



**CHALLENGE
CUP**

Media Information

**Men's Challenge Cup
2016/17**

**Final:
Sporting CP
VS
AHC Potaissa Turda**



**EUROPEAN HANDBALL
FEDERATION**

Media information

Dear Media Representative,

Welcome to the final of the Men's Challenge Cup. In the following media information you will find the essential facts you will require for the final two games and the participating teams. Additional information can be found on the eurohandball.com website.

Media portal

All media representatives are invited to register for the EHF media portal on <http://members.ehf.eu>. The European Handball Federation's media portal is a one-stop-shop for media representatives offering all the EHF's media news such as press releases, event flash quotes directly after matches, press conference highlights, draw reactions and downloads of all relevant information including, but not limited to, media guides and event logos. Furthermore photographs that are free for editorial use will be available for download.

For further information or assistance, please do not hesitate to contact the EHF Media and Communications Department and we will be happy to help you with any information you may require.

Challenge Cup Media Contacts

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[EC Regulations](#)

Important regulations

Scoring of the matches in the final

If, after completion of the two matches, both clubs have won the same number of points (no extra time will be played), the teams' standings shall be determined by the following criteria:

- goal difference
- higher number of plus goals scored in away match
- penalty throws

Rules for execution of penalty throws

- Prior to the penalty throws, each team shall name five players eligible to play at the end of the match by handing the referees a list of numbers. These players shall then take one throw each, alternating with their opponents. Each team is free to determine the sequence in which throwers will take their throws.
- The goalkeepers may be freely selected from the match report and exchanged in accordance with the Rules of the Game. Goalkeepers may take throws and throwers may perform as goalkeepers.
- The referees shall choose the goal at which throws are taken. The team taking the first penalty throw shall be determined by the referees by drawing lots. The team winning the draw may choose whether it wishes to throw first or last.

- If the scores are equal after the first round of penalty throws, it shall be continued until a decision is reached. In the second round, the other team shall start. Again five players shall be named who are eligible to play (the players named before may be named once again).
- In the second round, a decision is reached when a goal difference arises after both teams have taken one throw each.
- Eligible players are players entered in the match report that have not been disqualified or suspended at the time of the final whistle.
- Serious infractions committed during penalty throws shall be sanctioned by disqualification. If a thrower is disqualified or suffers an injury, an eligible substitute player shall be supplementary named.
- While the throws are being taken, only the player taking the throw, the current goalkeeper and the referees may enter the respective half of the playing court.
- If the number of eligible players falls below five, players may be named to take a second throw in the same round.

[Find all the regulations here](#)



Sporting CP vs AHC Potaissa Turda



1st leg: Sun 21 May, 17:00 hrs*

[LIVE ON EHFTV.COM](http://LIVE.ON.EHFTV.COM)

Referees: Evgeni Zotin, Nikolay Volodkov (RUS)

EHF Delegate: Urmo Sitsi (EST)

2nd leg: Sat 27 May, 17:00 hrs*

[LIVE ON EHFTV.COM](http://LIVE.ON.EHFTV.COM)

Referees: Bojan Lah, David Sok (SLO)

EHF Delegate: Helmut Wille (AUT)

EHF Representative: Jerzy Eliaz

* all times local



Playing hall

Pavilhao do Ginasio Clube do Sul
Rua de Angola No 23
2805-086 Almada, Portugal
Capacity: 1,800



Playing hall

Horea Demian
Splaiul Independentei Street
3400 Cluj-Napoca, Romania
Capacity: 3,000

Past achievements:

CL: Group Matches 2001/02
EHF Cup: quarter-finals 2000/01, 2013/14
Cup Winners' Cup: 2003/04 quarter-finals
Challenge Cup: winners 2009/10, semi-finals 2011/12

Portuguese league: 17 titles (1952, 1956, 1961, 1966-67, 1969-73, 1978-81, 1984, 1986, 2001)
Portuguese cup: 15 titles

While Sporting CP have won all their matches on the way to the Challenge Cup Final, the road has been somewhat bumpier for their opponents, AHC Potaissa Turda. Still, Sporting's coach Hugo Canela expects a difficult final series, while his adversary predicts a fight between David and Goliath ahead of the first leg in Portugal.

Looking at the team rosters and their respective roads to the final, Sporting appear to be the favourites to win the Challenge Cup. The Portuguese side have won all their matches in the tournament this season, while Turda, who are playing in the European cup for the first time in their history, have had a rockier journey to the final matches. This was clearly illustrated as late as the semi-final stage, where the Romania team lost by eight goals against Valur in Iceland, but managed to clinch their final berth by way of a nine-goal win at home. Still, Sporting coach Hugo Canela is cautious ahead of the final. "The two final games will be hugely difficult, especially with the second leg being played in Romania. "I have had the opportunity to watch Potaissa Turda play, and their defensive aggressiveness is one of their strong characteristics. They also have really good extremes and a goalkeeper who helps them a lot," says Canela.

Potaissa Turda coach Horatiu Gal is proud that his team have made it as far as the final on their maiden voyage in Europe. "Qualifying for the final of the Challenge Cup in our very first participation is a very good achievement. "We are realistic enough to know that our game against Sporting will be like David against Goliath, but we feel fine as outsiders. "After all, a final can always offer the possibility of a surprise," Gal tells eurohandball.com. "We will give our best to come as close as possible to the level at which Sporting is able to perform. In the final, we will forget that we have injured players who cannot play or players who will play with injuries.

Past achievements:

EHF Cup: Qualification Round 3 2014/15

Romanian league: - (3rd place 2013/14)

Domestic league

Portuguese Andebol 1, Winners stage

Last 3 games

17.05. @ Madeira T30:30
13.05. vs FC Porto W28:27
10.05. @ Aquas Santas W20:24

Next game

27.05. vs Benfica

Standings

1. Sporting	9	269:252	59
2. FC Porto	8	235:217	57
3. Benfica	8	235:223	49
...			
6. Aquas Santas	8	212:232	40

Domestic league

Romanian Liga Nationala

Last 3 games

17.05. @ CSM Bucuresti (SF-2) L31:20
10.05. vs CSM Bucuresti (SF-1) W28:27
13.04. vs Timisoara (QF-3) W24:23

Next game

24.05. vs CSM Bucuresti (SF-3)

Final standings

1. Dinamo Bucur.	24	753:653	59
2. Turda	24	709:661	53
3. CSM Bucur.	24	683:592	52
...			
12. Satu Mare	24	579:709	4



Historic encounters in the EC

Sporting CP vs AHC Potaissa Turda 0-0-0 (0:0) 0:0

No previous encounters

Sporting CP vs Romanian clubs 10 4-1-5 (282:274) 9:10

2011/12 Challenge Cup, QF: vs CSU Suceava W30:24
 2011/12 Challenge Cup, QF: @ CSU Suceava W24:33
 2009/10 Challenge Cup, QF: @ Stiinta Bacau L28:23
 2009/10 Challenge Cup, QF: vs Stiinta Bacau W30:24
 2006/07 Cup Winners' Cup, R3: vs Dinamo Bucurest L27:30
 2006/07 Cup Winners' Cup, R3: @ Dinamo Bucurest L35:29
 2005/06 Cup Winners' Cup, R2: @ HCM Constanta L28:22
 2005/06 Cup Winners' Cup, R2: vs HCM Constanta L30:32
 2001/02 EHF CL, QR 2: vs Steaua Bukarest T25:25
 2001/02 EHF CL, QR 2: @ Steaua Bukarest W24:33

AHC Potaissa Turda vs Portuguese clubs 0-0-0

No previous encounters

Previous European Cup Finals:

SPORTING CP

2009/10 Challenge Cup

23.05.2010, Kwidzyn (900) MMTS Kwidzyn (POL) vs Sporting CP 25:27 (13:14)
 29.05.2010, Lisobn (3,500) Sporting CP vs MMTS Kwidzyn (POL) 27:26 (16:9)
Aggregate score: 54:51

Last Ten Games in the European Cup competitions:



Sporting CP: current run - won nine

2016/17 Challenge Cup, semi-final: vs JMS Hurry-Up (NED)
 2016/17 Challenge Cup, semi-final: @ JMS Hurry-Up (NED)
 2016/17 Challenge Cup, quarter-final: vs AC Doukas (GRE)
 2016/17 Challenge Cup, quarter-final: @ AC Doukas (GRE)
 2016/17 Challenge Cup, Last 16: vs HC Pelister Bitola (MKD)
 2016/17 Challenge Cup, Last 16: @ HC Pelister Bitola (MKD)
 2016/17 Challenge Cup, Round 3: @ ASD Romagna Handball (ITA)
 2016/17 Challenge Cup, Round 3: vs ASD Romagna Handball (ITA)
 2015/16 EHF Cup, Qualification Round 2: vs Team Tvis Holstebro (DEN)
 2015/16 EHF Cup, Qualification Round 2: @ Team Tvis Holstebro (DEN)

W37:14 (21:7)
 W27:32 (14:15)
 W27:25 (14:14)
 W23:35 (10:21)
 W34:26 (15:14)
 W18:32 (7:16)
 W24:37 (8:16)
 W32:25 (16:11)
 W32:28 (15:15)
L36:31 (20:17)



AHC Potaissa Turda: current run - won one

2016/17 Challenge Cup, semi-final: vs Valur (ISL)
 2016/17 Challenge Cup, semi-final: @ Valur (ISL)
 2016/17 Challenge Cup, quarter-final: @ HB Dudelange
 2016/17 Challenge Cup, quarter-final: vs HB Dudelange (LUX)
 2016/17 Challenge Cup, Last 16: vs Handball Esch (LUX)
 2016/17 Challenge Cup, Last 16: @ Handball Esch (LUX)
 2016/17 Challenge Cup, Round 3: @ HC Dobrudja (BUL)
 2016/17 Challenge Cup, Round 3: vs HC Dobrudja (BUL)
 2014/15 EHF Cup, Qualification Round 3: vs RK Nexe (CRO)
 2014/15 EHF Cup, Qualification Round 3: @ RK Nexe (CRO)

W32:23 (16:9)
L30:22 (12:8)
 W35:36 (16:19)
 W32:29 (17:20)
L28:29 (16:10)
 W27:31 (13:14)
 W19:43 (10:22)
 W32:23 (12:11)
 W26:23 (14:11)
L35:20 (15:10)



Sporting CP (POR)

Team roster

No.	First Name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of Birth	Place of Birth	Height	Weight	Goals
23	Edmilson	Araujo	POR	Left Back	06/01/1994	Lisboa, POR	187	82	21
1	Matej	Asanin	CRO	Goalkeeper	04/09/1993	Zagreb, CRO	206	118	
7	Bosko	Bjelanovic	POR	Left Back	21/10/1985	Knin, CRO	195	100	1
77	Janko	Bozovic	AUT	Right Back	14/07/1985	Bar, MNE	203	101	27
18	Carlos	Carneiro	POR	Centre Back	03/03/1982	Guimaraes, POR	183	83	16
13	Frankis	Carol Marzo	CUB	Left Back	07/09/1987	Guantanamo, CUB	192	90	17
16	Aljosa	Cudic	SLO	Goalkeeper	09/03/1988	Celje, SLO	190	94	
26	Bruno	Gaspar	POR	Left Wing	17/07/1998	Lisboa, POR	176	72	1
24	Manuel	Gaspar	POR	Goalkeeper	09/12/1998	Setubal, POR	189	85	
5	Michal	Kopco	SVK	Line Player	27/01/1988	Kosice, SVK	195	115	19
37	Ivan	Nikcevic	SRB	Left Wing	11/02/1981	Niksic, MNE	181	81	5
29	Marco Antonio	Oneto Zuniga	ITA	Line Player	03/06/1982	Vina del Mar, CHI	204	117	
10	Claudio	Pedroso	POR	Right Back	14/03/1986	Lisboa, POR	198	87	10
73	Joao	Pinto	POR	Left Back	10/04/1989	Lisboa, POR	189	89	23
4	Pedro	Portela	POR	Right Wing	06/01/1990	Leiria, POR	186	80	32
11	Carlos	Ruesga Pasarin	ESP	Centre Back	10/03/1985	Gijon, ESP	185	94	19
15	Pedro	Solha	POR	Left Wing	22/11/1981	Porto, POR	184	80	34
22	Francisco	Tavares	POR	Right Wing	14/11/1996	Almada, POR			14
3	Igor	Zabic	SLO	Line Player	15/08/1992	Celje, SLO	201	101	27



Players' kit

LIGHT

Player shirt: green-white

Player short: black

Goalkeeper shirt: black/green/white

DARK

Player shirt: black

Player short: black

Goalkeeper shirt: black/green/white

Club address:

Sporting CP

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<http://www.sporting.pt/pt/modalidades/andebol/seniores/plantel>



AHC Potaiissa Turda (ROU)

Team roster

No.	First Name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of Birth	Place of Birth	Height	Weight	Goals
18	Cristian	Adomnicai	ROU	Right Back	04/11/1980	Veresti, ROU	192	99	35
28	Silvian Vasile	Amihaesi	ROU	Centre Back	28/04/1990	Piatra Neamt, ROU	188	90	13
15	Vlad	Bulgaria	ROU	Right Wing	21/02/2000	Turda, ROU	185	78	3
2	Georgica	Cintec	ROU	Right Back	22/04/1990	Botosani, ROU	193	98	37
88	Dragos-Bogdan	Fleser	ROU	Goalkeeper	23/02/1998	Turda, ROU	196	90	
89	Rares-Marian	Fodorean	ROU	Left Back	05/11/1998	Turda, ROU	195	90	
21	Stefan Mihail	Huta	ROU	Line Player	21/01/1995	Baia Mare, ROU	185	100	12
14	Dragos	Iancu	ROU	Line Player	05/08/1988	Piatra Neamt, ROU	195	98	16
45	Lucian Marian	Ignat	ROU	Left Wing	05/06/1990	Neukirschen, AUT	190	90	7
13	Alexandru	Laslo	ROU	Centre Back	10/04/1996	Cluj-Napoca, ROU	197	86	4
19	Radu Alexandru	Lazar	ROU	Left Back	19/09/1987	Turda, ROU			19
4	Raul Ironim	Marian	ROU	Centre Back	16/06/1979	Sighisoara, ROU	179	83	1
17	Razvan	Pavel	ROU	Left Wing	23/08/1987	Vaslui, ROU			30
33	Teodor	Pintoiu	ROU	Left Back	20/09/1999	Turda, ROU	192	87	7
7	Daniel	Pop	ROU	Left Wing	10/02/2000	Turda, ROU	185	80	
4	Ionut Catalin	Rotaru	ROU	Centre Back	31/01/1986	Adjud, ROU	183	85	6
23	Nenad	Savic	SRB	Line Player	28/06/1981	Novi Sad, SRB	187	106	2
22	Radu Ionut	Stef	ROU	Line Player	22/06/1981	Cluj-Napoca, ROU	182	92	6
1	Adrian	Tenghea	ROU	Goalkeeper	08/01/1992	Sighisoara, ROU	195	98	
8	Roland	Thalmaier	ROU	Right Wing	15/09/1996	Cluj-Napoca, ROU			25
12	Ludovic	Varo	ROU	Goalkeeper	14/08/1982	Bistrita, ROU	205	90	
10	Roman	Zacaciurin	MDA	Right Back	22/06/1992	Chisinau, MDA	188	86	33



Players' kit

LIGHT

Player shirt: yellow

Player short: marine blue

Goalkeeper shirt: black

DARK

Player shirt: marine blue

Player short: marine blue

Goalkeeper shirt: gray

Club address:

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Romania

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Current top scorers


Rank	Name & nation	Club	Goals
1	Josip Juric Grgic (CRO)	Valur (ISL)	47
	Ronald Suelmann (NED)	JMS Hurry-Up (NED)	47
3	Milan Pavlovic (SRB)	HC Sloga Pozega (SRB)	44
4	Branimir Balchev (BUL)	HC "Lokomotiv" Varna (BUL)	42
	Vignir Stefansson (ISL)	Valur (ISL)	42
6	Tommie Falke (NED)	JMS Hurry-Up (NED)	40
7	Georgica Cintec (ROU)	AHC Potaiassa Turda (ROU)	37
	Anton Runarsson (ISL)	Valur (ISL)	37
	Tommy Wirtz (LUX)	HB Dudelange (LUX)	37
10	Cristian Adomnicai (ROU)	AHC Potaiassa Turda (ROU)	35
	Josip Ilic (CRO)	HB Dudelange (LUX)	35
12	Pedro Solha (POR)	Sporting CP (POR)	34
13	Mladen Krsmancic (SRB)	HC Sloga Pozega (SRB)	33
	Roman Zacaciurin (MDA)	AHC Potaiassa Turda (ROU)	33
15	Pedro Portela (POR)	Sporting CP (POR)	32
	Sveinn Aron Sveinsson (ISL)	Valur (ISL)	32
17	Razvan Pavel (ROU)	AHC Potaiassa Turda (ROU)	30
	Efstathios Zampounis (GRE)	A.C. Doukas (GRE)	30
19	Radim Chudoba (CZE)	MSK Povazska Bystrica (SVK)	29
	Frantisek Sulc (SVK)	HKM Sala (SVK)	29
21	Djordjo Perunicic (MNE)	RK Partizan 1949 (MNE)	28
	Tomas Vallo (SVK)	MSK Povazska Bystrica (SVK)	28
23	Janko Bozovic (AUT)	Sporting CP (POR)	27
	Simon Michniewicz (SVK)	HKM Sala (SVK)	27
	Igor Zabic (SLO)	Sporting CP (POR)	27

Bold text indicates players of teams still in the competition.



2016/2017 MEN'S CHALLENGE CUP



 CHALLENGE CUP		R 1	R 2	Round 3	Round 4	Round 5	Round 6	Round 7
				32 teams	Last 16	1/4-finals	1/2-finals	finals
NATION				19/20.11.2016 first leg	18/19.02.2017 first leg	25/26.03.17 first leg	22/23.04.2017 first leg	20/21.05.17 first leg
DRAWN:				26/27.11.2016 second leg	25/26.02.2017 second leg	01/02.04.17 second leg	29/30.04.2017 second leg	27/28.05.17 second leg
DRAWN:				19.07.2016	29.11.2016	28.02.2017	28.02.2017	02.05.2017
1	<i>place of def. Champ</i>	no matches	no matches	Sporting CP / POR	16 Winners of Challenge Cup round 3	8 Winners of Challenge Cup Round 4	4 Winners of Challenge Cup Round 5	2 Winners of Challenge Cup Round 6
2	ROU			AHC Potaisa Turda				
3	SUI			TSV St. Otmar St. Gallen				
4	NOR			Haslum HK				
5	SRB			RK Partizan				
6	BEL			HC Vise BM				
7	UKR			ZNTU-ZAB Zaporozhye				
8	GRE			IEK Xini Dikeas				
9	NED			JMS Hurry-up				
10	ISR			Hapoel Ashdod				
11	LUX			HB Esch				
12	TUR			Tasova Yibo SK				
13	KOS			KH Kastrioti				
14	BUL			HC Lokomotiva Varna				
15	CYP			A.S.S. Spes				
16	BIH			HC Vogosca Poljine Hills				
17	ITA			A.S.D. Romagna Handball				
18	MKD			HC Pelister				
19	GBR			Cambridge HC				
20	MDA			PGU-Kartina TV Tiraspol				
21	ISL			Valur				
22	SVK			HKM Sala				
23	MNE			RK Partizan 1949				
24	LTU			Dragunas Klaipeda				
25	SRB			HC Sloga Pozega				
26	GRE			A.C. Doukas				
27	ISR			Ramat Hashron SGS HC				
28	LUX			HB Dudelange				
29	TUR			Göztepe SK				
30	BUL			HC Dobrudja				
31	MDA			Riviera-SSH 2				
32	SVK			MKS Povazska Bystrica				



Men's Challenge Cup Past Winners

(formerly called City Cup for seasons 1-7)

2016	ABC/UMinho	POR
2015	HC Odorhei	ROU
2014	Sävehof IK	SWE
2013	SKA Minsk	BLR
2012	AC Diomidis Argos	GRE
2011	RK Cimos Koper	SLO
2010	Sporting Club de Portugal	POR
2009	UCM Sport Resita	ROU
2008	UCM Sport Resita	ROU
2007	CS UCM Resita	ROU
2006	Steaua Bucuresti	ROU
2005	Wacker Thun	SUI
2004	IFK Skövde HK	SWE
2003	Skjern Handball	DEN
2002	Skjern Handball	DEN
2001	RK Jugovic Kav	YUG
2000	TV Grosswallstadt	GER
1999	SG Flensburg-Handewitt	GER
1998	TuS Nettelstadt	GER
1997	TuS Nettelstadt	GER
1996	Drammen HK	NOR
1995	TV Niederwürzbach	GER
1994	TUSEM Essen	GER

Men's Challenge Cup 2016/17 Final

Media Information

by

EHF Media & Communications, 18/05/2017

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FEDERATION**

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