

**EHF NEWS 91 – 16.06.2008****2009 Men's World Championship  
Qualification EUROPE  
PLAY-OFF MATCHES – Results**

Besides **GER** as defending champion, **FRA**, **DEN**, **SWE** (directly qualified from the European Championship 2008 in NOR) and **CRO** as organiser, the below mentioned teams – altogether 9 – qualified from Europe for the participation in the Final Tournament of the 2009 Men's World Championship in Croatia (IHF Event) through the play-off matches taking place over the past weekends (1<sup>st</sup> leg 7/8 June 2008, 2<sup>nd</sup> leg 14/15 June 2008):

**SVK, ESP, NOR, RUS, ROU, SRB, POL, HUN/BIH\*, MKD**

\* due to pending disciplinary case

For a summary of all match details, please visit the following link:  
<http://home.eurohandball.com/report.asp?bid=260&rnr=2&pha=1026>.

The 21<sup>st</sup> Men's World Championship will take place in Croatia from 16 January to 1 February 2009. The Final tournament is played with a total number of 24 participating teams (14 from Europe). The IHF announced the draw for the Final Tournament for Saturday, 21 June 2008, in Zagreb, Croatia.

Please find more details regarding European competitions on the EHF homepage [www.eurohandball.com](http://www.eurohandball.com).

**EHF Official Statement**

The return leg of the play-off match of the Qualification Europe for the 2009 Men's World Championship in Croatia between Bosnia Herzegovina and Hungary took place on Saturday 14 June 2008 in front of a capacity crowd at the sports hall "Skenderija" in Sarajevo. Hungary won the first leg 27:25 on 7 June 2008 in Gyöngyös.

The result at halftime in Sarajevo was 12:18 in favour of the guest team. After 49 minutes of play a large number of objects thrown onto the playing field caused the match to be interrupted. An attempt to address the public in order to continue the game failed and the game was abandoned.

The result at the time of the abandonment of the match was 24:27 in favour of Hungary. The case and its consequences are currently being dealt with by the EHF Disciplinary bodies.