

## MINUTES TO THE 16<sup>TH</sup> EXTRAORDINARY EHF CONGRESS | VIENNA, AUSTRIA

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Date | Time: Saturday, 14 December 2024 | 11:00 – 13:00

Venue: Andaz Hotel Am Belvedere | Belvedere 1 - 3

Participants: 77 National Federation Representatives

Representatives from 45 Federations, 2 Associated Federations, Guests of Honour, Executive Committee, Chairpersons of Court of Handball, Court of Appeal, and European Handball Court of Arbitration, and Office Staff (see enclosure).

Minutes: M. Wiederer | M. Brown

Date: 21 January 2025

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### 1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

EHF President Michael Wiederer opened the 16<sup>th</sup> Extraordinary EHF Congress following the conclusion of the 17<sup>th</sup> Conference of Presidents. The focus of the forum was the adaptation of the EHF Statutes and Regulations, as well as the awarding of the 2030 and 2032 EHF EURO events.

Upon invitation, Dr Hassan Moustafa, President of the International Handball Federation addressed the Congress attendees and expressed his pleasure of being present in Vienna. He congratulated the EHF President and Secretary General for the success of the Women's EHF EURO Final weekend and framework activities, which included the opening of the EHF House and he thanked them for the invitation. He wished the EHF luck for the new endeavours and wished the best for the sport globally.

Continuing, Moustafa took the opportunity to impart information on the sport providing a current and future perspective. Based on the IHF cooperation with the ASOIF, where together both organisations collaborate with the IOC, Moustafa was privy to the ASOIF report where comparisons on the sport were made. The indicators point to 797 broadcast hours in OG Paris 2024 compared to 437 broadcast hours in OG Tokyo 2020. Also 6594 OTT hours in Paris were reported compared to 4460 OTT hours in Tokyo. Handball is also to receive recognition from the ANOC, having been nominated to the "best team sport in Paris." Moustafa reported that the IHF is also working very hard on its marketing projects e.g. in USA, China, India, and Brazil, and he took a moment to thank EHF Honorary President, Jean Brihault for helping to build handball in the USA. He used China (possibilities to develop all branches of the sport – women, youth, beach, etc.) as well as the Italian Handball Federation as examples, he underlined the importance of development as for the first time since 1997, an Italian National Team delegation has qualified to the 2025 World Championship. Moreover, following the two Wheelchair Handball World Championships, with both events taking place in Egypt, the work continues with the objective of bring the sport to the Paralympic Games.

Moustafa reiterated that the information provided was brief but underlined that more comprehensive information would be provided at the 2025 IHF Congress. The IHF President presented EHF President Wiederer with a gift for the new European Handball House which was met with applause. In closing and noting the faces of the new national federation representatives, which he remarked was good for handball, he gave his best wishes to the EHF leadership and the EHF Congress.

EHF President Wiederer thanked the IHF President for the inspiring words and the report on global activities.

## **2. FORMAL PROCEDURE**

### **2.1. Roll Call**

EHF Secretary General, Martin Hausleitner informed that 45 Federations registered for the event. Representatives from 44 Member Federations (with voting right) were present and registered in accordance with the EHF Statutes. The Associated Federations of England and Scotland were also accredited.

### **2.2. Election of Tellers**

As foreseen in the EHF Statutes, if no electronic voting system is technically possible on the occasion, the accredited Member Federations are issued with a 'YES/NO' voting paddle. Heino Knudsen (DEN) and Kristina Kallas (EST) were nominated as the tellers for the 16<sup>th</sup> Extraordinary EHF Congress.

### **2.3. Introduction of Congress Formalities**

Christoph Gamper, Senior Director of the EHF IT Department was invited to the podium to deliver a concise explanation of the electronic voting system comprised of how to vote, the use of the keypad, classification of active votes and active abstentions, and how to change a vote within the 30-second voting window. In addition, Gamper also clarified how the votes are calculated and gave the numbers, including percentages, needed to reach a simple majority for non-statutory and regulatory decisions, and for the two-third majority needed to be attained for all statutory decisions. Following the explanation, a test vote was conducted successfully.

### **2.4. Declaration of the Lawful Convocation of the 16<sup>th</sup> Extraordinary EHF Congress**

The EHF Secretary General informed the Congress on the rundown and declared alignment with the EHF Statutes; the invitation containing the first information was distributed to the National Federations on 18 June 2024 (more than 4 months before the event), the motions were submitted by 5 October 2024 in advance of the deadline, and together with the Congress Guide and the final information, the motions were sent to the National Federations on 17 October 2024 (2 months prior to the Congress) within all mandated time limits.

**Thus, in accordance with the procedures the 16<sup>th</sup> Extraordinary Congress of the European Handball Federation was lawfully convoked in conformity with the EHF Statutes with 39 votes in favour and 1 vote against.**

## **2.5. Minutes of the 16<sup>th</sup> Ordinary EHF Congress in Basel/SUI**

The minutes of the 16<sup>th</sup> Ordinary EHF Congress in Basel/SUI were distributed to the National Federations in October 2023. The EHF received a request for a correction to the protocol, specifically “**Agenda Point 7 - Motions to the Statutes**”, subpoint “**7.1.6. Motion 6 | Ethical Standards and Good Governance**” as follows:

*“The motion attained the simple majority needed to admit the amended text, proposed by ~~SWE~~ **AUT**, and presented by ~~Jörgen Holmqvist~~ **Bernd Rabenseifner**, as well as the two-third majority to carry the motion.”*

To amend and subsequently approve the Minutes to the 16<sup>th</sup> Ordinary EHF Congress in Basel/SUI, a simple majority was required; the motion was confirmed with 40 votes in favour and 1 vote against.

With the Congress formalities concluded, First Vice President, Predrag Bošković assumed the Chair of the meeting. Introducing the next agenda points, he informed the Extraordinary Congress that fourteen motions in total were to be decided and concerned the EHF Statutes (Motions 1-10) and the Legal Regulations (Motions 11-14). Following the presentation of each motion, the floor was opened for comment (also reflected in the summary).

## **3. MOTIONS RELATING TO EHF STATUTES**

*The motions, in full written form, were distributed to the National Federations according to the timetable given by the statutes. What follows is a summary of the motion and the outcome of the voting procedure. All decisions shall have immediate effect and be valid as per the end of the Extraordinary EHF Congress on 14 December 2024.*

### **3.1. Motion 1 | Division of Responsibilities within the EHF Statutes – Clarification**

#### **Presented by Henrik La Cour**

Based upon the recommendation of the Task Force ‘Statutes Harmonisation’, the EHF Executive Committee moved to amend Article 1.2., par. 3 of the EHF Statutes. The motion targeted the precise and comprehensive distinction of responsibilities. The wording of the motion shall clearly indicate the line between IHF and EHF competences concerning competitions and activities. Furthermore, serving only to ensure transparency, this motion does not constitute any material change in the content of the EHF Statutes.

To carry the motion, a two-third majority was required. Motion 1 was subsequently confirmed with 36 votes in favour, 2 votes against, and 0 abstentions.

### 3.2. Motion 2 | Definitions and Terminology

#### Presented by Stefan Lövgren

Motion 2 targeted clarification and proposed no material change to the statutes; it aimed to define specific terms (expulsion, exclusion, and suspension) which are used within the Statutes to facilitate readability, as well as the usability of the section and to ensure the right distinction and interpretation by all users.

To carry the motion, a two-third majority was required. Motion 2 was subsequently confirmed with 39 votes in favour, 1 vote against, and 0 abstentions.

### 3.3. Motion 3 | Measures against Match Fixing

#### Presented by Bozidar Djurkovic

The integrity of the sport and the ethical values defined in section 1 of the Statutes form the important values being essential for handball and valid for all parties involved. Match fixing constitutes a severe violation of ethical standards and the integrity of the sport. The Executive Committee moved to augment the EHF Statutes by explicitly including safeguarding the integrity of matches, the prohibition of – and the fight against - match fixing as a basic principle. The intent behind the motion was to send a clear and visible message that immediate and severe sanctions are to be expected in case of any violations.

To carry the motion, a two-third majority was required. Motion 3 was subsequently confirmed with 41 votes in favour, 0 votes against, and 0 abstentions.

### 3.4. Motion 4 | Congress Decisions – Majorities

#### Presented by Michele Colucci

The Executive Committee moved to augment the EHF Statutes by alternating and better describing the different majorities, its applications, and calculations. Motion 4 aimed for clarification of the section to ensure that the terms used for majority requirements are explicitly defined in one place (Article 4.1.5.) within the EHF Statutes and the wording used is easier to understand for all parties. Due to the length of the text, it was noted as part of the presentation that the attendees were to refer to the Congress Guide for the full text of Motion 4.

To carry the motion, a two-third majority was required. Motion 4 was subsequently confirmed with 42 votes in favour, 0 votes against, and 1 abstention.

### 3.5. Motion 5 | Timing of Implementation

#### Presented by Leonor Mallozzi

The Executive Committee moved to adapt the wording of Article 4.1.7. as follows:

*Art. 4.1.7.:*

*Unless the Congress decides otherwise ~~under special circumstance~~, resolutions shall enter into force three (3) months after the Congress.*

Motion 5 also dealt with the formal aspect of the wording of the EHF Statutes.

To carry the motion, a two-third majority was required. Motion 5 was subsequently confirmed with 39 votes in favour, 0 votes against, and 3 abstentions.

### **3.6. Motion 6 | Suspension of Membership Rights**

#### **Presented by Michael Wiederer**

In consideration of the input received during and after the 15<sup>th</sup> Extraordinary EHF Congress (09/2023, Basel, SUI), the Executive Committee moved to augment the Article 3.3. of the EHF Statutes to include the right of the EHF Executive Committee to suspend the membership rights of a member federation under severe and non-delayable circumstances. Motion 6 aimed to define a clear procedure and to make it visible in the EHF Statutes as to secure a transparent approach for all parties.

**As a statutory motion, a two-third majority was required to pass; Motion 6 was confirmed with 38 votes in favour, 1 vote against, and 3 abstentions.**

### **3.7. Motion 7 | Competence for Catalogue of Administrative Sanctions**

#### **Presented by Mark Schober**

The Executive Committee moved to amend the EHF Statutes by changing the competence for regulatory amendments in reference to the 'Catalogue of Administrative Sanctions'. It was noted that the motion had been previously presented; queries relating to the content during the latest decision-making process were clarified in open discussion forums. Motion 7 aimed to facilitate expedited legal proceedings, avoid a legal process in minor cases, provide transparent and foreseeable consequences, allow for flexibility, and a significant improvement in the handling of such legal questions. The amendment is reproduced as follows:

*Art. 3.1.18.:*

*The EHF Executive Committee is charged with taking decisions on the issuance and amendment of competition regulations, the List of Penalties, and the Catalogue of Administrative Sanctions. Provisions regulating financial matters except the List of Penalties and the Catalogue of Administrative Sanctions shall be passed by the Congress.*

Philippe Bana, President of the French Handball Federation, commented that it was the fourth time the motion was presented, and the content seemingly turns the democratic process into automatic punishment. The actual system of a list ensures the democratic process ensuring going through the Legal Commissions, possible defences, and appeals through the bodies that are respected. It also guarantees non-automatic punishments and defines clear processes and responsibilities. He raised the concern that Motion 7 could possibly undermine the rights of National Federations and Clubs.

In response, EHF President Wiederer stated that Motion 7 was not about depriving any party of any legal procedure, but rather tackled appropriate first instance topics. Unfortunately, Motion 7 was relevant for persons working with the regulations as many misunderstandings have occurred. Again, the EHF have deemed the amendment necessary to facilitate a smooth rundown and ensures a continuation of legal procedures. John Karanasos, President of the EHF Court of Handball (CoH) and speaking with the support of the Legal Bodies, added that all decisions at the administrative level can be appealed, and assured the Congress that the Legal Delegation (comprised of the Presidents

of the CoH, CoA, and ECA) were fully in support of Motion 7 and that it would resolve issues at the business level as it would streamline processes.

**As a statutory motion, a two-third majority was required to pass; Motion 7 was subsequently confirmed with 30 votes in favour, 8 votes against, and 5 abstentions.**

### **3.8. Motion 8 | Methods Commission – Areas of Responsibility**

#### **Presented by Pedro Sequeira**

Following input from the EHF Methods Commission and other external experts, the Executive Committee moved to amend the areas of responsibility within the Commission to allow for the responsibilities to be assigned in a subject-oriented way. The current assignments were defined in 1995 with the foundation of the Methods Commission. Over the past 30 years, there has been significant change in the field in terms of priorities, scientific methods, as well as educational approaches. Motion 8 would allow for the Methods Commission to serve handball in an optimised way.

**As a statutory motion, a two-third majority was required to pass; Motion 8 was subsequently confirmed with 41 votes in favour, 1 vote against, and 0 abstentions.**

### **3.9. Motion 9 | Recognition of ECA and ECA Decisions**

#### **Presented by Xavier O’Callaghan**

The EHF Executive Committee moved to augment the EHF Statutes by formally introducing the recognition of the European Handball Court of Arbitration (ECA) and its decisions to the EHF Statutes (Article 6.3.) as a formality. The explicit reference to, and recognition of, both the competent court, in this case the European Handball Court of Arbitration, as well as its decisions within the EHF Statutes is not only essential but also commonplace within other major sport federations.

**As a statutory motion, a two-third majority was required to pass; Motion 9 was subsequently confirmed with 40 votes in favour, 0 votes against, and 1 abstention.**

### **3.10. Motion 10 | Material and Ideal Means**

#### **Presented by Henrik La Cour**

The EHF Executive Committee moved to augment article 11.4 by adding a further income source (income out of legal decisions) and to amend article 12.2. digits 1 to 3 with the word qualifiers of the EHF Statutes. Due to the length of Motion 10, within the presentation, the attendees were referred to the full text in the Congress Guide.

**As a statutory motion, a two-third majority was required to pass; Motion 10 was subsequently confirmed with 40 votes in favour, 0 votes against, and 1 abstention.**

*With the conclusion of Agenda Point 3, the Chair reverted to President Wiederer to oversee Agenda Point 4.*

#### **4. MOTIONS RELATING TO EHF LEGAL REGULATIONS**

##### **4.1. Motion 11 | Claims for Damages - Compensation**

**Presented by Francisco Blazquez Garcia**

The EHF Executive Committee moved to augment the EHF Legal Regulations by amending the conditions regarding damage compensation claims in article 8 of the Legal Regulations. The amendment of the motion was based on the reflection that the current limitation is regarded as unequal and unbalanced, as compensation might be granted under certain circumstances, but not under others; this is even though the harm or damage is caused by a third party in all cases.

**To carry the motion, a simple majority was required; Motion 11 was subsequently confirmed with 41 votes in favour and 0 votes against.**

##### **4.2. Motion 12 | Ad-hoc Format CoH and CoA**

**Presented by John Karanasos**

The EHF Executive Committee moved to augment the EHF Legal Regulations by including two new Articles which explicitly add the ad-hoc competence to the regular competence of the EHF Court of Handball and the EHF Court of Appeal. Even though ad-hoc bodies permanently accompany the work of the EHF and are regularly in charge of legal services, they are not explicitly mentioned in the EHF Legal Regulations.

**To carry the motion, a simple majority was required; Motion 12 was subsequently confirmed with 40 votes in favour and 0 votes against.**

##### **4.3. Motion 13 | Omission Hearing Obligation**

**Presented by Markus Plazer**

The EHF Executive Committee proposed the adaptation of the EHF Legal Regulations amending the basis for oral hearings within proceedings by including the option of exemption in justified cases and the scheduling via virtual means.

**To carry the motion, a simple majority was required; Motion 13 was subsequently confirmed with 36 votes in favour and 4 votes against.**

##### **4.4. Motion 14 | Area of Recognition – Decisions**

**Presented by Gabriella Horvath**

The EHF Executive Committee proposed to augment the EHF Legal Regulations by amending article 38.1. (Recognition of Sanctions of EHF Member / Associated Federations) concerning the extent of the validity when recognising decisions to include the EHF territory.

**To carry the motion, a simple majority was required; Motion 14 was subsequently confirmed with 33 votes in favour and 3 votes against.**

## **5. AWARDING OF EVENTS**

With the previous agenda point concluded, First Vice President, Predrag Bošković assumed the Chairmanship of the meeting. Turning to the awarding of the 2030 and 2032 EHF EURO events for both men and women, and before introducing the presenters from the respective Federations, he gave the floor to Martin Hausleitner for the introduction.

### **5.1. Introduction**

EHF Secretary General, Martin Hausleitner stated that within the Masterplan one of the ‘7 Pillars’ was the commitment to create highlight events; this is important for the organisation in terms of development as it aimed to increase the visibility of the sport, appeal to more fans, and raise the awareness for handball. Moreover, the organisation assumed the responsibility to create a sustainable future for the athletes, the national federations, and the clubs.

With the awarding of the EHF EUROs 2030 and 2032, the EHF shapes its future and presents itself as a reliable partner in the sport business world with a long-term plan. The challenges of the organisers are increasing and are not only defined by the handball environment, but also the requirements and responsibilities towards the community, which can change over time.

The EHF was pleased to receive exceptional bids from the applicants that offer amazing environments; furthermore, the bids introduced applicants that are new to organising EURO events, as well as applicants that came from more experienced Federations. The EHF was excited to see the presentations as well as what could be awaited in 2030 and 2032.

### **5.2. Men’s EHF EURO 2030**

Presented by Ondrej Novotny

With only one joint bid and with 42 votes (100%) cast in favour thereof, the event was awarded to the Handball Federations of Czechia, Poland, and Denmark. Prague will host two groups of the Preliminary Round, Group I of the Main Round, as well as the Final weekend. Katowice will also host two groups of the Preliminary Round and Group II of the Main Round. Herning will only host during the first phase of the competition. The event dates are set from 10 to 27 January 2030.

### **5.3. Women’s EHF EURO 2030**

Hausleitner informed the Congress that awarding right was reverted to the EHF Executive Committee as no bid was submitted. The event dates are set from 28 November to 15 December 2030.

### **5.4. Men’s EHF EURO 2032**

Presented by Anett Sattler, Oliver Roggisch, and Vincent Gerard.

With only one joint bid, and with 39 votes (100%) cast in favour thereof the event was awarded to the Handball Federations of Germany and France. The French Handball Federation selected Lyon to host two groups of the Preliminary Round and Paris to host Group II of the Main Round. With a choice of eight venues, the four remaining groups of the Preliminary Round, Group I of the Main Round, as well as the Final weekend will be played in Germany. The event dates are set from 15 January to 1 February 2032.



### **5.5. Women's EHF EURO 2032**

Presented by Anett Sattler

With only one joint bid, and with 40 votes (100%) cast in favour thereof the event was awarded to the Handball Federations of Germany, Denmark, and Poland. Germany, again, has 6 possible venues to host all phases of the competition including the Final weekend. Denmark, who will host Preliminary Round groups and Group II of the Main Round has 4 possible venues to choose from. Katowice in Poland will host two groups in the Preliminary Round in the first phase of the competition. The event dates are set from 2 to 19 December 2032.

*With the conclusion of Agenda Point 5, the Chair reverted to President Wiederer to oversee the remainder of the 16<sup>th</sup> Extraordinary EHF Congress.*

### **6. OTHER BUSINESS**

President Wiederer opened the stage to the Representatives of the National Federations for any other business, and with no additional comment from the attendees, he passed floor to the Secretary General who informed on the signing procedures that would take place at the end of the Congress i.e. EHF RINCK Convention (FAR) and the EHF Masterplan (CZE, FAR, ISR, SRB). Information of the Excellence Awards 2024 (evening programme) and the official opening of the European Handball House the next day was given. Finally, the final highlight reel to be played on the presentation screens following the closing word of the President, would be from the beach handball competitions of 2024.

### **7. CLOSING ADDRESS**

Bringing the 16<sup>th</sup> Extraordinary EHF Congress to a close, President Wiederer thanked the representatives of the National Federations for being present, for having listened, for having contributed, as well as for having presented their bids for the top events with an enthusiastic approach. He also extended his appreciation to the EHF Office staff members for their individual contribution in the preparation and execution of the event.

The 16<sup>th</sup> Extraordinary EHF Congress was formally closed.

~ END ~

**16<sup>TH</sup> EXTRAORDINARY EHF CONGRESS  
PARTICIPANTS LIST | 14 DECEMBER 2024 | VIENNA, AUT**

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**NATIONAL FEDERATIONS**

<b>NATION</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>FUNCTION</b>
ALB	Armand Cakalli	Secretary General
AND	Gerard Pifarré Ros	President
	Jose Besada Garrido	Secretary General
ARM	excused	
AUT	Bernd Rabenseifner	Secretary General
AZE	Orkhan Abbasov	Vice President
	Ernest Aghakishi	International Relations Manager
BEL	Jean-Francois Hannosset	President
	Dries Boulet	Secretary General
BIH	excused	
BLR	not registered	
BUL	Rosen Dobrev	President
	Teodor Iliev	Secretary General
CRO	Tomislav Grahovac	President
	Lidija Bojic-Cacic	Women's Handball Responsible
CYP	Constantinos Filaretou	President
	Nestoros Nestoras	Treasurer
CZE	Ondrej Zdrahala	President
DEN	Jan Kampman	President
	Heino M. Knudsen	Managing Director
ENG	Mike Bain	CEO
ESP	Elena Borrás Alcaraz	International Relations Manager
EST	Kristina Kallas	President
	Pirje Orasson	Secretary General
FAR	Andrass Thomsen	General Manager
FIN	Jari Laine	President
	Andreas Frejborg	Vice President
FRA	Philippe Bana	President
GBR	Stephen Neilson	Chairman
	Mark Hawkins	Board Member
GEO	Vakhtang Meipariani	President
	Ketevan Koberidze	Secretary General
GER	Andreas Michelmann	President
	Ingo Meckes	Sports Director
GRE	Konstantinos Gkantis	President

HUN	Ferenc Ilyes	President
	Katalin Palinger	Vice President
IRL	Fintan Lyons	President
ISL	Gudmundur Olafsson	President
	Robert Geir Gislason	Secretary General
ISR	Avraam Kachlon	Vice President
	Shay Simon	Secretary General
ITA	Stefano Podini	President
KOS	Eugen Saracini	President
	Muhamet Arifi	Secretary General
LAT	Aleksandrs Babra	President
LIE	excused	
LTU	No Participation	
LUX	Romain Schockmel	President
	Christian Schmitt	Secretary General
MDA	Nicolae Vizitiu	Secretary General
MKD	Filip Miloshevski	Secretary General
MLT	Daniel Tabone	President
	Matthias Azzopardi	Internal & Regulatory Affairs Officer
MNE	Petar Kapisoda	President
	Emir Beslija	Secretary General
MON	Eric Perodeau	Vice President
NED	Roel Goffin	President
	Tjark de Lange	HFE Coordinator
NOR	Kare Geir Lio	President
	Erik Langerud	Secretary General
POL	Slawomir Szmaj	President
	Radoslaw Wasiak	Vice President
POR	Miguel Laranjeiro	President
ROU	Constantin Din	President
	Ioana Victoria Voinescu	Board Member
RUS	not registered	
SCO	Ewan Hunter	Chief Operating Officer
	David Watt	Board Member
SLO	Bor Rozman	President
	Goran Cvijic	Nat. Teams Director
SRB	Nenad Jankov	President
	Jovan Popadic	International Relations Manager
SUI	Pascal Jenny	President
	Alexander Konstantinidis	Member Board of Directors

SVK	Jaroslav Holesa	President
	Ernö Kelecsenyi	Vice President
SWE	Frederik Rapp	President
	Robert Wedberg	Secretary General
TUR	Mesut Cebi	President
	Ismet Yigit Senocak	International Relations Manager
UKR	Oleksandr Gladun	Secretary General

#### Additional participants from NFs:

FRA	Remy Levy	Vice President
FRA	Georgine Delplanque Kuntz	Assistant to the President
FRA	Sophia Touiker	Legal Adviser
FRA	Vincent Gerard	Former Player
POL	Tomasz Lewtak	Vice President Marketing
ROU	Nicolae Luca	Secretary General
ROU	Sorin Laurentin Dinu	Board Member

#### Guests

IHF	Hassan Moustafa	IHF President
IHF	Anna Rapp	IHF Treasurer
IHF	Michael Scarpellino	PA to the President
EHF	Jean Brihault	EHF Honorary President
EHF	Arne Elovsson	EHF Honorary Member
EHF	Ralf Dejaco	EHF Honorary Member
EHF	Karl Guntzel	EHF Honorary Member
EHF	Frantisek Taborsky	EHF Honorary Member
EHF	Jan Tuik	EHF Honorary Member
EHF	Laszlo Sinka	EHF Honorary Member
EHF	Jerzy Elias	EHF Honorary Member
EHF	Ole Jorstad	EHF Honorary Member
EHF	Rui Coelho	EHF Honorary Member
EHF	Panos Antoniou	EHF Honorary Member
EHF	Jeannot Kaiser	EHF Honorary Member
NOR	Per-Otto Furuseth	Guest
SWE	Jörgen Holmqvist	Guest
PHB	Nikolas Larsson	Guest
PHB	Frank Bohmann	Guest
PHB	Torben Vinther	Guest
WHB	Marta Bon	Guest
WHB	Nodjialem Myaro	Guest
WHB	Jelena Eric	Guest
WHB	Monika Listkiewicz	Guest

### Guests

WHB	Christoph Wendt	Guest
WHB	Karolina Bryl-Prokop	Guest
EHFM	Janos Szabo	EHFM Advisory Board Member

### EHF Commissions

EXEC	Michael Wiederer	President
EXEC	Predrag Boskovic	First Vice President
EXEC	Henrik La Cour	Vice President Finances
EXEC	Bozidar Djurkovic	Chairman Competitions Commission
EXEC	Pedro Sequeira	Chairman Methods Commission
EXEC	Gabriella Horvath	Chairwoman Beach Handball Commission
EXEC	Stefan Lövgren	Member
EXEC	Francisco Blazquez	Member
EXEC	Mark Schober	Chairman Nations Board
EXEC	Xavier O'Callaghan	Chairman Professional Handball Board
EXEC	Leonor Mallozzi	Chairwoman Women's Handball Board
COMPT	Robert Prettenthaler	Member
COMPT	Thomas Ludewig	Member
COMPT	Janka Stasova	Substitute
CoH	Ioannis Karanasos	President
CoA	Markus Plazer	President
ECA	Michele Colucci	President

### EHF Office

EHF	Martin Hausleitner	Secretary General
EHF	Vesna Lazic	PA to the President
EHF	Marsha Brown	Corporate Liaison
EHF	Danuta Kluz	Executive Assistant
EHF	Anna Lamprecht	Senior Administrative Assistant
EHF	Christoph Gamper	Senior Director Information Technology
EHF	Bernhard Binder	Chief Finance Officer
EHF	Monika Flixeder	Senior Director Legal Management
EHF	Nico Julian Hofer	In-House Lawyer
EHF	Thomas Schöneich	Director Media & Communications
EHF	Doru Simion	Senior Director Sport & Game Services
EHF	Johannes Müller	Director EURO Events
EHF	Mate Kozma	Event Organisation
EHF	Markus Glaser	Chief Sports Officer
EHF	Tobia Pisani	Beach Handball Manager

### External

EXT	Erhard Hofbauer	Electronic Voting System
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# 1. NAME, OBJECTS AND HEADQUARTERS (REGISTERED OFFICE)

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- 1.1.** The "European Handball Federation" (EHF) is the governing body of Europe's National Handball Federations. It is one of the Continental Federations that comprise the International Handball Federation (IHF). It is an independent legal entity. Its name and symbol (logo) may be registered.

The EHF Statutes are binding for all EHF Member Federations. The EHF Member Federations must recognize the EHF Statutes and must pass this obligation on to their members and require their members to pass it on to their handball stakeholders within their National Federation. EHF Member Federations may confirm their commitment to EHF Statutes within their constitutional arrangement, especially concerning their obligations towards the EHF and other Member Federations, the observation of principles of loyalty, integrity, and sportsmanship in accordance with the principles of fair play within their area of responsibility. In addition, such commitment shall refer to their permanent status of non-profit and the recognition of EHF jurisdiction on all levels including the European Handball Court of Arbitration.

The IHF Statutes, regulations and resolutions shall be binding for the EHF and all its members.

- 1.2.** The EHF is not profit-oriented and serves the public good. In order to accomplish the said purpose, the EHF may operate educational facilities and institutionalize education and training programmes.

The Federation formed by European National Handball Federations serves the exchange of interests and experience, the organisation of international handball competitions as well as the representation of European interests in the International Handball Federation.

Official international handball, mini handball and beach handball competitions held in Europe and entered by members of National Handball Federations shall be subject to the authority of the EHF. Exceptions therefrom shall be competitions organized by the International Handball Federation (IHF) and recognized partner institutions.

- 1.3.** The pyramid system constitutes the inherent sport structures of the EHF in order to preserve the nature of sporting merit, open competition accessibility, competitive balance and the principle of promotion and relegation.
- 1.4.** The EHF has the sole authority to coordinate and define the overall handball competitions and activities calendar for the European territory.
- 1.5.** The EHF has its headquarters (registered office) in Vienna. Any change shall require a majority of three quarters (3/4) of the members present at the Congress. The Federation's field of action shall be Europe.

Any disputes arising from the activities of the EHF shall be subject to the jurisdiction of the competent court in Vienna. Austrian law shall govern.

- 1.6.** The EHF exclusively and directly pursues the purpose of continued development and promotion of handball in Europe in a spirit of peace, mutual understanding, and fair play.
- 1.7.** The official EHF language is English. Communication between the EHF Office and its stakeholders shall take place exclusively in English. All EHF activities, including Congresses, shall be carried out in English.

The official language at EHF competitions shall be English.

Eligibility to serve in any EHF function as an elected or nominated member, a delegate, a referee or in a technical function shall be conditional upon a command of English.

Motions to the Congress shall be submitted in written form in English.

## 2. ETHICAL STANDARDS

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### **2.1. PREAMBLE**

- 2.1.1. The EHF, its Member Federations, and all its stakeholders entirely submit to comprehensive ethical standards and good governance in all actions and activities.
- 2.1.2. The EHF encourages friendship and mutual understanding among members, does not tolerate discrimination on the basis of politics, race or religion, gender, or sexual orientation, and rejects any illegitimate practices in sports.
- 2.1.3. Contravention of these principles shall be subject to sanctions pursuant to EHF and IHF regulations. Be it through the rejection of referees, non-appearance at a match, failure to grant entry visas to players, managers, referees, EHF representatives, EHF functionaries and sports journalists, raising performance levels through the administration of forbidden substances such as doping, any kind of corruption, bribery, or undue influence, including receiving, offering, or accepting any kind of undue advantages, gifts, etc.

### **2.2. GOOD GOVERNANCE**

The EHF, together with its Member Federations, prevents and fights against all methods or practices which might jeopardize the regularity of matches or competitions and ensures that sporting values always prevail.

- The EHF redistributes generated revenues in accordance with the principle of solidarity and support of reinvestment in favour of areas defined through its Statutes.
- The EHF ensures that the needs of the different stakeholders in European handball (athletes, clubs, leagues, federations and as well supporters, fans, etc.) are considered in an appropriate manner.
- The EHF ensures that sporting values prevail commercial interests.



### **2.3. INTEGRITY OF THE COMPETITIONS AND THE SPORT**

Member Federations as well as all stakeholders involved in the sport shall ensure that neither a natural nor a legal person excises control or influence over more than one of their clubs and intervene whenever the integrity of any match or competition organized could be jeopardized.

All stakeholders involved must refrain from any behaviour that damages or endangers the integrity of the sport, its matches, and competitions. This includes, but is not limited to, any form of betting or the support of betting in handball, the manipulation of results or events, as well as any other untrustworthy or undue conduct. Everyone must always cooperate with the EHF in efforts to combat any irregular behaviour.

### **2.4. SUSTAINABILITY**

The principle of sustainable acting on all levels and by all parties involved in EHF business constitutes an essential factor of non-profit targets.

## **3. MEMBERSHIP**

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### **3.1. DEFINITIONS AND TERMINOLOGY**

The terms suspension, expulsion, and exclusion being used within the framework of the EHF Statutes are defined as follows:

1. Suspension is temporarily valid for a limited period with specified aspects.
2. Expulsion (being expelled) is permanently valid.
3. Exclusion is a general term covering both suspension and expulsion

### **3.2. MEMBERSHIP DISPOSITIONS**

Membership shall be open to European National Handball Federations. Admission and exclusion of members shall be decided on by the Congress (general assembly). Admission and exclusion of federations from other continents shall require a majority of three quarters (3/4) of the members present at the Congress.

**3.3.** Members shall recognize the EHF Statutes and regulations as well as decisions reached by its bodies. They shall pass this obligation on to their members and require their members to pass it on in turn.

**3.4.** Members that fail to meet their obligations despite written admonition respectively under specific and unforeseeable circumstances of severe nature, may be suspended by the Executive Committee.

**3.5.** Suspension may be awarded with immediate effect until the next Congress. The EHF Executive Committee shall give the opportunity to the Member Federation concerned to present its arguments after which the Executive Committee may lift the suspension. The suspension shall be subject to the vote by the next Congress. Suspensions imposed by the EHF Executive Committee shall be confirmed at the next EHF Congress by a two-third majority of the votes cast.

The extent of the suspension respectively directly concerned parts shall constitute an integrated part of such decision. This includes the suspension from participation in competitions and activities, the suspension of personnel and functionaries within the system, the suspension from basic membership rights such as the participation in and the voting and speaking right at a Congress, etc.

Other members must not maintain sport related contact with suspended members.

- 3.6.** Membership shall end by dissolution, withdrawal, or exclusion of the Federation. Withdrawals can be made only at the end of a calendar year upon six (6) months' advance notification.

## **4. EHF BODIES**

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The EHF bodies are:

1. The Congress
2. The Conference of Presidents
3. The Executive Committee
4. The Competitions Commission
5. The Methods Commission
6. The Beach Handball Commission
7. The Nations Committees Men and Women
8. The Nations Board
9. The Professional Handball Board
10. The Women's Handball Board
11. The Committees and Boards
12. The EHF Court of Handball
13. The EHF Court of Appeal
14. The European Handball Court of Arbitration Council
15. The Comptrollers
16. The EHF Anti-Doping Unit

### **4.1. THE CONGRESS**

4.1.1 The Congress shall be the highest EHF authority.

4.1.2 The Ordinary Congress shall be held biennially in odd years, prior to the IHF Congress either physically or through a video conferencing system.

Members shall be informed of the venue and date not later than six (6) months before the event. Motions from members must be made in writing and be in the possession of the EHF Office not later than four (4) months before the Congress date. Congress documents and agenda shall be sent to members not later than two (2) months prior to the Congress date.

4.1.3 An Extraordinary Congress shall be called if a minimum of ten (10) percent of the members with voting right demands it in writing stating the reasons, or on request of the Comptrollers, or if the Executive Committee decides to hold it.

An Extraordinary Congress must be held within four (4) months after receipt of the request. Members shall be informed without delay of the venue, date, and reason. Further motions from members must be made in writing and be in the possession of the EHF Office not later than ten (10) weeks before the Congress date. Congress documents and agenda shall be sent to members not later than one (1) month prior to the Congress date.

- 4.1.4 Motions submitted past the deadline or during the Congress may only be dealt with at the discretion of a majority of two-thirds (2/3) of the members present at the Congress concerned. Statute amendments, changes to the headquarters (registered office) site or dissolution of the EHF may not be the subject of such motions.

The Chairperson may require that any motions and proposed amendments submitted during the Congress be presented in writing to be admitted for consideration.

- 4.1.5 The EHF Statutes use simple majority, absolute majority, qualified majority, fifty plus majority, two-third majority, and majority of three quarters within the different sections of the Statutes text. Below each individual majority is described and compared. The calculation of any majority is based on the number of votes cast assuming the use of an electronic voting system and the option of abstention in all cases of qualified majority requirement.

1. Simple majority: is the majority of all votes cast.
2. Qualified majority: all majorities which need a higher approval than simple majority; the extent of qualification needs to be explicitly defined.
3. Absolute majority and fifty plus majority (the terms may be used synonymously): requires a majority of more than 50 percent of all votes cast including abstentions.
4. Two third majority: requires a majority of two thirds of all votes cast including abstentions
5. Majority of three quarters: requires the majority of three quarters of all votes cast including abstentions.

In case no majority requirement is explicitly mentioned, simple majority shall be applied.

- 4.1.6 Each member shall have one (1) vote. It may delegate a maximum of three (3) representatives to the Congress. Delegates' names shall be communicated to EHF in writing with the registration and delegates must be able to prove their identity. For an Extraordinary Congress, the Executive Committee may reduce their number.

Members registering female representatives will receive a bonus per female delegate. This bonus will be defined by the Executive Committee at least six (6) months prior to the Congress and the corresponding information will be conveyed to the members together with the information referred to in 4.1.2.

A member that has not fulfilled its financial obligations towards the EHF shall not have the right to vote. Decisions in that respect shall be taken by the Executive Committee and announced at the beginning of the Congress.

No one shall have the right to represent more than one (1) Member Federation.

4.1.7 Voting and election shall, in principle, be conducted by an electronic voting system. In individual cases, the Congress may decide on either open or secret ballot with simple majority.

Unless otherwise specified in the Statutes, the majority of votes cast shall carry the vote. In event of a tie a second ballot shall be held. Any proposal failing to receive a majority after the runoff shall be rejected. In case a qualified majority is specified in the Statutes, the basis shall be the number of votes (including abstentions) cast.

To be valid, elections require the absolute majority of votes cast. If no candidate obtains such a majority, a runoff poll shall be held for the two (2) candidates with the most votes. In the second round, the relative majority of votes cast shall decide. A runoff vote shall be held in the case of a tie. In the case of another tie, the female candidate shall be regarded as elected. If the tie is between candidates of the same gender, a draw shall decide.

In the case of joint elections, candidates shall be elected according to the number of votes cast on their behalf. A runoff vote shall be held in the case of a tie between the last two (2) or more candidates. In the case of another tie, the female candidate shall be regarded as elected. If the tie is between candidates of the same gender, a draw shall decide.

Representatives of both genders shall be elected to the EHF bodies – Executive Committee, Technical Commissions, Court of Handball and Court of Appeal – under the conditions mentioned below.

The top casting candidate(s) of the underrepresented gender is/are to be regarded as elected under additional members (according to 4.1.8.8.7, 4.1.8.11.3 and 4.1.8.12.3 of the EHF Statutes) in case only one (1) or no candidate was elected for the respective body until that stage of election.

In case of EHF bodies having more than five (5) members - EHF Executive Committee, EHF Court of Handball and EHF Court of Appeal - both genders shall be represented by at least two (2) persons. Within the Technical Commissions, each gender shall be represented by at least one (1) person. In order to achieve the required number of representatives of both genders, gender representatives may be elected.

In order to elect all positions for EHF bodies with more than five (5) members, at least one (1) candidate of the underrepresented gender shall be available for each EHF body with more than five (5) members.

In case there is no nomination of the underrepresented gender for EHF bodies with more than five (5) members, the number of positions shall be reduced by one (1) and the vacant position as well as the further gender representative shall be nominated by the EHF Executive Committee after the Congress within due course.

All remaining candidates for additional members of the respective bodies are elected according to the votes cast.

The Congress shall have the right to pass resolutions regardless of the number of members present.

The procedure for voting on the awarding of events shall be analogous to the procedure used for elections. If none of the bidders obtain an absolute majority, a second vote shall be taken on the two (2) bidders who received the most votes in the first round. In the second round, a relative majority of votes cast shall decide. In the case of a tie, a runoff vote shall be held. In the case of another tie, the decision shall be taken by drawing lots.

4.1.8 Unless the Congress decides otherwise, resolutions shall be put in force three (3) months after the Congress.

4.1.9 The Congress shall pass resolutions on the following business:

1. Election of tellers. Tellers of both genders shall be elected by the Congress.
2. Declaration of the lawful convocation of Congress.
3. Minutes of the previous Congress.
4. Reports:
  1. Report by the Executive Committee.
  2. Report by the Competitions Commission.
  3. Report by the Methods Commission.
  4. Report by the Beach Handball Commission.
  5. Report by the EHF Court of Handball.
  6. Report by the EHF Court of Appeal.
  7. Report by the European Handball Court of Arbitration Council.
5. Financial report for the previous two-year period.
6. Comptrollers report.
7. Formal approval of the Executive Committee's conduct of business.
8. Executive Committee:
  1. Election of the President.
  2. Election of the First Vice President.
  3. Election of the Vice President Finances.
  4. Election of the chairperson of the Competitions Commission.
  5. Election of the chairperson of the Methods Commission.
  6. Election of the chairperson of the Beach Handball Commission.
  7. Election of three/two (3/2) additional members.
  8. Election of up to two (2) gender representatives (in case one (1) gender is not represented or is underrepresented)
9. Technical Commissions:
  1. Election of two (2) members of the Competitions Commission.
  2. Election of a gender representative to the Competitions Commission (in case one (1) gender is not represented).
  3. Election of four (4) members of the Methods Commission.

4. Election of a gender representative to the Methods Commission (in case one (1) gender is not represented).
5. Election of four (4) members of the Beach Handball Commission.
6. Election of a gender representative to the Beach Handball Commission (in case one (1) gender is not represented).
  
10. Comptrollers:
  1. Election of two (2) comptrollers.
  2. Election of one (1) substitute.
  
11. EHF Court of Handball:
  1. Election of the President.
  2. Election of two (2) Vice Presidents.
  3. Election of six/five (6/5) additional members.
  4. Election of up to two (2) gender representatives (in case one (1) gender is not represented or is underrepresented)
  
12. EHF Court of Appeal:
  1. Election of the President.
  2. Election of the Vice President.
  3. Election of five/four (5/4) additional members.
  4. Election of up to two (2) gender representatives (in case one (1) gender is not represented or is underrepresented)
  
13. European Handball Court of Arbitration Council:
  1. Election of the President
  2. Election of one (1) Vice President
  
14. Nations Committee Men:
  1. Election of six (6) members
  
15. Nations Committee Women:
  1. Election of six (6) members
  
16. Delegate nominations to the IHF Congress:
  1. The EHF President assumes the office of IHF Vice President of Europe.
  2. European member of the IHF Council.
  
17. Motions
  
18. Regulations and their amendments.

The EHF Executive Committee is charged with taking decisions on the issuance and amendment of competition regulations and the List of Penalties, and the Catalogue of Administrative Sanctions. Provisions regulating financial matters except the List of Penalties, and the Catalogue of Administrative Sanctions shall be passed by the Congress.
  
19. Awarding of events and European Championships for Men and Women, with the right of delegating to the Executive Committee.

20. Setting membership fees, approval of the budget for the next two (2) years.
21. Member admissions, suspensions, and expulsions.
22. Election of honorary members according to Executive Committee nominations.
23. Declaration and amendments of the Rules of Arbitration for the European Handball Court of Arbitration.
24. Decisions on other points of business, as submitted to the Congress by the Executive Committee.
25. Awarding of Ordinary Congresses.

The agenda shall be set according to the Congress needs.

#### 4.1.10 Speaking time

Speaking time is not subject to any limitation, with the following exceptions:

- Personal presentations such as those given by candidates for the Executive Committee (three (3) minutes)
- Presentations by bidders for the Men's and Women's European Championships (EUROS) (ten (10) minutes)
- Presentations by bidders for the next EHF Congress (five (5) minutes)

#### 4.1.11 Delegation of authorities

The Congress may delegate decisions and authorities to the Executive Committee by a simple majority of votes.

Under specific and unforeseeable circumstances of severe nature such as, but not limited to, international or health crises, force majeure/vis absoluta situations necessary decisions are to be taken by the EHF Executive Committee and shall be reported at the next EHF Congress.

### **4.2. THE CONFERENCE OF PRESIDENTS**

4.2.1 The Conference of Presidents is a consultative body of the EHF. It serves the exchange of experience, the formation of opinions, and information.

4.2.2 The Conference of Presidents is convened by the Executive Committee as required and is normally held in years between EHF Congresses.

4.2.3 Eligible to attend are the Presidents of the Member Federations or a substitute nominated by them.

### **4.3. THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

4.3.1 The Executive Committee is the EHF's executive body. It is responsible for all tasks not expressly assigned to the Congress by law or Statutes. It may delegate tasks to the EHF Office and to the Competitions Commission (CC), the Methods Commission (MC), or the Beach Handball Commission (BC) and appoint temporary working groups for special matters.

Details shall be laid down in the rules of procedure.

4.3.2 The Executive Committee shall consist of twelve (12) to thirteen (13) members:

1. President.
2. First Vice President.
3. Vice President Finances.
4. Chairperson of the Competitions Commission.
5. Chairperson of the Methods Commission.
6. Chairperson of the Beach Handball Commission.
7. Three/two (3/2) additional members for special assignments.
8. One (1) gender representative (in case one (1) gender is underrepresented).
9. Chairperson of the Professional Handball Board.
10. Chairperson of the Women's Handball Board.
11. Chairperson of the Nations Board.

4.3.3 Executive Committee members shall be individually elected by the Congress for a four (4)- year period of office. The period of office shall coincide with that of the IHF.

Each Member Federation shall nominate the same candidate for a maximum of two (2) different functions within all EHF bodies.

Each Member Federation may provide only one (1) Executive Committee member except for the PHB, WHB and NB chairpersons who are nominated by the respective bodies, as well as CC and ECC members being nominated by the stakeholder groups. Unless expressly defined herein or in the organisation agreement of the EHF (majority) owned entity, members of the EHF Executive Committee may not hold any other elected or nominated function in the EHF or in EHF (majority) owned entities. Moreover, excepting functions pursuant to paragraph 4.1.8 point 16, the EHF Executive Committee members must not hold simultaneous membership of the IHF Council or any IHF Commission.

The Congress may depart from this rule and may, in addition to the nomination of the IHF Vice President Europe and the IHF Council Member Europe, resolve to make additional nominations for IHF functions.

If a member serving on the EHF Executive Committee assumes a function in the IHF that is not compatible with this provision, s/he shall resign from the Executive Committee at the next Ordinary Congress.

President, First Vice President, and Vice President Finances must not hold the function of a President or a Treasurer/Vice President Finances in their National Federations. Any candidate for such a position commits to withdraw from the respective position within the National Federation in case of being elected by the EHF Congress.

After serving three (3) terms of office in a top/core function within the EHF – President, First



Vice President, Vice President Finances, and Chairpersons of Technical Commissions – the respective person shall assume only functions which are of the same or of higher rank in comparison with their former position.

- 4.3.4 First time Executive Committee memberships shall be subject to a written nomination from the Member Federation concerned. Both the respective Member Federation and the Executive Committee may make the nomination for re-elections.

An Executive Committee member may serve in the same function a maximum of three (3) terms of office.

An Executive Committee member ceases to be a member at the end of the calendar year during which the age of seventy (70) is reached. The Congress may, on the proposal of the EHF Executive Committee or the competent National Federation, extend the age limit for any Executive Committee member for up to four (4) years. A simple majority of members present at the Congress shall be required for the extension.

Deadline for the nomination of candidates: candidates shall be nominated not later than three (3) months before the respective Congress, otherwise a two-third majority shall be required for admission at the Congress.

General requirements to be met by candidates:

1. Submission of a curriculum vitae
2. Proof of command of English, for first nominations
3. Commitment to be available for meetings and activities within the customary timeframe

In the first nomination made in writing, the Member Federation shall confirm that the candidate has the linguistic ability of fluent spoken and written English at a level that enables him/her to cope with the assigned duties and all related documents.

For the language competence analysis, an evaluation group consisting of three (3) experts shall be established by the EHF Executive Committee prior to each election Congress. The evaluation group shall assess the fulfilment of the necessary English language competence of the candidates concerned (in cases of first-time nominations). The experts may use virtual and personal interviews as well as other tools for their analyses. An evaluation report shall be submitted to the EHF Executive Committee, which shall approve or reject the passive legitimation of a candidate based on the analysis and shall inform the nominating Federation on the result of the evaluation.

During the election process, the candidates should also be present in the hall if possible.

Should a position within the Executive Committee become vacated during a period of office, a substitute shall be elected at the next Congress to complete the remainder of the period of office. In the meantime, the Executive Committee may appoint a temporary substitute.

The term of office of newly elected Executive Committee members shall commence immediately following the Congress.

- 4.3.5 The President shall represent the EHF internally and externally and chair Congress sessions

and Executive Committee meetings. S/he shall represent the EHF, specifically in court, as plaintiff or defendant, as well as in financial matters. If s/he should be unable to attend, the First Vice President shall exercise these rights without requiring any special authorization.

Under Austrian law governing non-profit organizations ("Vereinsgesetz"), the Secretary General is likewise authorized to represent the organization.

4.3.6 Actual needs shall govern the frequency of meetings and their agendas.

Half of all Executive Committee members may request, in writing, that a meeting be held within two (2) months.

The Executive Committee may also make decisions using the written process.

The Executive Committee shall take its decisions with a simple majority of votes.

Meetings may be organised by video conferencing system.

4.3.7 The EHF headquarters (registered office) is located at the seat of the EHF and is managed by the Secretary General. The Secretary General shall be employed by the Executive Committee for an indefinite period and shall participate in Executive Committee meetings in a consultant capacity.

## 5. THE TECHNICAL COMMISSIONS

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### 5.1. THE COMPETITIONS COMMISSION

The Competitions Commission (CC) is the EHF's technical body for competitions. It is subordinate to the Executive Committee, which determines its competences in addition to those laid down in EHF Statutes and regulations.

The CC shall consist of a chairperson and four/five (4/5) members. Two/three (2/3) of these members are individually elected and two (2) are defined by the EHF recognized interest groups.

5.1.1 The responsibility for the directly elected CC members shall be assigned as follows:

1. Men's competitions
2. Women's competitions
3. Gender representative (in case one (1) gender is not represented).

5.1.2 The further CC members responsible for men's club competitions and women's club competitions shall be assigned as follows:

1. Elected and nominated by any such group recognised by the EHF as representing the interests of the clubs of the respective gender participating in EHF competitions.

2. The election and nomination of the members of the men's club competitions and the women's club competitions by the group representing the interests of the clubs may be replaced upon appointment by the EHF Executive Committee if required.
3. Mutual rights and duties between the EHF and the group representing the interests of the clubs shall be defined in a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) which creates the basis for the cooperation.
4. The office period of the members Men's Club Competitions and Women's Club Competitions is four (4) years.

The provisions under items 4.3.3, 4.3.4 and 4.3.6 shall apply analogously to the CC and the CC members.

## **5.2. THE METHODS COMMISSION**

The Methods Commission (MC) is the EHF's technical body for methodical matters. It is subordinate to the Executive Committee, which may assign to it areas of authority and responsibility in addition to those laid down in EHF Statutes and regulations.

- 5.2.1 The MC shall consist of a chairperson and four/five (4/5) individually elected members with responsibility for:
1. Analysis and Coaching
  2. Education and Methods
  3. Research and Innovation
  4. Grassroots and Development
  5. Gender representative (in case one (1) gender is not represented).

The provisions under items 4.3.3, 4.3.4 and 4.3.6 shall apply analogously to the MC and the MC members.

## **5.3. THE BEACH HANDBALL COMMISSION**

The Beach Handball Commission (BC) is the EHF's technical body for competitions and non-competitions-related matters concerning Beach Handball. It is subordinate to the Executive Committee, which may assign to it areas of authority and responsibility in addition to those laid down in the EHF Statutes and regulations.

- 5.3.1 The BC shall consist of a chairperson and four/five (4/5) individually elected members with responsibility for the following business areas:
1. Events and Competitions
  2. Officiating
  3. Game Design and Coaching
  4. Development and Promotion
  5. Gender representative (in case one (1) gender is not represented).

The provisions of clauses 4.3.3, 4.3.4, and 4.3.6 shall apply analogously to the BC and its members.

## 6. THE LEGAL BODIES

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The EHF Court of Handball and the EHF Court of Appeal are separate and independent bodies responsible for the adjudication and arbitration within the framework of the legal system of the EHF and its Member Federations and Associated Federations.

All bodies and organs acting in the area of adjudication/arbitration shall be independent and not bound by any instructions in the exercise of these duties.

The EHF Court of Handball and the EHF Court of Appeal shall hear cases and pass decisions as a senate of three (3) members. The decision-making process is, in principle, conducted in writing.

Legal disputes may be brought before the European Handball Court of Arbitration if the case has not seen resolution within a period of six (6) months after being put before the EHF legal bodies (see pt. 13.6).

### 6.1. THE EHF COURT OF HANDBALL

The EHF Court of Handball (CoH) is responsible at first instance for disciplinary adjudication within the framework of the EHF legal system and its Member Federations and Associated Federations, i.e. punishing violations of regulations including those of an administrative nature not under the competence of the EHF Office, for settling disputes between handball and/or EHF related entities and/or individuals, and for deciding upon any other issue relating to international handball competitions in Europe and/or EHF activities.

The EHF Court of Handball shall consist of nine/ten (9/10) members:

1. One (1) President.
2. Two (2) Vice Presidents.
3. Six/five (6/5) additional members.
4. Up to two (2) gender representatives (in case one (1) gender is not represented or is underrepresented)

The provisions in clauses 4.3.3, 4.3.4 and 4.3.6 shall apply analogously to the EHF Court of Handball and its members.

### 6.2. THE EHF COURT OF APPEAL

The EHF Court of Appeal (CoA) is responsible at second instance for disciplinary adjudication within the framework of the EHF legal system and its Member Federations and Associated Federations, i.e. punishing violations of regulations including those of an administrative nature, for deciding upon issues relating to international player transfers between the Member/Associated Federations as well as upon any other issue relating to international handball competitions in Europe and/or EHF related entities and/or individuals.

The EHF Court of Appeal shall consist of seven/eight (7/8) members:

1. One (1) President.
2. One (1) Vice President.

3. Five/four (5/4) additional members.
4. Up to two (2) gender representatives (in case one (1) gender is not represented or is underrepresented)

The provisions in clauses 4.3.3., 4.3.4. and 4.3.6. shall apply analogously to the EHF Court of Appeal and its members.

### **6.3. THE EUROPEAN HANDBALL COURT OF ARBITRATION COUNCIL**

The organizational form and competence of the European Handball Court of Arbitration Council (ECC) are defined in the Rules of Arbitration for the European Handball Court of Arbitration.

The European Handball Court of Arbitration Council shall consist of three (3) members:

1. One (1) President.
2. One (1) Vice President.
3. One (1) Vice President jointly nominated by the Professional Handball Board and the Women's Handball Board with a simple majority for a period of four (4) years.

The provisions in clauses 4.3.3, 4.3.4 and 4.3.6 shall apply analogously to the European Handball Court of Arbitration Council and its members.

The decision-making panel of the European Handball Court of Arbitration is acting as a fully independent body. The Court and its decisions are formally recognized by the EHF and the implementation of decisions may be conducted via the EHF system. The recognition of the Court competence shall be bound over to all EHF Member Federations and Clubs via the regulations.

## **7. THE COMPTROLLERS**

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The Comptrollers (COMPT) are responsible for the business control and the examination of the EHF accounts in respect of the correct accounting and the use of the EHF funds according to the Statutes. They give a written report to the Congress. They can recommend that the Executive Committee engages an external auditing company.

Each Member Federation may provide only one comptroller. The comptrollers may not hold any other office within the EHF and must not represent the Vice President Finances' Member Federation.

The provisions under items 4.3.3, 4.3.4 and 4.3.6 shall apply analogously to the comptrollers.

## 8. PROFESSIONAL HANDBALL BOARD AND WOMEN'S HANDBALL BOARD

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**8.1.** The Professional Handball Board (PHB) and the Women's Handball Board (WHB) are the EHF platforms for stakeholders of men's and women's handball in Europe – national teams, clubs, leagues, and players.

They have an advisory role through the supply of reports and analyses to the Executive Committee.

They contribute to the decision-making process through their chairpersons who are members of the Executive Committee.

It is the duty and commitment of the members of the PHB and WHB to individually and collectively, contribute to the global progress and development of handball in Europe through their analyses and contributions.

**8.2.** In particular, the PHB and WHB shall oversee:

1. The coordination of and collaboration between the stakeholders,
2. The articulation between stakeholders and EHF bodies,
3. Proposals in the area of competition structure including measures to increase the market value of European competitions,
4. Contributing to the work of the EHF on the position of handball in its relation to the outside world: the world of sport and more particularly the International Handball Federation and the Olympic Committee as well as the political and administrative world, more particularly the European Commission,
5. Supplying reports and opinions on the request of the Executive Committee or the commissions,
6. Fulfilling missions assigned by the EHF Congress.
7. Joint nomination of one (1) ECC Vice President in accordance with clause 5.3 by the PHB and the WHB.

**8.3.** Mutual rights and duties between the EHF and each stakeholder group will be defined in Memorandums of Understanding (MoU) which creates the basis for the cooperation within the PHB and WHB.

**8.4.** The various stakeholders will each be structured and elect an internal board respecting the principles of democracy and transparency. The modalities thereof will be defined for each stakeholder in a specific document. In case no nomination is taking place by a stakeholder group, or if a specific stakeholder group is not constituted, the EHF is entitled to undertake a temporary replacement nomination.

**8.5.** The PHB and WHB shall each consist of ten (10) members; this is comprised of two (2) persons from the different interest groups and two (2) persons nominated by the EHF Executive Committee.

The chairpersons of the PHB and WHB will be elected by the eight (8) stakeholder representatives and will become members of the EHF Executive Committee with all ensuing rights and duties.

In detail each the PHB and WHB are composed as follows:

1. Two (2) representatives elected by the EHF Congress and nominated by the Nations Committees Men and Women, representing the interests of the national teams participating in EHF competitions,
2. Two (2) representatives elected and nominated by any such group recognised by the EHF as representing the interests of the clubs participating in EHF competitions,
3. Two (2) representatives elected and nominated by any such group recognised by the EHF as representing the interests of the leagues (or similar structure representing top level handball within the nations) with clubs participating in EHF competitions,
4. Two (2) representatives elected and nominated by any such group recognised by the EHF as representing the interests of the athletes participating in EHF competitions,
5. Two (2) representatives of the EHF Executive Committee to be nominated by the EHF Executive Committee.

The President and the Secretary General of the EHF participate in the meetings of the PHB and WHB without voting rights.

- 8.6.** The function period will be four (4) years for all representatives. The PHB and WHB shall meet at least twice a year.
- 8.7.** The EHF Executive Committee remains the only decision-making body between Congresses. Unanimous proposals provided by the PHB or the WHB to the EHF Executive Committee shall be considered with special attention.
- 8.8.** Specificities concerning the working articulation of the PHB and the WHB with the Executive Committee are to be supplied in the Memorandums of Understanding.
- 8.9.** The chairpersons of the PHB and WHB are entitled, in individual cases, to invite experts to contribute opinion to special subjects under study in the PHB and WHB. Contact with the EHF Secretary General will have to be established prior to any official invitation to ensure proper care of the EHF finances.

## **9. OTHER COMMITTEES AND BOARDS**

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### **9.1. NATIONS COMMITTEES MEN AND WOMEN**

The Nations Committee Men (NCM) shall deal with all national team matters in the field of men's handball and the Nations Committee Women (NCW) shall deal with all national team matters in the field of women's handball.

Each Nations Committee shall consist of six (6) members who are elected by the Congress. The period of office is four (4) years; elections take place at each election Congress. Every Member Federation has the statutory right to nominate candidates on the basis of the men's and

women's ranking as follows:

Rank 1-12	1 place
Rank 13-24	1 place
Rank 25-36	1 place
Rank 37-50	1 place
<u>Freely elected</u>	<u>2 places</u>
Total	6 places

Each Nations Committee internally elects a chairperson, and two (2) deputy chairpersons as members of the EHF Nations Board.

Each Nations Committee internally elects two (2) representatives to the PHB respectively WHB.

## **9.2. EHF NATIONS BOARD**

The Nations Board (NB) shall deal with all national team matters in the field of men's and women's handball.

The Nations Board shall consist of six (6) members, i.e. the chairpersons and the two (2) deputy chairpersons of each Nations Committee.

The nominated members of the Nations Board elect a chairperson as the NB member of the EHF Executive Committee and a deputy chairperson.

**9.3.** Further boards and expert committees shall be added to the EHF structure as appropriate based on their fields of work.

## **10. EHF ANTI-DOPING UNIT (EAU)**

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**10.1.** The EHF Anti-Doping Unit (EAU) shall deal with the organization and handling of anti-doping activities in handball in Europe (controls, non-intentional doping, education for young athletes, NADAs, medical exemptions (TUEs), whereabouts, violations, etc.).

**10.2.** The unit shall consist of a chairperson nominated by the EHF Executive Committee and an EHF office staff member.

**10.3.** Further members may be nominated by the EHF Executive Committee.

**10.4.** Anti-doping measures are implemented on the basis of the EHF Regulations for Anti-Doping. The EHF Regulations for Anti-Doping shall be in compliance with the WADA Code and the IHF Anti-Doping Regulations. The responsibility regarding decisions on the EHF Regulations for Anti-Doping shall be with the EHF Executive Committee.



# 11. MATERIAL MEANS

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- 11.1.** Material means define all sources through which the EHF finances its non-profit purposes.
- 11.2.** The official EHF currency shall be Euro (EUR, €). Any change thereto shall require a two- third majority of the members present at the Congress.
- 11.3.** It is the right and the duty of the EHF to build long and short-term reserves for designated investments and projects of high volume, such as global handball projects, infrastructure investments, etc.
- 11.4.** Primary sources of EHF funding shall be:
1. Membership fees
  2. A share of income from EHF events including intellectual property rights, according to regulations
  3. Awarding of television and advertising rights
  4. Sponsors and partnership agreements
  5. Donations
  6. Income from publications, selling of material and seminar fees
  7. Income from capital
  8. Income from rental properties
  9. Income from ticket sales
  10. Receipt and grant of subsidies
  11. Collection of cost contributions
  12. Distribution of values in kind and merchandise articles
  13. Transfer and acquirement of rights
  14. Exploitation and management of rights
  15. Transfer and acquirement of immaterial rights
  16. Income from financial penalties
  17. Further income
- 11.5.** EHF financial liability shall be limited to its assets. Individual Member Federations or Executive Committee members shall not be liable under law.
- 11.6.** The EHF in its daily business is entitled to use vicarious agents and act as such itself in accordance with article 40 Federal Tax Code (state law).

# 12. IDEALISTIC MEANS

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## 12.1. CONTEXT AND DEFINITION

- 12.1.1. Activities in the context of the EHF Statutes are to be understood entirely as measures and actions which are used to reach the non-profit targets, to invest into the sport handball and to create funds according to article 11 for the purposes mentioned.

12.1.2. Idealistic means define all activities of the EHF serving the purpose of achieving the non-profit objectives of the EHF.

**12.2.** Official EHF competitions as idealistic means regarding the non-profit purpose are primarily:

1. European Championship for national teams and the relating qualifying events
2. YAC European Championships for national teams in different divisions and the relating qualifying events (youth level)
3. YAC European Championships for national teams in different divisions and the relating qualifying events (junior level)
4. European club competitions (Champions League, European League, European Cup)
5. European Championship for club teams
6. European qualifications for World Championships and Olympic Games
7. Mini handball competitions
8. Beach handball competitions
9. European Masters competitions
10. European Challenge Trophies

All competitions shall be organised for male and female teams.

All competitions may be organised for persons with disabilities.

Regulations shall be issued for each competition.

The Congress may resolve to have additional competitions organised.

The Executive Committee has the right as well as the obligation to nominate substitute organisers in case that the organisers of events do not keep to the prescribed dates.

Members elected as organisers of any EHF competitions have the obligation to organise, prepare and stage such competitions in accordance with the EHF Statutes and regulations. They commit to act accordingly towards all other members. Any failure to comply with such obligation and commitment may be sanctioned according to the applicable EHF legal regulations.

**12.3.** Further EHF activities as idealistic means with regard to the non-profit purpose are primarily:

1. Organisation of meetings, working groups, and cooperation visits
2. Organisation of courses and seminars
3. Publications in all media
4. All steps for the development of handball
5. Management and support of development projects
6. Renting out properties
7. Activities within the scope of the Social Fund, including charity events benefiting the Fund
8. Participation in joint-stock companies and non-profit partnerships
9. Organisation and handling of anti-doping measures
10. Right to grant scholarships, grants, and awards in accordance with article 40 Federal Tax Code (state law).
11. Deliveries, services, and financial transactions to and from other organizations
12. Use of material of other organizations and renting and lending such material
13. Further idealistic means

#### **12.4. CROSS-BORDER COMPETITIONS**

Participation in cross-border competitions for national teams or clubs shall be permitted only if such competitions/games have been duly authorized by the National Federations concerned and the EHF and, in the case of intercontinental competitions, by the International Handball Federation as well.

The conditions for participation in competitions, with due regard to clauses 2.4. and 3.2. of the EHF Statutes, are regulated by the relevant national and international competition regulations. A written statement to this effect shall be an integral part of the registration procedure.

Cross-border club competitions and leagues for adult players shall, moreover, be deemed to be in conformity with the Statutes only if they are subject to the control of the National Federations in terms of competition structure, organisational and technical matters, and disciplinary procedures.

The above rules do not apply to tournaments.

#### **12.5. LEAGUES OR OTHER ACTIVITIES**

Leagues or any other activities on professional men's and women's senior level involving entities from different Member Federations shall be permitted only upon the explicit consent of the respective Member Federations and the EHF and shall be organized under the governance of the EHF.

## **13. ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE**

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- 13.1.** The EHF Court of Handball and the EHF Court of Appeal, within their scope of responsibility, conduct EHF legal proceedings with due regard to the uniform application and interpretation of EHF Rules and Regulations as well as the IHF Rules of the Game, taking into account all changes and deviations from these that the EHF can and may practice.
- 13.2.** In all EHF tournaments, ad hoc bodies' decisions (e.g. disciplinary commission, jury) shall be internally final.
- 13.3.** The Legal Regulations as amended shall govern. The decisions passed by the second instance ad hoc body respectively the EHF Court of Appeal shall be final and end the stages of appeal of the EHF internal proceedings.
- 13.4.** All disputes between the EHF and the National Federations, among the National Federations, among National Federations and their clubs concerning cross-border matters, disputes arising in connection with EHF competitions as well as disputes among players, players' agents, the EHF, National Federations, and clubs may be brought before the European Handball Court of Arbitration.

In other disputes, jurisdiction shall rest with the European Handball Court of Arbitration if this

is in the interest of the maintenance of legal certainty, legal entity, and legal principles as well as the clarification of key issues of a sports-political nature.

### **13.5. COMPETENCE OF ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE**

Unless otherwise stipulated in the regulations concerned or in the provisions set out below, adjudication/arbitration is foreseen as follows:

1. of administrative infringements punishable according to the Catalogue of Administrative Sanctions and of issues relating to international player transfers between the EHF Member/Associated Federations is exercised by the EHF Office in the first instance,
2. of all other cases, including disciplinary adjudication within the framework of the EHF legal system and its Member/Associated Federations, settlement of disputes between handball/EHF related entities and/or individuals and of issues relating to international handball competitions in Europe and/or EHF activities, is exercised by the EHF Court of Handball in the first instance.

Any and all decisions made by the EHF Office and the EHF Court of Handball may be appealed to the EHF Court of Appeal.

### **13.6. EUROPEAN HANDBALL COURT OF ARBITRATION**

After exhaustion of the EHF's internal stages of appeal, action may be filed with the European Handball Court of Arbitration (ECA), in accordance with the rules set out in sections 577 et seq ZPO (Austrian code of civil procedures), within 21 days after delivery of the decision, else the case shall be forfeited. The proceedings are governed by the Rules of Arbitration of the European Handball Court of Arbitration.

### **13.7. INITIATOR AND SUBSTITUTE INITIATOR OF PROCEEDINGS**

An Initiator and a Substitute Initiator of Proceedings shall be appointed by the EHF Executive Committee for a period of four (4) years.

The Initiator of Proceedings shall be responsible for ensuring a fair balance in all legal proceedings conducted within the EHF. This shall be done specifically by instituting legal proceedings and/or initiating their institution. In addition, the Initiator of Proceedings has the right to appeal against decisions taken.

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

## **14. STATUTES AMENDMENTS; DISSOLUTION**

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- 14.1.** Motions for statute amendments must be sent to members in writing together with the agenda and shall require for adoption a two-third (2/3) majority of the votes (including abstentions) cast.

- 14.2.** Motions for a dissolution of the EHF or removal of its headquarters (registered office) shall be communicated to members in writing together with the agenda and shall require for adoption a majority of three quarters (3/4) of the members present at the Congress (clauses 1.5 and 4.1.4).
- 14.3.** In the event of a dissolution of the EHF or the discontinuation of the favoured purpose the Congress shall decide on the disposal of EHF's remaining assets which shall be used solely for favoured purposes according to §§ 34ff. BAO (federal tax code) in the interests of European handball.

## 15. FINAL PROVISIONS

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- 15.1.** Should EHF Statutes and regulations fail to address a point, IHF regulations shall apply.
- 15.2.** These Statutes were adopted by the Founding Congress in Berlin on 17 November 1991 and last amended at the Ordinary Congress in Basel on 14 December 2024.

STAT 14.12.2024