



RULES ON SAFETY & SECURITY PROCEDURE

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EHF RULES ON SAFETY AND SECURITY PROCEDURE

1. PREAMBLE

The EHF promotes the development and the spreading of handball in Europe. In addition to facilitating the discussion of interests and experience, a core objective at all levels is the promotion of FAIR PLAY in all international handball competitions/events (hereinafter called competitions).

In view of the objectives pursued by the EHF and in the interest of conducting competitions under equal and fair conditions, the protection of those participating in competitions, including specifically players, coaches, team managers, media workers, officials, spectators, etc. is a key concern.

Safety and security measures are adopted by the local organiser as necessary in each case to address local hazards. The measures are approved and supplemented, if required, by the EHF.

The minimum standards laid down in the Rules on Safety and Security Procedure are to be understood as additions to local regulations. They are binding for all parties involved (clubs, federations, security services) as well as participants and spectators and shall be complied with in any circumstances in order to ensure the safe and controlled conduct of each competition.

These Regulations are intended to help raise the awareness of all involved parties of the need for an active approach to the issue of safety and security in and around playing halls.

All local organisers have full responsibility for the conduct of the competition including all the safety and security measures required and the deployment of security staff. Every effort shall be undertaken well before a competition to avoid incidents in connection with the competition as far as possible.

Designed to foster a culture of fairness in handball and to create the best possible conditions for everyone, the following Regulations represent another step in making the sport of handball even more attractive.

2. RESPONSIBILITIES

2.1. The local organiser

The local organiser (club, federation, etc.) shall organise competitions on its own account and on its own responsibility within its scope of operation in compliance with national legislation.

2.2. Indemnification and right of recourse

Any claims for damages arising from losses sustained in connection with competitions shall be addressed to the local organiser (club, federation, etc.) and any legal action brought before a court at its place of jurisdiction.

If an award is issued against the EHF in the above-mentioned context by a national or international court or under other proceedings ordering or obligating the EHF to provide indemnification, the EHF shall be entitled to full recourse against the local organiser.

2.3. EHF Statutes and Regulations

All organisational measures and operating plans shall be in accordance with EHF Statutes and Regulations unless such Statutes and Regulations are in conflict with national legislation.

In addition, further arrangements and instructions shall be observed as may be made or issued from time to time by the EHF security delegate on site.

2.4. Violations of Rules on Safety and Security Procedure

Violations of the minimum standards specified in these Regulations shall be subject to penalties imposed by the competent EHF bodies.

2.5. Objections against administrative acts

Administrative acts performed under these Rules on Safety and Security Procedure shall not be subject to the EHF's internal appeal procedures.

3. RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF THE EHF

3.1. Risk categories

The EHF classifies its competitions into two risk categories.

3.1.1. CATEGORIES IA + IB: low-risk competitions

a. CATEGORY IA: competitions without additional safety and security measures:

Low-risk competitions are competitions in which incidents have neither occurred to date nor are expected to occur in the future given the nature of the parties involved and local circumstances.

b. CATEGORY IB: competitions with additional safety and security measures:

Competitions with additional safety and security measures are competitions in which the EHF delegate or the referees reported safety or security hazards in the past.

3.1.2. CATEGORY II: high-risk competitions

High-risk competitions are competitions in which

- a. Incidents have occurred in the past
- b. Incidents may be expected to occur in the future given the nature of the parties involved and local circumstances
- c. In which the risk to safety and security is higher due to the spatial arrangements in the playing hall and/or the lack of facilities for separating spectator seating areas.

3.2. Classification of Competitions into Risk Categories

The EHF has the right and the obligation to classify all competitions into one of the two risk categories. As long as not classified otherwise, any competition shall be deemed to be a risk category IA competition (competition without additional safety and security measures). If a competition is rated by the EHF as falling into risk category IB or II, the teams concerned and the local organiser shall be notified of the decision without delay.

The EHF may change the risk classification of a competition at any time.

3.3. The Rights and Obligations of an EHF Delegate (other than the EHF Security Delegate)

Regardless of the risk classification of a competition, the EHF delegate present on site shall have the right and the duty to carry out any safety and security inspections that are required. In the event of unforeseen occurrences the EHF delegate shall take or order measures to be taken that are required to avert any hazard or damage and prepare a report to the EHF.

In each competition, the EHF delegate shall include in the agenda of the technical meeting an item on safety and security measures. Visiting team managers shall also be consulted as necessary.

3.4. Administration

- Approval/assessment of the safety and security plan presented;
- Nomination of a security delegate and additional personnel as necessary;
- Development and maintenance of a database of all incidents and special circumstances;
- Organisation of education and training courses for security delegates;
- Development of education plans (including job profiles) for security delegates;
- Analysis of security reports and conclusions;
- Annual safety and security status report (to all clubs and federations).

3.5. Playing halls

Playing halls shall be classified by the EHF into three categories:

3.5.1. CATEGORY I: unrestricted approval

Playing halls that fully satisfy the catalogue of criteria shall be approved for competitions without any restrictions for an unlimited period of time. Regular inspections of playing halls by the EHF are obligatory.

3.5.2. CATEGORY II: unrestricted approval subject to certain conditions

Playing halls that do not fully satisfy the catalogue of criteria may be given approval provided that certain conditions are met (reduced number of spectators, removal of a number of rows of seats, etc.). Such an unrestricted approval may be given for an unlimited period of time.

Compliance with the conditions imposed shall be verified by the EHF on a regular basis. Approval may be revoked by the EHF at any time.

3.5.3. CATEGORY III: approval for a limited period of time:

Playing halls that do not satisfy the catalogue of criteria may be approved for competitions for a limited period of time. The imposition of certain conditions is possible. Any approval given for a limited period of time ends automatically upon expiry of the specified period.

4. RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF THE LOCAL ORGANISER

The local organiser (club, federation, etc.) shall organise competitions on its own account and on its own responsibility within its scope of operation in compliance with national legislation.

Beyond that, the local organiser (club, federation, etc.) shall be responsible for ensuring that EHF and IHF Regulations are complied with and all required safety and security measures are taken.

4.1. Measures to be taken based on risk classification (see 3.1)

4.1.1. Category IA competitions without additional safety and security measures

Additional safety and security measures may be called for by the EHF or the EHF Delegate present on site.

4.1.2. Category IB competitions with additional safety and security measures

The local organiser draws up a safety and security plan and communicates it to the EHF.

4.1.3. Category II competitions

The local organiser shall prepare a safety and security plan and communicate it to the EHF in good time before the competition or by a specified date. Concerns expressed by the visiting delegation shall be taken into account in the safety and security plan.

The local organiser shall implement safety and security measures in co-operation with the police, the security service, the paramedical service, the official announcer, etc.

This shall include:

- the organisation of the security briefing with the parties present on the evening before the match in accordance with 4.4.2 below;
- supporting the work of the EHF security delegate and of all persons nominated by the EHF;
- the independent implementation of all required safety and security measures;
- provision of all personnel for the required services;
- provision of support to the visiting team;
- execution of instructions issued by the security delegate;
- provision of all the rooms required;

4.2. Playing halls

In all competitions, playing halls shall be in compliance with national legislation and in conformity with the standards common in sporting events.

4.2.1. Playing hall details

Playing hall details shall be documented in writing in the form of general information provided by clubs and/or federations as well as data recorded in the hall form and in the Security Questionnaire.

If necessary, the EHF may order an inspection of a playing hall prior to the conduct of competitions. The cost of the inspection shall be borne by the club/federation concerned.

4.2.2. Hall form

The hall form is an integral part of these Rules on Safety and Security Procedure. It shall be completed by the respective federation/club and transmitted to the EHF General Secretariat. When a playing hall is approved for competitions it is classified into one of the three categories (see 3.5 above).

4.2.3. Security Questionnaire

The Security Questionnaire is an integral part of these Rules on Safety and Security Procedure. It shall be completed by the respective federation/club and transmitted to the EHF General Secretariat.

4.2.4. Approval by the national delegate

Each national federation shall nominate one of its national delegates as the officer in charge of playing halls.

All playing halls of a federation in which competitions are held shall be subject to acceptance by the officer in charge of playing halls. All information provided in respect of specific playing halls (hall form, hall questionnaire) shall be verified by the officer in charge of playing halls. The validity of the information shall be confirmed by his/her signature.

4.3. Safety and Security Plan

4.3.1. For all risk category II matches, a safety and security plan shall be prepared by the local organiser in consultation with the EHF in good time, taking into account any concerns expressed by the visiting team.

4.3.2. The safety and security plan shall be presented by the local organiser at the security briefing. The EHF security officer may demand modifications to be made to the plan.

4.4. General Safety and Security Measures

The general safety and security measures shall apply to all competitions in all risk categories.

4.4.1. Escape routes, passageways and stairs

Escape routes, passageways and stairs shall be kept free of any obstacles and spectators. Entrances and exits as well as escape routes shall be clearly marked.

4.4.2. Tickets

The local organiser (club, federation, etc.) is responsible for ensuring that the approved capacity of the playing hall is not exceeded in any case.

4.4.3. Media workplaces

The local organiser shall make workplaces available to media workers the safety and security of which is assured before, during and after the match.

4.4.4. VIP area

The local organiser shall separate the area for guests of honour in such a way that it cannot be accessed by other spectators if such separation is demanded by the EHF/the EHF security officer. In such a case, security staff shall be positioned at entry points to control access.

4.4.5. Official announcer

The official announcer shall make all announcements that are required for an orderly conduct of the event. This shall comprise information about the location of first aid facilities, general safety and security measures, instructions regarding the orderly entry of and exit from spectators' stands, etc.

The official announcer shall comply with instructions issued by the EHF (security) delegate. The official announcer shall be available at all times before, during and after the match.

Only announcements of neutral content may be made. The official announcer shall speak one of the official EHF languages.

4.4.6. First aid

An adequate number of first-aid staff shall be available relative to the number of spectators present. First aid personnel shall be easy to identify.

4.4.7. Public address system

Each playing hall shall be equipped with a public address system producing intelligible sound in the playing hall.

4.4.8. Smoking ban

A smoking ban shall be enforced in the playing hall without any exceptions.

4.4.9. Identifiable security staff

Security staff shall be easily and clearly identifiable.

4.5. Safety and Security Measures for Specific Events

Special safety and security measures are required and shall be specified in the safety and security plan only for risk category II competitions.

4.5.1. Segregation of spectators

Tickets issued to the visiting team and its fans shall be specially marked.

The area assigned to fans of the visiting team shall be segregated clearly from the area of the home team's fans. These arrangements shall be taken into account in assigning ticket quotas.

The local organiser shall implement strict controls on ticket sales.

If necessary, the first rows of spectator seats shall be kept free.

4.5.2. Security checks

Security checks shall be performed to ensure that:

- spectators enter that section of the spectators' stands that has been allocated to the respective group of spectators;
- spectators do not carry any objects that may inflict injury including lighters, pyrotechnical articles, pocket knives, glass bottles, nail files, laser pens, water pistols, etc.
- violent persons as well as persons being under the influence of drugs or alcohol are denied access to the playing hall.

4.5.3. Ban on alcohol

If deemed necessary, a ban shall be implemented on the selling and serving of alcohol in and around the playing hall.

4.5.4. Surveillance

The local organiser shall arrange for video surveillance of specified stands if demanded by the EHF/the EHF security officer.

4.5.5. Personal protection

In cases in which there is reason to believe that the safety of individual persons or groups of persons is at risk, the local organiser shall provide personal protection (security guards, police, stewards) if this is demanded by the EHF/the EHF security officer.

5. RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF THE VISITING DELEGATION

- 5.1. The visiting team shall report any safety and security concerns in good time, not later than by the date scheduled by the EHF, naming potential risks to safety and security.
- 5.2. In risk category II matches, the visiting team shall automatically have the right to choose an end at the beginning of the match. Throw-off is determined by drawing.
- 5.3. The visiting team may be held responsible for the conduct of those of its fans who are seated in the visitors' seating area organised by the visiting team. The EHF may take action and impose sanctions.

6. THE EHF SECURITY DELEGATE

6.1. Qualifications

Persons appointed as EHF security delegates shall have completed suitable training and shall be deemed to be qualified for this activity on account of their personality, international experience and language skills.

6.2. Rights and Obligations

- 6.2.1. Any instructions or orders given by the EHF security delegate shall be followed by all persons on site provided such instructions or orders are not contrary to national or international legislation or public policy. The EHF security delegate's work shall be supported in every conceivable manner.
- 6.2.2. The EHF security delegate shall attend the Technical Meeting.
- 6.2.3. The EHF security delegate shall take any action that is required to guarantee and maintain the safety and security of all parties before, during and after the match and shall issue any instructions required for this purpose.
- 6.2.4. Prior to each match, the EHF security delegate shall obtain full information about potential safety and security hazards and problems that occurred in the past.
- 6.2.5. The EHF security delegate shall conduct a security briefing on the evening before the match.
- 6.2.6. The EHF security delegate shall perform a security check in the playing hall immediately after his/her arrival at the venue.
- 6.2.7. The EHF security delegate shall chair the security briefing and fix the time and the place for it (if possible, in the playing hall following the visiting team's training session). The EHF security delegate may put additional items on the agenda and ask specified persons to attend.
- 6.2.8. The EHF security delegate shall discuss all measures planned with the responsible officers (federation, club, delegations, stewards, police, fire fighters, etc.).
- 6.2.9. The EHF security delegate shall arrive in the playing hall not later than two hours before the beginning of the match.
- 6.2.10. The EHF security delegate shall escort the visiting team from the bus to the changing room and back again.
- 6.2.11. The EHF security delegate has the right to re-schedule throw-off of a match and, in case of imminent danger, instruct the referees to interrupt or terminate a match.
- 6.2.12. After the end of a match, the EHF security delegate shall remain in the playing hall until the general situation may be regarded as being in good order.
- 6.2.13. The EHF security delegate shall escort the visiting team if this is deemed necessary in view of the general circumstances (hotel, bus, changing room, etc.).
- 6.2.14. The EHF security delegate shall deliver a security report after each match (conditions, operational details, co-operation, risks, proposals for the future, etc.).

6.3. Security Briefing

A security briefing shall be held for all matches in risk category II.

6.3.1. Purpose

The planned proceedings shall be discussed in detail based on the safety and security plan prepared in advance plus the proposed operating plan and the resulting assignment of duties.

The procedures to be followed in each area shall be explained by the officers in charge of the respective services.

- Any adaptations of the operating plan and/or the assignment of duties that may be required shall be made and recorded in the minutes.
- Communication and the means of communication used shall be discussed.
- A list of responsibilities shall be handed out and passed on by service leaders to staff working in their respective areas of operation.
- In addition, an emergency team shall be set up and a common strategy agreed for a “worst case scenario/emergency plan”.

6.3.2. Participants

- EHF security delegate - chair
- EHF delegate
- Referees (if required)
- Authorised representative of hosting federation/club
- Two authorised representatives of the local organiser
- Delegation leader and Official A of visiting team
- Official of home team
- Playing hall manager
- Press officer
- Official announcer
- Officer in charge of steward service
- Officer in charge of security service
- Officer in charge of police service
- Officer in charge of paramedical service
- Officer in charge of fire-fighters
- Other persons named by the security delegate
- Interpreter(s) (if necessary)

6.3.3. Assignment of duties and operating plan

- Both the operating plan and the list of assigned duties shall be drawn up by the officers responsible for the respective services in good time before the match and communicated to the local organiser, the EHF security delegate, the visiting team, and the EHF. Any adjustments or modifications that may be needed shall be made at the security briefing.
- The security delegate shall take the minutes of the security briefing.

7. OTHER

7.1. Costs

Any costs arising as a result of an increased security risk and/or the need for additional security measures shall be borne by the local organiser.

7.2. Protests/Interpretation

7.2.1. Any disputes arising from these Rules on Safety and Security Procedure shall be dealt with by the EHF's internal appeals system.

7.2.2. In addition, and for the purpose of interpretation, EHF and IHF Regulations as well as Austrian law shall be taken into account.

7.3. Entry into force

7.3.1. The EHF Rules on Safety and Security Procedure shall enter into force upon their adoption by the EHF Executive Committee and publication, but not later than 1 July 2001.

7.3.2. During any transition phase that may arise, the necessary preparatory activities shall be started and decisions taken in the spirit of these Rules on Safety and Security Procedure.

CLOSING PROVISIONS

These Rules on Safety and Security Procedure complement the EHF and IHF Regulations currently in effect.

The following attachment is an integral part of these Rules on Safety and Security Procedure: Agenda for Security Briefing.

June 2019

ENCLOSURE 1 AGENDA FOR SECURITY BRIEFING

1. Welcome and introduction by the EHF security officer;
2. Check of list of participants by the EHF security officer;
3. Who is who;
4. Explanation of preparatory measures by the local organiser;
5. Security concerns: the visiting team's delegation head provides information about potential sources of danger and special characteristics of the visiting team's fans and announces the end chosen;
6. Presentation of the safety and security plan by the local organiser's responsible officer.
 - a. Information about access and escape routes, routes for referees and teams, past problems and incidents, etc. provided by the playing hall manager.
 - b. Information about the number and strategic deployment of police forces inside and outside the playing hall, control of the entrance area and the emergency plan provided by the police officer in charge.
 - c. Information about the number, training and deployment of staff in the playing hall, controls in the entrance area and accessibility of steps and stairways provided by the officer in charge of steward and security services.
 - d. Information about the number, training and location of staff provided by the officer in charge of paramedical services.
 - e. Information about the number, training and location of staff provided by the officer in charge of fire-fighters.
 - f. Explanation of organisational details of the competition and how to deal with problem situations (including references to past experience) provided by the local organiser's responsible officer.
 - g. Information about the number of spectators expected and provision of a map of the playing hall by a representative of the local organiser.
 - Who is seated and where? (fans of home team and visiting team, VIPs, press, additional members of the visiting delegation) – sketch.
 - Information about traditions and ceremonies in connection with the match.
7. Additional problem areas

The EHF security officer highlights potential problem areas (objects being thrown onto the playing court, bengal fire, clashes among spectators, smoke bombs, invasion of the playing court, assaults on referees, etc.) and optimises the safety and security plan in consultation with the officers in charge.
8. Finally, the operating plan is approved/laid down.

9. The EHF security officer shall announce where he/she will be positioned during the match.
10. Communication aids, equipment, pagers, walkie-talkies;
11. Strategy for “worst case scenario/emergency plan””

March 2002