

**VELUX®**



**EHF**  
CHAMPIONS  
LEAGUE

# Media Information

VELUX EHF Champions League  
Season 2018/19

## ***MATCH*** ***WEEK*** ***OF THE***

Last 16, Leg 2

**HBC Nantes (FRA)**

**VS**

**Rhein-Neckar Löwen (GER)**

**Palais des Sports de Beaulieu (Nantes, FRA )**

**Saturday 30 March, 19:00 hrs**



## HBC Nantes (FRA) vs Rhein-Neckar Löwen (GER)

### Last 16



#### Most games vs Rhein-Neckar Löwen:

Arnaud Siffert	4
Nicolas Tournat	4
Julian Emonet	3
Eduardo Gurbindo	3
Romain Lagarde	3
Dragan Pechmalbec	3

#### Most goals vs Rhein-Neckar Löwen:

Romain Lagarde	16
Eduardo Gurbindo	13
Nicolas Tournat	10
Nicolas Claire	9
Kiril Lazarov	8

### Domestic league

#### Lidl Starligue

Last 3 games:

27/03 @ Cesson Rennes M.	W23:34
23/03 vs Pontault	W34:24
07/03 @ Paris SG	L34:29

Next game:

03/04 vs St. Raphael

Standings as of 29/03:

1. Paris SG	19	615:481	37
<b>2. HBC Nantes</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>583:510</b>	<b>32</b>
3. Montpellier	19	535:486	31
4. Nimes	19	558:522	30
...			
10. Dunkerque	19	457:482	12

Saturday 30 March 2019, 19:00 hrs



#### Playing hall

Palais des Sports de Beaulieu  
5 rue Andre Tardieu  
44200 Nantes  
France  
Capacity: 5,657

- Nantes qualified for the Last 16 for the third time in as many seasons.
- The German side aim to end their Last 16 curse, which has seen them eliminated from this stage of the competition in each of the past four seasons.
- The 34:32 win in the first leg against Nantes was their first home win in the Last 16 since 2014, when they last reached the quarter-finals.
- Nantes are 'kings of draw' with four drawn matches in the group phase, while they won only four of seven home matches this season.
- Nantes have yet to win against a German side this season as they were defeated by Flensburg on home ground, drew at Flensburg and lost last week at Löwen.
- Löwen have never lost a match at Nantes, as they won the 2013 EHF Cup Finals there and tied in last season's group phase encounter.
- The last time Löwen faced a French side in the knockout stages was in the 2010/11 quarter-finals, when they bounced back from a 29:27 home defeat against Montpellier to win 35:26 away and secure their first and only ticket to the VELUX EHF FINAL4.
- Both sides have reached the VELUX EHF FINAL4 once, Löwen finished fourth in 2011, Nantes made it to the 2018 final, losing to Montpellier.
- No player scored more goals in the first leg of the Last 16 than Löwen line player Jannik Kohlbacher, who found the back of the net 11 times, taking his season total to 74 goals.
- Nantes had to replace goalkeeper Cyril Dumoulin with Kevin Bonnefoi from Toulouse due to a knee injury in January.
- Löwen playmaker Andy Schmid is currently the top scorer still active in the competition with 86 goals, one fewer than Melvyn Richardson, who was eliminated with Montpellier.
- Nantes' top scorer is Kiril Lazarov with 68 goals so far.
- In 2020, Nantes left back Romain Lagarde will join Rhein-Neckar Löwen.
- Both side will change their coaches in the near future; Nantes in 2020, when Thierry Anti will leave, and Löwen already this summer, when Nikolaj Jacobsen will be replaced by Swedish national team coach Kristjan Andresson.
- Both sides are currently third in their domestic leagues and both sides were eliminated in their national cup competitions.
- Next season, Löwen will see the return of Uwe Gensheimer from Paris Saint-Germain after three seasons in France, while Icelandic veteran Gudjon Valur Sigurdsson will go the other way.

### Leg 2



#### Most games vs HBC Nantes:

Patrick Groetzki	4
Alexander Petersson	4
Andre Schmid	4
Mikael Appelgren	3
Gedeon Guardiola Villaplana	3
Mads Mensah Larsen	3
Andreas Palicka	3
Bogdan Radivojevic	3
Gudjon Valur Sigurdsson	3
Filip Taleski	3

#### Most goals vs HBC Nantes:

Andre Schmid	23
Jannik Kohlbacher	11
Uwe Gensheimer	10
Alexander Petersson	9
Jerry Tollbring	7

### Domestic league

#### DKB Handball Bundesliga

Last 3 games:

28/03 @ Gummersbach	L28:23
17/03 @ Lemgo	W23:25
14/03 vs HSG Wetzlar	W31:21

Next game:

18/04 @ Hannover-Burldorf

Standings as of 29/03:

1. Flensburg-H.	25	718:575	48
2. Kiel	26	776:620	46
3. Magdeburg	26	789:669	42
<b>4. RN Löwen</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>701:612</b>	<b>40</b>
...			
18. Ludwigshafen	26	609:735	7

## Previous matches in European Cup competitions

### HBC Nantes vs Rhein-Neckar Löwen 0-2-2 (112:116) 2:6

19.05.2013	HBC Nantes vs Rhein-Neckar Löwen, EHF Cup Final Tournament – Final	24:26 (12:16)
27.09.2017	HBC Nantes vs Rhein-Neckar Löwen, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	26:26 (15:16)
03.03.2018	Rhein-Neckar Löwen vs HBC Nantes, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	30:30 (13:15)
20.03.2019	Rhein-Neckar Löwen vs HBC Nantes, VELUX EHF Champions League – Last 16	34:32 (18:16)

### Details of last HBC Nantes vs Rhein-Neckar Löwen match: 20.03.2019 (Mannheim, GER)

#### Rhein-Neckar Löwen vs HBC Nantes 34:32 (18:16) (VELUX EHF Champions League, Last 16)

Referees: Andreu Marin/Ignacio Garcia Serradilla (Spain)

Suspensions: 8' – 2' (Abutovic 2', Mensah Larsen 2', Taleski 2', Kohlbacher 2' – Feliho 2')

Number of 7m: 3/3 – 2/2

Attendance: 5,417



Mikael Appelgren		
Andreas Palicka		
Andre Schmid	(8)	(5)
Vladan Lipovina	(2)	
Gudjon Valur Sigurdsson	(4)	
Bogdan Radivojevic		(7)
Ilija Abutovic		
Mads Mensah Larsen		(3)
Steffen Fäth	(2)	(3)
Patrick Groetzki	(2)	
Filip Taleski		(1)
Gedeon Guardiola Villaplana	(2)	(4)
Alexander Petersson	(3)	(2)
Jannik Kohlbacher	(11)	(6)
Maximilian Kessler		(1)



Kevin Bonnefoi
Arnaud Siffert
Romain Lagarde
Florian Delecroix
Romarc Guillo
Guy Olivier Nyokas
Lucien Auffret
Dragan Pechmalbec
Nicolas Tournat
Rock Feliho
Julian Emonet
Valero Rivera Folch
Kiril Lazarov
Eduardo Gurbindo Martinez
David Balaguer Romeu

## Most goals in one game for HBC Nantes vs Rhein-Neckar Löwen:

Nicolas Claire	7	03.03.2018	Rhein-Neckar Löwen-HBC Nantes	30:30
Guy Olivier Nyokas	7	20.03.2019	Rhein-Neckar Löwen-HBC Nantes	34:32
Jorge Maqueda Pena	6	19.05.2013	HBC Nantes-Rhein-Neckar Löwen	24:26
Kiril Lazarov	6	27.09.2017	HBC Nantes-Rhein-Neckar Löwen	26:26
Romain Lagarde	6	27.09.2017	HBC Nantes-Rhein-Neckar Löwen	26:26
Eduardo Gurbindo	6	03.03.2018	Rhein-Neckar Löwen-HBC Nantes	30:30
Eduardo Gurbindo	6	20.03.2019	Rhein-Neckar Löwen-HBC Nantes	34:32

## Most goals in one game for Rhein-Neckar Löwen vs HBC Nantes:

Jannik Kohlbacher	11	20.03.2019	Rhein-Neckar Löwen-HBC Nantes	34:32
Uwe Gensheimer	10	19.05.2013	HBC Nantes-Rhein-Neckar Löwen	24:26
Andre Schmid	8	27.09.2017	HBC Nantes-Rhein-Neckar Löwen	26:26
Andre Schmid	8	20.03.2019	Rhein-Neckar Löwen-HBC Nantes	34:32
Bjarte Myrhol	6	19.05.2013	HBC Nantes-Rhein-Neckar Löwen	24:26
Jerry Tollbring	6	03.03.2018	Rhein-Neckar Löwen-HBC Nantes	30:30

## Last 10 games in the VELUX EHF Champions League:



### HBC Nantes: current run – winless two

20.03.2019 Mannheim GER	@ Rhein-Neckar Löwen GER	L 34:32
27.02.2019 Flensburg GER	@ SG Flensburg-Handewitt GER	D 29:29
23.02.2019 Nantes FRA	vs MOL-Pick Szeged HUN	W 29:26
17.02.2019 Skjern DEN	@ Skjern Handbold DEN	W 32:34
07.02.2019 Nantes FRA	vs Paris Saint-Germain FRA	L 31:35
02.12.2018 Celje SLO	@ RK Celje Pivovarna Lasko SLO	D 29:29
24.11.2018 Zagreb CRO	@ HC PPD Zagreb CRO	D 27:27
18.11.2018 Nantes FRA	vs HC Motor Zaporozhye UKR	L 23:27
11.11.2018 Zaporozhye UKR	@ HC Motor Zaporozhye UKR	D 30:30
03.11.2018 Nantes FRA	vs HC PPD Zagreb CRO	W 23:20



### Rhein-Neckar Löwen: current run – won one

20.03.2019 Mannheim GER	vs HBC Nantes FRA	W 34:32
02.03.2019 Barcelona ESP	@ Barça Lassa ESP	L 30:25
20.02.2019 Mannheim GER	vs PGE Vive Kielce POL	W 30:29
16.02.2019 Brest BLR	@ HC Meshkov Brest BLR	L 27:24
06.02.2019 Mannheim GER	vs HC Vardar MKD	L 27:30
01.12.2018 Kristianstad SWE	@ IFK Kristianstad SWE	W 27:32
21.11.2018 Mannheim GER	vs Telekom Veszprém HC HUN	L 25:29
14.11.2018 Pérols FRA	@ Montpellier HB FRA	L 31:26
07.11.2018 Mannheim GER	vs Montpellier HB FRA	W 37:27
03.11.2018 Veszprém HUN	@ Telekom Veszprém HC HUN	W 28:29

## HBC Nantes vs German Clubs 12-1-5

Season	Opponent	Home	Away	Competition
2012/13	SC Magdeburg	20:27	26:26	EHF Cup – Group D
2012/13	Rhein-Neckar Löwen	24:26		EHF Cup – Final Tournament, Final
2014/15	Füchse Berlin	28:23	18:23	EHF Cup – Qualification Round 3
2015/16	Frisch Auf Göppingen	27:24	26:27	EHF Cup – Group B
2015/16	Frisch Auf Göppingen	26:32		EHF Cup – Final Tournament, Final
2017/18	Rhein-Neckar Löwen	26:26	30:30	VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A
2018/19	SG Flensburg-Handewitt	31:34	29:29	VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B
2018/19	Rhein-Neckar Löwen	32:34		VELUX EHF Champions League – Last 16

## Rhein-Neckar Löwen vs French clubs 6-2-6

Season	Opponent	Home	Away	Competition
2008/09	Chambéry Savoie HB	40:25	23:25	EHF Champions League – Main Round Group 2
2009/10	Chambéry Savoie HB	31:31	29:24	EHF Champions League – Group B
2010/11	Chambéry Savoie HB	37:22	27:32	VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A
2010/11	Montpellier Agglomération HB	27:29	35:26	VELUX EHF Champions League – Quarter-final
2011/12	Dunkerque HB Grand Littoral	36:30		VELUX EHF Champions League – Qualification Tournament
2012/13	HBC Nantes		26:24	EHF Cup – Final Tournament, Final
2014/15	Montpellier Agglomération HB	35:24	33:29	VELUX EHF Champions League – Group C
2015/16	Montpellier HB	25:21	30:28	VELUX EHF Champions League – Group B
2017/18	HBC Nantes	30:30	26:26	VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A
2018/19	Montpellier HB	37:27	26:31	VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A
2018/19	HBC Nantes	34:32		VELUX EHF Champions League – Last 16

## VELUX to present 'Player of the Match' trophy

The Match of the Week 'Player of the Match' trophy, introduced by EHF Marketing GmbH last season, is being awarded at all MOTWs in the VELUX EHF Champions League 2018/19 season.

The trophy will be handed over on court shortly after the match by alternating sponsors throughout the season.

At HBC Nantes vs Rhein-Neckar Löwen the trophy will be handed over to the awardee by the Nicolas Pachet (CEO of PACHET, VELUX Partner company).

### Awardees 2018/19:

- Round 1: Arpad Sterbik (Telekom Veszprém HC)
- Round 2: Ivan Pesic (HC Meshkov Brest)
- Round 3: Dika Mem (Barça Lassa)
- Round 4: Timur Dibirov (HC Vardar)
- Round 5: Emil Nielsen (Skjern Handbold)
- Round 6: Benjamin Buric (SG Flensburg-Handewitt)
- Round 7: Zlatko Horvat (HC PPD Zagreb)
- Round 8: Aron Palmarrsson (Barça Lassa)
- Round 9: Mirko Alilovic (MOL-Pick Szeged)
- Round 10: Melvyn Richardson (Montpellier HB)
- Round 11: Rok Ovnicek (RK Celje Pivovarna Lasko)
- Round 12: Dainis Kristopans (HC Vardar)
- Round 13: Nicolas Claire (HBC Nantes)
- Round 14: Viachaslau Shumak (HC Meshkov Brest)
- Last 16, 1: Dejan Milosavljev (HC Vardar)





## HBC Nantes players' career statistics against Rhein-Neckar Löwen

Goalkeeper		GP	W	D	L	G	AVG	HI	PIM
Valentin Bachele	FRA	0	0	0	0	0	0,00	0	0
Kevin Bonnefoi	FRA	1	0	0	1	0	0,00	0	0
Cyril Dumoulin	FRA	8	2	3	3	0	0,00	0	0
Alexandre Moali	FRA	0	0	0	0	0	0,00	0	0
Arnaud Siffert	FRA	8	0	2	6	0	0,00	0	0

Player		GP	W	D	L	G	AVG	HI	PIM
Lucien Auffret	FRA	2	0	1	1	1	0,50	1	0
David Balaguer Romeu	ESP	2	0	1	1	2	1,00	1 (2)	0
Nicolas Claire	FRA	2	0	2	0	9	4,50	7	0
Baptiste Damatrin	FRA	0	0	0	0	0	0,00	0	0
Florian Delecroix	FRA	1	0	0	1	0	0,00	0	0
Julian Emonet	FRA	4	0	2	2	5	1,25	3	0
Rudolf Faluvegi	HUN	1	0	1	0	0	0,00	0	2'
Leo Fauvet	FRA	0	0	0	0	0	0,00	0	0
Rock Feliho	FRA	2	0	0	2	0	0,00	0	6'
Romarc Guillo	FRA	2	0	1	1	1	0,50	1	0
Eduardo Gurbindo Martinez	ESP	9	2	2	5	23	2,56	6 (2)	4'
Espen Lie Hansen	NOR	1	0	1	0	1	1,00	1	0
Edson Imare	FRA	0	0	0	0	0	0,00	0	0
Romain Lagarde	FRA	3	0	2	1	16	5,33	6	0
Kiril Lazarov	MKD	8	2	3	3	51	6,38	11	0
Alois Mauillon	FRA	0	0	0	0	0	0,00	0	0
Alex Moran	FRA	0	0	0	0	0	0,00	0	0
Guy Olivier Nyokas	FRA	1	0	0	1	7	7,00	7	0
Dragan Pechmalbec	FRA	3	0	2	1	5	1,67	3	4'
Victor Pelechenko	FRA	0	0	0	0	0	0,00	0	0
Lucas Petraud	FRA	0	0	0	0	0	0,00	0	0
Valero Rivera Folch	ESP	4	0	2	2	12	3,00	4	2'
Nicolas Tournat	FRA	4	0	2	2	10	2,50	4	0

David Balaguer Romeu (FC Barcelona 2013/14 – DNP); Cyril Dumoulin (Chambery Savoie HB 2008/09, Chambery Savoie HB 2009/10, Chambery Savoie HB 2010/11); Julian Emonet (Dunkerque HB Grand Littoral 2011/12); Eduardo Gurbindo Martinez (Pevafersa Valladolid 2009/10, FC Barcelona 2013/14, FC Barcelona Lassa 2015/16); Kiril Lazarov (HC Croatia Osiguranje-Zagreb 2008/09, FC Barcelona 2013/14, FC Barcelona Lassa 2015/16); Valero Rivera Folch (FC Barcelona Lassa 2017/18); Arnaud Siffert (Montpellier Agglomeration HB 2014/15, Montpellier HB 2015/16)



## Rhein-Neckar Löwen players' career statistics against HBC Nantes

Goalkeeper		GP	W	D	L	G	AVG	HI	PIM
Can Adanir	GER	0	0	0	0	0	0,00	0	0
Mikael Appelgren	SWE	3	1	2	0	0	0,00	0	0
Niklas Gierse	GER	0	0	0	0	0	0,00	0	0
Andreas Palicka	SWE	3	1	2	0	0	0,00	0	0

Player		GP	W	D	L	G	AVG	HI	PIM
Ilija Abutovic	SRB	3	2	0	1	0	0,00	0	4'
Philipp Ahouansou	GER	0	0	0	0	0	0,00	0	0
Leon Bolius	GER	0	0	0	0	0	0,00	0	0
Luca Braun	GER	0	0	0	0	0	0,00	0	0
Steffen Fäth	GER	1	1	0	0	2	0,00	2	0
Tim Ganz	GER	0	0	0	0	0	0,00	0	0
Patrick Groetzki	GER	4	2	2	0	5	0,00	2 (2)	0
Gedeon Guardiola Villaplana	ESP	3	2	1	0	5	0,00	2 (2)	2'
Rico Keller	GER	1	0	1	0	2	0,00	2	0
Maximilian Kessler	GER	1	1	0	0	0	0,00	0	0
Pascal Kirchenbauer	GER	0	0	0	0	0	0,00	0	0
Jannik Kohlbacher	GER	1	1	0	0	11	0,00	11	2'
Vladan Lipovina	MNE	1	1	0	0	2	0,00	2	0
Yessine Meddeb	GER	0	0	0	0	0	0,00	0	0
Mads Mensah Larsen	DEN	3	1	2	0	3	0,00	3	2'
Mattes Meyer	GER	0	0	0	0	0	0,00	0	0
Jesper Nielsen	SWE	3	1	1	1	5	0,00	3	2'
Alexander Petersson	ISL	4	2	2	0	9	0,00	4	2'
Bogdan Radivojevic	SRB	3	1	2	0	5	0,00	4	0
Lars Röller	GER	0	0	0	0	0	0,00	0	0
Andre Schmid	SUI	4	2	2	0	23	0,00	8 (2)	0
Martin Schmiedt	SVK	0	0	0	0	0	0,00	0	0
Jannis Schneibel	GER	0	0	0	0	0	0,00	0	0
Gudjon Valur Sigurdsson	ISL	3	1	2	0	4	0,00	4	0
Filip Taleski	MKD	3	1	2	0	3	0,00	3	4'
Jerry Tollbring	SWE	2	0	2	0	7	0,00	6	0
Sebastian Trost	GER	0	0	0	0	0	0,00	0	0
Lukas Wichmann	GER	0	0	0	0	0	0,00	0	0

Ilija Abutovic (HC Vardar 2017/18); Jesper Nielsen (Paris Saint-Germain Handball 2016/17, Paris Saint-Germain Handball 2017/18)





# ROAD TO THE VELUX EHF FINAL4





## Media accreditation for three top club events of the season starts

The 2018/19 club season will culminate in May and June with three most prestigious tournaments taking place in three different venues.

The DELO WOMEN'S EHF FINAL4 will be played over 11 and 12 May in the Papp Laszlo Budapest Sportarena. One week later, the focus of the handball world will shift to the AKQUINET EHF Cup Finals in the Sparkassen-Arena in Kiel, Germany and the season will reach its climax with the VELUX EHF FINAL4 on 1 and 2 June in the majestic LANXESS arena in Cologne.

The EHF Media and Communications Department is launching the accreditation procedure for all three events at the same time and requests from media representatives are now being accepted.

Written and online media, photographers, TV and radio representatives can submit their request for accreditation via online forms below.

Requests can only be made online.

**DELO WOMEN'S EHF FINAL4** – 11/12 May 2019, Papp Laszlo Budapest Sportarena

Deadline: Friday 19 April 2019

**AKQUINET EHF Cup Finals** – 17/18 May 2019, Sparkassen-Arena, Kiel

Deadline: Friday 3 May 2019

**VELUX EHF FINAL4** – 1/2 June 2019, LANXESS arena, Cologne

Deadline: Friday 10 May 2019

[Click here to enter the media accreditation page](http://accreditation.ehf.eu/) or visit <http://accreditation.ehf.eu/>

Media accreditation is only open to professional media representatives working at the event. Freelance media representatives may be asked to provide additional evidence of their work. There are limited places and it may not be possible to accept all requests for accreditations.

By applying for a media accreditation, media representatives also agree to the Media Terms and Conditions (EHF Events).

[Please read them carefully before making your application.](#)



VELUX EHF Champions League 2018/19 - MOTW #16 Media Information

by

**EHF Media & Communications, 29/03/2019**

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