

**EHF NEWS 86 – 06.06.2008****2008/2009 EHF Champions League Season**

The EHF is currently busy working on the 2008/2009 season: EHF Champions League, Cup Winners' Cup, EHF Cup, Challenge Cup registrations are coming in, with the final deadline for the nomination of clubs being **16 June (CL)** and **22 June (EC)**.

**Registration Process**

Following the registration process, the technicalities of the competition configurations will be completed. Information with the final competition line-ups will be published on **23 June** by the EHF.

**Wild Cards**

BM Ciudad Real (Spain) and Zvezda Zvenigorod (Russia) took the titles in the Men's and Women's EHF Champions League, the EHF has now decided on the additional starting places for the 2008/09 season.

The EHF Executive Committee has awarded the Spanish club **Portland San Antonio** with this additional starting spot in the EHF Men's Champions League. The club from Pamplona finished 4th in Liga ASOBAL just one point behind Ademar Leon.

The additional starting place in the EHF Women's Champions League goes to the German club **HC Leipzig** as the runner-up of the German league. The league was decided in a play-off and Leipzig lost to 1. FC Nürnberg.

Possible further places in the Men's and Women's Champions League are to be decided by the EHF at a later stage should places become available.

**EHF Champions League Group Phase Draw**

The 2008/2009 Men's and Women's Champions League Group Phase draw will take place during the course of the 2008 Women's 18 European Open and the Partille Cup, the world's largest youth handball tournament.

The official draw event will be carried out on **4 July 2008 at 18:30 hrs** in the Scandinavium Arena of Gothenburg, Sweden. The draw for the qualification phase will take place on 1 July (11:00) in Vienna.

The EHF and EHF Marketing are looking forward to celebrating this start of the 2008/09 EHF Champions League season together with the clubs and media.