

**EHF**

# LEGAL REGULATIONS

including the EHF List of Penalties  
and the Catalogue of Administrative Sanctions

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# EHF Legal Regulations

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# INTRODUCTION

## Article 1 – Scope of Material Application

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- 1.1. The present regulations shall govern the legal activities within the EHF. Proceedings shall be conducted to penalise infringements of Regulations, including those of an administrative nature and in particular infringements committed prior to, during or after a game or while travelling to or from a venue or staying at a venue, and to settle disputes between handball/EHF related entities and/or individuals. Proceedings may be conducted to decide upon issues relating to international players' transfers between EHF member federations and associated federations, to international handball competitions in Europe, or to EHF activities.
- 1.2. The present regulations apply supplementary to the provisions of the Statutes and other EHF regulations. In case of inconsistency, the present regulations shall apply, except for the application of special legal procedures provided by the competition's regulations.

## Article 2 – Scope of Personal Application

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- 2.1. The present regulations apply to:
- member federations, associated federations and their officials;
  - clubs and their officials;
  - EHF Officials;
  - players;
  - EHF Functionaries;
  - all persons charged by a member federation, associated federation or club to exercise a function within the member federation, the associated federation, or club and/or during the organisation of a match and/or on the occasion of a match.

2.2. In addition to their personal responsibility, member federations/associated federations and clubs are accountable for the conduct of their players, members, officials, supporters and any other persons exercising a function within the federation or the club and/or during the organisation of a match and/or on the occasion of a match on behalf of the federation or club and may be sanctioned accordingly.

## Article 3 – Definitions

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**Chairperson (of the legal body):** President, Vice President or Member of the legal body who chairs the panel in a specific case

**EHF Functionaries:** elected persons having specific functions within the EHF and persons being appointed by the EHF for a specific task, including EHF lecturers.

**EHF Officials:** Persons acting on behalf of the EHF at official events including referees

**Official Areas:** the players' entrance, the dressing rooms, the players routing, the playing court, the playing court surrounding area(s) (including the substitution area), the media area(s) and the VIP area(s) of a playing hall.

**President (of the legal body):** The person chairing the legal body and designated as such by the Congress.

**Regulations:** any applicable EHF and/or IHF regulations, manuals and directives, including in particular:

- The EHF Statutes
- The EHF Regulations for Competitions
- The EHF Rules of Procedure for Transfers

- The EHF Codes of Conduct
- The EHF Anti-Corruption and Fair Competition Act (provided in Annex 1)
- The EHF Rules on Safety and Security Procedures
- The EHF Euro Set-up Manual
- The EHF Procedures and Guidelines
- The EHF Regulations on Advertising on Clothing
- The IHF Rules of the Game
- The IHF Regulations for transfers between Federations
- The IHF Player’s Eligibility Code
- The EHF Regulations for Anti-Doping / The WADA Anti-Doping Code

In these regulations the words “penalty” and “sanction” are considered to have the same meaning.

## Article 4 – Anti-Corruption and Fair Competition Act, EHF’s Disclosure Policy, List of Penalties and Catalogue of Administrative sanctions

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The EHF Anti-Corruption and Fair Competition Act (Annex 1), the List of Penalties and the Catalogue of Administrative Sanctions shall form an integral part of these Regulations.

## Article 5 – Entry into Effect

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- 5.1. The present legal regulations were adopted by the EHF Extraordinary Congress convening on May 29, 2011. They entered into force on July 1, 2011 and were lastly amended by the EHF Extraordinary Congress in September 2022.
- 5.2. Claims, submissions, protests, petitions and any other request for EHF disciplinary/legal proceedings submitted to the EHF as from July 1, 2011 shall be handled and decided

upon according to the present regulations. Claims, submissions, protests, petitions and any other request for EHF disciplinary/legal proceedings submitted to the EHF before that date shall be handled and decided upon according to the former EHF Arbitration Regulations (version 2009/2010).

# PART ONE — APPLICABLE LAW

## SECTION A. LEGAL OFFENCES / DISPUTES

### Article 6 – Principle

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- 6.1. Infringements of Regulations including those of an administrative nature, unsportsmanlike conduct, facts that may bring the sport of handball and the EHF into disrepute as well as violent behaviour in and around playing halls are subject to sanction.
- 6.2. Disputes between handball/EHF related entities and/or individuals, issues relating to international handball competitions in Europe and/or EHF activities as well as issues relating to international players' transfers between EHF member federations and associated federations shall be decided upon according to the present regulations, any other applicable Regulations and the general principles of law.
- 6.3. Decisions and actions taken by referees on the playing court, including those based on EHF delegates' recommendations, are factual decisions and shall be final.
- 6.4. The right to make adjustments that may prove necessary as a result of corrections of the referees' report or, in the case of obvious error revealed by means of pertinent evidence such as reports by EHF Officials, television footage or video recordings, shall be reserved.

### Article 7 – Corruption

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- 7.1. Member federations/associated federations, clubs and all related persons are responsible for, directly or indirectly, making or offering bribes, kickbacks, or other payments of money or any other undue advantages, valuable presents to anyone,



including Officials, employees, or representatives of the EHF, any club, company, or public or international organisation, or to any other third party, for the purpose of wrongfully obtaining or retaining in any way undue advantages in connection with a match or a match result. They shall be sanctioned accordingly.

- 7.2. EHF Officials contact persons or intermediaries are responsible in case of accepting and/or non-reporting such acting or attempts. They shall be sanctioned accordingly.

## Article 8 – Claims for damages

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- 8.1. Damage sustained as a result of infringements of Regulations including the withdrawal of teams or replays may be recovered from the offending party by claiming damages.
- 8.2. Such claims shall be decided upon in the ordinary procedure.

## Article 9 – Limitation of Actions

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- 9.1. The prosecution and enforcement of all matters within the scope of material and personal application of the present regulations shall be subject to a limitation period of two years.
- 9.2. Matters relating to compensation for the cost of education (education compensation) shall be exempt from this rule, with the limitation period being reduced to six months.
- 9.3. As a further exception to the rule in article 9.1., prosecution and enforcement of matters relating to corruption, of issues in connection with undue influence on a match or a match result or issues falling under the frame of the Anti-Corruption and Fair Competition Act shall be subject to period of limitations of ten years.

- 9.4. The prosecution and enforcement of any infringement related to anti-doping matters shall be subject to the limitation period expressly defined in the EHF Anti-Doping Regulations / WADA Anti-Doping Code.
- 9.5. The point of time determining the beginning of the period of limitation for the legal prosecution shall be the time when the action was committed.
- 9.6. The period of limitation shall be interrupted by the initiation of proceedings.

## Article 10 – Deadlines

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- 10.1. The deadlines specified in the Regulations, in EHF directives and any other official manuals or communications cannot be extended as a matter of principle unless reasons for an extension of such deadlines are specifically given therein.
- 10.2. A deadline is deemed to have been met if evidence is produced demonstrating that dispatch (postmark, fax receipt, email confirmation) was made by 24:00 hours on the last day of the period allowed.
- 10.3. If a party is prevented from meeting a deadline by an event that is beyond its control and/or non-deferrable, the period allowed in case the impediment can be satisfactorily explained shall begin at the time the impediment named has been removed. Satisfaction of these conditions shall be verified by the competent body.

## SECTION B. PENALTIES

### Article 11 – Principle

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Sanctions may be imposed by the administrative/legal bodies in case of violation of an obligation expressly defined in the applicable Regulations and/or in the official EHF directives and communications (letters, emails, faxes...).

### Article 12 – Determination of Penalties / Measures

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- 12.1. Except in the case of administrative sanctions (cases listed in the Catalogue of Administrative Sanctions) for which the administrative/legal bodies are bound by the penalties defined in the Catalogue of Administrative Sanctions, the administrative/legal bodies shall determine the type and extent of the penalties and measures to be imposed considering all the objective and subjective elements of the case as well as all mitigating and aggravating circumstances, within the frame provided in articles 13, 14, 15 and, when relevant, in the List of Penalties. If a party is not found guilty, the proceedings shall be dismissed.
- 12.2. Suspension/exclusion can be defined in number of matches instead of time period (days/months/years) when deemed appropriate by the administrative/legal body.
- 12.3. Besides the penalties listed in the List of Penalties, other kind(s) of penalties defined under articles 14 and 15 hereunder may be imposed by the administrative/legal bodies according to the circumstances of the cases.
- 12.4. The EHF legal body may decide to impose on an individual, club and/or a federation sanctioned with any kind of penalties (including administrative sanctions) or measures to compensate, the additional costs and expenses and financial damages (including damages and/or fines paid to third parties) suffered by the EHF, by an individual and/or

by a participating club/member federation/associated federation as a result of the offences committed by the individual, club and/member federation or associated federation.

## Article 13 – Recurrence

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13.1. The administrative/legal bodies may increase (up to double unless expressly otherwise provided in the List of Penalties) the penalties provided in the List of Penalties and the Catalogue of Administrative Sanctions in case of a recurrence of the infringement.

13.2. Recurrence occurs if penalties/measures have to be imposed again within five years of a previous offence of a similar nature. Recurrence counts as an aggravating circumstance.

## Article 14 – Penalties against federations and clubs / Measures

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14.1. The EHF administrative/legal bodies may impose the following penalties/measures on member federations/associated federations and clubs:

- warning;
- administrative/organisational measures;
- fines (including administrative fines);
- deduction of some or all points scored in the competitions concerned; forfeiture;
- suspension from participation in international handball competitions and/or EHF activities for a number of matches or a specific period of time;
- exclusion from participation in future international handball competitions and/or EHF activities for a number of matches or a specific period of time;
- cancellation of matches;
- annulment/correction of the match result;
- match replay;

- ban on the venue;
- ban on spectators;
- withdrawal of a title or award;
- supervision of matches.

14.2. A fine shall not be less than 100€ and shall not be more than 500.000€.

14.3. The penalties and measures named above may be imposed individually or cumulatively.

## Article 15 – Penalties against individuals

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15.1. The EHF administrative/legal bodies may impose the following penalties on individuals:

- warning;
- suspension from participation in international handball competitions and/or EHF activities for a number of matches or a specific period of time;
- temporary or permanent suspension from carrying out a function within the EHF;
- fines (including administrative fines);  
exclusion from participation in future international handball competitions and/or EHF activities for a number of matches or a specific period of time;
- withdrawal of a title or award.

15.2. A fine shall not be less than 100€ and shall not be more than 100.000€.

15.3. The penalties named above may be imposed individually or cumulatively.

## Article 16 – Suspensions/Exclusions

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16.1. Suspensions/exclusions (from participation in competition and activities and/or from carrying out a function) are pronounced to penalise in particular:

- a. serious unsportsmanlike conduct;
- b. assault or insult directed against referees, Officials, players or spectators;
- c. use of players not eligible to play or suspended;
- d. unsportsmanlike conduct of teams, officials or other persons involved in the game.

16.2. Individuals who have been suspended/excluded may have the right to enter playing halls as spectators but shall not participate in any match preparation activity, shall not enter any Official Areas nor be in contact with players and/or officials of their club/member federation/associated federation (neither directly nor via electronic means).

## Article 17 – Suspension of Penalties

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Except in the case of administrative sanctions (cases listed in the Catalogue of Administrative Sanctions), penalties may be suspended for reasons to be named by the administrative/legal bodies for a probation period to be specified, provided that the aim to be achieved by the decision can also be reached in this manner.

## Article 18 – Application of Penalties

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18.1. The administrative/legal bodies decide in the respective decision whether suspensions/exclusions of players, Functionaries, officials, referees, and any other individual shall apply, during the period for which they are pronounced, in respect of participation in competition at club level, at national team level, at both club and national team levels or in a specific competition only.

18.2. The point of time relevant for application of a penalty shall be the time the penalty was pronounced, unless provided otherwise by the decision.

## Article 19 – Temporary Injunction

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The term interim measure includes the entire field of urgency decisions such as temporary injunctions, preliminary measures, etc.

Temporary injunctions may be issued to preserve and protect parties' rights to the extent to which this is deemed necessary by the President of the competent legal body.

## Article 20 – Provisional Suspension

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In the case of serious disciplinary offences, the President of the competent legal body may impose a preliminary temporary suspension not exceeding two months.

## PART TWO — PROCEDURE

### SECTION A. ORGANISATION

#### Article 21 — Administrative Bodies

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The relevant EHF Office departments shall form the administrative bodies responsible, as first instance, for deciding upon administrative infringements punishable according to the Catalogue of Administrative Sanctions and upon issues relating to international players transfers between the EHF member federations and associated federations.

#### Article 22 — Legal Bodies

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22.1. The EHF legal bodies are independent and impartial bodies.

22.2. The EHF legal bodies are the EHF Court of Handball and the EHF Court of Appeal.

22.3. The Court of Handball is responsible as first instance for disciplinary adjudication within the framework of the legal system of the EHF and its member/associated federations, i.e. for punishing violations of Regulations including those of an administrative nature not under the jurisdiction of the Administrative Bodies according to article 21, for settling disputes between handball/EHF related entities and/or individuals, and for deciding upon any other issues relating to international handball competitions in Europe and/or EHF activities, except those under the jurisdiction of the Administrative Bodies according to article 21.

22.4. If the Administrative Bodies do not decide upon an issue under their jurisdiction according to article 21 within six (6) weeks from the start of the proceedings, the Court of Handball shall have jurisdiction and shall decide upon such issue.



22.5. The Court of Appeal is responsible, as second instance, for disciplinary adjudication within the framework of the legal system of the EHF and its member/associated federations, i.e. for punishing violations of Regulations including those of an administrative nature, for deciding upon issues relating to international player transfers between EHF member federations and associated federations as well as upon any other issues relating to international handball competitions in Europe and/or EHF activities, and for settling disputes between handball/EHF related entities and/or individuals.

## Article 23 – The EHF Court of Handball

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23.1. The Court of Handball shall consist of a President, two Vice-Presidents and six (6) Members elected by the Congress.

23.2. To settle cases and pass decisions, the Court of Handball shall be composed of three (3) persons. It shall be chaired by the President, a Vice-President or, if necessary, a Member. The Chairperson and the Members shall be appointed by the President of the Court of Handball on a case-by-case basis.

23.3. The President of the EHF Court of Handball shall be responsible for passing decisions on interim measures.

## Article 24 – The EHF Court of Appeal

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24.1. The Court of Appeal shall consist of a President, one Vice-President and five (5) Members elected by the Congress.

24.2. To settle cases and pass decisions, the Court of Appeal shall be composed of three (3) persons. It shall be chaired by the President, the Vice-President or, if necessary, a

Member. The Chairperson and the Members shall be appointed by the President of the Court of Appeal on a case-by-case basis.

24.3. The President of the EHF Court of Appeal shall be responsible for passing decisions on interim measures.

## Article 25 – Parties

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25.1. Parties may be all physical persons or legal entities able to demonstrate a prima facie legal or factual interest in a matter.

25.2. The EHF may be a party according to article 25.1 with all related rights, including the right to initiate proceedings, to appeal decisions and to file claim with the European Handball Court of Arbitration.

## Article 26 – Initiator and Substitute Initiator of Proceedings

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26.1. The Initiator of Proceedings is responsible for ensuring a fair balance in all legal proceedings conducted within the EHF. She/he may, on behalf of the EHF, initiate legal proceedings, appeal first instance decisions of the EHF administrative/legal bodies and file claims with the European Handball Court of Arbitration.

26.2. In case of neutrality conflicts, reasons of bias, or unavailability the Substitute Initiator of Proceedings shall assume responsibility.

## SECTION B. INITIATION OF PROCEEDINGS

### Article 27 – Reports

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- 27.1. EHF Officials have the duty to report relevant incidents, actions, failures and violations of the Regulations to the EHF Office in writing.
- 27.2. If a match report with remark(s) or a special report is submitted by an EHF Official, proceedings are automatically initiated.

### Article 28 – Other Ways of Initiating Proceedings

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- 28.1. Proceedings may be initiated by submissions or protests by the clubs and/or member federations/associated federation concerned as well as the Tournament Management of the respective event.
- 28.2. Unless otherwise provided in the applicable EHF competition regulations, a registration fee of 1.000€ shall be transferred to the EHF bank account within two (2) days after the filing of a submission or a protest by the clubs and/or the member federations/associated federations concerned. Evidence that payment was made (payment order) shall be submitted.
- 28.3. If the registration fee is not paid or a respective proof of payment is not submitted within the aforementioned deadline, the protest/submission shall be deemed withdrawn.
- 28.4. If the protest/submission is fully granted, the fee shall be refunded; otherwise the fee shall be forfeited to the credit of the EHF.
- 28.5. Proceedings may also be initiated when the EHF is alerted by third parties of circumstances that may constitute a disciplinary offence, a violation of the Regulations

including those of an administrative nature, or an issue relating to a competition/a transfer. Such cases shall be reviewed for their relevance by the EHF Office, who may, if deemed appropriate, require the opening of legal proceedings. This applies to issues arising both with and without connection with EHF competitions.

28.6. Moreover, the EHF is entitled to institute legal proceedings before the competent legal bodies within the EHF on the basis of its own and/or other parties' observations (including media, digital or electronic recordings) after having conducted a preliminary investigation of the facts of the case.

28.7. Issues in connection with handball competitions, including activities relating thereto and persons involved therein, that do not directly lead to the institution of legal proceedings under applicable regulations may be subject to examination and investigation by the EHF.

## Article 29 – Petition

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29.1. Upon a petition by those involved/the parties, the EHF legal bodies shall settle disputes between member federations/associated federations as well as disputes between a member federation/associated federation and its club/player if such action appears indicated.

29.2. In cases in which a member federation/associated federation/club/player induces, through misrepresentations, another federation/club/player to commit actions being of relevance within the framework of EHF Regulations, a member federation/associated federation/club/player shall have the right to submit a petition requesting that the EHF legal bodies clarify the situation and pass a decision.

- 29.3. A registration fee of 1.000€ shall be transferred to the EHF bank account within two (2) days after the filing of the petition. Evidence that the payment was made (payment order) shall be submitted. The registration fee is forfeit to the credit of the EHF.
- 29.4. If the registration fee is not paid within the aforementioned deadline or a respective proof of payment is not submitted, the protest/submission shall be deemed withdrawn.

## Article 30 – Formal Admissibility

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- 30.1. Upon receipt of a protest, submission, request for initiation of proceedings or appeals by any entity, individual, the EHF or the Initiator of Proceedings, the President of the relevant legal body shall verify the formal admissibility of the protest, submission, request or appeal according to the relevant Regulations.
- 30.2. Admissibility is fulfilled by any submission being presented in due time and fulfilling the relevant administrative requirements, as administration fees, reasoning, etc. No material content such as the question of a ‘decision on facts’ shall be checked as a part of the admissibility process.

## Article 31 – Notification

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The parties shall be notified of the initiation of proceedings in writing.

## SECTION C. CONDUCT OF PROCEEDINGS

### Article 32 – *Written / Oral proceedings*

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- 32.1. As a matter of principle, proceedings shall be conducted in writing. The parties are invited to provide written statements, except in the case of administrative sanctions

(cases listed in the Catalogue of Administrative Sanctions) where sanctions may be imposed without statements from the parties.

32.2. Except in the case of administrative sanctions (cases listed in the Catalogue of Administrative Sanctions), the parties as well as the legal bodies shall have the right to request the proceedings to be conducted orally and/or a hearing to take place. In that case, the parties shall be invited to be heard.

32.3. The absence of one or all of the parties during oral proceedings and/or hearings does not prevent the legal body from taking a decision.

## SECTION D. DECISIONS

### Article 33 – Deliberations

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33.1. Decisions may be decisions on the merits, on procedural matters or decisions of dismissal.

33.2. When proceedings are conducted orally, deliberations may be held and decisions passed in the absence of the persons involved, after the parties have been heard and witnesses questioned, if applicable.

### Article 34 – Vote

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The legal bodies shall take decisions by a simple majority of votes.

## Article 35 – Form

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- 35.1. Every decision shall be notified in writing.
- 35.2. Subject to the foregoing, the legal panel may decide to provide a verbal outcome of the decision to the parties at the end of oral proceedings and/or hearings conducted.
- 35.3. Except in the case of administrative sanctions (cases listed in the Catalogue of Administrative Sanctions), decisions shall include the following points:
- a. the composition of the body passing the decision;
  - b. the subject matter of the proceedings;
  - c. the parties' names;
  - d. a brief statement of the facts;
  - e. the decision;
  - f. the order for payment of costs;
  - g. the reasons;
  - h. the signature of the Chairperson of the legal body, given, if necessary, on their behalf by the person executing the document;
  - i. right to appeal information.
- 35.4. As a matter of principle, preliminary questions shall be formally decided and reasoned in each award.

## Article 36 – Service of Decisions

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- 36.1. Decisions shall be served by the EHF Office.

- 36.2. Decisions concerning clubs and individuals shall be served on the respective member federation/associated federation. Member federations/associated federation shall pass on all information, documents and decisions to the relevant club/individual.
- 36.3. In cases in which this is deemed necessary or has been requested, decisions may be served directly on the club or the person concerned.
- 36.4. As a matter of principle, decisions shall be served by telefax, email or registered letter. A decision shall be deemed delivered as soon as it has been received in the party's area of responsibility or authority.

## Article 37 – Enforcement

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- 37.1. The EHF Office shall enforce the final decisions passed by the administrative/legal bodies.
- 37.2. Unless otherwise provided in the decision, pecuniary fines, administrative penalties, procedural costs and/or damages shall be paid within two (2) months after the decision has been served.
- 37.3. The amount of the fines, administrative penalty(ies), procedural costs and/or damages decided by the EHF administrative/legal bodies shall be increased by 20% if they are not paid by the date defined in the decision imposing the payment of such fine, penalty, costs or damages or, if a date is not specified, within two months after the service of the relevant decision. If payment is still not made within another two months, the rights of the defaulting federation/club/player/official shall be suspended and it/he/she shall be excluded from competitions at the national and European levels until payment is made. The federation with which the defaulting club/player/official is affiliated shall not have the right to vote at the EHF Congress but may attend it.



- 37.4. The national federation of the defaulting club/player/official shall be liable subsidiarily with the consequences named in article 37.3 in respect of fines, administrative penalties, procedural costs and damages imposed on or brought against players, officials, clubs or persons under their control, acting on their behalf.
- 37.5. Financial claims/liabilities between parties resulting from final decisions may be settled and enforced by the EHF.
- 37.6. Upon request of the European Handball Court of Arbitration Council and with the approval of the EHF Executive Committee, the aforementioned provisions of Article 37 may be applied to decisions of the European Handball Court of Arbitration (ECA).

## Article 38 – Recognition of sanctions of EHF member/associated federations

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- 38.1. The Court of Handball may extend sanctions imposed by an EHF member federation or associated federation for serious offences to EHF competitions at the request of the Member Federation in question.
- 38.2. The request must be made in writing to the EHF and be accompanied by all documentation relating to the case, with a respective translation if necessary.
- 38.3. An extension shall be granted when the decision on which the request is based complies with the general principle of law and with the EHF Regulations.
- 38.4. In so far as they are confirmed by the EHF Anti-Doping Unit, measures/decisions taken by Member Federations in relation to doping shall be automatically recognised by the EHF.

## SECTION E. APPEAL

### Article 39 – Right of Appeal

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- 39.1. Decisions of the administrative bodies and of the Court of Handball may be appealed to the Court of Appeal by the parties.
- 39.2. Unless otherwise provided in other Regulations, any appeal against a decision of the administrative bodies or the Court of Handball shall be received by the EHF Office in writing no later than seven (7) days after the service of the underlying decision. Appeals may be transmitted by fax.
- 39.3. An appeal fee of 1.000€ shall be transferred to the EHF bank account at the same time the appeal is filed with the EHF Office and in any case not later than seven (7) days after the service of the underlying decision. Evidence that payment was made (payment order) shall be submitted.
- 39.4. If the appeal fee is not paid within the abovementioned time limit, the appeal shall be deemed withdrawn.
- 39.5. If the appeal is fully granted, the fee shall be refunded; otherwise the appeal fee shall be forfeited to the credit of the EHF.
- 39.6. Decisions that may be passed in appeal proceedings include confirmation, revision or dismissal of the decision of the first instance as well as revocation and remission of the case to the body of first instance. The body in appeal shall not be bound by the parties' petition.
- 39.7. However, if the basis on which a decision was made was affected by grave errors including the submission of incorrect or forged documents, a revocation of the decision by which the matter was settled (reopening of the case) may be sought by the parties or

initiated by the EHF. The request for revocation/case reopening shall be received by the EHF Office within fifteen (15) days after the grave error was known or should have been known to the requesting party. The decision to reopen a case is taken jointly by the Presidents of the legal bodies.

## Article 40 – Effect of Appeal

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- 40.1. Provided that these regulations or the decision of the first instance do(es) not provide otherwise, an appeal to the Court of Appeal shall suspend the effects of the underlying decision.
- 40.2. As an exception to article 40.1, appeals in matters relating to international player transfers shall not have any suspensive effect.
- 40.3. In the event of disagreement on whether the conditions for an exclusion of suspensive effects are met, the matter shall be decided by the President of the Court of Appeal.

## SECTION F. EUROPEAN HANDBALL COURT OF ARBITRATION (ECA)

### Article 41 – Claim before the ECA – Principles

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- 41.1. The European Handball Court of Arbitration may be used by the parties concerned upon exhaustion of all legal remedies available within the EHF for disputes and matters within the competence of the EHF administrative/legal bodies.
- 41.2. A statement of claim shall be lodged in writing and in duplicate with the ECA Office along with the nomination of one (1) arbitrator from the ECA List of Arbitrators within twenty-one (21) days following written notification of the final decision of the Court of Appeal.

41.3. If a period of six months has passed since the matter was brought before the EHF legal body without a decision having been made, parties to legal disputes shall have the right to take recourse to European Handball Court of Arbitration. In case of material reasons being out of the sphere of influence of the EHF legal body, the six-months period may be regarded as interrupted or suspended.

41.4. Disputes and matters outside the competence of the EHF administrative/legal bodies may be brought to the European Handball Court of Arbitration upon expressed recognition by the parties concerned of the European Handball Court of Arbitration's competence to settle the disputes/matters.

41.5. The proceedings shall be conducted according to the Rules of Arbitration for the ECA.

## Article 42 – Claim before the ECA – Costs

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42.1. An advance payment amounting to 5.000€ shall be paid by the claimant to the European Handball Court of Arbitration no later than one (1) week after the filing of the statement of claim. If this amount is not received on the European Handball Court of Arbitration bank account in due time, the claim shall be deemed withdrawn.

42.2. The advance payment of 5,000€ is composed of:

- 1,500€ arbitration fee;
- 3,500€ advance payment of the arbitration proceedings costs.

## Article 43 – Claim before the ECA – No suspensive effect

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- 43.1. Filing a claim with the European Handball Court of Arbitration does not suspend the implementation of the last decision taken by the EHF legal body.
- 43.2. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the ECA may, on request of any of the parties, order the filing of the claim to have suspensive effect.

## SECTION G. PROCEDURAL PRINCIPLES

### Article 44 – Administrative Support

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The EHF Office shall be at the disposal of the legal bodies for the performance of administrative and organisational tasks. The participation in proceedings (including attendance at hearings) of administrative staff having no authority to pass decisions is permitted.

### Article 45 – Independence

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- 45.1. The legal bodies and their members are independent and not bound by any instructions.
- 45.2. A member of a legal body shall be deemed prejudiced in any case in which that member's own federation or a club or an official or a player of the member's own federation is involved.

### Article 46 – Confidentiality

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- 46.1. The members of the administrative/legal bodies shall not disclose any information or document obtained in the course of the proceedings.

46.2. The parties to proceedings before the EHF legal bodies shall not disclose to third party any information or document obtained in the course of the proceedings.

## Article 47 – Evidence

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47.1. The members of the administrative/legal bodies shall pass their decisions on the basis of documents in hand, witnesses' and experts' testimony. Other pertinent evidence may be used including (without limitation) television footage, video recordings as well as further evidence obtained by the members of the legal body and/or those involved/the parties requested to provide a written or oral statement of their positions.

47.2. In cases in which an act of violence was committed but not detected which would have resulted in the exclusion of the offending player, pertinent evidence as named in article 47.1 may be used as a basis for penalisation by the members of the legal bodies at a later date.

## Article 48 – Costs

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48.1. The parties shall be responsible for the costs of their own counsel, witnesses, experts, interpreters (if relevant), travel and living expenses.

48.2. The other costs of the proceedings shall be borne fully or in part by the party found guilty or the losing party.

48.3. If a party requests the proceedings to be conducted orally or a hearing to be held, the costs of the proceedings including travel and living expenses of the members of the legal body and the cost of questioning witnesses and experts shall be borne by the requesting party, unless decided otherwise by the legal body.

48.4. The administrative/legal bodies shall further decide in the ordinary procedure whether costs, other than the proceedings costs specified here above, shall be reimbursed by any of the parties, taking into consideration all circumstances of the case.

## Article 49 – Legal assistance/representation

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49.1. The parties may be represented or assisted.

49.2. If a party wishes to be represented, the relevant power of attorney shall be presented to the EHF administrative/legal body.

# Annex 1 – Anti-Corruption and Fair Competition Act

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1.1. The Anti-Corruption and Fair Competition Act includes any of the following violations:

- Corruption including bribe and offering, requesting or receiving any undue advantages
- Undue influence on a match or a match result
- Any information which is likely to influence the actions of (legal) entities or persons on a long-term basis (pressure, blackmailing, threats, secrets, etc.)
- The receipt or acceptance of presents or gifts, except small items of remembrance
- Any violation of the EHF Code of Conduct or the EHF Code of Conduct Agreement
- Manipulations in connection with betting or lottery gains
- The violation of the obligation to report observations in connection with corruption and unfair competition

1.2. Any act of corruption including bribe and offering, requesting or receiving any undue advantages shall be regarded as substantial violations of core values of the EHF, its statutes and regulations. Penalties and sanctions shall be imposed accordingly.

1.3. Violations of the principles of honest effort to follow the rules and the spirit of fairness as well as sportsmanlike conduct by federations, clubs, EHF officials and/or related parties may result in a monetary fine of up to 7.500€.

1.4. Violations of fundamental principles of organisation, security and protection endangering the fair and uninfluenced carrying out of competitions by all parties involved shall result in a suspension of the federation, club and/or person concerned for up to two years and/or a pecuniary fine of between 500€ and 75.000€.



- 1.5. Violations of the anti-corruption and fair competition act including all related regulations as well as comparable actions against fundamental principles of fairness and sportsmanship shall result in a suspension of the club, EHF official and/or person concerned for up to ten years and a pecuniary fine of between 2.000€ and 500.000€. In addition, the national federation concerned may be punished with a pecuniary fine of up to EUR 500.000€.
- 1.6. A sporting result achieved by using undue means may result in the exclusion/suspension from the respective competition, medals awarded as well as prize money may be recalled and titles gained may be removed.
- 1.7. Violations of correct reporting on any occurrences and observations in connection with corruption and undue influence shall result in a suspension of the entities and persons concerned for up to ten years and a pecuniary fine of between 1.000€ and 75.000€.

## Annex 2 — EHF's Disclosure Policy

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### I. Introduction

It is the EHF's strong commitment to protect handball's fairness and integrity on and off the playing court. In this context, information provided by third persons ("Informant") may constitute valuable contributions to identify and rectify potential wrongdoings that may otherwise not surface. These persons must feel trust to come forward, which implies clear reporting, investigative, prosecution and adjudicatory channels ensuring transparency, independence and impartiality at every stage. In the event of unexpected situation, the EHF Executive Committee will implement the required modifications to find a suitable solution.

### II. Disclosure of an Alleged Misconduct

#### *Disclosure*

The Informant may report an alleged wrongdoing through any EHF's reporting channel. Nevertheless the possibility to do so via the Initiator of Proceedings through the dedicated and secured reporting platform is encouraged: i.e. <https://report.whistleb.com/ehf>.

#### *Wrongdoing*

A wrongdoing is any violation of EHF's Statutes, regulations, Code of Conduct or competitions integrity which has allegedly been, is being or is likely to be committed.

### *Cooperation and Confidentiality*

The Informant shall cooperate in good faith and provide reasonable and substantiated elements. His/her anonymity will be protected unless he/she decides otherwise.

## III. Role of the Initiator of Proceedings ("IoP") and the IoP Substitute ("IoPS") and Procedure

### *Procedure*

The IoP and the IoPS receive the initial alert. The IoP acknowledges receipt, ensures the anonymity and protection of the Informant, keeps the latter informed on the investigation status and requests further information/documents if necessary.

### *Investigation*

The IoP is solely responsible to investigate the allegations made by the Informant, on the basis of which he/she shall decide, in a grounded decision and in writing, whether or not to request the initiation of further proceedings with the Court of Handball in accordance with the EHF Legal Regulations. The decision shall be communicated to the Informant, the EHF President and Secretary General.

Within the framework of the investigation, the IoP may use internal and external intelligence platforms to gather all pertinent evidence as defined in Article 47 of the EHF Legal Regulations and has full discretion as to how the investigation is conducted. If the IoP deems fit, he/she may request the assistance of the IoPS, the EHF Legal Department, the latter being bound by confidentiality.

In case of conflict of interest, the IoPS shall immediately take over the duties and responsibility of the Initiator of Proceedings.

### *Decision*

A decision from the IoP not to request the initiation of further proceedings may be appealed by the IoPS or/and the EHF to the EHF Court of Handball. The formal conditions defined in Article 39 of the EHF Legal Regulations apply.

# List of Penalties<sup>1,2</sup>

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## SECTION A. OFFENCES RELATING TO ADMINISTRATION

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### A.1. General

- a. Administrative offences / Failure or delay to provide required information and/or document(s) to the EHF: Fine from €150 to €7.500
- b. Any delay or failure in making reports to the EHF: Fine up to €2.250

### A.2. Payment obligations

Failure to make payments to the EHF by the due dates (of amounts exceeding €3.750): Fine up to €750

First recurrence of infringement: Fine up to €2.250

Any further recurrences: Fine up to €7.500 and exclusion from EHF competitions.

### A.3. Information about players

Provision of incorrect information about a player by the player himself/herself or by a club: Fine from €3.750 to €30.000 / Suspension/Exclusion of up to 2 years

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## SECTION B. DISCIPLINARY OFFENCES

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(by a club, a member/associated Federation, their officials, a player, an EHF Official, an EHF Functionary or any other person charge by a member/associated federation or club to exercise a function within the member/associated federation or club and/or during the organisation of a match and/or at the occasion of match)

### B.1. Direct Disqualification

Suspension/Exclusion up to 6 matches / Fine: up to €20.000

If act of violence / severe unsportsmanlike conduct: Suspension/Exclusion up to 3 years / Fine: up to €50.000

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<sup>1</sup> Unless otherwise provided, the present EHF List of Penalties shall also apply to beach handball competitions with a reduction of all fines up to 20%

<sup>2</sup> Unless otherwise provided, the present EHF List of Penalties shall also apply to wheelchair handball competitions with a reduction of all fines up to 50%

## **B.2. Unsportsmanlike conduct before, during or after a competition and/or an EHF activity**

Suspension/Exclusion up to 1 year / Fine: up to €15.000

If act of violence / severe unsportsmanlike conduct: Suspension/Exclusion up to 4 years / Fine: up to €80.000

## **B.3. Improper, menacing, intimidating conduct towards Officials or opponents before, during or after a competition and/or an EHF activity / Derogatory remarks or statements that could damage the image of handball and/or of the EHF or bring it into disrepute during a press conference or in the Media, including social media**

Suspension/Exclusion up to 1 year / Fine: up to €15.000

## **B.4. Failure to maintain discipline on the playing court / Inadequate protection of referees, officials or the visiting team**

Fine: up to €15.000 / Ban on venue may be imposed

The sanctions defined in the catalogue of penalties of the EHF Rules on Safety and Security Procedure shall be an integral part of these Regulations and may be applied cumulatively.

## **B.5. Fundamental violations of EHF Statutes and Regulations**

Fine from €150 up to €30.000

## **B.6. Participation of a player not eligible to play or suspended**

The participation of a player who has been suspended and/or is not eligible to play during a match of a competition organised by the EHF shall result in the match being scored as lost with the same result and in any case with 0:10 goals and 0:2 points.

If this infringement is seen as a severe unsportsmanlike conduct: Suspension of the national or club team until end of the running season may be imposed / Fine: up to €15.000

## **B.7. Abandonment of a match through a fault attributable to a team (national or club team)**

Exclusion from the rest of the competition / Suspension/Exclusion up to 2 seasons / Fine: from €3.750 to €25.000 / Payment of all damages and costs arising to its opponents, the EHF, and/or their contractual partners

## **B.8. Failure to play a match through a fault attributable to a team (national or club team)**

Exclusion from the rest of the competition / Suspension up to 2 seasons / Fine: up to €35.000 / Payment of all damages and costs arising to its opponents, the EHF, and/or their contractual partners

## **B.9. Late arrival at the venue by a team (national or club team) – match played**

Fine: up to €20.000 / Payment of all damages and costs arising to its opponents, the EHF and/or their contractual partners

## **SECTION C. WITHDRAWAL**

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Any withdrawal from the EHF competition by a registered (national/club) team shall be regarded as a forfeit and shall carry the following sanctions, additionally to the forfeit of the entry fee to the credit of the EHF. Payment of all damages and costs arising to the participants, the organiser, the EHF, and/or their contractual partners may additionally be ordered.

### **C.1. EHF Champions League**

After the official entry date of the competition: Fine of €25.000 /Suspension/Exclusion from entering EHF club competitions for a minimum of 1 season and up to 2 seasons

### **C.2. Other EHF club competitions**

After announcement of the competition: Fine from €5.000 up to €10.000

After the first draw of the competition: Fine from €10.000 up to €25.000 / Suspension/Exclusion from entering EHF club competitions for a minimum of 1 season and up to 2 seasons.

### **C.3. EHF National Teams competitions (including qualifications)**

Up to 3 weeks before the draw of the qualification: Fine from €5.000 up to €10.000

At any later date: Fine from €15.000 to €25.000 / Suspension/Exclusion from entering EHF National Team Competition for up to 2 competitions (in the same category – including qualification)

Regarding beach handball competitions, the following apply:

#### **C.4. Champions Cup**

After the official end of the registration period: fine of €10.000/Suspension/Exclusion from entering EHF competition for up to 3 seasons

#### **C.5. Ebt Finals and eventual other EHF Club competitions**

After the draw: fine from €2.500 to 7.000

#### **C.6. EHF National Teams competitions**

After the official end of the registration period: fine from €5.000 to €10.000

At any later date: fine from €15.000 to €25.000 / Suspension/Exclusion from entering EHF National Team competitions for up to 2 competitions (in the same category)

### **SECTION D. OFFENCES RELATING TO MATCH PREPARATION, ORGANISATION AND HOSTING**

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#### **D.1. Marketing/advertisement/media. Violation of the applicable Regulations, manuals, EHF directives regarding**

- a. Advertisement set-up and use in the playing hall and related areas: Fine from €500 to €50.000
- b. Advertisement/badges on the team players kits / EHF exclusive advertisement rights on sleeves: Fine from €500 to €25.000 / Suspension of the player until correct implementation may be required
- c. Implementation and use of the EHF competition corporate identity: Fine from €500 to €10.000
- d. Use of the EHF partners' equipment (balls...) / EHF partners' equipment exclusivity during official training sessions and matches: Fine from €500 to €25.000
- e. International TV signal production: Fine from €2.000 to €80.000
- f. Admission of media representatives (TV, radio, etc.): Fine from €500 to €3.000 per person

#### **D.2. Venue set-up. Violation of the applicable Regulations, manuals, EHF directives regarding**

- a. Availability of the playing hall / Availability of the required facilities, equipment and/or venue infrastructure in the playing hall and related areas: Fine from €1.000 to €7.500
- b. Facilities, equipment and/or venue infrastructure requirements in the playing hall and related areas: Fine from €500 to €10.000
- c. Handball floor requirements: Fine from €2.000 to €35.000 / Ban on the venue may be



imposed

- d. Placement of competition banners, competition logos, panels, table and/or mike flags in the playing hall and related areas: Fine from €500 to €10.000
- e. Availability of the required court personnel including time/score keeper and personnel for floor/advertisement set-up and removal: Fine from €500 to €5.000
- f. Professional requirements of court personnel: Fine from €500 to €5.000
- g. Accommodation, local transport and board of the guest team(s) and/or EHF Officials: €500 to €5.000

### **D.3. Security and Safety. Violation of the applicable Regulations, manuals EHF directives regarding**

- a. Non-compliance with instructions issued by the security delegate shall be punishable by a suspension not exceeding 2 years and a fine up to €22.500 (depending on the consequences or the hazard).
- b. Unsportsmanlike conduct of the public towards players, coaches, officials, fans, spectators, etc. shall be punishable by a fine up to €15.000.
- c. Encouraging rioting among the public shall be punishable by a fine up to €15.000.
- d. Throwing objects not presenting any hazard shall be punishable by a fine up to €7.500;
- e. Throwing objects that may inflict injury shall be punishable by a fine up to €30.000 plus a ban on spectators up to 4 home matches.
- f. Endangering spectators, officials, players, etc. in any other manner shall be punishable by a fine up to €15.000; if the incident causes an interruption of the match, by a fine up to €22.500 plus a ban on spectators up to 2 home matches; if the incident causes the early termination of the match, by a fine up to €30.000 plus a ban on spectators up to 5 home matches.
- g. If an incident causes bodily injury, a fine up to €37.500 shall be imposed plus a ban on spectators from 1 to 10 home matches.
- h. Invasion of the playing court by an unauthorised person shall be punishable by a fine up to €7.500; aggressive behaviour on the part of the invading person may raise the fine up to €15.000 and lead to the imposition of a ban on spectators in up to 4 home matches.
- i. Unsatisfactory organisation of a match as well as the provision of unsatisfactory technical equipment shall be punishable by a fine up to €7.500; if the unsatisfactory performance is related to security personnel or safety and security measures, the fine may amount up to €15.000 and a ban may be imposed on the venue.

### **D.4. Incorrect conduct of the public announcer during an official match**

Fine from €1.000 to €3.000

**D.5.** Match protocol, official ceremony procedures and/or EHF delegate instructions not followed or incorrectly implemented by any team or individual involved in an official match and/or in an official ceremony

Fine from €500 to €5.000

If causing a delay in the start of the match (first half time / second half time): Fine from €1.000 to €5.000

**D.6.** *Withdrawal from the organisation of an EHF national team competition after official granting of rights*

Fine from €15.000 to €500.000

**D.7.** Severe shortcomings regarding the organisation of an EHF national team competition

(E.g. basic infrastructure, promotion, financial resources, TV production): Fine from €5.000 to €100.000

## SECTION E. OFFENCES RELATING TO TRANSFERS

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### E.1. Players' Data

Provision of incorrect information about players' personal data in transfer cases: Fine up to €7.500.

In recurring cases: Fine up to €22.500 / Exclusion/Suspension of up to 2 years

### E.2. 15-day<sup>3</sup> period

Non-observance of the 15-day period in the case of transfer inquiries: Fine up to €750

First recurrence of infringement: Fine up to €2.250

Any further recurrences: Fine up to €7.500

### E.3. Reporting of Transfers

Failure to report completed transfers to the EHF (penalty imposed on receiving federation):  
Fine up to €750

First recurrence of infringement: Fine up to €2.250

Any further recurrences: a fine up to €7.500

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<sup>3</sup> Decision of the IHF Congress on May 2-5, 2011

## **E.4. Illegal issuing of playing permits**

Illegal issuing of playing permits by the federation: Fine up to €7.500 / Exclusion/Suspension of up to 3 years

## **E.5. Compensation for the cost of education**

Failure to pay compensation for the cost of education within six weeks after issuance of the International Transfer Certificate and the call for payment shall carry, depending on the circumstances: Fine of up to €16.350<sup>4</sup> / A transfer ban for up to 5 years / Exclusion/suspension of club/federation from national and international competitions.

In implementing the penalty, the requirements of the current playing season may be taken into account if deemed appropriate. Responsibility for the implementation of sanctions at the national level shall rest with the federation concerned. If the federation does not ensure appropriate implementation, the outstanding claims shall be debited to the Nation's account.

## **E.6. Signing two or more contracts**

Signing of two or more contracts for the same period by a player: Fine from €3.750 to €30.000 / Exclusion/Suspension for up to 2 years

## **SECTION F. DOPING OFFENCES**

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The sanctions defined in the EHF Regulations for Anti-Doping<sup>5</sup> apply to any EHF competition.

## **SECTION G. CORRUPTION OFFENCES**

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### **G.1. Forgery of documents**

Forgery of documents by a federation, a club, a player: Fine up to €15.000 /Suspension/Exclusion for up to 3 years

### **G.2. Anti-Corruption and Fair Competition Act**

The sanctions defined in the Anti-Corruption and Fair Competition Act (Annex 1) shall form an integral part of the List of Penalties.

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<sup>4</sup> Idem, at 1

<sup>5</sup> EHF Anti-Doping Regulations adopted by the EHF Executive Committee on 28 January 2011, applicable as from 1 July 2012 and amended in accordance with the WADA Code amendments of 2015.

The present List of Penalties was adopted by the EHF Extraordinary Congress convening on May 29, 2011. It entered into force on July 1, 2011, were updated pursuant to the applicable EHF Anti-Doping Regulations and lastly amended in April 2019.

# EHF Catalogue of Administrative Sanctions

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## A. Principles

- a. Without prejudice to other EHF regulations providing administrative sanctions, the EHF administrative body may impose the administrative sanctions listed hereunder.
- b. The sanctions of the Catalogue of Administrative Sanctions may be imposed on a club, a member federation and/or an associated federations (and/or their players, officials, representatives...) only if the respective obligation was binding on them according to the applicable EHF Regulations, the EHF directives and/or the EHF official communications (emails, fax, letters...) and if such obligation was violated.
- c. If sanctions applicable to the violation of obligations set out in the EHF Regulations, EHF directives and/or EHF official communications are not expressly defined in the Catalogue of Administrative Sanctions, they shall be decided in accordance with article 12.1 of the Legal Regulations and the List of Penalties.

## B. Failure to submit the following information, document(s) and/or material(s) within the required deadline or submission in violation of the defined requirements

### ➤ To the EHF

- |    |   |                |
|----|---|----------------|
| a. | Players' information sheets   | €100 per sheet |
| b. | Photos/pictures, logos, mascot design, match report, match press release, match details, club/federation contact details, custom and visa documents | €200 per item  |
| c. | Match CD-ROM, match TV material (DVD, beta tapes), list of players/delegation (EHF club competition), accredited media information                  | €300 per item  |
| d. | Print layouts of branding material layout   | €500 per print |
| e. | Signed EHF Code of Conduct / national and local advertising limitations   | €1.000         |

### ➤ To the relevant club(s)/federation(s)

- |    |  |        |
|----|--|--------|
| f. | National and local advertising limitations | €1.000 |
| g. | Travel information                         | €200   |
| h. | Visa requirements / invitation (for visas) | €500   |

➤ Other:

i. Club/federation Internet website – availability

- In EHF Champions League / EHF EURO (Adults) competitions: €1.000
- In other EHF competitions: €500

j. Club/federation Internet website - content

- In EHF Champions League / EHF EURO (Adults) competitions: €200 per missing item
- In other EHF competitions: €100 per missing item

**C. Failure to set-up the following playing hall equipment or set-up in violation of the defined requirements**

- a. Substitution area equipment €1.000 per item
- b. Catch net, score board, goal, flags, light, heating €1.000 per item
- c. Places reserved for disqualified players, for teams, massage table in dressing rooms, sign posting €300

**D. Choice and/or use of players' kit in violation of the applicable EHF Regulations**

- a. Failure to present two sets of players' kit / incorrect colour(s) of the players' kit(s) €500
- b. Incorrect placement and/or size of player(s)'s number(s) or of player(s)'s name(s) on player(s)' clothing:
  - In EHF Champions League / EHF EURO (Adults) competitions: €1.000 per number/per name  
€5.000 per team
  - In other EHF competitions: €200 per number/per name
- c. Incorrect player(s)' number(s) on player(s) clothing:
  - In EHF Champions League / EHF EURO (Adults) competitions: €2.000 per number
  - In other EHF competitions: €400 per number

**E. Failure to comply with the defined match organisation requirements regarding**

- a. Availability of the required hall for pre-match training/warm-ups €1.000

- b. Official EHF fair-play announcement €500
- c. Ban of national anthems in EHF club competitions matches €500
- d. Payment of the EHF Officials' relevant costs, expenses and fees (timelines, currency, etc.) €500
- e. Language skills of the nominated team contact person/score-keeper/time-keeper and hall announcer €500

**F. Failure by the required club and/or a member federation representative(s) to attend/participate in:**

- a. A press conference €1.000
- b. An official competition draw / an official competition workshop or coordination meeting / a final banquet after official confirmation €500

The present Catalogue of Administrative Sanctions was adopted by the EHF Extraordinary Congress convening on May 29, 2011. It entered into force on July 1, 2011.