



PRESS RELEASE

Gifted handball players have their eye on the prize - THW Kiel

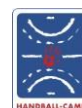
40 young talents will make the leap to the next round in the unique concept of encouraging and promoting the sport of handball at THW-YOUNGstar. Four try-outs will be held all over Germany, inspiring both young and older hopefuls.

Kiel, 25th September 2018. Immense joy among 40 talented handball players: they have successfully completed the first round of the THW-YOUNGstar competition and have secured their place in the second stage, the day camps in November and December. Under the watchful eyes of the THW young-talent trainers, over 240 handball enthusiasts played in the four auditions held in the metropolitan areas of Hamburg, Dusseldorf, Leipzig and Stuttgart to make their dream, of winning a six-month handball scholarship and professional contact with the THW stars Andreas Wolff and Patrick Wiencek, come true.

Hamburg, Dusseldorf, Leipzig and Stuttgart. No matter which city or which hall the trainers entered for the THW-YOUNGstar casting, they were eagerly awaited and greeted with enthusiasm. More than 240 young and older handball talents registered for the first round of the competition, which is held in partnership with star petrol stations, THW Kiel and handball camps, to get one step closer to attaining their big goal of becoming the THW-YOUNGstar of 2018/19. Together with the hosting handball clubs, an exciting day of training was organised, during which the participants completed measurable handball exercises and competitions. In conjunction with the personal impressions the coaches obtained, 10 of the 60 participants in each location qualified for the next round.

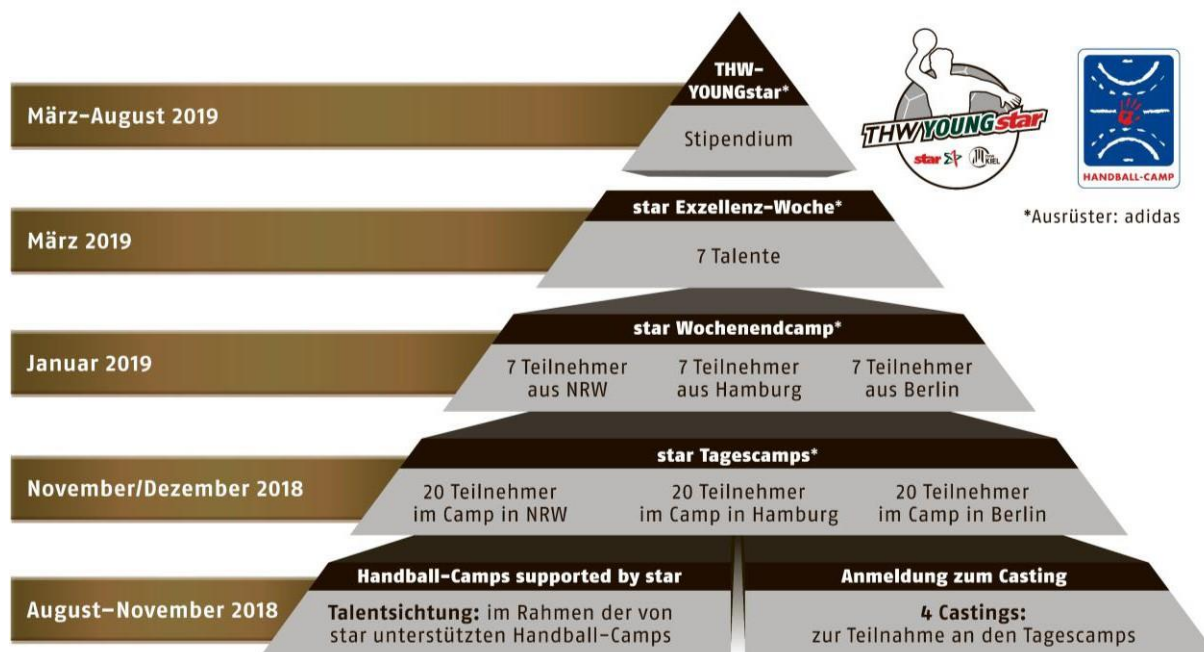
A talented young handball player, whose hopes for the title THW-YOUNGstar are warranted, is 11-year-old Noemy from Bargteheide. She knew how to convince the trainers at the casting in Meerbusch with great test results and is already looking forward to the next round. "I enjoyed the camp so much. It's a big dream of mine to get as far as possible in the THW-YOUNGstar competition. Now I'm excited about the day camp," says the passionate handball player.

As one of the 240 participants, Noemy also registered to take part in one of the four auditions on the official website at www.young.star.de. In the second round, the day camps, which take place in the metropolitan areas of Hamburg, North Rhine-Westphalia and Berlin from mid-November to early December, the selected talents can once again look forward to encouraging handball training with the THW young-talent trainers. At the camps the participants train with 20 other kids, who were scouted and invited to the handball camps in the autumn. At the beginning of December, a total of 21 young players will be chosen from all the participants of the day camps to attend the weekend camp in Kiel, the third stage of the competition to promote and encourage gifted handball players.



"The castings were a total success," says handball camp Managing Director and THW young-talent trainer Sebastian Zuther, looking back. "We could see the potential in the handball players in the first round already. They were so committed and gave their all to get one of the coveted tickets for the day camps."

Waldemar Bogusch, CEO of ORLEN Deutschland and their petrol station brand star, watched the first round of the innovative young talent competition with great excitement. "Even before the competition began, we were so pleased to receive a fantastic response for the new events. Now, after four successful events with enthusiastic participants from all over Germany, we can start the autumn camps with gusto. I congratulate all the talents who have made it one step closer and wish them all the success in the world for the day camps."



For further information and questions about the young talent promotion concept THW-YOUNGstar, please contact:

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star – a strong brand from ORLEN Deutschland GmbH

star is the petrol station brand of ORLEN Deutschland GmbH, which has been operating more than 580 petrol stations in the northern half of Germany since 2003. The company, which is based in Elmshorn near Hamburg, is part of the Polish oil and energy group PKN ORLEN SA, which is the largest enterprise in Central Eastern Europe, with an annual turnover of EUR 23 billion in 2017.

PKN ORLEN is a modern player on the fuel and energy market and listed in the prestigious global lists Platts TOP250 and Thomson Reuters TOP100 of the leading energy and technology companies.

The company has a modern infrastructure capable of processing over 30 million tons of various types of oil per year. Retail sales are carried out using the largest fuel station network of nearly 2800 modern sites in Central and Eastern Europe.

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THW Kiel Handball-Bundesliga GmbH & Co. KG

THW Kiel is the most successful and best-known German handball team of the past two decades. The “Zebras” have won the German championship 20 times, more than any other team. The team from Kiel has also won the DHB Cup nine times, which is also a record. And no German team has won the European “top class”, the Champions League, more often than THW Kiel. The team from Kiel has triumphed three times in this most important club competition in the world. “Tradition lives through sport” is the motto of THW Kiel, which promotes and encourages talents through intensive work with youngsters. For THW, for Kiel and for handball in Germany.

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HANDBALL-CAMP

Handball-Camp is a brand of CommEvent Management GmbH, based in Kiel. Founded in 2003, the agency is Europe’s largest provider of handball camps, with more than 5,000 participants per year in more than 200 locations. Skilled camp trainers and almost 20 permanent employees plan, organise and implement the events. Founder Mannhard Bech was a player at THW Kiel and the German handball national team.



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