

Arbitration Regulations

1 GENERAL PROVISIONS

- 1.1 Supplementary to the provisions of the Statutes and other Regulations, arbitration activities within the EHF shall be governed by these Regulations.
- 1.2 Infringements of Regulations, unsportsmanlike conduct as well as violent behaviour in and around playing halls by players, officials, referees and members of clubs or Federations of EHF Member Federations are subject to penalty.
- 1.3 Member Federations and clubs are accountable for the conduct of their players, officials and any other persons exercising a function at a match on behalf of the Federation or club.
- 1.4 This shall apply both to general arbitration activities and disciplinary measures. Any arbitration measures that do not involve sanctions nor constitute a reaction to infringements of the Statutes or Regulations shall be regarded as acts of general arbitration.
- 1.5 Disciplinary proceedings shall be conducted to penalise infringements of Regulations committed prior to, during or after a game or while travelling to or from a venue or staying at a venue, particularly if such incidents and actions are likely to bring the sport of handball and the EHF into disrepute.
- 1.6.: National Federations, Clubs and all related persons are directly or indirectly accountable for, directly or indirectly, making or offering bribes, kickbacks, or other payments of money or any other undue advantages to anyone, including officials, employees, or representatives of the EHF, any club, company, or public or international organization, or to any other third party, for the purpose of wrongfully obtaining or retaining in any way undue advantages in connection with a match or a match result. EHF officials, contact persons or intermediaries

are accountable in case of accepting and/or non-reporting of such acting or attempts.

2 MATTERS SUBJECT TO ARBITRATION

2.1 Matters of ongoing arbitration activities

Matters stated in IHF and EHF Regulations.

2.2 Matters in connection with corruption and violation of fair competition

The EHF Code of Conduct, EHF Code of Conduct Agreement and the EHF Anti-Corruption and Fair Competition Act shall form an integral part of these Regulations.

2.3 Penal provisions

The List of Penalties given in the Annex shall form an integral part of these Regulations; in addition, the penal provisions contained in the various Regulations shall also apply.

3 PENALTIES/MEASURES

The EHF may impose the following penalties:

- warning;
- temporary suspensions;
- fines; administrative penalties;
- cancellation of matches;
- deduction of some or all points scored in the competitions concerned; forfeiture;
- exclusion from current or future competitions;
- ban on the venue or supervision of matches;

4 ASSESSMENT OF PENALTIES AND EFFECTS OF DECISIONS

- 4.1 The penalties named above may be imposed individually or cumulatively.
- 4.2 Temporary suspensions are pronounced to penalise in particular:
- a) serious unsportsmanlike conduct;
 - b) assault or insult directed against referees, officials, players or spectators;
 - c) use of players not eligible to play or suspended;
 - d) unsportsmanlike conduct of teams, officials or other persons involved in the game.
- 4.3 Suspensions imposed in the course of disciplinary proceedings may be suspended for reasons to be named and for a probation period to be specified, provided that the aim to be achieved by the decision can also be reached in this manner.
- 4.4 International suspensions of players, functionaries, officials and referees shall apply, during the period for which they were pronounced, in respect of participation in competitions both at the club and at the national team level.
- 4.5 Any delay or failure in making reports or payments to the EHF shall be subject to administrative penalties of up to EUR 2,250 unless regulated otherwise in applicable regulations.

RULES OF PROCEDURE

5 LEVELS OF JURISDICTION

- 5.1 Unless otherwise provided in applicable regulations (specifically in the European Championships Regulations and Regulations for European Cup Competitions), primary arbitration in matters regarding the Rules of the Game and in matters concerning bilateral disputes in connection with competitions between Member Federations shall be exercised by the Arbitration Tribunal, in

administrative matters by the EHF Office, and in all other cases by the Executive Committee.

- 5.2 Appeals against administrative decisions shall be submitted to the Arbitration Tribunal.
- 5.3 The Executive Committee may delegate the pronouncement of administrative penalties and doubling of fines in cases of non-payment to the EHF Office.
- 5.4 To hear cases and pass decisions, the Arbitration Tribunal shall be constituted of three persons. It shall be chaired by the President, a Vice-President or, if necessary, a Member. The Chairman and the Members shall be appointed by the President on a case-by-case basis.
- 5.5 Unless proceedings before the EHF bodies of arbitration have been closed earlier, parties to legal disputes shall not have recourse to the EHF Court of Arbitration before a period of six months has passed since the matter was brought before the EHF bodies.

6 ORGANISATION - PROCEDURAL PRINCIPLES

- 6.1 The Arbitration Tribunal shall consist of a President, two Vice-Presidents and five Members elected by the Congress.
- 6.2 The participation in proceedings of administrative staff having no authority to pass decisions is permitted at both levels of authority.
- 6.3 The arbitration bodies and their members are independent and not bound by any instructions.

6.4 A member of an arbitration body shall be deemed prejudiced in any case in which that member's own federation or a club or an official or a player of the member's own federation is involved.

7 INITIATION OF PROCEEDINGS

7.1 Proceedings are initiated by submissions or protests by teams and federations concerned as well as by match or special reports submitted by referees and EHF officials.

7.2 EHF officials and referees have the duty to report relevant incidents and actions to the EHF Office in writing.

7.3 If the EHF is alerted by third parties of circumstances that may be of significance with regard to the initiation of proceedings, such cases shall be reviewed for their relevance and the required action may be taken, if deemed appropriate (this shall also apply to cases arising in non-EHF competitions).

7.4 Issues in connection with handball competitions, including activities related thereto and persons involved therein, that do not directly lead to the institution of legal proceedings under applicable regulations are subject to examination and investigation by the initiator of proceedings. In performing the duties within the EHF legal system, the initiator of proceedings is independent and not bound to any instructions. Any acting within this assignment shall have due regard to the interests of the sport handball in Europe and shall proceed in conformity with regulations and the law.

- 7.5 The initiator of proceedings is entitled to institute legal proceedings before the competent legal bodies within the EHF on the basis of his/her own and/or other parties' observations (including media, digital or electronic recordings) after having conducted a preliminary investigation of the facts of the case. In addition, the initiator of proceedings has the right to appeal against decisions taken by the body of first instance.
- 7.6 Upon a petition by those involved/the parties, the EHF arbitration bodies shall settle disputes between National Federations as well as disputes between a National Federation and its club/player if such action appears indicated.
- 7.7 In cases in which a National Federation / club / player induces, through misrepresentations, another federation / club / player to commit actions being of relevance within the framework of EHF Regulations, a National Federation / club / player shall have the right to submit a petition requesting that the EHF clarify the situation and pass a decision.
- 7.8 The parties shall be notified of the initiation of proceedings in writing.

8 PROCEDURES

- 8.1 The members of the arbitration bodies shall pass their decisions on the basis of documents in hand. If no decision can be taken on the basis of such documents, other pertinent evidence (television footage, video recordings, etc.) shall be used and, in addition, further evidence obtained by the members of the arbitration bodies and/or those involved/the parties requested to provide a written or oral statement of their positions.

- 8.2 Decisions and actions taken by the referees on the playing court are factual decisions and shall be final. The right to make adjustments that may prove necessary as a result of corrections of the referees' report or, in the case of obvious error revealed by means of pertinent evidence such as reports by EHF officials, television footage or video recordings, shall be reserved.
- 8.3 In cases in which an act of violence was committed but not detected which would have resulted in the exclusion of the offending player, pertinent evidence as named above in paragraph 1 may be used as a basis for penalisation by the members of the arbitration bodies at a later date.
- 8.4 In appeal proceedings, the parties as well as the arbitration body shall have the right to request to conduct proceedings orally, or to conduct hearings in writing or orally.

9 DECISIONS

- 9.1 The arbitration bodies shall take decisions by a simple majority of votes.
- 9.2 At all levels of jurisdiction decisions shall be passed in writing, as a matter of principle, unless the parties apply for oral proceedings in accordance with Article 8.4 or such oral proceedings are deemed necessary by the competent arbitration body.
- 9.3 Decisions concerning ordinary business operations may be judgements on the merits of a case or decisions to dismiss the case.
- 9.4 Financial claims / liabilities between parties resulting from final decisions may be settled and enforced by the EHF.
- 9.5 If a party is not found guilty, the proceedings shall be dismissed.

- 9.6 When the decision-making process is conducted in writing, the EHF Office may support the members of the EHF arbitration bodies in the administrative handling of such process.
- 9.7 When proceedings are conducted orally, deliberations may be held and decisions passed in the absence of the persons involved, after the parties have been heard and witnesses questioned, if applicable.
- 9.8 Except in the case of administrative penalties (item 3 (c)), decisions shall include the following points:
- a) the composition of the body passing the decision;
 - b) the subject matter of the proceedings;
 - c) the parties' names;
 - d) a brief statement of the facts;
 - e) the award;
 - f) the order for payment of costs;
 - g) the reasons;
 - h) the signatures of the members of the arbitration bodies, given, if necessary, on their behalf by the person executing the document;
 - i) information of right to appeal.
- 9.9 Decisions shall be served by the EHF Office. Decisions concerning clubs and physical persons shall be served to the respective National Federations but may, in cases in which this is deemed necessary or has been requested, also be served direct to the club or the person concerned.
- 9.10 Decisions may be pronounced orally in the parties' presence. As a matter of principle, decisions shall be pronounced and served by telefax, email or registered letter. A decision shall be deemed delivered as soon as it has been received in the party's area of responsibility or authority.

10 TEMPORARY INJUNCTION

10.1 Temporary injunctions may be issued to preserve and protect the parties' rights to the extent to which this is deemed necessary by the competent arbitration bodies.

10.2 In the case of serious disciplinary offences, the person conducting the proceedings may impose a preliminary temporary suspension of not exceeding two months.

11 COSTS

11.1 All costs of the proceedings, including travel and living expenses of the members of the arbitration bodies and the cost of questioning witnesses, shall be borne fully or in part by the losing party or the party found guilty.

11.2 If, in appeal proceedings, the parties request oral proceedings/a public hearing, the costs of such proceedings shall be borne by the requesting parties unless costs are to be borne by the losing party pursuant to Article 11.1.

12 CLAIMS FOR DAMAGES

Damage sustained as a result of infringements of regulations, including the withdrawal of teams or replays, may be recovered from the offending party by claiming damages. Such claims shall be decided upon in the ordinary procedure.

13 PARTIES

Parties may be all physical persons or legal entities able to demonstrate a prima facie legal or factual interest in a matter.

14 LEGAL REMEDIES/APPEAL

- 14.1 Unless otherwise provided, any written appeal against an administrative decision passed by the EHF Office shall be received by the EHF Office no later than seven days after its service, with a fee of EUR 1.000 being transferred at the same time. The fee shall be paid within the time limit, or else the appeal is not filed in due time and shall be deemed withdrawn. Evidence that payment was made (payment order) shall be submitted. If the fee is not received within the time-limit, the appeal shall be deemed withdrawn. Appeals may be transmitted by fax.
- 14.2 If an appeal is dismissed, the appeal fee shall be forwarded to the EHF. If the appeal is fully granted, the fee shall be refunded.
- 14.3 Provided that these Regulations and the List of Penalties do not provide otherwise, an appeal shall suspend the effects of the underlying decision.
- 14.4 Appeals filed in transfer matters shall not have any suspensive effect.
- 14.5 In the event of disagreement on whether the conditions for an exclusion of suspensive effects are met, the matter shall be decided by the Chairman.
- 14.6 Decisions that may be passed in appeal proceedings include re-affirmation, revocation and remission to the body of first instance or amendment. The appellate body shall not be bound by the parties' petitions.
- 14.7 If the basis on which a decision was made was affected by grave errors including the submission of incorrect or forged documents, a revocation of the decision by which the matter was settled (reopening of the case) may be sought by the parties or initiated by the EHF.

15 EHF COURT OF ARBITRATION (ECA)

15.1 After all internal channels have been exhausted a claim may be filed before the EHF Court of Arbitration regarding the same subject-matter decided by EHF legal bodies. A statement of claim shall be lodged in writing and in duplicate with the ECA Office with the nomination of one (1) arbitrator from the ECA List of Arbitrators within twenty-one (21) days following the written notification of the last decision of the EHF legal bodies together.

15.2 An advance payment amounting to EUR 5.000 shall be paid by the claimant to the EHF Court of Arbitration no later than one (1) week after the filing of the statement of claim. If the aforementioned amount is not received on the EHF Court of Arbitration bank account in the required timeline, the claim shall be deemed withdrawn.

The advance payment of EUR 5.000 is composed of:

- EUR 1.500 arbitration fee
- EUR 3.500 advance payment of the arbitration proceedings costs

15.3 The filing of a claim before the EHF Court of Arbitration does not suspend the implementation of the last decision taken by the EHF legal bodies. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the appropriate EHF body or, alternatively, the ECA may order the filing of the claim to have suspensive effect.

15.4 The proceedings shall be conducted according to the Rules of Arbitration for the ECA.

16 ENFORCEMENT

16.1 The EHF Office shall enforce the decisions passed by the arbitration bodies.

- 16.2 Unless otherwise provided in the award, pecuniary fines and administrative penalties shall be paid within two months after the decision has been served.
- 16.3 Failure to pay a pecuniary fine or administrative penalty within two months after its service shall be penalised, up to a fine or penalty of EUR 750, by doubling of the amount and, in the case of higher penalties, in accordance with 2.6. of the List of Penalties. If payment is still not made within another two months, the rights of the defaulting federation / club / player shall be suspended and it/he/she shall be excluded from competitions at national and European levels until payment is made. The federation to which the defaulting club / player is affiliated shall not have the right to vote at the EHF Congress but may attend it.
- 16.4 The National Federation shall be liable subsidiarily, with the consequences named in Point 3, in respect of pecuniary fines, administrative penalties, the cost of proceedings and claims for damages imposed on or brought against players, functionaries, or clubs.

17 DEFINITIONS/SUPPLEMENTS

- 17.1 The person chairing the Arbitration Tribunal shall be designated as President. When a President, a Vice President or a Member chairs an arbitration body in a specific case, this person shall be designated as Chairman.
- 17.2 EHF Officials are persons acting on behalf of the EHF at official events.

18 DEADLINES

- 18.1 The deadlines specified in the Regulations cannot be extended as a matter of principle unless reasons for an extension of such deadlines are specifically given therein.

18.2 A deadline is deemed to have been met if evidence is produced demonstrating that dispatch (postmark, fax receipt) was made by 24:00 hours on the last day of the period allowed.

18.3 If a party is prevented from meeting a deadline by an event that is beyond its control and/or non-deferrable, the period allowed in case the impediment can be satisfactorily explained shall begin at the time the impediment named has been removed. Satisfaction of these conditions shall be verified by the competent arbitration body.

19 LIMITATION OF ACTIONS

19.1 The prosecution and enforcement of disciplinary matters as well as general business matters shall be subject to a limitation period of two years. Matters relating to compensation for the cost of education shall be exempt from this rule, with the limitation period being reduced to six months.

19.2 The point of time determining the beginning of the period of limitation for the prosecution of an infraction of the Regulations shall be the time when the action was committed; the point of time relevant for limitation of a penalty shall be the time the penalty was pronounced.

19.3 A limitation period of four years shall apply in connection with corruption matters as well as issues in connection with undue influence on a match or a match result as well as severe lacks in organization, which may lead to inappropriate contacts or result in a threat to an EHF official or other persons in charge.

19.4 The period of limitation shall be interrupted by the initiation of proceedings.

20 OTHER

20.1 The EHF Office shall be at the disposal of the arbitration bodies for the performance of administrative and organizational tasks.

20.2 The List of Penalties in the Annex shall form an integral part of the Arbitration Regulations.

21 ENTRY INTO EFFECT

The subject Arbitration Regulations were adopted by the EHF Congress convening on 6/7 April 2000 and last amended at the extraordinary EHF Congress in Rome on 13th October 2007, at the extraordinary EHF Congress in Lillehammer on 26th January 2008 and at the extraordinary EHF Congress in Limassol on 24th October 2009. The amendments entered into force in accordance with the respective resolutions.

Vienna, January 2010/mg

LIST OF PENALTIES

relating to the Arbitration Regulations of the EHF

(pursuant to item. 2.2.)

Guidelines for the imposition of administrative penalties and fines except where otherwise provided for by the applicable Regulations.

1 GENERAL PENALTIES

- 1.1 For administrative or disciplinary offences committed before, during or after a match: EUR 150 to EUR 7,500.
- 1.2 Improper conduct by a team or a player (e.g. leaving the playing court in protest or refusal to leave the playing court, etc.), by officials or coaches: EUR 150 to EUR 7,500.
- 1.3 Abandonment of a match through a fault attributable to a team or club: EUR 3,750 to EUR 15,000 plus compensation for provable expenses, suspension from participation in EHF competitions during the next two seasons as well as exclusion from the next EHF competition.
- 1.4 Failure to maintain discipline on the playing court or inadequate protection of referees, officials or the visiting team: EUR 750 to EUR 15,000. In addition, bans may be imposed on venues.
- 1.5 Fundamental violations of EHF Statutes and Regulations: EUR 150) to EUR 15,000.
- 1.6 Unsporting conduct before, during and/or within a period of one month after an EHF activity: up to € 15,000. In case of recurrence, the amount of the fine may be doubled.
In addition, damages may be claimed for any damage or costs caused by the unsporting conduct.

2 PENALTIES IMPOSED ON NATIONAL FEDERATIONS

- 2.1 Forging of documents by a Federation: up to EUR 7,500. Suspension of up to 3 years optional.
- 2.2 Illegal issuing of playing permits: up to EUR 7,500. Suspension of up to 3 years optional.
- 2.3 Intentional provision of incorrect information about players' personal data in transfer cases: up to EUR 7,500; in recurring cases: up to EUR 22,500. Suspension of up to 2 years optional.
- 2.4 Non-observance of the 30-day period in the case of transfer inquiries; first infringement: up to EUR 750; first recurrence of infringement: up to EUR 2,250; any further recurrences: up to EUR 7,500.
- 2.5 Failure to report completed transfers to the EHF (penalty imposed on receiving federation); first infringement: up to EUR 750; first recurrence of infringement: up to EUR 2,250; any further recurrences: up to EUR 7,500.
- 2.6 Failure to make payments to the EHF by the due dates (of amounts exceeding EUR 3,750); first infringement: up to EUR 750; first recurrence of infringement: up to EUR 2,250; any further recurrences: up to EUR 7,500 plus exclusion from EHF competitions.

3 PENALTIES IMPOSED ON PLAYERS

- 3.1 Intentional provision of incorrect information by a player about himself/herself: EUR 3,750 to EUR 30,000 plus suspension of up to 2 years.
- 3.2 Signing two or more contracts for the same period: EUR 3,750 to EUR 30,000 plus suspension of up to 2 years.

4 PENALTIES IMPOSED ON CLUBS

Intentional provision of incorrect information about players; first infringement: EUR 3,750 plus suspension for up to 2 years; recurring infringement: EUR 7,500 and suspension of up to 3 years.

5 PENALTIES FOR DOPING OFFENCES

Violation of Anti-doping Regulations shall be subject to the following penalties over and above any immediate disciplinary penalties (see Anti-doping Regulations) imposed by the local disciplinary commission of the EHF event concerned:

5.1 Infringement by one player: international and national suspension of a minimum period of two years

5.2 Infringements by two or more players of a team in a match

5.2.1 in a European Championship: beside the individual suspensions (see 5.1), an international suspension for two to three years of the national team concerned as well as its exclusion from the next EHF championship in the same category for which the nation concerned would be qualified. In addition, a fine of between EUR 3,750 and EUR 45,000 payable by the member nation concerned.

5.2.2 in a European Cup Competition: beside the individual suspensions (see 5.1), a suspension of the club team concerned from participation in EHF competitions during the next two to three seasons and exclusion from the next EC competition. In addition, a fine of between EUR 3,750 and EUR 45,000 payable by the club concerned.

6. ANTI-CORRUPTION AND FAIR COMPETITION ACT

The Anti-Corruption and Fair Competition Act includes any of the following violations

- ↪ Corruption including bribe and offering, requesting or receiving any undue advantages:
- ↪ undue influence on a match or a match result,
- ↪ any information which is likely to influence the acting of (legal) entities or persons on a long term basis (pressure, blackmailing, threats, secrets, etc.)
- ↪ the receipt or the acceptance of presents or gifts, except small items of remembrance
- ↪ any violation of the EHF Code of Conduct or the EHF Code of Conduct agreement
- ↪ manipulations in connection with betting or lottery achievements
- ↪ the violation of the obligation to report in case of any observations in connection with corruption and unfair competition;

Any act of corruption including bribe and offering, requesting or receiving any undue advantages are to be regarded as substantial violations of core values of the EHF, its statutes and regulations. Penalties and sanctions shall be imposed accordingly.

5.3 Violations of the principles of honest effort to follow the rules and the spirit of fairness as well as sportsmanlike conduct by federations, clubs, EHF officials and/or related parties may result in a monetary fine up to € 7.500.

5.4 Violations of basic principles of organization, security and protection endangering the fair and uninfluenced carrying out of competitions by all parties involved shall result in a suspension of the federation, club and/or person concerned for up to two years and/or to a monetary fine between € 500 and € 75.000.

5.5 Violations of the anti-corruption and fair competition act including all related regulations as well as comparable actions against basic principles of fairness and sport shall result in a suspension of the club, EHF official and/or person concerned for up to ten years and to a monetary fine between € 2.000 and € 500.000. In addition the national federation concerned may be punished with a monetary fine up to EUR 500.000.

- 5.6 A sporting result being achieved by using undue means, may result in the exclusion/suspension from the respective competition, awarded medals as well as prize money may be recalled and gained titles may be removed.
- 5.7 Violations of correct reporting on any occurrences and observations in connection with corruption and undue influence shall result in a suspension of the entities and persons concerned for up to ten years and to a monetary fine between € 1.000 and € 75.000.

7. PENALTIES FOR NON-PAYMENT

Failure to pay compensation for the cost of education within six weeks after issuance of the International Transfer Certificate and the call for payment shall carry, depending on the circumstances, a fine up to € 7,500, a transfer ban, and/or complete suspension from national and international competitions. In implementing the penalty, the requirements of the current playing season may be taken into account if deemed appropriate.

Responsibility for implementation of sanctions at the national level shall rest with the National Federation concerned. If the National Federation does not ensure appropriate implementation, the outstanding claims shall be debited to the Nation's account.

Guidelines for the suspension of players/officials

The explanatory memorandum issued in respect of the IHF Rules of the Game shows that disqualification on account of serious infringements of the Rules or grossly unsportsmanlike conduct will in principle have no further consequences except in cases in which offences were directed against officials or referees.

Therefore, any of the incidents listed below shall be noted in the EHF match report and stated in a special report, with identification of the person against whom the offence was directed.

Guidelines for suspensions

These guidelines shall serve as a framework. Upward or downward adjustments of the penalties are allowed.

Temporary suspensions shall be an option in any case.

	Number of matches
1. Disqualification on account of unsportsmanlike conduct (offences against EHF officials or referees)	1 - 4
2. Exclusion	1 - 6

An exclusion shall mean suspension from the next match without the need for any further action.

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