

# EHF CODE OF CONDUCT AGREEMENT

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## European Club Competitions including EHF Champions League

This code of conduct agreement (Code) applies to all clubs, club officials, club related players, and club related persons (all four groups subsequently summarised as clubs) regarding European Club Competitions including EHF Champions League events.

### Participation in EHF competitions:

1. Clubs shall act and compete in all competitions and events with an honest effort to follow the rules and the spirit of fairness and sportsmanlike conduct. The goal of the competition is to give one's best effort while displaying honesty, integrity, and sportsmanship.
2. Clubs shall display courtesy and respect toward the opposing team, the EHF and its officials as well as EHF Partners and other EHF related organizations and persons.
3. Clubs shall take all necessary personnel and organisational measures to ensure these requirements.

### Contact to EHF/EHF officials:

4. Contacts of a club or a National Federation concerned and EHF officials nominated for a match shall be carried out only by clearly identified persons who have high standards of integrity and honesty. The responsibility of such conduct is with the respective host club.
5. Persons who are supposed to be in contact with nominated EHF officials shall be informed on the provisions of this Code, on its principles and on the consequences in case of offences.
6. Any communication, verbal and non-verbal, which could influence the acting of an EHF official in connection with a match is a violation of an EHF event.

### Due Conduct - Financial and Organisational Integrity:

7. Clubs are obliged to guarantee the integrity of the competition in every respect - this including an independent ownership, leadership/management, administration and/or sporting performance from all other handball clubs in the respective competition or a competition which is linked to the respective competition. No individual or legal entity of the club may have control or influence over any other club participating in the respective competition or a competition which is linked to the respective competition – this including ownership, leadership/management, administration and/or sporting performance.
8. Clubs are obliged to ensure that all parties involved, especially all EHF officials are treated in an utmost neutral way and not exposed to any endangering situation as undue contacts.
9. Clubs shall have an impeachable conduct which includes avoiding any words or actions before, during or after a match which may mislead an EHF official or any other persons being on duty on the behalf of the EHF as well as any information which is likely to influence the acting of an EHF official on a long-term basis.
10. No services shall be offered to any EHF official beyond the necessary guest hospitality concerning board, lodging and transport by the hosting club.
11. No presents or gifts shall be offered or promised to any EHF official before, during or after a match, except small items of remembrance.
12. No money or anything of value shall be given to any third party, where there is reason to believe it will be passed on to anyone involved in the purpose of influencing decisions or results.

13. Clubs shall comply with all applicable international, national and local anti-bribery standards as well as the IHF Code of Ethics.
14. Clubs shall not, directly or indirectly, make or offer bribes, kickbacks, or other payments of money or anything of value to anyone, including officials, employees, or representatives of the EHF, of any club, company, or public or international organization, or to any other third party, for the purpose of wrongfully obtaining or retaining in any way undue advantages in connection with a match or a match result.

Communication:

15. Clubs shall ensure that this Code (and other relevant information) is provided to all club related persons.
16. Clubs shall ensure that the disclosure of secret information on the nomination of EHF officials is limited to those persons being absolutely necessary for a correct preparation of the game or event.

Obligation to report:

17. All clubs' officials and other persons and organisation accountable to the clubs are obliged to immediately report any observations in connection with and/or violations of this Code to the EHF.
18. The courtesy of clubs and their officials which shall be presented towards the EHF and other teams shall also be guaranteed towards the own delegation members. Any action of a delegation official/member at any time shall safeguard the integrity, well-being and health of the persons involved.
19. All EHF officials are obliged to immediately report any observations in connection with and violations of this Code to the EHF.
20. Based on such reports proceedings before the responsible legal bodies within the EHF will be initiated accordingly.

Handling and Follow-up:

21. Any communication, verbal and non-verbal, which could influence the acting of an EHF official in connection with a match or an EHF event is a violation of this Code.
22. Clubs have to guarantee the utmost protection of the nominated EHF officials during their stay in the host country. This includes a security service during the entire stay in order to make sure that no undue influence or approach by third parties is possible without recognition, if necessary.
23. Any approach of a third party can be regarded as a breach of the required protection obligation and the home/organising club shall be directly accountable for such approach/breach.
24. Depending on the severity of the violation/offence, warnings and punishments according to the EHF Legal Regulations and the EHF List of Penalties up to consequences in the full extend of the ruling within this Agreement may be awarded by the responsible legal body within the EHF. Legal remedy can be used accordingly.
25. Violations of this Code as well as comparable actions against basic principles of fairness and sport can result in a suspension of the club from current and future international competitions in accordance with the applicable EHF statutes and regulations.
26. Clubs as well as their representatives, members and other related persons commit
  - their availability as a witness whenever requested; they commit to reply every request and interrogations to the best of their knowledge and belief;
  - to immediately and on short notice make available material which may serve as a proof regarding violations committed by themselves or others; such proofs may be, but not limited to mobile phones, i-pads, laptops, data storage, documents and documentations, or any other items in their possession or property.

- to be available for expertise upon request and to observe the relating timelines.

Declaration:

27. The undersigning club confirms that it will participate in EHF competitions in a correct, fair and sportsmanlike way and it guarantees that it will not influence any competitions and officials in an undue way or try to manipulate any result. This includes undue influence, gifts and presents, trial and acceptance of offers for manipulation and/or respective attempts in connection with the perspective of certain betting or lottery achievements.
28. With the signature below the signing club acknowledges that the Code and the related penalties in case of violations are understood and confirmed. In addition, it confirms that it will pass on the Code at hand to all parties being in contact with EHF officials.
29. The mutual consent regarding the Code is a basic condition for the participation of a club in any European Club competitions including the EHF Champions League.
30. The signed Code contains a handwritten signature and a stamp at the end and handwritten initials on each page. The full document with initials and signature at the end of the document (foreseen space) needs to be returned to the EHF together with the registration of the club for the respective season.

The undersigning club/representing person confirms that he/she will involve and participate in all kind of tasks and responsibilities as well as competitions, activities and events in a correct, fair and sportsmanlike way and guarantees, not to influence any action/competitions/match and any persons involved in an undue way or try to manipulate any decisions or results. This includes undue influence, accepting and presenting gifts and presents, trial and acceptance of offers for manipulation and/or respective attempts in connection with the perspective of betting or lottery achievements.

With the signature below the signing club/organization acknowledges that the EHF Code of Conduct and the related penalties for violations are understood and confirmed. The signed Code contains a handwritten signature at the end and handwritten initials on each page. The full document with initials and signature at the end of the document (foreseen space) needs to be returned to the EHF together with the registration for an EHF competition/activity. The provision of the correctly signing forms constitutes a pre-condition for participation in EHF activities. A fixed position for up-loading the signed Code may be made available by the EHF.

By signing below, the club affirms having read and agreeing to abide by the Code. The club thus honours the letter and spirit of this Code.

**THE SUBMISSION OF THIS DOCUMENT (ALLTOGETHER THREE PAGES) CONSTITUTES AN INTEGRAL PART OF A VALID REGISTRATION FOR THE EHF CLUB COMPETITIONS SEASON 2024/2025**

**Name of Club:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Federation:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

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**Club's stamp and signature (signature by a person having authority to commit the club):**

Status: 10 August 2023/mf