



8th Women's European Handball Championship

CHAMPIONSHIP GUIDE

2nd – 14th December 2008 in FYR Macedonia

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FOREWORD



Tor Lian
EHF President

Dear Handball Friends,

The handball year will come to a sensational close; we have a true highlight awaiting us. The 8th edition of Women's European Handball Championship – EHF EURO 2008 – will take place in FYR Macedonia from 2 – 14 December 2008. The capital city, Skopje, and the beautiful destination of Ohrid will be the focus of the handball world for close to two exciting weeks.

Sixteen women's European national teams will be in the country to play for this prestigious title and of course the famous golden plate. All teams have battled hard to get to this stage of the tournament with some old favourites and surprises coming with it. Many of the teams are entering a new cycle of development, which means the best young-and-up and coming female players of the world will be in FYR Macedonia to prove their handball prowess. This will surely be a treat for all spectators!

We are expecting full halls and a great atmosphere, there are deep rooted handball traditions in this sport-crazy country and the spectators are knowledgeable, passionate and excited about this top event taking place on their doorstep.

This is the first time that the EHF will hold such a big event in FYR Macedonia and preparations have been ongoing since the Macedonian Handball Federation was awarded the right to host this competition back in 2006. In Skopje, we will experience a brand new arena and in Ohrid, the extensive renovations that have taken place add to the vibrant atmosphere in this country ensuring the treat we have ahead of us.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all involved in the organisation of this event, principally the Macedonian Handball Federation, the authorities and the many helping hands which are always invaluable.

Enjoy EHF EURO 2008 and all the best to all!

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Tor Lian', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.



Jean Brihault
EHF Chairman for
EURO 2008

A delegation of almost 60 persons has been nominated by the EHF to oversee the 8th Women's European Championship in FYR Macedonia. I am honoured to lead this dedicated team which includes a wide-spectrum of EHF officials, representatives, medical specialists, event management personnel and technical staff. All will be working closely with the EURO 2008 Organising Committee to make this an event of the highest standards.

I would like to thank each and every person and institution, which contributes to this event: the entire Organising Committee, the EHF Delegation, the media representatives covering the competition, and most importantly the team delegations, which will make this an event to remember.

I am proud to be part of it! Good luck to all!

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Brihault', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

WHO TO CONTACT

EUROPEAN HANDBALL FEDERATION

Hoffingergasse 18
1120 Vienna, Austria
Fax +43 1 80151 149
www.eurohandball.com

Monika Flixeder, Euro Events
Tel +43 1 80151 115
E-mail flixeder@eurohandball.com

PLAYING ARENAS / TEAM HOTELS DURING EURO 2008

SKOPJE – PLAYING ARENA

“Boris Trajkovski”
bul.8 Septemvri bb
1000 Skopje
FYR MACEDONIA

Tel + 389 2 3089 600 & 700
Fax + 389 2 3093 380
E-Mail boristrajkovskidoel@t-home.mk

SKOPJE – EHF HOTEL

“Aleksandar Palace”
Blvd. 8 September BB
1000 Skopje
FYR MACEDONIA

Tel + 389 2 3092 392
Fax + 389 2 3092 152
Web www.aleksandarpalace.com.mk
E-Mail info@aleksandarpalace.com.mk

SKOPJE – TEAM HOTEL

Hotel “CONTINENTAL”
bul. Aleksandar Makedonski bb
FYR MACEDONIA

Tel + 389 2 3116 599 / + 389 2 3133 333
Fax + 389 2 3222 221
Web www.contimak.com
E-Mail info@contimak.com

WHO TO CONTACT

PLAYING ARENAS / TEAM HOTELS DURING EURO 2008

OHRID – PLAYING ARENA

Sport Hall SRC “Biljanini izvori”
ul. Turisticka bb
6000 Ohrid
FYR MACEDONIA

Tel + 389 46 231 536
Fax + 389 46 231 535

Email biljaniniizvori@yahoo.com

OHRID – EHF HOTEL

Complex Hotels “Metropol Lake Resort”
Hotel “Metropol”
6000 Ohrid
FYR MACEDONIA

Tel + 389 46 277 660 & +389 46 203 000
Fax + 389 46 277 212
Web www.metropol-ohrid.com
Email metropol@mt.net.mk

OHRID – TEAM HOTEL

Complex Hotels “Metropol Lake Resort” - Group B
Hotel “Bellevue”
6000 Ohrid
FYR MACEDONIA

Tel + 389 46 277 660 & +389 46 203 000
Fax + 389 46 277 212
Web www.metropol-ohrid.com
Email metropol@mt.net.mk

OHRID – TEAM HOTEL

“Inex Drim” – Struga – Group C
Boris Kidric Quay
Ohrid Lake
FYR MACEDONIA

Tel + 389 46 782 611
Fax + 389 46 785 800
Web www.hoteldrim.com
Email hdrim@mt.net.mk

WHO TO CONTACT

EURO 2008 ORGANISING COMMITTEE

MKD OC President + 389 70 390 468 (mobile)
Trifun Kostovski mirjanac@skopje.gov.mk

MKD OC Director + 389 70 389 911
Marjan Nachevski + 389 78 389 911 (mobile)
nachevski@yahoo.com

MKD OC Ass. Director + 389 78 305 805
Olgica Milenkovska + 389 70 305 805 (mobile)
handball@macedoniahandball

MKD OC Chief of press + 389 70 248 928
Goran Antevski + 389 70 235 252 (mobile)
antevski@gmail.com
press@macedoniahandball.com

MKD OC Coordinator + 389 70 225 747 (mobile)
Hristo Boskoski hboskoski@hotmail.com

MKD LOC Ohrid + 389 46 262 492
Aleksandar Petreski protocol@ohrid.gov.mk

MKD LOC Ohrid + 389 78 276 003 (mobile)
Silvana Karbeska silvanakarbeska@
macedoniahandball.com

Kamer Metalari + 389 78 276 004
+ 389 70 591 888 (mobile)
metalarikm@yahoo.com

MKD LOC Skopje + 389 2 3293 000
Mihajlo Mihajlovski mihajlovat@mail.net.mk

Filip Hristov + 389 70 219 931 (mobile)
ficorkm@yahoo.com

Stefanco Korunovski + 389 78 276 009 (mobile)
stefancorfm@yahoo.com

Ohrid Hall Manager + 389 75 440 139 (mobile)
Ivanco Cvetkovski ivocv@hotmail.com

Skopje Hall Manager + 389 72 204 521 (mobile)
Samoil Simev simev_s@yahoo.com

EURO 2008 OFFICE

Macedonian Handball Federation
Bul. Kizman Josifovski Pitu 15
1000 Skopje
FYR Macedonia
Tel + 389 2 2464 444
+ 389 2 2464 000
Fax + 389 2 2401 773
Web www.macedoniahandball.com
Email handball@
macedoniahandball.com

TV HOST BROADCASTERS - MKRTV

Technical coordinator
Darko Stevanoski
Mobile +38970 369 372
+38977 542 485
Email darkoste@t-home.mk

Skopje Venue manager
Valentina Bozinovska
Mobile +38976422386
Email v.bozinovska@t-home.mk

Ohrid Venue manager
Slobodan Angelovski
Mobile +38970305543
Email s.angelovski@t-home.mk

Director Skopje
Zoran Nefovski
Tel +389 70 233 734
Email z.nefovski@t-home.mk

Director Ohrid
Goce Stavrevski
Tel +389 70 652 823
Email g.stavrevski@t-home.mk

TICKET SALES

Sasha Gavrilovik
Tel + 389 2 3080 111
sasha@exploringmacedonia.com

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PRESS INFORMATION

The EHF and the EURO 2008 Organising Committee will do their utmost to ensure that all the needs and requirements of accredited media representatives are met during EURO 2008. The media team is there for you so please do not hesitate to get in touch with the Chiefs of Press and their team or the EHF media officials:

EURO 2008 Press Team (Central Organising Committee)

Goran Antevski – Media Management Mobile: + 389 70 23 52 52
Mobile: + 389 70 248 928
Email: antevski@gmail.com

<i>Press Centre</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Mobile</i>	<i>Email</i>
Skopje	Riste Gjamovski	+ 389 71 289 299	gjamovski@gmail.com
Skopje	Goran Konev	+ 389 71 236 171	konev77@gmail.com
Skopje	Bogoljub Jonoski	+ 389 70 330 881	sportbj@gmail.com
Skopje	Marjan Nikov	+ 389 71 230 722	marjan_nikov@yahoo.co.uk
Skopje	Petr Stojanovski	+ 389 70 235 606	petarstojanovski@gmail.com
Ohrid	Zlatko Krstevski	+ 389 71 386 176	zkrstevski@gmail.com
Ohrid	Goran Sterjov	+ 389 70 363 451	sterjov11@yahoo.com
Ohrid	Dejan Mihajlovski	+ 389 70 338 829	dekohandball@gmail.com
Ohrid	Robert Spasovski	+ 389 70 904 657	

EHF Media Management
Siân Rowland / EHF Office: Tel + 43 1 80151 161 (EHF Office)
Email rowland@eurohandball.com

Günter Pfeistlinger / AIPS (event time)

Mobile phone numbers during event will be published by Email.

Accreditation

Media representatives can collect their accreditation in the preliminary round playing arenas from 1 December 2008. The press centres are located directly in the arenas, where all other documents/information can be collected. Please take a photo ID to collect the accreditation.

www.ehf-euro.com

The EHF and marketing partner, Infront Sports and Media, together with the EURO 2008 Organiser, have already launched the Official Website. This service offers all the latest news from the Championship. It will also have running scores, a highlights service, photos directly from the EURO, team news, statistics, match reports and much more.

CHAMPIONSHIP PRESS CONFERENCE

- PRE: There will be a pre-championship press conference on Monday 1 December at 17:00. This will take place in the Hotel Aleksandar Palace (next to Arena). More information will be provided by e-mail.
- POST: As with tradition, the EHF will hold the EURO 2008 Championship Press Conference on the Final Day of EURO 2008. This will take place on Sunday 14th December at 12:30 in the press conference room of the Skopje Sport Arena and will be followed by the draw for the 2009 Women's World Championship – Play-offs (EUROPE).

CHAMPIONSHIP HISTORY



7th European Championship

2006

7 – 17 December 2006 / Sweden

1. NOR 2. RUS 3. FRA 4. GER 5. HUN 6. SWE 7. CRO 8. POL
9. ESP 10. AUT 11. DEN 12. MKD 13. UKR 14. SRB 15. NED 16. SLO



6th European Championship

2004

9 – 19 December 2004 / Hungary

1. NOR 2. DEN 3. HUN 4. RUS 5. GER 6. UKR 7. ROM 8. ESP
9. SLO 10. AUT 11. FRA 12. SCG 13. CRO 14. SWE 15. CZE 16. BLR



5th European Championship

2002

6 – 15 December 2002 / Denmark

1. DEN 2. NOR 3. FRA 4. RUS 5. HUN 6. YUG 7. ROM 8. CZE
9. AUT 10. SLO 11. GER 12. UKR 13. ESP 14. NED 15. SWE 16. BLR



4th European Championship

2000

8 – 17 December 2000 / Romania

1. HUN 2. UKR 3. RUS 4. ROM 5. FRA 6. NOR
7. YUG 8. MKD 9. GER 10. DEN 11. BLR 12. AUT



3rd European Championship

1998

11 – 20 December 1998 / Netherlands

1. NOR 2. DEN 3. HUN 4. AUT 5. POL 6. GER
7. UKR 8. MKD 9. RUS 10. NED 11. ROM 12. ESP



2nd European Championship

1996

6 – 15 December 1996 / Denmark

1. DEN 2. NOR 3. AUT 4. GER 5. ROM 6. CRO
7. RUS 8. SWE 9. UKR 10. HUN 11. POL 12. LTU



1st European Championship

1994

17 – 25 September 1994 / Germany

1. DEN 2. GER 3. NOR 4. HUN 5. CRO 6. RUS
7. SWE 8. CZE 9. AUT 10. ROM 11. UKR 12. SVK

WHERE NEXT?

To China - 2009 Women's World Championship

28 November to 13 December 2009 - Organiser: IHF - CHN

- The defending World Champion Russia qualified directly for the final tournament in China.
- In addition to Russia, the two best ranked teams at EHF EURO 2008 in FYR Macedonia will qualify directly for the World Championship.
- The remaining places allocated to Europe will be decided through qualification and play-off matches. The qualification tournaments will take place 25 to 30 November 2008 and the play-off matches will commence on the weekend of 6/7 June and end on the following weekend 13/14 June 2009.

To Denmark/Norway - 2010 Women's European Championship

7 to 19 December 2010 - Organiser: EHF – DEN/NOR

As decided at the 2006 EHF Congress in Portugal, Denmark and Norway were awarded the right to organise and host the final tournament of the 9th Women's European Handball Championship. The competition will take place across 5 venues with the final match being played in Herning (Ballerup), Denmark. The qualification for the sixteen teams participating in this tournament is as follows:

- Denmark and Norway directly qualify as organisers.
- The winner of EHF Euro 2008 in Macedonia directly qualifies for the final tournament.
- The remaining 13/14 places will be decided through the qualification that begins in September 2009. The first and second ranked teams in six of the seven groups will qualify, with one team from the seventh qualifying for the final tournament. The new system for the European Championship qualification, which was ratified at the 2006 Congress in Portugal, was introduced in the 2008/2009 season.

The playing periods for the qualification rounds are:

- * Rounds 1 and 2: 23 to 27 September 2009
- * Rounds 3 and 4: 19 to 25 October 2009
- * Rounds 5 and 6: 31 to 4 April 2010
- * Rounds 7 and 8: 26 to 30 May 2010
- * Rounds 9 and 10: 2 to 6 June 2010

EHF EURO 2008 OFFICIALS

REPRESENTATIVES



Tor Lian
President – NOR



Jean Brihault
EXEC – FRA



Jan Tuik
EXEC – NED



Michael Wiederer
Secretary General



Frantisek Taborsky
EXEC – CZE



Laszlo Sinka
EXEC – HUN



Arne Elovsson
EXEC – SWE

KEY
EXEC - Executive Committee
CC - Competitions Commission
MC - Methods Commission
ARB - Arbitration Tribunal
ECA - Court of Arbitration

DELEGATES



Helga Magnusdottir
CC – ISL



Sandor Andorka
CC – HUN



Alenka Cuderman
ARB – SLO



Janka Stasova
ECA – SVK



Viktor Konoplyasty
ARB – UKR



Bjarne Munk Jensen
DEN



Mona Förström
FIN



Carol Domenge
FRA

EHF EURO 2008 OFFICIALS

DELEGATES



Dragan Nachevski
MKD



Vladimir Rancik
SVK

ANTI-DOPING



Hans Holdhaus
IHF MC



Miguel Roca
IHF EXEC

MEDIA



Siân Rowland
EHF Corp. Comm.



Günter Pfeistlinger
A.I.P.S. Handball

EHF OFFICE



Monika Flixeder
Event Coordinator



Nicole Huang
Event Operator



Sasha Martell
Venue Manager



Helmut Hörtsch
Venue Manager



Doru Simion
Competition Manager



Nadine Biehl
Competition Manager



Balazs Nemcsik
Website Editor

EHF EURO 2008 OFFICIALS

REFEREES



Jan Erik Leandersson
FIN



Mikael Lindroos
FIN



Csaba Dobrovits
HUN



Peter Tajok
HUN



Hlynur Leifsson
ISL



Anton Pálsson
ISL



Aco Nikolovski
MKD



Gjoko Kolevski
MKD



Peter Bol
NED



Edward Willem Van Eck
NED



Kim Andersen
NOR



Per Morten Sodahl
NOR

EHF EURO 2008 OFFICIALS

REFEREES



Marek Baranowski
POL



Bogdan Lemanowicz
POL



Branka Maric
SRB



Zorica Masic
SRB



Peter Brunovsky
SVK



Vladimir Canda
SVK



Tetyana Rakytina
UKR



Iryna Tkachuk
UKR

CHAMPIONSHIP REGULATIONS

NOMINATION OF PLAYERS AND OFFICIALS

The maximum number of players on the official delegation list is 16 according to point 4.1.1.1 of the European Championship Regulations, the reduction to 14 shall be done one hour prior to each match by the team official in charge (signee). Please obey the principles concerning final squad and the replacement procedure. Each team official is obliged to use the same "letter" throughout the entire tournament. It is to be regarded as an integrated part of the accreditation and will be attached prior to the first match. No separate letter cards are allowed.

PLAYERS CLOTHING

All delegations are obliged to use at least one set of playing dresses in light and one in dark colour (check at the first Technical Meeting).

Players must wear clearly legible numbers with figures being at least 20 cm high on their backs and at least 10 cm high on their chest.

According to point 5.3.1.1. of the European Championship Regulations, paragraph 2 the players' names shall be displayed in Latin letters on the backs of the jerseys, above the players' numbers, in clearly legible letters of a minimum height of 10 cm respectively in the area being reserved for printing (no shirt advertising is allowed in this area). Please note the area above the player's names is also reserved.

According to point 5.3.2.1. of the European Championship Regulations the dress colours fixed at the Technical Meeting shall be used (the plan of clothing applies - no priority rule for first listed team!).

According to point 3.4.1 of the Regulations on Advertising on Clothing the sleeves of the playing dresses of all players are reserved for the EHF for advertising purposes. The EHF makes use of this right during the EHF EURO 2008 accordingly.

Relating to this, the advertising badges have to be ironed/sewn on the sleeves of the players' dresses. Separate information will follow regarding the logistics of fixing the advertising on the sleeves. In case the respective logo is available in due time your federation will be requested to take care of the appropriate fixing prior to the championship before arrival at the event. An alternative is upon arrival of the teams all fixing (collecting, sewing and returning) will be taken care of by the OC, all coordination will be done by the team guides responsible for the individual teams.

PERSONALITY RIGHTS

EHF EURO 2008 material of various kind – film, picture, print, DVD, etc. – produced during and relating to the EHF EURO 2008 is to be regarded as a part of the official event identity.

The EHF EURO 2008 is an official EHF event. The EHF is entitled to use and to utilise such material for promotional purposes, for distribution via media in various channels as well as for the presentation of the sport. All players in the official squad as well as the nominated team officials agree to this use with their participation as a part of the playing eligibility.

PLAYING SYSTEM

The final round will be played in the format of a tournament with 16 teams consisting of a preliminary round, main round, placement matches, semi-finals and finals.

CHAMPIONSHIP REGULATIONS

Preliminary Round

The preliminary round shall be played in four groups consisting of four teams each, in which all teams compete against each other (round robin system).

The teams ranked 1-3 from each group after the preliminary round qualify for the main round. The teams ranked 4 from each group depart after the preliminary round.

Matches shall be played in 2 x 30 minutes with a half-time break of 10 minutes. There shall be no extra time. The participating teams are obliged to show up exactly in time at the meeting point for the pre-match procedure and on the playing court after the half-time break.

Points are awarded as follows:

win = 2 points

draw = 1 point

match lost = 0 points

Teams are ranked by adding the points gained.

If two or more teams have gained the same number of points from the group matches, the teams will be ranked as follows:

During the group matches

- Goal difference in all matches
- Greater number of plus goals in all matches
- Alphabetical order

After the completion of the group matches

- Results in points gained in the direct encounter of the teams
- Goal difference in the direct encounter of the teams
- Greater number of plus goals in the direct encounter of the teams
- Goal difference in all matches achieved by subtraction
- Greater number of plus goals in all matches

If a ranking is still not possible, a draw decides the ranking. The draw shall be carried out by the EHF, if possible in the presence of the responsible team officials.

Places 13 to 16

The teams ranked last in each group depart after the preliminary round and will be ranked 13 to 16 according to the following system:

- Number of points gained in the preliminary round
- In the case that the number of points is the same, the goal difference of all matches shall be the deciding factor
- In the case that the number of points and the goal difference are the same, the ranking shall be based on the greater number of plus goals of all matches
- In the case that the number of points, the goal difference and the greater number of plus goals are the same, the team which played in the preliminary round against the highest ranked team according to the final ranking will be ranked higher

CHAMPIONSHIP REGULATIONS

Main Round

After the completion of the preliminary round, the main round will be played in two groups with six teams in each group. The respective preliminary round results from the matches against opponents which also go through to the main round remain valid for the ranking of the main round.

Matches shall be played in 2 x 30 minutes with a half-time break of 10 minutes. There shall be no extra time. The participating teams are obliged to show up exactly in time at the meeting point for the pre-match procedure and on the playing court after the half-time break.

Points are awarded as follows:

win = 2 points

draw = 1 point

match lost = 0 points

Teams are ranked by adding the points gained.

If two or more teams have gained the same number of points from the group matches, the teams will be ranked as follows:

During the group matches

- Goal difference in all matches
- Greater number of plus goals in all matches
- Alphabetical order

After the completion of the group matches

- Results in points gained in the direct encounter of the teams
- Goal difference in the direct encounter of the teams
- Greater number of plus goals in the direct encounter of the teams
- Goal difference in all matches achieved by subtraction
- Greater number of plus goals in all matches

If a ranking is still not possible, a draw will decide the ranking. The draw shall be carried out by the EHF, if possible in the presence of the responsible team officials.

Placement Matches (places five and six)

The team ranked third goes on to play a placement match. The third ranked team from the one group will play against the third ranked team from the other group for places five and six.

If a placement match, semi-final or final ends in a draw, there shall be a five minute break followed by an extra time of 2 x 5 minutes with a 1-minute break. There is a changeover during this 1-minute break.

If the match is still undecided after this first period of extra time, there shall be another break of five minutes followed by a second period of extra time of 2 x 5 minutes, with a 1-minute break. There is a changeover during this 1-minute break.

If there is no winner after the second period of extra time, the match will be decided by penalty throws.

CHAMPIONSHIP REGULATIONS

Places 7 to 12

The teams ranked fourth (4) to sixth (6) in each group depart after the completion of the main round. The two teams ranked fourth in the main round will depart, they will be ranked for the places 7 and 8, those ranked fifth for the places 9 and 10, those ranked sixth will be ranked for the places 11 and 12 according to the following system:

- The number of points gained after the end of the main round
- In the case that the number of points is the same, the goal difference of all matches shall be the deciding factor
- In the case that the number of points and the goal difference are the same, the ranking shall be based on the greater number of plus goals of all matches
- In the case that the number of points, the goal difference and the number of plus goals are the same, the team which played in the main round against the highest ranked team according to the final ranking will be ranked higher

Semi-finals and Finals

The first and second ranked teams of the respective group in the main round play semi-finals. The first ranked team from one group plays against the second ranked team from the other group and vice versa.

The losers of the semi-finals play for third and fourth place, the winners for first and second place.

If a placement match, semi-final or final ends in a draw, there shall be a five minutes break followed by an extra time of 2 x 5 minutes, with a 1-minute half-time break. There is a changeover during this 1-minute half-time break.

If the match is still undecided after this first period of extra time, there shall be another break of five minutes followed by a second period of extra time of 2 x 5 minutes, with a 1-minute half-time break. There is a changeover during this 1-minute half-time break.

If there is no winner after the second period of extra time, the match will be decided by penalty throws.

POST MATCH PRESS CONFERENCE

In the preliminary round and main round matches the head coach of each of the two teams which have played last together with one key player selected by the EHF (respectively announced by the team) shall attend the press conference accompanied by an interpreter, if necessary. The post match press conference is scheduled to take place 15 minutes after the match. The participation is obligatory.

In semi-finals and finals the head coach shall be accompanied by two key players for the post match press conference. The entire EHF EURO 2008 winner team shall be available for media and promotion purposes after the game respectively after the event.

Details will be coordinated by the EHF Media Official and the OC chief-of-press and communicated to the parties involved.

OFFICIAL SQUAD

Basic Idea

The use of an “Official Squad” of each delegation allows the participating nations to replace two players after the preliminary round and one player after the main round. This option eases the pressure for the participants especially in the case of injury.

In addition to this, the listing of a final squad prior to the commencement of the championship is in the interest of the work of the media and press, as well as all those involved in promotion and public relation activities.

Technical Terms

- *Official Squad*: Total number of players (maximum 28) announced by the National Federations as their basis group for selecting the team participating in a European Championship.
- *Official Delegation*: Players (maximum 16) and Officials (maximum 6) announced at the Technical Meeting for participation in the respective competition.

System and Procedure

1. An Official Squad with a total number of 28 (or less) players, including the assignment of player numbers, must be announced by **30 October 2008, 12:00** by all participating delegations. The contingent of 28 players is the official/final squad of players of each participating nation. A maximum of 16 players from the original 28 will be announced at the first technical meeting one day before the start of the Championship.
2. After the preliminary round – rest day **7 December 2008 (Groups C&D) / 8 December 2008 (Groups A&B) by 14:00 hrs.** - a maximum of 2 players can be replaced by two new players from the original contingent of 28 (or less). The following procedure applies:
 - The EHF shall be informed in writing (using the official form for replacements, presenting the paper officially signed and stamped) about the details of the replacing players - this should reflect the information on the original “Official Squad” list.
 - The passports of the new players have to be presented by the team guide, team official, etc. to an EHF official in the EHF championship office in original or by fax. In case of a fax copy of the passport is presented by the deadlines stipulated, the original passport shall be presented subsequently to the EHF at the Technical Meeting on the respective day accordingly.
 - After the replacements are confirmed by the EHF (final acceptance to be granted only after the original passport has been presented), the new players will be put on the official match report of the next playing day, the replaced players will be removed and all parties involved (media, statistics) are informed accordingly.
3. After the main round – **Friday, 12 December 2008 14:00 hrs.** – a maximum of one player can be replaced by one new player from the contingent of 28 (or less). An identical procedure applies.

OFFICIAL SQUAD

Further Specification

- Even if less than 28 players are entered by the deadline announced by the EHF this team is the final squad. As a consequence all players eligible to participate in the EHF EURO 2008 in FYR Macedonia are known as of the date stipulated.
- The system applied replaces point 4.1.1.2 (late registration) of the European Championship Regulations.
- A player being replaced by another player after the preliminary round can be used again during the final weekend under the condition of a replacement referred to in point 2.
- In case that a player under suspension (certain period of time or number of matches) is replaced after the preliminary round or main round, the new player is only eligible to participate after the suspension has been completed.
- Additional costs arising from the replacement or the additional announcement of players shall be borne by the participating nation, apart from the costs of local transport – including the transport from and to the arrival airport, which is provided by the OC.

Additional Announcement – Procedure and Handling

In the case a participating nation nominates 15 players or less out of the total squad, the respective nation is entitled to announce one additional player from the contingent registered in the official squad.

- Such additional announcements shall be forwarded to the EHF in writing (using the official form for additional announcements, presenting the paper officially signed and stamped) by 11:00 hrs. on each match day at the latest to the EHF championship office.
- The passport has to be presented (by team guide, team official, etc.) to an EHF official accordingly in the EHF championship office in original or by fax. In case of a fax copy of the passport is presented by the deadline stipulated, the original passport shall be presented subsequently to the EHF delegates of the respective match, 1 hour prior to the throw-off at the latest.
- After the additional announcement is accepted (final acceptance to be granted only after the original passport has been presented) by the respective EHF official, the player will be put on the official match report of the respective day and all parties involved (media, statistics) are informed accordingly.

TEAM INFORMATION

PRE-MATCH PROCEDURE

Team Line-up

10 minutes prior to the throw-off (individual player presentation at the final weekend)

Both the message and the spirit of the championship underline the decisive role of fair play and sportsmanlike conduct in top level handball. This should be expressed at various occasions (e.g. Technical Meetings, Officials Conference, etc.) and should be implemented by measures and procedures in the arenas. One of those is the *team line-up 10 minutes procedure prior to the throw off*.

Please be aware that the matches have to be started exactly on time (TV clock required)!

- The deciding of ends will be carried-out by the referees during the warm-up on the playing court.
- Before entering the playing court for the official team line-up, the teams have to follow both the referees' and floor managers' instructions for gathering at the meeting point (10-minutes prior to the throw-off in the pre-defined corner of the hall) for the official line-up procedure. Following this signal of the referees, there is no further possibility of leaving the playing court area.
- A "mascot child" assigned by the MKD OC to each team before the match will be a part of the team line-up. The child will wear a T-shirt with a Fair Play Slogan produced by the EHF (T-shirts to be provided by the EHF) and carry the National Flag of his/her team.
- The pre-match procedure will start with an orchestra signal followed by a fanfare (prior to the start of the procedure). After that the pre-match procedure starts.
- At the start of the 10-minutes pre-match procedure the European Championship flag will be presented by four "flag presenting" children.
- Then the team line-up of team A is started by referee A entering the playing court, followed by the child of team A, the captain and the other players of team A. The same holds good for team B that passes by team A in the centre of the court carrying out the "shake hands" before taking their line-up position.
- When the line-up is completed and both teams are in the arena, the children build the link - left and right to the referees - to the respective teams.

The run down/time-line of the 10-minutes pre-match procedure has been defined as follows (compare EHF ECh Guide) with small adaptations due to the agreed-upon length of the national anthems played:

-10:00 Flag mascots, referees, teams ready at the entry meeting point
(The end of the warm up is 12 minutes prior to the throw off)

-09:30 Start of the ECh flag presentation by 4 flag presenting children
(marching in the same way as the players, turn at the centre heading the judges' table and stop there 5 metres in front of it with the front children kneeling down)

(-10:00 to -8:00 to be handled flexibly due to the fanfare or hymns used for entry)

-08:30 Line-up of Team A

-08:00 Line-up of Team B

-07:30 Introduction of team A – players and officials

-06:00 Introduction of team B – players and officials

-04:30 Introduction of the referees, EHF officials / -----> *Start of the TV-transmission:*
Trailer A, Trailer B (opener)
Graphics: location, teams, logos, flags,
ranking group A+B

TEAM INFORMATION

-04:00 National anthem of team A -----> presentation players, coach
(mascot team A steps forward, turns 90 degrees to his/her team presenting the national flag of team A)

-03:00 National anthem of team B -----> presentation players, coach
(mascot team B steps forward, turns 90 degrees to his/her team presenting the national flag of team B)

-02:00 Fair play announcement * -----> presentation referees
Final match preparations of the teams

-00:00 Throw-off / Order by EHF Supervisor -----> score and clock

* Prior to each match the speakers in the halls will announce the following "fair play" text in English and the national language (parallel to the final match preparations of the teams):

"Dear Ladies and Gentlemen, Dear Spectators, In the spirit of fairness and with respect to all athletes, officials and referees we kindly ask you, the spectators, to support your team in a fair and sporty way and to create a positive atmosphere for handball."

PLAYERS' CLOTHING

1. The team official in charge shall make sure in due time prior to the match that all sleeve advertising is fixed properly on both sleeves on the jerseys of all players.
2. During the team line-up the entire team must wear identical clothing, either shirts and shorts or tracksuits (except goalies).
3. The players' names shall be displayed in Latin letters on the backs of the shirts, above the players' numbers in clearly legible letters of a 10cm height in the reserved area between the shoulders. The area above the names is also reserved for the EHF so please ensure there is no advertising placed in this area. The area on the back of the shirts above the number is reserved for the EHF.

POST-MATCH PROCEDURES

Shake Hands

The teams will shake hands with each other once again and line up at the end of the match. This will be carried-out in an informal way.

Best Player's Award

After the approval given by the EHF Venue representative the LOC Floor Manager informs the Speaker about the voting of the Electoral Commission for the official announcement in the hall. The procedure of handing over of the award is carried out by the EHF Representative in cooperation with a nominated LOC representative in the centre of the playing court (compare "Fair Play Procedures").

Flash Zone / Mixed Zone

Players are available for TV flash interviews for the TV stations, which have bought the rights from the countries which have played in the match, in the marked "flash zone". Other interviews of players or coaches for TV or writing press shall take place in the marked "mixed zone" only.

Post Match Press Conference

15 minutes after the end of each match an official press conference will be carried-out in the press centre of the playing hall. The head coach of the team together with on key player selected by the EHF (respectively announced by the team) MUST take part in the post match press conference accompanied by an interpreter, if necessary (team guide, delegation member etc.). The head coach shall be accompanied by two key players in semi-final and final for the pm press conference. The entire EHF EURO 2008 winner team shall be available for media and promotion purposes.

Details will be coordinated by the EHF Media Official and the OC chief-of-press and communicated to all parties involved.

TASK ASSIGNMENT

Venue Management Preliminary Round

Group A - Skopje FRA, HUN, DEN, ROU	Group B - Ohrid NOR, POR, ESP, UKR	Group C - Ohrid RUS, SWE, AUT, BLR	Group D - Skopje GER, CRO, MKD, SRB
Tuik, Elovsson <i>(Representatives)</i>	Taborsky, Sinka <i>(Representatives)</i>	Taborsky, Sinka <i>(Representatives)</i>	Tuik, Elovsson <i>(Representatives)</i>
Roca <i>(IHF representative)</i>	Roca <i>(IHF representative)</i>	Roca <i>(IHF representative)</i>	Roca <i>(IHF representative)</i>
Cuderman, Konopliasty, <i>(Competition)</i>	Magnusdottir, Stasova, Nachevski <i>(Competition)</i>	Magnusdottir, Stasova, Nachevski <i>(Competition)</i>	Cuderman, Konopliasty, <i>(Competition)</i>
Andorka, Rancik, Förström <i>(Refereeing)</i>	Domenge, Jensen <i>(Refereeing)</i>	Domenge, Jensen <i>(Refereeing)</i>	Andorka, Rancik, Förström <i>(Refereeing)</i>
Biehl <i>(CompM)</i> Martell <i>(VenueM)</i>	Simion <i>(CompM)</i> Höritsch <i>(VenueM)</i>	Simion <i>(CompM)</i> Höritsch <i>(VenueM)</i>	Biehl <i>(CompM)</i> Martell <i>(VenueM)</i>
Rowland <i>(MediaM)</i>	Pfeistlinger <i>(MediaM)</i>	Pfeistlinger <i>(MediaM)</i>	Rowland <i>(MediaM)</i>

Local Tournament Management

Skopje Elovsson Cuderman Andorka Biehl/Martell	Ohrid Taborsky Magnusdottir Domenge Simion/Höritsch	Ohrid Taborsky Magnusdottir Domenge Simion/Höritsch	Skopje Elovsson Cuderman Andorka Biehl/Martell
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Disciplinary Commission – First Instance

Skopje <i>C-nominated by CTM</i> <i>M-nominated by CTM</i> <i>M-nominated by CTM</i> <i>O-nominated by CTM</i>	Ohrid <i>C-nominated by CTM</i> <i>M-nominated by CTM</i> <i>M-nominated by CTM</i> <i>O-nominated by CTM</i>	Ohrid <i>C-nominated by CTM</i> <i>M-nominated by CTM</i> <i>M-nominated by CTM</i> <i>O-nominated by CTM</i>	Skopje <i>C-nominated by CTM</i> <i>M-nominated by CTM</i> <i>M-nominated by CTM</i> <i>O-nominated by CTM</i>
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Central Tournament Management

Brihault
Tuik
Wiederer
Flixeder

Second Instance – Jury

Chairperson	<i>nominated by CTM</i>
Member	<i>nominated by CTM</i>
Member	<i>nominated by CTM</i>
Office	<i>nominated by CTM</i>



8th Women's European Handball Championship

PARTICIPATING TEAMS

A	Skopje	France	26
		Hungary	28
		Denmark	30
		Romania	32
B	Ohrid	Norway	34
		Portugal	36
		Spain	38
		Ukraine	40
C	Ohrid	Russia	42
		Sweden	44
		Austria	46
		Belarus	48
D	Skopje	Germany	50
		Croatia	52
		FYR Macedonia	54
		Serbia	56

FEDERATION FRANCAISE DE HANDBALL

A



62, rue Gabriel Peri
94250 Gentilly
France

Tel + 33 1 46 150 355
Fax + 33 1 46 150 360
E-mail ffhb@ff-handball.org
Web www.ff-handball.org



PAST PERFORMANCE

1994	European Championship in Germany	did not qualify
1995	World Championship in Austria/Hungary	did not qualify
1996	European Championship Denmark	did not qualify
1996	Olympic Games in Atlanta	did not qualify
1997	World Championship in Germany	10th place
1998	European Championship in the Netherlands	did not qualify
1999	World Championship in Norway	SILVER
2000	Olympic Games in Sydney	6th place
2000	European Championship in Romania	5th place
2001	World Championship in Italy	5th place
2002	European Championship in Denmark	BRONZE
2003	World Championship in Croatia	GOLD
2004	Olympic Games in Athens	4th place
2004	European Championship in Hungary	11th place
2005	World Championship in Russia	12th place
2006	European Championship in Sweden	BRONZE
2007	World Championship in France	5th place
2008	Olympic Games in Beijing	5th place

GETTING TO FYR MACEDONIA

France qualified automatically due to their bronze medal performance in Sweden.

FRANCE IN ACTION

Preliminary Round in Skopje.

Date	Time	Game
03.12	20:15	FRA v DEN
05.12	18:15	ROU v FRA
07.12	20:15	FRA v HUN



The Coach



Olivier Krumbholz

Having spent 10 years as a first division player and turning his hand to training 22 years ago, coach Krumbholz has been the guiding hand of the French women's national team for over a decade. Under his expert leadership, France has been present at every European and World Championship since 1999 and all three editions of the Olympic Games since 2000. For his efforts, the women's national team of France has been rewarded with one gold, one silver and two bronze medals. Although, France have not attained the desired results in the past two competitions, Krumbholz returns to the European Championship with a new, young up and coming team, which we will see a lot of in the future.

Key Players



Nina Kanto

Nina Kanto was born in the Yaoundé region of Cameroon and is a graduate of business school speaking fluent French and English. The pivot has been playing handball since 1994. A total of six years were spent at her first club, Noisy le Grand. In 2000, she signed to Handball Metz. Since making her international debut, she has donned the tricolour 97 times and has scored over 160 goals for France. At the previous European Championship in Sweden, she was part of the French delegation that returned to France with the bronze medal. In the summer of 2008, Kanto was part the Olympic team and after intense competition had to be satisfied with 5th place, but for Nina Kanto, this remains the best handball experience so far.



Amandine Leynaud

Born in the Aubenas region of France, Amandine Leynaud cannot remember a time when she did not play handball. She is currently in her eighth season with Metz Handball, prior to that she played for Bourg de Péage and her hometown team of Aubenas. The goalkeeper is one of the more recent selections to the national team. In 2005, she played her first international against Germany and has stepped out for France on 46 occasions. Although she did not take home any medals, Leynaud gained a tremendous amount of experience being part of the 2007 World Championship and 2008 Olympic delegation.

MAGYAR KEZILABDA SZÖVETSEG



Isrvánmezeti út. 1-3
1146 Budapest
Hungary

Tel + 36 1 460 68 20
Fax + 36 1 460 68 24
E-mail mksz@handballnet.hu
Web www.handballnet.hu



PAST PERFORMANCE

1994	European Championship in Germany	4th place
1995	World Championship in Austria/Hungary	SILVER
1996	European Championship Denmark	10th place
1996	Olympic Games in Atlanta	BRONZE
1997	World Championship in Germany	9th place
1998	European Championship in the Netherlands	BRONZE
1999	World Championship in Norway	5th place
2000	Olympic Games in Sydney	SILVER
2000	European Championship in Romania	GOLD
2001	World Championship in Italy	6th place
2002	European Championship in Denmark	5th place
2003	World Championship in Croatia	SILVER
2004	Olympic Games in Athens	5th place
2004	European Championship in Hungary	BRONZE
2005	World Championship in Russia	BRONZE
2006	European Championship in Sweden	5th place
2007	World Championship in France	8th place
2008	Olympic Games in Beijing	4th place

GETTING TO FYR MACEDONIA

Hungary qualified automatically for EURO 2008 based on their performance in Sweden.

HUNGARY IN ACTION

Preliminary Round in Skopje.

Date	Time	Game
03.12	18:15	HUN v ROU
05.12	20:15	DEN v HUN
07.12	18:15	FRA v HUN



The Coach



Vilmos Imre

The 8th European Handball Championship in FYR Macedonia is a turning point in the career of Vilmos Imre. The former first division player has been coaching since 1991; his first success came in 1998 when he led the U16 and U18 men's national team to victory and three championship titles. Since 2007, Imre has coached the first division women's team Dunaferri NK, prior to this he spent thirteen years with the men's first division club Dunaferri SE. In September 2008, Imre was named head coach of the Hungarian women's national team. After obtaining fourth place at the Olympic Games in Beijing, as assistant coach Imre hopes to take another European Championship medal back to Hungary.

Key Players



Orsolya Vértén

Vértén has been playing handball for a long as she can remember. Having carved her position in the left wing; Orsolya made her international debut in 2002 playing against Croatia in a match that Hungary eventually won. Over the past years, she has participated in the European Cup and has won various national championships. During the season, Orsolya can be found playing with the other talents of Györi Audi ETO KC. One of the highlights of Vértén's handball career so far was taking part in the 2008 Olympic Games, although Hungary ranked 5th, Orsolya, would like another chance to attain an Olympic medal.



Anita Görbicz

The playmaker, Anita Görbicz, is a solid fixture at Györi Audi ETO KC and has been on the international scene since 2002. With over 130 appearances in her national colours and over 500 goals for Hungary, Görbicz is back at the 8th European Championship. Having already collected one silver and two bronze medals over the course of her professional international career, Anita aims to add gold! Not only has she received accolades for her teamwork, Görbicz is a handball force to be reckoned with as she has been named World Handball player of the year in 2005 and for the past three years running, she has been player of the year in Hungary.

DANSK HAANDBOLD FORBUND



Idrættens Hus,
Brøndby Stadion 20
2605 Brøndby
Denmark

Tel + 45 43 262 400
Fax + 45 43 435 143
E-mail dhf@dhf.dk
Web www.dhf.dk



A

PAST PERFORMANCE

1994	European Championship in Germany	GOLD
1995	World Championship in Austria/Hungary	BRONZE
1996	European Championship Denmark	GOLD
1996	Olympic Games in Atlanta	GOLD
1997	World Championship in Germany	GOLD
1998	European Championship in the Netherlands	SILVER
1999	World Championship in Norway	6th place
2000	Olympic Games in Sydney	GOLD
2000	European Championship in Romania	10th place
2001	World Championship in Italy	4th place
2002	European Championship in Denmark	GOLD
2003	World Championship in Croatia	13th place
2004	Olympic Games in Athens	GOLD
2004	European Championship in Hungary	SILVER
2005	World Championship in Russia	4th place
2006	European Championship in Sweden	11th place
2007	World Championship in France	did not qualify
2008	Olympic Games in Beijing	did not qualify

GETTING TO FYR MACEDONIA

Denmark defeated Turkey in the play-offs for their place in the final tournament.

TUR v DEN 19:21 (5:12), 25:24 (14:11)

DENMARK IN ACTION

Preliminary Round in Skopje.

Date	Time	Game
03.12	20:15	FRA v DEN
05.12	20:15	DEN v HUN
07.12	20:15	DEN v ROU



The Coach



Jan Pytlick

At the age of 25, Pytlick won the Danish Championship and the Cup with GOG's female team – a brilliant result which he repeated the following year. He was also Danish Champion and Cup winner with the men's team in GOG before he took over as national coach from the legendary Ulrik Wilbek in 1997. At his first championship Pytlick won a silver medal at the Women's European Championship in 1998 and in 2000 he won the first of his two Olympic gold medals at the games in Sydney. Two years later he won the European Championship in Denmark and in 2004 he defended the Olympic title in Athens and won silver at the European Championship in Hungary. After a small break, Pytlick is back with the national team and committed until 2012.

Key Players



Rikke Skov

For many years, captain of the Danish team, Rikke Skov has been a key player both on and off the field. She won the Olympic Games in 2004, and silver at the European Championship in the same year. At club level, she won the Champions League in 2006, she was a CL finalist in 2001, victory was hers at the EHF Cup 1999 and 2004 and up until now she has an amazing 7 Danish Championships and 3 cup finals under her belt. Defensively she is both physically and tactically extremely strong and she knows how to organise and encourage her team-mates. In the attack, Rikke Skov also relies on her physical power and her shot is very hard and very accurate.



Karin Mortensen

An all time favourite with the Danish handball supporters Karin Mortensen has played many fantastic matches in the Danish goal, and she seems to get better and better the more experienced she becomes. Almost out of nowhere she was the ultimate key player when Denmark won the European Championship in Aarhus in 2002, but two years before she was actually in the squad which won gold at the Olympic Games in Sydney. Of course the tall, quick and tactically clever goalkeeper also played an important role, when Denmark four years later defended the Olympic title in Athens.

FEDERATIA ROMANA DE HANDBALL



Str. Popa Marin 2
Lucian Grigorescu
Bucharesti 1
011962 Rumania

Tel + 40 21 231 8985
Fax + 40 21 231 89853
E-mail frh@frh.ro
Web www.frh.ro



PAST PERFORMANCE

1994	European Championship in Germany	10th place
1995	World Championship in Austria/Hungary	7th place
1996	European Championship Denmark	5th place
1996	Olympic Games in Atlanta	did not qualify
1997	World Championship in Germany	12th place
1998	European Championship in the Netherlands	11th place
1999	World Championship in Norway	4th place
2000	Olympic Games in Sydney	7th place
2000	European Championship in Romania	4th place
2001	World Championship in Italy	17th place
2002	European Championship in Denmark	17th place
2003	World Championship in Croatia	10th place
2004	Olympic Games in Athens	did not qualify
2004	European Championship in Hungary	16th place
2005	World Championship in Russia	SILVER
2006	European Championship in Sweden	did not qualify
2007	World Championship in France	4th place
2008	Olympic Games in Beijing	7th place

GETTING TO FYR MACEDONIA

Romania defeated Iceland in the play-offs to earn their place amongst the last 16 in the final tournament.

ISL v ROU 23:33 (12:16), 23:37 (8:21)

ROMANIA IN ACTION

Preliminary Round in Skopje.

Date	Time	Game
03.12	18:15	HUN v ROU
05.12	18:15	ROU v FRA
07.12	20:15	DEN v ROU



The Coach



Radu Voina

Sport has always played a key role in the life of Radu Voina. He was born in 1950 in Sighisoara and by the age of 23 he had graduated from the Faculty of Physical Education and Sport at the University of Bucharest. His playing career began in 1969 and ended in 1983 and in that time, he was part of three Romanian Olympic delegations that earned two bronze and one silver medal, this is in addition to numerous national and international championship titles. Voina has been training players for the past 24 years and with the national team of Romania in FYR Macedonia for the Women's ECh, he intends to show Romanian handball at its very best!

Key Players



Narcisa Lecusanu

The aim of Narcisa Lecusanu is to lay waste to her competition and take a gold medal back to Romania. Narcisa is fit, focused and ready for the best European Championship of her career. Along with her team-mate Lungu, Lecusanu also picked up her first and only gold medal in 1995. She collected silver approximately 10 years later at the World Championship in Russia. Lecusanu has been with C.S. Oltchim RM. Valcea since season 06/07 and in this team, she has honed her skills in the left back position and is a great support to her team-mates.



Ionela Stanca

Ionela Stanca has been playing handball since the age of 12. She is a World Championship silver medalist and when Romania finished fourth at the 2007 World Championship, Stanca was voted into the "All-Star Team". Probably two of the best, but definitely not the only accolade that Ionela Stanca has earned in her young career. In 1999 Stanca collected gold at the Youth European Championship in Germany and added another gold medal only a year later at the Junior World Championship in 2000. Ionela made her international debut in 1997 and has so far scored over 150 goals for Romania.

NORGES HANDBALLFORBUND



Serviceboks 1 Ullevål Stadion
0840 Oslo
Norway

Tel + 47 21 029 000
Fax + 47 21 029 951
E-mail nhf@handball.no
Web www.handball.no



PAST PERFORMANCE

1994	European Championship in Germany	BRONZE
1995	World Championship in Austria/Hungary	4th place
1996	European Championship Denmark	SILVER
1996	Olympic Games in Atlanta	4th place
1997	World Championship in Germany	SILVER
1998	European Championship in the Netherlands	GOLD
1999	World Championship in Norway	GOLD
2000	Olympic Games in Sydney	BRONZE
2000	European Championship in Romania	6th place
2001	World Championship in Italy	SILVER
2002	European Championship in Denmark	SILVER
2003	World Championship in Croatia	6th place
2004	Olympic Games in Athens	did not qualify
2004	European Championship in Hungary	GOLD
2005	World Championship in Russia	9th place
2006	European Championship in Sweden	GOLD
2007	World Championship in France	SILVER
2008	Olympic Games in Beijing	GOLD

GETTING TO FYR MACEDONIA

Norway directly qualified as the defending champion of EURO 2006.

NORWAY IN ACTION

Preliminary Round in Ohrid.

Date	Time	Game
03.12	19:15	NOR v ESP
05.12	19:15	UKR v NOR
07.12	19:15	NOR v POR



The Coach



Marit Breivik

Marit Breivik is undisputedly the best women's handball coach that Norway has ever seen and even that seems an understatement! Having spent 8 years as a professional player, Breivik has had her own success with 137 international appearances before she chose to turn her hand to coaching. She arrives in FYR Macedonia, not only as defending champion, but also Olympic gold medallist after the stunning performance of team Norway in Beijing, Marit Breivik has done it all! With European, World and now Olympic gold under her belt, one may wonder what is next for the trainer that has put Norwegian handball on the map.

Key Players



Tonje Larsen

Larsen made her international handball debut in 1992 against Denmark and since then she has notched up over 200 international appearances and scored over 450 goals in her national team colours. The middle back from Tonsberg is currently in her 13th season with Larvik HK and her physical strength and abilities lift her above other playmakers. A key player in defence and attack Larsen is a valuable asset both to her national teammates and her club. Her vast wealth of experience will help Norway face any challenge that EURO 2008 brings. Riding on the wave of numerous successes Tonje is part of the Norwegian handball golden era.



Kari Mette Johansen

Born in 1979, Johansen is a relative newcomer to the international scene. She made her debut in 2004 and, for her efforts, walked away with European gold in the same year and approximately 2 years later added another European Championship win. In addition to garnering medals on the international stage, she has appeared over 100 times in her national colours and scored over 300 goals from the left wing position. A dedicated and key fixture in Larvik – she has been with the club since the 98/99 handball season – Kari Mette has two Cup Winners' Cup finals behind her, and a very successful career in front of her.

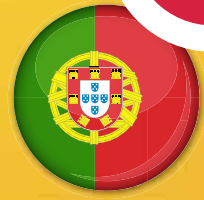
FEDERACAO DE ANDEBOL DE PORTUGAL

B



Calçada da Ajuda, 63/69
1300 Lisboa
Portugal

Tel + 351 21 361 1900
Fax + 351 21 362 6807
E-mail handball@fpa.pt
Web www.fpa.pt



PAST PERFORMANCE

1994	European Championship in Germany	did not qualify
1995	World Championship in Austria/Hungary	did not qualify
1996	European Championship Denmark	did not qualify
1996	Olympic Games in Atlanta	did not qualify
1997	World Championship in Germany	did not qualify
1998	European Championship in the Netherlands	did not qualify
1999	World Championship in Norway	did not qualify
2000	Olympic Games in Sydney	did not qualify
2000	European Championship in Romania	did not qualify
2001	World Championship in Italy	did not qualify
2002	European Championship in Denmark	did not qualify
2003	World Championship in Croatia	did not qualify
2004	Olympic Games in Athens	did not qualify
2004	European Championship in Hungary	did not qualify
2005	World Championship in Russia	did not qualify
2006	European Championship in Sweden	did not qualify
2007	World Championship in France	did not qualify
2008	Olympic Games in Beijing	did not qualify

GETTING TO FYR MACEDONIA

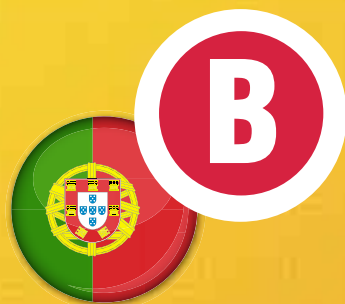
The Portuguese EURO 2008 debutantes defeated Poland in the play-offs to earn a place for the very first time amongst the last 16 in the final tournament.

POL v POR 24:35 (12:19) 37:28 (20:13)

PORTUGAL IN ACTION

Preliminary Round in Ohrid.

Date	Time	Game
03.12	17:15	POR v UKR
05.12	17:15	ESP v POR
07.12	19:15	NOR v POR



The Coach



Paula Castro

Born in 1959, Paula Castro began playing handball at the age of 14 for Portuguese handball club Académico F.C. When she ended her playing career, after playing for the national team and having a few successes on a club level, Castro moved into the realm of coaching with the college club Colégio de Gaia where she still is today. In the season 2006/2007 Castro began coaching the national team and getting Portugal through the play-offs and to their first ever European Championship final tournament was a tremendous achievement. As debutants, coach Castro is well aware that the Portuguese national team are coming in as the underdogs, but as everybody knows, at the European Championship anything can happen!

Key Players



Juliana Sousa

Juliana Sousa began playing handball at the age of 12 and made her international debut against Switzerland in 1993 at the Junior World Championship. Since then she has appeared over 175 times for her national team and scored over 680 goals in both the junior and senior category. Sousa is an extremely versatile player and has been spotted in the left, middle and right back positions, which have helped her attain success on a national level. The taste of sweet victory, against Poland in the ECh play-offs was one of the best moments in Sousa's 15-year handball career. Sousa has said herself that Norway is the most difficult team to play against, and EURO 2008 will put her spirit to the test as Portugal was drawn into Group B...as were Norway.



Alexandrina Barbosa

The young and very talented Barbosa came on to the EHF scene in season 03/04 after signing for Madeira Andebol SAD. These days you can find Barbosa in Romania with the EHF Cup participants Rulmentul-Urban-Brasov covering the backcourt positions nicely. She began playing handball in 1995 at the age of 9 years and has devoted all her sporting energies to her craft. The highlights of her career so far include qualifying for the Junior World Championships in 2003, being a semi-finalist in the Champions League with Sagunto in 2005/2006 and now, qualifying for the 8th Women's European Championship. For Barbosa; win, lose or draw, EURO 2008 is a dream come true.

REAL FEDERACION ESPANOLA DE BALONMANO

B



Calle Ferraz 16; 2nd floor
28008 Madrid
Spain

Tel + 34 91 541 8637
Fax + 34 91 542 7150
E-mail rfebm@rfebm.com
Web www.rfebm.com



PAST PERFORMANCE

1994	European Championship in Germany	did not qualify
1995	World Championship in Austria/Hungary	did not qualify
1996	European Championship Denmark	did not qualify
1996	Olympic Games in Atlanta	did not qualify
1997	World Championship in Germany	did not qualify
1998	European Championship in the Netherlands	12th place
1999	World Championship in Norway	did not qualify
2000	Olympic Games in Sydney	did not qualify
2000	European Championship in Romania	did not qualify
2001	World Championship in Italy	10th place
2002	European Championship in Denmark	13th place
2003	World Championship in Croatia	5th place
2004	Olympic Games in Athens	6th place
2004	European Championship in Hungary	8th place
2005	World Championship in Russia	did not qualify
2006	European Championship in Sweden	9th place
2007	World Championship in France	10th place
2008	Olympic Games in Beijing	did not qualify

GETTING TO FYR MACEDONIA

Spain defeated Lithuania in the play-offs for their place in the final tournament.

ESP v LTU 30:30 (12:15) 24:19 (12:10)

SPAIN IN ACTION

Preliminary Round in Ohrid.

Date	Time	Game
03.12	19:15	NOR v ESP
05.12	17:15	ESP v POR
07.12	17:15	ESP v UKR



The Coach



Jorge Dueñas

Dueñas has had a colourful handball career. He has been a player and a trainer in the ASOBAL league for many years. When he gave up his playing career, he moved into coaching starting with the Spanish women's junior national team at the end of the 1990's. Dueñas took on the job of head coach to the national Spanish women's team in October 2007 after the departure of Miguel Martinez. At the World Championship in 2007, he introduced a few younger players to the international scene and places great value on his experienced players and the potential of the up and coming. Quietly confident, Dueñas is ready to take each match as it comes.

Key Players



Aitziber Elejaga Vargas

Vargas was born in 1979 in the Vizcaya region of Bilbao and began playing handball at the age of 11. The goalkeeper who stands at 1m 72 has represented Spain in 123 international matches. Aitziber made her international debut at the European Championship in the Netherlands in 1998 where in her very first match faced the Norwegian national team. For her efforts at the Mediterranean Games in Almeria, she and her national teammates were rewarded with a gold medal. Although, there have been no medals for her at the top European events, her desire for a medal at the European Championship has never diminished.



Marta Manguel Gonzalez

At the age of 17, Marta played her first international match against Poland in Zory at the Silesia Cup. Since then she has played 136 matches and scored 495 goals for Spain. The experienced left back currently plays in Denmark for Esbjerg where she signed a three-year contract and Cementos La Union Ribarroja were very sad to see her go after the successful seasons, whereas Esbjerg were thrilled to sign such a recognised talent. Now her focus is on EURO 2008 and her national team. Despite her club successes, victory at this level remains elusive. Mentally and physically, Gonzalez is playing to win.

HANDBALL FÖDERATION DER UKRAINE

**B**

Street Dovjenko 3
03057 Kiev
Ukraine

Tel + 380 44 461 9793
Fax + 380 44 461 9791
E-mail nuhf@citiustele.com
Web www.handball.net.ua



PAST PERFORMANCE

1994	European Championship in Germany	11th place
1995	World Championship in Austria/Hungary	9th place
1996	European Championship Denmark	9th place
1996	Olympic Games in Atlanta	did not qualify
1997	World Championship in Germany	did not qualify
1998	European Championship in The Netherlands	7th place
1999	World Championship in Norway	13th place
2000	Olympic Games in Sydney	did not qualify
2000	European Championship in Romania	SILVER
2001	World Championship in Italy	18th place
2002	European Championship in Denmark	10th place
2003	World Championship in Croatia	4th place
2004	Olympic Games in Athens	BRONZE
2004	European Championship in Hungary	6th place
2005	World Championship in Russia	10th place
2006	European Championship in Sweden	did not qualify
2007	World Championship in France	13th place
2008	Olympic Games in Beijing	did not qualify

GETTING TO FYR MACEDONIA

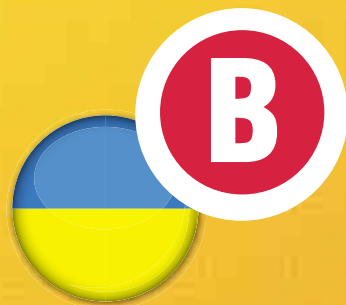
Ukraine defeated Slovakia in the play-offs for their place in the final tournament.

SVK v UKR 24:30 (13:15) 27:28 (12:15)

UKRAINE IN ACTION

Preliminary Round in Ohrid.

Date	Time	Game
03.12	17:15	POR v UKR
05.12	19:15	UKR v NOR
07.12	17:15	ESP v UKR



The Coach



Leonid Yevtushenko

Yevtushenko took over for the second time as head coach of the Ukrainian women's national team in 2006. His experience as a coach stretches back to 1975, where he started out in a sports school. With the Ukrainian national youth team, he took gold in the Youth European Championship in Lithuania and silver at the European Championship in Poland. His beginnings with the women's national team date back to 1996, and the success that followed, in 2000 at the ECh in Romania, Yevtushenko won yet another silver medal. In his club career, he has coached two of the best teams in the Ukraine, HC "Spartak" Kiev and HC "Motor" Zaporozshe. He has coached HC "Kometal" Macedonia since 2002.

Key Players



Anastasia Pidpalova

Standing on the winners' podium in Athens collecting her Olympic bronze medal was one of the most memorable handball moments that Pidpalova carries with her. Born in the Kherson region of the Ukraine in 1982, it was at the age of 22 years that her Olympic dream was realised. And all this after only 20 international appearances and just 50 goals scored for her country. The left back has spent the past 11 playing seasons with HC "Motor" Zaporozshe, where she was part of the Cup Winners' Cup winning delegation in season 00/01. Pidpalova knows the challenges a European Championship can bring and wonders if she can assist her team in bringing back another European medal back to the Ukraine.



Maryna Vergeliuk

Maryna returns to the European Championship with over 130 international matches and over 500 goals scored for the national team of Ukraine. Along the way, she has collected a silver medal at the ECh in 2000 and a bronze medal at the 2004 edition of the Olympic games in Athens. She began playing handball at the age of 10 and has been part of the EHF European Cup competitions since season 97/98. She made her name with HC "Spartak" Kiev before moving to Slovenia and RK Krim Mercator Ljubljana where she is in her seventh season. Vergeliuk is a key backcourt player and an indispensable part of the Ukrainian delegation.

HANDBALL UNION OF RUSSIA



Luzhnetskaya nab 8
119992 Moscow
Russia

Tel + 70 95 201 0921
Fax + 70 95 247 1038
E-mail handball@roc.ru
Web www.rushandball.ru



PAST PERFORMANCE

1994	European Championship in Germany	6th place
1995	World Championship in Austria/Hungary	6th place
1996	European Championship Denmark	7th place
1996	Olympic Games in Atlanta	did not qualify
1997	World Championship in Germany	4th place
1998	European Championship in the Netherlands	9th place
1999	World Championship in Norway	12th place
2000	Olympic Games in Sydney	did not qualify
2000	European Championship in Romania	BRONZE
2001	World Championship in Italy	GOLD
2002	European Championship in Denmark	4th place
2003	World Championship in Croatia	7th place
2004	Olympic Games in Athens	did not qualify
2004	European Championship in Hungary	4th place
2005	World Championship in Russia	GOLD
2006	European Championship in Sweden	SILVER
2007	World Championship in France	GOLD
2008	Olympic Games in Beijing	SILVER

GETTING TO FYR MACEDONIA

Having won the silver medal in Sweden, Russia directly qualified for EURO 2008.

RUSSIA IN ACTION

Preliminary Round in Ohrid.

Date	Time	Game
02.12	20:15	RUS v AUT
04.12	20:15	BLR v RUS
06.12	18:15	RUS v SWE



The Coach



Evgeny Trefilov

Evgeny Trefilov has had an amazing four years, he took gold at the women's World Championship in 2005 and 2007. A total of three gold WC medals lest we forget the 2001 WC in Romania. In 2006, team Russia won the silver medal at EURO 2006 and last summer the 2008 Olympics Games, once again Trefilov took silver. Born in 1955, he began his coaching career in 1984 in Krasnodar. He gained more experience working with Vladimir Maksimov as the assistant coach of the men's national team that became the World Champion in 1997. In 1998 he began to work with women's club teams and he has led the women's national team since taking the assignment in 2000.

Key Players



Ludmila Postnova

Born in Yaroslavl City in Russia, Postnova began playing handball in school and signed to HC Lada in 2003 at the age of 19. In the same year, she also made her first appearance for her national team. For her there have been 461 goals scored in 121 international matches. Since signing to HC Lada, she has spent every season playing in the Champions League with the best players that Europe has to offer. Her medal count is currently three, and her aim at the European Championship in FYR Macedonia is to expand on this and bring another medal home to Russia. With her undoubted skill in the left back position, this is a possible dream.



Irina Bliznova

Born in the Krasnodar region of Russia, Irina began playing handball at the age of 10. In the three years since her selection to the national team, Bliznova has played 67 top international matches and has put 216 goals at the back of her opponents' net. It would be a mistake to classify the four-time medal winner as a novice; Bliznova has been signed to Champions League club HC Lada since 2004 and her knowledge of most of the players at EURO 2008 is immense. The right back has spent so much time training for this top event and having a strong sporting mentality, she brings with her a sharpened competitive edge.

SVENSKA HANDBOLLFÖRBUNDET



Idrottens Hus
11473 Stockholm
Sweden

Tel + 46 8 699 6000
Fax + 46 8 938 574
E-mail info@handboll.rf.se
Web www.handboll.info



PAST PERFORMANCE

1994	European Championship in Germany	7th place
1995	World Championship in Austria/Hungary	11th place
1996	European Championship Denmark	8th place
1996	Olympic Games in Atlanta	did not qualify
1997	World Championship in Germany	did not qualify
1998	European Championship in The Netherlands	did not qualify
1999	World Championship in Norway	did not qualify
2000	Olympic Games in Sydney	did not qualify
2000	European Championship in Romania	did not qualify
2001	World Championship in Italy	8th place
2002	European Championship in Denmark	15th place
2003	World Championship in Croatia	did not qualify
2004	Olympic Games in Athens	did not qualify
2004	European Championship in Hungary	14th place
2005	World Championship in Russia	did not qualify
2006	European Championship in Sweden	6th place
2007	World Championship in France	did not qualify
2008	Olympic Games in Beijing	8th place

GETTING TO FYR MACEDONIA

Sweden defeated the Czech Republic in the play-offs, for their ticket to EURO 2008.

SWE v CZE 25:19 (8:12) 29:25 (14:16)

SWEDEN IN ACTION

Preliminary Round in Ohrid.

Date	Time	Game
02.12	18:15	SWE v BLR
04.12	18:15	AUT v SWE
06.12	18:15	RUS v SWE



The Coach



Ulf Schefvert

Born in 1957, Ulf Schefvert has carved his niche in the world of top handball coaches. In 1991, with the men's junior national team, he took the silver medal for Sweden at the Men's Junior World Championships. In 1993, he accepted the task of coaching the Danish men's senior and junior team simultaneously, this time at the junior World and European Championship, he led the younger Danish team to victory. In 2004, the national men's team of Greece had used his talents, before he accepted his current assignment of coaching the Swedish women's national team in 2005. The aim of coach Schefvert is to reach the main round. This will be his last appearance with the women's team.

Key Players



Matilda Boson

Matilda Boson plays for the Danish first league club Aalborg DH and this is her fourth season in the club. Matilda was born 1981 and since she started to play handball in the small club Malmslätts AIK, she has appeared in a lot of international games, 13 youth, 40 junior and 127 senior matches in total. In addition to being a professional handball player, Matilda has studied economy. Boson is a left wing player with a keen intuition for the situations that playing handball can bring and has a high scoring percentage. Hoping that her experience from the Olympic Games in the summer of 2008 will serve her well, Boson is looking forward to stepping out on the court at EURO 2008.



Isabelle Gullidén

Isabelle is one of the young and upcoming players in the Swedish national team. Born in 1989, she continues to play for her very first club, IK Sävehof in Partille. As a playmaker, Isabelle takes advantage of her great sense for the game. She is one of the most talented players in Swedish women's handball and has been for many years. Isabelle has 16 performances in the youth national team and 16 in the junior national squad. So far there have been 17 performances in the traditional yellow and blue shirts, including the Olympic Tournament of 2008 in Beijing, but there are more to come.

ÖSTERREICHISCHER HANDBALLBUND



Hauslabgasse 24
1050 Wien
Austria

Tel + 43 1 544 43 79
Fax + 43 1 544 43 79 21
E-mail oehb@oehb.at
Web www.oehb.at



PAST PERFORMANCE

1994	European Championship in Germany	9th place
1995	World Championship in Austria/Hungary	8th place
1996	European Championship Denmark	BRONZE
1996	Olympic Games in Atlanta	did not qualify
1997	World Championship in Germany	11th place
1998	European Championship in The Netherlands	4th place
1999	World Championship in Norway	BRONZE
2000	Olympic Games in Sydney	5th place
2000	European Championship in Romania	12th place
2001	World Championship in Italy	7th place
2002	European Championship in Denmark	9th place
2003	World Championship in Croatia	11th place
2004	Olympic Games in Athens	did not qualify
2004	European Championship in Hungary	10th place
2005	World Championship in Russia	13th place
2006	European Championship in Sweden	10th place
2007	World Championship in France	16th place
2008	Olympic Games in Beijing	did not qualify

GETTING TO FYR MACEDONIA

Austria defeated Italy in the play-offs to earn their place in the final tournament.

ITA v AUT 26:36 (10:19) 27:29 (14:17)

AUSTRIA IN ACTION

Preliminary Round in Ohrid.

Date	Time	Game
02.12	20:15	RUS v AUT
04.12	18:15	AUT v SWE
06.12	20:15	AUT v BLR



The Coach



Herbert Müller

Herbert Müller was born in Romania and his playing career, that spanned 22 years, began at the Romanian club Poli Temeschburg. He moved to Germany in 1980 and was contracted to FC Augsburg. He ended his playing career in 1988 with DJK Augsburg-Hochzoll. Müller's coaching career coincided with his playing career, it began in 1984 with the handball club TSG Augsburg and since July 2008, he is the head coach of C.S.Rulmentul-Urban Brasov in Romania. Müller has held the reigns of the Austrian national team since the spring of 2004, at the same time, team Austria presented a new generation of players. Müller and his team once again return to this European top events with high expectations that he hopes this time will be fulfilled.

Key Players



Simona Spiridon

Romanian born Spiridon moved to Austria in 2001 when she signed for Hypo Niederösterreich. Having gained Austrian citizenship, her first outing with her new national team came in 2004 at a tournament in the Ukraine where they defeated Belarus. Averaging 3 goals per match, Spiridon has scored over 250 goals in 65 international appearances. Her club successes are well documented. With Romania, she has picked up two gold medals in younger age category World and European Championships in addition to the 2 Hungarian Cup and 5 Austrian Cup titles. Spiridon has also made it to the Champions League semi-final on three occasions and one day she hopes to lift this particular trophy!



Petra Blazek

Fun loving goalkeeper, Petra Blazek was born in Mödling, Austria in 1987. At the age of six, she began playing handball with Hypö Niederösterreich in their junior team. As she grew with the club, she showed great potential, which was rewarded with selection to the Austrian national team in 2004 at the age of 17. The 8th European Championship is the third such top European event for Petra. She has participated in two World Championships and is also a Champions League finalist. Cool under pressure, Petra knows that she has to give the performance of a lifetime from the very first match in order to have a chance at EURO 2008.

HANDBALL-FEDERATION OF BELARUS



Surganova Str. 2-213
220 012 Minsk
Belarus

Tel + 375 17 290 9653
Fax + 375 17 290 9654
E-mail handball_blr@mail.ru



PAST PERFORMANCE

1994	European Championship in Germany	did not qualify
1995	World Championship in Austria/Hungary	did not qualify
1996	European Championship Denmark	did not qualify
1996	Olympic Games in Atlanta	did not qualify
1997	World Championship in Germany	16th place
1998	European Championship in the Netherlands	did not qualify
1999	World Championship in Norway	14th place
2000	Olympic Games in Sydney	did not qualify
2000	European Championship in Romania	11th place
2001	World Championship in Italy	did not qualify
2002	European Championship in Denmark	16th place
2003	World Championship in Croatia	did not qualify
2004	Olympic Games in Athens	did not qualify
2004	European Championship in Hungary	16th place
2005	World Championship in Russia	did not qualify
2006	European Championship in Sweden	did not qualify
2007	World Championship in France	did not qualify
2008	Olympic Games in Beijing	did not qualify

GETTING TO FYR MACEDONIA

Belarus defeated Slovenia in the play-offs to earn their place amongst the last 16 in the final tournament.

BLR v SLO 29:25 (14:13) 25:25 (14:14)

BELARUS IN ACTION

Preliminary Round in Ohrid.

Date	Time	Game
02.12	18:15	SWE v BLR
04.12	20:15	BLR v RUS
06.12	20:15	AUT v BLR



The Coach



Konstantin Charovarov

Konstantin Charovarov was born in 1964 and has been playing handball since 1982. From 1986 -1991, he was part of the former USSR national delegation. In 1988, Charovarov and team were rewarded for their efforts at the Olympics in Seoul. His successful playing career came to an end in 2002. He was offered and accepted the position of head coach for top Belarus club BNTU-BelAZ Minsk Reg. In 2007, the club won the Belarussian Championship for the 15th time. It would be a dream for Belarus if they managed to make it through the preliminaries to the main round, but right now, Coach Charovarov is hoping for a better performance than their previous two EURO outings!

Key Players



Alena Abramovich

At the age of 21, Alena Abramovich made her international debut at the European Championship in Denmark. Until now, she has only played 33 international matches. For Alena and her team-mates, every top competition is of great value; for the experience gained at a EURO is second to none. This year, she will make her third appearance at a European Championship in FYR Macedonia and is thrilled to be taking part in another final tournament. Goalkeeper Abramovich started playing handball at the age of 11. Abramovich, in her time as a player, has guarded the goal for BNTU-BelAZ Minsk Reg., Zvezda Zvenigorod in Russia. In 2006, Abramovich signed to Hódmezovásárhely in Hungary.



Lilia Artsiukhovich

Still riding high on the victory against Slovenia in the play-off matches, Lilia Artsiukhovich is eagerly awaiting the start of EURO 2008. The 21-year old middle back was born in Minsk and has been playing handball for just over 10 years. She has been contracted to the popular BNTU-BelAZ Minsk Reg., and for the past three seasons Lilia has played for the Ukrainian SC Galychanka; who are currently in the 08/09 European Cup more specifically the EHF Cup. Artsiukhovich really wants this to be the best European Championship for Belarus. She aims to assist her team-mates in the best way she knows how.

DEUTSCHER HANDBALLBUND



Strobelallee 56
44139 Dortmund
Germany

Tel + 49 231 911 910
Fax + 49 231 124 061
E-mail geschaeftsstelle@dhb.de
Web www.deutscherhandballbund.de



PAST PERFORMANCE

1994	European Championship in Germany	SILVER
1995	World Championship in Austria/Hungary	5th place
1996	European Championship Denmark	4th place
1996	Olympic Games in Atlanta	6th place
1997	World Championship in Germany	BRONZE
1998	European Championship in the Netherlands	6th place
1999	World Championship in Norway	7th place
2000	Olympic Games in Sydney	did not qualify
2000	European Championship in Romania	9th place
2001	World Championship in Italy	did not qualify
2002	European Championship in Denmark	11th place
2003	World Championship in Croatia	12th place
2004	Olympic Games in Athens	did not qualify
2004	European Championship in Hungary	5th place
2005	World Championship in Russia	6th place
2006	European Championship in Sweden	4th place
2007	World Championship in France	BRONZE
2008	Olympic Games in Beijing	11th place

GETTING TO FYR MACEDONIA

The German national team directly qualified for the final tournament based on the team's performance in Sweden.

GERMANY IN ACTION

Preliminary Round in Skopje.

Date	Time	Game
02.12	20:15	GER v MKD
04.12	18:15	SRB v GER
06.12	18:15	GER v CRO



The Coach



Armin Emrich

Born in 1957 in Bad Kreuznach, Emrich began playing club handball at the age of 21 and then spent the next ten years playing in the German first division for clubs such as Frisch Auf Göttingen and TuS Hofweier and also had his place in the German national team, before becoming a coach in 1982 when he began coaching TuS Schutterwald. His career includes coaching Germany youth and men's national teams as well as the Swiss national team. Since 1998, Emrich has coached SG Wallau/Massenheim. He took over as the head coach for the women's national team in February 2005 and at the 2007 World Championship in France, team Germany picked up second World Championship bronze medal, 10 years after their last WC medal.

Key Players



Nadine Krause

Born in 1982 the left back transferred to FC Kopenhagen Håndbold in 2007 after spending six years with TSV Bayer 04 Leverkusen. It was against Romania in 1999, that Nadine first wore her national colours and in 150 matches she has scored 622 goals. This will be the third European Championship for Krause and she hopes that it will be third time lucky for the team Germany, who have not picked up a medal at the Women's EURO since 1994. Krause refuses to underestimate any team, as she knows that no match is won until the final whistle blows.



Sabine Englert

Born in 1981, Sabine started playing handball at the age of five. TuSpo Obernburg was the first club to sign her, she then moved to TGS Walldorf, TV 05 Mainzlar and TSV Bayer 04 Leverkusen. In 2007, she moved to Austria to play with the renowned Hypo Niederösterreich. In 2005 with TSV Bayer 04 Leverkusen she won the Challenge Cup, in 2007, she earned her first World Championship Bronze and her latest victory came with Hypo Niederösterreich, when the team won the Austrian Championship. In 2001, Sabine took part in her first international match against Denmark and has played a total of 144 matches wearing her national colours.

HRVATSKI RUKOMETNI SAVEZ



Trg Kresimira Cosica 11
10000 Zagreb
Croatia

Tel + 385 1 4576 111
Fax + 385 1 4573 036
E-mail hrvatski-rukometni-savez@hrs.hr
Web www.hrs.hr

PAST PERFORMANCE

1994	European Championship in Germany	5th place
1995	World Championship in Austria/Hungary	10th place
1996	European Championship Denmark	6th place
1996	Olympic Games in Atlanta	did not qualify
1997	World Championship in Germany	6th place
1998	European Championship in The Netherlands	did not qualify
1999	World Championship in Norway	did not qualify
2000	Olympic Games in Sydney	did not qualify
2000	European Championship in Romania	did not qualify
2001	World Championship in Italy	did not qualify
2002	European Championship in Denmark	did not qualify
2003	World Championship in Croatia	14th place
2004	Olympic Games in Athens	did not qualify
2004	European Championship in Hungary	13th place
2005	World Championship in Russia	11th place
2006	European Championship in Sweden	7th place
2007	World Championship in France	9th place
2008	Olympic Games in Beijing	did not qualify

GETTING TO FYR MACEDONIA

Croatia defeated Montenegro in the play-offs, winning a place in the final tournament.

MNE v CRO 23:31 (10:16) 40:35 (21:13)

CROATIA IN ACTION

Preliminary Round in Skopje.

Date	Time	Game
02.12	17:45	CRO v SRB
04.12	20:15	MKD v CRO
06.12	18:15	GER v CRO



The Coach



Zdravko Zovko

Zdravko Zovko was born in 1955 and is a former member of the Yugoslavian national team. As a player, he played in the first official match of the Croatian national team against Japan that took place in Zagreb in 1990. In his illustrious career as a player, he won numerous trophies, the most memorable being a silver medal at the World Championship in 1982, a gold medal at the Olympic Games in Los Angeles in 1984. Since his transition into the realm of coaching, Zdravko won the European club championship with HC Zagreb and has coached a number of teams including Medvescak, Zagreb, Syracuse (ITA), Celje (SLO), MKB Veszprem (HUN), and HC Lokomotiva Zagreb. He is currently coaching HC Podravka Vegeta.

Key Players



Andrea Penezic

Andrea Penezic was born in Zagreb and has been playing handball since early childhood. The 23-year old left back was contracted to HC Lokomotiva Zagreb from 2002 – 2008. At the beginning of the 08/09 season Penezic signed a contract with another top Croatian club – HC Podravka Vegeta. She made the selection for the national team in the winter of 2002 and made her debut against Germany. Her success on an international level is limited to a single bronze medal, which was won at the mediterranean Games in Spain in 2005. Thrilled to be at the 8th European Championship, Andrea is looking forward to all her matches in the preliminary round as they are bound to be full of surprises!



Kristina Franic

Franic is a rising star within the Croatian national team and although she is still relatively new to the international scene and still one of the youngest players in the team, the right back has made over 70 appearances for Croatia and has also managed to put more than a few goals in the nets of her opponents. Her first international match was the World Championship qualifier against Russia in 2005. Kristina began her handball career at the club HC Vranjic before she moved to HC Podravka Vegeta where she has been for the past 11 seasons proving that on a club and international level, Franic is a valuable key player that the team intends to hold on to!

MACEDONIAN HANDBALL FEDERATION



Bul. KUZMAN JOSIFOVSKI PITU br
91000 Skopje
FYR Macedonia

Tel + 389 22 464 444
Fax + 389 22 463 163
E-mail handball@macedoniahandball.com
Web www.macedoniahandball.com



PAST PERFORMANCE

1994	European Championship in Germany	did not qualify
1995	World Championship in Austria/Hungary	did not qualify
1996	European Championship Denmark	did not qualify
1996	Olympic Games in Atlanta	did not qualify
1997	World Championship in Germany	7th place
1998	European Championship in the Netherlands	8th place
1999	World Championship in Norway	8th place
2000	Olympic Games in Sydney	did not qualify
2000	European Championship in Romania	did not qualify
2001	World Championship in Italy	21st place
2002	European Championship in Denmark	did not qualify
2003	World Championship in Croatia	did not qualify
2004	Olympic Games in Athens	did not qualify
2004	European Championship in Hungary	did not qualify
2005	World Championship in Russia	15th place
2006	European Championship in Sweden	12th place
2007	World Championship in France	12th place
2008	Olympic Games in Beijing	did not qualify

GETTING TO FYR MACEDONIA

As the hosting national team, FYR Macedonia qualified directly for the final tournament.

FYR MACEDONIA IN ACTION

Preliminary Round in Skopje.

Date	Time	Game
02.12	20:15	GER v MKD
04.12	20:15	MKD v CRO
06.12	20:15	MKD v SRB



The Coach



Vladimir Gligorov

Gligorov was born in 1963 in the Kavadarci region of FYR Macedonia. He began playing handball on a professional level at the age of 15 and the first club to sign Gligorov was HC "Vardar Vatrostalna" Skopje where he stayed for 10 years. In 1990, he took his first coaching position as with HC "Skopje" as an assistant. Combining a playing and coaching career, in 1995 he took on the task of coaching the junior team of club HC "Vardar Vatrostalna", the club that gave him his first chance as a player. When he stopped playing in 1996, his coaching assignments took him to Saudi Arabia and Lebanon. In 2008, he returned to FYR Macedonia and agreed to not only coach HC "Kometal Gjorce Petrov", but the women's national team as well.

Key Players



Biljana Crvenkoska

For Biljana, it would be fantastic if she could realise the dream of winning the 8th European Championship on home soil. Born in Skopje in 1983, at the age of 10 she began playing handball. Having carved her place as a talented middle back, Biljana started out with HC "Kometal Gjorce Petrov" in the 01/02 Champions League season. She spent six seasons in FYR Macedonia before moving to Greece spending two seasons with GAS Anagennisi Artas, with the pull towards home too great, she returned to HC "Kometal Gjorce Petrov" for an additional two seasons. However, times have changed and in 2008 she signed to Üsküdar B.S.K (TUR). With her new club, she is now playing in the EHF Cup averaging 5 goals per match.



Yulija Portjanko

Portjanko signed her first professional contract with Galychanka Lviv, where she spent two seasons, in the Ukraine at the age of 18. Since 2003, she made a permanent move to FYR Macedonia and has spent the past eight sporting seasons with HC "Kometal Gjorce Petrov". The right back started playing handball at the age of six and has devoted herself to the sport ever since. She made her international debut against Poland in 1998 and has stepped out for her national team on numerous occasions. Despite the lack of success at the previous European Championships, Yulija hopes that the atmosphere in the Skopje will spur the team to advance beyond the main round.

RUKOMETNI SAVEZ SRBIJE



Obilicev venac 4/II
11000 Beograd
Serbia

Tel + 381 11 262 5139
Fax + 381 11 303 6776
E-mail rss@eunet.rs
Web www.rss.org.yu



PAST PERFORMANCE

1994	European Championship in Germany	did not qualify
1995	World Championship in Austria/Hungary	did not qualify
1996	European Championship Denmark	did not qualify
1996	Olympic Games in Atlanta	did not qualify
1997	World Championship in Germany	did not qualify
1998	European Championship in the Netherlands	10th place
1999	World Championship in Norway	10th place
2000	Olympic Games in Sydney	did not qualify
2000	European Championship in Romania	did not qualify
2001	World Championship in Italy	14th place
2002	European Championship in Denmark	14th place
2003	World Championship in Croatia	did not qualify
2004	Olympic Games in Athens	did not qualify
2004	European Championship in Hungary	did not qualify
2005	World Championship in Russia	5th place
2006	European Championship in Sweden	14th place
2007	World Championship in France	did not qualify
2008	Olympic Games in Beijing	did not qualify

GETTING TO FYR MACEDONIA

Serbia defeated the Netherlands in the play-offs earning a place in the final tournament.

NED v SRB 28:31 (13:17) 24:23 (15:13)

SERBIA IN ACTION

Preliminary Round in Skopje.

Date	Time	Game
02.12	17:45	CRO v SRB
04.12	18:15	SRB v GER
06.12	20:15	MKD v SRB



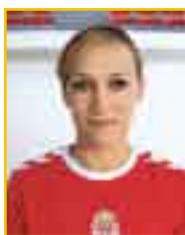
The Coach



Caslav Dincic

Raised in the Kosovska Vitina region of Serbia, Caslav Dincic is currently resident in Kreuztal (GER). With handball being his staple sport discipline, he played for Partizan Belgrade and TuS Ferndorf before turning his hand to the art of coaching. In addition to both clubs, he also coached TuS Weibern. Caslav Dincic took over coaching the national team of Serbia in 2007. The European Championship is extremely important for Dincic as there has been a definite rebuilding of the Serbian national team that has taken tremendous energies. Dincic has a wealth of experience he intends to implement at the European Championship and will focus on moving beyond the main round.

Key Players



Jelena Eric

Jelena Eric is thrilled to be part of the Serbian delegation to the European Championship. She has just over 60 internationals under her belt and has scored nigh on 200 goals for Serbia. In 2007, Jelena signed a contract with the Cup Winners' Cup participants KIF Vejen in Denmark. Her club career started at Jugopetrol Beograd of the former Yugoslavia, where she spent three seasons. In the former Serbia & Montenegro, Eric played in the EHF Cup with ZRK Knjaz Milos, before making the move to Denmark. Jelena was born in the Novi Sad region of Serbia and in addition to the mother tongue, she also speaks English and Danish and parallel to playing handball the left back is also studying economics.



Tatjana Medved

Tatjana Medved has turned her sports knowledge to her advantage and not only is she a professional player; she is also a sports agent. Her playing career began in 1981, in the city of Novi Sad in Serbia with the local club Zeleznicar. She stayed with the club until 1990 before moving to Vozdovac in Belgrade. Medved has played in Spain, FYR Macedonia, France, Denmark, in 2008, Tatjana signed a two year contract with SK Aarhus. She made her international debut in 1991 and has played over 100 matches and has score over 280 goals from the left back. She is hoping for European Championship medal in 2008 and is ready to give her all for her team.

PLAYING SCHEDULE

Preliminary Round

Date	Time	Game	A	Skopje
03.12	18:15	HUN v ROU		
	20:15	FRA v DEN		
05.12	18:15	ROU v FRA		
	20:15	DEN v HUN		
07.12	18:15	FRA v HUN		
	20:15	DEN v ROU		

Date	Time	Game	B	Ohrid
03.12	17:15	POR v UKR		
	19:15	NOR v ESP		
05.12	17:15	ESP v POR		
	19:15	UKR v NOR		
07.12	17:15	ESP v UKR		
	19:15	NOR v POR		

Date	Time	Game	C	Ohrid
02.12	18:15	SWE v BLR		
	20:15	RUS v AUT		
04.12	18:15	AUT v SWE		
	20:15	BLR v RUS		
06.12	18:15	RUS v SWE		
	20:15	AUT v BLR		

Date	Time	Game	D	Skopje
02.12	17:45	CRO v SRB		
	20:15	GER v MKD		
04.12	18:15	SRB v GER		
	20:15	MKD v CRO		
06.12	18:15	GER v CRO		
	20:15	MKD v SRB		

Main Round

Date	Time	Game	I	Ohrid (Groups A & B)
09.12	16:15	v		
	18:15	v		
	20:15	v		
10.12	16:15	v		
	18:15	v		
	20:15	v		
11.12	16:15	v		
	18:15	v		
	20:15	v		

Date	Time	Game	II	Skopje (Groups C & D)
08.12	16:15	v		
	18:15	v		
	20:15	v		
10.12	16:15	v		
	18:15	v		
	20:15	v		
11.12	16:15	v		
	18:15	v		
	20:15	v		

Note: The order of the matches for the main round will be published after the preliminary round due to TV schedules.

Placement Matches, Semi-finals and the Final

Date	Time	Game	Skopje
13.12	11:30	place 5/6	
	14:00	semi-final 1	
	16:30	semi-final 2	

Date	Time	Game	Skopje
14.12	14:00	place 3/4	
	16:30	final	

RESULTS BULLETIN

Preliminary Round

A	<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Game</i>	<i>Result</i>
Skopje	03.12	18:15	HUN v ROU	
		20:15	FRA v DEN	
	05.12	18:15	ROU v FRA	
		20:15	DEN v HUN	
	07.12	18:15	FRA v HUN	
		20:15	DEN v ROU	

Group A Placings

Place 1
Place 2
Place 3
Place 4

B	<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Game</i>	<i>Result</i>
Ohrid	03.12	17:15	POR v UKR	
		19:15	NOR v ESP	
	05.12	17:15	ESP v POR	
		19:15	UKR v NOR	
	07.12	17:15	ESP v UKR	
		19:15	NOR v POR	

Group B Placings

Place 1
Place 2
Place 3
Place 4

C	<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Game</i>	<i>Result</i>
Ohrid	02.12	18:15	SWE v BLR	
		20:15	RUS v AUT	
	04.12	18:15	AUT v SWE	
		20:15	BLR v RUS	
	06.12	18:15	RUS v SWE	
		20:15	AUT v BLR	

Group C Placings

Place 1
Place 2
Place 3
Place 4

D	<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Game</i>	<i>Result</i>
Skopje	02.12	17:45	CRO v SRB	
		20:15	GER v MKD	
	04.12	18:15	SRB v GER	
		20:15	MKD v CRO	
	06.12	18:15	GER v CRO	
		20:15	MKD v SRB	

Group D Placings

Place 1
Place 2
Place 3
Place 4

RESULTS BULLETIN

Main Round

Ohrid	Date	Time	Teams	Result	
	09.12	16:15			
		18:15			
		20:15			
	10.12	16:15			
		18:15			
		20:15			
	11.12	16:15			
		18:15			
		20:15			

Group I Placings

Place 1	Place 4
Place 2	Place 5
Place 3	Place 6

Skopje	Date	Time	Teams	Result	
	08.12	16:15			
		18:15			
		20:15			
	10.12	16:15			
		18:15			
		20:15			
	11.12	16:15			
		18:15			
		20:15			

Group II Placings

Place 1	Place 4
Place 2	Place 5
Place 3	Place 6

RESULTS BULLETIN

Placement Match

Skopje	Date	Time	Game	Teams	Result
	13.12	11:30	place 5/6		

Semi-finals

Skopje	Date	Time	Game	Teams	Result
	13.12	14:00	semi-final 1		
		16:30	semi-final 2		

Finals

Skopje	Date	Time	Game	Teams	Result
	14.12	14:00	place 3/4		
		16:30	final		

Final Ranking

1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	
6.	
7.	
8.	
9.	
10.	
11.	
12.	
13.	
14.	
15.	
16.	

All Star Team

Top Scorer	
Goalkeeper	
Left wing	
Left back	
Middle back	
Line player	
Right back	
Right wing	
Best Defender	
MVP	

Qualified for Euro 2010

WINNER EURO 08	DEN*	NOR*
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* DEN & NOR qualify as organisers.

Qualified for 2009 World Championship

RUS	CHN		
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Nijha developed the new goal for the European Championships. Goalkeepers and players were very enthusiastic about the quality. The specially designed jetsystem gives the goalkeeper more safety.



Specially designed for more safety, the fastening of the net is inside the post.



Fun for kids
Besides the development of competition equipment, Nijha is also involved in developing special products for youngsters. Now kids with the right equipment will make handball even more fun for kids.

