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Denmark wins IV Men's Youth World Championship in Argentina – Handball world has been moving closer together



More than 35,000 spectators visited the preliminary round games alone, whereas 45,000 handball fans attended the matches in total. Even TV stations from Africa, Asia and the host country itself were interested in the (in total) 64 matches of the 20 participating teams.

These teams proved that the handball world has been moving closer together also in the youth field. While in 2005 huge differences in the performance level of the so-called top teams and the other participants were obvious, those differences have more and more decreased during the last WCh tournaments. This development continued in Argentina as well. Close results were prevailing, and no favourite could really feel confident. Already the preliminary round was marked by some incredibly exciting duels; in Group A alone the involved teams achieved four draws.

Speaking of continuity, maybe it just happened by accident that exactly the same four nations fought for the medals, who had already reached the semi-final of the Men's WCh in Sweden. It is however no secret that Denmark, France, Spain and Sweden are doing a good job – and consistently, from the promotion of the youth up to the national team.

The IV Men's Youth WCh in Argentina also set new examples with regard to the fight against doping. By means of an action appealing to the audience – the youth players threw balls marked "Say no to doping" into the audience prior to the finals – the International Handball Federation proved that their offensive fight against doping will continue.

In terms of sports Denmark was a length ahead in the final, Spain won Silver, and Sweden took Bronze. France had to put up with the rather unpopular fourth place.

Final Standings:

Gold: Denmark, Silver: Spain, Bronze: Sweden
4. France, 5. Egypt, 6. Switzerland, 7. Germany, 8. Croatia, 9. Slovenia, 10. Argentina, 11. Korea, 12. Brazil, 13. Russia, 14. Serbia, 15. Qatar, 16. Chile, 17. Bahrain, 18. Tunisia, 19. Gabon, 20. New Zealand





Playing schedule now
ready for download

All Star Team:

Best Left Wing: Hugo Descat (FRA)
 Best Right Wing: Mario Sostarcic (SLO)
 Best Pivot: Ignacio Plaza Jimenez (ESP)
 Best Left Back: Theis Baagoe (DEN)
 Best Centre Back: Aitor Arino (ESP)
 Best Right Back: Martin Larsen (DEN)
 Best Goalkeeper: Nikola Portner (SUI)
 Most Valuable Player: Jim Gottfridsson (SWE)
 Best Scorer: Jim Gottfridsson (SWE) 58 Goals
 Most Promising Player: Nicolai Pedersen (DEN)

Find all information, reports, interviews and statistics related to the Men's Youth WCh under the following link:

<http://ihf.info/IHFCompetitions/WorldChampionships/MensYouthWorldChampionships/IVMensYouthWorldChampionship/tabid/5642/Default.aspx>

Women's World Championship in Brazil: Playing schedule online



24 teams, four venues, one ticket for the Olympics—these are the ingredients of this year's last handball highlight – the Women's World Championship, which will take place in Brazil from 2 to 18 December. The World Champion will automatically qualify for the London 2012 Games; moreover there are six tickets at stake for the Olympic Qualification Tournaments to be staged in late May 2012. Now the playing schedule has been completed in close cooperation with the hosting nation Brazil and IHF TV rights partner UFA Sports.

It can be downloaded under the following link:

http://ihf.info/files/Uploads/Documents/10071_match_schedule.pdf

It is the first time for Brazil – reigning Beach Handball World Champion – to stage an indoor Senior WCh. The venues are the following: Barueri, Santos, Sao Bernardo do Campo and Sao Paolo.

Accreditation requests might be submitted through the Brazilian homepage <http://www.handballbrazil2011.com/us> starting in the middle of September. Sven Harke, the UFA Sports WCh Project Manager, expects to sell the TV rights to up to 100-120 countries – as it was the case at the last Women's WCh held in China. HD technology will be used to produce all matches with the help of 12 cameras at the hall as a standard.

Information about the Women's World Championship

Preliminary round groups:

- Group A in Santos (Santos arena, capacity: 5,000):
Norway, Montenegro, Angola, Germany, China, Iceland
- Group B in Barueri (Ginasio Jose Correa, capacity: 5,000):
Russia, Kazakhstan, Netherlands, Korea, Spain, Australia



The IHF will have its own mascot

- Group C in Sao Paulo (Ginasio di Ibirapuera, capacity: 11,000): Romania, France, Brazil, Tunisia, Cuba, Japan
- Group D in Sao Bernardo do Campo (Ginasio Adid Moyses Dib, capacity: 7,000): Sweden, Denmark, Croatia, Argentina, Côte d'Ivoire, Uruguay

The eighth-finals and the President's Cup matches will be staged at the preliminaries' venues. Matches as from the quarter-finals will be played in Sao Paulo, followed by the placement matches (crucial for Olympic qualification), semi-finals and finals on 16 and 18 December.

IHF mascot competition

Which animal or which figure represents the power, the speed, the aesthetics, the beauty and the brilliance of handball? The International Handball Federation is looking for creative ideas and suggestions for the first ever IHF official mascot. Mascots nowadays are part of every major tournament in all sports. In order to represent the entire world of handball, the International Handball Federation wants to have its own mascot.

The competition starts right now – and everybody is allowed to participate and to send his proposals and themes in a drawing or picture by email to ihf.office@ihf.info. The winner of this competition - the one whose idea is chosen for the mascot - will receive prize money of 2500 Swiss Francs.

IHF calendar of events until November 2011

Date	Place		Organizer	Event
September				
02-04/09	Budapest	HUN	IHF	Meeting of Commission for Promotion and Public Relations (CPP)
03-18/09	Maputo	MOZ	Ass. NOCs of Africa	All-Africa Games
07/09	Basel	SUI	IHF	Working Group Calendar
08-09/09	Bled	SLO	IHF	Meeting of Commission of Organising and Competition (COC)
14-23/09		KAZ	AHF	11th Asian Women's Junior Championship
23-26/09	Kumamoto	JPN	AHF	4th Asian Women's Youth Championship
October				
01-10/10	Muscat	OMA	AHF	Asian Men's & Women's Beach Handball Championship, Qualification for MWBWCH
07-08/10	Basel	SUI	IHF/EHF	Beach Joint Meeting
12-20/10	Changzhou	CHN	AHF	Women's Olympic Games Qualification
13-30/10	Guadalajara	MEX	PATHF	XVI Pan American Games
17-23/10			IHF	National Team Week W
23/10-01/11	Seoul	KOR	AHF	Men's Olympic Games Qualification
November				
02-07/11		KAZ	IHF	I Women's Intercontinental Challenge Trophy
11-20/11	Al Dammam	KSA	AHF	14th Asian Men's Club League Championship