



MEDIA GUIDE

**EHF EUROPEAN LEAGUE WOMEN 2020/21
GROUP PHASE**

I TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introuction to the new season	4
We play handball: A new brand identity	5
Brand sound	6
Home of Handball	7
New social media set-up	8
Relaunch of EHFTV	9
TV stations to broadcast matches all over the world	11

COMPETITION

EHF/M & Club Media contacts	13
Playing system diagram	14
Facts & Figures	15
Max and min	17

CLUBS

GROUP A

Head-to-heads	20
Herning-Ikast Handbold	21
Vaci NKSE	25
HC Zvezda	29
Paris 92	33

GROUP B

Head-to-heads	37
Handball Club Lada	38
Kastamonu Belediyesi GSK	42
Nantes Atlantique Handball	46
MKS Perla Lublin	50

GROUP C

Head-to-heads	54
CS Minaur Baia Mare	55
Astrakhanochka	59
Storhamar Handball Elite	63
Thüringer HC	67

GROUP D

Head-to-heads	71
Siófok HC	72
HC Dunarea Braila	76
Kuban	80
Fleury Loiret Handball	84
Important regulations	88

HISTORY

Past winners of the EHF second-tier club competitions	90
Women's EHF Cup top scorers 2019/20	91

I INTRODUCTION TO THE NEW SEASON

It is with our great pleasure, for the very first time, to welcome you to the EHF European League Women group phase for 2020/21. As you may have seen over the summer, our European club competitions underwent several changes and, as part of that process, they all received a striking new and impressive facelift. The end product saw a new brand for the EHF unveiled, a process which saw competitions rebranded and renamed.

So welcome to the new-look EHF European League, the new name for our second tier competition, and you will certainly agree that the new logo and colour scheme reflects just how dynamic and exciting this competition is in our handball landscape.

The new, orange-coloured logo, for instance, is an abstract version of the letter 'E', rotating around the sides of a pentagon – the shape which, you will notice, is referenced through all of our club competitions. In its appearance, the logo and brand sound symbolise the energy, toughness and intensity that transform from the action on court and the performance of the teams to the visual presentation of the new competition. Words such as 'tough', 'intense' and 'competitive' spring to mind when one thinks of the EHF European League, and those phrases could not be more fitting for this first campaign as we embark on what promises to be a fascinating group phase. What all fans can be looking forward to most over the next six rounds of matches is witnessing a real eclectic mix of teams going head-to-head over the coming months as they fight for their places in the all-important knockout stages.

Nine nations across the EHF are represented among the 16 competing teams, which gives this season's competition a hugely diverse combination of styles, further proof of what makes this competition so captivating. What lies in wait for handball fans is a mouth-watering series of matches featuring some of the biggest names in our sport with no easy games for any team. Just one look at some of clubs in the group phase is enough to whet the appetite. With the likes Siófok HC and Herning-Ikast Handbold joining former EHF Champions League winners Zvezda, the race to reach the elimination phase is going to be a battle of epic proportions.

We pride ourselves at the EHF and EHF Marketing on our positive and cooperative relationship with our colleagues from the press and media and we are sure that this will continue to develop in the future. Should you require any information, help or assistance during the course of the season, please do not hesitate to get in contact with us at the EHF Office in Vienna, and we will be more than happy to assist you with any questions you might have.

We look forward to working with you during the 2020/21 season!

EHF Media & Communications Team

I WE PLAY HANDBALL: A NEW BRAND IDENTITY

We play handball. It is what we do, and it is the sport we have had in hearts ever since the European Handball Federation was born back in 1991. In the 29 years that have followed we have kept pace with an ever-evolving society that shapes the way we work and see ourselves. One thing we have not changed, however, is our commitment to staying true to the origins of handball. This spirit of an active, social community is a core part of the handball DNA even today. Since the European Handball Federation was founded, we have served each national federation, each club, thousands of players and millions of fans with respect, honesty and transparency.

A fresh approach to logo design

At the heart of the new approach is an updated and fresh representation of how the origins and successes of European handball are communicated, expressed and promoted. Therefore, subtle alterations have been made in the visual presentation of the EHF and its associated competitions with a newly developed design, created to offer consistent communication of the new handball umbrella brand across all European competitions. The shape of a handball itself is referenced throughout the entire EHF brand system. On a national team level, the circular shape of the ball is used to empower all national team competition logos.

The new, orange-coloured logo is an abstract version of the letter 'E', rotating around the sides of a pentagon. It makes reference to the EHF, while the pentagon derives from the shape of a handball's tile and is used in the new EHF brand system to empower the club competitions.

In its appearance, the logo and additional elements that will be used in the EHF European League's imagery symbolise the energy, toughness and intensity that transform from the action on court and the performance of the teams to the visual presentation of the new competition.

New claims, same aims

We do play handball. We always have and always will – but the European Handball Federation does more than that. The new era is an opportunity for the EHF, EHF Marketing, players, fans and officials to not only celebrate what has been achieved so far, but to strengthen core values and beliefs from which the EHF has been built on and make handball an even greater success story. While the new brand identity heralds the start of a new era, our goals remain the same as they have always been: to encourage the public to pick up a ball and join their local club; to promote the highest profile matches on television and across our digital ecosystem; and to motivate fans to experience the spine-tingling atmosphere of a live match inside Europe's biggest handball arenas.

We are all part of the game, so if you are ready, we will let the new era begin...



I BRAND SOUND

As part of a holistic brand experience strategy, sound is an essential brand asset. Together with the sound agency WESOUND, EHF and EHF Marketing developed an acoustic identity for their brands, reflecting and representing the core of handball. Much like the visual brand identity, the brand sound identity will acoustically connect the various leagues and tournaments which fit under the EHF umbrella.

A modern brand sound approach is part of the vision of positioning handball as the most attractive indoor sport and it supports the goal of attracting a younger audience. Through the coherent and consistent use of unique and recognisable sound elements together with the consistent graphical picture conveyed, an improved connection of the competitions and their followers will be achieved.

For the EHF Brand Sound, the authors got to the core of “The Sound of Handball” and created a handball sound DNA as the recurring element across all audio-visual applications. The jump shot was identified as the most iconic and defining handball movement. Through video analysis and motion tracking, the jump shot was extracted into a rhythmic design pattern.

In the case of the EHF European League, the toughness and intensity of the sport was translated into a modern sound design through a new EHF European League sound logo and anthem. Both will come to life in the arena and will consistently complement all audio-visual communications.



HOME OF HANDBALL

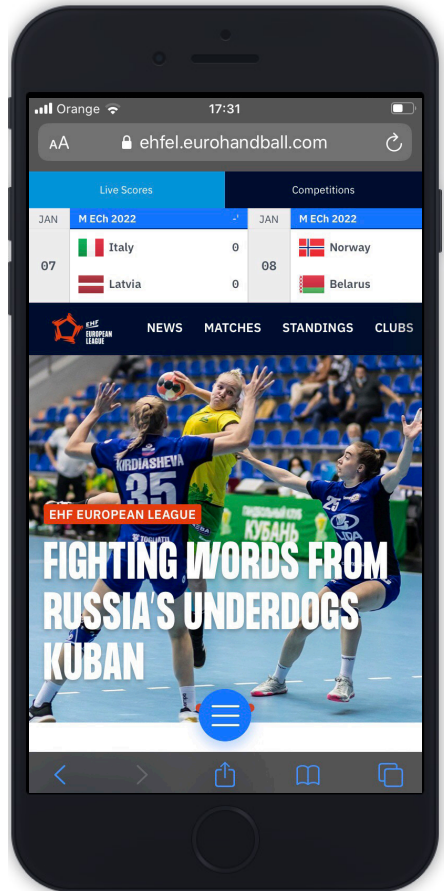
1 July saw the launch of the newly designed Home of Handball website. The European Handball Federation and EHF Marketing in cooperation with Kraftwerk, the number one digital agency in Austria, are excited to introduce a new home and single hub for all fans, friends and the entire family of handball. The old website was calling for an overhaul and needed rejuvenation, both visually and functionally.

In a first step, the decision has been taken to merge the many different web assets onto one and from 1 July, the websites of the EHF Champions League, EHF European League, EHFTV, EHF FINAL4 and EHF Marketing as well as EHF national team competitions are all to be found under one single EHF roof with: eurohandball.com.

One of the main goals was to best represent the EHF's personality, culture and spirit, thus the new corporate identity. A newly-developed brand strategy will be reflected on every page, providing a modern, professional and comprehensive look and feel. Every competition is presented in its very own premium colour pallet, easily distinguishable and featuring elegant new logos. Another one of the key objectives was a 'mobile first' strategy to accommodate mobile users. A team of designers and developers kept this focus throughout the process, ensuring the site will function on all devices.

A key element in functionality is the so-called "Home of Handball-button" on the new website. It is located at the bottom centre of the page ensuring quick navigation to key features such as 'Competitions', 'TV', 'Teams', 'Tickets', 'Home' and 'More'.

Furthermore, to ensure a real-time information stream of ongoing or upcoming handball matches EHF, EHF Marketing and Kraftwerk have developed a Live Ticker located at the very top of the page which allows the handball community to stay on the ball at all times. The Live Ticker provides live match results and follows the user on their entire journey through the new Home of Handball.



I NEW SOCIAL MEDIA SET-UP

To reflect the new digital set-up with the Home of Handball website, the EHF's social media channel structure has been adapted accordingly. Overall, there are three pillars to the EHF's social media presence:

- **Top competitions keep their own channels**
- **'Home of Handball' approach on website is mirrored**
- **'Activities' as the EHF's educational and corporate hub**

The EHF European League as the 2nd tier club competition is represented on its own social media channels on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. In addition, there are the newly created Home of Handball channels, which showcase the best content from all EHF competitions, including the EHF European League. Handball fans worldwide can keep up to date with everything happening in European handball, from club and national team competitions to beach handball, all on one channel. This also includes the video-sharing social network Tik Tok, which is mostly used by a younger audience. For the first time, the EHF European League will be featured on TikTok through the Home of Handball channel.

MORE SAVES, MORE GOALS, MORE HANDBALL

For the new era of European handball and together with digital partner DAZN, a campaign for both EHF European League competitions under the claim MORE HANDBALL was created. The basis of the campaign are the toughness and intensity of handball and the characteristics of the EHF European League. Handball is thrilling and fast-paced, intense, tough and passionate. The EHF European League showcases exactly this.



I RELAUNCH OF EHFTV

Complementing the launch of the new Home of Handball, EHFTV, the OTT portal of the EHF and EHF Marketing, has been relaunched. The new Brand identity applied to Home of Handball has been followed to create a new look for EHFTV, an OTT service powered by DAZN Group.

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 the 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. As 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 in the re-launched EHFTV, they find an adapted filter menu, an improved navigation through the portal and the option to personalise the favourite competition and/or club directly on their registration account. These new features permit all users to find, select and enjoy the best handball in an easy manner.

Furthermore, the new and 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 European League, whenever it is played.”

Join EHFTV and get ready for a new handball era.

Join EHFTV FOR FREE

Register now to watch
free live handball
games, full matches
and much more

Register for Free

EHF EUROPEAN LEAGUE WOMEN 9 JAN | 13:30

HERNING–IKAST HANDBOLD VS HC ZVEZDA

	JAN	EHF EL Women	13:30	EHF EL Women	14:00	EHF EL Women	16:00	EHF EL Women	16:00
Live		Herning-Ikast Handbold		CS Minaur Baia Mare		Kastamonu Belediyesi		Handball Club Lada	
Schedules	09	HC Zvezda		Storhamar Handball Elite		MKS Perla Lublin		Nantes Atlantique Handball	



EHF

**EUROPEAN
LEAGUE**

**MORE TOUGHNESS
MORE HANDBALL
EHF EUROPEAN LEAGUE**

WATCH ON EHFTV

I TV STATIONS TO BROADCAST MATCHES ALL OVER THE WORLD

The group phase will be screened by broadcasters in 21 countries, as well as live around the world on EHFTV, subject to geo-restrictions.

As part of the appointment to view scheduling, matches will take place every Saturday and Sunday.

TV PARTNERS BROADCASTING THE EHF EUROPEAN LEAGUE WOMEN 2020/21*

ALB – Arenasport

BIH – Arenasport

CRO – Arenasport

CZE – SportTV

DEN – TV3 Sports

FIN – NENT Group

FRA – Eurosport

GER – MDR

HUN – SportTV

KOS – Arenasport

MKD – Arenasport

MNE – Arenasport

NOR – NENT Group

POL – Eurosport

ROU – Digi Sport, Telekom Sports, Look Sports

RUS – TRK, EHFTV

SLO – Arenasport

SRB – Arenasport

SVK – SportTV

SWE – NENT Group

TUR – TRT

Worldwide - EHFTV.com (Geo-restrictions could apply)

* as of 7 January 2021



COMPETITION

I EHF/M MEDIA CONTACTS

MEDIA MATTERS

Vlado Brindzak

Media and Communications
European Handball Federation
+43 1 80 151 161
brindzak@eurohandball.com

Thomas Schöneich

Director of Media and Communications
European Handball Federation
+43 1 80 151 164
schoeneich@eurohandball.com

TV & RADIO MATTERS

Miguel Mateo Marcellan

Director of Media Operations
EHF Marketing GmbH
+43 1 80 151 224
mateo@ehfmarketing.com

I CLUB MEDIA CONTACTS

GROUP A

Herning-Ikast Handbold (DEN)

Daniel Gronhøj Hansen
+45 31 552120
dg@hihbold.dk

Vaci NKSE (HUN)

András Németh Jr.
+36 30 5784847
bandinemeth90@gmail.com

HC Zvezda (RUS)

Nikolay Kaveshnikov
+79 1750 271 91
nikkav@bk.ru

Paris 92 (FRA)

Karolina Zalewski
+33626728226
communication@paris92.fr

GROUP B

Handball Club Lada (RUS)

Igor Grechushnikov
+7 927 217 10 92
igorlada@mail.ru

Kastamonu Belediyesi GSK (TUR)

Ahmet Cevher
+905444187541
ahmet_cevher@hotmail.com

Nantes Atlantique Handball (FRA)

Marianne Buron
+33 2 40 47 60 40
communication@nahb.fr

MKS Perla Lublin (POL)

Olga Krzyzanowska
+48 608558926
info@mks.lublin.pl

GROUP C

CS Minaur Baia Mare (ROU)

Mircea Grumaz
+40747110404
mirceasport@yahoo.com

Astrakhanochka (RUS)

Dmitriy Marochkin
+7 988 5901098
dmlostdm@gmail.com

Storhamar Handball Elite (NOR)

Kamilla Sundmoen
+47 917 71766
dagligleder@storhamarelite.no

Thüringer HC (GER)

Maik Schenk
+49 3603 1277014
bundesliga@thueringer-hc.de

GROUP D

Siófok KC (HUN)

Bence Biró
+3630/3285885
biroence@siofokkc.hu

HC Dunarea Braila (ROU)

George Marius Caranica
+40 757 032934
hcdb@hcdb.ro

Kuban (RUS)

Nikolay Buyanov
+79882424993
buyanov@whckuban.com

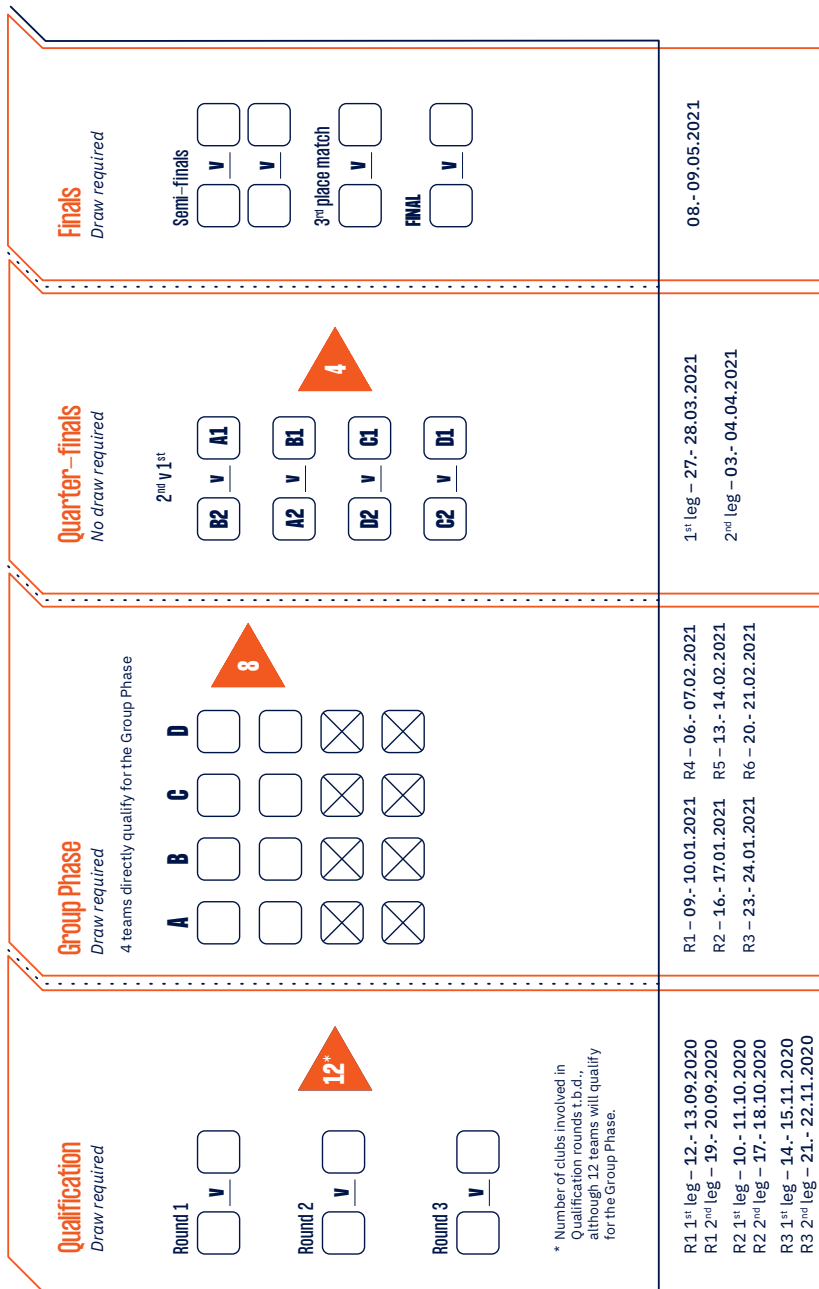
Fleury Loiret Handball (FRA)

Antony Tahar
+33 02 38866267
antony.tahar@fleuryloirethandball.com

WOMEN'S EHF EUROPEAN LEAGUE

2020/21 SEASON

Playing system and dates



16 TEAMS, 9 NATIONS, 7 FORMER CHAMPIONS, AND A LOT OF STARS

FACTS AND FIGURES: THE MOST IMPORTANT NUMBERS PRIOR TO THE START OF THE INAUGURAL SEASON OF THE EHF EUROPEAN LEAGUE WOMEN

The new EHF European League Women enters its inaugural group phase with a star-studded line-up. Seven (out of the 16) teams have won a European club competition in the past, while a string of Olympic gold medallists, EHF EURO champions and EHF Champions League winners - as clubs, players or coaches - are involved in the competition.

Here are the most important facts and figures before the start of the season:

1

former EHF Champions League winner is part of the group phase: Zvezda from the Russian city Zvenigorod, who won in 2008

1 this is the first edition of the EHF European League Women, having replaced the Women's EHF Cup, and it will be the first second-tier women's competition below the DELO EHF Champions League with its own four-team finals tournament.

1 other Champions League finalist is part of the group phase: Lada Togliatti, also from Russia, who were finalists in 2007.

1 player who has been Champions League top scorer is part of the group phase: Siófok's Andrea Kobetic (formerly playing under her maiden name, Penezic) scored 102 times for Vardar in 2014/15 and shared the top-scorer title that season with Cristina Neagu.

1 coach won the Olympic title as a player: Siófok's Zdravko Zovko won gold with Yugoslavia in 1984.

2 players who won Olympic gold are part of the group phase: Kastamonu's Amanda Kurtovic won with Norway in 2012, Kuban's Victoria Zhilinskayte won with Russia in 2016.

2 players from Kastamonu have won the

Champions League in the past: Ekaterina Vetkova with Zvezda in 2008 and with CSM in 2016, and Amanda Kurtovic with Larvik in 2011.

2 teams in the current group phase reached the EHF Cup semi-finals last season: Siófok and Lada; unfortunately, the semi-finals could not be played as the competition was cancelled following the outbreak of the coronavirus.

2

teams that won the Champions League multiple times in the past failed to qualify for the group phase: Hypo Niederösterreich from Austria and Viborg from Denmark.

2 teams that won the former Cup Winners' Cup are playing in the group phase: Lada (won CWC in 2002) and Ikast (in 2004 and, as FC Midtjylland, in 2015).

2 ties in qualification round 3 didn't feature home and away matches but were decided in a single match: Hungary's Vac (42:41 vs Most) and Turkey's Kastamonu (31:30 vs DVSC) both won that matches by a single goal.

2 former coaches of CSM Bucuresti are leading a group phase team: Lublin's Kim Rasmussen, who won the title with CSM in 2016, and Kastamonu's Helle Thomsen.

2 Croatian coaches are involved in the group phase though no Croatian teams are taking part: Zdravko Zovko (Siófok) and Neven Hrupec (Braila)

3 teams in the group phase have proceeded all the way through both qualification rounds: Paris 92 from France, Thüringer HC from Germany, and Dunarea Braila from Romania.

3 teams in the group phase have proceeded all the way through both qualification rounds: Paris 92 from France, Thüringer HC from Germany, and Dunarea Braila from Romania.

3 clubs from three different countries won the EHF Cup in 2017-19: Rostov (RUS), Craiova (ROU) and Siófok (HUN)

3 out of three French clubs in qualification round 3 have made it through to the group phase, compared to none in the EHF Cup last season.

4 EHF Cup winners are among the 16 group phase participants: Ikast (2002, 2012 as FC Midtjylland), Zvezda (2007), Lada (2012, 2014) and Siófok (2019).

4 teams - Herning-Ikast, Siófok, Baia Mare and Lada - were seeded for the group phase and skipped the qualification round(s).

5 EHF EURO 2020 medallists are playing in the group phase: Norway's gold medallist Stine Skogrand (Herning), French silver medallists Laura Flippes (Paris) and Alexandra Lacrabere (Fleury), and Croatian bronze medallists Katarina Jezic (Siófok) and Ana Debelic (Astrakhanochka); Debelic also was the All-star Team line player.

5 non-European nations are represented in the quad of French side Fleury: Brazil, Senegal, Angola, Congo and Cuba.

7 teams in the group phase also played in the

group phase of the EHF Cup last season: Siófok, Kastamonu, Thüringer HC, Lublin, Herning-Ikast, Lada and Storhamar.

9 nations are represented by the 16 group phase teams: Russia (4 teams), France (3), Romania (2), Hungary (2), Denmark, Germany, Norway, Poland, Turkey; the group phase of the EHF Cup last season featured 10 nations, as Croatia and Czech Republic are out this time, and France in.

12 knockout matches - eight quarter-finals and four duels at the finals tournament - will follow the group phase.

14 goals marked the biggest aggregate winning margin in qualification round 3, where Paris beat Nykøbing 56:42 (28:16 in France, 28:26 in Denmark).

48 group matches will decide which eight teams advance to the quarter-final.

83 was the highest number of goals in a qualification match, when Vac (HUN) defeated Banik Most (CZE) 42:41.

TEAMS BY AGE AVERAGE

Kastamonu Belediyesi GSK	27,5
MKS Perla Lublin	27,1
Thüringer HC	26,5
H.C. Dunarea Braila	26,5
Astrakhanochka	25,1
Siófok KC	24,8
CS Minaur Baia Mare	24,7
Handball Club Lada	24,6
Storhamar Handball Elite	24,5
ELW Average	24,4
Nantes Atlantique Handball	24,3
HC Zvezda	23,9
Fleury Loiret Handball	23,4
Kuban	23,1
Paris 92	22,7
Herning-Ikast Handbold	22,5
Vaci NKSE	21,4

TEAMS BY HEIGHT AVERAGE

Astrakhanochka	178,4
H.C. Dunarea Braila	177,0
HC Zvezda	176,8
MKS Perla Lublin	176,6
CS Minaur Baia Mare	176,6
Thüringer HC	176,5
Herning-Ikast Handbold	176,3
Handball Club Lada	176,1
ELW Average	175,5
Siófok KC	175,5
Kuban	175,4
Nantes Atlantique Handball	175,1
Fleury Loiret Handball	175,0
Kastamonu Belediyesi GSK	174,3
Paris 92	174,1
Vaci NKSE	173,8
Storhamar Handball Elite	170,9

I FACTS AND FIGURES – MAX AND MIN

YOUNGEST



06/04/2005

Kira Kolumban

Siófok KC

Kira Kolumban	HUN	Siófok KC	06.04.2005
Alina Sokova	RUS	Handball Club Lada	22.01.2004
Szilvia Kocsis	HUN	Siófok KC	22.07.2004
Eva Isakova	RUS	Kuban	16.05.2004
Alena Osipova	RUS	Handball Club Lada	22.04.2004
Valeriia Vaykum	RUS	Kuban	05.05.2004
Camille Hacher	FRA	Paris 92	22.02.2003
Oana Doina Bors	ROU	CS Minaur Baia Mare	27.11.2003
Kseniia Zakordonskaia	RUS	Astrakhanochka	04.03.2003
Zlata Fedosova	RUS	Handball Club Lada	27.02.2003
Abigél Tóth	HUN	Vaci NKSE	02.02.2003
Gréta Ádám	HUN	Vaci NKSE	13.01.2003
Anne Bossen	DEN	Herning-Ikast Handbold	14.10.2003
Elisa Técher	FRA	Fleury Loiret Handball	14.10.2003
Anna Pálffy	HUN	Vaci NKSE	09.11.2003
Ekaterina Terletckaia	RUS	Handball Club Lada	29.09.2003

SHORTEST



160 cm

Patrycja Krolikowska

MKS Perla Lublin



Patrycja Krolikowska	POL	MKS Perla Lublin	160
Manon Arnaud	FRA	Fleury Loiret Handball	161
Emma Uhrskov Friis	DEN	Herning-Ikast Handbold	162
Kristiane Stormoen	NOR	Storhamar Handball Elite	162
Oksana Ustimchuk	RUS	Handball Club Lada	162
Line Nørgaard Hougaard	DEN	Herning-Ikast Handbold	163
Emilie Hovden	NOR	Storhamar Handball Elite	163
Lone Sandvik	NOR	Storhamar Handball Elite	163
Alina Ramona Czecz	ROU	H.C. Dunarea Braila	163
Natalya Reshetnikova	RUS	Handball Club Lada	163
Sofiia Penzeva	RUS	Kuban	163
Andrea Gabrielsen	NOR	Storhamar Handball Elite	164
Joanna Gadzina	POL	MKS Perla Lublin	164
Marion Maubon	FRA	Nantes Atlantique Handball	165
Lotte Grigel	DEN	Nantes Atlantique Handball	165
Emilie Bellec	FRA	Nantes Atlantique Handball	165

OLDEST



27/11/1981

Lydia Jakubisova

Thüringer HC

Lydia Jakubisova	SVK	Thüringer HC	27.11.1981
Sabine Englert	GER	Herning-Ikast Handbold	15.07.1982
Serpil Iskenderoglu	TUR	Kastamonu Belediyesi GSK	31.08.1984
Ibolya Bucur	ROU	H.C. Dunarea Braila	11.03.1985
Ines Khouildi	TUN	Thüringer HC	23.03.1985
Marina Dmitrovic	SRB	H.C. Dunarea Braila	21.05.1985
Camille Ayglon Saurina	FRA	Nantes Atlantique Handball	13.11.1985
Andrea Kobetic	CRO	Siófok KC	16.04.1986
Marta Gega	POL	MKS Perla Lublin	02.07.1986
Irina Antonova	RUS	HC Zvezda	01.08.1986
Ekaterina Vetkova	RUS	Kastamonu Belediyesi GSK	20.10.1986
Weronika Gawlik	POL	MKS Perla Lublin	08.03.1986
Iuliia Kakmolia	RUS	Handball Club Lada	27.04.1987
Alexandra Lacrabere	FRA	Fleury Loiret Handball	15.06.1987
Petra Blazek	AUT	Thüringer HC	18.06.1987
Zsuzsanna Tomori	HUN	Siófok KC	17.06.1987

TALLEST



192 cm

Iryna Stelmakh

Astrakhanochka

Iryna Stelmakh	UKR	Astrakhanochka	192
Gabriela Moreschi	BRA	Fleury Loiret Handball	190
Anastasiya Portyagina	RUS	Handball Club Lada	190
Mikaela Mässing	SWE	CS Minaur Baia Mare	189
Victoria Zhilinskayte	RUS	Kuban	188
Zsuzsanna Tomori	HUN	Siófok KC	187
Maria Kanaval	BLR	H.C. Dunarea Braila	187
Emmanuelle Thobor	FRA	Fleury Loiret Handball	186
Andrea Kobetic	CRO	Siófok KC	186
Gréta Ádám	HUN	Vaci NKSE	186
Stine Lidén	NOR	Storhamar Handball Elite	186
Ekaterina Zelenkova	RUS	Astrakhanochka	186
Irina Mikhailiuta	RUS	Handball Club Lada	186
Yulia Khavronina	RUS	Kastamonu Belediyesi GSK	186
Jessica Ryde	SWE	Herning-Ikast Handbold	185
Olivia Simonsen	DEN	Herning-Ikast Handbold	185



CLUBS

I GROUP A HEAD-TO-HEADS

PREVIOUS EC ENCOUNTERS OF THE GROUP A TEAMS

Herning-Ikast Handbold vs HC Zvezda 3-1-2 (164:171) 7:5

11.05.2007	Ikast Bording EH A/S vs SC Zvezda Zvenigorod, EHF Cup – Final	35:30 (15:13)
20.05.2007	SC Zvezda Zvenigorod vs Ikast Bording EH A/S, EHF Cup – Final	32:22 (19:10)
01.11.2008	Ikast-Brande EH vs Zvezda Zvenigorod, EHF Champions League – Group A	31:25 (16:10)
10.01.2009	Zvezda Zvenigorod vs Ikast-Brande EH, EHF Champions League – Group A	28:28 (15:13)
06.02.2010	FC Midtjylland Handball vs Zvezda Zvenigorod, Cup Winners' Cup – Round 4	27:24 (15:12)
13.02.2010	Zvezda Zvenigorod vs FC Midtjylland Handball, Cup Winners' Cup – Round 4	32:21 (15:11)

Herning-Ikast Handbold vs Vaci NKSE

No previous encounters in European competitions

Herning-Ikast Handbold vs Paris 92

No previous encounters in European competitions

Vaci NKSE vs Paris 92 1-0-1 (47:50) 2:2

09.03.2013	Vaci NKSE vs Issy Paris Hand, Cup Winners' Cup – Quarter-final	24:23 (9:11)
15.03.2013	Issy Paris Hand vs Vaci NKSE, Cup Winners' Cup – Quarter-final	27:23 (14:12)

Vaci NKSE vs HC Zvezda

No previous encounters in European competitions

HC Zvezda vs Paris 92 1-0-0 (26:20) 2:0

23.09.2012	Issy Paris Hand vs Zvezda Zvenigorod, EHF Champions League – Wildcard Qualification	20:26 (7:11)
------------	---	--------------

GROUP A



Club contact

Club Address

Herning-Ikast Handbold
Stadion Alle 2B
7430 Ikast
Denmark

Media contact

Daniel Gronhøj Hansen
+45 31 552120
dg@hihbold.dk

 herningikasthaandbold.dk

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

 [herningikasthaandbold](https://www.instagram.com/herningikasthaandbold)

Kit colours

Light

Player shirt: white
Player short: purple
GK shirt: blue/yellow

Dark

Player shirt: purple
Player short: black
GK shirt: blue/yellow



Playing hall

IBF Arena
Stadion Alle 2b
7430 Ikast
Denmark
Capacity: 2,250

HERNING-IKAST HANDBOLD



After reaching the semi-finals of the Women's EHF Cup in the last two seasons, Herning-Ikast Handbold are aiming to reach the first EHF Finals in the new-look EHF European League Women. With new coach Kasper Christensen at the helm, the 2019 Danish cup winners enter the group phase seeking to win the club's first European trophy in six years.

With four appearances in the knockout rounds of European Cup competitions since their last European trophy, Herning-Ikast have been close to adding to their collection of European trophies. Having reached the semi-finals of the EHF Cup last season, Herning-Ikast suffered the disappointment of the competition being cancelled due to the Covid-19 pandemic, which is certain to provide motivation for the team to go at least as far in the EHF European League. "We really want to win the group and reach the semi-finals. We did not get the chance to play the (EHF Cup) semi-finals last season because of Covid-19, so we are really motivated to reach this goal," said team captain Stine Skogrand.

Norwegian international left back Ingvild Bakkerud left Odense to join fellow Norwegian backs Stine Skogrand and Helene Fauske at the club in the summer, but Herning-Ikast's form in the Danish league this season has fluctuated. Herning-Ikast started the Danish league season with five consecutive wins before they endured a six-game run without a win, including three defeats against the teams currently occupying the top three places in the league standings: Odense, Esbjerg and Viborg. Head coach Kasper Christensen, who joined the club in the summer of 2020, believes that facing strong opponents in the EHF European League can have a positive effect on his side.

Past achievements

EHF Champions League

Fourth place (1): 2013/14
Semi-finals (1): 2002/03
Quarter-finals (4): 1998/99, 2004/05, 2016/17, 2017/18

EHF Cup:

Winners (2): 2001/02, 2010/11
Runners-up (1): 2006/07

Cup Winners' Cup:

Winners (2): 2003/04, 2014/15

Champions Trophy:

Winners (1): 1997/98

City Cup:

Winners (1): 1997/98
Runners-up (1): 1996/97

Danish league: 4 titles (1998, 2011, 2013, 2015)

Danish cup: 8 titles (1990, 1998, 1999, 2001, 2012, 2014, 2015, 2019)



Kasper Christensen

Coach

- took over as head coach from Mathias Madsen in July 2020
- coached SønderjyskE in the Danish men's league the previous three seasons
- began his coaching career as an assistant at TM Tønder
- previously played for Tønder and was known for being a playmaker with good game vision

Newcomers

Simone Petersen (TUS Metzingen)
Ingvild Bakkerud (Odense Håndbold)
Frida Svingholm (Herning-Ikast Handbold youth team)
Mie Sophie Sando (Larvik – resuming career)
Line Mai Hougaard (Randers HK)

Left the club

Mathilde Bjerregaard (retired)
Tonje Løseth (Brest Bretagne Handball)
Julie Pedersen (HH Elite)
Emilie Steffensen (Nykøbing Falster Handbøld)
Annika Jakobsen (Silkeborg-Voel KFUM)
Jeanett Kristiansen (Vipers Kristiansand)
Julie Jensen (on loan to Silkeborg-Voel KFUM)

I TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height
1	Jessica	Ryde	SWE	Goalkeeper	18.05.1994	Östra Torn, SWE	185
2	Liv Sveinbjornsdottir	Poulsen	FAR	Right Wing	27.12.2001	Vestmanna, FAR	173
2	Caroline Dahl	Busk	DEN	Centre Back	26.07.2001	Vejle, DEN	178
4	Michala	Elsberg Møller	DEN	Centre Back	16.02.2000	Aalborg, DEN	175
5	Vilde Ingeborg	Johansen	NOR	Line Player	25.07.1994	Tønsberg, NOR	182
6	Cecilie Højgaard	Brandt	DEN	Right Wing	16.11.2001	Viborg, DEN	169
C 7	Stine Ruscetta	Skogrand	NOR	Right Back	03.03.1993	Bergen, NOR	173
8	Helene Gigstad	Fauske	NOR	Centre Back	31.01.1997	Bærum, NOR	177
8	Simone Cathrine	Petersen	DEN	Right Wing	28.08.1997	Ringsted, DEN	177
10	Naja Nissen	Kristensen	DEN	Left Wing	10.08.1999	Ikast-Brande, DEN	177
11	Sarah	Iversen	DEN	Line Player	10.04.1990	Frederiksberg, DEN	177
15	Emma	Uhrskov Friis	DEN	Left Wing	31.10.1999	Herning, DEN	162
16	Sabine	Englert	GER	Goalkeeper	27.11.1981	Aschaffenburg, GER	183
19	Lin	Johannsen	DEN	Left Wing	08.03.2002	Tinglev, DEN	171
20	Mathilde Berner	Romer	DEN	Goalkeeper	19.04.2003	København, DEN	180
21	Ingvild Kristiansen	Bakkerud	NOR	Left Back	09.07.1995	Kongsberg, NOR	184
22	Olivia Mathilde	Simonsen	DEN	Left Back	14.08.2000	Ringkøbing-Skjern, DEN	185
23	Frida Norgaard	Pedersen	DEN	Line Player	16.04.2001	Ringkøbing-Skjern, DEN	169
24	Anne Christine	Bossen	DEN	Goalkeeper	14.10.2003	Aarhus, DEN	176
28	Mie Sophie	Sando	NOR	Line Player	26.10.1993	Tønsberg, NOR	182
29	Nanna Lovig	Rasmussen	DEN	Line Player	03.07.2003	Holstebro, DEN	181
77	Line Nørgaard	Hougaard	DEN	Right Wing	06.10.1999	Herning, DEN	163
	Emma Caroline	Petersen	DEN		13.11.2001		
	Wilma Henriette	Krautmeyer	DEN		07.03.2002		



Jessica Ryde

@jessicaryde

Goalkeeper

- joined from H65 Höör in 2017
- won the Swedish title in 2017 and the Challenge Cup in 2014
- ended 2020 with the top save percentage in the Danish league – 43.2% per cent
- played her first major championship with Sweden at EHF EURO 2020

EC trophies: Challenge Cup 2014



Stine Skogrand

@sskogi

Right back

- joined from league rivals and neighbours Silkeborg-Voel KFUM in 2018
- returned from maternity leave for 2019/20 and had the best international season of her career, scoring 40 goals in the EHF Cup and has continued that form this season with 85 goals in the league
- played a understated and vital role in Norway's EHF EURO 2020 gold in defence and right wing in attack
- married to Norwegian international and Skjern right back Eivind Tangen

EURO: G 2016, 2020; WCh: G 2015, S 2017



Helene Gigstad Fauske

@helenefauske

Centre back

- joined from Norwegian side Stabæk IF in 2017
- flexible and creative playmaker with a fine eye for the game and a good shot
- excluding qualification rounds, Fauske scored 70 goals in the EHF Cup in 2018/19 and 53 goals in 2019/20
- made her national team debut in June 2017 and won WCh silver with Norway six months later

WCh: S 2017



Ingvild Kristiansen Bakkerud

@bakkerud

Left back

- joined from league rivals Odense in the summer of 2020
- made a breakthrough in the 2018/19 season, scoring 43 goals in the EHF Champions League
- the 187cm-tall left back is renowned for her powerful back court shooting
- played her first major championship with Norway in 2019 and was a reserve at EHF EURO 2020

GROUP A



Club contact

Club Address

Váci NKSE
Bán Márton str. 3
2600 Vác
Hungary

Media contact

András Németh Jr.
+36 30 5784847
bandinemeth90@gmail.com

 vacinkse.hu

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

 [vacinkse](https://www.instagram.com/vacinkse)

Kit colours

Light

Player shirt: red
Player short: red
GK shirt: navy black

Dark

Player shirt: blue
Player short: blue
GK shirt: yellow



Playing hall

Vác Város Sportcsarnoka
Bán Márton 3
2600 Vác
Hungary
Capacity: 800

VACI NKSE



After three consecutive seasons of losing in Women's EHF Cup qualification rounds, this season Váci NKSE finally ended their sequence of qualification heartache when they overcame DHK Banik Most in a single match to reach the EHF European League Women group phase. Vác are highly motivated to show their skills as a team and are aiming to surprise the more fancied teams in group A.

Any group in women's handball featuring club teams from Denmark, Russia, France and Hungary is bound to be strong. Group A in the EHF European League is no exception from that expectation, but Váci NKSE have the additional challenge of this being their first appearance in a group phase. In contrast, both Herning-Ikast and Zvezda have lifted European trophies in their history, while Paris 92 tasted group phase action in the Women's EHF Cup as recently as the 2017/18 season.

Vác enter the group A with a squad largely comprised of young Hungarian players, and there is a recognition at the club that facing high-quality opposition on the European stage will provide both an opportunity and a challenge. "These games will be a great experience for our players and will be a big challenge for our small club," said András Németh, the club's technical director.

While the EHF European League will be a new experience for Váci NKSE, they are familiar with facing Győri AUDI ETO KC, FTC-Rail Cargo Hungaria and Siófok in the Hungarian league. Indeed, Vác's experience of playing against the top three clubs in Hungary perhaps instils an understanding that it would be unwise to measure their performance in the EHF European League only by results, especially when development is a core objective.

Past achievements

EHF Cup:

Quarter-finals (1): 2010/11
Last 16 (2): 2011/12, 2013/14

Cup Winners' Cup:

Quarter-finals (2): 2003/04, 2012/13

Hungarian league: -

Hungarian cup: -



Zoltan Szilagyi

Coach

- son of the former Hungarian player, Istvan Szilagyi, who played 214 games and scored 541 goals for the Hungarian national team
- his brother, Viktor, was also a handball player and represented Austria, winning the EHF Champions League men with Kiel in 2007, and is now Kiel's sporting director
- managed men's team Dabas before coming to Vác in 2016, his first stint as a coach for a women's team
- in his last season with Vác after five years, as he already signed a contract with Debrecen

Newcomers

Andrea Aron (Szent István SE)
 Noémi Bárdy (Dunaújvárosi Kohász KA)
 Vivien Grosch (Dunaújvárosi Kohász KA)
 Laura Szabó (Érd)
 Ágnes Triffa (DVSC)

Left the club

Barbara Arenhart (Buducnost)
 Lili Káldy (Szentendre NKE)
 Noémi Kovács (Vasas SC)
 Rea Mészáros (retired)
 Sára Paróczy (Érd)
 Kitti Szabó (Érd)

I TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height
1	Anna	Bálint	ROU	Goalkeeper	16.07.2000	Székelyudvarhely, ROU	175
2	Sanja	Radosavljevic	SRB	Left Wing	15.01.1994	Pancevo, SRB	174
4	Gréta	Kácsor	HUN	Left Back	24.04.2000	Budapest, HUN	176
C 5	Konszuéla	Hámori	HUN	Right Back	04.08.1996	Salgótarján, HUN	169
6	Flóra	Szeberényi	HUN	Right Back	04.04.2000	Budapest, HUN	178
7	Andrea	Aron	HUN	Centre Back	16.06.1995	Szeged, HUN	170
8	Laura	Szabó	HUN	Line Player	19.11.1997	Budapest, HUN	185
12	Anna	Bukovszky	HUN	Goalkeeper	30.06.2002	Balassagyarmat, HUN	170
16	Ágnes	Triffa	HUN	Goalkeeper	18.01.1987	Gyula, HUN	177
17	Abigél	Tóth	HUN	Right Back	02.02.2003	Budapest, HUN	165
18	Vivien	Grosch	HUN	Right Wing	17.04.1997	Budapest, HUN	170
19	Anna	Pálffy	HUN	Right Wing	09.11.2003	Vác, HUN	173
20	Rita	Lakatos	HUN	Centre Back	06.07.1999	Dunajská Streda, SVK	177
23	Noémi	Bárdy	HUN	Left Back	15.01.2002	Budapest, HUN	182
27	Dorina	Bartos	HUN	Centre Back	31.07.2002	Budapest, HUN	175
28	Zsófia	Szondi	HUN	Left Wing	28.05.1995	Budapest, HUN	166
59	Csenge	Kuczora	HUN	Centre Back	26.01.2000	Budapest, HUN	178
63	Jázmin Laura	Király	HUN	Centre Back	19.07.2002	Csorna, HUN	165
64	Luca Babett	Nagy	HUN	Line Player	07.06.2002	Csorna, HUN	168
74	Sára	Hrachovina	HUN	Left Wing	06.09.2003	Budapest, HUN	165
77	Anna	Vad	HUN	Line Player	21.11.2002	Budapest, HUN	175
86	Gréta	Ádám	HUN	Back	13.01.2003	Budapest, HUN	186
96	Fanny	Helembai	HUN	Line Player	26.12.1996	Vác, HUN	178
99	Nikolett	Diószegi	HUN	Right Wing	31.03.1996	Békéscsaba, HUN	174



Agnes Triffa

Goalkeeper

- the most experienced player in Vác's squad, in her second stint at the team, after playing between 2012 and 2014 for the side
- has changed club 12 times in her career, playing three times for Debrecen, two times for Vác, while her only stint outside Hungary was for Krim Mercator (2008-09)
- won the Women's EHF Cup with Dunaujvaros in 2016
- made her debut for the national team in 2006, played her last game for Hungary at the WCh in 2019, after a six-year hiatus

EC trophies: EHF Cup 2016



Greta Kacsor

 @kacsorgreta4

Left back

- won the gold medal at the Junior WCh in 2018 and at the W20 EHF EURO 2019 with Hungary
- made her debut in the national team in 2020, while also scoring two goals at the EHF EURO 2020
- has been discovered by Vác when she was only 14, in 2014, and has been donning their shirt ever since
- named the best Hungarian youth handball player of the year twice, in 2017 and 2018

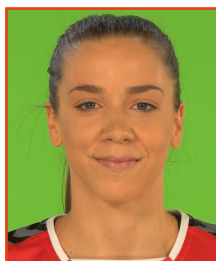


Rita Lakatos

 @ritala20

Centre back

- born in Slovakia, started handball as a goalkeeper
- signed for Győr in 2013 and loaned to Mosonmagyaróvár, Vác and Norwegian side Byasen for the past seven years
- won the gold medal at the Junior WCh in 2018 and bronze at the W20 EHF EURO, being the captain for both sides
- played for Hungary at the EHF EURO 2018 and EHF EURO 2020
- had her best game for Vác in the ELW qualification against Most, scoring 12 goals in the 42:41 win



Sanja Radosavljevic

 @sradosavljevic2

Right wing

- transferred to Vác in 2017/18, after spending several seasons at Radnicki Kragujevac
- her father, Dragan, is a Physical Education teacher at an elementary school, while her brother, Uros, is also a handball player
- started handball when she was six, with her father as the first coach, left home at 15 to join Radnicki Kragujevac
- also studied law at a local university in Serbia
- in Serbia's national team for every major tournament since 2015

GROUP A



Club contact


Club Address

HC Zvezda
Moskovskaya st., 47
143180 Zvenigorod
Russia


Media contact

Nikolay Kaveshnikov
+79 1750 271 91
nikkav@bk.ru

 zvezdahandball.com

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

 [zvezdahandball](https://twitter.com/zvezdahandball)

 [zvezdahandball](https://www.instagram.com/zvezdahandball)

Kit colours

Light

Player shirt: white
Player short: dark blue
GK shirt: multicolour

Dark

Player shirt: red
Player short: dark blue
GK shirt: multicolour



Playing hall

Sport Hall "Olimpiyskiy"
Chekhov

Poligrafistov Str. 30
142300 Chekhov
Russia
Capacity: 3,000

HC ZVEZDA



After being eliminated in qualification round 3 of the EHF Cup in each of the past three seasons, HC Zvezda felt a sense of relief this season when they finally broke that run and qualified for the EHF European League Women group phase. One of four Russian clubs in the group phase – alongside HC Lada, Kuban and Astrakhanochka – Zvezda enter the group phase with the desire to represent Russian women's club handball well on the European stage.

In 2007/08, Zvezda became the first Russian winners of the EHF Champions League, a feat that has not been replicated by any Russian club since. In more recent times, Zvezda have not had a sustained run in a European Cup competition since they reached the quarter-finals of the Cup Winners' Cup in 2015/16, thereby making this season's opportunity one that they wish to maximise. "Our team has not entered the group stage of European competitions for a long time. Having received a chance this time, we plan to use it to the fullest," said team manager Ilya Rodionov.

The instinctive assumption might be that Herning-Ikast's experience in Europe makes them favourites to win group A and that the other three teams, including Zvezda, will battle for second place – and Zvezda captain Anastasia Tserkovniuk certainly does not take any of their group A opponents lightly.

"In the group, there are no weak teams – everyone strives to show their best game. We will try, too," said Anastasia Tserkovniuk. Earning as many points as possible is a clear objective for Zvezda, but Tserkovniuk is aware that experience gained from this campaign could enhance the club's prospects. "Now our task is to gain points to the maximum and gain experience in the European arena," added Tserkovniuk.

Past achievements

EHF Champions League

Winners (1): 2007/08

EHF Cup:

Winners (1): 2006/07

Cup Winners' Cup:

Runners-up (1): 2013/14

Champions Trophy:

Winners (1): 2007/08

Russian league: 1 title (2006/07)

Russian cup: 4 titles (2009, 2010, 2011, 2014)



Alexey Gumyanov

Coach

- this is his sixth season at Zvezda's helm
- started coaching career in the 1990s working with men's Viktor-SKA Stavropol and Lada Togliatti
- later switched to women's handball; coached Lada and Kuban
- with Lada, won the Russian league in 2008 and reached the CL final in 2007
- was Evgenii Trefilov's assistant in Russia national team between 2018 and 2019; now coaches Russia youth national team

Newcomers

Alisa Dvortsevaya (AGU-Adyif)
Irina Antonova (Astrahanochka)
Ksenya Dyachenko (AGU-Adyif)
Lada Samoilenko (CSKA)

Left the club

Ksenya Chinahova (HC Lada)
Anastasiya Illarionova (CSKA)
Evelina Anoshkina (Astrahanochka)
Anastasia Shavman (Kuban)
Polina Kaplina (CSKA)

TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height	Weight
3	Yulia	Chernova	RUS	Left Back	09.11.1992	Togliatti, RUS	180	
4	Nadezhda	Osipova	RUS	Centre Back	08.12.1990	Novokuznetsk, RUS	172	
5	Alisa	Dvortsevaya	RUS	Left Back	10.06.1999	Krasnodar, RUS	178	
8	Vikoria	Klimantseva	RUS	Left Wing	26.09.1989	Moscow, RUS	168	
10	Mariana	Egorova	RUS	Left Wing	06.08.1997	Maykop, RUS	172	
11	Anastasia	Suslova	RUS	Left Back	11.10.1996	Volgograd, RUS	183	
12	Ekaterina	Kirikias	RUS	Goalkeeper	05.10.1989	Izhevsk, RUS	179	
15	Alina	Triobchuk	RUS	Right Wing	11.05.1999	Saint Petersburg, RUS	176	
20	Valeriya	Ganicheva	RUS	Right Back	28.12.1996	Volgograd, RUS	180	
22	Irina	Antonova	RUS	Line Player	02.07.1986	Naro-Fominsk, RUS	177	
23	Alina	Sinel`nikova	RUS	Line Player	12.01.2001	Krasnodar, RUS	178	
33	Anna	Nikolaeva	RUS	Right Back	06.04.2000	Chehov, RUS	182	
37	Dar`ja	Kurmaz	RUS	Right Wing	16.12.2001	Krasnodar, RUS	170	
39	Stanislava	Gerasimova	RUS	Line Player	04.09.2000	Moscow, RUS	182	
40	Elizaveta	Sobina	RUS	Line Player	07.12.1995	Krasnodar region, RUS	185	
44	Anastasiya	Shavman	RUS	Left Back	04.07.1999	Bryansk, RUS	175	
48	Yuliya	Dolgikh	RUS	Goalkeeper	31.05.2001	Saint Petersburg, RUS	180	
50	Lada	Samoilenko	RUS	Left Back	10.06.1998	Tikhoretsk, RUS	174	
55	Natalia	Nikitina	RUS	Left Back	20.01.1996	Alma-Ata, RUS	176	
C 63	Anastasiia	Tserkovniuk	RUS	Centre Back	18.09.1994	Protvino, RUS	169	
64	Serafima	Tikhanova	RUS	Goalkeeper	11.10.1998	Moscow, RUS	185	
77	Albina	Murzalieva	RUS	Right Wing	05.10.1996	Astrakhan, RUS	167	
81	Ksenya	Dyachenko	RUS	Left Back	07.12.1994	Krasnodar, RUS	180	
88	Snezhana	Vertushkova	RUS	Left Back	07.09.2003	Naro-Fominsk, RUS	179	
95	Aleksandra	Karpova	RUS	Left Wing	06.07.2001	Krasnodar, RUS	170	
99	Polina	Kaplina	RUS	Goalkeeper	16.08.1999	Irkutsk, RUS	181	



Ekaterina Kirikias

Goalkeeper

- one of the most experienced players of Zvezda
- born in Izhevsk and started career at local club Universitet
- also had a spell at Kuban in 2015/16
- one of the heroines in qualification round 3 matches against Super Amara Bera Bera

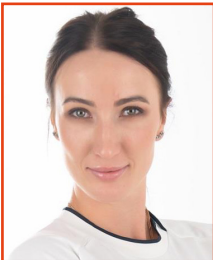


Irina Antonova

Line player

- the 34-year-old joined Zvezda from Astrakhanochka in 2020
- this is her third spell at Zvenigorod, where she already played in 2005-10 and 2011-16
- also had spells at Veshnyaki Moscow and Kuban
- born in Russia, but plays for Kazakhstan national team; won Asian Championship in 2010

Asian championship: G 2010



Natalia Nikitina

Left back

- one of Zvezda's leaders during this season, she both scores and assists a lot
- universal player who can also perform as centre back and right back
- born in Kazakhstan, but moved to Russia at the age of 18 and played several games for the Russia national team
- had a short spell at Rostov-Don at the start of her career, but then moved to Zvezda



Lada Samoilenko

Right back

- universal player who can also perform as centre back, left back or line player
- on loan from CSKA, where she played last season
- started career at Kuban, where she worked with the famous Evgenii Trefilov
- her hobby is watching football; supports FC Krasnodar in the Russian league

GROUP A



Club contact

Club Address

Paris 92
6 boulevard des frères
Voisin
92130 Issy les Moulineaux
France

Media contact

Karolina Zalewski
+33626728226
communication@paris92.fr

 paris92.fr

 [Paris92Officiel](https://www.facebook.com/Paris92Officiel)

 [Paris92_Off](https://twitter.com/Paris92_Off)

 [Paris92_officiel](https://www.instagram.com/Paris92_officiel)

Kit colours

Light

Player shirt: blue
Player short: white
GK shirt: red

Dark

Player shirt: black/gold
Player short: black
GK shirt: green



Playing hall

Palaise de Sport Robert
Charpentier
4/6 Boulevard des
Freres Voisin, 92130
Issy-Les-Moulineaux
France
Capacity: 1,800

PARIS 92



Paris 92 have been knocking on the door in the second tier for a few years now, yet to make a breakthrough.

Regulars in the old EHF Cup, the club in the French capital has long been seen as somewhat of a stepping-stone for international players on their way to bigger things, with the likes of Stine Oftedal, Mayssa Pessoa, Crina Pintea, Lois Abbingh and Sonja Frey passing through in recent years.

Club captain Deborah Lassource is keen to shake off this reputation, however, saying: "We are competitors and therefore we want to go to the end of this competition. Our group seems homogenous, that means great games. We will play at 100% and take as much pleasure as possible in each game, we are eager to be here." Playmaker Lassource will not be available for the group phase, having suffered an Achilles tendon injury with the French national team, adding more responsibility to summer signing Nadia Offendal.

It is a rare sight to see an established French international leave one of France's top two, Metz and Brest, for another French club. Allison Pineau did it with a single season at Paris and Laura Flippes went down the same route. At just 26, Flippes has her best years ahead of her and Paris are already seeing the benefits of signing the lefty, who can play right back or wing, as she is their second top scorer in the French league with 36 goals by the end of 2020.

Paris has seen many a top-class playmaker come and go over the years: Oftedal, Frey, Pineau, could Nadia Offendal be the next? The 26-year-old Dane is enjoying her first move abroad this season, having left Odense after a seven-year spell. Besides being a strong playmaker, Offendal is a serious attacking threat - as shown in her 38 goals so far this season, the most of any Paris player in the French league.

Past achievements

Cup Winners' Cup:

Finalists (1): 2012/13

Challenge Cup:

Finalists (1): 2013/14

National league: -

National cup: -



Yacine Messaoudi

Coach

- moved from Metz to Paris last summer, after directing the handball school there for many years
- in Metz, he formed current stalwarts of the French national team including Grace Zaadi, Laura Glauser, Laura Flippes or Orlane Kanor
- at 39, Paris is his first coaching experience as head coach

Newcomers

Laura Flippes (Metz Handball)
Nadia Offendal (Odense Handbold)
Catherine Gabriel (Nantes)
Léa Serdarevic (Toulon Saint-Cyr Var)
Katarzyna Janiszewska (Union Halle-Neustadt)
Joana Resende (Benfica)

Left the club

Tamara Horacek (Siófok KC)
Melvine Deba (Metz)
Allison Pineau (Buducnost)
Océane Sercien-Ugolin (Krim Mercator)
Maelle Chalmandrier (Saint Amand Handball-Porte du Hainaut)
Lucie Satrapova (Nice)
Lea Schupbach (HSG Bad Wildungen Vipers)
Ulrika Toft Hansen (retired)

I TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height
2	Maja	Veljkovic	SRB	Left Wing	28.10.1993	Nis, SRB	165
10	Aminata	Cissokho	FRA	Left Wing	01.06.2001	Paris, FRA	177
15	Mathilde	Thouvenot	FRA	Line Player	30.12.2002	Thionville, FRA	182
16	Léa	Serdarevic	FRA	Goalkeeper	17.08.1995	Pau, FRA	178
17	Eun Hee	Ryu	KOR	Right Back	24.02.1990	Incheon, KOR	178
18	Camille	Hacher	FRA	Goalkeeper	22.02.2003	Rouen, FRA	180
19	Alice	Mazens	FRA	Left Wing	26.07.1998	Villiers, FRA	172
20	Laura	Flippes	FRA	Right Back	13.12.1994	Strasbourg, FRA	171
21	Mabana-Ma	Fofana	FRA	Line Player	20.06.1998	Paris, FRA	182
C 22	Deborah	Lassource	FRA	Centre Back	22.09.1999	Maisons-Laffite, FRA	172
23	Alisee	Chauveau	FRA	Right Wing	21.02.2001	Niort, FRA	168
27	Nadia	Offendal	DEN	Centre Back	22.10.1994	Gentofte, DEN	173
67	Veronika	Mala	CZE	Left Wing	06.05.1994	Pisek, CZE	169
73	Joana	Resende	POR	Left Back	23.03.2001	Porto, POR	175
92	Adja	Ouatara	FRA	Line Player	14.10.2001	Paris, FRA	181
94	Catherine	Gabriel	FRA	Goalkeeper	04.09.1994	Yaoundé, CMR	172
95	Katarzyna	Janiszewska	POL	Right Wing	26.10.1995	Sztum, POL	168
99	Leslie	Ayong	FRA	Centre Back	09.12.2002	Tours, FRA	174
	Camilla	Nielsen	FRA	Left Back	26.06.1996	Brest, FRA	170
	Divine	Luzolo Kileke	FRA		07.11.2002		



Catherine Gabriel

 @cath__gabriel

Goalkeeper

- born in Cameroon, moved to France when she was a kid
- not only is she talented in handball but she also won beauty queen contests as a teenager
- moved to Paris in 2020 after playing for Besançon, her first professional club, and Nantes, from 2018 to 2020

EURO: G 2018



Laura Flippes

 @laura.flippes

Right back

- has been playing for Metz for her entire professional career before moving to Paris last summer
- plays on the wing position for the national team but plays exclusively in the back court with her club
- started working with a mental coach a couple of years ago
- has forged a strong relationship with coach Yacine Messaoudi when he was coaching the B-team in Metz

EURO: G 2018, S 2020, B 2016, WCh: G 2017



Nadia Offendal

 @nadiaoffendal

Centre back

- aged 26, moved for the first time out of Denmark when she joined Paris from Odense
- national team player with Denmark, her last international competition was the EHF EURO 2018
- will have even bigger responsibilities during the European League group phase, due to Coralie Lassource's Achilles Heel injury



Joana Resende

 @joanaresende3

Left back

- aged 20, is the first ever Portuguese player to wear the Paris 92 jersey
- best scorer of the 2019 U19 EHF EURO
- only played for one club before moving to Paris: Benfica Lisbon
- daughter of the most capped Portuguese national team player and current coach Carlos Resende

I GROUP B HEAD-TO-HEADS

PREVIOUS EC ENCOUNTERS OF THE GROUP A TEAMS

Handball Club Lada vs MKS Perla Lublin 1-0-0 (34:21) 2:0

28.09.2007 HC 'Lada Togliatti' vs SPR SAFO Lublin, EHF Champions League – Qualification Tournament 2 Group 4 34:21 (16:13)

Handball Club Lada vs Kastamonu Belediyesi GSK

No previous encounters in European competitions

Handball Club Lada vs Nantes Atlantique Handball

No previous encounters in European competitions

Kastamonu Belediyesi GSK vs Nantes Atlantique Handball

No previous encounters in European competitions

Kastamonu Belediyesi GSK vs MKS Perla Lublin

No previous encounters in European competitions

Nantes Atlantique Handball vs MKS Perla Lublin

No previous encounters in European competitions

GROUP B



Club contact


Club Address

Handball Club Lada
Alsu Lateyeva
Primorsky bulvar 49,
445860 Togliatti
Russia

Media contact

Igor Grechushnikov
+7 927 217 10 92
igorlada@mail.ru

 handball.ru

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

 [ladahandball](https://twitter.com/ladahandball)

 [ladahandball](https://www.instagram.com/ladahandball)

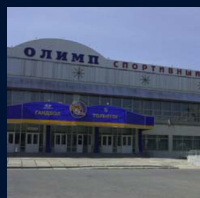
Kit colours

Light

Player shirt: blue
Player short: blue
GK shirt: black

Dark

Player shirt: white
Player short: grey
GK shirt: blue



Playing hall

Sportkomplex USK
"Olimp"

Primorsky bulvar 49
445860 Togliatti
Russia
Capacity: 2,700

HANDBALL CLUB LADA



An ever-present on the European scene, it is only right that Lada grace the new-look European League Women. The Togliatti talent factory may have seen one of the latest bright hopes move on but we are certain to see more rising stars come to the fore in the group phase. Russian clubs are well-suited to dominating the second tier in European women's handball and Lada have played their part in that reputation, having won the EHF Cup in 2012 and 14.

Since losing the Cup Winners' Cup Final in 2016, however, Lada have found success harder to come by with a quarter-final exit in last season's EHF Cup their best result. A similar feat will be expected, even though they are without last season's revelation Elena Mikhaylichenko, who moved to CSKA. The four Russian teams in this season's European League are evenly matched but Lada will be buoyed by recent form, including a victory over Astrakhanochka over Christmas.

Olga Fomina was the only Lada player to feature for Russia at EHF EURO 2020 and has been a regular throughout the past decade for the national team. The right wing spent the majority of her career with the Togliatti-based club, from 2003 to 2014, before spells at Vardar and Rostov. Her top-flight international experience and composure under pressure has made her a key player for the club since her return in 2019.

She has just turned 20 but Valeriia Kirdiasheva has emerged as a leader in Lada's attack. She was an All-star centre back at the 2018 Youth World Championship, leading Russia to gold. The dynamic playmaker has an eye for a pass and a keen taste for goals, as shown by her 32 goals in Europe last season and top scoring for the side in domestic action this year.

Past achievements

EHF Champions League

Finalists (1): 2006/07

EHF Cup:

Winners (2): 2011/12, 2013/14

Cup Winners' Cup:

Winners (1): 2001/02

National league: 6 titles (2002-06, 08)

National cup: 1 title (2006)



Alexey Alexeev Coach

- played for Kuntsevo Moscow between 1981 and 1992
- was head coach of Luch Moscow for 15 years before joining Lada in 2019
- since 2016, worked at Russia national team as assistant coach to Evgenii Trefilov and then to Ambros Martin
- after Martin was fired during the EHF EURO 2020, took over as caretaker coach for the 5th place match against the Netherlands

Newcomers

Liubov Arishina (Busan Bisco)

Left the club

Elena Mikhaylichenko
Eva Demidovich
Viktoriya Kipen (all CSKA Moscow)
Irina Bliznova Irina (retired)

I TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height	Weight
1	Anastasiia	Lagina	RUS	Goalkeeper	11.08.1995	Yaroslavl, RUS	178	
2	Olga	Fomina	RUS	Right Wing	17.04.1989	Samara, RUS	175	
5	Oksana	Ustimchuk	RUS	Right Wing	16.07.2001	Togliatti, RUS	162	
C 7	Iuliia	Kakmolia	RUS	Line Player	08.03.1986	Togliatti, RUS	174	
10	Viktoryia	Shamanouskaya	BLR	Line Player	08.08.1993	Minsk, BLR	172	
13	Alena	Osipova	RUS	Centre Back	22.04.2004	Omsk, RUS	175	
14	Veronika	Nikitina	RUS	Left Back	16.05.1992	Togliatti, RUS	175	
15	Ekaterina	Terletckaia	RUS	Centre Back	29.09.2003	Togliatti, RUS	174	
22	Natalya	Reshetnikova	RUS	Left Wing	16.04.1991	Izhevsk, RUS	163	
23	Anna	Golubeva	RUS	Left Back	14.12.1993	Togliatti, RUS	182	
24	Tatiiana	Utkina	RUS	Line Player	16.08.2000	Togliatti, RUS	179	
25	Olga	Shcherbak	RUS	Right Back	14.03.1998	Sevastopol, RUS	177	
28	Alena	Blokhina	RUS	Left Wing	09.09.1993	Togliatti, RUS	174	
31	Daria	Dereven	RUS	Goalkeeper	02.03.1992	Togliatti, RUS	183	
33	Zlata	Fedosova	RUS	Left Back	27.02.2003	Togliatti, RUS	184	
35	Valeriia	Kirdiasheva	RUS	Centre Back	28.11.2000	Buzuluk, RUS	176	
36	Anastasiya	Portyagina	RUS	Left Back	09.04.1995	Togliatti, RUS	190	
41	Alina	Sokova	RUS	Left Wing	22.01.2004	Togliatti, RUS	166	
45	Polina	Masalova	RUS	Right Back	09.01.2000	Togliatti, RUS	174	
47	Valentina	Barynina	RUS	Left Wing	22.10.1996	Togliatti, RUS	171	
75	Alena	Amelchenko	RUS	Line Player	07.07.1995	St.-Petersburg, RUS	183	
77	Anastasiia	Novoselova	RUS	Right Wing	11.04.1990	Togliatti, RUS	170	
80	Martina	Borisova	RUS	Left Back	17.01.2002	Togliatti, RUS	182	
88	Liubov	Arishina	RUS	Centre Back	07.05.1988	Togliatti, RUS	178	
93	Irina	Mikhailiuta	RUS	Goalkeeper	16.06.1993	Pavlovskaya, RUS	186	



Anastasia Lagina

 @lagina_1

Goalkeeper

- born in Yaroslavl and started playing handball at the age of nine; was a line player before becoming a goalkeeper
- her first professional team was Zvezda, where she stayed between 2012 and 2016
- later spent one season at Luch Moscow, where working with goalkeeper coach Pavel Sukosyan helped her a lot
- joined Lada in 2017; first-choice goalkeeper since 2019 after Elena Utkina left for CSKA
- made her debut in Russia's national team in 2019

WCh: B 2019



Olga Fomina

Right wing

- born in Samara, she spent eight seasons at Lada before moving to Vardar in 2014
- played two years in Skopje and one more at Rostov-Don before taking a break in her career in 2017
- returned on the court and signed with her home team Lada two years later after giving birth to her son Miron
- since 2010, played for Russia's national team at seven major tournaments, Lada's only player to take part in EHF EURO 2020

WCh: B 2019



Olga Sherbak

Centre back

- one of Lada's most promising and progressing players
- born in Sevastopol, she moved to Togliatti at the age of 16
- also played the piano in her childhood, but chose a handball career
- in September 2020, took part in the training camp of the Russia national team for the first time
- her biggest dream is to become an Olympic champion



Viktoriya Shamanouskaya

Line player

- the 27-year Belarusian is the only foreign player in Lada's roster
- her grandfather was an Olympic bronze medalist in hammer throwing, and her grandmother multiple world and Europe champion in discus throwing
- did equestrian sports as a kid and started playing handball at only 14
- at 17, already played for Arkatron Minsk; in 2013 moved to Gomel and became a three-time Belarussian champion
- joined Lada in the summer of 2019

GROUP B



Club contact

Club Address

Kastamonu Belediyesi GSK
Aktekke mahallesi barbaros
cadde
37100 Kastamonu
Turkey

Media contact

Ahmet Cevher
+905444187541
ahmet_cevher@hotmail.com

kastamonubelediyesi.gsk.org

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

[gskkastamonu](https://twitter.com/gskkastamonu)

[kastamonubludgsk](https://www.instagram.com/kastamonubludgsk)

Kit colours

Light

Player shirt: white-red-black
Player short: white-red-black
GK shirt: black-blue-yellow

Dark

Player shirt: black
Player short: white
GK shirt: black-blue-yellow



Playing hall

Atatürk spor salo-
nu, Kastamonu
Beycelebi Mah. Stad Cad.
37100 Kastamonu
Turkey
Capacity: 1,500

KASTAMONU BELEDİYESİ GSK



Turkey's most ambitious club appears to be more motivated than ever this season, signalled by the arrival of Helle Thomsen as head coach. Since bursting onto the European scene in the 2015/16 season, when they reached the Challenge Cup final, Kastamonu have been serious contenders in the EHF Cup, making it to the semi-finals in 2018 and the quarter-finals last season.

There is practically a 50:50 split of Turkish and international players in this season's squad, with Serpil Iskenderoglu, Nina Zulic, Alena Ikhneva and brand new signings Amanda Kurtovic and Julia Eriksson expected to be leading lights in this campaign. Thomsen's troupe have already overcome one stern test this season, beating Hungarian side DVSC 31:30 in a one-legged qualification round to book their spot in the group phase. It was not too long ago, 2018 in fact, when Kastamonu were putting Turkish club handball on the map with qualification for the EHF Cup semi-final. But they were doing it with minimal Turkish involvement – only four Turkish players were in the squad and of them, just Serpil Iskenderoglu had a leading role. An early exit from Europe the following season sparked a change in that approach and by 2019/20, Turkish players came to the fore, with Asli Iskit (68 goals) and Yeliz Özel (39 goals) driving Kastamonu to the EHF Cup quarter-finals. Both have since moved on to other clubs, so it remains to be seen which players will emerge for Helle Thomsen's team this season.

Kastamonu hit headlines around the handball world right before the group phase by announcing the signing of Amanda Kurtovic on loan from Győr. In November, the Norwegian international said she would be taking a break and going out on loan in 2021, though few expected this move. The talented right back has had a mixed time on court since returning from her knee injury and has shown glimpses of her class this season. If Kastamonu can help her settle in quickly, they will have added a major weapon in attack.

Past achievements

EHF Cup:

Semi-finals: 2017/18
Quarter-finals: 2019/20

Challenge Cup:

Finalists: 2015/16

National league (2): 2016/17, 2018/19

National cup: -



Helle Thomsen

Coach

- former player, she has never won the title in the Danish league prior to starting her coaching career
- won one silver medal and two bronze medals at the EHF EURO as a coach, representing Sweden and the Netherlands' women's teams
- as a coach, she had stints at club level for Team Tvis Holstebro and FC Midtjylland in Denmark, CSM Bucuresti in Romania, Molde in Norway and took over Kastamonu in 2020
- named by the EHF the Female Coach of the Season in the 2018/19 season, after winning the bronze medal with the Netherlands at the EHF EURO 2018

EC trophies: Cup Winners' Cup 2015
EURO: S 2016, B 2014, B 2018, WCh: B 2017

Newcomers

Ekaterina Lubianaia (Boden Handball IF)
Yulia Khavronina (SCM Craiova)
Alena Ikhneva (Kisvarda Master Good)
Ekaterina Vetkova (JDA Dijon Hands)
Nina Zulic (RK Krim Mercator)
Sara Kovarova (DHK Banik Most)
Merve Durdu (Muratpaşa Belediyesi SK)
Kübra Sarıkaya (Muratpaşa Belediyesi SK)
Halime İslamoğlu (İzmir Büyükşehir Belediyesi SK)
Julia Eriksson (IK Savehof)
Amanda Kurtovic (Györi Audi ETO KC – on loan)

Left the club

Olga Vaschuk (Fehervar KC)
Joanna Woloszyk (Saint-Amand Handball)
Renata Kayumova (AC PAOK)
Yana Uskova (unknown)
Fatmagül Sakızcan (Yalıkavak SK)
Aslı İskit (Thüringer HC)
Yeliz Özel (Yalıkavak SK)
Andrea Seric (SCM Craiova)
Yasemin Güler (İzmir Büyükşehir Belediyesi SK)
Anca Rombescu (İzmir Büyükşehir Belediyesi SK)

I TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height
6	Kübra	Sarikaya	TUR	Left Wing	14.10.1996	Istanbul, TUR	166
10	Elif Sila	Aydin	TUR	Left Wing	11.04.1996	Ankara, TUR	170
C 13	Serpil	Iskenderoglu	TUR	Centre Back	15.07.1982	Istanbul, TUR	167
16	Amra	Pandžic	SLO	Goalkeeper	20.09.1989	Ljubljana, SLO	178
18	Nina	Zulic	SLO	Centre Back	04.12.1995	Ljubljana, SLO	170
19	Ekaterina	Vetkova	RUS	Line Player	01.08.1986	Syzran, RUS	182
21	Betül	Yilmaz	TUR	Left Back	31.10.1988	Gebze, TUR	178
24	Amanda	Kurtovic	NOR	Right Back	25.07.1991	Karlskronna, SWE	176
27	Beyza Irem	Türkoglu	TUR	Right Wing	04.02.1997	Ankara, TUR	175
28	Yulia	Khavronina	RUS	Right Wing	20.05.1992	Astrakhan, RUS	186
29	Birgül	Tuzsuz	TUR	Line Player	02.04.2002	Kastamonu, TUR	174
30	Alena	Ikhneva	RUS	Left Back	30.07.1995	Novotroitsk, RUS	183
35	Halime	Islamoglu	TUR	Goalkeeper	10.09.1993	Izmir, TUR	174
37	Ceren	Coskun	TUR	Line Player	23.02.1992	Amasya, TUR	171
48	Sára	Kovárová	CZE	Right Back	09.02.1999	Pisek, CZE	175
58	Merve	Durdu	TUR	Goalkeeper	15.04.1996	Sivas, TUR	
77	Ekaterina	Lubianaia	RUS	Right Wing	04.09.1989	Kirovogradskobl.,RUS	165



Ekaterina Vetkova

@vetkova_0801

Line player

- defence specialist, Vetkova has won the DELO EHF Champions League two times, with HC Zvezda in 2008 and CSM Bucuresti in 2016
- globetrotter, the Russian line player plied her trade for nine teams, as her career split between Russia, Romania, France and, now, Turkey
- when she was 18 and played for HC Lada, she was close to quitting handball, after a botched shoulder surgery
- has always donned the number 19 shirt, since receiving it first time for the Russian national team in 2006

EC trophies: CL 2008, 2016
EURO: B 2008, WCh: G 2009



Nina Zulic

@ninazulic

Centre back

- made her debut in the CL when she was only 18, scored 124 goals in six seasons for RK Krim Mercator in the European premium competition
- this is her first-ever experience outside Slovenia, having signed for Kastamonu this summer
- has played for the Slovenian national team at every major tournament since the EHF EURO 2016, scored four times at the EHF EURO 2020
- named the best player in the Slovenian league in the 2019/2020 season, when she scored 57 goals in the competition



Alena Ikhneva

@alenaikhneva

Left back

- played for six clubs in five different countries up until this point in her career, leaving Russia and HC Lada for Vardar in North Macedonia in 2014
- went to Fleury Loiret in France, returned to Russia to play for Astrakhanochka, then had one season for Podravka, where she scored 58 goals in the CL and in the EHF Cup
- winner of the Women's Junior EHF EURO in 2011 and the Women's Youth EHF EURO 2013 with the Russian national team

EC trophies: EHF Cup 2014



Serpil Iskenderoglu

@serpiliskenderoglu

Centre back

- made her debut in competitive handball when she was only 15, for TMO SK Ankara
- played almost her entire career for Turkish club teams, with the exception of a season, 2006/2007, when she played for FC Nurnberg
- signed for Kastamonu in the 2014/2015 and is both the team captain and the most experienced player in the squad, with over 300 games
- played two EHF Challenge Cup finals in 2012 and 2016, both lost with Muratpasa Belediyesi and Kastamonu

GROUP B



Club contact


Club Address

Nantes Atlantique Handball
2 rue Louis Joxe
44200 Nantes
France


Media contact

Marianne Buron
+33 2 40 47 60 40
communication@nahb.fr

 nahb.fr

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

 [NAHB_officiel](https://twitter.com/NAHB_officiel)

 [nahb_officiel](https://www.instagram.com/nahb_officiel)

Kit colours

Light

Player shirt: white/purple
Player short: purple
GK shirt: green

Dark

Player shirt: purple/pink
Player short: purple
GK shirt: yellow



Playing hall

H Arena

5 rue Andre Tardieu
44200 Nantes
France
Capacity: 5,902

NANTES ATLANTIQUE HANDBALL



For just the second time in the club's history, Nantes have reached the group phase of Europe's second-tier club competition. The last time they got this far, in 2017, they progressed to the quarter-finals, where they lost by a single goal to Metzingen, this season's goal is to emulate that run.

"Playing the EHF European League is already a motivation in itself! As our group is quite homogeneous, it will make all the matches complicated and pressured. It is really motivating to play matches where we know that each victory or defeat will have an impact on the qualification and I think the quarter-finals are within our reach," says captain Marion Maubon. The club has taken big steps since their promotion to the top flight in 2013 with increasing professionalism and ambitious signings with the likes of Swedish star Nathalie Hagman and last season's French league MVP Bruna De Paula joining as well as 2018 EHF Champions League finalist Guillaume Saurina taking over as head coach.

It feels like this European adventure has barely begun but stories are already flying around, suggesting that a number of the star players are set to leave the club this coming summer. Not an ideal situation for Guillaume Saurina but all the impetus to go big in his first season as head coach. International class players such as Bruna De Paula, Nathalie Hagman, Lotte Grigel and Camille Ayglon Saurina will be enough to give any team at this level a headache and there will be added incentive to see how far they can go in the European League if there are indeed changes on the way in 2021.

Nantes could hardly have hoped for a better start to their campaign in qualification round 3. Playing at home in the first leg against SCM Gloria Buzau, a rock solid second half performance shut their opponents' attack down as they booked a comprehensive 23:16.

Past achievements

EHF Cup:

Quarter-final (1): 2016/17

National league: -

National cup: -



Guillaume Saurina

Coach

 @guillaumesaurina

- aged 39, stopped his player career in 2018, immediately to become an assistant-coach in Nantes before becoming head coach this season
- as a left-back, was twice crowned best scorer of the French first division
- married to Camille Ayglon-Saurina, who he has got a son with

Newcomers

Marion Maubon (Metz Handball)
Laurie Carretero-Fontaine (Brest Bretagne Handball)
Déborah Kpodar (JDA Dijon Handball)
Dyénaba Sylla (JDA Dijon Handball)
Bruna De Paula (Fleury Loiret)
Nathalie Hagman (Odense)
Kaba Gassama (Balonmano Granollers)

Left the club

Catherine Gabriel (Paris 92)
Alexandrina Cabral Barbosa (CSM Bucuresti)
Léa Lignieres (Mérignac Handball)
Paule Baudouin (retired)

I TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height
2	Bruna Almeida De Paula		BRA	Back	26.09.1996	Campestre/MG, BRA	170
3	Lauryn	Cossou	FRA	Back	17.07.2002	Schoelcher, FRA	178
4	Nathalie	Hagman	SWE	Right Wing	19.07.1991	Farsta, SWE	167
5	Manon	Loquay	FRA	Line Player	06.01.1999	StSebastiensurLoire, FRA	176
7	Emilie	Bellec	FRA	Right Wing	07.05.1999	Libreville, GAB	165
8	Clara	Vaxes	FRA	Back	21.05.2002	Marseille, FRA	176
11	Camille	Ayglon Saurina	FRA	Right Back	21.05.1985	Avignon, FRA	180
12	Floriane	Andre	FRA	Goalkeeper	30.05.2000	Saint Chamond, FRA	180
13	Blandine	Dancette	FRA	Right Wing	14.02.1988	Firminy, FRA	169
15	Kaba Gassama Cissokho		ESP	Line Player	16.08.1997	Granollers, ESP	180
17	Stine Bodholt	Nielsen	DEN	Line Player	08.11.1989	Aabenraa, DEN	180
18	Naemi	Arduoin	FRA	Left Wing	18.11.2002	StSebastiensurLoire, FRA	179
19	Charlotte	Kieffer	FRA	Line Player	21.02.1998	Schiltigheim, FRA	185
20	Orlane	Ahanda	FRA	Right Back	20.11.1998	Nantes, FRA	176
21	Gordana	Mitrovic	SRB	Back	10.09.1996	Attendorn, GER	176
23	Déborah	Kpodar	FRA	Left Back	03.06.1994	Iles d'Espagnac, FRA	171
24	Adriana	Placzek	POL	Goalkeeper	10.12.1993	Leszno, POL	174
26	Maëlle	Le Roy	FRA	Left Back	19.05.2001	Bordeaux, FRA	175
C 27	Marion	Maubon	FRA	Left Wing	27.07.1989	Bordeaux, FRA	165
29	Inès	Godet	FRA	Line Player	09.05.2001	Saint Herblain, FRA	184
30	Lorine	Boudekhane	FRA	Goalkeeper	12.03.2002	Caen, FRA	180
33	Beatrix	Escribano	ESP	Back	04.05.1990	AlcazardeSanJuan, ESP	178
34	Lotte	Grigel	DEN	Back	05.04.1991	Esbjerg, DEN	165
42	Dyénaba	Sylla	FRA	Left Wing	04.04.1997	Noisy le Sec, FRA	175
44	Marnie	Valette	FRA	Back	13.01.2001	Montpellier, FRA	168
69	Lorine	Perrot	FRA	Back	13.07.2001	Montpellier, FRA	176
72	Laurie Fontaine-Carretero		FRA	Goalkeeper	03.11.1995	Nimes, FRA	179



Bruna Almeida de Paula

 @brunapaula96

Centre back

- her super-spectacular style owed her the MVP title of the French league last season
- despite being chased by many top clubs in Europe, chose to sign to Nantes in 2020
- before that, had played for four seasons in Fleury
- despite only being 24, has become a regular fixture in the Brazil national team



Camille Ayglon-Saurina

 @camilleayglonsaurina

Right back

- aged 35, she moved to Nantes in 2018 after playing for Nîmes for most of her career, and two seasons for CSM Bucuresti
- took part twice in the EHF FINAL4, in 2017 and 2018 with CSM
- played 270 times with the France national team but was not called by Olivier Krumbholz for the EHF EURO 2020

EURO: G 2018, S 2016, OG: S 2016, WCh: G 2017, S 2009, 2011



Adrianna Placzek

Goalkeeper

- aged 27, arrived in Nantes in 2019, after playing for two seasons for fellow French side Fleury
- regular fixture in the Polish national team, played at the last EHF EURO 2020
- played the Challenge Cup final in 2015 with SPR Pogoń Szczecin



Blandine Dancette

 @blandine.dancette

Right wing

- after playing in Nîmes for ten seasons, moved to Chambray before joining Nantes in 2017
- in Nantes reunited with another left hander from Nîmes Camille Ayglon-Saurina
- at 32, is one of the most experienced players in the team

OG: S 2016, WCh: G 2017, S 2011, 2009

GROUP B



Club contact

Club Address

MKS Perla Lublin
ul. Kazimierza Wielkiego 8
20-611 Lublin
Poland

Media contact

Olga Krzyzanowska
+48 608558926
info@mks.lublin.pl

 mks.lublin.pl

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

 [mkslublin](https://twitter.com/mkslublin)

 [mkslublin](https://www.instagram.com/mkslublin)

Kit colours

Light

Player shirt: green
Player short: black
GK shirt: yellow/red

Dark

Player shirt: black
Player short: black
GK shirt: black



Playing hall

Globus Hall
ul. Kazimierza Wielkiego 8
20 611 Lublin
Poland
Capacity: 4,221

MKS PERLA LUBLIN



Since winning the Challenge Cup in 2018, Lublin have found the going tough in Europe. A single win and two draws from 16 European matches led to a change in the summer with Kim Rasmussen taking over from Robert Lis. The squad, chock full of players and a coach with international experience knows what it takes to perform at this level but must put theory into practice. As captain and goalkeeper Weronika Gawlik says: "We want to fight, despite the fact that we probably will not be placed as a favourite. Our team is hungry for wins."

Kim Rasmussen loves a good challenge and he has built a reputation for himself as a coach who can deliver great things in difficult circumstances. This past summer he took charge of Lublin, returning to the country he helped propel to a new level on the international stage, leading the national team to two World Championship semi-finals. A COVID-disrupted season has made the challenge of moulding this much-changed squad, seven players in and nine out, tricky but the Danish coach has a core of proven Polish players to work with. Lublin are tasked with a tough group, featuring Nantes, Lada and Kastamono, where all four teams will see themselves as contenders and picking up points at home will be vital.

One of the highest-profile women in Polish handball, Kinga Achruk made a name for herself during a four-year spell with Buducnost at the height of their powers, during which she reached the EHF Champions League final twice and winning it once. The powerful back court player and defensive anchor gave birth in September and is working hard on getting ready to hit the court again, so it remains to be seen what kind of impact she will have this season. Nevertheless, her presence in the team cannot be underestimated.

Past achievements

EHF Champions League

Quarter-finals (2): 1999/00, 2001/02

EHF Cup:

Winners (1): 2000/01

Challenge Cup:

Winners (1): 2017/18

National league (22): 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2018, 2019, 2020

National cup (11): 1996, 1997, 1998, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2006, 2007, 2010, 2012, 2018



Kim Rasmussen

 @kimras72

Coach

- began coaching MKS Lublin this season
- took over as Montenegro coach only 10 days prior to EHF EURO 2020, succeeding Per Johansson
- spent six years at the helm of the Polish national team, playing semi-finals at the WCh 2013 and 2015, and four years with Hungary
- previously coached at Roskilde in his native Denmark and CSM Bucuresti, with whom he won the CL in 2016

EC trophies: CL 2016

Newcomers

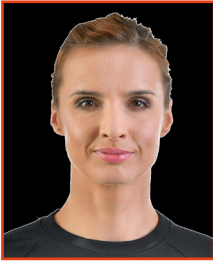
Magda Balsam (Eurobud JKS Jarosław)
 Paulina Wdowiak (MTS Żory)
 Djurdjina Malovic (FTC-Rail Cargo Hungaria)
 Andrijana Tatar (ZORK Jagodina)
 Jaqueline Anastacio (Rocasa Gran Canaria)
 Marina Razum (HC Dunarea Braila)
 Natalia Vinyukova (Magura Cismadie)

Left the club

Aneta Łabuda (E.S Besancon Feminin)
 Valentina Blažević (Magura Cismadie)
 Gabrijela Besen (unknown)
 Karolina Kochaniak (MKS Zagłębie Lubin)
 Sylwia Matuszczyk (Eurobud JKS Jarosław)
 Valentina Nestsiaruk (Eurobud JKS Jarosław)
 Mia Moldrup (retired)
 Małgorzata Stasiak (retired)
 Ewa Urtnowska (retired).

I TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height
1	Marina	Razum	CRO	Goalkeeper	25.02.1992	Zagreb, CRO	181
2	Aleksandra	Olek	POL	Line Player	31.10.2000	Lublin, POL	179
3	Magda	Balsam	POL	Right Back	20.09.1996	Sztum, POL	172
5	Djurdjina	Malovic	MNE	Right Back	05.05.1996	Niksic, MON	182
6	Joanna	Szarawaga	POL	Line Player	02.04.1994	Debno, POL	185
8	Dominika	Wieckowska	POL	Left Back	08.04.1998	Kielce, POL	178
10	Marta	Gega	POL	Left Back	16.04.1986	Bielawa, POL	184
C 12	Weronika	Gawlik	POL	Goalkeeper	20.10.1986	Gliwice, POL	180
14	Patrycja	Krolikowska	POL	Right Wing	15.05.1992	Lodz, POL	160
22	Andrijana	Tatar	MNE	Line Player	10.12.1995	Cetinje, MNE	179
24	Dagmara	Nocun	POL	Left Wing	02.01.1996	Kolno, POL	166
26	Paulina	Wdowiak	POL	Goalkeeper	12.01.2000	Radziejów, POL	175
27	Natalia	Vinyukova	RUS		27.03.1989	Majkop, RUS	178
33	Jaqueline	Anastacio	BRA	Centre Back	09.11.1987	Varinha, BLR	174
39	Natalia	Nosek	POL	Right Back	20.04.1998	Kraków, POL	179
55	Joanna	Gadzina	POL	Left Wing	01.09.1992	Nowy Sacz, POL	164
66	Aleksandra	Rosiak	POL	Left Back	07.07.1997	Lubin, POL	182
89	Kinga	Achruk	POL	Centre Back	09.01.1989	Pulawy, POL	181



Weronika Gawlik

 @weronika_gawlik_2010

Goalkeeper

- captain who joined the club in 2011; also a key player for Polish national team
- previously played for GZKS Sosnica Gliwice in her native town
- recently graduated from the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin
- very active in the club's marketing initiatives

EC trophies: Challenge Cup 2018

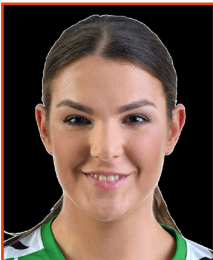


Marta Gega

Left back

- had started her career at Gliwice, then joined Jelenia Gora, becoming top scorer of the Polish league in 2007/08
- from 2009 to 2013 played for three different French clubs: Le Havre, Fleury and Cergy
- played more than 80 matches for the Polish national team including the EHF EURO events in 2014 and 2016
- arrived at Lublin in 2013, became five-time Polish champion so far

EC trophies: Challenge Cup 2018



Djurdjina Malovic

Right back

- started at Danilovgrad, the farm team of CL winners Buducnost Podgorica, then joined Buducnost at the age of 16
- scored 67 goals at the W17 EHF EURO 2013, one later had her debut at the EHF EURO
- had her CL debut at the age of 20 right after Buducnost won the trophy in 2015
- in 2018 joined FTC Budapest for two seasons, then had a short stint at MTK Budapest
- plays for Lublin since the 2020/21 season, beside second Montenegrin player Andrijana Tatar



Joanna Szarawaga

 @jo.sz6

Line player

- tall and powerful line player, versatile in attack, but defence specialist
- played four seasons from 2013-2016 at Lublin after two years at Gliwice
- after two years at MKS' major rival Gdynia returned to Lublin in 2018
- four-time Polish champion, once with Gdynia, three times with Lublin
- Her highest season score were 101 goals
- part of the Polish national team since 2016, played at the EHF EURO 2016 and 2020 and the WCh 2017, scored four goals in Denmark 2020

I GROUP C HEAD-TO-HEADS

PREVIOUS EC ENCOUNTERS OF THE GROUP C TEAMS

CS Minaur Baia Mare vs Astrakhanochka

No previous encounters in European competitions

CS Minaur Baia Mare vs Storhamar Handball Elite

No previous encounters in European competitions

CS Minaur Baia Mare vs Thüringer HC 3-0-1 (112:105) 6:2

06.10.2013	Thüringer HC vs HCM Baia Mare, EHF Champions League – Group A	36:29 (18:15)
10.11.2013	HCM Baia Mare vs Thüringer HC, EHF Champions League – Group A	20:19 (10:11)
16.01.2016	Thüringer HC vs HCM Baia Mare, EHF Champions League – Main Round Group 1	23:25 (12:10)
19.02.2016	HCM Baia Mare vs Thüringer HC, EHF Champions League – Main Round Group 1	38:27 (19:12)

Astrakhanochka vs Storhamar Handball Elite

No previous encounters in European competitions

Astrakhanochka vs Thüringer HC 2-0-2 (101:113) 4:4

29.01.2017	Thüringer HC vs Astrakhanochka, EHF Champions League – Main Round Group 1	34:22 (15:9)
25.02.2017	Astrakhanochka vs Thüringer HC, EHF Champions League – Main Round Group 1	26:24 (17:12)
10.11.2019	Astrakhanochka vs Thüringer HC, EHF Cup – Qualification Round 3	28:25 (14:13)
16.11.2019	Thüringer HC vs Astrakhanochka, EHF Cup – Qualification Round 3	30:25 (16:12)

Storhamar Handball Elite vs Thüringer HC

No previous encounters in European competitions

GROUP C




Club contact

Club Address

CS Minaur Baia Mare
Bd. Unirii Nr. 14 A
Baia Mare
Romania

Media contact

Mircea Grumaz
+40747110404
mirceasport@yahoo.com

 csminaur.ro

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

 [csminaur](https://twitter.com/csminaur)

 [csminaur.hf](https://www.instagram.com/csminaur hf)

Kit colours

Light

Player shirt: white
Player short: black
GK shirt: blue

Dark

Player shirt: blue
Player short: blue
GK shirt: yellow



Playing hall

Sala Polivalenta Lascar Pana
Bd. Unirii Nr.14 A
430272 Baia Mare - Mara-
Mures
Romania
Capacity: 2,080

CS MINAUR BAIA MARE



Under their previous name, HCM Baia Mare, CS Minaur Baia Mare reached the EHF Champions League quarter-finals in 2014/15 and 2015/16. After five years away from the European stage, Minaur Baia Mare want to make up for lost time and reach the EHF European League Finals.

- **qualified for the group phase directly after finishing third in the Romanian league**
- **made 10 signings ahead of the new season**
- **last played in Europe in the 2015/16 season of the EHF Champions League**
- **will face Astrakhanochka, Storhamar Handball Elite and Thüringer HC in group C**

CS Minaur Baia Mare's return to European competition after a five-year absence does not come with any reduced ambition ahead of their matches in group C of the EHF European League. Baia Mare's clear goal is to reach the EHF Finals Women. "We want to be in the last four. The EHF European League is a very important competition for us, with very valuable teams," said team manager Liviu Bala. Baia Mare's transfer activity over the summer demonstrated their desire to bridge the gap from finishing third in the Romanian league to competing in the latter stages of the EHF European League. The Swedish trio of Filippa Idehn, Linn Blohm and Mikaela Mässing, who were all at different clubs prior to signing for Baia Mare, were among the 10 additions, while Serbian internationals Jelena Lavko and Jovana Kovacevic joined from Hungarian club Érd. However, with Mässing and Helena Rysankova suffering injuries in training matches in August, the team's back-court depth might not be what was originally envisaged prior to this season.

Past achievements

EHF Champions League:

Quarter-finals (2): 2014/15, 2015/16
Group matches (1): 2013/14

EHF Cup:

Last 16 (1): 2008/09
Round 4 (1): 2009/10
Round 3 (1): 2007/08

Challenge Cup:

Runners-up (1): 2002/03
Last 16 (1): 2004/05

Romanian league: 1 title (2014)

Romanian Cup: 3 titles (2013, 2014, 2015)



Costica Buceschi

Coach

- this is Buceschi's third stint at Minaur Baia Mare, while also coaching four other teams in the Romanian league, including the men's team in Baia Mare
- has also been an assistant at the Romanian women's national team for Tomas Ryde in 2019
- won one Romanian league title with Baia Mare in 2014, the only one in the team's history, but was let go later that year
- his daughter, Eliza, also plays handball for Rapid Bucuresti and the Romanian national team, while his wife, Carmen, was a former handball player for Minaur Baia Mare

Newcomers

Filippa Idehn (Silkeborg Voel KFUM)
 Jelena Lavko (Érd)
 Jovana Kovacevic (Érd)
 Linn Blohm (Kobenhavn Håndbold)
 Asuka Fujita (BV Borussia 09 Dortmund)
 Cristina Laslo (CSM Corona Brasov)
 Ana Maria Tanasie (Magura Cisnadie)
 Angela Cioca (CB Salud Tenerife)
 Larissa Araujo (CSU Cluj-Napoca)
 Mikaela Måssing (Thüringer HC)

Left the club

Ana Maria Mazareanu (Gloria Bistrita)
 Sylwia Lisewska (Magura Cisnadie)
 Marija Shteriova (SCM Gloria Buzau)
 Oana Roxana Cirstea (SCM Gloria Buzau)
 Paulina Masna (CSU Cluj Napoca)
 Larisa Tamas (CSM Slatina)
 Roxana Daniela Szolosi (retired)
 Camelia Hotea (retired)
 Madalina Conache (CSM Galati)
 Oana Bondar (retired)

I TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height
1	Cristina	Enache	ROU	Goalkeeper	01.05.1994	Focsani, ROU	183
3	Jelena	Lavko	SRB	Right Back	06.07.1991	Zrenjanin, SRB	182
4	Yaroslava	Burlachenko	UKR	Line Player	14.05.1992	Kiev, UKR	177
5	Linn	Blohm	SWE	Line Player	20.05.1992	Stockholm, SWE	180
6	Petruta Andreea	Argyelan	ROU	Left Wing	25.06.1999	Baia Mare, ROU	166
8	Angela	Cioca	ROU	Centre Back	23.01.1995	Tg. Jiu, ROU	176
9	Ana Maria	Tanasie	ROU	Left Wing	06.04.1995	Hunedoara, ROU	173
12	Filippa	Idéhn	SWE	Goalkeeper	15.08.1990	Jönköping, SWE	183
13	Cristina	Laslo	ROU	Centre Back	10.04.1996	Cluj-Napoca, ROU	177
16	Cristina	Ciausescu	ROU	Goalkeeper	16.02.2000	Bucuresti, ROU	175
20	Larissa Fais	Munhoz Araujo	BRA	Left Wing	01.07.1992	Curitiba, BRA	167
21	Eva	Kerekes	ROU	Left Wing	07.04.2001	Zetea, ROU	170
C 24	Jovana	Kovacevic	SRB	Left Back	09.04.1996	Belgrade, SRB	180
25	Mikaela	Mässing	SWE	Left Back	13.03.1994	Mölnådal, SWE	189
27	Asuka	Fujita	JPN	Right Wing	14.02.1996	Osaka, JPN	166
30	Sonia Mariana	Seraficeanu	ROU	Right Wing	25.07.1997	Hunedoara, ROU	177
55	Oana Doina	Bors	ROU	Right Wing	27.11.2003	Baia Mare, ROU	177
70	Andreea Cristina	Popa	ROU	Centre Back	03.06.2000	Bucuresti, ROU	175
98	Andreea	Tecar	ROU	Right Back	21.03.1998	Baia Mare, ROU	179
99	Anca Georgiana	Polocoser	ROU	Left Back	01.05.1997	Suceava, ROU	179



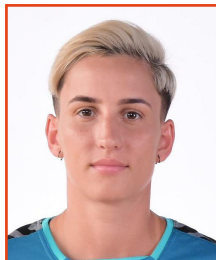
Filippa Idéhn

 @filippaidehn

Goalkeeper

- joined Baia Mare in the summer of 2020 together with fellow Swedes Linn Blohm and Mikaela Mässing
- goalkeeper with a penchant for scoring goals, she scored 12 times for the Sweden
- Baia Mare is Idéhn's eighth club during her career, after she played for five Swedish clubs and in Denmark for Esbjerg and in France for Brest Bretagne Handball
- played at four EURO tournaments, three WCh and at one edition of the Olympic Games for the Swedish national team

EURO: B 2014

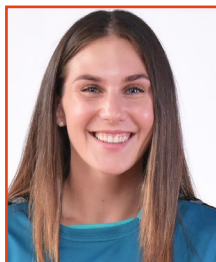


Cristina Laslo

 @laslo13cristina

Centre back

- natural-born playmaker, Laslo has won the Junior WCh with Romania in 2014, being a leader of the team
- despite many players avoiding the number 13, Laslo stated it is her favourite and loves playing with it since she was a junior
- has played for Cluj, Corona Brasov and also had a one-year stint playing for Buducnost
- loves tattoos and has several of them, including one of her twin brother, also a handball player, on her calf
- can also play on the right or left back, but her preferred position is the centre back one



Jovana Kovacevic

Left back

- the Serbian left back has played for Buducnost, Bekescsaba and Érd before signing for Baia Mare
- EHF FINAL4 2016 participant, yet found little playing time, as she was a back-up to Cristina Neagu, scored 25 goals in the 2019/20 season for Érd in the EHF Cup
- has played two EHF EURO tournaments with the Serbian national team, in 2016 and 2018, but failed to make the cut in 2020
- she was modeling when she was younger, alongside her brother, but took up handball when she was 14, after giving up aikido, where she had a brown belt



Linn Blohm

 @blohmlinn

Line player

- started handball as a left back and made the transition to a line player only when she was 17 and was transferred to Sävehof
- joined Minaur in the summer of 2020 together with Filippa Idéhn and Mikaela Mässing
- played in Sweden (IK Sävehof) and Denmark (TTH, FC Midtjylland, København) before joining the Romanian club last summer
- voted All-star line player at the WCh 2019 and the best Swedish player in 2020

EC trophies: EHF Cup 2015, CWC 2016
EURO: B 2014

GROUP C



Club contact

Club Address


Astrakhanochka
ul. N. Ostrovskogo 147
414022 Astrakhan
Russia

Media contact

Dmitriy Marochkin
+7 988 5901098
dmlostdm@gmail.com

 astrakhanochka.ru

 [h.c.astrakhanochka](https://www.facebook.com/h.c.astrakhanochka)

 [ast_handball](https://twitter.com/ast_handball)

 [hc_astrakhanochka](https://www.instagram.com/hc_astrakhanochka)

Kit colours

Light

Player shirt: white
Player short: black
GK shirt: blue

Dark

Player shirt: black
Player short: black
GK shirt: red



Playing hall

Sportcomplex "Zvezdnyy"

N. Ostrovskogo 147
414022 Astrakhan
Russia
Capacity: 6,000

ASTRAKHANOCHKA



Former Russian champions Astrakhanochka are excited to be back in a group stage in a European competition for the first time since they reached the EHF Champions League main round in the 2016/17 season. Astrakhanochka's squad contains three players from the team that represented Russia at the Women's EHF EURO 2020, and the club are ambitious about their prospects in the EHF European League group phase.

Astrakhanochka did not progress past the qualification rounds of the EHF Cup in the previous three seasons, but the addition of six new players this season has created the belief that they can compete on an even footing against some of the best teams in Europe. "Of course, the main goal for us is to perform as successfully as possible in the debut season of the EHF European League and get through the tournament as far as possible – maybe until the EHF Finals," said club director Gennadiy Lebedev.

With 10 wins from 12 matches in the Russian league, which includes a victory against DELO EHF Champions League participants CSKA, Astrakhanochka's domestic form should enhance their confidence ahead of their group C campaign. Team captain Karyna Yezhykava is aware that competing on both fronts will provide challenges in the coming months – but she is confident that the team will be prepared physically and mentally.

"We know that there will be a difficult schedule ahead, as there will be Russian championship and European games, but I think that the coaching staff will bring us in good physical and psychological shape," said Karyna Yezhykava. As three of Astrakhanochka's first four matches in the group phase are scheduled to be played away, their away form may immediately prove pivotal to their hopes of progressing from group C.

Past achievements

EHF Champions League:

Main round (1): 2016/17

Cup Winners' Cup:

Quarter-finals (1): 2006/07

EHF Cup:

Semi-finals (1): 2013/14

Quarter-finals (3): 2012/13, 2014/15, 2015/16

Russian league: 1 title (2015/16)

Russian cup: -



Vlatko Dzonovich

Coach

- Montenegrin became Astrakhanochka's head coach in February 2019
- prior to that, the former goalkeeper spent one year working at Hungary's Kisvardai KC
- started his coaching career at men's handball, working at clubs and also as a goalkeeper coach in Montenegro national team
- later switched over to women's game, becoming Dragan Adzic's long-term assistant both at Buducnost and Montenegro team
- in this role, helped Buducnost to win the CL in 2012 and 2015, and Montenegro to win EHF EURO 2012

Newcomers

Irina Nikitina (Rostov-Don)
 Iuliia Gariaeva (Kuban)
 Evelina Anoshkina (HC Zvezda)
 Yevheniia Levchenko (BNTU-Belaz)
 Iryna Stelmakh (BNTU-Belaz)
 Ana Debelic (HC Podravka Vegeta)

Left the club

Anna Kochetova (Retired)
 Irina Antonova (HC Zvezda)
 Valentina Degtiareva (Stavropol)
 Viktoriia Shichkina (Stavropol)
 Sofia Ignatovich (Stavropol)
 Irina Kurushina (Stavropol)
 Maria Gafonova (Kuban)
 Daria Bogdanova (AGU-ADYIF Maykop)
 Galina Izmailova (AGU-ADYIF Maykop)
 Svetlana Kremneva (BNTU-Belaz)

I TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height
1	Anastasiia	Riabtseva	RUS	Goalkeeper	17.01.1996	Krasnodar, RUS	178
3	Kseniia	Zakordonskaia	RUS	Line Player	04.03.2003	Astrakhan, RUS	174
5	Ekaterina	Fanina	RUS	Left Wing	27.11.1989	Volgograd, RUS	165
7	Karina	Sisenova	RUS	Right Back	25.06.1996	Astrakhan, RUS	180
8	Dariia	Samokhina	RUS	Left Wing	12.08.1992	Togliatti, RUS	175
10	Iuliia	Gariaeva	RUS	Back	24.05.1996	Primorsko-Axtarsk, RUS	180
11	Karina	Sabirova	RUS	Left Back	23.03.1998	Astrakhan, RUS	180
13	Anna	Shaposhnikova	RUS	Right Back	13.02.1999	Astrakhan, RUS	174
14	Ekaterina	Levsha	RUS	Right Wing	06.04.1993	Maykop, RUS	170
16	Evelina	Anoshkina	RUS	Goalkeeper	26.06.1994	Samara, RUS	175
17	Ekaterina	Zelenkova	RUS	Right Back	28.02.1999	Yaroslavl, RUS	186
18	Julija	Baeva	RUS	Right Back	24.05.2003	Maykop, RUS	185
21	Iryna	Stelmakh	UKR	Line Player	18.08.1993	Ternopil'ska obl., UKR	192
27	Yevheniia	Levchenko	UKR	Right Wing	09.11.1994	Zaporozhye, UKR	172
31	Ana	Debelic	CRO	Line Player	09.01.1994	Rijeka, CRO	183
34	Elizaveta	Malashenko	RUS	Back	26.02.1996	Togliatti, RUS	182
44	Kira	Trusova	RUS	Goalkeeper	28.06.1994	Togliatti, RUS	182
71	Anna	Kainarova	RUS	Right Wing	27.10.2002	Astrakhan, RUS	178
C 73	Karyna	Yezhykava	BLR	Left Back	07.08.1990	Babruysk, BLR	180
77	Irina	Nikitina	RUS	Left Back	21.03.1990	Togliatti, RUS	178
87	Irina	Korneeva	RUS	Right Back	07.06.1995	Volgograd, RUS	182
91	Kristina	Tarasova	RUS	Left Wing	05.10.1991	Astrakhan, RUS	174



Kira Trusova

Goalkeeper

- born in Togliatti, she started career at Zvezda Zvenigorod
- moved to Astrakhanochka in 2012 and became Russian champion in 2016
- played in the Women's EHF Champions League in 2016/17
- played for Russia's national team at EHF EURO 2016 and 2018

EURO: S 2018



Dariia Samokhina

Left wing

- born in Togliatti and started career at local club Lada; joined Astrakhanochka in 2017
- made her debut in Russia national team in 2016
- missed the 2019/20 season due to maternity leave as she gave birth to son Yaroslav in March 2020, but was back with the national team for the EHF EURO 2020
- became Russia's top scorer at the World Championship 2017 with 32 goals

EC trophies: EHF Cup 2014

EURO: S 2018



Karina Sabirova

 @karina.sabirova11

Centre back

- born in Astrakhan and started playing handball at the age of nine; also played basketball
- made her debut for Astrakhanochka's senior team at the age of 13
- winner and MVP of 2016 IHF Youth World Championship
- Astrakhanochka's best scorer in their maiden campaign in the CL in 2016/17
- with Russian national team, took part in three major tournaments but is yet to win a medal



Ana Debelic

 @adebelic

Line player

- joined Astrakhanochka from HC Podravka Vegeta in January 2020
- before that, played only in her home country Croatia for RK Zamet Rijeka, RK Lokomotiva Zagreb and Podravka
- with Croatia national team, participated in three EHF EURO tournaments in 2016, 2018 and 2020
- included into the All-Star team of the tournament at the EHF EURO 2020

EURO: B 2020

GROUP C



Club contact

Club Address


Storhamar Handball Elite
Kornsilovegen 58A
2316 Hamar
Norway

Media contact

Kamilla Sundmoen
+47 917 71766
clagligleder@storhamarelite.no

 storhamartopphandball.no

 [StorhamarHåndball Elite](https://www.facebook.com/StorhamarHandballElite)

 [StorhamarElite](https://twitter.com/StorhamarElite)

 [storhamarhandballelite](https://www.instagram.com/storhamarhandballelite)

Kit colours

Light

Player shirt: yellow
Player short: blue
GK shirt: red

Dark

Player shirt: blue
Player short: blue
GK shirt: white



Playing hall

Boligpartner Arena
Kornsilovegen 58
2316 Hamar
Norway
Capacity: 1,626

STORHAMAR HANDBALL ELITE



In their third consecutive season in a European Cup group phase, Norwegian league runners-up Storhamar Handball Elite enter the EHF European League Women group phase aiming to upset some of the more fancied teams and qualify for the quarter-finals. With a squad containing seven players under the age of 20, Storhamar's involvement in the group stage provides handball fans around Europe with the possibility that they may see a future star emerge.

Storhamar know that the difference between success and failure in a group phase can be determined by just one goal, as that was all that eliminated them from group D in the Women's EHF Cup last season. Needing a point in their sixth and final group match to progress, Storhamar suffered a 28:27 defeat against SG BBM Bietigheim in Germany. The Hamar-based club begin the EHF European League group phase this season with an awareness that they may be about to face their most difficult challenge yet at this level.

"It's going to be our toughest challenge so far in this competition. Baia Mare, Astrakhanochka and Thüringer are all experienced and great teams with great players," said team manager Kamilla Sundmoen. The departure of talented 19-year-old centre back Mia Svele to Herning-Ikast Handbold last summer is the type of transfer that Norwegian clubs have come to expect, but Storhamar signed Swedish international left back Cassandra Tollbring on a two-year deal as cover for Betina Riegelhuth, who is pregnant.

With 10 wins from 10 matches in the Norwegian league this season, Storhamar will try to take the confidence from their excellent domestic form into Europe and test Thüringer HC, Astrakhanochka and CS Minaur Baia Mare in group C.

Past achievements

EHF Cup:

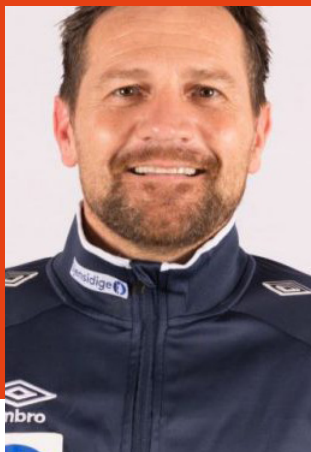
Quarter-finals (1): 2018/19

Cup Winners' Cup:

Quarter-finals (1): 2009/10

Norwegian league: 0 titles

Norwegian cups: 0 titles



Kenneth Gabrielsen

Coach

- took over as head coach in the summer of 2020
- named coach of the year in Norway in 2015 while with Glassverket
- had a spell as coach of Vipers Kristiansand from 2016-18, leading them to the national title

Newcomers

Sara Rønningen (Oppsal)
Caroline Amalie Nøkleby Dammen (Reistad)
Kristiane Stormoen (Boden IF)
Cassandra Tollbring (Bourg de Péage Drôme)
Lone Sandvik (Charlottenlund)

Left the club

Mia Svele (Nykøbing Falster Håndbold, Denmark)
Anna Mortvedt (retired)
Maria Keiserås Haugen (Follo)
Linn Andresen (Gjerpen)

I TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height
1	Stine	Lidèn	NOR	Goalkeeper	31.05.1988	Lorenskog, NOR	186
3	Andrea Landas	Gabrielsen	NOR	Left Wing	26.11.2001	Drammen, NOR	164
4	Susanne Liberg	Amundsen	NOR	Left Wing	20.08.2002	Hamar, NOR	167
5	Lone	Sandvik	NOR	Right Wing	08.07.2003	Trondheim, NOR	163
6	Elise	Skinnehaugen	NOR	Right Back	03.06.1996	Hamar, NOR	168
7	Ellen Marie	Folkvord	NOR	Line Player	18.05.1990	Tonsberg, NOR	168
8	Maja	Jakobsen	NOR	Right Back	28.03.1990	Gjøvik, NOR	172
9	Selma	Brodal	NOR	Right Wing	15.04.2003	Hamar, NOR	166
10	Kristin	Venn	NOR	Left Wing	05.03.1994	Trondheim, NOR	168
11	Tonje	Enkerud	NOR	Centre Back	21.08.1994	Elverum, NOR	176
12	Tonje	Haug Lerstad	NOR	Goalkeeper	09.10.1996	Trondheim, NOR	177
15	Andrea Holmsveen	Moen	NOR	Centre Back	06.05.2003	Gjøvik, NOR	167
16	Lea	Løkke-Øwre	NOR	Goalkeeper	12.01.2001	Kristiansand, NOR	169
17	Cassandra	Tollbring	SWE	Centre Back	19.03.1993	Rimbo, SWE	170
18	Caroline	Nøkleby Dammen	NOR	Centre Back	18.05.2001	Drammen, NOR	171
20	Sara	Rønningen	NOR	Line Player	03.11.1996	Levanger, NOR	180
C 21	Moa Amanda	Fredriksson	SWE	Line Player	17.12.1991	Gothenburg, SWE	173
22	Betina	Riegelhuth	NOR	Left Back	17.06.1987	Oslo, NOR	178
25	Kristiane	Stormoen	NOR	Left Back	11.11.1993	Gjøvik, NOR	162
26	Emilie Margrethe	Hovden	NOR	Right Wing	05.04.1996	Bergen, NOR	163
33	Guro	Nestaker	NOR	Left Back	15.08.1998	Gjøvik, NOR	180



Emilie Hovden

 @emiliehovden

Centre back

- joined in 2019 from Fana HE
- enjoyed a sensational first season, scoring 43 goals in the EHF Cup group phase last season
- Norwegian league MVP and top scorer last season
- 24-year-old is known for her deadly speed on counter attacks and variety of shots on the right wing



Maja Jakobsen

 @majjak90

Right back

- rejoined in 2019 for her third spell with the club
- spent the previous four seasons with Odense, with whom she reached the EHF Champions League Quarter-finals
- ended 2020 as Storhamar's top scorer in the Norwegian league with 56 goals in 10 matches
- made her national team debut in 2012 and won EHF EURO 2014 with Norway

EURO: G 2014, S 2012



Cassandra Tollbring

 @ctollbring

Left back

- a new signing from French club Bourges
- had one previous spell in Norway, two seasons with Larvik
- the Swedish left back made her international debut in 2018
- her brother Jerry Tollbring is a left wing for Rhein-Neckar Löwen and Sweden



Kristin Venn

 @kristinvenn

Left wing

- joined from Byasen in 2018
- prolific left wing, named in the league's all-star team in 2019
- won bronze medals at the W18 EHF EURO 2011 and Youth World Championship 2012
- made her national team debut in 2017 but decided later that year to focus on her club handball

GROUP C



Club contact

Club Address

Thüringer HC
Intersport Schenk
Marktstrasse 7
99947 Bad Langensalza
Germany


Media contact

Maik Schenk
+49 3603 1277014
bundesliga@thueringer-hc.de

 thueringer-hc.de

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

 [thueringerhc](https://twitter.com/thueringerhc)

 [mhbofficial](https://www.instagram.com/mhbofficial)

Kit colours

Light

Player shirt: white
Player short: black
GK shirt: yellow

Dark

Player shirt: red
Player short: black
GK shirt: blue



Playing hall

Salza Halle
Hannoversche Str 1
99947 Bad Langensalza
Germany
Capacity: 1,000

THÜRINGER HC



In 2019/20, after eight consecutive seasons in the EHF Champions League, Thüringer HC competed in the Women's EHF Cup for the first time and reached the quarter-finals. After a summer in which their squad has seen many changes, THC are preparing for the EHF European League group phase.

It might be an exaggeration to say that THC's squad is unrecognisable from the team that contested the EHF Cup last season, but the departure of nine players last summer marked the beginning of a new era for the former German champions. Undeterred by the departures, Thüringer HC want to showcase their new-look team to a wider audience in the EHF European League group phase.

"We and our fans are hungry for the international competition and the special atmosphere and challenge," said team manager Maik Schenk.

Still led by head coach Herbert Müller, who has been in charge since 2010, THC are in fifth place in the German Bundesliga after six wins from 10 games. Left back Emily Bölk, who joined DELO EHF Champions League participants FTC-Rail Cargo Hungaria, was arguably the most eye-catching name to leave the club – particularly after she finished the 2019 IHF Women's World Championship as Germany's joint top scorer and scored 30 goals for THC in the EHF Cup group phase last season.

For many years, Thüringer HC have been synonymous with world-class Czech centre back Ivetta Koresova, who recently gave birth, but one summer signing continuing THC's Czech link has already made a big impact: Marketa Jerabkova. Since joining from Erd in the summer, Jerabkova has scored 86 goals in 10 league matches, including 26 penalties from 27 attempts, making her the top scorer in the German Bundesliga.

Past achievements

EHF Champions League

Quarter-finals (1): 2014/15
Main round (5): 2013/14, 2015/16, 2016/17, 2017/18, 2018/19

EHF Cup:

Quarter-finals (1): 2019/20

Challenge Cup:

Winners (1): 2008/09

German league: 7 titles (2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2018)

German cup: 3 titles (2011, 2013, 2019)



Herbert Müller

Coach

- born in Romania, previously worked with Brasov (ROU) and Nürnberg
- in his 17th season in a row always assisted by his brother, Helfried
- also head coach of the Austrian national team
- first led Nürnberg to their first-ever CL qualification and won the Challenge Cup in 2004, then won seven German titles with Thüringer HC since 2010
- former mathematics lecturer

EC trophies: Challenge Cup 2004

Newcomers

Petra Blazek (SCM Gloria Buzau)
 Ines Khouildi (SCM Gloria Buzau)
 Nina Neidhart (Hypo Niederösterreich)
 Emma Ekenman Fernis (IK Sävehof)
 Asli Iskit (Kastamonu Beledyesi)
 Markéta Jerábková (ERD HC)
 Kerstin Kündig (LC Brühl)
 Arwen Rühl
 Jolina Huhnstock
 Laura Kuske (all Thüringer HC U19)

Left the club

Emily Bölk (FTC-Rail Cargo Hungaria)
 Alicia Stolle (FTC-Rail Cargo Hungaria)
 Ann Cathrin Giegerich (DVSC Schöffler)
 Jana Krause (retired)
 Jovana Syzdovska (H.C. Dunarea Braila)
 Alexandra Mazucco (SV Halle Neustadt)
 Mikaela Mässing (CS Minaur Baia Mare)
 Almudena Rodriguez (CS Gloria Bistrita)
 Mia Biltoft (Retired)
 Anouk Nieuwenweg (Neckarsulmer SU)

I TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height	Weight
1	Laura	Kuske	GER	Goalkeeper	19.11.2001	Regensburg, GER	178	
2	Mariana	Ferreira Lopes	POR	Centre Back	09.12.1994	Aveiro, POR	172	
3	Emma	Ekenman Fernis	SWE	Right Wing	24.07.1996	Stockholm, SWE	172	
4	Beate	Scheffknecht	AUT	Left Back	27.02.1990	Innsbruck, AUT	178	
6	Anouk	Nieuwenweg	NED	Right Back	20.08.1996	Emmen, NED	170	
9	Asli	Iskit	TUR	Right Back	07.12.1993	Urla, TUR	178	
12	Marie Skurtveit	Davidson	NOR	Goalkeeper	20.08.1993	Bergen, NOR	178	
13	Meike	Schmelzer	GER	Line Player	19.07.1993	Wiesbaden, GER	178	
14	Klara	Schlegel	AUT	Right Back	07.05.2001	Eggenburg, AUT	183	
16	Petra	Blazek	AUT	Goalkeeper	15.06.1987	Mödling, AUT	182	
18	Iveta	Koresova	CZE	Centre Back	03.04.1989	Pisek, CZE	175	
21	Ina	Großmann	GER	Left Wing	21.08.1990	Holzgerlingen, GER	170	
22	Arwen	Rühl	GER	Left Back	20.06.2002	Hamburg, GER	182	
24	Ines	Khouildi	TUN	Left Back	11.03.1985	Nefza, TUN	182	
27	Kerstin	Kündig	SUI	Centre Back	02.07.1993	Hittnau, SUI	177	
C 28	Lydia	Jakubisova	SVK	Right Wing	14.10.1981	Bojnice, SVK	168	
34	Jolina	Huhnstock	GER	Line Player	04.05.2001	Bad Langensalza, GER	179	
48	Nina	Neidhart	AUT	Left Wing	16.06.2001	Mödling, AUT	174	
51	Markéta	Jerábková	CZE	Left Back	08.02.1996	Plzen, CZE	174	
57	Josefine	Huber	AUT	Line Player	19.02.1996	Wien, AUT	180	




Petra Blazek

Goalkeeper

- after five seasons in Romania (Valcea, Buzau) arrived at THC this summer, replacing Ann-Kathrin Giegerich (now Debrecen)
- knows coach Herbert Müller from the Austrian national team
- had already played for THC in the 2010/11 season, started her career at Hypo Niederösterreich, was CL finalist in 2007
- later played in France, Hungary and Norway returned to France



Beate Scheffknecht

 @beate4

Left back

- Left her home club Dornbirn at the age of 18 to join Nürnberg in Germany, coached by Herbert Müller
- played for Bietigheim and Göppingen, before she joined THC in 2015
- currently the most successful Austrian scorer in German Bundesliga
- part of the Austrian national team at the 2007 and 2009 WCh and the EHF EURO 2008



Asli Iskit

 @asliiskit

Centre back

- the second Turkish international in a team of Herbert Müller after Serpil Iskenderoglu in Nürnberg
- member of the Turkish indoor national team and the Beach Handball national team
- played for the three top clubs in her home country: Izmir, Muratpasa and Kastamonu
- played two years at Swedish side Kristianstad, scoring more than 250 goals
- arrived at THC in summer 2020 after becoming the third best scorer in the 2019/20 season of the EHF Cup with Kastamonu



Marketa Jerabkova

 @marketa_jerabkova5

Left back

- made her debut in the Czech national team at the age of 18 in 2014; EURO 2020 will be her sixth major championships
- second best Czech scorer at the 2017 WCh in Germany, when they finished eighth
- awarded best Czech player of the season 2019/20, three-time Czech champion with Banik Most, where she played until 2018
- this summer arrived at THC to replace her country-fellow Iveta Luzumova, who is on maternity leave

EC trophies: CL 2018
WCh: B 2019

I GROUP D HEAD-TO-HEADS

PREVIOUS EC ENCOUNTERS OF THE GROUP D TEAMS

Siófok KC vs HC Dunarea Braila

No previous encounters in European competitions

Siófok KC vs Kuban

No previous encounters in European competitions

Siófok KC vs Fleury Loiret Handball

No previous encounters in European competitions

HC Dunarea Braila vs Kuban 1-0-1 (51:52) 2:2

11.11.2012	HC 'Kuban' Krasnodar vs HC Dunarea Braila, EHF Cup – Round 3	28:22 (14:12)
17.11.2012	HC Dunarea Braila vs HC 'Kuban' Krasnodar, EHF Cup – Round 3	29:24 (18:9)

HC Dunarea Braila vs Fleury Loiret Handball

No previous encounters in European competitions

Kuban vs Fleury Loiret Handball

No previous encounters in European competitions

GROUP D



Club contact


Club Address

Siófok KC
Szekrényessy Kálmán utca 1.
8600 Siófok
Hungary


Media contact

Bence Biró
+3630/3285885
birobence@siofokkc.hu

 siofokkc.hu

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

 [siofokkc](https://twitter.com/siofokkc)

 [skc_handball](https://www.instagram.com/skc_handball)

Kit colours

Light

Player shirt: black
Player short: black
GK shirt: yellow/red/white

Dark

Player shirt: orange
Player short: black
GK shirt: red/yellow/white



Playing hall

Kiss Szilárd Sportcsarnok
Szekrényessy ut 1
8600 Siófok
Hungary
Capacity: 1,500

SIÓFOK KC



At the start of this season, Siófok would have been considered solid favourites to claim the first European League Women title. However, plenty has changed in recent months for the 2019 EHF Cup winners – and not for the better. A year which started with so much promise ended in a very different light for the ambitious club. The global health crisis meant last season's Hungarian league was cancelled and with it, Siófok's EHF Champions League dreams were dashed. A new season full of promise soon turned sour as three defeats in a row led to coach Bent Dahl being shown the exit door, and high-profile players Nerea Pena, Laura Van Der Heijden, Danick Snelder, Dinah Eckerle soon followed.

This leaves new coach Zdravko Zovko with a much-weakened squad to work with. There are still a number of strong players in the team but their expectations for the European campaign will have to be tempered and hope they will be able to progress from a tricky group containing H.C. Dunarea Braila, Kuban and Fleury Loiret Handball.

Since joining the club in 2016, the line player has become a vital cog in the Siófok wheel. The 28-year-old is known for her intensity, great work-ethic and leadership, all of which was shown in abundance at EHF EURO 2020 as she led Croatia to a stunning and heart-warming bronze medal. Her ability to deliver what is needed of her in any situation will make her a key asset in this tough European season.

Another crucial Croatian player, Kobetic was originally set to retire last summer but reversed the decision, for which her club are undoubtedly grateful. The 35-year-old left back has scored an astounding 523 times in European competition over the past six seasons, with Siófok and Vardar, and will be without doubt a fountain of goals in the group phase.

Past achievements

EHF Cup:

Winners (1): 2018/19

Hungarian league: -

Hungarian cup: -



Zdravko Zovko

Coach

- legendary former player, winner of the gold medal at the Olympic Games 1984 with Yugoslavia
- also won the Men's European Champions Cup as a coach with Zagreb in 1992 and 1993 and the bronze medal with the Croatian national team at the EHF EURO 1994
- started coaching 30 years ago and has plied his trade in Croatia, Slovenia, Hungary, Germany, Italy and Russia
- prior to signing for Siofok in October 2020, he served as an assistant to Gabor Danyi at Györi Audi ETO KC
- named best Croatian handball coach three times, in 1994, 1995 and 2002

EC trophies: EHF Cup 2016

EURO: B 1994, WCh: S 1995 (all as coach), OG: G 1984 (as player)

Newcomers

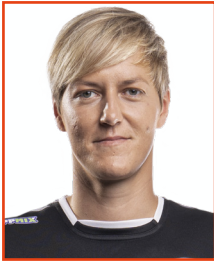
Nikolett Kiss (Érd)
Gabriella Tóth (Érd)

Left the club

Andela Janjusevic (Buzau)
Silje Solberg (Győr)
Joanna Drabik (Lublin)
Nerea Pena (FTC)
Laura Van Der Heijden (Bietegheim)
Danick Snelder (FTC)
Dinah Eckerle (Bietegheim)

I TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height	Weight
7	Melinda	Szikora	HUN	Goalkeeper	19.11.1988	Kiskunhalas, HUN	175	
8	Simone	Böhme	DEN	Right Wing	17.08.1991	Randers, DEN	169	
9	Júlia	Hársfalvi	HUN	Left Wing	12.11.1996	Zalaegerszeg, HUN	168	
10	Fanni	Juhász	HUN	Centre Back	10.01.2002	Mohács, HUN	168	
11	Tamara	Horacek	FRA	Left Back	05.11.1995	Pozega, CRO	178	
13	Camille	Aoustin	FRA	Left Wing	13.02.1990	Cherbourg, FRA	170	
17	Katarina	Ježić	CRO	Line Player	19.12.1992	Rijeka, CRO	173	
18	Zea	Kadlicsek	HUN	Right Wing	17.07.2001	Budapest, HUN	173	
21	Csilla	Mazak-Németh	HUN	Right Back	21.01.1989	Budapest, HUN	178	
23	Nelli	Such	HUN	Right Wing	12.05.1992	Bekescsaba, HUN	178	
23	Nikoletta	Kiss	HUN	Right Back	23.07.1996	Budapest, HUN	180	
24	Hanga	Balogh	HUN	Left Back	23.04.2002	Miskolc, HUN	182	
27	Fanni	Misztina	HUN	Goalkeeper	07.02.2002	Békéscsaba, HUN	174	
29	Gnonsiane	Niombla	FRA	Centre Back	09.07.1990	Villeurbanne, FRA	172	
30	Kira	Kolumban	HUN	Line Player	06.04.2005	Székesfehérvár, HUN	172	
31	Szilvia	Kocsis	HUN	Left Back	22.07.2004	Budapest, HUN	173	
32	Andrea	Kobetic	CRO	Left Back	13.11.1985	Zagreb, CRO	186	
C 33	Zsuzsanna	Tomori	HUN	Left Back	18.06.1987	Budapest, HUN	187	
44	Laura	Lapos	HUN	Left Back	12.02.2002	Siófok, HUN	176	
77	Kincső	Csapó	HUN	Goalkeeper	11.12.2001	Dunaujváros, HUN	178	
96	Gabriella	Tóth	HUN	Centre Back	23.09.1996	Berettyóújfalu, HUN	175	

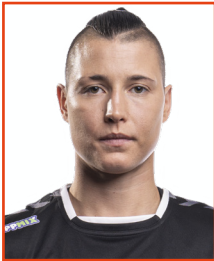


Zsuzsanna Tomori

Left back

- the left back has been playing handball since she was 12 and made her debut in the first league when she was only 17
- had two stints playing for Győr, between 2007 and 2010 and between 2015 and 2019, winning six domestic leagues and three CL trophies
- awarded the Hungarian player of the year award three times, in 2012, 2015 and 2016
- the DELO EHF Champions League top scorer in 2012/2013, with 95 goals

EC trophies: CL 2017, 2018, 2019, EHF Cup 2019, Cup Winners' Cup 2011, 2012
EURO: B 2012



Katarina Jezic

 @katarinajezic17

Line player

- has played for four teams in her career, Lokomotiva Zagreb, Buducnost, Minaur Baia Mare and Siofok
- Croatia's captain at the EHF EURO 2020, when the Croatian side won their first ever medal, a bronze
- CL finalist with Buducnost in the 2013/14 season, but lost against Győr
- has been playing for Siofok since 2017 and won the EHF Cup in the 2018/19 season with the Hungarian side

EC trophies: EHF Cup 2019
EURO: B 2020



Andrea Kobetic

 @penka1985

Left back

- has been the CL top scorer in 2015 and the top scorer of the EHF Cup in 2019
- played for five teams in her career, Lokomotiva Zagreb, Podravka Vegeta, RK Krim Mercator, Vardar Skopje and Siofok
- lost the DELO EHF Champions League final two times with Vardar, in 2017 and 2018
- All-Star left back of the WCh in 2011, but retired from the national team since 2016
- named best player in Croatia between 2008 and 2013

EC trophies: EHF Cup 2019



Simone Böhme

 @simonebohme

Right wing

- has played for five clubs in her career, three in Denmark before joining CSM Bucuresti in January 2017, prior to moving to Siofok next summer
- named the best player in the Danish league in 2013, when she was playing for Silkeborg-Voel
- has played for the Danish national team in 33 games since 2015, but failed to make the cut for the EHF EURO 2020, where Denmark finished fourth

EC trophies: EHF Cup 2010, 2019

GROUP D



Club contact

Club Address

H.C. Dunareea Braila
Str. Alleea Parcului 1
Braila
Romania

Media contact

George Marius Caranica
+40 757 032934
hcdb@hcdb.ro

 hcdb.ro

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

 [hcdunareabraila](https://twitter.com/hcdunareabraila)

Kit colours

Light

Player shirt: white
Player short: black
GK shirt: blue

Dark

Player shirt: blue
Player short: black
GK shirt: yellow



Playing hall

**The Danube Sports Hall
Braila**
Alleea Parcului, Nr. 1
Braila
Romania
Capacity: 2,000

HC DUNAREA BRAILA



Having taken the long and Scandinavian-influenced route, HC Dunareea Braila have reached the group phase of a European competition for the first time. The Romanian club are no strangers to the business end of a European Cup, having reached the semi-finals of the Challenge Cup in their first European season back in 2007/08 but the European League is a whole new ball game.

The club's objective for this season was to reach the group phase, now that they have achieved it, how much further are they likely to go? With their company in group D, progression is unlikely but not impossible. Siófok, Kuban and Fleury Loiret will all fancy themselves capable of reaching the quarter-finals but none are currently standout favourites, leaving Braila with a chance to spring a surprise or two and their journey so far suggests that is within their power.

Dunareea Braila had the good fortune to play both of their qualification rounds as double-headers at home but it did not make their route to this stage a walk in the park. The European adventure almost ended as soon as it began in round 2 with a nervy clash against Tertnes Bergen. With a two-goal win in the first leg and a half-time lead, all looked rosy, before a late charge from the Norwegian club left them with an advantage on away goals with just 13 seconds left. Braila stormed down the other end and Bojana Milic saved the day with a buzzer-beating goal.

More Scandinavian opposition awaited in round 3, this time Viborg coming to town. Another tough pair of games followed but the Romanian side dealt with it better, claiming a 58:52 aggregate win.

Past achievements

EHF Cup:

Last 16 (2): 2010/11, 2014/15

Challenge Cup:

Semi-final (1): 2007/08

National league: -

National cup: -



Neven Hrupec

Coach

- in his second stint for a Romanian side, after having already coached at CSM Ploiesti
- Hrupec has a vast experience as a coach, with stints at Podravka in Croatia, Lublin and Szczecin in Poland, Salerno in Italy, but also as the Italian women's national team coach
- qualified with Pogon Szczecin in the Challenge Cup final in 2018/2019, but lost to Rocasa Gran Canaria
- has played handball and football at the lower levels in Croatia, but when he started up coaching, he was an assistant at Podravka and also coached their junior team
- graduated the Kinesiology University

Newcomers

Maryia Kanaval (Bntu-Belaz Minsk)
Jovana Sazdovska (HC Thüringen)
Ljublica Nenezic (CS Gloria Bistrita 2018)
Mădălina Zamfirescu (SCM Ramnicu Valcea)
Sanja Premovic (Iuventa Michalovce)

Left the club

Gabriela Dobre (CS Rapid Bucuresti)
Marina Razum (Lublin)
Claudia Constantinescu (CS Rapid Bucuresti)
Natasha Krnic (Handbal Erice)

I TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height
1	Elena	Serban	ROU	Goalkeeper	15.10.1994	Bucuresti, ROU	182
C 2	Aneta	Udristioiu	ROU	Right Wing	22.06.1989	Dr. Severin, ROU	166
7	Georgiana	Pisica	ROU	Right Wing	16.01.1991	Ploiesti, ROU	175
9	Ibolya	Bucur	ROU	Back	31.08.1984	Oradea, ROU	184
10	Ioana	Balaceanu	ROU	Centre Back	13.02.2001	Constanta, ROU	175
13	Nicoleta	Safta	ROU	Line Player	17.11.1994	Ramnicu Valcea, ROU	176
15	Diana	Axinte	ROU	Centre Back	16.01.1996	Braila, ROU	167
16	Ljubica	Nenezic	MNE	Goalkeeper	15.01.1997	Podgorica, MNE	183
18	Bojana	Milic	SRB	Left Back	30.06.1993	Ruma, SRB	183
19	Maria	Kanaval	BLR	Left Back	19.03.1997	Rogachev, BLR	187
20	Iasmina	Ichim	ROU	Right Wing	11.11.2000	Braila, ROU	175
22	Mirabela	Cotet	ROU	Line Player	22.02.2001	Braila, ROU	175
24	Elena	Dache	ROU	Centre Back	24.03.1997	Galati, ROU	180
27	Sanja	Premovic	MNE	Right Back	27.11.1992	Berane, MNE	175
28	Alina	Czeczi	ROU	Left Wing	15.10.1987	Zalau, ROU	163
30	Madalina	Zamfirescu	ROU	Centre Back	31.10.1994	Nicolae Balcescu, ROU	180
31	Bianca Elena	Tiron	ROU	Left Back	31.05.1995	Iasi, ROU	182
71	Jovana	Sazdovska	MKD	Left Wing	27.06.1993	Skopje, MKD	175
77	Tamires Morena Lima de Araujo	BRA	Line Player	16.05.1994	Rio de Janeiro, BRA	182	
98	Stefania	Epureanu	ROU	Left Wing	10.11.1998	Braila, ROU	169
99	Marina	Dmitrovic	SRB	Right Back	23.03.1985	Beograd, SRB	183



Aneta Udristioiu

 @anetaudristioiu

Right wing

- the most experienced player in Braila's roster, having plied her trade for HCM Baia Mare and CSM Bucuresti, with four seasons in the CL under her belt
- has retired in 2019 from the Romanian national team, after having played 63 games
- won the Romanian domestic title and the Romanian Supercup twice, while adding five Romanian Cups
- has also played for Dunareea Braila between 2015 and 2017, before leaving to CSM
- has been married with Razvan Udristioiu since 2015, himself a former handball player at Minaur Baia Mare



Bianca Tiron

 @tironbianca

Left back

- has started handball in her local town of Iasi, where she also won the Junior Romanian League in 2012, being elected the MVP of the season
- changed five teams in the past seven years, returned to Braila for her second stint in 2019
- has been one of the most consistent scorers in the Romanian league, having never scored less than 91 goals prior to her 67-goal tally in 2019/20
- was called up for the Romanian B team in 2012, but has never been a consistent presence for the Romanian side, despite her good games in the Romanian League



Marina Dmitrovic

Right back

- globetrotter, has played in Serbia, North Macedonia, Turkey, Hungary, before coming back to Romania in 2018
- has scored 12 goals for Vardar in the 2013/2014 season, when the North Macedonian powerhouse finished third in the CL
- has won the silver medal with the Serbian team at the IHF Women's World Championship in 2013 and has scored 170 goals in 105 matches for her national side

WCh: S 2013



Tamires Morena Lima de Araujo

 @tamiresmorena

Line player

- 26-year old line player has reached the CL quarter-finals with Győr in 2015
- won the gold medal at the Pan-American Games with Brazil twice, in 2015 and 2019, and has scored 144 goals for the Brazilian national team in over 100 games played
- has played handball since she was 12, after she started a career in athletics; her sister, Monique, was an Olympic weightlifter for the Brazilian national team
- has played for teams in Brazil, Hungary, France, Norway before coming to Romania, at Braila, in 2019

GROUP D



Club contact


Club Address

Kuban
Radio str., 5
350038 Krasnodar
Russia

Media contact

Nikolay Buyanov
+79882424993
buyanov@whckuban.com

 whckuban.ru

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

 [whckuban](https://twitter.com/whckuban)

Kit colours

Light

Player shirt: yellow
Player short: green
GK shirt: red

Dark

Player shirt: green
Player short: green
GK shirt: blue



Playing hall

Palace of Sports "Olimp"
Krasnodar
Beregovaja str. 144
350007 Krasnodar
Russia
Capacity: 2,500

KUBAN



"20 years ago, we last played in a European Cup final. Isn't it time to repeat?" Fighting words from captain Yana Savinova, which encapsulate the spirit of Russian side Kuban. Despite the determination to go deep in the EHF European League Women, the Krasnodar club have been also-rans in recent years, reaching the quarter-final in the EHF Cup twice in the past four seasons.

That being said, Kuban will see an opportunity to strike in group D, particularly with pre-season favourites Siófok going through a turbulent period. It has been a mixed bag of a season for the Krasnodar-based club so far, losing five matches in the increasingly competitive Russian league already. However, Kuban have enjoyed a bit of a purple patch in the last month, recording four straight victories in the league, a run which only came to an end in a cup defeat to Lada. That run has put them back in the mix domestically and surely will help them as they prepare for the European League group phase. Whether this side can emulate achievements of recent years and progress to the quarter-final remains to be seen but we will have a much better clue once they face Siófok in Saturday's opening group game.

After a single season with CSKA, Victoria Zhilinskayte returned to Kuban for her second spell last summer. The left back is one of the club's most decorated players, with world and Olympic gold medals to her name, and if she can recapture the form she displayed in the EHF Cup 2016/17 campaign, where she scored 68 goals, she will be a driving force in Kuban's attack. At the age of 22 and now in her third season with Kuban, it may soon be time to consider Mariia Dudina as more than a rising star and this could be her season to show it. Named as an all-star right wing in the Women's 17 EHF EURO in 2015 and Youth World Championship a year later, the left-hander has since grown, both physically and as a player, and developed into a right back.

Past achievements

Cup Winners' Cup:

Finalists (1): 1999/20

Russian league (2): 1989, 1992

Russian cup (1): 1988



Denis Saifulin

Coach

- replaced the famous Evgenii Trefilov as head coach in summer of 2019
- joined Kuban in October 2018, but was Trefilov's assistant in 2018/19 season
- before that, was also assistant coach at Zvezda Zvenigorod for a few years

Newcomers

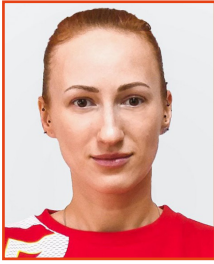
Mariya Gafonova (Astrakhanochka)
 Elena Smirnova (Lada)
 Victoria Zhilinskayte (CSKA)
 Anastasiia Shavman (Zvezda Zvenigorod)
 Ekaterina Bobina (CSKA)

Left the club

Victoriia Kalinina (Rostov-Don)
 Ekaterina Barkalova (retired)
 Valentina Vernigorova (retired)
 Julia Gariaeva (Astrakhanochka)
 Ekaterina Matlashova (Craiova)
 Yaroslava Frolova (Rostov-Don)
 Tatiana Zakharova (retired)

I TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height
4	Alexandra	Davidenko	RUS	Left Wing	07.07.1998	Timashevsk, RUS	169
5	Valeriia	Vaykum	RUS	Right Wing	05.05.2004	Krasnodar, RUS	170
6	Dalila	Danilchenko	RUS	Left Back	06.05.2001	Samara, RUS	182
7	Diana	Golub	RUS	Right Wing	25.11.1992	Krasnodar, RUS	171
C 8	Iana	Savinova	RUS	Left Wing	03.01.1991	Samarskaya, RUS	169
9	Mariia	Bulavinova	RUS	Line Player	03.08.2001	Rostov-on-Don, RUS	181
10	Kseniia	Trukhina	RUS	Line Player	16.05.1994	Izhevsk, RUS	182
15	Eva	Isakova	RUS	Left Wing	16.05.2004	Krymsk, RUS	165
16	Veronika	Chipula	RUS	Goalkeeper	10.07.2002	Vladivostok, RUS	178
17	Valeriia	Baranik	RUS	Line Player	17.11.1993	Syzran, RUS	181
18	Sofia	Penzeva	RUS	Centre Back	26.03.2003	Krasnodar, RUS	163
20	Victoria	Zhilinskayte	RUS	Left Back	06.03.1989	Uray, RUS	188
24	Anna	Efimkina	RUS	Right Wing	25.01.1999	Krymsk, RUS	173
25	Anastasiia	Listopad	RUS	Centre Back	25.06.1994	Togliatti, RUS	177
33	Milana	Rzaeva	RUS	Right Wing	25.11.1998	Krasnodar, RUS	175
44	Elizaveta	Diachenko	RUS	Goalkeeper	03.02.2001	Krasnodar, RUS	170
64	Mariia	Dudina	RUS	Right Back	22.10.1998	Chelyabinsk, RUS	181
71	Ekaterina	Levchina	RUS	Left Wing	12.01.2000	Saint Petersburg, RUS	172
76	Anastasiia	Karaseva	RUS	Left Back	23.12.1999	Volgograd, RUS	181
85	Elena	Utkina	RUS	Goalkeeper	29.05.1990	Volgograd, RUS	180
86	Mariya	Gafonova	RUS	Line Player	21.06.1987	Maykop, RUS	176
88	Elena	Smirnova	RUS	Left Back	27.05.2000	Pikalevo, RUS	172
99	Viktoriia	Samarskaia	RUS	Goalkeeper	15.02.1994	Krasnodar, RUS	182



Elena Utkina

 @elena_utkina29

Goalkeeper

- joined Kuban in late December 2020 on loan from CSKA
- born in Volgograd and spent early years of career at local club Dinamo-Sinara
- became three-time Russian champions with that team
- later played four seasons at Lada before moving to CSKA in 2019
- member of Russia national team since 2013, she is yet to play at a big tournament



Diana Golub

Right wing

- one of Kuban's leaders spends her eighth season at the club
- declined some lucrative offers from other teams in recent years
- a right-hander, she is also capable of playing at the left wing
- made her debut in Russia's national team in 2019



Victoria Zhilinskayte

 @zhilinskayte.victoria

Left back

- joined Kuban in 2020 from CSKA where she spent the previous season
- this is her second spell in the Krasnodar-based team, where she also played between 2016 and 2018
- started career at Alisa Ufa, also played for Lada and Astrakhanochka
- born in Russia but is of Lithuanian descent, and her last name is Lithuanian
- her twin sister Iana is also a well-known handball player, now playing for CSKA

OG: G 2016, EURO: S 2008, WCh: G 2009



Iana Savinova

 @yanasavinova8

Left wing

- one of team's veterans has been playing for Kuban since 2010
- was elected team's captain before 2020/21 season
- missed the previous season due to maternity leave
- played volleyball as a kid, but switched to handball at the age of ten

GROUP D



Club contact

Club Address


Fleury Loiret Handball
109 Avenue Louis Gallouedec
45400 Fleury les Aubrais
France

Media contact

Anthony Tahar
+33 02 38866267
antonytahar@fleuryloirethandball.com

 fleuryloirethandball.com

 [FleuryLoiret.Handball](https://www.facebook.com/FleuryLoiret.Handball)

 [FleuryLoiretHB](https://twitter.com/FleuryLoiretHB)

 [fleuryloirethandball](https://www.instagram.com/fleuryloirethandball)

Kit colours

Light

Player shirt: pink
Player short: pink
GK shirt: orange

Dark

Player shirt: black
Player short: black
GK shirt: green



Playing hall

Palais des Sports,
Orleans
14 rue Eugene Vignat
45000 Orleans
France
Capacity: 2,800

FLEURY LOIRET HANDBALL



Fleury Loiret Handball are making their first appearance in a European Cup competition in four seasons. With one of the most interesting squads among the clubs in the EHF European League Women group phase, the former French champions are hoping to enjoy a prolonged run in the competition.

A four-year absence from European competition has certainly stimulated Fleury Loiret's appetite ahead of their group D campaign. "After a four-year absence, we are very happy to have the scent of European competitions back. The objective is to go as far as possible in a tough competition," said team manager Anthony Tahar. From 2011/12 to 2016/17, the French club had competed in Europe in all but the 2012/13 season, with their most notable achievement being a main round appearance in the EHF Champions League in 2015/16. "Since the club made its return to the French elite in 2003, the European adventure has been a regular part of the experience offered to fans and sponsors," added Tahar.

After finishing third in the curtailed French league 2019/20 season, Fleury entered the EHF European League in qualification round 3 and defeated Swedish club H 65 Höörs 57:50 on aggregate. With summer additions including Angolan back Isabel Guialo and young Polish left back Paulina Uscinowicz, who has joined from Kobenhavn Handball, six different nationalities are represented in Fleury's squad, which is captained by Alexandra Lacrabere.

"The objective is to go as far as possible in a tough competition," said Anthony Tahar.

Past achievements

EHF Champions League:

Main round (1): 2015/16

EHF Cup:

Round 3 (1): 2005/06

Cup Winners' Cup:

Runners-up (1): 2014/15

Challenge Cup:

Semi-finals (1): 2011/12

French league: 1 title (2014/15)

French cup: 1 title (2014)

French league cup: 2 titles (2015, 2016)



Christophe Cassan Coach

- was the assistant coach to Fred Bougeant for many seasons before taking the reins of the team in 2016
- praised by many of his peers for being able to get big results with a tiny budget in Fleury
- his honesty is one of his many qualities praised by his players

Newcomers

Paulina Uscinowicz (Kobenhavn Handball)
Isabel Guialo (C.D. Primeiro De Agosto, Angola)
Doungou Camara (Stella St-Maur HB)

Left the club

Bruna De Paula (Nantes Loire Atlantique HB)
Patricia Jesus (unknown)
Kristina Elez (unknown)

I TEAM ROSTER

No.	First name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of birth	Place of birth	Height
1	Gabriela	Goncalves Dias	BRA	Goalkeeper	08.07.1994	Maringa/PR, BRA	190
2	Manon	Arnaud	FRA	Left Wing	23.09.2000	Saint-Herblain, FRA	161
3	Mélodie	Rapsode	FRA	Goalkeeper	02.10.2002	Le Blanc Mesnil, FRA	179
5	Amina	Sankharé	FRA	Back	04.05.1989	Aubervilliers, FRA	172
6	Lilou	Begon	FRA	Back	14.03.2000	Metz, FRA	168
7	Doungou	Camara	SEN	Back	07.01.1995	PontaultCombault, FRA	168
8	Cassidy	Chambonnier	FRA	Back	30.04.2003	Nouméa, FRA	172
9	Laura	Kamdop	SEN	Line Player	14.09.1990	Chartres, FRA	182
10	Diankenba	Nianh	FRA	Left Back	14.02.1996	Vierzon, FRA	181
11	Oriane	Ondono	FRA	Line Player	14.04.1996	Alfortville, FRA	180
14	Suzanne	Wajoka	FRA	Left Wing	02.01.2001	Nouméa, FRA	170
16	Justicia	Toubissa Elbeco	FRA	Goalkeeper	16.07.2001	St-Jean de Braye, FRA	173
17	Emmanuelle	Thobor	FRA	Line Player	08.08.2002	Melun, FRA	186
19	Elisa	Técher	FRA	Back	14.10.2003	Sainte-Clotilde, FRA	182
21	Mélina	Peillon	FRA	Right Wing	21.06.2001	Orléans, FRA	168
23	Eyatne	Rizo Gomez	CUB	Left Wing	18.10.1995	Havana, CUB	169
44	Raïssa	Dapina	SEN	Right Wing	27.09.1995	Paris, FRA	171
C 64	Alexandra	Lacrabere	FRA	Right Back	27.04.1987	Pau, FRA	177
77	Sophie	Kébé	FRA	Back	29.07.2001	Besançon, FRA	173
78	Paulina	Uscinowicz	POL	Left Back	16.10.1999	Gdansk, POL	183
90	Isabel	Guialo	ANG	Back	08.04.1990	Luanda, ANG	170



Alexandra Lacrabere

 @alexandralacrabere64

Right back

- at 33, is the most experienced player in the Fleury team
- played for many different European clubs, including Zvezda Zvenigorod and Vardar Skopje, before moving back to France and Fleury in 2018
- one of the reasons she decided to move back to France was to complete her psychomotoric therapist degree

EURO : G 2018, S 2020, B 2006, 2016, OG: S 2016, WCh: G 2017, S 2011



Laura Kamdop

 @laukam90

Line player

- played for Fleury her entire career, except the 2016/17 season, when she moved to Krim Mercator
- part of the Cup Winners' Cup final the club lost to Midtjylland in 2015
- also an employee at the club as she works for the marketing and communication department



Isabel Guialo

 @isabelguialo90

Centre back

- Angola national player for years, tried her luck outside her native country for the first time last summer
- won the African Champions League for six straight seasons with Primeiro de Agosto, Angola's most prestigious club
- the last of many players with African roots to sign in Fleury, as four Senegal national players also wear the club's colours this season



Gabriela Moreschi

 @gabi.moreschi

Goalkeeper

- joined Fleury in 2019 after playing for different European sides, including Larvik, from 2016 to 2018
- played a key role in her team's qualification for the group phase, with 20 saves across the two qualification games against Høør
- has, with other players, a partnership with one of Fleury's schools to develop handball in the young generations

I IMPORTANT REGULATIONS

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 EHF European League 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) greater 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) higher number of goals scored in the away match of the two teams directly involved;
- d) goal difference in all matches of the group;
- e) 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;
- f) higher ranking in the group phase matches
- g) greater number of points in the group phase

* 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 team managers.

QUARTER-FINAL MATCHES

If, after completion of the two matches, both teams 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) greater number of plus goals scored in away match
- c) 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

PREVIOUS WINNERS OF THE EHF SECOND-TIER CLUB COMPETITIONS

Women's EHF Cup winners

2020	no title awarded due to Covid-19
2019	Siófok KC Hungary (HUN)
2018	SCM Craiova (ROU)
2017	Rostov-Don (RUS)

Previous Women's EHF Cup winners

2016 Dunaujvárosi KKA HUN
 2015 Team Tvis Holstebro DEN
 2014 HC Lada Togliatti RUS
 2013 Team Tvis Holstebro DEN
 2012 HC Lada Togliatti RUS
 2011 FC Midtjylland Handball DEN
 2010 Randers HK A/S DEN
 2009 Itxako Navarra ESP
 2008 Dinamo Volgograd RUS
 2007 Zvezda Zvenigorod RUS
 2006 FTC Budapest HUN
 2005 Cornexi Alcoa HUN
 2004 Viborg HK DEN
 2003 Slagelse FH DEN
 2002 Ikast Bording EH DEN
 2001 MKS Montex Lublin POL
 2000 El Ferrobús Mislata ESP
 1999 Viborg HK DEN
 1998 Dunaferri SE HUN
 1997 Robit Olimpija Ljubljana SLO
 1996 Debrecéni VSC HUN
 1995 Debrecéni VSC HUN
 1994 Viborg HK DEN

Previous Women's Cup Winners' Cup winners

2016 Team Tvis Holstebro DEN
 2015 FC Midtjylland DEN
 2014 Viborg HK DEN
 2013 HYPO Niederösterreich AUT
 2012 FTC-Rail Cargo Hungária HUN
 2011 FTC-Rail Cargo Hungária HUN
 2010 Budućnost T-Mobile MNE
 2009 FCK Handbold A/S DEN
 2008 Larvik HK NOR
 2007 CS Oltchim Vâlcea ROU
 2006 ZRK Budućnost MONET SCG
 2005 Larvik HK NOR
 2004 Ikast Bording EH DEN
 2003 ESBF Besançon FRA
 2002 HC Lada Togliatti RUS
 2001 Motor Zaporozhye UKR
 2000 L'Eliana Valencia ESP
 1999 Baekkelagets Oslo NOR
 1998 Baekkelagets Oslo NOR
 1997 Istochnik Rostov RUS
 1996 Giessen Lützellinden GER
 1995 Dunaferri SE HUN
 1994 Tus Walle Bremen GER

* the competition was suspended after quarter-finals due to the Covid-19 pandemic

I WOMEN'S EHF CUP 2019/20 TOP SCORERS

Rank	Name & nation	Club	Goals
1	Mikhaylichenko Elena (RUS)	Handball Club Lada (RUS)	75
2	Fauske Helene Gigstad (NOR)	Herning-Ikast Handbold (DEN)	71
3	Iskit Asli (TUR)	Kastamonu Belediyesi GSK (TUR)	68
4	Kobetic Andrea (CRO)	Siófok KC Hungary (HUN)	53
5	Hovden Emilie Margrethe (NOR)	Storhamar Handball Elite (NOR)	51
6	Scheffknecht Beate (AUT)	Thüringer HC (GER)	49
7	Jezic Katarina (CRO)	Siófok KC Hungary (HUN)	46
	Milosavljevic Dejana (CRO)	HC Podravka Vegeta (CRO)	46
9	Bakkerud Ingvild Kristiansen (NOR)	Odense Håndbold (DEN)	45
	Tsakalou Lamprini (GRE)	HC Podravka Vegeta (CRO)	45
11	Bidstrup Mia Rej (DEN)	Kobenhavn Handball (DEN)	43
	Bölk Emily (GER)	Thüringer HC (GER)	43
	Kovács Anna (HUN)	DVSC Schaeffler (HUN)	43
14	Do Nascimento Alexandra Priscila (BRA)	ÉRD (HUN)	42
15	Aoustin Camille (FRA)	Siófok KC Hungary (HUN)	41
	Fomina Olga (RUS)	Handball Club Lada (RUS)	41
	Stanko Tjaša (SLO)	HC Podravka Vegeta (CRO)	41
18	Shamanouskaya Viktoriya (BLR)	Handball Club Lada (RUS)	40
	Skogrand Stine Ruscetta (NOR)	Herning-Ikast Handbold (DEN)	40
20	Jerabkova Marketa (CZE)	ÉRD (HUN)	39
	Moldovan Ada Emilia (ROU)	Magura Cisnadie (ROU)	39
	Özel Yeliz (TUR)	Kastamonu Belediyesi GSK (TUR)	39

* the competition was suspended after quarter-finals due to the Covid-19 pandemic

EHF Media & Communications
Hoffingergasse 18
1120 Vienna, Austria
+43 1 80 151 161
www.eurohandball.com
media@eurohandball.com

EHF Marketing GmbH
Hoffingergasse 18
1120 Vienna, Austria
+43 1 80 151 211
ehfel.eurohandball.com
handball@ehfmarketing.com