



PESSAC BORDEAUX METROPOLE 2026

FISU
WORLD
UNIVERSITY
CHAMPIONSHIP
HANDBALL

NEWSPAPER

WORLD UNIVERSITY
2026
CHAMPIONSHIP
FISU HANDBALL

27/06/2026

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After five days of intense competition played under scorching heatwave conditions, the FISU World University Handball Championship concluded with an emotional final day. From classification matches to the women's and men's finals, the world's best university teams delivered a high-level spectacle, driven by commitment, talent, and team spirit.

Despite the fatigue of a demanding week, the players produced intense and hard-fought matches right through to the crowning of the new world university champions.

Beyond the results, this edition will be remembered for the core values of university sport: fair play, respect, self-improvement, and the exchanges between delegations from around the world. The Closing Ceremony brought this unforgettable week to a close, celebrating the champions, all participating teams, volunteers, officials, and everyone who contributed to the success of the event.



THE FINAL



Men's Winner



34



35

Women's Winner



42



28



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RECAP



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Men's Final

The French men's team claimed a thrilling final victory over Brazil, winning 35–34 in a match that went right down to the wire.

The first half was tightly contested, with both teams trading goals in a fast-paced and perfectly balanced encounter. At halftime, France held a slight three-goal lead, leaving everything still to play for after the break.

The second half followed the same pattern of intensity, with neither side able to pull away. In a tense and emotional finish, Les Bleus showed composure in the decisive moments to edge ahead in the final minute.

France ultimately held on to secure the title with a 35–34 win, concluding a dramatic and hard-fought final.

Women's Final

The French women's team won the final against the Netherlands with a convincing 42–28 victory.

The first half was closely contested, with a determined Dutch side putting up a strong fight. At halftime, France held a narrow 18–15 lead, setting the stage for what looked to be a tight second half.

After the break, the French team completely raised the tempo. Strong in defense, efficient in attack, and highly effective on fast breaks, they quickly extended their lead. The Netherlands were unable to match the intensity imposed by the French, who dominated every aspect of the game.

Thanks to a thoroughly controlled second half, France ultimately secured a 42–28 win and claimed the title in commanding fashion, finishing the competition with an outstanding performance.



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RESULTS



Women's match



26



31



Men's match



47



27

Women's match



22



36



Men's match



31



27



Women's match



26



22



Men's match



28



32

MEN

1^{er}



FRANCE

2^{ème}



BRAZIL

3^{ème}



SPAIN

4^{ème}



POLAND

5^{ème}



CROATIA

6^{ème}



CZECHIA

7^{ème}



ARGENTINA

8^{ème}



LEBANON

WOMEN



FRANCE

1^{er}



NETHERLANDS

2^{ème}



CZECHIA

3^{ème}



POLAND

4^{ème}



SPAIN

5^{ème}



CHINA

6^{ème}



BRAZIL

7^{ème}



GERMANY

8^{ème}

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ZOOM ON THE WOMEN'S CHAMPIONS



Unbeaten from start to finish, the champions of this FISU World University Women's Handball Championship delivered a perfect campaign, without suffering a single defeat.

Throughout the tournament, they imposed their rhythm and playing identity, combining defensive discipline, collective control, and clinical efficiency in decisive moments. Their consistency and solidity allowed them to navigate the competition with confidence, regularly outperforming their opponents.

Beyond the results, this team stood out for its cohesion and its ability to raise its level of play from one match to the next. Every player contributed to the collective dynamic, showcasing true team spirit and strong on-court complementarity.

Undefeated all the way to the title, they concluded their journey in the best possible manner. A notable highlight: the final featured the same two teams as the opening match of the championship, creating a symbolic storyline that both launched and concluded the competition.



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ZOOM ON THE MEN'S CHAMPIONS



The champions of this edition of the FISU World University Men's Handball Championship stood out for their consistency, collective strength, and ability to deliver in decisive moments.

Throughout the tournament, they displayed a high level of performance, built on constant commitment and strong on-court solidarity. Their overall campaign was solid, with only one defeat, against Poland, in a tightly contested match that did not disrupt their overall momentum.

The team responded with maturity, quickly regaining efficiency and strengthening its cohesion as the competition progressed. Their ability to manage key phases of matches and maintain composure in crucial moments proved decisive in their success.

Beyond their performances, the champions distinguished themselves through their mindset and their ability to grow together throughout the tournament. A strong, consistent, and well-structured collective that finished the competition at the very top.



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SUPPORTERS



AWARD CEREMONY

MEN

The men's final delivered a great spectacle in front of a large crowd. France claimed the FISU World University title after their victory over Brazil, while Spain completed the podium with the bronze medal.

The medal ceremony celebrated the performances of the top teams, bringing a close to a competition full of emotion and excitement.



WOMEN

The women's final also fully lived up to expectations with an intense and hard-fought encounter. France were crowned FISU World University champions after their victory over the Netherlands, while the Czech Republic secured third place.

The medal ceremony took place in a great atmosphere, reflecting the values of sharing and excellence that define university sport.



CLOSING CEREMONY

The Closing Ceremony brought the FISU World University Handball Championships held in Pessac to a close. To open this final protocol sequence, the Angels carried out the flag parade as flag bearers of the participating nations. This procession offered a symbolic moment, honouring all delegations and highlighting the values of unity, respect, and sharing embodied by university sport.

Following the parade, representatives of the Organising Committee, partner institutions, and FISU addressed the audience to thank the athletes, volunteers, officials, and everyone who contributed to the success of this edition. The ceremony concluded with the official handover of the FISU flag, marking the end of the event and of a week of competition defined by sporting excellence and conviviality.



FINAL WORDS



To every player, coach, volunteer, and supporter who made this week unforgettable: thank you.

This FISU World University Handball Championship brought together the world's best university teams, united by shared values: a passion for handball, fair play, teamwork, and friendship between nations. These values were reflected in every match, every play, and every moment shared on the court.

Congratulations to our champion teams for their outstanding performances, and to every delegation for making this championship a true celebration of university sport. Until the next edition... see you back on the court !



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**“THE END”
THANK YOU**