



San Francisco CalHeat

Annual Report 2018-2019

San Francisco CalHeat is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and has obtained a tax exempt status with the Internal Revenue Services.

Its mission is to develop, promote, educate and grow the Olympic sport of Team Handball, making it accessible to everyone in the San Francisco Bay Area, and emphasizing the ideals of fair-play, cooperation, responsibility and respect.

History

San Francisco CalHeat Team Handball Club has been active in the Bay Area for more than 35 years. The club consists of men's, women's, and youth teams that compete at the highest amateur level in the United States. The teams consist of players from age 13 to 40+ from many different cultural backgrounds, but all living in the greater San Francisco Bay Area.

SF CalHeat has a great tradition of Team Handball success at the national level in the United States. The men's team won the US National Championship in 1984, 1985, 1986, 1990 and 2019, a silver medal in 1987 and 2018 and bronze medals in 1996, 2001 and 2002. The women's team has won the gold medal in 2003 and 2006, the silver medal in 1997, 1998, 2004 and 2005, and the bronze medal in 1995 and 1996. Several former US Olympians and US National Team members have played for SF CalHeat.

For the past 25 years SF CalHeat has worked together with Centerville Junior High School in Fremont to introduce their students to the sport of Team Handball. SF CalHeat is using the gymnasium of the school for handball practices, scrimmages, clinics, and tournaments.

Until 2011 SF CalHeat has existed without much official structure, just as a dynamic group of Team Handball enthusiasts. To be able to better promote and grow the sport of Team Handball, a group of club members in 2011 took the step to incorporate SF CalHeat as a non-profit / tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization. The original board of directors of "San Francisco CalHeat"

consisted of President Sven Mayer, Treasurer Philippe Tracol, Secretary Jean-Marc Junique, Slave Jovanovski and Bernward Schwarte.

Structure

After existing for many years without much formal structure, as stated above, several SF CalHeat players took the initiative, in 2011-2012, to setup SF CalHeat as a non-profit organization. The organization has been incorporated, in the state of California, on August 12th 2011. The Employer Identification Number (EIN) was received on October 19th 2011. Tax-exempt status was received on October 31st 2012 from the Internal Revenue Service. Tax-exempt status was received both on the federal and state level. The initial agent for service (aka "Principal Officer") was, and still is to this day, Jean-Marc Junique, who has joined SF CalHeat in 2000.

Activity Report

At the beginning of the season the board was comprised of the following Directors and Officers: President: Bernward Schwarte, Vice-President and (ad interim) Secretary: Jean-Marc Junique, Treasurer: Kevin Poulet, Directors: Michelle Mensing, Martin Bilello and Danilo Rojevic.

Board of Directors

On August 3rd, 2018, Heidi Smaradottir got elected as a board member.

On August 3rd, 2018, Martin Bilello transitioned from board member to an officer role (see below)

Officers

On August 3, 2018, Martin Bilello got elected as Secretary.

Practices

SF CalHeat's active indoor season started on Monday September 10, 2018 and ended on Wednesday May 30, 2019. We conducted over 120 practice sessions for our women, men and youth athletes (approx. 250 hours of gym time).

Adults Indoor practices were, similarly to the previous season, conducted 3 times a week, on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings in the Gymnasium of Centerville Junior High School in Fremont, CA. This included teaching beginners Team Handball basics as well as preparing competitive teams for various tournaments.

Practices were held from 8:30 pm to 10:30 pm for the season. The coach for men's team was Danilo Rojevic, along with assistant coach Thomas Negrel; the head coach for the women's team was initially Kevin Poulet (ad interim), followed by Kristina Alavanja, from January until the end of the season.

SF CalHeat members again supported the intramural sports program of Centerville Junior High School by providing volunteers to coach kids during practices on Thursday nights (7:30-8:30 pm). Boys and girls were taught on half court, with a full-court game being played occasionally.

Coaching staff for the Junior High School students were: Raphael Renault, Antoine Gautier, Rodrigo Soares, Bernward Schwarte, Christoph Kraemer, Daniel Hundt, Heidrun J, Smaradottir, Ines Resano Goizueta, Jean-Francois Remy, Jean-Marc Junique, Julien Boizot, Karsten Knese, Katrine Petersen Jorgensen, Ludovic Thea, Omar Bentahar, and Robin Guers.

After the regular season ended, players practiced outdoors on grass courts on the Google Campus (Mountain View, CA).

Beach Handball practices and open games were organized every other weekend, mostly on Ocean Beach in San Francisco, under the leadership of USA Beach Handball Elite Team Athlete, Women National Team Assistant Coach and San Francisco CalHeat player: Michelle Mensing.

Participation report

This year the total number of participants was 43 Women, 50 Men, and 38 Youth players during CalHeat practices and activities. This is our newest record since we started tracking it in 2011.

Committees

Youth Team Handball Committee

The club further expanded its youth development program. We continued our youth team handball league for the High School and Middle School levels. On the HS side participants were Sterne High School, Lycée Français de San Francisco, Bayhill High School, SF CalHeat Youth, and Compass High School. On the MS side, participants were Sterne School, Lycée Français de San Francisco, Castillero Middle School, Bret Harte Middle School, and Stanbridge Academy.

On September 8th, 2018 a clinic for coaches and players was hosted with almost 70 kids in attendance. The regular league games were carried out by all the teams. The season was supposed to be finished with the 3rd Youth California Cup on November 17th and 18th, 2018 but the fires in Northern California forced us to reschedule it and only the Middle School level could host a tournament on December 9th.

Lycée Français de San Francisco was crowned the High School champions based on their performance during the season. Bret Harte Middle School won the U14 California Cup with Lycée Français de San Francisco in second place and Castillero Middle School in third.

We continued our sponsoring agreement with Hummel for our Youth Program which runs until the end of August 2019.

The first SF CalHeat Youth Elite team was assembled, and after 3 months of practices we competed at the Canadian Youth Nationals Tournament. Five teams competed on the boys

tournament, with three teams from Alberta and one from Satkatchewan joining us. We placed 5th and earned a 2nd Team All Star recognition for our goalkeeper Jannik Lohne, and a 2nd Top Scorer recognition for Easton Kreshel.

For the first time, SF CalHeat sent a team to the Partille Cup (international tournament in Sweden), on the B15 category and as the only team from the U.S. represented the country at the opening ceremonies and during the tournament. We were on Group 16 together with Hjortshøj Egå IF, IK Sävahof, Skuru IK, Frogner IL, and India Birla Pilani. The team finished with a record of 1-1-3 in group play and placed 4th earning a spot on the B Playoffs. In there we lost our first knockout game to Lugj HF's second team by one goal.

In partnership with the ISI Academy in Denmark, we hosted our first Team Handball Summer Camp. For a full week, more than 20 kids were taught by 8 danish coaches the fundamentals of Team Handball, to increase their skills and the overall level of play in the Bay Area.

Martin Bilello was named assistant coach for the US Men's Junior National Team competing at the Junior Men World Championships in Spain (July 16-28, 2019).

Competition Committee

Our teams (women and men) attended a record number of tournaments across the country: Chicago, Vancouver, Dallas, California Cup, Phoenix and, similarly to past season, sent a total of four teams to the USATH National Championship. This made us again the largest club delegation (approx. 60 athletes and staff members) together with New York City THC.

As expected, San Francisco CalHeat participated to sanctioned events counting toward the Wild Card race for the Elite Division due to the absence of a league on the U.S. West Coast.

Aaron Johnson was selected to join the U.S. Men's National Team during a training camp in Puerto Rico (December 2018), the first SF CalHeat player to join the US indoor national selection in the last 20 years.

In an effort to strengthen the rules of the game, Danilo Rojevic joined a small panel of experts/team representatives at the beginning of the season to revise the USATH Competition Rule Book.

Refereeing Committee

We planned to organize a referee clinic at the beginning of the season, which was unfortunately cancelled last minute by Tugomir Anusic. Because additional referees were needed for the Phoenix tournament Christoph Kraemer organized a certification (approved by Tugomir Anusic) on short notice for Omar Bentahar and Romain Kakko-Chiloff. Both passed the tests and are now USATH certified referees.

Participated in the Michael Lipov Memorial Cup in Chicago, IL with one pair: Kevin Poulet & Christoph Kraemer.

Participated at the IHF Trophy Cup - Continental Phase in Chicago, IL: Christoph K.

Participated in the Texas Cup in Dallas, TX with two pairs: Kevin Poulet & Christoph Kraemer and Pauline Marangoni & Arnaud Girsch.

Organized referee assignment for CalCup 2019 and participated with 3 Referees: Kevin & Christoph and Ivo Petranovic.

Participated in the Phoenix tournament with two pairs: Kevin P. & Christoph K. and Omar Bentahar & Romain Kakko-Chiloff

Participated at the IHF North American and Caribbean Emerging Nations Tournament in the Dominican Republic: Christoph K.

Participated at the US Open Nationals with 3 referees: Kevin P., Christoph K. and Ivo P.

Coaching Committee

The coaching committee provided a framework to teach the sport to both middle and high school coaches. Danilo Rojevic directed the Coaching Clinic at the Youth Clinic in September 2018, attended by 10+ coaches.

Due to the lack of time and to focus on other responsibilities, Danilo Rojevic left as the chair of the Coaching Committee in January 2019. The seat is still vacant.

There were no coaching certification programs provided by USA Team Handball in the 2018-19 season, but we hope those will be available in the future as the US federation expects more support from the International Handball Federation (IHF).

The coaching fund was renewed to offset traveling costs for Head Coaches. Benefits, such as a free or discounted membership, were also granted to youth head coaches (SF CalHeat Youth, Centerville) for their investment in the youth program.

Beach Handball Committee

The beach handball season for SF CalHeat started with regular beach and grass handball practices in Mountain View and San Francisco. During the course of the season, 7 grass handball practices and 4 beach handball sessions were conducted. This decline of practice frequency (compared to last year) was mostly due to the unavailability of coach Mensing.

As part of the newly formed US Beach Tour, San Francisco CalHeat hosted the NorCal Beach Cup on July 7th, 2018. The tournament saw 4 coed teams participating, most of the players also participate in the SF CalHeat indoor practices. Constance Duvert and Michelle Mensing led the organization of the event, inviting the Head of US Beach Handball Refereeing to officiate the 8 games staged and providing BBQ for the participants. The total number of participants reached 28 and therefore did not require the purchase of a permit or an insurance to cover the event.

In addition to the event, a beach handball referee introduction course was held (4 participants).

Having qualified through a wild card, the US was targeted to participate in the Beach Handball World Championships in Kazan, Russia in July 2018. Athena Del Rosario tried out for the team

and was named an alternate for the US Women's National Team. Michelle Mensing was named Assistant National Team Coach for the US Women's National Team and participated in the championship. The US teams placed 11th (men) and 14th (women) out of the 16 participating nations.

End of August, the Annual SoCal Beach Handball Championship was held in Huntington Beach, CA. San Francisco CalHeat sent 2 women (SF Frost, SF Blaze) and 1 men's team (SF Oilers). The teams placed 3rd, 5th out of 5 (women) and 5th out of 6 teams (men).

In November Michelle Mensing supported the Dunestar Beach Handball Tournament in Redondo Beach as part of the organizing team.

Michelle Mensing and Athena Del Rosario continue to be active parts of the US Women Elite Team trying out for upcoming international events while continuing to promote the great practice environment at SF CalHeat.

CalCup Committee

The 2019 CalCup was very successful and brought a very competitive lineup in both women and men's divisions. For the first time, we had the pleasure to host New York City women and men athletes.

The newly formed committee, composed of Michelle Mensing, Christoph Kraemer, Soeren Mueller and Danilo Rojevic, spent a lot of time to structure the event and invested disproportionately in the referee and medical expenses. The event was web-streamed at no cost. In an effort to be more inclusive and to bring our community closer, the tournament saw over 100 hours of volunteering from the club members and the unveiling of the Championship banner with former Olympians and legends of the club.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the successful organization of the event!

Public Relations

A Club Banner was displayed in all Bay Area Events (Youth, Adult, Beach) as well as external events.

A Club Championship Banner was updated with the newest gold medal count for the men's team.

Club pennants were gifted to match opponents at USATH National Tournament.

Social Media and web presence were reinforced, enlarged and sustained for the entire season bringing new fans, followers and players to the club. We continued to organically grow our follower's base and engagement on Instagram ([@sfcalheat](https://www.instagram.com/sfcalheat)) to reach over 1,000 followers. This makes us the 3rd largest handball-specific Instagram account in the country after New York City Team Handball Club (6,687 followers) and USA Team Handball (5,489 followers).

Practices were displayed and shared on Facebook, Meetup and the club website.

With the exception of the Phoenix tournament, all tournaments / SF CalHeat matches were live streamed by the PR committee.

Sponsoring Committee

Dish Dash (\$1,500) and RockTape (\$1,500) renewed their sponsorship to our club. In addition, our club started a brand new partnership with Decathlon USA, who just recently established in the Bay Area. This partnership, which gave us the opportunity to try out the ATORKA product range and provided us access to Decathlon facilities and exposure, is hopefully the start of a larger joint venture (more news to come soon). Last but not least, our club got the opportunity to fundraise earlier this year at the Oracle Park during the San Francisco Giants games, raising over \$3,000. This initiative is still on and will conclude in the Fall 2019.

Alexandre El-Assad was appointed Chair of the Sponsoring committee at the start of the season. During his first term, he set the larger priorities and strategic opportunities for our club to grow our pool of sponsors. In particular, he launched a sponsorship referral program, which allows club members / players to refer sponsors to the board in exchange for financial benefits. He majorly contributed, together with Jean-Marc Junique, with the renewal of our sponsorship deals with RockTape and Dish Dash.

A few fundraising campaigns were run during the season allowing us to support Aaron Johnson on his national team endeavor to Puerto Rico and to offset a minor part of the team travel cost to Nationals in Myrtle Beach, SC.

Disciplinary Committee

All players signed and abided by the "Athlete Code of Conduct / Letter of Agreement". No disciplinary procedure has been opened during the 2018/19 season.

End of Season Awards

Like the previous year, the club established its end of season awards, the following were the nominees in each category (winners in bold):

Men Athlete of the Year: **Eloy Rubio**, Gweltaz Lever, Omar Bentahar, Slave Jovanovski, Soeren Mueller.

Women Athlete of the Year: **Athena Del Rosario**, Michelle Mensing, Constance Duvert, Laura Savy, Ines Resano Goizueta.

Rookie of the Year: **Alexandre El-Assad**, Kristina Alavanja, Antoine Gautier, Giovanni Vornoli, Sofia Otero Rafael, Florian Schoebinger, Florencia D'Innocenzo.

Volunteer of the Year: **Constance Duvert**, Soeren Mueller, Michelle Mensing, Alexandre El-Assad, Christoph Kraemer, Heidrun Smaradottir, Omar Bentahar

Award for Excellence: **Men's Elite Team**, CalCup Committee, Michelle Mensing, Christoph Kraemer, Sponsoring Committee, Danilo Rojevic, Kevin Poulet.

Tournaments

NorCal Beach Cup - Ocean Beach, San Francisco, CA: July 7 2018

As part of the newly formed US Beach Tour, San Francisco CalHeat hosted the NorCal Beach Cup on July 7th. The tournament saw 4 coed teams participating, most of the players also participated in the SF CalHeat indoor practices. Constance Duvert and Michelle Mensing lead the organization of the event, inviting the Head of US Beach Handball Refereeing to officiate the 8 games staged and providing BBQ for the participants. The total number of participants reached 28 and therefore did not require the purchase of a permit or an insurance to cover the event.

SoCal Beach Handball Championship - Huntington Beach, CA: August 25-26 2018

The tournament was hosted by Los Angeles Team Handball Club and the US Beach Tour.

Men's division included the following teams named in order of final placement: RIP San Diego, RIP Los Angeles, LA Wizards, Colima (Mexico), San Francisco Oilers and LA Sandsharks.

Women's division included the following teams named in order of final placement: Spin & Tonic, RIP Los Angeles, SF Frost, American Samoa, SF Blaze.

San Francisco CalHeat sent two women (SF Frost, SF Blaze) and one men's team (SF Oilers). The teams placed 3rd, 5th out of 5 (women) and 5th out of 6 teams (men).

Michael L. Memorial Cup - Chicago, IL: October 26-28, 2018

The tournament was hosted by Chicago Inter Handball. Our men's team won the tournament, defeating Team Handball Academy 38:28. Our women's team came back with the bronze.

Men's division included the following teams: Team Handball Academy, Army West Point Black, Chicago Inter Handball, New York Athletic Club, Team Handball Ontario, Minnesota Team Handball, Houston Firehawks and San Francisco CalHeat.

Women's division included the following teams: Army West Point Black, Chicago Inter Handball, Team Rogue, and San Francisco CalHeat.

Vancouver Cup - Vancouver, BC (Canada): November 10-11, 2018

The women's division included the following teams: Vancouver HC, Gambit HC (Manitoba), Cascadia HC (Vancouver II) and San Francisco CalHeat.

The tournament was won by Vancouver HC, followed by San Francisco CalHeat, Gambit HC and Cascadia HC.

3rd Youth California Cup - San Jose, CA: December 9, 2018

Lycée Français de San Francisco was crowned the High School champions based on their performance during the season. Bret Harte Middle School won the U14 California Cup with Lycée Français de San Francisco in second place and Castillero Middle School in third.

Texas Cup - Dallas, TX: December 1-2, 2018

The Texas Cup was co-hosted by Dallas THC and Houston Firehawks. It comprised a men's tournament and a best-of-four series between the women's teams of Houston Firehawks and San Francisco CalHeat. Both our women's and men's team won the competition. Our women's team closed on a 2-1-1 record and claimed both the MVP (Constance Duvert) and MVG awards (Athena Del Rosario). Our men's team defeated Chicago Inter Handball 22:18 and also claimed the MVP, Top Scorer (Zuwed Akuro) and MVG awards (Lucas Kroeger).

The tournament included the following teams: San Francisco CalHeat, Chicago Inter Handball, Houston Firehawks 1, Houston Firehawks 2, Dallas THC, Air Force Academy and Texas A&M.

13th California Cup - Fremont, CA: January 25-27, 2019

The men's division was won by our first men's team, defeating Chicago Inter Handball 26:16. San Francisco CalHeat II finished at the 7th place. Lucas Kroeger (San Francisco CalHeat I) claimed the MVG award. The tournament included the following teams: San Francisco CalHeat 1, San Francisco CalHeat 2, New York City, Chicago Inter Handball, Houston Firehawks, Los Angeles THC, Air Force Academy and Army West Point Black.

The women's division included the following teams: San Francisco CalHeat, San Francisco CalHeat II, New York City and Houston Firehawks.

New York City won the division after a thrilling final against San Francisco CalHeat I. San Francisco CalHeat II finished in 3rd place.

The entire tournament was web-streamed and broadcasted live on the club's Facebook page for the third consecutive year, which generated additional views and traffic, as well as positive feedback on and offline. Also, our club leveraged the opportunity to unveil a championship banner during a ceremony that brought together former Olympians and legends of the club.

Valley of the Sun - Phoenix, AZ: March 16-17, 2019

The annual Valley of the Sun tournament in Phoenix, AZ comprised the following men's teams: San Francisco CalHeat I & II, Los Angeles THC, Air Force Academy, Phoenix THC and Unilider Sonora (Mexico). San Francisco CalHeat won the gold again, winning all their games. San

Francisco CalHeat II finished at the 5th place. Eloy Rubio (SF CalHeat I) was elected as the tournament Most Valuable Player (MVP). Omid Bazanjani (SF CalHeat II) got the MVG award.

USA TH Open Club Nationals - Myrtle Beach, SC: May 24-26, 2019

Our club sent two women and two men's team to the 2019 edition of the US Open Club Nationals.

Our women's teams finished at the 6th and 7th place. Final ranking was as follows: 1. New York City, 2. Chicago Inter Handball, 3. DC Diplomats, 4. Boston THC, 5. Alberta Handball, 6. San Francisco CalHeat II, 7. San Francisco CalHeat I, and 8. Philly Team Handball. Kathrine Agger finished as the top scorer of the tournament and Athena Del Rosario claimed the MVG award.

Our first men's team qualified for the Elite division through the wild card race (29 pts, 1st place) and was seeded #2 right behind New York City. Our Elite team won all its games, defeating New York City 31:30 and, hence, claiming the national championship title 29 years after its last success. The final ranking of the Elite division was the following: 1. San Francisco CalHeat, 2. New York City 3. New York Athletic Club, 4. Los Angeles THC, 5. Boston THC, 6. DC Diplomats, 7. Chicago Inter Handball, 8. New York City II. Lucas Kroger claimed the MVG award.

Our second men's team competed in the Open Division and ended up at the 4th place with two (2) wins and three (3) losses. This is the best result for our second team since the club's establishment.

Due to additional streaming support live coverage of almost all games with CalHeat participation was made available through facebook and the USATH live stream.

Canadian Youth Nationals - Edmonton, AB: May 31 - Jun 2, 2019

The first SF CalHeat Youth Elite team was assembled, and after 3 months of practices competed at the Canadian Youth Nationals Tournament. Five teams competed on the boys tournament, with three teams from Alberta and one from Saskatchewan joining us. We placed 5th and earned a 2nd Team All Star recognition for our goalkeeper Jannik Lohne, and a 2nd Top Scorer recognition for Easton Kreshel.

Financial Report

The following table contains the income and expenses for the 2018-19 business year. The club does not have any tangible assets.

San Francisco CalHeat		
Income Statement - Season 2018-2019		
Income		
	Participation Fees	\$ 38,957.00
	Donations	\$ 26,790.90
	Restricted Donations	\$ 9,060.00
	Disqualified Restricted Donations	\$ 2,790.30
	Sponsorship	\$ 3,000.00
	Grant	\$ 3,208.90
	Tournament Registrations	\$ 5,500.00
	Events: Misc Income	\$ 1,946.49
	Equipment: Promotional	\$ 915.00
	TOTAL Income	\$ 92,168.59
Expenses		
	Taxes / Legal	\$ 511.40
	USATH Club Fees	\$ 200.00
	USATH Indiv Member Fees (repaid)	\$ 5,125.00
	Tournaments Fees	\$ 8,563.40
	Events: Misc Costs	\$ 194.30
	Facility / Gym	\$ 9,910.48
	Equipment: Supplies	\$ 1,590.91
	Equipment: Promotional	\$ 990.37
	Team Travel	\$ 27,530.95
	Coaching	\$ 5,220.37
	Youth Development	\$ 9,015.12
	California Cup	\$ 7,936.80
	Bank Fees	\$ 310.73
	TOTAL Expense	\$ 77,099.83
Net Income		\$ 15,068.76

San Francisco CalHeat Team Handball Club

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