



**International
Handball
Federation**

V.
**Regulations for
IHF Competitions**

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1. Basic principles

According to Art. 4, 6, 26 and 27 of its Bylaws, the International Handball Federation (IHF) shall hold World Championships for men, women, men's juniors, women's juniors, men's youth, women's youth, beach handball and qualifying rounds for World Championships and Olympic Games, World Cups for club teams and national teams. It shall also hold, on behalf of the IOC, the Olympic Handball Tournaments for men and women.

All members that have fulfilled their obligations towards the IHF essentially have the right to take part in IHF competitions.

These regulations shall apply in connection with all other pertinent regulations (see appendix to the Bylaws).

2. World Championships

2.1. Administrative section

2.1.1. Announcement

The IHF Head Office shall announce forthcoming IHF competitions, with reference to the Bylaws and the Regulations for IHF Competitions.

2.1.2. Number of participants

In principle, the number of participants at World Championships (WCh) shall be:

- men and women 24 teams
- men's juniors and women's juniors 20 teams
- men's and women's youth 16 teams
- men's and women's beach handball 12 teams

The IHF Congress or Council, respectively, shall decide on special cases.

2.1.3. Compulsory and performance places for

Men's and Women's World Championships:

Organiser: one (1) place (In the case of a World Championship awarded to several organisers and organisers who have not qualified for the WCh, the relevant continental federation is to be consulted or involved. In addition a respective agreement on the allocation of the continent places has to be reached with the continental federation concerned.) As a rule the organiser will be allocated the first place behind the performance places. Should the organiser achieve a better place as a result of the previously staged World Championship qualifying rounds, it will be allocated the corresponding performance place.

The reigning world champion (1) automatically qualifies for the next World Championship and, as a rule, is placed first in the first performance row.

Performance places for the continental federations: nine (9) based on the results of the preceding World Championship.

Compulsory places (13): three (3) each for Africa, Asia, Europe and Pan-America and one (1) for Oceania.

Men's Junior and Women's Junior World Championships:

Organiser: one (1) place (In the case of a World Championship awarded to several organisers and organisers who have not qualified for the WCh, the relevant continental federation is to be consulted or involved. In addition a respective agreement on the allocation of the continent places has to be reached with the continental federation concerned.)

Performance places for the continental federations: ten (10) based on the results of the preceding World Championship of the same category.

Compulsory places (9): two (2) each for Africa, Asia, Europe and Pan-America and one (1) for Oceania.

Men's Youth and Women's Youth World Championships:

Organiser: one (1) place (In the case of a World Championship awarded to several organisers and organisers who have not qualified for the WCh, the relevant continental federation is to be consulted or involved. In addition a respective agreement on the allocation of the continent places has to be reached with the continental federation concerned.)

Performance places for the continental federations: six (6) based on the results of the preceding World Championship of the same category.

Compulsory places (9): two (2) each for Africa, Asia, Europe, Pan-America and one (1) for Oceania.

Men's and Women's Beach Handball World Championships:

Organiser: one (1) place.

The reigning world champion (1) automatically qualifies for the next World Championship and, as a rule, is placed first in the first performance row.

Performance places for continental federations: five (5) based on the results of the preceding World Championship.

Compulsory places (5): one (1) each for Africa, Asia, Europe, Pan-America and Oceania.

Qualifying

Qualifying shall be through the continents (with the exception of the organiser) according to clearly regulated performance criteria and other necessary regulations defined by the IHF. The IHF's COC carries out the final allocation to the performance rows. The draw basically takes place after completion of all continental qualifying rounds (see 2.2.).

If continents should exceptionally fail to play their qualification matches, clear criteria must be used to gauge their performance (continental rankings), which must first be approved by the COC.

If, under exceptional circumstances, a World Championship draw takes place before all the participants being definitively qualified, the continent places shall bear successive numbers.

2.1.4. Registration

Continental federations shall give a binding agreement to accept the places open to them at the latest nine months before the start of an IHF competition.

Qualified teams shall give a binding confirmation of their participation to the IHF Head Office as follows:

- *Men's and Women's World Championships*
no later than 6 months before the WCh start
- *Men's and Women's Junior World Championships*
no later than 3 months before the WCh start
- *Men's and Women's Youth World Championships*
no later than 3 months before the WCh start
- *Men's and Women's Beach Handball World Championships*
no later than 6 months before the WCh start

At the same time, they shall transfer a deposit of CHF 5,000.– and the registration fee of CHF 500.–. If these deadlines are not met, the qualification shall lapse. In such a case, the substitute nation nominated by the continental federation shall be eligible to play.

2.1.5. Draw

The draw, held by the IHF (COC), shall be in compliance with the performance criteria.

The organiser shall have a free choice of its preliminary round group within its performance row that is drawn last.

In the case of more than one organiser, the main organiser shall have the right to decide whether its performance row is drawn first or last. In the case of a secondary organiser, this free choice shall apply to its last ranking within its performance row.

2.1.6. Non-appearance

If the team of a federation that has qualified for the WCh does not take part, the first substitute nation of the continent in question shall take that place.

If the first substitute nation does not take part, the second substitute nation shall take the place.

If this team also does not take part, the COC shall decide on which team takes the place and on the consequences thereof.

If a team from a particular continent is unable to take up a place (performance or compulsory place) at an IHF event and is replaced by a team from another continent or the place remains unoccupied, this team will be banned from the next qualifying phase for the World Championship of the same category. Punishment shall be according to the Regulations concerning Penalties and Fines.

2.1.7. Team registration

Delegations may consist of up to 27 persons. (The delegating federation must bear the cost of delegation members ranked 22nd to 27th in the list.)

Players and the remainder as officials (stating their function) shall be registered as follows:

- provisionally: one month before the World Championship at the latest (28 players at most) to the organiser as well as the IHF Head Office
- definitively: one hour before the Technical Meeting to the responsible IHF representative (16 players taken from the provisional list). The registration must be executed with help of the relevant IHF form.

The registration, on the relevant IHF form, must include:

- a) officials (who must not be changed during the entire competition)
 - surname, first name, date of birth, nationality, gender, function within the delegation and indication of the officials (by use of letters A, B, C, D,E, F)
- b) players
 - player number, surname, first name, date of birth, nationality, club, height, weight, number of international games, number of goals scored (in the corresponding WCh category)
- c) players' uniform
 - colour of shorts and shirts of 1st and 2nd set of uniform; colour of goalkeeper's 1st and 2nd set of uniform. (Cycling pants may be worn. They must be the same colour as the shorts or all players shall wear the same colour. Or they may be worn instead of shorts. Face protection or anything similar are not allowed.)

Other provisions:

- After the preliminary round each team may replace up to two players (The new players have to be taken from the provisional list).
- After the main round each team may replace up to two players (The new players have to be taken from the provisional list).
- If a team has registered less than 16 players, it may register one additional player later on during the World Championship.

Procedure for late registration or substitution of one or several players:

New players must be orally registered to the Competition Management no less than 16 hours before the match. A written registration and a proof of citizenship (passport, etc.) shall follow one hour before the match at the latest.

One hour before the start of the match, each team must give the local representative a list showing the line-up with the names of up to 14 eligible players to be used in the match. If (up to two) players get injured within one hour prior to the start of the match, they may be replaced until 10 minutes prior to the start of the match. If less players are listed, no additional players may be added.

The organiser recommends that a copy of the registration list be used to that end on which the players not being used are deleted.

2.1.8. Eligibility to play

The Player Eligibility Code shall apply. Players shall prove their citizenship by presenting a passport, which will be checked by the COC before the start of the WCh.

The age limit for World Championships is 21 for men's juniors, 20 for women's juniors, 19 for men's youth and 18 for women's youth; it means athletes aged 21, 20, 19 and 18 accordingly in the year of the World Championship are eligible.

Players who are not officially registered by the stated date shall not be eligible to play in the competition.

2.1.9. Use of banned players and/or players not entitled to play

If a banned player is used, the match shall count as lost with the same result, however by at least 0:10 goals. The amount of the fine shall be set as part of a Disciplinary Commission decision, but must be between CHF 300.– and CHF 1,000.–.

If a player is used who is not entitled to play, his team shall be excluded from the ongoing competition. The Competition Management shall take any further decisions.

2.2. Technical section

2.2.1. Competition dates

The IHF, with the organiser's agreement, shall fix the exact dates for the competitions with the following periods being set:

Men: 2nd half of January until 1st weekend of February

Men's juniors: 2nd half of August

Men's youth: last week of July until 1st week of August

Women: 1 to 20 December

These championships take place in uneven years.

Women's juniors: 2nd half of August

Women's youth: last week of July until 1st week of August

Men's and women's beach handball

These championships take place in even years.

The IHF may set other dates in years of Olympic Games.

The IHF Executive Committee shall finalise the dates of the tournament before the corresponding announcement being drawn up.

2.2.2. Qualifying dates

As a matter of principle, continental qualifying rounds for a forthcoming World Championship must be completed as follows:

- *Men's and Women's World Championships*
no later than 6 months before the WCh start
- *Men's and Women's Junior World Championships*
no later than 3 months before the WCh start
- *Men's and Women's Youth World Championships*
no later than 3 months before the WCh start
- *Men's and Women's Beach Handball World Championships*
no later than 6 months before the WCh start

The continental federations shall include their qualifying rounds into the IHF schedule.

2.2.3 Match schemes

2.2.3.1 World Championships / 24 teams

4 preliminary round groups with 6 teams each

Preliminary round

(Groups A, B, C and D) – (60 matches in total)

Matchday 1	1 – 4	2 – 6	3 – 5
Matchday 2	4 – 2	5 – 1	6 – 3
Matchday 3	1 – 6	2 – 3	4 – 5
Matchday 4	2 – 5	3 – 1	6 – 4
Matchday 5	5 – 6	3 – 4	1 – 2

Departure of the teams ranked fourth, fifth and sixth

Determination of places 13 – 24

Determination of places 13 – 24 is done by calculation and according to the following criteria:

- Number of points gained in the preliminary round
- If two or more teams have gained the same number of points as mentioned under (a), the goal difference in all games of the preliminary round is decisive.
- If two or more teams have gained the same number of points (a) and goal difference (b), classification is based on the greater number of plus goals in the games of the preliminary round.
- If two or more teams have gained the same number of points (a), goal difference (b) and plus goals (c), classification of these teams is decided in dependence of the final ranking of the teams which belonged to the same preliminary round groups.
- If teams ranked fifth and sixth after the preliminary round are equal according to points (a) to (d), classification is done by drawing lots.

Main round

(2 groups with 6 teams each)

The top three teams each of groups A/B and C/D are put together in groups I-M and II-M of the main round, respectively. The results of the teams that have played in the same preliminary round group shall be taken into account.

Main round (18 matches in total)

Groups		Playing schedule	
I-M	II-M	Day	Matches
1.A	1.C	6	2.A – 3.B 2.C – 3.D
2.A	2.C		3.A – 1.B 3.C – 1.D
3.A	3.C		1.A – 2.B 1.C – 2.D
1.B	1.D	7	1.B – 2.A 1.D – 2.C
2.B	2.D		3.B – 1.A 3.D – 1.C
3.B	3.D		2.B – 3.A 2.D – 3.C
		8	3.A – 3.B 3.C – 3.D
			2.A – 2.B 2.C – 2.D
			1.A – 1.B 1.C – 1.D

Semi-finals and finals (2 matchdays / 4 matches)

1.I-M – 2.II-M

1.II-M – 2.I-M

Winners to places 1/2, losers to places 3/4

Placement round (1 matchday / 2 matches)

3.I-M – 3.II-M Places 5/6

4.I-M – 4.II-M Places 7/8

82 matches including the final ranking 1 – 8

The above-mentioned match schedule shall include at least four rest days.

2.2.3.2. World Championships / 24 teams 6 preliminary round groups with 4 teams each

Preliminary round

(Groups A, B, C, D, E and F) – (36 matches in total)

Matchday 1 1 – 3 2 – 4

Matchday 2 4 – 1 3 – 2

Matchday 3 1 – 2 3 – 4

Main round

(2 groups of 6 teams each)

(Groups I-M and II-M) – (24 matches in total)

The two top teams each of groups A, B and C as well as groups D, E and F are put together in main round groups I-M and II-M. The results of the teams that have played in the same preliminary round group shall be taken into account.

Groups		Match schedule	
I-M	II-M	Day	Match
1.A	1.D	4	1.A – 2.C 1.D – 2.F
2.A	2.D		2.B – 1.C 2.E – 1.F
1.B	1.E		2.A – 1.B 2.D – 1.E
2.B	2.E	5	2.B – 1.A 2.E – 1.D
1.C	1.F		1.C – 1.B 1.F – 1.E
2.C	2.F		2.A – 2.C 2.D – 2.F
		6	2.B – 2.C 2.E – 2.F
			1.B – 1.A 1.E – 1.D
			1.C – 2.A 1.F – 2.D
		7	1.A – 1.C 1.D – 1.F
			2.B – 2.A 2.E – 2.D
			2.C – 1.B 2.F – 1.E

Quarter-finals (1 matchday / 4 matches)

QF 1 1.I-M – 4.II-M

QF 2 1.II-M – 4.I-M

QF 3 3.II-M – 2.I-M

QF 4 3.I-M – 2.II-M

Semi-finals and finals (2 matchdays / 4 matches)

SF 1: Winner QF 1 – Winner QF 4

SF 2: Winner QF 3 – Winner QF 2

Winners to places 1/2, losers to places 3/4

Placement matches 9 – 12 (1 matchday / 2 matches)

5. I-M – 5. II-M Places 9/10
 6. I-M – 6. II-M Places 11/12

Placement round 5 – 8 (2 matchdays / 4 matches)

Loser QF 1 – Loser QF 4
 Loser QF 3 – Loser QF 2
 Winners to places 5/6, losers to places 7/8

Placement round 13 – 24 (4 matchdays / 18 matches)

74 matches including final ranking 1 – 8 and
 18 matches including final ranking 13 – 24

The above-mentioned match schedule shall include at least five rest days.

Determination of places 13 – 24 (President's Cup)**Placement round 13 – 24** (4 matchdays / 18 matches)**Groups**

I-P	II-P	III-P	IV-P
3.A	3.D	4.A	4.D
3.B	3.E	4.B	4.E
3.C	3.F	4.C	4.F

Match schedule

Day	Match			
	I-P	II-P	III-P	IV-P
4	3.A – 3.B	3.D – 3.E	4.A – 4.B	4.D – 4.E
5	3.A – 3.C	3.D – 3.F	4.A – 4.C	4.D – 4.F
6	3.B – 3.C	3.E – 3.F	4.B – 4.C	4.E – 4.F

- 3. III-P – 3. IV-P Places 23/24
- 2. III-P – 2. IV-P Places 21/22
- 1. III-P – 1. IV-P Places 19/20
- 3. I-P – 3. II-P Places 17/18
- 2. I-P – 2. II-P Places 15/16
- 1. I-P – 1. II-P Places 13/14

74 matches including final ranking 1 – 8 and
 18 matches including final ranking 13 – 24

The above-mentioned match schedule comprising 92 matches shall include at least five rest days.

PR1-PR2-PR3-REST-MR1/PC1-MR2/PC2-PC3-MR3-MR4/
 PM13-24-REST-QF-REST-SF/PL5-8-PM5-8-F

2.2.3.3. World Championships 20 teams 4 preliminary round groups with 5 teams each

Preliminary round

(A, B, C, and D) – (40 matches in total)

Organiser in performance row 1				Organiser in performance row 2 or 3			
Day	Matches		Rest day	Day	Matches		Rest day
1	4-1	3-5	2	1	2-4	3-5	1
2	1-3	2-4	5	2	1-4	5-2	3
3	5-2		1, 3, 4	3	3-1		2, 4, 5
4	5-1	3-4	2	4	2-3	4-5	1
5	2-3		1, 4, 5	5	5-1		2, 3, 4
6	1-2	4-5	3	6	1-2	4-3	5

Main round / Placement round

The top three teams each of groups A/B and C/D are put together in groups I-M and II-M of the main round, respectively. The teams ranked 4th and 5th are put together in groups I-P and II-P of the placement round. The results of the teams that have played in the same preliminary round group shall be taken into account.

Main round (18 matches in total)

Groups		Match schedule		
I-M	II-M	Day	Match	
1.A	1.C	7	2.A – 3.B	2.C – 3.D
2.A	2.C		3.A – 1.B	3.C – 1.D
3.A	3.C		1.A – 2.B	1.C – 2.D
1.B	1.D	8	1.B – 2.A	1.D – 2.C
2.B	2.D		3.B – 1.A	3.D – 1.C
3.B	3.D		2.B – 3.A	2.D – 3.C
		9	3.A – 3.B	3.C – 3.D
			2.A – 2.B	2.C – 2.D
			1.A – 1.B	1.C – 1.D

Placement matches (4 matches in total)

3.I-M – 3.II-M	Places 5/6
4.II-M – 4.I-M	Places 7/8
5.I-M – 5.II-M	Places 9/10
6.II-M – 6.I-M	Places 11/12

Placement round**Groups**

I-P	II-P
4.A	4.B
5.B	5.A
4.C	4.D
5.D	5.C

Match schedule:

Day	Match
7	4.A – 5.B 4.B – 5.A
	4.C – 5.D 4.D – 5.C
8	5.D – 4.A 5.C – 4.B
	5.B – 4.C 5.A – 4.D
9	4.A – 4.C 4.B – 4.D
	5.B – 5.D 5.A – 5.C

Placement matches (4 matches in total)

1.I-P – 1.II-P	Places 13/14
2.II-P – 2.I-P	Places 15/16
3.I-P – 3.II-P	Places 17/18
4.II-P – 4.I-P	Places 19/20

Semi-finals (2 matches in total)

- 1) 1.I-M – 2.II-M
- 2) 1.II-M – 2.I-M

Final (2 matches in total)

Winner 1) – Winner 2)	Places 1/2
Loser 2) – Loser 1)	Places 3/4

The above-mentioned match schedule shall include at least three rest days.

2.2.3.4. World Championships / 16 teams 4 groups with 4 teams each

Preliminary round

(Groups A, B, C, D) – (24 matches in total)

Matchday 1 1 – 3 2 – 4

Matchday 2 4 – 1 3 – 2

Matchday 3 1 – 2 3 – 4

Main round

(2 groups of 4 teams each)

(Groups I-M and II-M) – (8 matches in total)

The two top teams each of groups A and B as well as groups C and D are put together in main round groups I-M and II-M. The results of the teams that have played in the same preliminary round group shall be taken into account.

Groups		Match schedule	
I-M	II-M	Day	Match
1.A	1.C	4	1.A – 2.B 1.C – 2.D
2.A	2.C		1.B – 2.A 1.D – 2.C
1.B	1.D	5	2.A – 2.B 2.C – 2.D
2.B	2.D		1.A – 1.B 1.C – 1.D

Placement round

(2 groups of 4 teams each)

(Groups I-P and II-P) – (8 matches in total)

The two teams ranked 3 and 4 each of groups A and B as well as groups C and D are put together in placement round groups I-P and II-P. The results of the teams that have played in the same preliminary round group shall be taken into account.

Groups		Match schedule	
I-P	II-P	Day	Match
3.A	3.C	4	3.A – 4.B 3.C – 4.D
4.A	4.C		3.B – 4.A 3.D – 4.C
3.B	3.D	5	4.A – 4.B 4.C – 4.D
4.B	4.D		3.A – 3.B 3.C – 3.D

Placement matches (6 matches in total)

4.I-P – 4.II-P Places 15/16

3.I-P – 3.II-P Places 13/14

2.I-P – 2.II-P Places 11/12

1.I-P – 1.II-P Places 9/10

4.I-M – 4.II-M Places 7/8

3.I-M – 3.II-M Places 5/6

Semi-finals (2 matches in total)

1) 1.I-M – 2.II-M

2) 1.II-M – 2.I-M

Final (2 matches in total)

Winner 1) – Winner 2) Places 1/2

Loser 2) – Loser 1) Places 3/4

2.2.3.5. Men's and Women's Beach Handball World Championships 12 teams / 2 groups with 6 teams each

Matchday	Teams	Match	Court
1	A1 – A4	Preliminary Round Group A	
	B1 – B4	Preliminary Round Group B	
	A2 – A6	Preliminary Round Group A	
	B2 – B6	Preliminary Round Group B	
	A3 – A5	Preliminary Round Group A	
	B3 – B5	Preliminary Round Group B	
	A4 – A2	Preliminary Round Group A	
	B4 – B2	Preliminary Round Group B	
2	A5 – A1	Preliminary Round Group A	
	B5 – B1	Preliminary Round Group B	
	A6 – A3	Preliminary Round Group A	
	B6 – B3	Preliminary Round Group B	
	A1 – A6	Preliminary Round Group A	
	B1 – B6	Preliminary Round Group B	
	A2 – A3	Preliminary Round Group A	
	B2 – B3	Preliminary Round Group B	
3	A4 – A5	Preliminary Round Group A	
	B4 – B5	Preliminary Round Group B	
	A2 – A5	Preliminary Round Group A	
	B2 – B5	Preliminary Round Group B	
	A3 – A1	Preliminary Round Group A	
	B3 – B1	Preliminary Round Group B	
	A6 – A4	Preliminary Round Group A	
	B6 – B4	Preliminary Round Group B	
4	A5 – A6	Preliminary Round Group A	
	B5 – B6	Preliminary Round Group B	
	A3 – A4	Preliminary Round Group A	
	B3 – B4	Preliminary Round Group B	
	A1 – A2	Preliminary Round Group A	
	B1 – B2	Preliminary Round Group B	
	6.B – 6.A	Places 11/12	
5.A – 5.B	Places 9/10		
4.A – 3.B	Placement Round (1) / Places 5 - 8		
4.B – 3.A	Placement Round (2) / Places 5 - 8		

5	1.A – 2.B	Semi-final 1
	1.B – 2.A	Semi-final 2
	Loser PR1 – Loser PR2	Places 7/8
	Winner PR1 – Winner PR2	Places 5/6
	Loser SF1 – Loser SF2	Places 3/4
	Winner SF1 – Winner SF2	Final

In case 10 (ten) teams or less participate in the Beach Handball WCh, the Executive Committee makes a decision which match scheme shall apply.

2.2.4. Match evaluation **Preliminary round / main round / placement round**

- 2.2.4.1. The preliminary round is played in groups. The matches shall be evaluated as follows:
- each match won = 2 points
 - each match drawn = 1 point for each team
 - each match lost = no points
- 2.2.4.2. Teams are ranked according to the total number of points gained.
- 2.2.4.3. If two or more teams have gained the same number of points after the group matches have been completed, classification is decided as follows:
- results in points between the teams concerned
 - goal differences in the matches between the teams concerned
 - greater number of plus goals in the matches between the teams concerned.
- 2.2.4.4. If the teams are still equal, a decision is made between those teams with equal number of points as follows:
- goal difference is subtracted in all matches
 - greater number of plus goals in all matches.
- 2.2.4.5. If classification still is not possible, a draw shall decide. The IHF representative on site shall execute the draw, if possible in the presence of the 'responsible team officials'. If the 'responsible team official' cannot be present, other co-workers selected by the IHF shall take part.

Placement matches, quarter-finals, semi-finals and finals

- 2.2.4.6. After completion of the preliminary, main and placement rounds, the placement matches, quarter-finals, semi-finals and finals shall be played in accordance with the knock-out system.
- 2.2.4.7. In case of a draw at the end of the regular playing time, after a break of five (5) minutes there is a first overtime period of 2 x 5 minutes, changing sides half way through with a one-minute break in-between. Provisions to the contrary set for individual tournaments shall be given priority.
- 2.2.4.8. If the match should still not be decided after this overtime period, after a break of 5 minutes there shall be a second overtime period of 2 x 5 minutes, changing sides half way through with a one-minute break in-between.
- 2.2.4.9. Should the match still not be decided after the second overtime period, it is decided with 7m penalty throws in accordance with Rule 2:2 of the Rules of the Game.

2.2.5. Cancellation or discontinuation of match

If the match is cancelled or discontinued, the Competition Management shall decide on further action.

2.2.6. Players and players' uniform

Each team must possess differently coloured sets of players' uniform:

- a) one set of light-coloured shirts and one set of light-coloured shorts
- b) one set of dark-coloured shirts and one set of dark-coloured shorts
- c) three differently coloured shirts for the goalkeeper (in the same match same colour for goalkeepers of the same team).

One colour should very clearly cover the major part of the shirt.

Players must wear clearly legible numbers, the figures being placed at least 20cm high on the back and at least 10cm high on their chest. The numbers shall be in a different colour from the main colour.

As noted above, all the goalkeepers must have the same shirt colours. This applies also to a court player temporarily acting as a goalkeeper. Such 'temporary' goalkeepers must either have a goalkeeper shirt with the number that they normally have as court player, or they must put on a sleeveless shirt in the colour of its teams' goalkeeper shirt, with holes giving a view of the number on the regular shirt.

During the entire IHF competition, each player must wear the same number, regardless of his position (goalkeeper or court player).

At the Technical Meeting at the start of the IHF competition, each delegation is obliged to show the two (three for the goalkeepers) differently coloured sets of uniform.

In each match one team shall wear light-coloured shirts and the other team dark-coloured shirts.

For the preliminary round the colours have to be decided at the Technical Meeting before the matches. The decision of colours in each match will be taken with participation of the team representatives and the IHF technical delegates. In case of disagreement regarding the colours the team named first has the right to choose the colour.

For the main round and all further matches, the Competition Management decides the colours of the players' uniforms.

At Men's and Women's World Championships as well as at Olympic Games the player's name must be displayed, in clearly legible 7cm high (minimum) capital letters, above his player number on the back of his shirt.

Implementing regulations:

- The names must be written in Roman letters.
- The teams are responsible for the application of the names.
- The shirts must be presented to the IHF in good time for examination.
- The examination of the shirts / names will be carried out by the COC.
- Every nation has the obligation to forward coloured photos of the uniforms they want to use in a certain competition at least one month prior to the competition to the IHF Head Office.
- The COC will approve the uniforms according to the above-named photos.

- The nations are obliged to bring with them only such approved uniforms for the tournament concerned.
- The uniforms of the teams shall appear on the player list named 1st and 2nd for each colour. The uniform named 1st is to be preferred for use.

2.2.7. Change of players' uniform

If the referees consider that the two teams' uniforms might cause confusion, the team named second in the match schedule must change its uniform in order that there is good contrast. Both teams have to bring two sets to each match.

In all other cases the Competition Management or the official on site shall decide on the change of players' uniform.

The referees must not wear the same coloured shirts as any player of the teams.

2.2.8. Playing halls, balls and training

Playing halls

IHF competitions shall be held exclusively in playing halls with a playing area of 40m x 20m in accordance with the IHF Regulations.

Balls

The IHF shall supply the organiser with balls.

Training schedule

Two months before the start of the WCh, the organiser must submit a training schedule. Please pay attention to the following:

- a) Each team has the right to train for at least 45 minutes each day.
- b) Teams in the same preliminary round group that have not yet played against each other should not be allocated consecutive training slots. The break between the training slots of different teams should be 5 to 10 minutes.
- c) Training slots may be used for training matches against other teams.

- d) For each World Championship, participating teams shall be able to train in their respective official playing hall at least once before their first match of any World Championships.
- e) The COC has the final decision on the training schedule.

2.2.9. Substitution area

The IHF Substitution Area Regulations shall apply.

2.2.10. Organising Committee

Two IHF collaborators shall have a seat and a vote in the organising committee of the respective organiser.

2.2.11. Competition Management

At World Championships and Olympic Games a Competition Management shall be formed which is generally chaired by the COC President. The other members are a member of the Executive Committee nominated by the Council, the PRC President and the CCM President. In case of absence of certain members the Council may nominate replacements.

The Competition Management is responsible for the orderly management of the event, in close cooperation with the organiser. It gives advice and makes all the necessary decisions during the event, with the exception of disciplinary decisions. It is also responsible for the appointment of officials, technical delegates and referees.

2.2.12. Referees

The organiser shall invite the nominated referees by registered letter one month before the start of the preliminary round matches at the latest (date of receipt by the referees).

2.2.13. Rules of the Game

Matches shall be played according to the currently Rules of the Game applicable.

2.2.14. Match Management

One IHF official and two IHF technical delegates shall form the Match Management together with the timekeeper and scorekeeper provided by the organiser.

The announcer shall be seated near or at the table.

A designated place shall be reserved for the person in charge of anti-doping.

2.2.15. Match supervision

The IHF official engaged shall have overall supervision of the match.

2.2.16. Dope tests

Dope tests shall be carried out according to the IHF's Anti-Doping Regulations.

2.3. Legal section

2.3.1. Any disputes arising during a competition shall be dealt with according to Art. 35 of the Bylaws and the Legal Provisions.

2.3.2. Protests

2.3.2.1. A protest may be made against decisions and occurrences at international events during and outside the matches, up to one hour after completion of the match and against payment of CHF 500.–, to be made at the same time.

The Disciplinary Commission shall deal with the protest (see also Bylaws, Article 35, paragraphs 3 - 5).

2.3.2.2. The reason for the protest must be made in writing by 9am local time on the following day at the latest, and submitted to the Disciplinary Commission in one of the three IHF languages.

2.3.2.3. The Disciplinary Commission shall decide on the protest by 3pm the same day at the latest, and also on the disqualification of players or teams, and shall determine the extent of the fine or penalty.

2.3.3. Appeals

An appeal may be made against the decision of the Disciplinary Commission up to two hours after receipt of the decision, and with payment of CHF 1,500.– at the same time. The Jury shall deal with the appeal, and its decision shall be final (see also Bylaws, Article 35, paragraph 7).

- 2.3.4. In case of tournaments and matches as part of World Championship qualifying, the meaning of points 2.3.2 and 2.3.3. shall apply. The continental federation shall be responsible for applying them if the dispute is between teams from one single continental federation.

2.4. Financial section

2.4.1. The participants shall bear the following costs:

Travel expenses

Travel expenses for the entire participating delegation. The IHF shall fix the place of arrival and departure in close co-operation with the organiser.

Cost of visas

Participants shall bear all costs in connection with obtaining necessary visas.

Registration fee

Nations taking part in a World Championship shall pay the IHF a registration fee of CHF 500.–. The payment deadline is the same date as the registration deadline. If continent representatives are not yet known by this date, the continental federation concerned shall pay the registration fee.

Participation fee

Participants at Men's and Women's World Championships shall not pay any participation fee.

For the Men's and Women's Junior World Championships, Men's and Women's Youth World Championships the IHF shall set the participation fee individually when awarding the championship.

Fixed deposit

At Men's, Women's, Men's Junior and Women's Junior, Men's Youth, Women's Youth World Championships and Men's and Women's Beach Handball World Championships all participants shall pay to the IHF, at the same time as the registration fee, a deposit of CHF 5,000.– which will be taken on account or repaid. If a registering federation has the uncharged sum of CHF 5,000.– on its account with the IHF, this may be used as the fixed deposit. Once the delegation has arrived for the WCh, this sum shall again be available to the member federation. If the country withdraws, the sum shall be forfeited to the benefit of the IHF.

If continental representatives are not known by the registration date, the continental federation concerned shall pay the fixed deposit.

Accident and sickness insurance

Federations taking part in World Championships are obliged to insure all delegation members, i. e. all players and all officials, against accident and sickness, at their own cost. The organiser and the IHF shall not be held liable for any accidents that occur or any sickness.

Days of stay

When calculating the participation fee, the number of days is generally counted from 12 noon on the day of arrival to 12 noon on the day of departure, i.e. although the days of arrival and departure make up two calendar days, they represent only one fee-paying day. (Additional meals - on the day of arrival possibly breakfast, on the day of departure possibly lunch and/or supper - shall be paid for in addition.)

Additional days of stay

Participating teams may, with the organiser's agreement, arrive earlier or leave later, but they must bear the additional cost themselves.

Additional participants

Each team may take part with a maximum delegation of 27 persons for the duration of the World Championship, provided it pays the costs of the additional persons itself.

WCh Solidarity Fund

a) Contributions to the Solidarity Fund:

Participants in Men's and Women's World Championships will make the following contributions to the WCh Solidarity Fund:

Men: 10.– CHF per day and person (for 16 persons)

Women: 5.– CHF per day and person (for 16 persons)

b) The Executive Committee is responsible for the administration of this fund.

c) The purpose of this fund is to support junior and youth national teams and enable their participation in World Championships.

2.4.2. The organiser shall bear the following costs:

Expenses in the host country

All expenses arising within the host country in connection with the games.

Cost of accommodation

Accommodation expenses for a maximum of 21 persons (up to 16 players and the remainder officials) per federation, starting one day before the WCh and finishing one day after the last match of the team.

In the case of teams eliminated before the finish, one day after the end of their placement matches.

IHF representatives

For the nominees, members of the Council, Commissions and the IHF Head Office, as well as the IHF referees appointed by the IHF to officiate at a World Championship:

a) travel expenses from their home to the place of arrival specified by the IHF, and for the return trip (against receipts) according to the IHF guidelines (see Financial Regulations);

b) any visa costs;

c) all expenses arising in connection with the games within the host country;

- d) a per diem of CHF 100.– each per day;
- e) the cost of board and lodging during their period of deployment at the World Championship;
- f) if payment is made in local currency, the exchange rate used for items (c) to (d) above shall be the current bank buying rate for Swiss francs in Zurich.

The organiser shall be obliged to conclude an organiser's liability insurance for the World Championship concerned.

2.4.3. Financial obligations of the IHF

- a) A sum of CHF 500.– is paid to all referees deployed at Men's and Women's World Championships;
- b) An additional sum of CHF 500.– is paid to all referees deployed after the preliminary round and/or until the end of Men's and Women's World Championships.

2.4.4. Joint financial obligations

Prize money

The three first-ranked teams at a Men's or Women's WCh shall receive a prize money fixed by the IHF in mutual agreement with the organiser. The organiser and the IHF each shall bear 50% of the relevant costs.

2.5. Rights and advertising

Television, film and video rights as well as advertising in the playing halls

The IHF alone shall hold these rights. The corresponding agreements shall be made with the respective organiser.

The IHF shall receive the revenues from television, film and video as well as income from advertising in the sports facilities. The respective organiser shall participate according to mutual agreement.

Advertising on sportswear

Rights in respect of advertising on sportswear are laid down in the Regulations on Advertising.

2.6. Video recordings

All teams shall, after application to the IHF, be allowed video recordings for teaching and training purposes. Any person wishing to record a match must be accredited and possess IHF approval. If he cannot prove he has permission, he may be removed from the playing hall. A playing hall's dimensions may make limitations necessary for this playing hall, after agreement with the IHF.

Video recordings may be made by one person only with one camera. These video recordings may be used only within the team, for the purpose of improving game tactics, and not for commercial exploitation.

The organiser undertakes to produce a video recording of each match, which can be purchased by the participants one day after the game.

After the competition the organiser shall provide the IHF with video recordings of all matches, free of charge.

2.7. Awards and ceremony

The opening and closing ceremonies shall be of reasonable proportions. Details are contained in the List of Duties for Official IHF Competitions.

Winners (places 1 – 3)

Medals and certificates shall be awarded to the first three teams of 21 persons each as follows:

1 st place and world champion	in gold
2 nd place	in silver
3 rd place	in bronze

Additionally the organiser must prepare a trophy for the teams ranked 1-3.

Participants

All other teams as well as the nominees and referees acting on behalf of the IHF shall receive a souvenir medal.

Head Office

One set of medals and certificates shall be provided to the IHF Head Office archives.

3. **Olympic Handball Tournaments for Men and Women**

The twelve (12) participants in the Olympic Tournament are made up as follows:

Places (12) allocated:

1. Organiser: one (1) place
2. Reigning world champion: one (1) place
3. Reigning continental champions (Asia, Africa, Europe, Pan-America): four (4) places
4. Six (6) places due to qualifying tournaments

If the organiser is the world champion, the second-ranked nation shall take the place.

If a continental champion is the reigning world champion or the organiser, the second-ranked nation in the continent concerned shall take the place.

The draw, held by the IHF's COC, shall be in compliance with the performance criteria.

The organiser shall have a free choice of its preliminary round group within its performance row that is drawn last.

N. B.:

If a team from Oceania has ranked amongst the top twelve teams at a World Championship, the COC will re-examine the above ruling.

Administrative and technical section

The International Olympic Committee (IOC) regulations or those of the organiser charged by the IOC shall apply at Olympic Handball Tournaments. The National Olympic Committee concerned will publish and announce them.

Match scheme – 12 teams

Matchday 1	A3 – A5
	B3 – B5
	A2 – A6
	B2 – B6
	A1 – A4
	B1 – B4

Matchday 2	A6 – A3 B6 – B3 A4 – A2 B4 – B2 A5 – A1 B5 – B1
Matchday 3	B1 – B6 A1 – A6 B4 – B5 A4 – A5 B2 – B3 A2 – A3
Matchday 4	A6 – A4 B6 – B4 A2 – A5 B2 – B5 A3 – A1 B3 – B1
Matchday 5	B5 – B6 A5 – A6 B3 – B4 A3 – A4 B1 – B2 A1 – A2
Matchday 6	1.A – 4.B (Quarter-final 1 / QF1) 3.B – 2.A (Quarter-final 2 / QF2) 3.A – 2.B (Quarter-final 3 / QF3) 1.B – 4.A (Quarter-final 4 / QF4)
Matchday 7	Loser QF1 – Loser QF3 (L1) Loser QF2 – Loser QF4 (L2) Winner QF1 – Winner QF3 (W1) Winner QF2 – Winner QF4 (W2)
Matchday 8	Loser L1 – Loser L2 Places 7/8 Winner L1 – Winner L2 Places 5/6 Loser W1 – Loser W2 Places 3/4 Winner W1 – Winner W2 Places 1/2

The places 9 – 12 will be determined by calculation.

N. B.

The technical regulations applicable to item no. 2 shall also be applicable to item no. 3.

4. Other competitions

The Council passes separate regulations for other competitions.

5. Closing comment

Should any problems arise at IHF competitions that are not covered by these regulations, the Competition Management shall decide.

In case of non-observance of these Regulations, Regulations concerning Penalties and Fines (XIX) shall apply.

