



MEDIA GUIDE

**EHF EUROPEAN LEAGUE MEN 2021/22
GROUP PHASE**

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I INTRODUCTION TO THE NEW SEASON

It is with great pleasure to welcome you to the EHF European League Men group phase for 2021/22. Despite all the difficulties related to the pandemic last season the vast majority of the games were decided on court which was a tremendous success and we wish to express our gratitude to all clubs for the excellent cooperation.

The competition culminated at the excellent EHF Finals weekend in Mannheim and already the first season has proved that the decision to reform our club competitions system in the summer of 2020 was a step in the right direction. It is also pleasing us that not only all 120 group phase matches will be streamed live on EHFTV for our fanbase at the TV screens but also more and more fans will be able to return to the arenas and create a real handball atmosphere how we have always known it.

What we are looking forward to most over the next 10 rounds of matches is witnessing a real eclectic mix of teams going head-to-head over the coming months as they fight for their places in the all-important knockout stages.

Sixteen nations across the EHF are represented among the 24 competing teams, which gives this season's competition a hugely diverse combination of styles, further proof of what makes this competition so captivating.

What lies in wait for handball fans is a mouth-watering series of matches featuring some of the biggest names in our sport with no easy games for any team.

Just one look at some of the clubs in the group phase is enough to whet the appetite. With the likes HBC Nantes and Füchse Berlin joining former EHF Champions League winners Bidasoa Irun and SC Magdeburg, who are defending their title from the premiere season of the European League, the race to reach the elimination phase is going to be a battle of epic proportions.

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

We look forward to working with you during the 2021/22 season!

EHF Media & Communications Team

I WE PLAY HANDBALL: OUR BRAND IDENTITY

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

A fresh approach to logo design

At the heart of the new approach implemented in 2020 is an updated and fresh representation of how the origins and successes of European handball are communicated, expressed and promoted. Therefore, subtle alterations have been made in the visual presentation of the EHF and its associated competitions with a newly developed design, created to offer consistent communication of the new handball umbrella brand across all European competitions. The shape of a handball itself is referenced throughout the entire EHF brand system.

On a national team level, the circular shape of the ball is used to empower all national team competition logos. The orange-coloured logo is an abstract version of the letter 'E', rotating around the sides of a pentagon. It makes reference to the EHF, while the pentagon derives from the shape of a handball's tile and is used in the new EHF brand system to empower the club competitions. In its appearance, the logo and additional elements that are used in the EHF European League's imagery symbolise the energy, toughness and intensity that transform from the action on court and the performance of the teams to the visual presentation of the competition.



I BRAND SOUND

As part of a holistic brand experience strategy, sound is an essential brand asset. Together with the sound agency WESOUND, EHF and EHF Marketing developed an acoustic identity for their brands, reflecting and representing the core of handball. Much like the visual brand identity, the brand sound identity will acoustically connect the various leagues and tournaments which fit under the EHF umbrella.

A modern brand sound approach is part of the vision of positioning handball as the most attractive indoor sport and it supports the goal of attracting a younger audience. Through the coherent and consistent use of unique and recognisable sound elements together with the consistent graphical picture conveyed, an improved connection of the competitions and their followers will be achieved.

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

In the case of the EHF European League, the toughness and intensity of the sport was translated into a modern sound design through a new EHF European League sound logo and anthem. Both will come to life in the arena and will consistently complement all audio-visual communications.



I THE WINNERS' TROPHY AWAITS

As the winner of the first EHF European League Men title, in 2020/21, SC Magdeburg not only wrote a special piece of the competition's history, but also became the first men's team to lift the brand new trophy.

The new design has been revealed on the fringes of the start of 2020/21 season and will be seen after final battles also in many seasons to come. Aligned with the concept of the EHF Champions League trophy, the core idea of the EHF European League trophy is to represent a goal as the main objective of the sport, to reflect the dynamic movement of a ball hitting the target and to transmit handball as a team sport by forming the net in the shape of a shield. The design is the same for both men's and women's competitions and every element from the font to the logo fits the competition identity.

The concept was developed by a Spanish agency based in Barcelona, which specialises in the design and production of environmentally responsible trophies. The medals are made from the removed material of the net structure, which means that every player gets a piece of the trophy for himself/herself.



I NEW DIGITAL PLATFORMS

NEW PLATFORMS

Follow the EHF competitions, your favourite EHF European League clubs and players with the new Home of Handball app. The EHF announced the launch of its very first dedicated mobile app, Home of Handball, just before the start of the new season.

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 the club as well as from the national team side – under one roof.

The integration of highlights from EHFTV, as well as of live scores, club and player information, are key ingredients for an enriching user experience. The app features gamification elements and furthermore allows for each user to completely individualise his or her experience by selecting their favourite club and/or favourite competition.

The arrival of the app offers handball fans across the globe European handball at their fingertips while at the same time creates an entry point for new fans to enter the arena and learn about the excitement of handball.

Developed together alongside Austrian startup House of Web, the app offers a smooth user experience, allowing for an easy as well as exciting entry into the world of handball with a comprehensive overview of every single match in the EHF's competitions each season.

To download the app on iOS click [here](#).

To download the app on Android click [here](#).

TUNE IN TO EHFEL ON TIKTOK AND TWITCH

Long gone are the days when social media consisted of a few Facebook posts. The latest generation of social media platforms are here and of course, the EHF European League has embraced them. Tiktok will showcase quirky, creative and viral video content and can be found on the Home of Handball Tiktok channel. Twitch, a video-streaming channel, will also have a number of EHF European League related shows screened throughout the season. Among the success stories of last season were the EHF European League preview shows, which were broadcast live over the weekends of both men's and women's EHF Finals events. Expect more of the same in 2021/22.

That's not to say traditional social media channels have been forgotten about. The EHF European League accounts on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram will continue to give fans a steady stream of sharable and engaging content, keeping them informed on all the latest results and news from handball's top-flight.

<https://www.twitch.tv/homeofhandball>

<https://www.tiktok.com/@homeofhandball>

I ALL MATCHES LIVE ON EHFTV

Complementing the launch of the new Home of Handball, EHFTV, the OTT portal of the EHF and EHF Marketing, was also relaunched in the summer of 2020. The new Brand identity applied to Home of Handball has been followed to create a new look for EHFTV, an OTT service powered by DAZN Group.

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

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

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

Join EHFTV and get ready for a new handball era.

Join EHFTV FOR FREE

Register now to watch free live handball games, full matches and much more

Register for Free

19 OCT 18:45

IK Sävehof vs BM Logroño La Rioja

Live	OCT	EHF EL Men	18:45	EHF EL Men	18:45	EHF EL Men	18:45	EHF EL Men	18:45
	19	IK Sävehof		RK Gorenje Velenje		Füchse Berlin		Cocks	
Schedules		BM Logroño La Rioja		SC Magdeburg		Fenix Toulouse Handball		HBC Nantes	



EHF
EUROPEAN
LEAGUE



MORE INTENSITY
MORE HANDBALL

EHF EUROPEAN LEAGUE

WATCH ON EHFTV.COM

I TV STATIONS TO BROADCAST MATCHES ALL OVER THE WORLD

The matches of the upcoming season will be shown live all over the world with 31 TV stations and EHFTV broadcasting the matches either live or delayed.

Not only fans in 26 European countries but also the audience in the MENA region (North Africa and Middle East) will be able to watch the premium European club competition.

TV PARTNERS BROADCASTING THE EHF EUROPEAN LEAGUE MEN 2021/22*

AUT – DAZN

BIH – Arenasport

BLR – BTRC

CRO – Arenasport

CZE – Sport TV

DEN – NENT

ESP – DAZN

ESP – EiTb

ESP - Rioja7

FIN – NENT

FRA – Eurosport

GEO – Silknet

GER – DAZN

HUN – Sport TV

KOS – Arenasport

MENA region – ONTIME

MKD – Arenasport

MNE – Arenasport

NOR – NENT

POL – Eurosport

POR – SportingTV

ROU – Telekom Sport

ROU – Digi Sport

ROU – Look Sport

RUS – MatchTV

SLO – Arenasport

SRB – Arenasport

SUI – Swiss Sport TV

SVK – Sport TV

SWE – NENT

UKR – Sport 1

Worldwide - EHFTV (Geo-restrictions may apply)

* as of 18 October 2021



COMPETITION

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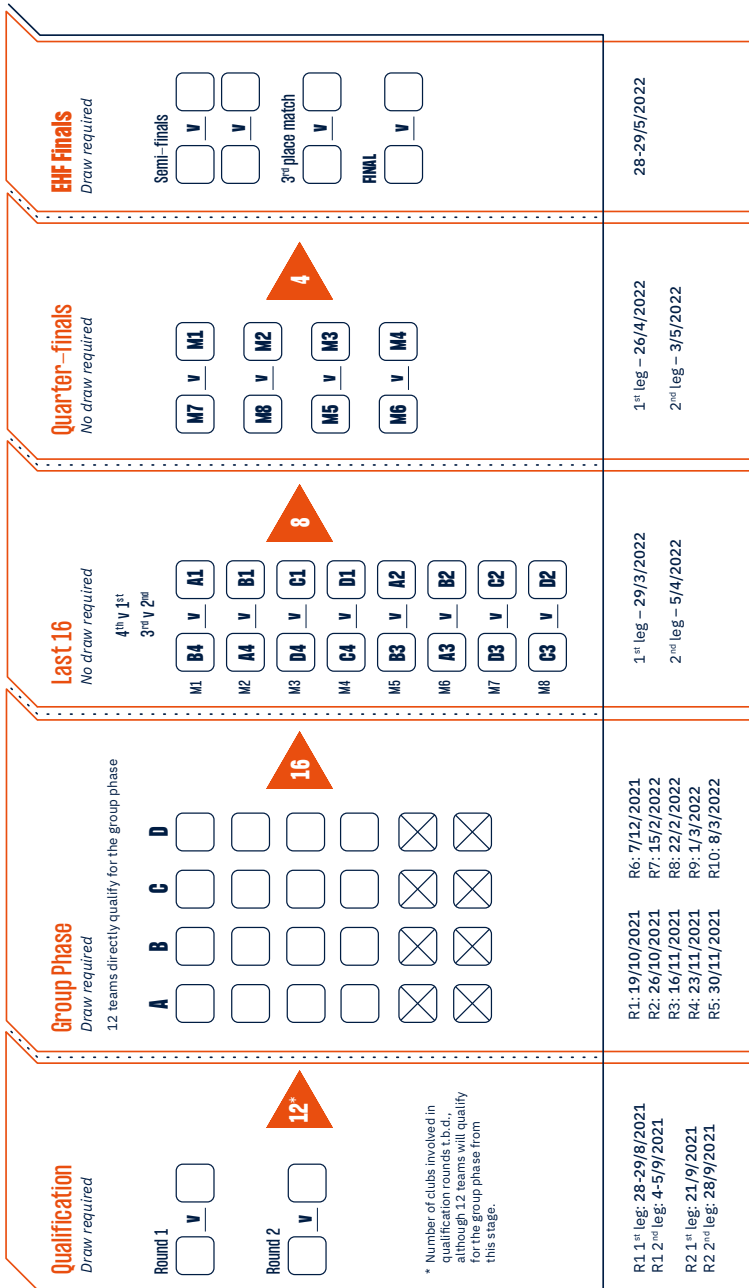
EUROPEAN LEAGUE MEN 2021/22 GROUP PHASE



EHF EUROPEAN LEAGUE MEN

2021/22 SEASON

Playing system and dates



16 NATIONS, 11 OLYMPIC MEDALLISTS, 2 CHAMPIONS LEAGUE WINNERS

FACTS AND FIGURES: THE MOST IMPORTANT NUMBER BEFORE THE START OF THE EHF EUROPEAN LEAGUE MEN 2021/22 SEASON

The group phase of the EHF European League 2021/22 is ready for throw-off. Before defending champions SC Magdeburg and the 23 other teams enter the road to the Last 16, here are the most interesting stats.

0 goals was the smallest winning margin in qualification round 2, as Nexø and Bjerringbro were locked at 59:59 with Nexø advancing based on the away-goal rule.

1

European Cup debutant - CSKA Moscow - are part of the group phase.

1 city - Portuguese capital Lisbon - is represented by two clubs: Benfica and Sporting.

1 country - France - is represented by four group phase participants: Nîmes, Nantes, PAUC and Toulouse. Germany have three teams; Spain, Portugal and Switzerland have two.

1 former EHF Champions League winner - RK Celje - failed in the qualification, against GOG.

1 team of the 24 group phase participants was part of the EHF Champions League last season – and even made it to the EHF FINAL4: Nantes.

2 former EHF Champions League winners - Bidasoa Irun (1995) and SC Magdeburg (2002) - have qualified for the group phase.

2 winners of EHF club competitions in 2020/21 are part of the group phase: SC Magdeburg (winners European League) and AEK Athens (winners European Cup).

3 former European club competitions winners failed in qualification round 2: Granollers, Leon, and Rhein-Neckar Löwen.

(Presov) and Zeljko Babić (Pelister).

2

former top scorers of the merged EHF Cup are part of this season's group phase of the European League Men: Hans Lindberg (Berlin, top scorer in the 2016/17 and 2017/18 seasons) and Momir Rnić (Metalurg, top scorer in the 2012/13 season for Göppingen).

3 teams that took part in the EHF Finals 2021 in Mannheim are part of the group phase: winners SC Magdeburg, finalists Füchse Berlin (both Germany) and fourth-ranked Wisła Płock (Poland). Rhein-Neckar Löwen lost in qualification round 2 to Benfica.

3 clubs that were part of an EHF FINAL4 event are part of the group phase: Nantes (2018, 2021), Berlin (2012) and Chekhov (2010).

3 clubs that played at EHF Cup Finals are part of the group phase: Nantes (2013, 2016), Berlin (2014, 2015, 2017, 2018, 2019) and Velenje (2015).

3 French Olympic gold medallists are part of the group phase: Michaël Guigou, Rémi Desbonnet (both Nîmes) and Romain Lagarde (PAUC).

3 former EHF Cup winners are part of the group phase: SC Magdeburg (1999, 2001, 2007), TBV Lemgo (2006, 2010), Füchse Berlin (2015 and 2018).

3 former Cup Winners' Cup champions have qualified for the group phase: Chekhovskie medvedi (2006), Bidasoa Irun (1997), TBV Lemgo (1996).

4 Danish Olympic silver medallist play for group stage participants: Lasse Andersson, Jakob Holm (both Berlin), Morten Olsen and Mathias Gidsel (both GOG); Gidsel was MVP of the Olympics.

4 Spanish Olympic bronze medallists play for group stage participants: Valero Rivera, Adria Figueras (Nantes), Julen Aguinagalde (Irun) and Gedeon Guardiola (Lemgo).

5 teams won both matches in qualification round 2: Schaffhausen, Lemgo, Toulouse, Berlin and Sporting.

6 teams have gone all the way from qualification round 1 to the group phase: Schaffhausen, La Rioja, Toulouse, Benfica, GOG and Nexø.

10 group matches are ahead for each of the 24 teams.

12 teams from 12 nations were directly seeded to the group phase: Magdeburg (GER), Nantes (FRA), Irun (ESP), Tatabánya (HUN), Sävehof (SWE), Bitola (MKD), Winterthur (SUI), Chekhov (RUS), Velenje (SLO), Presov (SVK), Cocks (FIN) and Athens (GRE).

13 of the 24 teams of last season's group phase are back: Nexø, GOG, Toulouse, Nimes, Magdeburg, Berlin, Tatabánya, Bitola, Plock, Sporting, Chekhov, Schaffhausen and Presov.

20 of the 24 group phase participants have already been part of the EHF Champions League before.

16 different nations are represented by the 24 teams: Croatia, Denmark, Spain, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, North Macedonia, Poland, Portugal, Russia, Slovenia, Switzerland, Slovakia, and Sweden. Compared to last season's 17 nations, Austria, Romania and Turkey are out, Finland and Greece are in.

18 goals was the biggest winning margin in qualification round 2, when PAUC beat Arendal 67:49 on aggregate.

20 games (or less) are ahead for those four teams, which qualify for the final tournament, depending on which qualification round they have started from.

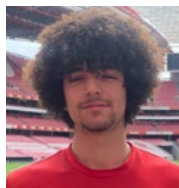
46 matches of two qualification rounds have already been played before the start of the group phase.

148 matches are ahead until the winner of the EHF European League Men is decided, including 28 knock-out matches from the Last 16 to the final.

TEAMS BY AGE AVERAGE		TEAMS BY HEIGHT AVERAGE		TEAMS BY WEIGHT AVERAGE	
Cocks	27.5	BM Logroño La Rioja	192.6	GOG	97.7
HC Eurofarm Pelister	27.2	RK Nexø	192.6	RK Gorenje Velenje	95
Orlen Wisla Plock	26.5	Grundfos Tatabanya KC	192.1	TBV Lemgo Lippe	94.9
Bidasoa Irun	26.2	TBV Lemgo Lippe	192	Kadetten Schaffhausen	94.7
RK Nexø	26.2	GOG	191.8	HC Eurofarm Pelister	93.9
AEK Athens HC	26.1	HBC Nantes	191.6	Sporting CP	93.8
TBV Lemgo Lippe	26	HC Eurofarm Pelister	191.5	BM Logroño La Rioja	93.6
Kadetten Schaffhausen	25.7	Füchse Berlin	191.5	Orlen Wisla Plock	90.7
USAM Nimes Gard	25.6	Orlen Wisla Plock	191.4	Grundfos Tatabanya KC	90.7
Grundfos Tatabanya KC	25.5	PAUC Handball	191.3	HBC Nantes	90.6
Fenix Toulouse Handball	25.5	Kadetten Schaffhausen	191.2	Füchse Berlin	90.6
SC Magdeburg	25.3	Sporting CP	191	SC Magdeburg	90.4
TATRAN Presov	25.2	Chekhovskie medvedi	191	EL average	90.4
HBC Nantes	25.1	IK Sävehof	190.9	RK Nexø	90.2
EL average	25.0	EL average	190.5	SL Benfica	89.7
Chekhovskie medvedi	24.6	SC Magdeburg	190.2	IK Sävehof	89.4
Füchse Berlin	24.5	Cocks	189.7	Cocks	89.2
Pfadi Winterthur	24.4	AEK Athens HC	189.7	Bidasoa Irun	88.6
PAUC Handball	24.4	SL Benfica	189.5	PAUC Handball	88.4
BM Logroño La Rioja	24.2	RK Gorenje Velenje	189.1	AEK Athens HC	88.1
SL Benfica	24.1	Bidasoa Irun	188.8	Chekhovskie medvedi	87.3
RK Gorenje Velenje	23.6	Fenix Toulouse Handball	188.7	Fenix Toulouse Handball	87.2
Sporting CP	23.5	Pfadi Winterthur	188.6	Pfadi Winterthur	86.7
GOG	22.6	TATRAN Presov	188.4	TATRAN Presov	86.6
IK Sävehof	21.8	USAM Nimes Gard	187.4	USAM Nimes Gard	84.6

I FACTS AND FIGURES – MAX AND MIN

YOUNGEST



Gabriel Sequeira	POR	SL Benfica	12/07/2006
Joao Bandeira	POR	SL Benfica	15/06/2006
Guilherme Silva	POR	SL Benfica	27/04/2005
Francisco Mota da Costa	POR	Sporting CP	16/02/2005
Hjalte Lykke	DEN	GOG	05/10/2004
Diogo Campos	POR	SL Benfica	07/07/2004
Stavros Papadopoulos	GRE	AEK Athens HC	28/05/2004
Olivier Kaminski	POL	Orlen Wisla Plock	24/04/2004
Alexandre Santos Boisrame	POR	Sporting CP	22/04/2004
Antonio Machado	POR	Sporting CP	11/03/2004
Arvid Noren	SWE	IK Sävehof	21/02/2004
Alban Simonnet	FRA	HBC Nantes	04/01/2004
Goran Levavasseur	FRA	PAUC Handball	13/12/2003
Tao Gey Empanan	FRA	Bidasoa Irun	25/11/2003
Elmer Tilly	SWE	IK Sävehof	27/10/2003
Miika Kaukoranta	FIN	Cocks	23/10/2003

12/07/2006

Gabriel Sequeira

SL Benfica

SHORTEST



Samuel Queiros	FRA	USAM Nimes Gard	169
Erik Balenciaga	ESP	Fenix Toulouse Handball	169
Goncalo Antunes	POR	SL Benfica	170
Romain Giraudeau	FRA	Fenix Toulouse Handball	170
Christos Kederis	GRE	AEK Athens HC	170
Lou Derisbourg	FRA	USAM Nimes Gard	172
Tim Freihöfer	GER	Füchse Berlin	173
Pierrick Chelle	FRA	Fenix Toulouse Handball	173
Kirill Klimasev	RUS	Chekhovskie medvedi	174
Tao Gey	FRA	Bidasoa Irun	175
Lukas Osterwalder	SUI	Pfadi Winterthur	175
Duarte Pereira	POR	SL Benfica	176
Emil La Cour	DEN	GOG	176
Sebastian Spante	SWE	IK Sävehof	176
Carlos Martins	POR	SL Benfica	176
Hjalte Lykke	DEN	GOG	177

169 cm

Samuel Queiros

USAM Nimes Gard

LIGHTEST



Samuel Queiros	FRA	USAM Nimes Gard	57
Lou Derisbourg	FRA	USAM Nimes Gard	63
Gueric Vincent	FRA	USAM Nimes Gard	63
Tao Gey Empanan	FRA	Bidasoa Irun	64
Romain Giraudeau	FRA	Fenix Toulouse Handball	65
Julius Kempainen	FIN	Cocks	65
Erik Balenciaga	ESP	Fenix Toulouse Handball	68
Hjalte Lykke	DEN	GOG	68
Horace Quintin	FRA	PAUC Handball	69
Goncalo Antunes	POR	SL Benfica	70
Duarte Pereira	POR	SL Benfica	70
Gabriel Sequeira	POR	SL Benfica	70
Evgenij Borovoj	RUS	Chekhovskie medvedi	70
Nuno Santos	POR	TATRAM Presov	70
Matthieu Ong	FRA	PAUC Handball	70
Michal Daszek	POL	Orlen Wisla Plock	70

57 kg

Samuel Queiros

USAM Nimes Gard

OLDEST



05/07/1973

Alexandr Radcenko*TATRAN Presov*

Alexandr Radcenko	CZE	TATRAN Presov	05/07/1973
Dragan Jerkovic	CRO	Kadetten Schaffhausen	08/12/1975
Jose Manuel Sierra	ESP	Bidasoa Irun	21/05/1978
Kiril Lazarov	MKD	HBC Nantes	10/05/1980
Jonas Källman	SWE	SL Benfica	17/07/1981
Hans Lindberg	DEN	Füchse Berlin	01/08/1981
Michaël Guigou	FRA	USAM Nimes Gard	28/01/1982
Matias Schulz	ARG	Pfadi Winterthur	12/02/1982
Saša Barišić Jaman	SLO	RK Nexe	10/11/1982
Julen Aguinagalde	ESP	Bidasoa Irun	08/12/1982
David Miklavcic	SLO	RK Gorenje Velenje	29/01/1983
Mirsad Terzic	BIH	Orlen Wisla Plock	12/07/1983
Bojan Zupanjac	SRB	Cocks	16/10/1983
Viran Morros	ESP	Füchse Berlin	15/12/1983
Gedeon Guardiola	ESP	TBV Lemgo Lippe	01/10/1984
Isaias Guardiola	ESP	TBV Lemgo Lippe	01/10/1984

TALLEST



210 cm

Marko Kopljar*Füchse Berlin*

Marko Kopljar	CRO	Füchse Berlin	210
Marko Racic	CRO	PAUC Handball	209
Borna Manci	CRO	RK Nexe	208
Lukas Radberg	SWE	IK Sävehof	207
Evgenij Dzemini	RUS	Chekhovskie medvedi	207
Mike Jensen	DEN	SC Magdeburg	207
Thibaud Briet	FRA	HBC Nantes	205
Josip Buljubasic	TUR	Cocks	205
Gedeon Guardiola	ESP	TBV Lemgo Lippe	205
Julen Urruzola	ESP	Bidasoa Irun	204
Thore Oetjen	GER	TBV Lemgo Lippe	204
Rogerio Moraes	BRA	SL Benfica	204
Leon Šušnja	CRO	Orlen Wisla Plock	204
Erik Schmidt	GER	Kadetten Schaffhausen	204
Jens Schöngarth	GER	Sporting CP	204
Oliver Rabek	SVK	TATRAN Presov	204

HEAVIEST

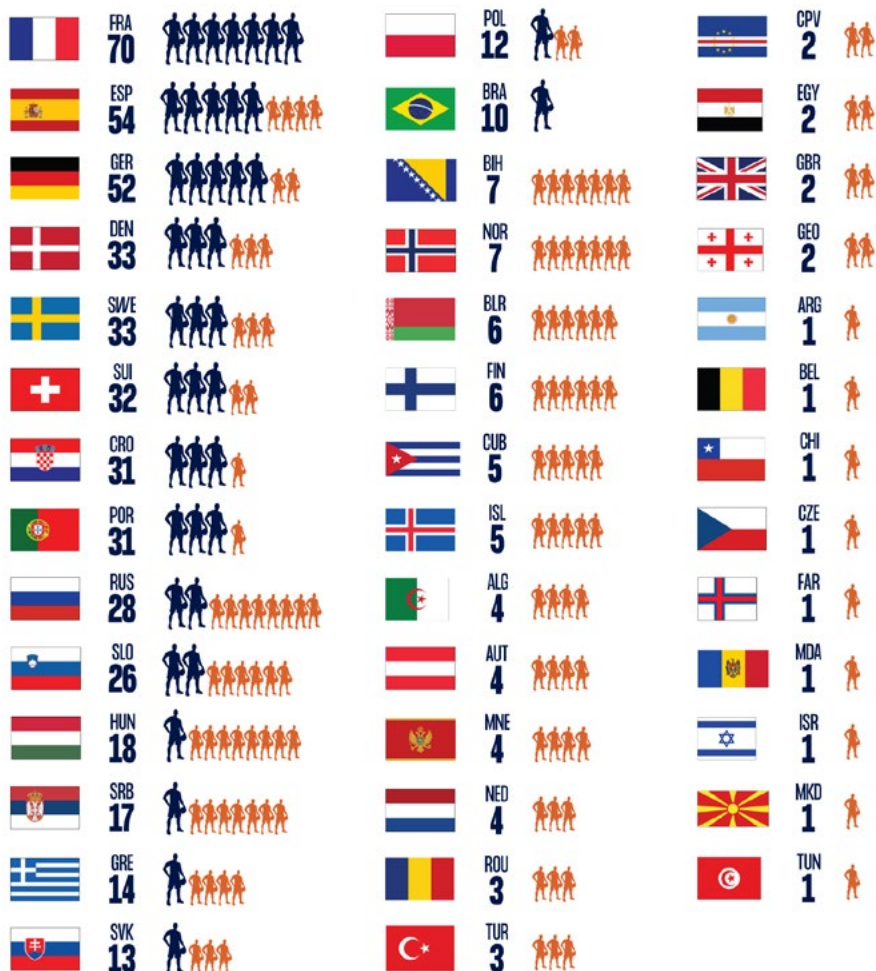


135 kg

Dejan Milosavljev*Füchse Berlin*

Dejan Milosavljev	SRB	Füchse Berlin	135
Tobias Wagner	AUT	Fenix Toulouse Handball	125
Marko Racic	CRO	PAUC Handball	123
Rogerio Moraes	BRA	SL Benfica	122
Emil Nielsen	DEN	HBC Nantes	120
Gregor Rilak	SUI	Kadetten Schaffhausen	120
Atal Lakanval	DEN	GOG	119
Tomas Moreira	ESP	BM Logroño La Rioja	118
Nikola Markoski	MKD	HC Eurofarm Pelister	118
Moritz Preuß	GER	SC Magdeburg	117
Alexis Borges	POR	SL Benfica	116
Lukas Lindhard	DEN	GOG	115
Abel Serdio Guntin	ESP	Orlen Wisla Plock	115
Sofiane Bendjilali	ALG	AEK Athens HC	115
Fredric Pettersson	SWE	Fenix Toulouse Handball	115
Viktor Hallgrímsson	ISL	GOG	115

I PLAYERS LIST BY COUNTRIES





CLUBS



GROUP A PREVIEW

BIG NAMES GUARANTEE TOP-CLASS HANDBALL

Two participants of the inaugural EHF Finals last season, a former EHF Champions League and a former EHF Cup winner, two domestic champions, and a team from the country of the Olympic champions: Group A is full of top-class handball, making for an exciting race for the top four spots.

Füchse Berlin, who won the EHF Cup in 2015 and 2018, and IHF Super Globe in 2015 and 2016, have been regulars at the season-ending tournaments of Europe's second-tier competition. Last season, they made it to the final of the first EHF Finals, where they lost to SC Magdeburg. Signing Spanish veteran and three-time Champions League winner Viran Morros as new defence boss, replacing Jakov Gojun, underlines the ambitions of Füchse, who made it to the group phase by beating Polish side KS Azoty-Pulawy.

Another Polish side, Orlen Wisla Plock, were the only non-German team at the EHF Finals, where they finished fourth. Experienced Spanish coach Javier Sabate steers an international team with three Spaniards, four Croats and an interesting new arrival from Russia: Sergey Kosorotov, the second-best scorer of Chekhovskie medvedi in EHF European League last season.

Fenix Toulouse are probably the dark horse in this group. Last season, they were beaten twice by Plock in the group phase before surprisingly going out against Fivers from Vienna in the Last 16. And at the Austrian champions they discovered their new line player: Tobias Wagner, a raging bull in attack. With Swedish defence specialist Fredric Petterson and Serbian wing Nemanja Ilic, who scored 28 goals in Toulouse's four qualification matches, the French side have some big names in the squad. They will try to improve as a team this season.

Bidasoa Irun, the second EHF Champions League winners in 1994/95, had a setback in the previous season when they lost in the first qualification round against RK Nexø. This season, they skipped the qualification, being seeded for the group phase right away as runners-up of the Spanish domestic league.

The two remaining teams are the champions of Switzerland – Pfadi Winterthur, with their new Serbian-born coach Goran Cvetkovic – and Slovakia – Tatraň Presov, with their Croatian-born coach Slavko Goluz. Presov also played against Füchse last season, while Pfadi previously had failed three straight times in the final qualification round of Europe's second-tier club competition against Danish sides: Aalborg and Bjerringbro in the EHF Cup 2018/19 and 2019/20, and GOG in the European League 2020/21.

I GROUP A HEAD-TO-HEADS

HISTORIC ENCOUNTERS OF THE GROUP A OPPONENTS IN THE EUROPEAN CLUB COMPETITIONS

Bidasoa Irun vs Pfadi Winterthur

No previous encounters in European competitions

Bidasoa Irun vs TATRAN Presov 1-1-0 52:50) 3:1

14.09.2019	TATRAN Presov vs Bidasoa Irun, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group C	23:25 (13:13)
09.11.2019	Bidasoa Irun vs TATRAN Presov, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group C	27:27 (12:15)

Bidasoa Irun vs Füchse Berlin

No previous encounters in European competitions

Bidasoa Irun vs Orlen Wisla Plock 2-1-1 (93:86) 5:3

08.02.1997	Petrochemia Plock vs Elgorriaga Bidasoa, Cup Winners' Cup – Quarter-final	21:21 (9:10)
16.02.1997	Elgorriaga Bidasoa vs Petrochemia Plock, Cup Winners' Cup – Quarter-final	23:14 (11:7)
2.02.2020	Orlen Wisla Plock vs Bidasoa Irun, VELUX EHF Champions League – Elimination Round C+D	32:25 (17:11)
29.02.2020	Bidasoa Irun vs Orlen Wisla Plock, VELUX EHF Champions League – Elimination Round C+D	24:19 (10:12)

Bidasoa Irun vs Fenix Toulouse Handball

No previous encounters in European competitions

Pfadi Winterthur vs TATRAN Presov

No previous encounters in European competitions

Pfadi Winterthur vs Füchse Berlin

No previous encounters in European competitions

Pfadi Winterthur vs Orlen Wisla Plock

No previous encounters in European competitions

Pfadi Winterthur vs Fenix Toulouse Handball

No previous encounters in European competitions

TATRAN Presov vs Fuchse Berlin 0-0-1 (27:35) 0:2

24.11.2020 Fuchse Berlin vs TATRAN Presov, EHF European League – Group B

35:27 (18:13)

TATRAN Presov vs Orlen Wisla Plock

No previous encounters in European competitions

TATRAN Presov vs Fenix Toulouse Handball

No previous encounters in European competitions

Fuchse Berlin vs Orlen Wisla Plock

No previous encounters in European competitions

Fuchse Berlin vs Fenix Toulouse Handball

No previous encounters in European competitions

Orlen Wisla Plock vs Fenix Toulouse Handball 2-0-0 (53:50) 4:0

01.12.2020 Fenix Toulouse Handball vs Orlen Wisla Plock, EHF European League – Group A

25:26 (12:14)

08.12.2020 Orlen Wisla Plock vs Fenix Toulouse Handball, EHF European League – Group A

27:25 (12:9)

GROUP A



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 [cdbidasoirun](https://www.instagram.com/cdbidasoirun)

Kit colours

Light

Player shirt: yellow
Player short: blue
Goalkeeper shirt: green/
purple

Dark

Player shirt: blue
Player short: blue
Goalkeeper shirt: green/
purple



Playing hall

Polideportivo Municipal
"Artaleku", Irun
C/Artaleku s/n
20304 Irun
Spain
Capacity: 2,800

BIDASOA IRUN



The EHF Champions League winners in 1995, CD Bidasoa Irun have gone through ups and downs in more recent years. However, now they are one of the top Spanish teams again and are ready to start their third consecutive season in the European club competitions.

After enjoying some success in the group stage of the 2019/20 EHF Champions League, they were less fortunate in the 2020/21 EHF European League, but now hope to do a good job in the second-tier European club competition.

- **Spanish runners-up play their third consecutive season in European club competitions**
- **in the past, they won the EHF Champions League in 1995 and the Cup Winners' Cup in 1997**
- **coach Jacobo Cuetara starts his sixth season after taking over in June 2016**
- **four players joined Bidasoa in summer, and six players left the club**
- **veteran line player Julen Aguinagalde won bronze with Spain at 2020 Olympics**

In the 1990s, the team from Irun were a powerhouse not only in Spain, but also in Europe, winning a number of domestic titles and two continental club competitions. Those days are long gone, but now Bidasoa look like a competitive side yet again.

In the 2019/20 EHF Champions League, the team coached by Jacobo Cuetara finished first in group C before narrowly losing to Orlen Wisla Plock in the playoffs. However, the following season became a disappointment, as the Spanish side were eliminated by RK Nexse Nasice in qualification round 2 of the European League.

Now Bidasoa are set to play in the group stage of the same competition, and although they are not among the favourites, the Spanish team hope to go far. With a number of renowned players like Julen Aguinagalde, team captain Jon AzKue, Chilean international Rodrigo Salinas, as well as some Spanish talents, Irun's squad is a good mix of youth and experience, which allows them to hope for a good performance in Europe.

PAST ACHIEVEMENTS

EHF Champions League

Winners (1): 1994/95
Runners-up (1): 1995/96
Playoffs (1): 2019/20

Cup Winners' Cup

Winners (1): 1996/97;
Last 16 (1): 1997/98

EHF Cup

Semi-final (1): 2000/01;
Quarter-final (2): 2005/06, 2006/07

EHF European League Men

Qualification (1): 2020/21

Spanish league

2 titles (1987, 1994)

Spanish cup

2 titles (1991, 1996)





JACOBO CUÉTARA

Coach

- Bidasoa's coach since 2015/16, tied longest winning streak in club's history in domestic league last season: eight matches in a row
- also a prolific (beach) volleyball player, but has always been in love with handball
- has license to coach handball and volleyball, is also a physical trainer, in which role he worked at Ademar Leon early in his career
- calls basketball player Earvin 'Magic' Johnson and handball player Andrei Tiumentsev his role models

NEWCOMERS

Ander Ugarte
(Club Balonmano Atlético Valladolid),
Adrian Fernandez
(Club Balonmano Atlético Valladolid),
Victor Rodriguez
(Club Balonmano Atlético Valladolid),
Dariel Garcia (Balonmano Guadalajara)

LEFT THE CLUB

Adrian Crowley (retired),
Nicolas Bonanno (SCDR Anaitasuna),
Dan Emil Racotea (CS Dinamo Bucuresti),
Iker Serrano (Club Balonmano Benidorm),
Sergio de la Salud (Billère Handball),
Donat Bartok (Kadetten Schaffhausen)

TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height	Weight
90	Adrián	Fernández	ESP	Centre Back	15/06/1994	Avilés, ESP	188	84
24	Ander	Ugarte	ESP	Back	06/02/1990	Irun, ESP	192	105
32	Dariel	García	CUB	Left Wing	31/12/1996	Havana, CUB	199	100
10	Eneko	Furundarena	ESP	Left Back	30/04/2003	Usurbil, ESP	194	84
31	Gorka	Nieto	ESP	Centre Back	31/01/2002	Etxebarri, ESP	185	80
2	Iñaki	Cavero	ESP	Right Wing	27/04/1996	Irun, ESP	183	80
C 25	Jon	Azkue	ESP	Centre Back	03/07/1994	Orio, ESP	184	87
12	Jon Ander	Larrarte	ESP	Goalkeeper	31/07/2003	Irun, ESP	182	80
1	Jose Manuel	Sierra	ESP	Goalkeeper	21/05/1978	Moguer, ESP	194	87
13	Julen	Aguinagalde	ESP	Line Player	08/12/1982	Irun, ESP	195	113
19	Julen	Mugica	ESP	Right Back	03/09/2003	Renteria, ESP	190	87
20	Julen	Urruzola	ESP	Left Back	05/03/2002	Elgoibar, ESP	204	92
11	Kauldi	Odriozola	ESP	Right Wing	07/01/1997	Zumaia, ESP	183	80
22	Leo	Renaud-David	FRA	Left Back	11/06/1987	Amiens, FRA	183	93
4	Martin	Santano	ESP	Left Wing	04/03/2002	Vitoria-Gasteiz, ESP	178	72
28	MatheusFrancisco	Da Silva	BRA	Line Player	07/02/1998	Nova Iguacu, BRA	199	105
8	Mikel	Zabala	ESP	Left Wing	23/04/1998	Eibar, ESP	180	80
17	Rodrigo Alonso	Salinas	CHI	Left Back	25/02/1989	Vina del Mar, CHI	185	95
9	Tao	Gey	FRA	Right Wing	25/11/2003	Urrugne, FRA	175	64
27	Thomas	Tesoriere	FRA	Back	21/01/1989	Marseille, FRA	199	100
88	Víctor	Rodríguez	ESP	Left Back	15/03/1993	Vigo, ESP	193	98
16	Xoan Manuel	Ledo	ESP	Goalkeeper	06/07/1996	Lalin, ESP	188	82

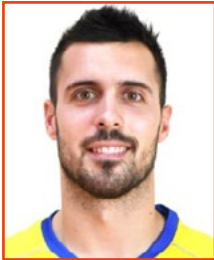


JOSE MANUEL SIERRA

Goalkeeper

- legendary goalkeeper, who was already 42 when he joined Bidasoa Irun in 2020
- was part of the illustrious Barça team, that won the CL four times in a row
- also played for a string of other top clubs in Europe, including Ciudad Real, PSG and Pick Szeged
- best goalkeeper of WCh 2013 with 39.3% safe rate

EC trophies: CL 1997-2000; Champions Trophy 1997-99; CWC 2009
WCh: G 2013; EURO: B 2014: 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000



JON AZKUE

 @jonazkue25

Centre back

- team captain and one of the most experienced players in the squad
- joined Bidasoa Irun in 2011/12, played 146 games and scored 526 goals in domestic league before start of 2021/22 season
- missed last two months of 2018/19 season following shoulder surgery; also suffered an injury in build-up to 2021/22 season



RODRIGO SALINAS

 @r.salinas17

Right back

- Chilean national team player who arrived in Spain in 2010, and at Bidasoa Irun in 2017
- previously played for a wide range of clubs, including Badajoz, Huesca, Torrevieja and Granollers in Spain, CSM Bucuresti in Romania, and HBC Nantes and Chartres in France
- was Granollers' best scorer with 128 goals when the club finished third in the ASOBAL league in 2013/14



KAULDI ODRIOZOLA YEREGUI

 @kauldi4

Right wing

- started playing handball at his local club in Zumaya, Pulpo KE
- signed for Bidasoa Irun in 2016, when the club was promoted to the ASOBAL League
- won gold with Spain M17 EHF Championship 2016 Junior WCh 2017
- made national team debut for Spain in an EHF EURO 2018 qualifier in 2017
- awarded best right wing in the Asobal 2017/18 and 2018/19 and the best rookie of the Spanish league in 2017

GROUP A




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 pfadi-winterthur.ch

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

 [pfadiwinterthur](https://www.instagram.com/pfadiwinterthur)

Kit colours

Light

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

Dark

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



Playing hall

Axa Arena
Grüzefeldstrasse 32
8400 Winterthur
Switzerland
Capacity: 1,920

PFADI WINTERTHUR



Pfadi Winterthur ended their 17-year-long drought last season, finally winning the Swiss league again for the first time since 2004 and the 10th time in total. The triumph ended the streak of domestic rivals Kadetten Schaffhausen.

With a new coach on the bench, Pfadi now hope to spring a few surprises in the EHF European League Men 2021/22 group phase.

- **Pfadi were the leading club in Switzerland in the 1990s and beginning of the 2000s, winning the league nine times between 1992 and 2004**
- **in Europe, they reached the quarter-finals of the EHF Champions League twice (in 1997 and 1998) and played the Challenge Cup final in 2011**
- **Pfadi had their European campaign ended by Danish opponents in each of the past three seasons: by Aalborg (2018), Bjerringbro (2019) and GOG (2020), respectively**
- **Having led Pfadi for 14 seasons, coach Adrian Brügger stepped down after last season; he has been replaced by his assistant, Goran Cvetkovic**

Signing two Swedish line players – Markus Sjöbrink from Lugli HF and Otto Lagerquist from Malmö – and Georgian talent Giorgi Tskhovrebadze from Montpellier increases the variety in the squad, but losing the experienced Marvin Lier (to Kadetten) and Michal Svajlen (now assistant coach) might have weakened Pfadi. Other clubs have bigger names in their squads, but Winterthur rely on a tremendous team spirit.

The new coaching duo has to fill the shoes of Adrian Brügger, who had been in charge of the team for 14 years. But Goran Cvetkovic and Michal Svajlen have a huge advantage as they know Pfadi inside out. Cvetkovic was player at Winterthur for almost 10 years and had coached the youth team since 2015 when the Serb became assistant of Brügger for the successful 2020/21 season. Svajlen is a former Swiss international, who has played for Pfadi for 10 years and joins Cvetkovic on the bench as his assistant.

Pfadi manager Markus Jud and team captain Kevin Jud – father and son – remain humble when talking about the goals for the club's first European League season. "It is our goal to win as many points as possible and to represent Swiss handball. Playing the group phase of the European League is a great opportunity," they agree.

PAST ACHIEVEMENTS

EHF Champions League

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

EHF Cup

Quarter-final: 2002/03; Group Phase 2014/15, 2015/16

Challenge Cup

Final (1): 2000/01; Semi-finals 2007/08

City Cup: Semi-final (1)

1999/2000

Cup Winners' Cup

Quarter-finals (1): 1993/94

Swiss league

10 titles (1992, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2021)

Swiss cup

5 (1998, 2003, 2010, 2015, 2018)





GORAN CVETKOVIC

Coach

- former Serbian international, who took over as head coach from Adrian Brüngger in summer of 2021
- previously worked as assistant-coach under Brüngger and was sports director at Pfadi
- had two stints at Pfadi as a player since arriving in Switzerland in 2005; ended playing career in 2015
- in his native Serbia he played for Red Star Belgrade

NEW/COMERS

Markus Sjöbrink (Lugi HF/SWE),
Otto Lagerquist (HK Malmö/SWE),
Giorgi Tskhovrebadze (Montpellier HB/FRA),
Moustafa Hadj Sadok (Qatar Al-Wakrah SC/QAT),
Lukas Osterwalder (TSV Fortitudo Gossau/SUI),
Noam Leopold (Handball Stäfa/SUI)

LEFT THE CLUB

Michal Svajlen (retired, now assistant coach),
Rastko Stojkovic (retired),
Marvin Lier (Kadetten Schaffhausen/SUI),
Patrice Bühler (Kadetten Schaffhausen/SUI),
Adir Cohen (Tremblay Handball/FRA)

TEAM ROSTER

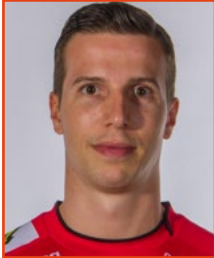
No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height	Weight
19	Aleksandar	Radovanovic	SRB	Right Back	23/11/1994	Cacak, SRB	191	90
41	Alessio	Lioi	SUI	Centre Back	20/10/2003	Ermatingen, SUI	179	75
8	Benedikt	Dechow	GER	Right Wing	30/12/2001	Münster, GER	180	80
6	Cédrie	Tynowski	SUI	Right Wing	21/09/1996	Genève, SUI	185	85
12	Dennis	Wipf	SUI	Goalkeeper	12/01/1999	Zürich, SUI	193	89
34	Dominik	Ruh	SUI	Right Back	05/05/2003	Ramsen, SUI	192	80
8	Fabrizio	Pecoraro	SUI	Left Wing	25/03/1996	Hitzkirch LU, SUI	177	77
9	Flurin	Pfister	SUI	Line Player	13/03/2001	Winterthur, SUI	192	90
23	Giorgi	Tskhovrebadze	GEO	Right Back	19/02/2001	Tbilissi, GEO	194	85
5	Henrik Rein	Schönfeldt	NOR	Left Back	08/10/1997	Winterthur, SUI	196	81
15	Jannic	Störchli	SUI	Line Player	19/07/1998	Münchwilen/TG, SUI	190	103
28	Joël	Bräm	SUI	Left Wing	18/10/1996	Schneisingen AG, SUI	186	88
C 20	Kevin	Jud	SUI	Centre Back	04/12/1992	Benken SG, SUI	183	75
17	Lukas	Heer	SUI	Left Back	26/06/1998	Malters LU, SUI	200	90
4	Lukas	Osterwalder	SUI	Right Wing	02/05/2002	Gaiserwald SG, SUI	175	75
7	Markus Sigfrid	Sjöbrink	SWE	Line Player	12/04/1996	Växjö, SWE	196	100
1	Matias	Schulz	ARG	Goalkeeper	12/02/1982	Buenos Aires, ARG	190	88
23	Moustafa	Hadj Sadok	ALG	Left Back	17/08/1997	Ain-Defla, ALG	192	90
35	Noam	Leopold	SUI	Left Wing	17/07/2002	Thun, SUI	185	80
19	Otto	Lagerquist	SWE	Line Player	28/09/1995	Lund, SWE	202	104
13	Pascal	Vernier	SUI	Right Back	11/12/1995	Stäfa, SUI	193	89
11	Roman	Sidorowicz	SUI	Left Back	08/08/1991	Horgen, SUI	187	80
22	Stefan	Freivogel	SUI	Right Back	06/02/1990	Schwammendingen, SUI	187	92
55	Yahav	Shamir	ISR	Goalkeeper	06/06/1999	Tel Aviv, ISR	185	95
3	Yannick	Ott	SUI	Centre Back	04/04/1996	Wila, SUI	185	85



ROMAN SIDOROWICZ

Left back

- started professional career at Amicitia and GC Zürich, before joining Pfadi in 2014
- joined Bundesliga side MT Melsungen at age 27, stayed until end of 2019/20 season
- in his first season since his return, he helped Pfadi win the Swiss championship in 2020/21
- played youth matches for Poland but has been part of Swiss national team since 2014



KEVIN JUD

Centre back

- team captain, who arrived at Pfadi in 2013
- was part of all Swiss youth and junior national teams, and was top scorer of M18 EHF EURO 2010 with 65 goals
- had debut in Swiss senior national team in 2013
- son of Marcus Jud, club director at Pfadi



MARKUS SJÖBRINK

 @markussjobrink

Line player

- Swedish line player who arrived at Pfadi in summer of 2021 from HK Lugli, where he was the team captain
- replacing Michal Svajlen, who turned from line player to assistant coach at Pfadi
- started career at Eksjö BK before turning pro at HK Drott Halmstad; later joined Eskilstuna Guif and Lund
- known for his fighting spirit, both in attack and defence



GIORGI TSKHOVREBADZE

 @giorgi.tskhovrebadze

Right back

- first Georgian international at a Swiss handball club, since joining Pfadi in summer of 2021 on loan from Montpellier
- arrived in Montpellier at age 16 from his home town Tbilisi
- played three seasons in total in Champions League and European League with Montpellier
- Georgian international since the age of 18, known for his jumping abilities

GROUP A



Club contact

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Slovakia

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 [_tatranpresov_](https://www.instagram.com/_tatranpresov_)

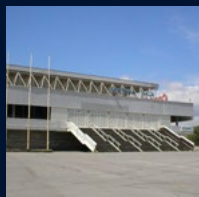
Kit colours

Light

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

Dark

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



Playing hall

Tatran Handball Arena
Jana Pavla II 2
08001 Presov
Slovakia
Capacity: 4,056

TATRAN PRESOV



TATRAN Presov have been the top club in Slovakia for many years, but in the last couple of years they have struggled in European competitions.

After undergoing some significant squad changes and adding a few well-known faces, the former EHF Champions League participants will try to go further in the EHF European League Men 2021/22 than last season's group phase exit.

- **Croatian head coach Slavko Goluz**a has been at the club since 2017
- **four players left the club and Presov reinforced the squad with the same number**
- **nine different nationalities are represented in the squad**
- **Presov want to step up a level in this season's competition**
- **Most important question: Do Pfdi have enough international experience to stand the heat?**

TATRAN Presov's significant changes to the squad in the last two seasons have been reflected in their results. Nevertheless, the Slovakian champions can be a hard nut to crack when they play at home. In their second consecutive season in Europe's second tier, Presov will do their best to advance from the group phase after finishing sixth in group B in 2020/21.

"We look forward to bringing European handball back to our fans — that's our biggest wish this season. On the objective, we want to win more points than we did last season and we want to fight for the knockout position," said team manager Miroslav Benicky.

Presov did some serious scouting and made a few surprising signings. The line will be reinforced by Viacheslav Kasatkin, Slovenian goalkeeper Tilen Leban will aim to make many saves, left wing Sergio Lopez joined from Cuenca and Valentin Kuran is the new centre back. The club has full faith in their interesting mix of players. The Slovakian side made an early start to preparations for the new season but had to face injuries to important players like Oliver Rabek, Pedro Pacheco, Dominik Krok and Roman Tsarapkin. With four new names in the squad and missing some of their important players, coach Goluz a may not have had enough time for the perfect tune-up.

PAST ACHIEVEMENTS

EHF Champions League

Last 16 (1): 2004/05

Last 32 (1): 1993/94

Group phase (7): 2005/06, 2007/08, 2008/09, 2010/11, 2015/16, 2016/17, 2018/19, 2019/20

Qualification (6): 2009/10, 2011/12, 2012/13, 2013/14, 2014/15, 2017/18

EHF European League

Group phase (1): 2020/21

EHF Cup

Quarter-final (1): 2011/12

Cup Winners' Cup

Quarter-final (1): 2005/06

Slovakian league

16 titles (2004, 2005, 2007-2019, 2021)

Slovakian cup


16 titles





SLAVKO GOLUŽA

Coach

 @slavko.goluza_5

- former Croatian international, who joined Presov as coach in 2017 after working at Zagreb and Sisak in his native Croatia
- won Olympic gold with Croatia as a player in Atlanta (1996) and Athens (2004), and bronze as a coach in London (2012)
- won two CL titles (1992 and 1993) with Zagreb as a player
- named best coach in Croatia in 2012, 2013 and 2014

CL 1992, 1993 (as player)

OG: G 1996, 2004 (player), B 2012 (coach); WCh: G 2003, S 2005 (player),

B 2013 (coach); EURO: S 1994 (player), B 2012 (coach)

NEW/COMERS

Tilen Leben (MRD Dobova),
Sergio Lopez (Liberbank Cuenca),
Viacheslav Kasatkin (Vaslui),
Valentin Kuran (Taganrog)

LEFT THE CLUB

Lucijan Fizuleto (Linz),
Nino Grzentic (Endingen),
Jihed Jaballah (without a club),
Josef Hozman (Považská Bystrica)

TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height	Weight
15	Alexandr	Radcenko	CZE	Centre Back	05/07/1973	Krasnodar, UKR	187	90
1	Daniel	Ondrejčák	SVK	Goalkeeper	13/02/2003	Prešov, SVK	185	87
33	Dávid	Michalka	SVK	Left Wing	28/11/1996	Topolčany, SVK	186	75
9	Dominik	Krok	SVK	Left Back	22/01/1991	Bardejov, SVK	189	79
7	Guilherme	Linhares de Souza	BRA	Right Back	17/12/1998	Niteroi, BRA	190	86
27	Jakub	Kravčák	SVK	Left Back	09/12/2002	Prešov, SVK	195	90
13	Kirill	Radcenko	SVK	Left Back	12/08/1999	Krasnodar, RUS	189	98
18	Marco	Antl	SVK	Left Wing	03/06/2003	Prešov, SVK	181	72
86	Marcos Vinicios	Colodeti	BRA	Goalkeeper	09/01/1996	Venda Nova do Imigran, BRA	193	87
3	Nuno	Santos	POR	Right Wing	26/11/1992	Lisboa, POR	180	70
C 2	Oliver	Rabek	SVK	Left Back	30/09/1987	Nove Zamky, SVK	204	102
66	Pavel	Caballero	CUB	Left Back	20/09/1991	Matanzas, CUB	188	93
4	Pedro	Souza	BRA	Centre Back	04/04/1998	Sao Paulo, BRA	188	86
55	Peter	Kimak-Fejko	SVK	Line Player	23/07/2002	Prešov, SVK	185	87
77	Roman	Tsarapkin	RUS	Field Player	09/05/1995	Moscow, RUS	200	98
28	Sergio	Lopez	ESP	Left Wing	30/09/1997	ESP	181	77
12	Tilen	Leben	SLO	Goalkeeper	07/01/1997	Celje, SLO	187	88
5	Tomas	Fech	SVK	Right Wing	08/10/2001	Prešov, SVK	192	85
10	Tomas	Recicar	SVK	Left Back	30/11/1998	Prešov, SVK	189	94
77	Valiantsin	Kuran	BLR	Centre Back	12/02/1998	Brest, BLR	181	80
22	Viacheslav	Kasatkin	RUS	Line Player	02/09/1996	Krasnodar, RUS	186	93

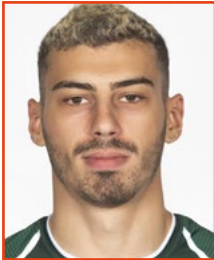


OLIVER RABEK

 @oliverrabek

Left back

- Slovakian international, who made his European debut for Presov in a CL qualification tournament in 2012/13
- known for his strong physics, also an excellent shooter
- previously played for HC Start in his place of birth, Nove Zamky
- calls Mikkel Hansen his sports role model



PEDRO PACHECO

 @_pepacheco

Centre back

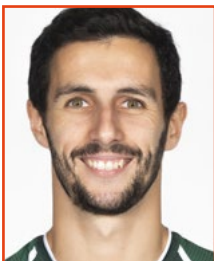
- Brazilian international, who arrived at Presov in 2020
- previously played for 10 years at HC Pinheiros in his native Brazil
- started playing handball at age nine, calls Brazilian former football international Rogerio Ceni - a long-term goalkeeper at Sao Paulo - his sports idol




GUILHERME LINHARES DE SOUZA

Right back

- former youth international from Brazil, who arrived at Presov in summer of 2020
- came over from Borac Banja Luka, where he spent one season
- previously played for Club Cisne, Taubate and SG Handebol
- nicknamed Gile, his sports role model is Ronaldinho



NUNO SANTOS

 @nunosantos3

Right wing

- Portuguese right wing, who joined Presov from SC Horta in 2020
- netted 26 times for Presov in the EL 2020/21, his first European club season
- also a prolific beach handball player

GROUP A



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

Kit colours

Light

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

Dark

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



Playing hall

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

FÜCHSE BERLIN



Füchse Berlin have the goal of making it to the EHF Finals Men 2022, but their ultimate dream is to lift the EHF European League Men trophy. With the signing of defence specialist Viran Morros increasing hopes of a bright future for Berlin, they are expected to be major contenders for a spot in the final tournament.

- cruised past Polish side KS Azoty-Pulawy SA 65:53 on aggregate in qualification round 2
- finished fourth in the German Bundesliga last season
- lost the all-German final of the EHF European League 2020/21 against SC Magdeburg in Mannheim
- count on two Danish world champions and Olympic silver medallists: Jakob Holm and Lasse Andersson
- defence giant Viran Morros arrived from Paris Saint-Germain, but fellow defence specialist Jakov Gojun departed for Zagreb

No other team has participated in more final tournaments in Europe's second-tier club competition in recent years than Füchse Berlin. In 2014 and 2015, Berlin hosted the EHF Cup Finals. After winning the title against HSV Hamburg in 2015, Füchse qualified for the 2017 edition but lost in the final against hosts Frisch Auf Göppingen.

In 2018, they won the final against Saint-Raphael Var Handball in Magdeburg. But in 2019 they lost the final against hosts THW Kiel, and in 2021 they lost the final against SC Magdeburg in Mannheim.

Obviously, the goal is for Füchse Berlin to go all the way again. Füchse belong among the favourites, and their strong current form is underlined by their undefeated record after five games in the Bundesliga. But other contenders – like SC Magdeburg, SL Benfica, HBC Nantes and Orlen Wisla Plock – look strong too.

The easiest way for Berlin to make it to the EHF Finals is to finish first in their group. In group A, first place will probably be decided between Berlin, who are favourites, Plock and Toulouse. In terms of the squad, the long post-Olympic Bundesliga season might be a burden for some players.

PAST ACHIEVEMENTS

EHF Champions League

Fourth place (1): 2011/12

EHF European League

Runners-up (1): 2020/21

EHF Cup

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

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

IHF Super Globe

Winners (2): 2015, 2016

German cup

1 title (2013/14)





JARON SIEWERT

Coach

- has extended his contract as Füchse Berlin head coach until 2023
- played for Füchse since he was a kid, but ended his playing career at 21 to become a coach
- started coaching career as youth coach at Füchse and assistant coach of Germany's national U18 team
- joined Essen in 2017 and led them to the Bundesliga in 2020
- took over at Füchse from Michael Roth, who had stepped in after the departure of Velimir Petkovic in February 2020

NEW/COMERS

Viran Morros (Paris Saint-Germain Handball),
Nils Lichtlein (Füchse U19),
Matthes Langhoff (Füchse U19),
Marc Walter (Füchse U19)

LEFT THE CLUB

Simon Ernst (SC DHfK Leipzig),
Jakov Gojun (HC PPD Zagreb)

TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height	Weight
96	Dejan	Milosavljev	SRB	Goalkeeper	16/03/1996	Panchevo, SRB	196	135
47	Dustin	Kraus	GER	Left Back	26/03/2001	Moers, GER	196	95
3	Fabian	Wiede	GER	Right Back	08/02/1994	Belzig, GER	192	89
36	Francisco	Pereira	GBR	Right Wing	02/12/1999	Lisbon, POR	191	85
1	Fredrik	Genz	GER	Goalkeeper	08/03/1997	Waldbröl, GER	194	93
12	Gustav	König	GER	Goalkeeper	18/03/2001	Frankfurt, GER	192	80
18	Hans	Lindberg	DEN	Right Wing	01/08/1981	Höje Taastrup, DEN	188	88
6	Jacob Tandrup	Holm	DEN	Centre Back	05/09/1995	Esbjerg, DEN	194	94
77	Johan	Koch	DEN	Line Player	29/11/1990	Svendborg, DEN	185	91
1	Lasse	Ludwig	GER	Goalkeeper	29/09/2002	Achern, GER	194	90
11	Lasse Bredekjaer	Andersson	DEN	Left Back	11/03/1994	København, DEN	195	96
30	Marc	Walter	GER	Line Player	05/01/2002	Potsdam, GER	203	112
97	Marian	Hajko	SVK	Centre Back	29/09/1997	Trnava, SVK	185	75
22	Marian	Michalczik	GER	Centre Back	01/02/1997	Beckum, GER	199	99
35	Marko	Kopljar	CRO	Right Back	12/02/1986	Pozega, CRO	210	108
25	Matthes	Langhoff	GER	Left Back	30/03/2002	Neubrandenburg, GER	192	90
27	Max	Beneke	GER	Right Back	27/05/2003	Greifswald, GER	195	90
93	Mijajlo	Marsenic	SRB	Line Player	09/03/1993	Berane, SRB	202	107
66	Milos	Vujovic	MNE	Left Wing	05/09/1993	Cetinje, MNE	181	72
33	Moritz	Sauter	GER	Centre Back	03/01/2003	Augsburg, GER	183	78
17	Nils	Lichtlein	GER	Centre Back	31/07/2002	Regensburg, GER	183	76
C 95	Paul	Drux	GER	Left Back	07/02/1995	Gummersbach, GER	192	92
37	Robin	Heinis	SUI	Right Back	28/04/2002	Therwil Basel, SUI	196	95
20	Tim	Freihöfer	GER	Left Wing	21/08/2002	Reutlingen, GER	173	72
28	Tim	Grüner	GER	Left Wing	26/02/2003	Berlin, GER	185	78
31	Tim	Matthes	GER	Left Wing	05/05/1999	Berlin, GER	181	82
26	Valter	Chrintz	SWE	Right Wing	26/04/2000	Kristianstad, SWE	185	76
23	Viran	Morros	ESP	Left Back	15/12/1983	Barcelona, ESP	199	99



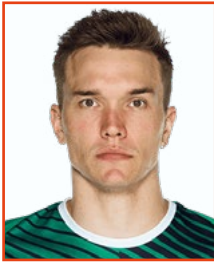
DEJAN MILOSAVLJEVIC

 @dejanmilosavljev

Goalkeeper

- Serbian international who arrived at Füchse in the summer of 2019 from Vardar, shortly after winning CL with the Macedonian side
- was CL All-star Team goalkeeper in 2018/19
- shared position with Silvio Heinevetter in his first season at the club, but has become the No.1 goalkeeper since Heinevetter's move to MT Melsungen

EC trophies: CL 2019



LASSE ANDERSSON

 @lasseandersson94

Left back

- is a classic back court shooter and one of four Danish players in the Füchse squad
- joined Füchse from Barça, where he spent four years, and previously played for KIF Kolding Kobenhavn in Denmark
- is back on track after suffering some severe injuries during his time at Barça
- had signed a three-year contract at Berlin in the summer of 2020

WCh: G 2021; OG: S 2020



FABIAN WIEDE

 @fabian_w3

Right back

- has won numerous junior and senior titles with Berlin since joining their youth team from Potsdam, aged 15
- made national team debut at 19; missed EHF EURO 2020 with shoulder injury
- started apprenticeship at a bank in Berlin only two days after winning EHF EURO 2016

EC trophies: EHF Cup 2015, 2018



HANS LINDBERG

 @hanslinberg18

Right wing

- joined Füchse in 2016 after nine seasons at HSV
- top scorer of the CL in 2012/13 with HSV and the EHF Cup in 2016/17 and 2017/18 with Füchse
- started career in Viborg in his native Denmark; his nickname in those days was 'Majestæt'
- played more than 240 games for Danish national team, won WCh in 2019 and was part of WCh 2013 All-star Team

EC trophies: CL 2013; EHF Cup 2018
EURO: G 2008, G 2012, S 2014; WCh: G 2019, S 2011, S 2013, B 2007

GROUP A



Club contact

Club Address

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Poland

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 [SPRWisla](https://twitter.com/SPRWisla)

 [sprwisla](https://www.instagram.com/sprwisla)

Kit colours

Light

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

Dark

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



Playing hall

ORLEN Arena
Pl. Celebry Papieskiej 1
09-400 Płock
Poland
Capacity: 5,467

ORLEN WISLA PŁOCK



After many years of playing in the EHF Champions League without any big success, last season Orlen Wisła Płock reached the EHF Finals, where they finished fourth.

Now the Polish side are determined to reach at least the same heights, and their maximum goal is winning their first European trophy.

- **qualified for the group stage after beating Romania's HC Dobrogea Sud Constanta**
- **last season, finished fourth in the EHF Finals**
- **Spanish head coach Xavi Sabate is heading into his fourth season at the club**
- **seven players joined the team in summer, while six players left**

While domestic rivals Kielce won the EHF Champions League as recently as in 2016, Płock still lack big international achievements. However, last season they did quite well in the EHF European League Men – after topping the group A, they eliminated Sporting SP and GOG to become the only non-German side at the event.

And in the semi-final, the Polish side fought hard against SC Magdeburg, losing by just one goal (30:29), before suffering another defeat against Rhein-Neckar Löwen in the third-place match, so the trophy was not that far away. In the new season, Płock have reinforced their squad with the goal of reaching far again. In particular, the Russian duo Dmitrii Zhitnikov, who returned to the club after a four-year absence, and Sergei Mark Kosorotov are expected to play important roles, so Wisła can again dream of reaching the Final Four or – who knows – maybe even lifting the trophy.

It is quite uncommon for a Russian person to have two given names, but the young left back stands out not just because of this fact, but also thanks to his good game, which has made him one of the best young players in Europe. The 22-year-old Moscow-born player Sergei Mark Kosorotov has become a key figure at Chekhovskie Medvedi and the Russia national team, and now he decided to start a new chapter in his career. In fact, Kosorotov signed with Płock, his first foreign club, already in 2020, but moved to Poland one year later.

PAST ACHIEVEMENTS

EHF Champions League

Last 16 (5): 2011/12, 2013/14, 2014/15, 2015/16, 2018/19

Group Phase (3): 2016/17, 2017/18, 2019/20

Group Matches (5): 2002/03, 2004/05, 2005/06, 2006/07,
2008/09

Qualification (1): 2012/13

EHF European League

Fourth place: 2020/21

EHF Cup

Quarter-final: 1993/94

EHF Cup Winners' Cup

Quarter-final: 1996/97

Polish league

7 titles (1995, 2002, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2008, 2011)

Polish cup

9 titles (1992, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 2001, 2005, 2007,
2008)





XAVIER SABATE

Coach

- Płock head coach since July 2018, taking over a few months after Piotr Przybecki had left the club
- experienced coach who worked at Veszprém from 2015-17
- led the Hungarian team to the CL 2016 final, where they lost to Kielce in a penalty shoot-out
- was voted coach of the CL 2015/16 All-star Team
- great eye for detail, engaging in all aspects of coaching including tactical analysis and team building

NEWCOMERS

Jan Jurečić (USDK Dunkerque Handball Grand Littoral),
Sergei Mark Kosorotov (Chekhovskie Medvedi),
Tin Lucin (Ademar Leon),
Dmitrii Zhitnikov (MOL Pick Szeged),
Admir Ahmetasević (Angel Ximenez Puente Genil)
Krystian Witkowski (Handball Stal Mielec),
Marek Daćko (Górnik Zabrze)

LEFT THE CLUB

Alvaro Ruiz Sanchez (BM Benidorm),
Philip Stenmalm (Ystads IF),
Jeremy Toto (Vardar Skopje),
Leon Dutra (BM Logrono La Rioja),
Homayed Abdelrahman (Al Ahly SC),
Ivan Stevanović (no club yet)

TEAM ROSTER

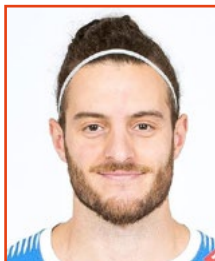
No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height	Weight
17	Abel	Serdio	ESP	Line Player	16/04/1994	Avilés, ESP	195	115
1	Adam	Morawski	POL	Goalkeeper	17/10/1994	Ciechanów, POL	193	94
16	Admir	Ahmetasevic	BIH	Goalkeeper	05/06/1994	Gracanica, BIH	195	98
14	David	Fernández	ESP	Right Back	14/04/1996	Valladolid, ESP	196	90
89	Dmitry	Zhitnikov	RUS	Centre Back	20/11/1989	Zvolen, RUS	197	100
23	Dominik	Mierzwicki	POL	Right Wing	08/07/1999	Plock, POL	182	78
9	Jan	Jurecic	SLO	Right Wing	26/10/1994	Novo mesto, SLO	186	80
20	Krystian	Witkowski	POL	Goalkeeper	01/12/1999	Mielec, POL	200	103
25	Krzysztof	Komarzewski	POL	Right Wing	18/09/1998	Gdansk, POL	188	86
19	Leon	Šušnja	CRO	Line Player	05/08/1993	Siroki Brijeg, CRO	204	113
34	Lovro	Mihic	CRO	Left Wing	25/08/1994	Zagreb, CRO	180	74
5	Marek	Dacko	POL	Line Player	29/03/1991	Bartoszyce, POL	198	104
C 3	Michał	Daszek	POL	Right Back	27/06/1992	Tczew, POL	180	70
44	Mikolaj	Czaplinski	POL	Left Wing	08/11/2000	Plock, POL	188	82
30	Mirsad	Terzic	BIH	Left Back	12/07/1983	Priboj, CRO	196	110
55	Niko	Mindegia	ESP	Centre Back	19/07/1988	Santesteban, ESP	182	85
8	Oliwier	Kaminski	POL	Right Back	24/04/2004	Plock, POL	190	76
26	Przemyslaw	Krajewski	POL	Left Wing	20/01/1987	Ciechanów, POL	184	83
99	Sergei Mark	Kosorotov	RUS	Left Back	16/06/1999	Moscow, RUS	200	95
22	Szymon	Rybicki	POL	Goalkeeper	19/11/1997	Plock, POL	184	77
6	Tin	Lucin	CRO	Left Back	16/08/1999	Rijeka, CRO	196	94
21	Zoltan	Szita	HUN	Left Back	10/02/1998	Veszprém, HUN	197	89



SERGEI MARK KOSOROTOV

Left back

- joined Wisła Płock in the summer of 2021 from Chekhovskie Medvedi
- one of the biggest talents of Russian handball, already a regular in national team
- wears number 99 because 1999 is his year of birth
- has two first names, rather unusual in Russia, but is usually called just Sergei
- his father was a famous judoka, while his mother played handball at Luch Moscow



NIKO MINDEGIA

 @nikomindegia

Centre back

- Spanish playmaker who arrived at Płock in 2019 as Poland became the fifth country on his career journey
- also had stints in Hungary (Szeged, 2013-16), Denmark (KIF Kolding, 2016/17), and France (Chambéry Savoie MHB, 2017-19) after leaving Spain (La Rioja) in 2013
- played at the EHF EURO in 2012, 2014 and 2016, reaching the semi-final on each occasion

EC trophies: EHF Cup 2014
EURO: S 2016, B 2014

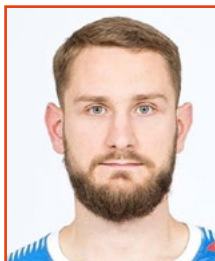


ADAM MORAWSKI

 @loczek1994

Goalkeeper

- Polish international who started to play at senior level in 2013/14
- debuted in the national team in 2013 and in the CL two years later
- excelled for Płock in 2016/17, earning him a nomination for the best goalkeeper of the season award in the Polish league
- his nickname 'Loczek' means 'Curl'



MICHAŁ DASZEK

 @michaldaszek

Right wing

- arrived at Płock from MMTS Kwidzyn in 2014, a year after he had made his debut in the Polish national team
- versatile player who can also play at centre back and right back
- was best wing and MVP of the Polish league in 2018/19
- won bronze with Poland at WCh 2015 and played at Olympics the following year

WCh: B 2015

GROUP A



Club contact

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 [FENIX_HB](https://twitter.com/FENIX_HB)

 [fenix_toulouse_handball](https://www.instagram.com/fenix_toulouse_handball)

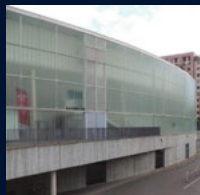
Kit colours

Light

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

Dark

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



Playing hall

Palais des Sports Andre
Brouat Toulouse
3, rue Pierre Laplace
31000 Toulouse
France
Capacity: 4,226

FENIX TOULOUSE



Last season, Fenix Toulouse missed out on the European League Last 16 by the narrowest of margins as Austrian side Fivers edged by them on the final day of the group phase. If it left a bitter taste in their mouth, the staff and the players were quick to get moving again.

After undergoing several changes in the summer, both on and off the court, Toulouse have the ambition to push on and achieve a better result than they did last season.

- **Fenix qualified for the European League by finishing sixth in the French league, one place below their result from 2019/20**
- **this season, Toulouse got through two qualifying rounds, as they went past Alpa Hard (66:55 on aggregate) and Malmö (59:49 on aggregate)**
- **last season, Toulouse were eliminated after the group phase, having finished fifth in group A. Their fate was decided in the last round, when Fivers got past them on the head-to-head record to grab a ticket for the Last 16.**
- **multiple changes were made to the roster this season. Adding to the replacement of Philippe Gardent on the bench, five new players signed while seven chose to follow another path**

Several key players from last season will not be playing for Toulouse this season. Line player Henrik Jakobsen left to Nîmes, leaving the line player position to be rebuilt almost entirely, while the back court lost Pierre Soudry and Sadou Ntanzi in the summer. Recruits will need time to adapt, as we were able to see in the first games of domestic competitions.

Even though new coach Danijel Andjelkovic was Philippe Gardent's assistant for the last six seasons, he is certain to bring new things to the table. And while he wants to qualify for the next phase, the former centre back is also talking about the pleasure he wants his boys to take while playing. "We want to enjoy playing and competing against the best European teams, to gather experience and improve our team."

The 31-year-old left wing Nemanja Ilic is starting his eighth season playing for Toulouse and he has become one of the stalwarts in the dressing room. Season after season, he remains the team's best scorer as his efficiency, especially from penalties, is crucial. Last season, his efforts were not rewarded but his winning mentality and stability will be important for a side that has experienced so many changes over the summer.

PAST ACHIEVEMENTS

European League: 3rd participation
Group Phase (1): 2020/21—
Second qualifying round (1): 2014/15

Cup Winners' Cup
Quarter-finals (1998/99)

French Cup
1 title (1998)





DANIJEL ANDJELKOVIC

Coach

- took the reins as Toulouse coach in 2021 after
- six years as an assistant at the club
- admits to being hugely influenced by Philippe Gardent, whom he assisted from 2015 to 2021
- played as a centre back for Toulouse from 2010 to 2016, after wearing Pick Szeged's colours for six seasons
- was also a Serbian national team player during his playing career

NEW/COMERS (INCLUDING FORMER CLUB)

Fredric Pettersson (Montpellier Handball),
Tobias Wagner (Fivers),
Erwin Feuchtman (Abanca Ademar Leon),
Erik Balenciaga (Logrono La Rioja),
Robin Cantegrel (Vardar)

LEFT THE CLUB (INCLUDING NEW/ CLUB)

Cesar de Almeida (BM Huesca),
Sadou N'Tanzi (PSG, back from loan),
Nori Benhalima (Grand Nancy
Métropole Handball),
Henrik Jakobsen (USAM Nîmes),
Gaël Tribillon (Chartres Métropole Handball),
Rémi Leventoux,
Pierre Soudry

TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height	Weight
67	Ayoub	Abdi	ALG	Right Back	16/02/1997	Chlef, ALG	197	96
11	Edouard	Kempf	FRA	Right Wing	20/03/1998	Mulhouse, FRA	179	80
6	Erik	Balenciaga	ESP	Centre Back	10/05/1993	Zarautz, ESP	169	68
4	Erwin Jan	Feuchtmann	GER	Left Back	02/05/1990	Punta Arenas, CHI	195	96
18	Fredric	Pettersson	SWE	Line Player	11/02/1989	Sweden, SWE	201	115
23	Goncalo	Vieira	POR	Left Back	27/04/1999	Porto, POR	189	95
15	Idris	Firmesse	FRA	Line Player	15/09/2002	Chatenay Malabry, FRA	190	86
1	Jef	Lettens	BEL	Goalkeeper	12/08/1990	Hasselt, BEL	192	91
44	Kylian	Ferrier	FRA	Goalkeeper	09/07/2001	Tournan en Brie, FRA	192	80
51	Luka	Sokolic	CRO	Field Player	15/04/1990	Zagreb, CRO	193	86
8	Matis	Gardent	FRA	Line Player	05/05/1999	Chambéry, FRA	189	80
21	Matthieu	Marmier	FRA	Right Back	08/06/2000	Montauban, FRA	186	92
69	Maxime	Discamps	FRA	Left Back	03/07/2003	Le Chesnay, FRA	203	86
10	Maxime	Gilbert	FRA	Centre Back	22/05/1991	Talence, FRA	187	91
24	Milan	Jovanovic	SRB	Left Back	24/01/1998	Vrbas, SRB	196	94
19	Nemanja	Ilic	SRB	Left Wing	11/05/1990	Beograd, SRB	178	75
14	Pierre	Frechou	FRA	Left Back	28/04/1999	Toulouse, FRA	188	85
C 3	Pierrick	Chelle	FRA	Right Wing	08/12/1989	Toulouse, FRA	173	77
77	Robin	Cantegrel	FRA	Goalkeeper	13/02/1995	Nantes, FRA	194	77
2	Romain	Giraudeau	FRA	Right Wing	02/03/2000	La Tronche, FRA	170	65
7	Téo	Jarry	FRA	Left Wing	03/03/2000	Toulouse, FRA	183	75
5	Tobias	Wagner	AUT	Line Player	26/03/1995	Wien, AUT	198	125
13	Uros	Borzas	SRB	Left Back	28/07/1999	Zenta, SRB	198	90



NEMANJA ILIC

 @ilicnemanja19

Left wing

- experienced Serbian left wing who has been with Toulouse since 2013
- a leader of the new generation of Serbian players, he made his debut for the national team in 2012
- younger brother Vanja also plays in France, for Chartres
- spent four months on loan at Barça in 2018/19 to replace injured Casper Mortensen



AYOUB ABDI

 @ayoub_abdi87

Right back

- after previously playing in France for PAUC and Grenoble, he joined Toulouse in 2019
- at only 24, he is one of the biggest young talents in the world in the right back position
- was among the top 20 scorers at the 2021 World Championship in Egypt
- despite his young age, Toulouse coach Danijel Andjelkovic wants him to be at the centre of the project in coming seasons



FREDRIC PETTERSSON

 @fredricpettersson

Line player

- returned to Toulouse in 2021 after three seasons with Montpellier
- played for Toulouse from 2016 to 2018 in his first experience playing for a club abroad
- played in the CL for Swedish side IFK Kristianstad before joining Montpellier
- part of a strong Swedish generation, alongside Hampus Wanne, Mattias Zachrisson and Jesper Nielsen



PIERRICK CHELLE

Right wing

- signed his first professional contract with Toulouse in 2007 and has not played for another club since
- the longest serving player in the club and is has been the captain since 2015
- one of Valentin Porte's best friends, as he shares a passion for golfing with the Montpellier right-back



GROUP B PREVIEW

INTERESTING MIX OF TEAMS IN HARD-TO-CALL GROUP B

Could this group be the toughest of them all? Group B includes a handful of clubs that were playing EHF Champions League in recent seasons, with any of the six teams more than capable of making it through to Last 16. Coming fresh off their second visit to the EHF FINAL4, HBC Nantes are strong contenders for the one of the top spots in the group. The French side features some iconic names in handball, including last season's Champions League top scorer Valero Rivera, who repeated the feat earlier achieved by teammate Kiril Lazarov. Add the likes of Emil Nielsen, Dragan Pechmalbec and Rok Ovnicek, and Nantes could be in this competition for a long time.

SL Benfica made a huge impression in the final qualification round by eliminating Rhein-Neckar Löwen, hosts of and semi-finalists at the inaugural EHF Finals last season. The Portuguese side reinforced their squad over the summer by signing top line players Alexis Borges and Champions League winner Rogerio Moraes. Coached by Chema Rodríguez, who has already showed his class as coach at the Hungarian national team, Benfica will one of the teams to beat in group B this season. TBV Lemgo Lippe are back in Europe, more than a decade after they racked up two title wins in the EHF Cup (2006, 2010) and one in the Cup Winners' Cup (1996). But don't get fooled by their lengthy absence from EHF club competitions. They won the German cup as recent as 2020 and are a team that can beat any Bundesliga opponents on a good day. With a young team, Lemgo are ready to return on the path to European glory.

GOG have left their mark in Europe in the past two seasons, with a strong group phase campaign in the EHF Champions League 2019/20 and a run to the quarter-final of the EHF European League 2020/21. While Mathias Gidsel stayed, another of the standout players has left as Emil Jakobsen joined SG Flensburg-Handewitt. It has not altered the dynamics, though, as GOG are ready to go deep in the EHF European League again. Chekhovski medvedi are another side that made a name for themselves in the EHF Champions League. Gone are the days when they made it to the EHF FINAL4 – which they did in 2010 – but even if they are not rubbing shoulders anymore with Europe's elite team, they have all what it takes for a strong run in the EHF European League. Last season, they came within one round of the EHF Finals, losing in the quarter-final to Rhein-Neckar Löwen despite winning the first leg at home.

Cocks were one of the fans' favourites with their no-nonsense playing style in the EHF Champions League group phase a couple of seasons ago, and while they missed the group phase of the EHF European League last season, the Finnish side are back where they belong. Trips to Finland have always been tricky for any team, so Cocks' group B opponents should be prepared for a challenging visit to Finland.

I GROUP B HEAD-TO-HEADS

HISTORIC ENCOUNTERS OF THE GROUP B OPPONENTS IN THE EUROPEAN CLUB COMPETITIONS

HBC Nantes vs Chekhovskie medvedi

No previous encounters in European competitions

HBC Nantes vs Cocks

No previous encounters in European competitions

HBC Nantes vs TBV Lemgo Lippe

No previous encounters in European competitions

HBC Nantes vs GOG

No previous encounters in European competitions

HBC Nantes vs SL Benfica 1-0-1 (51:49) 2:2

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)

Chekhovskie medvedi vs Cocks

No previous encounters in European competitions

Chekhovskie medvedi vs TBV Lemgo Lippe 1-0-2 (88:104) 2:4

04.12.2004	TBV Lemgo vs Chehovski Medvedi, Chekhov, EHF Champions League – Last 16	45:32 (22:18)
11.12.2004	Chehovski Medvedi, Chekhov vs TBV Lemgo, EHF Champions League – Last 16	23:22 (12:9)
26.11.2006	TBV Lemgo vs Chehovskie Medvedi, ECh for Club Teams – Place 3/4	37:33 (17:20)

Chekhovskie medvedi vs GOG 2-0-2 (127:131) 4:4

16.10.2004	Chehovski Medvedi, Chekhov vs GOG Gudme, EHF Champions League – Group C	34:33 (16:15)
30.10.2004	GOG Gudme vs Chehovski Medvedi, Chekhov, EHF Champions League – Group C	32:26 (0:0)
22.09.2019	GOG vs Chekhovskie medvedi, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group D	38:31 (20:15)
16.11.2019	Chekhovskie medvedi vs GOG, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group D	36:28 (15:18)

Chekhovskie medvedi vs SL Benfica

No previous encounters in European competitions

Cocks vs TBV Lemgo Lippe

No previous encounters in European competitions

Cocks vs GOG

No previous encounters in European competitions

Cocks vs SL Benfica 0-0-2 (46:49) 0:4

04.03.2017	Cocks vs SL Benfica, EHF Cup – Group D	21:23 (11:11)
11.03.2017	SL Benfica vs Cocks, EHF Cup – Group D	26:25 (11:13)

TBV Lemgo Lippe vs GOG

No previous encounters in European competitions

TBV Lemgo Lippe vs SL Benfica 1-0-1 (58:48) 2:2

13.02.2010	TBV Lemgo vs Sport Lisboa e Benfica, EHF Cup – Last 16	27:30 (13:13)
20.02.2010	Sport Lisboa e Benfica vs TBV Lemgo, EHF Cup – Last 16	18:31 (10:14)

GOG vs SL Benfica

No previous encounters in European competitions

GROUP B



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 [HBCNantes](https://twitter.com/HBCNantes)

 [HBCNANTES](https://www.instagram.com/HBCNANTES)

Kit colours

Light

Player shirt: white
Player short: light grey
Goalkeeper shirt: yellow
or coral

Dark

Player shirt: dark grey
Player short: dark grey
Goalkeeper shirt: blue



Playing hall

H Arena

5 rue Andre Tardieu
44200 Nantes
Capacity: 5,902

HBC NANTES



After HBC Nantes made it to the EHF FINAL4 in Cologne last season, finishing fourth, they will be one of the favourites in the European League 2021/22. With their group phase ticket already awarded, can Nantes go all the way and finally lift the trophy?

- Nantes qualified for the European League after finishing third in the French league last season, behind Paris Saint-Germain and Montpellier
- last season, they qualified for the EHF FINAL4, ranking fourth after losing to Barça in the semi-final. This was their second visit to Cologne, after reaching the final in 2018
- Nantes also played the EHF Cup Finals twice, in 2013 and 2016, hosting the event both times. They played both finals and lost both, to Rhein-Neckar Löwen in 2013 and to Göppingen in 2016
- Nantes welcomed five new players this summer and let seven go, including captain Rock Feliho

Nantes have been chasing a European crown every season since they first played the EHF Cup in 2011/12. They played four semi-finals and three finals but were never able to win one. Nevertheless, that is what you call continental experience, and the club have definitely made that into a strength over the years. Individually, players like Valero Rivera, David Balaguer and Kiril Lazarov have the experience of winning major titles in handball, and the three will be very important if Nantes want to go far in the competition.

“HBC Nantes remains the same ambitious clubs as in the previous seasons. We feel like the European League is a great competition that we have the ability to win, even though there are many other high potential teams that will be playing it,” says coach Alberto Entrerrios.

Despite having just turned 20, the French line player Théo Monar was one of the breakout stars of last season in the EHF Champions League. He scored six goals in the EHF FINAL4, after a season that saw him progress steadily and very quickly, even earning him a chance at the national team at the EHF EURO qualifiers in April. And all of that without even a professional contract. The club was quick to spot his potential and put pen to paper, and now is the time for the young player to confirm all the potential we saw from him in the first part of 2021.

PAST ACHIEVEMENTS

EHF Cup

Runners-up (2): 2012/13, 2015/16

Quarter-final (1): 2013/14

Group phase (1): 2019/20

Qualification round 3 (2): 2011/12, 2014/15

EHF Champions League

Final (1): 2017/18

Semi-final (1): 2020/21

Quarter-final (1): 2018/19

Last 16 (1): 2016/17

French Cup

one title (2017)





ALBERTO ENTRERRIOS

Coach

- Spanish former international and three-time CL winner
- worked at Nantes as assistant to Thierry Anti for three years before taking over as head coach prior to 2019/20 season
- played for Nantes until retirement in 2016, after spells at Ademar, Barcelona and Ciudad Real in his native Spain
- No. 3 on all-time top scorers list of Spanish national team, with 726 goals in 240 matches
- his younger brother Raul also played for Barça until retiring in 2021

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

NEW/COMERS

Mickael Robin (US Creteil),
Pedro Portela (Tremblay en France),
Linus Persson (US Ivry),
Ruban Marchan (Ademar Leon),
Alexander Shkurinskiy (Meshkov Brest)

LEFT THE CLUB

Eduardo Gurbindo (Vardar),
Rock Feliho (retired),
Cyril Dumoulin,
Mathieu Bataille (both Tremblay en France),
Olivier Nyokas (Metalurg),
Adria Figueras (Chartres),
Sebastian Augustinussen (Stuttgart)

TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height	Weight
22	Alban	Simonnet	FRA	Centre Back	04/01/2004	Orléans, FRA	190	85
9	Alexander	Shkurinskiy	RUS	Left Back	11/04/1995	Krasnodar, RUS	190	78
8	Alexandre	Cavalcanti	POR	Left Back	27/12/1996	Almada, POR	203	102
12	Andreas	Hofmann	FRA	Goalkeeper	29/06/2001	Marseille, FRA	185	87
15	Aymeric	Minne	FRA	Centre Back	20/04/1997	Melun, FRA	186	85
2	Baptiste	Damatin-Bertrand	FRA	Left Wing	29/04/2000	Saint Maurice, FRA	177	81
19	David	Balaguer	ESP	Right Wing	17/08/1991	Barcelona, ESP	185	91
10	Dragan	Pechmalbec	FRA	Line Player	05/01/1996	Cahors, FRA	194	94
16	Emil	Nielsen	DEN	Goalkeeper	10/03/1997	Aarhus, DEN	195	120
23	Enzo	Handjou	FRA	Line Player	27/01/2002	Paris, FRA	195	111
24	Ernest	Pineau	FRA	Right Back	30/01/2003	Rochefort, FRA	198	84
27	Guéno��	Gaillard	FRA	Left Back	18/05/2001	Toulon, FRA	190	85
21	Joris	Limousin	FRA	Right Wing	06/10/2000	Nantes, FRA	180	75
17	Kiril	Lazarov	MKD	Right Back	10/05/1980	Veles, MKD	195	99
6	Linus	Persson	SWE	Right Back	16/04/1993	Helsingborg, SWE	191	95
28	Lucas	De la Breteche	FRA	Centre Back	19/11/2001	Saint-Nazaire, FRA	193	85
16	Mickael	Robin	FRA	Goalkeeper	28/05/1985	Strasbourg, FRA	190	82
5	Milan	Milic	SRB	Right Back	14/05/1998	Krusevac, SRB	198	82
14	Pedro	Portela	POR	Right Wing	06/01/1990	Leiria, POR	186	82
4	Rok	Ovnicsek	SLO	Centre Back	29/01/1995	Slovenj Gradec, SLO	183	88
2	Ruben	Marchan	ESP	Line Player	20/09/1994	Manzanares, ESP	202	110
25	Sebastian	Vellenoweth	GBR	Left Back	10/03/2002	Pembury, GBR	195	92
26	Th��o	Monar	FRA	Line Player	06/06/2001	Fort de France, FRA	198	95
3	Thibaud	Briet	FRA	Left Back	14/12/1999	Rouen, FRA	205	95
C 7	Valero	Rivera Folch	ESP	Left Wing	22/02/1985	Barcelona, ESP	185	83



EMIL NIELSEN

 @emilnielsen97

Goalkeeper

- in his third and last season with Nantes, having joined the French club in 2019 after two seasons at Skjern in his native Denmark
- it took him only a couple of months to settle as No. 1 goalkeeper in Nantes; played his first EHF FINAL4 in June 2021
- made international headlines in March 2018, when his numerous saves helped Skjern upset Veszprém in Last 16 of CL 2017/18 season
- started professional career in 2015/16 at Aarhus and was awarded best goalkeeper of Danish league right in his first season

WCh: G 2021

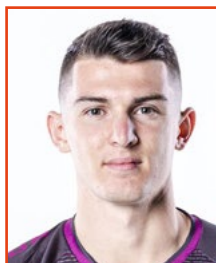


VALERO RIVERA

Left wing

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

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



AYMERIC MINNE

 @aymericminne

Left back/centre back

- * talented back, who signed for Nantes in summer of 2019 after four seasons in Aix
- * initially an offensive player, but has made huge progress as a defender as well
- * has scored a personal-best 54 goals CL 2020/21, including eight in Nantes' crucial 34:31 away win at Kielce in the play-offs in April 2021
- * made national team debut for France in EHF EURO qualifier against Greece in April 2021



KIRIL LAZAROV

Right back

- Macedonian back, one of the all-time greats of the sport, who joined Nantes in 2017 and is still a leading player at age 41 going into 2021/22 season
- * scored more than 1,000 CL goals and was competition's top scorer in 2006 and 2008, won title with Barça in 2015
- * scored 300 goals in total in three CL seasons at Barça (2014-17)
- * best scorer at single EHF EURO (61 goals in 2012) and WCh (92 goals in 2009)

CL 2015

GROUP B



Club contact

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Kit colours

Light

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

Dark

Player shirt: purple
Player short: purple
GK shirt: red



Playing hall

Sport Hall "Olimpiyskiy"

Chekhov
Poligrafistov Str. 30
142300 Chekhov
Russia
Capacity: 3,000

CHEKHOVSKIE MEDVEDI



Last season was quite successful for Chekhovskie Medvedi, as the perennial Russian champions not only defended their domestic title but had solid results in Europe. Over the summer, the 'Bears' squad has undergone some changes, yet the team coached by Vladimir Maximov hope to take another step in their development.

- **in 2020/21 they became Russian champions for the 20th straight season**
- **last season, the Bears reached the EHF European League Men quarter-finals, where they lost to Rhein-Neckar Löwen**
- **head coach Vladimir Maximov has been in charge since the club foundation in 2001**
- **Russia national team captain Daniil Shishkarev returned to the team after a seven-year absence**
- **six more players joined the team in summer, while four left**

After many years of underperforming in the EHF Champions League, the Russian team did a decent job in the EHF European League Men 2020/21. Following progression from the group, they eliminated France's USAM Nimes Gard in the Last 16 and fought hard against Rhein-Neckar Löwen in the quarter-final, narrowly winning the first-leg game at home before losing by 10 goals in Germany.

But can the Bears go even further and reach the EHF Finals? Of course it will be difficult, but nothing is taken for granted for Maximov and his players, who are confident enough to believe in a successful performance. Although Medvedi lost key back court players Sergei Mark Kosorotov and Dmitrii Kiselev, they still have a competitive squad and have also welcomed back right wing Daniil Shishkarev, who should play an important role.

The 33-year-old Russia national team captain, Daniil Shishkarev returned to Chekhov after seven years abroad, including six seasons at Vardar and one at Veszprém. The two-time EHF Champions League winner with Vardar (in 2017 and 2019) has plenty of experience under his belt, and his leadership qualities and impact on and off the court should help Medvedi to further grow as a team.

PAST ACHIEVEMENTS

EHF Champions League

Semi-final (1): 2009/10

Quarter-final (2): 2008/09, 2010/11

Last 16 (3): 2004/05, 2006/07, 2012/13

Main round (1): 2007/08

Group phase (11): 2001/02, 2002/03, 2003/04, 2005/06, 2011/12, 2014/15, 2015/16, 2016/17, 2017/18, 2018/19, 2019/20

EHF European League

Quarter-final (1): 2020/21

Cup Winners' Cup

Winners (1): 2005/06

Last 16 (1): 2003/04

EHF Cup

Last 16 (1): 1993/94

Round 4 (1): 2000/01

Russian league

20 titles (2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021)

Russian Cup

11 titles (2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2015, 2016, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021)





VLADIMIR MAXIMOV

Coach

- legend of the sport, still the only person in handball to have won Olympic gold both as a player and as a coach
- also led Russia to several European and world titles
- resigned from his national team job in 2012 to fully focus on his work as club coach in Chekhov
- has been with Chekhov since 2001, when the club was founded, and won the domestic title every year since

EC trophies: CWC 2006 OG: G 1976 (as player), 2000, B 2004; WCh: G 1993, 1997, S 1978 (as player), 1999; EURO: G 1996, S 1994, 2000

NEW/COMERS

Daniil Shishkarev (Veszprém),
Andrei Klimavets (CSKA),
Andrey Belyaev (SGAU-Saratov),
Vladislav Martynenko (Kaustik),
Evgenii Dzemin (Dinamo Chelyabinsk),
Nikita Kamenev (Donskie Kazaki),
Evgenii Gribkov (HC Neva)

LEFT THE CLUB

Sergei Mark Kosorotov (Wisla Plock),
Dmitrii Kiselev (CSKA),
Aleksei Stelmakh (Dinamo Astrakhan),
Evgenii Ovchinnikov (Dinamo Astrakhan)

I TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height	Weight
55	Aleksandr	Ermakov	RUS	Line Player	14/01/1996	Astrakhan, RUS	195	105
77	Aleksandr	Sinitcyn	RUS	Left Wing	13/03/1997	Saint-Petersburg, RUS	187	70
17	Alexander	Kotov	RUS	Right Back	11/07/1994	Volgograd, RUS	198	95
94	Andrei	Klimavets	BLR	Left Back	24/09/2001	Gomel, BLR	200	95
15	Andrey	Belyaev	RUS	Right Back	15/02/1998	Tolyatti, RUS	197	98
16	Artjom	Grushko	RUS	Goalkeeper	20/06/1993	Odessa, UKR	193	91
7	Artsiom	Kulak	BLR	Centre Back	23/02/1996	Brest, BLR	186	79
33	Daniil	Shishkarev	RUS	Right Wing	06/07/1988	Kostanay, KAZ	190	85
	Dmitrii	Kandybin	RUS		30/08/2002			
24	Dmitry	Kornev	RUS	Right Wing	16/06/1992	Vologda, RUS	186	78
12	Dmitry	Pavlenko	RUS	Goalkeeper	01/01/1991	Zaporozhye, UKR	190	76
14	Evgenij	Borovoj	RUS	Left Wing	12/02/2003	Krasnodar, RUS	180	70
25	Evgenij	Dzemin	RUS	Left Back	30/08/1997	Ussuriysk, RUS	207	101
90	Evgeniy	Gribkov	RUS	Centre Back	29/09/2000	Naro-Fominsk, RUS	184	80
6	Kirill	Klimasev	RUS		14/05/2002	Chekhov, RUS	174	80
C 9	Kirill	Kotov	RUS	Centre Back	23/05/1992	Moscow, RUS	185	79
98	Nikita	Kamenev	RUS	Left Back	14/04/1998	Belgorod, RUS	198	97
69	Nikolaj	Dmitrienko	RUS	Left Back	06/07/2003	Belgorod, RUS	191	90
11	Pavel	Andreev	RUS	Line Player	19/07/1992	Saint Petersburg, RUS	195	98
19	Roman	Ostashchenko	RUS	Left Wing	26/09/1992	Moscow, RUS	184	83
38	Timofei	Maslennikov	RUS	Right Wing	10/03/1997	Chekhov, RUS	185	75
	Vadim	Ibrakov	RUS		12/08/2002			
31	Viktor	Furtsev	RUS	Line Player	17/06/1996	Belgorod, RUS	199	95
30	Vladislav	Martynenko	RUS	Goalkeeper	30/11/2000		196	



DMITRY PAVLENKO

Goalkeeper

- one of the veterans in an otherwise young Chekhov squad, became first-choice goalkeeper in 2017/18 after Oleg Grams left for Dunkerque HB
- Ukrainian-born player who started career at ZTR Zaporozhye
- moved to Chekhov at young age and became Russian citizen



ARTSIOM KULAK

Centre back

- in 2020, became the first ever Belarusian player at Medvedi
- until then, had spent most of his career at HC Meshkov Brest in his home town; scored 31 goals for the club in the CL 2018/19
- son of a musician, he learn to play guitar at a musical school; also played basketball and did athletics as a child
- married to handball player Anastasia Kulak, top scorer of the Belarusian league in 2020/21



ALEKSANDR KOTOV

Right back

- born in Volgograd and started career at local club Kaustik before moving to Chekhov in 2015
- one of Medvedi's leaders in recent seasons, he became the third-best scorer of the EHF European League in 2020/21 with 72 goals
- was named the best right back of the Russian league in 2020 and 2021
- member of Russian national team since 2019, he played at the EHF EURO 2020 and WCh 2021
- not a relative of teammate and Medvedi captain Kirill Kotov



DANIL SHISHKAREV

Right wing

- Russia's national team captain returned to Medvedi in 2021 after seven seasons abroad
- spent six years at Vardar, winning CL twice, before joined Veszprém for the 2020/21 season
- born in Kostanay, Kazakhstan, started career at Astrakhan before having his first spell at Chekhov between 2009 and 2014
- is expected to help Medvedi on and off the court with his experience and leadership qualities

GROUP B



Club contact

Club Address

Cocks
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Finland

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petteri.kiviaho@gmail.com

 cocks.fi

 [Kasipalloseura Riihimäen Cocks](#)

 [Riihimäen Cocks](#)

 [riihimaencocks](#)

Kit colours

Light

Player shirt: yellow
Player short: red
Goalkeeper shirt: green

Dark

Player shirt: red
Player short: red
Goalkeeper shirt: orange



Playing hall

Cocks Arena, Riihimäki
Hj. Elomaan katu 4
11130 Riihimäki
Finland
Capacity: 2,500

COCKS



Participants in the EHF Champions League group stage in 2018/19 and 2019/20, Cocks have seen ups and downs in recent seasons. However, the team from Riihimäki have remained a dominant force in Finland, and now their goal is to translate their domestic success into solid results in the EHF European League Men.

- **Cocks qualified for the EHF European League Men after they won the Finnish league in 2020/21, confidently defeating Dicken in the final series**
- **last season, they played in the EHF European Cup Men but lost to RK Gorenje Velenje in round 3**
- **the Finnish side played in the EHF Champions League group stage twice before, finishing fifth on the table both times**
- **in January 2021, head coach Boris Dvorsek was replaced by Kaj Kekki, who is still at the helm**
- **four players left the club in summer, while five joined**

In the 2020/21 season, Cocks were seen among the favourites in the EHF European Cup Men, yet the team lost to RK Gorenje Velenje as early as round 3. They also stood behind Dicken in the Finnish league table midway through the season, but the situation improved when coach Boris Dvorsek was replaced by Kai Kekki in January.

In the past, 58-year-old Kekki had a very successful spell at Riihimäki, winning four straight Finnish league titles between 2012 and 2016. Last season he managed to lead the team to another title.

While Kekki is still at the helm, the squad has changed somewhat and the new signings are expected to do better than their predecessors, so Cocks hope to put on a strong showing in the EHF European League Men.

“Playing in Europe is my biggest motivation in the new season. During the pre-season, it kept me working more and more, as you must be at your top level against the top teams,” said team captain Teemu Tamminen.

PAST ACHIEVEMENTS

EHF Champions League

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

Qualification (2): 2016/17, 2017/18

EHF Cup

Group phase (2): 2016/17, 2017/18

Qualification round 1 (1): 2015/16

Challenge Cup

Quarter-final (2): 2013/14, 2014/15

Finnish championship

12 titles (2007–10, 2013–19, 2021)

Finnish Cup

10 titles (2007, 2008, 2010, 2011,
2013, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019)

Baltic league

four titles (2016, 2017, 2018, 2019)





KAJ KEKKI

Coach

 @ kajkekki

- returned to Cocks in January 2021 replacing Boris Dvorsek, and helped the team win the national league title
- previously worked at Cocks from 2012-16 and led the team to four straight domestic league titles and the Baltic championship in 2016
- an injury forced him to quit his playing career at age 22 and focus on becoming a coach
- coached Finnish national teams in various age categories for more than 200 matches

NEWCOMERS

Joakim Angjelovski (Vardar),
 Josip Buljubasic (Besiktas),
 Ozgur Sarak (RK Trimo Trebnje),
 Onur Ersin (Besiktas),
 Adrian Tenghea (CSM Fagaras)

LEFT THE CLUB

Giedrius Morkunas (VHS Sviesa),
 Ignacy Bak (Qadsia Club),
 Aliaksandr Tsitou (HIFK),
 Evgeny Semenov (HIFK),
 Stefano Arcieri (Handball Siena)

I TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height	Weight
1	Adrian	Tenghea	ROU	Goalkeeper	08/01/1992	Sighisoara, ROU	192	92
18	Bojan	Zupanjac	SRB	Left Wing	16/10/1983	Kraljevo, SRB	188	84
44	Davor	Basaric	SRB	Line Player	03/11/1990	Nis, SRB	191	98
8	Djordje	Djekic	SRB	Centre Back	28/08/1993	Belgrad, SRB	188	97
12	Joakim	Angelovski	MKD	Goalkeeper	25/01/2000	Skopje, MKD	185	79
7	Josip	Buljubasic	TUR	Left Back	11/07/1988	Metkovic, CRO	205	103
26	Julius	Kemppainen	FIN	Left Wing	09/08/2002	Riihimäki, FIN	179	65
84	Miika	Kaukoranta	FIN	Centre Back	23/10/2003	Riihimäki, FIN	185	90
21	Onur	Ersin	TUR	Centre Back	20/03/1992	Samsun, TUR	190	86
17	Özgür	Sarak	TUR	Right Back	07/02/1993	Samsun, TUR	193	93
19	Roni	Syrjälä	FIN	Right Wing	28/03/1995	Riihimäki, FIN	184	86
51	Roope	Ahlgren	FIN	Centre Back	20/03/2003	Riihimäki, FIN	187	84
63	Sandro	Samardžic	CRO	Right Wing	06/07/1997	Rijeka, CRO	180	80
25	Santeri	Vainionpää	FIN	Line Player	23/09/2003	Riihimäki, FIN	190	88
11	Srdjan	Mijatovic	BIH	Left Back	08/05/1998	Banja Luka, BIH	193	103
C 15	Teemu	Tamminen	FIN	Left Wing	27/08/1987	Riihimäki, FIN	190	82
23	Vitalie	Nenita	MDA	Right Back	04/06/1987	Chisinau, MDA	192	96
87	Vitalii	Shitsko	RUS	Goalkeeper	09/09/1987	St. Petersburg, RUS	198	92
17	Yury	Lukyanchuk	BLR	Line Player	05/01/1990	Brest, BLR	195	96



VITALII SHITSKO

Goalkeeper

- Russian goalkeeper, who is in his seventh season with Cocks in 2021/22
- born in St. Petersburg, he previously played for local side Neva and gained four years of CL experience with them (2010-14)
- also works with young goalkeepers at the club and aims to become a coach once his playing career is over



TEEMU TAMMINEN

 @tamminen87

Left wing

- Finnish international, who was born in Riihimäki, Cocks' home town
- has always played for Cocks, and won his 12th national title with the club in 2020/21
- approaching his mid-30s, one of the most experienced forces in the squad
- tall (1.91m) and heavy (94kg) wing who benefits from his height and physical strength



ONUR ERSIN

Centre back

- Turkey national player moved to Cocks in 2021 from Besiktas together with teammate Josip Buljubasic
- born in Samsun but started career at Ankara
- played for Besiktas between 2016 and 2020
- moved to Romania's Dobrogea in the summer of 2020, but returned to Besiktas midway through the season



YURY LUKYANCHUK

Line player

- joined Cocks in 2018 from SKA Minsk in his native Belarus
- scored a personal best of 37 international goals in one season for Cocks in their CL 2019/20 campaign
- Belarusian international who was born in Brest, but never played for local club HC Meshkov Brest
- works as a car mechanic Riihimäki alongside his handball career

EC trophies: Challenge Cup 2013

GROUP B



Club contact

Club Address

TBV ProVital Lemgo Gm-
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 [tbvlemgolippe](https://twitter.com/tbvlemgolippe)

 [tbvlemgo1911](https://www.instagram.com/tbvlemgo1911)

Kit colours

Light

Player shirt: blue
Player short: blue
Goalkeeper shirt: black

Dark

Player shirt: red
Player short: red
Goalkeeper shirt: green



Playing hall

Phoenix Contact Arena
Bunsenstraße
32657 Lemgo
Germany
Capacity: 4,834

TBV LEMGO LIPPE



After 10 years without an appearance in a European club competition, TBV Lemgo Lippe are back on track and will compete in group B of the EHF European League Men.

In qualification round 2, Lemgo beat Icelandic club Valur in both legs. However, Lemgo, who have won three European club titles, were drawn in an extremely tough group that includes HBC Nantes, SL Benfica and GOG.

- **18 years after their last domestic trophy, TBV Lemgo won the German Cup in June, beating THW Kiel in the semi-finals and MT Melsungen in the final**
- **this trophy earned Lemgo their EHF European League ticket and their first appearance in a European Cup competition since they reached the EHF Cup semi-finals in 2010/11**
- **Lemgo won the Cup Winners' Cup in 1995/96 and the EHF Cup in 2005/06 and 2009/10**
- **former Lemgo player Florian Kehrmann, who won the EHF EURO 2004 and 2007 IHF Men's World Championship with Germany, took over as TBV coach in 2014**
- **Lemgo were nicknamed "TBV Deutschland" in the 2000s, when more than half of the German national team played for the club**

"This is an extremely tough group, but we are ready to take the challenge of facing some of Europe's strongest teams," said coach Florian Kehrmann after the draw. But Lemgo's problem is that they have not played any European matches since 2011.

Many players – such as the Spanish Guardiola brothers, Swedish World Championship silver medallist Jonathan Carlsbogard and Icelandic wing Bjarki Mar Elisson – have gained international experience with their national teams and former clubs. It will be thrilling to see how they function as a team, particularly as Lemgo have not been among the best six German clubs in recent seasons.

PAST ACHIEVEMENTS

EHF Champions League

Semi-final (1): 1997/98

Quarter-final (2): 2003/04, 2004/05

Cup Winners' Cup

Winners (1): 1995/96

EHF Cup

Winners (2): 2005/06, 2009/10

German league

2 titles (1997, 2003)

German Cup

4 titles (1995, 1997, 2002, 2020)

German Super Cup

4 titles (1997, 1999, 2002, 2003)





FLORIAN KEHRMANN

head coach

- joined TBV as a player in 1999 and has been a coach at the club since 2013
- scored 820 goals in 223 international matches for Germany
- avoided relegation after taking over as Lemgo head coach when they were last in the Bundesliga in 2004
- winning the German Cup in 2021 was his first trophy as a coach
- is famous for developing young players in the Bundesliga

WCh G 2007, S 2003; OG S 2004; EURO G 2004, S 2002
EC trophies: EHFC 2006, 2010

NEW/COMERS

Lukas Hutecek (Fivers),
Kian Schwarzer (SV 64 Zweibrücken)

LEFT THE CLUB

Dani Baijens (ASV Hamm-Westfalen),
Alexander Reimann (ASV Hamm-Westfalen),
Mark van den Beucken (Tophandball
Kristiansand),
Fynn Hangstein (ThSV Eisenach),
Christoph Theuerkauf (retired),
Jari Lemke (retired)

I TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height	Weight
34	Andreas	Cederholm	SWE	Right Back	04/05/1990	Hjo, SWE	186	92
C 5	Andrej	Kogut	GER	Centre Back	09/04/1988	Moscow, RUS	184	94
4	Bjarki Mar	Elisson	ISL	Left Wing	16/05/1990	Reykjavik, ISL	190	91
14	Bobby	Schagen	NED	Right Wing	13/01/1990	Amsterdam, NED	191	87
20	Finn	Zecher	GER	Goalkeeper	01/09/2000	Darmstadt, GER	189	89
8	Frederik	Simak	GER	Left Back	24/01/1998	Gengenbach, GER	197	104
30	Gedeon	Guardiola	ESP	Line Player	01/10/1984	Petrer, ESP	205	105
37	Hark	Hansen	GER	Right Back	02/02/2000	Paderborn, GER	188	91
7	Isaias	Guardiola	ESP	Right Back	01/10/1984	Petrer, ESP	200	105
9	Jonathan	Carlsbogard	SWE	Left Back	19/04/1995	Göteborg, SWE	195	96
22	Kian	Schwarzer	GER	Left Wing	01/03/1999	St. Ingbert, GER	181	89
38	Leve	Carstensen	GER	Left Wing	18/01/2002	Flensburg, GER	194	85
42	Linus	Geis	GER	Left Back	03/02/1998	Bad Neustadt, GER	202	111
2	Lukas	Hutecek	AUT	Left Back	02/07/2000	Horn, AUT	189	101
24	Lukas	Zerbe	GER	Right Wing	17/01/1996	Lemgo, GER	184	73
16	Marcel	Timm	GER	Line Player	03/02/1998	Gummersbach, GER	195	103
39	Michel	Reitemann	GER	Line Player	15/01/2000	Lemgo, GER	188	96
40	Niko	Blaauw	NED	Left Back	15/01/2002	Leiderdorp, NED	190	86
25	Peter	Johannesson	SWE	Goalkeeper	12/05/1992	Västra Götaland, SWE	191	92
41	Thore	Oetjen	GER	Line Player	03/09/2001	Wilhelmshaven, GER	204	110
23	Tim	Suton	GER	Centre Back	08/05/1996	Kirchheim u. Teck, GER	191	96
12	Timon	Mühlenstädt	GER	Goalkeeper	06/01/2001	Bielefeld, GER	189	91



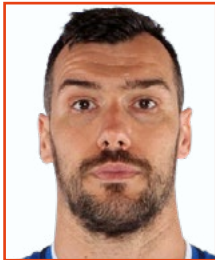
BJARKI MAR ELISSON

@bjarkimar90

Left wing

- made his international debut for Iceland in 2012
- left his home country for Germany in 2013. Played for second division team ThSV Eisenach Eisenach before joining Füchse Berlin in 2015
- won IHF Super Globe with Füchse Berlin in 2015 and 2016
- joined TBV Lemgo Lippe in 2019 and scored 216 goals in his first season at the club to finish as the Bundesliga's top scorer
- * was again Lemgo's best scorer (254 goals) in the Bundesliga 2020/21 season
- * is a typically fast Nordic counter-attack specialist

EC trophies: EHFC 2018



GEDEON GUARDIOLA

@gede30

Line player

- arrived at Lemgo in 2020 and is the most experienced player at the club
- is reunited with his brother Isaias, who has played for TBV since 2017
- played for several top Spanish clubs, including La Rioja and San Antonio, before he arrived in Germany in 2012
- became a key player for the Spanish national team during his eight-year spell at Rhein-Neckar Löwen
- steered Lemgo to victory in the German Cup in June 2021, his second trophy in the competition
- after winning three trophies with Spain, he finished his international career with an Olympic bronze medal at Tokyo 2020

OG B 2020; WCh G 2013;
EURO G 2018, G 2020, B 2014
EC trophies: EHFC 2013



LUKAS HUTECEK

@luki_huti

Left wing

- arrived from Fivers in the summer of 2021 and is currently the biggest talent in Austrian handball
- played on home court at the age of 20 for Austria in the EHF EURO 2020
- was named as the best player in the Austrian league in 2019/20 and 2020/21
- was Fivers' top scorer in the European League 2020/21 season, when they sensationally reached the Last 16
- his father was his first coach, and his brother Sebastian plays for HSG Bärnbach-Koflach in Austria's first league



JONATHAN CARLSBOGARD

@carlsbogard

Left back

- became a professional aged 18 at famous Swedish club Redbergsöglids in Gothenburg
- was awarded MVP of the Swedish league in the 2016/17 season
- has become a key player, mainly in attack, since moving to Lemgo in 2018
- made his debut for Sweden's national team in November 2020 and played a key part in Sweden reaching the 2021 WCh final
- was part of the Swedish team at the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games
- his nickname is Louis, as he arrived with a Louis Vuitton bag at his first training session at Lemgo

WCh: S 2021

GROUP A



Club contact

Club Address
GOG
GOG Sport 2010
Stærkaervej 1
5884 Gudme
Denmark

Media contact
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mads@gog.dk

 gog.dk

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

 [gogsport](https://www.instagram.com/gogsport)

Kit colours

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

Dark
Player shirt: blue
Player short: blue
GK shirt: white/red/green



Playing hall
Phønix Tag Arena
Stærkaervej 1
5884 Gudme
Denmark
Capacity: 1,756

GOG



Last season, Aalborg Håndbold made it all the way to the final of the EHF Champions League after beating PSG in the semi-final. In this year's European League, GOG has the chance to emulate that achievement.

GOG does not lack individual quality in their team. Players such as Torbjørn Bergerud, Morten Olsen and Jerry Tollbring all have a huge upside. But the biggest star is off course Mathias Gidsel – one of the best players in the world over the past year.

- **qualified for the EHF European League by beating Danish side Mors-Thy in the qualification phase**
- **the biggest signing this season is Torbjørn Bergerud, SG Flensburg-Handewitt's former first choice as goalkeeper**
- **other big summer signings include Jerry Tollbring from Rhein-Neckar Löwen**

Danish club handball is strong. Really strong. Aalborg proved it last season and has already shown this year in the EHF Champions League that last season was not a fluke. But then what? GOG are the only Danish club that has qualified for the EHF European League with TTH Holstebro and Bjerringbro-Silkeborg both missing out. So if Danish handball wants to maintain its high reputation GOG has to perform in the EHF European League.

"We see the European League as a very good tournament for us, with many good teams and therefore also a lot of good matches which we look forward to. The importance of staying at the top of European handball is important for us as a club for both our sponsors and our players," coach Nicolaj Krickau says.

Mathias Gidsel came from nowhere or at least it seemed that way. The Danish national team had searched and searched for a natural right back to complement Mikkel Hansen and Rasmus Lauge but never really found a long-term choice. It is not an overstatement to say that they have now found a player that has the potential to be the best player in the world and not just the best right back which arguments can be made that he already is.

PAST ACHIEVEMENTS

EHF Champions League

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

Last 16 (2): 2004/05, 2006/07

Group Matches (4): 1995/96, 1996/97, 1998/99,
2000/01, 2019/20

European League

Quarter-finals (1): 2020/21

EHF Cup

Quarter-finals (3): 1999/00, 2001/02, 2005/06

Group Phase (1): 2018/19

Cup Winners' Cup

Runners-up (1): 1995/96

Quarter-finals (2): 1993/94, 1997/98

Danish league

7 titles (1992, 1995, 1996, 1998, 2000, 2004,
2007)


Danish cup

10 titles (1990, 1991, 1992, 1995, 1996, 1997,
2002, 2003, 2005, 2019)





NICOLEJ KRICKAU
Coach

 @nicolej_krickau

- replaced Jakob Larsen as head coach in the summer of 2017
- before that worked at Skanderborg
- known for his ability to develop young players
- has taken GOG back to the top of Danish handball

NEW/COMERS

Torbjørn Bergerud (SG Flensburg-Handewitt),
Jerry Tollbring (Rhein-Neckar Löwen),
Lukas Jørgensen (Århus),
Mathias Larsson (Århus)

LEFT THE CLUB

Emil Jakobsen (SG Flensburg-Handewitt),
Stig Tore Moen (Elverum),
Søren Haagen (Høj)

TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height	Weight
4	Anders	Beuschau	DEN	Line Player	04/03/2001	Odense, DEN	196	103
22	Anders	Zachariassen	DEN	Line Player	04/09/1991	Sonderborg, DEN	192	110
1	Atal	Lakanval	DEN	Goalkeeper	14/01/2003	Svendborg, DEN	193	119
23	Christopher Sundsgaard	Dreyer	DEN	Left Back	16/03/2002	Svendborg, DEN	194	100
15	Emil Buhl	Lærke	DEN	Left Back	04/06/1999	Lejre, DEN	203	108
43	Emil La Cour	Andersen	DEN	Left Wing	13/02/2001	Svendborg, DEN	176	74
11	Emil Wernsdorf	Madsen	DEN	Right Back	01/01/2001	Svendborg, DEN	194	94
C 77	Frederik Kiehn	Clausen	DEN	Left Back	29/06/1995	Svendborg, DEN	197	102
29	Hjalte	Lykke	DEN	Right Back	05/10/2004	Aarhus, DEN	177	68
9	Jerry	Tollbring	SWE	Left Wing	13/09/1995	Rimbo, SWE	182	80
26	Joachim Lyng	Als	DEN	Left Wing	07/04/2003	København, DEN	200	96
21	Kasper Emil	Kildelund	DEN	Right Wing	11/05/1994	Svendborg, DEN	183	82
5	Lasse Mathias	Pedersen	DEN	Centre Back	08/03/2002	Assens, DEN	196	96
14	Lukas Lindhard	Jørgensen	DEN	Line Player	31/03/1999	Lejre, DEN	193	115
28	Mads Jacob Kragh	Thomsen	DEN	Line Player	13/10/2002	Favrskov, DEN	202	108
19	Mathias	Gidsel	DEN	Right Back	08/02/1999	Herning, DEN	190	93
6	Mathias Rhode	Larson	DEN	Centre Back	09/03/2001	Favrskov, DEN	186	85
12	Matthias Rene Rex	Dorgelo	DEN	Goalkeeper	31/10/2002	Odense, DEN	200	108
34	Morten Toft	Olsen	DEN	Centre Back	11/10/1984	Lejre, DEN	184	95
17	Oscar	Bergendahl	SWE	Line Player	08/03/1995	Vallda, SWE	192	110
27	Simon Bak	Ostersen	DEN	Right Back	18/10/2002	Ringkøbing-Skjern, DEN	193	94
2	Simon Bogetoft	Pytlick	DEN	Left Back	11/12/2000	Svendborg, DEN	193	98
30	Torbjoern Sittrup	Bergerud	NOR	Goalkeeper	16/07/1994	Drammen, NOR	199	110
16	Viktor	Hallgrímsson	ISL	Goalkeeper	24/07/2000	Reykjavik, ISL	203	115
31	Viktor	Vlastos	DEN	Right Wing	24/09/2000	Grækenland, DEN	177	78



MATHIAS GIDSEL

 @gidsel

Right back

- born in Skjern in 1999
- came from “nowhere” and is now considered one of the best right backs in the world
- made a huge mark last season and will have an even bigger role this year
- has already signed for Füchse Berlin for the 2022/23 season

OG: S 2020; WCh: G 2021



JERRY TOLLBRING

 @tollbring

Left wing

- moved to the club in the summer of 2021
- before that played at Rhein-Neckar Löwen
- won three domestic championships at IFK Kristianstad in Sweden
- was part of the Swedish national side that earned a silver medal at EHF EURO 2018

EURO: S 2018



TORBJÖRN BERGERUD

 @tsbergerud

Goalkeeper

- joined the club in the summer of 2021
- saved more shots (90) than any other goalkeeper at EHF EURO 2020
- had breakthrough at EHF EURO 2016 in Poland, where Norway reached semi-finals
- played for Drammen, Lund, Holstebro and Flensburg before joining GOG

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



MORTEN OLSEN

Centre back

- one of a few players in the GOG squad that are at the end of their careers
- still has one of the best shots from the floor
- started his career in GOG and since last season he is back in “his” club
- has won three gold medals with Denmark’s national team

OG: G 2016, S 2020; WCh: G 2019, G 2021

GROUP B



Club contact

Club Address

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1500-313 Lisboa
Portugal

Media contact

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

 SLBenfica

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

Kit colours

Light

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

Dark

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



Playing hall

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

SL BENFICA



SL Benfica will compete in the group phase of the EHF European League Men for the first time. When “The Eagles” competed in the EHF Cup group phase in 2019/20, they shone against opponents such as MT Melsungen and Bjerringbro-Silkeborg, a sign of what they are capable of.

Benfica will play in group B, where HBC Nantes will be one of their opponents, current home of Portuguese internationals Alexandre Cavalcanti, a former Benfica player, and Pedro Portela.

- **beat HC Kriens-Luzern and Rhein-Neckar Löwen in qualification**
- **SL Benfica took third place in the Portuguese league last season**
- **former Montpellier and FC Porto line player Alexis Borges is the club’s biggest addition**
- **other big summer signings include Rogerio Moraes and Jonas Källman**

SL Benfica are playing a very exciting brand of handball, which was demonstrated by the 64 goals that they scored in two matches against Rhein-Neckar Löwen, and they look capable of causing more upsets this season.

With Chema Rodriguez at the helm as coach and a squad full of talent, the Portuguese team have many cards to play against the tough opponents that await in group B.

Coach Rodriguez has demonstrated his confidence in the squad, but he is aware that bigger tests are on the horizon. He said: “The goals of the team are to go as far as possible in the competition. We have a tough group.”

Missing out on the group phase last season reminded everyone at Benfica of the significance of playing in Europe and team captain Paulo Moreno wants his side to make a prolonged run in the EHF European League: “This year we secured our presence in the group stage of EHF European League, so we want to make history.”

PAST ACHIEVEMENTS

EHF Champions League

Qualification (1): 2008/09

EHF Cup

Group phase (2): 2016/17, 2019/20*

Cup Winners' Cup

Quarter-finals (1): 2011/2

Challenge Cup

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

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

Portuguese league

7 titles (1961/62, 1974/75, 1981/82, 1982/83, 1988/89, 1989/90, 2007/08)

Portuguese cup

6 titles (1984/85, 1985/86, 1986/87, 2010/11, 2015/16, 2017/18)

Portuguese super cup

6 titles (1989, 1993, 2010, 2012, 2016)

*The season was cancelled due to the Covid-19 pandemic





CHEMA RODRIGUEZ

Coach

- has transformed Benfica's way of playing since arriving as head coach last season
- was assistant coach for Hungary's men's national team before moving to Lisbon
- as a player, he won two CL titles and one WCh title

EC trophies: CL 2008, 2009
WCh: G 2005 (as a player)

NEW/COMERS

Demis Grigoras (Chambery Savoie Mont Blanc Handball),
Rogerio Moraes (Telekom Veszprém HC),
Alexis Borges (Montpellier HB),
Tadej Kljun (RK Celje Pivovarna Laško),
Jonas Källman (Pick Szeged)

LEFT THE CLUB

Joao Pais (retired),
Matic Suholeznik (RK Celje Pivovarna Laško), Alix
Kevynn Nyokas (HC Vardar 1961),
Pedro Loureiro (without club)

TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height	Weight
77	Afonso	Marques	POR	Centre Back	21/04/2003	Lisboa, POR	186	80
22	Alexis	Borges	POR	Line Player	06/10/1991	Cuba, CUB	197	116
9	Arnau	Garcia	ESP	Left Back	12/06/1994	Granollers, ESP	197	95
11	Belone	Moreira	POR	Centre Back	01/06/1990	Lisboa, POR	180	78
19	Carlos	Martins	POR	Right Wing	14/06/1994	Moimenta da Beira, POR	176	76
30	Demis Cosmin	Grigoras	ROU	Right Back	30/06/1993	Vaslui, ROU	195	97
18	Diogo	Campos	POR	Left Wing	07/07/2004	Leiria, POR	181	80
39	Duarte	Pereira	POR	Right Wing	06/06/2003	Corroios, POR	176	70
50	Francisco	Pereira	POR	Centre Back	26/03/1999	Lamego, POR	190	93
27	Gabriel	Sequeira	POR		12/07/2006	Leiria, POR	180	70
57	Goncalo	Antunes	POR		18/10/2003	Corroios, POR	176	70
17	Guilherme	Silva	POR	Right Back	27/04/2005	Leiria, POR	181	74
41	Gustavo	Capdeville	POR	Goalkeeper	31/08/1997	Lisboa, POR	190	88
53	Joao	Bandeira	POR	Left Back	15/06/2006	Lisbon, POR	190	78
8	Jonas	Källman	SWE	Left Wing	17/07/1981	Växjö, SWE	200	93
90	Jorge	Pereira	POR	07/02/1995	Lamego, POR	186	90	
34	Jose Luciano	Costa	BRA	Left Back	19/02/2002	Acre, BRA	198	103
24	Lazar	Kukic	SRB	Centre Back	12/12/1995	Beograd, SRB	188	90
15	Lucas	Ribeiro	POR	Line Player	22/01/2002	Marinha Grande, POR	194	92
7	Mahamadou	Keita	FRA	Left Wing	18/07/1995	Paris, FRA	190	90
23	Ole	Rahmel	GER	Right Wing	19/11/1989	Achim, GER	190	92
C 13	Paulo	Moreno	CPV	Line Player	08/05/1992	Lisboa, POR	194	110
12	Pedro	Tonicher	POR	Goalkeeper	16/01/2003	Lisboa, POR	190	87
44	Petar	Djordjic	SRB	Left Back	17/09/1990	Sabac, SRB	196	96
16	Rodrigo	Ferreira	POR	Goalkeeper	17/04/2002	Lisboa, POR	190	90
31	Rogério	Moraes	BRA	Line Player	11/01/1994	Abaetetuba, BRA	204	122
25	Sergey	Hernandez	ESP	Goalkeeper	17/06/1995	Kropotkin, RUS	197	95
33	Tadej	Kljun	SLO	Right Back	18/04/2001	Postojna, SLO	196	86



JONAS KÄLLMAN

 @jonas_kallman

Left wing

- experienced Swedish international belongs to the tallest wing players on the European courts
- joined Benfica after seven years with Pick Szeged
- spent more than a decade in Spain with Ciudad Real and Atlético Madrid before returning home (IFK Skövde) and signing with Szeged

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



ALEXIS BORGES

 @alexisborges22

Line player

- played for FC Porto, Barça and Montpellier
- won several titles in Portugal and Spain
- one of the most important players for Benfica in both attack and defence
- with his great mentality, he adds quality and a lot of experience to the team



PETAR DJORDJIC

 @djordjic17

Left back

- son of Zoran Djordjic, who represented Yugoslavia in five major tournaments
- known for his impulsive play and shooting power, he is a vital player for Benfica
- previously played in Germany for Wetzlar, Flensburg and Hamburg
- won the Belarusian championship with Meshkov Brest



OLE RAHMEL

Right wing

- German international who played for THW Kiel for three seasons before joining Benfica in 2020/21
- began his professional handball career in Germany with VfL Gummersbach
- a true expert from the seven-metre line and renowned for his technical ability



GROUP C PREVIEW

FIVE TEAMS CHASING DEFENDING CHAMPIONS MAGDEBURG

Group C of the EHF European League is welcoming some old and some new faces. Just like last season, reigning champions SC Magdeburg will face long-time participants RK Nexe. BM Logroño La Rioja are back after a year of missing out, just like Gorenje Velenje, who played the EHF European Cup. All of them will meet with somewhat less experienced contenders when it comes to second-tier European competition: PAUC Handball and IK Sävehof. Magdeburg the heavyweight in group C with a wide squad ready for big things. Small changes in the team and promising new signings will give Bennet Wiegert's team a further boast. Magdeburg have five titles in European competitions and the last one was the premier EHF European League title, after beating fellow Bundesliga side Füchse Berlin in the final.

RK Nexe are ready for their 13th consecutive season in Europe's second-tier competition. With overcoming a six-goal deficit in qualification round 2, versus Bjerringbro-Silkeborg, the 'Thunders from Krndija hill' showed they are a strong team. They will give their best in keeping up with their opponents with a mixture of experienced players and new ones, like Predrag Vejin, Andraž Velkavrh and Luka Moslavac. Four French teams are in the group phase, and PAUC Handball are one of them. The team from Aix-en-Provence are still relatively inexperienced in Europe, following their international debut in the EHF Cup 2018/19 season. Their strong performances in the French league and powerful win against ØIF Arendal in qualification round 2 secured them their third international season.

BM Logroño La Rioja had a tricky couple of years after being regulars in the EHF Champions League but managed to come back. They finished among the top five teams in the Spanish ASOBAL league and after a year without a European appearance, Miguel Angel Velacios' team is back after defeating last season's European League participants and Spanish rivals Abanca Ademar Leon. Gorenje Velenje returned to the throne in Slovenia after eight years. It came as a reward for the former EHF Champions League participants, who want to develop young talents through tough matches. After reaching the semi-final of the EHF European Cup last season, and losing to AEK Athens, Zoran Jovičić's team is looking for new experiences.

Swedish champions IK Sävehof are back in European handball, after they played in the EHF Champions League two years ago but had otherwise not competed internationally since winning the Challenge Cup in 2013/14. Their young players will try to gain as much experience as possible with a strong wish to be among the Last 16 teams. With a backup of experienced players, like Sebastian Karlsson and Jonathan Stenbäcken, they plan to leave their mark on this season's EHF European League.

I GROUP C HEAD-TO-HEADS

HISTORIC ENCOUNTERS OF THE GROUP C OPPONENTS IN THE EUROPEAN CLUB COMPETITIONS

SC Magdeburg vs IK Sävehof 1-1-0 (47:41) 3:1

13.10.1996	IK Sävehof vs Sportclub Magdeburg, Cup Winners' Cup – Round 2	19:25 (12:11)
19.10.1996	Sportclub Magdeburg vs IK Sävehof, Cup Winners' Cup – Round 2	22:22 (13:9)

SC Magdeburg vs RK Gorenje Velenje 1-0-0 (32:26) 2:0

09.02.2020	SC Magdeburg vs RK Gorenje Velenje, EHF Cup – Group C	32:26 (15:13)
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SC Magdeburg vs PAUC Handball

No previous encounters in European competitions

SC Magdeburg vs BM Logroño La Rioja

No previous encounters in European competitions

SC Magdeburg vs RK Nexe 5-0-1 (175:149) 10:2

11.02.2012	SC Magdeburg vs RK Nexe Nasice, EHF Cup – Last 16	33:31 (17:13)
18.02.2012	RK Nexe Nasice vs SC Magdeburg, EHF Cup – Last 16	22:21 (10:6)
19.11.2016	SC Magdeburg vs RK Nexe, EHF Cup – Qualification Round 3	31:22 (17:12)
26.11.2016	RK Nexe vs SC Magdeburg, EHF Cup – Qualification Round 3	27:30 (12:14)
01.12.2020	RK Nexe vs SC Magdeburg, EHF European League – Group C	24:32 (8:15)
08.12.2020	SC Magdeburg vs RK Nexe, EHF European League – Group C	28:23 (17:10)

IK Sävehof vs RK Gorenje Velenje

No previous encounters in European competitions

IK Sävehof vs PAUC Handball

No previous encounters in European competitions

IK Sävehof vs BM Logroño La Rioja

No previous encounters in European competitions

IK Sävehof vs RK Nexe

No previous encounters in European competitions

RK Gorenje Velenje vs PAUC Handball

No previous encounters in European competitions

RK Gorenje Velenje vs BM Logroño La Rioja 1-0-1 (64:62) 2:2

16.11.2013	Naturhouse La Rioja vs RK Gorenje Velenje, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group D	34:31 (15:13)
23.11.2013	RK Gorenje Velenje vs Naturhouse La Rioja, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group D	33:28 (15:14)

RK Gorenje Velenje vs RK Nexe 1-0-1 (61:56) 2:2

21.11.2010	RK Gorenje Velenje vs RK Nexe Nasice, EHF Cup – Round 3	33:24 (18:14)
27.11.2010	RK Nexe Nasice vs RK Gorenje Velenje, EHF Cup – Round 3	32:28 (16:14)

PAUC Handball vs BM Logroño La Rioja 0-1-0 (29:29) 1:1

15.02.2020	BM Logroño La Rioja vs PAUC Handball, EHF Cup – Group D	29:29 (15:15)
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PAUC Handball vs RK Nexe

No previous encounters in European competitions

BM Logroño La Rioja vs RK Nexe

No previous encounters in European competitions

GROUP C



Club contact

Club Address

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39114 Magdeburg
Germany

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 scm-handball.de

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

 [scmagdeburg](https://twitter.com/scmagdeburg)

 [scmagdeburg](https://www.instagram.com/scmagdeburg)

Kit colours

Light

Player shirt: white
Player short: white
Goalkeeper shirt: yellow

Dark

Player shirt: green
Player short: black
Goalkeeper shirt: red or green



Playing hall

Getec Arena Magdeburg
Berliner Chaussee 32
39114 Magdeburg
Germany
Capacity: 7,800

SC MAGDEBURG



An All-Danish goalkeeper duo, a top transfer for Denmark, the return of the forgotten son, and the hopes to be successful in four competitions. But also: a short and difficult preparation period due to the Olympic Games.

This is the current situation at SC Magdeburg. The German side has qualified for the EHF European League Men 2021/22 group phase as defending champions, but coach Bennet Wiegert knows that the way to another EHF Finals tournament, let alone to make the winners' podium again, is extremely steep.

- **SC Magdeburg won the premiere of the EHF Finals in Mannheim in May, beating Füchse Berlin 28:25 in the final**
- **it was the club's fifth title in three different EHF club competitions, after winning the EHF Cup three times (1999, 20011, 2007) and the Champions League once (2002)**
- **SCM start in their 23rd international season since the founding of the EHF in 1992**
- **two of the new arrivals are Danes – line player Magnus Saugstrup (from Aalborg) and goalkeeper Mike Jensen (from Balingen) – the two others played for Magdeburg before: internationals Philipp Weber (Germany) and Kay Smits (Netherlands)**
- **Croatian line player Zeljko Musa has returned to Zagreb and Danish goalkeeper Jannick Green will move to Paris Saint-Germain in 2022**
- **European League winners lost to Barca in the final at the IHF Super Globe in Saudi Arabia in October**

Looking at the potential opponents in the EHF European League season 2021/22, defending the trophy is possible though anything but easy. "This is definitely more than only 'a little Champions League', there are so many big names," says coach Bennet Wiegert.

Like for all German teams, the burden of playing Bundesliga and an international group phase with 10 matches is hard, followed by an EHF EURO with many SC Magdeburg players likely away for weeks with their national teams. Besides, SCM have to integrate four new arrivals and two key players, who will return after long-term injuries: left wing Matthias Musche (expected in January) and playmaker Gisli Kristjansson (maybe back in December).

PAST ACHIEVEMENTS

EHF Champions League

Winners (1): 2001/02

EHF European League

Winners (1): 2020/21

EHF Cup

Winners (3): 1998/99, 2000/01, 2006/07

Champions Cup (forerunner of CL)

Winners (2): 1977/78, 1980/81

EHF Champions Trophy

Winners (3): 1980/81, 2000/01, 2001/02

German league (11)

2001 (GDR league: 1970, 1977, 1980, 1981-85, 1988, 1991)

German cup (7)

1996, 2016 (GDR Cup: 1970, 1977, 1978, 1984, 1990)





BENNET WIEGERT

Coach



@bennetwiegert

- former German international on the left wing, who played for Magdeburg from 1998-2013, except for three years
- won the CL with the club as a player in 2002, and the inaugural EHF European League as a coach in 2021
- replaced Ger Sveinsson as head coach of Magdeburg in December 2015, previously worked as director of the club's youth academy
- his father, Ingolf, won Olympic gold as a player in 1980 and later was also Magdeburg coach
- EC trophies: CL 2002 (as player); EL 2021 (as coach)

EC trophies: CL 2002 (as player); EL 2021 (as coach)

NEWCOMERS

Magnus Saugstrup (Aalborg Håndbold/DEN),
Mike Jensen (HBW Balingen-Weilstetten),
Kay Smits (Team Tvis Holstebro),
Philipp Weber (SC DHfK Leipzig)

LEFT THE CLUB

Zeljko Musa (RK Zagreb),
Christoph Steinert (HC Erlangen),
Tobias Thulin (TVB Stuttgart),
Justus Kluge (no club)

TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height	Weight
38	Alexander	Möller	GER	Centre Back	23/02/2003	Magdeburg, GER	194	
33	Carl Philipp	Haake	GER	Left Wing	30/04/2002	Magdeburg, GER	185	
C 24	Christian	O'Sullivan	NOR	Centre Back	22/08/1991	Oslo, NOR	190	
11	Daniel	Pettersson	SWE	Right Wing	06/05/1992	Eskilstuna, SWE	179	
7	Ellias	Ruddat	GER	Left Wing	12/02/2002	Magdeburg, GER	186	
36	Felix	Eißing	GER	Right Wing	14/10/2002	Magdeburg, GER	191	
10	Gisli Thorgeir	Kristjansson	ISL	Centre Back	30/07/1999	Reykjavik, ISL	191	
66	Janik	Patzwaldt	GER	Goalkeeper	22/05/2001	Magdeburg, GER	192	
16	Jannick	Green	DEN	Goalkeeper	29/09/1988	Lemvig, DEN	195	
31	KayKirstenEvert	Smits	NED	Right Back	31/03/1997	Geleen, NED	186	
35	Luka	Baumgart	GER	Right Back	05/08/1999	Magdeburg, GER	193	
22	Lukas	Mertens	GER	Left Wing	22/03/1996	Wilhelmshaven, GER	182	
21	Magnus	Gullerud	NOR	Line Player	13/11/1991	Kongsvinger, NOR	194	
23	MagnusSaugstrup	Jensen	DEN	Line Player	12/07/1996	Aalborg, DEN	195	
25	Marko	Bezjak	SLO	Centre Back	26/06/1986	Ptuj, SLO	184	
6	Matthias	Musche	GER	Left Wing	18/07/1992	Magdeburg, GER	186	
34	Michael	Damgaard	DEN	Left Back	18/03/1990	Lolland, DEN	192	
1	Mike	Jensen	DEN	Goalkeeper	26/02/1995	Maribo, DEN	207	
95	Moritz	Preuß	GER	Line Player	22/02/1995	Dachau, GER	194	
1	Niclas	Behrendt	GER	Goalkeeper	11/01/2002	Wittorf, GER	192	
39	Ole	Schramm	GER	Left Back	28/12/1999	Magdeburg, GER	193	
14	Ómar Ingi	Magnusson	ISL	Right Back	12/03/1997	Selfoss, ISL	184	
41	Oskar	Schöll	GER	Centre Back	24/03/2001	Magdeburg, GER	181	
20	Philipp	Weber	GER	Left Back	15/09/1992	Schönebeck, GER	194	
3	Piotr	Chrapkowski	POL	Left Back	24/03/1988	Goreczno, POL	202	
42	Renars	Uscins	GER	Left Back	29/04/2002	Dessau, GER	189	
17	Tim	Hornke	GER	Right Wing	04/08/1990	Hannover, GER	189	
37	Tim	Kloor	GER	Right Wing	22/01/2002	Magdeburg, GER	186	

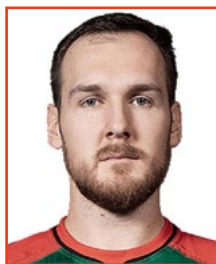


JANNICK GREEN

Goalkeeper

- Danish goalkeeper, who is in his final season with Magdeburg before joining PSG in summer of 2022
- played CL with two different clubs: Aalborg and Bjerringbro, before arriving in Magdeburg in 2014
- undisputed No. 1 at Magdeburg since Dario Quenstedt moved to THW Kiel in 2019
- his mother was Danish international, his father coached him at Lemvig

EC trophies: EL 2021
OG: G 2016; EURO: S 2014; WCh: G 2019, S 2013



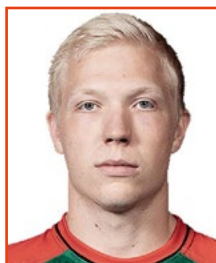
CHRISTIAN O'SULLIVAN

@christianosullivan24

Centre back

- team captain of Magdeburg and key player for Norwegian national team
- arrived from Swedish side IFK Kristianstad in 2016 at SCM, has meanwhile extended his contract until 2024
- his motto for handball is: I want to make my teammates better
- son of a British handball international, he was asked to become captain of the GB team for 2012 London Olympics but he did not want to change citizenship

EC trophies: EL 2021
EURO: B 2020; WCh: S 2017, 2019



MAGNUS SAUGSTRUP

Line player

- joined Magdeburg after impressive season with Aalborg, reaching CL final in 2020/21
- arrived at Aalborg at the age of 18 - and played more than 250 matches for the club
- was the X-factor for Denmark at the WCh 2021, scoring 29 goals, 17 of them in the knock-out stage * the EHF EURO 2020 was his first major tournament in the Danish national team



ÓMAR INGI MAGNÚSSON

@omaringim

Right back

- Icelandic back, who joined Magdeburg in summer of 2020 after four years in Denmark, with Aarhus and Aalborg, respectively
- was top scorer of German Bundesliga and second-best EL scorer in 2020/21
- forms back-court duo with fellow Icelandic player Gisli Kristjánsson
- made national team debut for Iceland at age 18, and bronze and was member of All-star Team at Junior WCh in 2015

EC trophies: EL 2021

GROUP C



Club contact

Club Address

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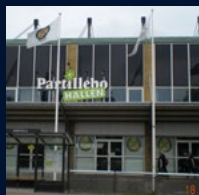
Kit colours

Light

Player shirt: yellow
Player short: black
Goalkeeper shirt: green

Dark

Player shirt: black
Player short: black
Goalkeeper shirt: blue or orange



Playing hall

Partillebohallen
Gamla Kronvägen 56
43300 Partille
Sweden
Capacity: 2,000

IK SÄVEHOF



Last season IK Sävehof repeated their 2018/19 glory in the domestic league, staying unbeaten through the play-offs and clinching their seventh national Swedish title.

The success came two years after Sävehof had ended the four-year reign of IFK Kristianstad. The following year the title was not awarded amid the coronavirus pandemic.

Now the team from Partille, once winners of the Challenge Cup and regular participants in the EHF Champions League, returns to European handball.

They will compete in the group phase of the EHF European League Men, boasting a team with exciting young talents like Elias Ellefsen á Skipagøtu, but also experienced players like Sebastian Karlsson and Jonathan Stenbäckén.

- **seeded for the EHF European League group phase as the 2020/21 Swedish champions**
- **they last played in Europe in 2019/20, when both the men's and the women's team of Sävehof played in the EHF Champions League**
- **biggest signing in the off-season was Jonathan Stenbäckén, former Swedish international and Danish league winner with Skjern Håndbold**
- **other newcomers include Alexander Westby, coming from EHF Champions League side Elverum**

Every season the biggest club in Swedish men's handball has to replace several players leaving for new challenges. Ahead of the 2020/21 campaign Sävehof lost captain Jonathan Edvardsson, Danish standout Henrik Tilsted, and defensive specialist Christoffer Brännberger.

However, the club managed to keep one of its biggest talent on board: Elias Ellefsen á Skipagøtu. The 19-year-old showed last season he has all the tools in his toolbox to become a future star of the game.

Do Sävehof boast enough power and quality to stand the test, both in Europe and in the Swedish league?

"We would like to go as far as possible. It is very important for us to play in Europe to develop and give our young players as much experience as possible," says team manager Emil Berggren.

PAST ACHIEVEMENTS

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

Challenge Cup: Winners (1): 2013/14

Swedish league

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





MICHAEL APELGREN

Coach

 @apel84

- former Swedish international, who arrived in Sävehof as head coach in 2020 to replace Kristian Berndtsson
- won Swedish league title with Sävehof in his first season in charge
- previously worked at Elverum for six seasons, and led them to five straight Norwegian league titles
- played as a right back for Sävehof (2010-13) and Elverum (2014-16), and also had two stints at Spanish clubs during his playing career
- won Junior WCh with Sweden in 2003 but played only five games for the senior national team

NEW/COMERS

Alexander Westby (Elverum Håndball),
Marcus Lennernäs (Skånela IF),
Jonathan Stenbäcken (Skjern Håndbold),
Olle Ek (IF Hallby)

LEFT THE CLUB

Jonathan Edvardsson (TSV Hannover-Burgdorf),
Henrik Tilsted (Bjerringbro-Silkeborg),
Eric Westergren (OV Helsingborg),
Henrik Rhåsson (Kungälv's HK),
Christoffer Brännberger (Önnereds HK)

TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height	Weight
6	Adam	Blanche	SWE	Line Player	18/10/2000	Stockholm, SWE	193	
7	Alexander	Ørjevik Westby	NOR	Left Wing	26/03/1993	Lørenskog, NOR	185	
33	Arvid	Noren	SWE	Goalkeeper	21/02/2004	Göteborg, SWE	189	
12	Bertram	Obling	DEN	Goalkeeper	26/09/1995	Aarhus, DEN	193	
25	Elias	EllefsenaSkipagotu	FAR	Centre Back	19/05/2002	Copenhagen, FAR	186	
31	Elias	Lundqvist	SWE	Right Back	13/01/2003	Göteborg, SWE	184	
45	Elmer	Tilly	SWE	Left Wing	27/10/2003	Göteborg, SWE	187	
3	Emil	Berlin	SWE	Right Back	24/02/2001	Göteborg, SWE	184	
50	Felix	Möller	SWE	Line Player	04/09/2002	Göteborg, SWE	194	
22	Gzim	Salih	SWE	Right Back	12/03/1998	Göteborg, SWE	197	
11	Jonathan	Stenbäcken	SWE	Left Back	07/01/1988	Vårgårda, SWE	195	
8	Kelvin	Roberts	SWE	Left Back	17/01/2003	Göteborg, SWE	193	
36	Leon	Ring	SWE	Centre Back	06/02/2003	Göteborg, SWE	188	
35	Lukas	Radberg	SWE	Left Back	18/04/2003	Göteborg, SWE	207	
25	Malte	Celander	SWE	Right Wing	18/03/2002	Göteborg, SWE	193	
28	Marcus	Lennerhäls	SWE	Right Back	24/04/2002	Uppsala, SWE	198	
1	Mattias	Wighall	SWE	Goalkeeper	20/05/2002	Göteborg, SWE	203	
14	Olle	Ek	SWE	Centre Back	01/11/1997	Jönköping, SWE	188	
30	Philip	Karlefeldt	SWE	Line Player	10/09/2002	Sävedalen, SWE	197	
18	Pontus	Brolin	SWE	Left Back	25/12/2000	Eskilstuna, SWE	193	
64	Rune	Schrøder	DEN	Left Back	27/08/1995	Tönder, SWE	196	
C 34	Sebastian	Karlsson	SWE	Right Wing	21/01/1995	Göteborg, SWE	178	
17	Sebastian	Spante	SWE	Left Wing	26/07/2000	Göteborg, SWE	176	
12	Simon	Möller	SWE	Goalkeeper	02/07/2000	Lubz, SWE	190	
14	Theodor	Claesson	SWE	Centre Back	08/09/2002	Vetlanda, SWE	183	
9	Vetle	Aga Eck	NOR	Centre Back	04/10/1993	Bodö, NOR	193	

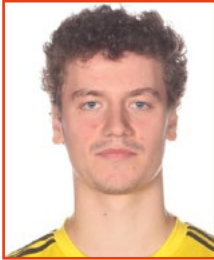


BERTRAM OBLING

 @oblingbertram

Goalkeeper

- Danish goalkeeper who arrived at Sävehof from Norwegian side Halden in summer of 2020
- key player for Sävehof on their way to the 2020/21 national title in Sweden
- gained European experience with Halden in Challenge Cup 2019/20 and was named Goalkeeper of the Year in Norway
- Previously played for Skanderborg in his native Denmark



ELIAS ELLEFSEN A SKIPAGØTU

Centre back

- born in Copenhagen, Denmark in 2002 but moved to Faroe Islands at a young age
- regarded by many as the biggest handball talent ever from Faroe Islands
- played Challenge Cup with Faroese club H71 in 2019/20
- made name for himself internationally by guiding Faroese U17 national team to title at European Open 2019 in Sweden, where he was awarded MVP
- shoots almost equally well with both hands

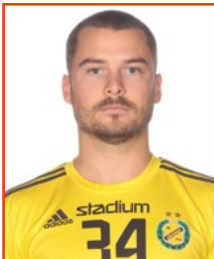


FELIX MÖLLER

 @felix_molle

Line player

- Swedish line player but born in Germany in 2002, since his dad Peter played in Hamburg at that time
- considered one of biggest line player talents in Sweden, came through youth ranks of Sävehof
- was already part of Sävehof's CL squad in 2019/20
- had breakthrough season in 2020/21, when Sävehof won the Swedish championship



SEBASTIAN KARLSSON

 @sebbepercy

Right wing

- Swedish wing, who has spent whole his playing career at Sävehof
- made his debut in the senior team of Sävehof in 2013/14, and helped the team win the Challenge Cup in his first season
- had his most productive season in 2017/18, scoring 142 goals in the Swedish league
- also talented soccer player, but ultimately opted for handball

EC trophies: Challenge Cup 2014

GROUP C



Club contact

Club Address

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3320 Velenje
Slovenia

Media contact

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 rk-gorenje.com

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

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

Kit colours

Light

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

Dark

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



Playing hall

Rdeca Dvorana
Saleska cesta 3
3320 Velenje
Slovenia
Capacity: 2,500

RK GORENJE VELENJE



RK Gorenje Velenje returned to the domestic throne after eight years last season, beating Celje to the Slovenian league title for the first time since 2012/13. It marked the finish to an already successful season, as they reached the semi-final of the EHF European Cup and only narrowly lost to eventual champions AEK Athens.

It has been four years since Velenje last played in the EHF Champions League and the club has gone through some changes since, now mainly relying on young talents who might have a lot to show in the upcoming EHF European League season.

- **Velenje are back in Europe's second-tier competition after one year in the European Cup**
- **reaching the final of the EHF Cup 2008/09 remains their biggest international success**
- **coach Zoran Jovičić is in his fourth season after taking over in 2018**
- **the team underwent only few changes to the squad over the summer**
- **team captain is experienced David Miklavčič, who joined in 2018/19 from HC PPD Zagreb**

Velenje topped the Slovenian league last season with 23 wins out of 26 matches, ending the seven-year dominance of Celje. The team has both experienced players and young talents and is led by captain David Miklavčič, who returned to the club three seasons ago after years abroad.

“Playing in the EHF European League is a reward for winning the title of national champion in Slovenia. We are aware that this is a high-quality competition and a great challenge for the club. We will do our best to represent Slovenian handball,” says club manager Janez Gams.

After their run to the EHF European Cup semi-final last season, the yellow-and-black team is looking forward to more exciting matches, which will be of great value to the young team.

“Appearances in European competitions are extremely important for our club. In addition to confirming our good work, it is a great opportunity to develop players who are, in our case, very young and largely educated in our own handball academy,” says Gams.

PAST ACHIEVEMENTS

EHF Champions League

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

Main round (1): 2007/08

Group phase (2): 2004/05, 2017/18

EHF Cup

Final (1): 2008/09; Semi-final (2): 1994/95, 2014/15; Quar-

ter-final (3): 1996/97, 2010/11, 2011/12; Group phase: (1):

2019/20

EHF European Cup

Semi-final (1): 2020/21

Cup Winners' Cup

Semi-final (1): 2003/04; Quarter-final (1): 2004/05

Slovenian league

4 titles (2009, 2012, 2013, 2021)

Slovenian cup

2 titles (2003, 2019)





ZORAN JOVIČIĆ

Coach

- former Slovenian international, at the helm in Velenje since 2018, previously worked at Slovan and Koper
- was a left wing, who gained his first European cup experience in the 1990s with Gradec in the EHF Cup
- played four seasons in total in the CL, for Ljubljana, Kozina, and Koper
- played 140 matches and scored more than 400 goals for the Slovenian national team

ECh: S 2004 (as player)

NEW/COMERS

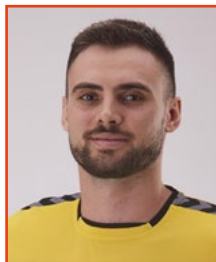
Peter Šiško (MRK Ljubljana),
Kristian Eskeričić (RD Riko Ribnica)

LEFT THE CLUB

Miha Kavčič (RK Nexe)

TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height	Weight
47	Aleks	Kavcic	SLO	Left Back	15/05/1996	Škofja Loka, SLO	186	
16	Aljaz	Panjtar	SLO	Goalkeeper	20/08/1991	Kranj, SLO	183	
12	Aljaz	Verboten	SLO	Goalkeeper	26/04/2002	Slovenj Gradec, SLO	183	
35	Branko	Predovic	SRB	Line Player	28/08/2002	Novi Sad, SRB	191	
C 18	David	Miklavcic	SLO	Right Back	29/01/1983	Ljubljana, SLO	195	
9	Domen	Tajnik	SLO	Centre Back	31/10/2000	Slovenj Gradec, SLO	182	
32	Emir	Taletovic	SLO	Goalkeeper	09/01/1990	Slovenj Gradec, SLO	187	
33	Enej	Slatinek Jovicic	SLO	Left Back	06/12/2000	Ljubljana, SLO	185	
8	Ibrahim	Haseljic	BIH	Right Wing	14/01/1998	Tuzla, BIH	192	
20	Jernej	Drobez	SLO	Line Player	06/01/2000	Slovenj Gradec, SLO	195	
11	Kenan	Pajt	SLO	Right Wing	30/10/1998	Slovenj Gradec, SLO	182	
26	Kristijan	Eskericic	CRO	Right Back	02/06/1994	Djakovo, CRO	197	
48	Matic	Ravnikar	SLO	Centre Back	22/01/2003	Celje, SLO	182	
25	Matic	Verdinek	SLO	Left Wing	13/04/1994	Celje, SLO	188	
34	Peter	Sisko	SLO	Left Back	16/02/2001	Novo Mesto, SLO	192	
34	Tarik	Mlivic	SLO	Left Back	21/04/2003	Celje, SLO	195	
13	Tarik	Velic	BIH	Right Back	08/01/2003	Sarajevo, BIH	198	
24	Tilen	Sokolic	SLO	Left Wing	05/09/1996	Koper, SLO	180	
28	Timotej	Grmsek	SLO	Right Back	19/05/2000	Ljubljana, SLO	192	
17	Urban	Starc	SLO	Line Player	01/02/2001	Trbovlje, SLO	196	

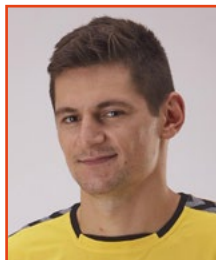


TILEN SOKOLIČ

 @tilensokolic

Left wing

- joined Velenje in summer of 2020 and scored 41 times in the club's run to the EHF European Cup semi-final
- started playing handball in Koper, had his first senior season in 2012
- member of youth and junior national team, part of All-star Team at the youth WCh in 2015
- can also play at the backcourt position as a playmaker



ALEKS KAVČIČ

 @akavc47

Centre back

- came to Velenje in 2018 from Škofja Loka, where he started playing handball
- one of the key players for Velenje in their EHF European Cup 2020/21 campaign, scoring 58 goals in total
- was member of youth and junior national teams
- his brother Miha also plays handball



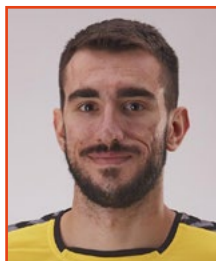
DAVID MIKLAVČIČ

 @davidmiklavcic

Right back

- returned from HC PPD Zagreb in 2018
- in his late 30s, a very experienced backcourt player, who is also the team captain
- played for several Slovenian clubs and had a one-year stint at HC Dinamo Minsk in Belarus
- tall and physically strong back with a fine variety of shots

WCh: B 2017



IBRAHIM HASELJIĆ

 @ibrahimhaseljic

Right wing

- Bosnian international, who arrived in Velenje at the start of the 2016/17 season
- started playing handball at the age of 12
- his first club was HC Gradačac, from where he joined Velenje
- member of Bosnia and Herzegovina national team, making his debut in the EHF EURO 2020 qualifiers in 2019

GROUP C



Club contact

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

 [pauchandball](https://twitter.com/pauchandball)

 [pauchandballofficiel](https://www.instagram.com/pauchandballofficiel)

Kit colours

Light

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

Dark

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



Playing hall

Arena Du Pays D' Aix
1955 Rue Claude Nicolas
Ledoux
13290 Aix en Provence
France
Capacity: 6,003

PAUC HANDBALL



Playing in a European Cup competition for the fourth time, PAUC Handball nourish big ambitions for the future.

With a squad that recorded the club's best result in the French league last season, PAUC will first look to progress from group C of the EHF European League Men.

- **PAUC finished fourth in the French league last season – their highest league placing**
- **in qualification round 2, PAUC defeated Norwegian side ØIF Arendal 67:49 on aggregate**
- **Bidasoa Irun beat PAUC in qualification round 1 of the EHF European League 2020/21**
- **PAUC's best result in the EHF Cup was reaching the group phase in 2019/20**
- **PAUC only signed three new players in the summer: goalkeeper Alejandro Romero, right back Micke Brasseleur and left back Romain Lagarde**

For the last few seasons, PAUC have become a team that count in France. Signing established players such as William Accambray, Nicolas Claire and Vid Kavtichnik brought talent to the young club before coach Thierry Anti arrived in the summer of 2020.

The coach brought everything together and thanks to a stunning start to the season, PAUC finished fourth in the French league for the first time. While the team has not changed much and Romain Lagarde has added some power to the back court, it is time for PAUC to display their strengths all over the continent.

Thierry Anti, the former coach of HBC Nantes and Sporting CP, is pretty confident that his team can have big ambitions in the competition. He said: "Now we are in the group stages, our objectives are, of course, to get out of this group and the real objective of the season will be to participate in the last four. It will be extraordinary for us."

PAST ACHIEVEMENTS

EHF European League

Qualification round 1 (1): 2020/21

EHF Cup

Group phase (1): 2019/20

Second qualifying round (1): 2018/19





THIERRY ANTI

Coach

 @antithierry

- PAUC is his sixth club since he began his coaching career at Créteil in 1988
- most famous for leading HBC Nantes to the VELUX EHF FINAL4 in 2018
- moved to Portugal in 2019, his first international experience, before returning to France the following year
- one of the most experienced French coaches, alongside Montpellier's Patrice Canayer

NEW/COMERS

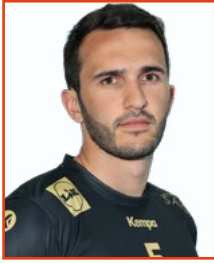
Alejandro Romero (Pontault-Combault Handball),
Romain Lagarde (Rhein-Neckar Löwen),
Micke Brasseur (Limoges Handball)

LEFT THE CLUB


Baptiste Bonnefond (HC Meshkov Brest),
Imanol Garciandia (Pick Szeged),
Javier Munoz (Saran Handball),
Samuel Honrubia (Istres Provence Handball),
Sandro Mestric (RD Riko Ribnica),
Rok Zaponsek (HC Kriens-Luzern)

TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height	Weight
1	Alejandro	Romero	CUB	Goalkeeper	17/09/1994	Havana, CUB	198	95
10	Baptiste	Barthelemy	FRA	Left Back	25/12/2000	Aix, FRA	193	80
13	Florian	Maurel	FRA	Right Wing	11/07/2002	Marseille, FRA	183	78
8	Gabriel	Loesch	FRA	Right Wing	12/12/1995	Marignane, FRA	182	73
25	Goran	Levvasseur	FRA	Left Wing	13/12/2003	Paris, FRA	184	70
90	Horace	Quintin	FRA	Left Wing	21/08/1999	Aix, FRA	186	69
2	Hugo	Cabanes	FRA	Right Wing	02/10/2000	Aix, FRA	184	72
28	Ian	Tarrafeta	ESP	Centre Back	04/01/1999	Sabadell, ESP	188	88
7	Inaki	Pecina	ESP	Line Player	31/05/1988	Irún, ESP	200	104
18	Ivan	Filipovic	CRO	Left Wing	01/11/2000	Zenica, BIH	185	92
99	Kalim	Zahaf	FRA	Goalkeeper	30/06/2002	Genève, SUI	189	76
22	Karl	Konan	FRA	Left Back	03/06/1995	Cocody, CIV	197	96
3	Kristján Örn	Kristjánsson	ISL	Right Back	25/12/1997	Reykjavik, ISL	190	82
95	Marko	Racic	CRO	Line Player	04/03/1998	Wien, AUT	209	123
4	Matthieu	Ong	FRA	Left Wing	12/07/1992	Clichy, FRA	180	70
93	Micke	Brasseur	FRA	Right Back	16/04/1993	Paris, FRA	198	92
C 77	Nicolas	Claire	FRA	Centre Back	10/07/1987	Saint-Denis de la Réunion, FRA	186	86
30	Noah	Teffah	FRA	Centre Back	16/06/2003	Paris, FRA	190	90
20	Predrag	Mijatovic	SRB	Goalkeeper	15/02/2002	Prokuplje, SRB	198	95
5	Romain	Lagarde	FRA	Left Back	05/03/1997	Lorient, FRA	194	95
48	Theo Jacques	Clarac	FRA	Line Player	16/12/1998	Toulouse, FRA	195	99
12	Wesley	Pardin	FRA	Goalkeeper	01/01/1990	Le Lamantin, FRA	195	110
21	William	Accambray	FRA	Left Back	08/04/1988	Cannes, FRA	194	94
29	Yanis	Abie Resende	FRA	Line Player	22/06/2001	Pontoise, FRA	193	93



ROMAIN LAGARDE

 @romainl56

Left back

- eager to return to his native country and to play for Thierry Anti again, he signed for PAUC in 2021
- played for Nantes in his younger years, but moved to Germany and joined Rhein-Neckar Löwen in 2019
- aged 24, but played in his first major competition for France aged 20 at EHF EURO 2018

EURO: B 2018; WCh: B 2019; OG: G 2020



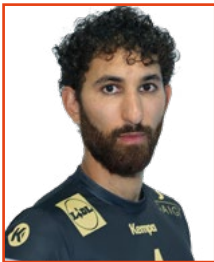
NICOLAS CLAIRE

 @nicolasclaire

Centre back

- at 34, only played for three clubs in his professional career: Paris, Nantes and PAUC (since 2019)
- has been coached by Thierry Anti at all three clubs, as the pair have a special relationship
- was named PAUC captain in the summer of 2021
- one of two PAUC players who played for Nantes at the VELUX EHF FINAL4 in 2018

EURO: B 2018; WCh: B 2019

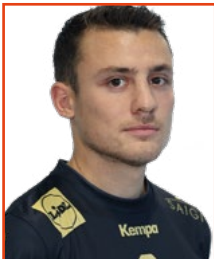


MATTHIEU ONG

 @matthieu_ong

Left wing

- the longest-serving player in the PAUC squad, and the 2021/22 season is his 10th season at the club
- the only player left at PAUC who played for the club when they were still in the French second division
- son of Bhakti Ong, famous for being Nikola and Luka Karabatic's agent
- his sister Laura is a volleyball player for France



GABRIEL LOESCH

Right wing

- born in Marignane, just a couple of kilometers from Aix en Provence, he is the local player of the team
- while having to face with prestigious right-wingers such as Vid Kavtchnik over the years, he still managed to remain number one on the position
- does not hide his ambition to play for only one club in his professional career : PAUC

GROUP C



Club contact

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BM Logroño La Rioja
Avenida de Moncalvillo 2
26007 Logrono
Spain

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+34 625 157 836
juanjoacobi@gmail.com

 cbclogrono.com

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

 [cdadlogrono](https://twitter.com/cdadlogrono)

 [cdadlogrono](https://www.instagram.com/cdadlogrono)

Kit colours

Light

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

Dark

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



Playing hall

Palacio de los deportes
de la Rioja
Avenida Moncalvillo 2
Logrono
Spain
Capacity: 3,831

BM LOGROÑO LA RIOJA



Ambitions are high at BM Logroño La Rioja, who are back in a European competition after one year.

The team has been overhauled this summer, with players from Belarus, Brazil and Cuba being ushered in, with influential players like Miguel Sanchez Migallon leaving for Lomza Vive Kielce.

The new iteration of La Rioja looks interesting on paper, especially after clearing two qualification rounds, including a superb 61:58 aggregate win against domestic league rivals Abanca Ademar Leon. If La Rioja can maintain their home form, they could be a dark horse in this group, where teams from some of the best leagues in Europe collide.

- **BM Logroño La Rioja have made a fresh start, signing eight players and letting go of another eight players**
- **La Rioja have not progressed from the group phase of any European competition since 2014/15, when they reached the Last 16 of the EHF Champions League**
- **Brazilian back Leonardo Dutra Ferreira is their top scorer coming into the group phase, with 32 goals from the qualification rounds**
- **head coach Miguel Angel Velasco Encinas has been at the club for 13 years, both as a player and as a coach**

La Rioja's form is subject to mishaps. However, after a loss against Antequera in the Spanish domestic league, they have been on the rise, with crucial wins against Abanca Ademar Leon, both in the EHF European League Men and in the Spanish ASOBAL league.

At home they are invincible, counting wins against Aguas Santas Milaneza and Leon in the European competition and against BM Sinfín in the Spanish league. Games against SC Magdeburg, PAUC or IK Sävehof will surely test their mettle, but a job well done on home court could translate in improving their chances for reaching the quarter-finals.

Their aim is surely to progress from the group stage of an European competition for the first time since the 2014/15 season, when they were eliminated by Telekom Veszprém HC in the Last 16 of the EHF Champions League.

PAST ACHIEVEMENTS

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

- (finalists 2013, 2017)





MIGUEL ANGEL VELASCO

Coach

- born in the handball-crazy village of Nava, moved to Valladolid when he was only 15 years old
- scored four goals in the CL when he played for La Rioja between 2009 and 2016
- has spent over 13 years as a player and coach for La Rioja. Recently signed an extension until 2024
- played one game for the Spanish national team

NEW/COMERS

Aliaksandr Markelau (Cocks),
Leonardo Domenech de Almeida (Al-Arabi Sports Club),
Leonardo Dutra Ferreira (Orlen Wisla Plock),
Ismael El Korchi Fernández (BM Guadalajara),
Oleg Kisselev Kisseleva (Ademar León),
Angel Jesús Rivero Noris (BM Benidorm),
Javier Rodríguez Moreno (BM Guadalajara),
Alex Rubiño Fernández (ASV Hamm-Westfalen)

LEFT THE CLUB

Rangel Luan (BM Granollers),
Erik Balenciaga (Fenix Toulouse Handball),
Rudolph Hackbarth (BM Huesca),
Miguel Sánchez Migallón Naranjo (Lomza Vive Kielce),
Delcio Pina (Ángel Ximenez Puente Genil),
Gabriel Cerreta Jung (retired),
Oswaldo Cerreta Dos Santos (Billiere Pau Pyrénées),
Domen Sikosek Pelko (HC Kriens-Luzern)

TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height	Weight
8	Agustín	Casado	ESP	Centre Back	21/05/1996	Almeria, ESP	193	93
10	Alex	Rubino	ESP	Left Wing	06/11/2000	San Sebastián, ESP	181	83
16	Aliaksandr	Markelau	BLR	Goalkeeper	05/04/1994	Gomel, BLR	193	83
5	Angel Jesus	Rivero	CUB	Right Back	24/10/1992	Havana, CUB	187	103
15	Antonio	Serradilla	ESP	Left Back	10/01/1999	Sevilla, ESP	198	95
34	David	Cadarso	ESP	Right Wing	14/12/2001	Logroño, ESP	192	74
33	Eduardo	Cadarso	ESP	Centre Back	13/02/1999	Logroño, ESP	189	97
26	Eduardo	Ortiz	ESP	Right Wing	12/12/2002	Logroño, ESP	184	78
51	Ernesto	Goni	ESP	Left Back	15/11/2001	Pamplona, ESP	202	103
9	Ismael	El Korchi	ESP	Centre Back	19/03/2001	Alcalá de H., ESP	198	92
19	Javier	Rodriguez	ESP	Line Player	22/07/2002	Madrid, ESP	200	98
90	Javier	Romeo	ESP	Goalkeeper	01/06/1990	Logroño, ESP	193	95
1	Jorge	Perez	ESP	Goalkeeper	17/09/2000	Zaragoza, ESP	193	87
22	Leonardo	Domenech	BRA	Line Player	02/09/1992	Campinas, BRA	198	105
3	Leonardo	Dutra	BRA	Left Back	29/03/1996	Anapolis, BRA	183	96
62	Leonardo	Vial	BRA	Goalkeeper	14/04/1987	Sao Bernardo do Campo, BRA	193	98
4	Mario	Dorado	ESP	Left Wing	21/11/1998	Sevilla, ESP	193	80
37	Oleg	Kisselev	ESP	Left Back	02/08/1997	Santander, ESP	199	100
C 20	Tomas	Moreira	ESP	Line Player	22/08/1992	Vigo, ESP	190	118



ALIAKSANDR MARKELAU

Goalkeeper

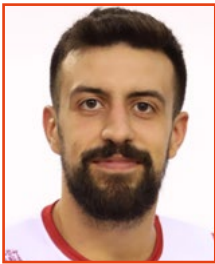
- journeyman who played in Belarus, Russia, Turkey, Romania and Finland before joining La Rioja in the summer of 2021
- played in the CL for Finnish side Cocks, but this will be his first season in the European League
- represented the junior, youth and the senior national teams of Belarus



LEONARDO DUTRA

Left back

- a strong shooter, he usually scores with shots faster than 120 km/h
- came to Europe in 2018, played two seasons for Liberbank Cuenca, moved to Polish side Orlen Wisla Plock, before returning to Spain in 2021
- nicknamed 'La bestia' (the beast), arrived in 2017 from Brazilian club EC Pinheiros
- was MVP and top scorer of the Pan-American Club Championship in 2016 for Pinheiros



AGUSTÍN CASADO

Centre back

- made his debut in the Spanish first division in 2014 for Huesca, aged 17, and has always played in Spain
- joined La Rioja in 2020 and was called up to the Spanish national team for the first time in February 2021
- has played against his nephew, Alex Marcelo, who is two years older and still at Huesca
- this is his first season playing in the group phase of a European Cup competition



ANGEL RIVERO

Right back

- despite his strong frame of 187 cm and 103 kg, he can play as a right back and as a right wing. He can also be used as a line player
- came to Spain in 2017, played three years for Benidorm and moved to La Rioja in the summer of 2021
- first contact with sport came with baseball, but started playing handball when he was 16 years old
- stated that his favourite player is Mikkel Hansen

GROUP C



Club contact


Club Address

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31500 Nasice
Croatia

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 [rk_nexe](https://twitter.com/rk_nexe)

 [rknexe](https://www.instagram.com/rknexe)

Kit colours

Light

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

Dark

Player shirt: green
Player short: black
Goalkeeper shirt: grey



Playing hall

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

RK NEXE



RK Nexe are 12-time Croatian vice-champions and longtime competitors in Europe's second-tier competitions. The club from the small town of Našice in the Slavonia region are thriving and all their efforts continue to pay off.

With small changes in the squad, Nexe will give their best to repeat their success and advance from group phase in EHF European League.

- **13th consecutive season in European competitions**
- **overcame a six-goal deficit in qualification round 2, versus Bjerringbro-Silkeborg, for a spot in the EHF European League group phase**
- **head coach Branko Tamše took over in January 2021**
- **Saša Barišić Jaman became captain after the retirement of Marko Mrdenović**
- **biggest international success to date was reaching the EHF Cup 2017/18 quarter-final, which they lost to eventual champions Berlin by a single goal (44:45 aggregate)**

The men in green were regulars in the group phase of the EHF Cup and advanced to the quarter-final in the 2017/18 season. Since then, they have been waiting for a similar success. Nexe were among the Last 16 in previous seasons and fell short against Rhein-Neckar Löwen by only two goals. They want to stay on that path.

“The EHF European League is an extremely high-quality European competition, which is also called the ‘small EHF Champions League’. It is very important for us to be part of such a renowned handball society. We have achieved our primary goal: to qualify for the group phase. We have a lot of quality matches in front of us and I hope we can make it to the Last 16 again,” says club president Josip Ergović.

Coach Branko Tamše revealed his thoughts about their upcoming opponents, among which are his old club Gorenje Velenje, where he both played and coached in the past. “The EHF European League is a new challenge for us. It is nice to see Nexe among all those strong handball names. We have opponents from the best handball leagues,” says Tamše. “We will give our best in every match and fight for points to progress further. I believe that we will not be an easy opponent in Našice, especially with our fans in the stands, who were our eighth player so far.”

PAST ACHIEVEMENTS

EHF European League

Last 16 (1): 2020/21

EHF Cup

Quarter-final (1): 2017/18

Last 16 (1): 2011/12

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

Round 3 (7): 2008/09, 2009/10, 2010/11, 2013/14,

2015/16, 2016/17, 2019/20

Round 2 (1): 2012/13

Croatian league: -

Croatian Cup: -





BRANKO TAMŠE

Coach

- Slovenian coach who took over at Nexe in January 2021 from Hrvoje Horvat, who was appointed head coach of the Croatian men's national team
- previously worked with Velenje and Celje in his native Slovenia, as well as Zagreb in Croatia
- played as a right wing at Velenje but saw career come to an end after a serious knee injury
- started coaching career at Velenje and returned to Europe after a brief stint at Qatari side Al-Rayyan

NEWCOMERS

Luka Moslavac (Poreč),
Miha Kavčič (Gorenje),
Predrag Vejin (Wisla Plock),
Andraž Velkavrh (Mors-Thy Handbol),
Karlo Godec (Dubrava Zagreb)

LEFT THE CLUB

Živan Pešič (Hapoel Rishon Israel),
Tomi Vozab (Dubrava Zagreb),
Marko Buvinič (Dobrogea Sud Constanta),
Marko Mrđenović (retired),
Albin Eter (retired)

TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height	Weight	
4	Aleksandar	Bakic	MNE	Left Wing	03/09/2000	Berane, MNE	194	88	
21	Alen	Blažević	CRO	Left Back	29/03/1986	Našice, CRO	200	105	
22	Andraž	Velkavrh	SLO	Centre Back	31/05/1996	Koper, SLO	190	95	
20	Borna	Manci Micevic	CRO	Right Back	20/11/1997	Osijek, CRO	208	110	
1	Dominik	Kuzmanovic	CRO	Goalkeeper	18/08/2002	Zagreb, CRO	191	88	
77	Dorian	Markušić	CRO	Centre Back	17/03/1997	Zagreb, CRO	188	84	
44	Edi	Vesligaj	CRO	Goalkeeper	30/06/1993	Našice, CRO	193	90	
7	Fran	Mileta	CRO	Right Wing	14/08/2000	Rijeka, CRO	181	72	
87	Gianfranco	Pribetic	CRO	Line Player	28/04/2000	Rijeka, CRO	195	96	
45	Halil	Jaganjac	CRO	Left Back	22/06/1998	Rijeka, CRO	200	95	
19	Ivan	Vida	CRO	Right Wing	14/03/1995	Zagreb, CRO	186	86	
28	Janko	Kevic	CRO	Centre Back	21/04/1986	Zagreb, CRO	188	88	
24	Karlo	Godec	CRO	Left Wing	14/01/1999	Zagreb, CRO	194	87	
27	Luka	Moslavac	CRO	Left Back	08/03/1998	Virovitica, CRO	195	93	
17	Marin	Greganic	CRO	Left Wing	18/07/2000	Našice, CRO	182	70	
18	Marin	Jelinic	CRO	Left Wing	07/12/1996	Metkovic, CRO	194	93	
33	Mario	Tomic	CRO	Line Player	22/06/1988	Zagreb, CRO	191	93	
29	Mateo	Rodin	CRO	Right Back	21/07/1992	Metkovic, CRO	196	95	
47	Miha	Kavcic	SLO	Line Player	19/06/1998	Ormož, SLO	190	89	
16	Mihailo	Radovanovic	SRB	Goalkeeper	18/12/1992	Cacak, SRB	194	86	
12	Moreno	Car	CRO	Goalkeeper	22/04/1996	Rijeka, CRO	184	79	
10	Predrag	Vejin	SRB	Right Back	17/12/1992	Apatin, SRB	196	95	
C	9	Saša	Barišić Jaman	SLO	Left Back	10/11/1982	Brežice, SLO	200	93
	23	Tomislav	Severec	CRO	Left Back	29/06/1997	Zagreb, CRO	191	95

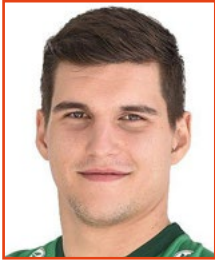


MORENO CAR

 @moreno.car96

Goalkeeper

- joined Nexe prior to the 2018/19 season
- started his career in Crikvenica, had a short stop in Matulji and gained a lot of experience in Porec, where he spent three seasons
- played for various Croatian youth and junior national teams



HALIL JAGANJAC

 @haliljaganjac45

Left back

- joined Nexe as a 20-year-old in 2018 after stints with Metalurg and PSG, where he played in the second team for a season
- finished as the top scorer of the SEHA league in his breakthrough season with Metalurg in 2017/18
- first called up to Croatia's national team by Lino Cervar in 2017; was part of the EHF EURO 2018 squad



ANDRAŽ VELKAVRH

 @andrazvelkavrh

Centre back

- born in Koper, Slovenia, started playing handball aged 10
- played for Koper, Izola, Maribor and Azoty Puławy
- joined Nexe after a short period at Mors-Thy Handbold
- has a bachelor's degree in Economics



PREDRAG VEJIN

 @predrag_vejin10

Right back

- Serbian player who started playing handball at 12
- played football and basketball before deciding on handball
- joined Nexe from Orlen Wisła Płock
- also played for Metaloplastika, Ademar Leon, Dunkerque, Al Jazira, Metalurg, Železničar and Ramat Hasharon



GROUP D PREVIEW

BALANCED GROUP WITH ALL TO PLAY FOR

Six teams – but no clear favourites. Group D looks to become a balancing act for all teams involved, as the battle for the top-four spots could well go to the wire. The group features an interesting mix of teams, with an unpredictable outcome as handball fans will be looking eagerly to find out who continues their journey in the knock-out phase. Kadetten, Pelister, and Tatabánya meet each other again after they also shared a group last season.

AEK Athens have a very competitive and experienced squad. They won the Greek championship but, more importantly, received their first international trophy as well, winning the inaugural season of the EHF European Cup, after they had defeated fellow EHF European League group phase contenders Gorenje Velenje in the semi-final. AEK are hungry for more and will be a tough nut to crack, especially in their home arena in Greece.

Kadetten Schaffhausen are a club full of history from Switzerland, where they have won over 30 titles and cups. They have been regular starters in the EHF Champions League in recent seasons but were beaten to the Swiss domestic title by Pfadi Winterthur last season. Led by Icelandic coach Adalsteinn Eyjolfsson, Kadetten will be eager to go further in the competition than last season, when they stumbled over Montpellier HB in the Last 16, despite getting a draw in the first leg in France.

Eurofarm Pelister have already had a great start to the season as they beat HC Vardar 1961 to the Super Cup title in North Macedonia. Pelister are ambitious to continue their way up. Last season, they advanced from the group phase to the Last 16 but were unlucky to meet eventual champions SC Magdeburg there. The team led by Zeljko Babic will start the competition at home against USAM Nîmes.

Grundfos Tatabánya KC, Hungarian champions on five occasions, return to the EHF European League after they had a season to forget in the inaugural year of the competition. They finished last in their group, but everyone knows the strength of this side is a different one. Tatabánya will be a difficult opponent, who is eager to show its true quality.

The remaining two teams also shared a group last season: Sporting CP and USAM Nîmes. While Nîmes won the two duels, they both advanced from a strong group, which included Füchse Berlin, IFK Kristianstad, and CS Dinamo Bucuresti, before going out in the Last 16. Both teams are capable of improving that result this season and get – at least – one step closer to the second edition of the EHF Finals in the spring of 2022.

Tiago Nogueira

I GROUP D HEAD-TO-HEADS

HISTORIC ENCOUNTERS OF THE GROUP D OPPONENTS IN THE EUROPEAN CLUB COMPETITIONS

Grundfos Tatabanya KC vs HC Eurofarm Pelister 2-0-2 (101:93) 4:4

17.02.2019	HC Eurofarm Rabotnik vs Grundfos Tatabanya KC, EHF Cup – Group B	21:31 (11:14)
31.03.2019	Grundfos Tatabanya KC vs HC Eurofarm Rabotnik, EHF Cup – Group B	30:27 (12:13)
10.02.2021	HC Eurofarm Pelister vs Grundfos Tatabanya KC, EHF European League – Group D	21:19 (11:10)
11.02.2021	Grundfos Tatabanya KC vs HC Eurofarm Pelister, EHF European League – Group D	21:24 (11:9)

Grundfos Tatabanya KC vs AEK Athens HC

No previous encounters in European competitions

Grundfos Tatabanya KC vs Sporting CP

No previous encounters in European competitions

Grundfos Tatabanya KC vs USAM Nimes Gard

No previous encounters in European competitions

Grundfos Tatabanya KC vs Kadetten Schaffhausen 0-0-2 (53:59) 0:4

18.02.2021	Kadetten Schaffhausen vs Grundfos Tatabanya KC, EHF European League – Group D	27:23 (14:9)
23.02.2021	Grundfos Tatabanya KC vs Kadetten Schaffhausen, EHF European League – Group D	30:32 (18:15)

HC Eurofarm Pelister vs AEK Athens HC

No previous encounters in European competitions

HC Eurofarm Pelister vs Sporting CP 0-0-2 (44:66) 0:4

18.02.2017	HC Pelister Bitola vs Sporting CP, Challenge Cup – Last 16	18:32 (7:16)
19.02.2017	Sporting CP vs HC Pelister Bitola, Challenge Cup – Last 16	34:26 (15:14)

HC Eurofarm Pelister vs USAM Nimes Gard

1987/88	Pelister Bitola vs USAM Nimes, IHF Cup – Last 16	28:23 (12:10)
1987/88	USAM Nimes vs Pelister Bitola, IHF Cup – Last 16	21:16 (10:12)

HC Eurofarm Pelister vs Kadetten Schaffhausen 1-1-2 (109:115) 3:5

08.10.2005	Pelister Bitola vs Kadetten Schaffhausen, EHF Champions League – Group G	30:27 (11:15)
22.10.2005	Kadetten Schaffhausen vs Pelister Bitola, EHF Champions League – Group G	34:28 (18:13)
17.11.2020	HC Eurofarm Pelister vs Kadetten Schaffhausen, EHF European League – Group D	25:25 (16:10)
02.03.2021	Kadetten Schaffhausen vs HC Eurofarm Pelister, EHF European League – Group D	29:26 (16:12)

AEK Athens HC vs Sporting CP 1-0-1 (55:54) 2:2

19.02.2011	Sporting CP vs AEK, Challenge Cup – Last 16	27:23 (15:9)
26.02.2011	AEK vs Sporting CP, Challenge Cup – Last 16	32:27 (12:11, 27:23)

AEK Athens HC vs USAM Nimes Gard

No previous encounters in European competitions

AEK Athens HC vs Kadetten Schaffhausen

No previous encounters in European competitions

Sporting CP vs USAM Nimes Gard 0-0-2 (50:57) 0:4

01.12.2020	Sporting CP vs USAM Nimes Gard, EHF European League – Group B	26:30 (12:15)
08.12.2020	USAM Nimes Gard vs Sporting CP, EHF European League – Group B	27:24 (16:12)

Sporting CP vs Kadetten Schaffhausen

No previous encounters in European competitions

GOG vs RK Trimo Trebnje

No previous encounters in European competitions

GROUP D



Club contact

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Hungary

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 [tatabanyahandball](https://www.instagram.com/tatabanyahandball)

Kit colours

Light

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

Dark

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



Playing hall

Audi Arena Győr
Toth Laszlo utja
9027 Győr
Hungary
Capacity: 5,500

GRUNDFOS TATABANYA



Tatabánya have been among the five best Hungarian teams for over a decade and have been regular contenders in European competitions. Even though they aim high each season, the results have not come.

Coach Vladan Matic's team hope they will take a step forward in the EHF European League Men 2021/22, with a secure base of players who showed their abilities in the previous season.

- **coach Vladan Matic enters his seventh season with the club**
- **in the last six completed seasons, Tatabánya finished third in the Hungarian championship**
- **EHF Cup quarter-finalists in 2016/17 and 2018/19**
- **few changes in the squad compared to last season**

The Hungarian club is a well-known name in handball world and have made the domestic bronze medal something of a habit in recent years. Tatabánya have been regular contenders in the second-tier European competition but have yet to see a major breakthrough.

The 'Tigers' had 12 changes in the squad over the previous summer but for this season they decided to stick with their lineup and brought only three newcomers. Will the one year of experience and cohesion bring the wanted success? Tatabánya believe it will.

"Last season our team did not perform as good as we have imagined they will, but we still have confidence in the upcoming season. We aim to qualify further than group phase," says club manager and former player Ferenc Ilyés.

Ilyés has important experience with the team and knows what it means for the club and the players to show top-level handball. "It is very important for our team to play on the international level for development of both players and the club. I hope that with the new sports hall Tatabánya will be a place where all European teams will be happy to play."

PAST ACHIEVEMENTS

EHF European League

Group phase (1): 2020/21

EHF Cup

Quarter-final (2): 2016/17, 2018/19

Last 16 (1): 2010/11

Qualification round 3 (6): 2004/05, 2005/06, 2011/12,
2014/15, 2015/16, 2017/18

Qualification round 2 (2): 2012/13, 2013/14

Hungarian league

four titles (1974, 1978, 1979, 1984)

Hungarian cup

two titles (1969, 1978)





VLADAN MATIĆ

Coach

- Serbian former right wing international, who is in his eighth season as coach of Tatabánya
- previously worked for Szeged, Ferencváros and Celje as well as the national teams of Serbia and Hungary
- as a rookie coach, he led Szeged to their first Hungarian league title in 12 years
- played more than 100 times for the Serbian national team and won bronze at World Championships twice

WCh: B 1999, 2001 (as player)

NEWCOMERS

Violer Fotache (CSM Bucuresti),
Darko Stojnic (HC PPD Zagreb),
Aliaksei Ushal (Orosházi FKSE)

LEFT THE CLUB

Richard Nemes,
Adrián Sipos (Telekom Veszprém),
Miloš Božovic (US Ivry)

I TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height	Weight
44	Adam	Bodnar	HUN	Centre Back	27/06/2003	Tatabánya, HUN	184	88
C 7	Ádám	Juhász	HUN	Centre Back	06/06/1996	Debrecen, HUN	183	75
33	Aliaksei	Ushal	BLR	Line Player	15/03/1990	Novopolotsk, BLR	201	100
3	Balázs	Molnár	HUN	Left Back	25/06/1997	Veszprém, HUN	180	75
6	Barnabás Attila	Toth	HUN	Right Wing	05/09/2003	Tatabánya, HUN		
9	Bence	Bálint	HUN	Left Back	19/06/2000	Budapest, HUN	190	71
14	Bence	Hornyák	HUN	Right Wing	23/11/2000	Veszprém, HUN	194	83
29	Bence	Zdolik	HUN	Left Back	16/05/1992	Bekescaba, HUN	199	105
15	Darko	Stojnic	SLO	Line Player	03/04/1997	Ljubljana, SLO	200	113
27	Gábor	Ancsin	HUN	Right Back	27/11/1990	Bekescsaba, HUN	202	97
16	László	Bartucz	HUN	Goalkeeper	05/11/1991	Oroshaza, HUN	192	107
24	Lukáš	Urban	SVK	Left Back	22/06/1995	Presov, SVK	198	85
77	Márk Dániel	Bodor	ROU		23/02/2000	Sighisoara, ROU	201	106
12	Martin	Perenyi	HUN	Goalkeeper	15/10/2003			
22	Mátyás	Gyori	HUN	Left Back	02/02/1997	Debrecen, HUN	194	89
4	Nándor	Bognár	HUN	Line Player	29/09/2001	Budapest, HUN	187	97
47	Péter	Hornyák	HUN	Right Wing	04/10/1995	Debrecen, HUN	180	78
1	Piotr	Wyszomirski	POL	Goalkeeper	06/01/1988	Warszawa, POL	194	95
17	Stefan	Sunajko	HUN	Left Back	10/04/1998	Zombor, SRB	194	82
15	Viorel	Fotache	ROU	Left Back	15/05/1989	Galati, ROU	196	97
19	Zsolt	Balogh	HUN	Right Back	29/03/1989	Orosháza, HUN	189	96



PIOTR WYSZOMIRSKI

 @piotrwyszomirski

Goalkeeper

- Polish international, who is in his third stint at an Hungarian club after playing for Csurgó (2012-14) and Szeged (2014-16)
- joined Tatabánya in 2020 from German Bundesliga side Lemgo, who are also playing in the EL in 2021/22
- started playing handball at age 10, initially as a centre back but became a goalkeeper at age 13; Azoty-Puławy were his first pro club
- helped Poland win bronze at WCh 2015 and represented his country at 2016 Rio Olympics

WCh: B 2015



PÉTER HORNYÁK

 @hornyakpeti

Right wing

- Hungarian international, who joined Tatabánya in 2019 from Balatonfüred
- scored 31 goals in total in his first two European seasons for Tatabánya, in the EHF Cup 2019/20 and the European League 2020/21, respectively
- previously played in the EHF Cup with Hungarian clubs Balatonfüred and Csurgó
- also spent two seasons in Germany, with TUSEM Essen (2013-15)



ZSOLT BALOGH

 @baloghzs19

Right back

- joined Tatabánya in summer of 2019 after seven seasons in Szeged
- scored 324 CL goals in total for Szeged and won EHF Cup with the club in 2014, the last non-German team to lift the trophy
- had national team debut in 2008, was key to Hungary's attack at EHF EURO 2020

EC trophies: EHF Cup 2014



GABOR ANCSIN

 @ancsingabor27

Right back

- Hungarian international who arrived at Tatabánya in 2019 from FTC Budapest
- his first professional stint was at Dunaferri, at 17, before joining Rhein-Neckar Löwen, Pick Szeged, and Veszprém
- went from Veszprém to FTC on loan in 2018, and became third-best scorer in the Hungarian league the next season, with 144 goals
- regular for Hungarian team at EHF EURO and WCh tournaments

EC trophies: EHF Cup 2014

GROUP D



Club contact

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[rkeurofarmpelister](https://www.instagram.com/rkeurofarmpelister)

Kit colours

Light

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

Dark

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



Playing hall

Boro Curlevski - Mladost Bitola
 Polygon b.b.
 7000 Bitola
 FYRO Macedonia
 Capacity: 1,500

HC EUROFARM PELISTER



HC Eurofarm Pelister enter the new season with strong new arrivals – and with a first domestic trophy in 16 years under their belt.

The Bitola-based team has taken over from HC Metalurg for the eternal runner-up position behind leaders HC Vardar 1961.

The team is improving with each match and their 2021/22 season couldn't have started any better, showing they will be tough opponents in this season.

- **head coach Željko Babić has been in charge since early 2020**
- **the club returns to the European League group phase after they lost in the Last 16 in 2020/21 to eventual champions SC Magdeburg**
- **second season under current name after unification of two clubs**
- **opened new season with winning Macedonian Super Cup against Vardar**
- **Marton Szekely-Marko Kizić is the new goalkeeper duo**

Pelister have had a good start to the season: they won all their preparation matches before finally winning a trophy again, beating Vardar in the Macedonian Super Cup, their first title since winning the 'double' (league and cup title) in 2005. It showed they are a team to keep an eye on.

The team's core has remained unchanged, but several new arrivals will boast the depth and strength of the squad. After goalkeeper Kerim Hendawy returned to Egypt, Pelister signed two new goalkeepers: Marko Kizić and Marton Szekely.

The team's Croatian connection was reinforced with the arrival of right wing Josip Božić Pavletić, with Nemanja Obradović and Reinier Taboada as new back-court strengths. Ingredients for a successful recipe? "Our objective is to play good in the group phase and to secure our place in the Last 16. It is important to be fit and ready for the knockout phase in spring. The EHF European League is our first priority this season," says head coach Željko Babić. "We want to play in a European competition every year and bring big players to Bitola. Every match is important to be able to have a great project and we like to be among one of the best European clubs."

PAST ACHIEVEMENTS

EHF European League

Last 16 (1): 2020/21

EHF Champions League

Group phase (1): 2019/20

EHF Cup

Group Phase (1): 2018/19

Challenge Cup

Final (1): 2001/02

Last 16 (1): 2017/18

Macedonian league

6 titles (1993, 1994, 1996, 1998, 2000, 2005)

Macedonian cup

6 titles (1990, 1994, 1996, 1998, 1999, 20005)

Macedonian Super Cup

1 title (2021)





ZELJKO BABIC

Coach

- Croatian former right wing, who started as Pelister coach in the summer of 2020
- previously coached clubs like Meshkov Brest and Velenje
- was assistant to head coach Slavko Goluza when Croatia won bronze at EHF EURO and Olympics in 2012 and WCh in 2013
- as head coach he led Croatia to bronze at EHF EURO 2016

EURO: B 2016 (coach)

NEW/COMERS

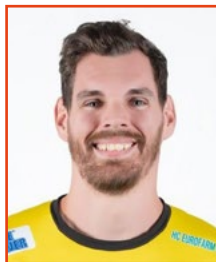
Nemanja Obradović (PPD Zagreb),
Josip Božić Pavletić (Göppingen),
Marton Szekely (Porto),
Marko Kizić (Vardar),
Filip Ivanovski (Eurofarm Pelister 2),
Reinier Taboada (Dunkerque)

LEFT THE CLUB

Gradimir Chanevski (Butel Skopje),
Blagojče Trajkoski (Eurofarm Pelister 2),
Cvetan Kuzmanoski (Eurofarm Pelister 2),
Marin Vegar (Steaua),
Neven Obradović (-)

TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height	Weight
6	Bojan	Madzovski	MKD	Left Wing	08/05/1994	Skopje, MKD	184	90
7	Dejan	Kukulovski	MKD	Left Back	17/08/1998	Resen, MKD	195	96
59	Elmir	Gradjan	BIH	Line Player	28/12/1993	Gorazde, BIH	190	112
1	Filip	Ivanovski	MKD	Goalkeeper	02/05/1994	Bitola, MKD	190	85
3	Goce	Ojleski	MKD	Left Wing	10/10/1989	Struga, MKD	180	80
32	Josip	Božic-Pavletic	CRO	Right Wing	06/08/1994	Split, CRO	188	83
C 18	Josip	Peric	BIH	Centre Back	05/06/1992	Zagreb, CRO	180	85
14	Mario	Tankoski	MKD	Centre Back	28/08/1998	Struga, MKD	190	90
98	Marko	Kizic	MKD	Goalkeeper	22/01/2001	Skopje, MKD	198	100
30	Martin	Velkovski	MKD	Right Back	10/03/1997	Skopje, MKD	190	85
12	Márton	Székely	HUN	Goalkeeper	02/01/1990	Budapest, HUN	194	87
2	Mateo	Maraš	CRO	Right Back	17/12/2000	Split, CRO	203	102
24	Milorad	Kukoski	MKD	Left Back	12/07/1987	Struga, MKD	195	100
13	Mirko	Radovic	MNE	Right Wing	15/06/1990	Cetinje, MNE	186	93
74	Nemanja	Obradovic	SRB	Left Back	08/01/1991	Krusevac, SRB	200	110
19	Nenad	Kosteski	MKD	Right Wing	03/04/2001	Struga, MKD	189	76
4	Nikola	Markoski	MKD	Line Player	22/05/1990	Struga, MKD	198	118
97	Reinier	Taboada	CUB	Centre Back	02/06/1997	CUB	193	93
9	Stipe	Mandalinic	CRO	Left Back	09/09/1992	Split, CRO	195	98



MARTON SZEKELY

 @martonszekely

Goalkeeper

- Hungarian international, who joined from Veszprém in 2021 after a half-year loan in Porto
- Porto was his first club outside Hungary: Veszprém, Tatabánya, Csurgó, Balatonfüred, PLER KC)
- voted best Hungarian goalkeeper in 2018
- loads of European cup experience, also in CL, since his debut in Cup Winners' Cup 2008/09 for PLER



BOJAN MADZOVSKI

 @madzovski06

Left wing

- born and raised in Skopje, started playing handball in Metalurg
- in 2016 he joined Pelister for the first time, returned to Metalurg after two seasons but went back to Pelister in 2019
- was part of Macedonian national team at the EHF EURO 2020
- also prolific beach handball player; his twin brother Borjan also plays handball



STIPE MANDALINIĆ

 @stipemandalinic9

Left back

- Croatian international, arrived in 2020 after three seasons with Fühse Berlin
- previously played five seasons for HC PPD Zagreb in his native Croatia
- was team's best scorer in the ELM 2020/21 season, with 62 goals
- made national team debut for Croatia in 2013 and won bronze at WCh in Spain

WCh: B 2013



JOSIP PERIĆ

 @josipperic18

Centre back

- Bosnian international, who came to Pelister in 2020 from German side Göppingen
- born in 1992 in Zagreb (CRO), he started playing handball at Izviđač Ljubuški (BIH)
- also played for Bosna Sarajevo, Tatabánya, Qatar SC, Odorheiu Secuiesc, Dunareu Calarasi
- made European debut in EHF Cup 2008/09, with Izvidac

GROUP D



Club contact

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Greece

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info@aek.gr

 aek.gr

 AEKAthleticClub

 aek_athleticclub

 aek_official

Kit colours

Light

Player shirt: yellow-black striped
Player short: black
Goalkeeper shirt: blue

Dark

Player shirt: black
Player short: black
Goalkeeper shirt: orange



Playing hall

Tasos Kampouris
Kanithos
Chalkida 341 00
Greece
Capacity: 1,600

AEK ATHENS



The 2020/21 season has been a dream for AEK Athens. The Greek team completed an amazing treble, winning the Greek league, the Greek cup, while also securing their first international trophy: the EHF European Cup Men – three years after they reached, but lost, the final of the Challenge Cup.

In their 12th European participation in the last 14 seasons, AEK now face their biggest challenge yet – with many potential big-name opponents. They have never played against such lofty opponents in a group phase in European competitions, therefore the ask will be big.

With plenty of expectations, the target is a Last 16 berth, meaning a top four finish in their group.

- **AEK are the first Greek side to play in the group phase of Europe's second-tier men's club competition**
- **AEK won the EHF European Cup last season, with a 60:54 aggregate score against Swedish outfit Ystads IF**
- **eight players from the winning squad, including experienced Austrian goalkeeper Thomas Bauer, have left the side, with five additions**
- **coach Dimitrios Dimitroulias will lead the team once again, after signing for AEK in 2019**

Winning the EHF European Cup Men last season was a superb achievement for AEK Athens, especially after dropping only one of the 10 games they played on their way to the trophy. But this time around, things will be surely looking different for the Greek side, who were awarded a wild card in the EHF European League Men, following their European Cup glory. The level is obviously tougher in this season, whereas the Greek club has lost plenty of experience, with the exits of goalkeeper Thomas Bauer, wing Tomislav Nuic and short-term signings Joakim Hykkerud and Jesper Meinby Pedersen.

Experience will definitely be key for any team in this competition and AEK took a step back, despite boasting a wing like Cristian Ugalde. They have focused on Greek players this time around, while also adding Algerian line player Sofiane Bendjilali and Montenegrin goalkeeper Goran Andjelic, but their international flavour has been quite dimmed down for this season, despite signing an American player with Greek roots, Nikolas Zarikos.

PAST ACHIEVEMENTS

EHF European League Men

Participations (including 2021/22 season): 1

EHF European Cup

Winners (1): 2020/21

EHF Challenge Cup

Final (1): 2017/18;

Semi-finals (1): 2018/19;

Quarter-finals (1): 2010/11

Greek league

4 titles (2011, 2013, 2020, 2021)

Greek cup

4 titles (2009, 2013, 2014, 2021)





DIMITRIS DIMITROULIAS

Coach

 @dimitrisdimitroulias

- former Greek international, who spent his playing career at Diomidis Argous
- won the Challenge Cup with Diomidis in 2012 as a player, and the European Cup with AEK in 2021 as coach
- has won 83% of his games as AEK coach between June 2019 and June 2021
- previously coached Kaerjeng in Luxembourg for 10 months

EC trophies: Challenge Cup 2012 (as player);
European Cup 2021 (as coach)

NEW/COMERS

Petros Boukovinas (Handball Esch),
Goran Andjelic (Stal Mielec),
Sofiane Bendjilali (Club Africain),
Efthimios Iliopoulos (Bayer Dormagen),
Nikolas Zarikos (AC Doukas)

LEFT THE CLUB

Thomas Bauer (Al Rayan),
Joakim Hykkerud (Lemvig-Thyborøn Håndbold),
Jesper Meinby Pedersen (Kolding),
Milan Kosanovic (retired),
Marin Buneta (unknown),
Tomislav Nuic (unknown),
Andreas Arapakopoulos (Olympiacos SFP),
Charalampos Dompris (Olympiacos SFP)

I TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height	Weight
56	Abderrahim	Berriah	ALG	Right Back	19/01/1988	Algiers, ALG	195	98
22	Anastasios	Papadionysiou	GRE	Line Player	11/08/1990	Marousi, GRE	190	83
13	Christodoulos	Mylonas	GRE	Left Back	13/05/1995	Athens, GRE	189	84
99	Christos	Kederis	GRE	Left Wing	29/04/1994	Athens, GRE	170	79
23	Cristian	Ugalde Garcia	ESP	Left Wing	19/10/1987	Barcelona, ESP	186	80
6	Dimitrios	Tziras	GRE	Right Wing	05/04/1991	Amarousio, GRE	190	85
15	Efthimios	Iliopoulos	GRE	Right Back	19/12/1996	Athens, GRE	195	94
2	Evangelos	Arampatzis	GRE	Right Wing	04/08/1996	Alexandroupoli, GRE	178	74
12	Goran	Andjelic	MNE	Goalkeeper	12/03/1988	Pljevlja, MNE	195	94
18	Ignacio	Moya Florido	ESP	Centre Back	03/11/1988	Malaga, ESP	188	93
17	Ignacio	Plaza Jimenez	ESP	Line Player	10/01/1994	Ciudad Real, ESP	195	102
34	Ioannis	Kalomoiros	GRE	Left Back	23/05/1998	Thessaloniki, GRE	192	90
4	Ioannis	Vasileiou Tsafos	GRE	Right Wing	23/10/2003	Athens, GRE	187	80
19	Konstantinos	Kotsionis	GRE	Centre Back	26/10/2002	Athens, GRE	189	83
14	Michail Nektarios	Stathis	GRE	Left Back	14/10/2002	Athens, GRE	200	87
28	Nikolaos Marios	Dikaioulias	GRE	Line Player	02/08/2003	Athens, GRE	190	90
21	Nikolas Antonis	Zarikos	GER	Left Wing	24/05/1998	Greenwich, USA	185	80
C 10	Panagiotis	Nikolaidis	GRE	Left Back	02/04/1990	Edessa, GRE	194	98
11	Patrick Andre	Toniazzo	BRA	Centre Back	23/05/1996	Sorriso, BRA	190	86
16	Petros	Boukovinas	GRE	Goalkeeper	08/03/1994	Thessaloniki, GRE	188	84
25	Sofiane	Bendjilali	ALG	Line Player	28/03/1995	Algiers, ALG	200	115
8	Stavros	Papadopoulos	GRE	Goalkeeper	28/05/2004	Athens, GRE	188	80



GORAN ANDJELIC

Goalkeeper

- Montenegrin international, who arrived at AEK in summer of 2021
- previously played for Montenegrin sides Budućnost and Rudar, Bosnian team Zrinjski Mostar, and Polish side Stal Mielec
- playing the group phase of the EL 2021/22 marks his first season in a European club competition



NIKOLAIDIS PANAGIOTIS



@panagiotis_nikolaidis

Left back

- started career at A.C. Doukas before switching to AEK in 2013
- soon became team captain and has been a leading player for the team ever since
- a towering defender, Panagiotis has been anchoring AEK's defence for many years
- has amassed over 250 games for AEK in all competitions, one of the only six players to reach that milestone for the club

EC trophies: European Cup 2021



IGNACIO PLAZA JIMENEZ



@nacheto_plaza

Line player

- Spanish line player, who joined AEK in the summer of 2019
- started career at Atletico Madris; also played for Füchse Berlin in the German Bundesliga
- scored 10 goals in each of AEK's last two European campaigns, which included winning the European Cup in 2020/21
- settled in Greece with wife Monica and son Derek, who was born in 2015

EC trophies: European Cup 2021



CRISTIAN UGALDE GARCIA



@cristianugalde23

Right wing

- Spanish international and two-time CL winner, who arrived at AEK in 2020
- won CL twice during his seven seasons with Barça (2005-12) before joining Veszprém for six years
- made the CL 2015/16 All-star Team during his time with the Hungarian side
- played two seasons for Hannover-Burgdorf before moving to Greece and helping AEK win the European Cup in his first season with the club

EC trophies: CL 2005, 2011; European Cup 2021
WCh: B 2011; EURO: S 2016, B 2014

GROUP D



Club contact

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Portugal

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

 [SCPModalidades](https://twitter.com/SCPModalidades)

 [sportingmodalidades](https://www.instagram.com/sportingmodalidades)

Kit colours

Light

Player shirt: green/white
Player short: black
GK shirt: black/orange/grey

Dark

Player shirt: fluorescent green
Player short: black
GK shirt: black/orange/grey



Playing hall

Pavilhão João Rocha
Rua Prof. Fernando da
Fonseca Ap
1501-806 Lisboa
Portugal
Capacity: 3,000

SPORTING CP



Last season, Sporting CP reached the Last 16 of the EHF European League, where they ended up being eliminated by Wisla Plock by just one goal over two legs.

The Lions are back with bigger ambitions this season and do not lack individual quality in their team. Players such as Carlos Ruesga, Natán Suárez and Salvador Salvador promise to give Sporting CP opponents plenty of headaches.

- **qualified for the EHF European League by beating Danish side Holstebro in qualification round 2**
- **Sporting CP has a new head coach, Ricardo Costa**
- **the biggest signing this season is Natán Suárez, Ademar León's centre back last season**
- **other big summer signings include Josep Folqués and Jonas Tidemand**
- **most important question: Can Sporting CP do better than last season?**

Portuguese handball is strong, really strong, and the lions have proven they can go a long way in this European competition. With a new coach and a squad that mixes talented youth with experience, the ambition and motivation are touching the sky.

Head coach Ricardo Costa demonstrates this ambition. "Our mentality in every competition is to fight to win every game. We want to pass this stage and therefore we will have to be among the top four in our group."

In turn, the team captain Salvador Salvador is excited for what is to come. "We feel really happy about being able to play in the EHF European League group phase. We have a young team but highly motivated to play this competition".

Carlos Ruesga is the lighthouse that brings balance to this team. The Spaniard who arrived at Sporting CP in 2016 is one of the key players in this team, mostly offensively. Ruesga is a very versatile player, with power, technique and great vision of the game. Last season, he impressed in the EHF European League and his ability in one against one situations makes him always worth watching.

PAST ACHIEVEMENTS

EHF Champions League

Last 16 (1) : 2018/19

Group phase (2): 2017/18, 2019/20

Group matches (1): 2001/02

European League

Last 16 (1): 2020/21

EHF Cup

Quarter-finals: 2000/01, 2013/14

Cup Winners' Cup

Quarter-finals: 2003/04

Challenge Cup

Winners 2009/10, 2016/17; Semi-finals 2011/12

Portuguese league

21 titles (1952, 1956; 1961; 1966, 1967, 1969, 1970, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1978, 1979, 1980, 1981, 1984, 1986, 2001, 2005, 2006, 2017, 2018)

Portuguese cup

15 titles (1972, 1973, 1975, 1981, 1983, 1988, 1989, 1998, 2001, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2012, 2013, 2014)





RICARDO COSTA

Coach

- 2021/22 is his first season as head coach of Sporting CP
- won four Portuguese championships as a player
- was the head coach of FC Porto for two seasons
- his two sons – Martim Costa and Francisco Mota Da Costa – are in Sporting's squad

NEW/COMERS

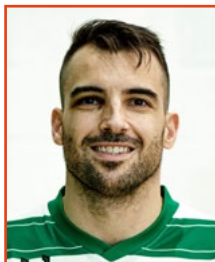
Yassine Belkaied (Vitória FC),
Josep Folqués (BM Benidorm),
Martim Costa (FC Porto),
Natán Suarez (Ademar Leon),
André José (ABC Braga),
Francisco Costa (FC Porto),
Mamadou Gassama (BM Granollers),
Erekle Arsenashvili (ABC Braga),
Jonas Tidemand (Skjern)

LEFT THE CLUB

Aljosa Cudic (Trimo Trebnje),
Tomas Van Zeller (Maccabi Dimona),
Nuno Roque (Vitória FC),
Arnaud Bingo (Tremblay Handball),
Tomislav Spruk (RD Koper),
Darko Djukic (RK Vardar),
Daniel Andrejew (no club yet),
Frankis Carol (Al-Arabi SC and then Kuwait SC),
Pedro Valdés (FC Porto),
Tiago Rocha (Grand Nancy),
Dmytro Doroshchuk (no club yet)

TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height	Weight
78	Alexandre	Santos	POR	Left Back	22/04/2004	Le Chesnay, FRA	197	79
9	Andre Filipe	Garcias Jose	POR	Centre Back	19/04/2001	Tavira, POR	186	88
3	Antonio	Machado	POR	Line Player	11/03/2004	Lisboa, POR	195	103
17	Benjamin Gabriel	Joao	POR	Right Wing	21/06/2003	Lisboa, POR	178	81
11	Carlos	Ruesga	ESP	Centre Back	10/03/1985	Gijon, ESP	185	90
27	Duarte	Ramires	POR	Left Wing	04/07/2002	Lisboa, POR	180	78
5	Edmilson	Araujo	CPV	Left Back	06/01/1994	Lisboa, POR	187	93
20	Eduardo	Almeida	POR	Line Player	24/02/2003	Portimão, POR	195	114
18	Erekle	Arsenashvili	GEO	Line Player	18/10/1998	Tbilisi, GEO	200	107
6	Francisco	Mota	POR	Right Back	16/02/2005	Vila Nova de Gaia, POR	187	79
22	Francisco	Tavares	POR	Right Wing	14/11/1996	Almada, POR	180	80
33	Jens	Schöngarth	GER	Right Back	07/12/1988	Emmendingen, GER	204	110
8	Jonas Bruus	Tidemand	DEN	Line Player	28/09/1994	Ballerup, DEN	199	107
77	Josep	Folques	ESP	Left Wing	08/04/1996	Algemesi, ESP	198	99
19	Mamadou Gassama	Cissokho	ESP	Right Wing	28/10/1993	Granollers, ESP	191	87
24	Manuel	Gaspar	POR	Goalkeeper	09/12/1998	Setubal, POR	192	101
79	Martim	Mota da Costa	POR	Left Back	27/09/2002	Vila Nova de Gaia, POR	188	95
1	Matevz	Skok	SLO	Goalkeeper	02/09/1986	Celje, SLO	189	92
7	Natán Antonio	Suárez Diaz	ESP	Centre Back	20/01/1998	Girona, ESP	185	83
C 13	Salvador	Salvador	POR	Left Back	29/07/2001	Samora Correia, POR	197	108
61	Yassine	Belkaied	TUN	Goalkeeper	19/10/2000	Hammamet, TUN	197	95



CARLOS RUESGA

 @cruesga11

Centre back

- has played for Portland San Antonio, Veszprém and Barça
- won the WCh in 2013 and has an impressive European resume
- won several titles and awards in Spain and Hungary
- known for his vision of the game and offensive power

WCh: G 2013; EURO: B 2014
EC trophies: Challenge Cup 2017



NATÁN SUÁREZ

 @suareznatan

Centre back

- Spanish centre back who arrived at Sporting CP this year
- had a great 2020/21 season for Ademar Leon, scoring 121 goals in 47 games
- is an intelligent athlete and an essential part of Sporting's offensive moves
- creates very good chances for the line player and is also a good finisher



SALVADOR SALVADOR

 @salvadorsalvador13

Left back

- born in Samora Correia, he started playing handball at his local club
- the 20-year-old has a great instinct for the game and possesses a powerful shot
- one of Portuguese handball's biggest hopes for the future
- won titles with Sporting's U17 and U19 teams



FRANCISCO TAVARES

 @franciscotavares22

Right wing

- despite being only 24, he has been at Sporting CP for almost 10 years
- the right wing prodigy is a penalty expert
- is a valuable player for Sporting in attack and defence

GROUP D



Club contact

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160 avenue du languedoc
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30900 Nîmes
France


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 usam-nimesgard.fr

 USAMNimesGard

 USAMNimesGard

 [usam_nimes_gard](https://www.instagram.com/usam_nimes_gard)

Kit colours

Light

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

Dark

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



Playing hall

Le Parnasse - Nîmes
160 Avenue du Languedoc
30900 Nîmes
France
Capacity: 4,041

USAM NIMES GARD



Playing in their third consecutive season in Europe's second tier, USAM Nîmes Gard are becoming regular participants in the group phase of the EHF European League Men.

With more European experience gained after reaching the Last 16 last season and a team that barely changed over the summer, Nîmes hope to be one of the surprise packages in the competition.

- **Nîmes finished fifth in the French league last season, two places below their best league finish from 2019/20**
- **Nîmes qualified for the group phase after beating HC CSKA 65:58 on aggregate in qualification round 2**
- **Russian side Chekhovskie medvedi eliminated Nîmes in the Last 16 of the EHF European League 2020/21**
- **only two players signed for Nîmes this summer: Norwegian line player Henrik Jakobsen (Fenix Toulouse) and young French right back Mathieu Salou (Cesson-Rennes)**

After a few seasons building their team, Nîmes chose not to change much in the summer. Line player Nicolas Nieto was replaced by Henrik Jakobsen, who will bring his experience to the position.

While he is now one of the regulars in the Norwegian national team, Jakobsen has also played in Europe's second tier with Toulouse and GOG. With only two new players, it seems obvious that coach Franck Maurice will gain time to prepare his team. As seasons often turn into a race against time for coaches, this is surely no bad thing for Nîmes.

The 29-year-old goalkeeper has confirmed that he will be moving to Montpellier at the end of the season – but count on him to be as focused as ever until the end of his stay at Nîmes. Playing in his ninth season at the club, not only has he turned into one of the best French goalkeepers, but he also excels at setting up fast breaks. His long passes to Mohammad Sanad are one of the reasons why the Egyptian right wing is currently one of the best scorers in the French league. Expect some amazing highlights from this pair in the EHF European League this season.

PAST ACHIEVEMENTS

EHF Champions League

Group phase (1): 1993/94

EHF European League

Last 16 (1): 2020/21

EHF Cup

Group phase (1): 2019/20

Cup Winners' Cup

Last 32 (1): 1994/95

French league

4 titles (1987/88, 1989/90, 1990/91, 1992/93)

French cup

3 titles (1984/85, 1985/86, 1993/94)

Kadetten Schaffhausen (SUI)





FRANCK MAURICE

Coach

 @franckmaurice930

- Paris-born coach who has been in charge of Nîmes since November 2014
- previously coached ES Besançon and US Saintes
- was a left wing at five different clubs and played 21 games for the French national team before ending his playing career at Nîmes in 2002
- played a Cup Winners' cup semi-final with Ivry in 1997

NEW/COMERS

Mathieu Salou (Cesson-Rennes),
Henrik Jakobsen (Fenix Toulouse)

LEFT THE CLUB

Nicolas Nieto (Limoges Handball),
Vid Kavtichnik (retired)



TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height	Weight
15	Ahmed Hesham	Elsayed Moham	EGY	Left Back	15/05/2000	Cairo , EGY	194	88
30	Baptiste	Joblon	FRA	Line Player	16/02/2003	Compiègne, FRA	188	87
4	Benjamin	Gallego	FRA	Line Player	24/11/1988	Montpellier, FRA	184	86
97	Clement	Esparon	FRA	Left Back	12/06/2002	Le Port , FRA	187	86
17	Damien	Gibernon	FRA	Right Back	17/05/2000	Nîmes, FRA	181	76
19	Dorian	Timpeira	FRA	Left Back	28/06/2002	Montelimar, FRA	200	90
10	Evan	Tolleron	FRA	Right Wing	24/11/2002	Paris , FRA	183	86
13	Gueric	Vincent	FRA	Left Wing	18/08/2002	Lyon, FRA	180	63
9	Henrik	Jakobsen	NOR	Line Player	16/12/1992	Lorenskog, NOR	196	100
27	Jean-Jacques	Acquevillo	FRA	Right Back	17/01/1989	Le lamentein, FRA	195	100
C 6	Julien	Rebichon	FRA	Left Wing	18/10/1988	Montpellier, FRA	179	79
3	Lou	Derisbourg	FRA	Centre Back	18/02/2002	Aix en Provence, FRA	172	63
1	Louis	Gouaze	FRA	Goalkeeper	28/01/2003	Montpellier, FRA	192	95
24	Luc	Tobie	FRA	Right Back	24/06/1988	Cayenne, GUY	190	84
23	Mathieu	Salou	FRA	Right Back	26/05/2000	Morlaix, FRA	200	90
18	Michaël	Guigou	FRA	Left Wing	28/01/1982	Apt, FRA	179	79
91	Mohamed	Hisham Sanad	EGY	Right Wing	16/01/1991	Cairo, EGY	186	86
8	O'Brian	Nyateu	FRA	Centre Back	07/11/1992	Bordeaux, FRA	187	85
12	Paul	Keller	FRA	Goalkeeper	13/03/2001	Nîmes, FRA	186	78
11	Quentin	Dupuy	FRA	Left Back	01/07/1994	Nîmes, FRA	194	97
38	Quentin	Minel	FRA	Left Back	03/09/1992	Argenteuil , FRA	185	88
31	Quentin	Pugliese	FRA	Centre Back	21/05/2000	Toulouse, FRA	195	80
92	Remi	Desbonnet	FRA	Goalkeeper	28/02/1992	Montpellier, FRA	182	85
7	Remi	Salou	FRA	Line Player	09/02/1988	Brest, FRA	197	102
14	Romain	Tesio	FRA	Left Wing	14/03/1997	Avignon, FRA	183	81
77	Samuel	Queiros	FRA	Right Wing	24/04/2002	Montfermail, FRA	169	57
55	Teodor	Paul	SVK	Goalkeeper	22/04/1987	Kosice, SVK	195	94
2	Tom	Poyet	FRA	Centre Back	29/11/1999	Nîmes, FRA	187	84



MICHAËL GUIGOU

Left wing

- transferred to Nîmes in the summer of 2019 after 19 seasons with Montpellier, the club where he started playing handball
- was the only player in Montpellier's CL-winning squad of 2018 who also lifted the trophy in 2003
- adds necessary experience to Nîmes; one of two Nîmes players, alongside O'Brian Nyateu, to have played in an EHF Cup final
- made debut for France in 2002 and missed only one EHF EURO since 2004 – in 2008 – due to injury; World Championship 2009 All-star left wing

EC trophies: CL 2003, 2018

OG: G 2008, G 2012, S 2016, G 2020; WCh: G 2009, G 2011, G 2015, G 2017, B 2005, B 2019; EURO: G 2006, G 2010, G 2014, B 2018



RÉMI DESBONNET

 @remi_desbonnet92

Goalkeeper

- started his professional handball career at Montpellier, like many of his teammates at Nîmes
- famously scored a goal against HSV Hamburg in the CL in 2013
- 182 cm tall and one of the most efficient goalkeepers in the French league
- represents France in beach handball



MOHAMMAD SANAD

 @sanad_91

Right wing

- moved to Europe in 2015 and played for Komlói BSK (Hungary) and La Rioja (Spain) before signing for Nîmes in 2017
- immediately suited the club's strategy on the court, especially thanks to his efficiency on fast breaks
- was the first player from the new Egyptian generation to move to a big club in Europe, paving the way for many of his teammates
- was Nîmes' best scorer in the French league in the past four seasons, with more than seven goals per game on average



JEAN-JACQUES ACQUEVILLO

Left back

- earned first national team selection in 2019 for EHF EURO 2020 qualifiers
- born on the island of Martinique, made his debut in the French first division only in 2017, when aged 27
- made his debut for France in June 2019, during an EHF EURO qualifier game against Romania
- moved to Nîmes in 2019, after playing in Cesson and Saran

GROUP D



Club contact

Club Address

Kadetten Schaffhausen
Schweizersbildstrasse 10
8207 Schaffhausen
Switzerland

Media contact

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 kadettens.ch

 [Kadetten Schaffhausen](https://www.facebook.com/KadettenSchaffhausen)

 [kadettens](https://www.instagram.com/kadettens)

Kit colours

Light

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

Dark

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



Playing hall

BBC Arena
Schweizersbildstr. 10
8207 Schaffhausen
Switzerland
Capacity: 3,500

KADETTEN SCHAFFHAUSEN



Ahead of Kadetten Schaffhausen's second straight season in the EHF European League Men, three key players from abroad left the club: Gabor Csaszar, Zarko Sesum and Angel Montoro.

However, after the arrival of Joan Cañellas, who guided Kadetten to victory in qualification round 2 against Fraikin BM. Granollers, the Swiss side are aiming to reach the knockout stage this season.

- **Kadetten's series of Swiss league titles was ended by Pfadi Winterthur, who won the play-off final series 3:0**
- **Kadetten beat Vojvodina (Serbia) and Granollers (Spain) on aggregate in qualification to qualify for the group phase**
- **after finishing as runners-up in group D of the EHF European League 2020/21, Kadetten were eliminated by Montpellier in the Last 16**
- **since 2003/04, Kadetten have played in a European Cup every season. This is their 25th European campaign**
- **team captain Dimitriji Küttel is back on track after cancer treatment**

Having already beaten Grundfos Tatabanya and HC Eurofarm Pelister in the EHF European League group phase in 2020/21, Kadetten already know two of their opponents in group D quite well. However, USAM Nimes Gard and Sporting CP seem to be the biggest obstacles that can prevent Kadetten from finishing top of the group.

Kadetten's main goal of reaching the knockout stage seems manageable. If Joan Cañellas continues like he did in the qualification rounds, he can emulate Gabor Csaszar's goalscoring exploits. One position might be tricky, though, as strong left wing Sebastian Frimmel joined Szeged, where Cañellas played for the last three seasons.

Frimmel's replacement is Swiss international Marvin Lier. If Kadetten finish among the top two in group D, even the dream of the quarter-finals can become reality.

For manager David Graubner, a former Kadetten player, the "primary goal" is to reach the Last 16 of the EHF European League.

PAST ACHIEVEMENTS

EHF Champions League

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

Group phase (9): 2005/06, 2006/07, 2007/08, 2012/13, 2014/15, 2015/16, 2016/17, 2017/18, 2019/20

EHF European League

Last 16 (1): 2020/21

EHF Cup

Runners-up (1): 2009/10

Cup Winners' Cup

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

Quarter-finals (1): 2005/06

Swiss league

11 titles (2004/05, 2005/06, 2006/07, 2009/10, 2010/11, 2011/12, 2013/14, 2014/15, 2015/16, 2016/17, 2018/19)

Swiss cup

9 titles (1998/99, 2003/04, 2004/05, 2006/07, 2007/08, 2010/11, 2013/14, 2015/16, 2020/21)





ADALSTEINN EYJÓLFSSON

Coach

- started his mission at Kadetten in the summer of 2020, taking over from Slovakian coach Petr Hrachovec
- previously coached various German men's clubs, including Hüttenberg, Eseinach and, until February 2020, Erlangen
- was also coach of several Icelandic women's teams and German women's club TuS Weilern from 2000-08
- ended his playing career in 1997; his last club was Balingen in Germany

NEW/COMERS

Joan Cañellas (Pick Szeged),
Ephraim Jerry (Sporting Pelt),
Marvin Lier (Pfadi Winterthur),
Torben Matzken (TuS Ferndorf),
Michael Kusio (BSV Bern)

LEFT THE CLUB

Gabor Csaszar (GC Amicitia Zurich),
Zarko Sesum (Retired),
Marian Teubert (Vöslauer HC),
Sebastian Frimmel (Pick Szeged),
Angel Montoro (Olympiakos SFP)

TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height	Weight
C 6	Dimitrij	Küttel	SUI	Right Back	18/02/1994	Aarau, SUI	192	92
10	Donát	Bartók	HUN	Right Back	13/07/1996	Szeged, HUN	191	104
16	Dragan	Jerkovic	CRO	Goalkeeper	08/12/1975	Metkovic, CRO	190	85
11	Ephrahim	Jerry	NED	Left Back	27/05/1996	Geldrop, NED	196	100
8	Erik	Schmidt	GER	Line Player	28/12/1992	Mainz, GER	204	115
	Gregor	Rilak	SUI	Line Player	29/01/2001	Baar ZG, SUI	197	120
12	Ignacio	Biosca	ESP	Goalkeeper	17/07/1995	Barcelona, ESP	193	92
7	Joan	Cañellas	ESP	Left Back	30/09/1986	St. MariadePalau, ESP	198	110
21	Jonas	Schelker	SUI	Centre Back	09/04/1999	Ravensburg, SUI	182	84
9	Jonas	Schopper	GER	Line Player	05/02/1999	Singen am Hohentwiel, GER	186	105
1	Kristian	Pilipovic	AUT	Goalkeeper	10/12/1994	Dakovo, CRO	192	94
20	Luka	Maros	SUI	Left Back	20/03/1994	Zürich, SUI	196	101
26	Lukas	Herburger	AUT	Line Player	19/12/1994	Bregenz, AUT	197	103
15	Marvin	Lier	SUI	Left Wing	08/09/1992	Zürich, SUI	186	83
18	Maximilian	Gerbl	SUI	Right Wing	25/06/1995	Basel, SUI	178	73
13	Michael	Kusio	SUI	Right Back	31/07/1998	Bern, SUI	195	100
	Nicolas	Waldvogel	SUI	Left Back	07/01/2003	Zürich ZH, SUI	187	86
24	Nik	Tominec	SUI	Right Wing	26/03/1991	Luzern, SUI	188	88
	Noe	Hottinger	SUI	Goalkeeper	29/10/2001	Meilen ZH, SUI	192	82
	Patrice	Bührer	SUI	Centre Back	19/01/1998	Schaffhausen, SUI	185	86
14	Philip	Novak	SUI	Line Player	11/04/1999	Schaffhausen, SUI	198	107
	Sadok Ben	Romdhane	SUI	Right Back	02/12/2001	Romanel-sur-Lausanne, SUI	190	83
4	Samuel	Zehnder	SUI	Left Wing	29/02/2000	Einsiedeln, SUI	183	83
5	Torben	Matzken	GER	Centre Back	01/02/2000	Mons, GER	188	89
19	Zoran	Markovic	SUI	Left Back	06/05/1995	Schaffhausen, SUI	197	103



JOAN CAÑELLAS

@joancanellas21

Left back

- joined Kadetten from Pick Szeged in the summer of 2021
- started his 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 his senior national team debut in October 2008
- top scorer at EHF EURO 2014, with 50 goals
- his younger brother Marc is also a professional handball player

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



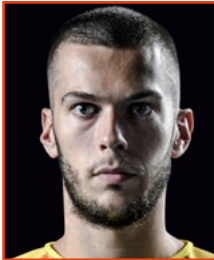
ERIK SCHMIDT

@erikschmidt28

Line player

- the 204 cm German line player arrived in Schaffhausen in the summer of 2020 to replace injured Zoran Markovic
- played for four Bundesliga clubs: Friesenheim, TSV Hannover-Burgdorf, Füchse Berlin and SC Magdeburg
- has experience of four previous seasons at this level, including two EHF Cup finals with Füchse Berlin
- one of the surprises at EHF EURO 2016, where Germany won gold, but has not played for the national team since 2017

EC trophies: EHF Cup 2018
EURO: G 2016



KRISTIAN PILIPOVIC

Goalkeeper

- Croatian-born Austrian goalkeeper started his professional career at Fivers
- Austrian international also played for Austria's younger age category teams
- at the age of 23, joined Nasice in Croatia to gain international experience
- joined Kadetten in 2018 and became a Swiss champion in his first season
- forms the goalkeeper duo with Spaniard Ignacio Biosca



MARVIN LIER

@marvinlier

Left wing

- arrived in the summer of 2021 from Pfadi Winterthur
- had a short-term contract from October 2019 until spring 2020 at former CL winners SG Flensburg-Handewitt to replace injured Hampus Wanne
- won the Swiss championship with Winterthur in 2021
- is a Swiss international who has played 67 matches for the senior team since 2012
- bronze medallist at the Universiade 2015 in Gwangju with the Swiss students' national team

I IMPORTANT REGULATIONS

WHAT DECIDES WHEN TWO OR MORE 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 PHASE

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

During the matches of the group:

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

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

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

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

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

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

* If no ranking can be determined, a decision shall be

obtained by drawing lots. Lots shall be drawn by the EHF, if possible in the presence of team managers.

LAST 16 AND QUARTER-FINAL MATCHES

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

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

RULES FOR EXECUTION OF PENALTY THROWS

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

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

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

- If scores are equal after the first round of penalty throwing, it shall be continued until a decision is reached. In the second round, the other team shall start. Again five players shall be named who are eligible to play (the players named before may be named once again).

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

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

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

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

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



HISTORY

I PAST WINNERS OF THE EHF SECOND-TIER COMPETITIONS

EHF European League Men winners

2021 SC Magdeburg (GER)

Previous Men's EHF Cup winners

2020 no title awarded, the season stopped in the group phase due to Covid-19
 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)

Previous Men's EHF Cup winners

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)

Previous Men's Cup Winners' Cup winners

2012 SG Flensburg Handewitt (GER)
 2011 VfL Gummersbach (GER)
 2010 VfL Gummersbach (GER)
 2009 Pevafera Valladolid (ESP)
 2008 MKB Veszprem KC (HUN)
 2007 HSV Hamburg
 2006 Chekhovski 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)

I 2020/21 TOP SCORERS

	Player	Club	Goals
1	Emil Jakobsen (DEN)	GOG	96
2	Ómar Ingi Magnussen (ISL)	SC Magdeburg	94
3	Jerry Tollbring (SWE)	Rhein-Neckar Löwen	74
4	Alexander Kotov (RUS)	Chekhovskie medvedi	72
5	Halil Jaganjac (CRO)	RK Nexø	69
6	Gonzalo Perez (ESP)	Abanca Ademar Leon	68
	Hans Lindberg (DEN)	Füchse Berlin	68
	Zoltan Szita (HUN)	Orlen Wisla Plock	68
9	Sergei Mark Kosorotov (RUS)	Chekhovskie medvedi	65
	Michal Daszek (POL)	Orlen Wisla Plock	65
11	Adam Nyfjäll (SWE)	IFK Kristianstad	63
12	Hugo Descat (FRA)	Montpellier HB	62
	Patrick Groetzki (GER)	Rhein-Neckar Löwen	62
	Stipe Mandalinic (CRO)	HC Eurofarm Pelister	62
15	Mathias Gidsel (DEN)	GOG	60
	Simon Pytlick (DEN)	GOG	60
17	Lovro Mihic (CRO)	Orlen Wisla Plock	59
	Lasse Andersson (DEN)	Füchse Berlin	59
19	Lukas Mertens (GER)	SC Magdeburg	58

I 2021/22 QUALIFICATION TOP SCORERS

	Player			Club	Goals
1	Leonardo	Dutra Ferreira	BRA	BM Logroño La Rioja	32
2	Mathias	Gidsel	DEN	GOG	29
3	Nemanja	Ilic	SRB	Fenix Toulouse Handball	28
4	Andrii	Akimenko	UKR	KS Azoty-Pulawy SA	27
5	Petar	Djordjic	SRB	SL Benfica	25
6	Jose Maria	Marquez Coloma	ESP	Fraikin BM. Granollers	24
7	Halil	Jaganjac	CRO	RK Nexe	23
8	Magnus Grubb	Bramming	DEN	TTH Holstebro	23
9	Mohamed	Hisham Sanad	EGY	USAM Nimes Gard	23
10	Joan	Cañellas	ESP	Kadetten Schaffhausen	23
11	Pol	Valera Rovira	ESP	Fraikin BM. Granollers	22
12	Ole	Rahmel	GER	SL Benfica	22
13	Agustín	Casado Marcelo	ESP	BM Logroño La Rioja	21
14	Hampus	Jildenbäck	SWE	HK Malmö	21
15	Magnús Óli	Magnússon	ISL	Valur Iceland	20
16	Olaf	Richter Hofstad	NOR	ØIF Arendal	19
17	Jonas	Schelker	SUI	Kadetten Schaffhausen	19
18	Samuel	Zehnder	SUI	Kadetten Schaffhausen	19
19	Jonas Soegaard	Porup	DEN	TTH Holstebro	18
20	Ivan	Horvat	CRO	ALPLA HC Hard	17
21	Marin	Jelinic	CRO	RK Nexe	17
22	Morten Toft	Olsen	DEN	GOG	17

EUROPEAN LEAGUE ALL-TIME STATS

ALL TIME LIST MEN BEFORE 2021–22 SEASON

1	SC Magdeburg GER	16	15	0	1	519:391	+128	30:2	(2) 93,75%
2	Rhein-Neckar Löwen GER	16	11	2	3	483:430	+53	24:8	(1) 75,00%
3	Füchse Berlin GER	16	10	2	4	412:365	+47	22:10	(2) 68,75%
4	Orlen Wisla Plock POL	16	10	0	6	465:413	+52	20:12	(2) 62,50%
5	Chekhovskie medvedi RUS	14	9	1	4	415:382	+33	19:9	(2) 67,86%
6	GOG DEN	14	9	0	5	430:424	+6	18:10	(2) 64,29%
7	Montpellier HB FRA	14	8	1	5	345:309	+36	17:11	(1) 60,71%
8	Kadetten Schaffhausen SUI	12	6	3	3	313:310	+3	15:9	(2) 62,50%
9	IFK Kristianstad SWE	14	7	1	6	400:407	-7	15:13	(1) 53,57%
10	HC CSKA RUS	12	7	0	5	324:287	+37	14:10	(1) 58,33%
11	Abanca Ademar Leon ESP	12	5	4	3	365:364	+1	14:10	(1) 58,33%
12	USAM Nimes Gard FRA	12	5	3	4	328:317	+11	13:11	(2) 54,17%
13	Sporting CP POR	12	6	0	6	297:295	+2	12:12	(2) 50,00%
14	HC Eurofarm Pelister MKD	12	5	1	6	292:304	-12	11:13	(2) 45,83%
15	RK Nexe CRO	12	5	1	6	321:338	-17	11:13	(2) 45,83%
16	CS Dinamo Bucuresti ROU	10	3	1	6	279:298	-19	7:13	(1) 35,00%
17	TATRAN Presov SVK	10	3	0	7	233:254	-21	6:14	(2) 30,00%
18	RK Trimo Trebnje SLO	10	3	0	7	250:273	-23	6:14	(1) 30,00%
19	Fenix Toulouse Handball FRA	10	2	2	6	227:250	-23	6:14	(2) 30,00%
20	Alingsas HK SWE	10	3	0	7	262:304	-42	6:14	(1) 30,00%
21	Fivers AUT	12	2	2	8	328:356	-28	6:18	(1) 25,00%
22	HC Metalurg MKD	10	1	2	7	259:329	-70	4:16	(1) 20,00%
23	Grundfos Tatabanya KC HUN	10	0	0	10	263:298	-35	0:20	(2) 0,00%
24	Besiktas Aygaz TUR	10	0	0	10	238:350	-112	0:20	(1) 0,00%
NR	Bidasoa Irun ESP	0	0	0	0	0:0	0	0:0	(1) N/A
NR	BM Logroño La Rioja ESP	0	0	0	0	0:0	0	0:0	(1) N/A
NR	Cocks FIN	0	0	0	0	0:0	0	0:0	(1) N/A
NR	HBC Nantes FRA	0	0	0	0	0:0	0	0:0	(1) N/A

^ = Excluding Qualifying matches

The club name is the last used name in EHF European League Men competition

bold = participating in EHF European League Men 2021/22 (participations incl. this season)

% = winning percentage

EUROPEAN LEAGUE ALL-TIME STATS

EHF EUROPEAN LEAGUE MEN BIGGEST WINS TOP 10

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 vs HC Metalurg MKD	19:38 (9:16)	14.02.2021
18 SC Magdeburg GER vs Besiktas Aygaz TUR	23:41 (8:20)	20.10.2020
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
13 Chekhovskie medvedi RUS vs HC Metalurg MKD	40:27 (22:11)	06.02.2021
13 Füchse Berlin GER vs IFK Kristianstad SWE	23:36 (11:17)	09.02.2021
12 HC CSKA RUS vs Besiktas Aygaz TUR	23:35 (11:17)	08.12.2020
12 Montpellier HB FRA vs RK Nexe CRO	37:25 (21:14)	02.03.2021

EHF EUROPEAN LEAGUE MEN BIGGEST LEAD AT HALF-TIME TOP TEN

16 Montpellier HB FRA vs Besiktas Aygaz TUR	40:16 (23:7)	24.11.2020
12 SC Magdeburg GER vs 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
11 Chekhovskie medvedi RUS vs HC Metalurg MKD	40:27 (22:11)	06.02.2021
11 HC CSKA RUS vs 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
10 SC Magdeburg GER vs Besiktas Aygaz TUR	41:22 (21:11)	09.02.2021
9 Fivers AUT vs HC Metalurg MKD	45:30 (22:13)	23.02.2021
7 Abanca Ademar Leon ESP vs HC Metalurg MKD	41:32 (20:13)	17.11.2020
7 HC CSKA RUS vs RK Nexe CRO	29:18 (15:8)	24.11.2020
7 SC Magdeburg GER vs RK Nexe CRO	24:32 (8:15)	01.12.2020
7 SC Magdeburg GER vs RK Nexe CRO	28:23 (17:10)	08.12.2020
7 OrLEN Wisla Plock POL vs HC Metalurg MKD	19:38 (9:16)	14.02.2021
7 Chekhovskie medvedi RUS vs Fivers AUT	30:25 (19:12)	16.02.2021
7 Rhein-Neckar Löwen GER vs Grundfos Tatabanya KC HUN	37:30 (20:13)	16.02.2021
7 Abanca Ademar Leon ESP vs OrLEN Wisla Plock POL	32:27 (16:9)	23.02.2021
7 TATRAN Presov SVK vs CS Dinamo Bucuresti ROU	32:27 (18:11)	02.03.2021
7 Montpellier HB FRA vs RK Nexe CRO	37:25 (21:14)	02.03.2021
7 SC Magdeburg GER vs Füchse Berlin GER	28:25 (15:8)	23.05.2021

EUROPEAN LEAGUE ALL-TIME STATS

EHF EUROPEAN LEAGUE MEN MOST GOALS TOP 10

45 Fivers AUT vs HC Metalurg MKD	45:30 (22:13)	23.02.2021
41 SC Magdeburg GER vs 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
40 Montpellier HB FRA vs Besiktas Aygaz TUR	40:16 (23:7)	24.11.2020
40 Chekhovskie medvedi RUS vs HC Metalurg MKD	40:27 (22:11)	06.02.2021
39 SC Magdeburg GER vs IFK Kristianstad SWE	39:31 (23:12)	20.04.2021
38 Orlen Wisla Plock POL vs HC Metalurg MKD	19:38 (9:16)	14.02.2021
37 Fivers AUT vs Fenix Toulouse Handball	37:32 (17:15)	17.11.2020
37 SC Magdeburg GER vs HC CSKA RUS	37:30 (17:11)	17.11.2020
37 Rhein-Neckar Löwen GER vs GOG DEN	32:37 (14:19)	17.11.2020
37 Rhein-Neckar Löwen GER vs Grundfos Tatabanya KC HUN	37:30 (20:13)	16.02.2021
37 Chekhovskie medvedi RUS vs HC Metalurg MKD	32:37 (17:21)	20.02.2021
37 Montpellier HB FRA vs RK Nexe CRO	37:25 (21:14)	02.03.2021
37 Rhein-Neckar Löwen GER vs Chekhovskie medvedi RUS	37:27 (19:8)	20.04.2021

EHF EUROPEAN LEAGUE MEN MOST GOALS BOTH TEAMS TOP TEN

75 Fivers AUT vs HC Metalurg MKD	45:30 (22:13)	23.02.2021
73 Abanca Ademar Leon ESP vs HC Metalurg MKD	41:32 (20:13)	17.11.2020
70 SC Magdeburg GER vs IFK Kristianstad SWE	39:31 (23:12)	20.04.2021
69 Fivers AUT vs Fenix Toulouse Handball FRA	37:32 (17:15)	17.11.2020
69 GOG DEN vs Rhein-Neckar Löwen GER	32:37 (14:19)	17.11.2020
69 HC Metalurg MKD vs Chekhovskie medvedi RUS	32:37 (17:21)	20.02.2021
69 Chekhovskie medvedi RUS vs Abanca Ademar Leon ESP	34:35 (20:17)	27.02.2021
68 Fuchse Berlin GER vs USAM Nimes Gard FRA	34:34 (16:17)	16.02.2021
67 SC Magdeburg GER vs HC CSKA RUS	37:30 (17:11)	17.11.2020
67 Grundfos Tatabanya KC HUN vs GOG DEN	32:35 (16:17)	08.12.2020
67 Chekhovskie medvedi vs HC Metalurg MKD	40:27 (22:11)	06.02.2021
67 Rhein-Neckar Löwen GER vs Grundfos Tatabanya KC HUN	37:30 (20:13)	16.02.2021
67 Rhein-Neckar Löwen GER vs Fuchse Berlin GER	32:35 (16:19)	22.05.2021

EUROPEAN LEAGUE ALL-TIME STATS

EHF EUROPEAN LEAGUE MEN FEWEST GOALS TOP 10

16 Besiktas Aygaz TUR vs Montpellier HB FRA	40:16 (23:7)	24.11.2020
18 RK Nexe CRO vs HC CSKA RUS	29:18 (15:8)	24.11.2020
19 Grundfos Tatabanya KC HUN vs HC Eurofarm Pelister	21:19 (11:10)	10.02.2021
19 HC Metalurg MKD vs Orlen Wisla Plock POL	19:38 (9:16)	14.02.2021
20 HC Eurofarm Pelister MKD vs Rhein-Neckar Löwen GER	28:20 (14:11)	24.11.2020
20 TATTRAN Presov SVK vs USAM Nimes Gard FRA	25:20 (12:11)	09.02.2021
20 HC Metalurg MKD vs Orlen Wisla Plock POL	35:20 (16:10)	16.02.2021
21 Alingsas HK SWE vs Montpellier HB FRA	32:21 (16:13)	01.12.2020
21 TATTRAN Presov SVK vs Sporting CP POR	27:21 (13:10)	07.02.2021
21 HC Eurofarm Pelister MKD vs Grundfos Tatabanya KC HUN	21:19 (11:10)	10.02.2021
21 Grundfos Tatabanya KC HUN vs HC Eurofarm Pelister MKD	21:24 (11:9)	11.02.2021
21 Sporting CP POR vs TATTRAN Presov SVK	24:21 (12:13)	16.02.2021
21 RK Trimo Trebnje SLO vs Kadetten Schaffhausen SUI	24:21 (10:12)	16.02.2021
21 Alingsas HK SWE vs SC Magdeburg GER	36:21 (18:15)	23.02.2021

EHF EUROPEAN LEAGUE MEN FEWEST GOALS BOTH TEAMS TOP 10

40 HC Eurofarm Pelister MKD vs Grundfos Tatabanya KC HUN	21:19 (11:10)	10.02.2021
45 RK Nexe CRO vs Montpellier HB FRA	22:23 (8:10)	17.11.2020
45 USAM Nimes Gard FRA vs TATTRAN Presov SVK	25:20 (12:11)	09.02.2021
45 Grundfos Tatabanya KC HUN vs HC Eurofarm Pelister MKD	21:24 (11:9)	11.02.2021
45 TATTRAN 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
46 USAM Nimes Gard FRA vs Fuchse Berlin GER	22:24 (13:12)	24.02.2021
47 HC CSKA RUS vs RK Nexe CRO	29:18 (15:8)	24.11.2020
48 Rhein-Neckar Löwen GER vs HC Eurofarm Pelister MKD	28:20 (14:11)	24.11.2020
48 Sporting CP POR vs TATTRAN Presov SVK	27:21 (13:10)	07.02.2021
48 Fuchse Berlin GER vs Sporting CP POR	29:19 (14:10)	02.03.2021
48 USAM Nimes Gard FRA vs Chekhovskie medvedi RUS	24:24 (11:12)	30.03.2021

EUROPEAN LEAGUE ALL-TIME STATS

EHF EUROPEAN LEAGUE MEN 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
-3 Kadetten Schaffhausen SUI vs Grundfos Tatabanya KC HUN	30:32 (18:15)	23.02.2021
-3 Abanca Ademar Leon ESP vs Chekhovskie medvedi RUS	34:35 (20:17)	27.02.2021
-3 Alingsas HK SWE vs Besiktas Aygaz TUR	30:29 (14:17)	02.03.2021
-2 Abanca Ademar Leon ESP vs Chekhovskie medvedi RUS	33:32 (17:19)	09.02.2021
-2 HC Eurofarm Pelister MKD vs Grundfos Tatabanya KC HUN	21:24 (11:9)	11.02.2021
-2 IFK Kristianstad SWE vs CS Dinamo Bucuresti ROU	28:29 (14:12)	16.02.2021
-2 Kadetten Schaffhausen SUI vs RK Trimo Trebnje SLO	24:21 (10:12)	16.02.2021
-2 Chekhovskie medvedi RUS vs USAM Nimes Gard FRA	30:25 (13:15)	23.03.2021
-2 Kadetten Schaffhausen SUI vs Montpellier HB FRA	27:27 (15:13)	23.03.2021
-2 SC Magdeburg vs Orlen Wisla Plock POL	30:29 (13:15)	22.05.2021

EHF EUROPEAN LEAGUE MEN DEFICIT OVERCOME AFTER LOSING FIRST HALF TO DRAW A GAME

-6 Kadetten Schaffhausen SUI vs HC Eurofarm Pelister MKD	25:25 (16:10)	17.11.2020
-4 Kadetten Schaffhausen SUI vs Rhein-Neckar Löwen GER	30:30 (17:13)	02.02.2021
-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 Abanca Ademar Leon ESP vs HC Metalurg MKD	27:27 (16:13)	02.03.2021
-2 CS Dinamo Bucuresti ROU vs Füchse Berlin GER	26:26 (12:14)	08.12.2020
-2 IFK Kristianstad SWE vs USAM Nimes Gard FRA	30:30 (13:15)	02.03.2021
-2 RK Nexe CRO vs Rhein-Neckar Löwen GER	27:27 (14:12)	30.03.2021
-1 Fenix Toulouse Handball FRA vs Abanca Ademar Leon ESP	26:26 (15:14)	27.10.2020
-1 Fivers AUT vs Abanca Ademar Leon ESP	33:33 (19:20)	01.12.2020
-1 Füchse Berlin GER vs USAM Nimes Gard FRA	34:34 (16:17)	16.02.2021
-1 IFK Kristianstad SWE vs Abanca Ademar Leon ESP	31:34 (16:15)	30.03.2021
-1 USAM Nimes Gard FRA vs Chekhovskie medvedi RUS	24:24 (11:12)	30.03.2021

EUROPEAN LEAGUE ALL-TIME STATS

EHF EUROPEAN LEAGUE MEN MOST GOALS IN ONE HALF TOP 10

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
22 Chekhovskie medvedi RUS vs HC Metalurg MKD – 1st half	40:27 (22:11)	06.02.2021
22 OrLEN Wisla Plock POL @ HC Metalurg MKD – 2nd half	19:38 (9:16)	14.02.2021
22 Fivers AUT vs HC Metalurg MKD – 1st half	45:30 (22:13)	23.02.2021
21 SC Magdeburg GER @ Besiktas Aygaz TUR – 2nd half	23:41 (8:20)	20.10.2020
21 Abanca Ademar Leon ESP vs HC Metalurg MKD – 2nd half	41:32 (20:13)	17.11.2020
21 HC CSKA RUS vs Besiktas Aygaz TUR – 1st half	32:24 (21:9)	01.12.2020
21 SC Magdeburg GER vs Besiktas Aygaz TUR – 1st half	41:22 (21:11)	09.02.2021
21 Chekhovskie medvedi RUS @ HC Metalurg MKD – 1st half	32:37 (17:21)	20.02.2021
21 Montpellier HB FRA @ Besiktas Aygaz TUR – 2nd half	26:36 (13:15)	22.02.2021
21 Montpellier HB FRA vs RK Nexe CRO – 1st half	37:25 (21:14)	02.03.2021
21 SC Magdeburg GER vs HC Eurofarm Pelister MKD – 2nd half	35:24 (14:9)	30.03.2021

EHF EUROPEAN LEAGUE MEN MOST GOALS IN ONE HALF BOTH TEAMS TOP 10

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
39 SC Magdeburg GER vs HC CSKA RUS – 2nd half	37:30 (17:11)	17.11.2020
39 Fivers AUT vs Abanca Ademar Leon ESP – 1st half	33:33 (19:20)	01.12.2020
38 HC Metalurg MKD vs Chekhovskie medvedi RUS – 1st half	32:37 (17:21)	20.02.2021
37 Fivers AUT vs Fenix Toulouse Handball FRA - 2nd half	37:32 (17:15)	17.11.2020
37 Chekhovskie medvedi RUS vs Abanca Ademar Leon ESP – 1st half	34:35 (20:17)	27.02.2021
37 Montpellier HB FRA vs Fuchse Berlin GER – 2nd half	32:29 (13:11)	13.04.2021
37 Rhein-Neckar Löwen GER vs Chekhovskie medvedi RUS – 2nd half	37:27 (19:8)	20.04.2021
36 Besiktas Aygaz TUR vs SC Magdeburg – 2nd half	23:41 (8:20)	20.10.2020
36 GOG DEN vs Rhein-Neckar Löwen GER – 2nd half	32:37 (14:19)	17.11.2020
36 Grundfos Tatabanya KC HUN vs Rhein-Neckar Löwen GER – 1st half	26:32 (15:21)	30.11.2020
36 Abanca Ademar Leon ESP vs Chekhovskie medvedi RUS – 1st half	33:32 (17:19)	09.02.2021
36 SC Magdeburg GER vs HC Eurofarm Pelister MKD – 2nd half	35:24 (14:9)	30.03.2021
36 HC CSKA RUS vs GOG DEN – 1st half	30:35 (17:19)	30.03.2021

EUROPEAN LEAGUE ALL-TIME STATS

EHF EUROPEAN LEAGUE MEN FEWEST GOALS IN ONE HALF TOP 10

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
7 Besiktas Aygaz TUR @ Montpellier HB FRA – 1st half	40:16 (23:7)	24.11.2020
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

EHF EUROPEAN LEAGUE MEN FEWEST GOALS IN ONE HALF BOTH TEAM TOP 10

18 RK Nexe CRO vs Montpellier HB FRA – 1st half	22:23 (8:10)	17.11.2020
19 HC Eurofarm Pelister MKD vs Grundfos Tatabanya KC HUN – 2nd half	21:19 (11:10)	10.02.2021
20 Grundfos Tatabanya 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
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 Tatabanya 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
22 Grundfos Tatabanya KC HUN vs Rhein-Neckar Löwen GER – 2nd half	26:32 (15:21)	30.11.2020
22 USAM Nimes Gard FRA vs TATRAN Presov SVK – 2nd half	25:20 (12:11)	09.02.2021
22 Kadetten Schaffhausen SUI vs RK Trimo Trebnje SLO – 1st half	24:21 (10:12)	16.02.2021
22 Fenix Toulouse Handball FRA vs Fivers AUT – 2nd half	29:25 (16:16)	02.03.2021

EUROPEAN LEAGUE ALL-TIME STATS

LONGEST WINNING RUN

SC Magdeburg GER	12 matches	(01.12.2020 – 23.05.2021)
Orlen Wisła Plock POL	8 matches	(20.10.2020 – 20.02.2021)
Rhein-Neckar Löwen GER	6 matches	(03.02.2021 – 23.03.2021)
HC CSKA RUS	5 matches	(24.11.2020 – 17.02.2021)
Montpellier HB FRA	4 matches	(17.11.2020 – 08.12.2020)
HC Eurofarm Pelister MKD	4 matches	(08.12.2020 – 16.02.2021)
RK Nexe CRO	4 matches	(09.02.2021 – 23.02.2021)
Kadetten Schaffhausen SUI	4 matches	(16.02.2021 – 02.03.2021)

LONGEST UNBEATEN RUN

SC Magdeburg GER	12 matches	(01.12.2020 – 23.05.2021)
Rhein-Neckar Löwen GER	11 matches	(17.11.2020 – 30.03.2021)
Füchse Berlin GER	9 matches	(20.10.2020 – 23.03.2021)
Orlen Wisła Plock POL	8 matches	(20.10.2020 – 20.02.2021)
Abanca Ademar Leon ESP	6 matches	(27.10.2020 – 09.02.2021)

LONGEST LOSING RUN

Besiktas Aygaz TUR	10 matches	(20.10.2020 – 02.03.2021)
Grundfos Tatabanya KC HUN	10 matches	(17.11.2020 – 02.03.2021)
TATTRAN Presov SVK	6 matches	(20.10.2020 – 09.02.2021)
Alingsas HK SWE	6 matches	(01.12.2020 – 23.02.2021)
RK Trimo Trebnje SLO	6 matches (08.12.2020 – 24.02.2021)

LONGEST RUN WITHOUT WIN

Besiktas Aygaz TUR	10 matches	(20.10.2020 – 02.03.2021)
Grundfos Tatabanya KC HUN	10 matches	(17.11.2020 – 02.03.2021)
HC Metalurg MKD	9 matches	(20.10.2020 – 02.03.2021)
TATTRAN Presov SVK	6 matches	(20.10.2020 – 09.02.2021)
Alingsas HK SWE	6 matches	(01.12.2020 – 23.02.2021)
Fenix Toulouse Handball FRA	6 matches	(27.10.2020 – 24.02.2021)
RK Trimo Trebnje SLO	6 matches	(08.12.2020 – 24.02.2021)

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