



CHAMPIONS CUP

REGULATIONS



EHF BEACH HANDBALL

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Regulations

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The following regulations have been adopted on the basis of Articles 3.1.8 §18 and 11.1.8 of the Statutes of the European Handball Federation (EHF).

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I. GENERAL PROVISIONS

Scope of Application

The present EHF Beach Handball Champions Cup Regulations (“ChC Regulations”) govern the rights, duties and responsibilities of all parties participating and involved in the preparation and organisation of the following competitions organised by the European Handball Federation (EHF) pursuant to Articles 1.2 and 11.1.8 of the EHF Statutes:

- The Men’s and Women’s EHF Beach Handball Champions Cup

These competitions are hereinafter also referred to as “ChC” (the singular includes the plural and vice versa).

The EHF is entitled to change and/or adapt the format of EHF competitions (including but not limited to the playing system, playing periods, throw-off times etc.) also during ongoing seasons. The EHF will especially make use of such right in case of exceptional circumstances (such as acts, events, omissions or accidents beyond the reasonable control of a party including, without limitation, a labour dispute, pandemic, accident, fire, flood, riot or civil commotion, act of public enemy, legal enactment, government act etc).

Fair Play

The philosophy of beach handball is based on the principle of “fair play” and its components. Every decision has thus to be taken in accordance with ethical values and the behaviour of all parties involved shall follow this spirit. Hence, all participants must:

- Observe the IHF Rules of the Game and the EHF regulations governing the competition
- Respect all participants (players, officials, spectators, media representatives, etc.)
- Promote the spirit of sportsmanship and pursue the cultural mission.

II. TOURNAMENT MANAGEMENT

- 2.1. The ChC will be directed by the Tournament Management. It decides on the match schedule, playing times, results, rankings and other open questions in connection with the tournament.
- 2.2. The Tournament Management will be nominated in due time before the tournament and the participants will be informed accordingly.
- 2.3. Additional members may be nominated by the Tournament Management.
- 2.4. Based on a proposal made by the EHF Beach Handball Commission and a respective decision by the EHF Executive Committee, the following regulations have been adopted and are consequently effective for the ChC (as per the IHF BH Rules of the Game, edition, 1 April 2026):
 - Twelve (12) players are allowed on the match report – only 10 are eligible to play
 - A direct red card leads automatically to a report submitted by the referees
 - A direct red card leads automatically to a minimum suspension for the next match

III. REGISTRATION AND LIST OF PLAYERS

- 3.1. Clubs shall be entered by their National Federation by name, on the basis of the final outcome of the national championship of the past season.
- 3.2. The teams are obliged to send the team's registrations for entry in the ChC, the Code of Conduct and the signed Arbitration Agreement within the deadline provided by the EHF Office.
- 3.3. The preliminary list of players has to be submitted to the EHF Office 21 (twenty-one) days prior to the beginning of the tournament. This list shall contain a maximum of 28 players and 6 officials. All relevant data must be correctly recorded. The list shall be in electronic format and the provided data sheet has to be used. All conventions concerning completion (how the date is written, etc.) must be adhered to.
- 3.4. The final squad list for up to 14 players and 6 officials (function to be stated) has to be submitted 1 (one) week before to the first competition day at the latest including the final jersey numbers. Only players already registered via the preliminary delegation list will be accepted on the final squad list.
- 3.5. At the technical meeting, on the day before the start of the competition, the teams must announce 12 out of 14 players from the final delegation list and 4 out of 6 officials from the final delegation list taking part in the competition.
 - a) A maximum of two (2) changes are allowed at any stage of the event from the final players' delegation list; the substituted player(s) may eventually re-join the squad at a later stage, but always respecting the maximum number of two (2) changes.
 - b) A maximum of two (2) changes are allowed at any stage of the event from the final officials' delegation list; the substituted official(s) may eventually re-join the squad at a later stage, but always respecting the maximum number of two (2) changes.

- 3.6. A player is not allowed to be on the players' list of two (2) or more different teams participating in the same category.
- 3.7. A team official is not allowed to be listed on the final squad list as a player in any participating team of the same gender.
- 3.8. The final jersey numbers cannot be changed.

Late Registration

- 3.9. If a team has nominated less than 14 players, it may nominate one additional player (from the preliminary list) during the tournament. This registration has to be done one hour prior to the respective game at the latest, including the presentation of the passport of the player to the EHF delegate responsible for the match.

IV. PLAYING CLOTHING

- 4.1. Reference is made to the applicable IHF Beach Handball Rules of the Game – Athlete Uniform Regulations that can be found under the present link:
<https://beach.eurohandball.com/about-beach-handball/beach-handball-rules/>
- 4.2. Each team shall have available four (4) different sets of clothing in different colours in European beach handball competitions.
- 4.3. The correctness of playing kits, according to the IHF Beach Handball Rules of the Game (compare rule 4.8. concerning the colour of the shirt – 80% has to be solid colour), and correctness of numbers will be checked by the EHF delegates at the technical meeting together with the delegation lists.
- 4.4. The clothing numbers in the final list presented at the technical meeting must be kept for the entire tournament; therefore, all sets of shirts must include the same numbers.
- 4.5. All kits not in line with the IHF BH Rules of the Game will not be permitted.
- 4.6. The colour of the kits will be checked by the referees prior to each game. If the referees consider that the clothing of two teams is likely to cause confusion, the team named second in the playing schedule shall change its clothing to ensure a good contrast.
- 4.7. The teams must take with them all four (4) playing kits to every match, in case of necessity, see Article 4.6. In case of shortcomings, a report will be filed in by the responsible EHF delegate.
- 4.8. All court players of a team must wear identical uniforms.

- 4.9. A player who is entering the playing court as a goalkeeper must wear identical (in design and player's number) uniform with his teammates, but in colours that distinguish him from the court players of both teams and the goalkeepers of the opposing team.
- 4.10. Photos (no graphics) of the playing kits must be submitted to the EHF Office for pre-approval 21 days prior to the tournament.
- 4.11. No exceptions to the team equipment rules will be accepted even upon presentation of a medical certificate.
- 4.12. In case of violation in connection with playing kits, such as, without limitation, change of numbers after the applicable deadline or use of a wrong kit, sanctions may be imposed in accordance with the EHF Legal Regulations.

Change of Clothing

- 4.13. The team listed second must change its equipment if the officials believe that the two teams' attire is likely to lead to confusion. This is done to prevent any confusion from occurring. For this reason, all the teams are obliged to bring all four sets to every match. In case of clothing violations, a report will be filed by the appointed delegate and a fine may be issued by the competent body.
- 4.14. The above specified rule shall apply if a request of such nature is made by the TV production staff.

V. MATCH REPORT

- 5.1. Prior to each match on the playing court, two (2) players and two (2) officials have to be crossed out on the match report, in case the teams have more than ten (10) players and two (2) officials on the final squad list. The match report has to be signed by the responsible person of the team and given to the respective delegate. The team official is solely responsible for correctness of numbers and names on the match report.
- 5.2. The referees and delegates are solely responsible for the correctness of the match result during and after the match.

VI. CATEGORIES, MATCH SYSTEM AND CLASSIFICATION

6.1. The ChC is played in two categories:

- ChC for Men
- ChC for Women

6.2. All matches are played according to the “IHF Beach Handball Rules of the Game”, edition, 1 April 2026.

6.3. The duration of all matches (including placement matches, semi-finals and finals) will be two times 10 minutes with a five minutes half-time break, including change of ends, according to the official IHF Rules for Beach Handball (BH).

Preliminary Round

6.4. The teams are divided in the preliminary round as follows:

- ChC for Men: A total of 16 teams divided into 4 groups of 4 teams
- ChC for Women: A total of 16 teams divided into 4 groups of 4 teams

6.5. In the preliminary round, each team will play against each of the other teams in the same group (“round robin” system).

Ranking

Points are awarded as follows:

- a. win 2 points
- b. loss 0 points

Periods are defined / awarded as follows:

- First half:
 - win 1 period
 - loss 0 periods
- Second half:
 - win 1 period
 - loss 0 periods

Shoot-out: win 1 period
 loss 0 periods

- 6.6. Goal points are awarded according to the official IHF BH Rules of the Game.
- 6.7. Teams are ranked by adding the points gained.
- 6.8. If after completion of the group matches, two or more teams have gained the same number of points, the following ranking system will apply:
- a. results in points between the teams concerned
 - b. period difference in the matches between the teams concerned
 - c. goal point difference (including the shoot-out points) in the matches between the teams concerned
 - d. greater number of plus goal points (including the shoot-out points) in the matches between the teams concerned
- 6.9. If there is still a tie, the following system is used to decide between these teams, as long as the contested place is not the last place within the group:
- a. period difference is subtracted in all matches.
 - b. greater number of plus periods in all matches.
 - c. goal point difference (including the shoot-out points) is subtracted in all matches
 - d. greater number of plus goal points (including the shoot-out points) in all matches.
- 6.10. If a ranking is still not possible, a draw shall decide. The EHF shall make the draw, if possible in the presence of the persons being in charge of the teams concerned.

Cross matches and placement matches

Places 13 to 16

- 6.11. After the completion of the Preliminary Round, the teams ranked fourth (4th) in each group play the Consolation Round group for the places 13 to 16. Each team will play against each of the other teams (“round robin” system).
- 6.12. The points earned during the Preliminary Round are not carried over to the for the Consolation Round group.

6.13. The teams ranked first (1st) and second (2nd) of the Consolation Round group will play against each other in a Placement Match to attribute the places 13 and 14. The teams ranked third (3rd) and fourth (4th) of the Consolation Round group will play against each other in a Placement Match to attribute the places 15 and 16.

Main Round

6.14. After the completion of the Preliminary Round, the teams ranked first (1st), second (2nd) and third (3rd) in each group play the Main Round groups for the places 1 to 12.

6.15. The points earned during the Preliminary Round are carried over to the Main Round groups.

Placement matches

Places 9 to 12

6.16. After the completion of the Main Round groups, the teams ranked fifth (5th) in each group will play against each other in a Placement Match to attribute the places 9 and 10.

6.17. The teams ranked sixth (6th) in each main round group will play against each other in a Placement Match to attribute the places 11 to 12.

Quarter-finals, cross matches 5-8, semi-finals 1-4 and Finals

Places 1 to 8

6.18. After the completion of the Main Round the teams ranked first (1st), second (2nd), third (3rd) and fourth (4th) play Quarter-finals for the places 1 to 8.

6.19. The winners of each Quarter-finals play against each other in the Semi-finals 1-4 to attribute the places 1 to 4 in the ChC ranking. The matches shall be played in a knock-out system.

6.20. The losing teams play against each other in Cross Matches to attribute the places 5 to 8 in the ChC ranking. The matches shall be played in a knock-out system.

6.21. The winners of the Cross Matches 5-8 play against each other to attribute the places 5 and 6 in the ChC ranking. The losing teams play against each other in a Placement Match to attribute the places 7 and 8 in the ChC ranking.

- 6.22. The losers of the Semi-finals 1-4 play against each other in the bronze final match to define places three (3) and four (4) in the ChC ranking.
- 6.23. The winners of the Semi-finals 1-4 play against each other in the finals to define places one (1) and two (2) in the ChC ranking.

VII. COURT MANAGER

The court manager is responsible for the providing of a correct playing court and takes all organisational decisions related to each match; his scope of responsibility includes handling any request in terms of match organisation by the EHF delegate. The court manager is responsible for the maintenance of the courts including watering, cleaning and flattening the sand as well as water supply to the teams and ball recovery during the match. Therefore, a minimum number of eight (8) volunteers per court, in shifts of four (4), is requested.

VIII. REFEREES AND DELEGATES

The nomination of referees and delegates will be carried out by the responsible Beach Handball Commission member. All teams will be informed of the nomination in due time prior to the matches.

IX. LEGAL PROCEDURES – PROTESTS/DISCIPLINARY

EHF Legal Regulations

- 9.1. The provisions of the EHF Legal Regulations, the EHF List of Penalties and the EHF Catalogue of Administrative Sanctions apply to all legal matters including procedural aspects and disciplinary offences committed by the teams, delegations, individuals and/or EHF Officials at the ChC unless stipulated otherwise in the present chapter.

Competent Bodies

Jurisdiction

- 9.2. Under the provisions defined in the present chapter, the Disciplinary Commission and the Jury are responsible for disciplinary adjudication, punishing violations of applicable regulations including those of an administrative nature falling within the scope of Article 21 of the Legal Regulations, settling dispute including protests and deciding upon any other issues arising from the ChC.

Disciplinary Commission

- 9.3. The Disciplinary Commission is responsible as the body of first instance.
- 9.4. The Disciplinary Commission is composed of EHF delegates nominated for the ChC.

Jury

- 9.5. The Jury is responsible as the body of second instance. It is the highest EHF legal body at the ChC.
- 9.6. The Jury consists of the EHF Court of Appeal acting as an ad hoc body.

9.7. Any decision made by the Disciplinary Commission according to the aforementioned provisions may be appealed to the Jury.

Regulations Infringements/Disciplinary Matters

9.8. Delegation members (including players and team officials) and EHF Officials agree to comply with the present regulations as well as all applicable regulations. They must notably:

- respect the spirit of fair play and non-violence and behave accordingly
- refrain from any activity that endangers the integrity of the ChC and brings the sport of handball into disrepute
- refrain from anti-doping violations as defined in the EHF Regulations for Anti-Doping
- observe the EHF Codes of Conduct

9.9. If deemed appropriate by the EHF to ensure the proper running of the ChC and/or the respect of the applicable regulations during the ChC, violations of the present regulations and/or any other EHF regulations applicable to the ChC, by any team, delegation, individual and/or EHF Official are examined, decided upon and sanctioned by the Disciplinary Commission and the Jury (in appeal) following an express procedure. For the avoidance of doubt, the present dispositions also apply to direct disqualifications.

9.10. The member federations of the respective delegations or teams, individuals and/or the EHF Officials against whom the proceedings are initiated, must have the possibility to provide a statement of defence.

9.11. In those cases, the deadlines applicable to protests are not applicable and shall be defined by the competent legal body within the course of the proceedings.

9.12. The carrying out of legal/disciplinary proceedings as defined herein is independent of any reporting obligations.

Protests

Definition

9.13. Under the present chapter, “protest” shall mean: any match-related claim which may have an impact on the result of a ChC match.

Exclusion of Protests

9.14. With regard to all and any ChC matches, protests shall not be permitted when relating to:

- a) Date, time, venue and draw of the matches
- b) Nomination of referees and delegates
- c) Referees’ decisions on facts in accordance with the IHF BH Rules of the Game, including those based on EHF delegate’s recommendations.

Procedure

9.15. Protests shall be announced orally to the EHF delegate of the respective match immediately after the end of the match. The reasons for the protests shall be handed over to the EHF delegate of the match in writing (in English only) within thirty (30) minutes after the end of the relevant match.

9.16. Moreover a protest fee of €430 shall be paid by the claimant to the EHF. This amount shall be paid directly to the EHF delegate or transferred to the EHF bank account at the same time as the claim is handed over. A written proof of payment of the protest fee in the defined deadline shall be submitted.

9.17. If the protest is fully granted, the protest fee is refunded to the claimant; otherwise it is forfeited to the credit of the EHF.

9.18. The deadlines and fees for protests apply equally for any additional information submitted in connection with the ChC.

9.19. The Disciplinary Commission takes a decision by simple majority. In cases suspension and/or disqualification of players or teams may be decided according to the relevant regulations, the

decision of the EHF Disciplinary Commission shall be announced to the parties at least one hour prior to the next match of the party(ies) involved.

Appeals

9.20. Unless otherwise provided in the decision of the Disciplinary Commission, an appeal against a decision of the Disciplinary Commission shall be received by the EHF Office in writing no later than 20:00hrs local time the same day the Disciplinary Commission decision is communicated to the parties.

9.21. Besides, an appeal fee of €1,070 shall be paid by the appellant to the EHF. This amount shall be paid directly to the EHF delegate or transferred to the EHF bank account at the same time as the appeal is filed/requested. A written proof of payment of the appeal fee in the defined deadline shall be deemed sufficient.

9.22. If the appeal is fully granted, the fee shall be refunded; otherwise the appeal fee is forfeited to the credit of the EHF.

9.23. Such an appeal request is transferred to the Jury. The Jury makes a decision by simple majority following an express procedure. Such a decision is announced to the relevant parties.

Eligibility to Play

9.24. The submission of protests concerning eligibility to play is not subject to any mandatory deadline.

European Handball Court of Arbitration (ECA)

9.25. Any issue decided upon by the Jury may be brought by any of the relevant parties before the ECA. The Rules of Arbitration for the ECA apply.

9.26. The initiation of proceedings before the ECA on a specific issue does not suspend the implementation of the decision taken by Jury on such an issue, unless decided otherwise by the ECA in accordance with the Rules of Arbitration for the ECA.

Arising Costs

9.27. In principle the actual costs for personnel and material arising from the activities of the Disciplinary Commission and the Jury shall be charged in connection with the procedure. Rules governing the apportionment and payment of costs related to the EHF bodies' legal proceedings by and between the parties are stated in article 48 of the EHF Legal Regulations.

Exclusion of Liability

9.28. The EHF shall not be liable for any third-party liability claims arising from the execution of single matches or any other events in connection with the ChC.

X. IMAGE/PERSONALITY RIGHTS

- 10.1. All participating members grant EHF the right (royalty-free) to use photos and images of players and officials as well as team names, emblems and players uniforms within the framework of the ChC for non-commercial purposes.
- 10.2. All participating teams grant EHF the right (royalty-free) to use any photo, any material (print material, ads, internet, product presentation, video etc.) produced for/at the ChC for beach handball/EHF competitions promotions and sport development (training, teaching, etc.) purposes.
- 10.3. The EHF has the right to transfer these aforementioned rights of use to a marketing partner for the same purposes.
- 10.4. Each participating team must obtain the consent of the respective players and officials participating in the ChC to the use of their image as defined here above. Each participating team must hold EHF and its partners free from any legal action from a player concerning the player's image/personality rights.

XII. AWARDS

The team ranked first (1st) in each category shall receive the EHF Champion Cup's trophy.

Each player of a team ranked 1st to 3rd in the respective category shall receive a medal (gold for rank 1st, silver for rank 2nd, bronze for rank 3rd). A maximum of 16 medals per team are going to be provided. The Most Valuable Player, the best goalkeeper, the best defender, the top-scorer of the tournament, and the Fair Play team (in both categories) will be awarded with a special trophy.

Any changes of the Tournament Regulations will be announced on the occasion of the technical meeting.