



MEDIA GUIDE

EHF EUROPEAN LEAGUE MEN 2023/24
GROUP MATCHES

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I INTRODUCTION TO THE EHF EUROPEAN LEAGUE MEN 2023/24

WELCOME TO THE NEW 32-TEAM GROUP MATCHES

Now in its fourth season since the inauguration in 2020, the EHF European League Men has firmly established itself as one of the most appealing handball competitions to follow for fans worldwide. Tuesday? EHF European League night!

The 2022/23 season culminated in Füchse Berlin lifting the trophy at a spectacular EHF Finals weekend in Flensburg, which befitted another remarkable season. The EHF European League is a must-see competition for handball fans – in the arenas across the continent, but also at home and online thanks to the extensive TV coverage and livestreaming on EHFTV.

For the 2023/24 season, the playing format of the EHF European League Men has undergone a significant change, raising the number of participants after qualification from 24 in the previous seasons (four groups of six teams) to 32 in the new season (eight groups of four teams). Out of those 32 teams, 16 will advance to the main round starting in February 2024, followed by the play-offs, the quarter-finals, and ultimately the EHF Finals Men 2024 on 25/26 May.

THE GROUP MATCHES OF THE 2023/24 SEASON ARE HERE

In the qualification round, we have already had a sneak preview of the drama that awaits us in the group matches. Among the 32 teams are the reigning champions Füchse Berlin, the 2022 champions Sport Lisboa e Benfica, plenty of teams with bags of EHF Champions League experience – including former winners SG Flensburg-Handewitt – and the current EHF European Cup holders, Vojvodina.

Such teams underline the strength of this captivating competition. It also makes sure that not a single club will have an easy path towards the latter stages. Before that, handball fans will witness a mouth-watering series of group matches, featuring some of the biggest clubs and players in our sport. The race to the EHF Finals Men 2024 is going to be a battle of epic proportions. No wonder the new seasonal campaign for the competition is titled: ALL IN – Greatness is earned.

We pride ourselves at the EHF and EHF Marketing on our positive and cooperative relationship with our colleagues from the press and media. Should you require any information, help or assistance during the season, please do not hesitate to get in contact with us at the EHF Office in Vienna. We will be more than happy to assist you with any questions you might have.

We look forward to working with you during the EHF European League Men 2023/24 season!



ALL IN
GREATNESS IS EARNED
ALL IN

I ALL IN – GREATNESS IS EARNED

NEW SEASONAL CAMPAIGN FOR EHF EUROPEAN LEAGUE LAUNCHED

In the build-up to 2023/24, a new seasonal campaign for the EHF European League has been launched. The campaign's pay-off 'ALL IN – Greatness is earned' underlines that success in the EHF European League can only come through hard work, dedication, and relentless effort.

The central idea behind the campaign is that there are no givens in the EHF European League. Only the players and teams who are willing to go *all in* will be able to *earn greatness*. 'ALL IN – Greatness is earned' highlights the work ethic of the players, who are pushing themselves to the limit each week in pursuit of glory. It inspires players and fans alike to embrace the journey that comes with striving for greatness. It also showcases the league as one of Europe's top-level competitions.

A [promo video](#) produced by Infront and the media team of EHF Marketing GmbH features the dynamic brushstroke element first introduced for the EHF Finals 2023 last May and emphasises the hard work a player has to deliver – on and off the court – in order to succeed. The campaign also includes key visuals with the same brushstroke and the 'ALL IN' design element. The official hashtag of the campaign is #Allin.

In a next step, the campaign will also be produced for the EHF European League Women, where the last qualification round takes place in November before the start of the group phase in January 2024.



I STAY UP-TO-DATE WITH THE EHF EUROPEAN LEAGUE

BE PART OF THE #EHFEL COMMUNITY

Social media, app, newsletter – fans have the opportunity to follow the EHF European League and their favourite teams on multiple digital channels.

FOLLOW, COMMENT, SHARE

Join the conversation and engage with the EHFEL family on social media. The EHF European League accounts give fans a steady stream of sharable and engaging content, keeping them informed on all the latest results and news.

In addition to dedicated EHF European League channels on Facebook ([EHF European League](#)), X (formerly known as Twitter, [@ehfel_official](#)) and Instagram ([@ehfel_official](#)), fans can also check out the Home of Handball channels on YouTube ([The Home of Handball](#)), Twitch ([HomeofHandball](#)) and TikTok ([@homeofhandball](#)).

DOWNLOAD THE HOME OF HANDBALL APP

In 2021, the EHF launched its very first dedicated mobile app. The app, available on iOS and Android, follows the EHF's 'Home of Handball' approach and unites all of Europe's major handball competitions – from clubs as well as national teams – under one roof.

The app allows for each user and all fans of the EHF European League to completely individualise his or her experience by selecting their favourite club and/or favourite competition.

[Click here to download the Home of Handball App.](#)

SIGN UP FOR OUR NEWSLETTER

Make sure all the latest EHF European League news and more comes right to you by signing up for the Home of Handball newsletter!

The weekly round-up of everything that is happening in Europe's major club and national team competitions will land right in your inbox and will be ready for you at your convenience.

[Click here to subscribe to the Home of Handball Newsletter.](#)

I TUNE IN TO EHFTV – FREE, LIVE AND ON DEMAND

The OTT portal of the EHF and EHF Marketing, [EHFTV](https://ehftv.com) (ehftv.com) has established itself over the past seasons as the meeting point for all handball fans. The option to watch EHF games for free, live and on-demand, as well as the opportunity to enjoy additional content created for the EHF European League and other EHF competitions on a regular basis, has made EHFTV a unique and highly-appreciated OTT service in the sports market.

THE BEST HANDBALL CONTENT – FOR FREE

The general approach of EHFTV remains the same; offering the best handball content for free. This approach is complemented with the option to register to the portal for free. The registration gives handball fans the option to watch games live and on-demand, but also allows fans to improve and personalise their fan experience during the season.

On EHFTV, matches from every EHF competition are available, complemented with highlights, the best goals and saves and plenty of additional content created exclusively for the portal, such as our Handball Originals content, which features our [exclusive documentary “Dare to Rise”](#). Since 2020, EHFTV has been designed to be fully adaptable to all devices, regardless of whether fans are at home or on the go, the best handball action is accessible any time and from anywhere.

PERSONALISED CONTENT FOR REGISTERED ACCOUNTS

Once fans enter their EHFTV account, they find an adapted filter menu, with improved navigation through the portal and the option to personalise it to their favourite competitions and/or clubs directly on their registered account. These features permit all users to find, select and enjoy the best handball footage in an easy manner.

Furthermore, the state-of-the-art video player, which also includes a multi-screen feature, guarantees the best quality and the perfect conditions to follow the EHF European League, wherever and whenever it is played. It's time for more handball! [Join EHFTV](#) and be part of a new handball era.

The screenshot displays the EHFTV website interface. At the top, there is a navigation menu with links for HOME, SCHEDULES, COMPETITIONS, ARCHIVE, and FAQs. On the right side of the header, there are links for Login / Register and a search icon. The main banner features a handball player in action, with the text 'EHFTV FOR FREE' and a sub-headline 'Register now to watch free live handball games, full matches and much more'. A prominent blue button labeled 'Register for free' is positioned below the text. Below the banner, a 'Live' section shows a grid of match cards for the current date, October 13th. Each card includes the competition name (EHF EL Plus), the time (18:00), the teams (e.g., Borussia Dortmund vs. FC Bayern München), and a small logo for the match.

I WATCH THE EHF EUROPEAN LEAGUE – WHEREVER YOU ARE

Handball fans across the globe will be able to watch every minute of the EHF European League Men 2023/24 group matches – no matter where they are. Broadcasters in over 25 countries across the continent have signed up to tell the fascinating story as the competition unfolds. Europe’s broadcasters will be transmitting all the excitement and drama from the EHF European League to the homes of the many fans, backed up by streamed coverage on [EHFTV](https://www.ehf.eu/ehftv), EHF’s on-demand platform.

WHERE TO WATCH THE EHF EUROPEAN LEAGUE MEN



GROUP MATCHES 2023/24

<p> AUT – DAZN</p> <p> BIH – Arena Sport</p> <p> CRO – Arena Sport</p> <p> CAN – DAZN (EHF FINALS)</p> <p> CZE – AMC</p> <p> DEN – Handball Kanalen</p> <p> ESP – DAZN</p> <p> ESP – CMM</p> <p> FIN – Handball Kanalen</p> <p> FRA – Eurosport</p> <p> GEO – Silknet</p> <p> GER – DAZN</p> <p> GER – DYN</p> <p> GRE – <i>To be announced</i></p> <p> HUN – AMC</p> <p> ISR – SportTV (EHF FINALS)</p> <p> ITA – PallamanoTV</p> <p> JPN – DAZN (EHF FINALS)</p>	<p> KOS – Arena Sport</p> <p> MKD – Arena Sport</p> <p> MKD – MKRTV</p> <p> MNE – Arena Sport</p> <p> NOR – Handball Kanalen</p> <p> POL – Eurosport</p> <p> POR – SportingTV</p> <p> POR – BenficaTV</p> <p> POR – AndebolTV</p> <p> ROU – Digi sport</p> <p> ROU – Prima Sport</p> <p> ROU – Orange Sport</p> <p> SLO – Arena Sport</p> <p> SRB – Arena Sport</p> <p> SUI – DAZN</p> <p> SVK – AMC</p> <p> SWE – Handball Kanalen</p> <p> TUR – TRT (EHF FINALS)</p> <p> UK – VIAPLAY (EHF FINALS)</p> <p>WORLD –  (Geo-restrictions may apply)</p>
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COMPETITION

I EHF/M MEDIA CONTACTS

MEDIA MATTERS

Simona Margetic

Media and Communications
European Handball Federation
+43 1 80 151 166
margetic@eurohandball.com

Thomas Schöneich

Director of Media and Communications
European Handball Federation
+43 1 80 151 164
schoeneich@eurohandball.com

TV & RADIO MATTERS

Miguel Mateo Marcellan

Director of Media Operations
EHF Marketing GmbH
+43 1 80 151 224
mateo@ehfmarketing.com

I CLUB MEDIA CONTACTS

GROUP MATCHES

GROUP A

HBC Nantes

Kévin Morin

+33 66 48 65 046
kevin.morin@hbcnantes.com

IFK Kristianstad

Henrik Fröberg

+46 70 82 80 283
henrik.froberg@kristianstadarena.se

Sport Lisboa e Benfica

Rui Manuel Mendes

+351 92 56 60 007
rmendes@slbenfica.pt

Luís Afonso Guerreiro

+351 96 49 59 475
luis.c.guerreiro@slbenfica.pt

Rhein-Neckar Löwen

Rüdiger Ofenloch

+49 15 20 84 29 495
ofenloch@rhein-neckar-loewen.de

GROUP B

Górnik Zabrze

Paweł Franzke

+48 60 18 78 708
franzke@handballzabrze.pl

HC Kriens-Luzern

Daniel Frank

+41 79 605 33 36
d.frank@hckriens.ch

AEK Athens HC

Panos Loupos

+30 69 48 50 89 10
ploupospressooffice@aek.gr

TSV Hannover-Burgdorf

Franziska Zech

+49 17 15 30 84 91
franziska.zech@die-recken.de
Alessandro Aiello
alessandro.aiello@die-recken.de

I CLUB MEDIA CONTACTS

GROUP C

REBI Balonmano Cuenca

Carlos Ruiz Massó

+34 63 58 94 179

masso10carrascosa@hotmail.com

RK Gorenje Velenje

Petra Tomić

+386 31 64 33 67

pr@rk-gorenje.com

IK Sävehof

Tobbe Wittström

+46 70 46 63 901

tobbe@savehof.se

Pfadi Winterthur

Lukas Wernli

+41 79 82 33 313

lukas.wernli@pfadi-winterthur.ch

GROUP E

SG Flensburg-Handewitt

Franziska Götttsch

+49 17 34 73 94 94

f.goettsch@sg-flensburg-handewitt.de

Elverum Handball

Solveig Sønnøve

+47 92 15 35 05

solveig@ehh.no

Kadetten Schaffhausen

Barbara Imobersteg

+41 78 72 03 247

barbara.imobersteg@bluewin.ch

HC Lovcen-Cetinje

Aleksandar Popovic

+381 67 56 44 41

alessandro.popovic@gmail.com

GROUP D

RK Nexe

Danko Justić

+385 91 16 15 123

djustic@gmail.com

MSK Povazska Bystrica

Lubos Cifra

+421 90 77 95 360

president@mskpb.sk

Skjern Håndbold

Nicklas Thygesen

+45 30 48 39 38

nicklas@skjernhaandbold.dk

ABC de Braga / UMinho

Ana Teixeira

+351 91 84 10 287

ana.teixeira@fpa.pt

GROUP F

Bjerringbro-Silkeborg

Anne Kildegaard

+45 22 75 91 74

ak@bjerringbro-silkeborg.dk

HC Alkaloid

Nikola Mitrevski

+389 70 39 21 64

nmitrevski@alkaloid.com.mk

BM Logroño La Rioja

Óscar Gómez

+34 61 76 44 639

zerosocialmedia@hotmail.com

Vojvodina

Dan Fracile

+381 63 83 09 702

dan.fracile84@gmail.com

I CLUB MEDIA CONTACTS

GROUP G

Füchse Berlin
Kim Martin Heess
+49 17 85 80 09 15
heess@fuechse.berlin

Dinamo Bucuresti
Alexandru Enciu
+40 75 49 29 106
sandu.enciu@csdinamo.ro

Chambéry Savoie Mont Blanc Handball
Alan Morisson
+33 66 05 91 695
alan.morisson@teamchambe.com

HC Izvidac
Branko Vukojević
+387 63 48 30 43
brvulj1956@gmail.com

GROUP H

Sporting CP
Sérgio Cavaleiro
+351 93 88 88 157
socavaleiro@sporting.pt

MOL Tatabánya KC
Kata Székely-Marosi
+36 70 63 36 733
kata.marosi@tatabanyahandball.com

KGHM Chrobry Głogów
Jakub Grzywaczyk
+48 88 01 18 181
marketing@chrobryhandball.pl

CSM Constanta
Iordache Elis
+ 40 74 43 37 454
dj.elis@gmail.com

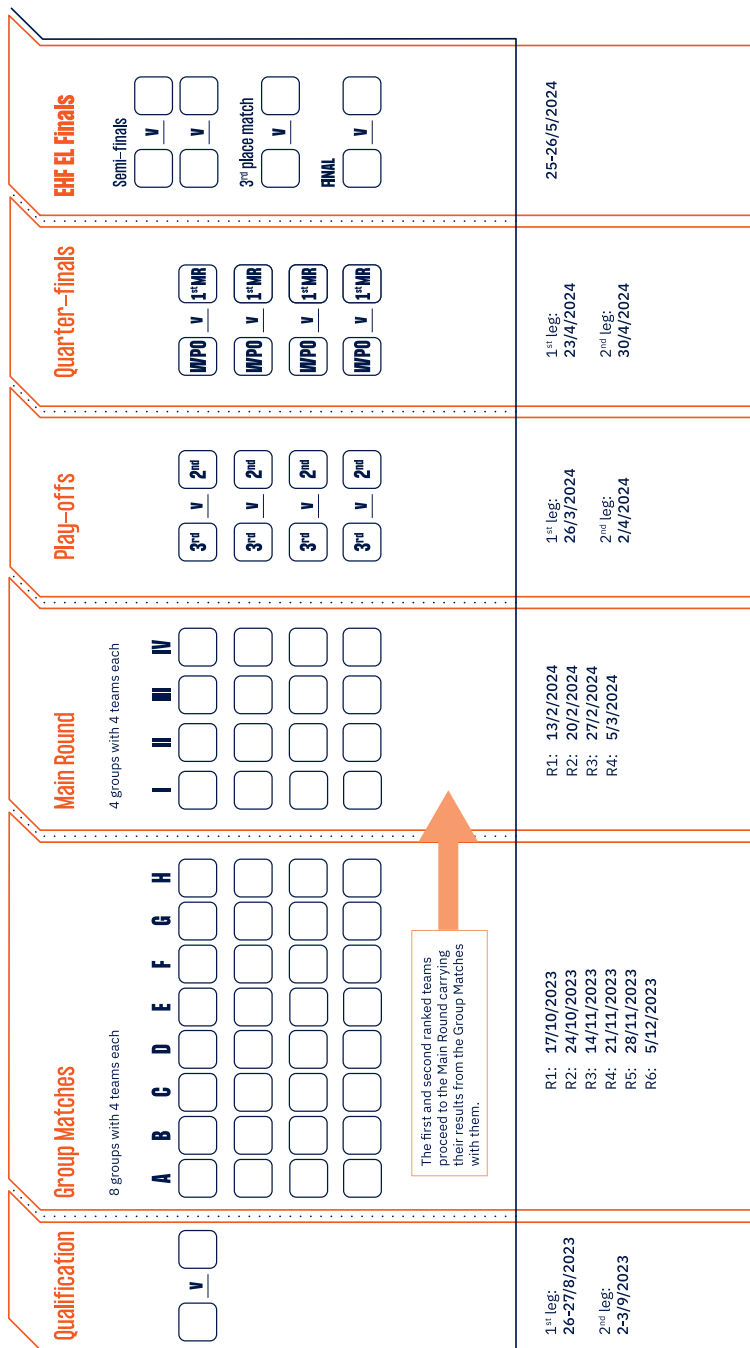






EHF EUROPEAN LEAGUE MEN 2023/24 SEASON

Playing system and dates



4 FORMER WINNERS, 19 NATIONS, 32 TEAMS, 148 MATCHES

FACTS & FIGURES: IMPORTANT NUMBERS BEFORE THE START OF THE GROUP MATCHES

For the first time, 32 teams compete in the group matches of the EHF European League Men – in eight groups, they fight for the 16 spots in the main round of the new competition format.

Here are the most important Facts & Figures of the competition and its participants in 2023/24:

1 participant in the EHF Finals 2023 is part of the group matches in 2023/24: defending champions Füchse Berlin; finalists Fraikin BM. Granollers lost in qualification, third-ranked Frisch Auf Göppingen did not qualify for any European competition, and fourth-ranked Montpellier HB are in the Machineseecker EHF Champions League.

1 goal was the aggregate difference in three of the five qualification pairings: Pfadi Winterthur, ABC de Braga / UMinho, and CSM Constanta all advanced by the smallest possible margin.

1

team that once won the EHF Champions League is part of the group matches: SG Flensburg-Handewitt (2014).

1 former EHF Champions League winner was eliminated in the qualification round: HC Vardar 1961 lost against Rhein-Neckar Löwen.

1 former EHF Cup winner was knocked out in the qualification round: Fraikin BM. Granollers.

1 city has two teams competing in the group matches: Portuguese capital Lisbon, with Sport Lisboa e Benfica and Sporting CP.

2 teams won both legs in the qualification round: German sides Rhein-Neckar Löwen and TSV Hannover-Burgdorf.

3 teams in the group matches played in the Machineseecker EHF Champions League in the 2022/23 season: HBC Nantes, Elverum Handball, and Dinamo Bucuresti.

4 teams in the group matches have won Europe's second-tier club competition in the past: Sport Lisboa e Benfica (EHF European League 2022), Rhein-Neckar Löwen (EHF Cup 2013), SG Flensburg-Handewitt (Cup Winners' Cup 2001, 2012; EHF Cup 1997), and Füchse Berlin (EHF Cup 2015, 2018; EHF European League 2023).

4 of the 32 teams in the group matches are from Germany; 3 each from Switzerland and Portugal; 2 each from Denmark, France, Poland, Romania, Spain, and Sweden.

4

group winners in the main round advance to the quarter-finals directly; the second- and third-ranked teams go into the play-offs.

4 teams that played at the EHF FINAL4 in the past are part of the group matches: HBC Nantes, Rhein-Neckar Löwen, SG Flensburg-Handewitt, and Füchse Berlin.

7 of the 32 teams in the group matches were also part of the 24-team group phase of the EHF European League 2022/23.

9 teams in the 2023/24 group matches have played at least once in the EHF (Cup) Finals since the introduction of this four-team final tournament in the 2012/13 season.

16

teams in the group matches – the winners and runners-up of each group – advance to the main round in February 2024.

18 is the maximum number of matches the teams at the EHF Finals will have played, depending on whether they came through qualification and whether they competed in the play-offs; 14 is the minimum number of matches.

19 different nations are represented by the 32 teams in the group matches; last season, 14 nations were represented by the 24 teams in the group phase.

27

teams were seeded directly for the group matches, leaving five spots open for the winners of the qualification round.

71 is the highest number of goals scored by a team in the qualification round: Rhein-Neckar Löwen beat HC Vardar 1961 71:58 on aggregate; next in line are TSV Hannover-Burgdorf with 63 goals, and ABC de Braga / UMinho and Vardar with 58 goals each.

96 group matches – six rounds with 16 matches each – will be played on Tuesday nights between

17 October and 5 December, followed by 32 main round matches, 8 play-off and 8 quarter-final matches, and 4 matches at the EHF Finals 2024.

110 goals made Odinn Thor Rikhardsson the top scorer of the EHF European League 2022/23; the Icelandic right wing and his Swiss club Kadetten Schaffhausen are part of the competition again in the 2023/24 season.

148 matches will have been played when the winners of the EHF European League Men 2023/24 are crowned at the EHF Finals on 26 May 2024; the exact same number of matches were played from group phase until final last season, despite the changed playing system.

546 goals were scored in the qualification round, an average of 54.6 goals per match.

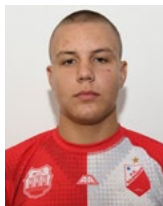
AGE AVERAGE

HEIGHT AVERAGE

WEIGHT AVERAGE

AEK Athens HC	30.0	CS Dinamo Bucuresti	195.4	BM Logroño La Rioja	101.3
SG Flensburg-Handewitt	28.3	Bjerringbro-Silkeborg	193.3	SG Flensburg-Handewitt	97.5
MOL Tatabánya KC	28.0	RK Nexe	193.0	CS Dinamo Bucuresti	97.2
CS Dinamo Bucuresti	27.1	Rhein-Neckar Löwen	192.3	Rhein-Neckar Löwen	96.0
CSM Constanta	26.4	SG Flensburg-Handewitt	192.1	Vojvodina	95.5
MKS Považska Bystrica	26.4	MOL Tatabánya KC	192.0	RK Nexe	94.9
REBI Balonmano Cuenca	26.3	BM Logroño La Rioja	191.9	Elverum Handball	94.8
HC Kriens-Luzern	26.2	Sport Lisboa e Benfica	191.8	RK Gorenje Velenje	94.6
RK Nexe	26.2	HBC Nantes	191.2	Füchse Berlin	94.0
Bjerringbro-Silkeborg	26.1	Füchse Berlin	191.2	Bjerringbro-Silkeborg	93.7
KGHM Chrobry Glogow	26.0	Elverum Handball	191.1	HC Lovcen-Cetinje	93.4
Kadetten Schaffhausen	25.9	Vojvodina	191.0	Sporting CP	92.9
IFK Kristianstad	25.7	HC Lovcen-Cetinje	190.9	MOL Tatabánya KC	92.5
Chambéry Savoie Mt. Blanc HB	25.5	Chambéry Savoie Mt. Blanc HB	190.7	Sport Lisboa e Benfica	92.4
HC Lovcen-Cetinje	25.5	TSV Hannover-Burgdorf	190.7	Kadetten Schaffhausen	92.4
Skjern Håndbold	25.5	HC Izvidac	190.6	HBC Nantes	91.9
Sport Lisboa e Benfica	25.4	AEK Athens HC	190.4	AEK Athens HC	91.8
EHF European League	25.2	HC Alkaloid	190.4	HC Kriens-Luzern	91.8
TSV Hannover-Burgdorf	25.2	Kadetten Schaffhausen	190.4	EHF European League	91.7
Sporting CP	25.1	EHF European League	190.2	CSM Constanta	91.7
Górnik Zabrze	24.9	Skjern Håndbold	190.2	IFK Kristianstad	91.5
Füchse Berlin	24.9	HC Kriens-Luzern	189.5	Górnik Zabrze	91.4
Rhein-Neckar Löwen	24.7	Górnik Zabrze	189.2	HC Alkaloid	90.5
HC Alkaloid	24.7	CSM Constanta	189.2	TSV Hannover-Burgdorf	90.1
BM Logroño La Rioja	24.7	IFK Kristianstad	189.1	Skjern Håndbold	90.0
Vojvodina	24.6	RK Gorenje Velenje	188.8	KGHM Chrobry Glogow	89.1
Elverum Handball	24.6	Pfadi Winterthur	188.8	IK Sävehof	89.0
ABC de Braga / UMinho	24.6	Sporting CP	188.3	Pfadi Winterthur	88.3
HBC Nantes	24.5	IK Sävehof	188.2	HC Izvidac	88.2
RK Gorenje Velenje	24.3	REBI Balonmano Cuenca	187.2	REBI Balonmano Cuenca	87.9
Pfadi Winterthur	23.6	KGHM Chrobry Glogow	186.6	Chambéry Savoie Mt. Blanc HB	87.9
IK Sävehof	21.3	ABC de Braga / UMinho	186.0	ABC de Braga / UMinho	87.0
HC Izvidac	19.7	MKS Považska Bystrica	185.7	MKS Považska Bystrica	84.4

YOUNGEST



07/11/2007

Aleksa Radenkovic
Vojvodina

Aleksa Radenkovic	SRB	Vojvodina	07/11/2007
Márkó Eklemovic	HUN	MOL Tatabánya	14/10/2007
Marko Culjak	CRO	HC Izvidiac	17/06/2007
Rafael Vasconcelos	POR	Sporting CP	15/06/2007
Andrija Stankov	SRB	Vojvodina	16/05/2007
Djordje Drasko	SRB	Vojvodina	05/05/2007
Filip Bozovic	MNE	HC Lovcen-Cetinje	28/04/2007
Sven Näf	SUI	HC Kriens-Luzern	01/01/2007
Damjan Mitev	MKD	HC Alkaloid	08/11/2006
Niclas Mierzwa	SUI	Pfadi Winterthur	24/10/2006
Fabian Blomberg	SWE	IK Sävehof	24/10/2006
Ognjen Cenic	SRB	RK Nexe	30/07/2006
Marcel Ziemiak	POL	KGHM Chrobry Glogow	26/07/2006
Todor Milisavljevic	BIH	HC Izvidac	19/07/2006
Gabriel Sequeira	POR	Sport Lisboa e Benfica	12/07/2006
Hector Chicano	ESP	REBI Balonmano Cuenca	23/07/2006

SHORTEST



172 cm

Philip Jakobsen
Skjern Håndbold

Philip Jakobsen	DEN	Skjern Håndbold	172
Yoav Lumbroso	ISR	Sport Lisboa e Benfica	172
Milan Vukšić	BIH	HC Izvidac	172
Jonathan Azorin	FRA	AEK Athens HC	172
Albin Selin	SWE	IFK Kristianstad	173
Jakub Bogacz	POL	Górnik Zabrze	173
Tim Freihöfer	GER	Füchse Berlin	174
Arnau Fernández	ESP	REBI Balonmano Cuenca	175
Pedro Salvador	POR	ABC de Braga / UMinho	175
Wojciech Styrzcz	POL	KGHM Chrobry Glogow	175
Yuga Enomoto	JPN	MOL Tatabánya KC	175
Alex Pascual	ESP	Dinamo Bucuresti	175
Jozef Kašuba	SVK	MSK Povazska Bystrica	175
Alexandru Andrei	ROU	CSM Constanta	175
Carlos Martins	POR	ABC de Braga / UMinho	175
Lubomír Duriš	SVK	MSK Povazska Bystrica	175

LIGHTEST



65 kg

Yannick Lanz
Kadetten Schaffhausen

Yannick Lanz	SUI	Kadetten Schaffhausen	65
Luka Bubalo	CRO	HC Izvidac	66
Amaury Perrin	FRA	Chambéry Savoie Mont Blanc HB	67
Pedro Salvador	POR	ABC de Braga / UMinho	68
Teodor Stefan	ROU	CSM Constanta	69
Marián Gardian	SVK	MSK Povazska Bystrica	69
Arvid Uusvoog	SWE	IK Sävehof	69
Dario Kofiloski	MKD	HC Alkaloid	69
Lubomír Duriš	SVK	MSK Povazska Bystrica	70
Afonso Mendes	POR	Sport Lisboa e Benfica	70
Danilo Pajovic	MNE	HC Lovcen-Cetinje	70
Miguel Carvalho	POR	HC Lovcen-Cetinje	70
Emilien Peyronnet	FRA	Chambéry Savoie Mont Blanc HB	70
Dávid Urik	SVK	MSK Povazska Bystrica	70
Justin Wollny	GER	TSV Hannover-Burgdorf	70
Filip Wrona	POL	KGHM Chrobry Glogow	70

OLDEST



11/07/1977

Gorazd Škof
HC Kriens-Luzern

Gorazd Škof	SLO	HC Kriens-Luzern	11/07/1977
Humberto Gomes	POR	ABC de Braga / Uminho	01/01/1978
Hans Lindberg	DEN	Füchse Berlin	01/08/1981
Andre Schmid	SUI	HC Kriens-Luzern	30/08/1983
Viran Morros	ESP	Pfadi Winterthur	15/12/1983
Uros Vilovski	HUN	MOL Tatabánya KC	25/02/1984
Cédric Sorhaindo	FRA	Dinamo Bucuresti	07/06/1984
Fahrudin Melic	MNE	RK Nexe	22/07/1984
Jonathan Azorin	FRA	AEK Athens HC	17/09/1984
Rene Toft Hansen	DEN	Bjerringbro-Silkeborg	01/11/1984
Valero Rivera	ESP	HBC Nantes	22/02/1085
Željko Musa	CRO	HC Kriens-Luzern	08/01/1986
Marko Kopljar	CRO	Füchse Berlin	12/02/1986
Tim Winkler	DEN	Skjern Håndbold	14/02/1986
Vyron Papadopoulos	GRE	AEK Athens HC	22/02/1986
Rafal Stachera	POL	KGHM Chrobry Glogow	28/04/1986

TALLEST



210 cm

Marko Kopljar
Füchse Berlin

Marko Kopljar	CRO	Füchse Berlin	210
Alin Cozmaciu	ROU	Dinamo Bucuresti	210
Marko Racic	CRO	RK Nexe	209
Borna Mancic Micevic	CRO	RK Nexe	208
Hugo Brouzet	FRA	Chambéry Savoie Mont Blanc HB	208
Mike Jensen	DEN	Sport Lisboa e Benfica	207
Calin Dedu	ROU	Dinamo Bucuresti	207
Viachaslau Bokhan	BLR	Dinamo Bucuresti	206
Uladzislau Kulesh	BLR	TSV Hannover-Burgdorf	206
Niklas Gautzsch	GER	TSV Hannover-Burgdorf	206
Ivan Bystrický	SVK	MSK Povazska Bystrica	205
Thibaud Briet	FRA	HBC Nantes	205
Mihael Bebek	CRO	HC Izvidac	205
Max Beneke	GER	Füchse Berlin	205
Philipp Ahouansou	GER	Rhein-Neckar Löwen	204
Stefan Stojcheviki	MKD	HC Alkaloid	204

HEAVIEST



135 kg

Mohamed Aly
BM Logroño La Rioja

Mohamed Aly	EGY	BM Logroño La Rioja	135
Dejan Milosavljev	SRB	Füchse Berlin	135
Javier García	ESP	BM Logroño La Rioja	134
Marko Culjak	CRO	HC Izvidac	125
Emil Johansson	SWE	IK Sävehof	125
Marko Racic	CRO	RK Nexe	123
Robin Haug	NOR	Elverum Handball	122
Eduardo Almeida	POR	Sporting CP	121
Miklós Rosta	HUN	Dinamo Bucuresti	120
Zivan Pesic	SRB	Vojvodina	120
Daniel Susanu	ROU	CSM Constanta	120
Miljan Pušica	SRB	Vojvodina	118
Nikola Markoski	MKD	HC Alkaloid	118
Ludvig Jurmala	SWE	IFK Kristianstad	118
Blaz Blagotinsek	SLO	SG Flensburg-Handewitt	117
Dmytro Ilchenko	UKR	Górník Zabrze	117

I IMPORTANT REGULATIONS

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN BOTH TEAMS HAVE THE SAME NUMBER OF POINTS?

All matches shall be played in accordance with the IHF's current Rules of the Game. Variations on a technical level are possible. All matches of the EHF European League shall be played in 2 x 30 minutes with a half-time break of 15 minutes.

The matches shall be scored as follows:

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

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

GROUP MATCHES AND MAIN ROUND

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

During the group matches:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

PLAY-OFFS AND QUARTER-FINALS

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

- a) goal difference
- b) penalty throws

RULES FOR EXECUTION OF PENALTY THROWS

- Only players (incl. goalkeepers) who are listed on the match report and are not suspended or disqualified at the end of the playing time are entitled to participate at the penalty throws.

- Prior to the penalty throws, each team shall name five players by handing the referees a list of numbers. These players shall then take one throw each until a decision (a winner) is reached, alternating with their opponents. Each team is free to determine the sequence in which throwers will take their throws.

- The goalkeepers may be freely selected from the match report and exchanged in accordance with the Rules of the Game. Goalkeepers may take throws and throwers may perform as goalkeepers.

- The referees shall choose the goal at which throws are taken. The team taking the first penalty throw shall be determined by the referees by drawing lots. The team winning the draw may choose whether it wishes to throw first or last.

- If the scores are equal after the first round of penalty throws, it shall be continued until a decision is reached.

In the second round, the other team shall start. Again, five players shall be named who are eligible to play (the players named before may be named once again).

- In the second round, a decision (a winner) is reached when a goal difference arises after both teams have taken one throw each.

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

- While the throws are being taken, only the player taking the throw, the current goalkeeper and the referees may enter the respective half of the playing court.

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



CLUBS

GROUP A PREVIEW

EUROPEAN POWERHOUSES SHARE MOUTH-WATERING GROUP



An EHF Cup winner, an EHF European League winner, and an EHF Champions League finalists – could group A have been any tougher?

French side Nantes have qualified for three European finals over the last 10 years, but still are yet to lift a trophy. “Le H” lifted a domestic one last season – the French cup – while finishing third in the league. Nantes qualified twice for the EHF Cup final, in 2013 and 2016, and once for the EHF FINAL4 final, in 2018. They feature among the favourites of the competition this season, especially after signing former EHF Champions League winners Julien Bos and Baptiste Bonnefond from Montpellier.



Benfica also are one of the favourites to lift the trophy – again, as they have already done so in 2022, when they defeated SC Magdeburg in the final. Last year, they went out in the Last 16 after a heavy defeat against SH Flensburg-Handewitt (72:54 on aggregate), but they are back with a new coach: former Paris Saint-Germain HB assistant Jota Gonzalez, as well as some interesting summer recruits, such as Miguel Sanchez-Migallon (Kielce) and EHF Champions League winner Mike Jensen (Magdeburg).



Rhein-Neckar Löwen reached the second edition of the EHF FINAL4 in 2011 and won the EHF Cup in 2013 – beating Nantes in the final. Since then, they reached the Last 16 of the EHF Champions League for five years in a row, from 2015 to 2019, before playing the EHF Finals in 2021. And while Uwe Gensheimer will be out until 2024 due to a knee injury, there are still many top players left in the squad, including captain Patrick Groetzki and Jannik Kohlbacher, while Juri Knorr and Joel Birlhem are two of the brightest hopes for German handball.



IFK Kristianstad might not have reached a final tournament of any European club competition so far, the Swedish side are clearly back with a vengeance. After reaching the EHF European League quarter-finals in 2021 and losing to SC Magdeburg, Kristianstad were surprised in qualification last season by Skanderborg-Aarhus. Their two domestic titles in 2022/23 – the Swedish league and cup – granted them a direct place in the group matches. Kristianstad are a mixture of up-and-coming Swedish talents on the one hand, and experienced players who have returned to the club from abroad on the other hand. The likes of Andreas Cederholm, Markus Olsson and Anton Halén will have to deliver if the Swedish team want to progress to the next phase of the EHF European League.

Kevin Domas

I GROUP A HEAD-TO-HEADS

PREVIOUS DUELS BETWEEN THE TEAMS OF GROUP A

HBC Nantes vs IFK Kristianstad 4-0-0 (117:97) 8:0

23.02.2014	IFK Kristianstad vs HBC Nantes, EHF Cup – Group C	23:27 (12:15)
15.03.2014	HBC Nantes vs IFK Kristianstad, EHF Cup – Group C	25:23 (15:11)
14.10.2017	HBC Nantes vs IFK Kristianstad, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	34:25 (19:11)
10.02.2018	IFK Kristianstad vs HBC Nantes, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	26:31 (12:13)

HBC Nantes vs Sport Lisboa e Benfica 1-1-2 (114:113) 3:5

25.11.2012	HBC Nantes vs SL Benfica, EHF Cup – Round 3	29:21 (13:12)
01.12.2012	SL Benfica vs HBC Nantes, EHF Cup – Round 3	28:22 (11:11)
07.12.2021	HBC Nantes vs SL Benfica, EHF European League – Group B	33:33 (16:17)
08.03.2022	SL Benfica vs HBC Nantes, EHF European League – Group B	31:30 (15:16)

HBC Nantes vs Rhein-Neckar Löwen 1-2-2 (142:143) 4:6

19.05.2013	HBC Nantes vs Rhein-Neckar Löwen, EHF Cup Final Tournament – Final	24:26 (12:16)
27.09.2017	HBC Nantes vs Rhein-Neckar Löwen, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	26:26 (15:16)
03.03.2018	Rhein-Neckar Löwen vs HBC Nantes, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	30:30 (13:15)
20.03.2019	Rhein-Neckar Löwen vs HBC Nantes, VELUX EHF Champions League – Last 16	34:32 (18:16)
30.03.2019	HBC Nantes vs Rhein-Neckar Löwen, VELUX EHF Champions League – Last 16	30:27 (14:14)

IFK Kristianstad vs Sport Lisboa e Benfica

No previous encounters in European competitions

IFK Kristianstad vs Rhein-Neckar Löwen 1-0-7 (215:254) 2:14

22.10.2015	IFK Kristianstad vs Rhein-Neckar Löwen, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	32:29 (20:12)
26.11.2015	Rhein-Neckar Löwen vs IFK Kristianstad, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	29:20 (15:10)
12.10.2016	Rhein-Neckar Löwen vs IFK Kristianstad, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	30:29 (17:13)
19.02.2017	IFK Kristianstad vs Rhein-Neckar Löwen, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B	29:31 (16:15)
07.10.2017	IFK Kristianstad vs Rhein-Neckar Löwen, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	22:35 (12:18)
18.02.2018	Rhein-Neckar Löwen vs IFK Kristianstad, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	32:29 (16:14)
10.10.2018	Rhein-Neckar Löwen vs IFK Kristianstad, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	36:27 (18:14)
01.12.2018	IFK Kristianstad vs Rhein-Neckar Löwen, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	27:32 (13:18)

Sport Lisboa e Benfica vs Rhein-Neckar Löwen

No previous encounters in European competitions

GROUP A



Club contact

Club Address


HBC Nantes
3 rue André Tardieu
44200 Nantes
France


Media contact

Kévin Morin
kevin.morin@hbcnantes.com
+33 66 48 65 046

 hbcnantes.com

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

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

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

Kit colours

Light

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

Dark

Player shirt: black/purple
Player short: black
GK shirt: purple



Playing hall

H Arena
Rue Rene Viviani
44200 Nantes
France
Capacity: 5,400

HBC NANTES



Can the 2023/24 season finally be the right one for HBC Nantes? The French club played three European finals within the last 10 years, including one in the EHF Champions League, but have not managed to win a title yet. Pushed by their amazing fans, some of the most loyal across Europe, players from “Le H” want to believe in their fate.

Following up from the previous seasons, the staff only changed the squad at the edges. Spanish veterans like Valero Rivera and Jorge Maqueda are still on board, while coach Grégory Cojean, who won two trophies in his

- reached the CL play-offs last season, before being eliminated by Orlen Wisla Plock in a shoot-out
- their best European result dates back to 2018, when the club reached the final of the EHF FINAL4
- played and lost the EHF Cup final twice, in 2013 and 2016, against German sides Rhein Neckar-Löwen and Frisch Auf Göppingen, respectively
- lifted two domestic trophies in 2022/23: the French Champions Trophy and the French cup
- major summer signings include two former CL winners with Montpellier: Julien Bos and Baptiste Bonnefond

first season at the wheel, has managed to seduce Julien Bos, who was playing for Montpellier before. The left-hander, who won the EHF Champions League back in 2018, will bring some more experience and quality to a team that certainly features among the favourites to go all the way in this season’s EHF European League.

Team captain Valero Rivera: “We want to wear the colours of our club as far as possible, give our best in this competition, and make HBC Nantes shine in Europe. We are not looking forward to a game especially; we know that it will be six fights, six hard games against really good teams.”

PAST ACHIEVEMENTS

EHF European League

Participations (incl. 2023/24): 2
Quarter-finals (1): 2021/22

Other

EHF Champions League

Runners-up (1): 2017/18
Semi-finals (1): 2020/21
Quarter-finals (1): 2018/19
Play-offs (1): 2022/23
Last 16 (1): 2016/17

EHF Cup

Runners-up (2): 2012/13, 2015/16
Quarter-finals (1): 2013/14

French league: –

French cup: 2 titles (2017, 2023)





GRÉGORIE COJEAN

Coach

- joined Nantes as a coach in 2005, when he was only 27
- after coaching the B team, he sat on the bench of the A team for the first time in 2009
- was assistant coach under Thierry Anti and Alberto Entrerrios before taking over as head coach in 2022
- won the French cup in his first season in charge
- helped several young players emerge from the club's youth division, including Dragan Pechmalbec, Thibaud Briet, and Theo Monar

ARRIVALS

Julien Bos (Montpellier/FRA)
Théo Avelange-Demouge (Dunkerque/FRA)
Baptiste Bonnefond (Toulouse/FRA)
William Hoghielm (Redberglids/SWE)

DEPARTURES

Pedro Portela (Sporting/POR)
Alexander Shkurinskiy (Brest/BLR)
Rubén Marchán (PSG/FRA)
Linus Persson (GOG/DEN)
Manuel Gaspar (Dijon/FRA)

I TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height	Weight
1	Ivan	Pesic	CRO	Goalkeeper	17/03/1989	Rijeka, CRO	194	110
3	Thibaud	Briet	FRA	Left Back	14/12/1999	Rouen, FRA	205	95
4	Aymeric	Minne	FRA	Centre Back	20/04/1997	Melun, FRA	186	85
5	Jorge	Maqueda Peno	ESP	Right Back	06/02/1988	Toledo, ESP	197	102
6	Baptiste	Bonnefond	FRA	Left Back	22/01/1993	Lyon, FRA	193	97
C 7	Valero	Rivera Folch	ESP	Left Wing	22/02/1985	Barcelone, ESP	185	83
8	Alexandre	Cavalcanti	POR	Left Back	27/12/1996	Almada, POR	201	105
9	Théo	Avelange Demouge	FRA	Right Wing	11/03/1996	Besançon, FRA	183	78
10	Rok	Ovnicsek	SLO	Centre Back	29/01/1995	Slovenj Gradec, SLO	185	88
11	Baptiste	Damatin	FRA	Left Wing	29/04/2000	Saint Maurice, FRA	177	91
13	Julien	Bos	FRA	Right Back	18/08/1998	Pessac, FRA	188	85
14	Lucas	De la Breteche	FRA	Centre Back	19/11/2001	Saint-Nazaire, FRA	193	85
15	William	Höghielm	SWE	Line Player	30/11/1999	Torslanda, SWE	186	110
16	Viktor	Hallgrímsson	ISL	Goalkeeper	24/07/2000	Reykjavik, ISL	115	203
17	Jérémy	Toto	FRA	Line Player	15/08/1992	Courbevoie, FRA	197	106
18	Théo	Monar	FRA	Line Player	06/06/2001	Fort-de-France, FRA	200	112
19	Kauldi	Odriozola Yeregui	ESP	Right Wing	07/01/1997	Zumaia, ESP	183	80
20	Salomon	Nassequela	COD	Right Back	15/01/2004	Kinshasa, COD	183	71
21	Mathys	Lobgeois	FRA	Line Player	11/03/2005	Compiègne, FRA	195	102
22	Alban	Simonnet	FRA	Centre Back	04/01/2004	Orléans, FRA	191	84
23	Edgar	Gohier	FRA	Right Wing	29/06/2005	Tours, FRA	183	77
24	Ernest	Pineau	FRA	Right Back	30/01/2003	Rochefort, FRA	198	84
25	Jules	Berriau	FRA	Right Back	21/04/2005	Saint Herblain, FRA	188	80
26	Pierre-Alexis	Favril	FRA	Left Wing	15/10/2004	Dreux, FRA	186	75
27	Eloi	Gnanhouan	FRA	Left Back	25/03/2003	Montbéliard, FRA	194	94
28	André Wenkegheu	Tchambou Mouko	FRA	Line Player	10/05/2004	Paris, FRA	197	95
30	Sirius	Rambaud	FRA	Goalkeeper	18/01/2006	Nogent sur Mame, FRA		



VIKTOR HALLGRÍMSSON

 @viktorhallgrimsson

Goalkeeper

- Icelandic international, who joined Nantes from Danish side GOG in 2022
- played for Fram Reykjavik until leaving Iceland in 2019 and moving to GOG
- debuted in Icelandic national team at age 19; excelled at 2019 Junior (U21) WCh
- impressed at EHF EURO 2020 by stopping seven of 15 penalties (44 per cent)
- a fast and very talented goalkeeper with fine reactions



VALERO RIVERA

 @valerorivera

Left wing

- experienced left wing, a CL winner with Barça and world champion with Spain
- returned to Nantes from Barça in 2018 after earlier spell with Nantes in 2010-16
- All-star left wing CL 2020/21 and 2015 WCh; top scorer EHF EURO 2016 (48 goals)
- son of Valero Rivera sr., former Barça and Spain coach; married to former handball player Marion Anti, daughter of previous Nantes coach Thierry Anti

EC trophies: CL 2005; EHF Cup 2003
EURO: G 2018, S 2016, B 2014; WCh: G 2013; OG: B 2020



AYMERIC MINNE

 @aymericminne

Centre back

- talented back, who signed for Nantes in summer of 2019 after four seasons with PAUC
- initially an offensive player, has made huge progress as a defender as well
- scored a personal best 58 goals in the CL 2022/23, including nine in the decisive leg of the play-offs against Plock, which Nantes lost in a shoot-out
- made national team debut for France in EHF EURO qualifier against Greece in 2021



JORGE MAQUEDA

 @maqueda15

Right back

- world-class defender, who returned to Nantes in 2022 after earlier spell in 2012-15
- in the meantime, played for Vardar (and won CL in 2017), Szeged, and Veszprém
- started senior career at Barça in 2005; Nantes became his first foreign club in 2012
- Spanish international, who has won nine medals with the national team, including WCh and EHF EURO gold

EC trophies: CL 2017
EURO: G 2020, S 2016, 2022, B 2014; OG: B 2020; WCh: G 2013, B 2011, 2023

GROUP A



Club contact

Club Address

IFK Kristianstad
Västra Storgatan 69
29154 Kristianstad
Sweden

Media contact

Henrik Fröberg
henrik.froberg@kristianstadarena.se
+46 70 82 80 283

 ifkkristianstad.se

 IFKKristianstad

 @ifkkristianstad

 @ifk1899

Kit colours

Light

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

Dark

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



Playing hall

Kristianstad Arena
Västra Storgatan 1
29154 Kristianstad
Sweden
Capacity: 4,800

IFK KRISTIANSTAD



Not seeing Kristianstad playing group matches in a European competition had become quite a rarity. While the club enjoyed a golden era a few years ago, qualifying for the Last 16 of the EHF Champions League in 2018, they could not manage to keep their best players. And the following years were clearly not as bright for the Swedish side, culminating with a failure to reach last season's group matches.

The return of some players who had left, such as Markus Olsson or Andreas Cederholm, has clearly put the club on the rise again. Greatly

- were eliminated by Skanderborg-Arhus in qualification round 2 of the EHF European League last season
- their best European result is a quarter-final participation in the EHF European League in 2020/21
- won two domestic trophies last season: the Swedish league and the Swedish cup
- squad features former Swedish internationals Andreas Cederholm, Anton Halen, and Markus Olsson
- Markus Olsson is IFK's player with the most appearances and most goals in the history of the club

helped by players with Bundesliga experience, IFK are back in the spotlight and winning trophies again.

Last season, captain Anton Halen lifted two on the domestic scene and while the group A in the EHF European League is yet another level, there is no doubt Kristianstad will not only take part, but also play a role in this season's edition.

Team captain Anton Halén: "It is going to be a lot of games: in the Swedish league, Swedish cup, and European League, so it will be a big motivation to play against good team in Europe and at the same time try to defend our titles in Sweden. In our group there are only good matches."

PAST ACHIEVEMENTS

EHF European League

Participations (incl. 2023/24): 3

Quarter-finals (1): 2020/21

Qualification (1): 2022/23

Other

EHF Champions League

Last 16 (1): 2017/18

Group phase (4): 2015/16, 2016/17, 2018/19, 2019/20

EHF Cup

Group phase (1): 2013/14

Swedish league: 9 titles (1941, 1948, 1952, 1953, 2015-18, 2023)

Swedish cup: 1 title (2023)





STIAN TØNNESEN

Coach

- former Norwegian international, who arrived as head coach in Kristianstad in 2022 after six seasons with Malmö
- played as centre back for clubs like Drammen and Elverum in his native Norway, before spending 10 years in Germany, at Lübbecke and Magdeburg, respectively
- had his national team debut only at age 28 and did not play at a major tournament for Norway
- ended his playing career in 2016 in Malmö, where he started to work as a coach

ARRIVALS

Victor Bang (Skövde/SWE)
Victor Kløve (Aalborg/DEN)
Elias Karlsson (Anderstorp/SWE)

DEPARTURES

Trym Johnsen (Drammen/NOR)
Besard Hakaj (Fjellhammer/NOR)
Alfred Ehn (Önnered/SWE)

I TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height	Weight
1	Victor	Skjellerup Bang	DEN	Goalkeeper	30/07/1999	Frederiksbund, DEN	198	95
4	Markus	Olsson	SWE	Left Back	31/03/1990	Karlshamn, SWE	186	90
5	Hampus	Henningsson	SWE	Right Back	02/01/1995	Höör, SWE	200	100
6	Philip	Henningsson	SWE	Left Back	14/06/1995	Hörby, SWE	196	100
7	Victor	Kløve	DEN	Left Back	27/06/2002	Brønderslev, DEN	197	99
9	Anton	Hallbäck	SWE	Right Back	15/01/1996	Gothenburg	186	83
10	Matias Helt	Jepsen	DEN	Centre Back	13/03/1988	Herning, DEN	186	90
12	Gustaf	Banke	SWE	Goalkeeper	07/01/1999	Kristianstad, SWE	191	100
14	Albin	Leyman	SWE	Left Wing	02/04/2003	Bäckaskog, SWE	180	82
16	Elias	Karlsson	SWE	Goalkeeper	14/02/2002	Falköping, SWE	190	95
20	Emil	Frend-Öfors	SWE	Left Wing	13/09/1994	Gideonsberg, SWE	193	92
25	Ludvig	Jurmala Åström	SWE	Line Player	29/12/1999	Tyreso, SWE	196	118
C 30	Anton	Halén	SWE	Right Back	28/11/1990	Helgum, SWE	192	96
34	Andreas	Cederholm	SWE	Right Back	04/05/1990	Hjo, SWE	186	94
37	Zoran	Bozic	SWE	Centre Back	03/04/2001	Kristianstad, SWE	188	78
42	Albin	Selin	SWE	Right Wing	17/11/2001	Hel Trefaldighet, SWE	173	75
46	Herman	Josefsson	SWE	Line Player	22/02/2003	V Skepparslöv, SWE	195	96
48	Noah	Martinsson	SWE	Left Wing	22/04/2004	Karlshamn, SWE	177	72
49	Isaac	Biel Nielsen	SWE	Right Back	19/01/2004	Hägersten, SWE	183	84



MARKUS OLSSON

 @trazanbanarne

Left back

- former Swedish international, arrived back at IFK in 2020 from Toulouse in France
- strong back court shooter, who started career with IFK in Swedish second division in 2008, leaving the club seven seasons later as champions of the first division
- joined Danish side Skjern Håndbold in 2015, made CL debut in 2015/16, and helped them win their first domestic title in nearly 20 years in 2017/18
- his twin sisters, Maria and Anna, are also prolific handball players



PHILIP HENNINGSSON

 @philiphenningsson6

Left back

- returned to Kristianstad in 2021 after one season with Wetzlar in Germany, the only time in his career he played for a foreign club
- previously played five seasons for IFK, after arriving from Ysad in 2015
- started to play handball at age seven Lågan; made debut for Sweden national team in 2017 and helped them win silver at the EHF EURO the following year

EURO: S 2018



ANDREAS CEDERHOLM

 @c3der

Right back

- experienced right back who went back to Kristianstad in 2022 after five seasons in Germany (with Minden and Lemgo, respectively) and one in France (Toulouse)
- first joined IFK coming from his youth club Skövde in 2013
- picked up handball as a young boy after finding an ad promoting the sport in his parents' letterbox
- EHF EURO 2016 was his first major event with Sweden, won silver two years later

EURO: S 2018



ANTON HALÉN

 @ahalen

Right wing

- former national team player, who returned to Sweden and joined Kristianstad in the summer of 2018 after four seasons with Göppingen in Germany
- became team captain of Kristianstad in 2021
- won back-to-back EHF Cup titles with Göppingen, in 2016 and 2017
- signed first professional contract at age 17 and played eight years at Drott HK

EC trophies: EHF Cup 2016, 2017

GROUP A



Club contact

Club Address

Sport Lisboa e Benfica
Av. Eusébio Silva Ferreira
1500-313 Lisbon
Portugal


Media contact

Rui Manuel Mendes
rmendes@slbenfica.pt
+351 92 56 60 007

 slbenfica.pt

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

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

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

Kit colours

Light

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

Dark

Player shirt: black
Player short: black
GK shirt: dark grey



Playing hall

Pav. Luz No. 2
Av. General Norton Matos
1500-313 Lisbon
Portugal
Capacity: 1,540



SPORT LISBOA E BENFICA

Could we say that the 2022/23 season was quite a disappointment for Benfica? After lifting the EHF European League trophy at the 2022 EHF Finals they hosted in Lison, the Portuguese side struggled throughout the group matches last season, before being eliminated by Flensburg-Handewitt.

In the wake of this result, a big change was planned, and former Paris Saint-Germain Handball assistant coach Jesus Javier Gonzalez took on the mantle this summer.

- **in the 2022/23 season, as the defending EHF European League champions, they went out in the Last 16, beaten by SG Flensburg-Handewitt (72:54 on aggregate)**
- **finished third in the Portuguese league last season, behind Porto and Sporting**
- **winning the EHF European League in 2022, in a final against SC Magdeburg, is their best European result**
- **Jesus Javier Gonzalez replaced Chema Rodriguez as head coach in the summer of 2023**
- **other signings include Magdeburg goalkeeper Mike Jensen and Kielce left wing Miguel Sanchez-Migallon**

The team, though, remains as solid as it has always been. Mike Jensen, fresh from winning the Machineseeker EHF Champions League with SC Magdeburg, will reinforce the goalkeeper position. Christopher Edberg and Miguel Sanchez-Migallon bring some additional EHF Champions League experience to an already-talented roster. And with them, comes the hope for a bright European fate again.

Team captain Paulo Moreno: "One of the main goals is to work hard and build a strong and cohesive team as soon as possible. We are looking for the necessary connection to start growing and creating a great team in the true sense of the word, a team capable of fighting and winning titles."

PAST ACHIEVEMENTS

EHF European League

Participations (incl. 2023/24): 4

Winners (1): 2021/22

Last 16 (1): 2022/23

Qualification (1): 2020/21

Other

EHF Champions League

Qualification (1): 2008/09

EHF Cup

Group phase (2): 2016/17, 2019/20 (*season cancelled due to pandemic*)

Cup Winners' Cup

Quarter-finals (1): 2011/12

Challenge Cup

Runners-up (2): 2010/11, 2015/16

Semi-finals (2): 2007/08, 2014/15

Portuguese league: 7 titles (1962, 1975, 1982, 1983, 1989, 1990, 2008)

Portuguese cup: 6 titles (1985-87, 2011, 2016, 2018)





JESÚS JAVIER GONZÁLEZ

Coach

- arrived at Benfica in summer of 2023 after five seasons with PSG in France as assistant coach under Raul Gonzalez
- reached EHF FINAL4 three times with PSG but never won it
- started coaching career at La Rioja in his native Spain and led that club for 11 years (2007-18)
- finished runners-up in the Spanish league three times and reached the final of the Spanish cup, the league cup, as well as the Super Cup, but failed to win a title with La Rioja
- named best coach of the ASOBAL league in 2011 and 2013

ARRIVALS

Mike Jensen (Magdeburg/GER)
Gabriel Gavalcanti (Cisne/ESP, on loan)
Filip Taleski (Vardar/MKD)
Rui Baptista (Águas Santas/POR)
Yoav Lumbroso (Limoges/FRA)
Christopher Hedberg (Elverum/NOR)
Miguel Sánchez-Migallón (Kielce/POL)
Stiven Valencia (Valur/ISL)

DEPARTURES

Sergey Hernández (Magdeburg/GER)
Ádám Juhász (Tatabánya/HUN)
Arnaud Bingo (Alkaloid/MKD)
Jonas Källman (retired)
Carlos Martins (Braga/POR)
Vladimir Vranjes (Wetzlar/GER)
Arnau García (Ivry/FRA)
Luciano Silva (Al-Hada/KSA)
Tadej Kljun (Balatonfüred/HUN)
Leandro Semedo (Maritimo/POR)

I TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height	Weight
1	Mike Ulrich	Jensen	DEN	Goalkeeper	26/02/1995	Maribo, DEN	207	115
2	Miguel Sanchez-Migallon	Naranjo	ESP	Left Wing	08/02/1995	Ciudad Real, ESP	200	99
4	Christopher	Hedberg	SWE	Right Wing	08/08/1992	Skövde, SWE	193	88
5	Gabriel	Oliveira Cavalcanti	POR	Left Back	30/05/2004	Almada, POR	197	97
7	Stiven Tobar	Valencia	ISL	Left Wing	2000-10-27	Cali, COL	184	84
11	Bélone	Moreira	POR	Centre Back	01/06/1990	Lisboa, POR	180	90
12	Bernardo Miguel	Simão de Almeida	POR	Goalkeeper	2005-06-14	Vila Franca de Xira, POR	187	100
C 13	Paulo	Moreno	CPV	Line Player	08/05/1992	Lisboa, POR	193	108
14	Afonso Maria	Freire Mendes	POR	Right Wing	11/01/2005	Almada, POR	177	70
16	Nikola	Zoric	SRB	Goalkeeper	30/09/2004	Novi Sad, SRB	197	90
17	Gabriel	da Costa Sequeira	POR	Centre Back	12/07/2006	Leiria, POR	188	80
22	Alexis	Borges Hernández	POR	Line Player	06/10/1991	Vila Clara, CUB	198	114
23	Ole	Rahmel	GER	Right Wing	19/11/1989	Achim, GER	193	90
24	Ander	Izquierdo Labayen	ESP	Centre Back	01/05/2000	Pamplona, ESP	193	82
27	Rui Miguel	Pereira Baptista	POR	Centre Back	15/10/2001	Guimarães, POR	180	75
28	Filip	Taleski	MKD	Left Back	28/03/1996	Prilep, MKD	200	86
30	Demis Cosmin	Grigoras	ROU	Right Back	30/06/1993	Vaslui, ROU	196	101
41	Gustavo Alexandre	Capdeville	POR	Goalkeeper	31/08/1997	Lisboa, POR	190	90
44	Petar	Djordjic	SRB	Left Back	17/09/1990	Sabac, SRB	195	97
53	João	Bandeira Lourenço	POR	Left Back	10/05/2006	Benavente, POR	196	93
66	Yoav	Lumbroso	ISR	Centre Back	15/07/2000	Beer Sheva, ISR	172	74
99	Guilherme	Carvalho Cabral	BRA	Line Player	18/02/2003	Rio Verde, BRA	202	110



MIKE JENSEN

 @mikejensendk

Goalkeeper

- Danish international who arrived at Benfica in summer of 2023 from CL winners Magdeburg, swapping places with Sergey Hernandez who went to Germany
- had important saves that helped Magdeburg beat Barça in CL 2022/23 semi-final
- had joined Magdeburg in 2021 from fellow German side HBW Balingen-Weilstetten; previously played for GOG among other teams in his native Denmark

EC trophies: CL 2023



PETAR DJORDJIC

 @djordjic17

Left back

- key player for Benfica since his arrival from Meshkov Brest in 2019; was joined top scorer of EL with 109 goals when Benfica lifted the trophy in 2021/22 season
- previously played for German Bundesliga sides Wetzlar, Flensburg, and Hamburg
- son of Zoran Djordjic, who represented Yugoslavia in five major tournaments
- known for his impulsive play and shooting power

EC trophies: EL 2022, EHF Cup 2012



ALEXIS BORGES

 @alexisborges22

Line player

- Cuban-born Portuguese international, who joined Benfica from Montpellier HB in 2021 and won the EL in his first season with the club
- previously played six seasons for Benfica's domestic rivals FC Porto, interrupted by one year on loan with Barça in 2017/18
- with his mentality, he is one of the most important players in both attack and defence

EC trophies: EL 2022



OLE RAHMEL

 @rahmelole

Right wing

- German international, who arrived at Benfica from THW Kiel for the 2020/21 season
- decisive player in Benfica's run to the EL 2021/22 trophy, scoring 11 goals in the final against a club from his native Germany, SC Magdeburg
- earlier won the EHF Cup with Gummersbach in 2009 and again 10 years later with Kiel, and the Cup Winners' Cup twice with Gummersbach

EC trophies: EL 2022, EHF Cup 2009, 2019; CWC 2010, 2011

GROUP A



Club contact

Club Address

Rhein-Neckar Löwen
 Franz-Grashof-Strasse 5-7
 68199 Mannheim
 Germany


Media contact

Rüdiger Ofenloch
ofenloch@rhein-neckar-loewen.de
 +49 15 20 84 29 495

 rhein-neckar-loewen.de

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

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

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

Kit colours

Light

Player shirt: orange
 Player short: blue
 GK shirt: purple

Dark

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



Playing hall

SNP Dome Heidelberg
 Carl Friedrich Gauß Ring 16
 69124 Heidelberg
 Germany
 Capacity: 4,134

RHEIN-NECKAR LÖWEN



After a one-season absence, Rhein-Neckar Löwen are back on the European circuit. The German side competed at (and hosted) the inaugural EHF Finals Men 2021, but lost already in qualification for the EHF European League the following season, against eventual champions SL Benfica, and did not play at all in Europe in 2022/23.

They overcame their first challenge of the 2023/24 season with flying colours, clearly beating former two-time EHF Champions League winners HC Vardar 1961 in the qualification round 71:58 on aggregate.

- returned to EHF European League this season after one year away from international competition
- reached group matches by beating two-time former CL winners HC Vardar 1961 in qualification: 71:58 on agg.
- won German cup in April 2023 in final against eventual CL winners SC Magdeburg for first trophy in five years
- two-time CL semi-finalists, whose best European result is winning the former EHF Cup in 2012/13
- summer signings include backs Jon Lindenchrome Andersen and Arnór Snær Óskarsson

With the likes of Juri Knorr, David Späth and Lion Zacharias, Rhein-Neckar have got plenty of talent. But not only can this team count on their fearless youth, they are also helped by some more experienced players, such as Patrick Groetzki, Jannik Kohlbacher or Swedish goalkeeper Mikael Appelgren. Last season, each of them contributed to the win of the German cup, the club's first trophy in five years.

Manager Jennifer Kettemann: "Being part of the 'European Business' is one big keystone of the club's identity. It is not only for the chance of winning another title, but for presenting Rhein-Neckar Löwen European-wide and making the club attractive for new talented players all over the world."

PAST ACHIEVEMENTS

EHF European League

Participations (incl. 2023/24): 3

Semi-finals (1): 2020/21

Qualification (1): 2021/22

Other

EHF Champions League

Semi-finals (2): 2008/09; 2010/11

Quarter-finals (2): 2009/10, 2013/14

EHF Cup:

Winners (1): 2012/13

Semi-finals (1): 2011/12

Cup Winners' Cup:

Runners-up (1): 2007/08

German league: 2 titles (2016, 2017)

German cup: 2 titles (2018, 2023)





SEBASTIAN HINZE

Coach

- former line player, who arrived as head coach at Rhein-Neckar Löwen in 2022 to replace Ljubomir Vranjes
- won the German cup with Löwen in his first season in charge, beating CL winners SC Magdeburg in a shoot-out in the final
- previously worked 10 seasons at Bergischer HC, the club where he had finished his playing career in 2011
- never played in the Bundesliga, but helped BHC promote to Germany's topflight in 2011 before retiring as a player

ARRIVALS

Jon Lindenchrone Andersen (Göppingen/GER)
Steven Plucnar Jacobsen (Kolding/DEN)
Gustav Davidsson (Hammarby/SWE)
Arnor Snaer Óskarsson (Valur/ISL)
Philipp Ahouansou (Minden/GER, was on loan)
Lion Zacharias (Ludwigshafen/GER, was on loan)

DEPARTURES

Albin Lagergren (Magdeburg/GER)
Lukas Nilsson (Aalborg/DEN)
Benjamin Helander (Sävehof/SWE)
Kristjan Horzen (Gummersbach/GER)
Robert Timmermeister (Kolding/DEN, on loan)

I TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height	Weight
1	Mikael	Appelgren	SWE	Goalkeeper	06/09/1989	Uddevalla, SWE	192	104
3	Uwe	Gensheimer	GER	Left Wing	26/10/1986	Mannheim, GER	188	86
6	Niclas Vest	Kirkeløkke	DEN	Right Back	26/03/1994	Ringe, DEN	195	99
8	Magnus	Grupe	GER	Centre Back	12/11/2004	Weinheim, GER	190	90
9	Steven Plucnar	Jacobsen	DEN	Line Player	22/10/2000	Solrod, DEN	200	108
10	Juri	Knorr	GER	Centre Back	09/05/2000	Flensburg, GER	192	95
11	Arnór Snær	Óskarsson	ISL	Right Back	22/02/2000	Rejkavik, ISL	180	82
15	David	Móré	GER	Left Wing	13/06/2004	Memmingen, GER	185	82
19	Philipp	Ahouansou	GER	Left Back	02/05/2001	Hanau, GER	204	105
20	Andreas Holst	Jensen	DEN	Left Back	01/12/1994	Lemvig, DEN	202	102
22	Gustav	Davidsson	SWE	Left Back	29/11/1999	Stockholm, SWE	193	105
C 24	Patrick	Groetzki	GER	Right Wing	04/07/1989	Pforzheim, GER	188	81
25	Olle Forsell	Schefvert	SWE	Centre Back	13/08/1993	Halmstad, SWE	196	96
26	Niklas	Michalski	GER	Right Wing	20/02/2003	Mannheim, GER	184	87
29	David	Späth	GER	Goalkeeper	29/04/2002	Kaiserslautern, GER	200	107
33	Ýmir	Gíslason	ISL	Line Player	01/07/1997	Reykjavik, ISL	196	100
34	Valentin	Willner	GER	Line Player	16/01/2005	München, GER	194	105
35	Joel	Birlehm	GER	Goalkeeper	25/04/1997	Herford, GER	195	100
38	Dave	Hörnig	GER	Goalkeeper	16/11/2005	Offenburg, GER	190	103
42	JonLindenchrone	Andersen	DEN	Right Back	02/01/1997	Nørre Snede, DEN	194	93
45	Halil	Jaganjac	CRO	Left Back	22/06/1998	Rijeka, CRO	200	106
46	Theo	Straub	GER	Right Wing	07/11/2004	Gelnhausen, GER	191	80
50	Lion	Zacharias	GER	Left Wing	20/06/2003	Mannheim, GER	184	92
78	Fabian	Schwarzer	GER	Right Wing	03/07/2004	Wittlich, GER	184	76
80	Jannik	Kohlbacher	GER	Line Player	19/07/1995	Bensheim, GER	190	116



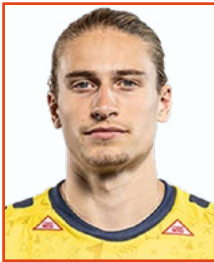
MIKAEL APPELGREN

 @mikaelalfappelgren

Goalkeeper

- Swedish international, who arrived at Löwen from Melsungen in 2015 and won the Bundesliga title in the first two seasons with his new club
- named best goalkeeper of the Bundesliga in 2017/18 and again in 2018/19
- was out for almost two years following surgery on knee, shoulder and finger in 2020, but quickly got back to his old level and helped Löwen win the German cup in 2023

EURO: S 2018

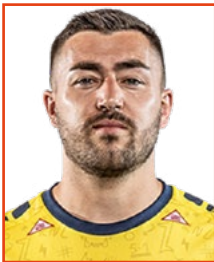


JURI KNORR

 @juriknorr

Left back

- one of Germany's biggest talents, was 21 when he joined Löwen from Minden in 2021
- in 2022/23, scored 213 goals in the Bundesliga and won the German cup with Löwen
- made debut in Germany national team in October 2020
- had international breakthrough at 2023 WCh, where he finished top of the list of players with the most assists (52) and made the All-star Team as best young player



JANNIK KOHLBACHER

 @jannikkohlbacher_80

Line player

- German international, who arrived at Löwen from Wetzlar in summer of 2018
- signed a new contract in July 2023 that keeps him in Mannheim until at least 2026
- played his first major event with the German national team at the Men's EHF EURO 2016 in Poland, and won gold right away
- contributed 29 goals to Germany's run to fifth place at the 2023 WCh

EURO: G 2016



PATRICK GROETZKI

 @patrickgroetzki24

Right wing

- German international and club icon, who joined Löwen as a youth player in 2007 and has never played for another club team since
- competed in over 560 Löwen games, more than any other player in the club's history
- team captain since the arrival of Sebastian Hinze as head coach in 2022
- made national team debut for Germany at age 19 in 2009, the same year he won gold and made the All-star Team of the Junior WCh

EC trophies: EHF Cup 2013
OG: B 2016

GROUP B PREVIEW



A JAMBOREE BAG WITH BIG NAMES AND RISING STARS

Group B is something like a jamboree bag, as none of the four teams played in the 2022/23 group phase – and there is no big favourite in sight. TSV Hannover-Burgdorf joined Górnik Zabrze, HC Kriens-Luzern, and AEK Athens after easily beating Ystads IF HF twice in qualification.

Every side has its special advantages and strengths: Górnik Zabrze have a very balanced and rehearsed team with new coach Tomasz Strabala, who worked for former EHF Champions League winners Kielce many years before. The top star of the Polish side is the national team's goalkeeper Piotr Wyszomirski. Zabrze were seeded for the group matches.



In contrast, AEK Athens not only celebrated their 100th anniversary this year, but also played in the EHF European League group phase two seasons ago after winning the third-tier EHF European Cup. AEK became Greek champions for the fifth time in 2022/23 and the team of new head coach Dragan Djukic, who replaced former international Alexis Alvanos in September, counts on several big names such as Belorussian goalkeeper Ivan Matskevich and Croatian shooter Stipe Mandalinic, who both have Champions League experience.



The biggest name in this group is arguably Andy Schmid, Swiss handball legend, who joined HC Kriens-Luzern in 2022 after 10 years at Rhein-Neckar Löwen in Germany. An achilles tendon injury could keep him away from the group matches, but otherwise is Schmid (39) still one of the best playmakers in the world. He steered Kriens to the winners' podium of the Swiss Cup and into the finals against Kadetten Schaffhausen. Kriens-Luzern play a European group phase for the first time. Their biggest signing is Željko Musa, who builds an all-Croatian line player duo with Marin Šipić.



TSV Hannover-Burgdorf, nicknamed “Die Recken“ (Warriors), finished sixth in the German Bundesliga 2022/23 season, but as Füchse Berlin took the trophy at the EHF Finals in Flensburg, there was an additional spot for Germany. In the qualification round, the team of the former head coach of Germany's national team, Christian Prokop, did not have any problems with last season's EHF European League Last 16 participants Ystad. The “Warriors” participate in the EHF club competitions for the third time after 2013/14 and 2018/19 – and are regarded as slight favourites in this group. The biggest international names are new Danish goalkeeper Simon Gade, who arrived from Aalborg, Croatian line player Ilja Brozovic, and Montenegrin right back Branko Vujovic. Two rising stars are German U21 world champions Renars Uscins (right back) and Justus Fischer, who was named best line player of the 24th IHF Men's Junior World Championship.

I GROUP B HEAD-TO-HEADS

PREVIOUS DUELS BETWEEN THE TEAMS OF GROUP B

Górnik Zabrze vs HC Kriens-Luzern

No previous encounters in European competitions

Górnik Zabrze vs AEK Athens HC

No previous encounters in European competitions

Górnik Zabrze vs TSV Hannover-Burgdorf

No previous encounters in European competitions

HC Kriens-Luzern vs AEK Athens HC

No previous encounters in European competitions

HC Kriens-Luzern vs TSV Hannover-Burgdorf

No previous encounters in European competitions

AEK Athens HC vs TSV Hannover-Burgdorf

No previous encounters in European competitions

GROUP B



Club contact


Club Address

Górnik Zabrze Piłka Ręczna
S.A.
Wolności 406
41-800 Zabrze, Poland

Media contact

Paweł Franzke
franzke@handballzabrze.pl
+48 60 18 78 708

 handballzabrze.pl

 [GornikZabrze.handball](https://www.facebook.com/GornikZabrze.handball)

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

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

Kit colours

Light

Player shirt: white
Player short: white
GK shirt: dark blue

Dark

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



Playing hall

Hala "Centrum" Dąbrowa
Górnicza
Aleja Róż 3
41-303 Dąbrowa Górnicza,
Poland
Capacity: 3,044

GÓRNIK ZABRZE



After failing several times in the qualification rounds against big names such as current EHF Champions League winners SC Magdeburg, Górnik Zabrze have their first ever group stage in any EHF competition ahead. Swedish coach Patrick Liljestrand was replaced by Tomasz Strzabala, former assistant coach in Kielce and last season coach at Azoty Puławy. Biggest name in the squad is Polish national team goalkeeper Piotr Wyszomirski.

- after less than a season in charge, Swedish Olympic silver medallist Patrick Liljestrand has been replaced as coach by Tomasz Strzabala
- Liljestrand's son Casper is still a goalkeeper with the team
- in 2021 (against Arendal) and 2022 (against Zürich), Zabrze lost in the first qualification round of the EL
- among the five new arrivals are three Polish players and each one from Czech Republic and Ukraine
- right back Rennosuke Tokuda joined Zabrze after the Tokyo Olympics, he was the first Japanese player in the Polish league when arriving at Tarnów in 2019

For the third time after 2014 and 2020, Górnik Zabrze finished the Polish league in third position in 2023, behind powerhouses Industria Kielce and Orlen Wisła Płock, who both compete in the Machineseecker EHF Champions League. Zabrze's last domestic trophies date back to 1990, when they won both the league and the cup in Poland.

Team captain Damian Przytula: "I am glad that we will finally be able to make our debut at such high level of European club competitions. We are curious, but also very motivated to show ourselves, Górnik and Polish handball from the best side. I am looking most forward to our first match in our hall. We will be able to show ourselves in front of our fans, and they will support us in the fight for points."

PAST ACHIEVEMENTS

EHF European League

Participations (incl. 2023/24): 3

Qualification (2): 2021/22; 2022/23

Other

EHF Cup

Qualification (4): 2014/15, 2015/16, 2016/17, 2019/20

Challenge Cup

Last 16 (1): 2013/14

Polish league: 2 titles (1989, 1990)

Polish cup: 3 titles (1984, 1988, 1990)





TOMASZ STRZABALA

Coach

- took over at Zabrze for the 2023/24 season as successor of Swedish coach Patrick Liljestrand
- started coaching career as an assistant at Kielce in 2008
- worked 10 seasons with the Polish powerhouse and saw the club win the EHF Champions League in 2016
- got his first head coach position in 2018, at Kwidzyn
- later coached Ostrowiec, Kalisz and Tarnów before arriving at Zabrze in the summer of 2023

ARRIVALS

Kacper Ligarzewski (Piotrków/POL)
Jakub Szyszko (Kwidzyn/POL)
Jakub Bogacz (Lubin/POL)
Taras Minotskyi (Tarnów/POL)
Lukáš Mořkowský (Zubří/CZE)

DEPARTURES

Krzysztof Lyżwa (Ostrów/POL)
Paweł Kazimier (Tarnów/POL)
Piotr Rutkowski (Lubin/POL)
Lubomir Ivanysia (Koszalin/POL)
Miljan Ivanović (n/a)
Igor Bykowski (Przemyśl/POL)

I TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height	Weight
1	Kacper	Ligarzewski	POL	Goalkeeper	14/06/2001	Stade, GER	189	91
3	Jakub	Szyszko	POL	Right Wing	18/02/2001	Bielsk Podlaski, POL	179	77
7	Rennosuke	Tokuda	JPN	Right Back	15/05/1998	Iwakuni, JPN	181	82
10	Lukáš	Morkovský	CZE	Left Back	04/01/2002	Valašské Meziříčí, CZE	189	88
11	Aliaksandr	Bachko	BLR	Centre Back	15/08/1989	Grodno, BLR	189	90
12	Casper	Liljestrand	SWE	Goalkeeper	13/08/2000	Ystad, SWE	197	91
15	Dmytro	Artemenko	UKR	Left Wing	18/01/1996	Melytopol, UKR	180	84
16	Piotr	Wyszomirski	POL	Goalkeeper	06/01/1988	Warszawa, POL	194	95
19	Pawel	Krawczyk	POL	Centre Back	10/07/2003	Mikolów, POL	194	102
21	Patryk	Mauer	POL	Right Wing	02/09/1998	Legnica, POL	180	80
23	Jakub	Bogacz	POL	Left Wing	30/07/1998	Chrzanów, POL	173	82
26	Dawid	Molski	POL	Left Wing	26/02/2002	Ostrów Wielkopolski, POL	186	79
31	Pawel	Dudkowski	POL	Right Back	13/06/1998	Wrocław, POL	188	90
35	Taras	Minotskyi	UKR	Left Back	15/01/2000	Volochysk, UKR	193	95
41	Sebastian	Kaczor	POL	Line Player	15/12/2001	Kraków, POL	197	113
50	Bartosz	Szczepanik	POL	Goalkeeper	07/12/2004	Tarnowskie Góry, POL	191	90
77	Dmytro	Ilchenko	UKR	Line Player	09/07/1996	Kyiv, UKR	198	117
89	Adam	Wasowski	POL	Line Player	04/11/1997	Szczecin, POL	195	110
C 98	Damian	Przytula	POL	Left Back	27/11/1998	Olsztyn, POL	200	108



PIOTR WYSZOMIRSKI

 @piotrwyszomirski

Goalkeeper

- former Polish international, who returned to Poland to join Zabrze in 2022
- started career at Azoty Pulawy before moving abroad in 2012, first to Hungary
- played for Csurgó (2012-14) and freshly crowned EHF Cup winners Szeged (2014-16), then joined Lemgo in Germany for four years, and played for Tatabánya in Hungary
- part of Poland national team that won bronze at 2015 WCh in Qatar

WCh: B 2015



DAMIAN PRYTULA

 @boniek9898

Left back

- Polish international and Zabrze team captain, who arrived at the club in 2021
- scored 10 times against ØIF Arendal in the EL 2021/22 qualification but it was not enough for Zabrze to advance to the group phase
- previously played for Olsztyn, Malbork, and Kwidzyn, before joining Zabrze
- played for all Polish youth and junior national teams before making A team debut



RENNOSUKE TOKUDA

 @r_51__

Right back

- became first Japanese player in the Polish league when he joined Tarnów in 2019
- was the top scorer of the Polish league in 2020/21 season, then moved to German side TuS Nettelstedt for half a season
- returned to Poland and joined Zabrze in 2022
- Japanese international, who played at the Olympics and two WCh's



PATRYK MAUER

 @patryk.mauer

Right wing

- counter-attack specialist, who joined Zabrze in 2022 from league rivals Opole
- had breakthrough season when he scored 172 times for Gdansk in the Polish second division, which earned him a transfer to top-division side Opole
- gained international experience by playing two seasons in the EHF Cup
- was best Polish scorer at the M18 EHF EURO 2016, with 54 goals

GROUP B



Club contact

Club Address
 HC Kriens-Luzern
 Am Mattenhof 12
 6010 Kriens
 Switzerland

Media contact
 Daniel Frank
d.frank@hckriens.ch
 +41 79 605 33 36

 hckriens-luzern.ch

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

 –

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

Kit colours

Light
 Player shirt: magenta
 Player short: navy blue
 GK shirt: yellow

Dark
 Player shirt: navy blue
 Player short: navy blue
 GK shirt: orange



Playing hall
 Stadthalle Sursee
 St. Urban Straße 5
 6210 Sursee
 Switzerland
 Capacity: 1,800

HC KRIENS–LUZERN



Since 2022, HC Kriens-Luzern is the new club of Swiss legend Andy Schmid, The prolific playmaker steered his side for the first time ever to the winners’ podium of the Swiss cup, but he tore his Achilles tendon in the play-offs against Kadetten, who ultimately became champions again.

For the first time in the club’s history, Kriens-Luzern now compete in a group phase of an EHF competition. After this season, Schmid will become new head coach of the Swiss national team.

- **in 2020 and 2021, failed in qualification for EL group phase twice – against SL Benfica and Metalurg**
- **after 13 years playing in Denmark and Germany and being named best Bundesliga player five times, Andy Schmid returned to his home country in 2022**
- **biggest signing of the season is Croatian line player Zeljko Musa, who arrived from RK Zagreb and will form an all-Croatian line player duo with Marin Sipic**
- **new arrival from Montpellier, French goalkeeper Kevin Bonnefoi has been ruled out for months due to injury; his replacement is Yassine Belkaïed, joining from Celje**

Kriens-Luzern play their sixth season in total in European club competitions; their biggest success so far was reaching the quarter-finals of the Challenge Cup in 2013/14. How far can the Swiss side go from the group matches in the EHF European League Men 2023/24?

Team captain Ramon Schlumpf: “We want to master the big challenge of having a say in both the national championship and the national cup competition, as well as on the European stage, and achieving our goals. I am looking forward the most to the match with the Hannover ‘Recken’, the former team of my teammate Fabian Böhm. We face a renowned team from the German Bundesliga, the best league in the world.”

PAST ACHIEVEMENTS

EHF European League

Participations (incl. 2023/24): 3
Qualification (2): 2020/21; 2021/22

Other

EHF Cup

Qualification (2): 2014/15, 2017/18

Challenge Cup

Quarter-finals (1): 2011/12

Swiss league: –

Swiss cup: 1 title (2023)





PETER KUKUCKA

Coach

- former Slovakian international, who scored more than 400 goals in 110 matches for his country
- played at Bystrica, Presov, Dunaferri and Nordhorn – where he won the EHF Cup – before moving to Switzerland in 2009
- was player (2009-2015) and then coach (2016-2019) at Kadetten, and won several trophies in both positions
- became Slovakian national team coach in 2019 and guided the team during the home EHF EURO 2022
- working at Kriens-Luzern since summer 2022, won the Swiss cup in his first season in charge

EC trophies: EHF Cup 2008 (as player)

ARRIVALS

Radojica Cepic (Athens/GRE)
Kevin Bonnefoi (Montpellier/FRA)
Jonas Schelker (Wetzlar/SUI)
Zeljko Musa (Zagreb/CRO)
Yassine Belkaied (Celje/SLO)

DEPARTURES

Rok Zaponsek (Celje/SLO)
Levin Wanner (Bern/SUI)
Tim Rellstab (Winterthur/SUI)
Aljaz Lavric (Krka/SLO)

I TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height	Weight
1	Sven	Näf	SUI	Goalkeeper	01/01/2007	Wolhusen, SUI	185	77
2	Andre	Schmid	SUI	Centre Back	30/08/1983	Horgen, SUI	190	86
6	Dimitrij	Küttel	SUI	Right Back	18/02/1994	Aarau, SUI	191	93
8	Luca	Sigrist	SUI	Centre Back	04/10/2005	Luzern, SUI	186	76
9	Valentin	Wolfisberg	SUI	Centre Back	07/12/2004	Luzern, SUI	195	84
10	Milos	Orbovic	SRB	Right Back	02/11/1993	Vrbas, SRB	193	99
11	Radojica	Cepic	MNE	Left Back	29/07/2002	Plevlja, MNE	194	89
12	Fabian Dominic	Pellegrini	SUI	Goalkeeper	09/10/1996	Uster, SUI	188	95
14	Gino	Steenaeerts	SUI	Right Wing	05/05/2005	Luzern, SUI	184	83
15	Moritz	Oertli	SUI	Centre Back	29/01/2001	Luzern, SUI	188	86
16	Kevin	Bonnefoi	FRA	Goalkeeper	03/12/1991	Toulon, FRA	190	107
20	Fabian	Böhm	GER	Left Back	24/06/1989	Potsdam, GER	198	99
C 21	Ramon	Schlumpf	SUI	Left Wing	02/11/1998	Zürich, SUI	187	94
22	Marin	Šipic	CRO	Line Player	29/04/1996	Bad Soden, GER	190	107
23	Gino	Delchiappo	SUI	Wing	07/08/1998	Luzern, SUI	192	108
25	Jonas	Schelker	SUI	Centre Back	09/04/1999	Ravensburg, GER	182	84
27	On	Langenick	SUI	Right Wing	17/09/2001	Luzern, SUI	183	84
28	Željko	Musa	CRO	Line Player	08/01/1986	Mostar, BIH	200	114
41	Nils	Flückiger	SUI	Line Player	16/10/2005	Luzern, SUI	185	85
57	Ammar	Idrizi	SUI	Right Wing	17/09/2001	Sursee, SUI	183	83
61	Yassine	Belkaied	TUN	Goalkeeper	19/10/2000	Hammamet, TUN	197	95
99	Gorazd	Škof	SLO	Goalkeeper	11/07/1977	Novo Mesto, SLO	188	90



FABIAN BÖHM

Left back

- German international, who is set to meet his former club Hannover in the group matches; played at the German club from 2016 until joining Kriens in 2022
- also played for Magdeburg, Füchse, Essen, Bergischer HC and Balingen in Germany, and scored more than 1,000 goals in the Bundesliga
- became national team player at 26, was a regular under coach Christian Prokop



ANDRE SCHMID

 @andyschmid2

Centre back

- legend of Swiss handball, who scored more than 1,000 goals for the national team
- set to retire after 2023/24 to become head coach of the Swiss national team
- spent 12 years at Rhein-Neckar Löwen and was named Best Player of the Bundesliga for five straight seasons, before returning to Switzerland and joining Kriens in 2022
- will miss first part of 2023/24 season as he recovers from tearing an Achilles tendon

EC trophies: EHF Cup 2013



JONAS SCHELKER

 @jonasschelker

Centre back

- Swiss international, who previously played under coach Peter Kukucka – when both were with league rivals Kadetten Schaffhausen
- won Swiss league and cup several times before joining German club Wetzlar in 2022
- returned to Switzerland after just one year, now sharing centre back position at Kriens with Andy Schmid
- has been a regular in the Swiss national team since 2018



ŽELJKO MUSA

 @zeljko.musa.02

Line player

- Croatian international, who joined Kriens in 2023 for the ninth club in his career
- arrived from Zagreb, where he played two seasons in the CL, after six years with Magdeburg in Germany – where he won the EL in 2021
- previously played for Kielce, finished third with them at the EHF FINAL4 2013
- scored winning goal for Croatia in EHF EURO 2020 semi-final against Norway after two periods of extra time

EC trophies: EL 2021
EURO: S 2010, 2020, B 2012; WCh: B 2013

GROUP B



Club contact

Club Address

AEK Athens HC
Fokon 9
143 41 Nea Filadelfia-Athens
Greece


Media contact

Panos Loupos
ploupospressoffice@aek.gr
+30 69 48 50 89 10

 aek.gr

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

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

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

Kit colours

Light

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

Dark

Player shirt: black
Player short: black
GK shirt: orange



Playing hall

Ano Liosia Olympic Hall
Vosporou & Lordou Vironos
13342 Fili, Ano Liosia
Greece
Capacity: 8,327

AEK ATHENS HC



In their anniversary season – the club celebrate their 100th year of existence – AEK are part of the European League group phase for the second time. In 2021/22, as reigning EHF European Cup winners, the Greek champions closely missed qualification for the quarter-finals.

Now coached by Dragan Djukic, who stepped in late September, the squad is in transition with seven new arrivals and even nine players who left.

- became Greek champions for the fifth time in 2022/23 and are the only Greek team in the EL
- their main international success is winning the EHF European Cup in 2021, beating Swedish side Ystad twice in a double-header final in Greece
- in 2018, they were Challenge Cup finalists but lost to Romanian side Potaissa Turda
- last season, their international season ended in round 3 of the EHF European Cup, beaten by Alingsås
- stars of the team include Belorussian goalkeeper Ivan Matskevic and Croatian shooter Stipe Mandalinic, who both have EHF Champions League experience

Biggest names among the new signings are Krzysztof Komarzewski from EHF Champions League participants Orlen Wisla Plock, and Igor Zabic, arriving from Swiss champions Kadetten Schaffhausen.

What present can AEK give themselves in their anniversary season?

Team captain Panagiotis Nikolaidis: “This year we celebrate 100 years of AEK. So, we want have good season in Europe to celebrate one century of our club. Also, the EHF European League is a competition that we love and we are getting motivation from our participation here. All matches are very difficult. Our main goal is to play modern handball and give our 100 per cent in every match.”

PAST ACHIEVEMENTS

EHF European League

Participations (incl. 2023/24): 2

Group phase (1): 2021/22

Other

EHF Champions League

Qualification (2): 2011/12, 2013/14

EHF European Cup

Winners (1): 2020/21

Round 3 (1): 2022/23

Challenge Cup

Runners-up (1): 2017/18

Semi-finals (1): 2018/19

Quarter-finals (1): 2010/11

Greek league: 5 titles (2011, 2013, 2020, 2021, 2023)

Greek cup: 4 titles (2009, 2013, 2014, 2021)





DRAGAN DJUKIC

Coach

- took over at AEK in late September 2023 as successor of Alexis Alvanos, who had steered the club to several trophies
- has travelled the globe coaching club teams in Serbia, Montenegro, Romania, Jordania, Hungary, North Macedonia, and Switzerland
- coached the British national team at the 2012 Olympics in London; also had stints as national team coach of Jordan, North Macedonia, Switzerland, Israel, Montenegro, Georgia
- is an EHF lecturer and set up the 'Handball 4 All' project in his native Serbia, aimed at educating young players and coaches

ARRIVALS

Igor Zabic (Schaffhausen/SUI)
Philip Jonsson (Aranäs/SWE)
Charalampos Mallios (Nancy/FRA)
Patrik Martinovic (Celje/SLO)
Krzysztof Komarzewski (Plock/POL)
Nikolaos Kritikos (Focsani/ROU)
Vyron Papadopoulos (Olympiacos/GRE)

DEPARTURES

Radojica Cepic (Kriens-Luzern/SUI)
Maximilien Tike (Villeurbanne/FRA)
Nemanja Zivkovic (Bystrica/SVK)
Nikola Jukic (Mudhar/KSA)
Leonardo Domenech de Almeida (Hashron/ISR)
Ignacio Moya Florido (Dolmenes/ESP)
Konstantinos Kotsionis (Monte Drama/ITA)
Ioannis Kalomirois (PAOK/GRE)
Djordje Golubovic (n/a)
Aurelien Tchitombi (n/a)

I TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height	Weight
1	Ivan	Matskevich	BLR	Goalkeeper	08/05/1991	Lepel, BLR	193	103
2	Evangelos	Arampatzis	GRE	Right Wing	04/08/1996			
3	Igor	Zabic	SLO	Line Player	15/08/1992	Celje, SLO	201	113
5	Philip	Jonsson	SWE	Centre Back	21/04/1995			
8	Nikolaos	Kritikos	GRE	Left Back	24/09/1996		192	90
9	Stipe	Mandalinic	CRO	Left Back	09/09/1992	Split, CRO	195	98
C 10	Panagiotis	Nikolaidis	GRE	Left Back	02/04/1990			
11	Charalampos	Mallios	GRE	Centre Back	06/08/1987	Athens, GRE	184	85
15	Efthimios	Iliopoulos	GRE	Right Back	19/12/1996	Athens, GRE	195	94
16	Konstantinos	Raspitsos	GRE	Goalkeeper	18/07/2005			
18	Vyron	Papadopoulos	GRE	Left Wing	22/02/1986			
22	Anastasios	Papadionysiou	GRE	Line Player	11/08/1990			
25	Krzysztof	Komarzewski	POL	Right Wing	18/09/1998	Gdansk, POL	188	85
27	Nikolaos	Liapis	GRE	Line Player	24/08/1999	Thessaloniki, GRE	193	93
32	Igor	Arsic	SRB	Goalkeeper	19/10/1989	Krusevac, SRB	190	94
51	Luka	Sokolic	CRO	Field Player	15/04/1990	Zagreb, CRO	193	86
88	Jonathan	Azarin	FRA	Left Wing	27/09/1984	Avignon, FRA	172	75
89	Karim	Ouadah	FRA	Left Wing	14/10/1991			
92	Patrik	Martinovic	CRO	Right Back	29/08/2000	Rijeka, CRO	188	91
96	Patrick Andre	Toniazzo Lemos	BRA	Centre Back	23/05/1996	Sorriso, BRA	190	86
99	Christos	Kederis	GRE	Left Wing	29/04/1994			



IVAN MATSKEVICH

 @ivan_matskevich91


Goalkeeper

- played for Arkatron and SKA in Minsk, before joining Steaua in Romania in 2015
- arrived at Meshkov Brest in 2017 and was a regular in the CL for five seasons
- moved to Greece and joined AEK in 2022, and helped the team win the domestic league right in his first season
- Belarusian international since 2005; played at several major tournaments

EC trophies: Challenge Cup 2013



STIPE MANDALINIC

 @stipemandalinic9

Left back

- Former Croatian international, who has a rich history at HC Zagreb and Fühse Berlin
- previously played in Split and Karlovac, then played for Zagreb until 2017
- won the EHF Cup during his three-year stint at Fühse; spent two years with Pelister before arriving at AEK in 2022
- was a regular in the Croatian national team from 2012 until 2018

EC trophies: EHF Cup 2018
WCh: B 2013



IGOR ZABIC

Line player

- played in seven different countries before joining AEK in the summer of 2023
- started career in youth ranks of Celje in his hometown
- Sporting in Portugal was his first major club; gained CL experience with Plock
- last played for Kadetten, and reached the EL 2022/23 quarter-finals with the club
- part of the Slovenian national team that reached the EHF EURO 2020 semi-finals



KRZYSZTOF KOMARZEWSKI

 @mosquito1809

Right wing

- Polish international, who arrived at AEK in 2023 for his first club team abroad
- born in Gdansk, he first played for two local teams before joining Plock in 2020
- played EHF Finals Men with Plock in 2021 and 2022, but missed the final both times
- had his personal best European club season in the EL 2020/21, scoring 16 goals
- had debut in Polish national team in 2018

GROUP B




Club contact

Club Address

TSV Hannover-Burgdorf
Expo Plaza 7
30539 Hannover
Germany

Media contact

Franziska Zech
franziska.zech@die-recken.de
+49 17 15 30 84 91

 die-recken.de

 DIERECKEN

 –

 @dierecken

Kit colours

Light

Player shirt: grey
Player short: white
GK shirt: yellow

Dark

Player shirt: black
Player short: black
GK shirt: purple



Playing hall

Swiss Life Hall
Ferdinand-Wilhelm-
Fricke-Weg 8,
30169 Hannover
Germany
Capacity: 4,097

TSV HANNOVER— BURGDORF



After beating Swedish side Ystad twice in the qualification round, TSV Hannover-Burgdorf are back in the group phase of Europe's second-tier competition – for the third time after 2013/14 and 2018/19. In the latter season, they reached the quarter-finals but lost twice to eventual champions Füchse Berlin.

Steered by former German national team coach Christian Prokop, the “Recken” (Warriors) have built a young team.

- coach **Christian Prokop**, who the German national team in 2017-20, took over in 2021 from **Carlos Ortega**, who left to CL record winners **Barça**
- top signing for the 2023/24 season is Slovenian international **Tilen Strmljan** from **Celje** and Danish goalkeeper **Simon Gade** from **Aalborg**
- with **12 goals each**, right back **Renars Uscins** and wing **Marius Steinhauser** were Hannover's best scorers in the qualification round against **Ystad**
- Hannover finished **sixth in the Bundesliga 2022/23** and benefitted from the extra European spot Germany got after **Füchse Berlin** won the **EHF Finals 2023**

However, a balance in squad is created by experienced players such as **Ilja Brozovic**, **Branko Vujovic**, or Danish new arrival **Simon Gade**.

The first goal is to proceed to the main round; the aim is also to give young players like junior world champions **Renars Uscins** and **Justus Fischer** a lot of international experience on senior level.

Team captain **Marius Steinhauser**: “We have a young and talented team with good players and great potential, and we are ready to perform in three competitions this season. And with the successful qualification, all of us look forward to an interesting group phase in the European League with good opponents. We want to present ourselves in the best possible way on an international level and of course gain valuable experience for our still very young team.”

PAST ACHIEVEMENTS

EHF European League

Participations (incl. 2023/24): 1

Other

EHF Cup

Quarter-finals (1): 2018/19

Group phase (1): 2013/14

German league: –

German cup: –



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CHRISTIAN PROKOP

Coach

- former Germany national team coach, who has been in charge at Hannover-Burgdorf since 2021
- had to end his playing career early due to a knee injury and became a coach at age 25
- his breakthrough as coach came after he took over at Leipzig; was named Bundesliga Coach of the Year in 2016
- became Germany head coach in 2017, led team to WCh semi-finals two years later, but lost his job in February 2020
- stands out in bringing young talents to a top level

ARRIVALS

Tilen Strmljan (Celje/SLO)
Adam Nyfjäll (Wetzlar/GER)
Simon Gade (Aalborg/GER)

DEPARTURES

Evgeni Pevnov (Fredericia/DEN)
Domenico Ebner (Leipzig/GER)
Veit Mävers (Erlangen/GER)
Bastian Roscheck (n/a)

I TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height	Weight
1	Lukas	Reichenbach	GER	Goalkeeper	25/03/2002	Hildesheim, GER	184	81
2	Branko	Vujovic	MNE	Right Back	20/04/1998	Niksic, MNE	196	94
4	Adam	Nyfjäll	SWE	Line Player	29/07/1992	Lysekil, SWE	196	100
10	Renars	Uscins	GER	Right Back	29/04/2002	Dessau, GER	189	92
16	Simon	Gade	DEN	Goalkeeper	13/01/1997	Holstebro, DEN	194	94
C 19	Marius	Steinhauser	GER	Right Wing	06/02/1993	Karlsruhe, GER	187	85
21	Dario	Quenstedt	GER	Goalkeeper	22/09/1989	Burg, GER	193	104
22	Marian	Michalczyk	GER	Centre Back	01/02/1997	Beckum, GER	199	99
23	Uladzislau	Kulesh	BLR	Left Back	28/05/1996	Homel, BLR	206	98
24	Niklas	Gautzsch	GER	Left Back	24/03/2003	Crivitz, GAB	206	87
25	Tilen	Strmljan	SLO	Centre Back	01/03/1996	Ljubljana, SLO	185	77
26	Jonathan	Edvardsson	SWE	Centre Back	07/04/1997	Partille, SWE	186	81
28	Maximilian	Gerbl	SUI	Right Wing	25/06/1995	München, GER	178	73
35	Thorge	Lutze	GER	Centre Back	07/01/2005	Göttingen, GER	188	97
42	Martin	Hanne	GER	Left Back	12/05/2001	Peine, GER	191	91
44	Ilija	Brozovic	CRO	Line Player	26/05/1991	Split, CRO	195	110
46	Johannes	Thiel	GER	Right Back	13/02/2005	Lingen, GER	193	88
54	Justus	Fischer	GER	Line Player	06/02/2003	Hannover, GER	193	113
56	Hannes	Feise	GER	Left Wing	05/06/1996	Neustadt, GER	200	92
58	Daniel	Weber	GER	Right Wing	04/01/2003	Bremervörde, GER	181	80
61	Koray	Ayar	TUR	Line Player	22/03/2000	Hannover, GER	181	100
63	Justin	Wollny	GER	Left Wing	18/09/2002	Celle, GER	184	70
74	Vincent	Büchner	GER	Left Wing	30/05/1998	Hildesheim, GER	180	80



SIMON GADE

 @simon.gade

Goalkeeper

- Danish international, arrived at Hannover in 2023 after three years with Aalborg
- played three seasons in the CL, reached the final with Aalborg in 2020/21
- tall goalkeeper with fine reach, good reactions and strong ability for reading shots
- shares goalkeeper position with Dario Quenstedt, who previously was with Kiel
- won silver with Denmark at the 2017 Junior WCh in Algeria



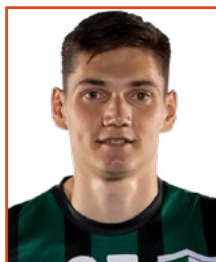
MARIUS STEINHAUSER

 @steini19

Left wing

- Hannover's new team captain and one of their most prolific goal scorers
- joined the club in 2022; had previously won four straight Bundesliga titles with Rhein-Neckar Löwen (2016, 2017) and SG Flensburg-Handewitt (2018, 2019)
- started his career in the youth academy of Rhein-Neckar Löwen; was youth and junior national team player for Germany

EC trophies: EHF Cup 2013



TILEN STRMLJAN

 @tilenstrmljan

Centre back

- Slovenian international, who arrived in Hannover from Celje in the summer of 2023 for his first club abroad
- coming off his career best season, scoring 53 times for Celje in the CL 2022/23
- had first international experience with Ribnica in the EHF Cup, before joining Celje
- is rather a classical playmaker than a shooter



BRANKO VUJOVIC

 @brankovujovic_2

Right back

- Montenegrin international; a player of Polish powerhouse Kielce since 2015, but has been on loan with Hannover since 2022
- previously played two seasons on loan for Celje in Slovenia (2017-19)
- was only 17 when he left his native Montenegro to join Kielce in Poland in 2015; was part of the team that won the CL the following year

EC trophies: CL 2016

GROUP C PREVIEW

WELL-BALANCED GROUP C TO GUARANTEE SURPRISES

The four sides featuring in group C have plenty of experience over the last decade in European competitions, yet have not featured in the second-tier European competition in the previous season.

Between the four teams, Pfadi Winterthur are the only one to have come through qualification, as the Swiss side delivered a dramatic 44:43 aggregate win over Portuguese team Aguas Santas Milaneza, as they clinched a 22:19 win in the second leg after losing the first match 24:22. It was a dramatic finish of the second leg, with Pfadi failing to score for the last 19 minutes, but their overall lead was just sufficient to clinch their place in the group matches.

IK Sävehof are another side who will be making their return to the group matches after a one-year break, when they were eliminated in qualification by Montpellier. In their previous appearance in the EHF European League Men, the Swedish champions made the Last 16, where they were eliminated by Swiss side Kadetten Schaffhausen on the away-goal rule. The Swedish side has plenty of talent at their disposal, including the top goal scorer of the M18 EHF EURO 2022 and the 2023 IHF Men's Youth World Championship, Faroese star Oli Mittun, as well as the EHF EURO 2022 winner, line player Felix Möller.

RK Gorenje Velenje played in the EHF Champions League a few seasons ago but have made a few steps back since. They reached the quarter-finals of the EHF European Cup Men last season, after being eliminated in the quarter-finals of the EHF European League Men in the 2021/22 season by eventual champions SL Benfica. Velenje rely mainly on young players and have largely kept the core of their squad from two seasons ago, therefore they have plenty of experience at their disposal to try and progress to the main round.

Last, but not least, REBI Balonmano Cuenca are returning to the group matches of an European competition for the first time since the 2019/20 season, when the season was cut short by the Covid-19 pandemic. With a core largely formed by South American players, as well as some very experienced Spanish ones, Cuenca had an excellent previous season in the domestic competition, but will aim even higher now, despite the changes made in the squad over the last summer.



Adrian Costeiu

I GROUP C HEAD-TO-HEADS

PREVIOUS DUELS BETWEEN THE TEAMS OF GROUP C

REBI Balonmano Cuenca vs RK Gorenje Velenje

No previous encounters in European competitions

REBI Balonmano Cuenca vs IK Sävehof

No previous encounters in European competitions

REBI Balonmano Cuenca vs Pfadi Winterthur

No previous encounters in European competitions

RK Gorenje Velenje vs IK Sävehof 1-0-1 (59:62) 2:2

07.12.2021	RK Gorenje Velenje vs IK Sävehof, EHF European League – Group C	31:35 (15:16)
08.03.2022	IK Sävehof vs RK Gorenje Velenje, EHF European League – Group C	27:28 (14:11)

RK Gorenje Velenje vs Pfadi Winterthur 2-0-0 (65:52) 4:0

28.02.2015	Pfadi Winterthur vs Gorenje Velenje, EHF Cup – Group A	26:35 (12:16)
08.03.2015	Gorenje Velenje vs Pfadi Winterthur, EHF Cup – Group A	30:26 (15:11)

IK Sävehof vs Pfadi Winterthur 0-0-2 (37:57) 0:4

31.10.1993	Pfadi Winterthur vs IK Sävehof, Cup Winners' Cup – Last 16	31:14 (16:9)
06.11.1993	IK Sävehof vs Pfadi Winterthur, Cup Winners' Cup – Last 16	23:26 (7:6)

GROUP C



Club contact


Club Address

REBI Balonmano Cuenca
C/Sargal s/n
16002 Cuenca
Spain

Media contact

Carlos Ruiz Massó
masso10carrascosa@hotmail.com
+34 63 58 94 179

 bmciudadencantada.es

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

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

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

Kit colours

Light

Player shirt: pink
Player short: pink
GK shirt: blue

Dark

Player shirt: green
Player short: green
GK shirt: yellow



Playing hall

Pabellon Polideportivo
el Sargal
C/Sargal s/n
16002 Cuenca
Spain
Capacity: 1,800

REBI BALONMANO CUENCA



REBI Balonmano Cuenca are coming off the best domestic season in the club's history, as they finished runners-up in the ASOBAL league 2022/23 behind the mighty Barça.

The result earned Cuenca a spot in the group matches of the EHF European League 2023/24, so the Spanish side will be eager to translate their strong domestic performance into a standout result on international level. Advancing to the main round is the minimum goal for the season.

- **only the third season in which Cuenca take part in the group phase of a European competition, after the the Men's EHF Cup 2018/19 and 2019/20**
- **side has plenty of experience on their side, including a well-versed coach, Lidio Jimenez, who is one of the longest-tenured coaches in Spain**
- **the team is relying on homegrown Spanish talent, but has players from Argentina, Brazil and Portugal in their roster**
- **the Spanish side has never progressed from the group phase in any of the seasons they played in European club competitions**

Participating in the group matches marks Cuenca's third appearance in the group phase of Europe's second-tier, and first since 2019/20 when they appeared in the EHF Cup.

Cuenca have an interesting blend of players, including a very experienced coach in Lidio Jimenez, as they seek European success in a group that sees them travel to Slovenia, Sweden, and Switzerland.

Team captain Pablo Simonet: "Last year we did very well in the league, this year we want to be that good again, and we also seek to make history in Europe. We want to pass this group stage. We only think about the first match against Sävehof, where we wait for the support of our fans and start in a good way, the rest will be seen."

PAST ACHIEVEMENTS

EHF European League

Participations (incl. 2023/24): 2

Qualification (1): 2022/23

Other

EHF Cup

Group phase (2): 2018/19, 2019/20

Spanish league: –

Spanish cup: –





LIDIO JIMÉNEZ

Coach

- his tenure at Cuenca, started in 2012, is one of the longest in Spanish handball
- under his guidance, Cuenca finished second behind Barça in the Spanish league in 2022/23 for the club's best ever result
- born and bred in Cuenca, he fell in love early with handball and never looked back since taking over
- has been an important figure in Cuenca, lending a hand every time he is needed in different projects in the city

ARRIVALS

Miguel Espinha (Cesson Rennes/FRA)
David Mach (Zamora/ESP)
Rudolph Hackbarth (Huesca/ESP)
Guilherme Tavares (Madeira/POR)
Sergio López (Presov/SVK)
Rubén Río (JS Cherbourg Manche/FRA)

DEPARTURES

Ante Grbavac (Zagreb/CRO)
Fradj Ben Tekaya (Puente Genil/ESP)
Leo Prantner (Balingen-Weilstetten/GER)
Nacho Moya (retired)
Joaquim Nazaré (Skjern/DEN)
Carlos Fernández (Alicante/ESP)

I TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height	Weight
1	Marcos	Herraiz Lopez	ESP	Goalkeeper	11/12/2003	Cuenca, ESP	184	79
2	Henrique	Selicani Teixeira	BRA	Centre Back	27/02/1989	Maringa, BRA	191	90
3	Sergi	Mach Eijo	ESP	Line Player	21/03/1997	Gerona, ESP	188	77
C 4	Pablo Ariel	Simonet Moldes	ESP	Line Player	04/05/1992	Buenos Aires, ARG	184	93
5	Daniel	Mendes Das Neves	POR	Line Player	10/02/2001	Lisbon, POR	188	94
7	Ignacio	Pizarro	ARG	Left Wing	08/02/1990	Lanus, ARG	178	85
8	Alvaro	Martin Noeda	ESP	Right Back	29/10/2004	Cuenca, ESP	193	90
11	Ruben	Rio Iglesias	ESP	Right Wing	02/01/1997	Coruña, ESP	192	92
12	Miguel Augusto	Palma Espinha Ferreira	POR	Goalkeeper	20/07/1993	Lisbon, POR	190	96
14	Jaime	Colmena Gomez	ESP	Centre Back	28/11/2004	Cuenca, ESP	185	76
16	David	Mach Eijo	ESP	Goalkeeper	05/08/1998	Girona, ESP	193	96
17	Alexandro	Pozzer	BRA	Centre Back	21/12/1988	Caxias Do Sul, BRA	192	103
19	Juan Jose	Fernandez Sanchez	ESP	Left Back	18/02/1993	Ciudad Real, ESP	193	103
23	Hector	Chicano Martinez	ESP	Left Wing	23/06/2006	Cuenca, AFG	180	81
24	Diego	Vera Chaves	ESP	Centre Back	21/03/1996	Padul, ESP	201	104
25	Arnau	Fernández Guzmán	ESP	Left Wing	21/05/2002	Barcelona, ESP	175	72
28	Sergio	Lopez Garcia	ESP	Left Wing	30/09/1997	Cuenca, ESP	181	77
30	Federico	Pizzaro	ARG	Right Wing	07/09/1986	Lanus, ARG	185	87
53	David	Notario Conea	ESP	Right Back	18/02/2005	Cuenca, ESP	182	79
77	Rudolph	Geraldo Hackbarth	BRA	Right Back	10/03/1994	Blumenau, BRA	188	84
96	Guilherme	Tavares	POR	Right Back	27/03/2002	Madeira, POR	194	90



PABLO SIMONET

 @pablitosimon

Centre back

- team captain born in 1992, he is the youngest of the Simonet brothers Sebastián (1986) and Diego (1989), who also play for the Argentine national team
- their father Luis and mother Alicia Moldes were also handball players
- returned to Cuenca from Benidorm in 2020; previously played for the club in 2012-13
- started career at SAG Ballester in Argentina and played for Cuenca, Ivry in France, Benidorm and again Cuenca since his arrival in Europe in January 2012



HENRIQUE TEIXEIRA

 @henriqueteixeira

Centre back

- Brazilian international, who arrived in Europe in 2015 to join Granollers
- also played for Huesca and Romanian side CSM Bucuresti before joining Cuenca
- was a key player for CSM when they won the Challenge Cup 2018/19
- has played more than 100 matches for the Brazilian national team, was MVP of the 2018 Pan-American Championship

EC trophies: Challenge Cup 2019



ALEXANDRO POZZER

 @alexpozzer

Line player

- Brazilian international, nicknamed Tchê, who started to play handball when he was only a few years old in his local hometown, Caxias do Sul
- played in Spain for Guadalajara and Puerto Sagunto, in France for Dunkerque, and in Romania for CSM Bucuresti, before returning to Spain and joining Cuenca
- won Challenge Cup in 2019 with CSM in his only previous European cup season

EC trophies: Challenge Cup 2019



RUDOLPH HACKBARTH

 @rudolphh17

Right wing

- Brazilian international, playing in Spain since 2019 when he signed for La Rioja
- spent two years at Huesca before signing for Cuenca in the summer of 2023
- one of the most consistent goal scorers in the Spanish league; netted 261 goals in the past two seasons for Huesca
- named the All-star right wing of 2022 South and Central American Championship

GROUP C



Club contact


Club Address

RK Gorenje Velenje
Saleska Cesta 3
3320 Velenje
Slovenia

Media contact

Petra Tomić
pr@rk-gorenje.com
+386 31 64 33 67

 rk-gorenje.com

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

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

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

Kit colours

Light

Player shirt: turquoise
Player short: black
GK shirt: red

Dark

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



Playing hall

Rdeča dvorana

Saleska cesta 3
3320 Velenje
Slovenia
Capacity: 2,500

RK GORENJE VELENJE



RK Gorenje Velenje are making their return in the EHF European League Men after a one-year hiatus. They still had an impressive international season in 2022/23, reaching the quarter-finals of the EHF European Cup Men where they lost to eventual champions Vojvodina, who on their turn also appear in the EHF European League this time.

In a remarkable similarity, Velenje had also lost to the eventual champions (Benfica) in the quarter-finals of the EHF European League in the previous 2021/22 season.

- **Velenje's roster is predominately formed by Slovenian players, but also have some Croatian and Bosnian players in the squad**
- **Zoran Jovicic has entered his sixth consecutive season as Velenje coach, after being named in May 2018**
- **in their last participation in the EHF European League Men, in the 2021/22 season, Velenje were eliminated in the quarter-finals by eventual winners SL Benfica**
- **Velenje are in their 31st European club season, with reaching the final of the EHF Cup 2008/09 still their best result to date**

Whatever the new season will bring for Velenje, a lack of experience cannot be the reason: Velenje are playing their 31st European season in the club's history. Not many clubs have a richer international history, but the Slovenian side, which competed in the EHF Champions League a couple of seasons ago, is well aware that past results are no guarantee for the future.

Team captain Emir Taletović: "I think every player wants to play in European competitions, so the European League itself brings an additional motivation, where the desire to prove it is even greater. It is a very high-quality competition where strong opponents play. I look forward to the match with Sävehof the most, because we were already in the same group in the European League, we know what kind of opponent it is and what to expect."

PAST ACHIEVEMENTS

EHF European League

Participations (incl. 2023/24): 2

Quarter-finals (1): 2021/22

Other

EHF Champions League

Last 16 (4): 2005/06, 2009/10, 2012/13, 2013/14

EHF Cup

Runners-up (1): 2008/09

Semi-finals (2): 1994/95, 2014/15

Quarter-finals (3): 1996/97, 2010/11, 2011/12

EHF European Cup

Semi-finals (1): 2020/21

Quarter-finals (1): 2022/23

Slovenian league: 4 titles (2009, 2012, 2013, 2021)

Slovenian cup: 3 titles (2003, 2019, 2021)





ZORAN JOVIČIČ

Coach

- former Slovenian international, who arrived as head coach at Velenje in 2018 after five seasons with RD Koper
- played as left wing until his retirement at Koper after the 2011/12 season, having spent his entire career in Slovenia, playing for clubs like Gradec, Prule, and Kozina
- was born in Tuzla and has dual Bosnian-Slovenian citizenship, but opted to play for Slovenia
- competed in seven major events with the national team, including the EHF EURO 2004, where he scored 25 times in six matches to help Slovenia win the silver medal

EURO: S 2004 (as player)

ARRIVALS

Tarik Velić (Gradec/SLO)

DEPARTURES

Timotej Grmšek (Trebnje/SLO)

Martin Hebar (Ormož/SLO)

Domen Tajnik (Pelister/MKD)


David Kovačič (retired)

I TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height	Weight
1	Matevz	Skok	SLO	Goalkeeper	02/09/1986	Celje, SLO	189	92
8	Ibrahim	Haseljic	BIH	Right Wing	14/01/1998	Tuzla, BIH	192	92
10	Urban	Pipp	SLO	Right Wing	28/03/2000	Kranj, SLO	186	91
11	Kenan	Pajt	SLO	Right Wing	30/10/1998	Vareš, BIH	182	80
12	Aljaž	Verboten	SLO	Goalkeeper	26/04/2002	Celje, SLO	183	107
13	Tarik	Velic	SLO	Right Back	08/01/2003	Zenica, BIH	198	103
14	Goti	Maricic	CRO	Left Wing	05/06/2001	Zadar, CRO	193	82
20	Jernej	Drobež	SLO	Line Player	06/01/2000	Slovenj Gradec, SLO	195	113
23	Malik	Tatar	SLO	Left Back	30/05/2005	Celje, SLO	190	97
24	Tilen	Sokolic	SLO	Left Wing	05/09/1996	Koper, SLO	179	81
25	Matic	Verdinek	SLO	Left Wing	13/04/1994	Celje, SLO	189	96
27	Peter	Šiško	SLO	Left Back	16/02/2001	Novo Mesto, SLO	192	94
C 32	Emir	Taletovic	SLO	Goalkeeper	09/01/1990	Slovenj Gradec, SLO	188	94
33	Enej	Slatinek Jovicic	SLO	Left Back	06/12/2000	Koper, SLO	185	88
34	Tarik	Mlivic	SLO	Left Back	21/04/2003	Slovenj Gradec, SLO	195	93
35	Branko	Predovic	SRB	Line Player	28/08/2002	Novi Sad, SRB	191	115
58	Nejc	Hriberšek	SLO	Centre Back	17/05/2005	Celje, SLO	183	91



MATEVZ SKOK

 @matevzskok

Goalkeeper

- experienced Slovenian international, who returned to Velenje in 2022
- started professional career at Velenje in 2001 and played 10 seasons for the club
- joined arch rivals Celje for four years in 2011, later played in Germany (Lübbecke), Croatia (Zagreb), and Portugal (Sporting)
- played at the 2016 Olympics and won bronze at the 2017 WCh five months later

WCh: B 2017



MATIC VERDINEK

Left wing

- one of the longest-serving players at Velenje, having joined from Maribor in 2017
- born in Celje and started senior career at Celje, made national team debut in 2017
- lost his thumb in an accident in 2020, but returned to handball a few months later
- fast and technically skilled wing, with a fine shot from tight angles



TILÉN SOKOLIC

 @tilensokolic

Centre back

- Slovenian international who was born and bred in Koper and started playing handball at the local club; had his first senior year there in 2012 at the age of just 16
- joined Velenje from RK Koper in the summer of 2020
- contributed 46 goals to Velenje's run to the EHF European Cup 2020/21 semi-finals
- started his career as a left wing, but has transitioned to the centre back position



IBRAHIM HASELJIC

 @ibrahimhaseljic

Right wing

- Bosnian international, who joined Velenje from HC Gradacac in 2016 and who has not played for another club since
- scored 57 times in Velenje's only previous EL season, in 2021/22
- made his national team debut in 2019 WCh qualification; became No. 1 on right wing thanks to his performances during the EHF EURO 2020 Qualifiers
- played at both the EHF EURO 2020 and 2022 for Bosnia and Hercegovina

GROUP C



Club contact

Club Address


IK Sävehof
Arenatorget 2
43338 Partille
Sweden


Media contact

Tobbe Wittström
tobbbe@savehof.se
+46 70 46 63 901

 savehof.se

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

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

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

Kit colours

Light

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

Dark

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



Playing hall

Partille Arena
Arenatorget 2
43338 Partille
Sweden
Capacity: 4,000

IK SÄVEHOF



After a strong domestic season in Sweden, which saw them finish in second place, IK Sävehof are back in the EHF European League Men. They left the competition last second before it had really taken off, losing to strong Frech side Montpellier HB in qualification.

Sävehof have lost some key players to teams in the Machineseecker EHF Champions League, but the club is famous for bringing new and fresh talent to the courts whenever needed.

- the Swedish side lost some crucial players last summer, with Sebastian Karlsson leaving for Montpellier HB, while Elias Ellefsen á Skipagøtu moved to THW Kiel
- this will also be the last season in charge for coach Michael Apelgren, as he will move over to OTP Bank - Pick Szeged before the 2024/25 season
- it is the 19th appearance for Sävehof in European competitions, with the Swedish side reaching the Last 16 of the EHF Champions League as their best result
- have plenty of talent in their roster, like the M18 EHF EURO 2022 top scorer, Óli Mittún

One of the eye-catching members of the Sävehof roster is Óli Mittún, who is among the leaders of a new generation of Faroese players.

Sävehof will want to leave their mark on the European courts once again, also to provide Michael Apelgren with a fitting farewell gift before the head coach becomes the next member of the Sävehof family to leave for the EHF Champions League, joining OTP Bank - Pick Szeged next season.

Team captain Simon Möller: "It is a huge motivation for our young team to compete against more experience teams in the European League. We are looking forward to all matches, of course, but the away game in Velenje we are looking the most forward to, because we played against them two seasons ago and it was a really tight match with intensity and a lot of noise from the crowd."

PAST ACHIEVEMENTS

EHF European League

Participations (incl. 2023/24): 3

Last 16 (1): 2021/22

Qualification (1): 2022/23

Other

EHF Champions League

Last 16 (2): 2004/05, 2011/12

Group phase (4): 2005/06, 2010/11, 2012/13, 2019/20

EHF Cup

Last 16 (1): 2006/07

EHF Challenge Cup

Winners (1): 2013/14

Semi-finals: 2002/03

Swedish league: 7 titles (2004, 2005, 2010-12, 2019, 2021)

Swedish cup: 1 title (2022)





MICHAEL APELGREN

Coach

- former Sävehof player who returned to the club as head coach in 2020, after six years in charge of Elverum
- set to take over at CL club Szeged in Hungary in 2024/25, his first coaching job outside Scandinavia
- also played for Djurgårdens, Hammarby, Granollers, Puerto Sagunto, and Elverum, and appeared in the Swedish national team five times
- his grandfather and father were both football players, while his mother played handball

ARRIVALS

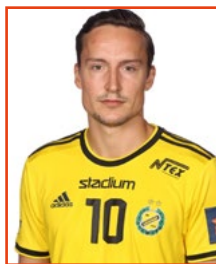
David Sanberg (Önnered/SWE)
Gustaf Wedberg (Hallby/SWE)

DEPARTURES

Elias Ellefsen á Skipagotu (Kiel/GER)
Sebastian Karlsson (Montpellier/FRA)
Lasse Pedersen (Lemvig-Thyboron/DEN)
Gzim Salihi (Alstermo/SWE)
Philip Karlefäldt (Kroppskultur/SWE)
Lukas Rådberg (Redbergslid/SWE)

I TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height	Weight
1	Oscar	Sävinger	SWE	Goalkeeper	13/06/2002	Sävedalen, SWE	197	101
2	Emil	Johannisson	SWE	Line Player	01/06/2004	Partille, SWE	192	125
3	Emil	Berlin	SWE	Right Back	24/02/2001	Göteborg, SWE	188	86
5	Olle	Ek	SWE	Centre Back	01/11/1997	Sofia, SWE	186	86
6	Adam	Blanche	SWE	Line Player	18/10/2000	Stockholm, SWE	193	111
7	Felix	Möller	SWE	Line Player	04/09/2002	Henstedt-Ulzburg, GER	194	85
8	Kelvin	Roberts	SWE	Left Back	17/01/2003	Partille, SWE	192	86
10	Alexander	Ørjevik Westby	NOR	Left Wing	26/03/1993	Lørenskog, NOR	185	87
11	Gustaf	Wedberg	SWE	Right Wing	18/04/1999	Partille, SWE	178	81
C 12	Simon	Möller	SWE	Goalkeeper	02/07/2000	Eutin, GER	190	93
14	Tobias	Trommler	SWE	Line Player	06/07/2004	Partille, SWE	190	96
15	Sebastian	Durlanu	SWE	Centre Back	24/05/2004	Göteborg, SWE	181	84
16	Arvid	Norén	SWE	Goalkeeper	21/02/2004	Göteborg, SWE	195	84
17	Sebastian	Spante	SWE	Left Wing	26/07/2000	Haga, SWE	176	79
18	Pontus	Brolin	SWE	Left Back	25/12/2000	Kloster, SWE	193	93
19	Tryggvi	Þórisson	ISL	Line Player	18/06/2002	Sellfoss, ISL	200	109
21	David	Sandberg	SWE	Left Back	10/05/1998	Säve, SWE	197	102
22	Alexander	Hambalek	SWE	Centre Back	07/05/2004	Styrstad, SWE	182	82
24	Fabian	Blomberg	SWE	Centre Back	24/10/2006	Barcelona, ESP	184	73
25	Malte	Celander	SWE	Right Wing	18/03/2002	Sävedalen, SWE	190	84
26	Lowe	Knutsson	SWE	Right Back	26/11/2005	Sävedalen, SWE	184	80
27	Johan	Rahm	SWE	Left Wing	25/07/2004	Sävedalen, SWE	182	73
28	Marcus	Lennernäs	SWE	Right Back	24/04/2002	Gottsunda, SWE	195	88
30	Melwin	Kolmskog	SWE	Goalkeeper	09/05/2005	Bromma, SWE	183	82
31	William	Andersson Moberg	SWE	Centre Back	25/03/2000	Partille, SWE	183	90
34	Arvid	Uusvoog	SWE	Right Wing	02/08/2005	Partille, SWE	178	69
45	Neo	Kollryd	SWE	Left Back	02/10/2004	Åldihem, SWE	195	92
78	Óli	Mittun	FAR	Centre Back	10/06/2005	Torshavn, FAR	186	91



ALEXANDER WESTBY

 @alexanderwestby

Left wing

- came to Sävehof in 2021, after playing for Elverum Handball in the CL
- previously played for Drammen and Bodo, making Sävehof his first foreign club
- scored 65 goals in two CL seasons (2018-20) with Elverum, and 50 goals in his first two seasons with Sävehof in the EL
- he has a degree in Economy at the Bodo University



KELVIN ROBERTS

 @kelvin_roberts_

Left back

- made full debut for Sävehof in 2022, has become ever more important for the team
- plays as a left back, but can also feature on the left wing; made the M20 EHF EURO 2022 All-star Team as left wing
- his sister, Jamina, is a Swedish international and won the CL with Vipers in 2023
- their father, James, was a sailor who came to Sweden from Aruba in the 1970s



ÓLI MITTÚN

Centre back

- one of Faroe Islands' biggest talents; cousin of fellow internationals and brothers Elias and Rói Ellefsen á Skipagøtu
- his brother Pauli is also an international; sister Jana features in the Danish league
- initially also played football, but ultimately switched to handball
- top scorer of M18 EHF EURO 2022 with 80 goals, and 2023 Youth WCh with 87 goals



FELIX MÖLLER

 @felix_moller

Line player

- Swedish international, who came through the youth ranks of Sävehof and had his senior debut for the club in 2019; was included in Sävehof's CL 2019/20 squad
- his breakthrough season was 2020/21, when Sävehof won the Swedish league title
- made national team debut in November 2021 and won EHF EURO two months later
- was born in Germany, where his father Peter played for Hamburg at that time

EURO: G 2022

GROUP C




Club contact

Club Address

Pfadi Winterthur
Grüzefeldstrasse 32
8400 Winterthur
Switzerland

Media contact

Lukas Wernli
lukas.wernli@pfadi-winterthur.ch
+41 79 82 33 313

 pfadi-winterthur.ch

 PfadiWinterthur

 –

 @pfadiwinterthur

Kit colours

Light

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

Dark

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



Playing hall

Axa Arena
Grüzefeldstrasse 32
8400 Winterthur
Switzerland
Capacity: 1,940

PFADI WINTERTHUR



Pfadi Winterthur are returning to this phase of the EHF European League Men after a one-year hiatus, as they played in the EHF European Cup Men last season.

Pfadi had to come through qualification to get to the group matches – and only narrowly managed to do so. A nail-biting doubleheader against Portuguese side Águas Santas Milaneza, who played the group phase last season, ended with the closest of wins for Pfadi: 44:43 on aggregate.

- the Swiss side is back in the competition after one year
- Pfadi qualified for the group matches with a one-goal aggregate win over Portuguese side Águas Santas
- this will be the 30th season for Pfadi in European competitions, with their best performance still their run to the final of the Challenge Cup in 2000/01
- Pfadi finished on the third place in the domestic league, behind HC Kriens-Luzern and Kadetten Schaffhausen

Like in recent seasons, the Swiss side have a core formed by Swiss players again. But in addition, they have an EHF EURO and a Champions League winner in Spanish defensive specialist Viran Morros, who can guide the team in the decisive stages of a match.

Team captain Kevin Jud: “As a young and hungry team, we want to continue playing for titles nationally. In Europe, we want to represent Swiss handball in a worthy manner; it is an honour for us to perform as Pfadi Winterthur and strive for the maximum. Every European League game is a highlight for us, especially the ones we get to play at home. We are looking forward to the new competition mode and we already proved how strong we are at home in the qualification.”

PAST ACHIEVEMENTS

EHF European League

Participations (incl. 2023/24): 3

Group phase (1): 2021/22

Qualification (1): 2020/21

Other

EHF Champions League

Quarter-finals (2): 1996/97, 1997/98

EHF Cup

Quarter-finals (1): 2002/03

Challenge Cup

Runners-up (1): 2000/01

Semi-finals (1): 2007/08

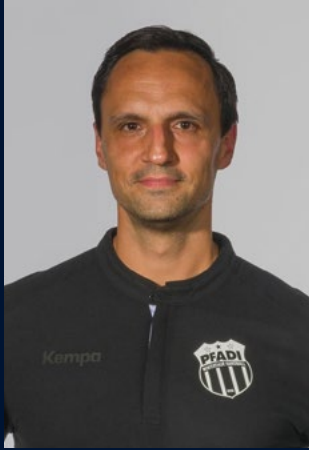
City Cup

Semi-finals (1): 1999/2000

Swiss league: 10 titles (1992, 1994-98, 2002-04, 2021)

Swiss cup: 5 titles (1998, 2003, 2010, 2015, 2018)





GORAN CVETKOVIC

Coach

- took over as Pfadi head coach in the summer of 2021 after working as an assistant under Adrian Brüngger
- former Serbian international, who initially played for Red Star Belgrade
- had two stints at Pfadi as a player after making it to Switzerland in 2005; also played for Bern
- finished his playing career in 2015; then started as assistant coach and sports director at Pfadi
- holds a degree in Economic Administration

ARRIVALS

Tim Rellstab (Kriens-Luzern/SUI)
Laurin Rinderknecht (Stäfa/SUI)
Ramon Kusnandar (Stäfa/SUI)
Tomas Moreira Rodriguez (Vigo/ESP)
Leandro Lioi (Pfadi B team)
Mischa Romer (Pfadi youth team)
Tazio Baumann (Pfadi youth team)
Niclas Mierzwa (Pfadi youth team)

DEPARTURES

Stefan Freivogel (retired)
Otto Lagerquist (Pfadi C team)
Henrik Schönfeldt (Pfadi B team)
Jannic Störchli (St. Gallen/SUI)
Lukas Osterwalder (Amicitia/SUI)
Eduardo Mendonça (n/a)

I TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height	Weight
2	Niclas	Mierzwa	SUI	Left Wing	24/10/2006	Winterthur, SUI	183	75
6	Cédrie	Tynowski	SUI	Right Wing	21/09/1996	Geneva, SUI	185	85
8	Arsenije	Dragašević	MNE	Left Back	18/07/2002	Pljevlja, MNE	202	95
11	Tim	Rellstab	SUI	Left Back	16/07/2001	Zürich, SUI	202	96
12	Dennis	Wipf	SUI	Goalkeeper	12/01/1999	Zürich, SUI	193	89
16	Admir	Ahmetasevic	BIH	Goalkeeper	05/06/1994	Gracanica, BIH	195	95
17	Lukas	Heer	SUI	Left Back	26/06/1998	Malters, SUI	200	98
c 20	Kevin	Jud	SUI	Centre Back	04/12/1992	Benken, SUI	193	75
21	Joël	Bräm	SUI	Left Wing	18/10/1996	Schneisingen, SUI	186	88
22	Tomas Moreira	Rodriguez	ESP	Line Player	22/08/1992	Vigo, ESP	190	118
23	Gian-Luca	Bühlmann	SUI	Centre Back	15/02/2002	Eschenbach, SUI	178	82
24	Viran	Morros de Argila	ESP	Left Back	15/12/1983	Barcelona, ESP	199	94
25	Tazio	Baumann	SUI	Left Wing	24/04/2004	Winterthur, SUI	184	84
26	Mischa	Romer	SUI	Left Back	11/01/2004	Winterthur, SUI	194	95
31	Henri	Dörflinger	SUI	Line Player	30/10/2002	Winterthur, SUI	187	96
32	Ramon	Kusnandar	SUI	Goalkeeper	28/06/2005	Zürich, SUI	176	94
33	Moustafa	Hadj Sadok	ALG	Left Back	17/08/1997	Ain-Defla, ALG	192	90
34	Dominik	Ruh	SUI	Right Back	05/05/2003	Ramsen, SUI	194	86
35	Noam	Leopold	SUI	Left Wing	17/07/2002	Thun, SUI	186	86
41	Alessio	Lioi	SUI	Centre Back	20/10/2003	Ermatingen, SUI	178	73
43	Laurin	Rinderknecht	SUI	Centre Back	20/08/2002	Zurich, SUI	182	84
44	Leandro	Lioi	SUI	Right Wing	31/03/2002	Weinfelden, SUI	178	78

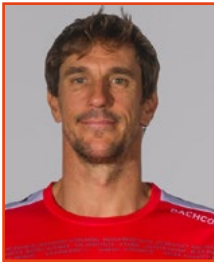


NOAM LEOPOLD

 @no5mleo35

Left wing

- played for Handball Stäfa early in his career before moving to Pfadi in 2021, where he made his debut in the first Swiss league
- one of the brightest talents in Swiss handball, being praised for his sharpness
- has already made his debut for the Switzerland men's national team, after being one of the best goal scorers for the youth and junior sides in his generation



VIRAN MORROS

 @viranmorros

Left back

- former Spanish international and one of the most decorated players of his country
- joined Pfadi as a 38-year-old in 2022 after one season with Füchse Berlin
- spent most of his playing career in Spain, including 10 seasons with Barça, and won the CL three times; moved to PSG in France for three seasons in 2018
- won eight medals with Spain; retired from the team after the Tokyo Olympics in 2021

CL: 2008, 2009, 2015

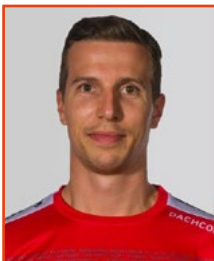
OG: B 2020; WCh: G 2013, B 2011, 2021; EURO: G 2018, 2020, S 2016, B 2014



ARSENIJE DRAGAŠEVIĆ

Left back

- Montenegrin international, who played three seasons CL with Celje in Slovenia before moving to Pfadi in the summer of 2022
- part of Montenegro's EHF EURO 2022 squad, after impressing and scoring at least 20 goals at the M18 EHF EURO 2018, M19 EHF EURO 2021, and M20 EHF EURO 2022
- a tall and imposing figure on the left back position, Dragasevic stands at 2.02m tall, enabling him to deliver powerful shots



KEVIN JUD

Centre back

- Swiss international and one of the longest-serving players at Pfadi, having joined the club a youth player back in 2013/14
- one of the most promising Swiss national team players in the YAC events, scoring over 50 goals at the M18 EHF EURO 2010 and at the 2013 Junior WCh
- his brother, Tim Bornhauser, has played handball professionally

GROUP D PREVIEW

TWO FAMILIAR FOES WELCOME TWO DEBUTANTS



Group D starts with two well-known clubs that also pit sides in the 2022/23 season, RK Nexe and Skjern Håndbold, and two newcomers to the competition, MSK Povazska Bystrica and ABC de Braga/UMinho.

Croatian runners-up Nexe enter their 15th consecutive season in the second-tier. With strong signings over the summer, including EHF Champions League winners Marko Bezjak and Manuel Štrlek, they will be a tough opponent. The club from the small city of Našice made great progress in recent years, reaching their peak in the 2021/22 season when they made it to the EHF Finals 2022. The mixture of experience and youth will once again be head coach Branko Tamše's base as he is heading into his third year at the helm.



The 2022/23 season marked the return of Skjern to the group matches after a four-year hiatus. Led for the first time by head coach Henrik Kronborg, Skjern reached the Last 16 when their European journey was stopped by Füchse Berlin. In the 2023/24 season, they wish to make a progress with slightly changed squad, and team captain Emil Bergholt will miss the first part of the season due to injury. With an almost all-Scandinavian team, Skjern are ready to rumble again.



Braga became the third Portuguese representatives in the group matches after narrowly winning 58:57 on aggregate against Trimo Trebnje in qualification. It was the comeback to a European competition after six years for the Challenge Cup 2015/16 champions. Their stronghold in the strong group will be an all-domestic squad, with the exception of Leonardo Abrahão and Vinícios Carvalho from Brazil. They will meet for the first time with all three opponents, trying to make a surprise as the underdogs.

MŠK Považská Bystrica are coming into the EHF European League Men as Slovak champions. The club ended Tatran Prešov's 15-year dominance and took their fourth domestic title. Head coach Václav Straka has been at the helm for 10 years and they will try to leave their mark in the second-tier. After years of playing the former Challenge Cup and two times reaching the Last 16 of the EHF European Cup, the Slovak side aims for new valuable experience as a reward for the hard work they have been doing in the last decade while in search for the old glory. One of their biggest past successes was playing in the group phase of the EHF Champions League in the 2003/04 and 2006/07 seasons.



Danijela Vekić

I GROUP D HEAD-TO-HEADS

PREVIOUS DUELS BETWEEN THE TEAMS OF GROUP D

RK Nexe vs MSK Povazska Bystrica

No previous encounters in European competitions

RK Nexe vs Skjern Håndbold 2-0-0 (59:57) 4:0

25.10.2022	Skjern Handbold vs RK Nexe, EHF European League – Group C	29:30 (14:14)
07.02.2023	RK Nexe vs Skjern Handbold, EHF European League – Group C	29:28 (12:14)

RK Nexe vs ABC de Braga / UMinho

No previous encounters in European competitions

MSK Povazska Bystrica vs Skjern Håndbold

No previous encounters in European competitions

MSK Povazska Bystrica vs ABC de Braga / UMinho

No previous encounters in European competitions

Skjern Håndbold vs ABC de Braga / UMinho

No previous encounters in European competitions

GROUP D



Club contact


Club Address

RK Nexe
Matice Hrvatske 1
31500 Nasice
Croatia


Media contact

Danko Justić
djustic@gmail.com
+385 91 16 15 123

 rkneze.hr

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

 –

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

Kit colours

Light

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

Dark

Player shirt: green
Player short: black
GK shirt: grey



Playing hall

OS Kralja Tomislava
Matice Hrvatske 1
31500 Nasice
Croatia
Capacity: 2,000

RK NEXE



RK Nexe have been making a name for themselves in European club handball over the past decade. The domestic runners-up from Croatia have a strong legacy in Europe's second-tier competition, as they have been part of the EHF European League Men every season since its inauguration in 2020/21, after playing in the former EHF Cup several times, too.

The club from Našice, a small city in the Slavonija region, has made enormous progress since their first appearance in Europe 15 years ago.

- in Nexe's 15th consecutive season in Europe, they are seeded for the group matches for the first time
- the squad has undergone significant changes, with seven players leaving after the 2022/23 season, including Marin Jelinić, Tomislav Severec, Dorian Markušić and Alen Blažević
- after the departure of Janko Kević, Ivan Sršen took over as team captain
- Manuel Štrlek, Marko Bezjak, Lovro Jotić and Gal Marguč are notable newcomers to the club
- coach Branko Tamše is his third full season with Nexe

The 2023/24 season will be a special one for Nexe, as they've welcomed two experienced players: 2022/23 All-star left wing Manuel Štrlek from Telekom Veszprém HC, and Marko Bezjak from Machineseecker EHF Champions League winners SC Magdeburg Marko Bezjak.

A well-balanced team will try to repeat their success from the 2021/22 season, when Nexe made it all the way to the EHF Finals Men in Lisbon.

Team captain Ivan Sršen: "The biggest motivation for us will certainly be the fight for trophies, because the level is getting higher and higher every year and we have to deal with that. We all know it will be difficult, but we have to focus on our tasks and then the team has a chance. Every game is important in its own way, two points are worth the same against Skjern or Braga... we have to get ourselves into the best rhythm."

PAST ACHIEVEMENTS

EHF European League

Participations (including 2023/24): 4

Semi-finals (1): 2021/22

Quarter-finals (1): 2022/23

Last 16 (1): 2020/21

Other

EHF Cup

Quarter-final (1): 2017/18

Last 16 (1): 2011/12

Group Phase (2): 2014/15, 2018/19

Croatian league: –

Croatian cup: –





BRANKO TAMŠE

Coach

- Slovenian coach, taking over in January 2021 from Hrvoje Horvat, who became head coach of the Croatian national team
- led Nexe to the EHF Finals in his first full season at the club
- previously worked with Velenje and Celje in his native Slovenia, as well as with Zagreb in Croatia
- played as a right wing at Velenje but saw his career come to an end after a serious knee injury
- started his coaching career at Velenje and returned to Europe after a brief stint at Qatari side Al-Rayyan

ARRIVALS

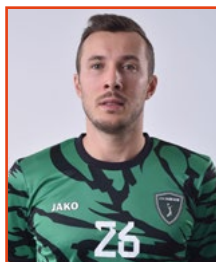
Manuel Štrlek (Veszprém/HUN)
Marko Bezjak (Magdeburg/GER)
Lovro Jotić (Leipzig/GER)
Gal Marguč (Celje/SLO)
Adir Cohen (Tremblay/FRA)
Ognjen Cenić (Barça B/ESP)
Loris Hromin (Zadar/CRO)

DEPARTURES

Marin Jelinić (Szeged/HUN)
Janko Kević (Ferndorf/GER)
Tomislav Severec (Hamburg/GER)
Fran Mileta (Vinnhorst/GER)
Karlo Godec (Istres/FRA)
Alen Blažević (Käerjeng/LUX)
Dorian Markušić (n/a)

I TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height	Weight
1	Dominik	Kuzmanovic	CRO	Goalkeeper	15/08/2002	Zagreb, CRO	191	88
3	Marko	Racic	CRO	Line Player	04/03/1998	Vienna, AUT	209	123
4	Aleksandar	Bakic	MNE	Left Wing	03/09/2000	Andrijevica, MNE	194	88
5	Loris	Hromin	CRO	Right Wing	13/04/2006	Zadar, CRO	181	75
10	Predrag	Vejin	SRB	Right Back	17/12/1992	Apatin, SRB	196	95
11	Gal	Marguc	SLO	Right Wing	16/11/1996	Celje, SLO	187	80
12	Moreno	Car	CRO	Goalkeeper	22/04/1996	Rijeka, CRO	184	79
C 13	Ivan	Srsen	CRO	Right Back	19/09/1992	Metkovic, CRO	196	97
16	Mihailo	Radovanovic	SRB	Goalkeeper	18/12/1992	Cacak, SRB	194	86
18	Lovro	Jotic	CRO	Centre Back	12/11/1994	Zagreb, CRO	194	95
20	Borna	Manci Micevic	CRO	Right Back	20/11/1997	Osijek, CRO	208	110
21	Borna	Fruk	CRO	Left Wing	07/02/2006	Nasice, CRO	178	76
22	Andraž	Velkavrh	SLO	Centre Back	31/05/1996	Koper, SLO	190	95
25	Marko	Bezjak	SLO	Centre Back	26/06/1986	Ptuj, SLO	184	88
26	Manuel	Štrlek	CRO	Left Wing	01/12/1988	Zagreb, CRO	185	86
27	Luka	Moslavac	CRO	Left Back	08/03/1998	Virovitica, CRO	195	93
33	Mario	Tomic	CRO	Line Player	22/06/1988	Zagreb, CRO	191	93
34	Ognjen	Cenic	SRB	Centre Back	30/07/2006	Leskovac, SRB	185	85
35	Stjepan	Javorcek	CRO	Left Back	17/02/2006	Našice, CRO	196	94
39	Adir	Cohen	ISR	Right Back	27/10/1998	Ashdod, ISR	195	97
44	Fahrudin	Melic	MNE	Right Wing	22/07/1984	Prijepolje, SRB	183	90
87	Gianfranco	Pribetic	CRO	Line Player	28/04/2000	Rijeka, CRO	195	96
94	Karlo	Juric	CRO	Right Back	08/03/2004	Zagreb, CRO	202	114
99	Ivan	Petrovic	CRO	Line Player	03/12/2004	Osijek, CRO	193	115



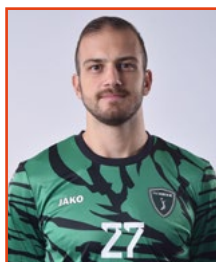
MANUEL ŠTRLEK

 @strlekmanuel26

Left wing

- joined RK Nexe in the summer of 2023 for a return to Croatia after 11 years
- Croatian wing, who had his CL debut with Zagreb at age 18; played for Kielce for six seasons and won CL in 2016; moved to Veszprém in summer of 2018
- named CL All-star left wing several times
- Croatian international since his debut at the EHF EURO 2010 in Austria

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



LUKA MOSLAVAC

 @mocco98

Left back

- arrived at RK Nexe in 2021, joining after two years with RK Porec
- one of Nexe's leading scorers in the EL 2022/23 season with 58 goals
- his mother played handball as well, father football; his brothers Karlo and Matko are also handball players
- has bachelor's degree from Faculty of Mining, Geology and Petroleum Engineering



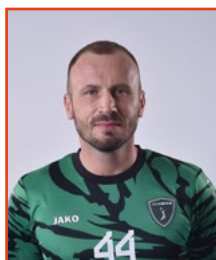
MARKO BEZJAK

 @25bezo

Centre back

- joined Nexe in 2023 after winning the CL with SC Magdeburg
- Nexe are only the third club in his career – previously played for Jeruzalem Ormož and Gorenje Velenje before spending 10 years in Magdeburg
- shares playmaker position with Lovro Jotić and Andraž Velkavrh
- Slovenian international, won bronze at 2017 World Championship

EC trophies: CL 2023, EL 2021
WCh: B 2017



FAHRUDIN MELIĆ

 @melsson_44

Right wing

- experienced Montenegrin wing, played his first European season two decades ago
- joined RK Nexe in November 2021, on a career journey that saw him play for clubs like Velenje in Slovenia, and PSG, Chambéry and Saint-Raphaël in France
- was Nexe's leading scorer in the EL 2022/23 season, with 72 goals
- former member of the Montenegro national team

GROUP D



Club contact

Club Address

MSK Považska Bystrica
ulica Odborov 244/8
017 01 Považská Bystrica
Slovakia

Media contact

Lubos Cifra
president@mskpb.sk
+421 90 77 95 360

mskpb.sk

[msk.pov.bystrica](https://www.facebook.com/msk.pov.bystrica)

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Kit colours

Light

Player shirt: white
Player short: white
GK shirt: yellow

Dark

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



Playing hall

Sporting Hall MSK
Sidlisko SNP 2549
01701 Považská Bystrica
Slovakia
Capacity: 1,400

MSK POVAZSKA BYSTRICA



MŠK Považská Bystrica are back in Europe’s second-tier competition after 16 years away and are coming back in style. The new Slovakian champions – ending Tatran Prešov’s 15-year dominance – are setting themselves on a challenging path.

Team captain and goalkeeper Ladislav Kovačín has played in the EHF Champions League, EHF Cup, Challenge Cup and EHF European Cup for MŠK Považská Bystrica.

- head coach Václav Straka has been at the helm of the team since 2013
- three new players joined the club this summer: Simon Machac, Nemanja Žiković and Lukas Galik
- the last time they played in Europe’s second-tier was in 2007/08, when they reached round 2 of the former EHF Cup; they also have two EHF Champions League seasons under their belt
- the 2022/23 Slovakian title is their fourth, previously they were crowned in 2002, 2003 and 2006

His and the club’s EHF European Cup experience will come in handy for a team that has not gone through many changes. Knowing which opponents await them in the EHF European League Men, Považská Bystrica are determined to give their fans an unforgettable experience.

Team captain Ladislav Kovacin: “Our biggest motivation this season is to confirm the success of last season and become (domestic) champions again. In the European League, it will be very difficult matches with very high-quality teams which can move us forward as a team in terms of games and experience. For me the top match will be against Skjern, because Danish handball has been one of the best in the world for a long time.”

PAST ACHIEVEMENTS

EHF European League

Participations (incl. 2023/24): 1

Other

EHF Champions League

Group phase (2): 2003/04, 2006/07

EHF European Cup

Last 16 (2): 2020/21, 2022/23

Challenge Cup

Last 16 (3): 2016/17, 2017/18, 2018/19

Slovakian league: 4 titles (2002, 2003, 2006, 2023)

Slovakian cup: 4 titles (2001, 2006, 2019, 2022)





VÁCLAV STRAKA

Coach

- former line player, who has been at the helm of Povazska Bystrica since 2013
- in 2022/23, he led the team to their first domestic title in 17 years, earning a spot in the EL 2023/24
- as a player, he spent his career between Czech Republic and Slovakia, playing for HC Frýdek-Místek, HC Dukla Praha, TJ Štart Nové Zámky and MŠK Považská Bystrica

ARRIVALS

Simon Machác (Fejer B.A.L./HUN)
Lukas Galik (Hlohovec/SVK)
Nemanja Zivkovic (Athens/GRE)

DEPARTURES

Josef Hozman (Presov/SVK)
Michal Dobron (retired)

I TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height	Weight
4	Jozef	Kašuba	SVK	Left Wing	24/07/1994	Považská Bystrica, SVK	175	60
5	Nemanja	Živkovic	SRB	Right Wing	23/01/1995	Belgrade, SRB	183	92
6	Marián	Plšek	SVK	Line Player	13/05/2002	Považská Bystrica, SVK	190	80
7	Šimon	Machác	SVK	Line Player	30/09/1993	Povazska Bystrica, SVK	191	98
8	Andrej	Sloboda	SVK	Centre Back	19/01/2001	Martin, SVK	182	81
9	Ivan	Bystrický	SVK	Left Back	19/01/1998	Povazska Bystrica, SVK	205	113
10	Marek	Roman	SVK	Left Back	30/06/2004	Považská Bystrica, SVK	189	97
C 12	Ladislav	Kovacín	SVK	Goalkeeper	04/07/1986	Považská Bystrica, SVK	185	104
14	Adam	Petrík	SVK	Right Wing	05/01/2003	Považská Bystrica, SVK	180	81
18	Peter	Jurák	SVK	Left Back	06/02/1995	Cadca, SVK	187	83
21	Lubomír	Duriš	SVK	Centre Back	05/09/1987	Považská Bystrica, SVK	175	70
22	Adam	Durana	SVK	Right Back	15/09/2004	Cadca, SVK	184	78
24	Marek	Stefina	SVK	Left Wing	15/05/2001	Považská Bystrica, SVK	187	84
27	Dávid	Urík	SVK	Left Wing	27/08/1999	Považská Bystrica, SVK	181	70
31	Martin	Briatka	SVK	Left Wing	06/06/1991	Bojnice, SVK	185	74
44	Peter	Podstrásky	SVK	Line Player	14/07/2002	Považská Bystrica, SVK	186	75
54	Tomáš	Vallo	SVK	Centre Back	18/06/1990	Povazska Bystrica, SVK	180	92
55	Eduard	Chovanec	SVK	Left Wing	30/06/2000	Považská Bystrica, SVK	189	75
77	Branislav	Kvaššay	SVK	Right Back	06/05/2002	Považská Bystrica, SVK	192	86
84	Erik	Žilincík	SVK	Line Player	14/05/1990	Povazská Bystrica, SVK	187	91
88	Eduard	Valášek	SVK	Line Player	21/01/2000	Považská Bystrica, SVK	190	105
91	Marián	Gardian	SVK	Centre Back	19/11/1991	Povazska Bystrica, SVK	177	69
92	Adam	Lovišek	SVK	Line Player	26/03/1998	Považská Bystrica, SVK	193	84
96	Lukáš	Gálik	SVK	Goalkeeper	07/07/1996	Považská Bystrica, SVK	184	83



MARTIN BRIATKA

Left wing

- Slovakian international, joined the club in 2018 from Hlohovec
- has spent entire career so far in Slovakia, previously playing for Tatran Prešov, HK AGRO Topolcany, Sporta Hlohovec
- was the team's best scorer in the EC 2022/23 season, with 37 goals
- came through Slovakia's youth national teams before senior team debut in 2015



IVAN BYSTRICKÝ

Left back

- one of the local players in the squad, who was born and raised in Považská Bystrica and never played for another club team
- had his first European season with the club in the EHF Challenge Cup 2015/16
- shares left back position with Peter Jurak and Marek Roman
- part of the Slovakian national team



LUBOMIR DURIŠ

 @lubomirduris

Centre back

- experienced playmaker, who returned to Slovakia in 2022 to play for Povazska Bystrica again after six seasons with Hungarian side Gyöngyös
- started career at Bystrica and played CL with the team in 2006/07
- named Slovakian Player of the Year in 2015 and 2018; received best player of Slovak league award in 2023
- Slovakian team captain, played at EHF EUROs in 2012 and 2020



ŠIMON MACHÁČ

 @simon_machac

Line player

- Slovakian international, who came back to the club in the summer of 2023
- also played for Talent tým Plzenskeho kraje, Eger Eszterházy, Fejer B.A.L-Veszprém
- part of the Slovakian national team and played at the Men's EHF EURO 2020, which they were co-hosting
- had his first European cup season in 2015/16 with MSK Povazska Bystrica

GROUP D



Club contact

Club Address

Skjern Håndbold
Ranunkelvej 9
6900 Skjern
Denmark

Media contact

Nicklas Thygesen
nicklas@skjernhaandbold.dk
+45 30 48 39 38

 skjernhaandbold.dk

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

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

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

Kit colours

Light

Player shirt: green
Player short: black
GK shirt: light blue

Dark

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



Playing hall

Skjern Bank Arena
Ranunkelvej 1
6900 Skjern
Denmark
Capacity: 3,200

SKJERN HÅNDBOLD



The 2022/23 season marked the comeback of Skjern Håndbold to the European club competitions, after a four-year hiatus in which they failed to qualify twice – for the former EHF Cup in 2019/20 and for the inaugural EHF European League season in 2020/21.

But under the lead of returning head coach Henrik Kronborg, Skjern reached the EHF European League Last 16 in 2022/23, before being eliminated by eventual champions Füchse Berlin.

- **five players left the club, including goalkeeper Robin Haug and Oliver Norylk, while Noah Gaudin and Joaquim Nazaré are among the six newcomers**
- **injured team captain Emil Bergholt will the first part of the season; Lasse Mikkelsen is taking over the role**
- **head coach Henrik Kronborg took over the helm in the 2022/23 season, replacing Mathias Madsen**
- **the club's biggest European success is winning the Challenge Cup twice – in 2001 and 2002**
- **Skjern rely mostly on Scandinavian players, but also on Bosnian Senjamin Buric, French Noah Gaudin and Portugal international Joaquim Nazaré**

With the core of the team remaining the same and with new experience, Skjern will try to progress even further than they did last season.

Playing the EHF European League Men means a lot to the players, the club, and their fans, and with a record 1,300 season tickets sold, Skjern could be a hard nut to crack at home.

Lasse Mikkelsen, who replaces Emil Bergholt as team captain for the time being: “We always dream big in Skjern. Last season we progressed from the group stage, and that is initially our objective again. Our opponents from last year, Granollers, showed that even if you are underdogs, you can go far, and we will try to copy that. We are most looking forward to the games with RK Nexø: we played two tough matches against them last year, where we lost both games in the last seconds.”

PAST ACHIEVEMENTS

EHF European League

Participations (incl. 2023/24): 3

Last 16 (1): 2022/23

Qualification (1): 2020/21

Other

EHF Champions League

Quarter-finals (1): 2018/19

Last 16 (2): 1999/2000, 2003/04

Group Phase (2): 2015/16, 2018/19

EHF Cup

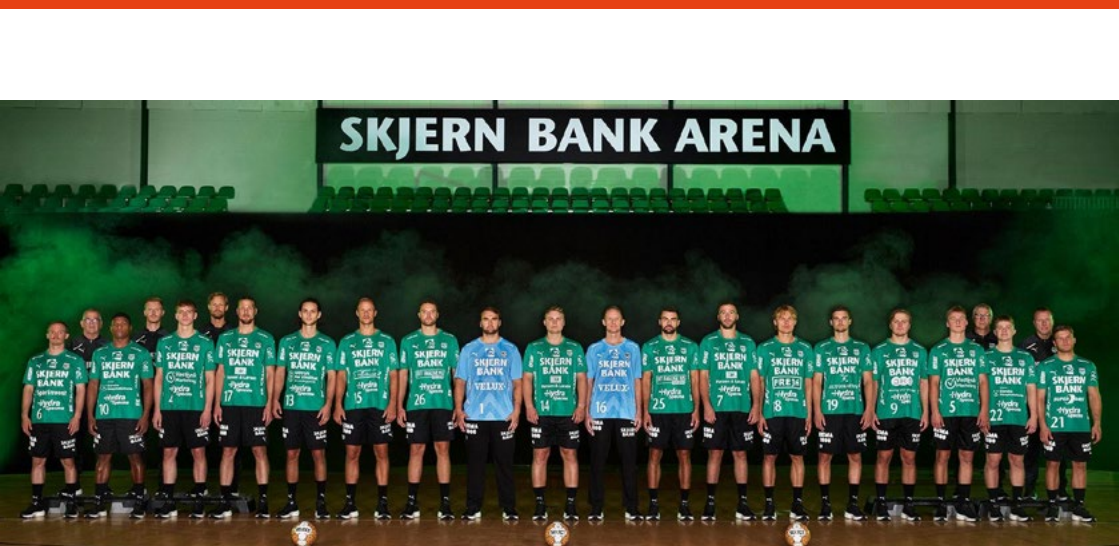
Semi-finals (2): 2006/07, 2014/15

Challenge Cup

Winners (2): 2001/02, 2002/03

Danish league: 2 titles (1999, 2018)

Danish cup: 3 titles (1999, 2014, 2016)





HENRIK KRONBORG

Coach

- returned to Skjern in the summer of 2022 for his second stint as head coach, after 2015-19
- former player and one-time international for Denmark
- Nikolaj Jacobsen's assistant for Denmark men's national team, winning three titles at World Championships and gold at the Rio 2016 Olympics
- started his coaching career as an assistant at Nordsjælland in 2005; moved to KIF Kolding six years later where he worked as head coach until 2015

ARRIVALS

Noah Gaudin (Sønderjyske/DEN)
Joaquim Nazaré (Cuenca/ESP)
Tim Winkler (Kolding/DEN)
Viktor Bergholt (Tønder/DEN)
Morten Vium Troelsen (Chartres/FRA)
Dan Beck-Hansen (Holstebro/DEN)

DEPARTURES

Jørgen Rasmussen (Rækker Mølle/DEN)
Mikkel Lang (Skanderborg/DEN)
Oliver Norlyk (Kolding/DEN)
Robin Haug (Elverum/NOR)
Tobias Mygind (Rækker Mølle/DEN, on loan)

I TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height	Weight	
1	Christoffer Hoffmann	Bonde	DEN	Goalkeeper	05/01/1999	Randers, DEN	193	107	
5	Viktor Siersbæk	Bergholt	DEN	Left Wing	30/05/2001	Ringkøbing, DEN	191	85	
6	Morten Vium	Troelsen	DEN	Right Wing	21/10/1991	Ringkøbing, DEN	176	75	
7	Senjamin	Buric	BIH	Line Player	20/11/1990	Doboj, BIH	198	100	
9	Simen Holand	Pettersen	NOR	Left Back	08/04/1998	Tønsberg, NOR	188	96	
10	Joaquim Rebelo Vila Nova	Nazaré	POR	Right Back	25/07/2001	São Tomé Príncipe, POR	184	93	
13	Noah Theo Anthony	Gaudin	FRA	Left Back	12/06/1999	Hameln, FRA	197	89	
C	14	Emil Siersbæk	Bergholt	DEN	Line Player	25/08/1997	Ringkøbing, DEN	190	97
C	15	Lasse Reinhold	Mikkelsen	DEN	Centre Back	19/05/1988	Brønderslev, DEN	197	97
	16	Tim Legaard	DuusWinkler	DEN	Goalkeeper	14/02/1986	Esbjerg, DEN	189	89
	17	Dan	Beck-Hansen	DEN	Line Player	02/02/1990	Ringkøbing, DEN	203	100
	18	Alfred Joel	Jönsson	SWE	Centre Back	21/02/1998	Cary, USA	193	95
	19	Lasse Møller	Uth	DEN	Left Wing	10/09/1990	Slagelse, DEN	193	88
	21	René Aas	Jansen Rasmussen	DEN	Right Wing	29/08/1989	Ringkøbing, DEN	179	82
	22	Jakob	Rasmussen	DEN	Centre Back	04/12/2002	Fredensborg, DEN	184	80
	25	Eivind	Tangen	NOR	Right Back	04/05/1993	Bergen, NOR	193	100
	26	Jonathan Mosbæk	Tønning Würtz	DEN	Centre Back	29/09/1999	Nyborg, DEN	198	100
	33	Philip Rosenfeldt	Jakobsen	DEN	Goalkeeper	19/05/2005	Ringkøbing, DEN	172	81
	39	Mathias Strøyer Enevoldsen	Rasmussen	DEN	Goalkeeper	04/07/2004	Faxe, DEN	180	85
	42	Tobias	Fors	NOR	Right Wing	21/09/2004			
	51	Andreas Møller	Andersen	DEN	Line Player	25/10/2005	Herning, DEN	192	84
	52	Harald	Pedersen	DEN	Line Player	15/04/2004	Varde, DEN	193	90
	55	Hans Erik	Larsen	DEN	Right Back	12/07/2004	Nyborg, DEN	195	83
	63	Mads	Bjergfelt	DEN	Centre Back	06/02/2004	Frederiksberg, DEN	196	85
	73	Mathias Legaard	Troelsen	DEN	Left Wing	29/01/2005	Ringkøbing, DEN	190	80



SIMEN PETTERSEN

 @simenptrsn

Left back

- arrived at Skjern in 2022 from Elverum for his first club outside his native Norway, though he had spent a few months on loan with Ivry in France in 2021
- son of former Norway national team coach Gunnar Pettersen
- one of the team's leaders on court, scored 49 times EL 2022/23 season
- made national team debut in 2019, played for Norway at 2020 Olympics



ALFRED JÖNSSON

 @alfredjonsson

Centre back

- Swedish international (since 2020), who joined Skjern in 2021 after two seasons with German club TSV Hannover-Burgdorf
- was Skjern's top scorer in EL 2022/23 season, with 71 goals
- started career in Lund and had his debut in the Swedish league at age 17
- made All-star Team and was top scorer (188 goals) of Swedish league in 2018/19

WCh: S 2021



EMIL SIERSBÆK BERGHOLT

 @emilbergholt

Line player

- team captain, who started playing and remained at Skjern until 2017, and returned to the club in 2021; played for Danish sides Tønder and Mors-Thy in the meantime
- scored 48 times for Skjern in the EL 2022/23 season, but underwent knee surgery in May 2023 and will miss the opening of EL 2023/24 season
- made his debut for the Danish national team in March 2023



EIVIND TANGEN

 @eivindtangen

Right back

- joined Skjern in 2018 for only the third club in his career, after Bergen and Midtjylland
- Skjern's second-best scorer in EL 2022/23, with 53 goals
- played more than 100 games for Norwegian national team since his debut in 2010
- in relationship with Norwegian international Stine Skogrand; they have two sons together

WCh: S 2017, 2019; EURO B 2020

GROUP D



Club contact

Club Address

ABC de BRAGA / UMinho
Pavilhao Flavio sa Leite
Apartado 2437/Parque da
Ponte
4701-905 Braga, Portugal

Media contact

Ana Teixeira
ana.teixeira@fpa.pt
+351 91 84 10 287

 abcdebraga.com

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

 –

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

Kit colours

Light

Player shirt: yellow
Player short: yellow
GK shirt: multicolour

Dark

Player shirt: black
Player short: black
GK shirt: multicolour



Playing hall

Pavilhão Multiusos SCB
Avenida Olímpica, nº132,
UFs Rea
4700-087 Braga, Portugal
Capacity: 1,400

ABC DE BRAGA / UMINHO



This will be the first time ABC de BRAGA/UMinho will play group matches of the EHF European League Men. In fact, this is Braga's return to European club competitions after seven years, as the third Portuguese representative was a regular contender from the 1993/94 season up until 2016/17.

Now, the winners of the former EHF Challenge Cup are back and are eager to leave their mark in the second-tier.

- **Braga qualified for the group matches by narrowly beating RK Trimo Trebnje 58:57 on aggregate, thanks to a decisive three-goal win at home**
- **they have only two foreigners in the squad – Leonardo Abrahão and Vinícios Carvalho from Brazil**
- **their biggest European success was winning the EHF Challenge Cup in 2015/16 season – after losing two previous finals – and reaching the EHF Champions League 1993/94 final against TEKA Santander**
- **goalkeeper Humberto Gomes has a rich history with European competitions, recording his first season with Braga in the EHF Champions League 1997/98 season**

The almost entirely domestic squad underwent some changes during the summer with seven new players ready to take their chances on the European stage while five others left the club, including Cláudio Silva and José Costa who decided to call time on their careers.

Led by Filipe Magalhães, who is in his third season as head coach with the club, Braga are ready to add to their European legacy.

Team captain Vinícios Carvalho: “Our biggest motivation is to win the highest number of points with the ambition of moving on to the main round. The most important game is the first against MSK Povazska Bystrica, because if we win, we will gain confidence and motivation for the remaining games.”

PAST ACHIEVEMENTS

EHF European League

Participations (incl. 2023/24): 1

Other

EHF Champions League

Runners-up (1): 1993/94

Quarter-finals (3): 1996/97, 1997/98, 2000/01

EHF Cup

Semi-finals (1): 1999/2000

Challenge Cup

Winners (1): 2015/16

Runners-up (2): 2004/05, 2014/15

City Cup

Semi-finals (1): 1994/95

Portuguese league: 13 titles (1987, 1988, 1991-93, 1995-98, 2000, 2006, 2007, 2016)

Portuguese cup: 12 titles (1990-93, 1995-97, 2000, 2008, 2009, 2015, 2017)





FILIFE MAGALHÃES

Coach

- former centre back, who took over as head coach at Braga in December 2021, replacing Jorge Rito
- had previously worked with the club's youth teams since 2010
- hopes to lead the club to new successes again; Braga's latest domestic title dates back to 2017, when they won the cup
- as a player he spent most of his career in Braga, but also played for Francisco de Holanda, M.B./Colégio 7 Fontes, and Xico Andebol

ARRIVALS

Gonçalo Meireles (Póvoa/POR)
Nuno Pando (Vitória/POR)
Lucas Ferrão (Ginásio/POR)
Filipe Monteiro (Maia/POR)
José Rebelo (Setúbal/POR)
Carlos Martins (Benfica/POR)
Pedro Salvador (Gaia/POR)

DEPARTURES

Manuel Lima (Águas Santas/POR)
Hanser Rodriguez (Vardar/MKD)
André Rei (Gaia/POR)
Cláudio Silva (retired)
José Costa (retired)

I TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height	Weight
1	Humberto	Gomes	POR	Goalkeeper	01/01/1978	Braga, POR	193	105
3	Daniel	Vasconcelos	POR	Centre Back	02/01/2004	Celorico de Basto, POR	186	88
8	Gonçalo	Meireles	POR	Left Wing	18/12/1998	Porto, POR	183	80
9	João Rafael	Peixoto	POR	Left Wing	15/04/1998	Braga, POR	182	83
10	Lucas	Ferrão	POR	Left Back	15/08/1998	Santo Tirso, POR	188	83
14	Leonardo	Abrahão	BRA	Centre Back	09/09/1996	São Paulo, BRA	180	85
15	José	Rebelo	POR	Back	15/05/1996	Santo Tirso, POR	202	104
17	José Paulo	Silva	POR	Line Player	20/08/2000	Guimarães, POR	190	99
19	Carlos	Martins	POR	Right Wing	14/06/1994	Vila Nova de Paiva, POR	175	78
21	Dinis	Mota	POR	Left Back	17/08/2002	Braga, POR	191	91
22	Nuno	Pando	POR	Left Back	26/09/1996	Póvoa de Lanhoso, POR	188	85
24	Pedro	Salvador	POR	Right Wing	18/05/2001	Espinho, POR	175	68
25	André	Pires	POR	Left Wing	02/01/2005	Braga, POR	190	85
26	Filipe	Monteiro	POR	Centre Back	16/04/2004	Porto, POR	180	80
27	Hugo	Manso	POR	Back	10/05/1999	Braga, POR	199	104
28	David	Braga	POR	Left Wing	28/06/2004	Braga, POR	180	76
36	Afonso	Silva	POR	Goalkeeper	04/08/2003	Braga, POR	185	78
38	Tiago	Ferreira	POR	Goalkeeper	19/06/2002	Braga, POR	191	92
64	Pedro	Castro	POR	Right Wing	24/05/1993	Braga, POR	184	86
C 57	Vinícios	Carvalho	BRA	Right Back	06/03/1997	Praia Grande, BRA	188	103
66	João	Diogo	POR	Centre Back	06/06/2006	Braga, POR	176	74



HUMBERTO GOMES

 @humbertogomes52

Goalkeeper

- 45-year-old Portuguese international, who returned to Braga in 2022 for the third time in his career, after earlier stints in 1997-2002 and 2010-20
- has been playing in European club competitions for more than 25 years
- also played for Gaia, São Bernardo, Belenenses, Sporting, and Povoá
- impressed with a 43-per cent save rate for Portugal at the 2021 WCh



LEONARDO ABRAHÃO

 @leeoabrahao

Centre back

- Brazilian international, who played for EC Pinheiros before moving to Europe
- first joined AD Sanjoanense before arriving at Braga in 2022
- in the EL 2023/24, contributed 12 goals to Braga's narrow win over Trimo Trebnje (58:57 on aggregate) to qualify for group matches
- played for Brazil at the 2023 WCh in Poland-Sweden



JOSÉ PAULO SILVA

 @zepaulosilva17

Line player

- one of Portugal's up-and-coming line player talents, who joined Braga in 2021
- started to play at Xico Andebol; had first senior season with Boavista in 2018/19
- also played for SC Horta before moving to Braga
- EL 2023/24 is his first European season; he netted 11 times against Trimo Trebnje
- has been part of Portugal's Younger Age Category national teams



VINÍCIOS CARVALHO

 @pannda57

Right back

- from São Paulo, Brazil; started playing handball at the age of 9 in Super Escola
- played for Metodista and São Bernardo before moving to Europe in 2018
- before joining Braga in the 2021/22 season, he played for SC Horta and AD Sanjoanense, alongside fellow Brazilian teammate Leonardo Abrahão
- is also a prolific beach handball player

GROUP E PREVIEW

BIG NAMES AT FLENSBURG, TWO FAMOUS HUNTERS AND AN UNDERDOG



One big name in European club handball will not make it to the main round – due to the line-up of group E. Former EHF Champions League winners SG Flensburg-Handewitt, current Swiss champions and last year's quarter-finalists Kadetten Schaffhausen, and Norwegian runners-up Elverum Handball are expected to battle it out for the top-two spots, with Montenegrin champions HC Lovcen-Cetinje regarded as underdogs.

Lovcen-Cetinje have been coached by Pero Milosevic since 2022. One player of the almost all-Montenegrin squad stands out: Vuko Borozan, who won the EHF Champions League with Vardar in 2017 and later played for Veszprém and Zagreb.



The team of former EHF Champions League winner Børge Lund (in 2010, as a THW Kiel player) played EHF Champions League for the last eight years. Elverum lost the final series of the Norwegian championship against Kolstad 3-1 and subsequently lost some key players, including Emil Kheri Imsgard (Szeged) and Orry Freyer Porkelsson (Sporting). On the other hand, Hungarian top talent Péter Lukács has come on loan from Veszprém.

In terms of European club competition experience, Kadetten are the No. 1 team in this group: the Swiss champions play their 28th international season. They made it to the EHF Cup final in 2010, and reached the EHF European League quarter-finals in the past two seasons. They narrowly lost to eventual champions Füchse Berlin in 2022/23. Former Croatian national team coach Hrvoje Horvat has replaced Adalsteinn Eyjolfsson on the bench. Horvat can count on almost the same team that made it to the quarter-finals in April, including Spanish veteran Joan Cañellas and top scorer Odinn Thor Rikhardsson.



On paper, SG Flensburg-Handewitt seem to be the favourites in this group, aiming for their fifth different European club competition trophy after winning the City Cup, EHF Cup, Cup Winners' Cup and EHF Champions League. The biggest new signing is the first awardee of the EHF Excellence Award, Simon Pytlick. Alongside the Danish world champion, his former coach Nicolej Krickau and line player Lukas Jørgensen have arrived from GOG. Moreover, EHF Champions League winner Kay Smits (from SC Magdeburg) and defence boss Blaz Blagotinsek (Frisch Auf Göppingen) are among the new signings. Simon Hald, who joined EHF Champions League participants Aalborg Håndbold, and Norwegian duo Magnus Rød and Gøran Johannessen (both to Kolstad Handball) have left the club.



Björn Pazen

I GROUP E HEAD-TO-HEADS

PREVIOUS DUELS BETWEEN THE TEAMS OF GROUP E

SG Flensburg-Handewitt vs Elverum Handball 4-0-0 (127:111) 8:0

18.09.2019	SG Flensburg-Handewitt vs Elverum Handball, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	26:19 (12:9)
15.02.2020	Elverum Handball vs SG Flensburg-Handewitt, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	28:34 (14:15)
22.10.2020	SG Flensburg-Handewitt vs Elverum Handball, EHF Champions League – Group A	37:35 (18:14)
10.12.2020	Elverum Handball vs SG Flensburg-Handewitt, EHF Champions League – Group A	29:30 (12:15)

SG Flensburg-Handewitt vs Kadetten Schaffhausen 5-0-1 (162:143) 10:2

13.10.1996	SG Flensburg Handewitt vs Kadetten Schaffhausen, EHF Cup – Round 2	27:16 (13:7)
19.10.1996	Kadetten Schaffhausen vs SG Flensburg Handewitt, EHF Cup – Round 2	21:23 (10:11)
24.04.2010	SG Flensburg-Handewitt vs Kadetten SH Handball, EHF Cup – Semi-final	31:30 (15:15)
01.05.2010	Kadetten SH Handball vs SG Flensburg-Handewitt, EHF Cup – Semi-final	24:21 (12:12)
10.11.2016	Kadetten Schaffhausen vs SG Flensburg-Handewitt, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	26:29 (13:15)
08.03.2017	SG Flensburg-Handewitt vs Kadetten Schaffhausen, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	31:26 (15:14)

SG Flensburg-Handewitt vs HC Lovcen-Cetinje

No previous encounters in European competitions

Elverum Handball vs Kadetten Schaffhausen 2-0-2 (114:116) 4:4

17.09.2015	Kadetten Schaffhausen vs Elverum Handball Herrer, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group D	30:31 (15:16)
15.11.2015	Elverum Handball Herrer vs Kadetten Schaffhausen, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group D	27:28 (11:15)
14.09.2017	Kadetten Schaffhausen vs Elverum Handball, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group C	36:30 (17:15)
08.11.2017	Elverum Handball vs Kadetten Schaffhausen, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group C	26:22 (12:9)

Elverum Handball vs HC Lovcen-Cetinje

No previous encounters in European competitions

Kadetten Schaffhausen vs HC Lovcen-Cetinje

No previous encounters in European competitions

GROUP E



Club contact

Club Address

SG Flensburg-Handewitt
Schiffbrücke 66
24939 Flensburg
Germany


Media contact

Franziska Götttsch
fgoettsch@sg-flensburg-handewitt.de
+49 17 34 73 94 94

 sg-flensburg-handewitt.de

 SGFlHa

 @SGFlHa

 @sgflensburghandewitt

Kit colours

Light

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

Dark

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



Playing hall

Campushalle
Campusallee 2
24941 Flensburg
Germany
Capacity: 4,600

SG FLENSBURG— HANDEWITT



The 2014 winners of the EHF Champions League are among the field of main contenders for the EHF Finals in May 2024. Flensburg did not only change their coach – from Maik Machulla to Dane Nicolej Krickau – but bolstered their squad with many big names, among them the MVP from the inaugural EHF Excellence Award: Simon Pytlick.

After missing the EHF Finals on home ground last season after a surprise home defeat against Granollers in the quarter-finals, the former German champions hope for several trophies in this season.

- **Simon Pytlick, his former GOG teammate Lukas Jørgensen, Kay Smits (from SC Magdeburg) and Blaz Blagotinsek (Göppingen) are among the new signings**
- **after failing in the German cup and the European League, Flensburg parted ways with coach Maik Machulla and appointed GOG coach Nicolej Krickau**
- **former coach Ljubomir Vranjes, who steered Flensburg to the winners' podium of the EHF Champions League in 2014, is back at the club as sports director**
- **Flensburg finished fourth in the German Bundesliga in the 2022/23 season**

“We are part of three competitions, and we aim to win all of them,” says new arrival Kay Smits, who on his turn know how to win trophies, as he was part of the SC Magdeburg team that lifted the trophy in the Machineseecker EHF Champions League last season.

Flensburg remain the only men's club with four different European trophies: EHF Cup (1997), City Cup (1999), Cup Winners' Cup (2001, 2012) and the EHF Champions League in 2014.

Team captain Johannes Golla: “It is exciting to see how the new coach and the team fit together day by day. It is too early to say whether we are already better than last season. But I am sure we can play better. What we definitely need is more constancy in all our games. We are looking forward to adding some silverware to our cabinet.”

PAST ACHIEVEMENTS

EHF European League

Participations (incl. 2023/24): 2

Quarter-finals (1): 2022/23

Other

EHF Champions League

Winners (1): 2013/14

Runners-up (2): 2003/2004, 2006/2007

Semi-finals (1): 2005/2006

Quarter-finals (9): 2004/2005, 2008/2009, 2010/2011, 2012/2013, 2015/16, 2016/17, 2017/18, 2018/19, 2020/21

EHF Cup

Winners (1): 1996/97

Cup Winners' Cup

Winners (2): 2000/01, 2011/12

City Cup

Winners (1): 1998/1999

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

German cup: 4 titles (2003-05, 2015)





NICOLE J KRICKAU

Coach

- Danish coach, who arrived in Flensburg in the summer of 2023 from GOG, taking with him Simon Pytlick – the MVP of the EHF Excellence Awards 2022/23 – and Lukas Jørgensen
- former centre back, who ended his playing career in 2007 due to injury after just three seasons with Skanderborg Håndbold
- started working as a youth coach at Skanderborg, took over the senior team in 2013, before joining GOG four years later
- known for his ability to develop young players

ARRIVALS

Blaz Blagotinsek (Göppingen/GER)
Kay Smits (Magdeburg/GER)
Simon Pytlick (GOG/DEN)
Lukas Jørgensen (GOG/DEN)
Aksel Horgen (Bjerringbro/DEN)

DEPARTURES

Magnus Rød (Kolstad/NOR)
Gøran Johannessen (Kolstad/NOR)
Simon Hald Jensen (Aalborg/DEN)
Aaron Mensing (GOG/DEN)
Franz Semper (Leipzig/GER)
Anton Lindskog (GOG/DEN)

I TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height	Weight
1	Benjamin	Buric	BIH	Goalkeeper	20/11/1990	Dobož, BIH	196	102
2	Simon Bogetoft	Pytlick	DEN	Left Back	11/12/2000	Svendborg, DEN	193	98
C 4	Johannes	Golla	GER	Line Player	05/11/1997	Wiesbaden, GER	195	112
14	Teitur Örn	Einarsson	ISL	Right Back	23/09/1998	Selfoss, ISL	190	90
20	Kevin	Møller	DEN	Goalkeeper	29/06/1989	Tønder, DEN	200	103
22	Mads	Mensah Larsen	DEN	Centre Back	12/08/1991	Holbæk, DEN	188	105
24	Jim	Gottfridsson	SWE	Centre Back	02/09/1992	Ystad, SWE	192	93
25	Lukas Lindhard	Jørgensen	DEN	Line Player	31/03/1999	Lejre, DEN	194	109
26	Johan a Plogv	Hansen	DEN	Right Wing	01/05/1994	Tórshavn, FAR	190	80
27	Aksel	Horgen	NOR	Right Wing	29/05/1996	Lørenskog, NOR	185	89
29	August Baskar	Pedersen	NOR	Left Wing	24/06/1994	Notodden, NOR	180	85
31	Emil	Jakobsen	DEN	Left Wing	24/01/1998	Kerteminde, DEN	190	86
33	Kay	Smits	NED	Right Back	31/03/1997	Geleen, NED	186	89
43	Blaz	Blagotinsek	SLO	Line Player	17/01/1994	Celje, SLO	203	117
64	Lasse Kjær	Møller	DEN	Left Back	11/06/1996	Gudme, DEN	199	104

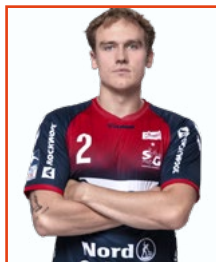


BENJAMIN BURIC

 @benjaminburic12

Goalkeeper

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



SIMON PYTLICK

 @simonpytlickk

Left back

- Danish international since 2021, who arrived at Flensburg in the summer of 2023 from his only previous club: GOG
- son of former handball coach and Olympic champion Jan Pytlick
- was awarded MVP of the 2022/23 season at the inaugural EHF Excellence Awards
- only 22 but has played three CL seasons; was third bester scorer in 2022/23

WCh: G 2023



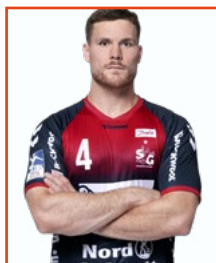
BLAZ BLAGOTINSEK

 @blagi4

Line player

- experienced Slovenian international, who played for Veszprém from 2016 until 2022
- joined Flensburg in 2023, after a one-year stint at Frisch Auf Göppingen
- made CL All-star Team as best defender in 2018/19 and 2019/20
- previously played four seasons at Celje in his native Slovenia
- made national team debut for Slovenia at age 18 in 2012

WCh: B 2017



JOHANNES GOLLA

 @johgolla

Line player

- German international, who arrived in Flensburg in 2018 from MT Melsungen
- key defender for Flensburg and national team since his first major event, the 2021 WCh; was named in the EHF EURO 2022 All-star Team
- played first match for national team in same year that he joined Flensburg: 2018
- is team captain in Flensburg and the German national team

GROUP E




Club contact

Club Address
Elverum Handball
Postboks 295
2403 Elverum
Norway

Media contact
Solveig Sønnøve
solveig@ehh.no
+47 92 15 35 05

 ehh.no

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

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

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

Kit colours

Light

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

Dark

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



Playing hall

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

ELVERUM HANDBALL



After competing eight straight seasons in the EHF Champions League, Elverum Handball now have their first ever EHF European League season ahead. The Norwegian runners-up again lost some big names to all over Europe, but signed a very promising Hungarian talent.

In the previous season, Elverum missed to proceed from the Machineseeker EHF Champions League group phase, winning only one from their 14 matches.

- former EHF Champions League winner Børge Lund has been Elverum's coach since 2020
- goalkeeper Emil Imsgaard, who showed impressive performance in the Champions League, has joined Hungarian side Szeged; two other players (Orri Freyr Thorkelsson/Sporting and Christopher Hedberg/Benfica) have left for clubs in Lisbon
- among the new arrivals is Hungarian top talent Peter Lukacs, who is on loan from Veszprém
- except for three players, Elverum count on an all-Scandinavian squad

And after becoming Norwegian champions three times in a row (from 2020 to 2022), Elverum were defeated by Kolstad Handball in the best-of-five final series of the Norwegian league by 3-1.

The solid team, with lots of top-level experience in their lineup, will certainly be a force to be reckoned with, although they have landed in one of the toughest groups of the EHF European League 2023/24.

Team captain Endre Langaas: "Our biggest motivation this season is to do better than last season, which was a tough season for us both in the Norwegian league, and in the Machineseeker EHF Champions League. We are in a tough group, but we will give all what we have in every game to go as far as possible. We dream about a big season in the EHF European League."

PAST ACHIEVEMENTS

EHF European League

Participations (incl. 2023/24): 1

Other

EHF Champions League

Play-offs (2): 2020/21, 2021/22

Group Phase (5): 2015/16, 2016/2017, 2017/18, 2018/19, 2019/20

EHF Cup

Group Phase (1): 2012/13

Cup Winners' Cup

Quarter-finals (1): 2010/11

Norwegian league: 13 titles (1995, 2008, 2012-19, 2020-22)

Norwegian cup: 5 titles (2010, 2019-22)





BØRGE LUND

Coach

- Norwegian former centre back, who took over from Michael Apelgren as Elverum head coach in the summer of 2020
- Elverum is his first job as head coach after working for four years as an assistant with the Norwegian national team
- spent most of his playing career in Germany, competing for teams like THW Kiel, Rhein-Neckar Löwen, and Füchse Berlin
- won the CL with Kiel at the inaugural EHF FINAL4 in 2010
- retired from playing in 2016; played more than 200 matches and scored 390 goals for Norway between 2000 and 2014

EC trophies: CL 2010 (as player)

ARRIVALS

Robin Haug (Skjern/DEN)
Scott Wolkoff (Elverum academy)
Eirik Soløst (Elverum academy)
Péter Lukács (Veszprém/HUN, on loan)
Magnus Søndena (Arendal/NOR)
Simen Sjøgaard (Fjellhammer/NOR)
Theodor Uliana Starck (AIK/SWE)

DEPARTURES

Emil Imsgard (Szeged/HUN)
Håvar Skare (Storhamar/NOR)
Orri Freyr Þorkelsson (Sporting/POR)
Uros Borzas (Pelister/MKD)
Josip Vidovic (Arendal/NOR)
Christopher Hedberg (Benfica/POR)
Niclas Fingren (HØJ/DEN)
Benjamin Berg (Önnered/SWE, on loan)
Jacob Moen (ROS/NOR, on loan)

I TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height	Weight
2	Daniel	Blomgren	SWE	Left Back	23/06/1997	Eskilstuna, SWE	193	104
5	Kristian	Hübert Larsen	NOR	Line Player	22/03/2000	Sandefjord, NOR	199	103
7	Kasper	Thorsen Lien	NOR	Right Wing	15/04/2001	Fredrikstad, NOR	194	90
9	Patrick Helland	Anderson	NOR	Right Back	08/12/2004	Ski, NOR	193	80
11	Kassem	Awad	SWE	Line Player	19/03/1995	Nyköping, SWE	196	109
12	Robin	Paulsen Haug	NOR	Goalkeeper	01/09/1998	Drammen, NOR	194	122
15	Tobias Schjølberg	Grøndahl	NOR	Centre Back	22/01/2001	Bærum, NOR	183	85
18	Antonio	Serradilla Cuenca	ESP	Left Back	10/01/1999	Sevilla, ESP	198	98
19	Theodor Uliana	Starck	SWE	Line Player	19/06/2004	Stockholm, SWE	194	102
C 20	Endre	Langaas	NOR	Line Player	05/10/1991	Trondheim, NOR	185	100
23	Magnus	Søndenå	NOR	Right Back	09/10/1991	Oslo, NOR	184	82
27	Péter	Lukács	HUN	Centre Back	30/07/2002	Budapest, HUN	190	79
33	Sindre	Heldal	NOR	Left Wing	10/02/1999	Bergen, NOR	183	83
71	Šimon	Mizera	CZE	Goalkeeper	29/12/2000	Valasske Mezirci, CZE	190	90



ŠIMON MIZERA

 @simon_miz

Goalkeeper

- young Czech international, who joined Elverum in 2022 from Robe Zubri
- has become the No. 1 between the posts at Elverum since Emil Irmgard's departure
- had not played for a foreign club before moving to Norway; gained first international experience with Zubri in the EHF European Cup Men 2020/21
- had debut in Czech national team at age 18, in a match against Slovakia



TOBIAS GRØNDAHL

 @tobias_grondahl

Centre back

- one of the revelations of the CL 2021/22 season, when he scored 81 goals for Elverum
- became the team's first-choice playmaker at the age of 20
- Norwegian international, who played his first major event at the 2023 WCh
- his father, mother and younger brother all play handball – and all have jersey No. 15



PÉTER LUKÁCS

Centre back

- Hungarian youth international, who arrived at Elverum in 2023 from Veszprém
- a versatile and inspiring centre back, who has has three season of CL experience
- one of the Hungarian talents coming from the famous NEKA academy
- helped the Hungarian under-21 national team win silver at the 2023 Junior WCh in Germany, where he was the team's top scorer alongside Zoran Ilic



ENDRE LANGAAS

 @endrelangaas

Line player

- one of the most experienced members of the Elverum squad for 2023/24
- arrived at Elverum in 2018 after seven seasons with another Norwegian club, Bodø
- was already 30 years old when he got his first call-up for the Norwegian national team
- initially a reserve player for Norway at the EHF EURO 2022, but he did play – and score once – in his debut: the match for fifth place against Iceland



Club contact

Club Address


Kadetten Schaffhausen
Schweizersbildstrasse 10
8207 Schaffhausen
Switzerland

Media contact

Barbara Imobersteg
barbara.imobersteg@bluewin.ch
+41 78 72 03 247

 kadettensh.ch

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

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

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

Kit colours

Light

Player shirt: orange
Player short: black
GK shirt: green

Dark

Player shirt: black
Player short: orange
GK shirt: yellow



Playing hall

BBC Arena

Schweizersbildstrasse 10
8207 Schaffhausen
Switzerland
Capacity: 3,500

KADETTEN SCHAFFHAUSEN



In the 2022/23 season, Kadetten were close to making it to the EHF Finals, but ultimately lost the quarter-finals against eventual winners Füchse Berlin on a margin of just three goals over the two duels.

With new coach Hrvoje Horvat and new French goalkeeper Julien Meyer, the Swiss champions aim to continue in this successful way in domestic and international competitions. The backbone of the squad almost remained the same with four new arrivals and four players who have left.

- former Croatian national team coach Hrvoje Horvat replaced Icelander Adalsteinn Eyjolfsson, who joined German club GWD Minden
- last season, wing Odinn Thor Rikardsson was top scorer of the European League with 110 goals; he has extended his contract until 2027
- most decorated star in Kadetten's squad is Spanish world and European champion Joan Canellas, who arrived at the Swiss club in 2021.
- in the 2022/23 season, Kadetten became Swiss champions for the 13th time, but failed to defend their cup trophy, losing to Kriens-Luzern

Kadetten play their 28th European cup season; in 2022 and 2023 they made it to the quarter-finals of the EHF European League. The achievement that has made the club the most proud remains their appearance in the EHF Cup final in 2010.

Team captain Lukas Herburger: "Our biggest motivation is to implement the new system from our new coach; it is always a pleasure to learn new things and to improve it in our team. We are looking forward the most to the game against Flensburg in Schaffhausen. I hope the BBC Arena will again be sold out, like last season against Füchse Berlin. Together with our fans every thing can happen. I'm looking forward to an exciting and atmospheric game."

PAST ACHIEVEMENTS

EHF European League

Participations (including 2023/24): 4

Quarter-finals (2): 2021/22, 2022/23

Last 16 (1): 2020/21

Other

EHF Champions League

Last 16 (2): 2010/11, 2011/12

EHF Cup

Runners-up (1): 2009/10

Cup Winners' Cup

Semi-finals (2): 2007/08, 2008/09

Quarter-finals (1): 2005/06

Swiss league: 13 titles (2005-07, 2010-12, 2014-17, 2019, 2022, 2023)

Swiss cup: 9 titles (1999, 2004, 2005, 2007, 2008, 2011, 2014, 2016, 2021)





HRVOJE HORVAT

Coach

- Croatian coach, arrived at Kadetten from German side Wetzlar in the summer of 2023 to replace Adalsteinn Eyolfsson
- head coach of Croatian national team from 2021-23; earlier, was assistant under Lino Cervar for three years
- left a coaching job at Nexe to focus on the national team
- former successful beach handball player, with seven medals from major competitions, including WCh gold
- son of legendary Croatian playmaker Hrvoje Horvat Cveba

ARRIVALS

Ariel Pietrasik (St. Gallen/SUI)
Julien Meyer (Chartres/FRA)
David Hrachovec (Amicitia/SUI)
Sadok Ben Romdhane (St. Gallen/SUI)

DEPARTURES

Nik Tominec (retired)
Michael Kusio (Bern/SUI)
Martin Ziemer (retired)
Igor Zabic (Athens/GRE)

I TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height	Weight
1	Kristian	Pilipovic	CRO	Goalkeeper	10/12/1994	Dakovo, CRO	191	103
2	Robin Joel	Heinis	SUI	Right Back	28/04/2002	Therwil Basel, SUI	195	95
3	Lukas	Hedinger	SUI	Right Back	10/01/2003	Schlieren, SUI	196	105
4	Mehdi	Ben Romdhane	SUI	Centre Back	02/12/2001	Yverdon-les-Bains, SUI	188	94
5	Torben	Matzken	GER	Centre Back	01/02/2000	Mons, GER	188	87
6	Odinn Thor	Rikhardsson	ISL	Right Wing	23/10/1997	Reykjavik, ISL	183	84
7	Joan	Cañellas Reixach	ESP	Left Back	30/09/1986	S/MdePalautordera, ESP	198	103
8	David	Hrachovec	CZE	Right Wing	01/08/2003	Valasske Mezirci, CZE	187	77
9	Jonas	Schopper	GER	Line Player	05/02/1999	Singen, GER	185	108
10	Donát	Bartók	HUN	Right Back	13/07/1996	Szeged, HUN	192	102
11	Patrice	Bührer	SUI	Centre Back	19/01/1998	Schaffhausen, SUI	186	90
12	Ismaël	Ouedraogo	SUI	Goalkeeper	31/01/2005	Geneva, SUI	190	76
14	Sadok	Ben Romdhane	SUI	Right Back	02/12/2001	Romane, SUI	191	83
15	Marvin	Lier	SUI	Left Wing	08/09/1992	Zürich, SUI	186	82
16	Julien	Meyer	FRA	Goalkeeper	04/12/1996	Selestat, FRA	196	87
17	Jost	Brücker	SUI	Left Wing	17/02/1991	Bürglen, SUI	185	84
18	Ariel	Pietrasik	POL	Left Back	21/10/1999	Lodz, POL	122	107
19	Zoran	Markovic	SUI	Left Back	06/05/1995	Neuhausen, SUI	197	100
20	Luka	Maros	SUI	Left Back	30/02/1994	Dübendorf, SUI	196	99
21	Yannick	Lanz	SUI	Right Wing	12/08/2000	Schaffhausen, SUI	176	65
22	Benjamin	Zehnder	SUI	Left Wing	02/02/1997	Wädenswil, SUI	180	84
23	Rohat	Sahin	SUI	Line Player	01/04/2002	Arbon, SUI	191	110
25	Sandro	Obranovic	CRO	Left Back	18/10/1992	Karlovac, CRO	194	95
C 26	Lukas	Herburger	AUT	Line Player	19/12/1994	Bregenz, AUT	197	97



KRISTIAN PILIPOVIC

Goalkeeper

- Croatian-Austrian goalkeeper, who first joined Kadetten from Nexe in 2018
- moved to Wisla Plock for the 2022/23 season but returned to Kadetten in December 2022, swapping places with Ignacio Biosca who went to the Polish club
- started his professional career at Fivers in Austria
- initially played for the YAC and senior national teams of Austria, before opting to represent Croatia; had debut for Croatia at the EHF EURO 2022



JOAN CAÑELLAS

 @joancanellas21

Left back

- joined Kadetten from Pick Szeged in the summer of 2021
- started career at Granollers before playing for Barça, Ciudad Real and Atletico Madrid in Spain; Hamburg and Kiel in Germany; and Vardar, where he won the CL in 2017
- made senior national team debut in 2008; top scorer of EHF EURO 2014 with 50 goals
- his younger brother Marc is also a professional handball player

EC trophies: CL 2017

EURO: G 2018, 2020, S 2016, 2020, B 2014; WCh: G 2013, B 2011, 2023



DONÁT BARTÓK

 @donatbartok

Right back

- Hungarian international, who started his senior career at Tatabánya; later joined Vác before moving to Germany, where he played four seasons at Lemgo
- arrived at Kadetten in January 2021 from Bidasoa Irun in Spain
- has developed into one of the team's best goal scorers; has netted 106 times in total in his first three EL seasons with Kadetten
- his father, Csaba Bartók, was also an Hungarian international



ODINN THOR RIKHARDSSON

Right wing

- Icelandic international, who arrived in Schaffhausen in 2022 from KA Akureyri
- became EL top scorer, with 110 goals, in 2022/23 – his first season with Kadetten
- previously played three years in Denmark, for Team Tvis Holstebro and GOG
- also had a brief stint at VfL Gummersbach in 2021 before returning to Iceland
- had national team debut in 2017; played for Iceland at 2023 WCh in Poland-Sweden

GROUP E




Club contact

Club Address

HC Lovcen-Cetinje
 Obilica Poljana bb
 81250 Cetinje
 Montenegro


Media contact

Aleksandar Popovic
alessandro.popovic@gmail.com
 +381 67 56 44 41

 rklovcen.me

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

 –

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

Kit colours

Light

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

Dark

Player shirt: white
 Player short: white
 GK shirt: grey



Playing hall

BEMAX Arena
 Str. Ivana Milutinovica b.b.
 81000 Podgorica
 Montenegro
 Capacity: 5,000

HC LOVCEN-CETINJE



For the first time, HC Lovcen-Cetinje as the Montenegrin champions are part of the EHF European League. However, they have vast international experience from many season in the EHF Cup, Cup Winners' Cup, or European Cup.

Coach Pero Milosevic can count on one big name, new in his squad: former Vardar and Veszprém shooter and Champions League winner Vuko Borozan, who has returned to his home country. The many fans in the BEMAX arena will appreciate his presence on the team.

- among the new arrivals are Vuko Borozan and Marko Radonic, who returned from Macedonian champions and EHF Champions League participants Pelister
- last season, Lovcen-Cetinje were eliminated by Norwegian side Runar Sandefjord in qualification for the EHF European Cup Men
- since 2012, they became Montenegrin champions and cup winners nine times; in total, they have 10 league titles and 13 cup trophies
- Lovcen-Cetinje have a long tradition in playing European Cup competitions, as they are participating for the 23rd time in 2023/24

Famous players such as Veselin Vujovic (player and coach at Cetinje), Alan Muratovic, or Vasko Sevaljevic come from this club as well as coach Ljubomir Obradovic. For the 2023/24 season, the squad contains only Montenegrin players, with one exception: Macedonian international left wing Bojan Madzovski.

Team captain Mirko Radovic: “The biggest motivation for us is being given the opportunity to be part of such a strong handball competition after so long. The handball atmosphere is also felt in our town. People have high expectations from Lovcen again. This is additional wind in our wings to represent the club and Montenegro at the best way. It is an opportunity, not so much for us more experienced players, but for the youngsters who used to watch, for example, Flensburg on television, and now have opportunity to play against them in the jersey of Lovcen.”

PAST ACHIEVEMENTS

EHF European League

Participations (incl. 2023/24): 1

Other

EHF Champions League

Quarter-finals (1): 2000/01

EHF Cup

Quarter-finals (1): 1999/2000

City Cup

Quarter-finals (1): 1998/99

Challenge Cup

Quarter-finals (1): 2006/07

Montenegrin league: 10 titles (2007, 2012-15, 2018-21, 2023)

Montenegrin cup: 12 titles (2009-15, 2017, 2018, 2020-22)





PERO MILOSEVIC

Coach

- club legend at Lovcen-Cetinje; is in his third stint as coach
- led the club to several domestic trophies and into the EHF Champions League, where Lovcen-Cetinje once reached the quarter-finals more than two decades ago
- also coached the women's team of Budućnost, several junior national teams, Vardar, the Montenegro national team, among many other teams
- won the championship in Serbia-Montenegro and Montenegro two times each; also was cup winner in Romania

ARRIVALS

Mirko Radovic (Pelister/MKD)
Vuko Borozan (Al Arabi/QAT)
Ivan Perišić (Al Yarmouk/KWT)
Bogdan Petridevic (Meran/ITA)
Bojan Madžovski (Pelister/MKD)
Luka Vujovic (Koper/SLO)
Filip Borozan (Tuzla/BIH)
Mihailo Šdekic (Budvanska/MNE)
Milorad Bakic (Komovi/MNE)
Aleksandar Mrvaljevic (Pécs/HUN)
Vuk Lakidevic (St. Gallen/SUI)

DEPARTURES

Petar Abramovic (Budućnost/MNE)
Darko Pejovic (Bolzano/ITA)
Luka Poje (Ljubljana/SLO)
Igor Radojevic (Rahovec/KOS)
Marko Mudreša (Tivat/MNE)
Draško Kaluđerovic (n/a)
Žarko Pejovic (n/a)
Vladan Abramovic (n/a)
Dražen Mandić (n/a)

I TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height	Weight
1	Zarija	Lutovac	MNE	Goalkeeper	13/07/1998	Berane, MNE	191	96
4	Miodrag	Stanojevic	MNE	Left Back	17/10/1996	Cetinje, MNE	195	95
5	Aleksa	Perišić	MNE	Right Wing	31/07/1998	Cetinje, MNE	180	83
6	Filip	Krivokapic	MNE	Centre Back	11/02/1996	Cetinje, MNE	185	89
7	Danilo	Pajovic	MNE	Left Wing	07/10/1998	Cetinje, MNE	177	70
8	Slaven	Lekic	MNE	Left Back	06/02/2002	Berane, MNE	195	103
9	Milorad	Bakic	MNE	Left Back	09/02/2005	Berane, MNE	202	97
10	Vuk	Lakicevic	MNE	Right Back	25/10/2001	Cetinje, MNE	200	100
C 13	Mirko	Radovic	MNE	Right Wing	15/06/1990	Cetinje, MNE	186	93
19	Mihailo	Scekic	MNE	Line Player	15/05/2003	Berane, MNE	200	108
20	Filip	Bozovic	MNE	Line Player	28/04/2007	Cetinje, MNE	183	86
22	Luka	Vujovic	MNE	Line Player	11/04/2000	Cetinje, MNE	192	91
23	Bogdan	Petricевич	MNE	Centre Back	06/09/1989	Cetinje, MNE	194	95
33	Ivan	Perisic	MNE	Right Back	21/04/1990	Cetinje, MNE	190	100
38	Filip	Borozan	MNE	Goalkeeper	26/07/2000	Cetinje, MNE	195	91
66	Bojan	Madzovski	MKD	Left Wing	08/05/1994	Skopje, MKD	184	90
73	Petar	Erakovic	MNE	Centre Back	30/12/2000	Cetinje, MNE	184	89
87	Vuko	Borozan	MNE	Left Back	09/04/1994	Cetinje, MNE	203	105



BOJAN MADZOVSKI

 @madzovski06

Left wing

- Macedonian international, who is the only non-Montenegrin player in Lovcen's squad
- arrived with Mirko Radovic from Macedonian champions Pelister in summer of 2023
- started career at Metalurg, later joined Pelister; Lovcen is his first club abroad; also active in beach handball
- played his first major tournament with North Macedonia at the EHF EURO 2022



VUKO BOROZAN

Left back

- born in Cetinje, has returned home to his club after playing abroad for 11 years
- was named Sports Person of the Year in Montenegro after winning the CL with Vardar in 2017; won the CL again with Vardar two years later
- joined Veszprém in 2019 and also played in Qatar and Zagreb before returning home
- a classical shooter from the left back position with a huge power

CL: 2017; 2019



BOGDAN PETRICEVIC

Centre back

- at age 34, has returned to his youth club Lovcen for the 2023/24 season
- had started his career at the club and stayed with them until 2010
- has since played for a wide range of clubs in Spain, Romania, France, Greece, and Italy
- is a tall shooter, but mainly plays in defence nowadays
- former Montenegro international, both indoor and in beach handball



MIRKO RADOVIC

 @mirkoradovic13

Right wing

- experienced new arrival, who previously played for Lovcen in 2009-14 and in 2018
- started his career at Podgorica; later moved to Hungary to play for Cegléd
- joined Macedonian side Pelister in 2019; in 2022/23, captained them to their first domestic league title since 2018
- regular for Montenegro national team at major events since 2014

GROUP F PREVIEW

VOJVODINA TO MEET RETURNEE LA RIOJA AND TWO NEWCOMERS



Group F will bring exciting and unpredictable clashes to the new edition of the EHF European League Men. Fresh faces of the group matches Bjerringbro-Silkeborg, Alkaloid and Vojvodina all seek to make their move and progress further as they will meet with Logroño La Rioja, who are making their comeback after missing out on the 2022/23 season.



RK Vojvodina wrote history when they became only the second Serbian team to win a European trophy, when they clinched the EHF European Cup in the spring of 2023. While the club went through some changes during the summer, their top scorer Barys Pukhouski will still lead the team. Among the significant departures from the club are left wing Miloš Grozdanić and goalkeeper Luka Arsenić, but Vojvodina also welcomed five new players. Celebrating the club's 75th birthday, Vojvodina aim to reach the main round. Backed by a strong fan base and the continuous good work of head coach Boris Rojević, Vojvodina might be hard to beat in Novi Sad.



In the last 10 years, La Rioja have been regulars in Europe, including four seasons in the EHF Champions League. They missed the 2022/23 season and are now eager to show more than they did in 2021/22, when they finished their six-team group in fifth place and failed to advance. They earned their spot by reaching the Spanish cup final, and head coach Miguel Angel Velasco wants to showcase the team's skills in his sixth year with the club. Having last beyond a group stage in the 2014/15 season, La Rioja are out to deliver.

After three years of trial-and-error, Bjerringbro-Silkeborg are back in the group phase of a European competition. They went out in qualification for the EHF European League Men in each of the past three seasons, but the Danish side seeks to get new valuable experience to improve their game both in the domestic league and on the European stage. And they will have the help of star centre back Rasmus Lauge, who has returned home after 10 years with European top teams in Germany and Hungary.



The tides have shifted in North Macedonia and a new club emerged, ready to take the European stage: RK Alkaloid with legend Kiril Lazarov at the helm are welcoming their first EHF competition. Young Macedonian talents mixed with experienced players and reinforcements like Arnaud Bingo, Alejandro Romero and Martin Velkovski: Alkaloid might be the dark horse of the group. Playing their home matches in the Jane Sandanski Arena in Skopje, they are bringing European action back to the well-known arena from two-time EHF Champions League winners Vardar 1961.

Danijela Vekić

I GROUP F HEAD-TO-HEADS

PREVIOUS DUELS BETWEEN THE TEAMS OF GROUP F

Bjerringbro-Silkeborg vs HC Alkaloid

No previous encounters in European competitions

Bjerringbro-Silkeborg vs BM Logroño La Rioja

No previous encounters in European competitions

Bjerringbro-Silkeborg vs Vojvodina

No previous encounters in European competitions

HC Alkaloid vs BM Logroño La Rioja

No previous encounters in European competitions

HC Alkaloid vs Vojvodina

No previous encounters in European competitions

BM Logroño La Rioja vs Vojvodina 3-0-1 (112:93) 6:2

24.11.2012	Naturhouse La Rioja vs RK Vojvodina, EHF Cup – Round 3	28:19 (15:10)
01.12.2012	RK Vojvodina vs Naturhouse La Rioja, EHF Cup – Round 3	26:22 (10:9)
17.10.2015	Vojvodina vs Naturhouse La Rioja, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group C	26:31 (11:16)
24.10.2015	Naturhouse La Rioja vs Vojvodina, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group C	31:22 (15:9)

GROUP F



Club contact


Club Address

Bjerringbro-Silkeborg
Vestre Ringvej 7
8850 Bjerringbro
Denmark

Media contact

Anne Kildegaard
ak@bjerringbro-silkeborg.dk
+45 22 75 91 74

 bjerringbro-silkeborg.dk

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

 –

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

Kit colours

Light

Player shirt: navy blue
Player short: navy blue
GK shirt: white

Dark

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



Playing hall

JYSK Arena
Ansvej 114
8600 Silkeborg
Denmark
Capacity: 2,000

BJERRINGBRO— SILKEBORG



After three years of failing to progress beyond the qualification phase of the EHF European League Men, Bjerringbro-Silkeborg finally welcome the return of group matches to their arena.

The strong Danish side hope the experience of previous seasons in combination with no major changes in the squad will give them an additional push in the European season.

- **the biggest signing of the summer is Rasmus Lauge; the centre back has returned after 10 years abroad**
- **other notable members of the strong squad include Johan Sjöstrand and René Toft Hansen**
- **head coach Patrick Westerholm is in his third season**
- **the last time the Danish side played European group matches was in the EHF Cup 2019/20; they reached the quarter-finals in that competition three times**
- **their main objective is to progress further from the group matches**

Head coach Patrick Westerholm has strong names available to fight in the second tier, but also younger players who could leave their mark. With a goal of going further, the club is aware of the importance of playing at a high level.

Team captain Nikolaj Øris: “The biggest motivation is to show off the team and the club in a European competition after some years without making it to the group phase. We are not just participating for fun – we want to advance from the group matches. I am looking forward to playing against Vojvodina in Serbia. Serbia is a nation fascinated with handball and I am looking forward to experiencing the atmosphere in their arena.”

PAST ACHIEVEMENTS

EHF European League

Participations (incl. 2023/24): 4

Qualification (3): 2020/21, 2021/22, 2022/23

Other

EHF Champions League

Last 16 (2): 2012/13, 2016/17

Group phase (2): 2011/12, 2018/19

EHF Cup

Quarter-finals (3): 2002/03, 2008/09, 2015/16

Cup Winners' Cup

Quarter-finals (1): 2006/07

Danish league: 1 title (2016)

Danish cup: –





PATRICK WESTERHOLM

Coach

- former Finnish international, who arrived at Bjerringbro-Silkeborg as head coach in 2021 after five seasons with TTH Holstebro
- started coaching in the last two years of his playing career, as an assistant at Midtjylland in 2008-10
- got his first job as head coach at SønderjyskE, later returned to Midtjylland as their head coach in 2014/15
- spent the first nine years of his playing career at KIF Kolding, winning the Danish league four and Danish cup three times
- moved for three seasons to Skjern in 2005

ARRIVALS

Rasmus Lauge (Veszprém/HUN)
Victor Iisøe (Skive/DEN)
Mads Lenbroch (Fredericia/DEN)

DEPARTURES

Henrik Tilsted (Mors-Thy/DEN)
Mads Kjeldgaard Andersen (Bergischer HC/GER)
Aksel Horgen (Flensburg/GER)
Emil Jessen (Lemvig-Thyborøn/DEN)

I TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height	Weight
1	Johan	Sjöstrand	SWE	Goalkeeper	26/02/1987	Skövde, SWE	195	89
2	Ludvig	Hallbäck	SWE	Centre Back	27/10/2000	Göteborg, SWE	285	84
4	Patrick	Boldsen	DEN	Right Wing	09/04/2003	Silkeborg, DEN	188	80
C 7	Nikolaj Øris	Nielsen	DEN	Right Back	26/09/1986	Bjerringbro, DEN	194	98
14	Alexander	Lynggaard	DEN	Line Player	27/03/1990	Køge, DEN	198	107
16	Mikkel Møller	Løvkvist	DEN	Goalkeeper	31/07/2002	Roskilde, DEN	201	105
17	August	Fridén	DEN	Left Wing	17/12/2003	Odense, DEN	194	84
19	Rene	Toft Hansen	DEN	Line Player	01/11/1984	Skive, DEN	200	97
20	William	Bogojevic	SWE	Left Back	07/07/1997	Savedalen, SWE	194	103
23	Mads Emil Bayer	Lenbroch	DEN	Left Wing	05/03/2000	Riyadh, KSA	191	76
25	Rasmus	Lauge Schmidt	DEN	Left Back	20/06/1991	Randers, DEN	195	102
26	Peter Balling	Christensen	DEN	Right Back	05/04/1990	Skive, DEN	189	90
30	Mathias Nichlas	Brixen	DEN	Goalkeeper	08/05/2004	Herning, DEN	199	100
44	Thomas Alfred	Solstad	NOR	Line Player	26/02/1997	Ski, NOR	194	110
45	Victor Beenfeldt	Ilsøe	DEN	Right Wing	10/07/2004	Aarhus, DEN	180	72
46	Magnus Rahbek	Sand	DEN	Left Back	16/07/2004	Herning, DEN	197	95
49	Noah Werner	Leving Vestergaard Knudsen	DEN	Left Back	06/04/2004	Viborg, DEN	190	91
51	Jacob Lehnert	Jensen	DEN	Line Player	23/05/2004	Frederikssund, DEN	196	104



JOHAN SJÖSTRAND

 @johansjostrand22

Goalkeeper

- experienced former Swedish international, arrived at Bjerringbro-Silkeborg in 2020
- played for a string of European top clubs in his career, including Flensburg, Barcelona, Aalborg, and Kiel; won the CL with Barça in 2011
- played for the Swedish national team from 2008-15 after winning gold at the 2007 Junior WCh; took silver at the 2012 Olympics in London

EC trophies: CL 2011
OG: S 2012



RASMUS LAUGE

 @rasmuslaug25

Left back

- returned to his youth club Bjerringbro-Silkeborg after 10 years in the summer of 2023, after four seasons with Veszprém in Hungary
- previously spent six seasons in Germany, at Kiel (2013-15) and Flensburg (2015-19)
- Olympic and world champion with Denmark, who can also play centre back
- intelligent and inventive playmaker with a good shot

OG: G 2016; WCh: G 2019, 2023, S 2011, 2013; EURO: G 2012, B 2022



THOMAS SOLSTAD

 @thomasolstad

Line player

- joined the Danish side in 2022 coming from Elverum Handball on a two-year contract
- gained CL experience during three seasons with Elverum
- shares line player position with the René Toft Hansen and Aleander Lynggaard
- part of Norway's youth national teams before his senior team debut in 2021; played at the 2021 and 2023 WCh's and EHF EURO 2022



NIKOLAJ ØRIS NIELSEN

 @nikolajoris

Right back

- true club icon, who was born in Bjerringbro and has always played for the club since picking up the game of handball at age five in 1991
- only exception was the 2008/09 season, which he spent on loan at Lemvig
- top scorer of the Danish league in 2015 and 2018; Danish international since 2010
- both his brothers Mads and Mikkel were handball players, too

WCh: G 2019, 2021

GROUP F



Club contact

Club Address

HC Alkaloid
Blvd. Aleksandar Makedonski 12
1000 Skopje
North Macedonia

Media contact

Nikola Mitrevski
nmitrevski@alkaloid.com.mk
+389 70 39 21 64

 rkalkaloid.mk

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

 -

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

Kit colours

Light

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

Dark

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



Playing hall

**Sport Center
Jane Sandanski**
Bubl. Avnoj b.b
1000 Skopje
North Macedonia
Capacity: 6,500

HC ALKALOID



Established in 2021, HC Alkaloid’s core mission is to nurture young handball talents brimming with potential and a desire to evolve into elite athletes with commendable values. Following a successful debut season in the domestic first league, HC Alkaloid swiftly clinched a spot in the 2022/2023 Super League season.

Macedonian handball legend, Kiril Lazarov, accepted the role of head coach for the team in the first season in the Super League.

- **this is the club’s maiden appearance in a European club competition**
- **Macedonian legend Kiril Lazarov took over as coach in the summer of 2023**
- **they will play their EHF European League matches at the Jane Sandanski Arena in Skopje, the well-known venue of HC Vardar 1961 with more than 6,000 seats**
- **one of the youngest squads in the group phase, with an average age of only 24 years; the goal is to develop young and talented Macedonian players**
- **new arrivals for the 2023/24 season include Arnaud Bingo, Alejandro Romero, and Martin Velkovski**

They became vice champions to secure a spot in the EHF European League, despite being rookies in the league. Participating in European competitions for the first time in their history will be definitely advantageous for their young team.

Team captain Igor Gjorgiev: “We are a new club with big ambitions that strives to get better with each day. This is our debut season in the European competition, which fuels our motivation to a higher level. We will try our hardest to represent ourselves in the best way possible and be an attractive team for the fans to follow. For us, every match is equally challenging. We will give our best in order to prove that together we can overcome every obstacle and achieve success on the court.”

PAST ACHIEVEMENTS

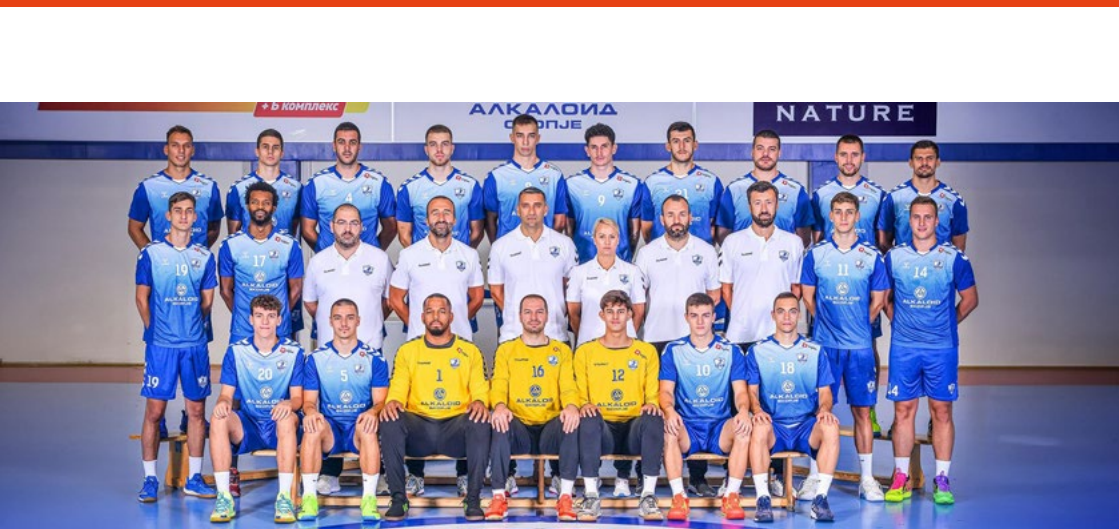
EHF European League

Participations (incl. 2023/24): 1

Other

Macedonian league: –

Macedonian cup: –





KIRIL LAZAROV

Coach

- Macedonian handball legend, who arrived as head coach at Alkaloid in August 2022 and is combining the job with leading the Macedonian men's national team
- in his illustrious career, he played for Ovce Pole, Bores, Pelister, Zagreb, Veszprém, Al Sadd, Ciudad Real, Atlético Madrid, Barcelona and Nantes
- scored more than 1,000 CL goals and won the CL in 2015
- second best scorer at a single EHF EURO (61 goals in 2012) and best scorer at the 2009 WCh (92 goals)
- played more than 200 games for Macedonian national team

ARRIVALS

Arnaud Bingo (Benfica/POR)
Alejandro Romero Carreras (PAUC/FRA)
Martin Velkovski (Pelister/MKD)
Stefan Stojchevikj (Butel Skopje/MKD)

DEPARTURES

Teodor Todeski (Multi Essence/MKD)
Mihail Ivanoski (Multi Essence/MKD)
Bozhidar Ilieski (Multi Essence/MKD)
Jane Cvetkovski (Multi Essence/MKD)

I TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height	Weight
1	Alejandro	Romero Carreras	CUB	Goalkeeper	17/09/1994	Havana, CUB	198	95
2	Ivan	Djonov	MKD	Left Back	15/07/1997	Skopje, MKD	191	84
3	Kostadin	Petrov	MKD	Line Player	30/03/1992	Veles, MKD	191	105
4	Nikola	Markoski	MKD	Line Player	22/05/1990	Struga, MKD	198	118
5	Aleksandar	Stojkov	MKD	Right Wing	04/06/2000	Sv. Nikole, MKD	177	80
6	Mihajlo	Mladenovikj	MKD	Left Back	21/09/2000	Srb, MKD	195	96
7	Martin	Serafimov	MKD	Right Back	03/03/2000	Skopje, MKD	185	80
8	Stefan	Stojchevikj	MKD	Line Player	13/01/2003	Skopje, MKD	204	103
9	Marko	Stojkovikj	MKD	Line Player	27/06/2003	Skopje, MKD	199	104
10	Marko	Mitev	MKD	Centre Back	23/02/2003	Skopje, MKD	181	78
C 11	Igor	Gjorgiev	MKD	Centre Back	02/06/2000	Strumica, MKD	187	82
12	Ivan	Galevski	MKD	Goalkeeper	05/07/2004	Bitola, MKD	195	91
13	Martin	Velkovski	MKD	Right Back	10/03/1997	Skopje, MKD	188	90
14	Kristijan	Simonoski	MKD	Line Player	29/05/2000	Struga, MKD	187	94
15	Edvin	Omeragikj	MKD	Left Back	09/10/2002	Skopje, MKD	196	94
16	Blagojche	Trajkoski	MKD	Goalkeeper	06/10/1986	Prilep, MKD	184	85
17	Arnaud	Bingo	FRA	Left Wing	12/10/1987	Lyon, FRA	191	84
18	Dario	Kofiloski	MKD	Left Wing	18/05/2000	Skopje, MKD	179	69
19	Aleksandar	Petkovski	MKD	Right Wing	24/05/2004	Skopje, MKD	185	78
20	Damjan	Mitev	MKD	Centre Back	08/11/2006	Skopje, MKD	192	82
21	David	Savrevski	MKD	Right Back	16/06/2002	Skopje, MKD	195	109



ALEJANDRO ROMERO CARRERAS

 @ale94romero

Goalkeeper

- Cuban international, who joined Alkaloid in 2023 from Aix-en-Provence in France
- had 92 saves for PAUC in the EL 2022/23 season for a 30-per cent save rate
- had his first taste of European club competitions with Porto in 2016/17
- also played for Avanca, Onnereds and Pontault Combault



ARNAUD BINGO

 @bingo_arnaud

Left wing

- experienced French wing, arrived at Alkaloid in 2023 to guide the younger players
- started career at ASUL Vaulx-en-Velin, also played for Villeurbanne, Tremblay, and Montpellier in France, as well as Sporting and Benfica in Portugal
- his first European season was in 2009/10 with Tremblay in the Cup Winners' Cup
- former French international, was part of the team that won the 2011 world title

WCh: G 2011



IGOR GJORGIEV

 @gjorgievigor_

Centre back

- one of the young Macedonian talents in Alkaloid's squad, but already regarded a key element for the team as their playmaker
- started playing handball in Zomimak-M in Strumica, his hometown, and also was with Golden Art KL7 before joining Alkaloid
- Macedonian international since 2021; EHF EURO 2022 was his first major event



MARTIN VELKOVSKI

 @velkovski.13

Right back

- experienced Macedonian international; 2023/24 is his 10th European season, including six in the CL with his former clubs Metalurg and Pelister
- arrived at Alkaloid in 2023 after playing the past three EL seasons with Pelister
- played at 2017 Junior WCh before debuting in senior national team the same year
- used to share right back position in national team with his current coach, Kiril Lazarov

GROUP F



Club contact

Club Address

BM Logroño La Rioja
Avenida de Moncalvillo 2
26007 Logroño
Spain

Media contact

Óscar Gómez
zerosocialmedia@hotmail.com
+34 61 76 44 639

 cbclogrono.com

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

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

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

Kit colours

Light

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

Dark

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



Playing hall

Palacio de los deportes de la Rioja
Avenida Moncalvillo 2
Logroño
Spain
Capacity: 3,800

BM LOGROÑO LA RIOJA



La Rioja are back in the EHF European League Men after failing to progress further than qualification round 1 in the 2022/23 season. The club have left their mark on European club handball in the past 15 years, reaching the Last 16 of the EHF Champions League in 2014/15 and playing the semi-finals of the EHF Cup twice.

As 2023 marked the 20th year of the club, they are eager to show their skills on the European stage again and make a step forward.

- **six players left the club, while seven new acquisitions joined the Spanish side**
- **team captain Edu Cadarso has his younger brother David on the team**
- **head coach Miguel Angel Velasco is in his sixth year at the helm of La Rioja**
- **mainly relying on Spanish players, there are only five foreigners in the squad: Josip Eugen Žaja (Croatia), Mohamed Aly (Egypt), Kristof Palasocs (Hungary), Thiago Ponciano (Brazil), and Angel Rivero (Cuba)**

Head coach Miguel Angel Velasco will have a vastly changed squad, compared to the last European season, but there is no doubt he will try to repeat the strong outing they had two years ago, when they clashed with strong opponents like current EHF Champions League titleholders SC Magdeburg, PAUC Handball, RK Nexe, Gorenje Velenje, and IK Sävehof.

Team captain Eduardo Cadarso Caballero: “Our biggest motivation is to return to play international competitions. Last season we didn’t get to the group phase and only played one round. The first match will be the most important, because start winning will be the first step to get to the next phase.”

PAST ACHIEVEMENTS

EHF European League

Participations (incl. 2023/24): 3

Group phase (1): 2021/22

Qualification (1): 2022/23

Other

EHF Champions League

Last 16 (1): 2014/15

Group phase (3): 2013/14, 2015/16, 2016/17

EHF Cup

Semi-finals (2): 2009/10, 2010/11

Group phase (3): 2012/13, 2018/19, 2019/20

Spanish league: –

Spanish cup: –





MIGUEL ANGEL VELASCO

Coach

- former one-time Spanish international, who has been with La Rioja for nearly 15 years – first as a player, then as a coach
- born in the handball-crazy village of Nava, he moved to Valladolid when he was 15
- started playing in European cup competitions with Valladolid in 2003; had his first CL season in 2006/07
- played as a centre back, retired after the 2015/16 season

ARRIVALS

Mohamed Aly Abdelmotaleb Aly (Sinfin/ESP)
Kristóf Laszlo Palasics (NEKA/HUN)
Xavier Tuá Hernández (Puente Genil/ESP)
Martí Soler Biescas (Barça/ESP)
Thiago Alves Ponciano (Créteil/FRA)
Eugen Josip Zaja (Sinfin/ESP)
Rolando Uríos González (Potsdam/GER)

DEPARTURES

Aliaksandr Markelau (Hapoel/ISR)
Jorge Pérez Molina (Morrazo/ESP)
Alex Rubiño (Torrelavega, ESP)
Mahamadou Keita (Puente Genil/ESP)
Javier Rodríguez (Barça/ESP)

I TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height	Weight
5	Angel Jesus	Rivero Noris	CUB	Right Back	24/10/1992	La Habana, CUB	187	110
6	Martí	Soler Biescas	ESP	Left Wing	28/04/2003	Barcelona, ESP	190	93
7	Álvaro	Preciado Ramos	ESP	Centre Back	15/02/2000	Pontevedra, ESP	189	94
9	Ismael	ElKorchiFernández	ESP	Centre Back	19/03/2001	AlcaládeHenares,ESP	195	101
13	Thiago	Alves Ponciano	BRA	Left Back	08/05/1994	Foz De Iguazu, BRA	194	107
14	Eugen Josip	Zaja	CRO	Right Back	01/05/2000	Zagreb, CRO	202	112
22	Xavier	Tuá Hernández	ESP	Left Wing	13/02/1998	Gavá, ESP	184	84
23	Rolando	Uríos González	ESP	Line Player	10/04/1999	La Habana, CUB	194	107
26	Eduardo	Ortíz Badillo	ESP	Right Wing	12/12/2002	Logroño, ESP	184	81
29	Javier	García López	ESP	Line Player	16/05/1995	León, ESP	193	134
30	Kristóf Laszlo	Palasics	HUN	Goalkeeper	19/04/2002	Kistarcsa, HUN	199	107
34	David	Cadarso Caballero	ESP	Right Wing	14/12/2001	Logroño, ESP	192	78
44	Juan	Palomino Morón	ESP	Left Back	11/10/2001	Antequera, ESP	195	84
C 66	Eduardo	Cadarso Caballero	ESP	Centre Back	13/02/1999	Logroño, ESP	191	92
92	Mohamed	AlyAbdelmotalabAly	EGY	Goalkeeper	13/11/1992	Giza, EGY	190	135



MOHAMED ALY

 @mohamedalii92

Goalkeeper

- experienced Egyptian international, who arrived at La Rioja in the summer of 2023
- main replacement for goalkeeper duo Aliaksandar Markelau and Jorge Pérez Molina, who both left the club after the 2022/23 season
- the EL 2023/24 marks his first season playing in any European cup competition
- came over from Sinfín in Spain; earlier played for Angers in France



JUAN PALOMINO

 @juanpalomino11

Left back

- joined La Rioja ahead of the 2022/23 season, coming from Barça's B team
- went to Barcelona in 2020; had started his career at Conservas Alsur Antequera
- has been part of Spain's youth national teams
- the 2023/24 season is his first in a European club competition



EDU CADARSO

 @edu_cadar99

Centre back

- born and raised in Logroño, made his debut for the senior team in 2016
- 2023/24 is his 10th season with the club; meanwhile he is the team captain
- ruptured a patellar tendon in 2022 but is fit to play again
- his brother David also plays for La Rioja – as a right wing; another brother, Alejandro, is also a handball player



ANGEL RIVERO

Right back

- Cuban international, who arrived in Spain in 2017
- spent three years with Benidorm before joining La Rioja in the summer of 2021
- versatile back, who can also play as right wing or as line player
- initially a baseball player, he only started to play handball at the age of 16

GROUP F



Club contact

Club Address

Vojvodina
Sentandrejski put 106B
21000 Novi Sad
Serbia


Media contact

Dan Fracile
dan.fracile84@gmail.com
+381 63 83 09 702

 rkv.rs

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

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

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

Kit colours

Light

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

Dark

Player shirt: navy blue
Player short: navy blue
GK shirt: grey



Playing hall

Sportska hala Slana Bara
Sentandrejski put 106
Novi Sad
Serbia
Capacity: 1,950

VOJVODINA



The EHF European Cup 2023 champions are ready for their first EHF European League Men season. Coming in on a high after an extraordinary season in Europe's third-tier competition, Vojvodina are returning to their former glories.

With the core of the team intact compared to the winning side from last season, and with a few strong signings, Vojvodina will try to surprise in Europe – while celebrating the club's 75 years of existence.

- **head coach Boris Rojevic is in his sixth season with Vojvodina**
- **Vojvodina are only the second club from Serbia to win a European trophy**
- **five players left the club, including Miloš Grozdanić and Luka Arsenić; while five new ones joined**
- **legend Marko Vujin (Veszprém, Kiel, Sporting, Vardar, Szeged) started as vice president in August 2022**
- **their first objective is to reach the main round**

The experienced Barys Pukhouski continues to lead on the court. The 36-year-old left back, for many years a key player for HC Motor in the EHF Champions League, ended last season as the club's top scorer with 57 goals. He will be eager to guide the ambitious team again in 2023/24.

Team captain Miljan Vukovljak: "Our biggest motivation in the new season is that we will play against strong teams. Good players, big challenges. For our younger players it is first time they play in a competition like that, also for some older ones. There cannot be a bigger motivation than that. I think against the Spanish team of La Rioja we will play the match to go to the second phase. The Swedish team of Silkeborg are favourites for first place, but we will try to give our best because we have nothing to lose. Also, in the very important matches against Alkaloid from North Macedonia we must be very focused."

PAST ACHIEVEMENTS

EHF European League

Participations (incl. 2023/24): 2

Qualification (1): 2021/22

Other

EHF Champions League

Group phase (1): 2014/15

EHF Cup

Group phase (1): 2014/15

EHF European Cup

Winners (1): 2022/23

Serbian league: 11 titles (2005, 2013-19, 2021-23)

Serbian cup: 8 titles (2005, 2006, 2011, 2015, 2019-23)





BORIS ROJEVIĆ

Coach

- former player, who took over as head coach at Vojvodina five years ago, after coaching the club's youth teams
- also worked as Serbia's junior national team coach and as assistant at the senior national team
- led Vojvodina to their first European trophy in 2022/23 by winning the EHF European Cup Men
- in his five years at the helm, Vojvodina have won 11 out of 13 possible domestic titles in Serbia
- as a player, Rojević spent time in Vrbas, Kolubara, Vojvodina, Proleter, and Spartak; gained first European cup experience with Proleter in the Challenge Cup 2008/09

ARRIVALS

Andrej Trnavac (Partizan/SRB)
Milan Golubović (Pančevo/SRB)
Vukašin Vorkapić (Ivry/FRA)
Stefan Sunajko (Pančevo/SRB)
Maruan Chouiref (Tremblay/FRA)
Aidi Aziz (Šabac/SRB)

DEPARTURES

Miloš Grozdanić (n/a)
Marko Vasić (Proleter/SRB)
Luka Arsenić (n/a)
Aleksandar Kurteš (n/a)
Srdjan Milić (Goc/SRB)

I TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height	Weight
1	Fran	Lucin	CRO	Goalkeeper	16/11/2000	Rijeka, CRO	190	108
2	Simo	Sijan	SRB	Centre Back	31/08/2004	Novi Sad, SRB	186	94
3	Vukasin	Vorkapic	SRB	Right Wing	01/10/1997	Belgrade, SRB	188	88
4	Aleksa	Radenkovic	SRB	Right Back	07/11/2007	Novi Sad, SCG	188	90
6	Milan	Milic	SRB	Right Back	14/05/1998	Aleksandrovac, SCG	197	97
9	Gregor	Ocvirk	SLO	Right Back	05/12/1998	Celje, SLO	189	95
C 10	Miljan	Vukovljak	SRB	Left Back	18/04/1990	Belgrade, SRB	196	95
12	Marko	Drasko	SRB	Goalkeeper	21/03/2004	Novi Sad, SRB	189	77
13	Aidi Mohamed	Aziz	TUN	Left Back	13/06/1998	Tunisia, TUN	197	102
16	Andrej	Trnavac	SRB	Goalkeeper	13/12/1998	Belgrade, SRB	187	96
17	Darko	Milenkovic	SRB	Right Wing	04/12/1993	Vranje, SRB	190	90
18	Stefan	Sunajko	HUN	Left Wing	10/04/1998	Sombor, SCG	193	90
19	Miljan	Pušica	SRB	Left Back	20/06/1991	Prijepolje, SCG	202	118
24	Bojan	Radjenovic	SRB	Left Wing	04/09/1994	Novi Sad, SRB	193	91
25	Zivan	Pesic	SRB	Line Player	07/07/1993	Novi Sad, SRB	197	120
27	Djordje	Drasko	SRB	Left Back	05/05/2007	Novi Sad, SRB	187	85
28	Andrija	Stankov	SRB	Line Player	16/05/2007	Belgrade, SCG	193	93
29	Branko	Tomic	SRB	Centre Back	09/06/1999	Zrenjanin, SRB	180	87
30	Petar	Simulija	SRB	Left Back	10/01/2006	Novi Sad, SCG	191	92
31	Vasilije	Borojevic	SRB	Right Wing	29/03/2006	Novi Sad, SCG	193	71
33	Luka	Rogan	SRB	Line Player	04/07/2003	Novi Sad, SRB	194	104
61	Milan	Golubovic	SRB	Right Back	21/09/2000	Belgrade, AFG	190	94
87	Barys	Pukhouski	BLR	Left Back	03/01/1987	Malarita, BLR	187	108
90	Marouan	Chouiref	TUN	Line Player	27/05/1990	Tunis, TUN	197	108



BARYS PUKHOUSKI

Left back

- all-time top scorer of Belarusian national team; has played in European competitions for more than two decades, including 10 seasons in the EHF Champions League
- joined Vojvodina in 2022 and added 64 goals to club's run to European Cup title
- previously played for SKA Minsk, Motor, Csurgó, and Dinamo Minsk; helped SKA win Challenge Cup in 2013 by scoring 20 times in two-legged final against Esch

EC trophies: European Cup 2023; Challenge Cup 2013



ŽIVAN PEŠIĆ

Line player

- Serbian international, who returned to his home country in the summer of 2022 to join Vojvodina again after an earlier stint at the club
- started career at Sintelon, also played for Veszprém, Győr, Celje, Partizan, Ademar León, Nexø, and Hapoel Rishon LeZion
- had his first European season in 2012/13, with Hungarian powerhouse Veszprém

EC trophies: European Cup 2023



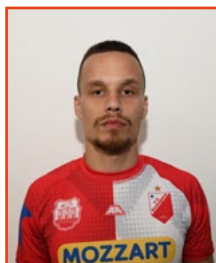
MILAN MILIĆ

Right back

- Serbian international, arriving at Vojvodina in 2022 from Zagreb
- previously spent two years at HBC Nantes in Nantes, playing in the CL and the EL
- part of the Serbia national team since his debut at the 2019 World Championship
- Vojvodina's second best scorer, with 39 goals, in the team's golden European Cup 2022/23 season

 @milicmilan_6

EC trophies: European Cup 2023



VUKAŠIN VORKAPIĆ

Right wing

- started senior career in Šabac; returned to Serbia and joined Vojvodina in 2023 after playing two years in France
- scored 195 goals in 56 French league matches for Ivry in 2021-23
- already an established Serbian international, who played at three EHF EURO events and two WCh's, but 2023/24 marks his first season in a European club competition

 @vuleeee3

GROUP G PREVIEW



TOP DOGS TO CREATE DRAMA IN EXCITING GROUP

Group G is surely one of the most balanced with reigning champions Füchse Berlin facing a stern challenge for a place in the main round, against Romanian champions Dinamo Bucuresti, French side Chambéry Savoie Mont Blanc Handball, and Bosnian side HC Izvidac.

Füchse delivered an excellent start to their domestic season in the Bundesliga, and they also aim to retain their crown in the EHF European League. They have conceded a single loss in their 16 matches in the competition so far. However, one of the challenges might be the untimely injury of centre back Fabian Wiede, who will miss a large chunk of the season, adding more and more pressure to an already thin squad, which has already been missing German international Paul Druх for a long time.



Nevertheless, Füchse are the team to beat, but will face a stern challenge from Romanian champions Dinamo Bucuresti. Led by one of the most decorated coaches in history, Xavi Pascual, the Romanian side made the EHF Champions League play-offs last season, and only added experience and depth to their squad. There were interesting transfers for Dinamo, with line player Miklos Rosta coming from OTP Bank-Pick Szeged, while experienced goalkeeper Vladimir Cupara, who signed from Telekom Veszprém HC, added a much-needed improvement in the goalkeeping area. Yet the cherry on the cake was the signing of Luka Cindric from Barça, as the centre back was seduced by Pascual's plan to transform Dinamo into a powerhouse.



Chambéry have also become a team which is trying to make a name for themselves in European competitions. After two consecutive missed chances, Chambéry are back in the group matches of the second-tier for the first time since 2017/18, when they reached the quarter-finals. The main advantage for Chambéry is keeping their core intact from last season, which could play well, especially against HC Izvidac, the Bosnian side which will have a mountain to climb in this group as the big underdog due to their lack of experience.



With some Bosnian players who featured at the last two EHF EURO editions, as well as some Croatian players, Izvidac are in the group matches of an European competition for the first time in history, which will only bring more added pressure. Izvidac will have to work on their away form especially, having last won an away match in European competitions in 2010. But their presence is just a testament of how important featuring in a European competition is for them.

Adrian Costeiu

I GROUP G HEAD-TO-HEADS

PREVIOUS DUELS BETWEEN THE TEAMS OF GROUP G

Füchse Berlin vs Dinamo Bucuresti 1-1-0 (59:55) 3:1

01.12.2020	Füchse Berlin vs CS Dinamo Bucuresti, EHF European League – Group B	33:29 (15:12)
08.12.2020	CS Dinamo Bucuresti vs Füchse Berlin, EHF European League – Group B	26:26 (12:14)

Füchse Berlin vs Chambéry Savoie Mont Blanc Handball 3-2-1 (165:161) 8:4

09.02.2014	Füchse Berlin vs Chambéry Savoie Handball, EHF Cup – Group D	30:27 (14:13)
22.03.2014	Chambéry Savoie Handball vs Füchse Berlin, EHF Cup – Group D	25:25 (12:10)
21.11.2015	Füchse Berlin vs Chambéry Savoie Handball, EHF Cup – Qualification Round 3	31:31 (16:15)
28.11.2015	Chambéry Savoie Handball vs Füchse Berlin, EHF Cup – Qualification Round 3	34:30 (19:17)
09.10.2016	Chambéry Savoie Handball vs Füchse Berlin, EHF Cup – Qualification Round 2	22:25 (7:11)
16.10.2016	Füchse Berlin vs Chambéry Savoie Handball, EHF Cup – Qualification Round 2	24:22 (14:14)

Füchse Berlin vs HC Izvidac

No previous encounters in European competitions

Dinamo Bucuresti vs Chambéry Savoie Mont Blanc Handball

No previous encounters in European competitions

Dinamo Bucuresti vs HC Izvidac

No previous encounters in European competitions

Chambéry Savoie Mont Blanc Handball vs HC Izvidac

No previous encounters in European competitions

GROUP G



Club contact

Club Address

Füchse Berlin
Markgrafenstraße 34
10117 Berlin
Germany

Media contact

Kim Martin Heess
heess@fuechse_berlin
+49 17 85 80 09 15

 fuechse.berlin

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

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

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

Kit colours

Light

Player shirt: light green
Player short: white
GK shirt: light blue

Dark

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



Playing hall

Max-Schmeling-Halle
Falkplatz 1
10437 Berlin
Germany
Capacity: 8,521

FÜCHSE BERLIN



Füchse Berlin return as the winners of the competition, as they lifted the trophy at the EHF Finals 2023 last May after beating Granollers in the final. The German racked up 15 wins from their 16 matches played last season, a feature that looks hard to beat.

Even though Füchse would be among the favourites in any group, they certainly won't have an easy ride for their money in group G, with Dinamo Bucuresti, Chambéry and Izvidac as opponents.

- **they have a star-studded lineup, including Mathias Gidsel, the MVP of the EHF Excellence Awards**
- **the German side ended up on the third place of the domestic league, the Bundesliga, last season, behind champions THW Kiel and the Machineseecker EHF Champions League winners, SC Magdeburg**
- **in the last 20 home matches in the competition, Füchse have won 17, drew another match and lost two, underlining how hard to beat they are on their home court in the Max-Schmeling-Halle**

Füchse made the EHF Finals Men twice in the last three seasons, and were eliminated in the Last 16 by Nantes two seasons ago. Of course, they also won Europe's second tier twice when it was still called the EHF Cup, in 2015 and 2018. Anything than a place in the main round and then the knockout phase would be a major surprise.

Team captain Paul Drux (currently injured): "We are defending champion, we know what it feels like to lift this trophy. We had a wonderful EHF Finals in Flensburg last May and, of course, we are playing handball for winning titles. Bucuresti will be the toughest match for us, especially away with those fans will be a huge adventure for us. I wish my teammates all the best for the group matches as I will not be able to help them until 2024."

PAST ACHIEVEMENTS

EHF European League

Participations (incl. 2023/24): 4

Winners (1): 2022/23

Runners-up (1): 2020/21

Last 16 (1): 2021/22

Other

EHF Champions League

Semi-finals (1): 2011/12

Last 16 (1): 2012/13

EHF Cup:

Winners (2): 2014/15, 2017/18

Runners-up (2): 2016/17, 2018/19

Semi-finals (1): 2013/14

German league: –

German cup: 1 title (2014)





JARON SIEWERT

Coach

- had been playing for Füchse since his childhood when he ended his career at 21 to become a coach
- started as youth coach at Füchse and assistant coach of Germany's national U18 team
- became head coach at second-division side TUSEM Essen in 2017/18, and led them to the Bundesliga two years later
- took over at Füchse from Michael Roth in 2020, who had stepped in after the departure of Velimir Petkovic
- suffered a stroke before the start of the 2022/23 season, but came back after just a few matches

EC trophies: EL 2023

ARRIVALS

Jerry Tollbring (GOG/DEN)
Hakun West av Teigum (Skanderborg/DEN)

DEPARTURES

Milos Vujovic (Gummersbach/GER)
Jacob Holm (Paris Saint-Germain/FRA)
Robert Weber (n/a)
Marc Walter (retired)
Moritz Ende (Eisenach/GER)

I TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height	Weight
1	Lasse	Ludwig	GER	Goalkeeper	29/09/2002	Achern, GER	194	95
3	Fabian	Wiede	GER	Right Back	08/02/1994	Belzig, GER	194	100
5	Max	Darj	SWE	Line Player	27/08/1991	Masthuggs, SWE	191	96
9	Jerry	Tollbring	SWE	Left Wing	13/09/1995	Rimbo, SWE	182	80
11	Lasse Bredekjaer	Andersson	DEN	Left Back	11/03/1994	Copenhagen, DEN	196	102
16	Maximilian	Grundmann	GER	Goalkeeper	27/05/2005	Lübben, GER	191	94
17	Nils	Lichtlein	GER	Centre Back	31/07/2002	Regensburg, GER	183	76
18	Hans	Lindberg	DEN	Right Wing	01/08/1981	Hoje-Taastrup, DEN	188	88
19	Mathias	Gidsel	DEN	Right Back	08/02/1999	Herning, DEN	190	89
20	Tim	Freihöfer	GER	Left Wing	21/08/2002	Reutlingen, GER	174	79
25	Matthes	Langhoff	GER	Left Back	30/03/2002	Neubrandenburg, GER	192	90
26	Valter	Chrintz	SWE	Right Wing	26/04/2000	Ahus, SWE	184	84
27	Max	Beneke	GER	Right Back	27/05/2003	Greifswald, GER	205	102
28	Marvin	Siemer	GER	Left Wing	22/09/2004	Esslingen, GER	191	86
32	Marvin	Kix	GER	Centre Back	27/07/2002	Hamburg, GER	186	88
33	Moritz	Sauter	GER	Centre Back	03/01/2003	Augsburg, GER	194	97
34	Hákun West	Av Teigum	FAR	Right Wing	19/02/2002	Thorshavn, FAR	188	96
35	Marko	Kopljar	CRO	Right Back	12/02/1986	Pozega, CRO	210	108
36	Silas	Overby	DEN	Left Back	14/03/2005	Thisted, DEN	199	97
37	Max	Günther	GER	Right Wing	28/08/2004	Aschaffenburg, GER	182	82
38	Nicolas	Schley	GER	Line Player	05/02/2004	Ludwigsfelde, GER	177	88
43	Jann Keno	Jacobs	GER	Line Player	27/03/2002	Jever, GER	192	100
47	Michl	Reichardt	GER	Left Back	17/03/2004	Rostock, GER	194	93
87	Victor	Kireev	RUS	Goalkeeper	05/05/1987	Oblast Pensa, RUS	190	98
93	Mijajlo	Marsenic	SRB	Line Player	09/03/1993	Berane, SCG	202	108
C 95	Paul	Drux	GER	Left Back	07/02/1995	Gummersbach, GER	192	92
96	Dejan	Milosavljev	SRB	Goalkeeper	16/03/1996	Pancevo, SRB	196	135
98	Elie	Ona	FRA	Goalkeeper	23/08/2003	Montpellier, FRA	196	88



DEJAN MILOSAVLJEV

 @dejanmilosavljev

Goalkeeper

- Serbian international who arrived at Füchse in the summer of 2019 from Vardar, shortly after winning the CL with the Macedonian side
- CL All-star goalkeeper in 2018/19; also crucial for Füchse in their run to the title in the EL 2022/23 season
- made senior debut at age 16, played for Red Star and Partizan in Belgrade before going abroad and joining Vardar in 2018

EC trophies: CL 2019; EL 2023



LASSE ANDERSSON

 @lasseandersson94

Left back

- Danish international, who joined Füchse in 2020 after four years with Barça
- played for Ringsted and Kolding in Denmark before moving abroad in 2016
- had national team debut in 2015; has won three medals with Denmark so far
- classic back court shooter; his shots have been measured at over 140 km/h

EC trophies: EL 2023

WCh: G 2021; OG: S 2020; EURO: B 2022



MATHIAS GIDSEL

 @gidsel

Right back

- named MVP of the 2022/23 season at the inaugural EHF Excellence Awards
- started professional career at GOG at age 18; joined Füchse in summer of 2022
- was top scorer, MVP, and gold medallist with Denmark at the 2023 WCh in Poland-Sweden; helped Füchse win the EL 2022/23 four months later
- tore knee ligaments at the EHF EURO 2022 but was back on court after four months

EC trophies: EL 2023

WCh: G 2021, 2023; OG: S 2020; EURO: B 2022



HANS LINDBERG

 @hanslindberg18

Right wing

- Danish veteran, who has won a string of trophies with his clubs and the national team; playing in Germany since 2007: for Hamburg (2007-16) and Füchse (since 2016)
- initially set to leave Füchse in 2023, but added one more season to his stay in Berlin; will be 43 when he returns to Denmark and joins HØJ Elite for the 2024/25 season
- has scored more than 1,000 goals in total in European club competitions; is the all-time Bundesliga top scorer, broke Kyung-shin Yoon's record of 2,905 goals in 2023

EC trophies: CL 2013; EL 2023; EHF Cup 2018

EURO: G 2008, 2012, S 2014, B 2022; WCh: G 2019, 2023, S 2011, 2013, B 2007

GROUP G



Club contact

Club Address

Dinamo Bucuresti
Sos.Stefan cel Mare n° 7-9,
sec2
Bucharest, Romania

Media contact

Alexandru Enciu
sandu_enciu@csdinamo.ro
+40 75 49 29 106

 csdinamo.eu

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

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

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

Kit colours

Light

Player shirt: white or red
Player short: red
GK shirt: light white/blue

Dark

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



Playing hall

Polyvalent Hall - Ioan Kunst Ghermanescu
Soseaua Ștefan cel Mare,
nr. 7-9, sector 2,
Bucharest, Romania
Capacity: 2,500

DINAMO BUCURESTI



Dinamo Bucuresti, the Romanian champions, are returning to the EHF European League Men after two seasons season where they played in the Machineseecker EHF Champions League.

This is the third consecutive season for Dinamo with Xavi Pascual as coach. The Romanian side won every possible domestic competition in the meantime, as Pascual remains a guarantee for club success, after he led Barça to more than 60 trophies in just over a decade.

- **Dinamo delivered a huge coup on the transfer market when they managed to convince Croatian centre back Luka Cindric to sign from Barça**
- **Dinamo are the reigning champions in the Romanian league and have developed a strong attack, averaging 41 scored goals per match in the first six games of the 2023/24 season of their domestic competition**
- **the Romanian side will be aiming higher and higher this season, as they also transferred two key players arriving from Hungary: goalkeeper Vladimir Cupara from Veszprém and line player Miklós Rosta from Szeged**

The biggest news coming from Dinamo this season is obviously the arrival of Croatian star player Luka Cindric.

In a group that also includes the likes of Füchse and Chambéry, Pascual and Cindric & Co. won't be taking anything for granted right from the start of the group matches.

Team captain Robert Militaru: "I believe that the opportunity to fight for a European trophy is a huge motivation and at the same time the chance to play in a hall full of our wonderful supporters. All teams in our group are strong and every match must be approached as a final. But surely, the most awaited match is the one against Füchse Berlin, because we want to measure our strength with the strongest opponents."

PAST ACHIEVEMENTS

EHF European League

Participations (incl. 2023/24): 2

Group phase (1): 2020/21

Other

EHF Champions League

Last 16 (1): 2019/20

Play-offs (1): 2022/23

Group phase (5): 2005/06, 2016/17, 2017/18, 2018/19, 2021/22

EHF Cup

Semi-finals (1): 2003/04

Last 16 (2): 2001/02, 2004/05

Cup Winners' Cup

Quarter-finals (1): 2002/03

Challenge Cup

Runners-up (1): 2000/01

Semi-finals (1): 2007/08

City Cup

Semi-finals (1): 1999/2000

Romanian league: 19 titles (1959-62, 1964-66, 1978, 1986, 1995, 1997, 2005, 2016-19, 2021-23)

Romanian cup: 7 titles (1979, 1982, 1988, 2017, 2020-22)





XAVI PASCUAL

Coach

- legendary Spanish coach, who joined Dinamo in 2021 after 12 highly successful seasons at the helm of Barça and winning more than 60 trophies, including three CL titles
- led Dinamo to the CL play-offs in his second season in charge
- former Barça player, who first became goalkeeper coach at the Spanish club before taking over as head coach in 2009
- won all possible titles with Barça in historic 2014/15 season, emulating Valero Rivera's success (7 out of 7) in 1999/2000
- is also coach of Romanian national team since 2021 (after an earlier stint in 2016-18) and has qualified for EHF EURO 2024

EC trophies: CL 2011, 2015, 2021 (as coach)

ARRIVALS

Luka Cindric (Barça/ESP)
Vladimir Cupara (Veszprém/HUN)
Miklos Rosta (Szeged/HUN)
Aleksandar Cenic (Barça/ESP)
Daniel Stanciuc (Suceava/ROU)
Tudor Daniel Bugulet (Baia Mare/ROU)
Alin Cozmaciuc (Timisoara/ROU)
Ionut Alecu (Dinamo youth)

DEPARTURES

Valentin Ghionea (Steaua/ROU)
Mamdouh Shebib (Sharjah/UAE)
Joao Pedro Da Silva (CSM Bucuresti/ROU)
Eduardo Gurbindo (Kiel/GER)
Khalifa Ghedbane (Pelister/MKD)
Alexandru Bucataru (Focsani/ROU)
Octavian Bizau (Steaua/ROU)
Vlad Popa (Medgidia/ROU)

I TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height	Weight
1	Vladimir	Cupara	SRB	Goalkeeper	19/02/1994	Belgrade, SRB	199	116
2	Tudor Bogdan	Bugulet	ROU	Right Wing	02/03/2001	Vaslui, ROU	192	86
3	Aleksandar	Cenic	ESP	Right Back	11/01/2003	Leskovac, SRB	100	93
5	Calin	Dedu	ROU	Line Player	21/10/2002	Labruge, POR	207	108
7	Dan Emil	Racotea	ROU	Left Back	21/07/1995	Ramnicu Sarat, ROU	203	112
16	Alin	Cozmaciuc	ROU	Goalkeeper	26/09/2004	Hunedoara, ROU	210	116
18	Ionut Daniel	Alecu	ROU	Right Wing	04/07/2005	Bucharest, ROU	190	90
23	Saeid	Heidarirad	ROU	Goalkeeper	22/09/1990	Khorramabad, IRI	194	95
24	Nicusor Andrei	Negru	ROU	Left Wing	24/05/1994	Resita, ROU	180	82
25	Luka	Cindric	CRO	Centre Back	05/07/1993	Ogulin, CRO	181	91
28	Alex	Pascual Garcia	ESP	Left Wing	13/02/2000	Vigo , ESP	175	80
34	Lazar	Kukic	SRB	Centre Back	12/12/1995	Belgrade, SRB	188	90
37	Stanislav	Kasperek	CZE	Right Back	11/06/1996	Prerov, CZE	200	85
44	Daniel	Stanciuc	ROU	Centre Back	07/03/2004	Suceava, ROU	196	98
45	Miklós	Rosta	HUN	Line Player	14/02/1999	Győr, HUN	203	120
47	Ante	Kuduz	ROU	Left Back	11/04/1995	Osijek, CRO	202	104
51	Javier	Humet Gaminde	ROU	Right Back	22/01/1990	Zaragoza, ESP	196	87
55	Andrii	Akimenko	UKR	Right Wing	12/06/1994	Zaporozhye, UKR	190	85
74	Viachaslau	Bokhan	BLR	Line Player	07/04/1996	Navapolatsk, BLR	206	100
90	Ali Ismail Mohamed Zeinelabedin	Ali	EGY	Left Back	14/12/1990	Giza, EGY	199	95
C 94	Robert Mihai	Militaru	ROU	Left Back	04/01/1994	Targu Jiu, ROU	196	100
99	Cedric	Sorhaindo	FRA	Line Player	07/06/1984	La Trinite, FRA	192	105



VLADIMIR CUPARA

@cupara16

Goalkeeper

- Serbian international, joined Dinamo in 2023 after four seasons with Veszprém
- started career at Red Star Belgrade in 2012; moved abroad three years later to join Ademar León in Spain (2015-18) and later Kielce in Poland (2018/19)
- debuted for Serbia national team in 2016; played his third EHF EURO in 2022
- also played beach handball in the early days of his career



LUKA CINDRIC

@luka_cindric25

Centre back

- joined Dinamo in the summer of 2023 after four successful years at Barça – including two under his current coach at Dinamo, Xavi Pascual; also played one season in Kielce
- won CL with Vardar in 2017 after scoring last-second winner in semi against Barça
- won two more CL trophies with Barça; voted CL All-star centre back in 2020/21
- key member of Croatian national team, scoring over 200 goals for them

EC trophies: CL 2017, 2021, 2022
EURO: S 2020, B 2016



LAZAR KUKIC

Centre back

- Serbian international, who started career at Partizan but had his breakthrough at Spanish side La Rioja, which he joined in 2017
- moved to Benfica three years later and won the EL trophy with the Portuguese club as they hosted the EHF Finals 2022 in Lisbon
- joined Dinamo in the summer of 2022
- first major event with Serbia was 2019 WCh; also played EHF EURO 2020 and 2022

EC trophies: EL 2022



MIKLÓS ROSTA

@r.miki19

Line player

- arrived at Dinamo in the summer of 2023 from Szeged in his native Hungary
- born in Győr, he played for Tatabánya (2015-19) before moving to Szeged in 2019
- stems from a true handball family: his father Miklós and uncle Istvan were both national team players for Hungary
- Hungarian Player of the Year in 2022, after Szeged won second league title in a row

GROUP G



Club contact

Club Address

Chambéry Savoie Mont
Blanc Handball
Groupama Académie
400 Avenue des Follaz
73000 Chambéry, France


Media contact

Alan Morisson
alan.morisson@teamchambe.com
+33 66 05 91 695

 teamchambe.com

 TeamChambe

 @TeamChambe

 @teamchambe

Kit colours

Light

Player shirt: light green
Player short: dark
GK shirt: dark

Dark

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



Playing hall

Le Phare
800 av. du Grand Arietaz
73000 Chambéry
France
Capacity: 4,400

CHAMBÉRY SAVOIE MONT BLANC HANDBALL



Chambéry Savoie Mont Blanc Handball will feature in the group matches of a European competition for the first time since the 2017/18 season, when they went into the quarter-finals of the Men's EHF Cup.

Chambéry will be aiming to make it out of group G and into the main round, but will have to navigate their way past a few huge obstacles, as titleholders Füchse and reinforced Dinamo are also in this section of the competition.

- **the best European performance of Chambéry so far has been making it to the EHF Cup Finals in the 2015/16 season**
- **Chambéry's coach, Érick Mathé, who is also the assistant coach for the France men's national team, has been into this position since 2018**
- **Chambéry finished fourth in the previous season of the French league with 42 points; 12 points less than the champions Paris Saint-Germain Handball**

An advantage for Chambéry is that the French side have maintained their core from the last seasons, losing only a single player last summer.

Consistency seems indeed a recipe that can help Chambéry stand the test in a series of challenges group matches coming their way.

Team captain Pierre Paturel: "We know we got a hard draw with two of the favourites for the title: Berlin and Bucarest. We really want to get out of the group matches and play some really good games. I can't wait to play our first game at home in front of our fans. European games are back in Chambéry and it is going to be a huge party against a club familiar with the EHF Champions League. The last home game of the group phase against the defending champions is going to be something special, too."

PAST ACHIEVEMENTS

EHF European League

Participations (incl. 2023/24): 2

Qualification (1): 2022/23

Other

EHF Champions League

Last 16 (3): 2003/04, 2006/07, 2010/11

EHF Cup

Semi-finals (1): 2015/16

Quarter-finals (2): 2007/08, 2017/18

Cup Winners' Cup

Quarter-finals (1): 2002/03

French league: 1 title (2001)

French cup: 1 title (2019)





ÉRICK MATHÉ

Coach

- started coaching career at age 20 in 1991 and worked at Poitiers, Besancon, and Bordeaux, before winning the CL as an assistant of Patrice Canayer at Montpellier in 2018
- took over at Chambéry in 2018, also serving as Guillaume Gille's assistant coach at the France men's national team
- named best coach of the French league in 2019 after Chambéry finished the season in third place
- loved sports climbing and skiing, but eventually settled on handball, which became his passion and his job

ARRIVALS

Noa Tremey (Chambéry academy)
Maximilian Jonsson (Póvoa/POR)

DEPARTURES

Jean-Loup Faustin (Dunkerque/FRA)

I TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height	Weight
1	Filip	Ivic	CRO	Goalkeeper	30/08/1992	Zagreb, CRO	195	95
2	Yanis	Abdebreiman	FRA	Left Back	02/08/2005	Paris, FRA	186	78
3	Queido	Traore	FRA	Left Wing	15/10/1994	Diataya, MLI	185	86
4	Alexandre	Tritta	FRA	Right Back	09/12/1994	La Tronche, FRA	186	88
5	Adam	Gnago	FRA	Left Back	01/03/2003	Saint Quentin, FRA	193	90
6	Amaury	Perrin	FRA	Left Wing	21/10/2002	Chambéry, FRA	183	67
7	Iñaki	Peciña Tome	ESP	Line Player	31/05/1988	Irun, ESP	200	104
8	Benjamin	Richert	FRA	Right Wing	18/04/1998	Strasbourg, FRA	187	76
10	Noa	Tremey	FRA	Centre Back	07/04/2003	Chambéry, FRA	190	80
11	Sebastian	Skube	SLO	Centre Back	03/04/1987	Novo Mesto, SLO	190	90
14	Sacha	Frattaruolo	FRA	Line Player	19/05/2005	Grenoble, FRA	187	80
16	Adrien	Seguin-Rodriguez	FRA	Goalkeeper	23/11/2005	Barcelona, ESP	196	81
17	Antoine	Tissot	FRA	Right Wing	30/07/2001	Moulins, FRA	177	80
19	Hugo	Brouzet	FRA	Line Player	22/04/1999	Libourne, FRA	208	110
20	Gautier	Bonnissol	FRA	Left Back	27/08/2003	Saint Etienne, FRA	190	92
21	Théo	Benterki	FRA	Right Wing	20/06/2003	Saint Etienne, FRA	185	82
C 23	Pierre	Paturel	FRA	Line Player	26/01/1989	Annemasse, FRA	196	92
27	Nikoloz	Kalandadze	GEO	Left Back	27/07/2002	Tbilissi, GEO	198	100
30	Per Maximilian	Jonsson	SWE	Right Back	12/10/1989	Sweden, SWE	195	105
37	Alejandro	CostoyaRodriguez	ESP	Left Back	06/05/1993	Avilés, ESP	193	99
40	Harun	Hodzic	BIH	Goalkeeper	07/06/2000	Zenica, BIH	195	87
55	Iosu	Goni Leoz	ESP	Left Back	04/01/1990	Pamplona, ESP	197	95
76	Arthur	Anquetil	FRA	Left Wing	23/07/1995	Montpellier, FRA	182	80
91	Daniyl	Moskalenko	FRA	Right Back	19/09/2004	Chambéry, FRA	193	84
92	Emilien	Peyronnet	FRA	Right Wing	22/03/2004	Aix les Bains, FRA	180	70
95	Gustavo	Cesar Rodrigues	BRA	Right Back	09/04/1995	Diadema, BRA	191	95



IOSU GONI LEOZ

 @gonileoz55

Left back

- Spanish international, who arrived at Chambéry from league rivals PAUC in 2020
- had spent seven seasons in Pays d'Aix, after a stint Al-Qiyada in Qatar
- earlier in his career, he played for Ademar León in his native Spain
- his brother Manuel also plays handball; they played together in various youth teams

EURO: G 2018, 2020; WCh: B 2021



SEBASTIAN SKUBE

Centre back

- former Slovenian international, who came to France and joined Chambéry in the summer of 2021 after seven seasons with Bjerringbro-Silkeborg in Denmark
- started at Trebnje, also played for Koper and Celje before moving to Denmark in 2014
- is the older brother of Stas Skube, who also plays in France – for Montpellier HB
- played 129 times for the Slovenian national team between 2007 and 2016

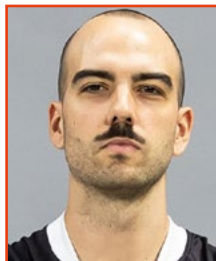


BENJAMIN RICHERT

 @richert.benjamin

Right wing

- has been playing for Chambéry since turning professional in 2018
- one of the team's best goal scorers; was second in the top scorers standings of the French league in 2020/21 with 183 goals, trailing only Montpellier's Dragan Gajic
- has studied commercial management at the University of Grenoble
- won M18 EHF EURO 2016 and 2017 Youth WCh with French youth national team



ÁLEJANDRO COSTOYA

 @alexcostoya7

Right wing

- Spanish wing, who signed for Chambéry in 2018 for his first club abroad
- previously played for Gijon, Anaitasuna, and Ademar León in Spain
- named best right wing of Spanish league in 2017 and 2018; made national team debut the following year but has not played in a major event so far
- studied and graduated in business and marketing

GROUP G



Club contact

Club Address

HC Izvidac
 Gradska Sportska Dvorana
 Bartola Kašica bb
 88320 Ljubuski
 Bosnia and Herzegovina


Media contact

Branko Vukojević
brvulj1956@gmail.com
 +387 63 48 30 43

 izvidjac.com

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

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

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

Kit colours

Light

Player shirt: white
 Player short: red
 GK shirt: grey

Dark

Player shirt: black
 Player short: black
 GK shirt: yellow



Playing hall

Sportska Dvorana Ljubuski
 Stjepana Radica bb,
 88320 Ljubuski
 Bosnia and Herzegovina
 Capacity: 4,000

HC IZVIDAC



HC Izvidac return to the second-tier European competition for the first time since the 2011/12 season, when they were eliminated by Magdeburg in Round 3 of the Men's EHF Cup. That is a long time ago, and while Magdeburg are the current Machineseeker EHF Champions League titleholders, Izvidac are searching for European success as well.

Izvidac made it only to the round 2 of the EHF European Cup Men last season, where they were eliminated by Slovakian side MSK Povazska Bystrica, 66:61 on aggregate.

- **Izvidac are coming off a disappointing international season, losing in round 2 of the EHF European Cup**
- **the Bosnian side are the most decorated in their country, as their title won in 2023 was the ninth in history of the club in Bosnia and Herzegovina**
- **Izvidac have mostly Croatian and Bosnian players in their roster, but their lack of experience could be their undoing**
- **coach Toni Colina, who is 36, is one of the youngest coaches in the EHF European League Men this season; he also leads the Bosnian national team since 2022**

Both teams are playing one level higher in 2023/24, and Izvidac will be aware of the tough challenge they are facing. Group G also contains of the defending champions Füchse Berlin, the reinforced Romanian champions Dinamo Bucuresti, and French top side Chambéry Savoie Mont Blanc. Izvidac will have to dig deep each match in order to give themselves a reasonable chance of progressing to the main round of the EHF European League.

Team captain Ivan Pavlovic: "It is a great motivation for us to compete with world-class players. We are in a very difficult group where the biggest challenges await for us very young players in our careers so far. It will be a good opportunity to introduce ourselves to the European handball public. I look forward the most to the match against Füchse Berlin, because it is a big team and the first match in front of our fans."

PAST ACHIEVEMENTS

EHF European League

Participations (incl. 2023/24): 1

Other

EHF Champions League

Group phase (2): 2004/05, 2005/06

Cup Winners' Cup

Semi-finals (1): 2004/05

Challenge Cup

Last 16 (1): 2012/13

Bosnian league: 9 titles (2000, 2002, 2004, 2005, 2016, 2018, 2019, 2021, 2023)

Bosnian cup 3 titles (1999, 2002, 2022)





TONI COLINA

Coach

- was introduced to coaching at a young age by his father
- started working at Izvidac in January 2020
- was named best coach in Bosnia and Herzegovina in 2022/23 after leading Izvidac to their ninth domestic title
- previously worked with the Bosnian national team as an assistant of Ivica Obrvan; at that time he also coached the Bosnian youth national team

ARRIVALS

Ivan Milas (Al-Arabi/QAT)

Edvin Dzelilovic (Gradacac/BIH)

DEPARTURES

Domagoj Alilovic (Metaloplastika/SRB)

Milos Kos (Zagreb/CRO)

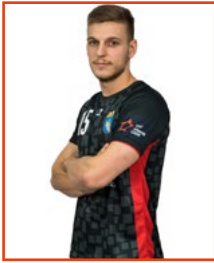
Ivan Herceg (Kastela/CRO)

Mladen Boskovic (Hunte-Aue/GER)

Filip Vujovic (Benidorm/ESP)

I TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height	Weight
1	Marko	Culjak	CRO	Goalkeeper	17/06/2007	Ljubuški , BIH	198	125
2	Milan	Vukšić	BIH	Centre Back	12/02/2000	Mostar, BIH	172	71
3	Zvonimir	Lukenda	CRO	Line Player	18/11/2001	Ljubuški, BIH	192	110
4	Todor	Milislavljević	BIH	Centre Back	19/07/2006	Kozarska Dubica, BIH	181	79
5	Jure	Bubalo	CRO	Left Back	01/11/2005	Ljubuški, BIH	189	87
6	Filip	Odak	CRO	Right Back	26/07/2003	Ljubuški, BIH	192	94
7	Luka	Sevic	SRB	Line Player	07/10/2004	Novi Sad, SRB	192	85
9	Matej	Ljubic	CRO	Line Player	08/12/2001	Capljina, BIH	192	98
10	Milan	Dedic	CRO	Left Back	21/03/2006	Makarska, CRO	190	85
11	Edvin	Dželilović	BIH	Right Wing	30/06/2003	Tuzla, BIH	189	75
12	Zlatko	Ševo	CRO	Centre Back	07/05/2004	Ljubuški , BIH	184	81
13	Matej	Šimic	CRO	Left Wing	24/08/2005	Mostar, BIH	189	75
14	Luka	Bubalo	CRO	Right Wing	16/06/2003	Mostar, BIH	183	66
15	Marijan	Saravanja	CRO	Left Wing	05/08/1999	Mostar, BIH	188	91
16	Aldin	Alihodžić	BIH	Goalkeeper	15/11/2005	Sarajevo, BIH	197	86
C 17	Ivano	Pavlović	CRO	Centre Back	19/03/2003	Makarska, CRO	190	85
18	Diano	Cesko	BIH	Left Back	17/04/2004	Ljubuški, BIH	194	90
20	Vasilije	Kovac	BIH	Right Back	27/12/2002	Trebinje , BIH	193	82
21	Petar	Grbavac	CRO	Centre Back	17/06/2006	Ljubuški, BIH	183	74
22	Mihael	Bebek	CRO	Left Back	07/08/2002	Mostar, BIH	205	107
23	Sergej	Purić	BIH	Right Back	30/03/2006	Brcko, BIH	199	104
24	Mile	Lasić	CRO	Line Player	19/10/2005	Mostar, BIH	198	95
25	Haris	Suljević	MNE	Goalkeeper	26/02/2001	Berane, SCG	193	90

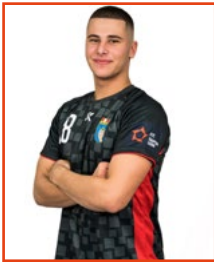


MARIJAN SARAVANJA


 @marijansaravanja

Left wing

- wing with Croatian citizenship, who signed for Izvidac in the summer of 2021
- arrived from another Bosnian side, Sloga Gornji Vakuf Uskoplje
- gained first international experience with Gornji Vakuf in the European Cup 2020/21
- has scored over 60 goals for Izvidac across competitions in the past two seasons



DIANO CESKO

 @diano_18_handball

Left back

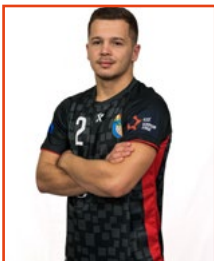
- made his debut for Izvidac as a 17-year-old and has become one of the most consistent scorers for the club in the past seasons
- started to play handball at the age of five, was regularly named best player in youth and junior national championships
- calls Rasmus Lauge his role model in handball, and has named his Tiktok account after the Danish star: @lauge25



IVANO PAVLOVIC

Centre back

- signed contract with Izvidac in 2020, when he was only 17
- made debut in senior team at age 18 and has rapidly progressed
- meanwhile he is the team captain and was named best player of the Bosnian league in 2022/23 after becoming the competition's top scorer with 216 goals
- played for Bosnian youth selections but has opted to play for Croatia since



MILAN VUKSIC

Centre back

- Bosnian international who was born in 2000; made his debut as an 18-year-old at Izvidac and has never played for another club team since
- has netted at least 108 times for Izvidac in domestic competitions in each one of the last three seasons
- scored two goals and dished six assists in his first major event, the EHF EURO 2022

GROUP H PREVIEW

TOUGH BATTLES IN SIGHT IN WELL-BALANCED GROUP



The EHF European League 2023/24 started with a bang in the qualification round in early September. Last season's runners-up Fraikin BM. Granollers had won the first leg away at CSM Constanta, but lost the second leg by three goals at home for a 52:51 defeat on aggregate. So, 10 years after Constanta became the first Romanian team to reach the EHF Cup Finals, they made the headlines again. And one player from back then has been involved again this time: George Ionut Buricea, who is part of the staff of the Romanian club. So, what is next for Constanta?



Portuguese club Sporting CP might appear as favourites, after nearly missing the EHF Finals by just one goal last season. The club from Lisbon is used to close defeats, having lost to SC Magdeburg also by a single goal in the previous season. In Francisco and Martim Costa, Sporting hold two of the best young players in European handball, who netted 85 and 94 times respectively from the group phase on. Summer recruits Pedro Portela (Nantes) and Benjamin Jakobsen (Aalborg), who both played EHF Champions League last season, might give Sporting the edge.



Twice, in 2017 and 2019, did Tatabánya qualify for the quarter-finals of Europe's second-tier competition. But the Hungarian side has been struggling to get out of a group phase since. Two seasons ago, they did give GOG and Rhein-Neckar Löwen a good run for their money, but rarely played consistently over 60 minutes. The return of Adam Juhasz, after one year with Benfica, can only make the team stronger.



Chrobry Glogow are making their comeback on the European scene after a 16-year absence. Their last appearance in European competitions dates back to the 2007/08 season, when they reached the EHF Challenge Cup quarter-finals, losing to Pfadi Winterthur. Can Glogow still manage to surprise? To a roster composed mainly of Polish players, coach Vitaliy Nat added two Ukrainian internationals: goalkeeper Anton Dereviankin and centre back Oleksandr Tilte. Having briefly played EHF Champions League with Motor Zaporozhye before his move to Poland in 2020, Tilte remains a main asset for the team, that finished fourth in the Polish Superliga last season.

Kevin Domas

I GROUP H HEAD-TO-HEADS

PREVIOUS DUELS BETWEEN THE TEAMS OF GROUP H

Sporting CP vs MOL Tatabánya KC 2-0-0 (71:49) 4:0

26.10.2021	Grundfos Tatabánya KC vs Sporting CP, EHF European League – Group D	23:37 (13:18)
22.02.2022	Sporting CP vs Grundfos Tatabánya KC, EHF European League – Group D	34:26 (15:13)

Sporting CP vs KGHM Chrobry Glogow

No previous encounters in European competitions

Sporting CP vs CSM Constanta 0-0-2 (52:60) 0:4

05.11.2005	Sporting CP Lisboa vs HCM Constanta, Cup Winners' Cup – Round 3	30:32 (13:13)
12.11.2005	HCM Constanta vs Sporting CP Lisboa, Cup Winners' Cup – Round 3	28:22 (16:13)

MOL Tatabánya KC vs KGHM Chrobry Glogow

No previous encounters in European competitions

MOL Tatabánya KC vs CSM Constanta

No previous encounters in European competitions

KGHM Chrobry Glogow vs CSM Constanta

No previous encounters in European competitions

GROUP H



Club contact

Club Address

Sporting CP
Rua Professor Fernando
Fonseca Apt. 4120
1501-806 Lisbon, Portugal


Media contact

Sérgio Cavaleiro
socavaleiro@sporting.pt
+351 93 88 88 157

 sporting.pt

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

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

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

Kit colours

Light

Player shirt: white
Player short: white
GK shirt: black/orange/yellow

Dark

Player shirt: green/white
Player short: black
GK shirt: black/orange/yellow



Playing hall

Pavilhão João Rocha
Rua Prof. Fernando da
Fonseca
1501-806 Lisbon, Portugal
Capacity: 2,800

SPORTING CP



Sporting CP have been one the attractions of European club handball in recent seasons, and have been showing constant progression.

After an EHF Champions League Last 16 participation in 2019, the club enjoyed even better results in the EHF European League. They missed the competition's quarter-finals by one goal in 2021/22, before being eliminated from the race to the EHF Finals just by the same narrow margin last season.

- narrowly lost to Montpellier (63:62 on aggregate) in the EHF European League quarter-finals last season
- the two-time Challenge Cup winners reached the Last 16 in the EHF Champions League in 2018/19
- won one domestic trophy last season: the cup title
- new signings include line player Benjamin Jakobsen (Aalborg) and right wing Pedro Portela (Nantes)
- three players ended in the top 20 of last season's top scorers list: the Costa brothers Martim and Francisco, and Salvador Salvador

Clearly, there are hopes at Sporting that the club will be able to match the results of their domestic rivals Benfica, who won the EHF European League in 2022. In order to do so, the staff drafted many players with EHF Champions League experience, such as Pedro Portela and Benjamin Jakobsen. They will join a squad in which the Costa brothers will be bringing their outstanding talent once again.

Team captain Salvador Salvador: "We know the various obstacles that we will encounter along the way, it is a long season with a lot of games, but that is what we are preparing for. It is a huge pride for me to be part of this group of players, we are a family and we fight for each other. We want to look at the fans at the end of each game and realise that they know we gave everything."

PAST ACHIEVEMENTS

EHF European League

Participations (incl. 2023/24): 4

Quarter-finals (1): 2022/23

Last 16 (2): 2020/21, 2021/22

Other

EHF Champions League

Last 16 (1) : 2018/19

Group phase (3): 2001/02, 2017/18, 2019/20

EHF Cup

Quarter-finals (2): 2000/01, 2013/14

Cup Winners' Cup

Quarter-finals (1): 2003/04

Challenge Cup

Winners (2): 2009/10, 2016/17

Semi-finals (1): 2011/12

Portuguese league: 21 titles (1952, 1956, 1961, 1966, 1967, 1969-73, 1978-81, 1984, 1986, 2001, 2005, 2006, 2017, 2018)

Portuguese cup: 17 titles (1972, 1973, 1975, 1981, 1983, 1988, 1989, 1998, 2001, 2003-05, 2012-14, 2022, 2023)





RICARDO COSTA

Coach

- former Portuguese international, who joined Sporting CP as a coach in the summer of 2021
- led Sporting to the Portuguese cup title in his first season
- previously worked as head coach of domestic rivals FC Porto
- had two stints as a player at FC Porto and ended his playing career at that club in 2012
- also played for León in Spain and Águas Santas in Portugal
- his two sons – Martim and Francisco – are important players in Sporting's squad

ARRIVALS

João Gomes (Águas Santas/POR)
Benjamin Jakobsen (Aalborg/DEN)
Jan Gurri (Granollers/ESP)
Orri Þorkelsson (Elverum/NOR)
Pedro Portela (Nantes/FRA)
Rafael Vasconcelos (Colégio/POR)

DEPARTURES

Francisco Tavares (Ivry/FRA)
Josep Folqués (Istres/FRA)
Jonas Tidemand (Kolding/DEN)
Carlos Ruesga (Oviedo/ESP)

I TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height	Weight
2	Edney	Silva Oliveira	BRA	Line Player	19/06/1998	Mineiros, BRA	192	98
3	Benjamin	Jakobsen	DEN	Line Player	09/09/1991	Hamburg, GER	191	114
4	Pedro	Portela	POR	Right Wing	06/01/1990	Leiria, POR	184	92
5	Edmilson	Araujo	CPV	Left Back	06/01/1994	Lisbon, POR	187	93
6	Francisco	Costa	POR	Right Back	16/02/2005	Sermonde, POR	189	87
7	Natán Antonio	Suárez Diaz	ESP	Centre Back	20/01/1998	Girona, ESP	181	83
8	Jan	Gurri Aregay	ESP	Centre Back	10/06/2002	Granollers, ESP	190	95
9	André	José	POR	Centre Back	19/04/2001	Tavira, POR	185	87
12	André	Bergsholm Kristensen	NOR	Goalkeeper	15/03/2000	Sandefjord, NOR	192	90
c 13	Salvador	Salvador	POR	Left Back	29/07/2001	Samora Correia, POR	198	115
14	Espen	GommerudVåg	NOR	Line Player	18/05/1994	Drammen, NOR	194	95
16	Tiago	Alves	POR	Goalkeeper	20/12/2001	Lisbon, POR	185	91
17	Orri Freyr	Þorkelsson	ISL	Left Wing	25/06/1999	Reykjavik, ISL	184	89
19	Mamadou	Gassama Cissokho	ESP	Right Wing	28/10/1993	Barcelona, ESP	191	92
23	João	Gomes	POR	Right Back	06/09/2002	Maia, POR	178	81
34	Étienne	Mocquais	FRA	Left Wing	29/02/1996	Lagny-Sur-Mame, FRA	184	83
40	Leonel Carlos	Maciel	ARG	Goalkeeper	04/01/1989	Buenos Aires, ARG	193	86
75	Eduardo	Almeida	POR	Line Player	24/02/2003	Portimão, POR	195	121
79	Martim	Costa	POR	Left Back	27/09/2002	Sermonde, POR	188	90
97	Rafael	Vasconcelos	POR	Right Back	15/06/2007	Porto, POR	185	75



LEONEL MACIEL

 @40leomaciel

Goalkeeper

- Argentinian international; joined club in 2022 after one season with CL winners Barça
- previously played for three other Spanish sides: Cuenca, Zamora, and Octavio; gained his first European cup experience with Cuenca in 2018/19
- won South and Central American Championship with Argentina in January 2020
- likes to read about philosophy and Buddhism

EC trophies: CL 2022



MARTIM COSTA

 @martimcosta_79

Left back

- among the biggest talents of Portuguese handball with his younger brother Francisco; they both play at Sporting, where their father Ricardo Costa is the head coach
- known for stepping up in a match when his team needs him the most
- turned just 21 a month before the start of the EL 2023/24 group phase
- starred at home M20 EHF EURO 2022 with his brother, leading Portugal to silver



NATÁN SUÁREZ

 @natansuarez7

Centre back

- arrived at Sporting before the 2021/22 season from Leon in his native Spain
- scored 65 goals in total for Sporting in his first two EL seasons with the club
- playmaker with great eye for the game and a strong shot from nine metres
- played for national U-18 and U-21 teams but not yet for Spain's senior national team



FRANCISCO COSTA

 @kikocosta_6

Right back

- extremely talented youngster, generally regarded a future star of European handball
- arrived at Sporting in 2021 from league rivals Porto at age 16; has scored a stunning total of 146 goals in his first two EL seasons for the club
- plays alongside his older brother Martim, who is a left back at Sporting; their father and former international Ricardo Costa is the team's head coach
- had huge contribution to Portugal's run to silver at their home M20 EHF EURO 2022

GROUP H



Club contact

Club Address

MOL Tatabánya KC
Szent Borbála út 11.
2800 Tatabánya
Hungary


Media contact

Kata Székely-Marosi
kata.marosi@tatabanyahandball.com
+36 70 63 36 733

 tatabanyahandball.com

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

 –

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

Kit colours

Light

Player shirt: light blue
Player short: light blue
GK shirt: light white

Dark

Player shirt: dark blue
Player short: dark blue
GK shirt: light blue



Playing hall

Tatabányai Multifunkciós
Csarnok
Olimpicon u.
2800 Tatabánya, Hungary
Capacity: 6,200

MOL TATABÁNYA KC



After two successful EHF Cup campaigns in 2017 and 2019, it seems like the arrival of the EHF European League in 2020 did not quite fit Tatabánya. The Hungarian club, despite having a lot of quality within their ranks, did not manage to reach the heights they once knew, stopping its adventures after the group matches both times.

Will 2023/24 be the season of renewal for Tatabánya? After a hectic summer last year with more than 10 new players arriving, the staff have again made a lot of changes, with eight new players joining.

- played in the EHF European League group phase for the past two seasons, but failed to reach the Last 16
- their best European results in recent years were two EHF Cup quarter-finals, in 2017 and 2019
- finished third in the Hungarian league last season, behind Veszprém and Szeged
- eight new players joined this summer, including Hungarian national team player Adam Juhasz and former Veszprém left back Iman Jamali
- Gábor Ancsin is Tatabánya's team captain for the fourth straight season

Among them stands one, Adam Juhasz, who played for Tatabánya for his whole career before moving to Benfica for just one season. Now he is back, bringing with him a lot of hope for the future.

Will that give Tatabánya the edge to finally go far in Europe's second-tier competition again?

Team captain Gábor Ancsin: "The biggest motivation for the team and for me is that we can prove what strength we represent as a team and that we are able to compete with everyone. I am mostly looking forward to the match against Sporting. Two years ago, we suffered a serious defeat against them both times. So there is definitely room for improvement. We want to fight back this time."

PAST ACHIEVEMENTS

EHF European League

Participations (incl. 2023/24): 3

Group phase (2): 2021/22, 2022/23

Other

EHF Cup

Quarter-finals (2): 2016/17, 2018/19

Last 16 (1): 2010/11

Group phase (1): 2019/20

Hungarian league: 4 titles (1974, 1978, 1979, 1984)

Hungarian cup: 2 titles (1969, 1978)





CSABA TOMBOR

Coach

- former right wing, who gained first European experience with Dunaferri in the EHF Cup 1997/98
- scored 38 goals in two CL seasons with Veszprém (2005-07)
- also played for Balatonfüred before starting his coaching career in 2020 at the Veszprém academy
- moved to Tatabánya in 2022 for his first appointment as a head coach; also became in charge of the Hungarian junior (U-21) national team

ARRIVALS

Iman Jamali (Cegléd/HUN)
Bence Krakovszki (NEKA/HUN)
Reza Yadegari (Mes Kerman/IRN)
Ádám Juhász (Benfica/POR)
Márkó Eklemovic (BFKA-Veszprém/HUN)
Yuga Enomoto (Budai Farkasok/HUN)
Huba Vajda (Balatonfüred/HUN)
László Bartucz (Gyöngyös/HUN)

DEPARTURES

Bence Hornyák (Veszprémi KKFT/HUN)
Edwards Olivér (Gyöngyös/HUN)
Márk Bodor (Gyöngyös/HUN)
Ádám Bodnár (Kecskemét/HUN)
Benedek Nagy (Veszprém/HUN)

I TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height	Weight
2	Mateo	Maraš	CRO	Right Back	17/12/2000	Split, CRO	203	103
7	Ádám	Juhász	HUN	Centre Back	06/06/1996	Debrecen, HUN	183	75
9	Josip	Peric	BIH	Centre Back	05/06/1992	Zagreb, CRO	180	85
10	Nemanja	Obradovic	SRB	Left Back	08/01/1991	Krusevac, SRB	200	110
11	Petar	Topic	HUN	Line Player	30/12/1991	Split, CRO	201	111
12	Márton	Székely	HUN	Goalkeeper	02/01/1990	Budapest, HUN	194	87
13	Reza	Yadegari Dehkordi	IRI	Left Back	15/04/2000	Shahrekord, IRI	196	92
14	Márkó	Eklemovic	HUN	Centre Back	04/10/2007	Telki, HUN	181	77
15	Cristian	Ugalde Garcia	ESP	Left Wing	19/10/1987	Barcelona, ESP	186	80
16	László	Bartucz	HUN	Goalkeeper	05/11/1991	Orosháza, HUN	192	107
17	Andrej	Pergel	HUN	Left Back	18/06/2003	Zenta, SRB	197	84
19	Kolen	Krancz	HUN	Line Player	11/09/2003	Komárom, HUN	187	88
22	Mátyás	Györi	HUN	Left Back	02/02/1997	Debrecen, HUN	194	89
23	Uros	Vilovski	HUN	Line Player	25/02/1984	Senta, SRB	193	110
26	Pedro	Rodríguez Alvarez	HUN	Right Wing	22/08/1990	Vigo, ESP	193	85
C 27	Gábor	Ancsin	HUN	Right Back	27/11/1990	Békéscsaba, HUN	202	97
30	Iman	Jamali Moorchegani	HUN	Left Back	11/10/1991	Esfahan, IRI	202	102
32	Yuga	Enomoto	JPN	Right Wing	20/12/2000	Tokyo, JPN	175	78
78	Huba	Vajda	HUN	Line Player	05/03/2000	Győr, HUN	193	105
88	Bence	Krakovszki	HUN	Right Wing	09/07/2002	Győr, HUN	187	84



MÁRTON SZÉKELY

 @martonszekely

Goalkeeper

- Hungarian international, who started his club career in 2007 and returned to Tatabánya in 2022 after an earlier three-year stint at the club in 2016-19
- played for five clubs in Hungary, including two seasons at Veszprém, before spending nearly two years abroad at Porto (POR) and Pelister (MKD)
- had national team debut in 2013; played at EHF EURO events in 2020 and 2022 as well as at 2019 and 2021 World Championships



CRISTIAN UGALDE

 @cristianugalde23

Left wing

- former Spanish international and two-time CL winner, joined Tatabánya in 2022
- previously played for Barça, Veszprém, Hannover, and Athens; won the EC in 2021 with the Greek club
- played over 130 matches for the Spanish national team
- graduated in Science of Physical Activity and Sport at a private university near Madrid

EC trophies: CL 2005, 2011; EC 2021
WCh: B 2011; EURO: S 2016, B 2014



GÁBOR ANCSIN

 @ancsingabor27

Right back

- Hungarian international who joined Tatabánya in 2019 from FTC Budapest
- his first professional stint was at Dunafer, at age 17, before joining top clubs Rhein-Neckar Löwen, Szeged, and Veszprém for 10 seasons in total
- went from Veszprém to FTC on loan in 2018, and became third-best scorer in the Hungarian league the next season, with 144 goals
- played 131 matches for the Hungarian national team after his debut in 2009



PEDRO RODRÍGUEZ

 @pedrorodriguez26

Right wing

- Spanish-born Hungarian international, who arrived at Tatabánya in 2022
- started senior career in his native Spain and played for La Rioja until his move to Hungary in 2016, when he joined Szeged
- spent three seasons each with Szeged and Balatonfüred before joining Tatabánya
- played three games for Spain in 2015/16 but later gained Hungarian citizenship; part of Hungary national team since January 2021 and has played all major events since

GROUP H




Club contact

Club Address

Klub Sportowy SPR
"Chrobry" S.A.
ul. Wita Stwosza 1
67-200 Glogow, Poland


Media contact

Jakub Grzywaczyk
marketing@chrobryhandball.pl
+48 88 01 18 181

 chrobryhandball.pl

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

 -

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

Kit colours

Light

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

Dark

Player shirt: navy blue/red
Player short: navy blue
GK shirt: yellow



Playing hall

Sportowi Hala Ryszarda
Matuszaka
Wita Stwosza 1
67-200 Glogow, Poland
Capacity: 1,300

KGHM CHROBRY GLOGOW



Thanks to their fourth place in the Polish league in the 2022/23 season, KGHM Chrobry Glogow will be enjoying a big first in the club's history; a participation in the EHF European League.

Glogow's best domestic result is finishing runnes-up in the Polish league in 2005/06. And no less than 16 years have gone by since they last appeared in a European club competition: the Challenge Cup in 2007/08. Now they are back and with a role to play.

- **have previous only taken part in two European seasons, with the last one dating back to 2007/08**
- **their best result was reaching the quarter-finals of the Challenge Cup 16 seasons ago**
- **finished fourth in the Polish league last season**
- **Ukrainian coach Vitaliy Nat has been in charge of the team since 2019**
- **only three players are non-Polish in the squad: Ukrainians Anton Dereviankin and Oleksandr Tiltle, and Russian centre back Anton Otrezov**

To a very strong Polish backbone, Ukrainian coach Vitaliy Nat managed to add a few of his compatriots. Oleksandr Tiltle, a regular Ukraine national team player, clearly looks like a leader, especially thanks to his EHF Champions League experience with HC Motor Zaporozhye. Whether Glogow manage to qualify for the next round remains to be seen, but expect them to give a big fight to their opponents anyway, just as they do in their domestic competitions.

Team captain Rafal Stachera: "My biggest motivation is my family and it is for them that I always want to win and be the best. I am looking forward to the first match the most, because it will be my debut in this competition."

PAST ACHIEVEMENTS

EHF European League

Participations (incl. 2023/24): 1

Other

EHF Cup

Round 3 (1): 2006/07

Challenge Cup

Quarter-finals (1): 2007/08

Polish league: –

Polish cup: –





VITALIY NAT

Coach

- former Ukrainian international, who arrived at Glogow as head coach prior to the 2019/20 season
- spent the last seven seasons before retiring as a player in 2014 in Poland and played for several clubs, including Plock and Kielce; however, he did not play for Glogow
- started coaching career with ZTR in his hometown Zaporozhye in 2015 before joining Glogow four years later
- played as a centre back, and scored 263 goals in 75 matches for the Ukraine national team between 1998 and 2014

ARRIVALS

Wojciech Hajnos (Lubin/POL)
Filip Wrona (Kraków/POL)
Jedrzej Zieniewicz (Kalisz/POL)

DEPARTURES

Tomasz Klinger (Ilawa/POL)
Bartosz Warmijak (Biała Podlaska/POL)
Marcel Zdobyłak (Tarnów/POL)

I TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height	Weight
C 1	Rafal	Stachera	POL	Goalkeeper	28/04/1986	Wroclaw, POL	185	95
3	Kacper	Grabowski	POL	Left Wing	17/11/1998	Lublin, POL	177	76
6	Filip	Wrona	POL	Centre Back	30/11/2004	Sucha-Beskidzka, POL	186	70
9	Jedrzej	Zieniewicz	POL	Left Back	02/04/1997	Zielona Góra, POL	187	92
12	Marcel	Ziemiak	POL	Goalkeeper	26/07/2006	Glogow, POL	185	88
13	Tomasz	Kosznik	POL	Right Wing	12/04/2002	Gdynia, POL	181	84
15	Oleksandr	Tilte	UKR	Left Back	10/04/1995	Zaporozhye, UKR	198	92
17	Jakub	Orpik	POL	Line Player	12/06/1998	Sokółka, POL	191	99
18	Rafal	Jamiol	POL	Right Back	02/01/1995	Kielce, POL	192	95
20	Wojciech	Dadej	POL	Centre Back	16/02/2000	Szczecin, POL	185	84
22	Anton	Dereviankin	UKR	Goalkeeper	21/06/1991	Khartsyzk, UKR	190	94
24	Wojciech	Matuszak	POL	Right Back	27/01/1995	Zielona Góra, POL	190	99
26	Anton	Otrezov	RUS	Left Back	24/08/1988	Alma-Ata, RUS	191	94
27	Wojciech	Styrcz	POL	Left Wing	30/01/2001	Legnica, POL	175	74
31	Mateusz	Wiatrzyk	POL	Line Player	31/01/2003	Glogow, POL	191	102
35	Pawel	Paterek	POL	Centre Back	17/12/2000	Lubin, POL	186	78
77	Wojciech	Hajnos	POL	Right Wing	22/04/1998	Rabka Zdrój, POL	180	85
78	Bartosz	Skiba	POL	Line Player	26/07/1996	Chrzanów, POL	189	102



RAFAL STACHERA

 @rstachera

Goalkeeper

- experienced goalkeeper and team captain, who has not played for another club since joining Glogow in 2010 from Wroclaw
- at age 37, he plays the first European cup season of his career
- has been in the Top 10 goalkeepers of the Polish league for the last seven seasons
- runs a chalet rental agency in Poland



JEDRZEJ ZIENIEWICZ

 @jedruksss

Left back

- strong long-distance shooter, who arrived at Glogow from Polish league rivals Kalisz in the summer of 2023
- previously played for Gwardia Opole and gained two seasons of European cup experience, playing the EHF Cup in 2018/19 and 2019/20
- started playing handball at age eight in primary school



OLEKSANDR TILTE

 @alexandr_tilte

Centre back

- Ukrainian international, returned to Glogow for a second stint in 2022; the first time he played for the club was in 2019-21 before moving to HC Motor for one season
- previously played five seasons for another club in his native Zaporozhye: ZRT
- played EHF EURO in 2020 and 2022, and WCh in 2017 and 2019 with Ukraine
- also a prolific beach handball player; competed at EHF Beach Handball EURO 2017



ANTON OTREZOV

 @antonotrezov

Right back

- arrived at Glogow in the summer of 2021 for the first club outside his native Russia
- previously played four seasons for Victor and competed with that club in the inaugural season of the EHF European League in 2020/21
- played EHF Champions League with Chekhovskie medvedi in 2014/15 and 2015/16
- also reached top level in beach handball, playing the European Championships with Russia and the ebt circuit with club team Ekaterinodar in 2019

GROUP H



Club contact

Club Address

CSM Constanta
Tudor Vladimirescu, no.19, 2nd
900684 Constanta
Romania

Media contact

Iordache Elis
dj_elis@gmail.com
+ 40 74 43 37 454

 csmconstanta.ro

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

 –

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

Kit colours

Light

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

Dark

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



Playing hall

**Simona Amanar Sports
Hall Constanta**
B.dul Tomis Nr. 102-104
900178 Constanta,
Romania
Capacity: 2,994

CSM CONSTANTA



Exactly 10 years after CSM Constanta stunned Europe and made it to the EHF Cup Finals, could it be time again for the Romanian side to shine?

Players like Mihai Popescu, Alexandru Csepreghi or Alexandru Simicu have left, but one who still remains, George Buricea, was on the court at that finals tournament in Berlin in 2014. A decade later, he carries the responsibility to guide Constanta through the difficulties of a European season – as their coach.

- failed to come through qualification in all three previous EHF European League seasons, losing to Sporting (2020), Plock (2021), and Chambéry (2022)
- their finest hour in Europe came 10 seasons ago, when they reached the EHF Cup Finals in Berlin
- current head coach George Buricea was part of those EHF Cup Finals 2014 as a player
- club won their first domestic title in five years last season, taking the Romanian cup
- three new players joined the club this summer, including right back Mikalai Aliokhin from Belarus

The season has begun in style for CSM, as they managed to eliminate last season's runners-up Fraikin. BM Granollers in the qualification round after a stunning 25:22 away win in Spain to make up for a two-goal defeat at home the week before. It shows the quality of the team, mostly made up of young Romanian players. Valentino Ravnic and Mikalai Aliokhin bring some EHF Champions League experience to the mix, making Constanta a potentially dangerous team for any opponent.

Team captain Ionut Nistor: "I knew we could qualify for the group matches even after the first game we lost with two goals difference against Granollers. We went in the return with high hopes because I saw my team and teammates way further in this competition and everybody was mounted to turn the outcome in our favor. The biggest motivation is that we will now play against some of the best teams in the competition."

PAST ACHIEVEMENTS

EHF European League

Participations (incl. 2023/24): 4

Qualification (3): 2020/21, 2021/22; 2022/23

Other

EHF Cup

Semi-finals (1): 2013/14

EHF Cup Winners' Cup

Semi-finals (1): 2005/06

Quarter-finals (2): 2006/07, 2008/09

EHF Challenge Cup

Semi-finals (1): 2003/04

Romanian league: 9 titles (2004, 2006, 2007, 2009-2014)

Romanian cup: 7 titles (2006, 2011-14, 2018, 2023)





GEORGE BURICEA

Coach

- former left wing, who became head coach of Constanta in 2022 after two years as assistant coach at the club
- won the Romanian cup with Constanta in his first season in charge for the club's first domestic trophy in five years
- had ended his playing career at Constanta in 2021; previously also played for Steaua Bucuresti
- part of the Constanta team that took part in the EHF Cup Finals 2014; they finished fourth for the club's best ever result in a European competition

ARRIVALS

Mikalai Aliokhin (Brest/BLR)
Gastón Mouriño (CSKA/RUS)
Calin Cabut (Baia Mare/ROU)

DEPARTURES

Leon Raso (Krka/SLO)
Micke Brasseleur (Saint-Raphaël/FRA)

I TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height	Weight
1	Dumitru	Vladut Rusu	ROU	Goalkeeper	27/04/1998	Bacau, ROU	187	90
3	Rares Andrei	Stefan	ROU	Right Wing	04/08/2004	Constanta, ROU	183	71
4	George	Teodor Stefan	ROU	Right Wing	18/06/2004	Medgidia, ROU	177	69
C 5	Ionut	Nistor Ionita	ROU	Right Wing	24/05/1994	Buftea, ROU	187	86
7	Alexandru	George Andrei	ROU	Left Wing	17/07/1998	Braila, ROU	175	88
8	Irakli	Chikovani	GEO	Left Back	28/07/1989	Tbilisi, GEO	197	95
9	Kadir Ayar	Murtaza	ROU	Centre Back	31/10/2005	Constanta, ROU	190	85
10	Gabriel Cristian	Ilie	ROU	Left Back	11/03/1999	Galati, ROU	193	95
12	Gabriel Darius	Preda	ROU	Goalkeeper	14/01/2002	Craiova, ROU	195	115
13	Mikalai	Aliokhin	BLR	Right Back	09/04/1998	Novopolotsk, BLR	190	90
14	Calin Mihai	Cabut	ROU	Centre Back	06/10/1998	Reghin, ROU	192	96
16	Dan Lucian	Vasile	ROU	Goalkeeper	09/07/1997	Bistrita, ROU	190	93
20	Andrei Valeriu	Dragan	ROU	Centre Back	06/07/1999	Calinesti, ROU	185	85
21	Liviu Emil	Caba	ROU	Centre Back	21/06/2000	Timisoara, ROU	195	95
22	Gastón Alberto	Mouriño	ARG	Line Player	12/10/1994	Buenos Aires, ARG	190	95
23	Zoran	Nikolic	SRB	Line Player	23/02/1991	Belgrade, SRB	188	94
27	Marin	Vegar	BIH	Left Back	22/01/1990	Capljina, BIH	199	99
31	Strahinja	Stankovic	SRB	Right Wing	12/06/1991	Vrbas, SRB	185	87
33	Valentino	Ravnic	CRO	Left Wing	20/07/1995	Zadar, CRO	185	82
34	Vitaly	Komogorov	RUS	Left Back	28/08/1991	Volgograd, RUS	196	95
43	Daniel Andrei	Susanu	ROU	Line Player	04/03/1998	Galati, ROU	194	120



DAN VASILE

 @dannivasile_

Goalkeeper

- arrived at Constanta in 2017 as a Romanian youth international
- had competed in the Junior WCh that year, and the M18 EHF EURO in 2016
- won the Romanian cup in his first season with Constanta, and again in 2022/23
- has played in Europe's second-tier club competition each season since 2017/18



VALENTINO RAVNIC

 @valentinoravnic33

Left wing

- Croatian international, who started his senior career at Zagreb in 2017 after emerging from their youth academy
- played five seasons with Zagreb before moving abroad and joining Constanta in 2022
- scored eight goals in the decisive win over Granollers in the EL 2023/24 qualification
- played for Croatia at the EHF EURO in 2020 and 2022



VITALY KOMOGOROV

Left back

- experienced Russian international, who arrived at Constanta from Tatabánya in 2020
- best left back of the season in Romania in 2018 and 2019, when he played for Dinamo
- started professional career in Volgograd; left Russia for the first time in 2015 to play for Nantes in France; played the EHF Cup final with Nantes in 2016
- his height and power turn him into a key player for Constanta both sides of the court



MIKALAI ALIOKHIN

 @kolya_aliokhin

Right back

- Belarusian international, who joined Constanta in 2022 from SKA Minsk
- played six seasons in total in EHF Cup, European League and European Cup with Minsk
- is a playful right back, who also has the ability to defend
- competed at the 2019 World Championship and the EHF EURO 2020 with the national team of Belarus



HISTORY

I PAST CHAMPIONS 1994–2023

EHF European League Men

2023	Füchse Berlin (GER)
2022	SL Benfica (POR)
2021	SC Magdeburg (GER)

Men's EHF Cup

2020	<i>no title awarded due to coronavirus pandemic</i>
2019	THW Kiel (GER)
2018	Füchse Berlin (GER)
2017	Frisch Auf Göppingen (GER)
2016	Frisch Auf Göppingen (GER)
2015	Füchse Berlin (GER)
2014	Pick Szeged (HUN)

Men's EHF Cup

2012	Frisch Auf Göppingen (GER)
2011	Frisch Auf Göppingen (GER)
2010	TBV Lemgo (GER)
2009	VfL Gummersbach (GER)
2008	HSG Nordhorn (GER)
2007	SC Magdeburg (GER)
2006	TBV Lemgo (GER)
2005	Tusem Essen (GER)
2004	THW Kiel (GER)
2003	FC Barcelona (ESP)
2002	THW Kiel (GER)
2001	Sportclub Magdeburg (GER)
2000	Metkovic Jumbo (CRO)
1999	Sportclub Magdeburg (GER)
1998	THW Kiel (GER)
1997	SG Flensburg-Handewitt (GER)
1996	BM Granollers (ESP)
1995	BM Granollers (ESP)
1994	Aliza Avidesa (ESP)

Men's Cup Winners' Cup

2012	SG Flensburg-Handewitt (GER)
2011	VfL Gummersbach (GER)
2010	VfL Gummersbach (GER)
2009	Pevafersa Valladolid (ESP)
2008	MKB Veszprém KC (HUN)
2007	HSV Hamburg (GER)
2006	Chekhovskie Medvedi (RUS)
2005	C. BM Ademar Leon (ESP)
2004	Portland San Antonio (ESP)
2003	A.D.C. Ciudad Real (ESP)
2002	A.D.C. Ciudad Real (ESP)
2001	SG Flensburg-Handewitt (GER)
2000	Portland San Antonio (ESP)
1999	Prosesa Ademar Leon (ESP)
1998	Caja Cantabria Santander (ESP)
1997	Elgorriaga Bidasoa (ESP)
1996	TBV Lemgo (GER)
1995	FC Barcelona (ESP)
1994	FC Barcelona (ESP)

TOP SCORERS 2022/23*

110 goals



Odinn Thor Rikhardsson
Kadetten Schaffhausen

	Player	Club	Goals
1	Odinn Thor Rikhardsson (ISL)	Kadetten Schaffhausen	110
2	Ihor Turchenko (UKR)	HC Motor	97
3	Antonio García Robledo (ESP)	Fraikin BM. Granollers	95
4	Martim Costa (POR)	Sporting CP	94
5	Francisco Costa (POR)	Sporting CP	85
6	Bence Nagy (HUN)	FTC	80
7	Jonathan Svensson (SWE)	Ystads IF HF	75
	Milos Vujovic (MNE)	Füchse Berlin	75
9	Faruk Yusuf (NGA)	Fraikin BM. Granollers	73
10	Alfred Joel Jönsson (SWE)	Montpellier HB	71
11	Yanis Lenne (FRA)	Montpellier HB	70
12	Jacob Tandrup Holm (DEN)	Füchse Berlin	69
	Emil Jakobsen (DEN)	SG Flensburg-Handewitt	69
	Marcel Schiller (GER)	Frisch Auf Göppingen	69
15	Kim Andersson (SWE)	Ystads IF HF	68
	Salvador Salvador (POR)	Sporting CP	68
	Kyllian Villeminot (FRA)	Montpellier HB	68
18	Petar Djordic (SRB)	SL Benfica	62
	Josip Sarac (CRO)	Frisch Auf Göppingen	62

* starting from the group phase; qualification not included

ALL-TIME STANDINGS EHF EUROPEAN LEAGUE MEN 2020–23

1	Füchse Berlin GER	44	33	2	9	1323:1134	+189	68:20	(4)	77,27%
2	SC Magdeburg GER	32	28	2	2	1032:844	+188	58:6	(2)	90,63%
3	Kadetten Schaffhausen SUI	40	21	6	13	1153:1134	+19	48:32	(4)	60,00%
4	Orlen Wisla Plock POL	32	23	1	8	949:828	+121	47:17	(2)	73,44%
5	RK Nexe CRO	42	22	2	18	1202:1206	-4	46:38	(4)	54,76%
6	Sporting CP POR	38	19	3	16	1086:1054	+32	41:35	(4)	53,95%
7	Montpellier HB FRA	30	19	2	9	875:793	+82	40:20	(2)	66,67%
8	GOG DEN	28	18	2	8	897:849	+48	38:18	(2)	67,86%
9	Sport Lisboa e Benfica POR	28	15	2	11	886:854	+32	32:24	(3)	57,14%
10	HC Eurofarm Pelister MKD	34	12	5	17	881:906	-25	29:39	(3)	42,65%
11	USAM Nimes Gard FRA	24	11	5	8	675:650	+25	27:21	(2)	56,25%
12	Frisch Auf Göppingen GER	16	13	0	3	517:444	+73	26:6	(1)	81,25%
13	Rhein-Neckar Löwen GER	16	11	2	3	483:430	+53	24:8	(2)	75,00%
14	SG Flensburg-Handewitt GER	14	11	1	2	457:399	+58	23:5	(2)	82,14%
15	Fenix Toulouse Handball FRA	22	9	3	10	587:585	+2	21:23	(2)	47,73%
16	Chekhovskie medvedi RUS	24	10	1	13	654:660	-6	21:27	(2)	43,75%
17	Fraikin BM. Granollers ESP	16	9	1	6	504:483	+21	19:13	(1)	59,38%
18	Bidasoa Irun ESP	24	8	2	14	698:706	-8	18:30	(2)	37,50%
19	HBC Nantes FRA	14	7	3	4	415:378	+37	17:11	(2)	60,71%
20	Skanderborg-Aarhus DEN	12	8	0	4	366:338	+28	16:8	(1)	66,67%
21	IFK Kristianstad SWE	14	7	1	6	400:407	-7	15:13	(2)	53,57%
23	IK Sävehof SWE	12	7	0	5	373:357	+16	14:10	(2)	58,33%
27	RK Gorenje Velenje SLO	14	5	2	7	399:426	-27	12:16	(2)	42,86%
31	Skjern Håndbold DEN	12	5	0	7	349:350	-1	10:14	(2)	41,67%
34	AEK Athens HC GRE	10	4	0	6	274:283	-9	8:12	(2)	40,00%
35	BM Logroño La Rioja ESP	10	3	1	6	307:317	-10	7:13	(2)	35,00%
36	Dinamo Bucuresti ROU	10	3	1	6	279:298	-19	7:13	(2)	35,00%
40	MOL Tatabánya KC HUN	20	3	0	17	517:598	-81	6:34	(3)	15,00%
47	Pfadi Winterthur SUI	10	1	0	9	271:328	-57	2:18	(2)	10,00%
NR	HC Izvidac BIH	0	0	0	0	0:0	0	0:0	(1)	N/A
NR	Bjerringbro-Silkeborg DEN	0	0	0	0	0:0	0	0:0	(1)	N/A
NR	REBI Balonmano Cuenca ESP	0	0	0	0	0:0	0	0:0	(1)	N/A
NR	Chambéry Savoie Mont Blanc HB FRA	0	0	0	0	0:0	0	0:0	(1)	N/A
NR	TSV Hannover-Burgdorf GER	0	0	0	0	0:0	0	0:0	(1)	N/A
NR	HC Alkaloid MKD	0	0	0	0	0:0	0	0:0	(1)	N/A
NR	HC Lovcen-Cetinje MNE	0	0	0	0	0:0	0	0:0	(1)	N/A
NR	Elverum Handball NOR	0	0	0	0	0:0	0	0:0	(1)	N/A
NR	KGHM Chrobry Glogow POL	0	0	0	0	0:0	0	0:0	(1)	N/A
NR	Górnik Zabrze POL	0	0	0	0	0:0	0	0:0	(1)	N/A
NR	ABC de Braga/UMinho POR	0	0	0	0	0:0	0	0:0	(1)	N/A
NR	CSM Constanta ROU	0	0	0	0	0:0	0	0:0	(1)	N/A
NR	Vojvodina SRB	0	0	0	0	0:0	0	0:0	(1)	N/A
NR	HC Kriens-Luzern SUI	0	0	0	0	0:0	0	0:0	(1)	N/A
NR	MSK Povazska Bystrica SVK	0	0	0	0	0:0	0	0:0	(1)	N/A

- last updated after 2022/23 season (qualification matches *not* included for any season)

- (x) = number of seasons played (including 2023/24)

- x% = winning percentage

- **bold** = part of group matches in 2023/24 season

ALL-TIME STATS EHF EUROPEAN LEAGUE 2020–23

TOP 10 BIGGEST WIN

24	Montpellier HB FRA vs Besiktas Aygaz TUR	40:16 (23:7), 24.11.2020
19	SC Magdeburg GER vs Besiktas Aygaz TUR	41:22 (21:11), 09.02.2021
19	Orlen Wisla Plock POL @ HC Metalurg MKD	19:38 (9:16), 14.02.2021
18	SC Magdeburg GER @ Besiktas Aygaz TUR	23:41 (8:20), 20.10.2020
17	Frisch Auf Göppingen GER @ Fejer BAL-Veszprém HUN	23:40 (11:20), 07.02.2023
16	GOG DEN vs Cocks FIN	46:30 (22:12), 26.10.2021
16	Frisch Auf Göppingen GER vs Fejer BAL-Veszprém HUN	46:30 (23:18), 25.10.2022
15	Orlen Wisla Plock POL vs HC Metalurg MKD	35:20 (16:10), 16.02.2021
15	Fivers AUT vs HC Metalurg MKD	45:30 (22:13), 23.02.2021
15	SC Magdeburg GER vs Alingsas HK SWE	36:21 (18:15), 23.02.2021

TOP 10 BIGGEST HALF-TIME LEAD

16	Montpellier HB FRA vs Besiktas Aygaz TUR	40:16 (23:7), 24.11.2020
12	SC Magdeburg GER @ Besiktas Aygaz TUR	23:41 (8:20), 20.10.2020
12	HC CSKA RUS vs Besiktas Aygaz TUR	32:24 (21:9), 01.12.2020
12	Montpellier HB FRA vs FTC HUN	43:29 (23:11), 28.03.2023
11	Chekhovskie medvedi RUS vs HC Metalurg MKD	40:27 (22:11), 06.02.2021
11	HC CSKA RUS @ Alingsas HK SWE	23:31 (5:16), 16.02.2021
11	SC Magdeburg GER vs IFK Kristianstad SWE	39:31 (23:12), 20.04.2021
11	Rhein-Neckar Löwen GER vs Chekhovskie medvedi RUS	37:27 (19:8), 20.04.2021
11	Frisch Auf Göppingen GER vs TATRA Presov SVK	34:24 (19:8), 29.11.2022
11	SG Flensburg-Handewitt GER @ SL Benfica POR	26:39 (10:21), 21.03.2023

ALL-TIME STATS EHF EUROPEAN LEAGUE 2020–23

TOP 10 MOST GOALS

46	GOG DEN vs Cocks FIN	46:30 (22:12), 26.10.2021
46	Frisch Auf Göppingen GER vs Fejer BAL-Veszprém HUN	46:30 (23:18), 25.10.2022
45	Fivers AUT vs HC Metalurg MKD	45:30 (22:13), 23.02.2021
43	IK Sävehof SWE vs BM Logroño	43:31 (23:16), 19.10.2021
43	Valur ISL vs FTC HUN	43:39 (22:15), 25.10.2022
43	Füchse Berlin GER @ HC Eurofarm Pelister MKD	34:43 (14:22), 22.11.2022
43	Montpellier HB FRA vs FTC HUN	43:29 (23:11), 28.03.2023
42	SG Flensburg-Handewitt GER vs FTC HUN	42:30 (23:15), 13.12.2022
41	SC Magdeburg GER @ Besiktas Aygaz TUR	23:41 (8:20), 20.10.2020
41	Abanca Ademar Leon ESP vs HC Metalurg MKD	41:32 (20:13), 17.11.2020
41	SC Magdeburg GER vs Besiktas Aygaz TUR	41:22 (21:11), 09.02.2021
41	Montpellier HB FRA vs TATRA Presov SVK	41:30 (20:14), 01.11.2022

TOP 10 MOST GOALS BOTH TEAMS

82	Valur ISL vs FTC HUN	43:39 (22:15), 25.10.2022
79	SL Benfica POR vs SC Magdeburg GER	40:39 (15:14, 32:32), 29.05.2022
77	GOG DEN vs SL Benfica POR	39:38 (20:18), 01.03.2022
77	HC Eurofarm Pelister MKD vs Füchse Berlin GER	34:43 (14:22), 22.11.2022
76	GOG DEN vs Cocks FIN	46:30 (22:12), 26.10.2021
76	Frisch Auf Göppingen GER vs Fejer BAL-Veszprém HUN	46:30 (23:18), 25.10.2022
76	Montpellier HB FRA vs Kadetten Schaffhausen SUI	40:36 (22:18), 07.02.2023
75	Fivers AUT vs HC Metalurg MKD	45:30 (22:13), 23.02.2021
75	RK Nexe CRO vs Fraikin BM. Granollers ESP	39:36 (19:16), 06.12.2022
74	IK Sävehof SWE vs BM Logroño	43:31 (23:16), 19.10.2021
74	TBV Lemgo Lippe GER vs HBC Nantes FRA	37:37 (17:20), 22.02.2022
74	TBV Lemgo Lippe GER vs GOG DEN	39:35 (19:17), 08.03.2022
74	GOG DEN vs RK Nexe CRO	37:37 (22:20), 03.05.2022
74	SL Benfica POR vs Fejer BAL-Veszprém HUN	39:35 (21:17), 22.11.2022

I ALL-TIME STATS EHF EUROPEAN LEAGUE 2020–23

TOP 10 FEI/WEST GOALS

15	TATRAN Presov SVK vs Orlen Wisla Plock POL	15:29 (8:13), 22.02.2022
16	Besiktas Aygaz TUR @ Montpellier HB FRA	40:16 (23:7), 24.11.2020
18	RK Nexe CRO @ HC CSKA RUS	29:18 (15:8), 24.11.2020
19	Grundfos Tatabánya KC HUN @ HC Eurofarm Pelister MKD	21:19 (11:10), 10.02.2021
19	HC Metalurg MKD vs Orlen Wisla Plock POL	19:38 (9:16), 14.02.2021
19	TATRAN Presov SVK vs Fenix Toulouse Handball FRA	19:31 (12:16), 07.12.2021
19	AEK Athens HC GRE @ HC Eurofarm Pelister MKD	30:19 (10:8), 08.03.2022
19	Orlen Wisla Plock POL vs SL Benfica POR	19:26 (8:10), 28.05.2022
20	HC Eurofarm Pelister MKD @ Rhein-Neckar Löwen GER	28:20 (14:11), 24.11.2020
20	TATRAN Presov SVK @ USAM Nimes Gard FRA	25:20 (12:11), 09.02.2021
20	HC Metalurg MKD @ Orlen Wisla Plock POL	35:20 (16:10), 16.02.2021
20	Grundfos Tatabánya KC HUN @ HC Eurofarm Pelister MKD	33:20 (17:9), 23.11.2021
20	TATRAN Presov SVK @ Fenix Toulouse Handball FRA	34:20 (18:9), 30.11.2021
20	HC Eurofarm Pelister MKD @ Bidasoa Irun ESP	32:30 (20:12), 06.12.2022
20	Fejer BAL-Veszprém HUN @ TATRAN Presov SVK	22:20 (12:11), 13.12.2022

TOP 10 FEI/WEST GOALS BOTH TEAMS

40	HC Eurofarm Pelister MKD vs Grundfos Tatabánya KC HUN	21:19 (11:10), 10.02.2021
42	TATRAN Presov SVK vs Fejer BAL-Veszprém HUN	22:20 (12:11), 13.12.2022
43	HC Eurofarm Pelister MKD vs RK Nexe CRO	21:22 (11:11), 05.04.2022
44	TATRAN Presov SVK vs Orlen Wisla Plock POL	15:29 (8:13), 22.02.2022
45	RK Nexe CRO vs Montpellier HB FRA	22:23 (8:10), 17.11.2020
45	USAM Nimes Gard FRA vs TATRAN Presov SVK	25:20 (12:11), 09.02.2021
45	Grundfos Tatabánya KC HUN vs HC Eurofarm Pelister MKD	21:24 (11:9), 11.02.2021
45	TATRAN Presov SVK vs Sporting CPO POR	24:21 (12:13), 16.02.2021
45	Kadetten Schaffhausen SUI vs RK Trimo Trebnje SLO	24:21 (10:12), 16.02.2021
45	Orlen Wisla Plock POL vs SL Benfica POR	19:26 (8:10), 28.05.2022

I ALL-TIME STATS EHF EUROPEAN LEAGUE 2020–23

TOP 10 BIGGEST DEFICIT OVERCOME AFTER LOSING FIRST HALF TO WIN A GAME

-4	Chekhovskie medvedi RUS vs Rhein-Neckar Löwen GER	33:32 (15:19), 13.04.2021
-4	Pfadi Winterthur SUI @ TATRAN Presov SVK	29:33 (16:12), 16.11.2021
-4	Kadetten Schaffhausen SUI @ Frisch Auf Göppingen GER	24:25 (14:10), 06.12.2022
-3	Kadetten Schaffhausen SUI @ Grundfos Tatabánya KC HUN	30:32 (18:15), 23.02.2021
-3	Abanca Ademar Leon ESP @ Chekhovskie medvedi RUS	34:35 (20:17), 27.02.2021
-3	Alingsås HK SWE vs Besiktas Aygaz TUR	30:29 (14:17), 02.03.2021
-3	Sporting CP POR vs Kadetten Schaffhausen SUI	29:28 (9:12), 19.10.2021
-3	SL Benfica POR @ Cocks FIN	32:37 (18:15), 16.11.2021
-3	RK Gorenje Velenje SLO @ IK Sävehof SWE	27:28 (14:11), 08.03.2022
-3	Fenix Toulouse Handball FRA vs SL Benfica POR	38:34 (17:20), 29.03.2022
-3	SG Flensburg-Handewitt GER vs TM Benidorm ESP	35:30 (16:19), 25.10.2022
-3	PAUC Handball FRA vs FTC HUN	33:30 (14:17), 22.11.2022
-3	Bidasoa Irun ESP vs HC Motor	26:22 (9:12), 22.11.2022
-3	Fejer BAL-Veszprém HUN vs TATRAN Presov SVK	30:28 (13:16), 06.12.2022
-3	Ystads IF HF SWE @ PAUC Handball FRA	34:36 (18:15), 06.12.2022
-3	Sporting CP POR @ Skjern Handbold DEN	28:30 (15:12), 06.12.2022
-3	Frisch Auf Göppingen GER vs SL Benfica POR	31:29 (15:18), 14.02.2023

TOP 10 BIGGEST DEFICIT OVERCOME AFTER LOSING FIRST HALF TO DRAW A GAME

-6	Kadetten Schaffhausen SUI @ HC Eurofarm Pelister MKD	25:25 (16:10), 17.11.2020
-5	HC Eurofarm Pelister MKD @ Kadetten Schaffhausen SUI	28:28 (16:11), 26.10.2021
-4	Kadetten Schaffhausen SUI @ Rhein-Neckar Löwen GER	30:30 (17:13), 02.02.2021
-4	RK Gorenje Velenje SLO vs SL Benfica POR	27:27 (11:15), 03.05.2022
-4	FTC HUN vs Valur ISL	33:33 (14:18), 06.12.2022
-3	Fenix Toulouse Handball FRA vs Abanca Ademar Leon ESP	28:28 (14:17), 24.11.2020
-3	HC Metalurg MKD vs Fivers AUT	33:33 (16:19), 22.12.2020
-3	BM Logroño La Rioja ESP vs SC Magdeburg GER	29:29 (13:16), 16.11.2021
-3	RK Gorenje Velenje SLO @ PAUC Handball FRA	26:26 (17:14), 23.11.2021
-3	TBV Lemgo Lippe GER vs HBC Nantes FRA	37:37 (17:20), 22.02.2022
-3	Cocks FIN vs TBV Lemgo Lippe GER	29:29 (12:15), 01.03.2022
-3	Abanca Ademar Leon ESP @ HC Metalurg MKD	27:27 (16:13), 02.03.2021
-3	SC Magdeburg GER @ Sporting CP POR	29:29 (16:13), 29.03.2022

ALL-TIME STATS EHF EUROPEAN LEAGUE 2020–23

TOP 10 MOST GOALS IN ONE HALF

24	GOG DEN vs Cocks FIN – 2nd half	46:30 (22:12), 26.10.2021
24	FTC HUN @ Valur ISL – 2nd half	43:39 (22:15), 25.10.2022
23	Montpellier HB FRA vs Besiktas Aygaz – 1st half	40:16 (23:7), 24.11.2020
23	Fivers AUT vs HC Metalurg MKD – 2nd half	45:30 (22:13), 23.02.2021
23	SC Magdeburg GER vs IFK Kristianstad SWE – 1st half	39:31 (23:12), 20.04.2021
23	IK Sävehof SWE vs BM Logroño La Rioja ESP – 1st half	43:31 (23:16), 19.10.2021
23	Frisch Auf Göppingen GER vs Fejer BAL-Veszprém HUN – 1st half	46:30 (23:18), 25.10.2022
23	Frisch Auf Göppingen GER vs Fejer BAL-Veszprém HUN – 2nd half	46:30 (23:18), 25.10.2022
23	SG Flensburg-Handewitt GER vs FTC HUN – 1st half	42:30 (23:15), 13.12.2022
23	Sporting CP POR vs Fraikin BM. Granollers ESP – 2nd half	38:31 (15:14), 14.02.2023
23	Füchse Berlin GER @ Bidasoa Irun ESP – 1st half	32:40 (17:23), 14.02.2023
23	Montpellier HB FRA vs FTC HUN	43:29 (23:11), 28.03.2023

TOP 10 MOST GOALS IN ONE HALF BOTH TEAMS

45	Valur ISL vs FTC HUN – 2nd half	43:39 (22:15), 25.10.2022
42	GOG DEN vs Cocks FIN – 2nd half	46:30 (22:12), 26.10.2021
42	GOG DEN vs RK Nexe CRO – 1st half	37:37 (22:20), 03.05.2022
41	Frisch Auf Göppingen GER vs Fejer BAL-Veszprém HUN – 1st half	46:30 (23:18), 25.10.2022
41	HC Eurofarm Pelister MKD vs Füchse Berlin GER – 2nd half	34:43 (14:22), 22.11.2022
41	Fejer BAL-Veszprém HUN vs Montpellier HB FRA – 1st half	31:39 (16:25), 29.11.2022
40	Abanca Ademar Leon ESP vs HC Metalurg MKD – 2nd half	41:32 (20:13), 17.11.2020
40	Fivers AUT vs HC Metalurg MKD – 2nd half	45:30 (22:13), 23.02.2021
40	SC Magdeburg GER vs Sporting CP POR – 1st half	36:35 (21:19), 05.04.2022
40	RK Nexe CRO vs Fraikin BM. Granollers ESP -2nd half	39:36 (19:16), 06.12.2022
40	Montpellier HB FRA vs Kadetten Schaffhausen SUI – 1st half	40:36 (22:18), 07.02.2023
40	Sporting CP POR vs Fraikin BM. Granollers ESP – 2nd half	38:31 (15:14), 14.02.2023
40	Bidasoa Irun ESP vs Füchse Berlin GER – 1st half	32:40 (17:23), 14.02.2023

ALL-TIME STATS EHF EUROPEAN LEAGUE 2020–23

TOP 10 FEWEST GOALS IN ONE HALF

5	Alingsas HK SWE vs HC CSKA RUS – 1st half	23:31 (5:16), 16.02.2021
6	Alingsas HK SWE @ SC Magdeburg GER – 2nd half	36:21 (18:15), 23.02.2021
6	HC Eurofarm Pelister MKD vs USAM Nimes Gard FRA – 1st half	21:26 (6:15), 19.10.2021
7	Besiktas Aygaz TUR @ Montpellier HB FRA – 1st half	40:16 (23:7), 24.11.2020
7	TATRAN Presov SVK vs Fenix Toulouse Handball – 2nd half	19:31 (12:16), 07.12.2021
7	TATRAN Presov SVK vs Orlen Wisla Plock POL – 2nd half	15:29 (8:13), 22.02.2022
8	Fivers AUT @ Orlen Wisla Plock POL – 2nd half	32:23 (17:15), 20.10.2020
8	Besiktas Aygaz TUR vs SC Magdeburg GER – 1st half	23:41 (8:20), 20.10.2020
8	RK Nexe CRO vs Montpellier HB FRA – 1st half	22:23 (8:10), 17.11.2020
8	RK Nexe CRO @ HC CSKA RUS – 1st half	29:18 (15:8), 24.11.2020
8	Alingsas HK SWE @ Montpellier HB FRA – 2nd half	32:21 (16:13), 01.12.2020
8	RK Nexe CRO vs SC Magdeburg GER – 1st half	24:32 (8:15), 01.12.2020
8	Sporting CP POR @ TATRAN Presov SVK – 2nd half	24:21 (12:13), 16.02.2021
8	Chekhovskie medvedi RUS @ Rhein-Neckar Löwen GER – 1st half	37:27 (19:8), 20.04.2021
8	Füchse Berlin GER @ SC Magdeburg GER – 1st half	28:25 (15:8), 23.05.2021
8	GOG DEN @ HBC Nantes FRA – 1st half	27:24 (11:8), 16.11.2021
8	TATRAN Presov SVK vs Orlen Wisla Plock POL – 1st half	15:29 (8:13), 22.02.2022
8	AEK Athens HC GRE @ HC Eurofarm Pelister MKD – 1st half	30:19 (10:8), 08.03.2022
8	Orlen Wisla Plock POL vs SL Benfica PORF – 1st half	19:26 (8:10), 28.05.2022
8	TATRAN Presov SVK @ Frisch Auf Göppingen GER – 1st half	34:24 (19:8), 29.11.2022
8	Aguas Santas Milaneza POR @ HC Motor UKR – 1st half	30:24 (13:8), 13.12.2022
8	HC Motor UKR vs RK Nexe CRO – 1st half	23:27 (8:13), 21.03.2023

TOP 10 FEWEST GOALS IN ONE HALF BOTH TEAMS

18	RK Nexe CRO vs Montpellier HB FRA – 1st half	22:23 (8:10), 17.11.2020
18	HC Eurofarm Pelister MKD vs AEK Athens HC GRE – 1st half	30:19 (10:8), 08.03.2022
18	Orlen Wisla Plock POL vs SL Benfica PORF – 1st half	19:26 (8:10), 28.05.2022
19	HC Eurofarm Pelister MKD vs Grundfos Tatabánya KC HUN – 2nd half	21:19 (11:10), 10.02.2021
19	TATRAN Presov SVK vs Fejer BAL-Veszprém HUN – 2nd half	22:20 (12:11), 13.12.2022
20	Grundfos Tatabánya KC HUN vs HC Eurofarm Pelister MKD – 1st half	21:24 (11:9), 11.02.2021
20	TATRAN Presov SVK vs Sporting CP POR – 2nd half	24:21 (12:13), 16.02.2021
20	USAM Nimes Gard FRA vs Grundfos Tatabánya KC HUN – 1st half	24:22 (11:9), 30.11.2021
20	Bidasoa Irun ESP vs HC Eurofarm Pelister MKD – 2nd half	32:20 (20:12), 06.12.2022
21	CS Dinamo Bucuresti ROU vs Sporting CP POR – 2nd half	25:27 (15:16), 20.10.2020
21	Orlen Wisla Plock POL vs Fenix Toulouse Handball FRA – 1st half	27:25 (12:9), 08.12.2020
21	HC Eurofarm Pelister MKD vs Grundfos Tatabánya KC HUN – 1st half	21:19 (11:10), 10.02.2021
21	Alingsas HK SWE vs HC CSKA RUS – 1st half	23:31 (5:16), 16.02.2021
21	USAM Nimes Gard FRA vs Füchse Berlin GER – 2nd half	22:24 (13:12), 24.02.2021
21	Sporting CP POR vs Kadetten Schaffhausen SUI – 1st half	29:28 (9:12), 19.10.2021
21	HC Eurofarm Pelister MKD vs USAM Nimes Gard FRA – 1st half	21:26 (6:15), 19.10.2021
21	PAUC Handball FRA vs RK Gorenje Velenje SLO – 2nd half	26:26 (17:14), 23.11.2021
21	Kadetten Schaffhausen SUI vs Sporting CP POR – 1st half	26:24 (10:11), 15.02.2022
21	HC Eurofarm Pelister MKD vs RK Nexe CRO – 2nd half	21:22 (11:11), 05.04.2022
21	Bidasoa Irun ESP vs HC Motor UKR – 1st half	26:22 (9:12), 22.11.2022
21	HC Motor UKR vs Aguas Santas Milaneza POR – 1st half	30:24 (13:8), 13.12.2022
21	HC Motor UKR vs RK Nexe CRO – 1st half	23:27 (8:13), 21.03.2023

ALL-TIME STATS EHF EUROPEAN LEAGUE 2020–23

LONGEST WINNING RUN

SC Magdeburg GER	14 matches (01.12.2020 – 26.10.2021)
Füchse Berlin GER	12 matches (25.10.2022 – 28.03.2023)
Frisch Auf Göppingen GER	9 matches (13.12.2022 – 18.04.2023)
Orlen Wisla Plock POL	8 matches (20.10.2020 – 20.02.2021)
Orlen Wisla Plock POL	8 matches (23.11.2021 - 29.03.2022)

LONGEST UNBEATEN RUN

SC Magdeburg GER	27 matches (01.12.2020 – 28.05.2022)
Füchse Berlin GER	12 matches (25.10.2022 – 28.03.2023)
Rhein-Neckar Löwen GER	11 matches (17.11.2020 – 30.03.2021)
Orlen Wisla Plock POL	11 matches (23.11.2021 – 03.05.2022)
Füchse Berlin (GER)	9 matches (20.10.2020 – 23.03.2021)
SG Flensburg-Handewitt	9 matches (06.12.2022 - 11.04.2023)
Frisch Auf Göppingen	9 matches (13.12.2022 - 18.04.2023)

LONGEST LOSING RUN

Grundfos Tatabánya KC HUN	12 matches (17.11.2020 – 26.10.2021)
Besiktas Aygaz TUR	10 matches (20.10.2020 – 02.03.2021)
Cocks FIN	8 matches (19.10.2021 - 22.02.2022)
TATRAN Presov SVK	8 matches (26.10.2021 – 01.03.2022)
Pfadi Winterthur SUI	7 matches (30.11.2021 - 08.03.2022)

LONGEST RUN WITHOUT WIN

Grundfos Tatabánya KC HUN	12 matches (17.11.2020 – 26.10.2021)
Besiktas Aygaz TUR	10 matches (20.10.2020 – 02.03.2021)
HC Metalurg MKD	9 matches (20.10.2020 – 02.03.2021)
Cocks FIN	9 matches (19.10.2021 - 01.03.2022)
PAUC Handball FRA	9 matches (19.10.2021 – 01.03.2022)

EHF Media & Communications

Hoffingergasse 18
1120 Vienna, Austria
+43 1 80 151 161
eurohandball.com
media@eurohandball.com

EHF Marketing GmbH

Technologiestraße 10, Building 2E
1120 Vienna, Austria
+43 1 80 151 211
ehfel.eurohandball.com
handball@ehfmarketing.com