

STRATEGIC PLAN | USA

The IHF have been working closely with USA Team Handball, who have moved into their new headquarters in Colorado Springs. In August 2018, USATH launched a 10-Year Strategic Plan and have been recruiting new more experienced employees, creating new positions as well as redefining roles for their current staff. Barry Siff was hired as CEO, a position financed by the IHF, after he helped bolster USA Triathlon.

As USATH strategically looks towards the 2028 Olympic Games in Los Angeles, the importance of identifying talent and implementing a talent development pipeline has resulted in the USATH College and University Club Expansion Initiative. This initiative aims to increase the number of handball programmes in the college club sport system. Talent identification try-out camps are also planned to help increase the pool of athletes.

Another key feature of the strategic plan is to promote handball to American sports fans through television. The 2019 IHF Men's World Championship was broadcast on one of the USA's biggest broadcasters, the NBC Olympic Channel.

A European residential programme for the women's national team in cooperation with the French Handball Federation is projected and support of Forum Club Handball was granted on behalf of the European top clubs.

Recent results show the USA have a bright future. The men's and women's team both qualified for the Lima 2019 Pan American Games for the first time in eight years, the men's team won silver at the 1st IHF Men's North American and the Caribbean Emerging Nations Championship and the men's U21 team not only claimed bronze at the Intercontinental Phase of the IHF Trophy held in Kosovo, but also qualified for the 2019 Men's Junior World Championship. In view of LA 2028, the IHF Council awarded the USA with Wild Cards for the 2025 and 2027 World Championships.

2019 RESULTS

22nd IHF Men's Junior (U21 World Championship): 22nd

3rd IHF Men's Emerging Nations Championships: 5th

1st Men's NAC Emerging Nations Championship: 2nd

2018/19 IHF Men's Trophy – Intercontinental Phase: 3rd

XVIII Pan American Games: 6th (men) and 4th (women)

