



**CHALLENGE
CUP**

Media Information

**Men's Challenge Cup
2017/18**

**Final:
AHC Potaissa Turda
VS
AEK Athens**



**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

EHF Media and Communications
Vladislav Brindzak
brindzak@eurohandball.com
+43 1 80 151 161
Twitter: [@EHF](https://twitter.com/EHF)

Online

www.eurohandball.com
europeancup.eurohandball.com
[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](#)



AHC Potaissa Turda vs AEK Athens



Playing hall

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

Past achievements:

Challenge Cup: runners-up 2016/17
EHF Cup: qualification Round 3
2014/15

Romanian league: - (3rd place 2013/14,
2016/17)

Domestic league

Romanian Liga Nationala

Last 3 games

06/05 @ Dinamo Bucuresti (SF-2) L32:27
03/05 vs Dinamo Bucuresti (SF-1) L25:26
18/04 @ Calarasi (QF-2) W25:26

Next game

17/05 vs CSM Bucuresti (3/4 - 1)

Final standings

1. Steaua Bucur.	26	696:609	61
2. Turda	26	726:648	57
3. CSM Bucur.	26	735:636	55
...			
14. Odorhei	26	427:482	32

1st leg: Monday 14 May, 19:00 hrs*

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

Referees: Aleksandar Jovic, Nedim Arnautovic (BIH)
EHF Delegate: Helmut Wille (AUT)

2nd leg: Sunday 20 May, 19:00 hrs*

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

Referees: Miklos Andorka, Robert Hucker (HUN)
EHF Delegate: Jiri Konecny (CZE)
EHF Representative: Xavier O'Callaghan

* all times local

After losing clearly against Sporting CP in the final of the Men's Challenge Cup last season, AHC Potaissa Turda are hoping for better luck this time, where the Romanian side are in the final for the second year in succession. Their opponent, AEK Athens are in their first European final ever.

When AHC Potaissa Turda played their first European Cup final in history, they lost the Challenge Cup final last year clearly against Sporting CP from Portugal.

Quite naturally, the Romanian team are eager to revenge that defeat and lift the trophy this time, when they meet AEK Athens who are in their first European final ever. The two teams meet for the first leg in the Horea Demian in Cluj Napoca Monday evening in order not to collide with the women from CSM Bucuresti who are playing the Women's EHF FINAL4 this weekend and SCM Craiova who won the Women's EHF Cup on Friday.

The last part of Turda's road to the final has gone over Nordic teams, as FyllingenBergen were eliminated in the quarter-final, before Turda were facing Icelandic opposition in the semi-final just like last year, when Valur were the opponents. This year, IBV Vestmannaeyjar were the last obstacle on Turda's road to the final.

AEK sent HC Berchem from Luxembourg out in the quarter-final before making sure that the trophy would not remain in Portugal, as they eliminated AM Madeira Andebol SAD in the semi-final. Turda may need a particularly good result Monday evening, as the return match next Sunday is taking place in the OAKA Olympic Hall Nikos Galis. That arena was the venue of the Olympic basketball final in 2004 and the Olympic gymnastics competitions also took place there. As the arena has a capacity of no less than 19,250, AEK may expect quite some support there.



Playing hall

OAKA Olympic Indoor Hall N. Galis
Kifisias Str. 37
15123 Marousi-Athens, Greece
Capacity: 18,500

Past achievements:

Challenge Cup: quarter-finals 2010/11
EHF Cup: qualification Round 3
2013/14
Champions League: qualification
2011/12, 2013/14

Greek league: 2 titles (2010/11,
2012/13)
Greek Cup: 3 titles (2009, 2013, 2014)

Domestic league

Greek A1

Last 3 games

09/05 vs PAOK (SF-2) W25:30
05/05 @ PAOK (SF-1) W23:22
03/05 vs Aeropos Edessa (QF-3) W29:16

Next game

23/05 @ Olympiakos SFP (F-1)

Final standings

1. Olympiakos SFP22	653:458	40
2. PAOK	22 642:453	39
3. AEK Athens	22 645:459	35
...		
12. Panellinios	22 420:669	0



Historic encounters in the EC

AHC Potaissa Turda vs AEK Athens

No previous encounters

AHC Potaissa Turda vs Greek clubs

No previous encounters

AEK Athens vs Romanian clubs 1-0-1 (52:65) 2:2

2007/08 EHF Cup, R2: @ Dinamo Baimit Bucuresti L36:22 (16:9)

2007/08 EHF Cup, R2: vs Dinamo Baimit Bucuresti W30:29 (12:12)



Last Ten Games in the European Cup competitions:

AHC Potaissa Turda: current run - won one

2017/18 Challenge Cup, semi-final: vs IBV Vestmannaeyjar (ISL)
 2017/18 Challenge Cup, semi-final: @ IBV Vestmannaeyjar (ISL)
 2017/18 Challenge Cup, quarter-final: @ FyllingenBergen (NOR)
 2017/18 Challenge Cup, quarter-final: vs FyllingenBergen (NOR)
 2017/18 Challenge Cup, Last 16: @ HC Vise BM (BEL)
 2017/18 Challenge Cup, Last 16: vs HC Vise BM (BEL)
 2017/18 Challenge Cup, Round 3: vs KH Trepca (KOS)
 2017/18 Challenge Cup, Round 3: @ KH Trepca (KOS)
 2016/17 Challenge Cup, final: vs Sporting CP (POR)
 2016/17 Challenge Cup, final: @ Sporting CP (POR)

W28:24 (13:11)
 L31:28 (15:13)
 L32:30 (14:12)
 W29:24 (12:11)
 L29:24 (13:13)
 W44:24 (22:11)
 W40:30 (25:15)
 W19:35 (8:16)
 L24:30 (8:13)
 L37:28 (19:11)

AEK Athens: current run - unbeaten in five

2017/18 Challenge Cup, semi-final: vs AM Madeira Andebol SAD (POR)
 2017/18 Challenge Cup, semi-final: @ AM Madeira Andebol SAD (POR)
 2017/18 Challenge Cup, quarter-final: vs HC Berchem (BEL)
 2017/18 Challenge Cup, quarter-final: @ HC Berchem (BEL)
 2017/18 Challenge Cup, Last 16: vs Göztepe SK (TUR)
 2017/18 Challenge Cup, Last 16: @ Göztepe SK (TUR)
 2017/18 Challenge Cup, Round 3: vs London GD HC (GBR)
 2017/18 Challenge Cup, Round 3: @ London GD HC (GBR)
 2015/16 Challenge Cup, Round 3: @ AC Filippou Verias (GRE)
 2015/16 Challenge Cup, Round 3: vs AC Filippou Verias (GRE)

D23:23 (13:12)
 W21:29 (6:16)
 W32:25 (17:13)
 W18:32 (8:15)
 W32:23 (14:11)
 L29:25 (16:12)
 W41:21 (21:10)
 W16:40 (8:20)
 L32:22 (17:11)
 L34:36 (18:20)



AHC Potaissa 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	16
28	Nikola	Arsenic	SRB	Centre Back	30/11/1996	Novi Sad, SRB	192	87	2
13	Mihai Alexandru	Asoltanei	ROU	Left Wing	14/09/1989	Vaslui, ROU	186	85	22
15	Vlad	Bulgaria	ROU	Right Wing	21/02/2000	Turda, ROU	185	78	1
2	Georgica	Cintec	ROU	Left Back	22/04/1990	Botosani, ROU	193	98	35
1	Dragos-Bogdan	Fleser	ROU	Goalkeeper	23/02/1998	Turda, ROU	196	90	1
28	Radu Cristian	Ghita	ROU	Right Back	22/11/1990	Bacau, ROU	189	92	33
21	Stefan Mihail	Huta	ROU	Line Player	21/01/1995	Baia Mare, ROU	185	100	8
14	Dragos	Iancu	ROU	Line Player	05/08/1988	Piatra Neamt, ROU	195	98	19
45	Lucian Marian	Ignat	ROU	Left Wing	05/06/1990	Neukirschen, AUT	190	90	12
16	Ionut Adrian	Irimus	ROU	Goalkeeper	22/08/1987	Baia Mare, ROU	200	112	1
13	Alexandru	Laslo	ROU	Centre Back	10/04/1996	Cluj-Napoca, ROU	197	86	
19	Radu Alexandru	Lazar	ROU	Left Back	19/09/1987	Turda, ROU	201	105	7
4	Raul Ironim	Marian	ROU	Centre Back	16/06/1979	Sighisoara, ROU	179	83	
17	Razvan	Pavel	ROU	Left Wing	23/08/1987	Vaslui, ROU	187	85	
33	Teodor	Pintoiu	ROU	Left Back	20/09/1999	Turda, ROU	192	87	4
7	Daniel	Pop	ROU	Right Wing	10/02/2000	Turda, ROU	187	76	
4	Ionut Catalin	Rotaru	ROU	Centre Back	31/01/1986	Adjud, ROU	183	85	19
23	Nenad	Savic	SRB	Line Player	28/06/1981	Novi Sad, SRB	187	106	6
99	Iulian	Stamate	ROU	Line Player	23/05/1983	Moreni, ROU	199	112	10
22	Radu Ionut	Stef	ROU	Line Player	22/06/1981	Cluj-Napoca, ROU	182	92	0
24	Marius Alin	Szoke	ROU	Centre Back	21/01/1993	Sfantu Gheorghe, ROU		188	88
1	Adrian	Tenghea	ROU	Goalkeeper	08/01/1992	Sighisoara, ROU	192	92	0
8	Roland	Thalmaier	ROU	Right Wing	15/09/1996	Cluj-Napoca, ROU	186	80	31
12	Ludovic	Varo	ROU	Goalkeeper	14/08/1982	Bistrita, ROU	205	90	2
10	Roman	Zacaciurin	MDA	Centre Back	22/06/1992	Chisinau, MDA	188	86	23

6



Players' kit

LIGHT

Player shirt: yellow

Player short: marine blue

Goalkeeper shirt: red

DARK

Player shirt: marine blue

Player short: marine blue

Goalkeeper shirt: green

Club address:

AHC Potaissa Turda
str. Avram Iancu, nr. 8b
401096 Turda
Romania

Constantin Flaviu Sasaeac

flaviu_sasaeac2006@yahoo.com

www.ahcpotaissa.ro



AEK Athens (GRE)

Team roster

No.	First Name	Surname	Nat.	Position	Date of Birth	Place of Birth	Height	Weight	Goals
97	Ioannis	Alikakos	GRE	Line Player	01/11/1989	Athens, GRE	188	85	5
16	Ioannis-Prodromos	Antoniadis	GRE	Goalkeeper	27/10/1994	Athens, GRE	190	98	0
10	Julios	Argyrou	CYP	Centre Back	14/11/1984	Nicosia, CYP	186	80	19
15	Ilias	Chatsikas	GRE	Line Player	18/05/1985	Thessaloniki, GRE	188	90	4
23	Charlampos	Dompris	GRE	Centre Back	23/07/1994	Veroia, GRE			17
7	Dionysios	Georgiadis	GRE	Left Wing	07/04/1987	Kerkyra, GRE	183	76	16
8	Malik	Hoggas	FRA	Right Wing	18/05/1988	Martigues, FRA	177	73	32
21	Jonas	Lokken	DEN	Right Back	23/07/1988	Hundested, DEN	199	90	24
33	Georgios	Mantzopoulos	GRE	Centre Back	16/04/1998	Athens, GRE	187	85	5
91	Christodoulos	Mylonas	GRE	Centre Back	13/05/1995	Athens, GRE	189	84	24
2	Christos	Nikolaidis	GRE	Left Wing	08/09/1993	Thessaloniki, GRE	175	75	17
10	Panagiotis	Nikolaidis	GRE	Left Back	02/04/1990	Edessa, GRE	195	105	8
5	Georgios	Perros-Perrakis	GRE	Line Player	06/08/1979	Athens, GRE	180	78	18
12	Radule	Radulovic	SRB	Goalkeeper	30/12/1988	Vrbas, SRB	183	83	0
13	Athanasios	Syngaris	GRE	Goalkeeper	13/10/1991	Florina, GRE	196	90	0
3	Giannis	Tsigogianopoulos	GRE	Left Back	14/09/1982	Athens, GRE	195	95	6
24	Charalambos	Vamvakas	GRE	Line Player	16/12/1983	Athens, GRE	184	85	10
44	Eldin	Vrazalica	SRB	Line Player	07/08/1990	Priboj, SRB	193	95	26
9	Efstathios	Zampounis	GRE	Left Wing	05/05/1990	Athens, GRE	183	80	23



Players' kit

LIGHT

Player shirt: yellow

Player short: black

Goalkeeper shirt: red

DARK

Player shirt: black

Player short: black

Goalkeeper shirt: blue

Club address:

A.E.K. Athens

Fokon 9

143 41 Nea Filadelfia-Athens

Greece

Nikos Deftereos

info@aek.gr

www.aek.gr



Current top scorers

Rank	Name & nation	Club	Goals
1	Anton Otrezov (RUS)	Dynamo-Victor (RUS)	71
2	Sigurbergur Sveinsson (ISL)	IBV Vestmannaeyjar (ISL)	49
3	Senjin Kratovic (BIH)	Red Boys Differdange (LUX)	46
4	Joao Pinto (POR)	AM Madeira Andebol SAD (POR)	45
5	Theodor Sigurbjörnsson (ISL)	IBV Vestmannaeyjar (ISL)	36
6	Georgica Cintec (ROU)	AHC Potaissa Turda (ROU)	35
7	Radim Chudoba (CZE)	MSK Povazska Bystrica (SVK)	34
	Agnar Smari Jonsson (ISL)	IBV Vestmannaeyjar (ISL)	34
9	Radu Cristian Ghita (ROU)	AHC Potaissa Turda (ROU)	33
	Elledy Semedo (POR)	AM Madeira Andebol SAD (POR)	33
11	Malik Hoggas (FRA)	AEK Athens (GRE)	32
12	Daniel Scheid (LUX)	Red Boys Differdange (LUX)	31
	Roland Thalmaier (ROU)	AHC Potaissa Turda (ROU)	31
	Anton Volkov (RUS)	Dynamo-Victor (RUS)	31
15	Kari Kristjan Kristjansson (ISL)	IBV Vestmannaeyjar (ISL)	29
	Dmitry Svistunov (RUS)	SKIF Krasnodar (RUS)	29
17	Fredrik Mossestad (NOR)	FyllingenBergen (NOR)	28
	Christo Tsatso (GRE)	HC Berchem (LUX)	28
19	Mario Matic (NOR)	FyllingenBergen (NOR)	27
	Apostolos Palaskas (GRE)	AC PAOK (GRE)	27
	Filip Vistorop (CRO)	HMRK "Zrinjski" Mostar (BIH)	27
22	Iben René Hvidsten (NOR)	FyllingenBergen (NOR)	26
	Daniel Santos (POR)	AM Madeira Andebol SAD (POR)	26
	Vladimir Temelkov (MKD)	Handball Kaerjeng (LUX)	26
	Eldin Vrazalica (SRB)	AEK Athens (GRE)	26

Bold text indicates players of teams still in the competition.



2017/2018 MEN'S CHALLENGE CUP



		R 1	R 2	Round 3	Round 4	Round 5	Round 6	Round 7	
			16 teams	32 teams	Last 16	1/4-finals	1/2-finals	finals	
NATION			07/08.10.2017 first leg	18/19.11.2017 first leg	10/11.02.2018 first leg	24/25.03.2018 first leg	21/22.04.2018 first leg	12/13.05.2018 first leg	
NATION			14/15.10.2017 second leg	25/26.11.2017 second leg	17/18.02.2018 second leg	31.03./1.04.18 second leg	28/29.04.2018 second leg	19/20.05.2018 second leg	
DRAWS:			18.07.2017	18.07.2017	28.11.2017	20.02.2018	20.02.2018	01.05.2018	
1	POR	no matches		AM Madeira Andebol SAD	16 Winners of Challenge Cup round 3				
2	ROU								
3	NOR								
4	SRB								
5	GRE								
6	LUX								
7	RUS								
8	ISL								
9	BEL								
10	ISR								
11	UKR								
12	TUR								
13	SVK								
14	BUL								
15	MKD								
16	BIH								
17	MNE								
18	KOS								
19	CYP								
20	GBR								
21	MDA								
22	GEO								
23	LTU								
24	BLR								
25	SRB			ORK Samot 65 AC Paok Red Boys Differdange Dynamo-Viktor Holon HC HC Shakhtar-SHWSM Tasovo Yibo SC	AHC Potaissa Turda FyllingenBergen HC Sloga Zmartforce A.E.K. Athens HC Berchem SKIF-Krasnodar IBV Vestmannaeyjar HC Vise BM SGS Ramhat Hashron HC HC ZNTU-ZAB Göztepe Spor Kulübü MSK Povazska Bystrica HC Dobrudja HC Eurofarm Rabotnik HMRK Zrnjski Mostar RK Lovcen KH Trepca Parnassos Strovolou London GD HC PGU-Kartina TV Tiraspol B.S.B. Batumi Granitas Karys Kaunas HC Gomel	8 Winners of Challenge Cup round 2			
26	GRE								
27	LUX								
28	RUS								
29	ISR								
30	UKR								
31	TUR								
32	BIH								
33	MNE								
34	CYP								
35	GBR								
36	LTU								
37	LUX								
38	BIH								
39	LTU								
40	MLT								



Men's Challenge Cup Past Winners

(formerly called City Cup for seasons 1-7)

2017	Sporting CP	POR
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 Final 2017/18

Media Information

by

EHF Media & Communications, 13/05/2018

Contributors: Peter Bruun





**EUROPEAN HANDBALL
FEDERATION**

For further information please contact:

Vladislav Brindzak

EHF Media & Communications

+43 1 80 151 161

brindzak@eurohandball.com

European Handball Federation

Hoffingergasse 18

1120 Vienna

Austria

Tel: +43 1 80151 0

www.eurohandball.com

www.ehfTV.com