

MEDIA GUIDE

MACHINESEEKER EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE 2023/24 GROUP PHASE

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GENERAL



The summer holiday season is over and the best clubs in Europe are ready to return to the court: Welcome to the Machineseecker EHF Champions League 2023/24!

Together we are opening a new decade in the competition's history as the continental top flight enters its 31st season. What a journey it has been since the start in 1993/94... so many exciting matches, so many big stars, so many great stories in all those 30 years.

Last season fitted perfectly in that picture, as the Machineseecker EHF Champions League 2022/23 provided us with top-class excitement over nine

months, culminating in a fantastic TruckScout24 EHF FINAL4 2023 in Cologne, where SC Magdeburg lifted the trophy for the second time, after a 21-year wait.

So, here we are! The road to the home of club handball, LANXESS arena in Cologne, starts as soon as the group phase throws off on 13 and 14 September 2023.

All the teams know that, right from the start, every point counts in the race for the play-offs, the quarter-finals and, ultimately, the TruckScout24 EHF FINAL4 2024.

Magdeburg start their journey in group B, where they meet record winners Barça, former champions RK Celje Pivovarna Laško and Montpellier HB, the Hungarian powerhouse Telekom Veszprém HC, plus experienced regulars GOG, FC Porto and OrLEN Wisła Płock.

Last season's runners-up and former champions KS Kielce find themselves in group A together alongside multiple winners THW Kiel, the always competitive Paris Saint-Germain Handball, stalwarts Aalborg Håndbold, OTP Bank - Pick Szeged and HC Zagreb, as well as the returning HC Eurofarm Pelister from North Macedonia and the star-studded newcomers from Norway, Kolstad Handball.

The format has not changed from last season: All matches will be played on Wednesdays (at 16:00 and 18:00 CE(S)T) and Thursdays (at 18:45 and 20:45 CE(S)T) again, the two best-ranked teams from each group will advance directly to the quarter-finals, while the teams finishing between third and sixth will first proceed to the play-offs.

New digital campaign

DARE TO RISE

After the success of the 30th-anniversary season digital campaign, 'Handmade History', the EHF Marketing has launched a new campaign for the upcoming EHF Champions League season.

The 360-degree campaign will be seen across all fields of the competition with the slogan 'Dare to Rise'.

Dare to Rise will inspire players and fans to overcome challenges, face their fears, and reach their full potential.

It encourages them to step out of their comfort zone, set their goals higher, and push themselves beyond their perceived limits.



Stay in touch with Machineseeker EHF Champions League

A Newsletter, app, social media – fans have the opportunity to follow the Machineseeker EHF Champions League and their favourite teams on multiple digital channels!

EHFCL WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Subscribers of the EHFCL Weekly newsletter receive a fresh slice of the latest news directly to their inbox every Friday during the season. From exclusive interviews to a light-hearted look at handball in the Timeout section, EHFCL Weekly is the perfect way to end the working week and start the weekend. It includes the popular “This is me” feature, which this season will profile some of the game’s top active players. Subscribe [HERE!](#)

HOME OF HANDBALL APP

The dedicated Home of Handball app is available on iOS and Android. It unites all of Europe’s major handball competitions – club as well as national teams – in one place.

The app allows each user to completely individualise his or her experience by selecting their favourite club and/or favourite competition. For more, click [HERE!](#)

FOLLOW, COMMENT, SHARE

Of course, you can also join the conversation and engage with the EHFCL family on social media. The EHF Champions League accounts give fans a steady stream of sharable and engaging content, keeping them informed on all the latest results and news from handball’s top flight.

In addition to Facebook, Twitter, YouTube and Instagram, the EHF’s newest channels, Twitch and TikTok, continue to grow.

The Twitch show “The Spin” will return this season with a regular EHF Champions League presence showcasing the best of the competition, while the Home of Handball TikTok channel showcases quirky, creative, and viral video content.

[Facebook](#)

[Twitter](#)

[YouTube](#)

[Instagram](#)

[Twitch](#)

[TikTok](#)



MOTW Showcases the best of the best

MOTW – when these four letters pop up next to a match, fans are in for a special treat. The Match of the Week (MOTW) is back for the 2023/24 season of the EHF Champions League Women and as well as Machineseker EHF Champions League.

Every round one match has the honour of shining in the spotlight and carrying the title of Match of the Week. Across all channels fans are treated to a very special coverage that will bring the action even closer to everyone watching around the world.

On match days and during the week, fans should pay the EHFCL social media channels a visit to ensure they get the most out of the content. As in previous seasons the faces of the EHFCL,

Hannah Jackson, Markus Floth, and three-time EHF Champions League winner Anja Althaus will lead through the coverage on the competition's social media channels, conducting exclusive interviews with players and giving exceptional insights.

Furthermore, the on-site mobile reporters of the EHF Champions League capture behind the scenes clips and sneak peeks from inside the arenas and bring the coverage of top-flight handball to the next level.



The OTT portal of the EHF and EHF Marketing, EHFTV has established itself over the past decade as a meeting point for all handball fans. The option to watch EHF games for free, live and on-demand, as well as the opportunity to enjoy additional content created for the EHF competitions on a regular basis, has made EHFTV a unique and highly-appreciated OTT service in the sport market.

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

personalise their fan experience during the season – and all of that for free.

On EHFTV, matches from every EHF competition are available, complemented with highlights, the best goals and saves and plenty of additional content created exclusively for the portal.

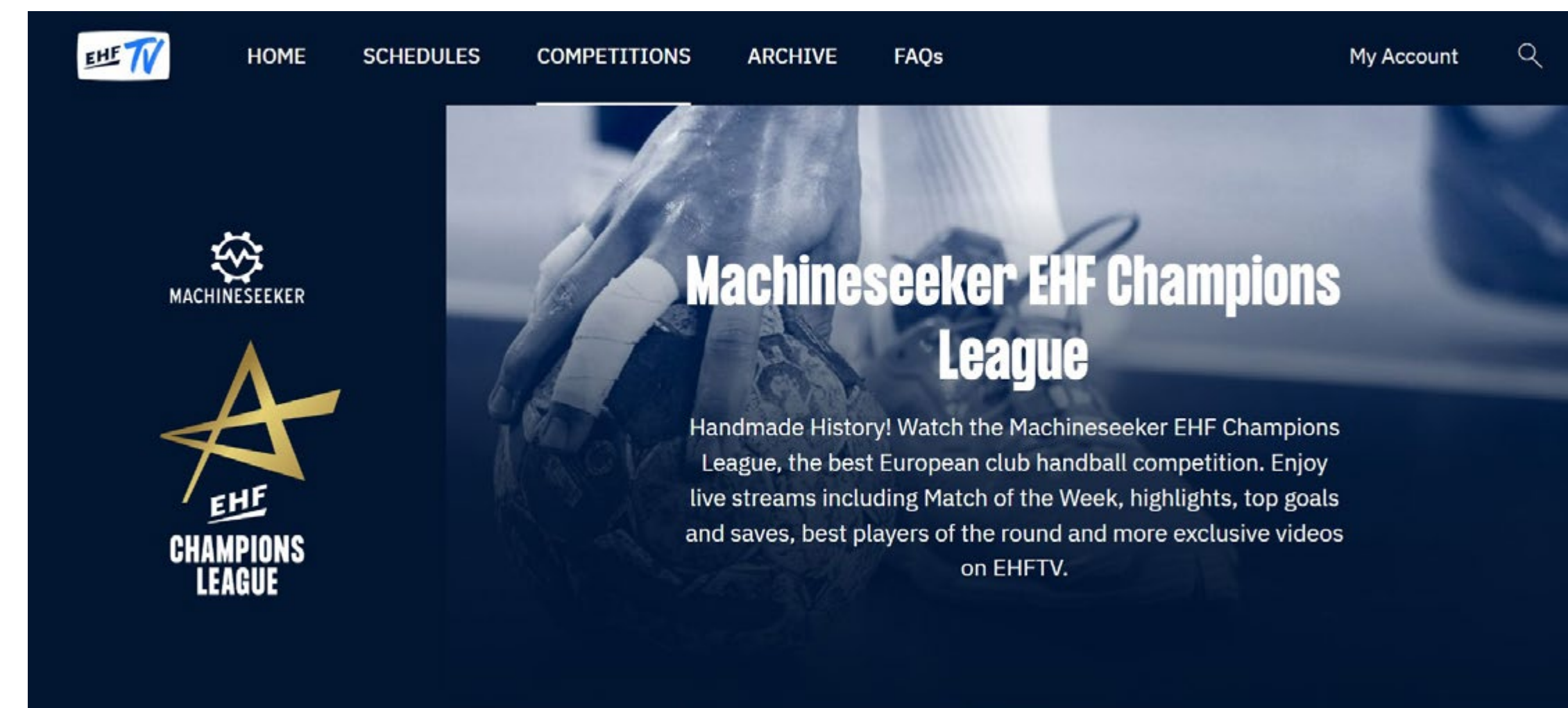
Since 2020 the new EHFTV has been designed to be fully adaptable to all devices, regardless of whether fans are at home or on the go, the best handball action is accessible any time and from anywhere.

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

Furthermore, the state-of-the-art video player, which also includes a multi-screen feature,

guarantees the best quality and the perfect conditions to follow the EHF Champions League, whenever it is played.

Join EHFTV and get ready for a new handball era.



Where to watch Machineseecker EHF Champions League

Broadcasters will beam the Machineseecker EHF Champions League 2023/24 group phase matches into fans' homes in over 30 countries.

Live broadcasters have been confirmed for nations around Europe with fans in those countries not covered will be able to access the EHF's on-demand platform, EHFTV.

The coverage means fans will be able to keep track of their favourite teams as they progress through the 14 group phase matches ahead.club directly on their registered account. These features permit all users to find, select and enjoy the best handball in an easy manner.

Furthermore, the state-of-the-art video player, which also includes a multi-screen feature,

guarantees the best quality and the perfect conditions to follow the EHF Champions League,

whenever it is played.

Join EHFTV and get ready for a new handball era.

TV Partners broadcasting the Machineseecker EHF Champions League 2023/24

| | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| AUT – DAZN | MKD – Arena Sport |
| BIH – Arena Sport | MNE – Arena Sport |
| CRO – Arena Sport | NED – Ziggo (EHF FINAL4) |
| CAN – DAZN (EHF FINAL4) | NOR – Handball Kanalen |
| CZE – AMC | POL – Eurosport |
| DEN – Handball Kanalen | POR – Sport TV |
| ESP – TV3 | POR – Porto Canal |
| ESP – DAZN | ROU – Orange Sport |
| FIN - Handball Kanalen | ROU – Prima Sport |
| FRA – Eurosport | ROU – Digi Sport |
| GEO – Silknet | SRB – Arena Sport |
| GER – DAZN | SLO – Arena Sport |
| GER – DYN | SUI – DAZN |
| HUN – AMC | SVK – AMC |
| ISR – SportTV | SWE – Handball Kanalen |
| ISL – Handball Kanalen | TUR – TRT (EHF FINAL4) |
| ITA – tbd | UK – Viaplay |
| JPN – DAZN (EHF FINAL4) | USA - Handball Kanalen |
| KOS – Arena Sport | WORLD – EHFTV* |

*Geo-restrictions may apply

OFFICIAL PARTNERS



- Title partner of the EHF Champions League Men, referred to as the Machineseeker EHF Champions League
- After a successful first season in 2022/23 the agreement was prolonged for the 2023/24 season
- Including the Machineseeker EHF Champions League 2023/24 season and TruckScout24 EHF FINAL4 2024



- Part of the Machineseeker Group
- Title partner of the EHF FINAL4 Men 2024, referred to as the TruckScout24 EHF FINAL4 2024



- Part of the Machineseeker Group and German sub brand
- Presented alongside Machineseeker in games relevant to the German Market



- in 2022 the agreement was prolonged and Gorenje has now been upgraded to a premium partner of the Machineseeker EHF Champions League until the 2024/25 season
- Part of the EHF family since 2017 and heading into the seventh season as a partner of the EHF Champions League
- One of the leading European manufacturers of household appliances, with a history reaching back as many as 70 years



- New official partner of the Machineseeker EHF Champions League for the 2023/24 season
- Has already been an official partner at the TruckScout24 EHF FINAL4 2023
- Polish based company that designs and creates modern, mobile modular spaces.
- Their products are recognised by a large group of customers in Poland, European markets and the United States



- New partner of the Machineseeker EHF Champions League
- Has a contract from the 2023/24 season until 2025/26
- MOL Group is an international, integrated oil, gas, petrochemicals and consumer retail company, which is active in over 30 countries.
- MOL is committed to transforming its traditional fossil-fuel based operations into a low-carbon, sustainable business model and aspires to become net carbon neutral by 2050.

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MACHINESEEKER EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

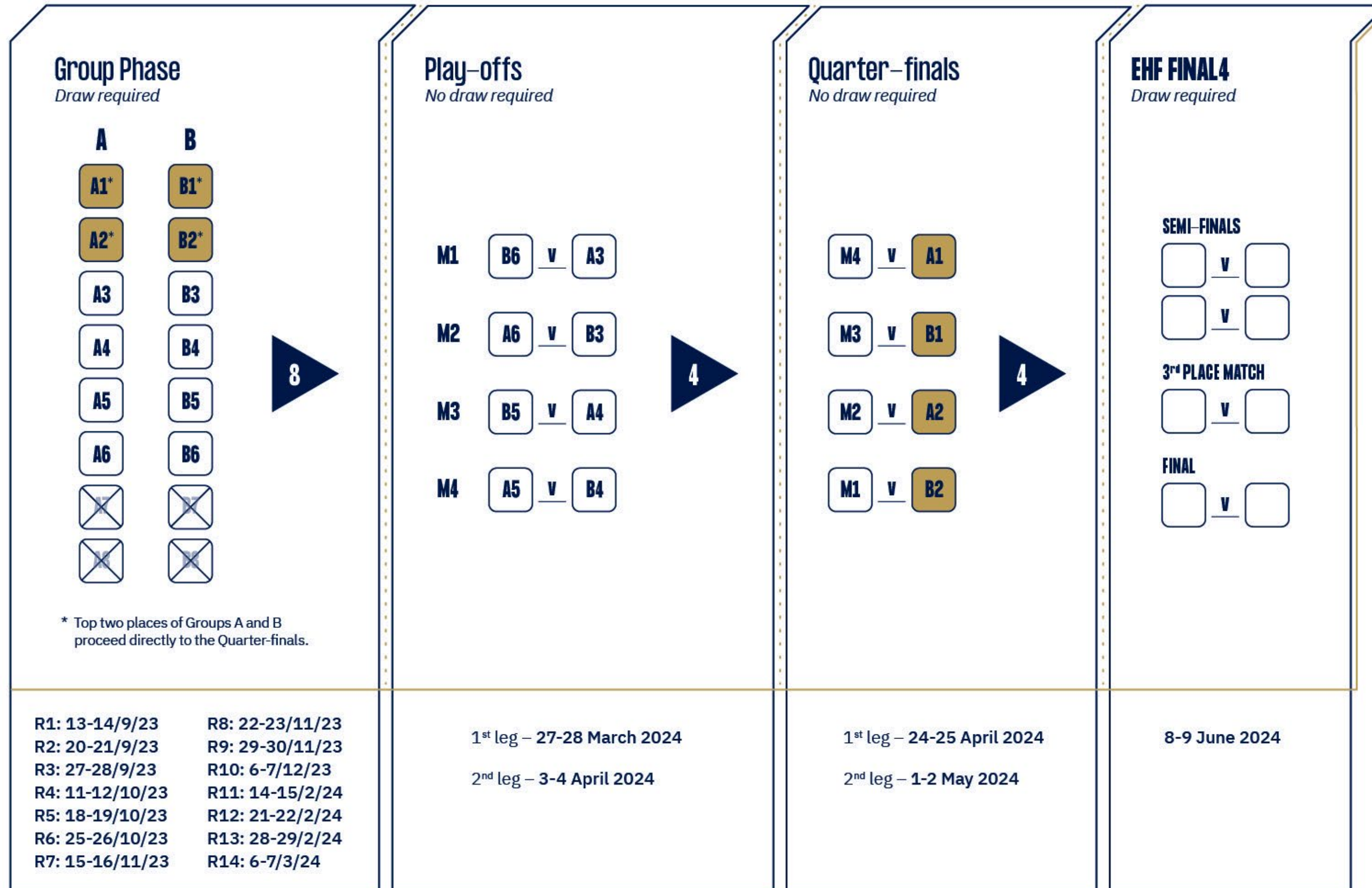
SEASON 2023/24



MACHINESEEKER EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

2023/24 SEASON

Playing system and dates



Sixteen clubs, from 11 countries, and six former champions among them are on the road to the 15th EHF FINAL4 in Cologne in the 31st season of the Machineseker EHF Champions League. Here are the most important numbers you need to know prior to the start of the group phase.

ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW BEFORE THE GROUP PHASE

1 debutant is among the 16 teams of the 2023/24 season: Norwegian champions Kolstad Handball. HC Eurofarm Pelister will play their first season under their new name, having previously competed in 2005/06 as Pelister Bitola.

1

coach has won the EHF FINAL4 at Cologne as both a player and coach: Filip Jicha (with Kiel in 2010 and 2012 as a player, and in 2020 as THW coach).

1 team, and 1 team only has managed to defend the trophy since the implementation of the EHF FINAL4 in Cologne in 2010. Barça beat Kielce in the 2022 final after extra time and a penalty shoot-out. In 2021, the record winners beat Aalborg Håndbold in the final. In 2023, they lost their semi-final against SC Magdeburg after a penalty shoot-out.

1 draw only is needed until the EHF FINAL4 2024, the one for the semi-finals. The remaining rounds towards the pinnacle event are decided by the final ranking of the group phase. The 15th edition of the EHF FINAL4 will be played on 8/9 June 2024, one week earlier than in 2023.

1 time only - in 2018 – neither a German nor a Spanish team was part of the EHF FINAL4.

2 EHF FINAL4 finals have needed to be decided by a penalty shoot-out so far, both involving Kielce. In the 2016 edition they beat Veszprém (39:38); in 2022, they lost against Barça 35:37. In 2023, Kielce were finalists again, and lost to Magdeburg after extra time.

2 coaches led two different teams to EHF Champions League trophies: Icelandic-born Alfred Gislason (2002 SC Magdeburg, 2010 and 2012 THW Kiel) and Talant Dujshebaev (2006, 2008, 2009 Ciudad Real, 2016 Kielce).

2

group winners and runners-ups each directly qualify from the group phase to the quarter-finals.

2 teams per group, finishing in seventh and eighth position in the final ranking, will determine their international journey after the group phase.

2 Barça players top the ranking of those with the biggest number of Champions League trophies and still being in the competition this season. Aitor Ariño and Gonzalo Perez de Vargas have won the title four times. Nikola Karabatic (Paris Saint-Germain), Ludovic Fabregas (now Veszprém) and Ivan Cupic (HC Zagreb) are triple winners among the current group phase players.

3

changes compared to the previous season occurred in the starting grid of the 2023/24 group phase: Montpellier replace Nantes as the second French participant, Kolstad replace Elverum as the new Norwegian champions, Bitola replace Dinamo Bucharest.

0 teams of the 2023 EHF FINAL4, which means all of them, are taking part in the group stage: Magdeburg, Barça, Kielce and PSG.

4 people have won the EHF Champions League as a player and a coach: Carlos Ortega (Barça), Talant Dujshebaev (Santander, Ciudad Real, Kielce), Roberto Parrondo (Ciudad Real and Vardar) and Filip Jicha (Kiel).

4

current coaches of the 16 teams have won the EHF Champions League as coaches: Bennet Wiegert (with Magdeburg), Carlos Ortega (with Barça), Talant Dujshebaev (Kielce - with Ciudad Real and Kielce) and Raúl González (PSG - with Vardar).

4 former or current IHF World Handball Players of the Year are part of the 16 squads of this Champions League: Nikola Karabatic (PSG/2007, 2014, 2016); Mikkel Hansen (Aalborg/2011, 2015, 2018); Domagoj Duvnjak (Kiel/2013) and Niklas Landin (Aalborg/2019, 2021). Also, two coaches were previously IHF Players of the Year: Talant Dujshebaev (Kielce) and Filip Jicha (Kiel).

4 different throw-off times on two days are the same as in the previous seasons. On Wednesday

and Thursday the EHF Champions League matches will either start at 18:45 or 20:45 CE(S)T.

4 current coaches of the 16 teams have won the Champions League as players: Talant Dujshebaev (Kielce - with Santander), Momir Ilic (Veszprém - with Kiel), Filip Jicha (Kiel - with Kiel) and Bennet Wiegert (Magdeburg – with Magdeburg).

5 times only in 13 years have the defending champions made it to Cologne: Barcelona in 2012, 2022 and 2023; Kiel in 2013; and Vardar in 2018.

5 nations are represented by two participants each in the 2023/24 season, the same as in the previous year: France, Germany, Poland, Denmark and Hungary.

5

times in a row (1996 until 2000) Valero Rivera steered Barça to the winners' podium of the EHF Champions League – no other coach has won the trophy more often.

6 former or current EHF Champions League champions representing 20 trophies are participating in the 2023/24 group phase: Barça (10), Kiel (four), Magdeburg (two), Montpellier (two), Celje (one) and Kielce (one).

2

countries are represented by the previous 26 EHF Champions League champions: Spain (16 titles), Germany (eight), France (two), North Macedonia (two), Poland and Slovenia (one each).

6 former EHF Champions League top scorers are on court in the competition this season: Emil Madsen (GOG/2022/23); Aleix Gómez (Barça/2021/22); Niclas Ekberg (Kiel (2019/20)); Alex Dujšebaev (Kielce/2018/19); Mikkel Hansen (Paris/2011/12 and 2015/16, now Aalborg) and Nikola Karabatic (Kiel/2006/07, now PSG). Filip Jicha (2008/09 and 2009/10) is Kiel's coach, and Momir Ilic (2013/14, 2014/15) is Veszprém's coach.

7

times – six times as a player, once as a coach – has Carlos Ortega won the EHF Champions League, and is on level with Andrej Xepkin, who won the trophy seven times as a player of Barça (six) and Kiel.

8 of the 16 current teams have already been part of the EHF FINAL4 in Cologne: Barcelona, Montpellier, Paris, Magdeburg, Kiel, Veszprém, Kielce and Aalborg.

10 times (1995-2000, 2011, 2015, 2021, 2022) have Barça won the EHF Champions League to be the record winners. In addition, they won the Champions Cup (forerunner competition of the Champions League) once. Kiel (2007, 2010, 2012, 2020) have won four trophies, Vardar (2017, 2019) and Montpellier (2003, 2018) two each.

10

of 14 previous winners of the EHF FINAL4 are part of the 2023/24 EHF Champions League season – only Flensburg, Vardar (two) and Hamburg are missing.

10 different Spanish coaches have steered their teams to a total of 19 EHF Champions League trophies so far: Valero Rivera (five), Dujšebaev (four), Xavi Pascual (three), Carlos Ortega, Javier Cuesta, Julian Ruiz, Francisco Equisoain, Francesc Espar, Raul Gonzalez and Roberto Parrondo (one each). Dujšebaev, Parrondo and Gonzalez (Vardar 2017) were the only ones to win the trophy with non-Spanish teams.

11 nations – the same number as in the previous season - are represented by the 16 group phase participants: Croatia, Denmark, Spain, France, Germany, Hungary, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal and Slovenia.

13 of the current 16 teams were part of the group phase in the previous Champions League season. 13 goals in the 2021 final Barça vs Aalborg (36:23) was the biggest margin in all 24 matches at the EHF FINAL4 in Cologne so far.

16 times have Spanish teams won the EHF Champions League - Barça (10), Ciudad Real (three), Santander, Irun and Portland (one each). 16 matches is the number Gonzalo Perez de Vargas has played up to now at EHF FINAL4 events to be the record holder of those on court this season. The overall record is held by Aron Pálmarsson with 19 matches.

20

victories in 20 matches were taken by Barça in their perfect season in 2020/21.

16 or 18 matches will be played by those four teams which make it to the EHF FINAL4 in Cologne - depending on whether they skip the play-offs or not.

21 years – from 2002 to 2023 – was the gap between Magdeburg's two Champions League titles.

26 matches in a row, starting in November 2021, were Barça unbeaten (24 victories, two draws), before they lost the 2023 semi-final against SC Magdeburg after a penalty shoot-out.

30 times (including the new season) have Zagreb been part of the EHF Champions League, ahead of Veszprém (29 participations), Celje (28), Barça (27) and Kiel (26).

70 goals in only ten matches at the EHF FINAL4 were scored by Aleix Gómez to be the all-time top scorer of the event in Cologne ahead of Kiril Lazarov and Mikel Hansen (both 68).

132 matches are ahead until the 2023/24 winner of the EHF Champions League winner will be confirmed in Cologne - 112 group matches, eight play-offs, eight quarter-finals, and four matches at the EHF FINAL4.

283 victories in 368 EHF Champions League matches (besides 23 draws and 62 defeats) have been earned by Barça until now to top the All-Time Champions League table.

255 goals were scored at the TruckScout24 EHF FINAL4 2023, 25 fewer than the year before. 8,233 goals were scored in 132 matches of the 2022/23 season of the Machineseker EHF Champions League.

TEAMS BY AGE AVERAGE

| | |
|------------------------------|------|
| SC Magdeburg | 29.5 |
| THW Kiel | 28.6 |
| Telekom Veszprém HC | 28.3 |
| HC Zagreb | 27.6 |
| FC Porto | 27.5 |
| OTP Bank - Pick Szeged | 26.5 |
| KS Kielce | 26.5 |
| Aalborg Håndbold | 26.4 |
| CL age average | 26.4 |
| Orlen Wisla Plock | 26.3 |
| Paris Saint-Germain Handball | 26.1 |
| Barça | 25.9 |
| HC Eurofarm Pelister | 25.8 |
| Kolstad Handball | 25.7 |
| Montpellier HB | 24.2 |
| GOG | 23.7 |
| RK Celje Pivovarna Laško | 23.0 |

TEAMS BY HEIGHT AVERAGE

| | |
|------------------------------|-------|
| OTP Bank - Pick Szeged | 196.1 |
| KS Kielce | 196.0 |
| THW Kiel | 195.5 |
| HC Eurofarm Pelister | 193.5 |
| Aalborg Håndbold | 193.4 |
| Telekom Veszprém HC | 193.1 |
| CL height average | 192.5 |
| Paris Saint-Germain Handball | 192.3 |
| RK Celje Pivovarna Laško | 192.1 |
| Kolstad Handball | 191.7 |
| GOG | 191.3 |
| FC Porto | 191.2 |
| Barça | 192.1 |
| HC Zagreb | 190.9 |
| Montpellier HB | 190.7 |
| SC Magdeburg | 190.6 |
| Orlen Wisla Plock | 189.8 |

SHORTEST



165 cm
Frederik Emil Pedersen
GOG

TALLEST



212 cm
Tomasz Gebala
KS Kielce

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|-----|------------------------------|-----|
| Frederik Emil Pedersen | DEN | GOG | 165 |
| Luc Steins | NED | Paris Saint-Germain Handball | 173 |
| Sander Rønning | NOR | Kolstad Handball | 174 |
| August Secher Lihn | DEN | GOG | 175 |
| Gonzalo Pérez Arce | ESP | Orlen Wisla Plock | 175 |
| Jaime Fernandez Fernandez | ESP | Montpellier HB | 176 |
| Ivan Cupic | CRO | HC Zagreb | 178 |
| Hjalte Lykke | DEN | GOG | 178 |
| Sebastian Carl Percy Karlsson | SWE | Montpellier HB | 178 |
| Miha Zarabec | SLO | Orlen Wisla Plock | 178 |
| Pol Valera Rovira | ESP | Barça | 179 |
| Stas Skube | SLO | Montpellier HB | 179 |
| Louis Perreux | FRA | Paris Saint-Germain Handball | 179 |
| Daniel Pettersson | SWE | SC Magdeburg | 179 |
| Paolo Kraljevic | CRO | HC Zagreb | 180 |
| Timur Dibirov | RUS | HC Zagreb | 180 |
| Gasper Marguc | SLO | Telekom Veszprém HC | 180 |
| Gabriel Buvinic | CRO | HC Zagreb | 181 |
| Patrick Wiesmach Larsen | DEN | Aalborg Håndbold | 181 |
| Frederik Møller Wolff | DEN | GOG | 181 |
| Lovro Mihic | CRO | Orlen Wisla Plock | 181 |

| | | | |
|---------------------------|-----|------------------------------|-----|
| Tomasz Gebala | POL | KS Kielce | 212 |
| Kamil Syprzak | POL | Paris Saint-Germain Handball | 207 |
| Gleb Kalarash | RUS | OTP Bank - PICK Szeged | 205 |
| Patrik Ligetvári | HUN | Telekom Veszprém HC | 205 |
| Hassan Kaddah | EGY | KS Kielce | 205 |
| Jakov Gojun | CRO | HC Zagreb | 204 |
| Matej Mandic | CRO | HC Zagreb | 204 |
| Veron Nacinovic | CRO | Montpellier HB | 204 |
| Leo Villain | FRA | Paris Saint-Germain Handball | 204 |
| Ruben Marchan Criado | ESP | Paris Saint-Germain Handball | 204 |
| Martin Nagy | HUN | OTP Bank - PICK Szeged | 204 |
| Magnus Abelvik Rød | NOR | Kolstad Handball | 204 |
| Leon Susnja | CRO | Orlen Wisla Plock | 204 |
| Amir Muhovic | BIH | RK Celje Pivovarna Laško | 204 |
| Simon Hald Jensen | DEN | Aalborg Håndbold | 203 |
| Piotr Chrapkowski | POL | SC Magdeburg | 203 |
| Hendrik Pekeler | GER | THW Kiel | 203 |
| Borut Mackovsek | SLO | OTP Bank - PICK Szeged | 203 |
| Imanol Garcandia Alustiza | ESP | OTP Bank - PICK Szeged | 203 |
| Luka Stepancic | CRO | OTP Bank - PICK Szeged | 203 |
| Richárd Bodó | HUN | OTP Bank - PICK Szeged | 203 |

YOUNGEST



25.04.2006

Frederik Møller Wolff
GOG

OLDEST



12.07.1983

Mirsad Terzic
Orlen Wisla Plock

| | | | |
|---------------------------|-----|------------------------------|------------|
| Frederik Møller Wolff | DEN | GOG | 25/04/2006 |
| Théo Ducap | FRA | Paris Saint-Germain Handball | 03/04/2006 |
| Mai Marguc | SLO | RK Celje Pivovarna Laško | 20/01/2006 |
| Djordje Cikusa Jilicic | ESP | Barça | 08/12/2005 |
| Petar Cikusa Jelcic | ESP | Barça | 08/12/2005 |
| Vasco Costa | POR | FC Porto | 02/12/2005 |
| Hjalte Møller | DEN | Aalborg Håndbold | 20/11/2005 |
| Daniel Haslund Jensen | DEN | Aalborg Håndbold | 10/11/2005 |
| August Secher Lihn | DEN | GOG | 27/09/2005 |
| Frederik Emil Pedersen | DEN | GOG | 25/08/2005 |
| Amara Karamoko | FRA | Paris Saint-Germain Handball | 05/07/2005 |
| Ádám Juhász | HUN | OTP Bank - PICK Szeged | 29/06/2005 |
| Jens Rasmussen | DEN | Aalborg Håndbold | 24/06/2005 |
| Kasper Teglgaard Pedersen | DEN | GOG | 16/06/2005 |
| Simon Humlegaard | DEN | GOG | 22/05/2005 |
| Tidiane Firmesse | FRA | Paris Saint-Germain Handball | 18/05/2005 |
| Karol Trzcinski | POL | Orlen Wisla Plock | 09/05/2005 |
| William Dalby Enoch | DEN | GOG | 01/05/2005 |
| Lasse Sunesen Vilhelmsen | DEN | GOG | 26/04/2005 |
| Mathis Becker-Fischer | FRA | Montpellier HB | 08/03/2005 |

| | | | |
|---------------------------|-----|------------------------------|------------|
| Mirsad Terzic | BIH | Orlen Wisla Plock | 12/07/1983 |
| Timur Dibirov | RUS | HC Zagreb | 30/07/1983 |
| Nikola Karabatic | FRA | Paris Saint-Germain Handball | 11/04/1984 |
| Roland Mikler | HUN | OTP Bank - PICK Szeged | 20/09/1984 |
| Morten Toft Olsen | DEN | GOG | 11/10/1984 |
| Henrik Møllgaard Jensen | DEN | Aalborg Håndbold | 02/01/1985 |
| Mirko Alilovic | CRO | Orlen Wisla Plock | 15/09/1985 |
| Nikola Mitrevski | MKD | FC Porto | 03/10/1985 |
| Ivan Cupic | CRO | HC Zagreb | 27/03/1986 |
| Jakov Gojun | CRO | HC Zagreb | 18/04/1986 |
| Andreas Palicka | SWE | Paris Saint-Germain Handball | 10/07/1986 |
| Steffen Weinhold | GER | THW Kiel | 19/07/1986 |
| Vincent Gérard | FRA | THW Kiel | 16/12/1986 |
| Przemyslaw Krajewski | POL | Orlen Wisla Plock | 20/01/1987 |
| Yoel Cuni Morales | CUB | HC Zagreb | 15/02/1987 |
| Daymaro Salina | POR | FC Porto | 01/09/1987 |
| Mikkel Hansen | DEN | Aalborg Håndbold | 22/10/1987 |
| Eduardo Gurbindo Martinez | ESP | THW Kiel | 08/11/1987 |
| Fábio Magalhães | POR | FC Porto | 12/03/1988 |
| Piotr Chrapkowski | POL | SC Magdeburg | 24/03/1988 |

CLUBS





THREE FORMER CHAMPIONS SET TO CLASH IN GROUP A

Two newcomers, three former EHF Champions League winners and eight clubs aiming to qualify out of the group phase – that is group A for the 2023/24 edition of the Machineseker EHF Champions League.

Among the three former winners featuring in the group, only two have previously lifted the trophy in Cologne: KS Kielce, back in 2016, and THW Kiel, whose last title was in 2020.

The Polish side looks like a clear favourite for one of the two top spots in the group. After losing the EHF FINAL4 final in the last two seasons, Kielce will be of course extra motivated to finally step on the top of the podium again. Two new players joined them in the summer: Polish goalkeeper Miłosz Wąż and Egyptian left back Hassan Kaddah.

Will that be enough to stop Kiel, Paris Saint-Germain, Aalborg Håndbold or OTP Bank - Pick Szeged progressing directly to the quarter-finals? These experienced

Champions League contenders have all undergone important changes in the summer, starting with THW. The Zebras lost Sander Sagosen, but the Norwegian superstar will make an early comeback to the Wunderino Arena in December, when he visits with his new club, Kolstad.

Kolstad are one of the two Champions League newcomers in this group. In Sagosen, but also Magnus Rød, Torbjørn Bergerud and Gøran Johannessen, they count key Norwegian national team players in their ranks. But Kolstad have not got much time on their hands, and they will have

to be ready from the start if they want to qualify for the next phase.

Paris made it to Cologne again last June, for the sixth time, but failed once again to reach the EHF FINAL4 final. Only once in history did they achieve it, in 2018. Over the summer, Paris had both good and bad news: Nikola Karabatic's comeback and Jacob Holm's arrival were overshadowed by the departure of Dainis Kristopans. The former Champions League winner with Vardar was one of Paris' best players last season, but decided to have a go at the Bundesliga, in Melsungen, this season.



If Nikola Karabatic's return from injury could be key for Paris, so could be Mikkel Hansen's for Aalborg. After a stunning start to the season, the Danish superstar stepped back after the IHF World Championship break. And without him, the side in red struggled to deliver, failing to qualify for the quarter-finals for the first time since 2020. In contrast to their opponents, Aalborg will show a completely new face this season, with nine new players, including 2020 EHF Champions League winner Niklas Landin – another Kiel departure.

Szeged have had a tough time recently in the competition. The Hungarian side has not made it to the quarter-finals since 2019, and

last season, they did not have a chance against Veszprém in the play-offs. As a result, Juan Carlos Pastor left the bench after 10 years while Krisztian Karpati took over. The Hungarian coach will have a huge task on his hand but is set to only stay one year, before IK Sävehof coach Mikael Appelgren takes over in 2024.

The two Balkan teams appearing in group A have completely different profiles. HC Eurofarm Pelister have not played the Champions League since 2005, when they were still called Pelister Bitola. They now have Champions League regulars such as former winner Khelifa Ghedbane or right wing Bogdan Radivojevic among their ranks,

and will try to make it to the play-offs for the first time ever.

HC Zagreb, on the other hand, have plenty of Champions League experience under their belt. The Croatian side will be playing the competition for the 21st time in a row, the second longest record ever. But Zagreb have only managed to progress from the group phase twice in the last five seasons. Last season, their ticket slipped from their hands in the last round. Surely, they will want to finally stop the curse in 2023/24.

Kevin Domas

GROUP A HEAD TO HEAD

Aalborg Håndbold vs Paris Saint-Germain Handball

1-0-4 (142:166)

2:8

| | | |
|------------|--|---------------|
| 15.10.2017 | Aalborg Handbold vs Paris Saint-Germain Handball, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B | 26:33 (11:18) |
| 02.12.2017 | Paris Saint-Germain Handball vs Aalborg Handbold, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B | 31:28 (16:14) |
| 02.11.2019 | Paris Saint-Germain HB vs Aalborg Handbold, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A | 37:24 (18:11) |
| 24.11.2019 | Aalborg Handbold vs Paris Saint-Germain HB, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A | 29:32 (14:17) |
| 12.06.2021 | Paris Saint-Germain Handball vs Aalborg Håndbold, EHF FINAL4 – Semi-final | 33:35 (15:13) |

Aalborg Håndbold vs THW Kiel

1-2-7 (275:305)

4:16

| | | |
|------------|---|---------------|
| 14.02.2004 | THW Kiel vs AaB Handbold Aalborg, EHF Cup – Quarter-final | 30:23 (12:8) |
| 22.02.2004 | AaB Handbol Aalborg vs THW Kiel, EHF Cup – Quarter-final | 32:32 (15:16) |
| 27.09.2017 | THW Kiel vs Aalborg Handbold, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B | 27:26 (13:12) |
| 18.02.2018 | Aalborg Handbold vs THW Kiel, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B | 20:27 (11:15) |
| 21.10.2020 | Aalborg Håndbold vs THW Kiel, EHF Champions League – Group B | 23:31 (9:17) |
| 23.02.2021 | THW Kiel vs Aalborg Håndbold, EHF Champions League – Group B | 28:26 (15:15) |
| 18.11.2021 | THW Kiel vs Aalborg Håndbold, EHF Champions League – Group A | 31:28 (17:14) |
| 24.11.2021 | Aalborg Håndbold vs THW Kiel, EHF Champions League – Group A | 35:33 (17:16) |
| 02.11.2022 | THW Kiel vs Aalborg Håndbold, Machineseecker EHF Champions League – Group B | 36:36 (17:16) |
| 15.12.2022 | Aalborg Håndbold vs THW Kiel, Machineseecker EHF Champions League – Group B | 26:30 (14:16) |

Aalborg Håndbold vs OTP Bank - PICK Szeged

4-2-4 (300:296)

10:10

| | | |
|------------|--|---------------|
| 10.10.2010 | Pick Szeged vs AaB Handball, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group C | 37:28 (18:13) |
| 06.03.2011 | AaB Handball vs Pick Szeged, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group C | 34:30 (17:19) |
| 12.10.2014 | Aalborg Handball vs MOL-Pick Szeged, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group D | 25:28 (11:15) |
| 22.02.2015 | MOL-Pick Szeged vs Aalborg Handball, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group D | 23:23 (10:10) |
| 13.10.2019 | Aalborg Handbold vs MOL-Pick Szeged, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A | 28:35 (17:22) |
| 08.02.2020 | MOL-Pick Szeged vs Aalborg Handbold, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A | 26:26 (13:15) |
| 27.10.2021 | Pick Szeged vs Aalborg Håndbold, EHF Champions League – Group A | 31:28 (17:13) |
| 01.12.2021 | Aalborg Håndbold vs Pick Szeged, EHF Champions League – Group A | 34:30 (16:14) |
| 06.10.2022 | Pick Szeged vs Aalborg Håndbold, Machineseecker EHF Champions League – Group B | 29:41 (15:17) |
| 09.02.2023 | Aalborg Håndbold vs Pick Szeged, Machineseecker EHF Champions League – Group B | 33:27 (15:11) |

GROUP A HEAD TO HEAD**Aalborg Håndbold vs KS Kielce****0-0-6 (164:185)****0:12**

| | | |
|------------|---|---------------|
| 16.11.2014 | Aalborg Handball vs KS Vive Tauron Kielce, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group D | 25:27 (12:13) |
| 23.11.2014 | KS Vive Tauron Kielce vs Aalborg Handball, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group D | 33:26 (18:15) |
| 12.11.2017 | Aalborg Håndbold vs PGE Vive Kielce, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B | 30:34 (14:18) |
| 18.11.2017 | PGE Vive Kielce vs Aalborg Håndbold, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B | 28:27 (15:14) |
| 28.09.2022 | Aalborg Håndbold vs Lomza Industria Kielce, Machineseker EHF Champions League – Group B | 28:30 (15:17) |
| 15.02.2023 | Lomza Industria Kielce vs Aalborg Håndbold, Machineseker EHF Champions League – Group B | 33:28 (15:15) |

Aalborg Håndbold vs Kolstad Handball**0-0-0**

No previous encounters in European competitions

Aalborg Håndbold vs HC Eurofarm Pelister**0-0-0**

No previous encounters in European competitions

Aalborg Håndbold vs HC Zagreb**5-0-1 (190:155)****10:2**

| | | |
|------------|---|---------------|
| 22.09.2019 | Aalborg Håndbold vs HC PPD Zagreb, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A | 30:20 (13:11) |
| 22.02.2020 | HC PPD Zagreb vs Aalborg Håndbold, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A | 31:30 (16:15) |
| 30.09.2020 | HC PPD Zagreb vs Aalborg Håndbold, EHF Champions League – Group B | 26:27 (15:12) |
| 18.02.2021 | Aalborg Håndbold vs HC PPD Zagreb, EHF Champions League – Group B | 38:29 (22:14) |
| 15.09.2021 | HC PPD Zagreb vs Aalborg Håndbold, EHF Champions League – Group A | 24:34 (14:18) |
| 09.03.2022 | Aalborg Håndbold vs HC PPD Zagreb, EHF Champions League – Group A | 31:25 (16:13) |

GROUP A HEAD TO HEAD

Paris Saint-Germain Handball vs THW Kiel

8-2-9 (567:562)

18:20

| | | |
|------------|---|---------------|
| 14.12.2003 | THW Kiel vs Paris Handball, EHF Cup – Last 16 | 34:27 (19:12) |
| 21.12.2003 | Paris Handball vs THW Kiel, EHF Cup – Last 16 | 30:32 (14:19) |
| 04.12.2005 | Paris Handball vs THW Kiel, EHF Champions League – Last 16 | 21:28 (11:13) |
| 10.12.2005 | THW Kiel vs Paris Handball, EHF Champions League – Last 16 | 44:28 (22:12) |
| 16.11.2014 | Paris Saint-Germain Handball vs THW Kiel, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A | 25:27 (13:12) |
| 22.11.2014 | THW Kiel vs Paris Saint-Germain Handball, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A | 33:29 (14:15) |
| 12.11.2015 | THW Kiel vs Paris Saint-Germain Handball, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A | 26:30 (10:16) |
| 21.11.2015 | Paris Saint-Germain Handball vs THW Kiel, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A | 37:30 (18:12) |
| 29.05.2016 | Paris Saint-Germain Handball vs THW Kiel, VELUX EHF FINAL4 – Place 3/4 | 29:27 (15:11) |
| 25.09.2016 | THW Kiel vs Paris Saint-Germain Handball, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A | 28:27 (15:15) |
| 12.03.2017 | Paris Saint-Germain Handball vs THW Kiel, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A | 42:24 (22:10) |
| 17.09.2017 | THW Kiel vs Paris Saint-Germain Handball, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B | 22:25 (10:12) |
| 04.03.2018 | Paris Saint-Germain Handball vs THW Kiel, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B | 29:29 (16:11) |
| 12.05.2021 | THW Kiel vs Paris Saint-Germain Handball, EHF Champions League – Quarter-final | 31:29 (14:15) |
| 19.05.2021 | Paris Saint-Germain Handball vs THW Kiel, EHF Champions League – Quarter-final | 34:28 (16:15) |
| 11.05.2022 | Paris Saint-Germain Handball vs THW Kiel, EHF Champions League – Quarter-final | 30:30 (14:16) |
| 19.05.2022 | THW Kiel vs Paris Saint-Germain Handball, EHF Champions League – Quarter-final | 33:32 (17:19) |
| 10.05.2023 | THW Kiel vs Paris Saint-Germain Handball, Machineseecker EHF Champions League – Quarter-final | 27:31 (12:13) |
| 17.05.2023 | Paris Saint-Germain Handball vs THW Kiel, Machineseecker EHF Champions League – Quarter-final | 32:29 (17:15) |

Paris Saint-Germain Handball vs Kolstad Handball

0-0-0

No previous encounters in European competitions

GROUP A HEAD TO HEAD**Paris Saint-Germain Handball vs OTP Bank - Pick Szeged****5-1-3 (259:252)****11:7**

| | | |
|------------|---|---------------|
| 08.11.1997 | Paris St. Germain vs SC Pick Szeged, City Cup – Last 16 | 24:19 (11:10) |
| 16.11.1997 | SC Pick Szeged vs Paris St. Germain, City Cup – Last 16 | 26:19 (12:9) |
| 23.04.2017 | MOL-Pick Szeged vs Paris Saint-Germain Handball, VELUX EHF Champions League – Quarter-final | 27:30 (14:16) |
| 29.04.2017 | Paris Saint-Germain Handball vs MOL-Pick Szeged, VELUX EHF Champions League – Quarter-final | 30:30 (16:17) |
| 04.11.2018 | Paris Saint-Germain HB vs MOL-Pick Szeged, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B | 33:31 (15:14) |
| 24.11.2018 | MOL-Pick Szeged vs Paris Saint-Germain HB, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B | 33:32 (16:14) |
| 22.09.2019 | Paris Saint-Germain HB vs MOL-Pick Szeged, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A | 30:25 (16:14) |
| 16.02.2020 | MOL-Pick Szeged vs Paris Saint-Germain HB, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A | 32:29 (15:18) |
| 06.02.2021 | MOL-Pick Szeged vs Paris Saint-Germain Handball, EHF Champions League – Group A | 29:32 (17:16) |
| 02.03.2021 | Paris Saint-Germain Handball vs MOL-Pick Szeged, EHF Champions League – Group A | 10:0 (0:0)* |

* Match not played and points allocated. Result not included in overall stat.

Paris Saint-Germain Handball vs KS Kielce**7-0-5 (376:356)****14:10**

| | | |
|------------|---|---------------|
| 28.05.2016 | KS Vive Tauron Kielce vs Paris Saint-Germain Handball, VELUX EHF FINAL4 – Semi-final | 28:26 (16:16) |
| 05.11.2017 | Paris Saint-Germain Handball vs PGE Vive Kielce, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B | 33:28 (18:16) |
| 26.11.2017 | PGE Vive Kielce vs Paris Saint-Germain Handball, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B | 29:30 (11:15) |
| 21.04.2018 | PGE Vive Kielce vs Paris Saint-Germain Handball, VELUX EHF Champions League – Quarter-final | 28:34 (10:22) |
| 28.04.2018 | Paris Saint-Germain Handball vs PGE Vive Kielce, VELUX EHF Champions League – Quarter-final | 35:32 (17:15) |
| 27.04.2019 | PGE Vive Kielce vs Paris Saint-Germain HB, VELUX EHF Champions League – Quarter-final | 34:24 (16:11) |
| 05.05.2019 | Paris Saint-Germain HB vs PGE Vive Kielce, VELUX EHF Champions League – Quarter-final | 35:26 (18:11) |
| 22.10.2020 | Lomza Vive Kielce vs Paris Saint-Germain Handball, EHF Champions League – Group A | 35:33 (18:18) |
| 23.02.2021 | Paris Saint-Germain Handball vs Lomza Vive Kielce, EHF Champions League – Group A | 37:26 (19:10) |
| 27.10.2021 | Lomza Vive Kielce vs Paris Saint-Germain Handball, EHF Champions League – Group B | 38:33 (19:14) |
| 02.12.2021 | Paris Saint-Germain Handball vs Lomza Vive Kielce, EHF Champions League – Group B | 32:27 (16:14) |
| 17.06.2023 | Paris Saint-Germain Handball vs Barlinek Industria Kielce, TruckScout24 EHF FINAL4 – Semi-final | 24:25 (14:16) |

GROUP A HEAD TO HEAD

Paris Saint-Germain Handball vs HC Eurofarm Pelister

1-0-1 (59:59)

2:2

| | | |
|------------|---|---------------|
| 08.12.2001 | Paris St. Germain Handball vs RK 'Pelister' Bitola, Challenge Cup – Last 16 | 33:30 (12:13) |
| 15.12.2001 | RK 'Pelister' Bitola vs Paris St. Germain Handball, Challenge Cup – Last 16 | 29:26 (19:14) |

Paris Saint-Germain Handball vs HC Zagreb

10-1-1 (382:310)

21:3

| | | |
|------------|--|---------------|
| 05.10.2014 | Paris Saint-Germain Handball vs HC PPD Zagreb, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A | 27:22 (11:9) |
| 09.12.2014 | HC PPD Zagreb vs Paris Saint-Germain Handball, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A | 25:24 (14:13) |
| 11.10.2015 | Paris Saint-Germain Handball vs HC PPD Zagreb, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A | 34:23 ((18:8) |
| 10.02.2016 | HC PPD Zagreb vs Paris Saint-Germain Handball, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A | 23:25 (10:15) |
| 23.04.2016 | HC PPD Zagreb vs Paris Saint-Germain Handball, VELUX EHF Champions League – Quarter-final | 20:28 (13:16) |
| 01.05.2016 | Paris Saint-Germain Handball vs HC PPD Zagreb, VELUX EHF Champions League – Quarter-final | 32:32 (16:13) |
| 29.09.2018 | HC PPD Zagreb vs Paris Saint-Germain HB, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B | 21:32 (9:15) |
| 17.02.2019 | Paris Saint-Germain HB vs HC PPD Zagreb, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B | 33:28 (19:13) |
| 14.09.2019 | HC PPD Zagreb vs Paris Saint-Germain HB, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A | 29:37 (15:19) |
| 01.03.2020 | Paris Saint-Germain HB vs HC PPD Zagreb, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A | 37:26 (17:12) |
| 06.10.2022 | Paris Saint-Germain Handball vs HC PPD Zagreb, Machineseker EHF Champions League – Group A | 40:31 (22:14) |
| 08.02.2023 | HC PPD Zagreb vs Paris Saint-Germain Handball, Machineseker EHF Champions League – Group A | 30:33 (14:17) |

THW Kiel vs Kolstad Handball

0-0-0

No previous encounters in European competitions

GROUP A HEAD TO HEAD**THW Kiel vs OTP Bank - PICK Szeged****8-1-5 (444:399)****17:11**

| | | |
|------------|---|---------------|
| 02.10.2011 | Pick Szeged vs THW Kiel, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group D | 26:38 (14:16) |
| 09.02.2012 | THW Kiel vs Pick Szeged, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group D | 34:24 (18:12) |
| 12.04.2015 | MOL-Pick Szeged vs THW Kiel, VELUX EHF Champions League – Quarter-final | 31:29 (17:15) |
| 19.04.2015 | THW Kiel vs MOL-Pick Szeged, VELUX EHF Champions League – Quarter-final | 31:23 (18:10) |
| 20.03.2016 | MOL-Pick Szeged vs THW Kiel, VELUX EHF Champions League – Last 16 | 33:29 (16:14) |
| 23.03.2016 | THW Kiel vs MOL-Pick Szeged, VELUX EHF Champions League – Last 16 | 36:29 (18:14) |
| 21.03.2018 | THW Kiel vs MOL-Pick Szeged, VELUX EHF Champions League – Last 16 | 29:22 (14:14) |
| 01.04.2018 | MOL-Pick Szeged vs THW Kiel, VELUX EHF Champions League – Last 16 | 28:27 (12:13) |
| 31.03.2021 | MOL-Pick Szeged vs THW Kiel, EHF Champions League – Play-offs | 28:33 (13:21) |
| 07.04.2021 | THW Kiel vs MOL-Pick Szeged, EHF Champions League – Play-offs | 33:28 (18:15) |
| 20.10.2021 | THW Kiel vs Pick Szeged, EHF Champions League – Group A | 32:32 (17:14) |
| 09.12.2021 | Pick Szeged vs THW Kiel, EHF Champions League – Group A | 30:26 (19:13) |
| 29.09.2022 | THW Kiel vs Pick Szeged, Machineseecker EHF Champions League – Group B | 34:29 (15:14) |
| 16.02.2023 | Pick Szeged vs THW Kiel, Machineseecker EHF Champions League – Group B | 36:33 (14:17) |

THW Kiel vs KS Kielce**4-2-8 (419:424)****10:18**

| | | |
|------------|---|---------------|
| 21.02.1998 | Jskra Ceresit Kielce vs THW Kiel, EHF Cup – Quarter-final | 28:27 (16:12) |
| 01.03.1998 | THW Kiel vs Jskra Ceresit Kielce, EHF Cup – Quarter-final | 31:26 (16:11) |
| 10.10.2010 | THW Kiel vs KS Vive Targi Kielce, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A | 33:29 (16:13) |
| 06.03.2011 | KS Vive Targi Kielce vs THW Kiel, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A | 27:36 (11:18) |
| 02.06.2013 | KS Vive Targi Kielce vs THW Kiel, VELUX EHF FINAL4 – Place 3/4 | 31:30 (19:12) |
| 19.10.2013 | KS Vive Targi Kielce vs THW Kiel, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B | 34:29 (17:11) |
| 16.02.2014 | THW Kiel vs KS Vive Targi Kielce, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B | 28:28 (13:16) |
| 31.05.2015 | KS Vive Tauron Kielce vs THW Kiel, VELUX EHF FINAL4 – Place 3/4 | 28:26 (12:12) |
| 24.09.2017 | PGE Vive Kielce vs THW Kiel, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B | 32:21 (18:11) |
| 24.02.2018 | THW Kiel vs PGE Vive Kielce, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B | 29:30 (17:16) |
| 15.09.2019 | THW Kiel vs PGE VIVE Kielce, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B | 30:30 (14:15) |
| 29.02.2020 | PGE VIVE Kielce vs THW Kiel, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B | 32:30 (16:18) |
| 06.10.2022 | Lomza Industria Kielce vs THW Kiel, Machineseecker EHF Champions League – Group B | 40:37 (19:19) |
| 09.02.2023 | THW Kiel vs Lomza Industria Kielce, Machineseecker EHF Champions League – Group B | 32:29 (22:13) |

GROUP A HEAD TO HEAD

THW Kiel vs HC Eurofarm Pelister

0-0-0

No previous encounters in European competitions

THW Kiel vs HC Zagreb

10-3-5 (509:473)

23:13

| | | |
|------------|--|---------------|
| 15.03.1997 | THW Kiel vs Badel 1862 Zagreb, EHF Champions League – Semi-final | 23:23 (8:11) |
| 23.03.1997 | Badel 1862 Zagreb vs THW Kiel, EHF Champions League – Semi-final | 25:23 (12:14) |
| 19.03.2000 | THW Kiel vs Badel 1862 Zagreb, EHF Champions League – Semi-final | 32:21 (14:11) |
| 25.03.2000 | Badel 1862 Zagreb vs THW Kiel, EHF Champions League – Semi-final | 22:13 (8:7) |
| 24.11.2002 | RK Zagreb vs THW Kiel, EHF Champions League – Group D | 23:28 (8:15) |
| 14.12.2002 | THW Kiel vs RK Zagreb, EHF Champions League – Group D | 24:28 (14:10) |
| 29.03.2009 | HC Croatia Osiguranje-Zagreb vs THW Kiel, EHF Champions League – Quarter-final | 28:28 (13:12) |
| 04.04.2009 | THW Kiel vs HC Croatia Osiguranje-Zagreb, EHF Champions League – Quarter-final | 31:27 (17:11) |
| 21.04.2012 | Croatia Osiguranje Zagreb vs THW Kiel, VELUX EHF Champions League – Quarter-final | 31:31 (15:12) |
| 29.04.2012 | THW Kiel vs Croatia Osiguranje Zagreb, VELUX EHF Champions League – Quarter-final | 33:27 (16:16) |
| 28.09.2014 | HC Prvo plinarsko drustvo Zagreb vs THW Kiel, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A | 27:25 (9:13) |
| 26.11.2014 | THW Kiel vs HC Prvo plinarsko drustvo Zagreb, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A | 34:27 (16:16) |
| 17.09.2015 | HC Prvo plinarsko drustvo Zagreb vs THW Kiel, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A | 29:22 (13:11) |
| 03.03.2016 | THW Kiel vs HC Prvo plinarsko drustvo Zagreb, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A | 31:29 (14:17) |
| 17.09.2020 | HC PPD Zagreb vs THW Kiel, EHF Champions League – Group B | 21:31 (6:14) |
| 04.03.2021 | THW Kiel vs HC PPD Zagreb, EHF Champions League – Group B | 36:30 (23:15) |
| 13.10.2021 | THW Kiel vs HC PPD Zagreb, EHF Champions League – Group A | 36:28 (18:15) |
| 03.03.2022 | HC PPD Zagreb vs THW Kiel, EHF Champions League – Group A | 27:28 (15:12) |

GROUP A HEAD TO HEAD

Kolstad Handball vs OTP Bank - PICK Szeged 0-0-0

No previous encounters in European competitions

Kolstad Handball vs KS Kielce 0-0-0

No previous encounters in European competitions

Kolstad Handball vs HC Eurofarm Pelister 0-0-0

No previous encounters in European competitions

Kolstad Handball vs HC Zagreb 0-0-0

No previous encounters in European competitions

OTP Bank - PICK Szeged vs HC Eurofarm Pelister 0-0-0

No previous encounters in European competitions

GROUP A HEAD TO HEAD**OTP Bank - PICK Szeged vs KS Kielce****2-0-10 (326:359)****4:20**

| | | |
|------------|--|---------------|
| 17.03.2013 | Pick Szeged vs KS Vive Targi Kielce, VELUX EHF Champions League – Last 16 | 26:25 (15:14) |
| 24.03.2013 | KS Vive Targi Kielce vs Pick Szeged, VELUX EHF Champions League – Last 16 | 32:27 (14:11) |
| 04.10.2014 | KS Vive Tauron Kielce vs MOL-Pick Szeged, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group D | 37:32 (18:17) |
| 06.12.2014 | MOL-Pick Szeged vs KS Vive Tauron Kielce, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group D | 26:27 (11:14) |
| 20.09.2015 | MOL-Pick Szeged vs KS Vive Tauron Kielce, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B | 31:30 (17:14) |
| 06.03.2016 | KS Vive Tauron Kielce vs MOL-Pick Szeged, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B | 27:26 (12:16) |
| 09.10.2016 | MOL-Pick Szeged vs KS Vive Tauron Kielce, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B | 27:29 (15:16) |
| 26.02.2017 | KS Vive Tauron Kielce vs MOL-Pick Szeged, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B | 28:24 (13:14) |
| 23.09.2020 | Lomza Vive Kielce vs MOL-Pick Szeged, EHF Champions League – Group A | 26:23 (12:7) |
| 25.02.2021 | MOL-Pick Szeged vs Lomza Vive Kielce, EHF Champions League – Group A | 26:30 (14:14) |
| 03.11.2022 | Lomza Industria Kielce vs Pick Szeged, Machineseker EHF Champions League – Group B | 37:30 (22:14) |
| 07.12.2022 | Pick Szeged vs Lomza Industria Kielce, Machineseker EHF Champions League – Group B | 28:31 (13:16) |

OTP Bank - PICK Szeged vs HC Zagreb**10-3-5 (484:458)****23:13**

| | | |
|------------|---|---------------|
| 23.11.1996 | SC Pick Szeged vs Badel Zagreb, EHF Champions League – Group B | 22:22 (12:13) |
| 18.01.1997 | Badel Zagreb vs SC Pick Szeged, EHF Champions League – Group B | 29:29 (17:13) |
| 08.11.2003 | SC Pick Szeged vs RK Zagreb, EHF Champions League – Group E | 27:26 (15:12) |
| 30.11.2003 | RK Zagreb vs SC Pick Szeged, EHF Champions League – Group E | 26:25 (15:13) |
| 18.10.2008 | Pick Szeged vs HC Croatia Osiguranje-Zagreb, EHF Champions League – Group H | 30:36 (14:15) |
| 22.11.2008 | HC Croatia Osiguranje-Zagreb vs Pick Szeged, EHF Champions League – Group H | 29:25 (14:14) |
| 29.09.2012 | HC Croatia Osiguranje Zagreb vs Pick Szeged, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group D | 30:27 (15:8) |
| 01.12.2012 | Pick Szeged vs HC Croatia Osiguranje Zagreb, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group D | 26:24 (16:10) |
| 01.10.2016 | HC Prvo plinarsko drustvo Zagreb vs MOL-Pick Szeged, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B | 24:26 (12:12) |
| 04.03.2017 | MOL-Pick Szeged vs HC Prvo plinarsko drustvo Zagreb, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B | 26:21 (14:12) |
| 23.09.2017 | HC Prvo plinarsko drustvo Zagreb vs MOL-Pick Szeged, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A | 23:28 (12:17) |
| 24.02.2018 | MOL-Pick Szeged vs HC Prvo plinarsko drustvo Zagreb, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A | 30:28 (11:15) |
| 16.09.2018 | HC PPD Zagreb vs MOL-Pick Szeged, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B | 23:24 (12:9) |
| 03.03.2019 | MOL-Pick Szeged vs HC PPD Zagreb, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B | 26:26 (14:14) |
| 20.10.2019 | HC PPD Zagreb vs MOL-Pick Szeged, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A | 21:26 (10:15) |
| 30.11.2019 | MOL-Pick Szeged vs HC PPD Zagreb, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A | 33:23 (14:7) |
| 22.09.2021 | Pick Szeged vs HC PPD Zagreb, EHF Champions League – Group A | 30:21 (10:7) |
| 17.02.2022 | HC PPD Zagreb vs Pick Szeged, EHF Champions League – Group A | 26:24 (14:10) |

GROUP A HEAD TO HEAD**KS Kielce vs HC Eurofarm Pelister****1-0-1 (49:51)****2:2**

| | | |
|------------|---|---------------|
| 18.01.1996 | 'Pelister' Bitola vs Jskra Ceresit Kielce, Cup Winners' Cup – Quarter-final | 29:19 (12:9) |
| 24.01.1996 | Jskra Ceresit Kielce vs 'Pelister' Bitola, Cup Winners' Cup – Quarter-final | 30:22 (17:12) |

KS Kielce vs HC Zagreb**2-0-0 (55:48)****4:0**

| | | |
|------------|---|---------------|
| 16.11.2016 | HC Prvo plinarsko drustvo Zagreb vs KS Vive Tauron Kielce, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B | 23:26 (12:11) |
| 27.11.2016 | KS Vive Tauron Kielce vs HC Prvo plinarsko drustvo Zagreb, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B | 29:25 (11:12) |

HC Eurofarm Pelister vs HC Zagreb**0-0-2 (43:68)****0:4**

| | | |
|------------|--|---------------|
| 16.10.2005 | RK Zagreb vs Pelister Bitola, EHF Champions League – Group G | 37:13 (23:5) |
| 13.11.2005 | Pelister Bitola vs RK Zagreb, EHF Champions League – Group G | 30:31 (15:13) |



AALBORG HÅNDBOLD

aalborghaandbold.dk

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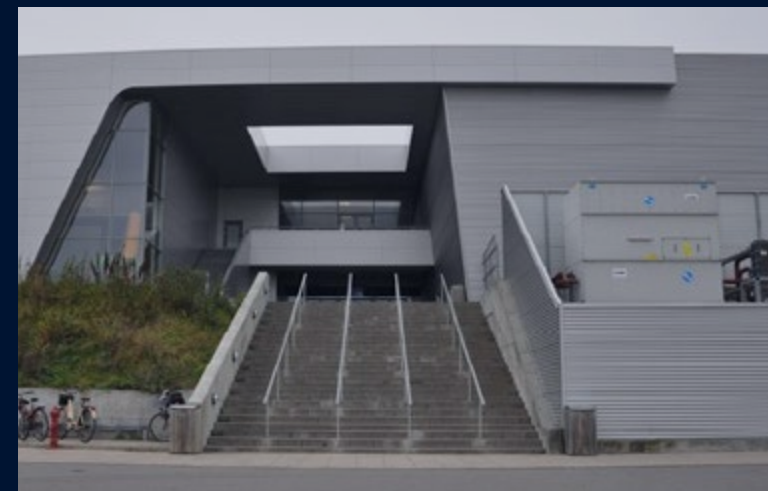
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@aalborghaandbold

CLUB ADDRESS

Aalborg Håndbold
Willy Brandts Vej 31
9220 Aalborg Ost
Denmark

PLAYING HALL

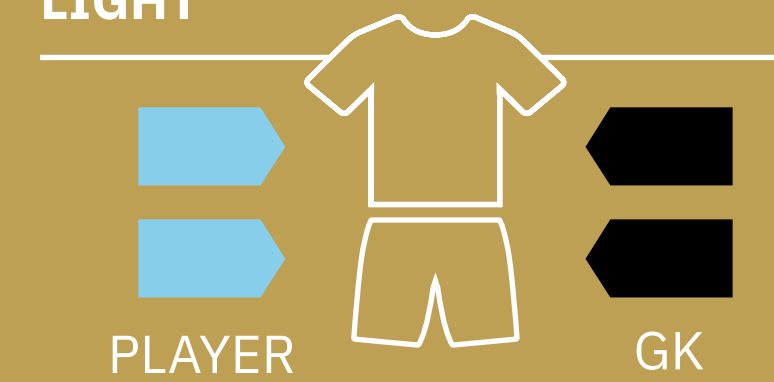


Sparekassen Danmark Arena
Willy Brandts Vej 31
9220 Aalborg Ost
Denmark

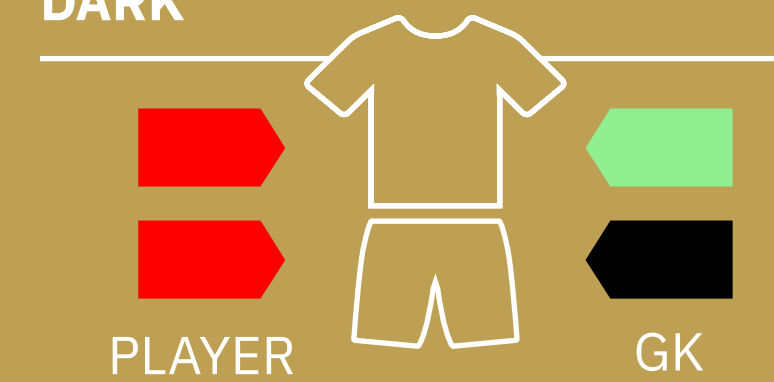
Capacity:
5,500

KIT COLOURS

LIGHT



DARK



Aalborg Håndbold are coming off a summer full of change. After a disappointing 2022/23 season with no titles won, coach Stefan Madsen will guide a vastly new roster in the 2023/24 season.

Niklas Landin is the latest of the Danish national players to come back home, while line player Simon Hald and left back Lukas Nilsson will add even more experience to the squad. After going out in the play-offs last season, Aalborg are eager to find the way back up again, just over two years after they made it all the way to the final of the EHF FINAL4 2021.

GROUP A

MEDIA CONTACT

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eb@aalborghaandbold.dk



AALBORG HÅNDBOLD

MAIN FACTS

- > Aalborg reached the play-offs last season before being eliminated by fellow Danish side GOG, losing 60:54 on aggregate
- > the best result in their EHF Champions League history is reaching the final of the 2020/21 season, which they lost 36:23 to Barça
- > the team saw 10 players move to other clubs in the 2023 summer, including Felix Claar (Magdeburg) and Lukas Sandell (Veszprém)
- > in the meantime, Aalborg have welcomed players like Danish national goalkeeper Niklas Landin, another former THW Kiel player in Lukas Nilsson, and centre back Aleks Vlah from Celje
- > also, after five months out with stress symptoms, star player Mikkel Hansen has joined the team again during summer preparations

PAST ACHIEVEMENTS

EHF Champions League

Participations (including 2023/24 season): 9

Final (1): 2020/21

Quarter-finals (1): 2021/22

Play-offs (1): 2022/23

Last 16 (2): 2013/14, 2019/20*

Group phase (3): 2010/11, 2014/15, 2017/18

* 2019/20 Last 16 cancelled due to Covid-19 pandemic

Other

EHF Cup: Quarter-finals 2003/04, Group phase 2015/16

Challenge Cup: Round 4 2002/03

Danish league: 6 titles (2010, 2013, 2017, 2019-21)

Danish cup: 2 titles (2019, 2022)



EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE SUMMARY

| | MP | W | T | L | GF | GA | GD | PTS | Stage |
|------------------------------|------------|-----------|----------|-----------|------------------|----|-------------|----------------|----------------|
| 2010/11 AaB Handball DEN | 10 | 2 | 2 | 6 | 311:339 | | -28 | 6:14 | 6th Gr. C |
| 2013/14 Aalborg Handball DEN | 12 | 4 | 0 | 8 | 317:325 | | -8 | 8:16 | Last 16 |
| 2014/15 Aalborg Handball DEN | 12 | 2 | 3 | 7 | 289:329 | | -40 | 7:17 | Last 16 |
| 2017/18 Aalborg Håndbold DEN | 14 | 2 | 1 | 11 | 364:405 | | -41 | 5:23 | 8th Gr. B |
| 2019/20 Aalborg Håndbold DEN | 14 | 7 | 1 | 6 | 416:420 | | -4 | 15:13 | Last 16* |
| 2020/21 Aalborg Håndbold DEN | 20 | 10 | 0 | 10 | 566:590 | | -24 | 20:20 | Runner-up |
| 2021/22 Aalborg Håndbold DEN | 16 | 12 | 0 | 4 | 519:481 | | +38 | 24:8 | Quarter-finals |
| 2022/23 Aalborg Håndbold DEN | 16 | 7 | 1 | 8 | 499:498 | | +1 | 15:17 | Play-offs |
| Total: | 114 | 46 | 8 | 60 | 3281:3387 | | -106 | 100:128 | |

* Last 16 and quarter-finals cancelled due to Covid-19 pandemic



EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE CLUB RECORDS

| | |
|----|---|
| 7 | MATCHES Longest winning run |
| 7 | MATCHES Longest unbeaten run |
| 41 | GOALS Most goals |

| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Biggest win | 37:23 (17:7) v HK DROTT Halmstad SWE (h), 24.11.2013 |
| Biggest defeat | 11:31 (5:16) v FC Barcelona ESP (h), 15.03.2015 |
| Longest winning run | 7 matches (24.11.2021 – 09.03.2022) |
| Longest unbeaten run | 7 matches (24.11.2021 – 09.03.2022) |
| Longest losing run | 6 matches (01.12.2013 – 29.03.2014) |
| | 6 matches (27.09.2017 – 18.11.2017) |
| Longest run without win | 9 matches (16.11.2014 – 16.09.2017) |
| Most goals | 41 v Pick Szeged HUN 29:41W (a), 06.10.2022 |
| Most goals opponent | 44 v Barça ESP 44:35L (a), 16.11.2019 |
| Most goals both teams | 79 v Barça ESP 44:35L (a), 16.11.2019 |
| Fewest goals | 11 v FC Barcelona ESP 11:31L (h), 15.03.2015 |
| Fewest goals opponent | 20 v HC PPD Zagreb CRO 30:20W (h), 22.09.2019 |
| Fewest goals both teams | 42 v FC Barcelona ESP 11:31L (h), 15.03.2015 |

TEAM ROSTER

| No. | First name | Surname | Nat. | Position | Date of birth | Place of birth | cm |
|-----------|-----------------------|-------------------|------------|--------------------|-------------------|----------------------------|------------|
| 1 | Niklas | Landin Jacobsen | DEN | Goalkeeper | 19/12/1988 | Gladsaxe, DEN | 201 |
| 2 | Frederik | Munch | DEN | Left Wing | 04/07/2004 | Aalborg, DEN | 182 |
| 3 | Lukas | Nilsson | SWE | Left Back | 16/11/1996 | Ystad, SWE | 194 |
| 4 | Patrick | Wiesmach Larsen | DEN | Right Wing | 23/03/1990 | Aalborg, DEN | 181 |
| 5 | Marcus | Kløve | DEN | Line Player | 24/08/2004 | Brønderslev, DEN | 189 |
| 6 | Sebastian | Barthold | NOR | Left Wing | 27/08/1991 | Oslo, NOR | 185 |
| 7 | Thomas | Arnoldsen | DEN | Centre Back | 11/01/2002 | Skanderborg, DEN | 194 |
| 8 | Jesper | Nielsen | SWE | Line Player | 30/09/1989 | St. Johannes, SWE | 200 |
| 9 | Jens | Rasmussen | DEN | Right Wing | 24/06/2005 | Aalborg, DEN | 184 |
| 11 | Simon | Hald Jensen | DEN | Line Player | 28/09/1994 | Aalborg, DEN | 203 |
| 12 | Fabian | Norsten | SWE | Goalkeeper | 11/07/2000 | Turesø, SWE | 196 |
| 13 | Lukas | Studsgaard | DEN | Centre Back | 01/02/2004 | Aalborg, DEN | 187 |
| 14 | Mads | Hoxer Hangaard | DEN | Right Back | 06/12/2000 | Thisted, DEN | 196 |
| 15 | Jack | Thurin | SWE | Right Back | 09/06/1999 | Skövde, SWE | 200 |
| 16 | Nikolai | Kaufmann | DEN | Goalkeeper | 08/05/2004 | Hjørring, DEN | 192 |
| 17 | Martin | Larsen | DEN | Right Back | 19/09/1992 | Aalborg, DEN | 198 |
| 18 | Aleks | Vlah | SLO | Centre Back | 22/07/1997 | Izola, SLO | 191 |
| 19 | Kristian | Bjørnsen | NOR | Right Wing | 10/01/1989 | Stavanger, NOR | 191 |
| 20 | Hjalte | Møller | DEN | Left Back | 20/11/2005 | Aalborg, DEN | 184 |
| 21 | Henrik | Møllgaard Jensen | DEN | Centre Back | 02/01/1985 | Esbjerg, DEN | 196 |
| 22 | Rene | Antonsen C | DEN | Line Player | 04/03/1992 | Vesthimmerland, DEN | 196 |
| 23 | Buster | Juul | DEN | Left Wing | 31/03/1993 | Slagelse, DEN | 200 |
| 24 | Mikkel | Hansen | DEN | Left Back | 22/10/1987 | Helsingør, DEN | 196 |
| 25 | Marinus | Munk | DEN | Left Back | 22/04/2003 | Aalborg, DEN | 200 |
| 26 | Daniel Haslund Jensen | | DEN | Right Back | 10/11/2005 | Aalborg, DEN | 198 |





COACH


**Stefan
Madsen**


- > promoted from assistant to head coach at Aalborg Håndbold in summer of 2018
- > became first coach to lead Aalborg to a CL final, in 2021
- > combined his job at Aalborg with coaching Danish national under-21 team but stepped down from that job in May 2020
- > previously worked with women's team of HC Leipzig in German Bundesliga
- > generally calm, analytic and communicative coach

DEPARTURES

| | | |
|---------------------|---|------------------------------|
| Christian Termansen | > | (Skive FH/DEN, loan) |
| Victor Kløve | > | (IFK Kristianstad/SWE, loan) |
| Andreas Flodman | > | (Frisch Auf Göppingen/GER) |
| Andreas Væver | > | (retired) |
| Aron Pálmarrsson | > | (FH/ISL) |
| Benjamin Jakobsen | > | (Sporting CP/POR) |
| Simon Gade | > | (TSV Hannover-Burgdorf/GER) |
| Felix Claar | > | (SC Magdeburg/GER) |
| Lukas Sandell | > | (Telekom Veszprém HC/HUN) |
| Mikael Aggefors | > | (retired) |

ARRIVALS

| | | |
|------------------|---|---------------------------------|
| Niklas Landin | < | (THW Kiel/GER) |
| Lukas Nilsson | < | (Rhein-Neckar Löwen/GER) |
| Patrick Wiesmach | < | (DHfK Leipzig/GER) |
| Thomas Arnoldsen | < | (Skanderborg-Aarhus Håndb./DEN) |
| Simon Hald | < | (SG Flensburg-Handewitt/GER) |
| Fabian Norsten | < | (VfL Gummersbach/GER) |
| Jack Thurin | < | (FC Porto/POR) |
| Aleks Vlah | < | (RK Celje Pivovarna Laško/SLO) |
| Marinus Munk | < | (Aalborg youth) |



GOALKEEPER 

Niklas Landin

 @niklaslandin



LEFT WING 

Sebastian Barthold

 @sbarthold



LEFT BACK 

Mikkel Hansen

 @mikkelhansen24



LEFT BACK 

Henrik Møllgaard

 @henrikmlgrd

- > moved to Aalborg in 2023 after playing for eight years in Kiel and three in Rhein-Neckar
- > won two European trophies with THW Kiel: the EHF Cup in 2019 and the EHF Champions League in 2020
- > captain of world-title winning Danish national team, named IHF World Player of the Year 2019 and 2021
- > one of six players so far to win Olympics, WCh, EURO, and CL title

- > has played for only two teams in his career: Haslum (NOR) for seven seasons, and Aalborg since 2017
- > scored over 60 goals in each of the last three CL seasons
- > made national team debut for Norway in 2012, but only became first choice after EHF EURO 2020 All-star left wing Magnus Jøndal retired
- > married to Aalborg teammate Kristjan Bjørnsen's sister, Line

- > one of the all-time greats of the game, returned to Denmark in 2022 after 10 years with PSG in France
- > missed second part of the 2022/23 season due to stress symptoms
- > played EHF FINAL4 five times (with Barça, København, and three times PSG) but is yet to lift the trophy
- > holds CL record for most goals scored in a single season: 141, in 2015/16
- > son of former Danish international Flemming Hansen; developed into top-class player at GOG

- > joined from PSG in 2018; had played in Aalborg before (2009-12)
- > has represented two other Danish clubs: KIF Kolding and Skjern
- > regular in Danish national team, part of all three world-title winning squads in 2019, 2021 and 2023
- > is purely a defender in the national team, but plays at both ends of the court in Aalborg
- > well into his 30s, but still a huge asset in defence as well as attack

EC trophies: CL 2020; EHF Cup 2013, 2019
 OG: G 2016, S 2020; WCh: G 2019, 2021, 2023, S 2011, 2013; EURO: G 2012, S 2014, B 2022

EURO: G 2012, S 2014; OG: G 2016, S 2020;
 WCh: G 2019, 2021, 2023, S 2011, S 2013

OG: G 2016; WCh: G 2019, 2021, 2023, S 2013;
 EURO: S 2014, B 2022



LEFT BACK 

Lukas Nilsson

@lukasnilsson



CENTRE BACK 

Aleks Vlah

@aleksvlah



RIGHT BACK 

Jack Thurin

@jackthurin



RIGHT WING 

Kristian Bjørnsen

@kbjornsen89

- > experienced back, who joined Aalborg in summer of 2023 after seven years in German Bundesliga
- > spent four seasons in Kiel (2016-20) and helped them win the EHF Cup in 2019; then joined Rhein-Neckar Löwen for three years (2020-23)
- > made professional debut in 2013 at Swedish side Ystad, where he had also played in the youth ranks
- > first played for Swedish national team in November 2015

- > arrived in Aalborg in summer of 2023, joining after two years at Celje
- > had a tremendous CL 2022/23 season at Celje with 88 goals, by far his personal best in a European season
- > Aalborg are the fourth club in his career; he started at Koper before moving to Zagreb in 2019
- > has been a regular in the Slovenia national team since 2017

- > moved to Aalborg in 2023 for his second experience abroad, after one season with Porto in 2022/23
- > was Porto's second-best scorer in the CL 2022/23 season with 50 goals
- > started career at Swedish club Skövde before joining Porto in 2022
- > made national team debut in 2019, part of squad that won silver at the WCh two years later

- > joined Aalborg in 2021 after five seasons with Wetzlar in Germany
- > previously played for IFK Kristianstad in Sweden and for FyllingenBergen in his native Norway
- > a tall and efficient wing, who is among the best all-time scorers for Norway national team, with 550 goals
- > his younger sister, Line, was also a top-level handball player

EC trophies: EHF Cup 2019

WCh: S 2021

WCh: S 2017, 2019; EURO: B 2020



LAST SEASON'S TOP SCORER



**Sebastian
Barthold**

@sbarthold

66 GOALS 



**Mikkel
Hansen**

@mikkelhansen24

60 GOALS 



**Mads
Hoxer**

@madshoxer_

53 GOALS 



**Felix
Claar**

@felixclaar

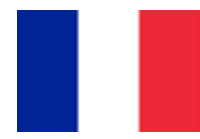
52 GOALS 



**Kristian
Bjørnsen**

@kbjornsen89

51 GOALS 



PARIS SAINT-GERMAIN HANDBALL

CLUB ADDRESS

Paris Saint-Germain Handball
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75016 Paris
France

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+ 33 6 17 05 79 69
tmislin@psg.fr

PLAYING HALL



Stade Pierre de Coubertin
82, Avenue Georges Lafond
75016 Paris
France

Capacity:

3,500

KIT COLOURS

LIGHT



DARK



- 🌐 psg.fr
- 📘 PSGHand
- 🐦 @psghand
- 📺 @psghandofficiel

Paris Saint-Germain Handball enter their 11th straight top-flight campaign in Europe. And despite reaching at least the quarter-finals in each of the last 10 seasons, PSG are still longing for their first title. They have made it to the final once, in 2017, but lost against Vardar.

Then-coach of Vardar, Raul Gonzalez, has been with PSG since 2018. He can count on new arrivals like Kent Robin Tønnesen and Jacob Holm, who strengthen a back court that sometimes looked a bit short in the 2022/23 season. Can PSG finally break the curse – in what will be star player Nikola Karabatic’s last season?

GROUP A



PARIS SAINT–GERMAIN HANDBALL

MAIN FACTS

- > PSG made it to the EHF FINAL4 for the sixth time in 2022/23, but lost both the semi-final (against Kielce) and the third-place match (Barça)
- > this is their 11th straight EHF Champions League season, and 13th overall
- > PSG advanced to the quarter-finals or better each year since 2013
- > the club signed three players for 2023/24 – line player Ruben Marchan, right back Kent Robin Tønnesen, and left back Jacob Holm
- > having announced his retirement for 2024, this will be the last season for star player Nikola Karabatic, the only player in the current squad who has won the EHF Champions League in the past

PAST ACHIEVEMENTS

EHF Champions League

Participations (including 2023/24 season): 13

Final (1): 2016/17

Semi-finals (5): 2015/16, 2017/18, 2019/20, 2020/21, 2022/23

Quarter-finals (4): 2013/14, 2014/15, 2018/19, 2021/22

Last 16 (1): 2005/06

Group phase (1): 1996/97

Other

EHF Cup: Quarter-finals 2006/07, Last 16 2003/04

French league: 10 titles (2013, 2015-23)

French cup: 6 titles (2007, 2014-15, 2018, 2021, 2022)



EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE SUMMARY

| | MP | W | T | L | GF | GA | GD | PTS | Stage |
|--|------------|------------|-----------|-----------|------------------|----|-------------|----------------|----------------|
| 1996/97 PSG Asnières FRA | 6 | 1 | 0 | 5 | 131:161 | | -30 | 2:10 | 4th Gr. D |
| 2005/06 Paris Handball FRA | 8 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 212:229 | | -17 | 9:7 | Last 16 |
| 2013/14 PSG Handball FRA | 14 | 7 | 1 | 6 | 429:402 | | +27 | 15:13 | Quarter-finals |
| 2014/15 Paris Saint-Germain Handball FRA | 14 | 8 | 1 | 5 | 395:367 | | +28 | 17:11 | Quarter-finals |
| 2015/16 Paris Saint-Germain Handball FRA | 18 | 14 | 1 | 3 | 557:496 | | +61 | 29: 7 | Third Place |
| 2016/17 Paris Saint-Germain Handball FRA | 20 | 15 | 2 | 3 | 622:543 | | +79 | 32: 8 | Runners-up |
| 2017/18 Paris Saint-Germain Handball FRA | 18 | 14 | 1 | 3 | 550:498 | | +52 | 29: 7 | Third Place |
| 2018/19 Paris Saint-Germain HB FRA | 16 | 14 | 0 | 2 | 514:445 | | +69 | 28: 4 | Quarter-finals |
| 2019/20 Paris Saint-Germain HB FRA | 16 | 12 | 0 | 4 | 507:452 | | +55 | 24: 8 | Third Place |
| 2020/21 Paris Saint-Germain Handball FRA | 20 | 13 | 1 | 6 | 583:496 | | +87 | 27:13 | Third Place |
| 2021/22 Paris Saint-Germain Handball FRA | 18 | 9 | 4 | 5 | 581:519 | | +62 | 22:14 | Quarter-finals |
| 2022/23 Paris Saint-Germain Handball FRA | 18 | 14 | 0 | 4 | 610:557 | | +53 | 28: 8 | Fourth Place |
| Total: | 186 | 125 | 12 | 49 | 5691:5165 | | +526 | 262:110 | |



EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE
CLUB RECORDS

| | |
|----|------------------------------------|
| 9 | MATCHES Longest winning run |
| 10 | MATCHES Longest unbeaten run |
| 44 | GOALS Most goals |

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Biggest win | 42:24 (22:10) v THW Kiel GER (h), 12.03.2017 |
| Biggest defeat | 44:28 (22:12) v THW Kiel GER (a), 10.12.2005 |
| Longest winning run | 9 matches (08.10.2017 – 17.02.2018) 9 matches (27.05.2018 – 14.11.2018) |
| Longest unbeaten run | 10 matches (11.02.2017 – 03.06.2017) |
| Longest losing run | 4 matches (23.11.1996 – 18.01.1997) |
| Longest run without win | 4 matches (23.11.1996 – 18.01.1997) |
| Most goals | 44 v Elverum Handball NOR 29:44W (a), 02.03.2021 |
| Most goals opponent | 44 v THW Kiel GER 44:28L (a), 10.12.2005 |
| Most goals both teams | 79 v Telekom Veszprém HC HUN 39:40L (h), 10.03.2022 |
| Fewest goals | 20 v Celje Pivovarna Lasko SLO 20:26L (h), 11.01.1997 20 v Caja Cantabria Santander ESP 26:20L (a), 18.01.1997 20 v MVM Veszprém HUN 28:20L (a), 28.11.2015 |
| Fewest goals opponent | 18 v HC Banik Karvina CZE 21:18W (h), 09.10.2005 18 v RK Celje Pivovarna Lasko SLO 27:18W (h), 13.10.2019 |
| Fewest goals both teams | 39 v HC Banik Karvina CZE 21:18W (h), 09.10.2005 |

TEAM ROSTER

| No. | First name | Surname | Nat. | Position | Date of birth | Place of birth | cm |
|-----------|---------------|--------------------|------------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|------------|
| 1 | Stanis | Soullier | FRA | Goalkeeper | 20/02/2004 | Grenoble, FRA | 196 |
| 2 | Ruben | Marchan Criado | ESP | Line Player | 20/09/1994 | Manzanares, ESP | 204 |
| 3 | Théo | Ducap | FRA | Right Wing | 03/04/2006 | Saint-Denis, FRA | 183 |
| 6 | Luc | Steins | NED | Centre Back | 22/03/1995 | Voerendaal, NED | 173 |
| 7 | Sadou | N'Tanzi | FRA | Centre Back | 07/01/2000 | Longjumeau, FRA | 183 |
| 8 | Noa | Narcisse | FRA | Left Back | 25/01/2004 | Chambéry, FRA | 183 |
| 9 | Adama | Keita | FRA | Left Wing | 05/06/1997 | Paris, FRA | 185 |
| 12 | Andreas | Palicka | SWE | Goalkeeper | 10/07/1986 | Nöbbelöv, SWE | 189 |
| 14 | Ferran | Sole Sala | ESP | Right Wing | 25/08/1992 | Barcelona, ESP | 192 |
| 15 | Kent Robin | Tønnesen | NOR | Right Back | 05/06/1991 | Partille, SWE | 195 |
| 16 | Jannik | Green | DEN | Goalkeeper | 29/09/1988 | Lemvig, DEN | 195 |
| 18 | Tidiane | Firmesse | FRA | Left Wing | 18/05/2005 | Antony, FRA | 183 |
| 19 | David | Balaguer | ESP | Right Wing | 17/08/1991 | Barcelona, ESP | 185 |
| 20 | Mathieu | Grebille | FRA | Left Wing | 06/10/1991 | Paris, FRA | 198 |
| 21 | Kamil | Syprzak | POL | Line Player | 23/07/1991 | Plock, POL | 207 |
| 22 | Luka | Karabatic C | FRA | Line Player | 19/04/1988 | Strasbourg, FRA | 202 |
| 23 | Dominik | Mathe | HUN | Right Back | 01/04/1999 | Nyiregyhaza, HUN | 201 |
| 26 | Louis | Perreux | FRA | Centre Back | 28/04/2002 | Lyon, FRA | 179 |
| 27 | Tony | Mendy | FRA | Right Back | 10/12/2002 | Brou-sur-Chant., FRA | 195 |
| 28 | Yoann | Gibelin | FRA | Left Back | 26/11/1999 | Créteil, FRA | 198 |
| 32 | Jacob Tandrup | Holm | DEN | Left Back | 05/09/1995 | Esbjerg, DEN | 194 |
| 33 | Victor | Crenn | FRA | Right Back | 17/02/2003 | Nogent sur Marne, FRA | 197 |
| 44 | Nikola | Karabatic | FRA | Centre Back | 11/04/1984 | Nis, SRB | 196 |
| 45 | Leo | Villain | FRA | Goalkeeper | 06/11/2002 | Saint-Jean-de-Braye, FRA | 204 |
| 47 | Wallem-Konrad | Peleka | FRA | Left Back | 18/01/2002 | Stains, FRA | 196 |
| 71 | Elohim | Prandi | FRA | Left Back | 24/08/1998 | Istres, FRA | 193 |
| 90 | Léo | Plantin | FRA | Left Wing | 01/05/2003 | Toulouse, FRA | 186 |
| 98 | Amara | Karamoko | FRA | Centre Back | 05/07/2005 | Paris, FRA | 192 |





COACH



**Raul
Gonzalez**



- > former stalwart of BM Valladolid and a member of the Spanish national team
- > started his coaching career at Atletico Madrid and Ciudad Real, working in a team with Talant Dujshebaev
- > moved to Vardar for the 2013/14 season, won the CL in 2017, and joined PSG in the summer of 2018
- > made CL 2016/17 All-star Team as best coach of the season
- > also coached the Macedonian national team in 2017-19

EC trophies: CL 2017

DEPARTURES

- | | | |
|--------------------|---|-------------------------|
| Dainis Kristopans | > | (MT Melsungen/GER) |
| Petar Nenadic | > | (unknown) |
| Henrik Toft Hansen | > | (Mors-Thy Håndbold/DEN) |

ARRIVALS

- | | | |
|---------------------|---|------------------------------|
| Jacob Holm | < | (Füchse Berlin/GER) |
| Ruben Marchan | < | (HBC Nantes/FRA) |
| Kent Robin Tønnesen | < | (OTP Bank - Pick Szeged/HUN) |
| Léo Plantin | < | (PSG youth) |



GOALKEEPER 

Andreas Palicka

 @andreaspalicka12



LEFT WING 

Mathieu Grébille

 @mat_grebille



LEFT BACK 

Nikola Karabatic

 @nikolakarabatic44



CENTRE BACK 

Luc Steins

 @luc_steins

- > veteran goalkeeper and two-time CL winner, who was a corner stone of Sweden's title run at EHF EURO 2022
- > named best goalkeeper of 2021 WCh
- > spent most of his club career in German Bundesliga with THW Kiel (2008-2015) and Rhein-Neckar Löwen (2016-2022)
- > joined PSG for the 2022/23 season alongside Jannik Green, who arrived from Magdeburg
- > known for his unorthodox style, full of jumping and throwing legs around

- > played for Montpellier throughout his career before joining PSG in the summer of 2020
- > former back court player who turned wing after a shoulder injury in 2017 and a torn ACL the year before
- > made his way back into the national team and won bronze at 2019 WCh
- > has passion for tattoos and drawings, sharing them on his social media channels

- > one of the all-time greats of the sport, will retire after the 2023/24 season
- > won the CL three times with three different clubs, but not yet with PSG
- > missed most of 2020/21 following knee surgery and the decisive part of 2022/23 due to phlebitis
- > twice EHF EURO MVP (2008, 2014); also named IHF World Handball Player of the Year three times
- > won all major prizes on club level and with the French national team multiple times

- > joined PSG in November 2020, initially as a temporary replacement for the injured Nikola Karabatic but instantly made an impact
- > arrived in France in 2016, first played for Massy in the second league, before joining Tremblay and later Toulouse
- > at 173 cm, he is among the shortest players in the CL
- > All-star centre back of EHF EURO 2022 and key factor for Netherlands' successful tournament

EC trophies: CL 2010, 2012
EURO: G 2022, S 2018; WCh: S 2021

EURO: G 2014; WCh: G 2015, S 2023, B 2019;
OG: S 2016

CL: 2003, 2007, 2015
EURO: G 2006, 2010, 2014, B 2008, 2018;
OG: G 2008, 2012, 2020, S 2016; WCh: G 2009, 2011, 2015, 2017, S 2023, B 2003, 2005, 2019



LINE PLAYER 

Luka Karabatic

 @lukakarabatic



LINE PLAYER 

Kamil Syprzak

 @kamil_syprzak



RIGHT BACK 

Dominik Mathé

 @mathedominik



RIGHT WING 

Ferran Sole Sala

 @ferransole14

- > team captain, who started career in Montpellier before moving to Aix and ultimately to PSG in 2015
- > PSG are the third club where he plays alongside his older brother, Nikola
- > two-time world champion with France; EHF EURO 2022 was his fourth ECh, having debuted in 2014 but missing the 2020 edition
- > was a national-level tennis player until the age of 19 when he chose handball

- > Polish international, moved from Plock to Barça in 2015 and to PSG four years later
- > scored a personal best 103 goals in CL 2022/23, after becoming PSG's main penalty shooter in 2021/22
- > among the most experienced players, and also the tallest (207 cm) in the team
- > scored Poland's winning goal against Spain (29:28) in the bronze medal match at the 2015 WCh

- > Hungarian international who arrived at PSG in 2022 from Elverum in Norway, which was his first club abroad
- > previously played for PLER KC for a year for Balatonfüredi KSE for six years (2014-20)
- > named Hungarian Junior Handball Player of the Year in 2018; played at 2019 WCh at age 19
- > part of Hungarian squad that finished fifth at 2021 WCh, their best finish since 1997

- > joined PSG in summer of 2020 after stints at Toulouse and Granollers
- > made his CL debut aged 28 in 2020/21 season
- > part of Spanish national team that won EHF EURO titles in 2018 and 2020; named best right wing of EHF EURO 2018 and WCh 2019 and 2021
- > was top scorer of EHF Cup 2015/16, with 70 goals for Granollers

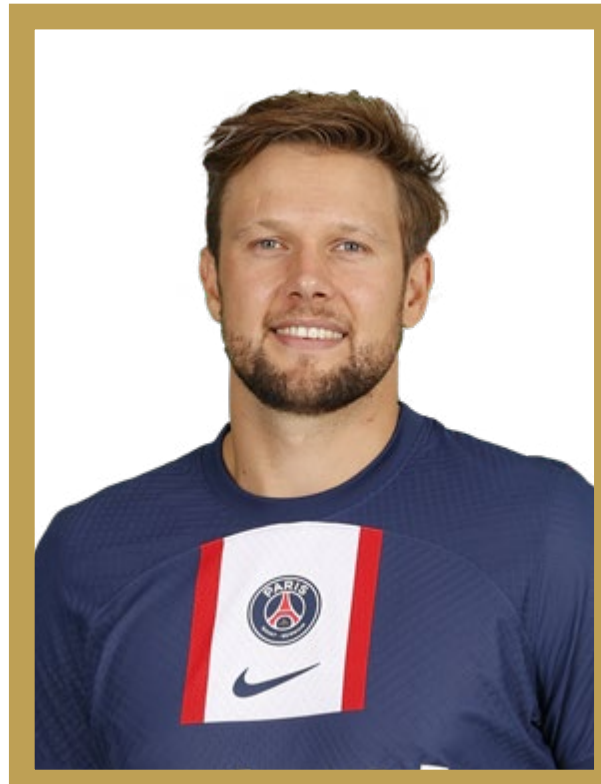
EURO: G 2014, B 2018; OG: G 2020, S 2016;
WCh: G 2015, G 2017, S 2023, B 2019

WCh: B 2015

EURO: G 2018, 2020, S 2022; WCh: B 2021



LAST SEASON'S TOP SCORER



**Kamil
Syprzak**

@kamil_syprzak

103 GOALS



**Elohim
Prandi**

@elohimprandi71

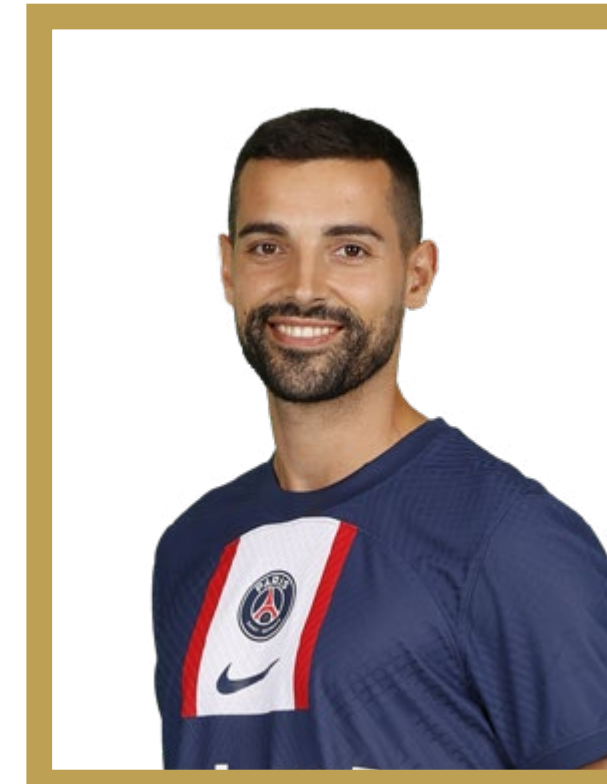
86 GOALS



**Dainis
Kristopans**

@dainiskristopans

84 GOALS



**Ferran
Sole Sala**

@sandratoff89

68 GOALS



**Luc
Steins**

@luc_steins

64 GOALS



THW KIEL

CLUB ADDRESS

THW Kiel
Rehmkamp 1
24161 Altenholz
Germany

MEDIA CONTACT

Christian Robohm
+49 16 35 30 63 00
christian.robohm@thw-handball.de

PLAYING HALL

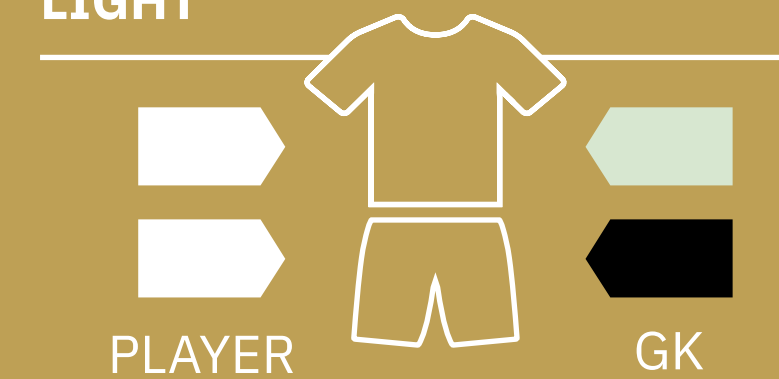


Wunderino-Arena-Kiel
Europaplatz 1
24103 Kiel
Germany

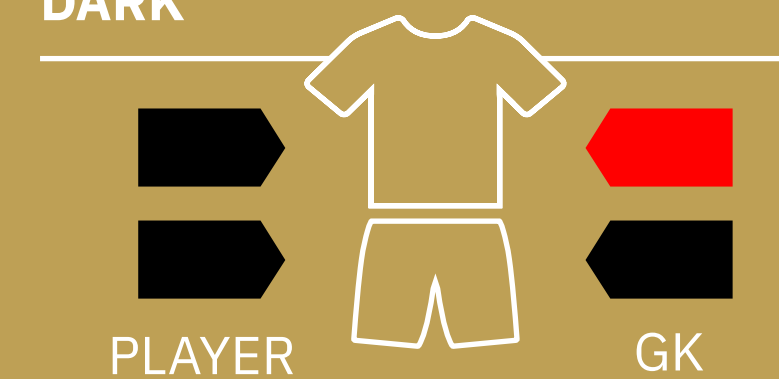
Capacity:
10,285

KIT COLOURS

LIGHT



DARK



thw-handball.de

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

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

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

THW Kiel missed the TruckScout24 EHF FINAL4 2023 after their quarter-final loss to PSG – the same team they had beaten at the same stage the year before. Coach Filip Jicha had to do without a lot of injured players at that important time of the season.

Kiel and PSG are set to meet again in 2023/24, but this time already in the group phase. Kiel have not changed much in their roster, but the four-time EHF Champions League winners need to find solutions for the departure of two of their key players, goalkeeper Niklas Landin and centre back Sander Sagosen.

GROUP A



THW KIEL

MAIN FACTS

- > Kiel went out in the quarter-finals last season, losing against PSG
- > they have won the EHF Champions League four times in total, most recently in 2020
- > Kiel celebrated their 23rd domestic title in 2022/23
- > the squad has been reinforced with French goalkeeper Vincent Gérard and Faroes Islands centre back Elias Ellefsen á Skipagøtu
- > on the other hand, iconic goalkeeper Niklas Landin has left the club after eight years and returned to Denmark; he will play against Kiel with Aalborg Håndbold in the group phase

PAST ACHIEVEMENTS

EHF Champions League

Participations (including 2023/24 season): 26

Winners (4): 2006/07, 2009/10, 2011/12, 2019/20

Final (4): 1999/2000, 2007/08, 2008/09, 2013/14

Semi-finals (6): 1996/97, 2000/01, 2012/13, 2014/15, 2015/16, 2021/22

Quarter-finals (9): 1998/99, 2002/03, 2004/05, 2005/06, 2010/11, 2016/17, 2017/18, 2020/21, 2021/22

Group Phase (2): 1994/95, 1995/96

Other

EHF Cup: Winners 1997/98, 2001/02, 2003/04, 2018/19

Champions Trophy: Winners 2006/07

German league: 23 titles (1957, 1962-63, 1994-96, 1998-2000, 2002, 2005-10, 2012-15, 2020-21, 2023)

German cup: 12 titles (1998-2000, 2007-09, 2011-13, 2017, 2019, 2022)



EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE SUMMARY

| | MP | W | T | L | GF | GA | GD | PTS | Stage |
|----------------------|----|----|---|---|---------|----|-----|-------|----------------|
| 1994/95 THW Kiel GER | 6 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 137:136 | | +1 | 6:6 | 2nd Gr. B |
| 1995/96 THW Kiel GER | 6 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 151:148 | | +3 | 6:6 | 2nd Gr. A |
| 1996/97 THW Kiel GER | 10 | 6 | 1 | 3 | 247:211 | | +36 | 13:7 | Semi-finals |
| 1998/99 THW Kiel GER | 8 | 7 | 0 | 1 | 229:199 | | +30 | 14:2 | Quarter-finals |
| 1999/00 THW Kiel GER | 12 | 7 | 1 | 4 | 319:283 | | +36 | 15:9 | Runners-up |
| 2000/01 THW Kiel GER | 10 | 5 | 1 | 4 | 279:255 | | +24 | 11:9 | Semi-finals |
| 2002/03 THW Kiel GER | 8 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 234:211 | | +23 | 9:7 | Quarter-finals |
| 2004/05 THW Kiel GER | 10 | 8 | 0 | 2 | 336:274 | | +62 | 16:4 | Quarter-finals |
| 2005/06 THW Kiel GER | 10 | 8 | 0 | 2 | 346:293 | | +53 | 16:4 | Quarter-finals |
| 2006/07 THW Kiel GER | 14 | 11 | 1 | 2 | 517:420 | | +97 | 23:5 | Winners |
| 2007/08 THW Kiel GER | 16 | 13 | 0 | 3 | 533:462 | | +71 | 26:6 | Runners-up |
| 2008/09 THW Kiel GER | 16 | 12 | 1 | 3 | 548:461 | | +87 | 25:7 | Runners-up |
| 2009/10 THW Kiel GER | 16 | 14 | 1 | 1 | 534:444 | | +90 | 29:3 | Winners |
| 2010/11 THW Kiel GER | 14 | 9 | 2 | 3 | 456:393 | | +63 | 20:8 | Quarter-finals |
| 2011/12 THW Kiel GER | 16 | 12 | 3 | 1 | 496:414 | | +82 | 27:5 | Winners |
| 2012/13 THW Kiel GER | 16 | 11 | 0 | 5 | 518:457 | | +61 | 22:10 | Fourth Place |
| 2013/14 THW Kiel GER | 16 | 13 | 1 | 2 | 491:427 | | +64 | 27:5 | Runners-up |
| 2014/15 THW Kiel GER | 16 | 12 | 0 | 4 | 498:421 | | +77 | 24:8 | Fourth Place |



EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE SUMMARY

| | MP | W | T | L | GF | GA | GD | PTS | Stage |
|----------------------|------------|------------|-----------|-----------|-------------------|----|--------------|----------------|----------------|
| 2015/16 THW Kiel GER | 20 | 10 | 1 | 9 | 579:567 | | +12 | 21:19 | Fourth Place |
| 2016/17 THW Kiel GER | 18 | 7 | 2 | 9 | 449:474 | | -25 | 16:20 | Quarter-finals |
| 2017/18 THW Kiel GER | 18 | 9 | 2 | 7 | 478:467 | | +11 | 20:16 | Quarter-finals |
| 2019/20 THW Kiel GER | 16 | 11 | 2 | 3 | 506:461 | | +45 | 24: 8 | Winners |
| 2020/21 THW Kiel GER | 18 | 10 | 2 | 6 | 519:497 | | +22 | 22:14 | Quarter-finals |
| 2021/22 THW Kiel GER | 18 | 12 | 2 | 4 | 557:526 | | +31 | 26:10 | Third Place |
| 2022/23 THW Kiel GER | 18 | 7 | 3 | 8 | 588:563 | | +25 | 17:19 | Quarter-finals |
| Total: | 346 | 224 | 27 | 95 | 10545:9464 | | +1081 | 475:217 | |



EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE
CLUB RECORDS

11

MATCHES
Longest
winning run

17

MATCHES
Longest
unbeaten run

50

GOALS
Most goals

| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Biggest win | 26:50 (13:24) v Banik OKD Karvina CZE (a), 22.10.2006 |
| Biggest defeat | 42:24 (22:10) v Paris Saint-Germain Handball FRA (a), 12.03.2017 |
| Longest winning run | 11 matches (02.10.2014 – 22.03.2015) |
| Longest unbeaten run | 17 matches (22.10.2011 – 11.10.2012) |
| Longest losing run | 3 matches (07.02.1996 – 19.03.1996) |
| | 3 matches (30.05.2015 – 17.09.2015) |
| | 3 matches (30.04.2016 – 29.05.2016) |
| | 3 matches (29.04.2017 – 24.09.2017) |
| | 3 matches (19.11.2020 – 02.12.2020) |
| | 3 matches (29.03.2023 – 17.05.2023) |
| Longest run without win | 5 matches (15.02.2017 – 22.03.2017) |
| | 5 matches (06.10.2022 – 30.11.2022) |
| Most goals | 50 v Banik OKD Karvina CZE 26:50W (a), 22.10.2006 |
| Most goals opponent | 44 v FC Barcelona ESP 44:37L (a), 13.04.2008 |
| Most goals both teams | 81 v FC Barcelona ESP 44:37L (a), 13.04.2008 |
| Fewest goals | 13 v Badel 1862 Zagreb CRO 22:13L (a), 25.03.2000 |
| Fewest goals opponent | 15 v SKA Minsk BLR 15:27W (a), 10.11.1996 |
| | 15 v SKA Minsk BLR 21:15W (h), 12.01.1997 |
| Fewest goals both teams | 35 v Badel 1862 Zagreb CRO 22:13L (a), 25.03.2000 |

TEAM ROSTER

| No. | First name | Surname | Nat. | Position | Date of birth | Place of birth | cm |
|-----|----------------|----------------------|------------|--------------------|-------------------|----------------------|------------|
| 3 | Sven | Ehrig | GER | Right Wing | 26/06/2000 | Kiel, GER | 197 |
| 4 | Domagoj | Duvnjak C | CRO | Centre Back | 01/06/1988 | Dakovo, CRO | 198 |
| 6 | Harald | Reinkind | NOR | Right Back | 17/08/1992 | Tønsberg, NOR | 197 |
| 8 | Ben Connar | Battermann | GER | Left Back | 28/03/2004 | Lemgo, GER | 195 |
| 7 | Magnus | Landin Jacobsen | DEN | Left Wing | 20/08/1995 | Helsingør, DEN | 197 |
| 11 | Petter | Øverby | NOR | Line Player | 26/03/1992 | Kongsvinger, NOR | 200 |
| 12 | Magnus | Bierfreund | GER | Goalkeeper | 17/01/2004 | Kiel, GER | 190 |
| 13 | Steffen | Weinhold | GER | Right Back | 19/07/1986 | Fürth, GER | 191 |
| 16 | Tomas | Mrkva | CZE | Goalkeeper | 20/01/1989 | Havirov, CZE | 201 |
| 17 | Patrick | Wienczek C | GER | Line Player | 22/03/1989 | Duisburg, GER | 200 |
| 18 | Niclas | Ekberg | SWE | Right Wing | 23/12/1988 | Ystad, SWE | 191 |
| 19 | Henri | Pabst | GER | Right Back | 09/02/2004 | Hamburg, GER | 190 |
| 21 | Eric | Johansson | SWE | Left Back | 28/06/2000 | Eskilstuna, SWE | 197 |
| 23 | Rune | Dahmke | GER | Left Wing | 10/04/1993 | Kiel, GER | 189 |
| 28 | Eduardo | Gurbindo Martinez | ESP | Right Back | 08/11/1987 | Pamplona, ESP | 196 |
| 31 | Luca Alexander | Schwormstede | GER | Left Back | 11/04/2002 | Itzehoe, GER | 202 |
| 49 | Karl | Wallinius | SWE | Left Back | 14/01/1999 | Lund, SWE | 199 |
| 53 | Nikola | Bilyk | AUT | Left Back | 28/11/1996 | Tunis, TUN | 198 |
| 57 | Vincent | Gérard | FRA | Goalkeeper | 16/12/1986 | Woippy, FRA | 188 |
| 61 | Hendrik | Pekeler | GER | Line Player | 02/07/1991 | Itzehoe, GER | 203 |
| 71 | Elias | Ellefsen á Skipagøtu | FAR | Centre Back | 19/05/2002 | Tórshavn, FAR | 186 |





COACH



**Filip
Jicha**



- > took over as head coach in 2019 after one season as assistant, becoming only the third THW head coach since 1993 – after Noka Serdarusic (1993-2008) and Alfred Gislason (2008-19)
- > led Kiel to the domestic title in his first season in charge and was awarded best Bundesliga coach of 2019/20
- > twice CL top scorer, he ended his career in Barcelona in 2017
- > first in handball to win the EHF FINAL4 as a player (2010, 2012) and as a coach (2020), and third after Talant Dujshebaev and Roberto Parrondo to win the CL as a player and a coach

**EC trophies: CL 2010, 2012; EHF Cup 2006 (as player);
CL 2020 (as coach)**

DEPARTURES

- | | | |
|----------------|---|-------------------------|
| Sander Sagosen | > | (Kolstad Handball/NOR) |
| Niklas Landin | > | (Aalborg Håndbold/DEN) |
| Miha Zarabec | > | (Orlen Wisla Plock/POL) |
| Yannick Fraatz | > | (Bergischer HC/GER) |

ARRIVALS

- | | | |
|----------------------------|---|----------------------------------|
| Elias Ellefsen á Skipagøtu | < | (IK Sävehof/SWE) |
| Vincent Gérard | < | (Saint-Raphaël Var Handball/FRA) |
| Magnus Bierfreund | < | (Kiel youth) |
| Eduardo Gurbindo | < | (Dinamo Bucuresti/ROU) |



GOALKEEPER 

Vincent Gérard

 @gerardvin



LEFT WING 

Magnus Landin

 @magnuslandin



LEFT BACK 

Eric Johansson

 @johanssooneric



CENTRE BACK 

Domagoj Duvnjak

 @domagojduvnjak88

- > French international, who arrived at Kiel in the summer of 2023 as a replacement for Niklas Landin
- > at age 36, joining Kiel marks Gérard's first club outside his native France
- > won CL with Montpellier in 2018; also played for Dunkerque, Istres, PSG, and Saint-Raphaël Var
- > has won EHF EURO, world and Olympic title with France
- > his exuberant celebrations instantly make him a fan favourite

EC trophies: CL 2018
 OG: G 2020, S 2016; WCh: G 2017, S 2023, B 2019;
 EURO: G 2014, B 2018

- > arrived at Kiel in 2018 to join his older brother, goalkeeper Niklas Landin, who has now left the club in 2023
- > scored 41 times in CL 2022/23; his personal best total for a single season in European competitions
- > tall wing (197 cm), who had his debut in the Danish national team at age 20
- > part of all three Danish triumphs at the WCh teams since 2019
- > previously played for KFUM København and KIF Kolding

EC trophies: CL 2020, EHF Cup 2019
 OG: S 2020; WCh: G 2019, 2021, 2023; EURO: B 2022

- > Swedish international who joined Kiel in 2022, the same year he won the EHF EURO with Sweden
- > having played his formative senior seasons with hometown club Eskilstuna Guif, Elverum signed him in the summer of 2021
- > Johansson became a key attacking player in his first season in Norway but left the club again after one year
- > the 197 cm-tall left back has made a name for himself with his wicked shooting arm but he is also a refined assist giver

EURO: G 2012, S 2014; OG: G 2016, S 2020;
 WCh: G 2019, 2021, 2023, S 2011, S 2013

- > Croatian international, playing for Kiel since 2014/15, after five seasons at Hamburg
- > one of the two THW team captains, alongside Patrick Wiencek
- > IHF World Player of the Year 2013 and MVP of EHF EURO 2020, All-star Team member at EHF EURO 2014 and WCh 2013 and 2017
- > has more than 200 caps and is the record goal scorer for the national team of Croatia; has scored over 1,200 goals in the Bundesliga

EC trophies: CL 2013, 2020; EHF Cup 2019
 OG: B 2012; WCh: S 2009, B 2013; EURO: S 2010, 2020, B 2012, 2016



LINE PLAYER 

Patrick Wiencek

 @patrickwiencek



LINE PLAYER 

Hendrik Pekeler

 @hendrikpekeler



RIGHT BACK 

Harald Reinkind

 @haraldreinkind



RIGHT WING 

Niclas Ekberg

 @ekbergniclas18

- > the boss of the THW defence and one of the two team captains
- > joined THW in 2012, previously played for Essen and Gummersbach
- > named Germany's handball player of the year in 2019
- > missed Germany's golden EHF EURO 2016 due to a knee injury
- > forms line player quartet in national team with Hendrik Pekeler, Jannik Kohlbacher and Johannes Golla

- > first played for THW in 2008/09, later joined Bergischer HC and TBV Lemgo
- > had breakthrough as successor of Bjarte Myrhol at Rhein-Neckar Löwen
- > returned to Kiel in 2018 as two-time German champion and EHF EURO gold medallist
- > awarded best defender of EHF EURO 2020 and MVP of the EHF FINAL4 2020
- > tore Achilles tendon in CL 2021/22 quarter-final against PSG, returned to the courts in November 2022

- > Norwegian back, playing his 10th season in Germany having arrived from FyllingenBergen in 2014
- > first played for Rhein-Neckar Löwen until he joined Kiel in 2018, sharing the right-back position with Steffen Weinhold
- > Norwegian international since his 2011 debut in a match against Germany; won silver at 2019 WCh and bronze at EHF EURO 2020

- > joined Kiel after the 2012 Olympics, where he was silver medallist and top scorer for Sweden
- > became Kiel's all-time top scorer during 2021/22, passing Filip Jicha
- > MVP of EHF Cup Finals 2019 and Kiel's best scorer that season
- > became CL top scorer with 85 goals and All-star right wing in Kiel's golden 2019/20 season
- > Swedish international, part of the team that won the EHF EURO 2022

EC trophies: CL 2020; EHF Cup 2019; CWC 2011
OG: B 2016

EC trophies: CL 2010, 2020; EHF Cup 2019
EURO: G 2016; OG: B 2016

EC trophies: CL 2020; EHF Cup 2019
WCh: S 2017; EURO: B 2020

EC trophies: CL 2020; EHF Cup 2019
OG: S 2012; EURO: G 2022



LAST SEASON'S TOP SCORER



**Harald
Reinkind**

 @haraldreinkind

66 GOALS 



**Niclas
Ekberg**

 @ekbergniclas18

65 GOALS 



**Patrick
Wiencek**

 @patrickwiencek

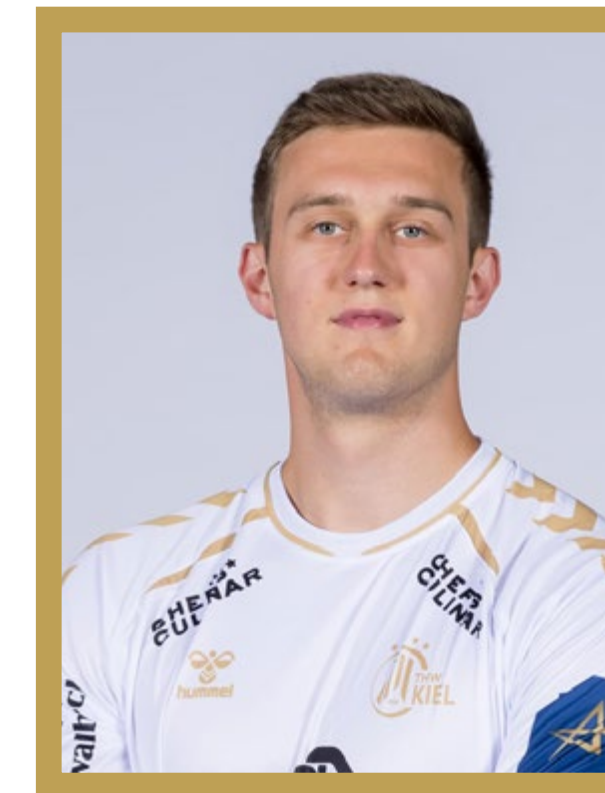
50 GOALS 



**Sander
Sagosen**

 @sandersagosen

48 GOALS 



**Nikola
Bilyk**

 @nikolabilyk53

47 GOALS 



KOLSTAD HANDBALL

CLUB ADDRESS

Kolstad Handball
Blisterhaugveien 17
7078 Saupstad
Norway

MEDIA CONTACT

Beate Aas Thesen
+47 90 72 37 85
beate.thesen@kolstad-handball.no

PLAYING HALL

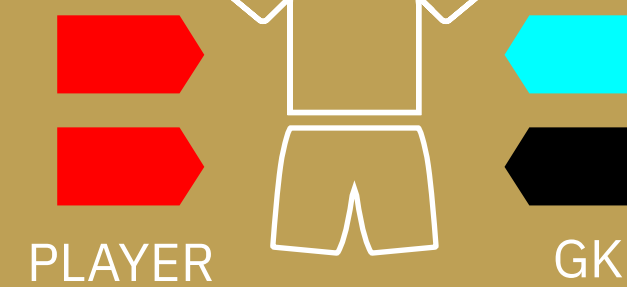


Trondheim Spektrum
Klostergata 90
7030 Trondheim
Norway

Capacity:
8,600

KIT COLOURS

LIGHT



DARK



kolstad-handball.no

kolstadhandball

@kolstadhandball

@kolstadhandball

Kolstad Handball are a fresh new addition to the Machineseker EHF Champions League in 2023/24. The ambitious club now represent Norway in Europe's top-flight handball competition after Elverum were doing so since 2015.

And there will be no place to hide for the newcomers as group A is full of experienced opponents, including Aalborg, PSG, and four-time champions Kiel – the last three clubs Sander Sagosen played for until joining Kolstad in the summer of 2023. Sagosen is one of a handful of Norwegian internationals in Kolstad's promising squad.

GROUP A



KOLSTAD HANDBALL

MAIN FACTS

- > Kolstad earned their maiden EHF Champions League berth by winning the Norwegian league title for the first time in June 2023, defeating Elverum 3-1 in the best-of-5 championship play-off series
- > Kolstad's only previous European experience are four matches in qualification for the EHF European League Men 2022/23
- > the ambitious club saw three high-profile internationals arrive in the summer of 2023: Magnus Rød and Gøran Johannessen came over from SG Flensburg-Handewitt, and Sander Sagosen from THW Kiel
- > Icelandic right wing Sigvaldi Gudjonsson remains the only foreign player in the squad after fellow Icelander Janus Smarason moved to SC Magdeburg in the off-season of 2023

PAST ACHIEVEMENTS

EHF Champions League

Participations (including 2023/24 season): 1


Other

EHF European League: Qualification 2022/23

Norwegian league: 1 title (2023)

Norwegian cup: 1 title (2023)

TEAM ROSTER

| No. | First name | Surname | Nat. | Position | Date of birth | Place of birth | cm |
|-----------|-----------------------|---|------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|------------|
| 1 | Lars | Eggen Rismark | NOR | Goalkeeper | 01/08/1991 | Trondheim, NOR | 188 |
| 2 | Aksel | Hald | NOR | Right Back | 22/12/2003 | Tromsø, NOR | 192 |
| 4 | Vetle | Eck Aga | NOR | Left Back | 04/10/1993 | Bodø, NOR | 190 |
| 5 | Sander | Sagosen | NOR | Centre Back | 14/09/1995 | Trondheim, NOR | 195 |
| 6 | Sander | Rønning | NOR | Left Wing | 22/09/2001 | Trondheim, NOR | 174 |
| 7 | Adrian | Aalberg | NOR | Left Wing | 22/12/1992 | Trondheim, NOR | 182 |
| 10 | Magnus | Langeland | NOR | Centre Back | 30/09/2001 | Hisøy, NOR | 190 |
| 11 | Henning | Bjørkås Limstrand | NOR | Line Player | 02/05/2000 | Tromsø, NOR | 195 |
| 12 | Henrik | Ibsen | NOR | Goalkeeper | 16/03/2004 | Trondheim, NOR | 185 |
| 13 | Gabriel | Setterblom | NOR | Right Back | 22/11/1997 | Oslo, NOR | 194 |
| 14 | Magnus | Gullerud | NOR | Line Player | 13/11/1991 | Skarnes, NOR | 194 |
| 23 | Gøran | Søgard Johannessen | NOR | Left Back | 26/04/1994 | Stavanger, NOR | 193 |
| 25 | Simen Ulstad | Lyse | NOR | Left Back | 01/02/2000 | Trondheim, NOR | 199 |
| 30 | Torbjørn Sittrup | Bergerud | NOR | Goalkeeper | 16/07/1994 | Drammen, NOR | 201 |
| 42 | Martin | Hernes Hovde | NOR | Line Player | 17/12/2001 | Bærum, NOR | 200 |
| 48 | Sigvaldi Bjørn | Gudjonsson  | ISL | Right Wing | 04/07/1994 | Reykjavik, ISL | 192 |
| 72 | Erlend | Johnsen | NOR | Right Wing | 13/02/2003 | Trondheim, NOR | 183 |
| 77 | Magnus Abelvik | Rød | NOR | Right Back | 07/07/1997 | Oslo, NOR | 204 |





COACH



Christian Berge



- > in charge of Kolstad since 2022; shares the head coach position with Stian Gomo Nilsen, who has been with the club since 2014
- > after one season at Aarhus in Denmark and six at Elverum, Berge was appointed Norway's national team coach in 2014
- > led Norway to their only international medals: two silvers at WCh 2017 and 2019, and a bronze at EHF EURO 2020
- > left his position in 2022 to join the Kolstad project
- > beat lymphoma twice in his life and has written a book about it

WCh: S 2017, 2019; EURO: B 2020 (as coach)

DEPARTURES

- Martin Kærgaard Pedersen > (HC Empor Rostock/GER)
- Eskil Dahl Reitan > (Bergen Håndball/NOR)
- Elias Thome > (tba)
- Janus Dadi Smarason > (SC Magdeburg/GER)

ARRIVALS

- Sander Sagosen < (THW Kiel/GER)
- Magnus Abelvik Rød < (SG Flensburg-Handewitt/GER)
- Gøran Søgard Johannessen < (SG Flensburg-Handewitt/GER)
- Martin Hernes Hovde < (Haslum HK/NOR)
- Erlend Johnsen < (Sandefjord Håndball/NOR)



GOALKEEPER 

Torbjörn Bergerud

 @tsbergerud



LEFT WING 

Adrian Aalberg

 @adraal



LEFT BACK 

Sander Sagosen

 @sandersagosen



CENTRE BACK 

Gøran Johannessen

 @goransogard

- > played for five different clubs, including Flensburg (GER) and GOG (DEN), before joining Kolstad in 2022
- > has played more than 120 games for Norway since making his debut as a 19 years old in 2013
- > was twice named Player of the Match at the 2023 WCh in Poland-Sweden
- > saved more shots (90) than any other goalkeeper at the EHF EURO 2020
- > had breakthrough at EHF EURO 2016 in Poland, where Norway reached semi-finals

EURO: B 2020; WCh: S 2017, 2019

- > returned to Kolstad in 2020 after two seasons with Drammen
- > previously played with Kolstad as a young player, but temporarily left the club in 2018 to gain more playing time
- > has experience in European League, EHF Cup, European Cup, and Challenge Cup with various teams, but 2023/24 will mark his debut in the EHF Champions League

- > Norwegian international, returned to Norway to join Kolstad in 2023 after spending nine seasons abroad
- > played three years each for Aalborg (DEN), PSG (FRA), and Kiel (GER) – all three clubs are opponents of Kolstad in the CL 2023/24 group phase
- > started career at Haslum, developed into a world-class player at Aalborg
- > won CL in his first season with Kiel
- > leader of the current generation of Norwegian internationals; set record for most goals scored (65) at a single EHF EURO, in 2020

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

- > arrived at Kolstad in 2023 after five seasons with SG Flensburg-Handewitt
- > started pro career at his youth club Viking HK; had his breakthrough as a top player during his time at GOG in Denmark (2016-18)
- > Norwegian international, who was part of the medal successes at 2017 and 2019 WCh and EHF EURO 2020
- > versatile player, who can easily switch between centre back and left back

EURO: B 2020; WCh: S 2017, 2019



LINE PLAYER 

Magnus Gullerud

@magnusgullerud

- > arrived at Kolstad in 2022 after six seasons in Germany – at GWD Minden and SC Magdeburg, respectively
- > played for Elverum until 2013, when he joined SønderjyskE for three years before moving to Germany
- > experienced international with more than 170 games for Norway, but 2023/24 marks his debut in the CL
- > reliable asset for Kolstad in both attack and defence
- > had his national team debut at age 19 in derby against Denmark

EURO: B 2020; WCh: S 2017, 2019



LINE PLAYER 

Vetle Eck Aga

@vetleaga

- > returned to Norway and joined Kolstad in 2022 after five years with IK Sävehof in Sweden
- > spent the first seven seasons of his pro career at his youth club Bodø HK
- > defensive specialist, who gained his first CL experience with Sävehof in the 2019/20 season
- > part of the Norwegian national team since his debut in January 2021

EURO: B 2020; WCh: S 2017, 2019



RIGHT BACK 

Magnus Rød

@magnusrod

- > Norwegian international, who started his career at Oslo-based club Bækkelaget SK
- > joined Flensburg before the 2017/18 season for his first club abroad
- > won the Bundesliga title twice in his first two seasons in Germany
- > moved back to Norway in 2023, joining Kolstad alongside Flensburg teammate Gøran Johannessen
- > at 204 cm, one of the tallest players in the CL 2023/24

EURO: B 2020; WCh: S 2017, 2019



RIGHT WING 

Sigvaldi Gudjonsson

@sigvaldigudjonsson

- > Icelandic wing, who is the only non-Norwegian player in Kolstad's squad
- > joined Kolstad in 2022 after two years with Kielce; previously played for Aarhus in Denmark and Elverum in Norway
- > will lead Kolstad as their team captain in the club's first CL season
- > key player for Iceland's national team; made debut in 2018, and scored 16 goals at 2021 WCh and 15 at EHF EURO 2020

EURO: B 2020; WCh: S 2017, 2019



OTP BANK – PICK SZEGED

CLUB ADDRESS

6723 Szeged,
Felső-Tisza part 35.
PICK ARÉNA
Hungary

MEDIA CONTACT

Róbert Süli
+36 30 194 4313
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PLAYING HALL



PICK ARENA
6723 Szeged,
Felső-Tisza part 35.ű

Capacity:
8,300

KIT COLOURS

LIGHT



DARK



- pickhandball.hu
- pickhandball
- @pickhandball
- @pickhandball

OTP Bank - Pick Szeged were unable to present their outgoing head coach Juan Carlos Pastor, who left the club after 10 years, with a fitting farewell gift last season. They clearly lost to Veszprém in the CL play-offs, and were beaten by the same opponents to the domestic league and cup titles.

New head coach Mikael Appelgren will only start in 2024, leaving Krisztián Kárpáti with the task to lead Szeged in their first season of the post-Pastor era. Under his guidance, Szeged are eying at least a place in the quarter-finals again – for the first time since 2019.

GROUP A



OTP BANK – PICK SZEGED

MAIN FACTS

- > Szeged suffered a tough 74:56 defeat on aggregate in the all-Hungarian play-off against Veszprém last season
- > reached the CL quarter-finals five times, most recently in 2019, but are yet to qualify for the EHF FINAL4
- > finished second in the Hungarian league in 2022/23, behind Veszprém
- > after 10 seasons, Juan Carlos Pastor left the Szeged bench in the summer of 2023, with Krisztián Kárpáti taking over for one season
- > new arrivals include Emil Kheri Imsgard (Elverum), Marin Jelinic (Nexe) and CL 2017 winner Gleb Kalarash (Melsungen)

PAST ACHIEVEMENTS

EHF Champions League

Participations (including 2023/24 season): 22

Quarter-finals (5): 1996/1997, 2003/2004, 2014/15, 2016/17, 2018/19

Play-offs (3): 2020/21, 2021/22, 2022/23

Last 16 (8): 2004/2005, 2005/2006, 2006/2007, 2010/2011, 2012/13, 2015/16, 2017/18, 2019/20*

Main Round (1): 2007/2008

Group Phase (3): 2008/2009, 2009/2010, 2011/2012

Qualification (1): 2013/14

* 2019/20 Last 16 cancelled due to Covid-19 pandemic

Other

EHF Cup: Winners 2013/14, Quarter-finals 2000/01

Hungarian league: 5 titles (1996, 2007, 2018, 2021, 2022)

Hungarian cup: 7 titles (1977, 1982, 1983, 1993, 2006, 2008, 2019)



EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE SUMMARY

| | MP | W | T | L | GF | GA | GD | PTS | Stage |
|------------------------------------|------------|------------|-----------|------------|------------------|----|------------|----------------|----------------|
| 1996/97 Pick Szeged HUN | 8 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 205:216 | | -11 | 8:8 | Quarter-finals |
| 2003/04 SC Pick Szeged HUN | 10 | 4 | 0 | 6 | 269:262 | | +7 | 8:12 | Quarter-finals |
| 2004/05 SC Pick Szeged HUN | 8 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 190:187 | | +3 | 10:6 | Last 16 |
| 2005/06 SC Pick Szeged HUN | 8 | 3 | 0 | 5 | 219:218 | | +1 | 6:10 | Last 16 |
| 2006/07 SC Pick Szeged HUN | 8 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 202:203 | | -1 | 8:8 | Last 16 |
| 2007/08 Pick Szeged HUN | 12 | 9 | 0 | 3 | 361:310 | | +51 | 18:6 | 3rd MR Gr. 4 |
| 2008/09 Pick Szeged HUN | 6 | 2 | 0 | 4 | 159:161 | | -2 | 4:8 | 3rd Gr. H |
| 2009/10 Pick Szeged HUN | 10 | 2 | 2 | 6 | 287:307 | | -20 | 6:14 | 5th Gr. A |
| 2010/11 Pick Szeged HUN | 12 | 5 | 0 | 7 | 336:351 | | -15 | 10:14 | Last 16 |
| 2011/12 Pick Szeged HUN | 10 | 3 | 0 | 7 | 285:316 | | -31 | 6:14 | 5th Gr. D |
| 2012/13 Pick Szeged HUN | 12 | 4 | 0 | 8 | 313:350 | | -37 | 8:16 | Last 16 |
| 2014/15 MOL-Pick Szeged HUN | 14 | 9 | 1 | 4 | 395:383 | | +12 | 19:9 | Quarter-finals |
| 2015/16 MOL-Pick Szeged HUN | 16 | 8 | 1 | 7 | 466:455 | | +11 | 17:15 | Last 16 |
| 2016/17 MOL-Pick Szeged HUN | 18 | 10 | 2 | 6 | 492:458 | | +34 | 22:14 | Quarter-finals |
| 2017/18 MOL-Pick Szeged HUN | 16 | 7 | 1 | 8 | 471:467 | | +4 | 15:17 | Last 16 |
| 2018/19 MOL-Pick Szeged HUN | 18 | 12 | 2 | 4 | 508:489 | | +19 | 26:10 | Quarter-finals |
| 2019/20 MOL-Pick Szeged HUN | 14 | 9 | 2 | 3 | 409:370 | | +39 | 20:8 | Last 16* |
| 2020/21 MOL-Pick Szeged HUN | 16 | 6 | 0 | 10 | 374:395 | | -21 | 12:20 | Play-offs |
| 2021/22 Pick Szeged HUN | 16 | 9 | 3 | 4 | 469:452 | | +17 | 21:11 | Play-offs |
| 2022/23 OTP Bank - PICK Szeged HUN | 16 | 5 | 1 | 10 | 482:526 | | -44 | 11:21 | Play-offs |
| Total: | 248 | 117 | 21 | 110 | 6892:6876 | | +16 | 255:241 | |

* Last 16 and quarter-finals cancelled due to Covid-19 pandemic



**EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE
CLUB RECORDS**

| | |
|----|--|
| 7 | <p>MATCHES Longest winning run</p> |
| 10 | <p>MATCHES Longest unbeaten run</p> |
| 39 | <p>GOALS Most goals</p> |

| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Biggest win | 39:24 (15:10) v HC Bosna Sarajevo BIH (h), 07.10.2007 |
| Biggest defeat | 40:17 (19:5) v FC Barcelona ESP (a), 15.02.1997 |
| Longest winning run | 7 matches (13.10.2019 – 30.11.2019) |
| Longest unbeaten run | 10 matches (28.09.2019 – 16.02.2020) |
| Longest losing run | 6 matches (17.10.2009 – 20.02.2010) 6 matches (06.03.2011 – 15.10.2011) |
| Longest run without win | 7 matches (17.10.2009 – 27.02.2010) |
| Most goals | 39 v HC Bosna Sarajevo BIH 39:24W (h), 07.10.2007 |
| Most goals opponent | 41 v Aalborg Håndbold DEN 29:41L (h), 06.10.2022 |
| Most goals both teams | 73 v Montpellier Agglomeration HB FRA 38:35W (h), 19.11.2011 |
| Fewest goals | 17 v FC Barcelona ESP 40:17L (a), 15.02.1997 |
| Fewest goals opponent | 16 v Wisla Plock SA POL 16:26W (a), 05.10.2008 16 v Orlen Wisla Plock POL 23:16W (h), 31.03.2019 |
| Fewest goals both teams | 39 v Celje Pivovarna Lasko SLO 20:19W (h), 08.03.2008 39 v Orlen Wisla Plock POL 23:16W (h), 31.03.2019 |

TEAM ROSTER

| No. | First name | Surname | Nat. | Position | Date of birth | Place of birth | cm | kg |
|-----------|--------------|---------------------|------------|--------------------|-------------------|---------------------|------------|------------|
| 4 | Barnabás | Rea | HUN | Centre Back | 15/11/2002 | Szeged, HUN | 182 | 85 |
| 7 | Luka | Stepancic | CRO | Right Back | 20/11/1990 | Pula, CRO | 203 | 105 |
| 9 | Richárd | Bodó | HUN | Left Back | 13/03/1993 | Mateszalka, HUN | 203 | 120 |
| 10 | Miguel | Martins Soares | POR | Centre Back | 04/11/1997 | Porto, POR | 193 | 95 |
| 12 | Emil Kheri | Imsgard | NOR | Goalkeeper | 06/03/1998 | Hamar, NOR | 197 | 104 |
| 16 | Roland | Mikler | HUN | Goalkeeper | 20/09/1984 | Dunaujvaros, HUN | 192 | 105 |
| 18 | Marin | Jelinic | CRO | Left Wing | 07/12/1996 | Metkovic, CRO | 194 | 94 |
| 19 | Martin | Nagy | HUN | Goalkeeper | 09/01/1999 | Szeged, HUN | 204 | 106 |
| 21 | Zoltan | Szita | HUN | Left Back | 10/02/1998 | Veszprem, HUN | 196 | 99 |
| 22 | Matej | Gaber | SLO | Line Player | 22/07/1991 | Kranj, SLO | 198 | 124 |
| 23 | Szymon | Dzialakiewicz | POL | Right Back | 17/02/2000 | Legnica, POL | 190 | 97 |
| 24 | Mario | Sostaric | CRO | Right Wing | 25/11/1992 | Slovenj Gradec, SLO | 193 | 94 |
| 25 | Sebastian | Frimmel | AUT | Left Wing | 18/12/1995 | Perchtoldsdorf, AUT | 190 | 90 |
| 26 | Zsolt | Radvánszki | HUN | Line Player | 24/12/2002 | Kisvarda, HUN | 194 | 94 |
| 27 | Bence | Bánhidi C | HUN | Line Player | 09/02/1995 | Győr, HUN | 207 | 131 |
| 30 | Gleb | Kalarash | RUS | Line Player | 29/11/1990 | Moscow, RUS | 205 | 95 |
| 31 | Carlos | Molina Cosano | ESP | Line Player | 31/05/1991 | Barcelona, ESP | 200 | 100 |
| 32 | Attila | Radvánszki | HUN | Goalkeeper | 31/12/2004 | Kisvárda, HUN | 193 | 94 |
| 34 | Mihály | Varga | HUN | Centre Back | 23/09/2003 | Bekescsaba, HUN | 194 | 91 |
| 39 | Ádám | Juhász | HUN | Left Wing | 29/06/2005 | Budapest, HUN | 190 | 78 |
| 41 | Imanol | Garciandia Alustiza | ESP | Right Back | 30/04/1995 | Urretxu, ESP | 203 | 105 |
| 42 | Gellért | Fekete | HUN | Line Player | 21/03/2004 | Szeged, HUN | 198 | 88 |
| 44 | Dean | Bombac | SLO | Centre Back | 04/04/1989 | Koper, SLO | 190 | 93 |
| 51 | Borut | Mackovsek | SLO | Left Back | 11/09/1992 | Koper, SLO | 203 | 100 |
| 57 | Levente | Tisza | HUN | Right Wing | 25/06/2003 | Kisvarda, HUN | 195 | 80 |
| 93 | Benjámín | Szilágyi | HUN | Right Wing | 18/05/2003 | Szeged, HUN | 189 | 83 |





COACH



**Krisztián
Kárpáti**



- > Szeged head coach for one year, replacing Juan Carlos Pastor until new head coach Michael Apelgren will take over in 2024
- > previously worked as the head of Szeged's handball academy and coached the club's U18 team for many years
- > started coaching career already in his 20s after multiple injuries prevented him from becoming a professional player
- > his dad won the Hungarian league six times with Honved

DEPARTURES

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|---|------------------------------|
| Bogdan Radivojevic | > | (HC Eurofarm Pelister/MKD) |
| Mirko Alilovic | > | (Orlen Wisla Plock/POL) |
| Kent Robin Tonnesen | > | (Paris Saint-Germain HB/FRA) |
| Miklós Rosta | > | (CS Dinamo Bucuresti/ROU) |
| Alexandre Blonz Christoffersen | > | (GOG/DEN) |

ARRIVALS

- | | | |
|----------------------------|---|------------------------|
| Emil Kheri Imsgard | < | (Elverum Håndball/NOR) |
| Martin Nagy | < | (VfL Gummersbach/GER) |
| Marin Jelinic | < | (RK NEXE/CRO) |
| Dzialakiewicz Szymon Marek | < | (Redberglids IK./SWE) |
| Gleb Kalarash | < | (MT Melsungen/GER) |
| Molina Cosano Carlos | < | (Motor Zaporozhia/UKR) |
| Benjámín Szilágyi | < | (NEKA/HUN) |



GOALKEEPER 

Roland Mikler

@miklerroland



LEFT WING 

Sebastian Frimmel

@seppo_



LEFT BACK 

Richárd Bodó

@johanssooneric



CENTRE BACK 

Dean Bombac

@dean_bombac44

- > returned to Szeged in 2019 following a five-year spell at domestic rivals Veszprém
- > had joined Veszprém after winning EHF Cup with Szeged in 2014
- > earlier in his career he played an EHF Cup final as a teenager with Dunaferri in 2003
- > regular in Hungarian national team
- > All-star goalkeeper at 2015 Junior WCh, where Hungary won bronze

EC trophies: EHF Cup 2014

- > Austrian international, who arrived at Szeged in 2021 after three seasons with Kadetten in Switzerland
- > has scored 109 goals in total in his first two CL seasons with Szeged
- > relatively tall for a wing, at 190 cm
- > made national team debut in 2014 and was awarded 'best young player' of the Austrian league in 2014/15

- > one of Szeged's most experienced players, having joined the club in 2016 from Tatabánya
- > known for his powerful shots, he has scored 268 goals so far in seven CL seasons with Szeged
- > first played in a European club competition in 2010/11, with Dunaferri in the EHF Cup
- > made national team debut in 2012 and was named Hungarian player of the year in 2018

- > Slovenian playmaker, who returned to Szeged in 2018 following a two-year stint at Kielce
- > had moved to Poland after exceptional CL 2015/16 season with Szeged, in which he scored 101 goals and made the All-star Team
- > won Challenge Cup with his first club, Slovenia's RK Koper, in 2011
- > flamboyant player with ability to score incredible goals



CENTRE BACK 

Miguel Martins

@miguelmartins10

- > Portuguese international, joined Szeged in summer of 2021 after seven seasons with FC Porto
- > was superb for Porto, scoring at least 43 goals in three consecutive European seasons, including two in the EHF Champions League
- > scored 19 times for Portugal at EHF EURO in 2020, and 17 in 2022
- > made debut in Portuguese national league at 15 years and 11 months, becoming the second-youngest player ever in the competition



LINE PLAYER 

Bence Bánhidi

@banhidibence27

- > key player for Szeged, scored 368 goals in seven CL seasons since 2016, including 75 in the 2018/19 campaign
- > picked up the game only at age 14, starting as a back-court player at his local club Győr
- > arrived at Szeged in 2016 after four years with Balatonfüredi KSE; shares playing time on the line with Slovenian defence specialist Matej Gaber
- > had national team debut for Hungary in 2014; made the EHF EURO 2020 All-star Team as the line player



RIGHT BACK 

Imanol Garciandia

@garzi14

- > Spanish international, who arrived at Szeged in 2021 after one season with PAUC in France
- > was Szeged's best scorer in CL 2022/23 season, with 53 goals
- > started professional career at Ciudad de Logroño
- > finished among the best scorers of the Spanish league for three seasons in a row, and was named best right back of the league in 2017/18
- > made debut for Spanish national team in 2018; was part of the team that won bronze at 2023 WCh

WCh: B 2023



RIGHT WING 

Mario Sostaric

@mario.sostaric24

- > joined Szeged from Slovenian side Velenje in 2016 on personal request by then coach Juan Carlos Pastor
- > was among the team's best scorers in the CL 2022/23 season, with 45 goals
- > has dual citizenship and played for the Slovenian national team until EHF EURO 2020; made debut for Croatia at 2023 WCh
- > on junior level, was part of 2011 WCh and EHF EURO 2012 All-star Teams



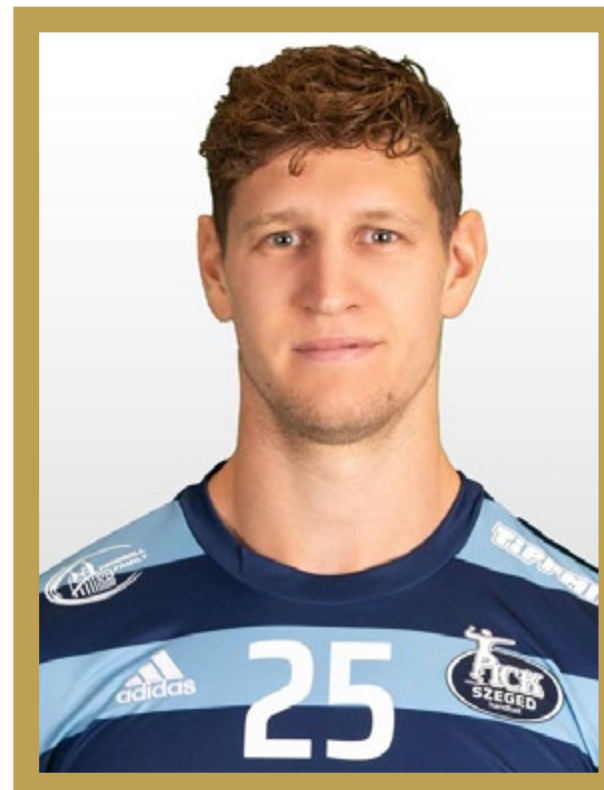
LAST SEASON'S TOP SCORER



**Imanol
Garciandia**

@garzi14

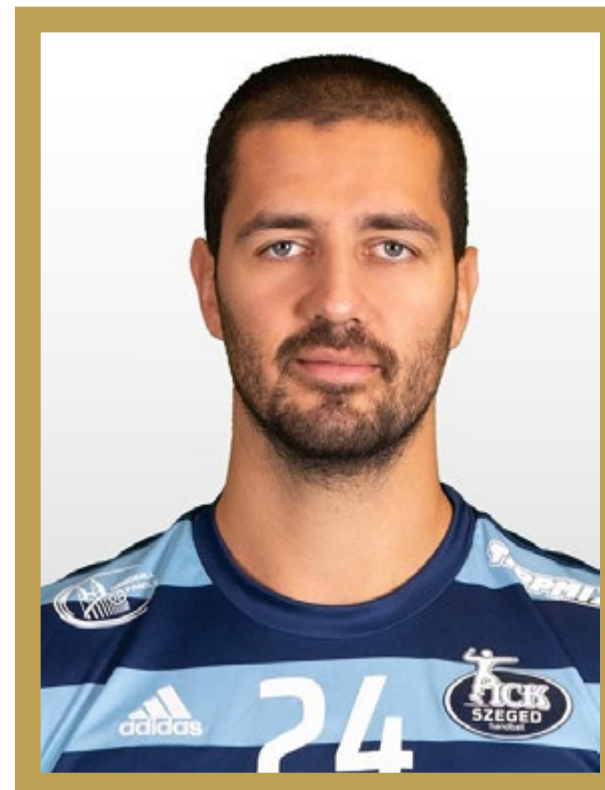
53 GOALS



**Sebastian
Frimmel**

@seppo_

49 GOALS



**Mario
Sostaric**

@mario.sostaric24

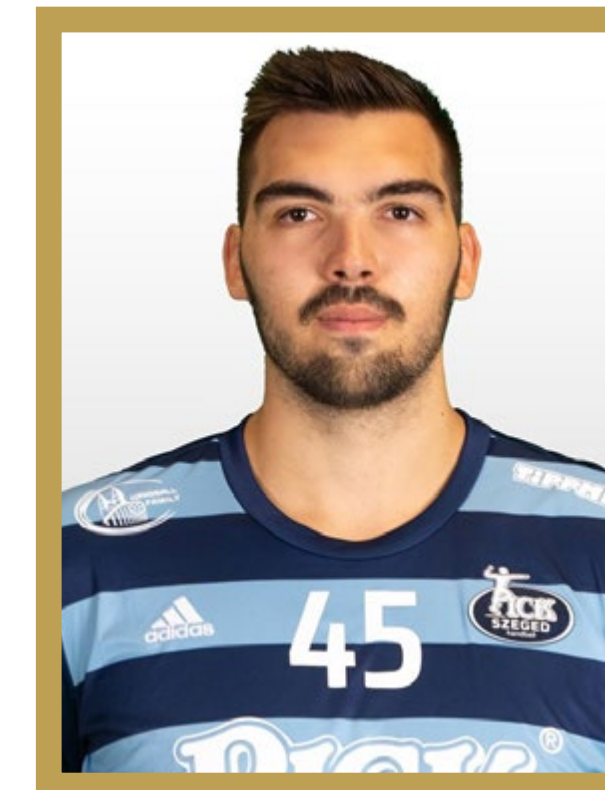
45 GOALS



**Bogdan
Radivojevic**

@radivojevicbogdan41

42 GOALS



**Miklós
Rosta**

@r.miki19

42 GOALS





INDUSTRIA KIELCE

CLUB ADDRESS

KS Kielce
ul. Drogosza 2
25-093 Kielce
Poland

MEDIA CONTACT

Maciej Szarek
+48 60 92 98 948
m.szarek@kielcehandball.pl

PLAYING HALL

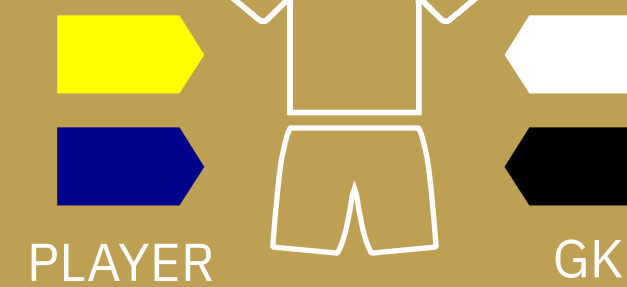


Hala Legionów
ul. Leszka Drogosza 2
15-116 Kielce
Poland

Capacity:
4,200

KIT COLOURS

LIGHT



DARK



kielcehandball.pl

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Having lost the EHF FINAL4 final in each of the last two seasons, Kielce KC are back with the same ambition for 2023/24: to climb on top of Europe again, like they once did in 2016.

Head coach Talant Dujshabaev's roster has not changed much over the summer. Stalwarts like captain Alex Dujshabaev, top scorer Arkadiusz Moryto, line player Artsem Karalek and goalkeeper Andreas Wolff will again be among the leading players, with one court player arriving: long-range shooter Hassan Kaddah from Egypt. Can Kielce take that final step this season?

GROUP A



INDUSTRIA KIELCE

MAIN FACTS

- > the 2016 champions played their third EHF FINAL4 final in June 2023, but lost 30:29 after extra time against SC Magdeburg
- > this defeat was Kielce's second straight loss in an EHF Champions League final, after falling to Barça the year before
- > qualified for the 2023/24 edition as Polish champions, winning the domestic title for the 12th time in a row and 20th overall
- > welcomed two new players in the summer of 2023: goalkeepers Milosz Walach and left back Hassan Kaddah
- > one player from the 'golden' squad from 2016 is still playing for Kielce: right back Pawel Paczkowski

PAST ACHIEVEMENTS

EHF Champions League

Participations (including 2023/24 season): 21

Winners (1): 2015/16

Runners-up (2): 2021/22, 2022/23

Semi-finals (3): 2012/13, 2014/15, 2018/19

Quarter-finals (1): 2017/18

Play-offs (1): 2020/21

Last 16 (7): 1993/94, 1994/95, 2009/10, 2011/12, 2013/14, 2016/17, 2019/20* (* Last 16 cancelled due to Covid-19 pandemic)

Group Matches (3): 1999/2000, 2003/04, 2010/11

Last 32 (2): 1996/97, 1998/99

Other

EHF Cup: Quarter-finals 1997/98, 2005/06

Cup Winners' Cup: Quarter-finals 1995/96

Polish league: 20 titles (1993-94, 1996, 1998-99, 2003, 2009-10, 2012-23)

Polish cup: 17 titles (1985, 2000, 2003-04, 2006, 2009-19, 2021)



EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE SUMMARY

| | MP | W | T | L | GF | GA | GD | PTS | Stage |
|---------------------------------------|------------|------------|-----------|-----------|------------------|----|-------------|----------------|----------------|
| 1999/00 KS Iskra-Lider Market POL | 6 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 173:186 | | -13 | 6:6 | 3rd Gr. B |
| 2003/04 KS 'Vive' Kielce POL | 6 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 159:177 | | -18 | 5:7 | 3rd Gr. G |
| 2009/10 KS Vive Targi Kielce POL | 12 | 5 | 1 | 6 | 345:344 | | +1 | 11:13 | Last 16 |
| 2010/11 KS Vive Targi Kielce POL | 10 | 1 | 2 | 7 | 276:300 | | -24 | 4:16 | 6th Gr. A |
| 2011/12 KS Vive Targi Kielce POL | 12 | 6 | 1 | 5 | 345:336 | | +9 | 13:11 | Last 16 |
| 2012/13 KS Vive Targi Kielce POL | 16 | 14 | 0 | 2 | 469:400 | | +69 | 28:4 | Third Place |
| 2013/14 KS Vive Targi Kielce POL | 12 | 7 | 1 | 4 | 362:331 | | +31 | 15:9 | Last 16 |
| 2014/15 KS Vive Tauron Kielce POL | 16 | 14 | 0 | 2 | 483:439 | | +44 | 28:4 | Third Place |
| 2015/16 KS Vive Tauron Kielce POL | 20 | 14 | 4 | 2 | 614:577 | | +37 | 32:8 | Winners |
| 2016/17 KS Vive Tauron Kielce POL | 16 | 9 | 0 | 7 | 469:451 | | +18 | 18:14 | Last 16 |
| 2017/18 PGE Vive Kielce POL | 18 | 8 | 3 | 7 | 555:524 | | +31 | 19:17 | Quarter-finals |
| 2018/19 PGE Vive Kielce POL | 20 | 9 | 1 | 10 | 631:624 | | +7 | 19:21 | Fourth Place |
| 2019/20 PGE VIVE Kielce POL | 14 | 8 | 2 | 4 | 421:389 | | +32 | 18:10 | Last 16* |
| 2020/21 Lomza Vive Kielce POL | 16 | 10 | 1 | 5 | 498:472 | | +26 | 21:11 | Play-offs |
| 2021/22 Lomza Vive Kielce POL | 18 | 13 | 0 | 5 | 582:537 | | +45 | 26:10 | Runners-up |
| 2022/23 Barlinek Industria Kielce POL | 18 | 13 | 1 | 4 | 579:537 | | +42 | 27:9 | Runners-up |
| Total: | 230 | 136 | 18 | 76 | 6961:6624 | | +337 | 290:170 | |

* Last 16 and Quarter-finals cancelled due to Covid-19 pandemic.



EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE
CLUB RECORDS

11

MATCHES
Longest
winning run

18

MATCHES
Longest
unbeaten run

41

GOALS
Most goals

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Biggest win | 41:17 (21:8) v Rhein-Neckar Löwen GER (h), 24.03.2018 |
| Biggest defeat | 30:41 (19:19) v Fotex KC Veszprém HUN (h), 15.11.2003 37:26 (19:10) v Paris Saint-Germain Handball FRA (a), 23.02.2021 |
| Longest winning run | 11 matches (25.09.2014 – 15.03.2015) |
| Longest unbeaten run | 18 matches (15.11.2015 – 15.10.2016) |
| Longest losing run | 5 matches (13.02.2010 – 27.03.2010) 5 matches (19.02.2011 – 09.10.2011) |
| Longest run without win | 6 matches (26.09.2010 – 27.11.2010) |
| Most goals | 41 v Rhein-Neckar Löwen GER 41:17W (h), 24.03.2018 |
| Most goals opponent | 42 v Barça Lassa ESP 36:42L (h), 24.11.2018 |
| Most goals both teams | 78 v Barça Lassa ESP 36:42L (h), 24.11.2018 |
| Fewest goals | 21 v HC Bosna BH Gas BIH 25:21L (a), 27.02.2010 21 v HC Metalurg MKD 21:20W (h), 24.11.2012 |
| Fewest goals opponent | 17 v Rhein-Neckar Löwen GER 41:17W (h), 24.03.2018 |
| Fewest goals both teams | 41 v HC Metalurg MKD 21:20W (h), 24.11.2012 |

TEAM ROSTER

| No. | First name | Surname | Nat. | Position | Date of birth | Place of birth | cm |
|-----------|-------------|---------------------|------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|------------|
| 2 | Nikodem | Blazejewski | POL | Goalkeeper | 27/02/2004 | Kielce, POL | 200 |
| 5 | Michal | Olejniczak | POL | Left Back | 31/01/2001 | Gorzów, POL | 197 |
| 7 | Benoit | Kounkoud | FRA | Right Wing | 19/02/1997 | Le Chesnay, FRA | 190 |
| 9 | Szymon | Sicko | POL | Left Back | 20/08/1997 | Dabrowa Bialostocka, POL | 200 |
| 10 | Alex | Dujshebaev C | ESP | Right Back | 17/12/1992 | Santander, ESP | 188 |
| 11 | Nicolas | Tournat | FRA | Line Player | 05/04/1994 | Niort, FRA | 200 |
| 18 | Igor | Karacic | CRO | Centre Back | 02/11/1988 | Mostar, BIH | 191 |
| 23 | Arkadiusz | Moryto | POL | Right Wing | 31/08/1997 | Kraków, POL | 182 |
| 24 | Daniel | Dujshebaev | ESP | Left Back | 04/07/1997 | Santander, ESP | 196 |
| 25 | Haukur | Thrastarson | ISL | Centre Back | 14/04/2001 | Selfoss, ISL | 193 |
| 30 | Elliot | Stenmalm | SWE | Left Back | 04/05/2002 | Skogslyckan, SWE | 200 |
| 33 | Andreas | Wolff | GER | Goalkeeper | 03/03/1991 | Euskirchen, GER | 198 |
| 33 | Pawel | Paczkowski | POL | Right Back | 14/06/1993 | Swiecie, POL | 195 |
| 42 | Hassan | Kaddah | EGY | Left Back | 01/05/2000 | Cairo, EGY | 205 |
| 48 | Tomasz | Gebala | POL | Left Back | 23/11/1995 | Gdynia, POL | 212 |
| 50 | Artsem | Karalek | BLR | Line Player | 20/02/1996 | Grodno, BLR | 197 |
| 99 | Dylan | Nahi | FRA | Left Wing | 30/11/1999 | Paris, FRA | 192 |





COACH



Talant Dujshebaev



- > first person in men’s handball to win the CL as a player (once, in 1994) and as a coach (four times)
- > won many trophies during his playing career with three different national teams: CIS, Russia, and Spain
- > named IHF World Player of the Year twice, in 1994 and 1996
- > enjoying successful coaching career spanning well over a decade, which saw him win the CL four times
- > father of Alex and Daniel, who both play in Kielce as backs

**EC trophies: CL 1994 (player), 2006, 2008, 2009, 2016 (coach); EHF Cup 1993; CWC 2002, 2003
OG: G 1992, B 1996, 2000; WCh: G 1993; EURO: S 1996, 1998, B 2000**

DEPARTURES

- Miguel Sánchez-Migallón > (S.L. Benfica/POR)
- Mateusz Kornecki > (ThSV Eisenach/GER)
- Damian Domagala > (Energa Wybrzeże Gdańsk/POL)

ARRIVALS

- Milosz Walach < (Energa Wybrzeże Gdańsk/POL)
- Hassan Kaddah < (Zamalek SC/EGY)



GOALKEEPER 

Andreas Wolff

 @andi_jo_wo



LEFT WING 

Dylan Nahi

 @dylan_nahi99



LEFT BACK 

Szymon Sicko

 @szymon_sicko



CENTRE BACK 

Igor Karacic

 @igorkaracic18

- > joined Kielce for his first foreign club in 2019, arriving from THW Kiel
- > started his career at Wetzlar before moving to Kiel in 2016
- > named German handball player of the year in 2015 and 2016
- > excelled during Germany's golden EHF EURO 2016 in Poland with a save rate of over 50% in final against Spain
- > was named All-star goalkeeper of the EHF EURO 2016

- > joined Kielce in 2021 from PSG, following his breakthrough CL season with 67 goals for the French club and making the CL All-star Team
- > third-best scorer for Kielce, with 73 goals, in his first CL season with the Polish side
- > made debut for PSG at age 15 in August 2015 and became youngest player ever at EHF FINAL4 – in 2017, at 17 years and 185 days

- > Polish international, signed by Kielce in 2017
- > played on loan for Hüttenberg (GER) and Zabrze (POL) before returning to Kielce in 2020
- > scored 70 times for Kielce in the CL 2022/23 season, his personal best for a single CL season
- > a classical shooter, the successor of legendary left back Karol Bielecki
- > Poland's second-best scorer at EHF EURO 2022, with 31 goals

- > joined Kielce in 2019, replacing fellow Croatian Luka Cindric, after winning CL for second time with Vardar
- > awarded MVP of EHF FINAL4 2019 and All-star centre back of EHF EURO 2020
- > speedy and tough player, excelling in one-on-one situations but prefers giving assists over scoring himself
- > born in Mostar, he plays for the Croatian national team, but brother Ivan plays for Bosnia Herzegovina

EC trophies: EHF Cup 2019
EURO: G 2016; OG: B 2016

WCh: S 2023

EC trophies: CL 2017, 2019
EURO: S 2020, B 2016



LINE PLAYER 

Artsem Karalek

@karalek_artsem

- > joined Kielce in 2018 and has become a leading player through the years; awarded MVP of EHF FINAL4 2022
- > born in Grodno, started at local side Kronon, moved to SKA Minsk in 2014
- > joined Saint-Raphaël Var in France in 2016 and reached EHF Cup final with them in 2017/18
- > developed from the country's biggest talent into experienced key player for Belarus, in national team since age 17



LINE PLAYER 

Nicolas Tournat

@nicolas_tournat

- > arrived from HBC Nantes in 2020 as successor of Julen Aguinagalde
- > played and lost all three European finals he played with Nantes (EHF Cup 2013, 2016; CL 2018), and both finals he played with Kielce (CL 2022, 2023)
- > best line player of French league in three straight years: 2018-20
- > scored 850 goals for Nantes in six years with the club (2014-20)

OG: G 2020; EURO: B 2018; WCh: S 2023



RIGHT BACK 

Alex Dujshebaev

@alexdujshebaev

- > son of coach Talant Dujshebaev, who joined Kielce in 2017 and became CL top scorer the next season
- > had a four-year stay in Vardar, winning first CL trophy in club's history in 2017
- > usually plays right back but sometimes used in the middle
- > also important player for Spain, helped team win back-to-back EHF EURO titles in 2018 and 2020

EC trophies: CL 2017
OG: B 2020; EURO: G 2018, 2020, S 2016;
WCh: B 2021, 2023



RIGHT WING 

Arkadiusz Moryto

@arekmoryto

- > arrived at Kielce from Lubin in 2018, after becoming youngest top scorer of Polish league in 2017/18
- > ended the CL 2022/23 season on 100 goals, the first time in his career he reached that milestone
- > his role model was Ivan Cupic, who he replaced at Kielce in 2018
- > part of Polish national team since WCh 2017; was team's top scorer at EHF EURO 2022 with 46 goals



LAST SEASON'S TOP SCORER



**Arkadiusz
Moryto**

@arekmoryto

100 GOALS



**Alex
Dujshebaev**

@alexdujshebaev

72 GOALS



**Szymon
Sisko**

@szymon_sisko

70 GOALS



**Artsem
Karalek**

@karalek_artsem

55 GOALS



**Nicolas
Tournat**

@nicolas_tournat

53 GOALS



HC EUROFARM PELISTER

CLUB ADDRESS

HC Eurofarm Pelister
st. Dobrivoe Radosavlevic 3
7000 Bitola
North Macedonia

MEDIA CONTACT

Zoran Mishevski
+389 70 89 30 05
z_misevski@yahoo.com

PLAYING HALL



Boro Curlevski - Mladost Bitola
Polyglon b.b.
7000 Bitola
North Macedonia

Capacity:

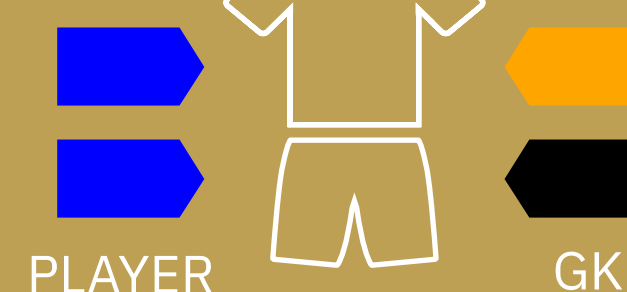
3,500

KIT COLOURS

LIGHT



DARK



rkeurofarmpelister.mk

hceurofarmpelister

-

@rkeurofarmpelister

You can have been away for a long time from the EHF Champions League and still enjoy the magic – like SC Magdeburg last season, winning the title in their first season back after almost two decades. Maybe Eurofarm Pelister do not have hopes as high, but the Bitola-based club is back.

Pelister earned their first domestic title in 18 years last season, beating defending champions (and two-time EHF Champions League winners) Vardar in the final. With a team built around a mix of local and foreign players, Pelister are eager to finally rub shoulders again with some of Europe's best teams.

GROUP A



HC EUROFARM PELISTER

MAIN FACTS

- > the 2023/24 season marks Pelister's return to the EHF Champions League after a 18-year absence; they last participated in 2005/06
- > main achievements in Europe include twice the Last 16 of the EHF European League, and once runners-up in the Challenge Cup
- > won the domestic title for the first time since 2005 last season
- > summer signings include Szeged right wing Bogdan Radivojevic and EHF Champions League winner Khalifa Ghedbane from Dinamo
- > Pelister's roster features 10 nationalities this season

PAST ACHIEVEMENTS

EHF Champions League

Participations (including 2023/24 season): 6

Group phase (1): 2005/06

Last 32 (2): 1996/97, 1998/99

Qualification (2): 1993/94, 1994/95

Other

EHF European League: Last 16 2020/21, 2021/22; Group phase 2022/23

EHF Challenge Cup: Runners-up 2001/02

Cup Winners' Cup: Semi-finals 1995/96

Macedonian league: 7 titles (1993, 1994, 1996, 1998, 2000, 2005, 2023)

Macedonian cup: 5 titles (1994, 1996, 1998, 1999, 2005)



EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE SUMMARY

| | MP | W | T | L | GF | GA | GD | PTS | Stage |
|-----------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------------|----|------------|-------------|-----------|
| 2005/06 Pelister Bitola MKD | 6 | 1 | 0 | 5 | 139:191 | | -52 | 2:10 | 4th Gr. G |
| Total: | 6 | 1 | 0 | 5 | 139:191 | | -52 | 2:10 | |



EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE
CLUB RECORDS

1 MATCHES
Longest
winning run

1 MATCHES
Longest
unbeaten run

30 GOALS
Most goals

Biggest win 30:27 (11:15) v Kadetten Schaffhausen SUI (h), 08.10.2005

Biggest defeat 37:13 (23:5) v RK Zagreb CRO (a), 16.10.2005

Longest winning run 1 match (08.10.2005)

Longest unbeaten run 1 match (08.10.2005)

Longest losing run 4 matches (16.10.2005 – 13.11.2005)

Longest run without win 4 matches (16.10.2005 – 13.11.2005)

Most goals 30 v Kadetten Schaffhausen SUI 30:27W (h), 08.10.2005
30 v RK Zagreb CRO 30:31L (h), 13.11.2005

Most goals opponent 37 v RK Zagreb CRO 37:13L (a), 16.10.2005

Most goals both teams 62 v Kadetten Schaffhausen SUI 34:28L (a), 22.10.2005

Fewest goals 13 v RK Zagreb CRO 37:13L (a), 16.10.2005

Fewest goals opponent 27 v Kadetten Schaffhausen SUI 30:27W (h), 08.10.2005

Fewest goals both teams 49 v Portland San Antonio ESP 20:29L (h), 06.11.2005

TEAM ROSTER

| No. | First name | Surname | Nat. | Position | Date of birth | Place of birth | cm | kg |
|-----------|---------------|---------------------------|------------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|------------|------------|
| 1 | Urban | Lesjak | SLO | Goalkeeper | 24/08/1990 | Celja, SLO | 188 | 101 |
| 3 | Nejc | Cehte | SLO | Right Back | 04/09/1992 | Brezice, SLO | 196 | 100 |
| 8 | Cvetan | Kuzmanovski | MKD | Left Wing | 05/12/1999 | Struga, MKD | 190 | 78 |
| 9 | Domen | Tajnik | SLO | Centre Back | 31/10/2000 | Velenje, SLO | 183 | 88 |
| 11 | Kasper | Kisum | DEN | Left Back | 20/08/1992 | Gentofte, DEN | 198 | 97 |
| 13 | Uros | Borzas | SRB | Left Back | 28/07/1999 | Senta, SRB | 198 | 101 |
| 14 | Mario | Tankoski | MKD | Centre Back | 28/08/1998 | Struga, MKD | 190 | 90 |
| 17 | Bogdan | Radivojevic | SRB | Right Wing | 02/03/1993 | Smederevska Palanka, SRB | 192 | 90 |
| 19 | Nenad | Kosteski | MKD | Right Wing | 03/04/2001 | Struga, MKD | 189 | 76 |
| 21 | Andreas | Nielsen | DEN | Line Player | 04/11/1997 | Frederiksberg, DEN | 198 | 118 |
| 22 | Khalifa | Ghedbane | ALG | Goalkeeper | 26/11/1996 | M'sila, ALG | 200 | 110 |
| 31 | Pavle | Petrovic | BIH | Right Back | 16/11/1999 | Brcko, BIH | 185 | 78 |
| 33 | Petar | Atanasevikj | MKD | Left Wing | 09/07/2003 | Skopje, MKD | 192 | 83 |
| 34 | Emilijan | Gjorgovski | MKD | Left Back | 09/06/2002 | Skopje, MKD | 195 | 90 |
| 37 | Denis | Vasilev | RUS | Line Player | 31/12/1993 | Astrakhan, RUS | 196 | 110 |
| 44 | Zharko | Peshevski C | MKD | Line Player | 11/04/1991 | Skopje, MKD | 195 | 125 |
| 51 | Rudy | Seri | FRA | Left Back | 02/04/1994 | PARIS, FRA | 194 | 105 |
| 88 | Pavle | Atanasijevikj | MKD | Centre Back | 09/07/2003 | Skopje, MKD | 195 | 81 |
| 91 | Darko | Stevanovic | SRB | Left Back | 03/01/1997 | Lazarevac, SRB | 196 | 89 |
| 98 | Marko | Kizikj | MKD | Goalkeeper | 22/01/2001 | SKOPJE, MKD | 198 | 100 |





COACH



Aleksandar Jovic



- > former Pelister player, who took over the head coach position of the Bitola-based club in March 2023
- > learned the job from one of the best: started his coaching career as an assistant of Lino Cervar at Metalurg
- > played as a right wing with several Macedonian clubs in the 1990s and 2000s
- > competed in the EHF Champions League with three different Macedonian clubs: Resen, Vardar, and Metalurg

DEPARTURES

- Goce Ojleski > (GRK Ohrid/MKD)
- Milorad Kukoski > (GRK Ohrid/MKD)
- Nikola Stoilevski > (GRK Ohrid/MKD)
- Boban Ristevski > (GRK Ohrid/MKD)
- Martin Velkovski > (RK Alkaloid/MKD)
- Mohamed Soussi > (Al Salmiyah/KWT)
- Oussama Hosni > (Al Arabi/QAT)
- Sebastian Henneberg > (Fredericia HK/DEN)
- Mirko Radovic > (RK Lovcen/MNE)

ARRIVALS

- Uros Borzas < (Elverum Handball/NOR)
- Nejc Cehte < (GOG/DEN)
- Khalifa Ghedbane < (Dinamo Bucuresti/ROU)
- Andreas Johan Nilsen < (Mors-Thy Håndbold/DEN)
- Bogdan Radivojevic < (OTP Bank - Pick Szeged/HUN)
- Emilijan Gjorgovski < (Pelister youth)
- Pavle Petrovic < (Pelister youth)
- Domen Tajnik < (Gorenje Velenje/SLO)



GOALKEEPER 

Urban Lesjak

@u_lesjak1

- > Slovenian international, who joined Pelister in the summer of 2022
- > came over from Hannover-Burgdorf in the German Bundesliga, where he had played for four seasons
- > started to play at the youth academy of Celje and spent the first eight years of his senior career at the club, before moving to Germany in 2018
- > part of Slovenian national team at 2016 Olympics; also played at 2017 WCh where Slovenia took bronze

WCh: B 2017



GOALKEEPER 

Khalifa Ghedbane

@khalifa_ghedbane22

- > Algerian international, arriving in Bitola in 2023 after two seasons with Dinamo Bucuresti in Romania
- > played for Pétroliers in Algeria before his move to Europe in 2018
- > competed for Vardar for two years (2018-20) and helped them win their second CL title in 2019
- > also had stints at Puente Gil and Adémar Leon in Spain

CL: 2019



LEFT WING 

Cvetan Kuzmanovski

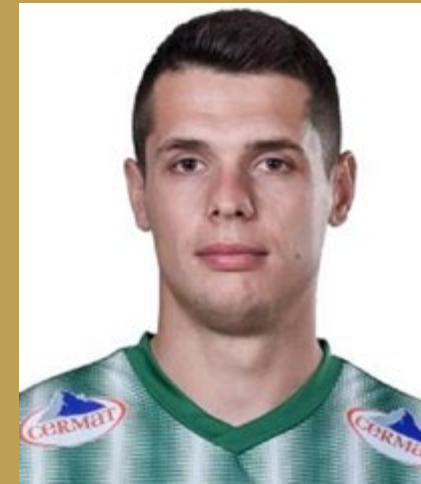
- > talented left wing, who was promoted from Pelister's B team in 2022
- > scored five goals in the EHF European League 2022/23 season, his maiden international campaign
- > gets more playing time since the departure of left wing and team captain Mirko Radovic in the offseason
- > part of the Macedonian team that successfully navigated their way through the Men's EHF EURO 2024 Qualifiers



LEFT BACK 

Uros Borzas

- > Serbian international, moved to Pelister in 2023 after one season with Elverum in Norway
- > 2022/23 was his breakthrough international season, scoring 49 CL goals for Elverum
- > reached EL 2021/22 Last 16 with French side Toulouse, but just lost to eventual champions Benfica
- > scored a buzzer-beater to help Serbia upset Norway 25:24 in an EHF EURO 2024 Qualifier in March 2023

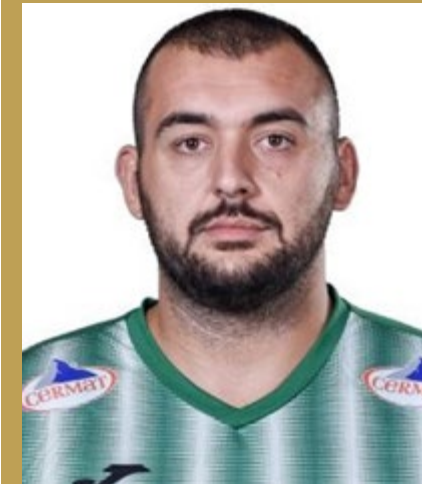


CENTRE BACK



Mario Tankoski

@mario.tankoski

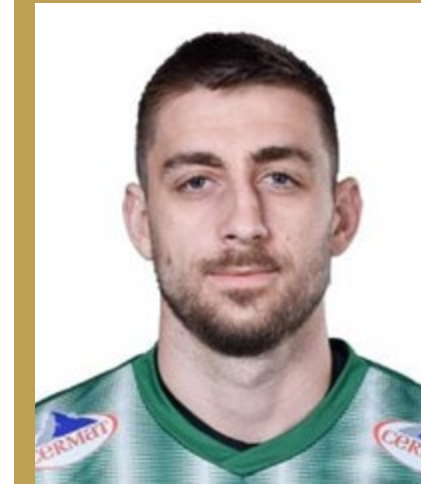


LINE PLAYER



Zharko Peshevski

@zarkopesevski

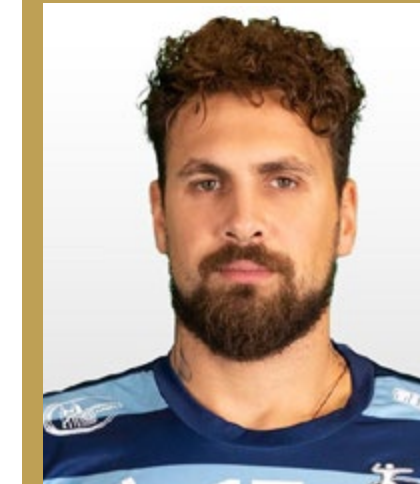


RIGHT BACK



Nejc Cehte

@ceht3



RIGHT WING



Bogdan Radivojevic

@radivojevicbogdan41

- > Macedonian international, joined Pelister from HC Metalurg in 2020
- > came through youth ranks and had senior debut at Metalurg in 2017
- > played two CL seasons with Metalurg in 2017-19, scoring 35 goals in total
- > was Pelister's second-best scorer in EL 2022/23 season, with 37 goals
- > made the M20 EHF EURO 2018 All-star Team, played for Macedonian national team at 2019 WCh

- > one of the most experienced players in the team, joined in 2022 and became team captain the next year
- > Macedonian international, who brings in eight years of CL experience from his former clubs, Motor and Metalurg
- > also played in German Bundesliga for TVB Stuttgart 1988
- > started playing handball in Skopje in the youth academy of Metalurg

- > Slovenian international, arrived at Pelister in summer of 2023 after one season with GOG in Denmark
- > played in CL for first time in the 2013/14 season with Velenje
- > moved out of Slovenia in 2018 to join Bundesliga team TSV Hannover-Burgdorf, where he stayed four years
- > his older brother Klemen inspired him to play handball

- > Serbian international, who arrived at Pelister in 2023 from Szeged
- > scored 191 goals in total in his four CL seasons with Szeged
- > won the CL in 2014 in his first season with Flensburg
- > also played for Rhein-Neckar Löwen before moving to Szeged in 2019
- > made national team debut in 2012

EC trophies: CL 2014



HC ZAGREB

CLUB ADDRESS

HC Zagreb
 Arena Zagreb, Vice Vukova 8
 10000 Zagreb
 Croatia

MEDIA CONTACT

Goran Roknić
 +385 95 99 99 334
 g.roknic@rk-zagreb.hr

PLAYING HALL

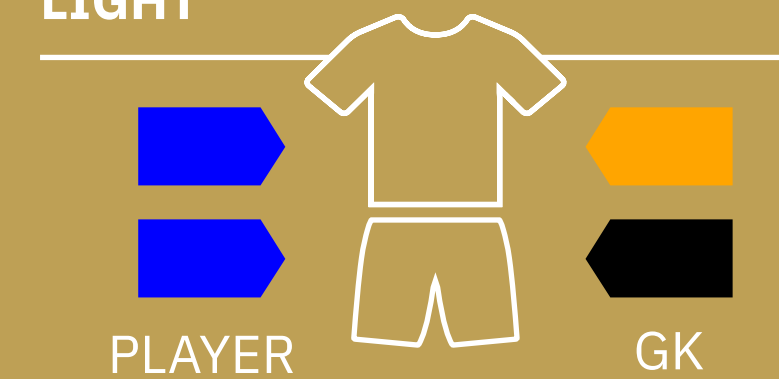


Arena Zagreb
 Laniste 30
 10000 Zagreb
 Croatia

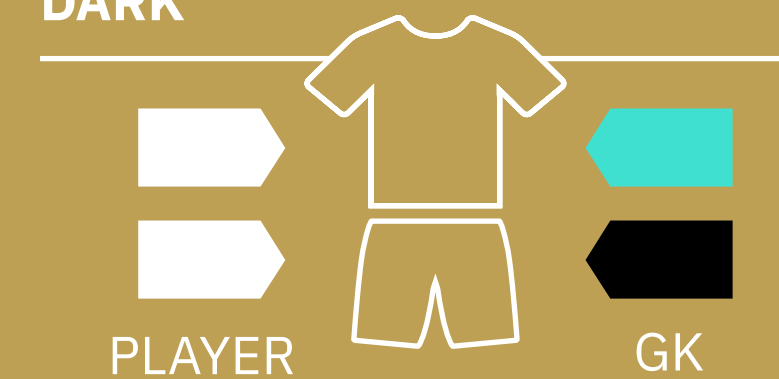
Capacity:
15,200

KIT COLOURS

LIGHT



DARK



rk-zagreb.hr

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

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

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

In the 2023/24 season, it is eight years ago that HC Zagreb last reached the EHF Champions League quarter-finals. None of the players from that 2015/16 squad are still with the team. But while recent times have been tough for the Croatian champions, there have been signs of progress last season.

Under head coach Slavko Goluz, Zagreb defeated the likes of Plock, Porto and even Veszprém, but still missed their play-off ticket. And the club is eager to continue their path, setting their eyes on a knockout spot again with a mainly unchanged squad.

GROUP A



HC ZAGREB

MAIN FACTS

- > Zagreb went out in the group phase of the 2022/23 season, as a defeat in Porto in the penultimate round came costly
- > won the predecessor of the EHF Champions League twice, in 1992 and 1993, and played four 'real' finals, most recently in 1999
- > celebrated their 31st domestic championship in a row last season
- > two Zagreb players have won the EHF Champions League in the past with other clubs: Timur Dibirov and Ivan Cupic
- > the club's summer signings include Cuban right back Yoel Cuni from Vardar, and Celje line player Matic Suholeznik

PAST ACHIEVEMENTS

EHF Champions League

Participations (including 2023/24 season): 30

Final (4): 1994/95, 1996/97, 1997/98, 1998/99

Semi-finals (1): 1999/00

Quarter-finals (7): 2000/01, 2002/03, 2003/04, 2008/09, 2011/12, 2014/15, 2015/16

Play-offs (1): 2020/21

Last 16 (5): 2005/06, 2009/10, 2010/11, 2016/17, 2018/19

Main Round (1): 2007/08

Group Phase (10): 1993/94, 1995/96, 2004/05, 2006/07, 2012/13, 2013/14, 2017/18, 2019/20, 2021/22, 2022/23

Other

Cup Winners' Cup: Runners-up 2004/05, Semi-finals 2006/07

Croatian league: 31 titles (1992-2019, 2021-23)

Croatian cup: 29 titles (1992-2000, 2003-2019, 2021-23)



EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE SUMMARY

| | MP | W | T | L | GF | GA | GD | PTS | Stage |
|--|----|---|---|---|---------|----|-----|-------|----------------|
| 1993/94 Badel 1862 Zagreb CRO | 6 | 0 | 2 | 4 | 135:147 | | -12 | 2:10 | 4th Gr. A |
| 1994/95 Badel Zagreb CRO | 8 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 203:203 | | 0 | 11:5 | Runners-up |
| 1995/96 Croatia Banka Zagreb CRO | 6 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 138:144 | | -6 | 5:7 | 3rd Gr. B |
| 1996/97 Badel 1862 Zagreb CRO | 12 | 6 | 3 | 3 | 310:294 | | +16 | 15:9 | Runners-up |
| 1997/98 Badel 1862 Zagreb CRO | 12 | 7 | 0 | 5 | 300:287 | | +13 | 14:10 | Runners-up |
| 1998/99 Badel 1862 Zagreb CRO | 12 | 8 | 1 | 3 | 288:269 | | +19 | 17:7 | Runners-up |
| 1999/00 Badel 1862 Zagreb CRO | 10 | 7 | 1 | 2 | 260:230 | | +30 | 15:5 | Semi-finals |
| 2000/01 Badel 1862 Zagreb CRO | 8 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 195:192 | | +3 | 9:7 | Quarter-finals |
| 2002/03 RK Zagreb CRO | 8 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 209:216 | | -7 | 8:8 | Quarter-finals |
| 2003/04 RK Zagreb CRO | 10 | 4 | 0 | 6 | 273:258 | | +15 | 8:12 | Quarter-finals |
| 2004/05 RK Zagreb CRO | 6 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 165:170 | | -5 | 6:6 | 3rd Gr. B |
| 2005/06 RK Zagreb CRO | 8 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 212:194 | | +18 | 11:5 | Last 16 |
| 2006/07 RK Zagreb CRO | 6 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 153:148 | | +5 | 6:6 | 3rd Gr. D |
| 2007/08 HC Croatia Osiguranje-Zagreb CRO | 12 | 5 | 1 | 6 | 339:344 | | -5 | 11:13 | 3rd MR Gr. 3 |
| 2008/09 HC Croatia Osiguranje-Zagreb CRO | 12 | 7 | 3 | 2 | 357:313 | | +44 | 17:7 | Quarter-finals |
| 2009/10 HC Croatia Osiguranje-Zagreb CRO | 12 | 6 | 0 | 6 | 351:335 | | +16 | 12:12 | Last 16 |
| 2010/11 HC Croatia Osiguranje ZAGREB CRO | 12 | 6 | 3 | 3 | 358:319 | | +39 | 15:9 | Last 16 |
| 2011/12 Croatia Osiguranje Zagreb CRO | 14 | 9 | 1 | 4 | 391:359 | | +32 | 19:9 | Quarter-finals |



EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE SUMMARY

| | MP | W | T | L | GF | GA | GD | PTS | Stage |
|--|------------|------------|-----------|------------|------------------|----|-------------|----------------|----------------|
| 2012/13 HC Croatia Osiguranje Zagreb CRO | 10 | 2 | 1 | 7 | 266:284 | | -18 | 5:15 | 5th Gr. D |
| 2013/14 HC Croatia Osiguranje Zagreb CRO | 10 | 4 | 0 | 6 | 267:282 | | -15 | 8:12 | 5th Gr. A |
| 2014/15 HC Prvo plinarsko drustvo Zagreb | 14 | 7 | 0 | 7 | 328:356 | | -28 | 14:14 | Quarter-finals |
| 2015/16 HC Prvo plinarsko drustvo Zagreb | 18 | 6 | 2 | 10 | 464:480 | | -16 | 14:22 | Quarter-finals |
| 2016/17 HC Prvo plinarsko drustvo Zagreb | 16 | 4 | 1 | 11 | 373:408 | | -35 | 9:23 | Last 16 |
| 2017/18 HC Prvo plinarsko drustvo Zagreb | 14 | 2 | 2 | 10 | 349:396 | | -47 | 6:22 | 8th Gr. A |
| 2018/19 HC PPD Zagreb CRO | 16 | 4 | 3 | 9 | 407:447 | | -40 | 11:21 | Last 16 |
| 2019/20 HC PPD Zagreb CRO | 14 | 2 | 1 | 11 | 343:419 | | -76 | 5:23 | 7th Gr. A |
| 2020/21 HC PPD Zagreb CRO | 16 | 0 | 0 | 16 | 369:482 | | -113 | 0:32 | Play-offs |
| 2021/22 HC PPD Zagreb CRO | 14 | 3 | 2 | 9 | 351:385 | | -34 | 8:20 | 7th Gr. A |
| 2022/23 HC PPD Zagreb CRO | 14 | 3 | 2 | 9 | 390:420 | | -30 | 8:20 | 7th Gr. A |
| Total: | 330 | 127 | 35 | 168 | 8544:8781 | | -237 | 289:371 | |



**EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE
CLUB RECORDS**

| | |
|-----------|---|
| 6 | MATCHES Longest winning run |
| 6 | MATCHES Longest unbeaten run |
| 38 | GOALS Most goals |

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Biggest win | 34:15 (16:8) v HC Bosna Sarajevo BIH (h), 04.12.2010 |
| Biggest defeat | 43:21 (23:10) v FC Barcelona ESP (a), 18.04.2015 |
| Longest winning run | 6 matches (12.12.1998 – 27.02.1999) |
| Longest unbeaten run | 6 matches (09.11.1996 – 18.01.1997) |
| | 6 matches (12.12.1998 – 27.02.1999) |
| | 6 matches (30.10.1999 – 05.12.1999) |
| | 6 matches (04.10.2008 – 22.11.2008) |
| Longest losing run | 17 matches (01.03.2020 – 22.09.2021) |
| Longest run without win | 22 matches (01.03.2020 – 17.11.2021) |
| Most goals | 38 v Kadetten Schaffhausen SUI 38:30W (h), 23.02.2013 |
| Most goals opponent | 45 v Barça ESP 45:27L (a), 14.10.2020 |
| Most goals both teams | 72 v Barça ESP 45:27L (a), 14.10.2020 |
| Fewest goals | 15 v Portland San Antonio ESP 31:15L (a), 22.10.2005 |
| Fewest goals opponent | 13 v THW Kiel GER 22:13W (h), 25.03.2000 |
| | 13 v Pelister Bitola MKD 37:13W (h), 16.10.2005 |
| Fewest goals both teams | 36 v ZTR Zaporozhye UKR 18:18D (a), 20.11.1999 |
| | 36 v HC Metalurg MKD 19:17W (h), 11.10.2014 |

TEAM ROSTER

| No. | First name | Surname | Nat. | Position | Date of birth | Place of birth | cm |
|-----------|--------------|----------------|------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------|
| 5 | Miloš | Kos | SRB | Left Back | 01/08/2002 | Prijedor, BIH | 192 |
| 6 | Davor | Cavar | CRO | Left Wing | 07/12/1995 | Zagreb, CRO | 187 |
| 8 | Adin | Faljic | BIH | Line Player | 24/09/2000 | Zenica, BIH | 197 |
| 9 | Luka Lovre | Klarica | CRO | Right Back | 25/09/2001 | Zadar, CRO | 198 |
| 10 | Jakov | Gojun C | CRO | Left Back | 18/04/1986 | Split, CRO | 204 |
| 11 | Zvonimir | Srna | CRO | Left Back | 18/01/1998 | Dubrovnik, CRO | 202 |
| 12 | Ante | Grbavac | BIH | Goalkeeper | 25/04/1998 | Ljubuški, BIH | 197 |
| 13 | Edin | Klis | BIH | Left Back | 22/02/2000 | Zenica, BIH | 195 |
| 16 | Aljaz | Panjtar | SLO | Goalkeeper | 20/08/1991 | Ljubljana, SLO | 183 |
| 17 | Paolo | Kraljevic | CRO | Right Wing | 31/03/2001 | Ljubuški, BIH | 180 |
| 20 | Gabriel | Buvinic | CRO | Left Wing | 13/04/1999 | Rijeka, CRO | 181 |
| 23 | Karpo | Sirotic | CRO | Centre Back | 22/02/2000 | Zagreb, CRO | 188 |
| 25 | Matej | Mandic | CRO | Goalkeeper | 02/05/2002 | Ljubuški, BIH | 204 |
| 27 | Ivan | Cupic | CRO | Right Wing | 27/03/1986 | Metkovic, CRO | 178 |
| 31 | Timur | Dibirov | RUS | Left Wing | 30/07/1983 | Petrozavodsk, RUS | 180 |
| 47 | Aleks | Kavcic | SLO | Left Back | 15/05/1996 | Skofja Loka, SLO | 186 |
| 71 | Filip | Glavaš | CRO | Right Wing | 06/05/1997 | Rijeka, CRO | 183 |
| 87 | Yoel | Cuni Morales | CUB | Right Back | 15/02/1987 | Havana, CUB | 190 |
| 95 | Matic | Suholežnik | SLO | Line Player | 02/05/1995 | Celje, SLO | 202 |





COACH



**Slavko
Goluža**



- > former Croatian international and national team coach, who in 2022 returned to Zagreb – the club where he retired as a player in 2006
- > had two previous stints as coach in Zagreb, in 2012/13 and 2017
- > also led Tatran Presov for four years (2017-21)
- > played as a centre back for clubs like PSG and Veszprém
- > won two Olympic gold medals with Croatia as a player, and a bronze medal as their coach; also part of the team that won the 2003 WCh

OG: G 1996, 2004 (player), B 2012 (coach); WCh: G 2003, S 1995, 2005 (p), B 2013 (c); EURO: B 1994 (p), B 2012 (c)

DEPARTURES

| | | |
|-----------------|---|--------------------------------|
| Željko Musa | > | (HC Kriens-Luzern/SUI) |
| Csaba Leimeter | > | (HWB Balingen-Weilstetten/GER) |
| Nikola Grahovac | > | (HWB Balingen-Weilstetten/GER) |
| Dino Slavić | > | (Limoges Handball/FRA) |
| Stefan Dodić | > | (RK Celje Pivovarna Lašk/SLO) |
| Vlado Matanović | > | (tba) |

ARRIVALS

| | | |
|-------------------|---|-------------------------------|
| Matic Suholežnik | < | (RK Celje Pivovarna Lašk/SLO) |
| Yoel Cuni Morales | < | (HC Vardar 1961/MKD) |
| Filip Glavaš | < | (RK Trimo Trebnje/SLO) |
| Miodrag Ćorsović | < | (RK Trimo Trebnje/SLO) |
| Ante Grbavac | < | (REBI Balonmano Cuenca/ESP) |



GOALKEEPER 

Aljaž Panjtar

@aljaz.panjtar16

- > Slovenian international, who arrived in Zagreb in the summer of 2022
- > previously played for Slovenia's two biggest clubs: Velenje and Celje
- > first played in the EHF Champions League in 2017/18, with Celje
- > has a degree in nutrition and works as a nutrition consultant



LEFT WING 

Timur Dibirov

@timurdibirov31

- > Russian wing, entered his 40s in the summer of 2023 but still going strong
- > named best left wing at inaugural EHF Excellence Awards in June 2023
- > joined Zagreb in 2022 for only the third club in his career; was by far the club's best scorer in the CL 2022/23
- > previously played for Vardar and won the CL twice with them, more than a decade after lifting the Cup Winners' Cup with Chekhov in 2006
- > fast-break specialist, but also key in defence

EC trophies: CL 2017, 2019; CWC 2006



LEFT BACK 

Zvonimir Srna

@zvone_srna

- > joined Zagreb in 2019 from Dubrovnik
- > started playing handball in Metkovic
- > versatile player, can play both left and centre back and is strong in defence
- > Croatia national team player, also played for the various youth teams
- > his uncle Darijo Srna is a former team captain of the Croatian national football team



CENTRE BACK 

Karpo Sirotic

@sirotickarpo

- > Zagreb-born talented back, who joined his hometown club in 2021
- > was one of Zagreb's revelations in the CL 2022/23 season, when he scored 33 goals
- > previously played for Dubrava
- > Croatian international, who helped the team qualify for the Men's EHF EURO 2024 in Germany



LINE PLAYER



Jakov Gojun

@jakovgojun_10



RIGHT BACK



Luka Lovre Klarica

@luka_klarica

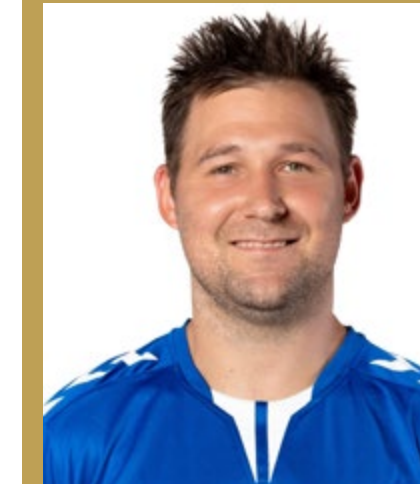


RIGHT BACK



Yoel Cuni Morales

@yoelcuni



RIGHT WING



Ivan Čupić

- > joined Zagreb in summer of 2021 after six seasons with Fūchse Berlin in Germany
- > had earlier stint at Zagreb in 2009-12
- > previously played for PSG, Atletico de Madrid and several Croatian clubs
- > core player of Croatian national team until his retirement after the home EHF EURO in 2018
- > named best defender of EHF EURO 2010, when Croatia won bronze

EC trophies: EHF Cup 2018
EURO: B 2010; OG: B 2012

- > promising right back, who joined Zagreb in 2018 coming from his youth club in his native Zadar
- > had CL debut in 2020 against Kiel
- > has scored 91 goals in his three CL seasons with Zagreb so far
- > Croatian national team player
- > used to play football as a child; started as a right wing when he picked up handball

- > experienced back-court player, who arrived at Zagreb in 2023 after two seasons with Vardar
- > has been playing in Europe since leaving Cuba in 2007
- > played for Ivry and Dunkerque in France, but got his first EHF competition experience with Porto
- > first played in the CL in 2014; had his best season in 2015/16, scoring 39 times for Porto

- > Croatian legend of the game, returned to Zagreb in 2021 after five years at Vardar, and in total 16 years abroad
- > his career journey also included stops at clubs like Velenje, Rhein-Neckar Löwen, and Kielce
- > first player to win the EHF FINAL4 two years in a row: in 2016 with Kielce, in 2017 with Vardar
- > lost a finger in an accident in 2008, but that has not hampered his glorious club and national team career

EC trophies: CL 2016, 2017, 2019
OG: B 2012; WCh: S 2009, B 2013; EURO: S 2008, 2010, 2020, B 2012, 2016



LAST SEASON'S TOP SCORER



**Timur
Dibirov**

@timurdibirov31

78 GOALS



**Luka Lovre
Klarica**

@luka_klarica

38 GOALS



**Zvonimir
Srna**

@zvone_srna

34 GOALS



**Karpo
Sirotic**

@sirotickarpo

33 GOALS



**Ivan
Čupić**

29 GOALS





MANY TOP TRANSFERS AND TWO NEW COACHES PROVIDE GROUP B THRILLS

Three former winners as well as the current Machineseecker EHF Champions League champions, some major changes among the top clubs, the re-match of a 2023 semifinal, two new coaches and SC Magdeburg as the hunted for the first time in 21 years – those are the key facts of group B this season.

The first round on 13/14 September serves two mouth-watering matches, as former Champions League winners Montpellier Handball and record winners Barça face off in France, while defending champions Magdeburg take on bolstered four-time finalists Telekom Veszprém.

Those four teams look like the favourites in group B – but they definitely will be challenged by the remaining opponents, spearheaded by Orlen Wisła Płock.

After becoming the first team to beat Barça in the Champions League after a run of 25 unbeaten matches – in the 2023 semi-final after extra-time – SC Magdeburg can feel the predators' breaths on their necks, and injury woes are still causing trouble.

TruckScout24 EHF FINAL4 MVP Gisli Kristjansson is set to be out for the next six months after his shoulder injury in the semi-final, and his Icelandic countryman Ómar Ingi Magnusson is still ruled out, too. And SCM lost one iconic star from the previous year, as Kay Smits joined SG Flensburg-Handewitt.

New arrival Felix Claar from Aalborg Håndbold will, in his first Champions League match for Magdeburg, immediately face his Swedish and former club teammate Lukas Sandell who joined Veszprém.

The Hungarian record champions have again strengthened their squad, including the top transfer of this summer: French Olympic and world champion as well as three-time Champions League winner Ludovic Fabregas arrived from their group phase opponents Barça.

After missing the 2023 edition of the EHF FINAL4, eliminated by eventual finalists Kielce in the quarter-finals, the ticket to Cologne is again the major goal of the season for head coach Momir Ilic and his men. And Veszprém will face the two teams to whom they lost their first two Champions League finals: Magdeburg in 2002 and Barça in 2015.

As at Magdeburg, where Sergey Hernandez from Sporting CP switched clubs with Mike

Jensen, Veszprém have a change of goalkeepers: Ignacio Biosca (from Plock) replaces Vladimir Cupara who joined CS Rapid Bucuresti.

Barça, record winners with 10 trophies and on top of the Champions League all-time-ranking, have lost another top player besides Fabregas: centre back Luka Cindric increased the number of former Barça players at Dinamo Bucuresti. But still, and as usual, winning the trophy is the main goal of the Catalan side.

After making it to the EHF Finals in the EHF European League Men last year, 2003 and 2018 champions Montpellier are back in the top-flight competition, of course coached by legendary Patrice Canayer who has his 30th season as coach of the same club ahead of him.



And again Canayer and Montpellier have to cope with several stars leaving the team, including wing Hugo Descat who moved to group phase opponents Veszprém and Julien Bos who transferred to Nantes.

The dark horse in this group could be Orlen Wisła Płock. Despite losing goalkeeper Biosca and shooter Sergei Mark Kosorotov to Veszprém, the Polish runners-up and cup winners managed to add experience to their squad by signing goalkeeper Mirko Alilović from Szeged and Champions League winner Miha Zarabec from Kiel. In the previous season, Płock almost became the stumbling block for would-be winners Magdeburg in the quarter-finals, having previously eliminated Nantes in the play-offs.

Two teams from group B changed their coaches: Nicolej Krickau left GOG to join SG Flensburg-Handewitt and was replaced by Ian Marco Fog, while Portuguese legend Carlos Resende took over from FC Porto's previous mastermind Magnus Andersson.

Krickau was not the only one from GOG arriving at Flensburg, as EHF Excellence Award winner Simon Pytlick and line player Lukas Jørgensen also start on the other side of the Danish-German border after becoming Danish champions again by beating Aalborg in the finals.

In contrast to GOG, Resende can work with almost the same squad as in the previous season.

Porto and 2005 Champions League winners RK Celje Pivovarna Laško both have the goal of proceeding to the knock-out stage.

As with GOG, Celje have the same regular fate of having to replace their top stars: Aleks Vlah, top scorer of the 2022/23 Champions League group phase, joined Aalborg in Denmark; Gal Marguc – brother of Veszprém's wing Gasper – transferred to Croatian side RK Nexe; and youngster Tilen Strmljan arrived at German club Hanover.

Björn Pazen

GROUP B HEAD TO HEAD**Orlen Wisla Plock vs Telekom Veszprém HC****1-2-7 (262:307)****4:16**

| | | |
|------------|---|---------------|
| 09.11.2002 | Wisla Plock SSA vs Fotex KC Veszprém, EHF Champions League – Group A | 25:30 (9:13) |
| 08.12.2002 | Fotex KC Veszprém vs Wisla Plock SSA, EHF Champions League – Group A | 38:24 (20:14) |
| 23.03.2014 | Orlen Wisla Plock vs MKB-MVM Veszprém, VELUX EHF Champions League – Last 16 | 34:33 (16:16) |
| 29.03.2014 | MKB-MVM Veszprém vs Orlen Wisla Plock, VELUX EHF Champions League – Last 16 | 31:26 (16:11) |
| 19.09.2015 | Orlen Wisla Plock vs MVM Veszprém, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A | 27:27 (11:13) |
| 05.03.2016 | MVM Veszprém vs Orlen Wisla Plock, VELUX EHF Champions League – group A | 27:25 (16:13) |
| 08.10.2016 | Orlen Wisla Plock vs Telekom Veszprém, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A | 28:28 (13:14) |
| 25.02.2017 | Telekom Veszprém vs Orlen Wisla Plock, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A | 31:25 (18:14) |
| 03.11.2022 | Orlen Wisla Plock vs Telekom Veszprém HC, Machineseker EHF Champions League – Group A | 26:30 (14:15) |
| 08.12.2022 | Telekom Veszprém HC vs Orlen Wisla Plock, Machineseker EHF Champions League – Group A | 32:22 (17:9) |

Orlen Wisla Plock vs Barça**1-0-5 (167:190)****2:10**

| | | |
|------------|---|---------------|
| 05.10.2014 | FC Barcelona vs Orlen Wisla Plock, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B | 30:25 (13:12) |
| 06.12.2014 | Orlen Wisla Plock vs FC Barcelona, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B | 34:31 (17:15) |
| 25.09.2016 | Orlen Wisla Plock vs FC Barcelona Lassa, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A | 23:28 (12:11) |
| 11.03.2017 | FC Barcelona Lassa vs Orlen Wisla Plock, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A | 36:28 (17:15) |
| 01.10.2017 | Orlen Wisla Plock vs FC Barcelona Lassa, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A | 30:37 (13:21) |
| 17.02.2018 | FC Barcelona Lassa vs Orlen Wisla Plock, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A | 28:27 (14:15) |

Orlen Wisla Plock vs RK Celje Pivovarna Laško**1-0-3 (107:117)****2:6**

| | | |
|------------|---|---------------|
| 16.10.2004 | Celje Pivovarna Lasko vs Wisla Plock SSA, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group D | 29:23 (15:10) |
| 31.10.2004 | Wisla Plock SSA vs Celje Pivovarna Lasko, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group D | 30:32 (16:16) |
| 03.10.2015 | RK Celje Pivovarna Lasko vs Orlen Wisla Plock, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A | 25:28 (10:17) |
| 13.02.2016 | Orlen Wisla Plock vs RK Celje Pivovarna Lasko, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A | 26:31 (12:17) |

GROUP B HEAD TO HEAD

Orlen Wisla Plock vs Montpellier HB

1-0-1 (55:52)

2:2

| | | |
|------------|--|---------------|
| 29.08.2013 | Montpellier Agglomeration HB vs Orlen Wisla Plock, VELUX EHF Champions League – Wildcard Qualification | 29:27 (11:15) |
| 01.09.2013 | Orlen Wisla Plock vs Montpellier Agglomeration HB, VELUX EHF Champions League – Wildcard Qualification | 28:23 (13:10) |

Orlen Wisla Plock vs GOG

3-0-3 (167:166)

6:6

| | | |
|------------|---|---------------|
| 13.10.2019 | GOG vs Orlen Wisla Plock, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group D | 28:27 (16:14) |
| 23.11.2019 | Orlen Wisla Plock vs GOG, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group D | 27:24 (11:13) |
| 13.04.2021 | GOG vs Orlen Wisla Plock, EHF European League – Quarter-final | 30:27 (17:12) |
| 20.04.2021 | Orlen Wisla Plock vs GOG, EHF European League – Quarter-final | 31:26 (13:13) |
| 29.09.2022 | Orlen Wisla Plock vs GOG, Machineseecker EHF Champions League – Group A | 31:27 (17:14) |
| 15.02.2023 | GOG vs Orlen Wisla Plock, Machineseecker EHF Champions League – Group A | 31:24 (18:11) |

Orlen Wisla Plock vs FC Porto

4-0-0 (107:95)

8:0

| | | |
|------------|--|---------------|
| 16.11.2013 | FC Porto Vitalis vs Orlen Wisla Plock, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B | 20:24 (9:14) |
| 21.11.2013 | Orlen Wisla Plock vs FC Porto Vitalis, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B | 28:22 (12:10) |
| 15.09.2022 | Orlen Wisla Plock vs FC Porto, Machineseecker EHF Champions League – Group A | 27:23 (14:10) |
| 02.03.2023 | FC Porto vs Orlen Wisla Plock, Machineseecker EHF Champions League – Group A | 27:28 (13:15) |

Orlen Wisla Plock vs SC Magdeburg

1-1-5 (192:210)

3:11

| | | |
|------------|--|---------------|
| 16.11.2002 | Sportclub Magdeburg vs Wisla Plock SSA, EHF Champions League – Group A | 40:32 (17:11) |
| 30.11.2002 | Wisla Plock SSA vs Sportclub Magdeburg, EHF Champions League – Group A | 29:31 (16:12) |
| 22.05.2021 | SC Magdeburg vs Orlen Wisla Plock, EHF Finals – Semi-final | 30:29 (13:15) |
| 06.10.2022 | SC Magdeburg vs Orlen Wisla Plock, Machineseecker EHF Champions League – Group A | 33:27 (17:16) |
| 09.02.2023 | Orlen Wisla Plock vs SC Magdeburg, Machineseecker EHF Champions League – Group A | 25:24 (14:10) |
| 10.05.2023 | Orlen Wisla Plock vs SC Magdeburg, Machineseecker EHF Champions League – Quarter-final | 22:22 (9:12) |
| 17.05.2023 | SC Magdeburg vs Orlen Wisla Plock, Machineseecker EHF Champions League – Quarter-final | 30:28 (13:13) |

GROUP B HEAD TO HEAD

Telekom Veszprém HC vs Barça

7-1-17 (681:737)

15:35

| | | |
|------------|--|---------------|
| 13.04.1986 | VAEV Epitök SC vs FC Barcelona, IHF Cup Winners' Cup – Semi-final | 27:25 (13:12) |
| 19.04.1986 | FC Barcelona vs VAEV Epitök SC, IHF Cup Winners' Cup – Semi-final | 29:19 (13:10) |
| 21.02.1998 | Fotex KC Veszprém vs FC Barcelona, EHF Champions League – Quarter-final | 33:28 (19:13) |
| 01.03.1998 | FC Barcelona vs Fotex KC Veszprém, EHF Champions League – Quarter-final | 32:27 (13:15) |
| 31.01.1999 | Fotex KC Veszprém vs FC Barcelona, EHF Champions League – Quarter-final | 29:29 (14:15) |
| 07.02.1999 | FC Barcelona vs Fotex KC Veszprém, EHF Champions League – Quarter-final | 29:24 (16:11) |
| 14.11.1999 | Fotex KC Veszprém vs FC Barcelona, EHF Champions League – Group D | 23:31 (13:16) |
| 04.12.1999 | FC Barcelona vs Fotex KC Veszprém, EHF Champions League – Group D | 25:21 (13:13) |
| 13.12.2003 | FC Barcelona vs Fotex KC Veszprém, EHF Champions League – Last 16 | 33:29 (18:15) |
| 20.12.2003 | Fotex KC Veszprém vs FC Barcelona, EHF Champions League – Last 16 | 31:26 (16:14) |
| 25.04.2010 | FC Barcelona Borges vs MKB Veszprém KC, EHF Champions League – Quarter-final | 33:27 (17:15) |
| 01.05.2010 | MKB Veszprém KC vs FC Barcelona Borges, EHF Champions League – Quarter-final | 33:34 (19:15) |
| 27.03.2011 | FC Barcelona Borges vs MKB Veszprém KC, VELUX EHF Champions League – Last 16 | 28:21 (14:13) |
| 02.04.2011 | MKB Veszprém KC vs FC Barcelona Borges, VELUX EHF Champions League – Last 16 | 30:26 (15:8) |
| 01.06.2014 | FC Barcelona vs MKB-MVM Veszprém, VELUX EHF FINAL4 – Place 3/4 | 26:25 (9:10) |
| 31.05.2015 | FC Barcelona vs MKB-MVM Veszprém, VELUX EHF FINAL4 – Final | 28:23 (14:10) |
| 22.10.2016 | FC Barcelona Lassa vs Telekom Veszprém, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A | 26:23 (16:11) |
| 11.02.2017 | Telekom Veszprém vs FC Barcelona Lassa, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A | 22:25 (14:13) |
| 04.06.2017 | Telekom Veszprém vs FC Barcelona Lassa, VELUX EHF FINAL4 – Place 3/4 | 34:30 (18:17) |
| 22.09.2018 | Barça Lassa vs Telekom Veszprém HC, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A | 31:28 (17:14) |
| 09.02.2019 | Telekom Veszprém HC vs Barça Lassa, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A | 29:26 (15:15) |
| 04.02.2021 | Telekom Veszprém HC vs Barça, EHF Champions League – Group B | 34:37 (15:19) |
| 09.02.2021 | Barça vs Telekom Veszprém HC, EHF Champions League – Group B | 37:30 (15:15) |
| 29.09.2021 | Telekom Veszprém HC vs Barça, EHF Champions League – Group B | 29:28 (16:12) |
| 24.02.2022 | Barça vs Telekom Veszprém HC, EHF Champions League – Group B | 35:30 (13:13) |

GROUP B HEAD TO HEAD**Telekom Veszprém HC vs RK Celje Pivovarna Laško****14-1-1 (460:388)****29:3**

| | | |
|------------|---|---------------|
| 09.10.1994 | Fotex Veszprem vs Celje Pivovarna Lasko, EHF Champions League – Qualification Round 2 | 22:18 (8:9) |
| 15.10.1994 | Celje Pivovarna Lasko vs Fotex Veszprem, EHF Champions League – Qualification Round 2 | 21:24 (12:10) |
| 29.09.2007 | MKB Veszprém KC vs Celje Pivovarna Lasko, EHF Champions League – Group F | 24:24 (14:11) |
| 18.11.2007 | Celje Pivovarna Lasko vs MKB Veszprém KC, EHF Champions League – Group F | 28:23 (15:14) |
| 29.09.2012 | MKB Veszprém KC vs Celje Pivovarna Lasko, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B | 32:22 (16:11) |
| 01.12.2012 | Celje Pivovarna Lasko vs MKB Veszprém KC, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B | 19:24 (9:11) |
| 17.11.2013 | Celje Pivovarna Lasko vs MKB-MVM Veszprém, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A | 26:31 (14:15) |
| 23.11.2013 | MKB-MVM Veszprém vs Celje Pivovarna Lasko, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A | 27:26 (13:10) |
| 18.10.2014 | RK Celje Pivovarna Lasko vs MKB-MVM Veszprém, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group C | 21:24 (9:14) |
| 15.02.2015 | MKB-MVM Veszprém vs RK Celje Pivovarna Lasko, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group C | 29:26 (15:10) |
| 15.11.2015 | RK Celje Pivovarna Lasko vs MVM Veszprém, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A | 27:30 (11:17) |
| 21.11.2015 | MVM Veszprém vs RK Celje Pivovarna Lasko, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A | 34:28 (17:15) |
| 16.09.2017 | RK Celje Pivovarna Lasko vs Telekom Veszprém HC, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B | 31:39 (18:16) |
| 03.03.2018 | Telekom Veszprém HC vs RK Celje Pivovarna Lasko, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B | 29:22 (13:11) |
| 14.10.2020 | Telekom Veszprém HC vs RK Celje Pivovarna Laško, EHF Champions League – Group B | 39:24 (18:11) |
| 11.02.2021 | RK Celje Pivovarna Laško vs Telekom Veszprém HC, EHF Champions League – Group B | 25:29 (14:16) |

Telekom Veszprém HC vs GOG**3-0-1 (117:107)****6:2**

| | | |
|------------|---|---------------|
| 12.04.1992 | Bramac SE Veszprem vs GOG Gudme, Cup Winners' Cup – Semi-final | 26:21 (14:9) |
| 19.04.1992 | GOG Gudme vs Bramac SE Veszprem, Cup Winners' Cup – Semi-final | 19:24 (9:11) |
| 05.10.2022 | GOG vs Telekom Veszprém HC, Machineseker EHF Champions League – Group A | 30:31 (14:16) |
| 08.02.2023 | Telekom Veszprém HC vs GOG, Machineseker EHF Champions League – Group A | 36:37 (21:19) |

GROUP B HEAD TO HEAD**Telekom Veszprém HC vs Montpellier HB****11-0-5 (411:377)****22:10**

| | | |
|------------|--|---------------|
| 08.11.1998 | Montpellier HB vs Fotex KC Veszprém, EHF Champions League – Group A | 21:17 (12:10) |
| 03.01.1999 | Fotex KC Veszprém vs Montpellier HB, EHF Champions League – Group A | 26:17 (9:8) |
| 26.02.2006 | Montpellier HB vs MKB Veszprém KC, EHF Champions League – Quarter-final | 23:21 (11:10) |
| 04.03.2006 | MKB Veszprém KC vs Montpellier HB, EHF Champions League – Quarter-final | 27:22 (14:11) |
| 22.02.2009 | Montpellier HB vs MKB Veszprém KC, EHF Champions League – Main Round Group 3 | 24:30 (11:14) |
| 07.03.2009 | MKB Veszprém KC vs Montpellier HB, EHF Champions League – Main Round Group 3 | 22:23 (11:10) |
| 09.10.2010 | MKB Veszprém KC vs Montpellier Agglomeration HB, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B | 27:26 (13:15) |
| 06.03.2011 | Montpellier Agglomeration HB vs MKB Veszprém KC, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B | 30:24 (13:11) |
| 12.10.2014 | MKB-MVM Veszprém vs Montpellier Agglomeration HB, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group C | 30:29 (14:11) |
| 22.02.2015 | Montpellier Agglomeration HB vs MKB-MVM Veszprém, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group C | 20:34 (9:14) |
| 22.04.2017 | Telekom Veszprém vs Montpellier HB, VELUX EHF Champions League – Quarter-final | 26:23 (13:10) |
| 30.04.2017 | Montpellier HB vs Telekom Veszprém, VELUX EHF Champions League – Quarter-final | 25:30 (15:11) |
| 13.10.2018 | Montpellier HB vs Telekom Veszprém HC, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A | 29:30 (16:14) |
| 02.12.2018 | Telekom Veszprém HC vs Montpellier HB, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A | 25:19 (15:11) |
| 29.09.2019 | Montpellier HB vs Telekom Veszprém HC, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B | 23:18 (11:10) |
| 23.02.2020 | Telekom Veszprém HC vs Montpellier HB, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B | 24:23 (16:14) |

Telekom Veszprém HC vs FC Porto**5-1-0 (194:161)****11:1**

| | | |
|------------|--|---------------|
| 13.10.2019 | Telekom Veszprém HC vs FC Porto Sofarma, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B | 38:28 (19:16) |
| 08.02.2020 | FC Porto Sofarma vs Telekom Veszprém HC, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B | 24:31 (9:14) |
| 14.10.2021 | FC Porto vs Telekom Veszprém HC, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B | 23:30 (10:16) |
| 16.02.2022 | Telekom Veszprém HC vs FC Porto, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B | 28:28 (15:15) |
| 21.09.2022 | FC Porto vs Telekom Veszprém HC, Machineseecker EHF Champions League – Group A | 28:35 (12:16) |
| 23.02.2023 | Telekom Veszprém HC vs FC Porto, Machineseecker EHF Champions League – Group A | 32:30 (15:14) |

GROUP B HEAD TO HEAD**Telekom Veszprém HC vs SC Magdeburg****4-1-4 (243:243)****9:9**

| | | |
|------------|--|---------------|
| 25.11.2001 | Fotex KC Veszprém vs Sportclub Magdeburg, EHF Champions League – Group D | 24:20 (12:11) |
| 15.12.2001 | Sportclub Magdeburg vs Fotex KC Veszprém, EHF Champions League – Group D | 25:22 (12:10) |
| 21.04.2002 | Fotex KC Veszprém vs Sportclub Magdeburg, EHF Champions League – Final | 23:21 (9:8) |
| 27.04.2002 | Sportclub Magdeburg vs Fotex KC Veszprém, EHF Champions League – Final | 30:25 (15:10) |
| 26.10.2002 | Sportclub Magdeburg vs Fotex KC Veszprém, ECh for Club Teams – Final | 31:30 (17:15) |
| 24.11.2002 | Fotex KC Veszprém vs Sportclub Magdeburg, EHF Champions League – Group A | 31:22 (14:13) |
| 15.12.2002 | Sportclub Magdeburg vs Fotex KC Veszprém, EHF Champions League – Group A | 27:28 (10:12) |
| 27.10.2022 | Telekom Veszprém HC vs SC Magdeburg, Machineseker EHF Champions League – Group A | 35:35 (16:16) |
| 16.02.2023 | SC Magdeburg vs Telekom Veszprém HC, Machineseker EHF Champions League – Group A | 32:25 (16:15) |

Barça vs SC Magdeburg**4-0-2 (182:165)****8:4**

| | | |
|------------|--|---------------------------------|
| 19.12.1999 | Sportclub Magdeburg vs FC Barcelona, ECh for Club Teams – Final | 25:26 (13:14) |
| 08.11.2003 | SC Magdeburg vs FC Barcelona, EHF Champions League – Group B | 28:26 (14:12) |
| 29.11.2003 | FC Barcelona vs SC Magdeburg, EHF Champions League – Group B | 38:25 (16:9) |
| 04.12.2005 | SC Magdeburg vs FC Barcelona-Cifec, EHF Champions League – Last 16 | 24:26 (15:11) |
| 10.12.2005 | FC Barcelona-Cifec vs SC Magdeburg, EHF Champions League – Last 16 | 27:23 (12:10) |
| 17.06.2023 | SC Magdeburg vs Barça, TruckScout24 EHF FINAL4 – Semi-final | 40:39 a7m (16:18, 31:31, 38:38) |

Barça vs FC Porto**1-1-0 (71:64)****3:1**

| | | |
|------------|---|---------------|
| 28.10.2021 | FC Porto vs Barça, EHF Champions League – Group B | 33:33 (17:14) |
| 02.12.2021 | Barça vs FC Porto, EHF Champions League – Group B | 38:31 (20:13) |

GROUP B HEAD TO HEAD**Barça vs RK Celje Pivovarna Laško****14-0-4 (601:498)****28:8**

| | | |
|------------|---|---------------|
| 16.03.1997 | Celje Pivovarna Lasko vs FC Barcelona, EHF Champions League – Semi-final | 24:29 (11:14) |
| 23.03.1997 | FC Barcelona vs Celje Pivovarna Lasko, EHF Champions League – Semi-final | 22:26 (14:10) |
| 27.02.1999 | Celje Pivovarna Lasko vs FC Barcelona, EHF Champions League – Semi-final | 35:32 (18:18) |
| 06.03.1999 | FC Barcelona vs Celje Pivovarna Lasko, EHF Champions League – Semi-final | 30:26 (19:11) |
| 18.03.2000 | FC Barcelona vs Celje Pivovarna Lasko, EHF Champions League – Semi-final | 39:25 (14:14) |
| 25.03.2000 | Celje Pivovarna Lasko vs FC Barcelona, EHF Champions League – Semi-final | 27:20 (13:12) |
| 02.04.2005 | Celje Pivovarna Lasko vs FC Barcelona, EHF Champions League – Semi-final | 34:31 (16:15) |
| 09.04.2005 | FC Barcelona vs Celje Pivovarna Lasko, EHF Champions League – Semi-final | 31:26 (16:16) |
| 16.02.2008 | FC Barcelona vs Celje Pivovarna Lasko, EHF Champions League – Main Round Group 4 | 39:28 (20:11) |
| 01.03.2008 | Celje Pivovarna Lasko vs FC Barcelona, EHF Champions League – Main Round Group 4 | 27:32 (12:15) |
| 09.10.2010 | FC Barcelona Borges vs HC Celje Pivovarna Lasko, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A | 44:33 (22:15) |
| 05.03.2011 | HC Celje Pivovarna Lasko vs FC Barcelona Borges, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A | 27:30 (15:16) |
| 21.09.2019 | Barça vs RK Celje Pivovarna Lasko, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A | 45:21 (21:13) |
| 23.02.2020 | RK Celje Pivovarna Lasko vs Barça, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A | 25:37 (14:19) |
| 24.09.2020 | Barça vs RK Celje Pivovarna Laško, EHF Champions League – Group B | 42:28 (21:14) |
| 24.02.2021 | RK Celje Pivovarna Laško vs Barça, EHF Champions League – Group B | 29:32 (17:16) |
| 29.09.2022 | Barça vs RK Celje Pivovarna Laško, Machineseecker EHF Champions League – Group B | 38:30 (19:15) |
| 15.02.2023 | RK Celje Pivovarna Laško vs Barça, Machineseecker EHF Champions League – Group B | 27:28 (15:12) |

Barça vs GOG**10-1-1 (369:301)****21:3**

| | | |
|------------|---|---------------|
| 10.01.1993 | FC Barcelona vs GOG Gudme, Champions Cup – Quarter-final | 27:13 (14:5) |
| 17.01.1993 | GOG Gudme vs FC Barcelona, Champions Cup – Quarter-final | 21:22 (9:12) |
| 16.04.1995 | GOG Gudme vs FC Barcelona, Cup Winners' Cup – Final | 24:31 (13:16) |
| 22.04.1995 | FC Barcelona vs GOG Gudme, Cup Winners' Cup – Final | 26:22 (10:12) |
| 24.01.1996 | FC Barcelona vs GOG Gudme, EHF Champions League – Group B | 35:23 (17:8) |
| 14.02.1996 | GOG Gudme vs FC Barcelona, EHF Champions League – Group B | 22:22 (16:10) |
| 10.02.2008 | GOG Svendborg TGI Gudme vs FC Barcelona, EHF Champions League – Main Round Group 4 | 35:33 (14:19) |
| 08.03.2008 | FC Barcelona vs GOG Svendborg TGI Gudme, EHF Champions League – Main Round Group 4 | 29:24 (16:11) |
| 22.02.2009 | FC Barcelona Borges vs GOG Svendborg TGI, EHF Champions League – Main Round Group 4 | 36:27 (17:14) |
| 08.03.2009 | GOG Svendborg TGI vs FC Barcelona Borges, EHF Champions League – Main Round Group 4 | 29:35 (17:18) |
| 11.05.2023 | GOG vs Barça, Machineseecker EHF Champions League – Quarter-final | 30:37 (15:19) |
| 18.05.2023 | Barça vs GOG, Machineseecker EHF Champions League – Quarter-final | 36:31 (20:13) |

GROUP B HEAD TO HEAD**Barça vs Montpellier HB****8-1-3 (361:304)****17:7**

| | | |
|------------|---|---------------|
| 11.11.2000 | Montpellier HB vs FC Barcelona, EHF Champions League – Group B | 25:25 (11:13) |
| 10.12.2000 | FC Barcelona vs Montpellier HB, EHF Champions League – Group B | 24:17 (13:8) |
| 03.12.2006 | Montpellier HB vs FC Barcelona-Cifec, EHF Champions League – Last 16 | 28:25 (13:10) |
| 09.12.2006 | FC Barcelona-Cifec vs Montpellier HB, EHF Champions League – Last 16 | 29:23 (15:9) |
| 18.03.2012 | Montpellier Agglomeration HB vs FC Barcelona Intersport, VELUX EHF Champions League – Last 16 | 30:28 (17:11) |
| 25.03.2012 | FC Barcelona Intersport vs Montpellier Agglomeration HB, VELUX EHF Champions League – Last 16 | 36:20 (17:8) |
| 10.10.2015 | FC Barcelona Lassa vs Montpellier HB, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B | 37:27 (19:12) |
| 14.02.2016 | Montpellier HB vs FC Barcelona Lassa, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B | 23:31 (11:15) |
| 25.03.2018 | Montpellier HB vs FC Barcelona Lassa, VELUX EHF Champions League – Last 16 | 28:25 (13:13) |
| 31.03.2018 | FC Barcelona Lassa vs Montpellier HB, VELUX EHF Champions League – Last 16 | 30:28 (15:14) |
| 06.10.2018 | Barça Lassa vs Montpellier HB, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A | 35:27 (18:13) |
| 24.02.2019 | Montpellier HB vs Barça Lassa, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A | 28:36 (12:18) |

RK Celje Pivovarna Laško vs Montpellier HB**1-0-3 (108:112)****2:6**

| | | |
|------------|--|---------------|
| 25.02.2001 | Montpellier HB vs Celje Pivovarna Lasko, VELUX EHF Champions League – Quarter-final | 24:23 (10:9) |
| 03.03.2001 | Celje Pivovarna Lasko vs Montpellier HB, VELUX EHF Champions League – Quarter-final | 29:23 (13:12) |
| 05.10.2014 | Montpellier Agglomeration HB vs RK Celje Pivovarna Lasko, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group C | 35:29 (14:18) |
| 06.12.2014 | RK Celje Pivovarna Lasko vs Montpellier Agglomeration HB, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group C | 27:30 (14:10) |

RK Celje Pivovarna Laško vs SC Magdeburg**2-0-1 (89:83)****4:2**

| | | |
|------------|--|---------------|
| 23.02.2002 | Sportclub Magdeburg vs Celje Pivovarna Lasko, EHF Champions League – Quarter-final | 29:31 (13:14) |
| 02.03.2002 | Celje Pivovarna Lasko vs Sportclub Magdeburg, EHF Champions League – Quarter-final | 25:28 (11:14) |
| 20.10.2007 | Celje Pivovarna Lasko vs SC Magdeburg, Champions Trophy – Semi-final | 33:26 (16:11) |

GROUP B HEAD TO HEAD**RK Celje Pivovarna Laško vs GOG****3-1-2 (172:165)****7:5**

| | | |
|------------|---|---------------|
| 24.11.1996 | GOG Gudme vs Celje Pivovarna Lasko, EHF Champions League – Group D | 18:22 (8:10) |
| 18.01.1997 | Celje Pivovarna Lasko vs GOG Gudme, EHF Champions League – Group D | 29:18 (12:7) |
| 24.02.2008 | GOG Svendborg TGI Gudme vs Celje Pivovarna Lasko, EHF Champions League – Main Round Group 4 | 34:33 (18:18) |
| 16.03.2008 | Celje Pivovarna Lasko vs GOG Svendborg TGI Gudme, EHF Champions League – Main Round Group 4 | 30:30 (18:17) |
| 28.08.2021 | RK Celje Pivovarna Laško vs GOG, EHF European League – Qualification Round 1 | 33:29 (16:12) |
| 04.09.2021 | GOG vs RK Celje Pivovarna Laško, EHF European League – Qualification Round 1 | 36:25 (18:14) |

RK Celje Pivovarna Laško vs FC Porto**2:6**

No previous encounters in European competitions

Montpellier HB vs GOG

No previous encounters in European competitions

Montpellier HB vs FC Porto**1-2-1 (109:106)****4:4**

| | | |
|------------|--|---------------|
| 02.11.2019 | FC Porto Sofarma vs Montpellier HB, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B | 23:23 (11:10) |
| 23.11.2019 | Montpellier HB vs FC Porto Sofarma, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B | 22:27 (10:14) |
| 31.03.2022 | FC Porto vs Montpellier HB, EHF Champions League – Play-offs | 29:29 (13:14) |
| 08.04.2022 | Montpellier HB vs FC Porto, EHF Champions League – Play-offs | 35:27 (19:11) |

Montpellier HB vs SC Magdeburg**1-0-2 (87:88)****2:4**

| | | |
|------------|--|---------------|
| 08.10.2005 | SC Magdeburg vs Montpellier HB, EHF Champions League – Group A | 32:28 (12:12) |
| 22.10.2005 | Montpellier HB vs SC Magdeburg, EHF Champions League – Group A | 29:24 (15:12) |
| 16.02.2021 | Montpellier HB vs SC Magdeburg, EHF European League – Group C | 30:32 (15:16) |
| 26.02.2021 | SC Magdeburg vs Montpellier HB, EHF European League – Group C | 10:0 (0:0)* |

* Match not played and points allocated. Result not included in overall stat.

GROUP B HEAD TO HEAD

GOG vs FC Porto

2-0-0 (67:59)

4:0

| | | |
|------------|--|---------------|
| 27.10.2022 | FC Porto vs GOG, Machineseecker EHF Champions League – Group A | 26:33 (10:15) |
| 14.12.2022 | GOG vs FC Porto, Machineseecker EHF Champions League – Group A | 34:33 (15:13) |

GOG vs SC Magdeburg

1-0-1 (67:68)

2:2

| | | |
|------------|--|---------------|
| 03.11.2022 | GOG vs SC Magdeburg, Machineseecker EHF Champions League – Group A | 33:32 (13:16) |
| 07.12.2022 | SC Magdeburg vs GOG, Machineseecker EHF Champions League – Group A | 36:34 (21:18) |

FC Porto vs SC Magdeburg

1-1-4 (175:181)

3:9

| | | |
|------------|---|---------------|
| 09.11.1996 | Sportclub Magdeburg vs Futebol Clube do Porto, Cup Winners' Cup – Last 16 | 30:26 (15:13) |
| 16.11.1996 | Futebol Clube do Porto vs Sportclub Magdeburg, Cup Winners' Cup – Last 16 | 25:26 (14:12) |
| 18.11.2018 | SC Magdeburg vs Futebol Clube do Porto, EHF Cup – Qualification Round 3 | 26:23 (14:11) |
| 25.11.2018 | Futebol Clube do Porto vs SC Magdeburg, EHF Cup – Qualification Round 3 | 34:27 (18:12) |
| 24.11.2022 | SC Magdeburg vs FC Porto, Machineseecker EHF Champions League – Group A | 41:36 (22:17) |
| 01.12.2022 | FC Porto vs SC Magdeburg, Machineseecker EHF Champions League – Group A | 31:31 (12:16) |



ORLEN WISLA PŁOCK

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PLAYING HALL

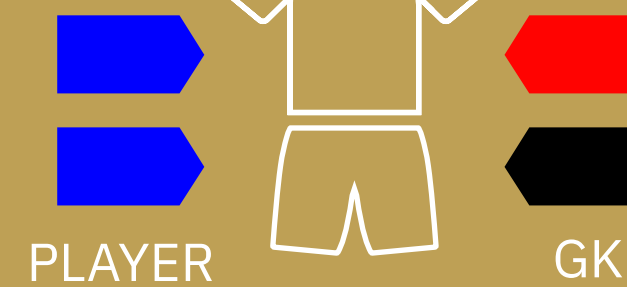


ORLEN Arena
Pl. Celebry Papieskiej 1
09-400 Płock
Poland

Capacity:
5,467

KIT COLOURS

DARK



LIGHT



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In the 2022/23 season, three goals were missing for Orlen Wisła Płock to make it to the TruckScout24 EHF FINAL4 in Cologne – the Polish side almost eliminated eventual champions SC Magdeburg in their first ever quarter-final of this competition after beating HBC Nantes in the play-offs after a dramatic penalty shoot-out.

Now, the Polish runners-ups are trying to repeat their success, and perhaps go further. Two highly experienced players joined Płock, two stars left for Veszprém. But coach Xavi Sabate is confident that his side can go further again.

GROUP B



ORLEN WISLA PŁOCK

MAIN FACTS

- > goalkeeper Mirko Alilovic (from Szeged) and former Champions League winner Miha Zarabec (from Kiel) bolster the squad of Plock
- > on the other hand, goalkeeper Ignacio Biosca and back court ace Sergei Kosorotov have left the club to join Veszprém
- > after making it to the EHF European League Finals twice in 2021 and 2022, Plock had their comeback in the Champions League in 2022/23
- > they narrowly qualified for the knock-out stage, but then only lost one match against Nantes and Magdeburg
- > coach Xavi Sabate starts his sixth season at Plock, the in total 16th in the EHF Champions League
- > on the domestic level, Plock finished second for the 12th time in a row below Champions League finalists Kielce, but managed to defend their title as Polish cup winners

PAST ACHIEVEMENTS

EHF Champions League

Participations (including 2023/24 season): 16

Quarter-finals (1): 2022/23

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

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

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

Qualification (1): 2012/13

Other

EHF European League: 3rd place 2021/22, 4th place 2020/21

EHF Cup: Quarter-final 1993/94

Cup Winners' Cup: Quarter-final 1996/97

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

Polish cup: 12 titles (1992, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 2001, 2005, 2007, 2008, 2022, 2023)



EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE SUMMARY

| | MP | W | T | L | GF | GA | GD | PTS | Stage |
|-------------------------------|------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------------|----|-------------|----------------|---------------|
| 2002/03 Wisla Plock SSA POL | 6 | 1 | 0 | 5 | 167:195 | | -28 | 2:10 | 3rd Gr. A |
| 2004/05 Wisla Plock SSA POL | 6 | 1 | 0 | 5 | 159:177 | | -18 | 2:10 | 4th Gr. D |
| 2005/06 Wisla Plock SSA POL | 6 | 2 | 0 | 4 | 155:182 | | -27 | 4:8 | 3rd Gr. E |
| 2006/07 Wisla Plock SA POL | 6 | 2 | 0 | 4 | 141:170 | | -29 | 4:8 | 3rd Gr. C |
| 2008/09 Wisla Plock SA POL | 6 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 122:188 | | -66 | 0:12 | 4th Gr. H |
| 2011/12 Orlen Wisla Plock POL | 12 | 4 | 1 | 7 | 321:332 | | -11 | 9:15 | Last 16 |
| 2013/14 Orlen Wisla Plock POL | 12 | 5 | 0 | 7 | 335:341 | | -6 | 10:14 | Last 16 |
| 2014/15 Orlen Wisla Plock POL | 12 | 7 | 1 | 4 | 340:337 | | +3 | 15:9 | Last 16 |
| 2015/16 Orlen Wisla Plock POL | 16 | 3 | 3 | 10 | 426:452 | | -26 | 9:23 | Last 16 |
| 2016/17 Orlen Wisla Plock POL | 14 | 3 | 2 | 9 | 367:401 | | -34 | 8:20 | 7th Gr. A |
| 2017/18 Orlen Wisla Plock POL | 14 | 2 | 3 | 9 | 380:408 | | -28 | 7:21 | 7th Gr. A |
| 2018/19 Orlen Wisla Plock POL | 14 | 8 | 0 | 6 | 363:341 | | +22 | 16:12 | Last 16 |
| 2019/20 Orlen Wisla Plock POL | 12 | 6 | 1 | 5 | 318:309 | | +9 | 13:11 | Last 16* |
| 2022/23 Orlen Wisla Plock POL | 18 | 5 | 3 | 10 | 486:525 | | -39 | 13:23 | Quarter-final |
| Total: | 154 | 49 | 14 | 91 | 4080:4358 | | -278 | 112:196 | |

* Last 16 and Quarter-finals cancelled due to Covid-19 pandemic.



**EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE
CLUB RECORDS**

5 MATCHES
Longest winning run

6 MATCHES
Longest unbeaten run

42 GOALS
Most goals

Biggest win 42:26 (19:11) v Crvena Zvezda Beograd SCG (h), 13.11.2004
34:18 (16:10) v Riihimäen Cocks FIN (h), 26.09.2018

Biggest defeat 35:18 (19:4) v KIF Kolding Elite A/S DEN (a), 07.10.2006
34:17 (15:7) v HC Croatia Osiguranje-Zagreb CRO (a), 12.10.2006

Longest winning run 5 matches (29.11.2014 – 14.03.2015)

Longest unbeaten run 6 matches (23.11.2014 – 14.03.2015)

Longest losing run 6 matches (05.10.2008 – 20.11.2008)
6 matches (25.02.2017 – 01.10.2017)

Longest run without win 13 matches (25.11.2015 – 19.10.2016)

Most goals 42 v Crvena Zvezda Beograd SCG 42:26W (h), 13.11.2004

Most goals opponent 40 v Sportclub Magdeburg GER 40:32L (a), 16.11.2002

Most goals both teams 72 v Sportclub Magdeburg GER 40:32L (a), 16.11.2002

Fewest goals 13 v Chambéry Savoie HB FRA 21:13L (a), 15.10.2006

Fewest goals opponent 18 v Riihimäen Cocks FIN 34:18W (h), 26.09.2018

Fewest goals both teams 34 v Chambéry Savoie HB FRA 21:13L (a), 15.10.2006

TEAM ROSTER

| No. | First name | Surname | Nat. | Position | Date of birth | Place of birth | cm | kg |
|-----|------------|-----------------|------|-------------|---------------|--------------------|-----|-----|
| 3 | Michał | Daszek C | POL | Right Back | 27/06/1992 | Tczew, POL | 182 | 87 |
| 4 | Miha | Zarabec | SLO | Centre Back | 12/10/1991 | Novo Mesto, SLO | 178 | 79 |
| 6 | Tin | Lucin | CRO | Left Back | 16/08/1999 | Rijeka, CRO | 196 | 98 |
| 7 | Tomas | Piroch | CZE | Right Back | 12/05/2000 | Plzeň, CZE | 187 | 90 |
| 9 | Krystian | Marchewka | POL | Centre Back | 10/05/2004 | Plock, POL | 188 | 90 |
| 11 | Marcel | Sroczyk | POL | Left Wing | 17/05/1998 | Lubin, POL | 183 | 80 |
| 12 | Karol | Trzcinski | POL | Goalkeeper | 09/05/2005 | Plock, POL | 193 | 93 |
| 13 | Mateusz | Janiszewski | POL | Centre Back | 18/11/2004 | Plock, POL | 185 | 83 |
| 15 | Pavlo | Stavytskyi | UKR | Left Wing | 02/03/2004 | Nowowolynsk, UKR | 183 | 77 |
| 17 | Abel | Serdio | ESP | Line Player | 16/04/1994 | Aviles, ESP | 195 | 115 |
| 19 | Leon | Susnja | CRO | Line Player | 05/08/1993 | Siroki Brijeg, BIH | 204 | 116 |
| 21 | Kirył | Samoila | BLR | Left Back | 31/01/2002 | Grodno, BLR | 200 | 92 |
| 22 | Szymon | Kwasiborski | POL | Goalkeeper | 06/11/2003 | Plock, POL | 186 | 79 |
| 23 | Filip | Michalowicz | POL | Right Wing | 05/06/2003 | Głogów, POL | 197 | 78 |
| 24 | Gergö | Fazekas | HUN | Centre Back | 31/10/2003 | Budapest, HUN | 191 | 90 |
| 26 | Przemysław | Krajewski | POL | Left Wing | 20/01/1987 | Ciechanów, POL | 184 | 85 |
| 29 | Gonzalo | Pérez Arce | ESP | Right Wing | 20/07/1998 | Leon, ESP | 175 | 70 |
| 30 | Mirsad | Terzic | BIH | Left Back | 12/07/1983 | Priboj, SRB | 196 | 110 |
| 32 | Mirko | Alilovic | CRO | Goalkeeper | 15/09/1985 | Ljubuski, BIH | 201 | 106 |
| 33 | Dawid | Dawydzik | POL | Line Player | 07/12/1994 | Zary, POL | 200 | 119 |
| 34 | Lovro | Mihic | CRO | Left Wing | 25/08/1994 | Zagreb, CRO | 181 | 81 |
| 35 | Jakub | Wielgucki | POL | Left Wing | 26/04/2004 | Plock, POL | 184 | 85 |
| 55 | Niko | Mindegia | ESP | Centre Back | 19/07/1988 | San Sebastian, ESP | 182 | 85 |
| 75 | Marcel | Jastrzebski | POL | Goalkeeper | 14/03/2003 | Lubin, POL | 196 | 92 |
| 89 | Dmitry | Zhitnikov | RUS | Centre Back | 20/11/1989 | Zvolen, SVK | 197 | 100 |





COACH

@xavi_sabate



Xavi Sabate



- > Spanish coach who has been leading Plock since July 2018, a few months after Piotr Przybecki had left the club
- > steered Plock to the EHF Finals two seasons in a row and to the CL quarter-finals in 2022/23
- > experienced coach who worked at Veszprém from 2015-17
- > led the Hungarian team to the CL 2016 final, where they lost to Kielce in a penalty shoot-out
- > also in charge of the Czech national team
- > coach of the CL 2015/16 All-star Team
- > great eye for detail, engaging in all aspects of coaching including tactical analysis and team building

DEPARTURES

- Krzysztof Komarzewski > (AEK Athens/GRE)
- David Fernandez > N/A
- Ignacio Biosca > (Telekom Veszprém HC/HUN)
- Sergei Kosorotov > (Telekom Veszprém HC/HUN)
- Krystian Witkowski > (BM Benidorm/ESP)

ARRIVALS

- Mirko Alilović < (OTP Bank – Pick Szeged/HUN)
- Miha Zarabec < (THW Kiel/GER)
- Kiryl Samoila < (SKA Minsk/BLR)



GOALKEEPER 

Mirko Alilovic

 @ivamirko



LEFT WING 

Lovro Mihic



LEFT BACK 

Tin Lucin

 @tin_lucin



CENTRE BACK 

Miha Zarabec

 @mzarabec

- > arrived in Plock in the summer of 2023 after 12 seasons in Hungarian powerhouses Veszprém (seven seasons) and Szeged (five)
- > previously played for clubs in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Spain and Slovenia
- > one of the outstanding goalkeepers who can inspire teammates and fans alike
- > former Croatian national team member, who has filled the void after Ignacio Bosca, who transferred to Veszprém

WCh: S 2009, B 2013; EURO: S 2008, S 2010, B 2012, B 2016; OG: B 2012

- > started handball at a young age, spent his youth in PPD Zagreb
- > Wisla Plock is only the second club in his career, coming from Zagreb in 2016
- > got invited to Croatia national team in 2015, later participated at the 2017 WCh
- > his wife Tarra was also a handball player

- > Rijeka-born, started his career at Kozala
- > also played for Zamet and PPD Zagreb in Croatia, later for Ademar Leon before joining Wisla Plock in 2021
- > was part of youth national team and plays for Croatia national team
- > his younger brother Fran is a handball goalkeeper
- > led all the Plock scorers in the CL 2022/23 with his personal best 80 goals

- > Slovenian international, who joined Plock in 2023 after three seasons with Celje and six with Kiel
- > son of a former handball player, who is now working as a coach
- > a classical playmaker with strengths in one-against-one situations
- > was one of the key players for Slovenia on their way to bronze at the WCh 2017

WCh: B 2017



LINE PLAYER 

Abel Serdio

 @abelserdio



CENTRE BACK 

Dmitry Zhitnikov

 @zhita89



RIGHT BACK 

Michal Daszek

 @michaldaszek



RIGHT WING 

Gonzalo Perez Arce

 @gonzalopez_19

- > Spanish international, started his career at Gijon
- > came to Wisla Plock in 2020 on a loan from Barcelona
- > also played for Valladolid
- > 1994-born line player made his national team debut in 2018
- > his European breakthrough was in 2019/20 with Barça in the CL

- > Russian international, joined Wisla Plock in 2021
- > in his second stint with the Polish club, previously played there 2015-2017
- > started handball in Krasnodar, where his first coach was his father, at the local school
- > invited to Chekhov at age 16; played five seasons in the reserve team before his breakthrough

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

- > born in Leon, started his handball career in Ademar where he made A team debut in 2014/15 season
- > joined Wisla in summer 2022 on a two-year contract
- > also a keen football player as a kid, but chose handball at the age of 14
- > his brother Rodrigo is also a handball player, at JS Cherbourg
- > had national team debut in 2019, also played for Spanish youth team

WCh: B 2023

WCh: B 2015



LAST SEASON'S TOP SCORER



**Tin
Lucin**

@tin_lucin

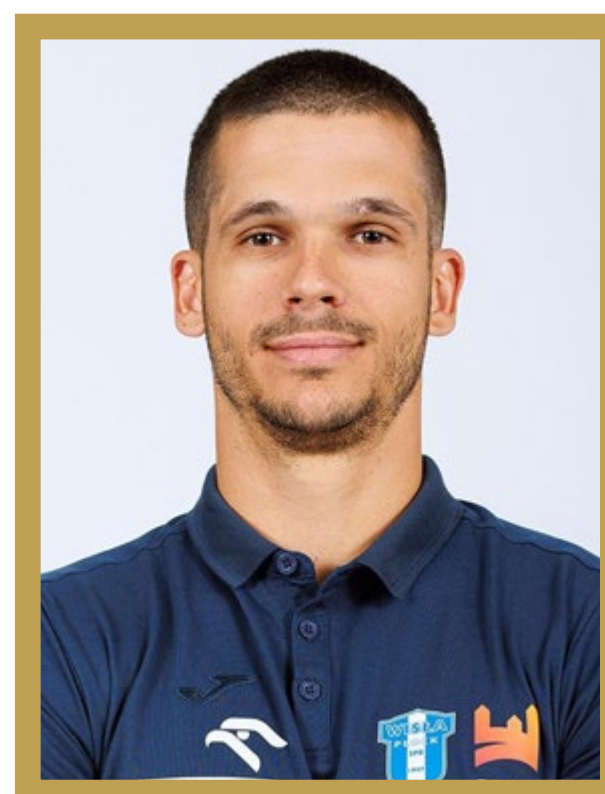
80 GOALS



**Sergei Mark
Kosorotov**

@sergey_mark

66 GOALS



**Lovro
Mihic**

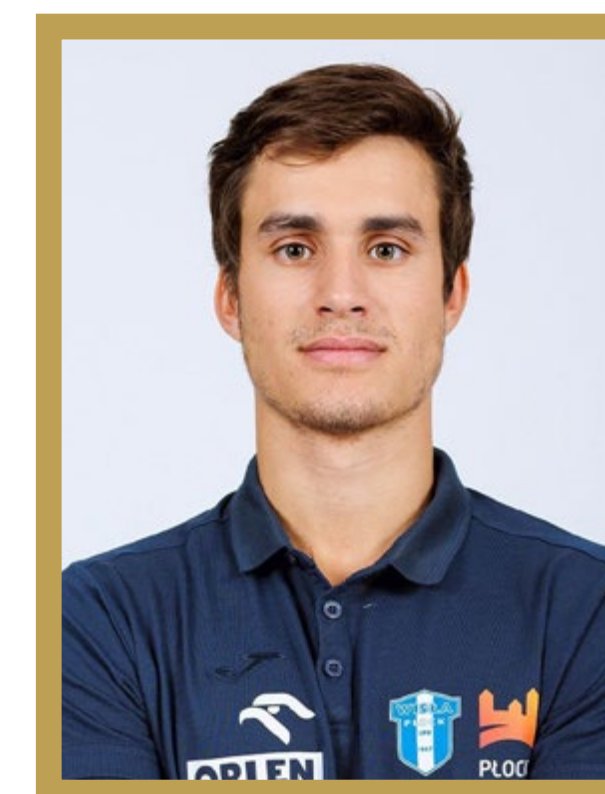
63 GOALS



**Abel
Serdio**

@abelserdio

56 GOALS



**Gonzalo
Pérez Arce**

48 GOALS





TELEKOM VESZPRÉM HC

CLUB ADDRESS

Telekom Veszprém HC
Külso-Kádártai út 5.
8200 Veszprém
Hungary

MEDIA CONTACT

Dr. Beáta Pethő
+36 30 640 3809
beata.petho.dr@handballveszprem.hu

PLAYING HALL

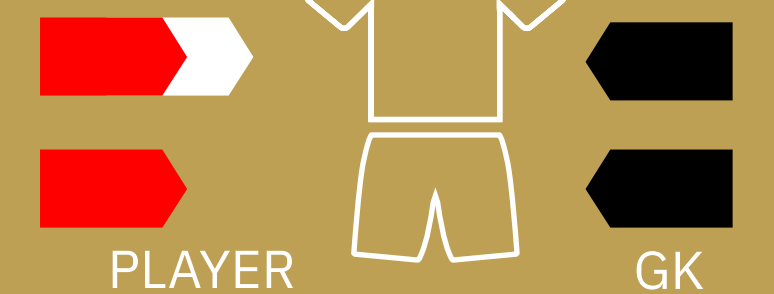


Veszprém Aréna
Külso Kadartai ut 5.
8200 Veszprem
Hungary

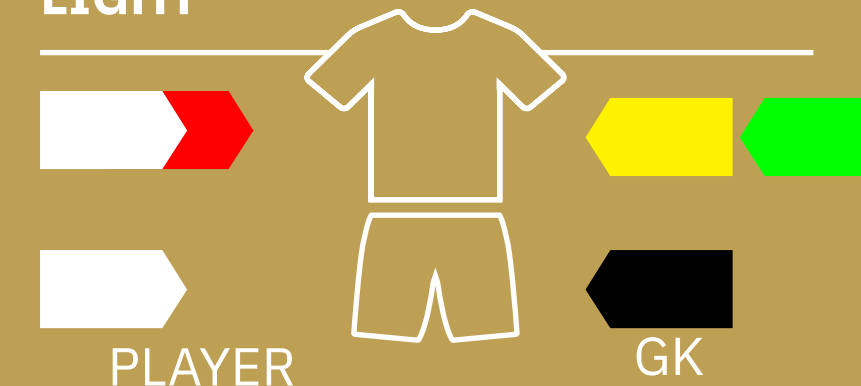
Capacity:
5,019

KIT COLOURS

DARK



LIGHT



<https://telekomveszprem.hu/en>

[f](https://www.facebook.com/veszpremhandballteam) veszpremhandballteam

[t](https://twitter.com/telekomveszprem) @telekomveszprem

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

Six players left, seven players arrived – and the goal is still the same: making it to the TruckScout24 EHF FINAL 4 in Cologne. Telekom Veszprém have been part of the pinnacle event of club handball seven times but the Hungarian record champions have never won the trophy.

In the 2022/23 season, Momir Ilic's team lost in the quarter-finals against later-on finalists from Kielce. Some big names such as goalkeeper Vladimir Cupara, Rasmus Lauge and Manuel Strlek have left, but the list of new arrivals includes top stars such as Ludovic Fabregas and Hugo Descat.

GROUP B



TELEKOM VESZPRÉM HC

MAIN FACTS

- > Veszprém play their 29th EHF Champions League season – their biggest successes were four finals in 2002, 2015, 2016 and 2019
- > two French Olympic champions – Fabregas and Descat – top the names of new arrivals. Sergei Mark Kosorotov, Ignacio Biosca (both Plock) and Lukas Sandell (Aalborg) also have Champions League experience
- > while Rasmus Lauge (Bjerringbro-Silkeborg/DEN) and Manuel Štrlek (Nexe/CRO) returned to their home countries, Vladimir Cupara joined Bucuresti and the duo Adrián Sipos (Melsungen) and Zoran Ilic (Hamburg) made it to German Bundesliga
- > after losing the classic duel in the Hungarian league twice (2021 and 2022) against Pick Szeged, Veszprém struck back in the 2022/23 season to win their 27th trophy; they also won the Hungarian cup for the 30th time
- > Veszprém have played exactly 350 EHF Champions League matches. Only Barça have played more

PAST ACHIEVEMENTS

EHF Champions League

Participations (including 2023/24 season): 29

Final (4): 2001/02, 2014/15, 2015/16, 2018/19

Semi-finals (6): 2002/03, 2005/06, 2013/14, 2016/17, 2019/20, 2021/22

Quarter-finals (11): 1997/98, 1998/99, 1999/00, 2003/04, 2004/05, 2006/07, 2008/09, 2009/10, 2012/13, 2020/21, 2022/23

Last 16 (4): 1993/94, 2010/11, 2011/12, 2017/18

Group Phase (3): 1994/95, 1995/96, 2007/08

Other

Cup Winners' Cup: Winners 2008, Finalists 1997

SEHA-league: 5 titles (2015, 2016, 2020, 2021, 2022)

Hungarian league: 27 titles (1985-86, 1992-1995, 1997-99, 2001-06, 2008-17, 2019, 2023)

Hungarian Cup: 30 titles (1984, 1988-1992, 1994-1996, 1998-2000, 2002-05, 2007, 2009-18, 2021, 2022, 2023)



EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE SUMMARY

| | MP | W | T | L | GF | GA | GD | PTS | Stage |
|---------------------------------|------------|------------|-----------|-----------|-------------------|----|-------------|----------------|---------------|
| 1994/95 Fotex Veszprem HUN | 6 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 131:147 | | -16 | 6:6 | 3rd Gr. A |
| 1995/96 Fotex Veszprem HUN | 6 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 147:144 | | +3 | 6:6 | 3rd Gr. A |
| 1997/98 Fotex KC Veszprém HUN | 8 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 228:204 | | +24 | 11:5 | Quarter-final |
| 1998/99 Fotex KC Veszprém HUN | 8 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 200:188 | | +12 | 7:9 | Quarter-final |
| 1999/00 Fotex KC Veszprém HUN | 8 | 4 | 0 | 4 | 203:202 | | +1 | 8:8 | Quarter-final |
| 2001/02 Fotex KC Veszprém HUN | 12 | 9 | 0 | 3 | 310:267 | | +43 | 18:6 | Runner-up |
| 2002/03 Fotex KC Veszprém HUN | 10 | 8 | 0 | 2 | 276:238 | | +38 | 16:4 | Semi-final |
| 2003/04 Fotex KC Veszprém HUN | 10 | 7 | 0 | 3 | 306:276 | | +30 | 14:6 | Quarter-final |
| 2004/05 Fotex KC Veszprém HUN | 10 | 7 | 0 | 3 | 317:259 | | +58 | 14:6 | Quarter-final |
| 2005/06 MKB Veszprém KC HUN | 12 | 9 | 0 | 3 | 373:318 | | +55 | 18:6 | Semi-final |
| 2006/07 MKB Veszprém KC HUN | 10 | 7 | 0 | 3 | 338:288 | | +50 | 14:6 | Quarter-final |
| 2007/08 MKB Veszprém KC HUN | 6 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 184:171 | | +13 | 6:6 | 3rd Gr. F |
| 2008/09 MKB Veszprém KC HUN | 12 | 8 | 0 | 4 | 351:320 | | +31 | 16:8 | Quarter-final |
| 2009/10 MKB Veszprém KC HUN | 14 | 11 | 0 | 3 | 419:368 | | +51 | 22:6 | Quarter-final |
| 2010/11 MKB Veszprém KC HUN | 12 | 9 | 0 | 3 | 373:338 | | +35 | 18:6 | Last 16 |
| 2011/12 MKB Veszprém KC HUN | 12 | 7 | 0 | 5 | 321:322 | | -1 | 14:10 | Last 16 |
| 2012/13 MKB Veszprém KC HUN | 14 | 11 | 0 | 3 | 410:348 | | +62 | 22:6 | Quarter-final |
| 2013/14 MKB-MVM Veszprém HUN | 16 | 11 | 1 | 4 | 477:410 | | +67 | 23:9 | Fourth Place |
| 2014/15 MKB-MVM Veszprém HUN | 16 | 13 | 1 | 2 | 480:423 | | +57 | 27:5 | Runner-up |
| 2015/16 MVM Veszprém HUN | 20 | 15 | 2 | 3 | 600:539 | | +61 | 32:8 | Runner-up |
| 2016/17 Telekom Veszprém HUN | 20 | 13 | 2 | 5 | 549:511 | | +38 | 28:12 | Third Place |
| 2017/18 Telekom Veszprém HC HUN | 16 | 9 | 2 | 5 | 466:439 | | +27 | 20:12 | Last 16 |
| 2018/19 Telekom Veszprém HC HUN | 20 | 15 | 0 | 5 | 589:543 | | +46 | 30:10 | Runner-up |
| 2019/20 Telekom Veszprém HC HUN | 16 | 10 | 0 | 6 | 509:453 | | +56 | 20:12 | Fourth Place |
| 2020/21 Telekom Veszprém HC HUN | 18 | 12 | 2 | 4 | 583:511 | | +72 | 26:10 | Quarter-final |
| 2021/22 Telekom Veszprém HC HUN | 20 | 10 | 2 | 8 | 651:616 | | +35 | 22:18 | Fourth Place |
| 2022/23 Telekom Veszprém HC HUN | 18 | 10 | 3 | 5 | 579:545 | | +34 | 23:13 | Quarter-final |
| Total | 350 | 230 | 21 | 99 | 10370:9388 | | +982 | 481:219 | |



EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE
CLUB RECORDS

12

MATCHES
Longest
winning run

12

MATCHES
Longest
unbeaten run

47

GOALS
Most goals

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Biggest win | 38:17 (18:9) v HC Granitas Kaunas LTU (h), 06.11.2004 |
| Biggest defeat | 30:18 (16:8) v Badel Zagreb CRO (a), 24.01.1995 |
| Longest winning run | 12 matches (17.11.2018 – 01.06.2019) |
| Longest unbeaten run | 12 matches (17.11.2018 – 01.06.2019) |
| Longest losing run | 4 matches (28.12.2020 – 09.02.2021) |
| Longest run without win | 4 matches (09.01.1999 – 31.10.1999) 4 matches (28.12.2020 – 09.02.2021) |
| Most goals | 47 v CS Dinamo Bucuresti ROU 47:32W (h), 02.12.2021 |
| Most goals opponent | 39 v THW Kiel GER 39:32L (a), 01.03.2007 39 v KS Vive Tauron Kielce POL 39:38L (n), 29.05.2016 39 v Paris Saint-Germain Handball FRA 39:40W (a), 10.03.2022 |
| Most goals both teams | 79 v CS Dinamo Bucuresti ROU 47:32W (h), 02.12.2021 79 v Paris Saint-Germain Handball FRA 39:40W (a), 10.03.2022 |
| Fewest goals | 15 v TEKA Santander ESP 25:15L (a), 15.03.1995 |
| Fewest goals opponent | 13 v SO Chambéry FRA 29:13W (h), 18.11.2001 13 v Panellinios AC Athens GRE 19:13W (h), 17.11.2002 |
| Fewest goals both teams | 32 v Panellinios AC Athens GRE 19:13W (h), 17.11.2002 |

TEAM ROSTER

| No. | First name | Surname | Nat. | Position | Date of birth | Place of birth | cm | kg |
|-----------|----------------|------------------|------------|--------------------|-------------------|------------------------|------------|------------|
| 1 | Ignacio | Biosca | ESP | Goalkeeper | 17/07/1995 | Barcelona , ESP | 193 | 100 |
| 5 | Yahia | Omar | EGY | Right Back | 09/09/1997 | Giza, EGY | 197 | 100 |
| 9 | Hugo | Descat | FRA | Left Wing | 16/08/1992 | Paris, FRA | 183 | 94 |
| 12 | Rodrigo | Corrales | ESP | Goalkeeper | 24/01/1991 | Cangas, ESP | 200 | 112 |
| 17 | Lukas | Sandell | SWE | Right Back | 03/02/1997 | Reslöv, SWE | 191 | 89 |
| 18 | Andreas | Nilsson C | SWE | Line Player | 12/04/1990 | Trelleborg, SWE | 196 | 121 |
| 21 | Bjarki Már | Elísson | ISL | Left Wing | 16/05/1990 | Reykjavik, ISL | 190 | 94 |
| 23 | Patrik | Ligetvári | HUN | Left Back | 13/02/1996 | Várpalota, HUN | 205 | 115 |
| 24 | Gasper | Marguc | SLO | Right Wing | 20/08/1990 | Celje, SLO | 180 | 84 |
| 29 | Nedim | Remili | FRA | Right Back | 18/07/1995 | Creteil, FRA | 195 | 101 |
| 32 | Benedek | Nagy | HUN | Goalkeeper | 17/11/2001 | Budapest, HUN | 195 | 99 |
| 35 | Kentin | Mahé | FRA | Centre Back | 22/05/1991 | Paris, FRA | 186 | 89 |
| 39 | Yehia | Elderaa | EGY | Centre Back | 17/07/1995 | Cairo, EGY | 190 | 97 |
| 46 | Dragan | Pechmalbec | SRB | Line Player | 05/01/1996 | Cahors, FRA | 194 | 106 |
| 52 | Szabó | Tas | ROU | Right Back | 03/02/2002 | Sfantu Gheorghe, ROU | 196 | 90 |
| 55 | Mikita | Vailupau | BLR | Right Wing | 30/07/1995 | Vitebsk, BLR | 187 | 95 |
| 88 | Agustín | Casado | ESP | Centre Back | 21/05/1996 | Almería, ESP | 193 | 94 |
| 89 | Ludovic | Fabregas | FRA | Line Player | 01/07/1996 | Perpignan, FRA | 198 | 104 |
| 99 | Sergei Mark | Kosorotov | RUS | Left Back | 16/06/1999 | Moscow, RUS | 200 | 95 |





COACH

@ilic_momir



Momir Ilic



- > former Serbian international, who took over from David Davis at the helm of Veszprém in summer of 2021
- > ended his playing career in 2019 after spending the last six seasons at Veszprém; previously played for Kiel and Gummersbach in Germany, and Velenje in Slovenia
- > won CL two times with Kiel, in 2010 and 2012
- > played 11 years for the national team and helped Serbia win silver at their home EHF EURO in 2012
- > joined the management of Veszprém following his retirement as a player, before getting his first opportunity as head coach

**EC trophies: CL 2010, 2012
EURO: S 2012 (all as player)**

DEPARTURES

- | | | |
|----------------------|---|-------------------------------|
| Rasmus Lauge Schmidt | > | (Bjerringbro-Silkeborg/DEN) |
| Manuel Štrlek | > | (RK Nexe/CRO) |
| Vladimir Cupara | > | (Dinamo Bukarest/ROU) |
| Adrián Sipos | > | (MT Melsungen/GER) |
| Ilic Zoran | > | (HSV Hamburg/GER) |
| Péter Lukács | > | (Elverum Handball/NOR) - loan |

ARRIVALS

- | | | |
|-----------------------|---|-------------------------|
| Ludovic Fabregas | < | (Barça/ESP) |
| Agustín Casado | < | (MT Melsungen/GER) |
| Hugo Descat | < | (Montpellier HB/FRA) |
| Sergei Mark Kosorotov | < | (Orlen Wisla Plock/POL) |
| Lucas Sandell | < | (Aalborg Håndbold/DEN) |
| Ignacio Biosca | < | (Orlen Wisla Plock/POL) |
| Benedek Nagy | < | (Tatabánya/HUN) |



GOALKEEPER 

Rodrigo Corrales

 @rodrigao016

- > joined Veszprém in 2020 after three season with PSG in France
- > came through youth ranks of Barça and first joined the A team in 2009, gaining his first CL experience in November 2011
- > in 2014, he moved to Wisla Plock, which was coached by then Spanish national team coach Manolo Cadenas and he made his debut for Spain the same year

OG: B 2020; EURO: G 2018, 2020, S 2022; WCh: B 2021, 2023



LEFT WING 

Hugo Descat

 @hdescat

- > joined Veszprém after four years with Montpellier for his second international contract
- > spent two years in Romania with Dinamo Bucuresti between 2017-19
- > earlier played six seasons for another French club, US Créteil
- > was second-best goal scorer of (shortened) CL 2019/20 season with 75 goals; netted 71 times in EL 2020/21 and 73 times in CL 2021/22 for Montpellier
- > won gold with France at 2020 Tokyo Olympics and made All-star Team as left wing

OG: G 2020



LEFT BACK 

Sergei Mark Kosorotov

 @sergey_mark

- > arrived at Veszprém in the summer of 2023 from Plock, previously played for Chekhovskie medvedi
- > played at the WCh 2019 and 2021 and at EHF EURO 2020 and 2022
- > one of the biggest talents of Russian handball and a national team regular
- > wears number 99 because 1999 is his year of birth
- > unusually for Russia has two first names but is usually called just Sergei
- > his father was a famous judoka, while his mother played handball at Luch Moscow



CENTRE BACK 

Kentin Mahe

 @kentinmahe35

- > joined Veszprém in 2018 after spells with Flensburg, Hamburg, Gummersbach and Dormagen, where he was coached by his father Pascal
- > scored 65 goals in CL 2021/22 season, his personal best, and was named in the 2021 CL All-star Team
- > lost all three EC finals he played in: CL 2018/19 with Veszprém, EHF Cup 2014/15 with Hamburg, and CWC 2011/12 with Gummersbach
- > MVP of EHF Cup Finals 2015; M20 EURO 2010 MVP and top scorer (49 goals)

EURO: B 2018; OG: G 2020, S 2016; WCh: G 2015, 2017, S 2023, B 2019



LINE PLAYER 

Ludovic Fabregas

@chiki_lf27



RIGHT BACK 

Lukas Sandell

@lukassandell



RIGHT BACK 

Nedim Remili

@nedim_remili



RIGHT WING 

Gasper Marguc

@gaspermarguc

- > three-time CL winner joined Veszprém in the summer of 2023
- > after winning CL in 2018 with Montpellier, scoring six goals in the final, lifted the trophy again with Barça in 2021 and 2022
- > CL All-star line player in 2016/17 and 2020/21, and best young player in 2018/19
- > was youth world champion in mountain biking before turning to handball only at age 15

- > making his ECh debut in 2022, after winning his first Swedish cap in 2021 at the WCh
- > Swedish back, who arrived in Aalborg in summer of 2020 after two seasons with another Scandinavian CL team, Elverum in Norway
- > second best Aalborg scorer, with 66 goals, in CL 2020/21 season, when the team reached the final
- > previously played for Ystads IF, where he learned a lot from legendary Kim Andersson
- > has a great variety of shots and plenty of speed

- > arrived at Veszprém in February 2023 from Industria Kielce, where he had played since summer 2022 to replace long-term injured Egyptian Yahia Omar
- > previously played six years for Paris Saint-Germain and was six times French champion
- > All-star Team right back at the 2017 and 2023 WCh and the Tokyo 2020 OG, where he was best French scorer
- > his father Kamel was also a professional handball player

- > came to Veszprém in 2014 from Celje, where he had played since 2009
- > had his best CL season for Veszprém in 2021/22, scoring 88 goals
- > once scored 18 goals from 18 attempts for Celje in two matches against THW Kiel's legendary goalkeeper Thierry Omeyer
- > took part in WCh in 2013 when Slovenia placed fourth, and in 2017 when they won bronze

EC trophies: CL 2018, 2021, 2022
OG: G 2020, S 2016; WCh: G 2017, B 2019

EURO: G 2022; WCh: S 2021

EURO: B 2018; OG: G 2020; WCh: G 2017, S 2023, B 2019

WCh: B 2017



LAST SEASON'S TOP SCORER



**Rasmus
Lauge**

@rasmuslauge25

85 GOALS



**Petar
Nenadic**

@pepa_n_34

60 GOALS



**Manuel
Štrlek**

52 GOALS



**Yehia
Elderaa**

@yayaelder3

52 GOALS



**Andreas
Nilsson**

@nilssonandreas1

50 GOALS





BARÇA

CLUB ADDRESS

Barça
 attn: Primer Equip Handbol
 Avda. Aristides Maillol, s/n
 08028 Barcelona
 Spain

MEDIA CONTACT

Miquel Muñoz Sánchez
 +34 676 964 452
 miquel.munoz@fcbarcelona.cat

PLAYING HALL



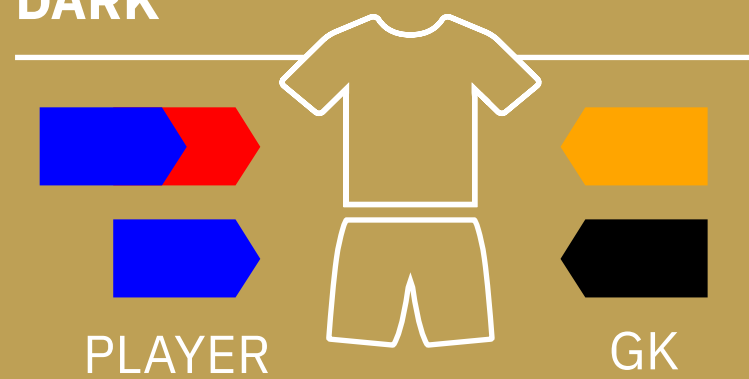
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 Av. Aristides Maillol, s/n
 08028 Barcelona
 Spain

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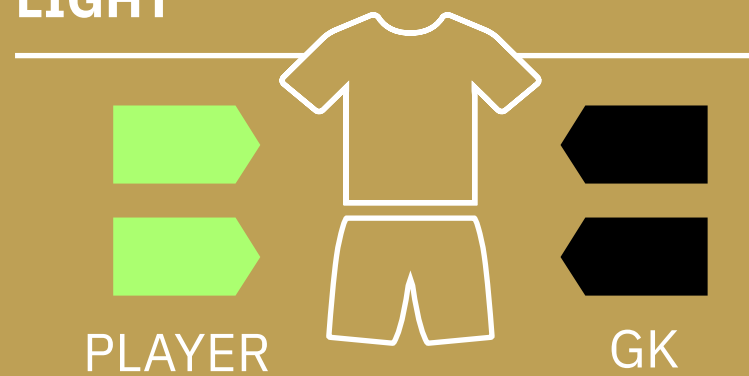
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KIT COLOURS

DARK



LIGHT



<http://www.fcbarcelona.cat/SPR>

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

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

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

After 26 unbeaten matches in the Machineseeker EHF Champions League, Barça lost the semi-final at the TruckScout24 EHF FINAL4 2023 in a dramatic way after a penalty shoot-out against later-on winners SC Magdeburg. Therefore, the Champions League record winners missed the chance to become the first club to win the hat-trick at Cologne.

However, without any major opponents in Spain, Carlos Ortega's squad can focus on the Champions League – and the aim is clear: returning to Cologne and fighting for their 11th trophy.

GROUP B



BARÇA

MAIN FACTS

- > two big names and three-times EHF Champions League winners have left Barça: Ludovic Fabregas joined Veszprém, Luka Cindric followed his former coach and many former Barça players to Dinamo Bucuresti
- > the only new arrivals are two young Spanish talents, who just had their first appearances in the national team: Jaime Gallego (from Torrelavega) and Javi Rodríguez (from Logroño La Rioja)
- > Barça are 30 times Spanish champions including all Asobal trophies since 2011. They have also won the Spanish cup every year since 2014 and 27 times in total
- > coach Carlos Ortega has his third season ahead, after winning the Champions League trophy in his first year (2022) – his seventh individual title after winning the competition six times as a player with Barça
- > in their 26 previous EHF Champions League seasons, Barça made it at least to the semi-finals 19 times and won the trophy 10 times, including four times at Cologne

PAST ACHIEVEMENTS

EHF Champions League

Participations (including 2022/23 season): 26

Winners (10): 1995/96, 1996/97, 1997/98, 1998/99, 1999/00, 2004/05, 2010/11, 2014/15, 2020/21, 2021/22

Final (4): 2000/01, 2009/10, 2012/13, 2019/20

Semi-finals (4): 2007/08, 2013/14, 2016/17, 2018/19

Quarter-finals (4): 2005/06, 2006/07, 2011/12, 2015/16

Last 16 (2): 2003/04, 2017/18

Main Round (1): 2008/09

Other

EHF Cup: Winners 2002/03, Runners-up 2001/02

Cup Winners' Cup: Winners 1993/94, 1994/95

IHF European Champions Cup: 1990/91

IHF Super Globe: 2013, 2014, 2017, 2018

Spanish league: 30 titles (1969, 1973, 1980, 1982, 1986, 1988-92, 1996-2000, 2003, 2006, 2011-23)

Spanish cup: 27 titles (1969, 1972-73, 1983-85, 1988, 1990, 1993-94, 1997-98, 2000, 2004, 2007, 2009-10, 2014-2023)



EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE SUMMARY

| | MP | W | T | L | GF | GA | GD | PTS | Stage |
|-------------------------------------|------------|------------|-----------|-----------|-------------------|----|--------------|----------------|---------------|
| 1995/96 FC Barcelona ESP | 8 | 5 | 2 | 1 | 213:173 | | +40 | 12:4 | Winner |
| 1996/97 FC Barcelona ESP | 12 | 10 | 1 | 1 | 358:264 | | +94 | 21:3 | Winner |
| 1997/98 FC Barcelona ESP | 12 | 9 | 1 | 2 | 358:284 | | +74 | 19:5 | Winner |
| 1998/99 FC Barcelona ESP | 12 | 8 | 3 | 1 | 357:289 | | +68 | 19:5 | Winner |
| 1999/00 FC Barcelona ESP | 12 | 10 | 0 | 2 | 345:271 | | +74 | 20:4 | Winner |
| 2000/01 FC Barcelona ESP | 12 | 8 | 2 | 2 | 316:281 | | +35 | 18:6 | Runner-up |
| 2003/04 FC Barcelona ESP | 8 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 262:212 | | +50 | 11:5 | Last 16 |
| 2004/05 FC Barcelona Cifec ESP | 14 | 8 | 0 | 6 | 400:360 | | +40 | 16:12 | Winner |
| 2005/06 FC Barcelona-Cifec ESP | 10 | 9 | 0 | 1 | 293:244 | | +49 | 18:2 | Quarter-final |
| 2006/07 FC Barcelona-Cifec ESP | 10 | 8 | 0 | 2 | 314:263 | | +51 | 16:4 | Quarter-final |
| 2007/08 FC Barcelona ESP | 14 | 11 | 0 | 3 | 475:407 | | +68 | 22:6 | Semi-final |
| 2008/09 FC Barcelona Borges ESP | 10 | 6 | 0 | 4 | 307:275 | | +32 | 12:8 | 3rd MR Gr. 4 |
| 2009/10 FC Barcelona Borges ESP | 16 | 13 | 1 | 2 | 545:461 | | +84 | 27:5 | Runner-up |
| 2010/11 FC Barcelona Borges ESP | 16 | 10 | 3 | 3 | 501:451 | | +50 | 23:9 | Winner |
| 2011/12 FC Barcelona Intersport ESP | 14 | 11 | 0 | 3 | 459:357 | | +102 | 22:6 | Quarter-final |
| 2012/13 FC Barcelona Intersport ESP | 16 | 13 | 0 | 3 | 488:404 | | +84 | 26:6 | Runner-up |
| 2013/14 FC Barcelona ESP | 16 | 12 | 1 | 3 | 535:542 | 6 | +109 | 25:7 | Third Place |
| 2014/15 FC Barcelona ESP | 16 | 14 | 1 | 1 | 527:408 | | +119 | 29:3 | Winner |
| 2015/16 FC Barcelona Lassa ESP | 16 | 12 | 1 | 3 | 480:431 | | +49 | 25:7 | Quarter-final |
| 2016/17 FC Barcelona Lassa ESP | 18 | 13 | 1 | 4 | 517:460 | | +57 | 27:9 | Fourth Place |
| 2017/18 FC Barcelona Lassa ESP | 16 | 10 | 2 | 4 | 463:433 | | +30 | 22:10 | Last 16 |
| 2018/19 Barça Lassa ESP | 18 | 15 | 0 | 3 | 614:506 | | +108 | 30:6 | Third Place |
| 2019/20 Barça ESP | 16 | 14 | 0 | 2 | 550:445 | | +105 | 28:4 | Runner-up |
| 2020/21 Barça ESP | 20 | 20 | 0 | 0 | 721:562 | | +159 | 40:0 | Winner |
| 2021/22 Barça ESP | 18 | 13 | 2 | 3 | 551:487 | | +64 | 28:8 | Winner |
| 2022/23 Barça ESP | 18 | 16 | 1 | 1 | 633:536 | | +97 | 33:3 | Runner-up |
| Total: | 368 | 283 | 23 | 62 | 11582:9690 | | +1892 | 589:147 | |



**EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE
CLUB RECORDS**

22

MATCHES
Longest
winning run

25

MATCHES
Longest
unbeaten run

46

GOALS
Most goals

Biggest win

17:43 (9:21) v HC Bosna BH Gas Sarajevo BIH (a), 19.11.2011
31:21 (13:10) v SG Flensburg-Handewitt GER (a), 23.02.2007

Biggest defeat

41:31 (20:15) v THW Kiel GER (a), 06.04.2008

Longest winning run

22 matches (21.09.2019 – 28.12.2020)

Longest unbeaten run

25 matches (02.12.2021 – 18.05.2023)

Longest losing run

2 matches 10x (25.03.2000 – 22.04.2000), (16.10.2004 – 23.10.2004),
(11.12.2004 – 05.03.2005), (15.03.2008 – 06.04.2008), (23.11.2008 –
14.02.2009), (30.05.2010 – 25.09.2010), (03.06.2017 – 04.06.2017),
(31.03.2018 – 12.09.2018), (18.11.2021 – 24.11.2021)

Longest run without win

3 matches (30.05.2010 – 03.10.2010)

3 matches (03.06.2017 – 17.09.2017)

3 matches (28.10.2021 - 24.11.2021)

Most goals

46 v KIF Kolding DEN 46:36W (h), 17.10.2009

46 v Elverum Handball NOR 30:46W (a), 06.10.2022

Most goals opponent

41 v THW Kiel GER 41:31L (a), 06.04.2008

41 v SG Flensburg-Handewitt GER 39:41L (n), 31.05.2014

Most goals both teams

82 v KIF Kolding DEN 46:36W (h), 17.10.2009

Fewest goals

21 v ABC Braga POR 21:21D (a), 09.11.1997

21 v SC Pick Szeged HUN 22:21L (a), 23.10.2004

21 v Portland San Antonio ESP 25:21L (a), 25.02.2006

21 v SG Flensburg-Handewitt GER 31:21L (a), 23.02.2007

21 v Rhein-Neckar Löwen GER 22:21L (a), 20.09.2015

Fewest goals opponent

11 v Aalborg Handball DEN 11:31W (a), 15.03.2015

38 v Elgorriaga Bidasoa ESP 23:15W (h), 20.04.1996

Fewest goals both teams

38 v Vardar Vatrost. Skopje MKD 12:26W (a), 06.11.2004

TEAM ROSTER

| No. | First name | Surname | Nat. | Position | Date of birth | Place of birth | cm | kg |
|-----------|----------------|-----------------|------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------------|------------|------------|
| 1 | Gonzalo | Perez de Vargas | ESP | Goalkeeper | 10/01/1991 | Toledo, ESP | 188 | 88 |
| 6 | Pol | Valera | ESP | Centre Back | 19/08/1998 | La Garriga, ESP | 179 | 87 |
| 9 | Jonathan | Carlsbogard | SWE | Left Back | 19/04/1995 | Goteborg, SWE | 195 | 96 |
| 10 | Dika | Mem C | FRA | Right Back | 31/08/1997 | Paris, FRA | 194 | 104 |
| 11 | Jaime | Gallego | ESP | Line Player | 10/12/2001 | Madrid, ESP | 199 | 116 |
| 12 | Emil | Nielsen | DEN | Goalkeeper | 10/03/1997 | Aarhus, DEN | 195 | 125 |
| 13 | Aitor | Ariño | ESP | Left Wing | 05/10/1992 | Penarth, WAL | 184 | 82 |
| 15 | Hampus | Wanne | SWE | Left Wing | 10/12/1993 | Goteborg, SWE | 185 | 84 |
| 18 | Blaz | Janc | SLO | Right Wing | 20/11/1996 | Brezice, SLO | 185 | 85 |
| 19 | Timothy | N'guessan | FRA | Left Back | 18/09/1992 | Massy, FRA | 195 | 108 |
| 20 | Aleix | Gómez | ESP | Right Wing | 07/05/1997 | Sabadell, ESP | 183 | 81 |
| 21 | Filip | Saric | BIH | Goalkeeper | 08/10/2004 | Madrid, ESP | 195 | 75 |
| 22 | Thiagus Petrus | Gonçalves | BRA | Field Player | 25/01/1989 | Juiz de Fora, BRA | 199 | 108 |
| 23 | Oriol | Zarzuela | ESP | Right Wing | 12/08/2002 | Cardedeu, ESP | 180 | 75 |
| 24 | Djordje | Cikusa i Jelcic | ESP | Right Back | 08/12/2005 | Bordils, Girona, ESP | 191 | 83 |
| 35 | Domen | Makuc | SLO | Line Player | 01/07/2000 | Celje, SLO | 188 | 89 |
| 37 | Haniel | Langaro | BRA | Right Back | 07/03/1995 | Umuarama, BRA | 196 | 98 |
| 66 | Melvyn | Richardson | FRA | Right Back | 31/01/1997 | Marseille, FRA | 190 | 90 |
| 82 | Luis | Frade | POR | Line Player | 11/09/1998 | Rio Tinto, POR | 193 | 121 |
| 83 | Ian | Barrufet | ESP | Right Wing | 19/05/2004 | Teia, ESP | 198 | 87 |
| 88 | Petar | Cikusa i Jelcic | ESP | Right Back | 08/12/2005 | Bordils, ESP | 185 | 75 |
| 99 | Javier | Rodríguez | ESP | Line Player | 22/07/2002 | Madrid, ESP | 200 | 107 |





COACH



Carlos Ortega



- > former Spanish international, taking over at Barça in 2021 from the legendary Xavi Pascual
- > successfully defended the CL trophy with Barça in 2021/22 for his first international trophy as a coach
- > in his playing career as a right back and wing, Ortega won the CL six times in his 11 years with Barça
- > scored more than 500 goals for the Spanish national team
- > started his coaching career in Antequera in 2005; later worked at Veszprém (HUN), Kolding (DEN), and Hannover (GER)

**EC trophies: 1996-2000, 2005 (as player), 2022 (as coach);
CWC 1995; EHF Cup 2003
OG: B 2000; EURO: S 1998, B 2000 (all as player)**

DEPARTURES

- Ludovic Fabregas > (Telekom Veszprém/HUN)
- Artur Parera > (BM Puerto Sagunto/ESP)
- Luka Cindric > (Dinamo Bucuresti/ROU)

ARRIVALS

- Jaime Gallego < (Batcho BM Torrelavega/ESP)
- Javi Rodríguez < (BM Logroño La Rioja/ESP)



GOALKEEPER 

Gonzalo Perez de Vargas

 @perezdvargas



LEFT WING 

Hampus Wanne

 @hampusw



LEFT BACK 

Timothee N'guessan

 @timoute19



CENTRE BACK 

Pol Valera

 @polvalera

- > formed in Barcelona; returned to the club in 2014 after stints with Granollers and Toulouse focused on gaining experience
- > won his fourth CL title in 2021/22 season; was the CL 2016/17 All-star goalkeeper
- > represented Spain in all age categories; forms duo with Veszprém's Rodrigo Corrales
- > medallist at five consecutive EHF EUROs, starting in 2014

EC trophies: CL 2011, 2015, 2021, 2022
 OG: B 2020; EURO: G 2018, 2020, S 2022, 2016, B 2014; WCh: B 2021, 2023

- > helped Sweden win EHF EURO silver in 2018 and gold in 2022, but missed the 2020 tournament
- > best left wing of the WCh 2021 and of the 2022 EHF Champions League
- > born in 1993, he joined Flensburg in 2013, aged only 20
- > moved to Barça in the summer of 2022, after playing for nine seasons in Flensburg
- > in a relationship with Swedish national player Daniela Gustin

EC trophies: CL 2014
 EURO: S 2018, G 2022; WCh: S 2021

- > French international, who arrived at Barça in the summer of 2016 from his only previous club: Chambéry in France
- > scored 41 goals for Barça on their way to the CL title in 2021/22
- > struggled with injuries and missed EHF EURO 2020, but got back his best in the following seasons, winning Olympic gold with France and the CL twice with Barça

EC trophies: CL: 2021, 2022OG: G 2020, S 2016;
 EURO: B 2018; WCh: G 2017, B 2019

- > began career at Granollers before joining Barça in early 2023
- > made himself a name in the Spanish league through impressive performances in the 2021/22 season
- > penalty throw specialist
- > one of his strong weapons is the cooperation with the line player combined with efficient shooting

WCh: B 2023



LINE PLAYER 

Luís Frade

 @frade_98

- > started in his native Portugal at Aquas Santas, moved to Sporting CP in 2018
- > joined FC Barcelona during the transfer window in 2020, signing a four-year contract
- > led Portugal to a fourth-place finish at the 2019 Men's Junior World Championship; was picked for the All-star Team
- > regular in Portuguese senior national team; EHF EURO 2020 was his first major event

EC trophies: CL 2021, 2022



RIGHT BACK 

Melvyn Richardson

 @Melvyn_richardson

- > French international, who joined Barça in 2021 from Montpellier HB
- > son of Jackson Richardson, who won CL in 2001 with Portland San Antonio – 17 years before Melvyn would repeat the feat with Montpellier
- > played for the first time with the French national team in June 2017; won gold at the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games and a WCh bronze in 2019

EC trophies: CL 2018, 2022
OG: G 2020; WCh: S 2023, B 2019



RIGHT BACK 

Dika Mem

 @dikamem

- > French international, who joined from French club Tremblay in 2016 at age 19
- > contributed massively to Barça's back-to-back CL title wins, scoring 93 goals in CL 2020/21 and 100 in CL 2021/22 season
- > CL All-star right back in 2017/18 and again in 2020/21 and 2021/22
- > won one Olympic, three WCh medals and EHF EURO bronze with France

EC trophies: CL 2021, 2022
OG: G 2020; EURO: B 2018; WCh: G 2017, S 2023, B 2019



RIGHT WING 

Aleix Gómez

 @aleixgomez11

- > came through club's youth ranks as a young talent since 2009
- > CL top scorer in 2021/22 after netting 22 times at the EHF FINAL4 2022 and raising his season tally to 104
- > EHF FINAL4 all-time top scorer with 70 goals
- > also played key role in Barça's CL triumph in 2020/21, scoring 92 goals that season
- > previously shared right wing position with club icon Victor Tomas, who retired in 2020
- > made CL All-star Team in 2019/20 as best young player, and in 2020/21 and 2021/22 as right wing

EC trophies: CL 2021, 2022
OG: B 2020; EURO: G 2020, S 2022; WCh: B 2021



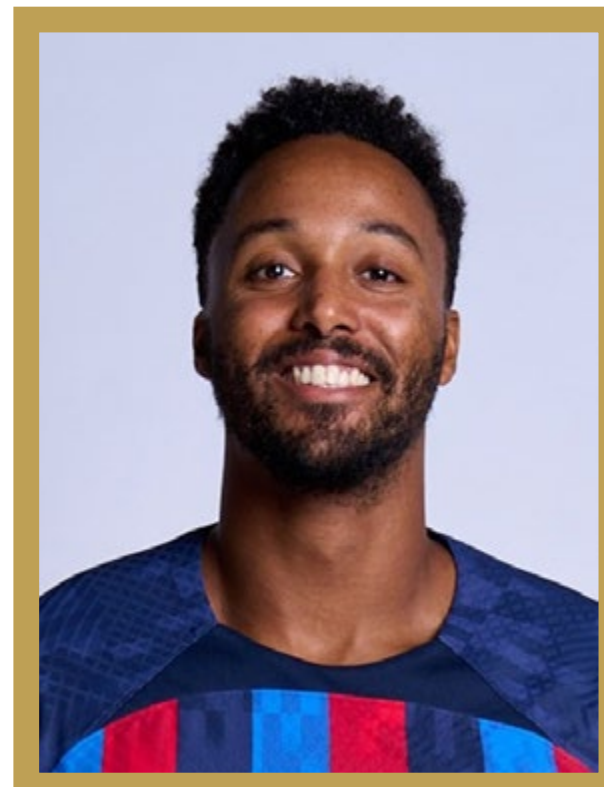
LAST SEASON'S TOP SCORER



**Dika
Mem**

@dikamem

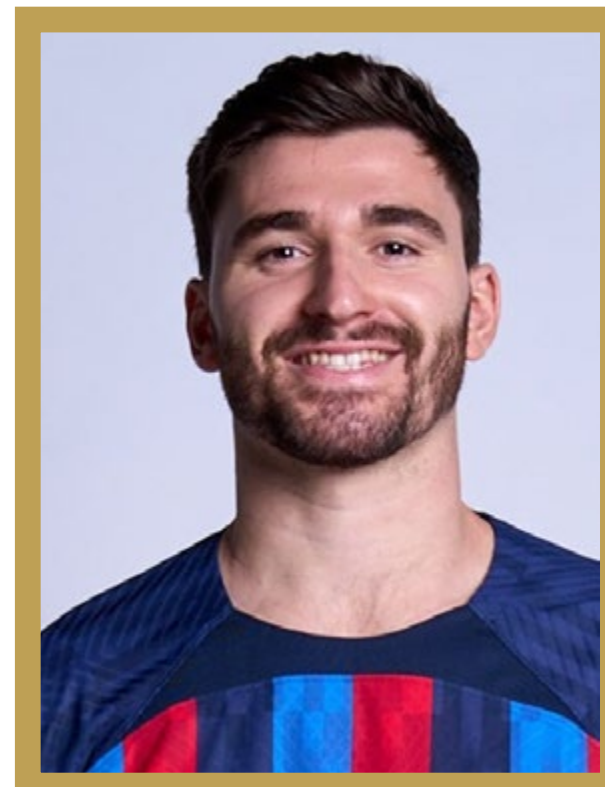
87 GOALS



**Timothy
N'guessan**

@timoute19

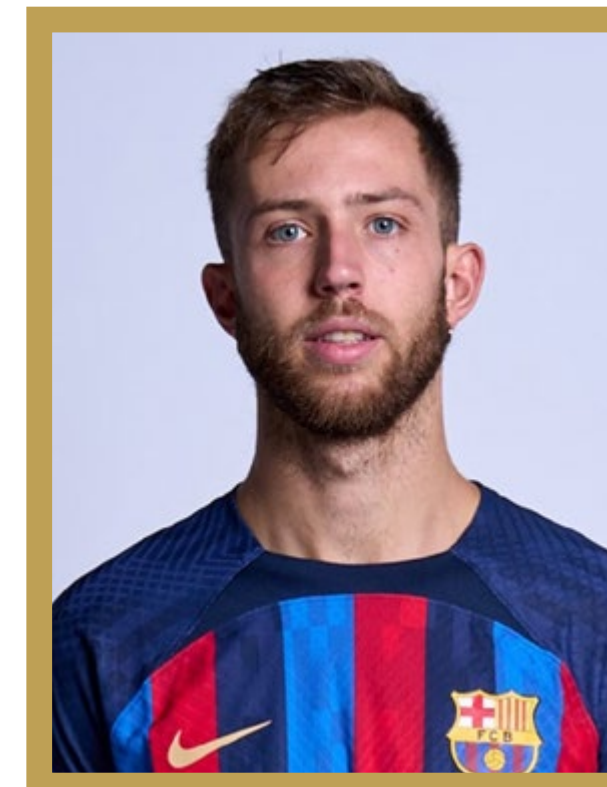
72 GOALS



**Ludovic
Fabregas**

@chiki_lf27

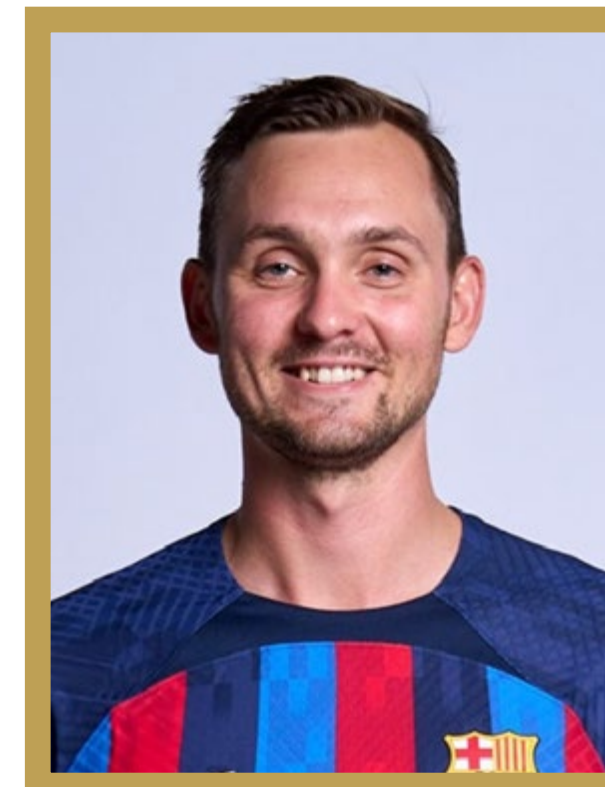
71 GOALS



**Aleix
Gómez**

@aleixgomez11

67 GOALS



**Hampus
Wanne**

@hampusw

62 GOALS





RK CELJE PIVOVARNA LASKO

CLUB ADDRESS

RK Celje Pivovarna Laško
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3000 Celje
Slovenia

MEDIA CONTACT

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Nina Plank
+38651223160
nina.plank@rk-celje.si

PLAYING HALL



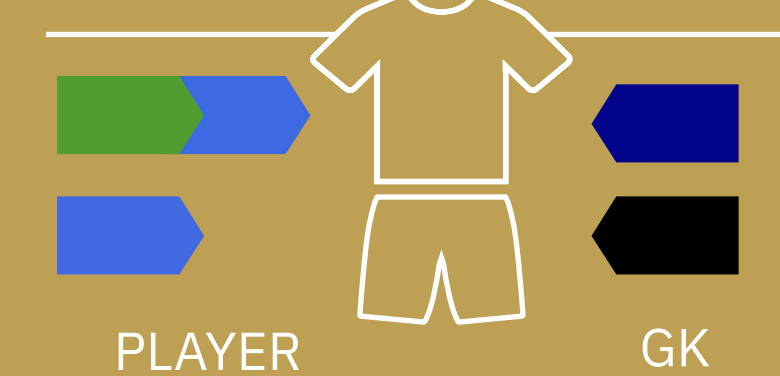
Dvorana Zlatorog
Opekarniska cesta 15
3000 Celje
Slovenia

Capacity:

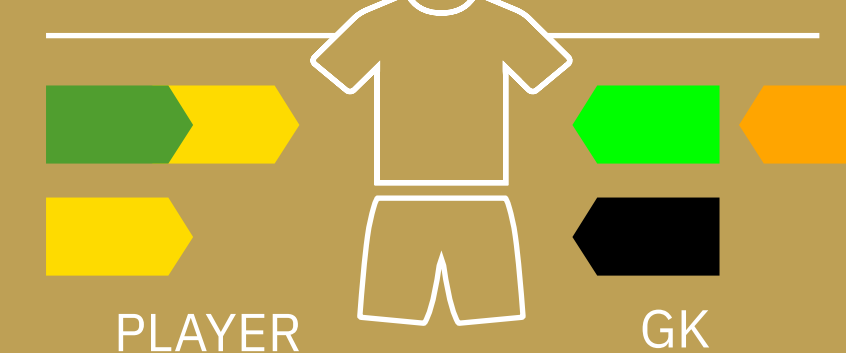
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KIT COLOURS

DARK



LIGHT



<http://www.rk-celje.si/>

<https://www.facebook.com/rkceljepivovarnalasko>

<https://twitter.com/RKCPL>

<https://www.instagram.com/rkcpl/?hl=en>

RK Celje Pivovarna Lasko are constantly in a state of transition. For years, the Slovenian record champions have developed many new talents – and those youngsters such as Domen Makuc (Barça), who was awarded best young player of the season 2022/23 at the EHF Excellence Awards, then transfer to the biggest clubs of Europe. This year, Gal Marguc and Aleks Vlah are examples of this constant history of the 2004 Champions League winners, leaving for other clubs.

That could, however, be an advantage for Celje, who bring a refreshed and talented squad to the Machineseecker EHF Champions League this season and hope to reach the knock-out stages after their seventh-place finish in the group last year.

GROUP B



RK CELJE PIVOVARNA LASKO

MAIN FACTS

- > after the group phase of the 2022/23 season, Aleks Vlah was top scorer of the EHF Champions League. This summer, he left to join Danish top side Aalborg, while Marguc joined RK Nexø
- > besides, Matic Suholeznik (to Zagreb), Patrik Martinovic (to AEK Athens) and Tilen Strmljan (to Hannover Burgdorf) joined foreign clubs
- > the top signing among many young players is Serb Stefan Dodic, who was MVP of the U20 EHF EURO 2022 and arrives from Zagreb; Rok Zaponsek returns from Swiss runners-up Kriens-Luzern to Celje
- > Alem Toskic starts his third season as coach of Celje; in 2022/23 his side beat THW Kiel and HBC Nantes, but failed to proceed from the group phase
- > Celje have their 28th Champions League season ahead – only Zagreb and Veszprém have been part of the top-flight competition more often

PAST ACHIEVEMENTS

EHF Champions League

Participations (including 2023/24 season): 28

Winner (1): 2003/04

Semi-final (6): 1996/97, 1997/98, 1998/99, 1999/2000, 2000/01, 2004/05

Quarter-final (2): 2001/02, 2005/06

Last 16 (5): 1995/96, 2006/07, 2012/13, 2013/14, 2019/20

Play-offs (1): 2020/21

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

Group Phase (9): 1993/94, 1994/95, 2010/11, 2014/15, 2015/16, 2016/17, 2017/18, 2018/19, 2022/23

Qualification (1): 2009/10

Other

EHF Cup: Quarter-finals 2009/10

Cup Winners' Cup: Semi-finals 2002/03, 2011/12

Slovenian league: 26 titles (1991-2001, 2003-08, 2010, 2014-20, 2022, 2023)

Slovenian cup: 22 times (1992-2001, 2004, 2006, 2007, 2010, 2012-18, 2023)



EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE SUMMARY

| | MP | W | T | L | GF | GA | GD | PTS | Stage |
|--------------------------------------|------------|------------|-----------|------------|------------------|----|-----------|----------------|---------------|
| 1993/94 Celje 'Pivovarna Lasko' SLO | 6 | 2 | 0 | 4 | 120:116 | | +4 | 4:8 | 4th Gr. A |
| 1996/97 Celje Pivovarna Lasko SLO | 10 | 7 | 1 | 2 | 254:213 | | +41 | 15:5 | Semi-final |
| 1997/98 Celje Pivovarna Lasko SLO | 10 | 8 | 0 | 2 | 268:234 | | +34 | 16:4 | Semi-final |
| 1998/99 Celje Pivovarna Lasko SLO | 10 | 7 | 1 | 2 | 290:245 | | +45 | 15:5 | Semi-final |
| 1999/00 Celje Pivovarna Lasko SLO | 10 | 7 | 0 | 3 | 294:250 | | +44 | 14:6 | Semi-final |
| 2000/01 Celje Pivovarna Lasko SLO | 10 | 6 | 1 | 3 | 292:254 | | +38 | 13:7 | Semi-final |
| 2001/02 Celje Pivovarna Lasko SLO | 8 | 6 | 0 | 2 | 232:217 | | +15 | 12:4 | Quarter-final |
| 2003/04 Celje Pivovarna Lasko SLO | 14 | 10 | 2 | 2 | 447:398 | | +49 | 22:6 | Winner |
| 2004/05 Celje Pivovarna Lasko SLO | 12 | 8 | 1 | 3 | 360:327 | | +33 | 17:7 | Semi-final |
| 2005/06 Celje Pivovarna Lasko SLO | 10 | 7 | 0 | 3 | 311:273 | | +38 | 14:6 | Quarter-final |
| 2006/07 Celje Pivovarna Lasko SLO | 8 | 6 | 0 | 2 | 272:237 | | +35 | 12:4 | Last 16 |
| 2007/08 Celje Pivovarna Lasko SLO | 12 | 4 | 2 | 6 | 342:344 | | -2 | 10:14 | 4th MR Gr. 4 |
| 2008/09 Celje Pivovarna Lasko SLO | 10 | 4 | 0 | 6 | 296:287 | | +9 | 8:12 | 4th MR Gr. 2 |
| 2010/11 HC Celje Pivovarna Lasko SLO | 10 | 3 | 0 | 7 | 300:332 | | -32 | 6:14 | 5th Gr. A |
| 2012/13 Celje Pivovarna Lasko SLO | 12 | 5 | 0 | 7 | 305:324 | | -19 | 10:14 | Last 16 |
| 2013/14 Celje Pivovarna Lasko SLO | 12 | 5 | 1 | 6 | 322:327 | | -5 | 11:13 | Last 16 |
| 2014/15 RK Celje Pivovarna Lasko SLO | 10 | 3 | 0 | 7 | 284:293 | | -9 | 6:14 | 5th Gr. C |
| 2015/16 RK Celje Pivovarna Lasko SLO | 14 | 3 | 1 | 10 | 385:398 | | -13 | 7:21 | 7th Gr. A |
| 2016/17 RK Celje Pivovarna Lasko SLO | 14 | 3 | 3 | 8 | 399:424 | | -25 | 9:19 | 7th Gr. B |
| 2017/18 RK Celje Pivovarna Lasko SLO | 14 | 3 | 1 | 10 | 398:434 | | -36 | 7:21 | 7th Gr. B |
| 2018/19 RK Celje Pivovarna Lasko SLO | 14 | 3 | 1 | 10 | 380:416 | | -36 | 7:21 | 8th Gr. B |
| 2019/20 RK Celje Pivovarna Lasko SLO | 14 | 3 | 0 | 11 | 355:429 | | -74 | 6:22 | Last 16* |
| 2020/21 RK Celje Pivovarna Laško SLO | 16 | 4 | 0 | 12 | 419:481 | | -62 | 8:24 | Play-offs |
| 2022/23 RK Celje Pivovarna Laško SLO | 14 | 3 | 0 | 11 | 412:475 | | -63 | 6:22 | 7th Gr. B |
| Total: | 274 | 120 | 15 | 139 | 7737:7728 | | +9 | 255:293 | |

* Last 16 and Quarter-finals cancelled due to Covid-19 pandemic.



EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE
CLUB RECORDS

6 MATCHES
Longest winning run

8 MATCHES
Longest unbeaten run

44 GOALS
Most goals

Biggest win 37:17 (16:9) v Redbergslids IK SWE (h), 18.11.2000

Biggest defeat 45:21 (21:13) v Barça ESP (a), 21.09.2019

Longest winning run 6 matches (23.03.1997 – 24.01.1998)
6 matches (25.03.2000 – 09.12.2000)

Longest unbeaten run 8 matches (31.10.2004 – 02.04.2005)

Longest losing run 10 matches (24.11.2019 – 14.10.2020)

Longest run without win 10 matches (25.11.2018 – 13.10.2019)
10 matches (24.11.2019 – 14.10.2020)

Most goals 44 v HC ‘Granitas-Karys’ LTU 44:27W (h), 22.11.2008

Most goals opponent 45 v Barça ESP 45:21L (a), 21.09.2019

Most goals both teams 77 v FC Barcelona Borges ESP 44:33L (a), 09.10.2010

Fewest goals 17 v UHK West Wien AUT 18:17L (a), 06.04.1994

Fewest goals opponent 16 v SG Wallau-Massenheim GER 23:16W (h), 13.02.1994
16 v Redbergslids Göteborg SWE 31:16W (h), 14.11.1998

Fewest goals both teams 35 v UHK West Wien AUT 18:17L (a), 06.04.1994

TEAM ROSTER

| No. | First name | Surname | Nat. | Position | Date of birth | Place of birth | cm | kg |
|-----------|-------------|-----------------|------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------|------------|------------|
| 3 | Luka | Peric | BIH | Right Wing | 13/03/2003 | Banja Luka, BIH | 195 | 88 |
| 4 | Mai | Marguc | SLO | Right Back | 20/01/2006 | Celje, SLO | 188 | 84 |
| 6 | Tadej | Mazej | SLO | Left Wing | 31/07/1998 | Slovenj Gradec, SLO | 190 | 90 |
| 9 | Grega | Krecic | SLO | Right Back | 25/04/1996 | Postojna, SLO | 187 | 100 |
| 10 | Tim | Cokan | SLO | Right Wing | 07/06/2001 | Celje, SLO | 191 | 85 |
| 13 | Nik | Cirovic | SLO | Left Back | 23/03/2002 | Postojna, SLO | 188 | 86 |
| 14 | Vukasin | Antonijevic | SRB | Centre Back | 10/03/2004 | Sabac, SRB | 188 | 85 |
| 16 | Ian | Mesarec | SLO | Goalkeeper | 13/01/2004 | Ptuj, SLO | 197 | 83 |
| 17 | Ante | Ivankovic | CRO | Left Back | 15/08/2000 | Zagreb, CRO | 195 | 93 |
| 18 | Mitja | Janc | SLO | Centre Back | 05/04/2003 | Brezice, SLO | 182 | 86 |
| 21 | Leon | Gregoric | SLO | Line Player | 21/03/2003 | Celje, SLO | 191 | 100 |
| 23 | Amir | Muhovic | BIH | Line Player | 02/12/1999 | Sarajevo, BIH | 204 | 104 |
| 24 | Uroš | Milicevic | SLO | Left Back | 29/09/1999 | Ljubljana, SLO | 199 | |
| 29 | Vid | Kacicnik | SLO | Left Wing | 29/03/2002 | Celje, SLO | 184 | 82 |
| 32 | Rok | Zaponšek | SLO | Goalkeeper | 30/10/1992 | Slovenj Gradec, SLO | 192 | 92 |
| 33 | Stefan | Žabic | SLO | Line Player | 17/02/1999 | Celje, SLO | 202 | 110 |
| 44 | Stefan | Dodic | SRB | Centre Back | 13/03/2003 | Vranje, SRB | 197 | 92 |
| 55 | Žiga | Mlakar C | SLO | Right Back | 16/05/1990 | Celje, SLO | 193 | 100 |
| 66 | Filip | Rakita | SLO | Left Wing | 09/11/2001 | Celje, SLO | 185 | 80 |
| 99 | Gal | Gaberšek | SLO | Goalkeeper | 23/08/2001 | Trbovlje, SLO | 200 | 95 |





COACH

@alemtoskic


**Alem
Toskić**


- > former Serbian international, who returned to Celje in 2021 as a coach, after having played for the club in 2007-13
- > ended his playing career in 2019 at Csurgói KK and became head coach of the Hungarian club for two seasons
- > was an experienced line player, who started his career in Fidelinka and also played for Partizan
- > his first international experience as a player came at Zagreb in 2005; later he also played for Vardar and Velenje
- > part of the Serbian team that won silver at EHF EURO 2012

EURO: S 2012 (as a player)

DEPARTURES

| | | |
|-------------------|---|-----------------------------|
| Aleks Vlah | > | (Aalborg/DEN) |
| Gal Marguč | > | (Nexe/CRO) |
| Matic Suholežnik | > | (Zagreb/CRO) |
| Patrik Martinović | > | (AEK Athens/GRE) |
| Nebojša Bojić | > | N/A |
| Tilen Strmljan | > | (TSV Hannover Burgdorf/GER) |

ARRIVALS

| | | |
|----------------|---|------------------------|
| Luka Perić | < | (Borac Banja Luka/BIH) |
| Grega Krečič | < | (Csurgói KK/HUN) |
| Nik Ćirović | < | (Jeruzalem Ormož/SLO) |
| Leon Gregorič | < | (Maribor Branik/SLO) |
| Uroš Miličević | < | (Riko Ribnica/SLO) |
| Vid Kačičnik | < | (Maribor Branik/SLO) |
| Stefan Dodić | < | (Zagreb/CRO) |
| Rok Zaponšek | < | (Kriens-Luzern/SUI) |



GOALKEEPER 

Rok Zaponšek

 @rokozaponsek32



LEFT WING 

Tadej Mazej

 @majejtadej



LEFT BACK 

Ante Ivankovic

 @anteivankovic00



CENTRE BACK 

Mitja Janc

 @mitja_janc

- > born in Slovenj Gradec and raised by Celje's rival Gorenje Velenje
- > got his first EHF Champions League experience with Velenje
- > scored one goal in the 2017/18 season in a match vs Skjern
- > after stints with Csurgó in Hungary and Kriens-Luzern in Switzerland joined Celje in the summer of 2023

- > from Velenje, where he also started his handball career
- > never left Slovenia, joined Celje in 2020, only his second club so far
- > part of Slovenia national team, also played in younger categories
- > forms duo with Filip Rakita

- > Croatian international from Zagreb
- > started his career at Dubrava Zagreb and joined Celje in 2021
- > scored 44 goals in the CL 2022/23
- > talented left back was part of Croatia's youth categories, also got invited to A national team
- > had his first European season in 2018 with Dubrava in EHF Cup

- > young talented centre back, started his career in Sevnica
- > spent his youth in Celje, played for Maribor Branik before joining Celje again
- > MVP and top scorer at the M19 EHF EURO 2021
- > younger brother of CL winner Blaz Janc



CENTRE BACK 

Stefan Dodic

 @stefan_dodic44



LINE PLAYER 

Amir Muhovic

 @muhovic_23



RIGHT BACK 

Ziga Mlakar

 @zmlakar



RIGHT WING 

Tim Cokan

 @tim_cokan

- > 2003-born from Vranje, Serbia joined Celje in the summer of 2023 from Zagreb, where he was on a loan from Kielce
- > at the age of 14 transferred to Metalurg; one year later became youngest goal-scorer in the CL 2018/19
- > also played for Vardar 1961, in summer 2022 signed contract with Kielce
- > elected as MVP of the M20 EHF EURO
- > with style of play and talent, one to follow in the future

- > raised in Sarajevo, where he also played for his first club Bosna
- > joined Celje in the summer of 2022 from Ljubuski on a four-year contract
- > towering line player scored just three goals in his first season, but should see much more playing time in 2023/24

- > Slovenian back who started playing handball at age 12; occasional member of Slovenia national team
- > Wisla Plock was his first foreign club, also played for PPD Zagreb and Maribor Branik
- > spent most of his career at Celje, where he returned in 2020
- > one of the leading players of Slovenia's successful 1990 generation
- > had his best CL season in 2015/16 with Celje, scoring 60 goals

- > one of the products of the Celje talent hatchery
- > joined the senior team already in the age of 17, but his first breakthrough season was in 2022/23 with 23 goals
- > following the departure of Gal Margus in the summer of 2023 should share the position with the newly arrived Bosnian youngster Luka Peric



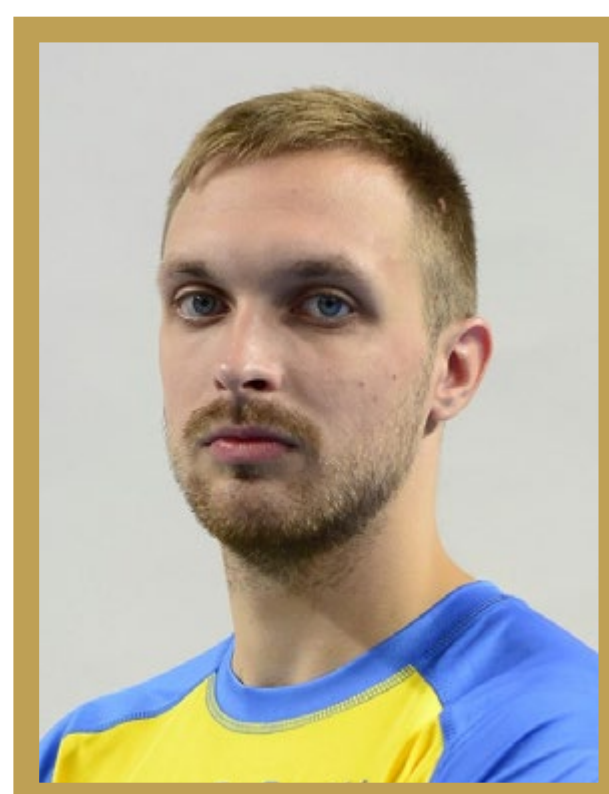
LAST SEASON'S TOP SCORER



**Aleks
Vlah**

@aleksvlah

88 GOALS



**Gal
Marguc**

@galmarguc

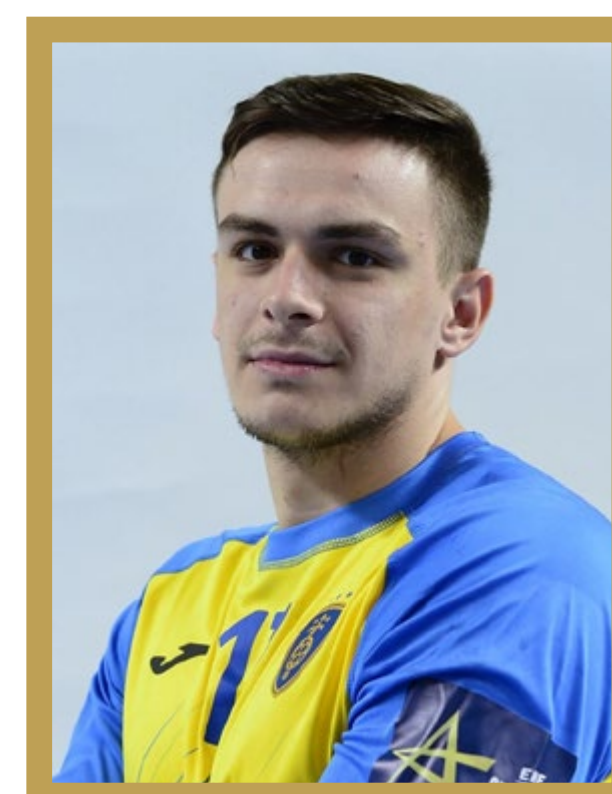
57 GOALS



**Tilen
Strmljan**

@tilenstrmljan

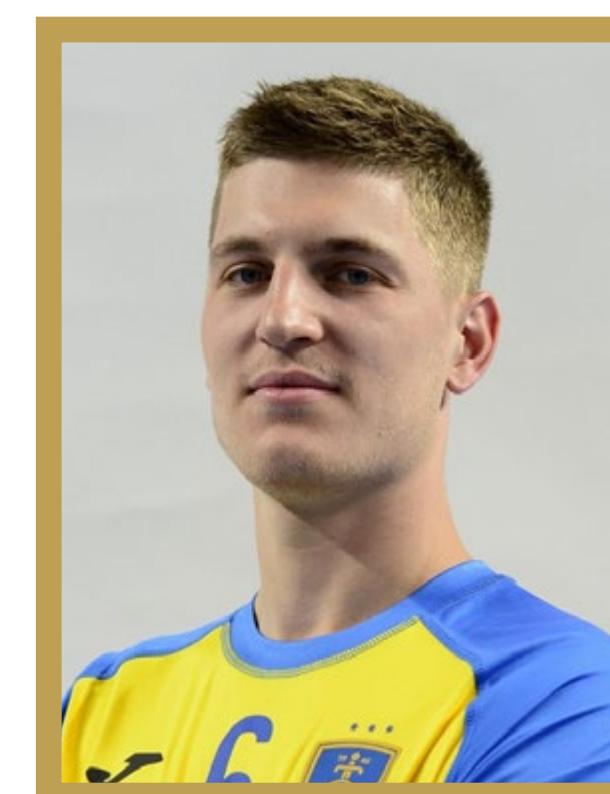
53 GOALS



**Ante
Ivankovic**

@anteivankovic00

44 GOALS



**Tadej
Mazej**

@majejtadej

31 GOALS





MONTPELLIER HB

CLUB ADDRESS

Montpellier HB
Centre Jean Paul Lacombe - 1000
34090 Montpellier
France

MEDIA CONTACT

Florent Crossoir
+33632558694
f.crossoir@montpellierhandball.com

GROUP B

PLAYING HALLS



FDI Stadium

1000 Av. du Val de Montferrand
34090 Montpellier, France
Capacity: 3,000



Sud de France Arena

Rue de la Foire
34470 Pérols/Montpellier
Capacity: 8,000

KIT COLOURS

DARK



LIGHT



- <http://www.montpellierhandball.com/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/montpellierhandball>
- <https://twitter.com/mhbofficiel>
- <https://www.instagram.com/mhbofficiel/>

After a one-year-absence, Montpellier Handball are back in the Machineseker EHF Champions League. In the 2022/23 season, the French side made it to the EHF European League Finals, but lost both matches against Berlin and Göppingen.

Patrice Canayer starts his 30th consecutive season as coach of the two-times EHF Champions League winners – and again, he has to cope with the loss of some stars such as Hugo Descat or Julien Bos.



MONTPELLIER HB



MAIN FACTS

- > no other coach in European club handball has a longer stint than Patrice Canayer, who has coached Montpellier since 1994
- > Montpellier are still the only French club to win the Champions League (2003 and 2018)
- > after winning the French league 14 times, Montpellier did not become French champions since 2012
- > the four new arrivals come from four different countries: Spaniard Jaime Fernández, Brazilian Bryan Monte, Swede Sebastian Karlsson and Egyptian Ahmed Hesham
- > six players have left Montpellier, including Georgian top talent Giorgi Tskhovrebadze (to VfL Gummersbach), Julien Bos (to HBC Nantes) and Hugo Descat (to Veszprém)

PAST ACHIEVEMENTS

EHF Champions League

Participations (including 2023/24 season): 24

Winners (2): 2002/03, 2017/18

Semi-final (1): 2004/05

Quarter-final (6): 2000/01, 2005/06, 2009/10, 2010/11, 2016/17, 2021/22

Last 16 (6): 1995/96, 2003/04, 2006/07, 2011/12, 2014/15, 2016/17, 2019/20

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

Group Phase (4): 1998/99, 1999/00, 2012/13, 2018/19

Qualification (1): 2013/14

Other

EHF European League: Quarter-final: 2020/21

EHF Cup: Final 2013/14; Quarter-final: 1996/97; Last 16: 1993/94, 1994/95;

Last 32: 1997/98

Cup Winners' Cup: Quarter-final 2001/02

French league: 14 titles (1995, 1998-2000, 2002-06, 2008-12)

French cup: 13 titles (1999-2003, 2005-06, 2008-10, 2012-13, 2016)



EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE SUMMARY

| | MP | W | T | L | GF | GA | GD | PTS | Stage |
|--|------------|------------|-----------|-----------|------------------|----|-------------|----------------|---------------|
| 1998/99 Montpellier HB FRA | 6 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 134:134 | | 0 | 6:6 | 3rd Gr. A |
| 1999/00 Montpellier HB FRA | 6 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 139:148 | | -9 | 6:6 | 3rd Gr. A |
| 2000/01 Montpellier HB FRA | 8 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 193:193 | | 0 | 9:7 | Quarter-final |
| 2002/03 Montpellier HB FRA | 12 | 8 | 1 | 3 | 334:311 | | +23 | 17:7 | Winner |
| 2003/04 Montpellier HB FRA | 8 | 6 | 0 | 2 | 216:199 | | +17 | 12:4 | Last 16 |
| 2004/05 Montpellier HB FRA | 12 | 9 | 0 | 3 | 375:328 | | +47 | 18:6 | Semi-final |
| 2005/06 Montpellier HB FRA | 10 | 6 | 0 | 4 | 282:272 | | +10 | 12:8 | Quarter-final |
| 2006/07 Montpellier HB FRA | 8 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 224:198 | | +26 | 11:5 | Last 16 |
| 2007/08 Montpellier HB FRA | 12 | 7 | 0 | 5 | 358:348 | | +10 | 14:10 | 3rd MR Gr. 2 |
| 2008/09 Montpellier HB FRA | 10 | 6 | 1 | 3 | 295:275 | | +20 | 13:7 | 4th MR Gr. 3 |
| 2009/10 Montpellier HB FRA | 14 | 10 | 2 | 2 | 447:372 | | +75 | 22:6 | Quarter-final |
| 2010/11 Montpellier Agglomeration HB FRA | 14 | 10 | 0 | 4 | 442:379 | | +63 | 20:8 | Quarter-final |
| 2011/12 Montpellier Agglomeration HB FRA | 12 | 6 | 0 | 6 | 357:357 | | 0 | 12:12 | Last 16 |
| 2012/13 Montpellier Agglomeration HB FRA | 10 | 2 | 2 | 6 | 301:311 | | -10 | 6:14 | 5th Gr. A |
| 2014/15 Montpellier Agglomeration HB FRA | 12 | 4 | 2 | 6 | 351:377 | | -26 | 10:14 | Last 16 |
| 2015/16 Montpellier HB FRA | 16 | 3 | 1 | 12 | 429:472 | | -43 | 7:25 | Last 16 |
| 2016/17 Montpellier HB FRA | 16 | 11 | 1 | 4 | 476:425 | | +51 | 23:9 | Quarter-final |
| 2017/18 Montpellier HB FRA | 18 | 14 | 1 | 3 | 530:464 | | +66 | 29:7 | Winner |
| 2018/19 Montpellier HB FRA | 14 | 3 | 1 | 10 | 377:414 | | -37 | 7:21 | 7th Gr. A |
| 2019/20 Montpellier HB FRA | 14 | 8 | 1 | 5 | 386:375 | | +11 | 17:11 | Last 16* |
| 2021/22 Montpellier HB FRA | 18 | 8 | 4 | 6 | 538:526 | | +12 | 20:16 | Quarter-final |
| Total: | 250 | 136 | 19 | 95 | 7184:6878 | | +306 | 291:209 | |

* Last 16 and Quarter-finals cancelled due to Covid-19 pandemic.



EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE CLUB RECORDS

| | |
|----|---|
| 8 | MATCHES Longest winning run |
| 11 | MATCHES Longest unbeaten run |
| 46 | GOALS Most goals |

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Biggest win | 46:20 (26:9) v AC PAOK GRE (h), 04.10.2009 |
| Biggest defeat | 37:20 (16:10) v Prosesa Ademar Leon ESP (a), 06.11.1999 |
| Longest winning run | 8 matches (15.10.2016 – 04.03.2017) 8 matches (16.09.2017 – 19.11.2017) |
| Longest unbeaten run | 11 matches (15.10.2016 – 02.04.2017) |
| Longest losing run | 6 matches (14.02.2016 – 27.03.2016) |
| Longest run without win | 7 matches (15.09.2018 – 07.11.2018) |
| Most goals | 46 v AC PAOK GRE 46:20W (h), 04.10.2009 |
| Most goals opponent | 38 v Kolding KIF DEN 38:29L (a), 05.12.2004 38 v Pick Szeged HUN 38:35L (a), 19.11.2011 |
| Most goals both teams | 78 v VfL Gummersbach GER 41:37W (h), 09.02.2008 |
| Fewest goals | 17 v Fotex KC Veszprém HUN 26:17L (a), 03.01.1999 17 v FC Barcelona ESP 24:17L (a), 10.12.2000 |
| Fewest goals opponent | 16 v HC Portovik Yuzhny UKR 26:16W (h), 07.10.2006 |
| Fewest goals both teams | 38 v Fotex KC Veszprém HUN 21:17W (h), 08.11.1998 |

TEAM ROSTER

| | | | | | | | | |
|-----------|-----------------|----------------|------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------------|------------|-----------|
| 2 | Sebastian | Karlsson | SWE | Right Wing | 21/01/1995 | Savedalen, SWE | 178 | 80 |
| 3 | Matéo | Caille | FRA | Line Player | 27/06/2004 | Montpellier, FRA | 198 | 96 |
| 4 | Diego | Simonet | ARG | Centre Back | 26/12/1989 | Buenos Aires, ARG | 189 | 88 |
| 5 | Kyllian | Villeminot | FRA | Centre Back | 20/05/1998 | Lyon, FRA | 189 | 85 |
| 6 | Mathis | Becker-Fischer | FRA | Left Back | 08/03/2005 | Sarreguemines, FRA | 195 | 85 |
| 7 | Thibault | Dambacher | FRA | Right Back | 04/03/2005 | Saverne, FRA | 193 | 85 |
| 10 | Lucas | Pellas | SWE | Left Wing | 28/08/1995 | Farsta, SWE | 183 | 78 |
| 11 | Mathis | Mougin | FRA | Left Back | 07/07/2002 | Besancon, FRA | 200 | 95 |
| 12 | Charles | Bolzinger | FRA | Goalkeeper | 14/12/2000 | Sète, FRA | 198 | 100 |
| 15 | Ahmed | Hesham | EGY | Left Back | 15/05/2000 | Cairo, EGY | 194 | 93 |
| 17 | Jaime | Fernandez | ESP | Left Wing | 27/01/1997 | Leon, ESP | 176 | 72 |
| 18 | Marko | Panic | BIH | Right Back | 10/03/1991 | Jajce, BIH | 197 | 101 |
| 19 | Arthur | Lenne | FRA | Line Player | 02/05/2001 | Colmar, FRA | 194 | 95 |
| 20 | Stas | Skube | SLO | Centre Back | 15/11/1989 | Celje, SLO | 179 | 85 |
| 21 | Kylian | Prat | FRA | Left Back | 20/02/2004 | Le Blanc Mesnil, FRA | 191 | 78 |
| 22 | Karl | Konan | FRA | Left Back | 03/06/1995 | Cocody, CIV | 196 | 95 |
| 23 | Mathieu | Cornette | FRA | Centre Back | 30/06/2003 | Aix en Provence, FRA | 188 | 80 |
| 24 | Adrien | Dubois | FRA | Left Wing | 21/03/2001 | Beziers, FRA | 182 | 71 |
| 25 | Lucas | Guigon | FRA | Right Back | 18/07/2003 | Montpellier, FRA | 197 | 83 |
| 26 | Bryan | Monte | BRA | Left Back | 06/04/2003 | S. Joao de Meriti, BRA | 193 | 92 |
| 27 | Léo | Fournié | FRA | Line Player | 10/04/2004 | Rodez, FRA | 188 | 90 |
| 28 | Valentin | Porte C | FRA | Right Back | 07/09/1990 | Versaille, FRA | 190 | 96 |
| 29 | Niels | Martin | FRA | Goalkeeper | 20/09/2004 | Lyon, FRA | 197 | 100 |
| 31 | Roland | Terjek | HUN | Right Wing | 14/08/2004 | Salgótarján, HUN | 189 | 69 |
| 32 | Yanis | Lenne | FRA | Right Wing | 29/06/1996 | Colmar, FRA | 187 | 88 |
| 71 | Alexis | Berthier | FRA | Right Back | 12/03/2002 | Aubagne, FRA | 193 | 84 |
| 92 | Remi | Desbonnet | FRA | Goalkeeper | 28/02/1992 | Montpellier, FRA | 182 | 85 |
| 93 | Veron | Nacinovic | CRO | Line Player | 07/03/2000 | Rijeka, CRO | 204 | 108 |





COACH



**Patrice
Canayer**



- > in charge of Montpellier since 1994, he is among the longest serving coaches at a single club in professional handball
- > has meanwhile won more than 40 trophies with Montpellier, most notably the two CL titles in 2003 and 2018
- > still the only French coach to win the CL
- > was voted coach of the CL All-star Team 2017/18 after the club had won their second CL title
- > played for Stade Pessacais UC, Bordeaux and Racing Paris in his active years

EC trophies: CL 2003, 2018 (as coach)

DEPARTURES

- | | | |
|----------------------|---|--------------------------|
| Lucas Moscariello | > | (BM Benidorm/ESP) |
| Andreas Holst Jensen | > | (Rhein-Neckar Löwen/GER) |
| Giorgi Tskhovrebadze | > | (VfL Gummersbach/GER) |
| Julien BOS | > | (HBC Nantes/FRA) |
| Hugo Descat | > | (Telekom Veszprém/HUN) |
| Kevin Bonnefoi | > | (HC Kriens-Luzern/SUI) |

ARRIVALS

- | | | |
|--------------------|---|-------------------------------|
| Jaime Fernandez | < | (Nordhorn-Lingen/GER) |
| Bryan Monte | < | (Esporte Clube Pinheiros/BRA) |
| Sebastian Karlsson | < | (IK Sävehof/SWE) |
| Ahmed Hesham | < | (USAM Nîmes) |



GOALKEEPER 

Charles Bolzinger

@charles.bolzinger

- > played his first ever professional game in 2021, when aged 20
- > within six months, he had progressed from the French third division to playing at the World Championship for France
- > Nikola Karabatic's late father was his godfather when he was a baby



LEFT WING 

Lucas Pellas

@pellaslucas

- > Swedish national player, joined Montpellier in 2020 after spells at Hammarby and Lugi
- > won his first international title with Sweden in 2022 at the EHF EURO
- > suffered a concussion in a domestic accident in February 2023, made his comeback two months later

EHF EURO: G 2022, WCh: S 2021



LEFT BACK 

Karl Konan

@karlkonan

- > born in Ivory Coast, moved to France in 2014, aged 19, to pursue his handball dreams
- > his talent was spotted by former national goalkeeper Daouda Karaboué, who was then working with PAUC
- > moved to Montpellier in the 2022 summer, turned into a line-player after being a leftback for several years



CENTRE BACK 

Diego Simonet

@chinosimonet

- > Argentinian international, born into a handball family, with two brothers – Sebastian and Pablo – also playing the sports professionally
- > was key factor in Montpellier's CL title win in 2018; named MVP of the EHF FINAL4
- > 2022/23 is his second EL campaign with Montpellier; also played in the CL for eight seasons and in the EHF Cup for one season with the club

EC trophies: CL 2018



CENTRE BACK 

Stas Skube

@stas.skube

- > joined Montpellier in summer of 2022, three years after winning CL with Vardar
- > made senior debut for Primo Trebnje in his native Slovenia at age 17, playing alongside his older brother Sebastian, and later also played for Velenje and Szeged
- > scored personal best 72 goals in CL 2013/14 when Velenje reached the Last 16
- > one of Slovenia's best playmakers

CL 2019



LINE PLAYER 

Veron Nacinovic

@veronnacinovic

- > born in Rijeka and raised in the local club Zamet
- > joined Montpellier in 2021 after one season with Celje
- > has scored 35 goals in his two CL seasons so far and added 41 in the 2022/23 EL campaign
- > son of Alvaro Nacinovic, one of the most decorated Croatian player and part of the golden generation which one the Atlanta Olympics in 1996



RIGHT BACK 

Valentin Porte

@valhand28

- > arrived in Montpellier in 2016, reached CL quarter-finals in his debut season, and won the CL in his second year while scoring a personal best 64 goals
- > was right wing until 2014, when France coach Claude Onesta moved him to back court
- > rose to prominence during EHF EURO 2014, scoring 16 goals in semi-final and final
- > golf aficionado, learned a lot about the game from Barça's Gonzalo Perez de Vargas

EC trophies: CL 2018
OG: G 2020, S 2016; WCh: G 2015, 2017, S 2023, B 2019; EURO: G 2014, B 2018



RIGHT WING 

Yanis Lenne

@lenne_yanis

- > French international, returned to France in 2019 after two seasons with Barça – though he spent one of those years on loan at PAUC Handball
- > second-best scorer for Montpellier in EL 2022/23 before quarter-finals, with 47 goals
- > also scored more than 30 goals in each of Montpellier's last four European seasons: 37 in CL 2019/20, 35 in EL 2020/21, and 47 in CL 2021/22
- > his younger brother Arthur, who is a line player, also joined Montpellier in 2019

WCh: S 2023



GOG

<http://www.gog.dk/>

[f gogsport](#)

[@gogsport](#)

CLUB ADDRESS

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GOG Sport 2010
Staerkaervej 1
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PLAYING HALL

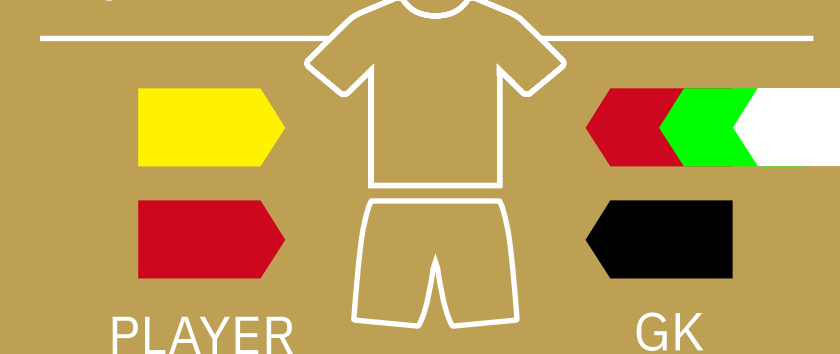


Jyske Bank Arena Odense
Orbaekvej 350
5220 Odense
Denmark

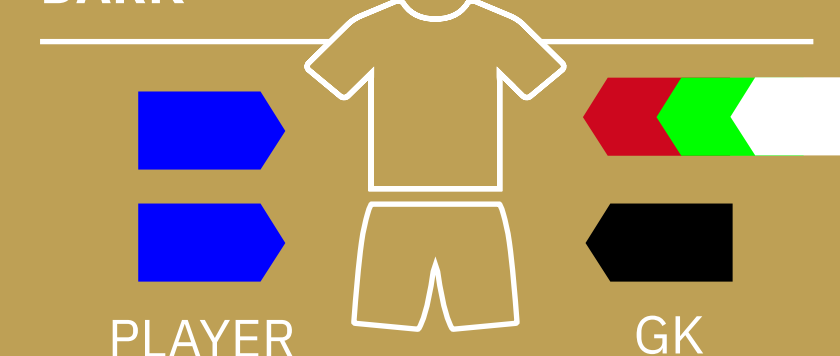
Capacity:
4,000

KIT COLOURS

LIGHT



DARK



It is history repeating for GOG. Again, some big names have left the club, again, fresh blood – and some experienced new arrivals - will be integrated. The major difference for the Danish champions is that also a new coach is on the bridge: Ian Marco Fog replaced Nicolej Krickau, who left for Flensburg together with Simon Pytlick and Lukas Jørgensen.

Pytlick was named MVP and best left back of the 2022/23 season at the EHF Excellence Awards, capping off a special season for GOG who made it to the quarter-finals of the Machineseker EHF Champions League for the first time in history after eliminating their local rivals Aalborg in the play-offs.

GROUP B



GOG

MAIN FACTS

- > four new arrivals have the experience of playing Champions League: Danes Aaron Mensing and Anton Lindskog (both from Flensburg), Norwegian Alexander Blonz (from Szeged) and Swede Linus Persson (from Nantes)
- > besides Pytlick and Jørgensen, two more key players went abroad: Jerry Tollbring (Berlin) and Nejc Cehte (Eurofarm Pelister)
- > for the first time in club history, the overall Champions League top scorer came from GOG: right back Emil Madsen, who scored 106 goals – he will leave GOG in 2024 for THW Kiel
- > Fog joined GOG from TMS Ringsted, where he was CEO; he has previously coached at Helsingborg in Sweden and Nordsjælland and Sydthavsørerne in Denmark
- > in the finals of the Danish league, GOG beat Aalborg again, as in 2022; now GOG have a little anniversary, playing their 10th EHF Champions League season

PAST ACHIEVEMENTS

EHF Champions League

Participations (including 2023/24 season): 10

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

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

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

Other

EHF European League: Quarter-finals 2020/21

EHF Cup: Quarter-finals 1999/00, 2001/02, 2005/06

Cup Winners' Cup: Runners-up 1995/96, Quarter-finals 1993/94, 1997/98

Danish league: 9 titles (1992, 1995, 1996, 1998, 2000, 2004, 2007, 2022, 2023)

Danish cup: 11 titles (1990, 1991, 1992, 1995, 1996, 1997, 2002, 2003, 2005, 2019)



EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE SUMMARY

| | MP | W | T | L | GF | GA | GD | PTS | Stage |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|----------|-----------|------------------|----|------------|---------------|---------------|
| 1995/96 GOG Gudme DEN | 6 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 136:159 | | -23 | 4:8 | 4th Gr. B |
| 1996/97 GOG Gudme DEN | 6 | 1 | 0 | 5 | 133:155 | | -22 | 2:10 | 3rd Gr. D |
| 1998/99 GOG Gudme DEN | 6 | 2 | 0 | 4 | 160:180 | | -20 | 4:8 | 3rd Gr. C |
| 2000/01 GOG Gudme DEN | 6 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 165:158 | | +7 | 6:6 | 3rd Gr. C |
| 2004/05 GOG Gudme DEN | 8 | 4 | 0 | 4 | 238:230 | | +8 | 8:8 | Last 16 |
| 2006/07 GOG Svendborg TGI Gudme DEN | 8 | 3 | 0 | 5 | 261:244 | | +17 | 6:10 | Last 16 |
| 2007/08 GOG Svendborg TGI Gudme DEN | 12 | 6 | 3 | 3 | 380:365 | | +15 | 15:9 | 2nd MR Gr. 4 |
| 2008/09 GOG Svendborg TGI DEN | 10 | 3 | 0 | 7 | 292:324 | | -32 | 6:14 | 4th MR Gr. 4 |
| 2019/20 GOG DEN | 10 | 4 | 1 | 5 | 310:319 | | -9 | 9:11 | 3rd Gr. D |
| 2022/23 GOG DEN | 18 | 8 | 1 | 9 | 580:581 | | -1 | 17:19 | Quarter-final |
| Total: | 90 | 35 | 7 | 48 | 2655:2715 | | -60 | 77:103 | |



EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE
CLUB RECORDS

4 MATCHES
Longest winning run

4 MATCHES
Longest unbeaten run

45 GOALS
Most goals

Biggest win 36:17 (16:8) v Brestskiy HC Meshkovo BLR (h), 09.10.2004

Biggest defeat 29:45 (18:24) v BM Ciudad Real ESP (h), 04.12.2004

Longest winning run 4 matches (09.10.2004 – 30.10.2004)

Longest unbeaten run 4 matches (09.10.2004 – 30.10.2004)

Longest losing run 4 matches (10.11.2007 – 10.02.2008)

Longest run without win 6 matches (16.11.2008 – 08.03.2009)

Longest losing run 6 matches (16.11.2008 – 08.03.2009)

Longest run without win 6 matches (14.02.1996 – 24.11.1996)

Longest losing run 6 matches (16.11.2008 – 08.03.2009)

Most goals 45 v HC Banik OKD Karvina CZE 45:32W (h), 15.10.2006

Most goals opponent 45 v BM Ciudad Real ESP 29:45L (h), 04.12.2004

Most goals both teams 77 v HC Banik OKD Karvina CZE 45:32W (h), 15.10.2006

77 v Paris Saint-Germain Handball FRA 41:36L (a), 23.11.2022

Fewest goals 18 v Celje Pivovarna Lasko SLO 18:22L (h), 24.11.1996

18 v Celje Pivovarna Lasko SLO 29:18L (a), 18.01.1997

Fewest goals opponent 17 v Brestskiy HC Meshkovo BLR 36:17W (h), 09.10.2004

17 v CS HCM Constanta ROU 33:17W (h), 22.10.2006

Fewest goals both teams 40 v Celje Pivovarna Lasko SLO 18:22L (h), 24.11.1996

TEAM ROSTER

| No. | First name | Surname | Nat. | Position | Date of birth | Place of birth | cm | kg |
|-----------|-----------------|-----------------------|------------|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|------------|------------|
| 3 | Nicolai | Nygaard Pedersen | DEN | Left Back | 15/02/1994 | Hillerød, DEN | 198 | 100 |
| 7 | Lasse | Sunesen Vilhelmsen | DEN | Right Back | 26/04/2005 | Svendborg, DEN | 192 | |
| 9 | Henrik | Jakobsen | NOR | Line Player | 16/12/1992 | Lørenskog, NOR | 196 | 115 |
| 11 | Emil | Madsen | DEN | Right Back | 01/01/2001 | Svendborg, DEN | 194 | 100 |
| 12 | Matthias | Dorgelo | DEN | Goalkeeper | 31/10/2002 | Odense, DEN | 200 | 103 |
| 15 | Lauritz | Reinholdt Legér | DEN | Centre Back | 14/01/2000 | Lolland, DEN | 196 | 96 |
| 16 | Tobias | Thulin | SWE | Goalkeeper | 05/07/1995 | Tynnered , SWE | 198 | 99 |
| 19 | Oskar | Vind Rasmussen | DEN | Right Wing | 08/08/2000 | Roskilde , DEN | 196 | 94 |
| 21 | Kasper | Kildelund | DEN | Right Wing | 11/05/1994 | Svendborg, DEN | 184 | 84 |
| 22 | Anders | Zachariassen C | DEN | Line Player | 04/09/1991 | Sønderborg , DEN | 193 | 107 |
| 23 | Joachim | Lyng Als | DEN | Left Wing | 07/04/2003 | Copenhagen , DEN | 198 | 98 |
| 28 | Emil | Oxenvad Tonnesen | DEN | Centre Back | 25/01/2005 | Esbjerg , DEN | 193 | |
| 29 | Hjalte | Lykke | DEN | Right Back | 05/10/2004 | Aarhus, DEN | 178 | 73 |
| 31 | William | Dalby | DEN | Left Wing | 01/05/2005 | Copenhagen, DEN | 186 | 67 |
| 33 | Aaron | Mensing | DEN | Left Back | 11/11/1997 | Graasten , DEN | 201 | 101 |
| 34 | Morten | Toft Olsen | DEN | Centre Back | 11/10/1984 | Lejre , DEN | 187 | 94 |
| 35 | Frederik | Møller Wolff | DEN | Goalkeeper | 25/04/2006 | Svendborg, DEN | 181 | |
| 37 | Linus | Persson | SWE | Right Back | 16/04/1993 | Fleninge , SWE | 191 | 100 |
| 39 | Kasper | Teglgaard Pedersen | DEN | Line Player | 16/06/2005 | Ringsted, DEN | 198 | |
| 43 | Frederik | Pedersen | DEN | Centre Back | 25/08/2005 | Rødovre , DEN | 165 | |
| 44 | Tobias | Tombak | DEN | Left Back | 10/02/2004 | Roskilde, DEN | 200 | |
| 46 | August | Secher Lihn | DEN | Goalkeeper | 27/09/2005 | Frederiksberg, DEN | 175 | |
| 48 | Simon | Humlegaard | DEN | Line Player | 22/05/2005 | Svendborg, DEN | 195 | 110 |
| 49 | Lucas | Willenbrack Hedegaard | DEN | Right Wing | 20/01/2003 | Copenhagen, DEN | 184 | |
| 66 | Anton | Lindskog | SWE | Line Player | 07/12/1993 | Kristianstad, SWE | 198 | 110 |
| 71 | Alexander | Blonz | NOR | Left Wing | 17/04/2000 | Clamart, FRA | 189 | 85 |
| 77 | Frederik | Clausen C | DEN | Left Back | 29/06/1995 | Svendborg, DEN | 198 | 103 |





COACH

@ianmarkofog



Ian Marko Fog



- > former Danish international, who played 130 matches and scored 278 goals in the national team jersey
- > after ten seasons with Virum Sorgenfri had several stints with Gummersbach, Hammeln, Nordhorn and Ciudad Real before he returned to Denmark
- > towards the end of his career played for Bjerringbro-Silkeborg and Nordsjælland
- > started his coaching career in Sweden with Helsingborg and then in Denmark with Nordsjælland and Sydhavsørerne before he took over GOG

EC trophies: CWC 2002 (player)

DEPARTURES

- Simon Pytlick > (SG Flensburg-Handewitt/GER)
- Atal Lakanval > (Skive fH/DEN)
- Lukas Jørgensen > (SG Flensburg-Handewitt/GER)
- Nejc Cehte > (Eurofarm Pelister/MKD)
- Jerry Tollbring > (Füchse Berlin/GER)
- Christoffer Dreyer > (TMS Ringsted/DEN)
- Emil La Cour > (TMS Ringsted/DEN)

ARRIVALS

- Aaron Mensing < (SG Flensburg-Handewitt/GER)
- Alexander Blonz < (Szeged/HUN)
- Anton Lindskog < (SG Flensburg-Handewitt/GER)
- Linus Persson < (Nantes/FRA)
- Emil Tonnesen < (GOG Youth/DEN)
- Lasse Vilhelmsen < (GOG Youth/DEN)
- Tobias Tombak < (GOG Youth/DEN)



GOALKEEPER 

Tobias Thulin

@tobias_thulin

- > joined GOG in summer 2022
- > 2023/24 is his second CL season
- > began senior career at Redbergslids IK in his native Sweden, before spending two years at Magdeburg and one at TVB 1898 Stuttgart
- > part of the Swedish squad which won the EHF EURO 2022

EHF EURO: G 2022



LEFT WING 

Alexander Blonz

@alexanderblonz

- > Norwegian international, who left Szeged and returned to Scandinavia in 2023 to join GOG in Denmark
- > previously played two seasons for Elverum after starting his senior career at HK Viking in his native Norway
- > impressed by scoring 57 goals for Elverum in his debut CL season in 2019/20
- > very fast and technically skilled wing, who made national team debut in January 2019
- > became first handball player born in the 2000s to play a WCh final

WCh: S 2019; EURO: B 2022



LEFT BACK 

Aaron Mensing

@aaronmensing

- > experienced left back, who arrived at GOG from Flensburg-Handewitt in the summer of 2023
- > played two seasons for Flensburg, the club where he had picked up the game as a boy before moving to Denmark at age 12
- > scored 47 goals in his only previous CL season – with Flensburg in 2021/22
- > made the All-star Team of the Danish league in 2020/21 while playing for Holstebro
- > has dual Danish-German citizenship, but opted to play for Denmark; part of various youth national teams before making his senior team debut in 2021

EURO: B 2022



CENTRE BACK 

Lauritz Reinholdt Léger

- > one of a talented young generation hoping to make a splash for GOG
- > joined the club in summer 2022 from TMS Ringsted
- > has a contract until 2025
- > scored 23 goals in his maiden CL season in 2022/23, helping GOG to reach the quarter-finals



LINE PLAYER 

Anton Lindskog

 @lindskog93

- > Swedish line player raised by his youth club Näsby
- > with his first professional klub IFK Kristianstad he played three season in the EC competitions and in his last year also the CL
- > part of the players' exchange in the summer of 2023, when he joined from Flensburg-Handewitt, while Simon Pytlick and Lukas Jørgensen moved to the German club
- > member of the wider squad of the Swedish national team

WCh: S 2021



RIGHT BACK 

Linus Persson

 @perssonlinne

- > Swedish international, who arrived at GOG in the summer of 2023 after five years in France
- > played for Ivry and, the last two season, for Nantes, where he gained his first CL experience
- > scored 32 times for Nantes in the CL 2022/23, his personal best for a single European cup season
- > first played for Swedish national team in 2014; was part of the team that won silver at 2021 WCh and gold at EHF EURO the following year

WCh: S 2019; EURO: G 2022



RIGHT BACK 

Emil Madsen

 @emil_madsen11

- > although still only 22, playing his fifth season in GOG's senior team
- > began his junior career at the club
- > scored 69 times for GOG in the 2021/22 EL season
- > 2022/23 CL top scorer despite GOG missing out on the final tournament
- > won the EHF EURO Cup 2023 with the national team of Denmark



RIGHT WING 

Oskar Vind Rasmussen

 @oskarvind

- > his first experience with the international handball on the senior level in the 2022/23 CL season
- > born and bred in Roskilde where he played until 2019, in his last season both for the junior and the senior team
- > after three years with Ringsted, made his move to GOG in the summer of 2022
- > made a debut in the national team of Denmark in the successful EHF EURO Cup 2024 campaign
- > awarded the best right wing of the Danish league in 2021/22



LAST SEASON'S TOP SCORER



**Emil
Madsen**

@emil_madsen11

107 GOALS



**Simon
Pytlick**

@simonpytlickk

92 GOALS



**Lukas
Jørgensen**

@lukas_j_rgensen

85 GOALS



**Jerry
Tollbring**

@tollbring

81 GOALS



**Morten
Toft Olsen**

76 GOALS



FC PORTO

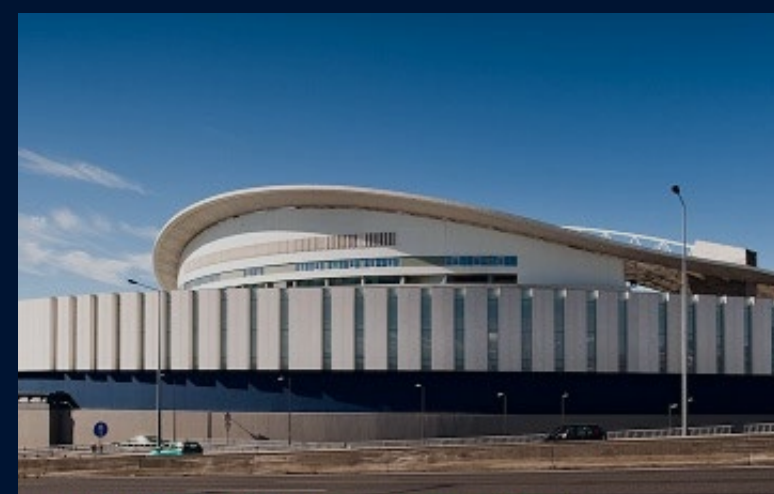
CLUB ADDRESS

FC Porto
Estadio do Dragao Via FC Porto,
Portugal

MEDIA CONTACT

Joana Moreira
+351 966 620 939
+351 918 976 756
joana.moreira@fcporto.pt

PLAYING HALL



Pavilhao Dragao Arena
Via Futebol Clube do Porto
4350419 Porto
Portugal

Capacity:
2,225

KIT COLOURS

DARK



LIGHT



- <http://www.fcporto.pt/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/fcportosports>
- <https://twitter.com/fcporto>
- <https://www.instagram.com/fcportosports/>

After five years, Swedish coach Magnus Andersson left FC Porto this summer. His successor is a Portuguese legend: Carlos Resende, one of the most iconic handball players in his country and part of the famous Braga team, who were Champions League finalists in the inaugural season in 1993/94. In contrast to previous years, the transition in the squad was not that huge, and Porto have signed some fresh blood from the U21 national team.

Resende, who previously coached FC Gaia, is eager to start on international ground with the Portuguese record champions. But he has a challenge on his hands to improve on Porto's poor showing in 2022/23, when they won just two matches in the group phase.

GROUP B



FC PORTO

MAIN FACTS

- > the core team of the previous season remained at Porto, from the regular players, only Swedish goalkeeper Sebastian Frandsen left
- > among the new arrivals, the Spaniards David Fernandez and Antonio Martinez (both from Ademar Leon) shine out. Three youngsters from FC Gaia arrived with the new coach
- > after making it to the play-offs two consecutive times, Porto failed to proceed from the group stage in the 2022/23 season after losing many stars
- > despite the tough competition from Lisbon clubs Benfica and Sporting, Porto became Portuguese champions again, for the 24th time in club history
- > Porto have their 14th Champions League season ahead; their biggest international success was making it to the EHF Cup Finals in 2019, when they finished third

PAST ACHIEVEMENTS

EHF Champions League

Participations (including 2023/24 season): 14

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

Last 16 (1): 2019/20*

Group phase (3): 2013/14, 2015/16, 2022/23

Qualification (7): 1999/00, 2004/05, 2009/10, 2010/11, 2011/12, 2012/13, 2014/15

Other

EHF Cup: 3rd 2018/19, Group Phase 2014/15, 2016/17, Last 16 1998/99, 2010/11, 2011/12

Cup Winner's Cup: Quarter-final 2000/01, 2001/02, Last 16 1996/97, 2007/08

Portuguese league: 24 titles (1954, 1957-60, 1963-65, 1968, 1999, 2002-04, 2009-15, 2019, 2021-23)

Portuguese cup: 9 titles (1976-77, 1979-80, 1994, 2006-07, 2019, 2021)



EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE SUMMARY

| | MP | W | T | L | GF | GA | GD | PTS | Stage |
|------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------------|----|------------|--------------|-----------|
| 2013/14 FC Porto Vitalis POR | 10 | 2 | 1 | 7 | 241:278 | | -37 | 5:15 | 5th Gr. B |
| 2015/16 Futebol Clube do Porto POR | 10 | 7 | 0 | 3 | 296:265 | | +31 | 14:6 | 3rd Gr. C |
| 2019/20 FC Porto Sofarma POR | 14 | 6 | 2 | 6 | 400:410 | | -10 | 14:14 | Last 16* |
| 2020/21 FC Porto POR | 16 | 6 | 2 | 8 | 417:418 | | -1 | 14:18 | Play-offs |
| 2021/22 FC Porto POR | 16 | 4 | 4 | 8 | 431:472 | | -41 | 12:20 | Play-offs |
| 2022/23 FC Porto POR | 14 | 2 | 1 | 11 | 407:438 | | -31 | 5:23 | 8th Gr. A |
| Total: | 80 | 27 | 10 | 43 | 2192:2281 | | -89 | 64:96 | |

* Last 16 and Quarter-finals cancelled due to Covid-19 pandemic.



EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE
CLUB RECORDS

3 MATCHES
Longest winning run

3 MATCHES
Longest unbeaten run

38 GOALS
Most goals

Biggest win 37:15 (16:7) v Vojvodina SRB (h), 05.12.2015

Biggest defeat 33:19 (18:4) v Paris Saint-Germain Handball FRA (a), 18.11.2021

Longest winning run 3 matches (01.10.2015 – 17.10.2015)

Longest unbeaten run 3 matches (01.10.2015 – 17.10.2015)
3 matches (19.10.2019 – 10.11.2019)
3 matches (15.10.2020 – 29.10.2020)

Longest losing run 8 matches (06.04.2022 – 24.11.2022)

Longest run without win 15 matches (16.02.2022 – 14.12.2022)

Most goals 38 v Elverum Handball NOR 38:31W (h), 04.03.2021

Most goals opponent 41 v SC Magdeburg POR 41:36L (a), 24.11.2022

Most goals both teams 77 v SC Magdeburg POR 41:36L (a), 24.11.2022

Fewest goals 19 v Paris Saint-Germain Handball 33:19L (a), 18.11.2021

Fewest goals opponent 15 v Vojvodina SRB 37:15W (h), 05.12.2015

Fewest goals both teams 43 v Dunkerque HB Grand Littoral FRA 22:21W (h), 20.10.2013

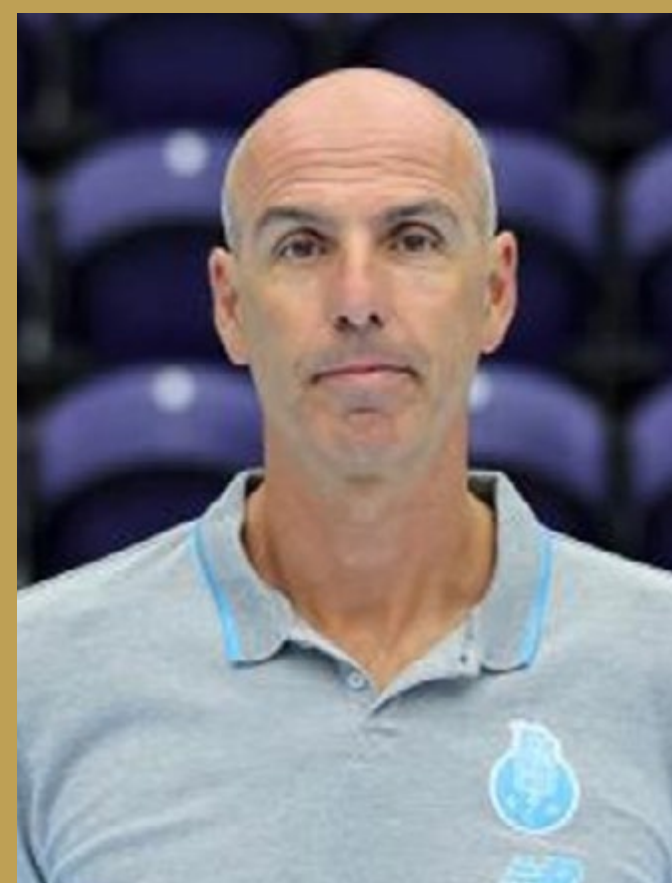
TEAM ROSTER

| No. | First name | Surname | Nat. | Position | Date of birth | Place of birth | cm | kg |
|-----------|----------------|-----------------|------------|--------------------|-------------------|------------------------|------------|------------|
| 2 | Pedro | Veitia | CUB | Left Back | 07/08/1994 | Villa Clara, CUB | 190 | 101 |
| 3 | André | Sousa | POR | Centre Back | 03/03/2002 | Espinho, POR | 186 | 91 |
| 4 | Victor | Iturriza | POR | Line Player | 22/05/1990 | Havana, CUB | 193 | 117 |
| 7 | Jakob | Mikkelsen | DEN | Right Back | 05/02/1997 | Horsens, DEN | 200 | 102 |
| 8 | David | Fernández | ESP | Right Back | 14/04/1996 | Valladolid, ESP | 196 | 80 |
| 10 | Diogo | Oliveira | POR | Centre Back | 07/05/1997 | Matosinhos, POR | 193 | 97 |
| 14 | Rui | Silva | POR | Centre Back | 28/04/1993 | Guimarães, POR | 185 | 88 |
| 15 | Daymaro | Salina C | POR | Line Player | 01/09/1987 | Artemisa, CUB | 200 | 119 |
| 16 | Nikola | Mitrevski | MKD | Goalkeeper | 03/10/1985 | Bitola, MKD | 184 | 78 |
| 17 | Ignacio | Plaza | ESP | Line Player | 10/01/1994 | Ciudad Real, ESP | 195 | 102 |
| 18 | Vasco | Costa | POR | Left Back | 02/12/2005 | Matosinhos, POR | 196 | 94 |
| 19 | Mamadou | Diocou | ESP | Right Back | 10/02/2000 | Fassada, SEN | 182 | 79 |
| 21 | Leonel | Fernandes | POR | Left Wing | 12/03/1998 | Vila Real, POR | 191 | 85 |
| 23 | Diogo | Branquinho | POR | Left Wing | 25/07/1994 | Coimbra, POR | 185 | 94 |
| 24 | Antonio | Martínez | ESP | Right Wing | 17/05/2003 | León, ESP | 180 | 75 |
| 25 | Antonio | Areia | POR | Right Wing | 21/06/1990 | Lisboa, POR | 189 | 91 |
| 27 | Francisco | Fontes | POR | Goalkeeper | 27/01/2002 | Guimarães, POR | 190 | 84 |
| 32 | Nikolaj Læsø | Christensen | DEN | Left Back | 15/11/1996 | Aarhus, DEN | 198 | 99 |
| 33 | Diogo | Rêma | POR | Goalkeeper | 17/03/2004 | Vila Nova de Gaia, POR | 189 | 91 |
| 71 | Pedro | Oliveira | POR | Left Wing | 04/07/2002 | Porto, POR | 188 | 83 |
| 88 | Fábio | Magalhães | POR | Left Back | 12/03/1988 | Lisboa, POR | 194 | 97 |





COACH



Carlos Resende



- > legend of Portuguese handball, who returned to Porto and replaced Magnus Andersson in 2023 for his second stint, after also leading the club in 2006-09
- > more recently, coached Benfica and Gaia for three seasons each
- > former left and centre back, who ended his playing career at Porto in 2006, having played 12 seasons in total for the club
- > played more matches (250) and scored more goals (1,444) for the Portuguese national team than any other player
- > made the All-star Team of the EHF EURO 2000

DEPARTURES

- Pedro Cruz > (Aguas Santas/POR)
- Miguel Alves > (Aguas Santas/POR) - loan
- Sebastian Frandsen > (Fredericia/DEN)
- Jack Thurin > (Aalborg/DEN)

ARRIVALS

- David Fernandez < (Ademar Leon/ESP)
- Antonio Martinez < (Ademar Leon/ESP)
- Diogo Rêma < (FC Gaia/POR)
- Pedro Oliveira < (FC Gaia/POR)
- Vasco Costa < (FC Gaia/POR)



GOALKEEPER



Nikola Mitrevski

@nikolamitrevski16



LEFT WING



Diogo Branquinho

@diogobranquinho_



LEFT BACK



Fabio Magalhães

@magalhaes80



CENTRE BACK



Rui Silva

@ruiisilva14

- > joined Porto in 2020 after playing in many clubs across Europe
- > former football player who switched to handball at age 13
- > played for all three major Macedonian clubs: Vardar, Pelister and Metalurg
- > makes a great goalkeeping duo with Martin Tomovski

- > after several years at ABC - and winning the EHF Challenge Cup with them in 2015/16 - he joined FC Porto in 2017
- > won all domestic titles (league, cup, Super Cup) with ABC and again with Porto
- > made his debut for Portugal against Germany in 2016 and represented the national team at the EHF EURO 2020
- > his father is an engineer, while his mother is a physical education teacher. Diogo is also studying engineering and wants to become an engineer after his playing career is over

EC trophies: Challenge Cup 2016

- > very experienced player who adds wisdom to the whole team
- > can also play at right back with quality
- > a complete player with a great attitude
- > won one Portuguese Supercup with Sporting CP

EC trophies: Challenge Cup 2010

- > after five years at Sporting CP, he arrived at domestic rivals FC Porto in 2015 and quickly became a key player for the club
- > an intelligent athlete and essential in the team's attacking play
- > very important in 7-against-6 tactics for his team
- > assists the line player well, also a strong finisher



LINE PLAYER



Victor Iturriza

@victorituriza04

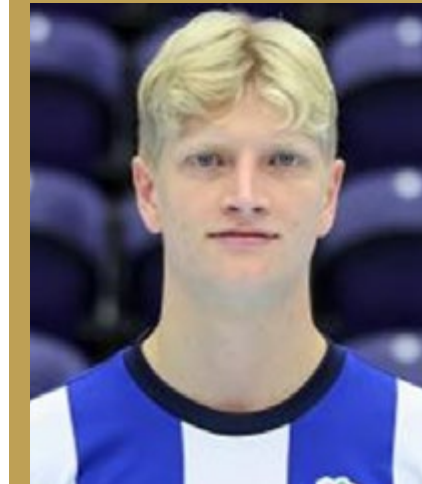


LINE PLAYER



Daymaro Salina

@daymarosalina



RIGHT BACK



Jakob Mikkelsen

@jakob_mikkelsen



RIGHT WING



Antonio Areia

@antonioareia25

- > a mainstay in defence for both Portugal and FC Porto, Iturriza was nominated as All-Star line player in the CL in 2020/21
- > always plays with an Alfredo Quintana shirt underneath his own during games, in tribute to his lost friend and a former teammate
- > born in Cuba, he came to Portugal in 2014, at 24, and made his debut in the Portuguese national team in 2020
- > has represented Portugal at the 2021 WCh, Tokyo 2020 OG, and EHF EURO 2022

EC trophies: EHF Cup 2018
EURO: B 2010; OG: B 2012

- > Cuba-born player who joined FC Porto in 2011 and stayed with the club ever since
- > one of Porto's team captains, he has won five Portuguese league titles with the club
- > an easy scorer and a defensive machine
- > made his national team debut for Portugal against Qatar in 2016

- > played for Fredericia, in Denmark, for 5 seasons, before moving abroad in 2021
- > scored 106 in 24 goals for Istres in the French league in 2021/22
- > joined Porto in 2022 on a two-season contract
- > this season will be his first opportunity to play in the CL

- > Portuguese player who arrived at FC Porto in 2015 after five seasons with league rivals Benfica
- > previously played for Belenenses from 2008-10
- > left-handed wing, who is a true expert from the penalty line
- > debuted for Portuguese national team against Romania in 2014

EC trophies: CL 2016, 2017, 2019
OG: B 2012; WCh: S 2009, B 2013; EURO: S 2008, 2010, 2020, B 2012, 2016



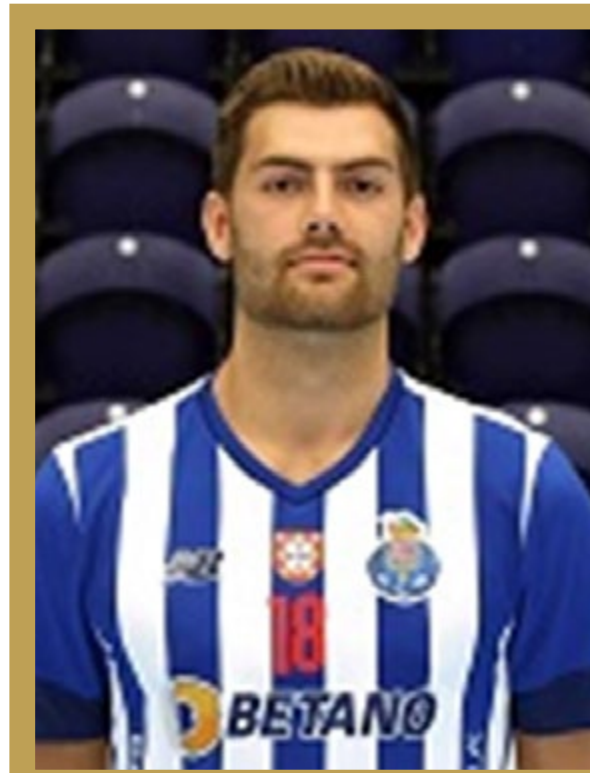
LAST SEASON'S TOP SCORER



**Victor
Iturriza**

@victorituriza04

51 GOALS



**Jack
Thurin**

@jackthurin

50 GOALS



**Daymaro
Salina**

@daymarosalina

42 GOALS



**Antonio
Areia**

@antonioareia25

33 GOALS



**Rui
Silva**

@ruiisilva14

27 GOALS





SC MAGDEBURG

CLUB ADDRESS

SC Magdeburg
Handball magdeburg GmbH
Heinz-Krügel-Platz 3
39114 Magdeburg
Germany

MEDIA CONTACT

Sebastian Kutzner
+49 176 62122280
s.kutzner@sc-magdeburg.de

PLAYING HALL

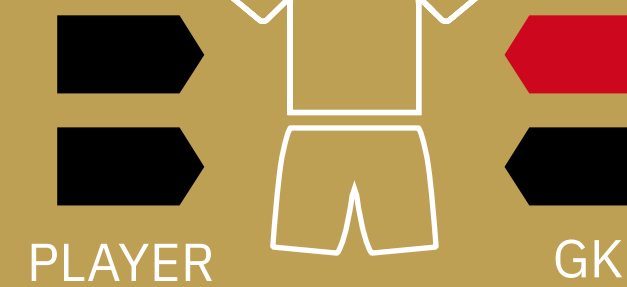


GETEC Arena Magdeburg
Berliner Chaussee 32
39114 Magdeburg
Germany

Capacity:
6,600

KIT COLOURS

DARK



LIGHT



- <http://www.scm-handball.de/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/SCMagdeburg/>
- <https://twitter.com/scmagdeburg/>
- <https://www.instagram.com/scmagdeburg/>

21 years after their first EHF Champions League trophy, SC Magdeburg became the first EHF FINAL4 debutants to make it on the podium since Flensburg in 2014. Now the side of head coach Bennet Wiegert, who was a player in the winning team in 2002, is the hunted. Four players, including iconic Dutch right back Kay Smits, left; four new players, mostly Scandinavians, arrived.

In the Bundesliga last season, Magdeburg finished second to THW Kiel. Despite winning the Machineseker EHF Champions League last season, the club remains humble and is focusing first on reaching the knock-out stage again.

GROUP B



SC MAGDEBURG

MAIN FACTS

- > EHF FINAL 4 MVP Gisli Kristjansson is ruled out for six months after a shoulder surgery, as a replacement, SCM signed his Icelandic country-fellow Janus Smarason from Kolstad
- > Besides Kay Smits, two more EHF FINAL4 stars left the club: goalkeeper Mike Jensen (to Benfica Lissabon) and Marko Bezjak (to RK Nexe)
- > New second goalkeeper is Sergej Hernandez, who swapped sides with Jensen; and two Swedish EHF EURO champions joined the club too: Felix Claar (from Aalborg Handbold) and Albin Lagergren (from Rhein-Neckar Löwen, who had played for SCM before)
- > Coach Bennet Wiegert, who had steered SC Magdeburg to two IHF Super Globe club trophies, the EHF European League trophy before winning the Champions League, enters his ninth season at his home club
- > In the group phase of their in total sixth Champions League season, Magdeburg duel with five clubs which they faced in the last season: Barça (semi-final), Plock (quarter-final), Veszprém, Porto and GOG (both group phase)

PAST ACHIEVEMENTS

EHF Champions League

Participations (including 2023/24 season): 6

Winners (2): 2001/02, 2022/23

Semi-final (1): 2003/04

Quarter-final (1): 2002/03

Last 16 (1): 2005/06

Other

EHF European League: Winners 2020/21, Runners-up 2021/22

EHF Cup: Winners 1998/99, 2000/01, 2006/07

EHF Champions Trophy: Winners 2000/01, 2001/02

German league: 12 titles (1970, 1977, 1980, 1981-85, 1988, 1991 (GDR); 2001, 2022)

German cup: 7 titles (1970, 1977, 1978, 1984, 1990 (GDR); 1996, 2016)



EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE SUMMARY

| | MP | W | T | L | GF | GA | GD | PTS | Stage |
|---------------------------------|-----------|-----------|----------|-----------|------------------|----|-------------|--------------|---------------|
| 2001/02 Sportclub Magdeburg GER | 12 | 7 | 2 | 3 | 327:289 | | +38 | 16:8 | Winner |
| 2002/03 Sportclub Magdeburg GER | 8 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 235:226 | | +9 | 9:7 | Quarter-final |
| 2003/04 SC Magdeburg GER | 12 | 9 | 0 | 3 | 366:340 | | +26 | 18:6 | Semi-final |
| 2005/06 SC Magdeburg GER | 8 | 4 | 0 | 4 | 238:222 | | +16 | 8:8 | Last 16 |
| 2022/23 SC Magdeburg GER | 18 | 12 | 3 | 3 | 575:537 | | +38 | 27:9 | Winner |
| Total: | 58 | 36 | 6 | 16 | 1741:1614 | | +127 | 78:38 | |



EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE
CLUB RECORDS

5 MATCHES
Longest winning run

7 MATCHES
Longest unbeaten run

41 GOALS
Most goals

Biggest win 33:19 (17:6) v Vardar Vatrost. Skopje MKD (h), 17.11.2001
38:24 (18:11) v Vardar Vatrost. Skopje MKD (h), 23.11.2003

Biggest defeat 38:25 (16:9) v FC Barcelona ESP (a), 29.11.2003

Longest winning run 5 matches (12.10.2003 – 23.11.2003)

Longest unbeaten run 7 matches (16.02.2023 – 18.06.2023)

Longest losing run 3 matches (12.11.2005 - 10.12.2005)

Longest run without win 3 matches (15.12.2002 – 08.03.2003)
3 matches (12.11.2005 - 10.12.2005)

Most goals 41 v FC Porto POR 41:36W (h), 24.11.2022

Most goals opponent 39 v Barça ESP 40:39W (n), 17.06.2023

Most goals both teams 79 v Barça ESP 40:39W (n), 17.06.2023

Fewest goals 20 v Fotex KC Veszprém HUN 24:20L (a), 25.11.2001
20 v SG Flensburg-Handewitt GER 30:20L (a), 13.03.2004

Fewest goals opponent 17 v Panellinos AC Athens GRE 17:29W (a), 09.11.2002

Fewest goals both teams 44 v Fotex KC Veszprém HUN 24:20L (a), 25.11.2001
44 v Fotex KC Veszprém HUN 23:21L (a), 21.04.2002
44 v Orlen Wisla Plock POL 22:22D (a), 10.04.2023

TEAM ROSTER

| No. | First name | Surname | Nat. | Position | Date of birth | Place of birth | cm | kg |
|-----------|------------------|----------------------------|------------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|------------|-----------|
| 1 | Sergey | Hernandez | ESP | Goalkeeper | 17/06/1995 | Kropotkin, RUS | 198 | 101 |
| 2 | Lucas | Meister | SUI | Line Player | 16/08/1996 | MuttENZ, SUI | 197 | 100 |
| 3 | Piotr | Chrapkowski | POL | Left Back | 24/03/1988 | Kartuzy, POL | 203 | 104 |
| 6 | Matthias | Musche | GER | Left Wing | 18/07/1992 | Burg, GER | 187 | 85 |
| 7 | Felix | Claar | SWE | Centre Back | 05/01/1997 | Vrinnevi, SWE | 192 | 93 |
| 10 | Gisli | Kristjansson | ISL | Centre Back | 30/07/1999 | Reykjavik, ISL | 191 | 95 |
| 11 | Daniel | Pettersson | SWE | Right Wing | 06/05/1992 | Eskitstuna, SWE | 179 | 78 |
| 13 | Janus | Smarason | ISL | Centre Back | 01/01/1995 | Reykjavik, ISL | 184 | 88 |
| 14 | Ómar Ingi | Magnusson | ISL | Right Back | 12/03/1997 | Selfoss, ISL | 186 | 90 |
| 17 | Tim | Hornke | GER | Right Wing | 04/08/1990 | Hannover, GER | 188 | 84 |
| 20 | Philipp | Weber | GER | Left Back | 15/09/1992 | Schönebeck, GER | 194 | 91 |
| 21 | Albin | Lagergren | SWE | Right Back | 11/09/1992 | Varberg, SWE | 186 | 88 |
| 22 | Lukas | Mertens | GER | Left Wing | 22/03/1996 | Wilhelmshaven, GER | 182 | 85 |
| 23 | Magnus | Saugstrup | DEN | Line Player | 12/07/1996 | Aalborg, DEN | 195 | 105 |
| 24 | Christian | O'Sullivan C | NOR | Centre Back | 22/08/1991 | Oslo, NOR | 190 | 95 |
| 34 | Michael | Damgaard | DEN | Left Back | 18/03/1990 | Rødby, DEN | 192 | 91 |
| 54 | Oscar | Bergendahl | SWE | Line Player | 08/03/1995 | Kungsbacka, SWE | 192 | 109 |
| 80 | Nikola | Portner | SUI | Goalkeeper | 19/11/1993 | Lyon, FRA | 194 | 90 |





COACH



**Bennet
Wiegert**



- > former German international on the left wing, who played for Magdeburg from 1998-2013, except for three seasons
- > won the CL with the club as a player in 2002 and as a coach 21 years later
- > won the inaugural EHF European League as a coach in 2021 and finished runner-up the following year
- > replaced Ger Sveinsson as head coach of Magdeburg in December 2015; previously worked as director of the club's youth academy
- > his father, Ingolf, won Olympic gold as a player in 1980 and later was also Magdeburg coach

EC trophies: CL 2002 (as player), 2023 (as coach), EL 2021 (as coach)

DEPARTURES

- Kay Smits > (SG Flensburg-Handewitt/GER)
- Mike Jensen > (SL Benfica/POR)
- Marko Bezjak > (RK Nexe/CRO)
- Vladan Lipovina > (Al Qadsia/KUW)

ARRIVALS

- Felix Claar < (Aalborg Handbold/DEN)
- Albin Lagergren < (Rhein-Neckar Löwen/GER)
- Sergey Hernandez < (SL Benfica/POR)
- Janus Smarason < (Kolstad/NOR)



GOALKEEPER 

Nikola Portner

@nikola_portner



LEFT WING 

Lukas Mertens

@lukasmertens22



LEFT BACK 

Michael Damgaard

@dgaard34



CENTRE BACK 

Christian O'Sullivan

@christianosullivan24

- > signed for Magdeburg in 2022 alongside fellow Swiss international Lukas Meister
- > Magdeburg is the sixth club in his career after Grauholz, Bern Muri, Kadetten Schaffhausen, Montpellier, and Chambéry
- > played the CL for six seasons with both Montpellier and Schaffhausen, winning the title in 2018 with Montpellier
- > awarded best goalkeeper of the French league in the season 2021/22

EC trophies: CL 2018, 2023

- > regular in German national team since 2021, played first major event at EURO 2022
- > thanks to his high-speed counter attacks his nickname is "Speedy"
- > started his career at his home club Wilhelmshaven, joined SCM in 2017
- > silver medallist and All-star Team left wing at the M20 EHF EURO in Denmark in 2018
- > studies sports science at the Magdeburg University

EC trophies: CL 2023, EL 2021

- > joined Magdeburg in 2015 from TTH Holstebro in his native Denmark
- > started professional career at GOG before moving to Holstebro in 2010
- > was Magdeburg's best scorer in the last EHF Cup 2019/20 season
- > his older brother, Allan, is also a professional handball player, for Holstebro

EC trophies: CL 2023, EL 2021
OG: G 2016; WCh: G 2019

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

EC trophies: CL 2023, EL 2021
EURO: B 2020; WCh: S 2017, 2019



CENTRE BACK 

Janus Smarason

@jannid3

- > joined in the summer of 2023 as a back up for the injured reigning MVP of the EHF FINAL4 Gisli Kristjansson
- > after he left Haukar in his homeland Iceland in 2017 he spent three seasons with Aalborg in Denmark, two with Frisch Auf! Göppingen in Germany and one with Kolstad in Norway before he joined SCM
- > won the Danish U16 championship with Aarhus Handbold
- > fast and flexible playmaker, good reader of the game



LINE PLAYER 

Magnus Saugstrup

@magnussaugstrup

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

EC trophies: CL 2023
EURO: B 2022; OG: S 2020; WCh: G 2021



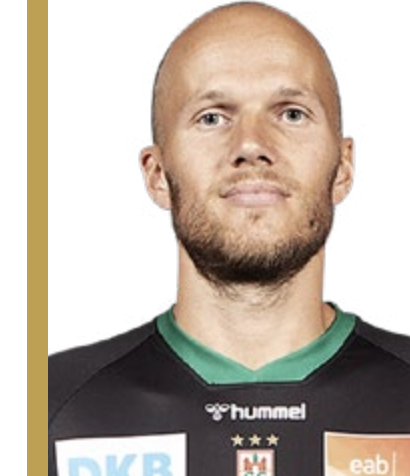
RIGHT BACK 

Ómar Ingi Magnusson

@omaringim

- > Icelandic back, who joined Magdeburg in summer of 2020 after four years in Denmark, with Aarhus and Aalborg, respectively
- > top scorer of German Bundesliga and second-best EL scorer in 2020/21
- > forms back-court duo with fellow Icelandic player Gisli Kristjansson
- > made national team debut for Iceland at age 18
- > top scorer of EHF EURO 2022 with 59 goals in eight matches

EC trophies: CL 2023, EL 2021



RIGHT WING 

Tim Hornke

- > played for Magdeburg from 2010 to 2014 after leaving hometown club HSV Hannover
- > returned in 2019 after five years with TV Lemgo
- > made his debut for Germany in 2017 and scored three goals at EHF EURO 2018
- > has twice won the IHF Super Globe with Magdeburg as well as the Bundesliga title and the EHF European League

EC trophies: CL 2023, EL 2021



LAST SEASON'S TOP SCORER



**Kay
Smits**

@kay_smits

98 GOALS



**Gisli
Kristjansson**

@gslithorgeir

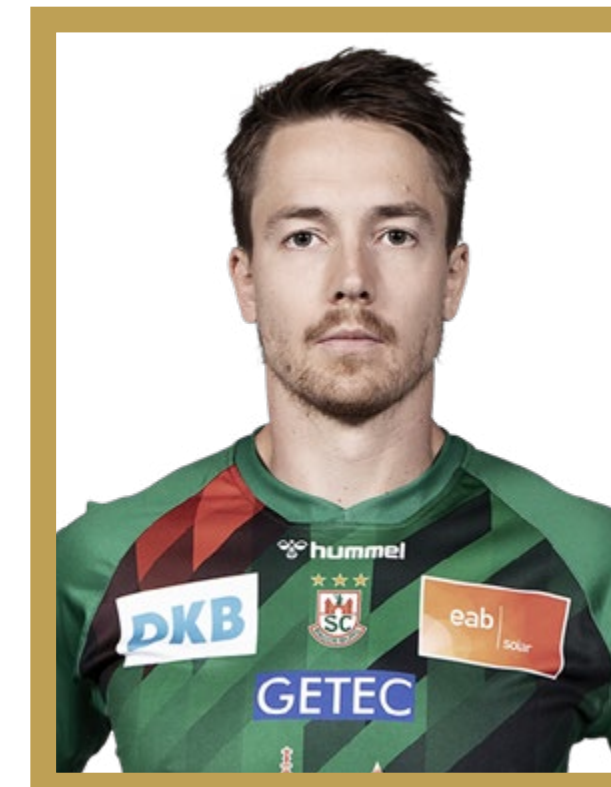
86 GOALS



**Omar Ingi
Magnusson**

@omaringim

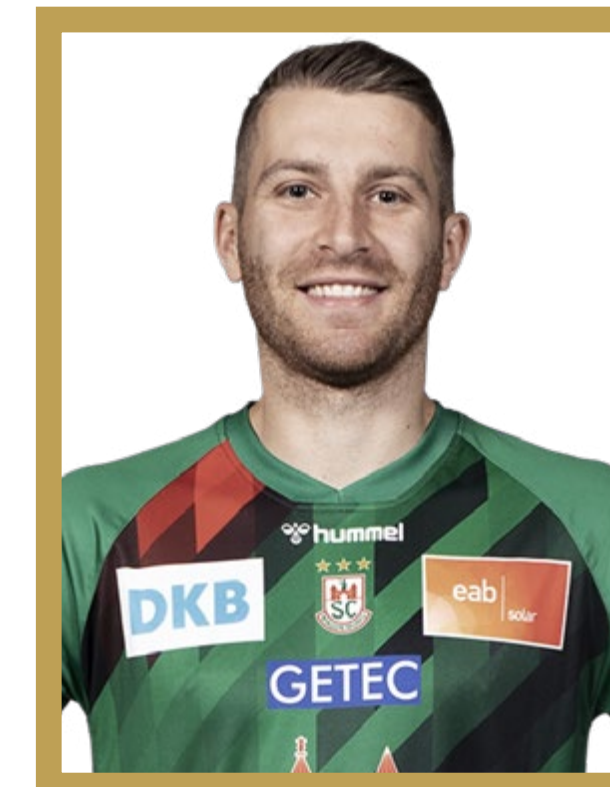
61 GOALS



**Michael
Damgaard**

@dgaard34

55 GOALS



**Lukas
Mertens**

@lukasmertens22

45 GOALS



WHAT HAPPENS WHEN TWO OR MORE TEAMS HAVE THE SAME NUMBER OF POINTS

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

The matches shall be scored as follows:

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

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

GROUP PHASE

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

During the matches of the group:

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

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

- a) number of points in matches of the two teams directly involved;
- b) goal difference in matches of the two teams directly involved;

- c) goal difference in all matches of the group;
- d) higher number of plus goals in all matches of the group;

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

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

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

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

PLAY-OFF AND QUARTER-FINALS

If, after completion of the two matches, both clubs have won the same number of points

(no extra-time will be played), the teams' standings shall be determined by the following criteria:

- a) goal difference
- b) penalty throws

RULES FOR EXECUTION OF PENALTY THROWS

- > Prior to penalty throwing, each team shall name five players eligible to play at the end of the match by handing the referees a list of numbers. These players shall then take one throw each until a decision (a winner) is reached, alternating with their opponents. Each team is free to determine the sequence in which throwers will take their throws
- > The goalkeepers may be freely selected from the match report and exchanged in accordance with the Rules of the game. Goalkeepers may take throws and throwers may play as goalkeepers.
- > The referees shall choose the goal at which throws are taken. The team taking the first penalty throw shall be determined by the referees by drawing lots. The team winning the draw may choose whether it wishes to throw first or last.
- > If scores are equal after the first round of penalty throwing, it shall be continued

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

- > In the second round, a decision (a winner) is reached when a goal difference arises after both teams have taken one throw each.
- > Eligible players are players entered in the match report who have not been disqualified or suspended at the time of the final whistle.
- > Serious infractions committed during penalty throwing shall be sanctioned by disqualification. If a thrower is disqualified or suffers an injury, an eligible substitute player shall be named supplementary.
- > While the throws are being taken, only the player taking the throw, the current goalkeeper and the referees may enter the respective half of the playing area.
- > If the number of eligible players falls below five, players may be named to take a second throw in the same round.

HISTORY





107 GOALS

EMIL MADSEN

GOG



| Rank | Player | Club | Goals |
|------|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|-------|
| 1 | Emil Madsen (DEN) | GOG (DEN) | 107 |
| 2 | Kamil Syprzak (POL) | Paris Saint-Germain Handball (FRA) | 103 |
| 3 | Arkadiusz Moryto (POL) | Barlinek Industria Kielce (POL) | 100 |
| 4 | Kay Smits (NED) | SC Magdeburg (GER) | 98 |
| 5 | Simon Pytlick (DEN) | GOG (DEN) | 94 |
| 6 | Aleks Vlah (SLO) | RK Celje Pivovarna Laško (SLO) | 88 |
| 7 | Gisli Kristjansson (ISL) | SC Magdeburg (GER) | 87 |
| | Dika Mem (FRA) | Barça (ESP) | 87 |
| 9 | Elohim Prandi (FRA) | Paris Saint-Germain Handball (FRA) | 86 |
| 10 | Lukas Jørgensen (DEN) | GOG (DEN) | 84 |
| | Dainis Kristopans (LAT) | Paris Saint-Germain Handball (FRA) | 84 |
| | Rasmus Lauge (DEN) | Telekom Veszprém HC (HUN) | 84 |
| 13 | Tin Lucin (CRO) | Orlen Wisla Plock (POL) | 81 |
| 14 | Timur Dibirov (RUS) | HC PPD Zagreb (CRO) | 79 |
| 15 | Morten Olsen (DEN) | GOG (DEN) | 77 |
| | Valero Rivera (ESP) | HBC Nantes (FRA) | 77 |
| | Jerry Tollbring (SWE) | GOG (DEN) | 77 |
| 18 | Timothy N'guessan (FRA) | Barça (ESP) | 73 |
| 19 | Andrii Akimenko (UKR) | CS Dinamo Bucuresti (ROU) | 72 |
| | Alex Dujshebaev (ESP) | Barlinek Industria Kielce (POL) | 72 |
| | Ludovic Fabregas (FRA) | Barça (ESP) | 72 |
| 22 | Szymon Sicko (POL) | Barlinek Industria Kielce (POL) | 71 |
| 23 | Ferran Sole (ESP) | Paris Saint-Germain Handball (FRA) | 68 |
| 24 | Sebastian Barthold (NOR) | Aalborg Håndbold (DEN) | 67 |
| 25 | Sergei Mark Kosorotov (RUS) | Orlen Wisla Plock (POL) | 66 |
| | Harald Reinkind (NOR) | THW Kiel (GER) | 66 |

Biggest wins:

- 31 HSV Hamburg GER @ Fyllingen Handball NOR 17:48 (10:25), 14.11.2009
- 29 ZTR Zaporozhye UKR @ AS Conversano 2003 ITA 12:41 (5:19), 29.11.2003
- 26 Montpellier HB FRA vs AC PAOK GRE 46:20 (26:9), 04.10.2009
- 26 FC Barcelona Intersport ESP @ HC Bosna BH Gas Sarajevo BIH 17:43 (9:21), 19.11.2011
- 25 FC Barcelona ESP vs Hapoel Rishon Le Zion ISR 42:17 (18:10), 15.11.1997
- 25 Kadetten Schaffhausen SUI vs HC Bosna BH Gas Sarajevo BIH 43:18 (23:8), 09.02.2012

Biggest home wins:

- 26 Montpellier HB FRA vs AC PAOK GRE 46:20 (26:9), 04.10.2009
- 25 FC Barcelona ESP vs Hapoel Rishon Le Zion ISR 42:17 (18:10), 15.11.1997
- 25 Kadetten Schaffhausen SUI vs HC Bosna BH Gas Sarajevo BIH 43:18 (23:8), 09.02.2012
- 24 BM Ciudad Real ESP vs AS Conversano 2003 ITA 38:14 (19:8), 22.11.2003
- 24 RK Zagreb CRO vs Pelister Bitola MKD 37:13 (23:5), 16.10.2005
- 24 PGE Vive Kielce POL vs Rhein-Neckar Löwen GER 41:17 (21:8), 24.03.2018
- 24 Barça ESP vs RK Celje Pivovarna Lasko SLO 45:21 (21:13), 21.09.2019

Biggest away wins:

- 31 HSV Hamburg GER @ Fyllingen Handball NOR 17:48 (10:25), 14.11.2009
- 29 ZTR Zaporozhye UKR @ AS Conversano 2003 ITA 12:41 (5:19), 29.11.2003
- 26 FC Barcelona Intersport ESP @ HC Bosna BH Gas Sarajevo BIH 17:43 (9:21), 19.11.2011
- 24 THW Kiel GER @ HC Banik OKD Karvina CZE 26:50 (13:24), 22.10.2006
- 24 Chekhovskie Medvedi RUS @ AC PAOK GRE 22:46 (12:24), 03.03.2010
- 22 BM Ciudad Real ESP @ Fyllingen Handball NOR 17:39 (10:23), 06.03.2010
- 21 BM Ciudad Real ESP @ ASE Doukas GRE 21:42 (11:14), 18.10.2008
- 21 HSV Hamburg GER @ RK Partizan SRB 21:42 (10:24), 16.02.2013

Biggest lead at half-time:

- 18 RK Zagreb CRO vs Pelister Bitola MKD 37:13 (23:5), 16.10.2005
- 17 Montpellier HB FRA vs AC PAOK GRE 46:20 (26:9), 04.10.2009
- 15 KIF Kolding Elite A/S DEN vs Wisla Plock SA POL 35:18 (19:4), 07.10.2006
- 15 MKB Veszprém KC HUN vs HC Bosna BH Gas BIH 35:18 (22:7), 14.11.2009
- 15 HSV Hamburg GER @ Fyllingen Handball NOR 17:48 (10:25), 14.11.2009
- 15 Kadetten Schaffhausen SUI vs HC Bosna BH Gas Sarajevo BIH 43:18 (23:8), 09.02.2012

Most goals Top 10:

- 50 THW Kiel GER @ HC Banik OKD Karvina CZE 26:50 (13:24), 22.10.2006
- 48 HSV Hamburg GER @ Fyllingen Handball NOR 17:48 (10:25), 14.11.2009
- 47 THW Kiel GER vs CS HCM Constanta ROU 47:31 (24:18), 12.11.2006
- 47 Telekom Veszprém HC HUN vs CS Dinamo Bucuresti ROU 47:32 ((22:15), 02.12.2021
- 46 MKB Veszprém KC HUN vs MSK SIRS Povazska Bystrica SVK 46:26 (20:14), 07.10.2006
- 46 MKB Veszprém KC HUN @ MSK SIRS Povazska Bystrica SVK 30:46 (16:22), 21.10.2006
- 46 Montpellier HB FRA vs AC PAOK GRE 46:20 (26:9), 04.10.2009
- 46 FC Barcelona Borges ESP vs KIF Kolding DEN 46:36 (23:19), 17.10.2009
- 46 Chekhovskie Medvedi RUS @ AC PAOK GRE 22:46 (12:24), 03.03.2010
- 46 Barça ESP @ Elverum Handball NOR 30:46 (15:23), 06.10.2022

Most goals both teams:

- 82 FC Barcelona Borges ESP vs KIF Kolding DEN 46:36 (23:19), 17.10.2009
- 81 FC Barcelona ESP vs THW Kiel GER 44:37 (19:20), 13.04.2008
- 80* FC Barcelona ESP vs SG Flensburg-Handewitt GER 39:41 (17:18, 32:32, 36:36), 31.05.2014
- 79 BM Ciudad Real ESP vs Drammen HK NOR 44:35 (22:18), 21.11.2007
- 79 Barça ESP vs Aalborg Handbold DEN 44:35 (22:17), 16.11.2019
- 79 Telekom Veszprém HC HUN vs CS Dinamo Bucuresti ROU 47:32 ((22:15), 02.12.2021
- 79 Paris Saint-Germain Handball FRA vs Telekom Veszprém HC HUN 39:40 (19:20), 10.03.2022
- 79* SC Magdeburg GER vs Barça ESP 40:39 (16:18, 31:31, 38:38), 17.06.2023

Fewest goals:

- 11 Aalborg Handball DEN vs FC Barcelona ESP 11:31 (5:16), 15.03.2015
- 12 AS Conversano 2003 ITA vs ZTR Zaporozhye UKR 12:41 (5:19), 29.11.2003
- 12 Vardar Vatrost. Skopje MKD vs FC Barcelona ESP 12:26 (8:15), 06.11.2004
- 13 THW Kiel GER @ Badel 1862 Zagreb CRO 22:13 (8:7), 25.03.2000
- 13 SO Chambéry FRA @ Fotex KC Veszprém HUN 29:13 (13:5), 18.11.2001
- 13 Panellinos AC Athens GRE @ Fotex KC Veszprém HUN 19:13 (9:7), 17.11.2002
- 13 Pelister Bitola MKD @ RK Zagreb CRO 37:13 (23:5), 16.10.2005
- 13 Wisla Plock SA POL @ Chambéry Savoie HB FRA 21:13 (10:7), 15.10.2006
- 14 AS Conversano 2003 ITA @ BM Ciudad Real ESP 38:14 (19:8), 22.11.2003
- 14 HCM Constanta ROU @ THW Kiel GER 35:14 (16:7), 11.10.2012
- 14 St. Petersburg HC RUS vs HC Metalurg MKD 14:32 (10:18), 16.02.2013

Fewest goals both teams:

- 32 SG Wallau-Massenheim GER vs UHK West Wien AUT 17:15 (7:6), 20.03.1994
- 32 Fotex KC Veszprém HUN vs Panellinos AC Athens GRE 19:13 (9:7), 17.11.2002
- 33 Panellinos AC Athens GRE vs Fotex KC Veszprém HUN 16:17 (8:9), 30.11.2002
- 34 Chambéry Savoie HB FRA vs Wisla Plock SA POL 21:13 (10:7), 15.10.2006
- 35 UHK West Wien AUT vs Celje 'Pivovarna Lasko' SLO 18:17 (6:10), 06.04.1994
- 35 Badel 1862 Zagreb CRO vs THW Kiel GER 22:13 (8:7), 25.03.2000
- 35 HC Metalurg MKD vs Elverum Handball NOR 18:17 (8:7), 24.09.2016

Biggest deficit overcome after losing first half to win a game:

- 9 KS Vive Tauron Kielce POL @ HC Motor Zaporozhye UKR 27:28 (19:10), 18.02.2015
- 7 HC Vardar MKD @ Barça Lassa ESP 27:29 (16:9), 01.06.2019
- 6 FC Porto Sofarma POR vs HC Meshkov Brest BLR 27:25 (9:15), 14.09.2019

Biggest deficit overcome after losing first half to draw a game:

- 6 FC Barcelona ESP @ GOG Gudme DEN 22:22 (16:10), 14.02.1996
- 6 HC Croatia Osiguranje-Zagreb CRO vs HC Vardar PRO – Skopje MKD 28:28 (10:16), 07.10.2007
- 6 Pevafersa Valladolid ESP vs Pick Szeged HUN 35:35 (13:19), 27.02.2010
- 6 Naturhouse La Rioja ESP vs SG Flensburg-Handewitt GER 32:32 (13:19), 19.10.2013
- 6 Orlen Wisla Plock POL @ THW Kiel GER 24:24 (15:9), 03.12.2016
- 6 Rhein-Neckar Löwen GER vs FC Barcelona Lassa ESP 31:31 (12:18), 17.09.2017
- 6 HC Motor Zaporozhye UKR vs HC Metalurg MKD 28:28 (12:18), 08.10.2017

Most goals in one half:

- 26 Kolding KIF DEN vs RK Partizan Belgrad SCG – 2nd half 42:26 (16:13), 12.10.2003
- 26 Montpellier HB FRA vs AS Conversano 2003 ITA – 2nd half 44:25 (18:14), 10.10.2004
- 26 MKB Veszprém KC HUN vs MSK SIRS Povazska Bystrica SVK – 2nd half 46:26 (20:14), 07.10.2006
- 26 GOG Svendborg TGI Gudme DEN vs HC Banik OKD Karvina CZE – 2nd half 45:32 (19:15), 15.10.2006
- 26 THW Kiel GER @ HC Banik OKD Karvina CZE – 2nd half 26:50 (13:24), 22.10.2006
- 25 FC Barcelona ESP vs Celje Pivovarna Lasko SLO – 2nd half 39:25 (14:14), 18.03.2000
- 25 FC Barcelona ESP vs THW Kiel GER – 2nd half 44:37 (19:20), 13.04.2008
- 25 Barça Lassa ESP @ IFK Kristianstad SWE – 2nd half 25:44 (14:19), 29.09.2018
- 25 Paris Saint-Germain Handball FRA @ Elverum Handball NOR – 2nd half 29:44 (12:19)
- 25 Telekom Veszprém HC HUN vs CS Dinamo Bucuresti ROU – 2nd half 47:32 (22:15), 02.12.2021
- 25 Paris Saint-Germain Handball FRA vs GOG DEN – 2nd half 41:36 (16:16), 23.11.2022

Most goals in one half both teams:

- 45 PGE Vive Kielce POL vs Barça Lassa ESP – 2nd half 36:42 (15:18), 24.11.2018
- 45 Paris Saint-Germain Handball FRA vs GOG DEN – 2nd half 41:36 (16:16), 23.11.2022
- 44 Sportclub Magdeburg GER vs Wisla Plock SSA POL – 2nd half 40:32 (17:11), 16.11.2002
- 43 GOG Svendborg TGI Gudme DEN vs HC Banik OKD Karvina CZE – 2nd half 45:32 (19:15), 15.10.2006
- 43 Hammarby IF HB SWE vs THW Kiel GER – 1st half 36:40 (22:21), 08.11.2007
- 43 RK Celje Pivovarna Laško SLO vs THW Kiel GER – 2nd half 38:36 (17:14), 21.09.2022

Fewest goals in one half:

- 3 HC Metalurg MKD @ THW Kiel GER – 1st half 35:16 (17:3), 15.02.2015
- 4 Kolding IF DEN @ TEKA Santander ESP – 1st half 28:16 (16:4), 25.01.1995
- 4 Granitas Kaunas LTU vs ABC Braga POR – 1st half 16:22 (4:12), 10.11.1996
- 4 Schachtjor Donetsk UKR @ ABC Braga POR – 1st half 21:15 (11:4), 16.11.1996
- 4 Vardar Vatrost. Skopje MKD vs FC Barcelona ESP – 2nd half 12:26 (8:15), 06.11.2004
- 4 Wisla Plock SA POL @ KIF Kolding Elite A/S DEN – 1st half 35:18 (19:4), 07.10.2006
- 4 RK Gorenje Velenje SLO vs Pick Szeged HUN – 1st half 17:29 (4:14), 03.10.2007
- 4 HC Vardar MKD vs THW Kiel GER – 1st half 20:31 (4:16), 12.10.2019
- 4 FC Porto POR @ Paris Saint-Germain Handball FRA – 1st half 33:19 (18:4), 18.11.2021

Fewest goals in one half both team:

- 13 SG Wallau-Massenheim vs UHK West Wien AUT – 1st half 17:15 (7:6), 20.03.1994
- 14 Riihimäen Cocks FIN vs Abanca Ademar Leon ESP – 2nd half 19:19 (13:11), 12.09.2018
- 15 ABC Braga POR vs Schachtjor Donetsk UKR – 1st half 21:15 (11:4), 16.11.1996
- 15 Badel 1862 Zagreb CRO vs Fotex KC Veszprém HUN – 2nd half 19:18 (14:8), 09.01.1999
- 15 Skjern Handball DEN vs ZTR Zaporozhye UKR – 2nd half 16:20 (9:12), 13.11.1999
- 15 Badel 1862 Zagreb CRO vs THW Kiel GER – 1st half 22:13 (8:7), 25.03.2000
- 15 RK Zagreb CRO vs Sandefjord TIF NOR – 1st half 22:15 (10:5), 12.10.2003
- 15 Vardar Vatrost. Skopje MKD vs FC Barcelona ESP – 2nd half 12:26 (8:15), 06.11.2004
- 15 Pick Szeged HUN vs Celje Pivovarna Lasko SLO – 1st half 20:19 (8:7), 08.03.2008
- 15 HC Metalurg MKD vs Elverum Handball NOR – 1st half 18:17 (8:7), 24.09.2016

Winning and losing streaks**Longest winning run:**

| | |
|----------------|--------------------------------------|
| Barça | 22 matches (21.09.2019 – 28.12.2020) |
| BM Ciudad Real | 20 matches (23.10.2005 – 24.02.2007) |
| Barça | 14 matches (04.02.2021 – 23.09.2021) |
| BM Ciudad Real | 13 matches (31.05.2009 – 03.04.2010) |

Longest unbeaten run:

| | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Barça | 25 matches (02.12.2021 - 18.05.2023) |
| Barça | 22 matches (21.09.2019 – 28.12.2020) |
| BM Ciudad Real | 20 matches (23.10.2005 – 24.02.2007) |
| KS Vive Tauron Kielce | 18 matches (15.11.2015 – 15.10.2016) |
| THW Kiel | 17 matches (22.10.2011 – 11.10.2012) |

Longest losing run:

| | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| HC PPD Zagreb | 17 matches (01.03.2020 – 22.09.2021) |
| AS Conversano 2003 | 12 matches (11.10.2003 – 13.11.2004) |
| MSK SIRS Povazska Bystrica | 12 matches (12.10.2003 – 11.11.2006) |
| HC 'Granitas-Karys' | 12 matches (01.10.2005 – 22.11.2008) |
| RK Partizan | 12 matches (01.10.2011 – 07.10.2012) |

Longest run without win:

| | |
|---------------|--------------------------------------|
| HC PPD Zagreb | 22 matches (01.03.2020 – 17.11.2021) |
| Wacker Thun | 20 matches (21.09.2013 – 29.11.2018) |
| TATRAN Presov | 16 matches (16.11.2008 – 10.10.2015) |

| TR | Name of the club | MP | W | D | L | GF:FA | GD | P | NP | % |
|----------|-------------------------------------|------------|------------|-----------|------------|-------------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|---------------|
| 1 | Barça ESP | 368 | 283 | 23 | 62 | 11582:9690 | +1892 | 589:147 | (27)* | 80,03% |
| 2 | Telekom Veszprém HUN | 350 | 230 | 21 | 99 | 10370:9388 | +982 | 481:219 | (28)* | 68,71% |
| 3 | THW Kiel GER | 346 | 224 | 27 | 95 | 10545:9464 | +1080 | 475:217 | (26)* | 68,64% |
| 4 | SG Flensburg-Handewitt GER | 252 | 146 | 21 | 85 | 7250:6828 | +422 | 313:191 | (17) | 62,10% |
| 5 | Montpellier HB FRA | 250 | 136 | 19 | 95 | 7184:6878 | +306 | 292:209 | (22)* | 58,20% |
| 6 | KS Kielce POL | 230 | 136 | 18 | 76 | 6961:6624 | +337 | 290:170 | (17)* | 63,04% |
| 7 | HC Zagreb CRO | 330 | 127 | 35 | 168 | 8544:8781 | -237 | 289:371 | (30)* | 43,79% |
| 8 | Paris Saint-Germain HB FRA | 186 | 125 | 12 | 49 | 5691:5165 | +526 | 262:110 | (13)* | 70,43% |
| 9 | OTP Bank - PICK Szeged HUN | 248 | 117 | 21 | 110 | 6892:6876 | +16 | 255:241 | (21)* | 51,41% |
| 9 | RK Celje Pivovarna Lasko SLO | 274 | 120 | 15 | 139 | 7737:7728 | +9 | 255:239 | (25)* | 46,53% |
| 10 | BM Atletico Madrid ESP | 144 | 111 | 5 | 28 | 4502:3803 | +699 | 227:61 | (10) | 78,82% |
| 11 | HC Vardar 1961 | 188 | 83 | 21 | 84 | 5144:5241 | -97 | 187:189 | (15) | 49,73% |
| 12 | Chekhovskie medvedi RUS | 176 | 75 | 18 | 83 | 5250:5200 | +50 | 168:184 | (18) | 47,73% |
| 13 | Rhein-Neckar Löwen GER | 134 | 72 | 17 | 45 | 3971:3774 | +197 | 161:107 | (9) | 60,08% |
| 15 | HSV Hamburg GER | 98 | 68 | 9 | 21 | 3088:2670 | +418 | 145:51 | (7) | 73,98% |
| 16 | Portland San Antonio ESP | 100 | 64 | 6 | 30 | 2929:2594 | +335 | 134:66 | (9) | 67,00% |
| 17 | Abanca Ademar Leon ESP | 122 | 61 | 8 | 53 | 3440:3386 | +54 | 130:114 | (12) | 53,28% |
| 18 | KIF Kolding Kobenhavn DEN | 118 | 54 | 9 | 55 | 3330:3361 | -31 | 117:119 | (12) | 49,58% |

* participating in Machineseecker EHF Champions League 2023/24

| TR | Name of the club | MP | W | D | L | GF:FA | GD | P | NP | % |
|------------|------------------------------|------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------------|-------------|----------------|--------------|---------------|
| 19 | Orlen Wisla Plock POL | 154 | 49 | 14 | 91 | 4080:4358 | -278 | 112:196 | (15)* | 36,36% |
| 20 | HC Motor UKR | 120 | 48 | 11 | 61 | 3394:3511 | -117 | 107:133 | (9) | 44,58% |
| 21 | Aalborg Håndbold DEN | 114 | 46 | 8 | 60 | 3281:3387 | -106 | 100:128 | (9)* | 43,86% |
| 22 | HBC Nantes FRA | 88 | 42 | 14 | 32 | 2649:2534 | +115 | 98:78 | (5) | 55,68% |
| 23 | HC Meshkov Brest BLR | 142 | 40 | 14 | 88 | 3842:4134 | -292 | 94:190 | (12) | 33,10% |
| 24 | SC Magdeburg GER | 58 | 36 | 6 | 16 | 1741:1614 | +127 | 78:38 | (6)* | 67,24% |
| 25 | GOG DEN | 90 | 35 | 7 | 48 | 2655:2715 | -60 | 77:103 | (11)* | 42,78% |
| 30 | FC Porto POR | 80 | 27 | 10 | 43 | 2192:2281 | -89 | 64:96 | (2)* | 40,00% |
| 110 | Eurofarm Pelister MKD | 6 | 1 | 0 | 5 | 139:191 | -52 | 2:10 | (2)* | 16,67% |
| NR | Kolstad Handball NOR | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0:0 | 0 | 0:0 | (1)* | 0,00% |

*=participating in Machineseecker EHF Champions League 2023/24



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