

# AALBORG HÅNDBOLD

## VS HC ZAGREB

Sparekassen Danmark Arena  
26.02.2025 / 18.45  
Aalborg

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## Foreword EHF President

**Dear handball friends,**

### **Four more rounds of thrilling group phase action!**

The Machineseecker EHF Champions League 2024/25 is ready for four more rounds of thrilling group phase action as the competition returns from its winter break and the 2025 IHF World Championship. Many players from the topflight clubs have been representing their national teams over the past few weeks. Players from world champions Denmark, runners-up Croatia, bronze medallists France, semi-finalists Portugal and other nations that impressed handball fans worldwide are now eager to continue the club season in Europe's premium competition when play resumes on 12/13 February.

After 10 of the 14 rounds in the Machineseecker EHF Champions League group phase, both groups have a runaway leader who opened a four-point gap. In group A, One Veszprém HC won nine of their 10 matches and have a significant head start when the race to the quarter-final and play-off spots heats up in the last four rounds. With Paris Saint-Germain Handball, Sporting CP, and Füchse Berlin, three teams find themselves close together on the next three positions, followed by Dinamo Bucuresti. Lower down the table, HC Eurofarm Pelister, Orlen Wisla Plock and European debutants Fredericia Håndbold Klub will likely battle it out for the last play-off berth in this group.

Over in group B, record and defending champions Barça have proved that their hunger for success has not been stilled by any means. Boasting a four-point lead going into the last four rounds, they are followed by three teams which are separated by just a single point, setting up a breathtaking finish to the group phase: HBC Nantes, Aalborg Håndbold, and OTP Bank - PICK Szeged. The second part of the table promises just as much excitement, as Industria Kielce, SC Magdeburg, Kolstad Håndbold and HC Zagreb are heading into a close battle for play-off spots, with only two teams making the cut.

The stage is set for an enthralling finish to the group phase, and fans cannot wait to closely follow their favourite teams and players as the race to the Machineseecker EHF Champions League knockout phase is truly on.

**Michael Wiederer**  
**EHF President**

## Alt på spil med to kampe igen

Med blot to kampe tilbage i gruppespillet i denne sæsons Machineseeker EHF Champions League, har vi fortsat alt at spille for.

Sidste uges snævre nederlag i Magdeburg betyder, at vi onsdag aften på hjemmebane er pisket til sejr mod HC Zagreb, et hold vi tidligere på sæsonen tabte til på udebane, hvis vi skal holde trit med franske HBC Nantes i kampen om den vigtige andenplads i puljen.

Grunden til at netop denne plads er så eftertragtet, er at den giver direkte adgang til turneringens kvartfinaler.

Ikke blot vil det tage os et skridt tættere mod en returbillet til Final4-stævnet i Köln til juni måned, men det vil også spare os for at skulle ud i to opslidende kampe i 1/8-finalerne.

Heldigvis ved vi, at vi i Sparekassen Danmark har en hjemmebane, der efterhånden er blandt de allerbedste i Europa.

I mere end et år har vi ikke tabt på eget gulv, til trods for at modstanderne i det tidsrum blandt andet har heddet Veszprém, Barça, Magdeburg, Nantes og Kielce.

Årsagen til denne styrke skyldes ikke mindst vores trofaste og medlevende publikum, der kamp efter kamp er med til at løfte holdet til store præstationer og sejre.

Det så vi senest i kampen mod Barça, hvor stemningen i arenaen var blandt de bedste og vildeste jeg har oplevet.

Selv storhold som de regerende Champions League-mestre kan blive rystet når de oplever sådan et tilskuerpres, så jeg håber at alle igen onsdag aften har smurt stemmebåndene og er klar til et par timers intens heppen fra tribunerne.

Når alt dette er sagt, så betyder det ikke, at vi på nogen måde tager let på opgøret mod HC Zagreb.

Til trods for placeringen i bunden af puljen, kan kroaterne fortsat nå at avancere til 1/8-finalerne, hvorfor de også har alt at spille for onsdag aften.

Blandt gæsternes profiler skal fremhæves den meget talentfulde målmand Matej Mandic, der med sine 2,04 meter fylder godt i målet.

Også veteranen Timur Dibirov på fløjen er værd at notere sig, ligesom målslugeren Luka Klarica er en spiller vi skal have stoppet.

Vi glæder os til igen at slå dørene op til verdensklassehåndbold i Sparekassen Danmark Arena.

Vel mødt!

Med venlig Hilsen

Jan Larsen  
Direktør,  
Aalborg Håndbold





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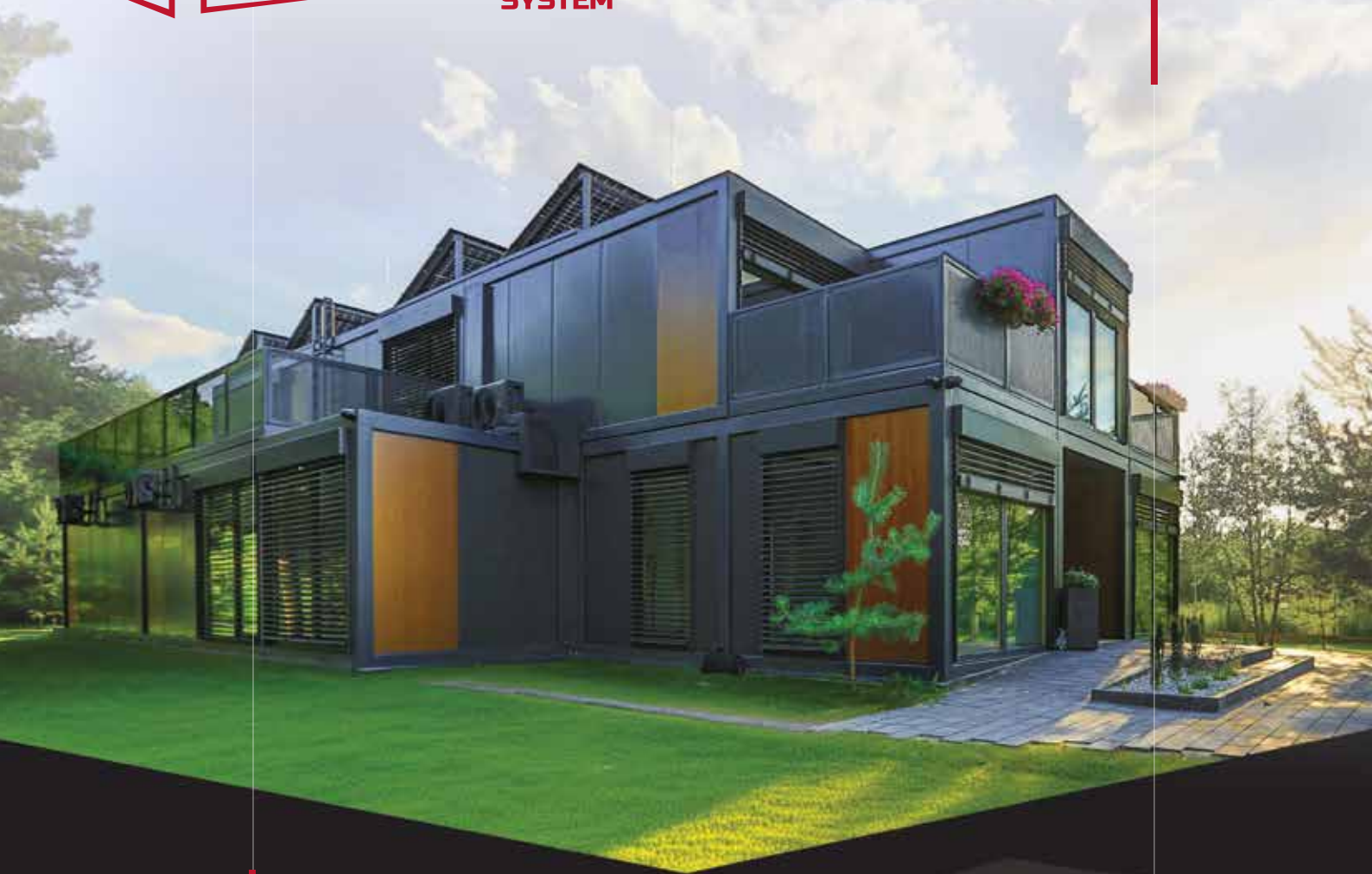
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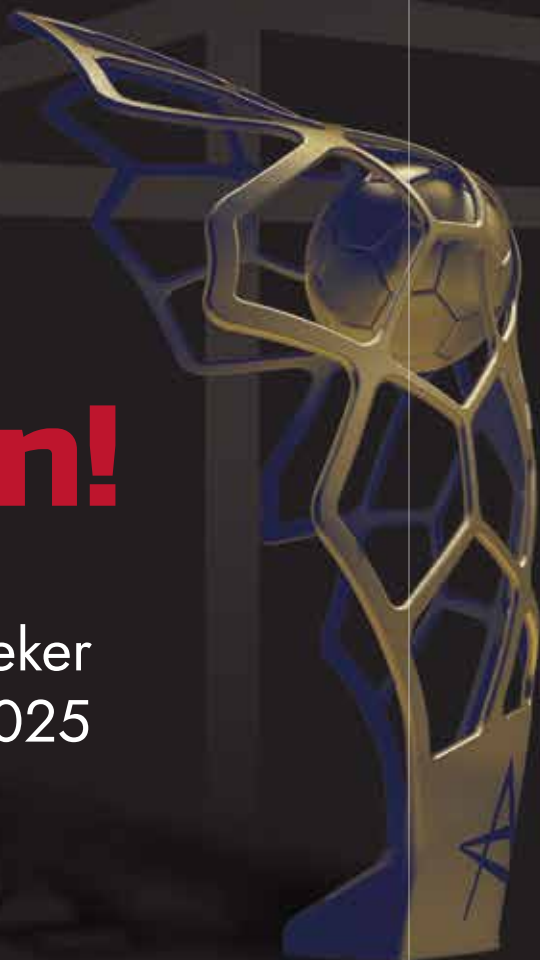


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# A better workday!

# Aalborg Håndbold

## Danmark



- |    |                     |    |                       |
|----|---------------------|----|-----------------------|
| 1  | Niklas Landin       | 16 | Tobias Bugge-Sørensen |
| 2  | Mads Vestergaard    | 17 | Martin Larsen         |
| 3  | Lukas Nilsson       | 18 | Aleks Vlah            |
| 4  | Patrick Wiesmach    | 19 | Kristian Bjørnsen     |
| 5  | Hjalte Møller       | 20 | Felix Möller          |
| 6  | Sebastian Barthold  | 21 | Henrik Møllgaard      |
| 7  | Thomas Arnoldsen    | 22 | René Antonsen         |
| 8  | Daniel Jensen       | 23 | Buster Juul           |
| 9  | Miguel Martins      | 25 | Marinus Munk          |
| 11 | Simon Hald          | 26 | Bjarki Jóhannsson     |
| 12 | Fabian Norsten      | 27 | Mads Krarup           |
| 13 | Jens Rasmussen      | 30 | Carl Ploug Kirkegaard |
| 14 | Mads Hoxer Hangaard |    |                       |
| 15 | Jack Thurin         |    |                       |

Cheftræner Simon Dahl  
Ass. træner Benjamin Batsberg

# HC Zagreb

## Kroatien

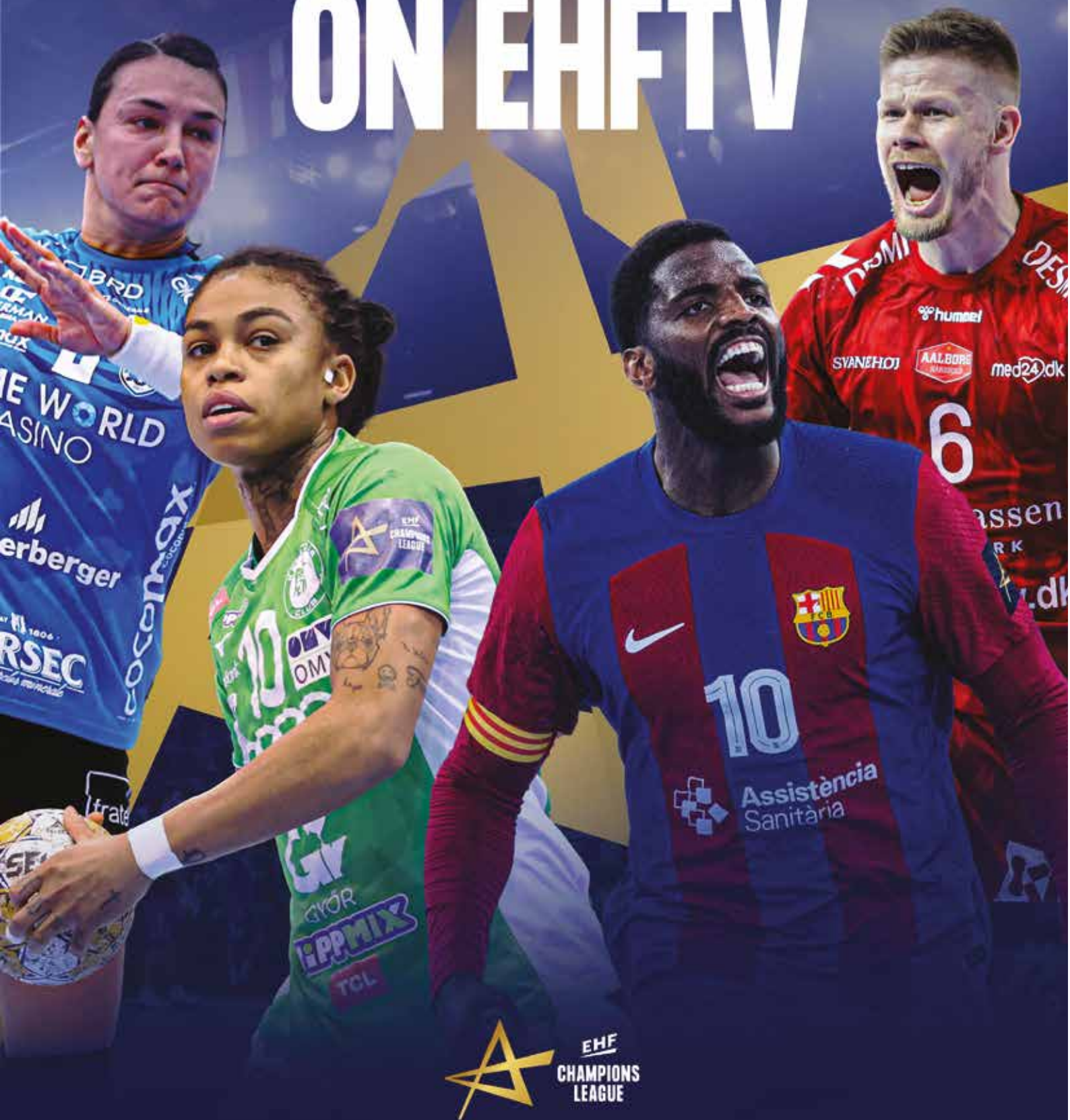


2 Nedim Hadzic  
4 Ivor Vidovic  
7 Patryk Walczak  
8 Adin Faljic  
9 Luka Lovre Klarica  
10 Jakov Gojun  
11 Zvonimir Srna  
12 Ante Grbavac  
13 Davor Cavar  
14 Maksimilijan Molc  
17 Paolo Kraljevic  
19 Petar Sprem  
21 Davor Gavric  
22 Matej Svrznjak  
23 Ivano Pavlovic  
24 Jakov Celegin

25 Matej Mandic  
31 Timur Dibirov  
34 Niko Frankovic  
43 Melvyn Richardson  
44 Ihar Bialiauski  
47 Aleks Kavcic  
71 Filip Glavas  
76 Toni Matosevic  
77 Roko Trivkovic

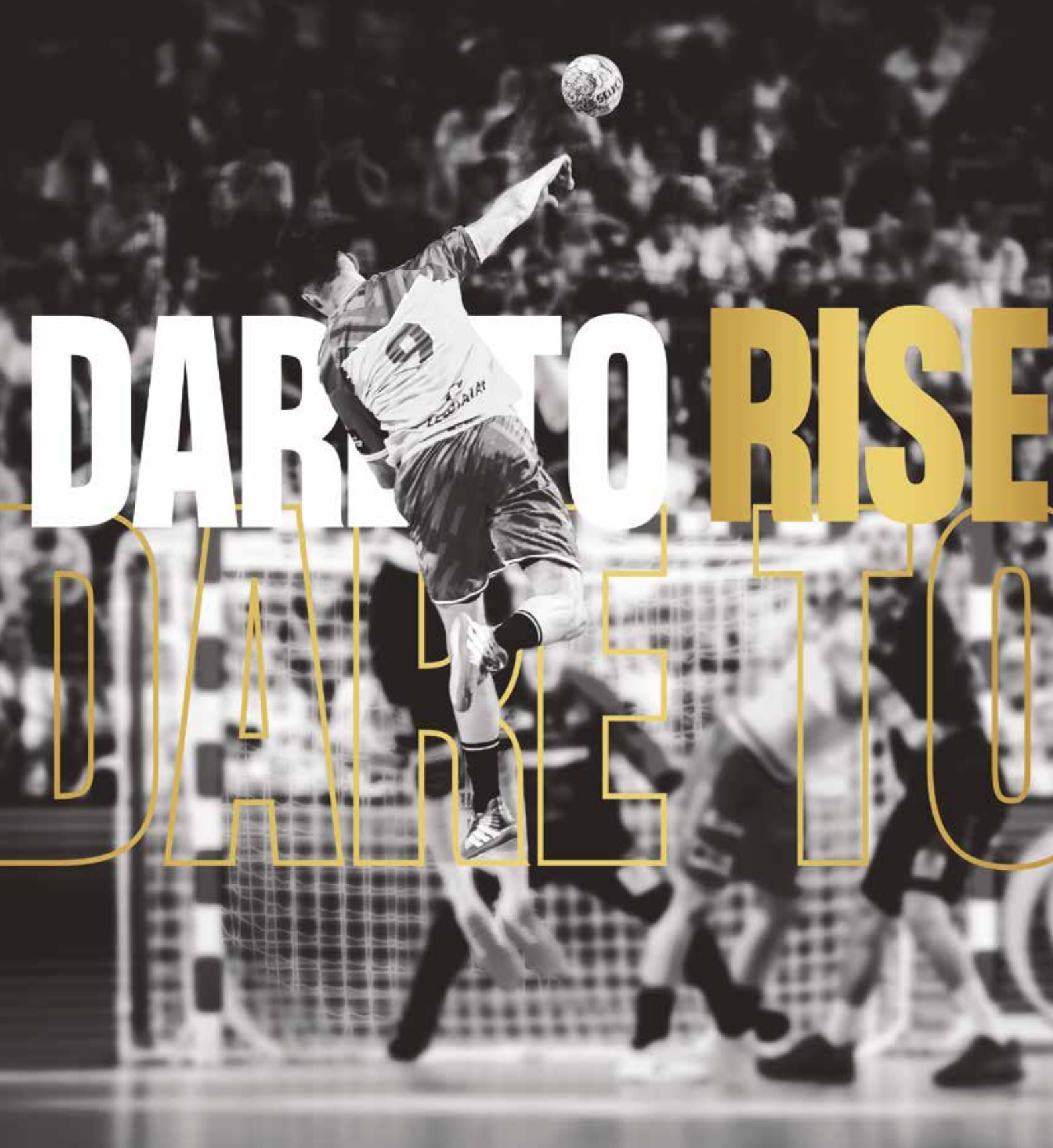
Cheftræner Andrija Nikolic  
Ass. træner Velimir Petkovic

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