEARS TO COME

for this next chapter, our focus remains sharply fixed on safeguarding strong, mutually beneficial partnerships and expanding the long-term, sustainable development of the sport.

Our cooperation with national federations and stakeholders was substantially strengthened through a series of major, high-impact events. These included the vital 15th Conference for Secretary Generals and the 18th Conference of Presidents. These gatherings remain critical, indispensable platforms for open dialogue, enhancing transparency, and achieving shared strategic decision-making. The invaluable knowledge exchanged, the organisational priorities aligned, and the collective commitment demonstrated during these events continue to directly shape our strategic direction and ensure cohesion across all operational levels of the EHF.

2025 also allowed us to shine a deserved spotlight on those at the very heart of the sport: the players. The EHF Excellence Awards placed them front and centre, celebrating their incredible on-court achievements while fundamentally recognising their essential role as ambassadors

of handball's core values and unique identity. Their world-class performances inspire millions globally, and their presence on this prestigious stage underscores our steadfast commitment to honouring excellence and elevating the profile of our stars, both on and off the court.

Throughout this landmark year, our progress has been powerfully driven by constructive collaboration with our member federations and by the passionate, tireless contributions of countless individuals across Europe. As the implementation of our ambitious strategic projects moves decisively into its next phase, I express my most sincere gratitude to all who accompany us on this invigorating journey. Together, we continue to build a strong, resilient, and forward-looking handball community—united in purpose and confident in the future.

**Yours in Sport,**

**Martin Hausleitner**

Secretary General







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