



**EUROPEAN HANDBALL  
FEDERATION**

# **2018 Men's European Championship**

**12 to 28 January 2018, Croatia**

## **HRVATSKI RUKOMETNI SAVEZ**

Att.: Mr. Tomislav Grahovac, President  
Mr. Damir Poljak, Secretary General

## **EHF EURO 2018 Organizing Committee**

Att.: Mr. Silvijo Njiric, Marketing Manager

21 February 2017/mf

## **EHF EURO 2018 – Preliminary Round Venue Split**

Dear Handball Friends,

The EHF is proud of the development and the success of the EHF EUROs in the past years. The event turned into a perfectly styled 'must see' occasion with enormous spectator interest and outstanding TV results (EHF EURO 2016 in POL with 1.8 billion TV viewers).

The EHF Euro 2018 is the thirteenth Men's EHF EURO in the history of the event, and Croatia is the first country/host to organize such an event a second time (after the Men's EHF Euro in 2000).

The success of the EHF EUROs as well as the high public expectations, especially concerning infrastructure, organization, spectator crowds, performance and action on site, need to be met by the venues in order to comply with the established quality standards.

Since the bid phase, a close cooperation between the EHF and the Croatian Handball Federation/Croatian Organizing Committee was established with regard to an optimized event preparation. This resulted in several site visits, workshops and partnership meetings on various levels. As a part of this cooperation the EHF accepted the change of the basic playing schedule and in relation to this a move of the second main round in order to optimize the situation/conditions for the event in the interest of the Croatian Organizing Committee.

The newly emerging issues/questions in relation to the venue Split, upon which the EHF is well informed, cannot be accepted by the EHF in the described way. Obviously it will be impossible to play in the arena in Split due to operative circumstances, even though the available space as well as the spectator capacity

would fit well for a Preliminary Round with the host team of Croatia. There is full awareness of the EHF to the interest of region Dalmatia in playing an EHF Euro 2018 preliminary round in the area. However, this has to take place in a controlled way and the necessary measures need to be guaranteed in order to ensure that the infrastructure on site is useable and a correct facility can be provided.

In order to ensure the next steps, the Croatian Handball Federation is herewith requested to make available the necessary declarations/guarantees of the competent local authorities and the back-up of the national authorities ensuring a correct infrastructure situation on site and a proper conduct of the event prior to the final site visit scheduled to take place 8 to 10 March 2017. The necessary adaptations inside and outside the arena in Split as well as the correct operational conduct together with the international teams in the various areas (TV production, scouting, wiring, screen and score board interfacing, LED advertising, back-up generator, etc.) has to be secured and taken as granted.

All necessary actions shall be implemented in order to safeguard a dignified event with conditions complying with international sport event standards, and of course, the bid documents and showing the country, respectively the region, in a professional and impressive way.

The EHF assumes that the necessary steps will be taken in order to fulfil the required conditions in accordance with the bid documents. This includes the signing of a host city agreement which contains the back-up guarantees of all relevant national and local authorities.

We are looking forward to a good continuation of our cooperation and await the receipt of your feedback by 3 March 2017 at the latest, and remain.

With kind regards,

## European Handball Federation



Michael Wiederer  
**President**

Copies: ED