

# EHF RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR TRANSFERS (TRANSFER RULES)

## 1. Contents

The EHF Transfer Rules regulate the orderly handling of transfers (between federations) of handball players within the area of the European Handball Federation. The EHF assumes responsibility for all transfers of contract players within Europe in accordance with the IHF "Player Eligibility Code" and the "IHF Regulations for Transfer between Federations", including the administrative processing of transfers, recording of transfers in the EHF Players Database, custody of transfer certificates, confirmation and/or issuance of transfer certificates and settlement of disputes arising from transfers between Federations or issues associated with the release of players to national teams.

The EHF keeps all transfer certificates of non-contract players on file and shall be responsible for the settlement of disputes arising in connection with transfers between Federations.

## 2. Principle

The EHF Transfer Rules are based on the following regulations issued by the *INTERNATIONAL HANDBALL FEDERATION* and the *EUROPEAN HANDBALL FEDERATION*:

IHF Player Eligibility Code	(effective 1 March 2001)
IHF Regulations for Transfer between Federations	(effective 1 March 2001)
EHF Arbitration Regulations	(effective 1 April 2000)

Open matters and procedures shall be regulated in accordance with the EHF Statutes and Regulations.

## 3. Notes

3.1 Transfers within Europe shall be handled by the EHF Office in an administrative procedure.

Transfer fees in accordance with the IHF Regulations for the Transfer between Federations § 3.3 and §§ 7.1, 7.2., 7.3. and 7.4. have been fixed as follows and shall be paid by the receiving Federation or its club:

in the case of transfers of **contract players**:

- contract player to contract player
- contract player to non-contract player
- non-contract player to contract player

Transfer fee to the releasing Federation	EUR 750 per transfer
Transfer fee to EHF	EUR 750 per transfer

in the case of non-contract players transferring as **non-contract players**:

Transfer fee to the releasing Federation	EUR 150 per transfer
Transfer fee to the EHF	EUR 150 per transfer

3.1.1. A **non-contract player** shall be eligible to play for his/her new Federation (receiving Federation) upon his/her release by the previous Federation (releasing Federation). The following procedure applies:

1. Transfer request to be filled in completely (official form is obligatory).
  2. Proof of payment of the transfer fee of **€ 150 each** to the releasing Federation and to the EHF.
  3. Transfer certificate (completely filled-in) to be sent to the EHF as well as to the receiving Federation (Note: no playing eligibility for the player at this stage).
  4. Review of the transfer papers and input into the EHF Player Database by the EHF.
  5. Confirmation of transfer certificate by the EHF and dispatch to the releasing and receiving Federations (It is only upon receipt of a confirmed transfer certificate that the player is eligible to obtain the national playing license within the receiving Federation).
- 3.1.2. In the case of a transfer where a non-contract player changes his/her status to contract player within a period of 12 months (i.e. previously non-contract player in both the releasing and receiving Federations – proof of payment of the € 150 transfer fee shall be furnished) the sum payable equals the difference between the fees payable under §§ 7.2 and 7.4 of the IHF Transfer Regulations (€750 minus € 150 = €600).
- 3.1.3 A **contract player** shall be eligible to play for the new Federation upon confirmation of his/her International Transfer Certificate by the EHF (with a copy to the receiving and the releasing Federations) (see IHF Regulations for the Transfer Between Federations § 11.5). The following procedure applies:
1. Transfer request to be filled in completely (official form is obligatory).
  2. Proof of payment of the transfer fee of **€ 750 each** to the releasing Federation and to the EHF.
  3. Transfer certificate (completely filled in) to be sent to the EHF as well as to the receiving Federation (Note: no playing eligibility for the player at this stage).
  4. Review of the transfer papers and input into the EHF Player Database by the EHF.
  5. Confirmation of the transfer certificate by the EHF and dispatch to the releasing and receiving Federations (It is only upon receipt of a confirmed transfer certificate that the player is eligible to obtain the national playing license within the receiving Federation).
- 3.2. At the end of a limited transfer period, the EHF will automatically issue an International Transfer Certificate to the Federation that originally released the player on loan. No transfer fee is due on such transfers.
- 3.2.1. In the event of a player being suspended or disciplinary proceedings being pending, the Federation to which the player was released on loan shall inform the EHF as well as the Federation that released the player of this fact within a period of 7 days from the date of the end of the limited release.
- 3.2.2. In the event of a player being re-transferred to the country to which he had been transferred in the period before, the transfer fee shall be payable only if the player is not being transferred to same club as in the period before. Only a transfer to the same club as in the previous period shall be referred to as “prolongation of a transfer”.
- 3.3 An appeal against the handling of a case or decisions awarded by the body of first instance/administrative procedure shall be considered and settled by the EHF Court of Appeal as the body of second and final instance against

payment of an administration fee amounting to EUR 750 (compare EHF Arbitration Regulations § 14) and a refund of the costs incurred.

#### 4. Transfer Procedure

- 4.1 Agreement between the player and his/her new club (in the case of a contract player, by conclusion of a contract) followed by a request of the club to its National Federation to issue the player's eligibility to play at the national level and to effect registration (see IHF Regulations for the Transfer Between Federations § 11.1).
- 4.2 The request of the receiving Federation regarding the issuance of an International Transfer Certificate to the releasing Federation shall be submitted in writing. At the same time, a copy of the transfer request shall be provided to the EHF.  
(See EHF Transfer Rules – Request Form – and IHF Regulations for the Transfer between Federations §§ 11.2, 11.3).
- 4.3 In the event of disputes over transfers, the European Handball Federation will consider a transfer request by a contract player valid only (start of the 30 days period) if, upon request by the EHF, proof of the first contact initiated by the prospective receiving club (letter + proof of transmission) is submitted to the EHF Office.
- 4.4 Remittance of the transfer fees by the receiving Federation/club to the releasing Federation and to the EHF (see EHF Rules of Procedure for Transfers § 3.1 and IHF Regulations for the Transfer Between Federations §§ 7.1., 7.2., 7.3. and 7.4.).
- 4.5 Response to a request concerning an international transfer within 30 days by the releasing Federation (with copy to the EHF) after receipt of the transfer request and/or issuance of the International Transfer Certificate by the releasing Federation within 30 days after receipt of the transfer request and delivery of the confirmed International Transfer Certificate to the EHF and the receiving Federation (see IHF Regulations for the Transfer between Federations §§ 4, 6, 8, 11.4 and EHF Rules of Procedure for Transfers – International Transfer Certificate).
- 4.5.1 **Non-contract and contract players:** delivery of the confirmed International Transfer Certificate by the releasing Federation to the EHF and to the receiving Federation – compare with §§ 3.1.1 and 3.1.3.  
(See IHF Regulations for the Transfer between Federations §§ 17.4, 17.5, 11.4)
- 4.6. Administrative processing of the International Transfer Certificate by the EHF.
  - 4.6.1. **Non-contract players:** (non-contract player to become non-contract player)  
Confirmation of transfer certificate by the EHF upon receipt of the transfer fees or delivery of a receipted copy of credit transfer instructions and transmission of copies of the International Transfer Certificate to the releasing and the receiving Federations, recording of the transfer in the EHF Players Database and filing of the certificate by the EHF.
  - 4.6.2. **Contract players:** (contract player to become contract player, contract player to become non-contract player, non-contract player to become contract player)  
Confirmation of transfer certificate by the EHF upon receipt of the transfer fees or delivery of a receipted copy of credit transfer instructions and transmission

of copies of the International Transfer Certificate to the releasing and the receiving Federations, recording of the transfer in the EHF Players Database and filing of the certificate by the EHF.

4.6.3. In the case of an international transfer taking place within a period of 12 months after the preceding one, with the player returning to the Federation that originally released him but joining another club than the one by which he was originally released, the national transfer regulations of this Federation shall apply.

Such international transfers shall be dealt with as direct transfers between the club that originally released the player and the new receiving club in the same country.

## **5. Education Compensation**

5.1. A releasing club is entitled to demand education compensation for players between the ages of 16 and 23 participating in club or national team competitions (criterion: being listed at least once in an official match report in the respective season).

5.2. Education compensation shall not be demanded later than 12 months after the end of the last employment contract.

5.3. The maximum compensation per contract player/player under education agreement and season is € 2,500 for club competitions.

5.3.1. The club(s) with which the player was under contract before the transfer is entitled to demand compensation.

5.4. The maximum compensation per national team player and season is € 500 for national team competitions.

5.4.1. The national federation is entitled to claim compensation upon furnishing proof that the player concerned was listed at least once in an official match report of a national team game in the respective season.

5.5. Transfer compensations according to the EHF Rules of Procedures for Transfer are not foreseen for players under education agreement.

5.6. Unclear circumstances regarding education compensation shall not constitute material reasons for refusing the issuance of the International Transfer Certificate.

5.7. Education compensation can only be requested during the transfer procedure (at the latest when issuing the International Transfer Certificate). The correct announcement within due time is a precondition for any education compensation claim.

5.8. In the case of EHF involvement in resolving disputes over education compensation, an administration fee of up to € 1,000 shall be payable (to be paid by the club/federation at fault) – also for failure to arrange payment.

5.9. Failure to pay compensation for the cost of education within six weeks after issuance of the International Transfer Certificate and the call for payment shall carry, depending on the circumstances, a fine up to € 7,500, a transfer ban, and/or complete suspension from national and international competitions. In implementing the penalty, the requirements of the current playing season may be taken into account if deemed appropriate.

5.10. Responsibility for implementation of sanctions at the national level shall rest with the National Federation concerned. If the National Federation does not ensure appropriate implementation, the outstanding claims shall be debited to the Nation's account.

## **6. Protection of Minors**

International transfers of players under the age of 18 shall be permitted only under the following conditions:

- a. as a general rule, when the player's family moves to the country in which the new club is located for reasons that are not linked to handball
- b. international transfers of non-contract players under the age of 18 shall be permitted (e.g. students, pupils). For such transfers, no fees shall be charged, neither by the releasing Federation nor by the EHF.

The same principles apply to the first registration of players under the age of 18 who have a nationality other than that of the country in which they first apply for registration.

## **7. Transfer Fee for Students**

- 7.1. The transfer administration fee in accordance with 3.1.1.2. above shall not be payable in cases in which a player transfers to another country within Europe under an international students exchange programme. In addition, individual exemptions may be granted to clubs in nations having development status.
- 7.2. An exemption in accordance with 7.1. above shall be available exclusively for players transferring to a club that within the national federation concerned plays at a level below the first or second league. If, after such a transfer, a player moves on within 24 months to a club playing in the first or second league, the EHF and the releasing national federation shall have the right to charge the transfer administration fee retroactively.

## **8. Disputes**

- 8.1 Any disputes arising in transfer matters or in connection with the release of players to national teams shall be considered and settled by the EHF Office as the body of first instance/administrative procedure.  
Appeals against the handling of a case or decisions taken by the body of first instance/administrative procedure shall be considered and settled by the EHF Court of Appeal as the body of second and final instance against payment of an administration fee of EUR 750 and a refund of the costs incurred.
- 8.2 In accordance with § 14.5. of the EHF Arbitration Regulations, appeals in transfer matters do not have any suspensory effect.

## **9. Effectiveness**

**These EHF Rules of Procedure for Transfers first took effect upon adoption by the EHF Congress on 23 March 1996, were revised by the EHF Executive Committee, and approved by the EHF Congress in Vilamoura in May 2006.**

These Transfer Rules shall be effective from **1 July 2006**.

**May 2006**