

EHF NEWS 16 – 27.01.2008



2009 Men's World Championship
in Croatia (17 January to 1 February 2009)
QUALIFICATION EUROPE
PLAY-OFF MATCHES

The draw for the play-off matches Europe for the 2009 Men's World Championships in Croatia took place on the occasion of the Euro08 final day in "Hakons Hall" in Lillehammer/Norway, on Sunday, 27 January 2008.

Procedure for the draw of the play-off matches

Date: 27 January 2008 **Time:** 11:45 hrs. (local time) **Venue:** Hakons Hall, Lillehammer

Total entries in qualification Europe: 37 teams
Teams at final tournament in CRO: 24 teams
Places Europe at final tournament: 14 teams

Qualified for final tournament: 5 teams: **GER** (defending champion), **CRO** (organiser) and, in addition, **DEN, FRA and SWE** as the 3 best ranked teams from Euro08

Qualified for play-offs (18 teams)

1. **Qualified from the Euro08 NOR:**
11 teams from the 16 participating teams will qualify for the play-off matches
2. **Qualified through qualification groups in January 2008:**
7 winners of the qualification groups qualified for the play-off matches

DRAW:

9 Teams in pot 1: **NOR, POL, HUN, ESP, SLO, ISL, MNE, RUS, CZE**
(9 best ranked teams of the Euro08 NOR which are not qualified directly for the final tournament in CRO)

9 Teams in pot 2: **BLR, SVK, BIH, GRE, MKD, ROU, SRB, SUI, UKR**
(remaining 2 teams of the Euro08 NOR which are not qualified directly for the final tournament plus 7 winners of the qualification groups)

Playing dates for the play-off matches:

First leg: 7/8 June 2008
Second leg: 14/15 June 2008

Result of the draw:

| | | | | | |
|-------------------|---|-----------------|-----------------------|---|---------------------------|
| Slovenia | – | Slovakia | Czech Republic | – | Serbia |
| Spain | – | Greece | Poland | – | Switzerland |
| Norway | – | Ukraine | Hungary | – | Bosnia Herzegovina |
| Belarus | – | Russia | FYR Macedonia | – | Iceland |
| Montenegro | – | Romania | | | |

The winners of the play-off matches will qualify for the 2009 Men's World Championship in Croatia (IHF event) from 17 January to 1 February 2009.