

BEACH HANDBALL COMMISSION | MEETING 1 | 2025

Date Time:	Thursday, 27 February 2025 / 14:00– 18:00	
	Friday, 28 February 2025 / 09:00 – 16:00	
Venue:	Platz des Europäischen Handballs Baumgasse 60A, 1030 Vienna, Austria – EHF Office The Game 4-floor	
Participants:		
BC	Gabriella Horváth (HUN)	Chairwoman
	Mário Bernardes (POR)	Promotion and Development
	Marek Góralczyk (POL)	Events and Competition
	Jiri Opava (CZE)	Officiating
	Marco Trespidi (ITA)	Game Design and Coaching
EHF Office	Tobia Pisani	Beach Handball Manager
	Alexandra Horváth	Beach Handball Coordinator

1. Welcome

The EHF Beach Handball Commission (BC) Chairwoman Gabriella Horváth welcomed the members of the commission to the first meeting in 2025. It was noted that many topics will be discussed.

1.1. Minutes BC Meeting 08/2024

The minutes of the last meeting in August 2024 were approved without any comments.

1.2. Technical Delegation (TD) Meeting

G. Horváth informed on the TD meeting held on 26 February, the minutes will be available.

2. Online Testing & eLearning

2.1. Status Update - Last Test Results and Statistics of the Officials

A. Horváth shared the results of the last testing period and a presentation of the statistics of the beach handball officials: currently, the number of active beach handball Referees is 96 (32 women and 64 men) from 23 NFs; and the number of active beach handball Delegates is 71 (19 women and 52 men) from 28 NFs.

2.2. Testing Periods 2025 & Online Workshop

The next testing period for the EHF Beach Handball Officials is planned for 5 – 19 May 2025 (Re-test 23 May – 6 June). All officials have the opportunity to access the portal during the season for practice purposes. Additionally, all officials will attend an online workshop to receive the main updates for the upcoming summer events. The workshop will be held on 10 April 2025.

2.3. EHF Beach Handball Officials Nomination for 2025

The nomination of the EHF Beach Handball Officials for the summer events (ebt Finals, YAC17 BH EURO, BH EURO, EUSA BH) was confirmed and shared with all the NFs. Appointed officials and their national federations for the Champions Cup will be informed after the second testing period of the year.

3. European Beach Handball Tour (ebt)

3.1. ebt Season – status

A. Horváth shared a presentation regarding the ebt season data and statistics. For the current season, 14 tournaments in 7 countries and 114 teams from 20 countries are registered. The newly implemented website ensures optimal management of the season and has been positively appreciated by all stakeholders involved.

3.2. ebt Finals 2025

The ebt Finals 2025 will take place in Trapani (ITA) from 5 to 8 June 2025. The overall conditions are promising. 14 teams per gender are registered. The preparation of the event is ongoing following the schedule.

3.3. ebt Finals 2026

The bid process for hosting the ebt Finals 2026 will be opened in the upcoming weeks.

4. Beach Handball EURO

4.1. EHF YAC17 Beach Handball EURO 2025

The EHF YAC17 Beach Handball EURO 2025 will take place in Alanya (TUR) from 3 to 6 July 2025. 18 teams per gender are registered. The draw event took place at the EHF Office on the 26 February 2025. Important to underline the high number of participants, even if the same age group will have the WC this summer, with 5 Women's and 3 Men's European teams qualified.

4.2. EHF Beach Handball EURO 2025

The EHF Beach Handball EURO 2025 will take place in Alanya (TUR) from 8 to 13 July 2025. 16 teams per gender will participate. The draw event took place at the EHF Office on the 26 February 2025. The collaboration with the OC has evolved slowly over the last few months and several delays in the communications were faced, but now the proposed conditions seem very promising and the overall collaboration with the OC is positive.

4.3. Event Calendars for the Upcoming Years

The calendar covering the period 2025-2026-2027 can be found in the appendix (attachment 1). The bids for hosting the events 2026 are going to be shared in the upcoming weeks. The bid process for hosting the national teams' competition for the upcoming years are going to be opened shortly:

- EHF YAC Beach Handball EURO 2026
- EHF Beach Handball Championships 2026
- EHF YAC Beach Handball EURO 2027
- EHF Beach Handball EURO 2027

A careful analysis will be carried out to identify which method and age group can guarantee the best development for young athletes and if the structure of the EHF Beach Handball YAC Competitions should be renovated in the future.

5. EHF Beach Handball Champions Cup (ChC)

5.1. Champions Cup 2025 – Status Update

The last club competition in 2025 will take place in Porto Santo (POR) from 9 to 12 October 2025. 16 teams per gender will take part. The BC was informed about the upcoming election at the end of March in the local government, which is an important stakeholder in the event. Therefore, the situation will be followed closely.

6. EHF Education Courses 2025

6.1. Course Plan for 2025 / EHF Officials

The EHF Beach Handball Delegate course will be held alongside the ebt Finals 2025 and 4 female delegates candidates are going to be selected. The registration deadline is on 20 March 2025. The WHB is supporting the female candidates by covering the travel expenses. A plan for the Education Courses 2026 will be carried out during the next BC Meeting, considering the number of the active beach handball officials.

6.2. EHF Beach Handball Candidate Referee Programme

The EHF Beach Handball Candidate Referee Programme aims to train a new generation of highly qualified and competent referees by promoting a supportive and educational environment and raise the standard of refereeing. 16 referee pairs from 12 NFs applied for the programme, and the accepted pairs and the involved NFs will be informed shortly.

6.3. EHF Coaches' Course – Beach Handball Level C

The EHF Beach Handball Coaches course will be held alongside the ebt Finals 2025, and a maximum of 20 candidates are going to be selected. The registration deadline is on 20 March 2025. The program of the course was developed increasing the number of teaching units, both online and in presence, in accordance with the updated structure of the education path for beach handball coaches.

7. EUSA Beach Handball 2025

7.1. Status Update

The event for University teams will take place in Granada (ESP) from 15 to 17 July 2025. 12 teams per gender are expected. Marco Trespidi (ITA) is the Technical Delegate, Ana Diez Fernandez (ESP) is the Technical Delegate Assistant. EHF provided the materials (goals, line systems and balls), nominated the officials (4 referee pairs and 4 delegates) and supported remotely the TD before and during the event.

8. Publications

8.1. Beach Handball Studies 2025

Trespidi has given an update on the ongoing beach handball studies and publications in cooperation with the EHF Experts.

- Mental Aspects and Preparation in Beach Handball – The research will be done by EHF Expert Bojana Jelacic.
- Physical Demands for Beach Handball Referees – the study was held by Marco Cardinale, EHF Expert and Executive Director of Research and Scientific Support at Aspetar in Qatar. A booklet of the research is going to be published.

Additional studies will be done during the season to be published by the end of the year:

- Event Guide – How to Organize an ebt Tournament
- Physical Demands for Beach Handball Players

9. IHF Matters

9.1. Worldwide Planned Activities

The updated international beach handball activities are as follows:

- 7 to 11 May 2025 – Beach Handball Global Tour, Stage 1 – Marica, BRA
- 17 to 22 June 2025 – Men's and Women's Youth (U17) Beach Handball World Championships – Hammamet, TUN
- 24 to 27 July 2025 – Beach Handball Global Tour, Stage 2 – Venue TBC
- 8 to 12 August 2025 – The World Games 2025, Chengdu, CHN
- November 2025 – Beach Handball Global Tour Finals – Doha, QAT

10. Miscellaneous

10.1. Beach Handball Think Tank – follow-up

The Beach Handball Think Tank took place in Vienna on 20-21 January 2025. Experts from different countries were discussing the current status of Beach Handball in Europe and the outcome of the event will be part of the overall evaluation of EHF regarding the future of Beach Handball, with the aim to create a new strategy for the period 2025-2030. The BC started to process the outcome of the Think Tank.

10.2. Beach Handball Nations Ranking 2024

The Beach Handball Nations Ranking 2024 was developed based on the results of the National Teams, Senior and YAC, over the last 3 years. The ranking was published in December 2024 and was the base for the National Teams' competitions final tournament draw.

10.3. Ultimate School Handball Project Update

The EHF Expert Alex Gehrler, with support from the EHF Office, published the Ultimate School Handball project, a universal approach to teaching handball in schools. The easy-to-use method applies general characteristics of beach handball to teaching handball and foster the development of the sport in schools. The booklet was published on the EHF channels and shared with the NFs. For more information: <https://beach.eurohandball.com/education-teaching/ultimate-school-handball/>

10.4. EHF Beach Handball Development Programme

EHF reiterates its willingness to continue supporting NFs for the development of Beach Handball activities in their countries and to enlarge the number of active National Federations. Based on the requests and following the confirmation by FD, for 2025 EHF will support 14 countries with beach handball materials (BEL, CRO, CYP, CZE, ESP, GEO, GER, GRE, ISR, ITA, NED, ROU, SRB, UKR).

Tobia Pisani resigned from his position as EHF Beach Handball Manager. The last working day at the EHF Office will be on 31.03.2025. Information about his successor will follow as soon as it is available.

With the agenda completed, Gabriella Horváth as Chairwoman thanked the members of the Beach Handball Commission for their contribution and closed the meeting.

4 March 2025

For the minutes: Tobia Pisani

Alexandra Horváth

ASSIGNMENT OF TASKS

2. Online Testing & eLearning

2.2. Online Workshop April 2025 | Preparation of the Topics

Opava/EHF Office

3. European Beach Handball Tour

3.1. ebt Season Management

EHF Office

3.2. ebt Finals 2025 | Preparation of the Event

EHF Office

3.3. ebt Finals 2026 | BID Process

EHF Office

4. Beach Handball EUROS

4.1. YAC17 BH EURO | Preparation of the Event

EHF Office

4.2. EHF BH EURO | Preparation of the Event

EHF Office

4.3. Events Calendar for the Upcoming Years

Góralczyk/EHF Office

Review of the YAC Competition System

4.4. BID Process for the Upcoming Years' Events

EHF Office

5. EHF Beach Handball Champions Cup (ChC) 2025

5.1. Preparation of the Event

EHF Office

6. EHF Education Courses 2025

6.1. EHF Education Courses 2025

Preparation of the Courses

Trespidi/EHF Office

Nomination of EHF Experts

EHF Office

6.2. Management of the Ref Candidate Programme

Opava/EHF Office

7. EUSA Games 2024

Coordination with EUSA and Preparation of the Event

Trespidi/EHF Office

8. Publications

8.1. Beach Handball Studies 2025

Publications | Coordination among the EHF Experts

Trespidi

Internal review

EHF Office

9. IHF Matters

Regular exchange of information EHF/IHF

EHF Office

10. Miscellaneous

10.1. BH Think Tank Follow up

BC /EHF Office

10.3. Promotion of the Project Ultimate School Handball

EHF Office

10.4. EHF Beach Handball Development Programme | Coordination of the project

EHF Office

ATTACHMENT 1 – BEACH HANDBALL EVENT CALENDAR

2025

Competition	Date	Venue
Beach Handball Global Tour_Stage 1	7 - 11 May 2025	Marica (BRA) - TBC
ebt Finals	5 - 8 June 2025	Trapani (ITA)
U17 Beach Handball World Championships	17 - 22 June 2025	Hammamet (TUN)
YAC17 Beach Handball EURO	3 - 6 July 2025	Alanya (TUR)
EHF Beach Handball EURO	8 - 13 July 2025	Alanya (TUR)
Beach Handball Global Tour_Stage 2	24 - 27 July 2025	TBD
The World Games 2025	8 - 12 August 2025	Chengdu (CHN)
EUSA Beach Handball	15 - 17 July 2025	Granada (ESP)
Champions Cup	9 - 12 October 2025	Porto Santo (POR)
Beach Handball Global Tour Finals	November 2025 - TBC	Doha (QAT)

2026

Competition	Date	Venue
ebt Finals	4 - 7 June 2026	TBD
YAC16 Beach Handball EURO	2 - 5 July 2026	TBD
EHF Beach Handball Championships	9 - 12 July 2026	TBD
Champions Cup	8 - 11 October 2026	TBD

2027

Competition	Date	Venue
ebt Finals	3 - 6 June 2027	TBD
YAC17 Beach Handball EURO	1 - 4 July 2027	TBD
EHF Beach Handball EURO	6 - 11 July 2027	TBD
Champions Cup	7 - 10 October 2027	TBD

YAC Beach Handball Competitions 2022/2027

	EHF	IHF	Other
2022	YAC16 EURO (2006)	U17 WC	
2023	YAC17 EURO (2006)		
2024	YAC16 EURO (2008)		
2025	YAC17 EURO (2008)	U17 WC (2008)	
2026	YAC16 EURO (2010)		U18 Youth Olympic Games (2008)
2027	YAC17 EURO (2010)		