



# STATUTES

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# 1. NAME, OBJECTS AND HEADQUARTERS (REGISTERED OFFICE)

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

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

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

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

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

Official international handball, mini handball and beach handball competitions held in Europe and entered by members of National Handball Federations shall be subject to the authority of the EHF. Exceptions therefrom shall be Olympic Games, World Championships and World Cup as well as other recognized competitions.

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

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

- 1.6. The EHF exclusively and directly pursues the purpose of continued development and

promotion of handball in Europe in a spirit of peace, mutual understanding, and fair play.

- 1.7. The official EHF language is English. Communication between the EHF Office and members shall take place exclusively in English. All EHF activities, including Congresses, shall be carried out in English.

The official language at EHF competitions shall be English.

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

Members' motions to the Congress shall be submitted in written form in English.

## 2. ETHICAL STANDARDS

### 2.1. General Principle

- 2.1.1. The EHF, its member federations and all its stakeholders entirely submit to comprehensive ethical standards and good governance in all actions and activities.

- 2.1.2. The EHF encourages friendship and mutual understanding among members, does not tolerate discriminate on the basis of politics, race or religion, gender, or sexual orientation and rejects any illegitimate practices in sports.

- 2.1.3. Contravention of these principles shall be subject to sanctions pursuant to EHF and IHF regulations. Be it through the rejection of referees, non-appearance at a match, failure to grant entry visas to players, managers, referees, EHF representatives, EHF functionaries and sports journalists, raising performance levels through the administration of forbidden substances such as doping, any kind of corruption, bribery or undue influence, including receiving, offering or accepting any kind of undue advantages or gifts, etc.

### 2.2. Good governance

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

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

### 2.3. Integrity of the Competitions

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

- 2.4. Leagues or other activities  
Leagues or any other activities on professional men's and women's senior level involving entities from different member federations shall be permitted only upon the explicit consent of the respective member federations and the EHF, and shall be organized under the governance of the EHF.
- 2.5. Sustainability  
The principle of sustainable acting on all levels and by all parties involved in EHF business constitutes an essential factor of non-profit targets.

## **3. MEMBERSHIP**

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- 3.1. Membership shall be open to European National Handball Federations. Admission and exclusion of members shall be decided on by the Congress (general assembly). Admission and exclusion of federations from other continents shall require a majority of three quarters (3/4) of the members present at the Congress.
- 3.2. Members shall recognize the EHF statutes and regulations as well as decisions reached by its bodies. They shall pass this obligation on to their members and require their members to pass it on in turn.
- 3.3. Members that fail to meet their obligations in spite of written admonition may be suspended by the Executive Committee.
- 3.4. Membership shall end by dissolution, withdrawal or exclusion of the federation. Withdrawals can be made only at the end of a calendar year upon six (6) months' advance notification.

## **4. EHF BODIES**

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The EHF bodies are:

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

15. The Comptrollers
16. The EHF Anti-Doping Unit

#### **4.1. THE CONGRESS**

4.1.1 The Congress shall be the highest EHF authority.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

No one shall have the right to represent more than one (1) member federation.

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

Unless otherwise specified in the statutes, the majority of votes cast shall carry the vote. In event of a tie a second ballot shall be held. Any proposal failing to receive a majority after the runoff shall be rejected. In case a qualified majority is specified in the statutes, the basis shall be the number of delegates present at the Congress venue during the vote.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

The EHF Executive Committee is charged with taking decisions on the issuance and amendment of competition regulations and the List of Penalties. Provisions regulating financial matters except the List of Penalties shall be passed by the Congress.
19. Awarding of events and European Championships for Men and Women, with the right of delegating to the Executive Committee.
20. Setting membership fees, approval of the budget for the next two (2) years.
21. Member admissions and expulsions.

22. Election of honorary members according to Executive Committee nominations.
23. Declaration and amendments of the Rules of Arbitration for the European Handball Court of Arbitration.
24. Decisions on other points of business, as submitted to the Congress by the Executive Committee.
25. Awarding of Ordinary Congresses.

The agenda shall be set according to the Congress needs.

#### 4.1.9. Speaking time

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

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

#### 4.1.10. Delegation of authorities

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

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

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

- 4.2.1 The Conference of Presidents is a consultative body of the EHF. It serves the exchange of experience, the formation of opinions, and information.
- 4.2.2 The Conference of Presidents is convened by the Executive Committee as required and is normally held in years between EHF Congresses.
- 4.2.3 Eligible to attend are the Presidents of the member federations or a substitute nominated by them.

## **4.3. THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

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

matters.

Details shall be laid down in the rules of procedure.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

After serving three (3) terms of office in a top/core function within the EHF – President, First Vice President, Vice President Finances, and Chairpersons of Technical Commissions – the respective person shall assume only functions which are of the same or of higher rank in comparison with their former position.

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

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

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

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

General requirements to be met by candidates:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

authorization.

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

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

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

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

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

Meetings may be organised by video conferencing system.

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

## 5. THE TECHNICAL COMMISSIONS

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### 5.1. THE COMPETITIONS COMMISSION

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

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

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

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

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

1. Elected and nominated by any such group recognised by the EHF as representing the interests of the clubs of the respective gender participating in EHF competitions.
2. The election and nomination of the members of the men's club competitions and the women's club competitions by the group representing the interests of the clubs may be replaced upon appointment by the EHF Executive Committee if required.

3. Mutual rights and duties between the EHF and the group representing the interests of the clubs shall be defined in a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) which creates the basis for the cooperation.

4. The office period of the members Men's Club Competitions and Women's Club Competitions is four (4) years.

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

## **5.2. THE METHODS COMMISSION**

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

5.2.1. The MC shall consist of a chairperson and four/five (4/5) individually elected members with responsibility for:

1. Methods and coaching
2. Education and training
3. Youth, school sports, and non-competitive sports
4. Development
5. Gender representative (in case one (1) gender is not represented).

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

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

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

5.3.1. The BC shall consist of a chairperson and four/five (4/5) individually elected members with responsibility for the following business areas:

1. Events and Competitions
2. Officiating
3. Game Design and Coaching
4. Development and Promotion
5. Gender representative (in case one (1) gender is not represented).

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

## 6. THE LEGAL BODIES

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The EHF Court of Handball and the EHF Court of Appeal are separate and independent bodies responsible for the adjudication and arbitration within the framework of the legal system of the EHF and its member federations and associated federations.

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

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

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

### 5.1. THE EHF COURT OF HANDBALL

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

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

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

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

### 6.2. THE EHF COURT OF APPEAL

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## **7. THE COMPTROLLERS**

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

- 8.2. The PHB and WHB in particular shall be in charge of:
1. The coordination of and collaboration between the stakeholders,
  2. The articulation between stakeholders and EHF bodies,
  3. Proposals in the area of competition structure including measures to increase the market value of European competitions,
  4. Contributing to the work of the EHF on the position of handball in its relation to the outside world: the world of sport and more particularly the International Handball Federation and the Olympic Committee as well as the political and administrative world, more particularly the European Commission,
  5. Supplying reports and opinions on the request of the Executive Committee or the commissions,
  6. Fulfilling missions assigned by the EHF Congress.
  7. Joint nomination of one (1) ECC Vice President in accordance with clause 5.3 by the PHB and the WHB.
- 8.3. Mutual rights and duties between the EHF and each stakeholder group will be defined in Memorandums of Understanding (MoU) which creates the basis for the cooperation within the PHB and WHB.
- 8.4. The various stakeholders will each be structured and elect an internal board respecting the principles of democracy and transparency. The modalities thereof will be defined for each stakeholder in a specific document. In case no nomination is taking place by a stakeholder group or a specific stakeholder group is not constituted, the EHF is entitled to undertake a temporary replacement nomination.

The bodies responsible for national teams are the Nations Committees Men and Women, they are structured within the EHF statutes.

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

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

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

- Two (2) representatives elected by the EHF Congress and nominated by the Nations Committees Men and Women, representing the interests of the national teams participating in EHF competitions,

- Two (2) representatives elected and nominated by any such group recognised by the EHF as representing the interests of the clubs participating in EHF competitions,
- Two (2) representatives elected and nominated by any such group recognised by the EHF as representing the interests of the leagues (or similar structure representing top level handball within the nations) with clubs participating in EHF competitions,
- Two (2) representatives elected and nominated by any such group recognised by the EHF as representing the interests of the athletes participating in EHF competitions,
- Two (2) representatives of the EHF Executive Committee to be nominated by the EHF Executive Committee.

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

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

## 9. OTHER COMMITTEES AND BOARDS

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### 9.1. NATIONS COMMITTEES MEN AND WOMEN

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

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

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

Each Nations Committee internally elects a chairperson, and two (2) deputy chairpersons

as members of the EHF Nations Board.

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

## **9.2. EHF NATIONS BOARD**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

# **11. MATERIAL MEANS**

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11.1. Material means define all sources through which the EHF finances its non-profit purposes.

11.2. The official EHF currency shall be Euro (EUR, €). Any change thereto shall require a two-third majority of the members present at the Congress.

11.3. It is the right and the duty of the EHF to build long and short-term reserves for designated investments and projects of high volume, such as global handball projects, infrastructure investments, etc.

- 11.4. Primary sources of EHF funding shall be:
1. Membership fees
  2. A share of income from EHF events including intellectual property rights, according to regulations
  3. Awarding of television and advertising rights
  4. Sponsors and partnership agreements
  5. Donations
  6. Income from publications, selling of material and seminar fees
  7. Income from captial
  8. Income from rental properties
  9. Income from ticket sales
  10. Receipt and grant of subsidies
  11. Collection of cost contributions
  12. Distribution of values in kind and merchandise articles
  13. Transfer and acquirement of rights
  14. Exploitation and management of rights
  15. Transfer and acquirement of immaterial rights
  16. Further income
- 11.5. EHF financial liability shall be limited to its assets. Individual member federations or Executive Committee members shall not be liable under law.
- 11.6. The EHF in its daily business is entitled to use vicarious agents and act as such itself in accordance with article 40 Federal Tax Code (state law).

## 12. IDEAL MEANS

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### 12.1. Context and Definition

#### 12.1.1. Context

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

#### 12.1.2. Definition

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

### 12.2. Official EHF competitions as ideal means with regard to the non-profit purpose are primarily:

1. European Championship for national teams
2. Youth European Championships for national teams in different divisions
3. Junior European Championships for national teams in different divisions
4. European club competitions (Champions League, European League, European Cup)
5. European Championship for club teams

6. European qualifications for World Championships and Olympic Games
7. Mini handball competitions
8. Beach handball competitions
9. European Masters competitions
10. European Challenge Trophies

All competitions shall be organised for male and female teams.

All competitions may be organised for persons with disabilities. Regulations shall be issued for each competition.

The Congress may resolve to have additional competitions organised.

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

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

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

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

12.4. Cross-border competitions

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

The conditions for participation in competitions, with due regard to clauses 2.4. and 3.2. of the EHF statutes, are regulated by the relevant national and international competition

regulations. A written statement to this effect shall be an integral part of the registration procedure.

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

The above rules do not apply to tournaments.

## **13. ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE**

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

In other disputes, jurisdiction shall rest with the European Handball Court of Arbitration if this is in the interest of the maintenance of legal certainty, legal entity and legal principles as well as the clarification of key issues of a sports-political nature.

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

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

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

of Handball in the first instance.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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- 14.1. Motions for statute amendments must be sent to members in writing together with the agenda and shall require for adoption a two-third (2/3) majority of those members present at the Congress.
- 14.2. Motions for a dissolution of the EHF or removal of its headquarters (registered office) shall be communicated to members in writing together with the agenda and shall require for adoption a majority of three quarters (3/4) of the members present at the Congress (clauses 1.5 and 4.1.4).
- 14.3. In the event of a dissolution of the EHF or the discontinuation of the favoured purpose the Congress shall decide on the disposal of EHF's remaining assets which shall be used solely for favoured purposes according to §§ 34ff. BAO (federal tax code) in the interests of European handball.

# 15. FINAL PROVISIONS

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- 15.1. Should EHF statutes and regulations fail to address a point, IHF regulations shall apply.
- 15.2. These statutes were adopted by the Founding Congress in Berlin on November 17, 1991 and last amended at the Ordinary Congress in Basel on 14 September 2023.

STAT 02.10.2023