



Men's EHF Cup 2013/14
Group Phase Draw
Media Information



EUROPEAN HANDBALL
FEDERATION

Facts & Figures

Before the Group Phase draw of the Men's EHF Cup

The playing system remains the same, but except two clubs remaining from the premiere season, all faces will be new in the Group Phase of the Men's EHF Cup. Here are some facts and figures before the Group Phase draw on Thursday (12:00 hrs. local time, live stream on ehfTV.com).

Only two teams of last season's group phase made it back to those 16 teams, which clinched their berth from the third qualification round - last season's finalists and hosts of the premiere edition of the EHF Cup Finals HBC Nantes from France and Tatran Presov from Slovakia.

All 14 remaining teams had either been playing in different EHF European Cup competitions last season, or have their debut on international stage.

From EHF Cup to VELUX EHF Champions League

Five teams of last season's Group Phase qualified for the VELUX EHF Champions League this season. KIF Kolding-Kobenhavn (DEN), Naturhouse La Rioja (ESP), Rhein Neckar Löwen (GER), Orlen Wisla Plock (POL) and HC Motor Zaporozhye (UKR) proved that the reformed EHF Cup is an ideal platform to prepare for the European top flight.

From VELUX EHF Champions League to EHF Cup

Due to different final rankings in the domestic leagues and due to the result of the VELUX EHF Champions League qualification in September some big names and former EHF Champions League participants are part of the EHF Cup Group Phase now.

Like SC Magdeburg (GER, 2002) in the previous season even one former EHF Champions League winner is part of the group stage. This time it is Montpellier Agglomeration from France.

Exactly ten years after raising the trophy they first missed the direct qualification for the Champions League by only one goal compared to Dunkerque in the domestic league – and then failed in the qualification play-offs against Polish runners-ups Wisla Plock.

Additionally five more teams participated in the VELUX EHF Champions League in the previous season - Reale Ademar Leon (ESP), Chambéry Savoie (FRA), Füchse Berlin (GER), Pick Szeged (HUN) and HCM Constanta (ROU).

From Champions League qualification to EHF Cup Group Phase: All three teams, which failed in the wildcard qualification play-offs, have qualified for the EHF Cup Group Phase now: Füchse Berlin (GER, loser against HSV Hamburg), Montpellier Agglomeration (FRA, loser against Wisla Plock) and Pick Szeged (HUN, loser against Metalurg Skopje).

Additionally HCM Constanta (ROU) and Tatran Presov (SVK) made it to the EHF Cup Group Phase after losing their respective finals in the Champions League qualification tournaments.

The only qualification tournament finalist, which missed the EHF Cup Group Phase were Serbian champions RK Vojvodina after losing both third round qualification matches against Skjern Handball from Denmark.

From zero to hero: HC Sporta Hlohovec from Slovakia are the only team, which had to go all the way by now, starting in the Qualification Round 1. After eliminating Otmar St. Gallen (SUI) in the first and Bosnian champions Borac Banja Luka in the second round, the Slovakian side made their dream come true by sailing past OIF Arendal from Norway.

Kristianstad (SWE), Csurgó (HUN), Skjern (DEN), Lugi (SWE), Sporting (POR), Chambéry (FRA), Zomimak (MKD) and Nantes (FRA) started their mission in Round 2 – as all remaining seven teams were set in qualification Round 3.

Nine national champions failed on their way to the group phase in qualification: Esch (LUX), Banja Luka (BIH), Haukar (ISL), Maccabi (ISR) in Round 2 and Hard (AUT), Vojvodina (SRB), Elverum (NOR), Besiktas (TUR) and AEK Athens (GRE) in Round 3.

The only national champions among those 16 teams are: HCM Constanta (ROU) and Tatran Presov (SVK).

Nations: By looking upon the nations which are represented France take Germany's role of last season by three teams among the 16 participants (Montpellier, Nantes and Chambéry), followed by Sweden (Kristianstad and Lugí), Slovakia (Presov and Hlohovec), Hungary (Szeged, Csurgói) and Germany (Berlin, Hannover-Burgdorf) with two teams each.

All other nations (Denmark, Spain, FYR Macedonia, Portugal and Romania) are represented by one team.

None of those three German teams, which were part of the EHF Cup Group Phase are back again, as defending champions Rhein Neckar Löwen progressed to the VELUX EHF Champions League and former EHF Cup champions Göppingen and Magdeburg did not qualify for any European competition.

The comparison of nations to last season's Group Phase of the EHF Cup: Germany (3, now 2), Denmark (2, now 1), Slovenia (32 now 0), Spain (1, now 1), France (1, now 3), Norway (1, now 0), Poland (1, now 0), Romania (1, now 1), Slovakia (1, now 2), Sweden (1, now 2), Turkey (1, now 0), Ukraine (1, now 0)

European rookies

Hannover-Burgdorf, Csurgói and Zomimak made it to the group phase of the EHF Cup in their respective first ever European season.

Comeback

Montpellier Agglomération have their comeback in the EHF Cup after participating in this competition in 1997 for the last time. One year they were part of the Cup Winners' Cup and 14 straight times they qualified for the EHF Champions League. Swedish side Lugí had been part of the EHF Cup in 1998 for the last (and only time).

Big names on the court

And some big names and even Champions League winners are part of those teams in the Group Phase. Magnus Jernemyr (Lugí), Konstantin Igropoulo and Iker Romero (both Füchse Berlin) won the VELUX EHF FINAL4 in 2011 with FC Barcelona.

While Valero Rivera, Jorge Maqueda and Alberto Entrerrios (all HBC Nantes) became world champions with Spain in January 2013, Thierry Omeyer and Michael Guigou are the most decorated players of the group phase. They were part of the 2003 Champions League winner squad of Montpellier.

With the national team of France they won twice Olympic Games (2008, 2012), twice World Championships (2009, 2011) and also twice EHF EURO (2006, 2010). Besides that the goalkeeping legend Omeyer also gained the World Champion title in 2001 and three EHF Champions League titles in 2007, 2010 and 2012).

EHF Cup Group Phase Draw Preview

Three qualification rounds of the Men's EHF Cup are over and remaining 16 teams will learn their next opponents on Thursday, 5 December at 12:00 hrs, when the draw of the group phase in Vienna will define all four groups.

Based on the competition's ranking four pots have been determined with four teams in each. There will be a country protection applied during the draw as two teams from the same country cannot meet in the same group. France has three sides, while Germany, Hungary, Slovakia and Sweden have a double representation in the top 16. The EHF Cup Group Phase will start on 8 February and the last (sixth) round will be played on 29/30 March.

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Live coverage of the draw event

All handball fans can follow the whole draw event on Thursday, 5 December live on various channels. There will be a live streaming from the draw venue – Gartenhotel Altmannsdorf 2 in Vienna on www.ehfTV.com, which will also cover the draw of the Men's Challenge Cup Last 16 at 11:00 hrs local time.

The up-to-the-second coverage of both draws will be also available via liveticker on www.eurohandball.com and on [@ehfmedia](https://twitter.com/ehfmedia) Twitter channel.

Seedings for the EHF Cup Group Phase Draw

(Thursday, 5 December, 12:00 hrs local time)

- Pot 1:** Pick Szeged (HUN)
Montpellier Agglomeration HB (FRA)
Füchse Berlin (GER)
TSV Hannover-Burgdorf (GER)
- Pot 2:** Tatran Presov (SVK),
Skjern Haandbold (DEN),
HCM Constanta (ROU)
Reale Ademar Leon (ESP)
- Pot 3:** Lugí HF (SWE)
Chambery Savoie Handball (FRA)
HBC Nantes (FRA)
HC Zomimak-M (MKD)
- Pot 4:** IFK Kristianstad (SWE)
Csurgói KK (HUN)
Sporta Hlohovec (SVK)
Sporting CP (POR)



Berlin to host 2014 EHF Cup Finals

The EHF has announced that the right to organise the second edition of the final phase of the EHF Cup has been awarded to the EHF Cup participant, Füchse Berlin. The two-day event will be played in the Max-Schmeling-Hall, which has a capacity of 9,000 spectators.

Six further bids from Meshkov Brest, London GD, AEK Athens, Montpellier Agglomération HB, the Luxembourgish Handball Federation and in.Stuttgart were also considered.

Füchse Berlin will enter the draw for the Group Phase alongside 15 other top teams from across Europe on Thursday, 5 December 2013 at 12.00 hrs in Vienna. The event will be streamed live at ehfTV.com.

EHF President, Jean Brihault commented: "Handball's profile in Berlin has grown significantly in recent years, and after the EHF Cup Finals' highly successful premiere in Nantes last season, I am confident that the German capital is the right choice for the second edition of this top-class club event."

Manager of Füchse Berlin, Bob Hanning said: "We are very happy to have been chosen to organise the 2014 EHF Cup Finals in Berlin, having already shown the EHF during our matches last season in the VELUX EHF Champions League that we can be a good host."

Men's EHF Cup

The Men's EHF Cup was re-launched at the start of the 2012/13 season and formed from the merging of the EHF Cup and Cup Winners' Cup. The second tier of top-class European club handball competition, after the VELUX EHF Champions League, the Men's EHF Cup is played with a qualification phase, group phase, quarter-finals and final tournament.

The EHF Cup Finals were played for the first time in 2013 in Nantes, France, with German team, Rhein Neckar Löwen, taking the title. The two-day event will be played with semi-final matches on Saturday and finals on Sunday.

According to the competition's regulations and as in the previous season, the host of the EHF Cup Finals can qualify directly for the EHF Cup Finals semi-finals from the Group Phase if they finish in first place in their group or as one of the three best-ranked second placed teams. If the event organiser finishes as the fourth-ranked second placed team then they must play in the quarter-finals to qualify.

About Füchse Berlin

Füchse Berlin have their origins in the traditional club Reinickendorfer Füchse e.V. 1891. They were promoted to the German Bundesliga in 2007. In 2011/12 and 2012/13 Berlin played in the VELUX EHF Champions League and qualified for the VELUX EHF FINAL4 in 2012.

About the Max-Schmeling-Halle

The Max-Schmeling-Halle was built in 1996 and named after famous German boxer Max Schmeling. It has played host to many top international sport events including the World Handball Championships in 2007. Füchse have played their home matches since the 2005/06 season and have named it the "Fuchsbau" (Fox's Lair).

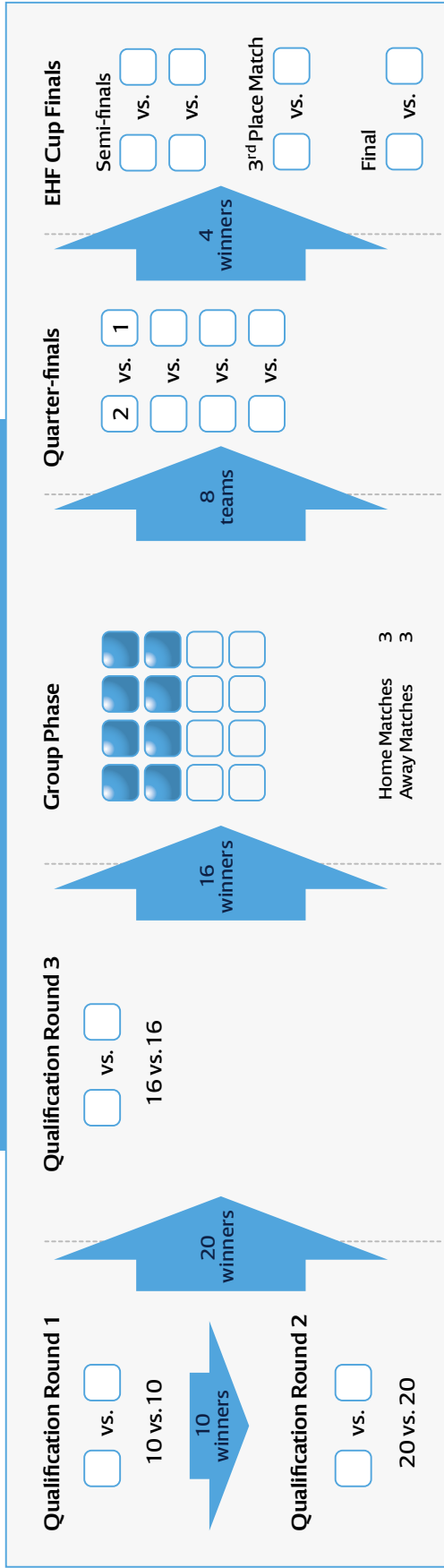


MEN'S



EHF CUP

Men's EHF Cup 2013/14 playing system



Season 2013/14 playing dates

<p>Qualification Round 1 first leg - 07/08.09.2013 second leg - 14/15.09.2013</p> <p>Qualification Round 2 first leg - 12/13.10.2013 second leg - 19/20.10.2013</p>	<p>Qualification Round 3 first leg 23/24.11.2013 second leg 30.11./01.12.2013</p>	<p>Group Phase 08/09.02.2014 15/16.02.2014 22/23.02.2014 15/16.03.2014 22/23.03.2014 29/30.03.2014</p>	<p>Quarter-finals first leg 19/20.04.2014 second leg 26/27.04.2014</p>	<p>EHF Cup Finals 17/18.05.2014</p>
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Total number of matches: 152

Playing System - Organiser Füchse Berlin

Possibility no. 1

Füchse Berlin finish 1st in their group or are one of the three best 2nd ranked teams

Füchse Berlin qualifies directly for the EHF Cup Finals and the other six teams play three quarter-finals. The worst second ranked team will be eliminated.

Possibility no. 2

Organiser/Füchse Berlin are the 4th ranked of the 2nd ranked teams

Füchse Berlin play the quarter-finals and are qualified for the EHF Cup Finals if they win the quarter-final.

Possibility no. 3

Füchse Berlin are ranked 3rd or 4th in the group and become a neutral organiser

Füchse Berlin are not qualified for the EHF Cup Finals and all 1st and 2nd ranked teams play the quarter-finals.

Pot 1



Pick Szeged (HUN)



Montpellier
Agglomération HB (FRA)

Road to the Group Phase

VELUX EHF Champions League Wild Card knock-out

1st leg: HC Metalurg (MKD) vs Szeged 26:16

2nd leg: Szeged vs Metalurg 23:19

Aggregate score: 39:45

EHF Cup, Qualification Round 3

1st leg: SL Benfica (POR) vs Szeged 24:25

2nd leg: Szeged vs Benfica 31:25

Aggregate score: 56:49

Past achievements

EHF Champions League

Participations (including 2013/14 season): 12

Quarter-final (2): 1997, 2004

Last 16 (5): 2005, 2006, 2007, 2011, 2013

Main Round (1): 2008

Group Phase (3): 2009, 2010, 2012

Other

Cup Winners' Cup: Semi-finals 1982/83, 1983/84, 1993/94,

Quarter-finals 1977/78, 2002/03, 2008/09

Hungarian champions: 2 titles (1996, 2007)

Hungarian Cup winners: 6 titles

Road to the Group Phase

VELUX EHF Champions League Wild Card knock-out

1st leg: Montpellier vs Orlen Wisla Plock (POL) 29:27

2nd leg: Plock vs Montpellier 28:23

Aggregate score: 52:55

EHF Cup, Qualification Round 3

1st leg: HC Kaustik (RUS) vs Montpellier 26:38

2nd leg: Montpellier vs Kaustik 35:29

Aggregate score: 73:55

Past achievements

EHF Champions League

Participations (including 2013/14 season): 16

Winner (1): 2003

Semi-final (1): 2005

Quarter-final (4): 2001, 2006, 2010, 2011

Last 16 (4): 1996, 2004, 2007, 2012

Main Round (2): 2008, 2009

Group Phase (3): 1999, 2000, 2013

Other

French champions: 14 titles (1995, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012)

French Cup winners: 12 titles

Pot 1



Füchse Berlin (GER)



TSV Hannover-Burgdorf
(GER)

Road to the Group Phase

VELUX EHF Champions League Wild Card knock-out

1st leg: Füchse vs HSV Hamburg (GER) 30:30

2nd leg: HSV vs Füchse 27:26

Aggregate score: 56:57

EHF Cup, Qualification Round 3

1st leg: Füchse vs HC Brest Meshkov (BLR) 32:30

2nd leg: Brest vs Füchse 20:21

Aggregate score: 43:40

Past achievements

EHF Champions League

Participations (including 2013/14 season): 3

VELUX EHF FINAL4: 1 (fourth ranked): 2012

Last 16 (1): 2013

Road to the Group Phase

EHF Cup, Qualification Round 3

1st leg: Kadetten Schaffhausen (SUI) vs Hannover-Burgdorf 28:28

2nd leg: Hannover-Burgdorf vs Kadetten 41:27

Aggregate score: 69:55

Past achievements

Promotion to German bundesliga in 2008/09

Pot 2



Tatran Presov (SVK)



HCM Constanta (ROU)

Road to the Group Phase

VELUX EHF Champions League Qualification Tournament 2 (Presov/SVK):

semi-final: Presov vs Besiktas 32:30
final: Presov vs Minsk 27:29

EHF Cup, Qualification Round 3

1st leg: Presov vs RK Maribor Branik (SLO) 34:26
2nd leg: Branik vs Presov 30:28
Aggregate score: 62:56

Past achievements

EHF Champions League
Participations (including 2013/14 season): 10
Last 16 (1): 2004/05
Last 32 (1): 1993/94
Group Matches (4): 2005/06, 2007/08, 2008/09, 2010/11
Qualification (3): 2009/10, 2011/12, 2012/13

EHF Cup:

Quarter-final 2011/12
Group Phase: 2012/13

Other

Cup Winners' Cup: Quarter-final 2005/06
Slovak champions: 9 titles (2004, 2005, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013)
Slovak Cup winners: 14

Road to the Group Phase

VELUX EHF Champions League Qualification Tournament 4 (Porto/POR):

semi-final: Constanta vs HV Kras/Volendam (NED) 34:25
final: Constanta vs FC Porto Vitalis (POR) 22:26 AET

EHF Cup, Qualification Round 3

1st leg: Mors-Thy Haandbold (DEN) vs Constanta 26:27
2nd leg: Constanta vs Mors-Thy 32:26
Aggregate score: 59:52

Past achievements

EHF Champions League
Participations (including 2013/14 season): 8
Last 16 (1): 2009/10
Group Phase (6): 2004/05, 2006/07, 2007/08, 2010/11, 2011/12, 2012/13

Other

Cup Winners' Cup: Semi-final 2005/06
Challenge Cup: Semi-final 2003/04
Romanian champions: 8 titles (2004, 2006, 2007, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013)
Romanian Cup winners: 5 titles

Pot 2



Skjern Handbold (DEN)



Reale Ademar Leon (ESP)

Road to the Group Phase

EHF Cup, Qualification Round 3

1st leg: Skjern vs RK Vojvodina 31:24

2nd leg: Vojvodina vs Skjern 18:24

Aggregate score: 55:42

Road to the Group Phase

EHF Cup, Qualification Round 3

1st leg: RK Nexe vs Leon 34:29

2nd leg: Leon vs Nexe 33:28

Aggregate score: 62:62

Leon qualified on the away goals rule

Past achievements

EHF Champions League

Participations: 2

Last 16: 2003/04

Group Phase: 1999/00

Other

Cup Winners' Cup: quarter-final 2005/06

Challenge Cup: Winners 2001/02, 2002/03

EHF Cup: semi-final 2006/07

Past achievements

EHF Champions League

Participations: 11

Quarterfinal (4): 1998, 2000, 2002, 2012

Last 16 (3): 2004, 2006, 2010, 2013

Main Round (2): 2008, 2009

Qualification (1): 2011

Other

Cup Winners' Cup: Winner: 1999, 2005 Final: 2001, 2007

Spanish champions: 2001, runners-up: 1997, 1998, 2000

Spanish Cup winners: Asobal Cup 1999, 2008,

Copa del Rey 2003

Pot 3



Lugi HF (SWE)



HBC Nantes (FRA)

Road to the Group Phase

EHF Cup, Qualification Round 2

1st leg: Lugi vs Grundfos Tatabanya KC 27:27
2nd leg: Tatabanya vs Lugi 20:24
Aggregate score: 51:47

EHF Cup, Qualification Round 3

1st leg: AEK Athens (GRE) vs Lugi 22:24
2nd leg: Lugi vs AEK 25:23
Aggregate score: 49:45

Past achievements

EHF Cup: Last 16 1998/99
Cup Winners' Cup: Last 16 2011/12
Swedish league: 1 title (1980), 1x runners-up (1995)

Road to the Group Phase

EHF Cup, Qualification Round 3

1st leg: Nantes vs Elverum Handball Herrer (NOR) 28:21
2nd leg: Elverum vs Nantes 23:24
Aggregate score: 52:44

Past achievements

EHF Cup: Finalists 2012/13, Round 3 2011/12
EHF Cup, Qualification Round 3:



Chambéry Savoie Handball
(FRA)



HC Zomimak-M (MKD)

Road to the Group Phase

EHF Cup, Qualification Round 2

1st leg: Chambéry vs BB Ankara Spor (TUR) 34:26
2nd leg: Ankara vs Chambéry 20:32
Aggregate score: 66:46

EHF Cup, Qualification Round 3

1st leg: Chambéry vs Alpa HC Hard (AUT) 31:30
2nd leg: Hard vs Chambéry 25:25
Aggregate score: 56:55

Past achievements

EHF Champions League: Participations: 8, Last 16 (3): 2004, 2007, 2011, Main Round (1): 2009, Group Phase (3): 2002, 2010, 2012, 2013
French champion: 2001 (runners-up: 1998, 1999, 2000, 2002, 2003, 2006, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012)
French Cup winners: 2002

Road to the Group Phase

EHF Cup, Qualification Round 2

1st leg: Maccabi Tyrec Tel Aviv vs Zomimak 26:26
2nd leg: Zomimak vs Maccabi 30:23
Aggregate score: 56:49

EHF Cup, Qualification Round 3

1st leg: Aarhus Haandbold (DEN) vs Zomimak 29:26
2nd leg: Zomimak vs Aarhus 33:24
Aggregate score: 59:53

Past achievements

Macedonian league: 3rd place 2012/13

Pot 4



IFK Kristianstad (SWE)



Csurgói KK (HUN)

Road to the Group Phase

EHF Cup, Qualification Round 2

1st leg: Kristianstad vs Handball Esch (LUX) 32:19
2nd leg: Esch vs Kristianstad 28:30
Aggregate score: 62:47

EHF Cup, Qualification Round 3

1st leg: Kristianstad vs Stiinta Municipal Bacau (ROU) 40:25
2nd leg: Bacau vs Kristianstad 27:23
Aggregate score: 63:52

Past achievements

Swedish league: 4 titles (1941, 1948, 1952, 1953)

Road to the Group Phase

EHF Cup, Qualification Round 2

1st leg: Csurgo vs BM Aragon (ESP) 30:27
2nd leg: Aragon vs Csurgo 25:28
Aggregate score: 58:52

EHF Cup, Qualification Round 3

1st leg: Besiktas JK vs Csurgoi KK 29:31
2nd leg: Csurgoi vs Besiktas 34:25
Aggregate score: 65:54

Past achievements

Hungarian league: 3rd place 2012/13, promotion 2007/08



Sporta Hlohovec (SVK)



Sporting CP (POR)

Road to the Group Phase

EHF Cup, Qualification Round 1

1st leg: Hlohovec vs TSV Otmar St. Gallen 29:21
2nd leg: St. Gallen vs Hlohovec 31:28
Aggregate score: 57:52

EHF Cup, Qualification Round 2

1st leg: Hlohovec vs RK Borac m:tel Banja Luka 36:23
2nd leg: Banja Luka vs Hlohovec 26:27
Aggregate score: 63:49

EHF Cup, Qualification Round 3

1st leg: OIF Arendal (NOR) vs Sporta 20:26
2nd leg: Sporta vs Arendal 26:27
Aggregate score: 52:47

Past achievements

Cup Winners' Cup: Round 3 2011/12
Slovakian league: runners-up (2010, 2012, 2013)

Road to the Group Phase

EHF Cup, Qualification Round 2

1st leg: HV KRAS/Volendam vs Sporting 30:18
2nd leg: Volendam vs Sporting 32:35
Aggregate score: 65:50

EHF Cup, Qualification Round 3

1st leg: Rukometni Klub Porec (CRO) vs Sporting 24:24
2nd leg: Sporting vs Porec 30:25
Aggregate score: 54:49

Past achievements

EHF Champions League: Participations: 1, GM: 2001/02
Challenge Cup: Winners 2009/10, semi-final 2011/12
EHF Cup: quarter-final 2000/01
Cup Winners' Cup: quarter-final 2003/04
Portuguese league: 17 titles, Portuguese cup: 14 titles

Top scorers of the qualification

Rank	Name & nation	Club	Goals
1	Ramazan Döne (TUR)	Besiktas JK (TUR)	39
2	Bojan Butulija (SRB)	Maccabi "Tyrec" Tel Aviv (ISR)	34
3	Adam Mazur (SVK)	HC Sporta Hlohovec (SVK)	31
	Miha Zarabec (SLO)	RK Maribor Branik (SLO)	31
5	Radoslav Stojanovic (MKD)	HC Zomimak-M (MKD)	30
6	Dzmitry Kamyshyk (BLR)	HC Meshkov Brest (BLR)	29
7	Novak Boskovic (SRB)	Maccabi "Tyrec" Tel Aviv (ISR)	27
8	Vitaly Komogorov (RUS)	HC Kaustik (RUS)	26
	Lucas Mayer (AUT)	Bregenz Handball (AUT)	26
10	Lubomir Duris (SVK)	HC Sporta Hlohovec (SVK)	25
	Sondre Paulsen (NOR)	OIF Arendal (NOR)	25
12	Frantisek Zatko (SVK)	HC Sporta Hlohovec (SVK)	24
13	Sigurbergur Sveinsson (ISL)	Haukar (ISL)	23
14	Maros Balaz (SVK)	HC Sporta Hlohovec (SVK)	22
	Marko Buvinic (CRO)	Rukometni Klub Porec (CRO)	22
	Uelington Da Silva Ferreira (BRA)	Stiinta Municipal Dedeman Bacau (ROU)	22
	Mario Galijot (CRO)	Rukometni Klub Porec (CRO)	22
	Akos Lele (HUN)	Csurgói KK (HUN)	22
	Barys Pukhouski (BLR)	Csurgói KK (HUN)	22
	Harald Reinkind (NOR)	FyllingenBergen (NOR)	22

(**Bold text** indicates players that are still active in the competition.)



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