

IKAST HANDBOLD vs CS RAPID BUCURESTI

IBF Arena 21/1-14.00 **Ikast**

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Foreword EHF President

Dear handball friends.

It is a real privilege for me to welcome supporters, players, officials and partners back to the EHF Champions League Women for 2023/24 where, after the mid-season break, the group phase is ready to continue and reach its dramatic conclusion!

Eight rounds of group phase fixtures are in the books with six more still to go, meaning we are still quite a way off the EHF FINAL4 2024, but thanks to our partners, our fantastic players and you, our terrific fans, it is clear that the EHF and EHF Marketing are delivering a showpiece club competition that remains the leading women's indoor sports competition in Europe. I hope that you all have been as thrilled by the EHF Champions League Women as I have so far

A mark of a strong competition in any sport is how evenly-matched the teams are, and the EHF Champions League Women certainly ticks that box! After eight rounds of matches, only one team remains unbeaten, Hungarian powerhouse Györi Audi ETO KC. They have won all their matches so far and thus sit atop group A. Odense Håndbold and SG BBM Bietigheim have also had a great first half of the campaign, but there is still plenty of time for the other teams to catch them! In group B, Team Esbjerg leads the way, followed by Metz Handball and Ikast Handbold. Then come four teams all on seven points - it really is set to go down to the wire!

Denmark's Ikast Handbold are the current champions of the EHF European League Women, having taken the title at the EHF Finals Women 2023 in Graz, Austria. Stories such as theirs show the strength in depth of women's European club handball, not just in the EHF Champions League, but across all competitions. Current three-time EHF Champions League Women champions Vipers Kristiansand sit fourth in group B, an indicator of how tough this year's competition is, and how it is going from strength to strength.

The EHF Champions League Women has been on a break since mid-November, as many players have been on duty for their national teams at the 2023 IHF Women's World Championship. Having watched the stars shine for their countries, it is now time for them to do the same with their clubs as the focus returns to the premier club competition, and with so many of the world's very best players taking part in both events, it goes to show that the EHF Champions League Women is truly the pinnacle of our sport at club level.

On behalf of the EHF and EHF Marketing, I hope that you enjoy the conclusion of the group phase, and beyond, in 2024.

Yours in sport,

Michael Wiederer EHF President

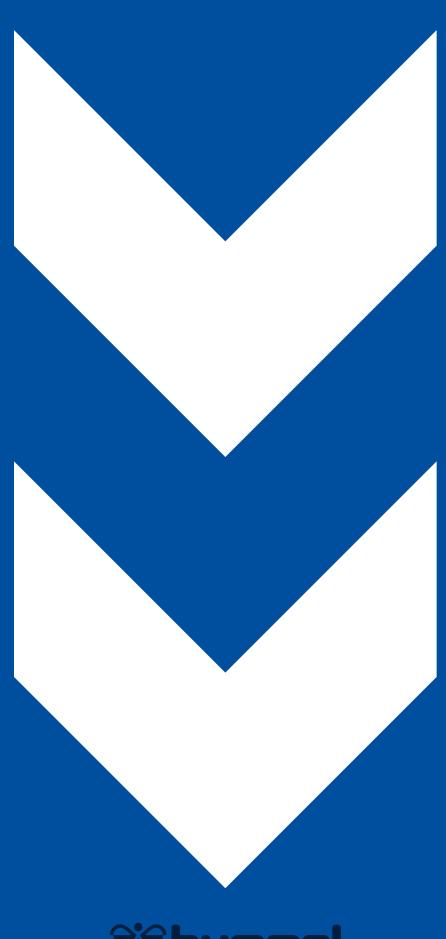


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KAST HÅNDBOLD **#1 Irma Schjött #4 Julie Scaglione #7 Stine Skogrand** #8 Simone Böhme **#11 Sarah Aaberg Iversen #12** Filippa Idehn **#14 Emma Lindqvist #15 Emma Friis #16 Andrea Austmo #17 Simone Petersen #18 Maria Lykkegaard #19 Amanda Loft #21** Ingvild Bakkerud **#23** Trine Mortensen **#29 Caroline Clausen #51 Marketa Jerabkova #55 Caroline Søgaard #77 Line Mai Hougaard**

Kasper Christensen Christian Knutzon Køhler Malene Andersen Søren Rasmussen Emma Ravnmose Pernille Mosegaard



Season 2023/24



KAST HÅNDBOLD





EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE WOMEN



CS RAPID BUCURESTI







FTC-RAIL CARGO HUNGARIA

#2 Lara González Ortega

#10 Albertina Da Cruz Kassoma

#12 Diana Ciuca

#16 Denisa Stefanua Sandru

#17 Marta López Herrero

#18 Mathilde Neesgaard

#20 Dorina Korsós

#21 Laura Kanor

#22 Olane Kanor

#23 Ivana Kapitanovic

#27 Lorena Gabriela Ostase

#34 Alicia Fernández Fraga

#44 Ainhoa Hernández Serrador

#77 Alexandra-Diana Badea

#88 Andjela Janjusevic

#96 Alina Ilie

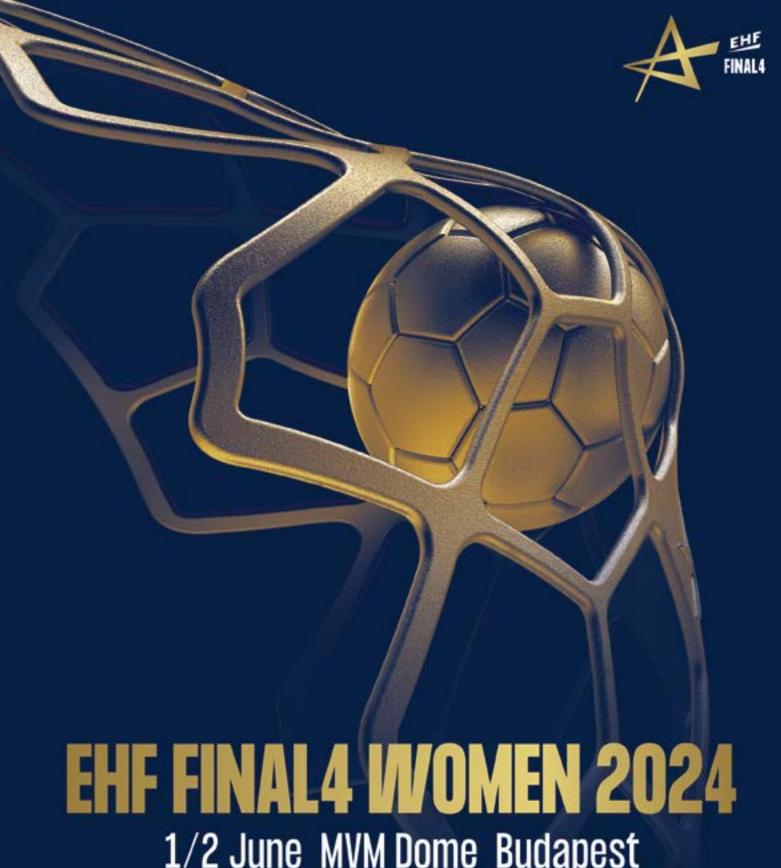




"VVE ARE READY FOR A BIG GAME!"

Rapid have many talented players, but also have a knife at their throats to progress from the group. We can secure further advancement ourselves and if we dream of finishing second or third, then it is also a battle that we must win. These are two teams with everything to play for.





1/2 June MVM Dome Budapest

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