
MINUTES TO THE 176TH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING IN ANDAU, AUSTRIA

Date | Time: 19 September 2024 | 09:00 – 12:15 | 14:00 – 15:00

Venue: Scheiblhofer The Resort | Conference Room

Executive:	Michael Wiederer	President
	Predrag Bošković	First Vice President
	Henrik La Cour	Vice President Finances
	Božidar Djurković	Chairman Competitions Commission
	Pedro Sequeira	Chairman Methods Commission
	Gabriella Horvath	Chairwoman Beach Handball Commission
	Stefan Lövgren	Member
	Francisco V. Blázquez Garcia	Member
	Franjo Bobinac	Member
	Bente Aksnes	Member
	Mark Schober	Chairman Nations Board
	Xavier O’Callaghan	Chairman Professional Handball Board
	Leonor Mallozzi	Chairwoman Women’s Handball Board
Office:	Martin Hausleitner	Secretary General
	Bernhard Binder	Chief Finance Officer
	Markus Glaser	Chief Sports Officer
	Vesna Lazic	PA to the President
	Marsha Brown	Corporate Liaison Minutes

1. WELCOME, PROGRAMME, AGENDA

Welcoming the members of the Executive Committee to the meeting, President Wiederer provided a short reasoning as to the selection of the venue. Continuing, he thanked the respective members for giving their time over the summer months to engage in the numerous YAC events. Wiederer, referring especially to the YAC EURO events, stated that the development of the events, and the players in particular, gave a taste of the future and a picture of what is to come. To the agenda and the supporting reports, it was mentioned that the focus would be on the main part of the respective activities.

2. EXEC 06/2024 – MINUTES & FOLLOW-UP

Wiederer complemented the outcome of the previous meeting and the opportunity to have a mutually beneficial exchange of information with the leaders of the Norwegian Handball Federation. The Executive Committee approved the minutes with the following edit (amended due to typing error) to AP 5.2. Methods Commission – Education & Training as follows:

[...The MC continue to run the Webinars ~~and four~~; the next four online sessions - covering the topics of marketing, grassroots, strength & conditioning, and coaching - will take place in June...]

3. BUSINESS REPORTS

3.1. Secretary General

Out of the comprehensive report submitted by Secretary General Hausleitner, only the following points were highlighted:

- Personnel: Anna Lamprecht has assumed her role dealing with women's handball and sustainability topics; she will also support the Masterplan, taking over from Alenka Cuderman (retirement). Lamprecht also held an introductory meeting with WHB Chair, Mallozzi on the same day.
- A short rundown of the most recent activities was given with emphasis on the final activities that will conclude the business year.
- Partnerships: the EHF is currently investigation a potential partnership with 'Learn Handball'; the APP provides regular content for trainers specifically at the Grassroots level in cohesion with the 'Circle of a Handball Life'. To other contracts, negotiations towards contract prolongations are ongoing with Kinexon, Swiss Timing, and Hummel.
- Masterplan: with the projects ongoing, several have been evaluated for prolongation (SCO, SUI, GBR, GEO, BEL, and LUX); due to changes in circumstance the projects of MLT and ITA are to be adapted. With the project applications at hand from the Federations of SRB, ISR, and FAR; the Executive Committee approved the projects at the recommendation of the Secretary General.
- Excellence Awards: with the organisational details known to the Executive Committee, Wiederer expanded on the complexity of the logistics situation surrounding the athletes and the reasoning behind the implementation of a 'short list' out of the 'All Star Team' of the season 2023/24. The importance of the Olympic Games in relation to the Excellence Awards was noted and explained the awarding of both a male and a female European player out of a OG2024 selection. The awarding ceremony is scheduled prior to the EHF EURO Gala Dinner.
- Respect Your Talent: the programme has attained a high level and will be developed further to tailor the RYT to be more age specific and better suited to younger players.
- Sponsorship: a sleeve partner is being sought for the Women's EHF EURO 2024; final negotiations for the 2026 referee partner package are being undertaken by Infront and other agencies. EHF EURO partner packages are being defined for all future activities; currently, there is interest from two potential partners. An envisaged extension of an

existing partner package is to include youth handball encompassing the RYT programme incorporating recognition of the ‘Best Young Player’ in the future.

- EHF Quality Programme: the EHF is exploring a cooperation with ‘Sportslab’ out of Scotland to perform quality control and certification for products (balls, goals, flooring) used in any official EHF competition. Upon request for background information, it was stressed that the objective is to ensure that all equipment used in EHF competitions are of a homogeneous quality. Moreover, the quality checks will enable various sport equipment companies to promote products that are ‘EHF Approved’.
- Event Promotion | Ticketing: ahead of the final phase, the envisaged sales targets have not been attained and are currently lower than expected and the predicted demand did not materialise; the comprehensive promotion plan for the Women’s EHF EURO 2024 was distributed to the Executive Committee; the EHF in collaboration with the AHS OC will work on how to get more fans to the venues.

For the men’s 2026 event, the initial ‘Fans First’ pre-sale has started; discussions to the ticketing strategy for the Women’s EHF EURO 2026 have commenced between the PRCTS OC and Eventim.

- TV Production | Media Rights: the M18 and M20 EURO events generated enough income to cover the costs of TV production; the project will continue. It was noted that it proved more difficult to bring the M18 EURO to the market due to a reluctance to take the signal following the OG; thus, a digital solution was implemented with paid ‘Partnership Passes’.
- EHFTV: the subscription model has been introduced with the new season. At this time, the rights belong to Infront, and it remains of major importance to create a platform and have the interests of the EHF represented. The EHF will focus on creating more content and offering more services for the fans.
- Infront | Steering Board: the NT cooperation remains successful and in alignment at all levels; Infront has entered into an agreement with Germany for the EHF EUROS, which will result in a larger market share.
- EHF Media: regarding the digital activities, the targets for the period have been exceeded; Instagram and TikTok are the EHF platforms experiencing the most growth. The department continues to work on the development of the digital tools.

Upon the presentation, it was mentioned by MC Chair Sequeira that the new EHF Style Guide is not completely in alignment with the EHF Glossary; this will be followed-up. The Executive Committee took note of the report.

3.2. Legal Management

The department of Legal Management submitted a comprehensive report that covers all three instances of adjudication; Wiederer highlighted four cases of significant interest.

- ECA | Contractual Matter | Obvran: the EHF received a letter from the BIH government guaranteeing payment when a sponsor is found. The Executive Committee accepted the content in the letter; thus, the suspension of BIH is lifted on that basis.
- ECA | Contractual Matter | Raicevic: due to a change in ownership of the club, a payment plan has been agreed. It was underlined that this is a case of precedent.
- CoA | Match Irregularities, Non-Reporting | Nachevski: the appeals have been exhausted and the case is closed. The suspension is enforced until February 2026; the impact of the media resonance was mentioned. Moreover, the decision was taken not to install a substitute for the positions and the subsequent responsibilities in the CC/TRC for the remainder of the electoral period due to the anyway changing situation as of the 2025 election congress.
- CoH | Integrity issues/failure to contribute | Pandzic/Mosorinski: the proceedings are closed; the parties were adjudicated for non-cooperation in violation of the EHF Code of Conduct. Based on the circumstances, the Executive Committee agreed that no more nominations would be granted to the referee couple due to a lack of trust; they will be informed accordingly.

A question was raised regarding the claim against various stakeholders for damage compensation after a CL game which is now before a public court (Tribunal Judiciaire | Christophe Saidi) in France. The case is ongoing, and the EHF will be informed of any development.

Closing the verbal report, Wiederer remarked on the passing of Court of Handball Member Izet Gjinovci in August; the Executive Committee agreed that no substitution would be made for the remainder of the electoral period.

The EHF *[to date]* did not receive an official letter of resignation from Ingo Meckes, a German national who was elected under the Swiss banner to the Nations Committee Men (NCM), and subsequently to the Nations Board (NB); Meckes is now an employee of the German Handball Federation. Due to the EHF statutory limitations, two persons from the country cannot serve on the same board. Further steps are to be taken.

Finally, about players from Faroe Island, in respect to Statehood, they are Danish; players can hold a dual nationality Danish-Faroese passport, a Faroese passport with a Danish notification, and a Danish passport with no additional notification. The EHF makes clear that the

participation in national team competitions is bound to nationality. Follow-up steps in the competition system and in particular the EUROs/Championship will follow.

3.3. European Anti-doping Unit (EAU)

The full EAU report is available; doping control actions initiated at all YAC summer events were highlighted. Moreover, the representations of the EAU Chairman in various AD collaborative environments were mentioned.

3.4. Sustainability Board

In addition to the report at hand, Chairman of the Sustainability Board, Franjo Bobinac added that at the last meeting on 20 August the EHF sustainability vision statement was created:

‘The EHF wants to become one of the most sustainable indoor team sport federations.’

Bobinac also showed appreciation for the organisation having sustainability attached to all activities, especially all elements of the new EHF house being constructed on the sustainable basis. Information to the ‘Klimaaktiv’ (Golden Status) was also given. Moreover, sustainability is also embedded into the topics of the Women’s Handball Conference because of the collaboration between the Women’s Handball Board (WHB) and the Methods Commission (MC).

The importance of eLearning for the future development around sustainability, and the challenge of the collection of appropriate and reliable data and how to compare it, was also mentioned. In closing, and adding to the earlier introduction of Anna Lamprecht, Bobinac noted that she will also assume the role of Sustainability Specialist working at the professional level within the EHF Office and complimented the EHF for having a dedicated person on this matter.

3.5. EHF Services & Infrastructure GmbH

Hausleitner spoke of the construction progress in terms of internal infrastructure, as well as the ‘new office’ tours for the existing employees; the freshly installed brand manager was also present at the most recent tour. Noting the demanding logistical elements of moving two companies (EHF & EHFM), the first working day in the new office for the EHF staff will be 7 January 2025, as the EHFM staff will be established in the building after the Women’s EHF EURO. The first meeting in the new location will be the Beach Handball Round Table on 20 January. In the future, it is foreseen that many meetings will be held in the new office.

CFO Bernhard Binder added that the project finances remain within the allocated framework. With the handover of the keys to the building expected at the end of October, he stated that additional functionality tests of internal systems are to be undertaken before the office furniture is installed.

The minutes from the last meeting of the EHF Services & Infrastructure GmbH are available and the Executive Committee took note.

3.6. EHF Marketing GmbH

Noting that several of the persons present also attended various EHF meetings (Infront/Strategy Committee, Men's & Women's Club Boards, Advisory Board) to which the minutes are available. The following points were highlighted.

- The basic responsibility for 2023/24 concerning payments to the Clubs and the EHF structured by regulations is fulfilled. Currently, the documentation is with the external auditor; further checks will be carried out in November by the Comptrollers Council. The final result of the season 2023/2024 will be presented at the General Assembly.
- The seasonal budget 2024/25 was presented and will be updated.
- The relationship and environment of the media/marketing agreements was discussed as the two contracts Infront with EHF and EHF are linked. Wiederer reiterated that a review of the agreement resp. discussion would follow in autumn 2025. As the overall business continues as usual, the organisation needs to consider the period after 2026; to this end, it will also prepare for a potential new situation e.g. alternative distribution of rights and other responsibilities, specifically timetables as they are crucial to acquiring partners and rights. Furthermore, development within other team sports will be monitored.

The General Assembly of the EHF Marketing GmbH is scheduled for 13 December 2024, prior to the Executive Committee meeting.

4. FINANCES

4.1. Finance Delegation 08/2024 – Minutes and Decisions

The last meeting of the Finance Delegation took place on 30 August 2024 in Vienna. Based on the minutes at hand, Vice President Finances, Henrik La Cour gave focus to the following points out of the report:

- Federation Accounts: all Federations that showed a negative balance at the last EXEC meeting in June have settled their accounts. Payment postponements are currently in place for ISR and ISL; however, this will be revisited in the next weeks as Federations are asked to settle their accounts prior to the Congress to retain their voting rights.
- Men's EHF EURO 2024 | Final Accounting: tax clarifications have been realised and an overview to injury compensation has been given. Thus, the final accounting has been concluded.
- Women's EHF EURO 2024 | Men's EHF EURO 2026: questions from the respective OC's have been discussed and will be passed on in due course.
- Sport & Game Services | Development: support for projects have been confirmed.
- Competitions | TV Observers: the concept was prolonged for the 2024/2025 season.

The Finance Delegation also received further information on legal cases that encompassed notable monetary elements; also, the issue of outstanding payments for Covid-19 testing within the framework of the Men's EHF EURO 2022 was mentioned and will be followed-up.

4.2. 2024 Budget | Update

La Cour presented the intermediate report (prior to reporting at the upcoming Congress) and emphasised that all the financial interests of the organisation and its daughter companies are externally controlled by the Congress approved auditing company as well as the EHF Comptrollers and EHFM Comptrollers Council. The forecast that included the actual results from EHFM, and the updated budget shows a total income of EUR 25.64 million. The increase in transfers, entry fees, and other income made up for the shortfall created by the reduced partnership income.

Savings in the areas of personnel and development costs have been offset by higher Commission activities and digital infrastructure costs. Thus, as all other expense categories remain unchanged, total expenses have risen to EUR 29.59 million; subsequently, for the two-year period (2023-2024), the updated budget reflects a total loss of EUR 44k.

Closing his report, La Cour emphasised, and praised, the stringent cost controls that have allowed for the transparent and accurate financial predictions of the organisation; he also stated that in addition to the daily business, the EHF also remained focused on the construction of the new office and the corresponding costs. In support of the report given by La Cour, MC Chair Sequeira also lauded the fact that more money (almost EUR 2.5 million to date) via the Masterplan is going directly to the National Federations. Bobinac, in agreement with the statements of the Vice President Finances, also encouraged the leadership to incentivise those persons who have contributed the most to the house project and for the work undertaken.

Following the completion of AP4, First Vice President Predrag Bošković assumed the Chair of the meeting.

5. COMMISSIONS – MINUTES 08/2024, REPORTS AND DECISIONS

5.1. Technical Delegation

The Chairpersons of the Technical Commissions met at the end of August prior to the individual meetings of the CC, MC, and BC; there was a comprehensive exchange of information on the activities of the Commissions; and discussions on topics of common interest.

5.2. Competitions Commission

CC Chair, Božidar Djurković highlighted the following points out of the full report submitted.

Club Competitions | the 2024/2025 season started well, and all opening phases of the various club team events were played in accordance with the schedule. Two issues within women's handball were mentioned - the economic remedy found for severe problems faced by the Montenegrin club, Budućnost (WCL), as well as the withdrawal of the French club of Neptunes

de Nantes (WEL) that resulted in an adaptation of the competition as the team had already qualified for the Group Phase. The matters were discussed within the CC and will be closely monitored.

National Team Competitions | matches at this level will resume in October and individual solutions for all matches of ISR and UKR are to be found; the LTU Federation offered organisational support and will host the Men's EHF EURO Qualifiers (UKR v FAR). Moreover, to secure the correct execution of the Women's WCh 2025 Phase 1 Tournaments, the EHF agreed to (limited) financial support for the hosts.

YAC Competitions | the summer 2024 events including the M18 and M20 EUROS with 24 teams, which proved challenging for the organisers and the EHF, as well as the European Open and the EUSA Championship concluded successfully but did require follow up on different levels across various related topics (please refer to AP 7.2. NTC Motion I). All issues that arose during the events were resolved satisfactorily on location.

Officiating | 13 referee pairs that took part in the two EHF Referee Candidates Course in April (NOR) and July (KOS) completed the courses successfully; the list of active referees and delegates for the 2024/2025 season was distributed to the Executive Committee of which they took note. The kick-off meeting for the EURO Referees and Delegates will take place in Vienna at the end of September together with a meeting of the TRC; prior to the EURO, due to injury the referees from TUR have been replaced by referees from DEN.

Calendar | the 2026/2027 draft is currently being treated at the office level and with the IHF; moreover, it will also be on the agenda for the autumn session of the Stakeholder meetings in October.

5.3. Methods Commission

MC Chair, Pedro Sequeira highlighted the following points out of the full report submitted.

Education & Training | the relaunch of the EHF RINCK Convention will be unveiled on 14 December within the framework of the EHF Conference of Presidents and Extraordinary EHF Congress; here, FAR will sign on as a new Level III signatory. The language and legal review have been completed. Within the new structure the 'Fast Lane' for Players is integrated. Moreover, the pilot model course (Level I Complementary Education) will take place in Scotland in September and October. Following the relaunch in December, the next RC seminar will be in the new year.

The second module of the 2024 EHF Master Coach PRO Licence course took place in July in Slovenia and focused on practical sessions; this will be followed by Module 3 in early December during the Main Round of the Women's EHF EURO. Sequeira emphasised that the work undertaken in this area has resulted in the first head coach in the EHF Champions League holding the PRO license.

Youth, School & Non-competitive sports | in reference to the future of Wheelchair Handball it is mentioned that seven national federations are actively involved, 15 federations are interested in developing the area, and sixteen federations have no interest in and/or capacity for developing wheelchair handball. The MC will proceed with a two-step conceptual approach towards the interested federations i.e. knowledge transfer and education, tailor-made programmes and support.

Closing the report, Sequeira mentioned that the next presentation of the EHF Grassroots Charter, of which the documents were submitted to the Executive Committee prior to the meeting, will be in December and full implementation of the system will commence in 2025.

5.4. Beach Handball Commission

BC Chair, Gabriella Horvath highlighted the following points out of the full report submitted.

EHF YAC16 Beach Handball EURO 2024 & EHF Beach Handball Championships 2024 | for the execution of both events, the return to Varna, Bulgaria was a positive step; the collaboration with Federation BUL was much improved and this was reflected in terms of the event area, general management, etc.

Additionally, the senior event also served as a qualification to the 2025 EURO event and provided a good environment for the competing national teams.

EUSA Beach Handball 2024 | the event had the indoor and beach handball events running parallel to each other; this resulted in a split in the attention although there was interest from both sides. However, the cooperation with the EUSA OC was acceptable but could be improved.

EHF Champions Cup 2023 | the collaboration with the local organiser is very positive and the expectations for the third edition of the tournament in Porto Santo are high. However, an evaluation of future editions of this competition is needed; the BC, envisioning a prolongation of the cooperation agreement, will submit a proposal in December.

Beach Handball Competition Calendar 2025 | the event dates and locations were made known and for many of the events, the site visits have already taken place and meetings with OC representatives have also been held. To the EUSA Games, the BC want to attract more teams to the event, and on the topic of the EU Games 2027, beach handball is currently not part of the event despite ongoing discussions – including the meeting with EOC representatives in the week prior to the meeting of the Executive Committee.

In closing, and as the discussion about the presence of beach handball at EOC/IOC events continued, it was agreed that a new approach was needed (complete analysis, grassroots concept), which includes the implementation of a registration system, as well as creative and

innovative highlights. Thus, the Beach Handball Round Table in January 2025 is set to serve these, and other discussions.

Feedback and input from the Executive Committee included, but not limited to, more collaborative cooperation between indoor and BH coaches.

Furthermore, it is not to be forgotten that the discipline started in Europe and – in the knowledge that all main sports have a second leg in the Olympic Games – and the absence of beach handball puts the sport at risk; thus, a long-term strategic plan covering potential eventuality must be prepared taking into account both investments and potential event organisers.

BC MOTION I | EUROPEAN BEACH HANDBALL TOUR (EBT) 2024–2025 / REGULATIONS

The BC reviewed, amended, and updated the ebt Regulations for the season 2024/2025 and requested approval of the document which was unanimously granted.

BC MOTION II | EHF BEACH HANDBALL CANDIDATE PROGRAMME

The BC wishes to introduce a dedicated talent management system via the named ‘EHF Beach Handball Candidate Programme’; the programme is intended to promote fairness, integrity, and excellence in BH competitions. Following a brief discussion, the Executive Committee was in support of the motion contingent up the presentation of clear findings on numbers and costs.

6. STAKEHOLDER GROUPS – UPDATE REPORT

The organisation of the upcoming meetings in October is ongoing; the invitations and preliminary agenda has been distributed to the members of the various groups; the Executive Committee also received a copy to which they took note. In October, the newly introduced Women’s European Handball League Board (WEHLB), will also meet within the stakeholder framework for the first time. Topics to be discussed include, but are not limited to, the 2025/2026 competition calendar, the evaluation of the YAC system in consideration of the IHF intention to introduce WU16 and MU17 World Championship events, and the Grassroots Charter and its implementation in view of the planned Convention.

Within the scope of the meeting, it was mentioned that the PHB have long-standing topics on the agenda such as the international calendar and players workload, playing days (discussion within the FCH on weekends vs. weekdays), and throw-off times. The WHB will welcome two new members to the group for the first time; a focus of the upcoming meeting will be the Women’s Handball Convention. The NB will also specifically be discussing matters relating to the Infront contract.

Following the completion of AP6, President Wiederer resumed the Chair of the meeting.

7. ORGANISATION OF EVENTS / COMPETITION TOPICS

7.1. Report Events

The comprehensive report at hand covers all competition events in the period 2024-2032 and their respective status. The information below focuses only on the EHF EUROs.

YAC Events | the difficulty in finding hosts for the events was mentioned; the situation is of concern and the organisation must examine the future landscape of the events. Both the Women's 17 and Women's 19 EHF EURO 2025 will be held in Montenegro; at this time there is no host venue for the Championship events. To the events in 2026, motions for an adapted environment have been submitted; again, it was noted that the YAC procedures should commence earlier than in the past.

Women's EHF EURO 2024 | the final preparations are ongoing, and several important meetings have taken place or are scheduled in the coming weeks. Although the ticketing situation has not reached expected levels, there is much engagement by the OC with the focused objective to fill the arenas.

EHF EURO 2026/2028 | the EHF is in contact with the organisers, and the good cooperation with PRCTS was highlighted.

EHF EUROs 2030 & 2032 | the Executive Committee were tasked with approving the bids for presentation and, from the ensuing discussion of the applications and evaluations of the bidding documents, the outcome was recorded as follows:

To the **Men's EHF EURO 2030**, bids have been received from Croatia (Porec, Varazdin, Split, and Zagreb) and Czechia/Poland/Denmark (Prague, Katowice, Herning); in an initial step, the Executive Committee approved the inclusion of the venue Split instead of Porec in the bid from Croatia. Ultimately, both bids were approved for presentation in December. Concerning the **Women's EHF EURO 2030** the Executive Committee agreed that the event would not be presented and awarded in December; because of the situation, it was concluded that further steps were needed.

To the **Men's EHF EURO 2032**, bids have been received from Croatia with the situation mirroring the bid for 2030. The Germany/France bid foresees a multi-venue concept with Germany using four venues to which Hamburg and Hannover are fixed and the remaining two venues will be selected from Stuttgart, Cologne, Mannheim, Düsseldorf, Berlin, and Munich. France have selected Paris and Lyon as its host cities. The Executive Committee approved both 2032 bids for presentation. The sole bid for the **Women's EHF EURO 2032** coming from Germany/Denmark/Poland with eleven venues – Berlin, Hamburg, Hannover, Kiel, Leipzig, Magdeburg, Aalborg, Aarhus, Herning, Odense, and Katowice – was approved for presentation.

The venues for the German bids were basically approved but will be proposed and confirmed three years prior to the event.

Host City Fee | Wiederer provided a brief reiteration of the situation concerning host city fees and the comparison with other sports. In the current bid process, only Germany and France (and, later, DEN) responded to the matter and a dialogue was started. The EHF understood that the risk to the OC is big despite part of the fee being allocated to the event; a proposal was formulated which leaves 10% of the ticketing income untouched and the EHF relinquishing its obligatory share. Furthermore, certain elements will be retained in the basic documents, but the EHF will remain open to individual discussions concerning shared risk with the Hosts following the awarding of the event. Currently, the EHF will step back in respect to the host fee (unless agreed with the other applicants) whilst opening a new field considering there is a period of 8 years until the 2032 events and the environment could change. Thus, the original proposal presented to the Executive Committee shall be viewed as a negotiation possibility with the organisers being awarded.

Daily Fees for Additional Delegation Members | shall not result in a separate income for the Organiser(s) but cover the respective costs. Also, increases in fees are not to be arbitrarily determined. The Executive Committee mandates the Finance Delegation to set a basic fee, and any increases on the basic fee due to changes in global economic circumstances, will be index linked.

7.2. National Team Activities

This agenda point dealt only with three motions from the National Teams Competitions Unit within the EHF Competitions Department.

NTC MOTION I | IMPLEMENTING AN ADAPTED PLAYING SCHEDULE FOR THE YAC EHF EUROS

The submitted motion refers to the W17/M18 and the W19/M20 age category to be implemented in the YAC Regulations as of 2025 concerning an adapted playing schedule. The motion arose following an evaluation of the 2024 events and in consideration of feedback submitted by EHF Member Federations. The validity of the motion commences with immediate effect.

NTC MOTION II | IMPLEMENTATION OF A NEW RANKING SYSTEM COVERING FOUR YEARS IN ALL NATIONAL TEAM COMPETITIONS

To produce a balanced situation of rankings considering EHF EUROS and World Championships, it is suggested to start a 4-year ranking system that would be updated yearly in December (women) and January (men) and cover four events (2 x EURO, 2 x WCh). The updated ranking system would apply in both the senior and youth categories. The validity of the motion commences with immediate effect.

NTC MOTION III | AUDIO-VISUAL RIGHTS YAC EHF CHAMPIONSHIP EVENTS

The EHF assumed the Audio-Visual (AV) rights of the YAC EUROs in 2024; this motion intends to bring in the AV rights to the YAC Championships. This will enable the EHF to have full control on all distribution matters as well as being able to promote the events. The Organiser(s) will retain AV rights including betting rights within host nation(s) and would remain responsible for producing the TV signal(s). The validity of the motion commences with the W17 & W19 EHF Championships 2025.

All motions were approved by the Executive Committee.

7.3. Club Competitions

This agenda point dealt only with a sole motion from the Club Competitions Unit within the EHF Competitions Department.

CLUB COMPS MOTION | APPROVAL OF CROSS-BORDER LEAGUES

A cross-border league involves teams from more than one EHF Member Federation. Following the information provided by CSO Markus Glaser, the three named cross-border leagues - SUPER League Handball & Baltic League (men's competitions) and the MOL Liga (women's competitions) were approved unanimously by the Executive Committee.

Wiederer commented on the situation in some of the leagues with big level differences and the need for cross-border activities. This holds true for male, but even more, female competitions and includes activities on the Younger Age Category level.

7.4. Other Competitions

This agenda point dealt only with a sole motion from the Sport & Game Services Department.

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES MOTION | AWARDING OF THE 2025 EUROPEAN MASTERS HANDBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS FOR MEN AND WOMEN

An overview the applications submitted by ESP (Sevilla) and LAT (Riga) was provided by CSO Glaser. Following a brief discussion and a clarification of the questions raised, including participation topics, the Executive Committee unanimously decided to award the event to ESP.

8. INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

8.1. International Handball Federation

Wiederer reiterated that the next IHF Council Meeting is scheduled to be held in Cairo at the end of September and on the occasion of the Superglobe. To the topic of the new Men's MU17 (2025) and Women's WU16 (2026) IHF World Handball Championships, it was noted that a European qualification to this event would not be necessary meaning that the Continental Federations can nominate their teams for the first edition. Nonetheless, an IHF Council decision will follow as the corresponding regulations will need to be adapted. After that, on a European level, follow-up steps can be taken.

8.2. Other Partners

European Olympic Committees (EOC) | the EHF, led by the leadership, met with EOC CEO Jan Lehmann and EOC Sports Director, Peter Brüll in Vienna on 10 September. The EOC, based in Rome, organiser of the European Games (EUG) and the European Youth Olympic Festival (EYOF). In the cooperation meeting the topic of integration of beach handball into the EUG (and continuing in 2027 in Istanbul) the EYOF (in 2027 in Lignano Sabbiadoro) was broached; it was clear that there are hurdles to reach the goals and an official approach was discussed and the respective follow-up (communications, analysis, etc.) is to be initiated. The EHF will continue in its endeavours to strengthen the beach handball visage.

The EOC mentioned its intent to bring indoor handball into the EUG as a qualification to the OG; this could potentially mean another competition in June for men and women. As a result of this information, a report must be given to the Stakeholders as the topics discussed with the EOC touch upon various areas. The Executive Committee was made privy to the notes from the EHF-EOC meeting.

Closing the agenda point, within the European Commission, the new Commissioner for Intergenerational Fairness, Youth, Culture and Sport is Glenn Micallef and is a Maltese national; the EHF continues to receive regular information on topics at this level from the EOC EU Office.

9. CONFERENCES | CONGRESSES

9.1. 2024 EHF Conference of Presidents / Extraordinary EHF Congress

Leading the organisational administration of the events, Vesna Lazic has distributed the timetable and preliminary agenda to aid the EXEC members planned to present the listed topics. It was reiterated that it is expected that the EXEC representatives will give the respective reports. Concerning the motions, the Executive Committee briefly discussed the Catalogue of Administrative Sanctions where it was again underlined that the list urgently needs to be updated (fines/fees); definitions were also discussed, and an example was also given on the procedures.

9.2. EHF Excellence Awards Gala

9.3. Inauguration European Handball House

As elements of a framework of events, the preparations are ongoing; the final definition of the event programme is in progress.

9.4. Preview 2025 Events

The draft of the 2025 Meetings (Boards, Committees, Commissions, etc.) was presented and accepted. The EHF will host numerous platforms for information exchanges starting with the Beach Handball Summit in January; this will be followed by two Competitions Conferences for men and women. As the exchanges are essential to cement a basis for the future, the conferences will be held separately and aimed at two different audiences based on the topics

to be discussed. Also, the next edition of the Emerging Nations' Round Table will be held within the first quarter of the new year.

The 17th Ordinary EHF Congress will be held on 19/20 September 2025; with exactly one year to go until the event, the preparations are ongoing, and the current meeting serves the purpose to make the Executive committee acquainted with the location. Taking reference to the 2023 EHF Congress where an evaluation group for an expertise on the mandatory English language competence of candidates was approved, Wiederer recommended Jean Brihault/FRA – Honorary Member and Jörgen Holmqvist/SWE – legal expert, to evaluate the candidacies command of the English language. This was confirmed by the Executive Committee

Moreover, in the light of the upcoming elections and based on input requesting a clarification, the profile and task distribution of the institutional positions was discussed. The Executive Committee voiced support for the document; it was stated that it will give the EHF a level of support when people are considering applying for a position and avoid repetitive candidatures.

Based on the offer from the Handball Federations of Azerbaijan, the EHF has started a dialogue with AZE about hosting an edition of the Conference of Presidents in 2026.

The date and location for the 7th EHF Scientific Conference in Zagreb, Croatia has been verified, and the IHF has been informed accordingly in order to avoid a time-clash with the 2025 IHF Congress in Egypt.

With no additional topics on the agenda, President Wiederer thanked the Executive Committee for their contribution and closed the meeting.

For the Minutes: M. Brown
26 September 2024

2025 EHF MEETINGS

(Status 12.09.2024)

Congresses / Conferences / Events

20./21.01.	Beach Handball Summit (tbc)	Vienna/AUT
09./10.04.	Men's Competit. Conference MCC/tbc	Vienna/AUT (EXEC/COMPT)
12./13.05.	Women's Competit. Conference WCC/tbc	Vienna/AUT
01.06.	Emerging Nations Conference ENC/tbc	Budapest/HUN (W F4)
19./20.09.	17th Ordinary EHF Congress	Andau/AUT
13./14.11.	Scientific Conference	Zagreb/CRO
tbd/11	40th Ordinary IHF Congress	Cairo/EGY

Draw Events

tbd/03	Draw Women's EURO 2026 Qual	tbd (POL/ROU/CZE/SVK/TUR)
15.05.	Draw Men's EHF EURO 2026	Herning/DEN
27.06.	CLs M/W	Vienna/AUT
tbd 07	EL/EC M	Vienna/AUT

Executive Committee (EXEC)

11.04.	EXEC	Vienna/AUT
14.06	EXEC	Cologne /GER (M F4)
18.09.	EXEC	Andau/AUT
13.12	EXEC	Rotterdam/NED (WWCh)

Finance/ Service & Infrastructure Delegation (FD/SID)

30.01.	FD/SID	Zagreb/CRO (SF MWCh)
18.03.	FD/SID (AB/MCB/WCB)	Vienna/AUT
31.05.	FD/SID (AB)	Budapest/HUN (W F4)
29.08.	FD/SID (AB/MCB/WCB/ED)	Vienna/AUT
21.11.	FD/SID	Vienna/AUT

General Assembly SID

10.04.	GA SID (COMPT/MCC/EXEC)	Vienna/AUT
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EURO Delegation (ED)

29.,08.	ED (FD/SID/AB/MCB/WCB)	Vienna/AUT
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Sustainability Board (SB)

tbd/04	SB	Vienna (video conference)
14.06.	SB	Cologne /GER (M F4)
tbd/08	SB	Vienna/AUT (video conference)
tbd/12	SB	tbd

Competitions (CC)/ Methods (MC)/ Beach Handball (BC) Commission and Technical Delegation / CAN

27/28.02.	TD/CC/MC/BC (TRC)	Vienna/AUT
28/29.08.	TD/CC/MC/BC (TRC)	Vienna/AUT
18.09.	CC/MC/BC	Andau/AUT

Competitions Commission Committees

27.02.	TRC (TD/CC/MC/BC)	Vienna/AUT
28.08.	TRC (TD/CC/MC/BC)	Vienna/AUT

Comptrollers (COMPT)

09./10.04.	COMPT (GA EHF SI/MCC/EXEC)	Vienna/AUT
18.09.	COMPT	Andau/AUT

Court of Handball(CoH), Court of Appeal(CoA), European Court of Arbitration Council(ECC)

12./13.03.	Legal Delegation	Vienna/AUT
12./13.03.	CoH/CoA/ECC	Vienna/AUT
18.09.	CoH/CoA/ECC	Andau/AUT

Social Fund (SF)

18.09.	SF (EXEC/EHF Congress)	Andau/AUT
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2025 Professional Handball Board / Stakeholders Men's Handball**PHB**

04.03.	PHB (NB/EHLB/WEHLB/WHB/NCM/NCW)	Vienna/AUT
21.10.	PHB (NB/EHLB/WEHLB/WHB/NCM/NCW)	Vienna/AUT

2025 Women's Handball Board / Stakeholders Women's Handball**WHB**

04.03.	WHB (NB/EHLB/WEHLB/PHB/NCM/NCW)	Vienna/AUT
21.10	WHB (NB/EHLB/WHLB/PHB/NCM/NCW)	Vienna/AUT

2025 European Handball League Board / Women's European Handball League Board**EHLB**

03.03.	EHLB (NB/WEHLB/PHB/NCM/NCW)	Vienna/AUT
20.10.	EHLB (NB/WEHLB/PHB/NCM/NCW)	Vienna/AUT

WEHLB

03.03.	WEHLB (NB/EHLB/PHB/NCM/NCW)	Vienna/AUT
20.10.	WEHLB (NBEHLB/PHB/NCM/NCW)	Vienna/AUT

2025 National Team Committees / Nations Board Men / Women**Nations Committee Men**

03.03.	NCM (NCW/NB/EHLB/WEHLB/PHB/WHB)	Vienna/AUT
20.10.	NCM (NCW/NB/EHLB/WEHLB/PHB/WHB)	Vienna/AUT

Nations Committee Women

03.03.	NCW (NCM/NB/EHLB/WEHLB/PHB/WHB)	Vienna/AUT
20.10.	NCW (NCM/NB/EHLB/WEHLB/PHB/WHB)	Vienna/AUT

Nations Board (Men/Women)

03.03.	NB (NCM/NCW/EHLB/WEHLB/PHB/WHB)	Vienna/AUT
20.10.	NB (NCM/NCW/EHLB/WEHLB/PHB/WHB)	Vienna/AUT

2025 EHFM MEETINGS

General Assembly

20.11. GA (FD/SID) Vienna/AUT

EHFM Advisory Board

17.03. AB (MCB/WCB) Vienna/AUT
30.05. AB (FD/SID/ENC) Budapest/HUN (W F4)
28.08. AB (MCB/WCB/FD/SID) Vienna/AUT
20.11. AB (GA) - optional Vienna/AUT

EHFM Club Boards

MCB

17.03. MCB (AB/WCB) Vienna/AUT
28.08. MCB (AB/WCB/FD/SID) Vienna/AUT

WCB

17.03. WCB (AB/MCB) Vienna/AUT
28.08. WCB (AB/MCB/FD/SID) Vienna/AUT

EHFM Comptrollers Council

15./16.10 COMPT Vienna/AUT