

WOMEN'S



EHF
CHAMPIONS
LEAGUE

Women's EHF Champions League
Season 2017/18

Regulations

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I. Introduction

The official name of the competition is the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League 2017/18 and the WOMEN'S EHF FINAL4 2018. Any abbreviations refer to the official names mentioned above.

The official logo of the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League is shown below:



1 General

In accordance with the EHF statutes, the European Handball Federation (EHF) conducts the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League within the framework of its European Cup competitions.

The following regulations and manuals shall form an integral part of these regulations. By registering for the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League a club confirms to accept and to follow the EHF statutes as well as the respective terms, regulations and manuals listed below:

- WOMEN'S EHF FINAL4 Regulations
- IHF Rules of the Game
- EHF Advertising on Clothing Regulations
- EHF Rules on Safety and Security Procedure
- Arbitration Agreement and the EHF Code of Conduct
- EHF Legal Regulations
- EHF List of Penalties
- EHF Catalogue of administrative sanctions
- Rules of Arbitration for the EHF Court of Arbitration
- EHF Regulations for Anti-Doping and Wada Anti-Doping Code
- Floor Installation Manual
- Corporate Identity Guidelines based on the Online Design guide
- Match of the week Manual
- Host Broadcaster Manual
- EHF Coaches Licensing Implementation Manual
- RINCK Convention Manual (2010 edition)

The EHF Member Federations are legally and financially accountable towards the EHF in respect of the clubs entering the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League.

By registering for the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League a club confirms to accept and to follow the terms and regulations regarding the release of players to the respective national team.

Furthermore a club also confirms to accept the terms and regulations of the compensation payments for those players that are released to the respective national team.

WOMEN'S EHF Champions League matches shall be played in accordance with the IHF's current Rules of the Game. Variations on technical level are possible.

The official name for the competition is WOMEN'S EHF Champions League. In any case of subsequently talking about Champions League in handball, the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League is meant.

In the case of a "title sponsor" the official name for the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League will be amended. The competition must be called in accordance with the instructions by the EHF.

The EHF transfers the use of the complete media and advertising rights for the 2017/18 season to EHF Marketing GmbH (short EHFM) and entitles it to undertake the respective organisational measures with regards to the usage of these rights.

Legal decisions of EHF bodies or bodies recognised by the EHF prevail in cases of contradiction to individual points of these regulations.

A club earns the right to participate in the Forum Club Handball with the qualification for the Group Matches. This right is valid for the season in which the club participates in the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League.

2 Fair play

The principles of fair play shall be observed by the EHF Member Federations and their clubs in all matches. This includes not only the treatment of the guest team but also the handling of the referees and delegates as well as the behavior of the spectators towards the teams.

- Observe the Rules of the Game and the regulations governing the competition
- Respect all participants (players, officials, spectators, media representatives, etc.)
- Promote the spirit of sportsmanship and pursue the cultural and athletic mission
- Participate in a correct and sportsmanlike way, not influencing any competitions and/or officials in an undue way or trying to manipulate any results.

The EHF fair play statement is to be read by the announcer prior to each game in the language of the home team as well as in English:

“To ensure fair conditions for all players, officials and referees and in the interest of the sport of handball, we kindly request you, the spectators, to support your team in a fair manner and to show a positive attitude towards all participants and spectators. Thank you.”

3 Awards

The winner of the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League shall receive the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League trophy.

4 General Timetable

07.06.2017	Deadline for final registration incl. all requested documents
29.06.2017	Official publication of the Champions League participants
tbd	Draw of the 2017/18 WOMEN'S EHF Champions League Qualification tournaments.
30.06.2017	Draw of the 2017/18 WOMEN'S EHF Champions League Group Matches.
August 2017	EHF Information: 2017/18 Online Design Guide 2017/18 Match of the Week Manual 2017/18 Floor Installation Manual 2017/18 Host Broadcaster Manual
08.- 10.09.2017	Qualification Tournaments
06.- 08.10.2017	Group Matches - round 1
13.- 15.10.2017	Group Matches - round 2
20.- 22.10.2017	Group Matches - round 3
03.- 05.11.2017	Group Matches - round 4
10.- 12.11.2017	Group Matches - round 5
17.- 19.11.2017	Group Matches - round 6
26.- 28.01.2018	Main Round - round 1
02.- 04.02.2018	Main Round - round 2
09.- 11.02.2018	Main Round - round 3
23.- 25.02.2018	Main Round – round 4
02.- 04.03.2018	Main Round – round 5
09.- 11.03.2018	Main Round - round 6
06.- 08.04.2018	Quarterfinals – 1st leg
13.- 15.04.2018	Quarterfinals – 2nd leg

17.04.2018 Draw for the WOMEN'S EHF FINAL4

12.- 13.05.2018 WOMEN'S EHF FINAL4

5 EHF events

5.1 WOMEN'S EHF Champions League draw

All clubs are obliged to be present with at least 1 representative at each draw of the competition phase in which the club is participating. The club representative shall have a management function within the club. Upon request of EHF/EHFM one key player of each team is asked to join the draw event as it is combined with media activities.

5.2 Participation in workshops

Clubs taking part in the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League are obliged to participate (at least one representative per club) in coordination meetings and workshops relating to the competition organised by the EHF. Club representatives participating in Club Workshops shall either have a management function within the club or a function related to the core topic of the event. Exact dates will be communicated by EHFM in good time prior to the event.

5.2.1 WOMEN'S EHF FINAL4 workshop

A workshop is held upon qualification for the event with four participating teams. The EHF will coordinate the colours of shirts and shorts (including goalkeeper) as well as other organizational matters at this workshop. Therefore each team has to bring their two sets of playing clothing in different colours (one dark and one light colour) to the WOMEN'S EHF FINAL4 workshop.

5.3 Availability of delegation members

Delegation members (players, coaches and team officials) shall be available for activities relating to CL events (TV interviews, reportages, autograph sessions, internet chat, charity events, etc.) upon a respective request by the EHF/EHFM.

II. Competition

1 Structure of the competition

1.1 Frequency

The WOMEN'S EHF Champions League shall be played on an annual basis. The season shall start on 1 July and end on 30 June of the subsequent year.

1.2 Announcement and deadlines

1.2.1 Playing periods

All playing periods for WOMEN'S EHF Champions League matches shall be specified by the EHF and notified to the participating teams and National Federations with the announcement of the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League.

1.2.2 Individual fixtures

The playing date of each round is fixed by the EHF calendar. The exact playing day and the throw-off time of each game is subject for a co-ordination between the EHF/EHFM, both participating clubs and the TV-stations involved.

Matches can be played on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays.

All final decisions regarding fixtures lie with the EHF.

Playing dates as well as the exact throw-off time of any match are only valid after the official announcement by e-mail by the EHF/EHFM.

2 Entry conditions

2.1 Eligibility to enter

The National Federations are permitted to register those clubs to the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League which follow the respective national legislation.

2.1.1 National Champion

Eligibility to enter the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League is limited to the national champion of the EHF Member Federations and, in addition, teams eligible to enter in accordance with a respective EHF decision.

2.1.2 Recognition by EHF

The participation in the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League is restricted to those clubs that participate exclusively in national and international competitions that are recognized by the EHF.

2.1.3 Ranking list

The participating teams in the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League are determined by the EHF Ranking list, which is drawn up prior to each season. According to this ranking list the National Federations ranked 1 to 2 are entitled to participate in the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League with 2 teams and the National Federations ranked 3 – 24 are entitled to participate in the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League with 1 team.

2.1.4 Winner of the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League

If the defending champion does not finish its domestic competition on a top position and is therefore neither directly qualified nor has the National Federation the chance to ask for this club for an upgrade from the EHF Cup to the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League, the National Federation shall have the right to request an additional place for the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League competition of the following season for this particular club.

2.1.5 Restrictions

Per club only one team of the same gender is entitled to participate in any EHF club competition. It is the responsibility of the Member Federations to take this into consideration during the registration process.

- 2.1.6 If a club does not make use of its right to participate in the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League 2017/18, its registration in one of the following two seasons is subject for a particular consent and confirmation by the EHF. The open place reverts back to the EHF who will distribute it as an additional place. The national federation concerned may not register an alternative team.

2.2 Non-admittance of clubs to the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League

Failures or omissions regarding basic requirements or administrative conditions in connection with a legally correct and complete registration of a club to the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League lead to a refusal of the registration by the EHF.

The EHF is entitled not to admit clubs to the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League which do not fulfil the respective technical and/or organisational and/or administrative requirements. The competence for decision taking relating to such matters shall be with the EHF Competitions Commission regarding technical questions and with the EHF Office regarding organisational, administrative and financial issues. Such decisions shall be final.

2.3 Pledge of commitment

By registering for entry, all entrants in the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League (clubs) take note of the conditions governing the competition and expressly undertake to observe applicable Rules and Regulations. On request by the EHF an acknowledgement and pledge of commitment in this regard, signed by the responsible/authorized signatory of the club (official form), shall be sent to the EHF Office. A copy of the paper shall be provided to the competent national Federation.

2.4 Registration system

A correct registration of clubs for the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League includes the fulfillment of the respective technical or organisational or administrative requirements. Such a correct registration consists of:

- Correct and fully completed registration documents, which are signed by a person/representative being legally entitled to commit the club (declaration concerning official signing of entitlements to be attached upon request)
- Presentation of all required information, documents and declarations being due as a part of a correct entry within the deadline stipulated. The registering club together with the National Federation concerned are to be held responsible for the completeness and correctness of the presented documents.
- A playing hall which is confirmed by the EHF for the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League 2017/18
- Payment of the deposit of € 15,000,--
The registering club together with the National Federation concerned are to be held responsible for the completeness and correctness of the presented documents.

- 2.4.1 The teams' registrations for entry in the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League and the signed Code of Conduct and the signed arbitration agreement shall be received by the EHF Office not later than 07 June 2017.

- 2.4.2 A deposit of € 15,000 shall be transferred to the EHF Bank account by 07 June 2017.

- 2.4.3 Registrations shall be made by the Member Federations using exclusively the official entry forms circulated by the EHF with the announcement of the competitions.

- 2.4.4 Clubs shall be entered by their national Member Federation by name, on the basis of their performance in the competitions of the past season. Their qualification to enter the competition shall be officially documented.
- 2.4.5 After the closing date for entries, the EHF office shall draw up a list of all teams entered and communicate this list to the clubs and their national Federations.

2.5 Request for an upgrade to the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League

- 2.5.1 All Federations (except Federations ranked 1 and 2) have the right to apply for an upgrade from the EHF Cup resp. Challenge Cup in the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League. The eligibility for the 2017/18 European Cup must be given. If a National Federation would like to request an upgrade in the competition, the request can be presented to the EHF Office by the resp. National Federation with the official application form one day after the end of the national championship. Following this request, the resp. club has to fulfil all requirements (see 2.4) as well as a detailed strategy/vision of the club for the upcoming WOMEN'S EHF Champions League season by 07 June 2017.
- 2.5.2 The EHF Executive Committee is entitled to award teams with an upgrade in the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League. The awarding of an upgrade is decided following the evaluation of the resp. criteria as laid down in the catalogue of criteria:
 - 2.5.2.1 **Venue:**

This criteria awards points by considering the overall standard of the venue for the matches. Important is not only the capacity of the venue, but also issues like court area, spectator's area, availability and standard of media facilities, VIP areas, etc. A better standard of the venue including the availability of the necessary facilities earns more points.

The points are jointly provided by the EHF Competitions and the EHF Marketing based on the situation of the venue and the experience around the carrying out of matches in this venue throughout the season.
 - 2.5.2.2 **TV**

This criteria awards points by considering the situation of the TV-market for the club and its country. Relevant is the income from TV-rights including the respective situation regarding the production of the TV-signal. A better TV market with a good potential for broadcast and income earns more points.

The points are provided by the EHF Marketing based on contracts and information from market analysis.
 - 2.5.2.3 **Ranking in the domestic league**

This criteria awards points by considering the ranking of the club in the domestic League. It therefore considers the sports performance in the domestic competition. A better ranking earns more points.

The points are provided by the EHF based on the domestic ranking of the club at the end of the season.
 - 2.5.2.4 **Spectators**

This criteria awards points by considering the number of spectators at matches of EHF-club competitions of this club in the past three seasons (16/17, 15/16 and 14/15). Important is that it is not defined simply by the number of the spectators, but also by the hall capacity. The points are provided by the EHF based on the information available about the number of spectators.
 - 2.5.2.5 **Performance in the past EHF club competitions**

This criteria awards points by considering the performance of the club in EHF-Club Competitions in the past three seasons. A better performance in these three seasons earns more points.

The points are provided by the EHF based on the performance of the club over the past three seasons (16/17, 15/16 and 14/15).

2.5.2.6 Sponsoring potential

This criteria awards points by considering the marketing potential for the advertisement rights. Important is the interest of sponsors and advertisement partners and the income than is likely to be generated. A better advertisement market with a good potential of sponsors and partners including some income earns more points.

The points are provided by the EHF Marketing based on contracts and information from market analysis.

2.5.2.7 Implementation of duties and regulations

This criteria awards points for the level of implementation of the respective requirements of an EHF Club Competition throughout the season. A better and smoother implementation of the respective requirements earns more points.

The points are jointly provided by the EHF and the EHF Marketing.

2.5.2.8 Media

This criteria awards points depending on the efforts of the club in the area of social media, on line appearance and media presentation of the club. Important is not only to simply have a home page and a facebook page, but to keep it updated and interesting for fans and media. A more active and interesting internet and social media presence earns more points.

The points are provided by the EHF (Media & Communication) based on the appearance of the club in internet and social media as well as the EHF Media's contacts, co operation and experience with the club concerned throughout the season.

2.5.3 If a club is awarded with an upgrade, it does not result in an additional European Cup place for the respective Federation.

2.6 Integrity of the competition

2.6.1 Clubs are obliged to guarantee the integrity of the competition in every respect -this including an independent ownership, leadership/management, administration and/or sporting performance from all other handball clubs in the respective competition or a competition which is linked to the respective competition. no individual or legal entity of the club may have control or influence over any other club participating in the respective competition or a competition which is linked to the respective competition – this including ownership, leadership/management, administration and/or sporting performance.

2.6.2 Together with the registration, clubs are obliged to provide the EHF with any information on individuals or legal entities within the club having control or influence (ownership, leadership/management, administration and/or sporting performance) over other clubs participating in the respective competition or a competition which is linked to the respective competition.

2.6.3 Clubs officially confirm their fulfilment of the integrity requirements concerning ownership, leadership/ management, administration and/or sporting performance regarding independence from any other club in the respective competition or a competition which is linked to the respective competition by signing their registration for the respective competition without further information on the integrity question.

2.6.4 Clubs which do not fulfil the integrity requirements or do not have signed the respective documents shall not be admitted to the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League.

2.7 Entry fees

The amount of the entry fees for the respective phases and the due dates for the payments are set out in the table below:

Account holder: European Handball Federation
 Bank Austria, am Hof 2, 1010 Wien/Austria
 Account number: 640 000 204
 Bank Code: 12000
 SWIFT-Code: BKAUATWW
 IBAN-Code: AT46 1200 0006 4000 0204

	Amount	Date
Qualification tournaments	€ 375,--	01.08.2017
Group Matches (total)	€ 3.750,--	01.10.2017
Main Round (total)	€ 3.750,--	01.01.2018
Quarterfinals	€ 1.500,--	01.04.2018
WOMEN'S EHF FINAL4	€ 4.500,--	01.05.2018

Each team will receive an individual ID number. Whenever payment is sent to the EHF, this number and the reason for payment must be stated "CL participation fee – Round X".

The deposit will be used to cover open entry fees and other receivables to EHF/EHFM.

An invoice will only be sent upon written request.

2.8 Withdrawal (forfeit) and failure to play a match

- 2.8.1 By entering the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League, a club agrees to enter all rounds resulting from the match system.
- 2.8.2 A withdrawal shall result in the match/es being scored as lost with 0:10 goals and 0:2 points.
- 2.8.3 Any withdrawal after the official entry date of the competition (June 7 at the latest) is to be regarded as a forfeit and shall lead to the consequences stipulated in article C of the EHF List of Penalties.
- 2.8.4 Failure to play a match or late arrival at the venue of a match is regarded as a withdrawal (force majeure situation excluded) and shall lead to the consequences stipulated in articles B.8 and B.9 of the EHF List of Penalties).

2.9 Drawing

- 2.9.1 The draw for the Qualification, Group Matches and FINAL4 shall be held at the venue named by the EHF on the date scheduled in the announcement.
- 2.9.2 Seeding
Teams are seeded after their participation is confirmed by the EHF ExeC.

Teams shall be seeded based on the EHF Seeding list for the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League. This is valid for the draw of the qualification as well as for the draw of the Group Matches.

The national champion as well as the second ranked team of the National Federations ranked 1 and 2 of the EHF Ranking List (place distribution) will have a place in the Group Matches.

The National Champions of the Federations ranked 1 to 10 of the EHF Seeding list for the 2017/18 season will have a place in the Group Matches.

In the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League qualification tournaments, teams of the same country shall play against each other.

In the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League Group Matches, teams from the same country shall not play against each other. The groups of the qualification tournaments will be allocated according to seeding in the first possible group starting from group A to D.

The right to host the groups of the Qualification Tournaments will be decided by a draw of lots. An organiser of a Qualification Tournament of the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League 2016/17 shall receive the last right in its group to host the tournament. The use of the right to host a group includes the fulfilment of the respective requirements set by the EHF

2.10 Playing system for the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League

2.10.1 Qualification tournaments

2.10.1.1 Teams are drawn into 4 groups of 4 teams each.

Within each group there are 2 semifinals on one day and 2 finals (place 1/2 and 3/4) on the next day.

The matches of this round shall be played at one venue on one weekend (Friday and Saturday or Saturday and Sunday or Friday and Sunday).

2.10.1.2 The first ranked team of each group of the qualification tournaments qualifies for the Group Matches.

The teams ranked 4 of the qualification tournaments are entitled to participate in the EHF Cup round 2 and teams ranked 2 and 3 of the qualification tournaments are entitled to participate in the EHF Cup round 3 (played according to the EHF Cup Regulations).

2.10.1.3 Matches the qualification round can be played in a format of first and second legs (K.O. format).

The winning teams from these matches qualify for the Group Phase.

The teams losing these matches are entitled to participate in the EHF Cup round 2 resp. round 3.

2.10.2 Group Matches

2.10.2.1 The group Matches shall be played in four groups of four teams each, with each team playing each of the other teams once at home and once away.

2.10.2.2 Basically the Group Matches of the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League shall be played in accordance with the schedule set out below.

round 1:	1 – 3 and 2 – 4
Round 2:	4 – 1 and 3 – 2
Round 3:	2 – 1 and 4 – 3
Round 4:	1 – 2 and 3 – 4
Round 5:	3 – 1 and 4 – 2
Round 6:	1 – 4 and 2 – 3

Following the draw of the Groups the EHF adapts the schedule in each group individually by taking into consideration the respective requirements mainly from the TV-partners. The schedule may vary in the different groups. All final decisions lie with the EHF.

2.10.2.3 Playing both matches in only one country at one venue at one playing period is not permitted for any matches of the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League starting from the Group Matches.

2.10.2.4 Those teams ranked 1st, 2nd and 3rd in each group after the completion of the Group Matches qualify for the Main Round. Those teams ranked 4th in each group after the completion of the Group Matches are entitled to participate in the EHF Cup. They enter the EHF Cup Group Phase (played according to EHF Cup Regulations).

2.10.3 Main Round

2.10.3.1 The Main Round shall be played in two groups of six teams each.

2.10.3.2 The 1st, 2nd and 3rd ranked teams of group A and B of the Group Matches go into the same group in the Main Round (Group 1 of the Main Round) and 1st, 2nd and 3rd ranked team of group C and D of the Group Matches go into the same group in the Main Round (Group 2 of the Main Round).

2.10.3.3 The three teams coming from the same group take along their results (points and goals) from the matches against each other. Each team plays a home and an away match against those 3 teams qualifying from the parallel group.

2.10.3.4 Basically the Main Round of the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League shall be played in accordance with the schedule set out below.

Round 1:	1. A/C – 1. B/D and	2. A/C – 2. B/D and	3. A/C – 3. B/D
Round 2:	3. B/D – 1. A/C and	1. B/D – 2. A/C and	2. B/D – 3. A/C
Round 3:	1. A/C – 2. B/D and	2. A/C – 3. B/D and	3. A/C – 1. B/D
Round 4:	1. B/D – 1. A/C and	2. B/D – 2. A/C and	3. B/D – 3. A/C
Round 5:	1. A/C – 3. B/D and	2. A/C – 1. B/D and	3. A/C – 2. B/D
Round 6:	2. B/D – 1. A/C and	3. B/D – 2. A/C and	1. B/D – 3. A/C

In case of 2 teams of the same country play in the same group in the Main Round, the order of the matches in this group can be changed by the EHF.

Following the draw of the groups the EHF has the right to adapt the schedule in each group individually by taking into consideration the respective requirements mainly from the TV-partners. The schedule may vary in the different groups. All final decisions lie with the EHF.

2.10.3.5 The teams ranked 1 to 4 in each group after the completion of the Main Round qualify for the Quarterfinals.

2.10.4 Quarterfinals

2.10.4.1 The matches of the quarterfinals shall be played as first and second leg matches.

2.10.4.2 The matches of the quarterfinals are not drawn by lots, they result from the final standings of the Main Round.

4th placed team Group 2 vs. 1st placed team Group 1
 4th placed team Group 1 vs. 1st placed team Group 2
 3rd placed team Group 2 vs. 2nd placed team Group 1
 3rd placed team Group 1 vs. 2nd placed team Group 2

There is no protection from teams of the same country.

2.10.4.3 The winning teams of the Quarterfinals qualify for the WOMEN'S EHF FINAL4.

2.10.5 Final Phase

2.10.5.1 WOMEN'S EHF FINAL4

The semifinal matches of the WOMEN'S EHF FINAL4 are drawn by lots.

For the WOMEN'S EHF FINAL4 additional regulations apply complementing the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League Regulations 2017/18.

2.10.5.2 In case a WOMEN'S EHF FINAL4 will not be played, the playing schedule, playing dates as well as the resp. points of the regulations will be adapted.

2.11 Delegation list and player/club information

2.11.1 The delegation list consists of the players as well as of the team officials of the club.

- 2.11.2 The clubs participating in the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League shall communicate to the EHF Office the delegation list (using the official EHF form), via the respective National Federation. The National Federation has to confirm the eligibility of the players by signing and stamping the delegation list and to send it to the EHF Office by the dates specified below.

Qualification tournaments: 15 August 2017

This delegation list is valid for all following rounds in the European Cup (WOMEN'S EHF Champions League in case of a qualification or for the EHF Cup in case of ranking 2 to 4 in the Qualification Tournaments).

Group Matches: 1 September 2017

This delegation list is valid for all following rounds in the European Cup (WOMEN'S EHF Champions League in case of a qualification for the Main Round or in the EHF Cup in case of ranking 4 in the Group Matches).

- 2.11.3 The official form shall be completed with all the required details and information.
- 2.11.4 The participating teams in the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League have the duty to provide the player's information sheets (form prepared by EHF/EHFM) to the EHF by the respective deadline.
- 2.11.5 The participating teams in the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League have to upload the club logo, a team photo and a photo of each player at the EHFfamily and to complete the players information of each player within the given deadline.
- 2.11.6 Players are eligible to play in the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League if they are eligible to play for the participating club in the National Championship at the time of the match.
- 2.11.7 Those players for whom the National Federation is not entitled to issue a national eligibility to play at the time the players list is drawn up and communicated (transfer procedure pending/ not completed) are not allowed to be registered for entering the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League (from being named on the players list) at the respective point of time.
- 2.11.8 A player may not compete in an EHF club competition if the player is playing at the same time for two clubs or two teams in the top division of the domestic league. Players may compete in an EHF club competition if the player is playing for two clubs or teams but only if the second team is not playing in the top division of the domestic league.
- 2.11.9 The member federation of a participating team shall immediately announce to the EHF all national transfers from and to a WOMEN'S EHF Champions League participating team.

2.12 Late entries

- 2.12.1 In cases in which a player is not recorded on the delegation list submitted within the prescribed deadline (see chapter II; point 2.11.1) but should become eligible to play in the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League at a later date, the player may be named as a late entry only if points 2.12.4 –2.12.5 (chapter II) is not applicable.
- 2.12.2 Each late entry of a player shall be communicated to the EHF only through the National Federation and shall be confirmed on the official EHF late entry form by the National Federation. For each player entered late a fee of EUR 75 shall be payable to the EHF. Evidence of payment shall be enclosed with the late entry

- 2.12.3 Late entries of players are not possible during the playing period of each individual phase of the competition. The following deadlines apply for the late entry of a player for the respective phase:
- | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| Qualification tournaments: | Wednesday, 06 September 2017 |
| Group Matches: | Tuesday, 03 October 2017 |
| Main Round: | Tuesday, 23 January 2018 |
| Quarterfinals: | Tuesday, 03 April 2018 |
| WOMEN'S EHF FINAL4: | Tuesday, 08 May 2018 |
- 2.12.4 After 03 October 2017 (deadline for the late entry for the Group Matches), a late entry of a player is not possible, in the case of the player affected participated in a match during the running competition with another club participating in the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League excluding the qualification rounds.
- 2.12.5 If a player changes the club after 31 January 2018 - national or international transfer - she shall be able to get eligibility to play for the new club in the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League via a late entry only if she has not played in any official club match (national or international) for another club between 31 January 2018 and the date on which she changed the club. Points 2.12.1 to 2.12.4 (chapter II) of these Regulations is to be observed.
- 2.12.6 Regarding late registration of team officials, regardless the reason (i.e. employment contract termination, illness, etc.) should a club not having a team officials registered (with the delegation list within the given deadline), a late registration shall immediately be communicated to the EHF Office (official late entry form for team officials).
- 2.12.7 Non-registration of team officials
Not providing the team officials on time will result in sanctions.

2.13 Participation in the match

Each team is allowed to use a maximum of 16 players for a WOMEN'S EHF Champions League match. At the technical meeting, both teams shall enter all players they intend to use (not more than 16) and officials (not more than 4), in the match report. All 16 listed players are eligible to participate in the match. A change of a registered player or a later registration of a player is not allowed.

A player is not allowed to be listed on the match report as a player and also as an official.

The club confirms the correctly listed players for its team on the match report with the signature of the official on the match report prior to the match.

- 2.13.1 Qualification tournaments:
Players for the semi-final matches are to be announced at the Technical Meeting one day prior of the match day.
Players for the 3/4 place matches and final matches (2nd match day) are to be announced on the day of the match at 10:00 hrs. at the latest. A later entry of an additional player or a later change of an announced player is not permitted.

2.14 Suspended players

The use of a player who has been suspended and/or is not eligible to play will result in the match being scored as lost with the same result, but in any case with 0:10 goals and 0:2 points.

In cases in which the use of a player being not eligible to participate is regarded as a serious unsportsmanlike behavior, further punishments including a monetary fine up to EUR 15,000 (cf. clause B.6 of list of penalties) and a suspension of the club until the end of the running season may be awarded.

2.15 EHF coaches licensing

2.15.1 Registration

- 2.15.1.1 The clubs participating in the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League shall communicate to the EHF Office the EHF Coaches Licensing Application Sheet (using the official EHF form), via the respective National Federation. The National Federation shall confirm that the coach(es) comply with the requirements of relevant categories of the EHF Rinck Convention (see chapter I, point 1/EHF Coaches Licensing Implementation Manual and RINCK Convention Manual), sign and stamp the sheet and send it back to the EHF Office by:

Qualification tournaments:	15 August 2017
Group Matches	1 September 2017

- 2.15.1.2 The EHF Coaches Licensing Application Sheet shall be completed with all the required details and information.
- 2.15.1.3 The clubs can fill in the EHF Coaches Licensing Application Sheet for as many coaches as they wish (one sheet per coach) but in any case a minimum of one (1) coach must be registered and take effectively part in the matches of the club.

2.15.2 Late registration

- 2.15.2.1 Regardless the reasons (i.e. transfer, employment contract termination, illness etc.), should a club not having any of its coaches registered under the EHF Coaches Licensing system entered on a match report, a late registration shall immediately be communicated to the EHF Office in accordance with the proceedings described in point 2.15.1 of the present chapter (without taking into account the deadlines).
- 2.15.2.2 If a coach changes club and responsible National Federation, a new EHF Coaches Licensing Application Sheet shall be communicated to the EHF Office in accordance with the proceedings described in point 2.15.1 of the present chapter (without taking into account the deadlines).
- 2.15.2.3 A late registration may be communicated to the EHF at any time of the season.
- 2.15.3 Non registration
- Not providing the filled in documents on time will result in sanctions.

3 Players' clothing

- Each team shall have two sets of playing clothing in different colours (one dark colour and one light colour). These shall be in line with the EHF's current advertising on Clothing Regulations. A photo of both sets of playing clothing (front and back side) has to be sent to the EHF office together with the players' lists.
- Both sets shall have players' shirts with short sleeves.
- Each player has the obligation to have his name on the back of the shirt above or under the number. The minimum dimension is of 10 cm height, the type of writing has to be Latin letters, in order to make the names clearly visible for the spectators in the playing hall as well as for TV matters.
- The players must wear numbers that are at least 20 cm high on the back of the shirt and at least 10 cm on the upper part of the front of the shirt. The numbers used must be from 1 to 99. The colour of the numbers must contrast clearly with the colours of the shirts.
- A player must wear the same number in the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League matches of the entire season. This number is not allowed to be used by any other player.
- Should playing clothing of the guest team get lost, the home club shall offer reserve uniforms.
- Advertising on players' match and training clothes is allowed in WOMEN'S EHF Champions League matches in accordance with the Advertising on Clothing Regulations.
- Each club has the obligation to inform all other clubs of the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League by 01 August 2017 of any restrictions or bans regarding advertising on players' playing clothing in the home country of that particular club.

3.1 Change of players' kits / official clothing

If the referees believe that two teams' playing clothing may cause confusion, the visiting team shall change its playing clothing at request of the EHF officials (delegate, referees) the team officials A-D must change the colour of his/her clothing. The colour of the team officials must be announced at the Technical Meeting.

4 Scoring of matches and ranking

4.1 General

4.1.1 All matches of the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League shall be played in 2 x 30 minutes with a half-time break of 15 minutes.

4.1.2 The matches shall be scored as follows:

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

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

4.2 Qualification tournaments

If a semifinal match or the final (place 1/2) ends in a draw, there will be a five minutes break followed by one extra time of 2 x 5 minutes, there will be a one minute half-time break at the half time for the changeover of teams. If the placement match (place 3/4) ends in a draw, there shall be no extra time, the match will be decided directly by penalty throws. In the semifinals and/or final (place 1/2), if there is no winner after the extra time, the match will be decided by penalty throws.

4.3 Group Matches and Main Round

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

4.3.1.1 During the matches of the group:

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

4.3.1.2 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;

4.3.1.3 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 Group Matches (Main Round only)
- g) greater number of points in Group Matches (Main Round only)

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

4.3.1.4 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.

4.4 Quarterfinals

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

4.5 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.

III. The venue

1 General

Eligibility to enter the competition is conditional upon the availability of sports facilities conforming to the Rules of the Game. Responsibility in this regard rests with the respective Member Federation.

Matches of the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League can only be carried out in venues that have been approved by the EHF.

2 Requirements

2.1 Availability of the playing hall

It is the responsibility of the participating clubs to make a reservation of the playing hall for all playing periods indicated by the EHF. This includes all 6 dates of the group Matches and the Main Round as long as the final playing schedule is not fixed.

2.2 Hall availability for floor installation, EABS setup & branding

In order to install the official flooring system, the EABS and branding of the arena according to the given guidelines, the playing hall must be available at least 24 hours prior to the respective match. Exceptions to this duty are subject for approval by the EHF. Additional costs arising due to a delay in the availability of the hall have to be covered by the home club.

2.3 Availability for training of the guest club

- 2.3.1 The home club shall provide the visiting team the opportunity to hold a training session of at least one hour at a reasonable time on the match day in the playing hall. In addition, the home club shall provide the visiting team the opportunity to hold a training session of at least one hour on the day before the match, again preferably in the playing hall.
- 2.3.2 If the playing hall should not be available for this purpose on the day before the playing day, the home club shall offer another playing hall within a distance of not more than 25km/45 min from the playing hall of the match. These training facilities shall be offered free of charge.
- 2.3.3 Training facilities for a training session on the day before the match shall be requested by the visiting team not later than 10 days before the day of the match. In the case a team does not request this training session within the time period stipulated, training on the day prior to the match can be granted only on mutual consent.

2.4 Availability of playing court

60 minutes prior to the start of the match the playing area shall be made available to the two teams for warm-up and play practice (except the qualification tournaments).

2.5 Equipment

The playing halls are subject to approval by the EHF. Each participating team has to fulfill the following min. requirements in relation to the appearance of the playing hall.

- 2.5.1 Playing hall outdoor surroundings
 - Parking area (incl vip parking)
 - Parking area (TV: oB van, sng, 4 additional trucks)
- 2.5.2 Playing hall
 - Hall capacity: min. 2000 spectators
 - Grand stands on both long sides
 - Playing court (size: 40m x 20m)
 - Base area (minimum size: 44m x 24m)

- Chairs (for exactly 16 persons per team)
- Wooden static board system of 1 m height and 80m length (for long and short side barrier)
- Separate locker rooms for clubs: minimum of 30 m² equipped with showers, benches, lockers and a massage table; availability of water in closed bottles (minimum 1 litre / person)
- One locker room for referees (at least 15 m² equipped with shower, chairs, and water in closed bottles – minimum 1 litre/person)
- Electronic scoreboard (min. 2 electronic scoreboards)
- Timekeeper's table: size approx. 3 x 0,70m (number of persons: 4)
- The timekeeper's table shall not exceed a maximum length of 4 m and shall be positioned at least 0,5m away from the substitution lines. It should be placed on a level 30 to 40cm above the playing court, to ensure clear visibility.
- Internet connection and power access at the timekeepers table
- Space for the following people shall be arranged at the timekeeper's: EHF delegate, timekeeper, scorekeeper and the announcer. The scorekeeper, the timekeeper and the announcer shall be provided by the home club.
- In case a second EHF delegate is nominated, the hall announcer shall be seated behind the table.
- Timekeepers' equipment: electronic timekeeping machine and reserve clock
- In all WOMEN'S EHF Champions League matches, two electric clocks shall be available that is easy to read from the timekeeper's desk and can be operated by the timekeeper; it shall run from 0 to 30 minutes. If in full working order, this device shall be authorised for official timekeeping.
- A reserve clock (with a diameter of 25cm) displaying seconds and minutes shall be available.
- Catch nets (20 x 7 m in black) behind the goals and behind the advertising boards have to cover the entire outer goal line (fixed to the advertising boards minimum 3m to the left and right of the goals; the photographers' positions have to be taken into account).
- Min. one reserve goal
- Heating (minimum temperature 18°)
- Central air Conditioning
- Lighting system appropriate for TV broadcasts (minimum 1.000, optimum 1.200-1.500 lux)
- Sound system, area for equipment
- Press seats on tribune
- Press conference room
- Mixed zone / Flash zone
- Photographer working area behind the goal
- TV camera platforms/positions (Host broadcaster decides the best position; spectators have to be informed by the club management about limited view related to camera positions in time/before season starts!)
- Internet connection at the OB truck
- Technical requirements for internet connection (digital match reporting on the timekeeper's table)
- Commentary position(s) 4 (max. 8) pax.
- VIP tribune: minimum seating requirements: 25 VIP seats for EHF sponsors and dedicated seats for 1-2 EHF representatives; the VIP tribune must be clearly identifiable (sign posting in local and English language) and easy to access;
- VIP room for at least 50 people
- 1 room for the official EHF Delegate, EHF Representatives and Marketing supervisor: minimum 15m²; high speed internet access and easy access to printer, fax and telephone
- Area for medical staff (close to the playing court)
- Barrier free access for disabled people
- Emergency exits
- Arena access (secure access for players, team officials, EHF officials, etc.)
- Public toilets
- medical service (first aid and stretcher)

3 Venue inspections and auditing

The basic venue requirements set-up by the EHF shall be adhered to. The EHF has the right to inspect the playing hall of a participating club in order to make sure that these minimum requirements in terms of technical, organisational and marketing matters are fulfilled by the home club. The combined effort of the EHF and the home clubs in ensuring high quality standards is indispensable to meet the expectations of spectators in the playing hall, spectators on TV and sponsor partners. A first check before the season as well as a further check during the event ensures the smooth running of the operations in each area of the organisation. A reporting system guarantees a steady improvement for forthcoming seasons.

3.1 Duties of the home club

The home club has to be represented by the club management. Moreover, the presence of local persons in charge for the individual topics (playing hall, press/TV and marketing) within the complete duration of the inspection has to be secured by the club. In case of no fluent English knowledge a translator has to be present.

Furthermore, the club is responsible for organising local transport and (eventually) accommodation for the inspecting EHF official.

In the 1st site-inspection the cost for travel expenses as well as the daily allowance of the inspection is borne by the EHF, the cost for local transport and board and lodging (if necessary) of the EHF official has to be borne by the home club.

In case of a 2nd inspection (audit) all cost are to be borne by the home club.

The final decision if a playing hall/venue will be confirmed rests with the EHF.

4 WOMEN'S EHF Champions League floor

4.1 General

The Qualification tournaments of the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League shall be played on floors with handball lines only. Starting with the Group Matches, each club participating in the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League has to play its home matches on the official WOMEN'S EHF Champions League floor produced by Gerflor (colours: blue-lagoon and black).

A floor responsible of the club has to be nominated and contact details (name, phone number and email address) of the floor responsible have to be communicated to the EHF/EHFM.

The Floor Installation Manual is provided to the clubs with all relevant floor related information.

4.2 Rent or purchase model

EHFM offers two options: the rent and the purchase model. In both cases the official flooring system shall only be rented or purchased from EHFM. Exceptions are subject to approval by the EHF.

4.2.1 The rent model

EHFM provides the official floor to the home club for a rental fee charged for each match played on the floor. The floor stays in EHF/EHFM property. The exact rental fee is communicated upon request. The costs for installation, lining and storage tapes (material only) as well as the shipment are covered by the rental fee. Material order and shipment are organized by EHFM in good time prior to the event. Cleaning, removal and storage are within the club's responsibility.

4.2.2 The purchase model

EHFM gives the home club the opportunity to either buy a new or a used floor. Availability of used floors is limited. The buying price of a floor depends on shipment costs and the condition of the floor. Exact prices are communicated by EHFM upon request. Payment conditions are worked out by EHFM in close cooperation with the home club. The club may choose from different options regarding shipment and installation offered by the EHFM. Once the floor is club property it is the home club's responsibility to organize appropriate material in time (recommendations are given in the Floor Installation Manual). EHFM does not take on material orders, but will of course support the home club with relevant information.

4.3 Production and transport

The official WOMEN'S EHF Champions League floor is produced by the EHF floor partner Gerflor and shipped to the home club in good time prior to the respective match of the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League. In case the home club is located outside of the European Union, it is the club's responsibility to prepare all documents needed for custom clearance together with EHFM. After having received the official EHF Champions League floor, the club is obliged to fax or e-mail all existing custom documents to EHFM.

4.4 Floor installation

Each installation should be carried out by at least 6 people from the home club. Detailed technical instructions are provided in the official EHF Floor Installation Manual. On the occasion of the 1st installation, technical assistance may be provided by a Gerflor technician sent by EHFM. The first installation is generally done with double-sided tape. EHFM advises the home club not to use single-sided tape for the installation, especially if the floor is installed for more than one match. EHFM does not take the responsibility for the stability of the floor. In case the area that surrounds the floor is coloured in a way, that has a negative impact on the appearance on TV, the home club is obliged to cover this surrounding in a more decent colour (preferably carpet with anthracite colour).

4.5 Floor maintenance

The home club agrees to keep the floor clean and in good condition (valid for rent and purchase model). In case damages occur, the home club has to record the defective areas and communicate this information to EHFM as soon as possible. Maintenance costs have to be covered by the home club.

4.6 Storage

As long as the floor is in EHFM property, the home club is responsible to store the official floor carefully following the instruction given by the floor supplier and the club is also liable for all damages caused during that time. Floor stickers have to be removed and the floor has to be cleaned before storage. If the home club rents the floor and drops out of the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League, a possible storage facility close to the playing hall has to be communicated to EHFM. The final decision of the storage facility will be taken by EHFM after having analysed each case individually.

IV. Organisation of the event

1 Match dates/times

Within the given period the playing day as well as the throw-off time is coordinated by EHF/EHFM in contact with the TV-partners and clubs. The information about playing day, throw-off time, venue etc. will be provided to all parties (guest teams, EHF Officials etc.) by the EHF. The final decision power lies within the EHF/EHFM.

2 Tickets and accreditations

2.1 Introduction

The issuance of tickets and the implementation of an accreditation system are within the competence of the clubs. An accreditation system for team members, press/media/TV representatives, the EHF sponsor partners, court personnel and EHF officials shall be introduced. Only people with the respective authorisation are allowed to access certain areas of the venue. Access controls shall prohibit an uncontrolled movement of unauthorised people. Special access control shall be provided for the playing court. Only EHF officials, the team members, the club's officials, the ceremony/event staff, the official photographer, the medical and security staff as well as a specific number of camera men/technical TV support, press representatives and other personnel having the approval of the EHF are allowed to be present next to the playing court during the match. The accreditations with access to the playing court have to be implemented in the official WOMEN'S EHF Champions League design (as provided in the Online Design Guide). The design for tickets is recommended in the online Design Guide, but is not mandatory.

2.2 Accreditations and invitations for the guest club

Clubs shall make available to the visiting clubs 10% of the admission tickets (a minimum of 200 tickets) against payment of the customary local price. At least 10 of those tickets must be VIP-tickets, however, the guest team must name the recipients of the VIP tickets no later than at the Technical Meeting. The complete number of tickets have to be ordered by the visiting club in writing no later than 10 days before the match. If no order for tickets is received by that date, the tickets may be sold by the home club without any restrictions.

The exact seating of the guest club's ticketholders (VIP and others) must be fixed at the Technical Meeting.

2.3 Responsible contact person for fans

Parallel to the ordering of the tickets, the guest team must provide the home team with the name of the responsible contact person for the travelling fans (full name and mobile number). This person must travel together with the fans.

2.4 Accreditations and invitations for VIPs, EHF, etc.

2.4.1 For each Group Match, Main Round match and quarter final match, an allocation of max. 50 admission tickets (thereof max. 25 VIP tickets) shall be made available to the EHF on request (not later than 10 days prior to the respective match), free of charge. All 25 VIP tickets shall be of the highest ticket and service standards available and shall be located in the same area of the arena or areas of equal standard. No difference in service or ticket standards shall be made between the VIP guests of a club and EHF VIP guests. Prizes of VIP tickets must be communicated to EHFM at the beginning of the season.

2.4.2 In addition, the EHF shall have the right, on request, to buy 10% of all admission tickets at the customary local price. The request shall be made within a reasonable period of time after the respective draw (not later than 10 days before the respective match).

- 2.4.3 Accreditation and VIP tickets requested by EHF/EHFM have to be prepared and sent by the home club according to the information provided by EHF/EHFM.
- 2.4.4 The EHF and/or its marketing partners shall have the right to organise events, banquets, sponsor and hospitality receptions, etc. At the venue in connection with WOMEN'S EHF Champions League matches. Any rooms and resources required for this purpose shall be made available by the organiser/home club against payment of any additional costs that may occur. Some parking spaces right next to the playing hall should be available for these partners/sponsors.
- 2.4.5 The EHF and/or its marketing partners shall have the right to integrate guests into VIP events, other events / receptions (including food service) organised by the local organiser/home club on the occasion of WOMEN'S EHF Champions League matches, etc. and/or to expand the scope of such events against payment of the additional costs occurred.
- 2.4.6 The EHF and/or its marketing partners shall have the right to organise incentive and hospitality trips along with onsite services in connection with WOMEN'S EHF Champions League matches. Available options and requirements have to be discussed with the home club.
- 2.4.7 Any additional events to be held locally shall also be announced to the organiser/home club in good time; any additional costs incurred in that respect shall be borne by the EHF and/or its partners.

2.5 Accreditations and invitations for media representatives

The home club has to invite local and international media to the event. This shall be done in cooperation with the EHF/EHFM Media and Communications Department. Accreditations for TV and radio can only be granted by EHF/EHFM. For other media representatives the club has the right to grant the accreditations. The home club has to provide all accepted media representatives with the necessary accreditations, which give them access to the media working room, the press conference room, the mixed zone and the press seats on the tribune.

Unless otherwise requested by the EHF, the media representatives accompanying the guest club must apply for an accreditation three days prior to the match at the latest in order to be provided with the necessary accreditation. Moreover, they should receive the necessary support in reserving hotel rooms and assistance with visa applications should it be necessary. Should the home club wish to reject an application for media accreditation, the EHF must be consulted beforehand, the final decision is in the responsibility of the EHF.

If possible, a number of parking areas shall be reserved for media representatives. On request and in cooperation with the EHF office accommodation or a shuttle service shall be organised. In such a case the costs are borne by the media representatives themselves.

2.6 Accreditations and invitations for TV staff

The home club shall issue the required accreditations for the host broadcaster. The number of accreditations has to be agreed upon with the host broadcaster in good time prior to their arrival. Venue permits for all other TV representatives and ENG crews are subject to approval and have to be confirmed by the EHFM before each game. All TV representatives not from the host broadcaster have to ask for authorization from EHFM.

Starting with the WOMEN'S EHF FINAL4 the EHF is responsible for all media accreditation dealings in close cooperation with the participating clubs.

2.7 Accreditations and invitations for EHF officials and staff

The home club shall grant the EHF as well as its marketing partners (not exceeding 20 persons) free access and movement to all indoor premises and outdoor areas of the competition venue. Upon request all area access accreditations shall be handed out to the EHF upon the arrival.

2.8 Accreditations for scouts of the official EHF/EHFM match data partner

The home club shall grant scouting accreditations exclusively to the scouts of the official match data partner. All other scouts are not allowed to be accredited.

3 Transport

3.1 Duties of the guest club

The guest club is responsible for the organisation and the payment of its trip including all respective extra costs like visa, insurance, etc. to and from the airport that is chosen by the guest club.

The guest club is liable and must bear all costs incurred should the home club have a right for compensation in reference to the compulsory guarantees stated in chapter IV, point 3.2.

The local transport starting and ending at this airport is covered by a bus, which is provided by the home club. Airports of arrival and departure that are unusually far away from the venue of the match are subject for approval by the EHF. The guest club is obliged to inform the home club and the EHF upon its travel arrangement four (4) days prior to the arrival at the latest.

3.2 Duties of the home club (visa, welcome and local transport)

The home club is obligated, upon issuance of an invitation for a required visa for the EHF officials as well as for the guest team, to grant all compulsory guarantees of the respective embassies. Furthermore, the home club is obligated to send, within 48 hours after the receipt of the request, the respective invitation. The home club is obliged to provide a bus of an international standard for a minimum of 40 persons for the local transport of the guest team. The bus must be equipped with a heating resp. an air-condition. The bus must be at the disposal of the guest team starting with the moment of arrival at the respective airport and finishing with the moment of departure at the respective airport, however, for a maximum of 96 hours only.

The bus must be arranged by the home club in a way, that there is a bus driver available for the complete duration of the stay including all usual transports that are connected with the stay of the guest team. A representative of the home club is obliged to be present at the moment of arrival at the respective airport. It is his/her duty to welcome the guest team and to assist the guest team in any difficulties at the airport (customs, luggage, meeting the bus etc.).

In case the guest club travels by bus, the home club is free from the obligation to provide a bus arrangement. No costs are to be refunded as a consequence. In case of unusual difficulties of the guest club during its stay, the home club is expected to provide appropriate assistance within the framework of a sportsmanlike co-operation.

3.3 EHF officials

Appropriate transportation for the EHF officials between the airport, the hotel and the playing hall has to be organised by the home club during the competition's period. The arising costs are to be covered by the home club.

3.4 EHF representatives

Whenever the EHF president or an Executive Committee member representing the EHF attends the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League competition an adequate car with an English speaking driver has to be at his disposal during the duration of the stay. The EHF will inform in good time prior to the event about the attendance of an official EHF representative. The arising costs are to be covered by the home club.

3.5 EHF sponsors and media representatives

Upon EHF request the home club has to organise local transport facilities for EHF sponsors and/ or media partners. The arising costs are to be covered by the EHF.

4 Board and lodging

4.1 Guest club

The guest club is responsible for the organisation and the payment of its stay at the away match. This includes all aspects of accommodation, food as well as additional activities of the guest team.

The guest club is therefore free to define the number of persons in the delegation, the duration of its stay, the level of accommodation and food as well as the complete programme during its stay etc.

Upon a mutual consent between the two clubs, other arrangements regarding board and lodging are possible. The EHF cannot be hold responsible for any dispute or discussions about financial issues between the clubs resulting from individual agreements between clubs.

4.2 EHF officials

Single rooms in a hotel at international level (minimum 3 stars) have to be booked for the EHF officials nominated by the EHF/EHFM. The officials shall pay any further cost related to personal matters themselves (phone calls from hotel, mini bar, pay TV, etc.):

Breakfast, lunch and dinner have to be provided in the hotel restaurant or a restaurant close to the hotel. The cost for boarding and lodging of all EHF representatives is borne by the home club.

The EHF officials have to be accommodated in a separate hotel independent from the home team, guest club and the fans of the guest club.

4.3 EHF representatives

A single room in a 4-star hotel has to be booked for the EHF president or an EHF representative. Depending on the individual timetable breakfast, lunch and dinner have to be provided in the hotel restaurant or a respective restaurant by the home club. The costs for boarding and lodging are to be covered by the home club.

4.4 EHF sponsor partners and media representatives

On EHF request single rooms in a 4-star hotel have to be booked for the EHF sponsor partner and media representatives.

Depending on the individual timetable breakfast, lunch and dinner have to be provided in the hotel restaurant or any first class restaurant by the home club. The costs for boarding and lodging of the EHF sponsor partners and Media representatives are to be covered by the parties themselves respectively the EHF.

In case a sightseeing tour is requested by the EHF for the EHF sponsor partners, the home club shall support the organisation. The cost is covered by the EHF. The EHF informs the home club about this request 10 days in advance at the latest in order to secure a correct planning and organisation.

5 Organisational staff

5.1 Scorekeeper and timekeeper

It is the responsibility of the home club, that the scorekeeper and timekeeper are present at the playing hall. The timekeeper shall have at his disposal a sufficient number of cards (sized A4) matching the EHF corporate design for noting the numbers of players suspended and the end of their suspension periods. These cards shall be placed visibly on the timekeeper's desk, in vertical position, easy legible for both teams.

The scorekeeper and the timekeeper shall be appointed by the national federation in whose territory the venue of the match is located. The cost of the timekeeper and the scorekeeper shall be paid by the home club.

In the case a digital match report will be implemented the club will be informed in good time prior to the competition/match, all necessary technical equipment has to be provided by the club.

In case of an implementation of a digital match report, the timekeeper must be trained with the EHF digital match report system.

The following persons shall be seated at the timekeeper's desk in the following order:

EHF delegate, timekeeper, scoretaker, official announcer

Alternatively, it is possible that the announcer is seated behind to the timekeepers' desk.

5.2 Technical equipment and personnel

5.2.1 Technical equipment and personnel shall be made available by the local organiser/home club in accordance with the requirements defined by the EHF and/or the EHF's marketing partners/the local TV host broadcaster.

5.2.2 The announcer provided by the local organiser shall be selected with due regard for the need to make all announcements also in the English language. Moreover the instructions of EHF officials must be followed by the announcer. The announcer shall not misuse his position in an unsportsmanlike way.

5.2.3 Security staff, first-aid teams, etc. shall be provided in accordance with the standards set by the EHF Rules on safety and security procedure.

5.2.4 In case of an introduction of a WOMEN'S EHF Champions League statistic the home club must make available the necessary technical support as well as personnel (1-2 people). Some knowledge of the English language is a requirement for these people.

5.3 Guest club responsible

The guest club responsible is informed about the travel schedule of the guest club and organises the pick-up at the airport and the transfer to the hotel. In case of direct arrival by bus, he/ she is in charge of giving the necessary direction to assure a convenient arrival at the hotel. In case of any problems during the journey (flight cancellations, bad weather, etc.) he/ she will be a close contact to the representative of the guest club and the EHF.

Moreover, the guest club responsible is liable for assisting the guest team with the local transport during the stay, if necessary. Furthermore he/she makes sure that the guest team is informed about possible side events (common dinner with the home club, etc.) and assists the delegation accordingly. He/she is the contact person for any change in official events. The guest club responsible accompanies the team representatives to the technical meeting and the team to training sessions, potential sightseeing tours as well as to the match. He/she supervises the locker rooms, makes sure that water is available and remains at the disposal of the guest club during the complete stay. On the day of departure the guest club responsible organises the pick-up at the hotel and the transfer to the airport.

5.4 Responsible for EHF officials

EHF delegates, referees, referee delegates and other official EHF representatives count as EHF officials.

The clubs are informed about the travel schedules of the EHF officials and organise the pick-up at the airport and the transfer to the hotel. In case the EHF coordinates the local transport and accommodation, the clubs will be informed accordingly in due time.

Moreover, he/she is liable for arranging local transport as well as the booking of the hotel rooms. He/she makes sure that the hotel rooms meet the requirements of the EHF and also reserves the restaurant for relevant lunch/dinner.

He/she supervises the availability respectively the equipment of the EHF delegate's and representative's room (internet access, fax and telephone) as well as the meeting room. They accompany the EHF delegate, referees and the referees delegate to the Technical Meeting as well as to the match, where they supervise the locker rooms and makes sure that water is available. Furthermore they are in charge of the timekeeper and the scorekeeper who are positioned on the timekeeper's table assisting the EHF delegate.

In case there is time for additional activities he/she is responsible for the respective organisation. During site inspections he/she remains at the disposal of the EHF officials and coordinates the other responsible persons for the meetings.

On the day of departure he/she organises the pick-up at the hotel and the transfer to the airport.

6 Security

The clubs and National Federations are responsible for the conduct of their players, officials, members (any persons exercising a function on their behalf at a match), and fans.

The clubs and national Federations undertake to observe the provisions of the EHF rules on safety and security procedure before, during and after all matches. All safety and security measures shall be coordinated with the persons in charge of specific services and with the EHF delegate / EHF security delegate.

The local organiser / home club is responsible for maintaining good order and safety and security before, during and after the match. It may be held responsible for incidents of any kind. The relevant provisions of IHF and EHF Regulations shall apply.

7 Video recordings

Upon request to the EHF, using an official form designed for this purpose, any participating team shall be allowed to make video recordings of WOMEN'S EHF Champions League matches for teaching and coaching purposes. Persons making video recordings of a match on video who are unable to produce an EHF permit may be asked to leave the playing hall. Due to space limitations in a playing hall, restrictions may have to be imposed. Such restrictions shall be agreed with the EHF.

All clubs participating in the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League shall be permitted to make video recordings for teaching and training purposes from official home matches (also in national competitions) of other clubs which participate in the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League. Such recordings, however, shall be made by only one person using one camera. Such video recordings shall be shown only privately to the teams concerned for study of tactics and shall not be exploited commercially.

8 Officials tags

Starting with the Qualification Tournaments, each home club has to produce official's tags (official A, official B, official C, official D). These tags have to be provided to the EHF delegate at least 1 hour prior to the start of the match. The officials of both teams, which were announced at the Technical Meeting, have to wear these tags during the complete match.

V. Media

1 Press

1.1 Media room

- 1.1.1 The home clubs shall provide to the EHF and/or the holders of rights the technical support required as well as access for technical staff.
- 1.1.2 A sufficient number of workplaces shall be made available for press and media representatives as well as equipment in accordance with common standards for international sports events (phone and modem outlets, internet connections, etc.).
- 1.1.3 The home club shall create good working conditions for media representatives (TV, radio, printed media) by providing a media room with tables and chairs, internet access – high speed (WLAN or cable connection e.g. ISDN, ADSL – a line for internet access/ISDN or equivalent) shall be provided by the club free of charge, telephone and telefax. Media information such as player lists, match reports, statistics as well as additional team and player information should also be made available. Upon written request by the visiting team, an appropriate number of seats shall be reserved for accredited journalists and an appropriate number of power outlets as well as telephone and telefax lines made available. The journalists accompanying the guest club must apply for official accreditation 3 days prior to the match at the latest and are to be supported with regard to hotel reservations and visa problems in accordance with international practice. An accreditation can only be refused by the home club after a discussion with the EHF, the final decision rests with the EHF.

1.2 Media seats on the tribune

Working places for accredited media representatives and journalists must be available with table and electricity and access to either cabled or WIFI internet (exclusive network only for media). These seats shall be separated from those of spectators.

1.3 Mixed zone

A mixed zone has to be set up whenever feasible resp. upon request of EHF/EHFM. However if a mixed zone is set up the official layout/template provided by EHFM in the Online Design Guide has to be applied.

The location of the mixed zone is essential and must be an integral part of the routing of the players, yet not too far from the media seats in the hall and the pressroom. It should be located directly outside the players' exit; all players must pass through the mixed zone on their way to the changing rooms. The area should be separated into clear zones – walkway for the players and the section for the media representatives. The zone for media representatives should be divided into three specific areas too; one area for the holders of TV rights and a second area for radio, followed by written press. All accredited media representatives should be given a plan of this area, which should include details on the routing when they register upon arrival. The press/TV/statistics responsible should also inform the teams on the location of the mixed zone. Security personnel must be well briefed on the restrictions in this area.

Spectators, court personnel, etc. should not have access to this area. Access shall only be granted to the host broadcaster as well as to the media (radio) and press representatives (journalists).

1.4 Press conference

Beginning with the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League Main Round the home club shall arrange a post match press conference 15 minutes after each WOMEN'S EHF Champions League match. The coach and a player shall participate in the press conference. The press conference shall be equipped with a backdrop.

The EHF reserves the right up to 15 days prior to the playing day in cooperation with the clubs and by considering the clubs' sponsors to install a backdrop presenting the EHF Champions League design

incl. official EHF sponsors and partners. Respective template is available (see chapter VI, point 1.4). Alternative approaches to the organization of the press conference are subject to approval by EHF/EHFM.

2 Quotes for the official website

To ensure extensive coverage of the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League on the official websites, ehfCL.com, the EHF has a network of journalists reporting on the competition. An article about the match is posted to the website following each match day. To assist with the writing of these articles of matches, clubs must provide quotes in English from players and coaches immediately after the match. Starting with the qualification phase, quotes from coaches and players should be sent immediately after the match/post-match press conference to: newseditor@eurohandball.com.

3 Official club website

Each club shall have an official club website, where the club itself, latest news, match previews and reports, players and ticket sales are presented and promoted. The official website shall be regularly updated with news and other relevant content. Clubs must post a written match report on the official website within two hours of the end of each match. The club website shall also include official competition news and announcements from the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League.

Starting with the Group Matches all clubs participating in the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League are obligated to integrate the official web-banners linking to the ehfCL.com and ehfTV.com into the official club website on the starting page as provided in the Online Design Guide. Any links to the home club's and/or players' social media platforms shall also be integrated into the club's website.

Additionally, clubs should integrate the official web-banner of the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League seasonal merchandise linking to the merchandise webshop.

The home club shall dedicate one area on its website to the announcement of TV schedules for upcoming home and away matches in the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League.

4 Social media

All clubs participating in the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League are obliged to run at least one social media channel – the most relevant in the club's region. They ensure that their official social media accounts follow/like the official social media channels of the EHF Champions League e.g. Facebook, Twitter, Instagram etc. In addition promotions, contests or other online activities shall be promoted with mutual effort in order to increase traffic on the respective channel. Such activities will be announced by EHF/EHFM in good time prior to its implementation.

5 Photographers

5.1 Accreditation and bibs

Each photographer shall be accredited and shall have access to dedicated areas around the playing court as well all press facilities. The accreditation must be worn and fully visible at all times.

Photographers shall be able to take photos related to the respective match without obstructing the game, the visibility of perimeter boards or the view of spectators. Beginning with the Group Matches EHFM provides all clubs with dedicated bibs. Each person, who is accredited by the club as a photographer, TV crew member or host broadcaster has to wear the corresponding bib.

The official EHF photographer (if nominated) shall be entitled to wear an "EHF" bib.

Bibs are handed out at the accreditation desk and shall be pulled over head and shoulders. The writing on the bib shall be fully visible at any time.

The following bibs have to be worn by the respective media representatives:

- Host Broadcaster: black
- Other TV Stations: green
- Photographer: blue

The complete set of bibs, shipped to each club at the beginning of the season, needs to be sent back to EHFM at the end of the season. A fee of €10 will be charged for each bib, which is not returned to EHFM.

5.2 Basic guidelines

Photographers should be provided with benches behind the goals. Photographers are permitted to sit in front of the nets to the point where the net is fixed to the advertising/perimeter board system. The advertising/perimeter boards must be visible all times and must not be covered or blocked in any way. This area should be reserved for photographers and separated from the spectator area. Photos can be taken during the line-up. An area must be defined prior to the match. Photographers may stand in this position until the pre-match procedure is finished. After the line-up, photographers must return to the dedicated area behind the goals on each of the short sides of the court. Photographers shall stay in this area and remain seated during play.

Photographers, with the exception of the official EHF photographer and the official photographer of the home club, are not permitted to access the court at any time.

There are strict routing systems for changing sides during play. If a photographer wishes to switch sides during play the routing system has to be observed at any time.

Photographers are not allowed to stay behind the players' benches or on the opposite side of the benches, right behind the perimeter board system.

No strobe light photography is permitted.

Special guidelines apply to the EHF photographers when officially sent to a WOMEN'S EHF Champions League match. In such case details are clarified directly with respective home club.

5.3 Photographs for on- and offline publications

The EHF/EHFM has the right to nominate special EHF photographers starting from the Group Match to the WOMEN'S EHF FINAL4. The home club has to provide the EHF photographers with "all access" accreditations including access to the court, changing rooms and VIP areas.

From the qualification tournaments on, and in case no EHF photographer is nominated, the media/TV/statistics officer shall provide the EHF with the contact to the home club's photographer. The club is obliged to upload to the EHF photo system:

- 2 pre-match photographs (fans, full arena, warm-up, entry ceremony) – sent 10 min before the match start
- 2 action/emotion photographs from the first half (one photograph of each team in action) – sent before the start of the second half
- 10 match photographs – sent not later than 20 min. after the match

These photographs (min. 14 pictures) have to cover the following scenes:

- Match (action/emotion) pictures of both teams with sponsor presence on barrier boards and floor stickers
- Beauty shot of the arena showing the full playing court
- Team pictures before the match (changing room, on-court during warm up, etc.)
- Team Time-Out
- Referees in Action
- Coaches in Action
- Goalkeeper s in Action
- Team Line-up
- Ceremonies (EHF representatives + VIPs)

- Opening, Awarding Ceremony
- Fan emotions
- VIP facilities (to be used in official VIP guide)

The photographs will be used on the official EHF and WOMEN'S EHF Champions League websites, social media channels as well as in official EHF print publications and promotion material. These images shall be forwarded to EHFM free of charge. On request a CD/DVD or access to an ftp-server containing at least 50 pictures must be sent to the EHF one day after the event.

The following quality criteria shall apply to each photo:

- Minimum resolution of at least 8 Mega Pixel per picture
- 300 dpi
- jpg file format
- Files have to be delivered without filters

The pictures will be used on the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League website (photo gallery and articles) as well as for purposes promoting the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League and the sport of handball in general. Photos will not be passed on to third parties for commercial use.

6 TV and radio

The EHF is the right holder of the TV and media rights relating to the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League for the 2017/18 season and therefore exclusively entitled to market such rights to thirds parties.

6.1 General

Joint marketing of the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League in connection with television, radio, internet, film, video rights shall be carried out on the behalf of the clubs/national Federations by the EHF in accordance with the principles set out below.

6.2 TV and radio rights

The EHF transfers the use of the complete media rights for the 2017/18 season to EHFM and entitles it to undertake the respective measures with regards to the usage of these rights.

- 6.2.1 In all matches of the Qualification Tournaments, Group Matches, Main Round and Quarterfinal matches played within the framework of the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League, the exclusive rights relating to television recordings, internet recordings, radio recordings and film recordings (including video recordings) along with all other multimedia rights (including mobile rights and any further media and transmission rights not mentioned herein) shall be marketed by the EHFM. Clubs can find all necessary requirements of the host broadcaster in the EHF Host Broadcaster Manual, which is distributed to each club at the beginning of the season. Clubs interested to use TV footage or any match action on their homepage or on any club related media platforms shall inform EHFM in due time. It is not allowed to use TV footage or reproduce match actions in the playing hall at any time during a match without prior authorization of EHFM. If a club intends to use TV footage or reproduce match actions on the screens of its playing hall, a respective request shall be made in writing to EHFM. EHFM decisions in this respect are final. Match action replays prior to, during and after the respective match are not permitted and shall not be shown on screens in the arena as well as on the TV cube.
- 6.2.2 The EHF/EHFM has the option of using existing television and film footage for the production and broadcasting of a news magazine/programme at a later date (exploitation of secondary and third party rights) free of charge. The option of using additional cameras, microphones, etc. for broadcasting matters during the match (using microphones during time-outs) shall be decided by the EHF.

- 6.2.3 Each club has to guarantee the production of an international TV signal on the basis of the EHF Host Broadcaster Manual for each home match. This signal must be made available to the EHF/EHFM (or for its respective partners) free of charge at the EHFM chosen satellite. The broadcast rights stay with the EHFM in all territories and in respect the respective club.
- 6.2.4 A club is released from this duty by the EHF/EHFM, if a respective agreement with a TV partner is reached by EHFM. Clubs directly qualified for the Group Matches will be released by 01 September 2017 from this duty if a TV agreement is reached by EHFM. Clubs qualified via Qualification tournaments will be released by 22 September 2017 from this duty if a TV agreement is reached by EHFM.
- 6.2.5 Should there be neither a TV agreement between the EHF/EHFM and a club participating in the Group Matches nor between the EHFM and a TV partner by 29 September 2017, EHFM takes over the organization of the production of the TV signal and the respective costs are to be covered by the club.
- 6.2.6 Clubs interested in using TV footage or any match action on their homepage or on any club related media platforms have to inform the EHF Marketing in due time. All media rights belong to the EHF and further usage by the club has to be approved by the EHF/EHFM.

6.3 TV meeting

One hour prior to the start of the match a TV-meeting should be held in the playing hall with the participation of the responsible person from the TV-station, the EHF delegate or a responsible person from the EHF/EHFM and a representative from both teams. The following points are to be discussed during this meeting (see also enclosures -check list for TV-meeting or the TV host broadcaster manual):

- Pre-match run down (entry ceremony with exact timings, special activities if approved EHF/EHFM; to be prepared in written form)
- Detailed event schedule (before the match, half-time programme, after the match, expected number of spectators, side events, etc.)
- Team line-ups (to be prepared in written form by the home club) have to be provided to all media representatives and have to be sent to transmitting TV channels before the match via fax or e-mail
- Information regarding injuries/come backs/new players, etc.
- Information about position of the mixed zone (for interviews before/after the match)
- TV set-up, interest in interviews, TV schedule, implementation of WOMEN'S EHF Champions League intro/outro/graphics (information given by the TV representative)
- Names of EHF officials/ referees (information given by the EHF delegate)
- Test of electronic advertising board (EABS) if used

6.4 On-site support

The local organiser/home club shall provide, to the extent required and requested, the preconditions specified by the EHF, the marketing partner and/or the host broadcaster and requisite resources as well as the personnel and material needed to produce, make available and transmit a standard quality TV signal.

6.5 Accreditation/access of the host broadcaster

The host broadcaster's access to the playing hall at least 12 hours before the match shall be guaranteed. The respective accreditations (see chapter IV, point 2.5 to 2.6) have to be issued to the TV representatives and staff.

6.6 TV and radio accreditation

The home club is not authorised to grant on-site accreditations to any TV or radio broadcaster or other TV crew without the prior approval of EHFM. All such requests by radios and TV crews must be communicated to EHFM prior to the match. The restriction also includes access for news coverage.

6.7 Technical requirements

In the sense of optimizing high quality TV exposure, irrespective of the event's location throughout Europe, the home club shall guarantee a professional collaboration as well as excellent working conditions for the host broadcaster and other TV right holders.

- 6.7.1 A parking area large enough to fit the OB van, the SNG truck and up to 4 additional trucks (production, editing, graphics and technical devices) must be available directly next to the playing hall. The exact number of vehicles will be confirmed depending on the individual preparation of TV productions. This area must be under surveillance and without access to the general public.
- 6.7.2 The host broadcaster's access to the playing hall at least 12 hours before the match shall be guaranteed. The respective accreditations (see chapter IV, point 2.5 and 2.6) have to be issued to the TV representatives and staff.
- 6.7.3 Camera platforms or fixed camera positions for a minimum of 7 cameras shall be available and have to be provided to the host broadcaster. Spectators have to be informed about possible viewing restrictions.
- 6.7.4 The position of the main camera has to be in line with the center line of the playing court in the playing hall. The exact positions of all additional cameras – height, angle and distance to the playing court – will be decided by the host broadcaster in cooperation with EHFM. The final camera positions will be communicated to the clubs 14 days prior to the first home match of the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League. The home club shall make the respective seats/area available to the host broadcaster for the positioning of cameras.
- 6.7.5 Power supply: 2 x 63 Amp, 3 x 32 Amp
- 6.7.6 Cables ways for all technical devices in the playing hall.
- 6.7.7 A working area for all technical devices in the playing hall.

6.8 Multilateral feed production requirements

The host broadcaster produces WOMEN'S EHF Champions League matches. Dedicated people within the home club are therefore required to cooperate with the production crew. The recording may start with the teams' arrival at the arena to the settling down in the changing rooms. Short recordings in the changing rooms may be done prior to the match. EHFM in cooperation with the host broadcaster will schedule interviews with players and coaches for domestic and international TV stations. Players and coaches shall be available for such interviews until 45 minutes prior to and after the final whistle of the match.

VI. Branding

1 General information

A unique WOMEN'S EHF Champions League branding throughout Europe is one of the main requirements to successfully promote and develop the product. The correct usage of the official WOMEN'S EHF Champions League Corporate Identity is mandatory.

The official WOMEN'S EHF Champions League layout must not be changed or redesigned in any way. The home club must strictly comply with the given layouts and templates. Starting with the qualification tournaments, any layouts, showing the official Corporate Identity have to be sent to EHFM prior to production. EHFM will approve the layout or make comments for revision. This also includes any digital content shown on screens and/or EABS.

1.1 Timekeepers' table banner

One table banner is designed by EHFM, produced by the home club. The respective table banner has to be affixed to the timekeeper's desk. Layouts are provided by EHFM, within the Online Design Guide. Layouts for special measurements have to be requested from EHFM.

1.2 Second row branding

WOMEN'S EHF Champions League branding may be positioned in the 2nd row areas, on the tribunes, in the substitution areas, etc.. The exact positions/areas will be defined by the EHF/EHFM depending on competitions stage and the local venue. Clubs shall therefore remove or cover any non-authorized advertising (e.g. club and/or arena partners), banners or other signage (e.g. letters, slogans, commercials) present in the playing hall with neutral branding or solid dark coloured material (e.g. black molton) if requested. The clubs are therefore obliged to follow the instructions given by the EHF delegate and/or the EHFM marketing supervisor if nominated.

1.3 Official badge on players' shirts

The EHF will provide all clubs participating in the Group Matches of the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League with the layout of the official badges (11 x 7,4 cm) in digital form and for download in the Online Design Guide. The print of this badge is an obligation. The exact position is defined as indicated in the image below. The badge has to be printed on the left arm only. The indicated space around the badge has to be free from any advertisement or logo.

Each club has to send a layout of the print as well as photos of a printed sample to EHFM prior to production and in good time prior to the first home and/or away game.



1.4 Press conference

Two panels/back drops are to be positioned on the left and right hand of the table. One table banner has to be put on the front side of the table. Layouts and basic guidelines will be provided by EHFM in the online design guide. Special layouts may be requested from EHFM at any time. The respective setup is a recommendation. The use of the official table banner with EHF Champions League design is mandatory.

1.5 Mixed zone/flash zone

A mixed zone has to be set up whenever feasible resp. upon request of EHF/EHFM. However if a mixed zone is set up the official layout/template provided by EHFM in the Online Design Guide has to be applied.

The mixed zone is easy to access for accredited media representatives and is located at the exit of the playing court and/or in the area next to the dressing rooms.

After the end of the match, TV and radio right holders as well as non right holders (non right holders without any recording equipment) are permitted to conduct interview in the designated areas of the mixed zone. For each home match, the home club shall position this backdrop in the designated mixed zone for interviews and photographs.

1.6 Press information/official information sheets

All information handed out to the local press (line-ups, player information, etc.) as well as information sheets (Technical Meeting, TV Meeting, etc.) have to be branded with the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League letterhead which is available for download in the Online Design Guide.

1.7 Accreditations

The accreditations for the official sectors (playing court, media, etc.) have to be designed in accordance with the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League Corporate Identity. Layouts will be provided by EHFM in the Online Design Guide.

1.8 Tickets

Normal tickets for spectators are recommended to be in WOMEN'S EHF Champions League design if the used printing method makes it possible. However, this is not obligatory. Layouts will be provided by EHFM in the Online Design Guide.

The wording "WOMEN'S EHF Champions League match" shall be implemented on the ticket. In case club sponsor logos are implemented on the ticket, it is an obligation to add the official WOMEN'S EHF Champions League logo as well.

1.9 Official programme

The design of the official programme has to follow the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League CI. The WOMEN'S EHF Champions League advertisement has to be positioned on the foreseen area in the inner of the programme. Layouts will be provided by EHFM in the Online Design Guide.

Advertisement which infringes the exclusivity rights of EHFM sponsors and TV partners is subject to written approval by EHFM.

Layouts have to be sent to EHFM for approval prior to production.

1.10 Flags

The EHF flag (4 x 2 m) and the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League flag (4 x 2 m) have to be positioned in the playing hall. EHF/EHFM recommend to adapt the size of other flags in use to the official EHF resp. WOMEN'S EHF Champions League flag.

1.1.1 Promotional material

EHFM provides a general template for posters and flyers, which shall be customized by each home club. The use of the given template is mandatory. Templates and detailed instructions are provided in the Online Design Guide. Any other design is subject to approval by EHFM.

The use of inflatable and flying objects is allowed on condition that it will not show any club/area sponsor logos or club/arena sponsor claims on the object. Exceptions are subject to written approval by EHFM. The presence of inflatable and flying objects is not allowed within the international feed/TV signal. The use of inflatable and flying objects are subject for approval by EHF/EHFM. EHFM may provide inflatables for selected matches, which shall be positioned according to the instructions given prior to the match.

2 The official ball

Select as the “official ball supplier of the WOMEN’S EHF Champions League” will provide the official ball for all matches of the WOMEN’S EHF Champions League. Starting with the Qualification tournaments EHF/EHFM provides each participating team with 10 balls. Eight additional balls are provided to the host of the tournament for use in the respective matches. Starting with the Group Matches, participating clubs are obliged to use the official ball in all matches as well as during the warm up of the WOMEN’S EHF Champions League. The EHF/EHFM will make available 30 balls to each club participating in the Group Matches of the WOMEN’S EHF Champions League for training purposes. In addition; EHF/EHFM provides each club with 2 match balls per home game which must be made available without prior use on the occasion of each home game accordingly.

No signs or other marks shall be written or affixed on the official training and match balls provided to the clubs. It is not permitted modify the corporate identity of the official match ball. Any use of balls other than the official match balls within the frame of the WOMEN’S EHF Champions League, including (without limitation) the half time break as well as pre- and post match activities in the playing hall, infringes the exclusivity rights granted to the official ball supplier and is therefore not permitted, unless expressly agreed otherwise by EHFM.

3 The official anthem

3.1 EHF Champions League anthem

The EHF will provide each team participating in the Group Matches of the WOMEN’S EHF Champions League with a CD or audio file including the official Champions League anthem. The official EHF Champions League anthem is to be used according to the official entry ceremony procedure/rundown (see chapter X, point 5.1.8).

3.2 EHF Champions League song

The EHF/EHFM reserves the right to introduce a specific EHF Champions League song to the competition. In such case EHF/EHFM will provide each team participating in the Group Matches of the WOMEN’S EHF Champions League with a CD or audio file including the official Champions League song. The official EHF Champions League song is to be used according to the official entry ceremony procedure/rundown (see chapter X, point 5.1.8).

VII. Marketing rights & duties

The EHF is the right holder of the advertising rights relating to the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League and therefore exclusively entitled to assign such advertising rights to third parties.

The EHF transfers the use of the TV and advertising rights for the 2017/18 season to EHF Marketing and entitles it to undertake the respective measures with regards to the usage of these rights.

In case EHF/EHFM does not make use of its rights, such rights will be returned to the respective home club at the latest two months prior to the start of the Group Matches.

1 Qualification tournaments to Quarterfinals

1.1 General aspects

With the beginning of the qualification tournaments the number of floor advertisements shall be limited to 11 floor stickers (including the center circle) on playing court and playing court surrounding area. Additionally, a maximum number of 2 floor stickers of an official WOMEN'S EHF Champions League floor provider may be positioned next to the goals outside the playing court.

1.2 Board and floor advertisement dimensions

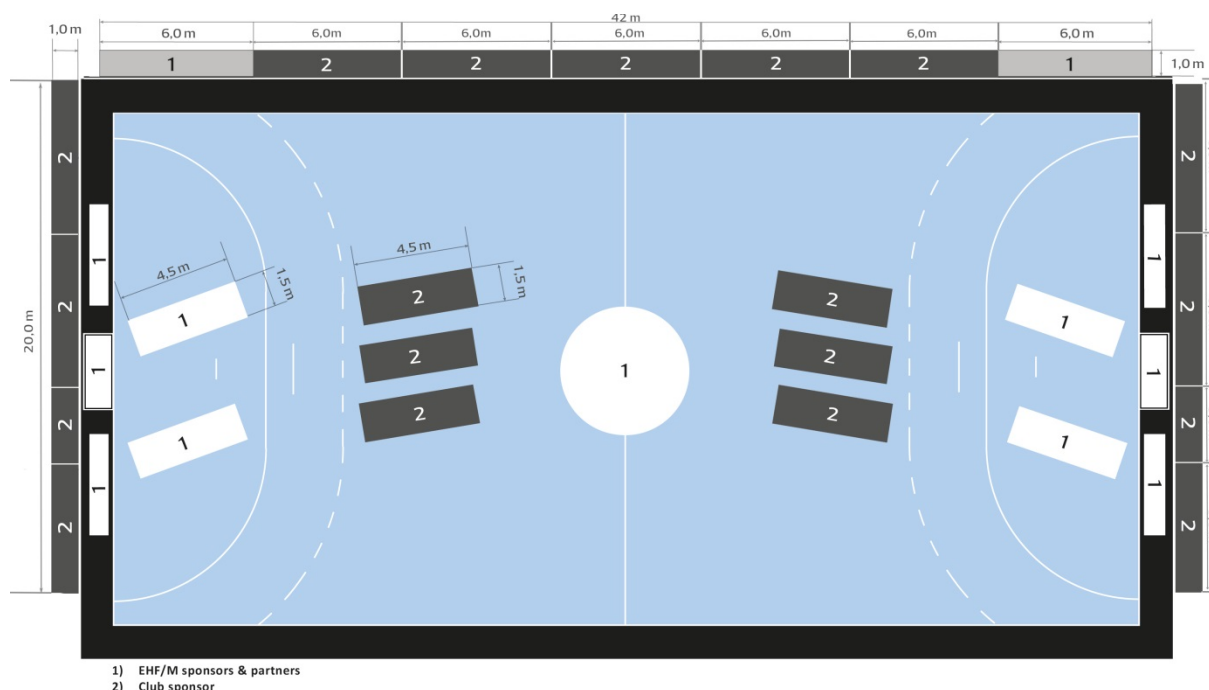
Dimensions according to graphic point chapter VII, point 1.5)

1.3 Distribution of rights

- 1.3.1 The following advertising rights from the Qualification Tournaments to the Quarterfinals are to be marketed directly by each home club: entire board advertising (except chapter VII, point 1.3.2) as well as 6 floor advertisements on the playing court. The advertisements are to be positioned on the height of the 9 m line and have to have the dimensions 4,5 m x 1, 5m (see chart – positions number 2)
- 1.3.2 The EHF will market the right to advertise on two 6 m x 1 m barrier boards on each corner of the long side barrier, within the range covered by the main TV cameras or alternatively 15 min. LED/LCD time (see chart – positions number 1)
- 1.3.3 Furthermore the EHF has the right to exclusively use the goal areas and the center circle, no club sponsor advertisement may be positioned in the said areas. The number of advertisements allocated in the goal areas will be of maximum two on each side, the dimensions are 4,5 m x 1,5 m. The center circle will have a diameter of 4,5 m. (see chart – positions number 1)
- 1.3.4 The EHF has the right to promote, on behalf of the clubs, marketing of additional board and floor advertising for all Qualification Tournaments, Group Matches, Main Round matches and Quarterfinal matches played within the framework of the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League. In case of an agreement with a title sponsor for the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League, EHFM will inform all participating clubs about additional board and floor advertising positions, which should be reserved for EHF/EHFM, in good time prior to the respective matches.
- 1.3.5 No additional advertisement including the playing court (apart from the previously defined floor stickers and the advertisement on the barrier boards), the surrounding area and the spectator areas, as well as VIP and press conference rooms, should be placed within the range of the TV camera.
- 1.3.6 The local organiser / home club shall take care for the proper fixing of the means of advertising (barrier board and floor advertisement, etc.). Specification will be fixed, as far as necessary.
Furthermore the entire advertising and branding material of EHF/EHFM sponsors is delivered to the home club in due time prior to the match. The home club is obliged to confirm in writing the receipt of the advertising material to EHFM Implementation Department.

1.4 Setup with static barrier boards

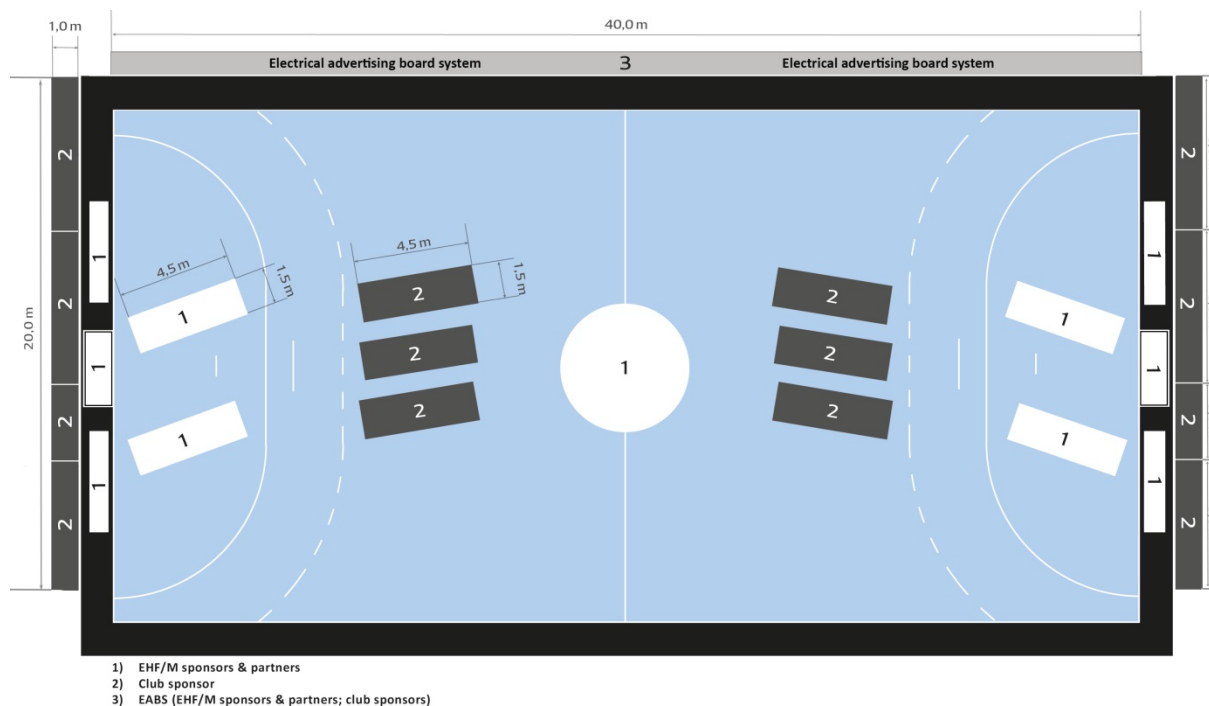
It is the duty of the club to provide the EHFM with a static wooden board system with the dimensions 42 m x 1 m on the long side of the playing court and 20 m x 1 m on both short sides of the playing court. A replacement of the static wooden board system respectively the usage of LED, LCD or rotating systems, is subject for approval by the EHF.



1.5 Setup with electronic advertising board system (EABS)

A home club may choose to set up and run an EABS at its own cost. In such case EHF/EHFM has to be informed in good time prior to the resp. match and the EABS has to meet certain given min. requirements as defined in the EABS manual. The tolerance level with regards to quality standards, lengths and height will be evaluated by EHFM on a case by case basis.

An EABS may be set up on the long side and/or the short sides of the playing court with a dimension of 40 m, resp. 20 m length and 0,9 m height. The home club may choose to have an EABS on the long side only and combine it with a static board system on the short sides. A combination of electronic and static boards on one side is not permitted. In any case the long side (40 m) and both short sides (20 m each) of the court have to be surrounded by a board system. Gaps or empty areas are not permitted (with exception of the corners of the playing court).



- 1.5.1 In case of usage of LED, LCD or rotating system the following alternatives in terms of advertising space have to be granted to EHF/EHFM sponsors. Decision which version will be used, lies within the EHF/EHFM:

Version 1: new position for the two 6 x 1 m boards is in each corner of the short side barrier board system

Version 2: the 30 seconds long LCD/LED animation has to be on-air 15 minutes during the broadcast of the match (not in the halftime break or before/after the match)

- 1.5.2 Production of animation and playlists

The playlist for each match will be generated by the home club. Animation for EHF sponsors and partners will be provided by EHF/EHFM based on the technical requirements provided by the home club.

2 WOMEN'S EHF FINAL4

All advertising rights relating to the WOMEN'S EHF FINAL4 are reserved to the EHF, respectively to EHF sponsors and partners.

Branding and marketing activities including advertising during the WOMEN'S EHF FINAL4 is exclusively subject to the provisions of the separate WOMEN'S EHF FINAL4 Regulations.

3 Placing of advertisement

In connection with the TV agreement reached between the EHF and the TV host broadcasters it was agreed that the following standard guidelines should be considered at matches of the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League.

- The quality of advertisements used must not spoil the quality of TV coverage and TV production. Implemented advertisement which spoils the quality of TV coverage and TV production can be ordered to be removed or covered.
- The size of the boards and the placing of the advertisements should follow the EHF guidelines and also should allow a full visibility of the event from all angles on the TV screen.
- Advertisements which damage the quality of TV coverage and TV production can be ordered to be removed or covered.
- It goes with the responsibility of the home club to make sure that the advertisements used are in conformity with the given guidelines.

- Advertisement, which is 3-dimensional, luminescent or fluorescent is subject for approval by the EHF.
- The first row of advertising on the long side, opposite the main TV camera, should have a height of 100 cm above normal floor level.
- The first row of advertising on the goal lines (short sides) should have a height of 100 cm above normal floor level.
- In case of EABS all animations should have a duration of 30 seconds each and should be shown on the full length of the system. Specific guidelines for the creation of animations apply. In case of LED or LCD advertisements the animations should not disturb the flow of the match.

4 Securing of advertising

The advertisements placed by the EHF respectively their marketing partners must not be covered by spectators or materials and the clear visibility on the TV screen must not be impeded by any obstacle. The responsibility is with the home club.

5 Branch exclusivity

In respect of the advertising rights managed within the framework of these Regulations, the EHF has the right to branch exclusivity for their partners put on board resp. floor advertising areas within the complete range of the TV cameras. The respective sponsors shall be announced by the EHF to the clubs concerned in writing until 15 August 2017. Any advertising at the competition venue that violates industry exclusivity shall be removed if requested by the EHF. Industry exclusivity does not apply to the players' clothing.

6 Other advertising forms

6.1 Referees'/officials' advertising

Advertising on the clothing of referees and EHF officials shall be reserved to the EHF. Any industry-related exclusivity shall be excluded.

6.2 Advertisement on player's kits

6.2.1 Qualification Tournaments

In conformity with chapter II, point 3 of this regulation and notwithstanding the EHF Advertising on Clothing Regulations, in this season, the rights relating to sleeve advertising shall belong to the respective clubs.

6.2.2 Group Matches - Quarterfinals

Notwithstanding the EHF Advertising on Clothing Regulations, in this season, the rights relating to sleeve advertising only for the right sleeve, shall belong to the respective clubs in all Group Matches, Main Round matches and quarterfinal matches.

6.3 Event staff

The EHF has the exclusive right to market the clothing of the event staff (moppers, flag carriers, awarding hostesses, escorts kids). In case of a sponsorship the respective sponsor/s is/are to be announced by EHFM to the clubs concerning in writing until 15 August 2017 at the latest.

VIII. VIP & hospitality

VIP and hospitality programmes are vital in order to attract local authorities, politicians, executives, sponsors and sponsors' clients. VIP facilities, including a dedicated VIP room, shall be prepared and made available by each home club. VIP facilities shall be located in the playing hall of the respective WOMEN'S EHF Champions League match, shall be easy to access from the tribune and clearly indicated by the signposting system in English language. The VIP room shall be opened at least 45 minutes before the match, during halftime break and 30 minutes after the match and has to be equipped with a buffet section, chairs and/or standing tables providing sufficient room for the number of VIP tickets sold for the respective match. All VIP equipment has to be of good standard and high quality. The buffet sections as well as the tables have to be covered with white table clothes. Table tags with sponsor branding for EHF sponsors have to be positioned in the VIP room if requested.

Information regarding hospitality facilities shall be communicated to EHFM at least two weeks prior to the Group Matches Round 1. This includes photos of arranged VIP facilities such as VIP room, VIP parking, VIP entrance, etc.

1 VIP catering

High quality catering and service, which meets international standards, has to be provided by the home club. A variety of hot and cold drinks as well as a three course hot and cold buffet has to be offered to VIP guests. All costs arising through the VIP catering have to be covered by the home club.

2 Special VIP invitations

In conformity with local possibilities the EHF/EHFM shall have the right to integrate honorary guests into VIP events, other events / receptions (including food service) organised by the home club on the occasion of WOMEN'S EHF Champions League matches, etc. and/or to expand the scope of such events against payment of the additional costs incurred.

3 Time schedule – requirements

Any additional events (on-site promotions/sponsor stands) to be held locally shall also be announced to the organiser/home club in good time; on request, the home club shall place six separate spots of 20 m² in or near the playing hall at the disposal of the EHF. Broadband internet connections for the sponsor's stands shall be available. The cost shall be borne by the EHF and/or its partners.

IX. Technical services

1 Statistics / live match ticker

The EHF implements official match statistics in the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League matches. The project is carried out in cooperation with the official EHF/EHFM match data partner "Sportradar" and participating clubs. The club has to provide two working stations with power supply and internet access for the use of the statistic application.

The home club must make available the necessary technical support as well as personell (2 scouts). The knowledge of English language is mandatory for the scouts. The cost for the required software will be borne by the EHF/EHFM resp. EHF/EHFM partner, hardware and personnel have to be taken care of by the home club.

2 Goal line technology

The EHF reserves the right to implement goal line technology in matches of the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League starting from the Qualification Tournaments. Any decision in connection with the possible use of goal line technology during the matches is in the responsibility of the referees and has the same status as any other decision taken by the referees on the court.

In case the EHF makes use of this right, the clubs must be informed beforehand in good time prior to the match and additional information is to be provided at the latest at the technical meeting.

3 Goal light technology

The EHF reserves the right to implement goal light technology in matches of the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League starting from the Qualification Tournaments.

In case the EHF makes use of this right, the clubs must be informed beforehand in good time prior to the match and additional information is to be provided at the latest at the Technical Meeting.

4 Instant replay technology

The EHF reserves the right to install an instant replay technology in matches of the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League starting from the Qualification Tournaments. Any decision in connection with the possible use of instant replay technology during the matches is in the responsibility of the referees and has the same status as any other decision taken by the referees on the court

5 Digital match report

The EHF has the right to implement a digital match report operated by the Secretary at the timekeepers' table in the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League matches. The respective software will be provided by the EHF without any costs for the club. Starting with the implementation of the digital match report, the home club has to provide a sufficient internet connection at the timekeepers' table.

6 Photos/film/video

The EHF shall have the right to use photos and graphical material of players and officials as well as club names, emblems and team uniforms within the framework of the competition for non-commercial purposes. On request, the clubs/local organisers shall provide such material and any information required free of charge (see chapter V).

At the point of registration, it is the responsibility of each club to exempt the EHF, in the case of legal action from the player, in regards to the player's image rights.

7 Film footage rights

The EHF has the option of using existing television and film footage for the production and broadcasting of a news magazine/programme at a later date (exploitation of secondary rights) free of charge.

X. Procedures and protocol

1 Officials ceremonies

The official ceremonies are an important symbol for every sports event. The WOMEN'S EHF Champions League competition has to be able to be identified due to their official ceremonies.

Any additional official activities (moment of silence, best player award, etc.) are subject for approval by the EHF.

2 Final inspection of the playing hall

A responsible person for the playing hall of the home club, the EHF delegate and the EHF Marketing Supervisor (if nominated) has to inspect all relevant parts of the playing hall.

The final inspection of the playing hall has to take place on the playing day at 09:00 hrs. In case, the match is played before 13:00 hrs., the final inspection of the playing hall shall take place on the evening before prior or after the Technical Meeting

3 Technical meeting

The technical meeting has to be carried out in a meeting room at the playing hall. At this Technical Meeting, both teams shall enter all players they intend to use (not more than 16) and officials (not more than 4), in the match report.

Additional matters for the technical meeting:

- The playing eligibility of maximum 16 players of each team is to be checked with the EHF players list.
- There is no longer any check of the passports/player licenses at the technical meeting.
- Check of the EHF Licensed Coach
- Technical matters of the game
- The colour of the team officials must be announced
- Security concept of the complete event (security inside and outside the playing hall, separation of the opposing fan sectors, medical emergency resources, etc.)
- Press conference (time, place, participants) / mixed zone
- Pre-match and post-match procedure (official entry ceremony, protocol, players' presentation etc.)
- Side events (banquette, etc.)
- Organisational matters (VIP guests of opponent team, etc.)

3.1.1 Qualification Tournaments:

The technical meeting shall take place on the evening before the match.

3.1.2 Starting with the Group Matches:

Starting with the Group Matches, the technical meeting shall take place at 10:00 hrs. on the day of the match. In case the match is played before 13:00 hrs. The technical meeting shall take place on the evening before the match.

4 Administrative match preparation and post match procedure

After the technical meeting as well as after the match; the home club has to provide the EHF delegate a computer with internet access for the administrative match preparation resp. for entering the match data after the match.

5 Playing eligibility

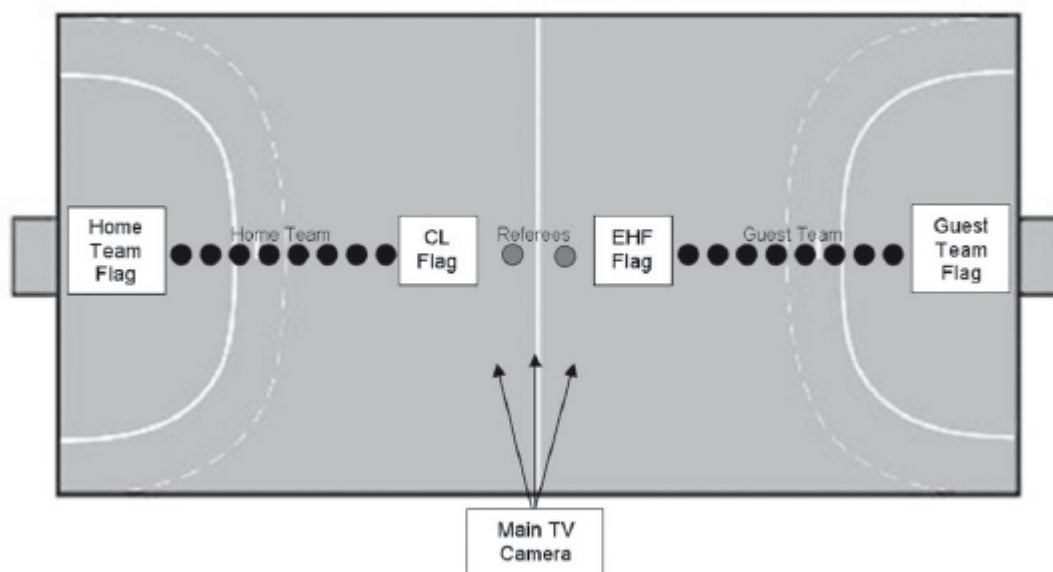
There is no check of the passports/player licenses at the technical meeting. However, the EHF delegate has the right to control the passports/player licenses with photo of a maximum of 3 players not later than 30 minutes prior to the match.

5.1 Pre-match procedure

- 5.1.1 As the entry ceremony gives the first impression of the event for TV spectators and spectators in the playing hall it is important that all players of both teams respect and strictly stick to the timings fixed in the Technical Meeting for the entry ceremony and throw off.
- 5.1.2 Ball display
EHFM will provide a branded ball display. This ball display must be used with a completely clean/unused official match ball
- 5.1.3 During the entry ceremony the players must wear identical clothing: either with the player's clothes (short shirts and trousers) or tracksuits.
- 5.1.4 The players can be accompanied by children during the entry ceremony.
- 5.1.5 Beginning with the Group Matches the following flags should be available in the playing hall at each Champions League match
- Flag of the clubs
 - Flag of the EHF (2 x 4 m) and WOMEN'S EHF Champions League flag (2 x 4 m)
- 5.1.6 Run-down
The official WOMEN'S EHF Champions League anthem shall start exactly 3 minutes before the match. EHFM provides each club with a short clip giving detailed guidelines about the procedure. Until then individual team presentations have to be carried out and finished. The referees have to stand in the middle of the playing court, wearing the official referee shirts (no track suits). The EHF flag has to be positioned on the left side of the referees. The WOMEN'S EHF Champions League flag has to be carried on the right side of the referees. Both flags have to be carried by four persons per flag.
- 5.1.7 Both teams have to line up in one line with the referees facing the main TV camera. The home team has to line up on the left side and the guest team on the right side (facing the judges table). This part of the official ceremony shall be accompanied by the official WOMEN'S EHF Champions League anthem and the fair play text. After this part the players approach the middle line behind each other for the hand shake. The referees should be directing players to make the handshakes in the appropriate way. The club flags shall leave the court in the same way in which they entered during the march in. At the same time the EHF and WOMEN'S EHF Champions League flags prepare to leave the playing court.
- 5.1.8 Detailed run down a detailed run down of the entry ceremony as well as the exact timings have to be set-up by the home club before each match and shall be handed out to all parties involved in the technical meeting (delegate, opponent team, security, announcer, ceremony staff, etc.).
The following basic run down which starts 10 minutes before the throw off can be completed due to local arrangements during the entry ceremony:
end of warm up
- | | |
|-------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 10:00-03:00 | Start of the official entry ceremony
Walk in of EHF referees and flag carriers
Presentation of EHF referees and EHF delegate
Presentation of both teams / players line up |
| 03:00-00:30 | Playing of the official EHF Champions League anthem
Fair play text (in local and English version by announcer) / Handshake |
| 00:30 | Players are ready for throw-off; |
| 00:00 | Throw-off (start-up signal of EHF delegate) |

5.1.9 Chart entry ceremony

The following chart is to be seen as demonstrative sketch of the run down of the official entry ceremony in case of there being only one entrance to the playing court. During the site-inspection the detailed run down adapted to the local situation will be discussed.



5.2 Post match procedure

- 5.2.1 At the end of the match the teams shall line-up and shake hands.
- 5.2.2 Players are available for interviews (TV, written press and radio) in the mixed zone. Interviews shall be made in front of the official WOMEN'S EHF Champions League backdrop.
- 5.2.3 Fifteen minutes after the end of the match, a press conference shall be held in the press room (post match press conference); (see chapter V, point 1.4) the press/TV/statistics responsible is in charge for the attendance of the press conference participants as well as the proper implementation of the press conference.

6 Flags

Beginning with the Group Matches the following flags should be available in the playing hall at each Champions League match: flag of the clubs, flag of the EHF, Champions League flag. The home club is neither obliged to display the national flags of the home team nor the guest team, the referees, the delegates or further EHF officials. However, if the home club would like to display the national flags of the clubs, delegate and referees and representatives in the playing hall, then all these national flags must be displayed.

XI. EHF

1 Referees

Referees and other officials shall be appointed by the EHF. The EHF office shall communicate appointments to the referees via national Federation as well as to the teams concerned and their National Federations.

1.1 Nomination

The referees and/or their national Federation shall acknowledge appointments to the office without delay.

1.2 Non appearance

If one or more referees fail to appear, the EHF delegate shall be informed and any further action shall be coordinated with the EHF delegate. The following steps shall be considered:

- 1.2.1 The EHF delegate has the obligation to immediately contact the EHF (mobile phone +43-6644105243 or +43-664-8318337) with a report of the situation. The EHF shall take a decision in consultation with the EHF delegate.
- 1.2.2 If the situation cannot be resolved by such a move, the EHF shall reschedule the match on the next day with newly appointed referees.

2 Officials

EHF officials are representatives, delegates, referees, referee delegate, office staff and any other persons nominated by the EHF.

2.1 Nomination

The EHF is entitled to appoint EHF officials to WOMEN'S EHF Champions League matches. In final matches and matches of particular significance additional EHF officials may be appointed.

2.2 Responsibilites/duties

- 2.2.1 The EHF delegate shall verify and ensure the orderly conduct of the event before, during and after the match and prevent any occurrences that may lead to a protest or a repetition of the match. The safety and security of players, referees, delegates and spectators shall be ensured. All measures shall be taken that are necessary to maintain safety and security. The provisions of the Rules on Safety and Security Procedure shall be implemented.
- 2.2.2 The EHF delegate shall observe and assess the referees' performance. A delegate is not a chief referee. Responsibility on the playing area rests solely with the referees. Nonetheless, the delegate shall interrupt the match if necessary and bring errors that may lead to a protest to the referees' attention. Errors in this context do not mean decisions made by the referees on the basis of their observation of facts. The delegate shall not take decisions but only make recommendations. When on duty, the delegate shall always carry a copy of EHF and IHF Regulations as well as the Rules of the Game.
- 2.2.3 If a referee delegate is present at the match, it is his duty to guide the referees during the entire stay from their arrival to their departure.
- 2.2.4 The officially appointed delegate shall always sit at the timekeeper's desk to have a good view of the substitution area at any time and to be able to intervene if necessary (see IHF Substitution Regulations).

3 Travel arrangements

The EHF handles the travel arrangements of all EHF officials appointed to Champions League matches. This handling shall not result in higher costs for the participating clubs.

The costs (travel costs and match compensation) of EHF officials (representatives, delegates, referees, office staff, etc.) appointed by the EHF shall be borne equally by the clubs as follows:

3.1 Travel costs

The cost of officials (representatives, delegates, referees, referee guide, office staff, etc.) appointed by the EHF shall be borne equally by the clubs as follows:

- 3.1.1 Travel by train/bus/boat:
Reimbursement of the cost of one first-class ticket each for travel to and from the venue by train/bus/boat,
- 3.1.2 Air travel:
Reimbursement for the cost of one economy class ticket each;
- 3.1.3 Travel by car (allowed up to a maximum distance of 600 km one way):
Reimbursement of the cost of one first-class ticket each for travel to and from the venue by train/bus/boat or economy ticket by plane,
- 3.1.4 Expenses for taxi during the trip:
(e.g. home-airport-home, between airports, etc.) to be reimbursed against receipt;
- 3.1.5 Car travel in the home town (e.g. home-airport-home, etc.):
Reimbursement may be claimed at a rate of € 0,50 per kilometer.
- 3.1.6 Any costs incurred outside or inside the host country in connection with the matches
 - The cost of accommodation, meals and transport during the stay at the venue
 - All additional expenses during the trip (parking, visa, etc.) are to be reimbursed against receipt

3.2 Compensation

- 3.2.1 Qualification Tournaments:
Each referee gets :a daily allowance of € 60 per day and a match fee of € 90 per match.
All other persons appointed by the EHF get a daily allowance of € 60 per day and a match fee of € 45 per match.
- 3.2.2 Group Matches and Main Round:
Each referee gets :a daily allowance of € 60 per day and a match fee of € 285 per match.
All other persons appointed by the EHF get a daily allowance of € 60 per day and a match fee of € 85 per match.
- 3.2.3 Quarterfinals:
Each referee gets :a daily allowance of € 60 per day and a match fee of € 715 per match.
All other persons appointed by the EHF get a daily allowance of € 60 per day and a match fee of € 135 per match.
- 3.2.4 WOMEN'S EHF FINAL4:
Each referee gets :a daily allowance of € 60 per day and a match fee of € 660 per match.
All other persons appointed by the EHF get a daily allowance of € 60 per day and a match fee of € 140 per match.

4 Insurance

4.1 Accident and health insurance

- 4.1.1 Teams entering the competition shall arrange accident, health and other insurance for their players and officials at their own expense for the entire season. Neither the EHF as the administrator nor the respective home clubs can be held liable in this regard.
- 4.1.2 Health and accident insurance for the appointed EHF officials for the duration of their nominations is arranged by the EHF.

4.2 Exclusion of liability

The EHF shall not be liable for any third-party liability claims arising from the execution of single matches or any other events in connection with the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League. The EHF shall be indemnified and hold harmless of and from any and all claims, causes of action, damages and judgments arising from any act or omission in connection with the execution of single matches or any other events in connection with the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League by the club and its representatives concerned.

XII. Finances

1 Disbursement of WOMEN'S EHF Champions League marketing proceeds

1.1 Allocation

After the costs attributable to material, administration and development have been deducted, 80% of the amount remaining from the income generated through the exploitation of the marketing and media rights, as defined in the regulations, will be paid out to participating clubs. The 'guaranteed disbursements' set out in the regulations are included in this share to be paid to clubs.

1.2 Taxes

The payment of the disbursements will be done according to the valid Austrian fiscal regulations and existing double taxation treatments between the countries concerned. The clubs have to provide the necessary fiscal documents (certificates of residence). Taxes which have to be borne by the recipient, due to double taxation treaties or the non-submitting of the requested fiscal documents, will be deducted from the amounts to be paid and transferred to the fiscal authorities. Respective documentation will be sent to the clubs concerned for further use.

1.3 Granted disbursements

The following amounts will be disbursed to participating clubs per team gained on the basis of the fulfillment of the regulations:

Group Matches: (total of three home matches)	€ 10.000,--
Main Round: (total of three home matches)	€ 20.000,--
Quarterfinals: (total of one home match)	€ 25.000,--
WOMEN'S EHF FINAL4:	
basic amount	€ 50.000,--
additional bonus	tbd

1.4 Additional disbursements

Depending on the total proceeds a variable payment is to be paid out to the clubs within the final accounting.

1.5 Dates of payments

The marketing proceeds specified in connection with the joint marketing of the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League shall be disbursed to the participating clubs by 31 July 2018 at the latest.

1.6 Additional advertising arrangements

- 1.6.1 Any income from the advertising on barrier boards and other types of advertising or from sponsors that according to the present WOMEN'S EHF Champions League Regulations is not managed by the EHF/EHFM as well as the income from the ticket sales shall not be subject to the distribution principle and shall belong directly to the respective home club.
- 1.6.2 The proceeds from advertisement areas that are marketed by the EHF/EHFM according to the present regulations shall not be subject to the distribution principle and shall belong to the EHF/EHFM.
Separate regulations and arrangements apply for the WOMEN'S EHF FINAL4.

XIII. Legal matters

The provisions of the EHF Legal Regulations, the EHF List of Penalties and the EHF Catalogue of Administrative Sanctions apply to all legal matters including procedural aspects and disciplinary offences committed by the teams, delegations, individuals and/or EHF Officials of the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League unless stipulated otherwise in the present section.

1 Protests and Disciplinary Procedures

Definition

Under the present section XIII, "protest" shall mean any match-related claim which may have an impact on the result of a WOMEN'S EHF Champions League match.

Exclusion of Protests

In all matches of the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League, there shall be no valid reasons for protests and protests shall be inadmissible if relating to:

- scheduling of and drawing for matches
- nomination of referees and delegates
- referees' decisions on facts in accordance with the Rules of the Game, including those based on EHF delegate's recommendations

1.1 WOMEN'S EHF Champions League Qualification/Tournament Phase.

1.1.1 Protests

The EHF delegate has the right and the obligation to act as legal body of first instance with regard to any protest related to the qualification matches of the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League.

Protests shall be handed over in writing to the responsible EHF delegate within one (1) hour after the end of the relevant match.

Besides, a protest fee of € 1,000 shall be paid by the claimant to the EHF. Such amount shall be paid directly to the EHF delegate or shall be transferred to the EHF bank account at the same time the protest is handed over. A written proof of payment of the appeal fee within the defined deadline shall be deemed sufficient.

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

The reasons for the protest as well as any relevant statement and document shall be submitted by the claimant in writing and in English to the responsible EHF delegate no later than 9.00 am local time the day after the relevant match.

The EHF delegate takes a decision on the protest no later than 12.00 pm (noon) local time the day after the relevant match. Such decision is announced to the relevant parties.

1.1.2 Appeals

Any decision taken by an EHF delegate according to the present section may be appealed to the EHF Court of Appeal, acting as an ad hoc body consisting of at least three (3) members. Unless otherwise provided in the decision of the EHF delegate, an appeal shall be filed with the EHF Office and shall be requested to the EHF delegate in writing and in English no later than 8.00 pm local time the same day the EHF delegate's decision is announced to the relevant parties.

Moreover an appeal fee of € 1,000 shall be paid by the appellant to EHF. Such amount shall be paid directly to the EHF delegate or shall be transferred to the EHF bank account at the same time the appeal is filed/requested. A written proof of payment of the appeal fee within the defined deadline shall be deemed sufficient.

If the appeal is fully granted, the appeal fee is refunded to the appellant; otherwise it is forfeited to the credit of the EHF.

The appeal request will be transferred to the EHF Court of Appeal. The Court of Appeal takes a decision by simple majority following an express procedure no later than 12.00pm (noon) local time the day following the filing of the appeal. The decision is communicated in writing to the relevant parties.

The EHF Court of Appeal Ad Hoc Commission consists of at least three (3) members of the EHF Court of Appeal nominated by the President of the EHF Court of Appeal before the beginning of each WOMEN'S EHF Champions League qualification phase. They may be challenged in accordance with the EHF Legal Regulations.

The EHF delegate having decided on the protest at first instance shall not be part of the Ad Hoc Commission examining the protest in appeal.

1.1.3 Disciplinary/legal proceedings

If deemed appropriate by the EHF to ensure the proper running of the competition and/or the respect of the applicable regulations during the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League Qualification/Tournament phase, violations of the present Regulations and/or any other EHF regulations applicable to the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League Qualification by any team, individual and/or EHF Official are examined, decided upon and sanctioned by the EHF delegate and the EHF Court of Appeal ad hoc commission (in appeal) following an express procedure. For the avoidance of doubt, the present dispositions also apply to direct disqualifications.

The clubs, individuals and/or the EHF Officials against whom the proceedings are initiated must have the possibility to provide a statement of defence.

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

The carrying out of legal/disciplinary proceedings is independent of any reporting obligations.

- 1.1.4 Protests and disciplinary/legal proceedings arising at the end of a qualification/tournament phase
Unless deemed necessary by the EHF to ensure the proper running of a WOMEN'S EHF Champions League qualification/tournament phase, any protest, dispute, disciplinary and/or legal adjudication arising from matches played on the last day of the respective qualification/tournament phase or from the last match of the respective team shall be settled through the regular EHF legal system, i.e. the EHF Court of Handball in first instance, the EHF Court of Appeal in second instance and eventually the EHF Court of Arbitration.

Regarding protests, conditions set forth below in Article 1.2 shall be applicable.

1.2 WOMEN'S EHF Champions League (starting from the Group Matches)

- 1.2.1 Protests
Protests related to matches of the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League shall be settled at first instance by the EHF Court of Handball unless they refer to matters of administrative nature defined in the Catalogue of Administrative Sanctions. In these cases, they shall be settled by the EHF Office.

Protests shall be communicated in writing and in English to the EHF Office with any relevant statement and documents no later than twenty-four (24) hours after the end of the relevant match.

Besides, a protest fee of € 1,000 shall be paid by the claimant to the EHF within the aforementioned deadline. The receipt by the EHF Office of a written proof of payment of the protest fee no later than twenty-four (24) hours after the end of the relevant match shall be deemed sufficient.

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

- 1.2.2 Appeals
The decisions of the EHF Office and of the EHF Court of Handball on protests may be appealed to the EHF Court of Appeal.

Unless otherwise provided in the first instance decision, any appeal shall be received by the EHF Office in writing no later than three (3) days after communication of decision to the relevant parties.

Moreover an appeal of fee of € 1,000 shall be paid by the appellant to the EHF within the aforementioned deadline. The receipt by the EHF Office of a written proof of payment of the appeal fee no later than three (3) days after communication of the decision to the relevant parties shall be deemed sufficient.

If the appeal is fully granted, the appeal fee is refunded to the appellant; otherwise it is forfeited to the credit of the EHF.

- 1.2.3 Eligibility to play
The submission of protests concerning eligibility to play is not subject to any mandatory deadlines and fees.

2 Administrative Restrictions

Exclusion of a team from a current competition is possible only if there is a period of not less than two (2) weeks between the EHF legal body (EHF delegate/EHF Court of Handball/EHF Court of Appeal) ruling and the date of the match in the next playing round. The two-week period is required to ensure the proper conduct of the next round of the competition.

3 EHF Court of Arbitration (ECA)

Any issue decided upon by the EHF Court of Appeal may be referred by any of the relevant parties to the ECA. The Rules of Arbitration for the ECA apply.

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

4 Arising costs

Rules governing the apportionment and payment of costs related to the EHF legal bodies proceedings by and between the parties are stated in Article 48 of the EHF Legal Regulations.

Exclusion of liability

The EHF shall not be liable for any third-party liability claim related to the preparation and execution of any single match or any events of the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League.

XIV. Anti-doping

1 General

Anti-doping controls may take place before, during and after a match of the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League in accordance with the EHF Regulations for Anti-Doping.

In case of an anti-doping control, the anti-doping officer/s shall have easy access to the substitution area.

The EHF Regulations for Anti-Doping and the WADA's Anti-Doping Code including the list of banned substances are an entire part of these WOMEN'S EHF Champions League Regulations.

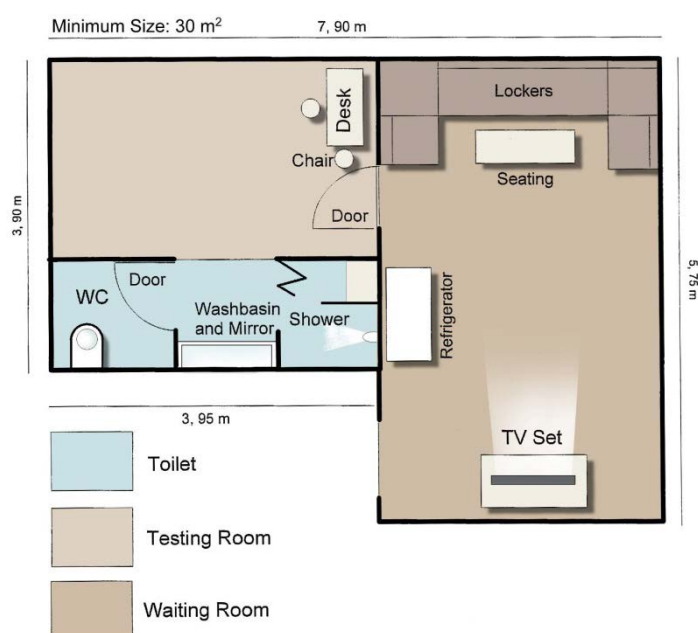
In case of anti-doping rule violations, EHF will initiate disciplinary proceedings against the perpetrators and take the appropriate disciplinary measures in accordance with the EHF Legal Regulations, the EHF List of Penalties and the EHF Regulations for Anti-Doping. This may include the imposition of provisional measures.

Member Federations must immediately inform the EHF of any decision at national level sanctioning a player for an anti-doping offence (including interim measures of protection/temporary injunction). A copy of the decision must be sent to the EHF Office. Decisions of Member Federations concerning anti-doping offence confirmed by the EHF Anti-Doping Unit will be automatically implemented by the EHF at European level.

2 Anti-doping infrastructure

An Anti-Doping infrastructure complying with the WADA Anti-Doping Code and the EHF Regulations for Anti-Doping applicable at the date of the beginning of the WOMEN'S EHF Champions League (incl. Qualification Tournament) shall be available in all EHF Event venues/arenas. Such infrastructure shall include without limitation:

- An anti-doping room with working infrastructure (2 tables, 4 chairs, control equipment, etc.) for the anti-doping control staff
- A refrigerator filled with small water bottles;
- A direct access to a toilet;
- A waiting room;
- Personnel (Chaperons) for assistance, supervision of red card players, etc.



Please find below the link for the EHF Anti-Doping Homepage with all relevant Anti-Doping subjects including EHF Regulations for Anti-Doping, WADA Code, WADA Prohibited List (List is updated on annual basis and coming into effect always on January 1st of the new year) and much more important Anti-Doping issues: <http://www.eurohandball.com/ehf/eadu>

XV. Enclosures

1 Check list – security briefing

- Welcome and introduction by the EHF delegate
- Check of list of participants by the EHF delegate
- Who is who?
- Explanation of preparatory measures by the home club
- Security concerns: the guest club representative provides information about potential sources of danger and special characteristics of the guest club fans and announces the end chosen
- Presentation of the safety and security plan by the club responsible
- Information about access and escape routes, routes for referees and clubs, past problems and incidents, etc. provided by the playing hall responsible
- Information about the number and strategic deployment of police forces inside and outside the playing hall, control of the entrance area and the emergency plan provided by the police officer in charge
- Information about the number, training and deployment of staff in the playing hall, controls in the entrance area and accessibility of steps and stairways provided by the security/tickets responsible
- Information about the number, training and location of staff provided by the
- Security/tickets responsible
- Information about the number, training and location of staff provided by the
- Officer in charge of fire fighters
- Explanation of organisational details of the competition and how to deal with problem situations (including references to past experience) provided by the home club responsible
- Information about the number of spectators expected and provision of a map of the playing hall by the home club responsible
- Who is seated where? (fans of home club and guest club, VIPs, press,
- Additional members of the guest club delegation) – sketch
- Information about traditions and ceremonies in connection with the match
- Additional problem areas
- The EHF delegate highlights potential problem areas (objects being thrown onto the playing court, bengal fire sticks, clashes among spectators, smoke bombs, invasion of the playing court, assaults on referees, etc.) and optimises the safety and security plan in consultation with the officers in charge
- Finally, the operating plan is approved
- The EHF delegate shall announce where they will be positioned during the match
- Communication aids, equipment, pagers, walkie-talkies
- Strategy for “worst case scenario/emergency plan”

2 Check list - venue set-up

Technical set-up / equipment:

- Flooring set-up in general
- Size of base area; size of playing court
- General condition of the surface
- Positioning of the playing court
- Security spaces
- Handball line-markings respectively colour areas in case of floorings without lines
- Check of areas (6m, 9m), tape markings
- Correctness of measurements
- Dimensions of substitution areas
- Check of substitution area, positioning of benches/chairs (to be tied together in order to avoid moving), tape markings
- Assembly of the goal
- Lighting
- Working places for photographers behind the goal
- Overall conditions of infrastructure and overall appearance of the event site flags (EHF, participants, EHF - Officials, clubs), banners, event identification, venue dressing, etc.
- Set-up advertising (overall appearance, correct application of EHF advertising)
- Fixing of the catch nets behind the goals at the advertising boards
- Dressing rooms – size, massage table, routing, signposts on the doors, water;
- Medical room
- Reserve goal
- Table size and position (three persons – EHF delegate-timekeeper-scorekeeper, approximate size 3m x 0,8m)
- Positioning of the speaker – most suitable behind the table (an alternative can be at the timekeepers - table;
- Material for the work at the table (timekeeping apparatus, reserve clock, TV clock – if TV transmission, - team time-out cards, cards for 2 minutes suspension, etc.)
- Routing system throughout the hall – arrow signposts, door signs, etc.
- EHF delegates' office – sufficient technical infrastructure (match report handling and distribution)
- Places for statistics (scouting) – if necessary
- Check flash/mixed zone – infrastructure
- Working places with desk for the press in the arena
- Arena accesses/exits
- Position/number of score boards
- Availability of air-conditioning/heating
- VIP places in the arena
- VIP lounge

1 Media/press/TV:

- Press center including equipment, infrastructure, electric and communication lines;
- Press conference room – set-up and infrastructure, equipment, back drop
- Press seats on the tribune
- Press accreditation - access from outside
- Accreditation for TV and media representatives
- Food and beverages
- Positions of TV cameras
- Host Broadcaster – team OB van, position

2 Check list – technical meeting

- Welcome words by the EHF delegate
- Who is who
- Introduction and explanations by a representative of the home club
- Explanations on relevant points in the Regulations and information on the competition
- General Timetable (side events etc.)
- Procedure before, during and after the match
- Check of the players' clothing
- Check of delegation lists
- Check of EHF Licensed Coach
- Playing hall
- Information on the playing court and the substitution area
- Safety and Security measures concerning clubs and officials
- Hall capacity
- Information on the ticket sales
- Entrance control
- Technical equipment, TV, marketing
- Safety and Security measures concerning spectators and first aid
- Questions by home/guest clubs
- Accompanying programme
- Miscellaneous
- Closing

3 Check list – TV meeting

Time schedule

Briefing 2 hours before the throw-off of the match

Feedback meeting – 30 minutes after the end of the match

Duration

Briefing before the match: max 10 minutes

Feedback meeting: max. 10 minutes

Place

All participants shall be informed about in good time prior the meeting by the home club representative – meeting should take place in the playing hall (meeting room)

Participants

- Marketing supervisor (leads the meeting)
- EHF delegate (if no marketing supervisor nominated leads the meeting)
- Representative of home club
- TV producer / Editorial responsible on site
- Representative of guest club (upon request of the marketing supervisor / EHF delegate)
- ENG Crews

Agenda for Briefing (before the match)

- Presentation of participants

Information given by the club representative / marketing supervisor:

- General schedule of event (throw-off time , expected crowd)
- Detailed run down: 60 min before match until throw-off; half-time programme and schedule after the - match (to be handed to all participants – see point 2, chapter 10 of the VELUX EHF Champions League Regulations)
- Special arrangements / side event
- Injuries / comebacks / new players, etc.
- Up-to-date team line-ups (place/time of delivery or pick up)
- Names of EHF referees

- Name of EHF delegates/representatives
- Name of VIPs
- Attitudes in case of unforeseen incidents (injuries, problems with fans, etc.)
- Interviews to be carried out in the mixed zone

Information given by the TV representative:

- Programme schedule of today's match (live/delayed)
- TV set-up (n° of cameras, general set-up, use of mobile cameras during time-break, etc.)
- Interest in interviews (time/place/player to be defined)
- Use of VELUX EHF Champions League Graphics (intro/ outro/ statistics)

Miscellaneous and synchronisation of watches

Agenda for Feedback meeting (after the match):

- Feedback given by the TV representative
- Feedback given by the club representative
- Feedback given by the EHF representative
- Handing over of the DVD/Video tape
- Closing