

#MOTW



# MEDIA INFORMATION

MACHINESEEKER EHF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE 2024/25

MOTW round 5: HC Zagreb vs Barça



## HC ZAGREB (CRO) vs BARÇA (ESP)

Group B, round 5 | Wednesday 16 October 2024, 18:45 CEST

### Playing hall:

Arena Zagreb

Laniste 30

10000 Zagreb, Croatia

Capacity: 15,200

### Key facts:

- This MOTW marks the 26th time HC Zagreb meet Barça; the Spanish side won 23 of their previous duels; Zagreb only got one draw (at home in 1999) and one win (away in 2012).
- Three years in a row, from 1997-99, Zagreb vs Barcelona was the EHF Champions League final; current Barça head coach Carlos Ortega played all these finals.
- Ortega is meanwhile the most successful EHF Champions League participant of all time with eight titles – six as a player, two as a coach of Barça.
- Ortega's son, Manuel (19), is part of Barça's squad this season for the first time.
- Zagreb play their 31st season in the EHF Champions League; Barça their 28th.
- Only Barça (390), HC Veszprém (372), and THW Kiel (364) have played more matches in EHF Champions League history than Zagreb (350).
- One Zagreb player has won the title in the past: Timur Dibirov with HC Vardar in 2017 and 2019; assistant coach Ivan Cupic, who retired last summer, won the title three times: with Industria Kielce in 2016, and – as a teammate of Dibirov's – twice with Vardar.
- Gonzalo Perez de Vargas and Aitor Ariño are the leading title winners in Barça's squad, having both lifted the trophy five times – and every time with Barça.
- Currently on an eight-match winning streak dating back to last season, Barça are the only team in the 2024/25 group phase with the maximum eight points after four rounds; Zagreb won one of their first four matches – against last year's runners-up Aalborg Håndbold.
- Right back Luka Lovre Klarica is Zagreb's leading scorer so far with 27 goals; Aleix Gómez and Melvyn Richardson have both netted 19 times for Barça.
- On eurohandball.com: [MOTW page](#) | [group phase standings](#) | [match schedule](#)

## Previous matches in European club competitions

### HC Zagreb vs Barça 1-1-23 (581:778) 3:47

08.02.1996	FC Barcelona vs Croatia Banka Zagreb, EHF Champions League – Group B	26:16 (14:6)
26.03.1996	Croatia Banka Zagreb vs FC Barcelona, EHF Champions League – Group B	21:23 (7:11)
12.04.1997	FC Barcelona vs Badel 1862 Zagreb, EHF Champions League – Final	31:22 (17:6)
19.04.1997	Badel 1862 Zagreb vs FC Barcelona, EHF Champions League – Final	23:30 (9:14)
18.04.1998	FC Barcelona vs Badel 1862 Zagreb, EHF Champions League – Final	28:18 (10:10)
25.04.1998	Badel 1862 Zagreb vs FC Barcelona, EHF Champions League – Final	22:28 (9:10)
01.11.1998	FC Barcelona vs Badel Zagreb, European Championship for Club Teams – Final	28:22 (11:9)
10.04.1999	Badel 1862 Zagreb vs FC Barcelona, EHF Champions League – Final	22:22 (14:13)
17.04.1999	FC Barcelona vs Badel 1862 Zagreb, EHF Champions League – Final	29:18 (14:7)
24.02.2001	Badel 1862 Zagreb vs FC Barcelona, EHF Champions League – Quarter-final	17:29 (9:12)
03.03.2001	FC Barcelona vs Badel 1862 Zagreb, EHF Champions League – Quarter-final	26:23 (12:10)
27.03.2010	HC Croatia Osiguranje-Zagreb vs FC Barcelona Borges, EHF CL – Last 16	26:33 (12:17)
03.04.2010	FC Barcelona Borges vs HC Croatia Osiguranje-Zagreb, EHF CL – Last 16	36:33 (17:18)
22.10.2011	Croatia Osiguranje Zagreb vs FC Barcelona Intersport, VELUX EHF CL – Group A	30:31 (14:13)
18.02.2012	FC Barcelona Intersport vs Croatia Osiguranje Zagreb, VELUX EHF CL – Group A	29:30 (14:15)
20.10.2012	HC Croatia Osiguranje Zagreb vs FC Barcelona Intersport, VELUX EHF CL – Group D	21:32 (12:13)
16.02.2013	FC Barcelona Intersport vs HC Croatia Osiguranje Zagreb, VELUX EHF CL – Group D	35:25 (19:10)
09.04.2015	HC Prvo plinarsko drustvo Zagreb vs FC Barcelona, VELUX EHF CL – Quarter-final	23:25 (10:14)
18.04.2015	FC Barcelona vs HC Prvo plinarsko drustvo Zagreb, VELUX EHF CL – Quarter-final	43:21 (23:10)
04.11.2017	FC Barcelona Lassa vs HC Prvo plinarsko drustvo Zagreb, VELUX EHF CL – Group A	32:22 (17:8)
23.11.2017	HC Prvo plinarsko drustvo Zagreb vs FC Barcelona Lassa, VELUX EHF CL – Group A	24:32 (11:16)
28.09.2019	HC PPD Zagreb vs Barça, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	19:36 (9:21)
15.02.2020	Barça vs HC PPD Zagreb, VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A	32:23 (17:9)
14.10.2020	Barça vs HC PPD Zagreb, EHF Champions League – Group B	45:27 (24:13)
11.02.2021	HC PPD Zagreb vs Barça, EHF Champions League – Group B	33:37 (18:21)

## HC Zagreb vs Spanish clubs 12-2-38

Season	Opponent	Home	Away	Competition
1991/92	<i>Teka Santander</i>	22:20	28:18	<i>Champions Cup – Final</i>
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1994/95	Caja Cantabria Santander	20:19	24:34	EHF Champions League – Group A
1994/95	Elgorriaga Bidasoa	27:26	20:30	EHF Champions League – Final
1995/96	FC Barcelona	21:23	16:26	EHF Champions League – Group B
1996/97	FC Barcelona	23:30	22:31	EHF Champions League – Final
1997/98	FC Barcelona	22:28	18:28	EHF Champions League – Final
1998/99	Caja Cantabria Santander		32:21	ECh for Club Teams – Semi-final
1998/99	FC Barcelona		22:28	ECh for Club Teams – Final
1998/99	Portland San Antonio	27:22	23:26	EHF Champions League – Semi-final
1998/99	FC Barcelona	22:22	18:29	EHF Champions League – Final



2000/01	FC Barcelona	17:29	23:26	EHF Champions League – Quarter-final
2004/05	CBM Valladolid	27:22	26:31	Cup Winners' Cup – Last 16
2004/05	C.BM. Ademar Leon	25:31	25:37	Cup Winners' Cup – Final
2005/06	Portland San Antonio	24:20	15:31	EHF Champions League – Group G
2006/07	C.BM. Ademar Leon	26:20	23:30	Cup Winners' Cup – Semi-final
2007/08	C.BM. Ademar Leon	25:26	25:29	EHF Champions League – Group C
2007/08	Portland San Antonio	29:23	27:35	EHF Champions League – Main Round Group 3
2009/10	BM Ciudad Real	24:27	27:32	EHF Champions League – Group C
2009/10	FC Barcelona Borges	26:33	33:36	EHF Champions League – Last 16
2010/11	Renovalia Ciudad Real	30:30	20:30	VELUX EHF Champions League – Group D
2011/12	FC Barcelona Intersport	30:31	30:29	VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A
2012/13	FC Barcelona Intersport	21:32	25:35	VELUX EHF Champions League – Group D
2014/15	Naturhouse La Rioja	31:30	21:22	VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A
2014/15	FC Barcelona	23:25	21:43	VELUX EHF Champions League – Quarter-final
2017/18	FC Barcelona Lassa	24:32	22:32	VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A
2019/20	Barça	19:36	23:32	VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A
2020/21	Barça	33:37	27:45	EHF Champions League – Group B

## Barça vs Croatian clubs 23-1-1

Season	Opponent	Home	Away	Competition
1995/96	Croatia Banka Zagreb	26:16	23:21	EHF Champions League – Group B
1996/97	Badel 1862 Zagreb	31:22	30:23	EHF Champions League – Final
1997/98	Badel 1862 Zagreb	28:18	28:22	EHF Champions League – Final
1998/99	Badel Zagreb	28:22		ECh for Club Teams – Final
1998/99	Badel 1862 Zagreb	29:18	22:22	EHF Champions League – Final
2000/01	Badel 1862 Zagreb	26:23	29:17	EHF Champions League – Quarter-final
2009/10	HC Croatia Osiguranje-Zagreb	36:33	33:26	EHF Champions League – Last 16
2011/12	Croatia Osiguranje Zagreb	29:30	31:30	VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A
2012/13	HC Croatia Osiguranje Zagreb	35:25	32:21	VELUX EHF Champions League – Group D
2014/15	HC Prvo plinarsko drustvo Zagreb	43:21	25:23	VELUX EHF Champions League – Quarter-final
2017/18	HC Prvo plinarsko drustvo Zagreb	32:22	32:24	VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A
2019/20	HC PPD Zagreb	32:23	36:19	VELUX EHF Champions League – Group A
2020/21	HC PPD Zagreb	45:27	37:33	EHF Champions League – Group B



## Most goals in one game for HC Zagreb vs Barça

Zlatko Saračević	11	01.11.1998	FC Barcelona vs Badel Zagreb	28:22
Zlatko Horvat	10	22.10.2011	Croatia Osiguranje Zagreb vs FC Barcelona Intersport	30:31
Mirza Džomba	9	03.04.2010	FC Barcelona Borges vs HC Croatia Osiguranje-Zagreb	36:33
Luka Stepančić	9	09.04.2015	HC Prvo plinarsko drustvo vs FC Barcelona	23:25
Zlatko Saračević	8	18.04.1998	FC Barcelona vs Badel 1862 Zagreb	28:18

## Most goals in one game for Barça vs HC Zagreb

Juan Garcia	10	03.04.2010	FC Barcelona Borges vs HC Croatia Osiguranje-Zagreb	36:33
Patrik Čavar	9	01.11.1998	FC Barcelona vs Badel Zagreb	28:22
Iker Romero	9	03.04.2010	FC Barcelona Borges vs HC Croatia Osiguranje-Zagreb	36:33
Kiril Lazarov	9	18.04.2015	FC Barcelona vs HC Prvo plinarsko drustvo	43:21
Rafael Guijosa	8	17.04.1999	FC Barcelona vs Badel 1862 Zagreb	19:18
Juan Garcia	8	27.03.2010	HC Croatia Osiguranje-Zagreb vs FC Barcelona Borges	26:33
Victor Tomas	8	27.03.2010	HC Croatia Osiguranje-Zagreb vs FC Barcelona Borges	26:33
Siarhei Rutenka	8	18.02.2012	FC Barcelona Intersport vs Croatia Osiguranje Zagreb	29:30
Aleix Gómez	8	28.09.2019	HC PPD Zagreb vs Barça	19:36
Dika Mem	8	14.10.2020	Barça vs HC PPD Zagreb	45:27

## Players who played for both clubs in direct encounters

Patrik Čavar	8 matches, 38 goals	w/HC Zagreb 4/19 (1996-1997); w/Barça 4/19 (1998-1999)
Kiril Lazarov	6 matches, 32 goals	w/HC Zagreb 4/18 (2001, 2010); w/Barça 2/14 (2015)

## Current players who played in EHF competitions for both clubs

N/A



## Most games for HC Zagreb vs Barça

Zlatko Horvat	12
Josip Valčić	10
Božidar Jović	9
Venio Losert	9
Tonči Valčić	9

## Most goals for HC Zagreb vs Barça

Zlatko Horvat	51
Mirza Džomba	36
Zlatko Saračević	31
Slavko Goluža	22
Luka Stepančić	22

## Most games for Barça vs HC Zagreb

David Barrufet	13
Cedric Sorhaindo	12
Raul Entrerrios	11
Rafael Guijosa	11
Enric Masip	11
Xavier O'Callaghan	11
Carlos Ortega	11
Tomas Svensson	11

## Most goals for Barça vs HC Zagreb

Enric Masip	55
Victor Tomas	46
Rafael Guijosa	44
Carlos Ortega	40
Juan Garcia	35



## Details of the most recent direct encounter

11 February 2021 | Cologne, Germany:

HC PPD Zagreb vs Barça (EHF Champions League – Group B) 33:37 (18:21)

**Referees:** Dimitar Mitrevski/Blagojche Todorovski (North Macedonia).

**Suspensions:** 10' – 8' (Klarica 2', Obradovic 2', Stojnic 2', Leimeter 2', Grahovac 2' – Dolenc 2', Petrus 2', Palmarsson 2', Langaro 2').

**Number of 7m:** 4/3 – 1/1.

**Attendance:** 0.

**HC PPD Zagreb:** Todor Jandric, Matej Ašanin; Filip Vistorop (5), Luka Mrakovcic (1), Davor Cavar, David Mandic (4), Luka Lovre Klarica (3), Senjamin Buric (1), Nemanja Obradovic (4), Darko Stojnic, Paolo Kraljevic (4), Ivan Laljek (1), Valentino Ravnic, Matej Hrstic (2), Csaba Leimeter (2), Nikola Grahovac (6).

**Barça:** Gonzalo Perez de Vargas, Kevin Møller (1); Raul Entrerrios (2), Cedric Sorhaindo (1), Jure Dolenc, Aitor Ariño (4), Blaz Janc (6), Aleix Gómez (1), Thiagus Petrus (1), Dika Mem (3), Luka Cindric (3), Alex Pascual (2), Aron Palmarsson (4), Domen Makuc (2), Haniel Langaro (2), Ludovic Fabregas (5).

## Last 10 matches in the Machineseeker EHF Champions League

### HC Zagreb: current run – lost two

09.10.2024	Zagreb CRO	vs OTP Bank – PICK Szeged HUN	L 30:35
25.09.2024	Trondheim NOR	@ Kolstad Håndbold NOR	L 29:25
18.09.2024	Zagreb CRO	vs Aalborg Håndbold DEN	W 31:23
12.09.2024	Kielce POL	@ Industria Kielce POL	L 30:23
03.04.2024	Montpellier FRA	@ Montpellier HB FRA	L 30:24
27.03.2024	Zagreb CRO	vs Montpellier HB FRA	D 27:27
06.03.2024	Kiel GER	@ THW Kiel GER	L 33:22
29.02.2024	Zagreb CRO	vs Paris Saint-Germain Handball FRA	W 28:26
21.02.2024	Trondheim NOR	@ Kolstad Handball NOR	W 25:34
15.02.2024	Aalborg DEN	@ Aalborg Håndbold DEN	L 32:22

### Barça: current run – won eight

10.10.2024	Barcelona ESP	vs Aalborg Håndbold DEN	W 35:27
25.09.2024	Kielce POL	@ Industria Kielce POL	W 28:32
19.09.2024	Barcelona ESP	vs OTP Bank – PICK Szeged HUN	W 31:30
11.09.2024	Trondheim NOR	@ Kolstad Håndbold NOR	W 30:35
09.06.2024	Cologne GER	@ Aalborg Håndbold DEN	W 30:31
08.06.2024	Cologne GER	vs THW Kiel GER	W 30:18
02.05.2024	Barcelona ESP	vs Paris Saint-Germain Handball FRA	W 32:31
25.04.2024	Paris FRA	@ Paris Saint-Germain Handball FRA	W 22:30
07.03.2024	Barcelona ESP	vs Montpellier HB FRA	L 34:37
29.02.2024	Magdeburg GER	@ SC Magdeburg GER	L 29:28



## Player of the Match trophy awarded after each MOTW

The Match of the Week 'Player of the Match' trophy, introduced by EHF Marketing GmbH in the 2017/18 season, is awarded at all MOTWs in the Machineseeker EHF Champions League 2024/25 season.

The trophy will be handed over on court shortly after the match.

### Awarded players in the 2024/25 season:

Round 1: Thomas Arnoldsen (Aalborg Håndbold)

Round 2: Ignacio Biosca (HBC Nantes)

Round 3: Andreas Palicka (Paris Saint-Germain Handball)

Round 4: Emil Nielsen (Barça)

Round 5: ...

## HC Zagreb players' career statistics against Barça

Goalkeepers	NOC	GP	W	D	L	G	AVG	HI	PIM
Ante Grbavac	BIH	0	0	0	0	0	0,00	0	0
Matej Mandic	CRO	0	0	0	0	0	0,00	0	0
Toni Matošević	CRO	0	0	0	0	0	0,00	0	0
Players	NOC	GP	W	D	L	G	AVG	HI	PIM
Ihar Bialiauski	BLR	0	0	0	0	0	0,00	0	0
Davor Cavar	CRO	1	0	0	1	0	0,00	0	0
Jakov Celegin	CRO	0	0	0	0	0	0,00	0	0
Timur Dibirov	RUS	11	3	1	7	41	3,73	8	4'
Adin Faljic	BIH	0	0	0	0	0	0,00	0	0
Niko Frankovic	CRO	0	0	0	0	0	0,00	0	0
Filip Glavaš	CRO	0	0	0	0	0	0,00	0	0
Jakov Gojun	CRO	7	1	0	6	5	0,71	3	12' (D)
Aleks Kavcic	SLO	0	0	0	0	0	0,00	0	0
Luka Lovre Klarica	CRO	2	0	0	2	7	3,50	4	2'
Miloš Kos	SRB	0	0	0	0	0	0,00	0	0
Paolo Kraljevic	CRO	1	0	0	1	4	4,00	4	0
Maksimilijan Molc	CRO	0	0	0	0	0	0,00	0	0
Ivano Pavlovic	CRO	0	0	0	0	0	0,00	0	0
Mihajlo Radojkovic	SRB	0	0	0	0	0	0,00	0	0
Petar Šprem	CRO	0	0	0	0	0	0,00	0	0
Zvonimir Srna	CRO	2	0	0	2	2	1,00	2	0
Matej Svržnjak	CRO	0	0	0	0	0	0,00	0	0
Roko Trivkovic	CRO	0	0	0	0	0	0,00	0	0
Patryk Walczak	POL	0	0	0	0	0	0,00	0	0

*Timur Dibirov (Chekhovskie Medvedi 2009/10, HC Vardar – Skopje 2013/14, HC Vardar 2015/16, HC Vardar 2016/17, HC Vardar 2017/18, HC Vardar 2018/19); Jakov Gojun (BM Atletico Madrid 2012/13, PSG Handball 2013/14).*



## Barça players' career statistics against HC Zagreb

<b>Goalkeepers</b>	<b>NOC</b>	<b>GP</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>AVG</b>	<b>HI</b>	<b>PIM</b>
Emil Nielsen	DEN	4	2	1	1	0	0,00	0	0
Gonzalo Perez de Vargas	ESP	8	8	0	0	2	0,25	1 (2)	0
Filip Saric	BIH	0	0	0	0	0	0,00	0	0
<b>Players</b>	<b>NOC</b>	<b>GP</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>AVG</b>	<b>HI</b>	<b>PIM</b>
Aitor Ariño	ESP	8	8	0	0	19	2,38	5	0
Antonio Bazan	ESP	0	0	0	0	0	0,00	0	0
Jan Blas Clos	ESP	0	0	0	0	0	0,00	0	0
Jonathan Carlsbogard	SWE	0	0	0	0	0	0,00	0	0
Petar Cikusa I Jelacic	ESP	0	0	0	0	0	0,00	0	0
Luis Frade	POR	1	1	0	0	6	6,00	6	0
Aleix Gómez	ESP	5	5	0	0	16	3,20	8	2'
Thiagus Petrus	BRA	8	8	0	0	4	0,50	3	12'
Oscar Grau	ESP	0	0	0	0	0	0,00	0	0
Blaz Janc	SLO	8	4	0	4	28	3,50	6 (3)	6' (D)
Domen Makuc	SLO	2	2	0	0	3	1,50	2	2'
Dika Mem	FRA	6	6	0	0	28	4,67	8	2'
Timothy N'guessan	FRA	4	4	0	0	8	2,00	3	0
Manuel Ortega	ESP	0	0	0	0	0	0,00	0	0
Juan Palomino	ESP	0	0	0	0	0	0,00	0	0
Melvyn Richardson	FRA	0	0	0	0	0	0,00	0	0
Javier Rodríguez	ESP	0	0	0	0	0	0,00	0	0
Pol Valera Rovira	ESP	0	0	0	0	0	0,00	0	0
Hampus Wanne	SWE	4	3	0	1	13	3,25	9	4'

*Thiagus Petrus (Naturhouse La Rioja 2014/15, MOL-Pick Szeged 2016/17, MOL-Pick Szeged 2017/18); Blaz Janc (Celje Pivovarna Lasko 2013/14, RK Celje Pivovarna Lasko 2015/16, RK Celje Pivovarna Lasko 2016/17); Domen Makuc (RK Celje Pivovarna Lasko 2016/17 – DNP, RK Celje Pivovarna Lasko 2018/19 – DNP, RK Celje Pivovarna Lasko 2019/20 – DNP); Timothy N'guessan (Chambery Savoie HB 2011/12 – DNP); Emil Nielsen (Skjern Handbold 2018/19, HBC Nantes 2020/21); Hampus Wanne (SG Flensburg-Handewitt 2015/16, SG Flensburg-Handewitt 2018/19, SG Flensburg-Handewitt 2019/20 – DNP).*

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