



MEN'S 18 EHF CHAMPIONSHIP I & II **(Slovakia & Kosovo)** **YAC Qualitative Analysis**



M18 EHF CHAMPIONSHIP

SLOVAKIA • 12–18 AUGUST 2024



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KOSOVO • 12–18 AUGUST 2024

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INTRODUCTION

The M18 EHF Championship I and II 2024 in Slovakia and Kosovo qualitative summary provides an analysis of the performance of the participating teams and their players who competed at the tournaments from 12 to 18 August 2024.

Experts: Felix Schmidt and Edwin Kippers

TOURNAMENT – FACTS & FIGURES

- 8 teams in Slovakia competed in two groups. 7 teams in Kosovo competed in one group of 4 and one group of 3 teams.
- In Slovakia 20 matches and in Kosovo 15 matches were played over the course of 7 days.
- 1,226 goals were scored in Slovakia with an overall efficiency of 67.8 per cent, while in Kosovo 948 goals were scored with an efficiency of 59.1 per cent.
- The goalkeepers in Slovakia made 399 saves out of 1,625 shots, at an efficiency of 25.6 per cent. In Kosovo the goalkeepers made 385 saves out of 1,332 shots, at an efficiency of 25.6 per cent. We must keep in mind that in Kosovo seven teams participated in the tournament.
- Bosnia-Herzegovina, Netherlands, Latvia and Türkiye played in the final weekend in Slovakia.
- In Kosovo Luxembourg, Belgium, Georgia and Kosovo played the final weekend.

MATCHES & PLAYERS — FACTS

- At the M18 Championship in Slovakia the top two goalkeepers in terms of save percentage vs matches played were Mihaljo Vujadinovic (BIH – 62 saves – 5 matches played at 34.8 per cent), Sebastian Fugas (SVK – 27 saves – 5 matches played at 27.6 per cent)
- At the M18 Championship in Kosovo the top two goalkeepers in terms of save percentage vs matches played were Olt Kabashi (KOS – 5 matches played - 67 saves at 41.6 per cent), Aleksandar Zaemdzhikov (BUL – 39 saves – 4 matches played at 38.2%).
- The top three goal scorers in combination with percentage in Slovakia were Sadik Emre Herseklioglu (TUR – 60 goals at 69.0 per cent), Alen Hadzimuhamedovic (BIH – 48 goals at 78.7 per cent) and Benediktas Labutis (LTH – 42 goals at 83.3 per cent).
- The top three goal scorers in combination with percentage in Kosovo were Olsi Mulaj (KOS – 44 goals at 67.7 per cent), Ivan Petkov (BUL – 33 goals at 62.3 per cent) and Louis Fransen (BEL – 31 goals at 70.5 per cent).

COACHES

- Two foreign coaches (KOS and LUX) were both active in the Kosovo tournament, equating to 28.6 per cent of the participating teams in Kosovo.
- Lithuania had the only female assistant coach in the Slovakian tournament.

DEFENCE ANALYSIS



DEFENCE GENERAL ASPECTS

- The teams at the M18 Championship I and II 2024 used a variety of defensive formations.
- Looking at the number of blocked shots and steals Belgium and Kosovo were the top 2 teams in the Championship in Kosovo with the most steals and blocks in defence (respectively 38 steals/8 blocks and 33 steals/12 blocks). In Slovakia there was no data.

DEFENCE TACTICAL ASPECTS

- Most of the teams used a 6-0 zone defence, although with different styles:
 - 2nd defenders aim to pressure decision making of the playmaker.

- Some teams played a 5:1 defensive system as a second system.
 - Defenders anticipating passes and creating steals.
 - Pressing action 5:1 defence

- Aggressive offensive defensive system.
 - 3:2:1 defence

 - 3:3 defence basic principle

- Best individual defenders:
 - Aim for attackers' fault

- Attack transition attack – defence together with the goalkeeper:
 - Quick retreat focus defending the centre and blocking the line player
 - Disturbing the rhythm

ATTACK ANALYSIS



ATTACK GENERAL ASPECTS

- At the M18 EHF Championship in Slovakia, 1,198 goals were scored from 1,771 shots, at a rate of 67.6 per cent.
- At the M18 EHF Championship in Kosovo, 948 goals were scored from 1,586 shots, at a rate of 59.8 per cent.

ATTACK TACTICAL ASPECTS

- In general:
 - Tactical plays often combined with other tactical solutions and co-operative actions.
 - All teams prepared their tactical plays with pre-movements.
 - Isolation defenders.
 - Generate numerical advantage.
- In common attack, most teams played crossings against zone defence, transitions:
 - cross between back players
 - cross with the line player
 - wing transition
- Numerical superiority:
 - teams often played with opening back player.

 - teams often played with 2 line players to break down the defence
- Counterattack mostly played after technical faults and steals:
 - Some teams play the counterattack with a tactical solutions like cross between back players
- Fast throw off
 - To create a 1 vs 1 or 2 vs 2 situation

ATTACK ANALYSIS



ATTACK TACTICAL ASPECTS

- Attack transition defence – attack together with the goalkeeper:
 - Quick retreat has improved.
 - Often begins when a goal is scored.
- Passive play
 - Co-operation action depending on the number of passes.
- Completing the attack with free throw when passive play:
 - Setting a block for the shooter

SHOTS BY POSITION

| Rank SVK | Team | Total | 9m % | 6m % | Wing Shot % | 7m Penalty Shots% |
|----------|------|-------|-------|-------|-------------|-------------------|
| 1 | BIH | 75.9% | 65.6% | 78% | 91.3% | 95.5% |
| 2 | LAT | 63.2% | 57.1% | 70.8% | 66.1% | 63.2% |
| 3 | TUR | 67.3% | 45.8% | 70.6% | 75% | 84.2% |
| Rank KOS | Team | Total | 9m % | 6m % | Wing Shot % | 7m Penalty Shots% |
| 1 | KOS | 67.5% | 41.2% | 74.3% | 77.5% | 57.3% |
| 2 | GEO | 60.4% | 40% | 65.4% | 62.5% | 80.8% |
| 3 | BEL | 62.6% | 47.3% | 72.4% | 58.8% | 77.3% |



PROFILE OF THE MODERN PLAYER

PLAYERS FOR THE FUTURE

Launched in 2019 by the EHF, the Respect Your Talent programme promotes the holistic development of talented players both on and off the handball court, addressing topics such as the dual career, anti-doping, mental fitness, media, and sports law. Over the past few years, a plethora of young players has taken part in the programme, mentored by former stalwarts like Ivano Balic, Vid Kavticnik, Victor Tomas, Stefan Lövgren and Carlos Prieto after shining in the younger age categories of the EHF EURO. Now, as those players come of age, they are ready to impress at the highest level at the senior Men's EHF EURO.









CONCLUSIONS AND FINDINGS



- In Slovakia, Bosnia-Herzegovina delivered a highly dominant performance throughout the whole tournament. The teams were physically impressive. The top teams' success was largely driven by the presence of exceptional individual players.
- In Kosovo the home team was the most impressive showing the best defence efficiency even though they lost against BEL. The contribution of the wings was higher at both the number of goals and attempts. Unfortunately, the number of technical mistakes was very high.

ALL-STAR TEAMS

SLOVAKIA

| | | |
|---|--|---|
| GOALKEEPER Mihajlo Vujadinovic  | LEFT WING Benjamin Gagyi  | LEFT BACK Sadik Emre Herseklioglu  |
| CENTRE BACK Alen Hadzimuhamedovic  | RIGHT BACK Valdis Kalnins  | RIGHT WING Andis Bors  |
| LINE PLAYER Kayra Mete  | MVP Alem Hadzic  | |

KOSOVO

| | | |
|---|--|--|
| GOALKEEPER Olt Kabashi  | LEFT WING Aleksandre Shioshvili  | LEFT BACK Davit Grishikashvili  |
| CENTRE BACK Andre Seth  | RIGHT BACK Bob Mousel  | RIGHT WING Louis Fransen  |
| LINE PLAYER David Khelisupali  | MVP Andre Seth  | |



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