

EHF Structure Refereeing

A) EHF Referee Education/Career Ladder (EHF Education Masterplan)

The EHF Referee Education/Career Ladder is organised across four levels, which are

**1) EHF Young Referee Programme/
EHF Referee Candidates*) = Level 1**

*) 2 option entry system for National Federation applicants due to their age and experience

2) EHF Referees = Level 2

3) EHF Perspective Referees = Level 3

4) EHF Top Referees = Level 4

and is based on an **EHF Referee Education Masterplan**. While each level is aligned to refereeing at a particular grade, the teaching methods (such as e-learning, blended learning, courses and mentoring system) are designed to provide a greater level of knowledge applicable to each grade as a referee progresses up the ladder.

B) Curricula/Courses/Teaching Methods/Exam Requirements/Administration:

To be worked out and dealt with by the EHF Competitions Commission Member Refereeing in cooperation with the EHF Mentors "Referee Guidance" and the EHF Office Business Units "Refereeing/Delegates" + "Teaching/Education" under the supervision of the EHF Education Group !

C) Referee Guidance:

To be implemented by the EHF Mentors "Referee Guidance" !

D) Evaluation/Promotion/Relegation

To be decided and carried-out by the EHF Competitions Commission !

EHF Referee Education **(“Career Ladder”)**

Level 1

(2 way entry system for National Federation applicants due to their age and experience)

EHF Young Referee Programme = Option 1

EHF Referee Candidate = Option 2

Definition:

Level 1 provides a framework for the further development of refereeing skills and is based on the necessity to select young, talented or experienced referees from the National Federations for being educated on the European level.

Target Group

Designed for young, talented or experienced referees, who are actively involved in refereeing national competitions in their National Federations.

Entry Age:

18-24 years for National Federation applicants to the EHF Young Referee Programme;

Up to **35 years (max. age)** for other National Federation applicants;

EHF Young Referee Programme (option 1)

Each National Federation can apply for a maximum of 3 EHF Young Referee couples per season at the EHF. No referee can stay inside this programme for more than three years if she/he has no **Badge “Referee for the Future”**. Referees awarded with the “Referee for the Future” Badge are **EHF Referee Candidates** and can stay inside the programme for three more years. This way they do not disappear into the “nothingness” when not promoting to Level 2 immediately and more “Level 1 Referees” can be retained by registering them again and by adopting the EHF mentoring system!

☞ *The Young Referees need to be assisted by EHF Mentors “Referee Guidance”.*

EHF Nominations Young Referees (with and without badge) are confined to Young Referee Programme’s activities only, such as the European Open, ISF Games and Challenge Trophy, etc.

EHF Referee Candidates (option 2)

are either

a) Referees coming out of the EHF Young Referee Programme with the Badge “Referee for the Future” or

b) EHF Referee Candidates directly applied for by the National Federations.

Each National Federation can apply for a maximum of 2 couples per season.

Application/Registration/Administration

- application by the National Federation
- registration by EHF
- administration/annual renewal of status carried-out by the EHF

Promotion/ Qualification

Promotion from Level 1 to Level 2 can only take place on the basis of

- a) a National Federation initiative (application by National Federation for level 2) and
- b) the successful passing of an EHF Referee Candidates' Course with 4-6 referee candidate couples, carried-ou by EHF and led by EHF Mentors "Refere Guidance".

☞ However, each EHF Mentor is responsible for scouting young referee talents for the future and inform the respective EHF administrator.

Level 2

EHF Referees

Definition:

Level 2 provides a framework for the further training and development of skills for the EHF Referees.

Target Group

This level is for referees with the EHF Refere status, who are qualified to referee a match on EHF competition level in a satisfying way and who have a realistic view on their own actual level of competence and the domains of competence that have to be improved.

Maximum Age:

EHF Referees - **max. age 50**

Registration/Administration

- registration inquiry by EHF
- confirmation by the National Federation
- administration/annual renewal of status carried-out by the EHF

EHF Nominations:

Immediately after the formal approval the EHF can nominate the EHF Referees to European competitions such as European Club Competitions matches, National Team competitions etc.

Level 3

EHF Perspective Referees

Definition:

Level 3 provides a framework for up to 20 EHF Referees (Level 2) that are carefully selected by the EHF Education Group due to their personal development perspectives prior to each season and have the chance to promote to Level 4 – EHF Top Referees after a period of careful and intensive EHF mentoring and monitoring.

Target Group

A group of max. 20 EHF Referee couples, being the most capable referees of Level 2 according to the EHF Competitions Commission evaluation before each season.

Registration/Administration

- registration inquiry by EHF
- confirmation by the National Federation
- administration/annual renewal of status carried-out by the EHF

EHF Mentoring (Observation and conclusion by EHF Mentors) ***

For developing these talented referees the EHF will provide them with Mentors, who will support them and will provide them with regular feedback.

☞ The EHF Mentors will remain in regular contact with "their specific" referees by observing them on special occasions..

Each EHF Mentor will be responsible for 1-2 couple(s) for the duration of one season and will observe their performance in several matches defined by the EHF Competitions Commission (e.g. during YAC-ECh qualification tournaments, Men's Qualification etc.). After that the EHF Mentor will make his conclusion about the referees' perspectives and inform the other mentors.

Relegation/Promotion

No referee couple can stay inside Level 3 for more than two years. If the referees do not officiate at their rated level, they may be dropped out of the group during the season. The most talented among all perspective referees will have the chance to promote to level 4 (Top Referees).

*****) This procedure requires both a detailed economic/financial and organizational planning in the responsibility of the EHF Competitions Commission (CC).**

Level 4

EHF Top Referees (max. age 50)

Definition:

This level provides a framework for being awarded with the status „EHF Top Referee“ performing on the highest possible level in EHF Competitions. The decision will be taken by EHF Competitions Commission and is confined to individual competitions only.

Maximum Age:

EHF Top Referees - max. age 50

Registration/Administration

- registration inquiry by EHF
- confirmation by the National Federation
- administration/annual renewal of status carried-out by the EHF after confirmation of the EHF Competitions Commission.

Qualification:

Qualified to officiate in any of the EHF competitions. This grade is obtained by Level 3 Referees who have shown the ability to referee at this standard (e.g.: European Championship level).