

**To all EHF Member Federations**

Vienna, June 16, 2005

**New Rules of the Game**

Dear handball friends,

As you are very well aware of and following the 4-year term of changing the rules in handball, the new Rules of the Game introduced by the IHF will be valid from 1 August 2005.

Interpretations and explanations in respect to the new rules were distributed by the IHF in April 2005 and the rule changes as well as their handling were discussed on several occasions (e.g. EHF-Referees' and Delegates' Convention in Vienna in April).

Additionally the EHF bodies dealt with these new rules considering the different aspects and especially with them being put into practice in the various EHF-competitions. After having evaluated the situation in details, the EHF will make use of its possibilities of interpreting the rule changes as follows:

The handling of the awarding of a time-out in connection with the awarding of a 7-m throw remains unchanged.

Therefore a time-out will still be used in EHF-competitions in any case when awarding a 7-m throw.

This interpretation is valid for all matches within EHF-competitions of all age categories (National Team competitions and Club competitions).

The EHF will instruct all referees and delegates accordingly during the build-up of the 2005/06 season.

It is, of course, within the responsibility of each National Federation to decide upon the interpretation of the use of this particular rule change in the various national competitions by considering the performance level and the age category.

We kindly ask each National Federation to provide all parties concerned with the necessary information in this respect.

Thanking you very much for co-operation we remain with best regards.

**EUROPEAN HANDBALL FEDERATION**

Michael Wiederer  
Secretary general

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