INTERNATIONAL KORFBALL FEDERATION

The World Games 2025
Chengdu, China

Indoor Korfball

Longquan High School Gymnasium
8-12 August 2025

Contents

1	**The World Games**
2	**Mascots**
3	**Facts & Rules**
4	**Grouping**
5	**Match Schedule**
	Indoor Korfball Teams
6	• Belgium
9	• China
12	• Czechia
15	• Germany
18	• The Netherlands
21	• Portugal
24	• Suriname
27	• Chinese Taipei

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Gert Jan Boon
Krit Suttipithuk
Marco Spelten
Winanda van Zwamen

The World Games

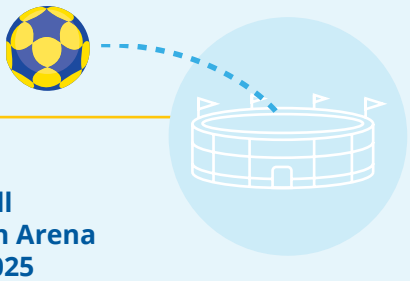
An international multi-sport event comprising sports that are not contested in **the Olympic Games**. They are usually held every **4** years.

The World Games 2025 is the **12th** World Games.

The World Games 2025
Chengdu, China August 7-17, 2025.

Korfball @ The World Games

Indoor Korfball has been on the programme of The World Games since **1985**.
Beach Korfball is part of the official program for the **1st** time.



Korfball @ The World Games 2025

Indoor Korfball	Beach Korfball
Longquan High School Gymnasium	Xinglong Lake Beach Arena
8-12 August 2025	15-17 August 2025

Mascots

SHU BAO

Giant Panda

Golden Snub-nosed Monkey

JIN ZAI

Celebrating Chengdu's
"Beautiful Landscapes"
and "Fiery Passion"

Rising Sun

Endless green mountains

Facts & Rules

- Korfball is a dynamic and fast paced, mixed-gender team sport.
- It is specifically designed for men and women to play together.

- There are Attack Zone & Defense Zone.
- Once two goals have been scored, the teams change zones, with attackers becoming defenders and vice versa.
- During a game, each squad can have up to 7 male players and 7 female players.
- A team is allowed a maximum of 8 players on the field: two players of each gender in a zone.

- The players in attack zone try to score by throwing the ball through the opposition's korf.
- However, a player may not try and take a shot if they have been 'defended'. This is when the opposition player positions themselves in between the attacker and the korf and within an arm's length from them.
- Once received the ball, a player may not dribble, walk or run with it but can move one foot with one remaining planted to the ground.
- Only minimal body contact is allowed. Tackling, blocking and holding are not allowed.
- Defending players of the opposite gender is not allowed. Use of players of particular genders at certain times can be a tactical ploy.

Grouping

Group A

NETHERLANDS

CHINESE TAIPEI

PORTUGAL

CHINA

Group B

BELGIUM

GERMANY

CZECHIA

SURINAME

Match Schedule

8-12 August 2025 | Longquan High School Gymnasium

Friday, 8 August

14:00	BEL	-	CZE
15:45	NED	-	POR
18:00	GER	-	SUR
19:45	CHN	-	TPE

Saturday, 9 August

14:00	CZE	-	SUR
15:45	CHN	-	POR
18:00	BEL	-	GER
19:45	NED	-	TPE

Sunday, 10 August

14:00	SUR	-	BEL
15:45	CHN	-	NED
18:00	CZE	-	GER
19:45	POR	-	TPE

Monday, 11 August

14:00	3rd A	-	4th B	SF3
15:45	3rd B	-	4th A	SF4
18:00	1st A	-	2nd B	SF1
19:45	1st B	-	2nd A	SF2

Tuesday, 12 August

14:00	L SF3	-	L SF4	For 7th place
15:45	W SF3	-	W SF4	For 5th place
18:00	L SF1	-	L SF2	For Bronze medal
19:45	W SF1	-	W SF2	The Final

Belgium

Team Squad

TEAM COACH	Detlef ELEWAUT
TEAM MANAGER	Oliver VANDENHOECK
OFFICIAL 1	Johannis SCHOT
OFFICIAL 2	Kevin ONGENA
OFFICIAL 3	Ruben Jeroen M TIREZ

PLAYERS

25	Nick Francois I. VERWERFT	**3**	Amber ENGELS
27	Jordan DE VOGELAERE	**4**	Lisa Jeanne E VAN GORP
28	Siebe DE LEY	**5**	Lisa Godelieve E PAUWELS
29	Jarre DE LEY	**6**	Lise VAN MALDEGHEM
30	Thomas THIJS	**7**	Joke VAN MALDEGHEM
35	Joppe BELLEMANS	**8**	Britt SAEY
36	Kian AMORGASTE	**10**	Eline DENIE

Photo Credit: Marco Spelten

Belgium Diamonds Set Their Sights on Gold at The World Games 2025

Captain Jordan de Vogelaere leads a team built on love, dedication, and a hunger to win.

With The World Games 2025 just around the corner, the Belgium Diamonds indoor korfball team are laser-focused on one goal: the top of the podium. Under the leadership of captain Jordan de Vogelaere, the team is entering the tournament with confidence, unity, and a strong belief in their identity.

"We aim for the gold medal," says de Vogelaere without hesitation—a bold but expected statement from one of the sport's most respected leaders. Belgium, a powerhouse in korfball, knows what it takes to compete at the highest level. But even with talent and tradition on their side, the road to TWG 2025 hasn't been without its challenges.

"The biggest challenge for us is getting everyone physically and mentally fit," Jordan shares. "This tournament demands perfection, and we know we need to be at our absolute best."

Photo Credit: Marco Spelten

Preparation began in earnest back in June 2024, with the European Championship serving as a key checkpoint. While the core of the team has remained consistent—only changed in two positions—the emphasis has been on refining their chemistry and sharpening their edge.

One of the most striking things about the Belgium Diamonds is their unity. “I’m proud of everyone’s dedication to maximizing the team’s potential,” says Jordan. “Everyone in our team is equal.” It’s a culture that values every player, not just the stars—something evident in his response to which players fans should keep an eye on: “Everyone,” he answers with a smile.

Many of the Diamonds were practically raised on korfball courts, with roots that run deep into family traditions. “Almost every player has one or both parents who played korfball, or they started playing at

Photo Credit: Marco Spelten

a very young age,” explains the captain. That early start has created a team rich in experience and instinctive understanding of the game.

While injuries have tested their resolve, the squad heads into TWG 2025 healthy and united, thanks to strong support from their medical staff. Behind every victory are hours of unseen effort, recovery, and sacrifice—and this group knows that better than most.

As they arrive in Chengdu, one thing is clear: the Belgium Diamonds aren’t just here to participate. They’re here to win—and to do it their way, with love, grit, and the belief that their best is yet to come.

Photo Credit: Marco Spelten

China

Team Squad

TEAM COACH	Xiangcheng MA
OFFICIAL 1	Bernard Willem Juliaan CRUM
OFFICIAL 2	Tao WANG
OFFICIAL 3	Hao YIN
OFFICIAL 4	Qiang HUANG

PLAYERS

11	Dongjie ZHANG	1	Xin ZHANG
12	Yuguo FAN	2	Jing ZHAO
14	Xi WANG	3	Qing WANG
15	Jingyuan SUN	5	Xin LI
17	Fei XIAO	6	Yuran FU
19	Xuyang LI	8	Yuxuan HU
20	Ruiyang SHEN	10	Yuzhu ZHANG

China's Korfball Team: A Story of the Home Team

As the world's best korfball teams prepare to take the stage at The World Games 2025 in Chengdu, one squad is making waves not just for their ambition—but for the spirit that binds them. Team China, led by captain Hu Yuxuan from Zhengzhou University, is aiming high: "Top six, and if we can, a medal."

It's a bold goal, but not an empty one. This is a team forged in adversity and driven by something far deeper than just winning.

Rebuilding After Disruption

Like many national teams, China's korfball program suffered during the pandemic. "Training wasn't consistent," Hu says. "And now, we're in a period of transition—merging the experience of veteran players with the energy of newcomers."

That balance is delicate, but powerful when it works. Since early June, the team has been in full training mode—pushing through tactical drills, fitness sessions, and video analysis. But what sets them apart isn't just

the effort. It's how they show up for one another, day after day.

Sacrifice, Sweat, and Solidarity

Under the guidance of coach Ma, players juggle full-time jobs, family responsibilities, and academic commitments just to make it to training. Some drive hours from other cities after work. Some, like Zhang Xin—a mother of a six-year-old—squeeze in sessions between parenting duties. Others, like Wang Qing, returned to camp just days after her wedding, while Sun Jingyuan flew back from overseas doctoral studies just to prepare with the team.

These are not athletes in a professional league with elite support. These are everyday heroes—teachers, researchers, students—fueling their dreams with raw commitment.

"We've all made sacrifices," Hu reflects. "But we're united by our love for korfball and our belief in this team."

Generations Lifting One Another

The team's age range is wide, but that's exactly what makes them strong. "Some of us have played for 15 years, others just started," Hu says. One rising star is 19-year-old Fan Yuguo, who's only been playing for under two years but already shows incredible potential. This will be his first international tournament—and he's ready to embrace it with fearless determination.

And then there's the emotional backbone of the team: the mentorship culture. Hu tells of one moment in a game where hesitation crept in. He didn't shoot. "My senior, Jie-ge, said: 'Be confident. Just shoot. If you miss, I'll rebound for you.' That stuck with me."

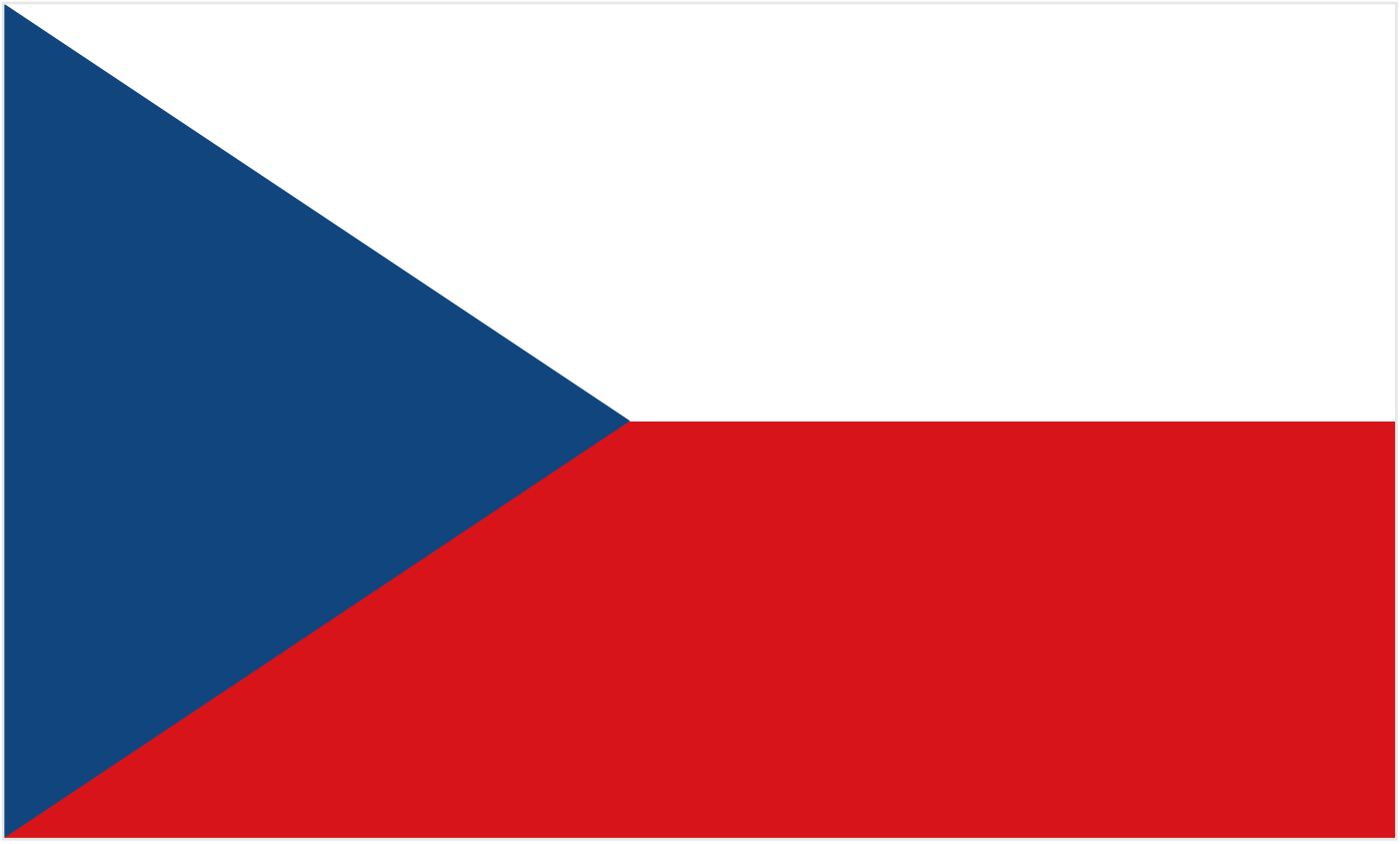
It's these little moments—the pep talks, the shot corrections, the late-night film reviews—that define the team's DNA. "Our seniors carry us," Hu says. "Not just with advice, but with their belief in us."

More Than a Team

Team China isn't just chasing victory. They're rewriting what success looks like in sport—measured not just in scores, but in sacrifice, unity, and legacy.

"We're not just a team," Hu says. "We're a family. Every pass, every rebound, every win—we do it for each other."

Czechia



Team Squad

TEAM COACH	Ivo KRACÍK
OFFICIAL 1	Vít HOVORKA
OFFICIAL 2	David KONEČNÝ

PLAYERS

13	Petr PEŠÁK	**1**	Lenka BURIÁNKOVÁ
23	Lukáš HOLÍK	**2**	Sofie VOJNOVÁ
27	František VALENTA	**3**	Sára SAHATCIU
29	Petr ŠNAJDR	**6**	Eliška ZIEGLEROVÁ
30	Petr GALÍČEK	**7**	Klára NOVÁKOVÁ
36	René KŘUPAL	**8**	Nela KUBŮ
39	Rostislav KORTUS	**17**	Jitka PAVLÍČKOVÁ

Czechia: Blending Youth and Experience on a Medal Mission

For the Czech Republic, The World Games 2025 isn't just another tournament—it's a chance to turn years of hard work into something tangible. A medal.

"We're aiming for the podium," says head coach Ivo Kracík. "We know what we're capable of, and this team has what it takes."

That belief comes from more than just talent. It's built on months of preparation, years of shared experiences, and a powerful blend of ambition and chemistry. The team began preparing for Chengdu in April, but the last two months have been all-in—intensive training sessions, tactical sharpening, and friendly matches to push themselves against international competition.

A Team of Contrasts, United by Purpose

One of the most interesting things about this Czech squad is its range. The youngest player is just 18. The oldest is 40. That 22-year age gap isn't a gap at all—it's a bridge between generations, and it's working.

"It's a great balance," Kracík says. "We have fresh energy from the younger players and calm leadership from the veterans. They respect each other and push each other. That's what makes it special."

Most of the players first picked up a korfball in school, some of them just kids with no idea they'd one day represent their country on a world stage. Now they're in Chengdu, preparing to face the very best, with passion in their hearts and medals on their minds.

Watch Out for Holík and Pavlíčková

While Coach Kracík won't play favorites, he does nod to two names to keep an eye on: Lukáš Holík and Jitka Pavlíčková. "They've been outstanding in training and have the ability to make a difference when it matters most," he says.

Holík brings sharp instincts and a scoring touch. Pavlíčková plays with quiet control and fierce determination—someone who leads by example. Together, they embody the team's three defining traits: passion, spirit, and ambition.

Staying Healthy, Staying Focused

With a string of friendly matches lined up before the tournament, Kracík knows how quickly momentum can be lost.

"We're training hard, but we're also careful," he says. "The goal is to arrive in Chengdu in top shape, both physically and mentally."

"I'm proud of how well they work together," Kracík says. "They support each other. They believe in each other. That's the foundation of our team."

Germany

Team Squad

TEAM COACH	Wilco Teun VAN DEN BOS
TEAM MANAGER	Jochen SCHITTKOWSKI
OFFICIAL 1	Timon Jonathan ORTH
OFFICIAL 2	Alice FÜSSGEN
OFFICIAL 3	Dominik Michael WERTHMANN

PLAYERS

10	Maurice GRAMMEL	**1**	Lea WITTHAUS
11	Theo NOWAK	**2**	Madeline GUST
13	Pascal WECKENDRUP	**3**	Johanna GNUTT
14	Jan Robert HEMING	**4**	Jana KIERDORF
15	Thomas FREUND	**5**	Hannah HEILMANN
16	Steffen HEPPEKAUSEN	**6**	Anna Sophia ORTH
19	Lucas WITTHAUS	**8**	Julia STRACH

Team Germany Eyes the Podium: Making a Shot for Bronze

Led by long-time captain Jan Robert Heming, Germany's korfball squad brings experience, heart, and a quiet fire to Chengdu.

After a solid run at the last edition of The World Games, Germany returns to the world stage in Chengdu with a clear goal: third place. Ambitious? Yes. But impossible? Not at all.

"We know the competition is incredibly strong," says Jan Robert Heming, Germany's long-serving captain. "But the last World Games showed us that with the right mindset and preparation, this goal is within reach."

A Team Forged Over Years

One of Germany's biggest strengths is its familiarity. This isn't a group thrown together for a tournament—this is a team built over years of playing side by side. Many of the players have been representing Germany together for a long time, creating a chemistry that shows on and off the court.

"There's a deep sense of trust and understanding among us," Heming explains. "We've really grown together as a team."

And it shows—not just in the gameplay, but in the way they move, communicate, and fight for every point. Their korfball is tidy, structured, and built on collective effort, not flashy individual moments. That's intentional.

“We don’t focus on individual players,” Heming says firmly. “Everyone has something they bring to the table, and that’s what makes us strong. We’re a real team, in every sense.”

The Final Push

Germany’s preparation for The World Games began early in the year, and now they’re entering the home stretch. With just a few training camps left before the tournament kicks off, every session counts.

“Our biggest challenge is making the most of these last few camps,” Heming says. “We have limited time together, so the focus is on sharpening our tactics and building momentum.”

Most of the squad grew up playing korfball from a young age and are now balancing the demands of adult life with elite sport. Some are still studying, but most have already entered the workforce—meaning vacation days are used not for travel or rest, but for training and competition. It’s a sacrifice every player has made willingly, with eyes fixed on one prize: a place on the podium.

Built on Team Spirit and Fighting Drive

Asked to sum up his squad in three words, Heming doesn’t hesitate: “Team spirit. Ambitious. Fighting spirit.”

It’s a description that fits. Germany may not always be the loudest or flashiest team in the tournament, but they’re always in the mix. Always competing. Always grinding. It’s that quiet resilience that’s carried them this far—and it’s what they’re counting on again in Chengdu.

No dramatic comeback stories. No headline-grabbing adversity. Just a group of dedicated athletes who’ve been putting in the work for years—training late, traveling often, and carrying the pride of a nation on their shoulders.

The Netherlands

Team Squad

TEAM COACH	Ard KORPORAAL
TEAM MANAGER	Hendrikus Wilhelmus VAN EWIJK
OFFICIAL 1	Leon BRAUNSTAHL
OFFICIAL 2	Samantha SCHORN-JONKMAN
OFFICIAL 3	Maaike Doortje Mieneke WILLEMSEN
OFFICIAL 4	Ananda Anne Marij HINDRIKS E/V VAN VEGCHEL
OFFICIAL 5	Agatha Maria Johanna JANSEN

PLAYERS

11	Olav VAN WIJNGAARDEN	**1**	Jessica LOKHORST
13	Wobbe Ran FABER	**2**	Esther Teuntje Jacomijntje CORDUS
14	Harm Hendrik Jan VISSCHER	**3**	Nikki Imani BOERHOUT
15	Carlo Imar DE VRIES	**8**	Danielle Afua BOADI
16	Alwin OUT	**9**	Fleur HOEK
18	Julian FRIESWIJK	**10**	Sabine VERHOEF
19	Bo OPPE	**12**	Marije VISSER

Photo Credit: Winanda van Zwamen

“The Netherlands: Champions with a Purpose”

When it comes to korfball, one team sets the global standard—the Netherlands. As the reigning powerhouse of the sport, the Dutch National Indoor Korfball Team heads to The World Games 2025 (TWG 2025) with a clear ambition: GOLD. But as head coach Ard Korporaal and star player Olav van Wijngaarden reveal, the Dutch mission goes far beyond standing on top of the podium.

More Than Just Winning

“Our main goal is of course to win the gold medal,” says Olav without hesitation. “But we’ve also set other goals—to score more, to play better, and to deliver a high-level performance for our supporters.” For a team that already operates at the top tier of the sport, this relentless drive for improvement is what makes them so formidable.

Coach Korporaal adds: “The greatest challenge for us is ourselves. Even though we’re considered the best, the players are still pushing to get better every day.”

Indeed, the Dutch team is a masterclass in korfball artistry. “We have players with incredible defending, some with beautiful technique—watching this team play is a spectacle in itself.”

Battle-Ready—But First, Some Rest

With the Dutch national league just wrapped up, the team is balancing fatigue with preparation. The league is known as the toughest korfball competition in the world, and its demanding pace has left the players needing both physical and mental recharge.

“We trained a little before the league,” Olav explains, “but now that the season is over, our full focus turns to The World Games.”

Beyond Gold: Giving Back to the Game

The team is full of people juggling everyday lives with elite-level sport. “Our players are between 18 and 30 years old,” says Korporaal. “They have studies, jobs, families, relationships—just like anyone else. But together, they’re about to write a big story this August.”

While the Dutch team aims to cement their dominance, they’re also on a mission to lift others. “We want to win. But we also want to help other teams,” says Olav. “By sharing our experience, we can grow the game together.”

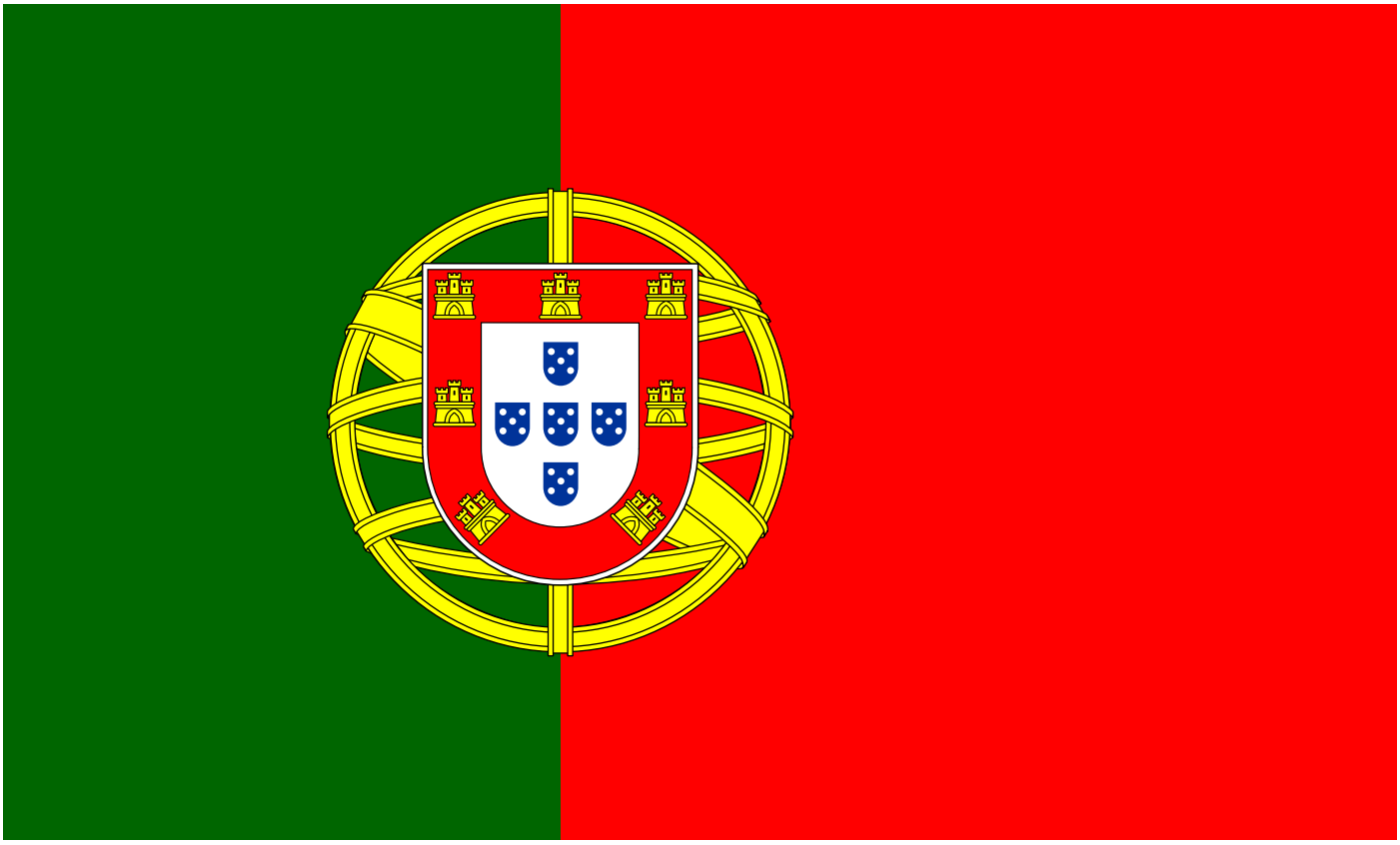
A Team to Watch—and Learn From

The Netherlands enters TWG 2025 not just as the favorites, but as the benchmark. Their combination of skill, humility, and purpose makes them more than just champions—they are ambassadors for the sport.

Get ready to witness greatness. The Dutch aren’t just coming for gold— they’re coming to inspire.

Photo Credit: Winanda van Zwamen

Portugal



Team Squad

TEAM COACH	Carla Sofia SANTOS ANTUNES
TEAM MANAGER	Carla Maria MENDES G. SERDOURA LOURENÇO
OFFICIAL 1	Pedro AMARO CORREIA
OFFICIAL 2	Madalena NUNES ABREU MATOS TANQUEIRO

PLAYERS

9	Tomás SERDOURA LOURENÇO
10	Tiago Miguel DE CASTRO VASCONCELOS ALVES LUZ
11	Hugo Alexandre VALDEZ FERNANDES
12	Afonso SERDOURA LOURENÇO
14	Tiago GUIMARÃES SERUCA FERRO
15	Jean SILVA AYRES
16	Júlio DURÃES RUIVO
1	Celise Melissa ROCHA RIBEIRO
2	Catarina FERREIRA FRADE
4	Luise Rosa PAULO PAZ COSTA RUIVO
5	Inês AFONSO CAROCHO AGUIAR SANTOS
6	Beatriz PIMENTEL PEREIRA
7	Catarina Edilene GOMES CORREIA
8	Beatriz BRITO SOARES ROSA

Portugal's Passion Project: With limited resources but unlimited spirit

In a world of big names and big budgets, Team Portugal is proof that heart still matters. Led by national coach Carla Antunes, this small but fearless squad is ready to take on the world's best at The World Games 2025—and do it their way.

"Our goal is to play the best korfball we can and secure a top-6 finish," says Antunes. "That may sound modest to some, but for us, it's a statement of belief. We know what we're capable of."

A Balancing Act: Big Dreams on a Tight Budget

Portugal's journey to Chengdu hasn't been paved with luxury or ease. The team began its preparation back in January, carefully crafting a program that balances ambition with reality.

"The biggest challenge is creating the best possible preparation program with the budget we have," Antunes shares. "We don't have the same resources as some of the bigger nations, but we make every session, every opportunity, count."

And they do it with smiles, sweat, and a deep sense of purpose. Whether it's late-night training sessions or long travel days, the athletes show up—not just for themselves, but for Portuguese korfball.

A Mix of Wisdom and Youth

What makes this team special is its blend of experience and youthful energy. Veterans bring the calm, the clarity, the steady hands in high-pressure moments. The younger players bring the spark—the hunger to prove themselves on the world stage.

"It's a dynamic mix," says Antunes. "They push each other, learn from each other, and grow together.""This team is skilled, united, and determined," she says. "We succeed because of our connection—not because of individual brilliance."

Fuelled by Passion, Not Paychecks

Unlike some elite teams, Portugal's players don't have professional contracts or major sponsorships. They

train, they work, they study—and they do it all with korfball at the center of their lives.

"It's not always easy," Antunes admits. "But what keeps us going is the team spirit. The athletes represent Portuguese korfball with passion and pride. That's what I'm most proud of."

And that passion shows. In their discipline. In their sacrifices. In the way they carry the Portuguese flag into every match with quiet pride and relentless energy.

A Story the World Needs to See

The real story of Team Portugal is the one we often overlook: the daily grind. The dedication without recognition. The refusal to give up—despite limited support, despite financial obstacles, despite the odds.

"This team is here because they love the game," says Antunes. "That's what the world should know."

Suriname

Team Squad

TEAM COACH	Jaïrus Richenel NICATIA
TEAM COACH	Ivan Rayen KARSTERS
TEAM MANAGER	Robert Raphael JANSSEN
OFFICIAL 1	Delano Lorenzo BRAUMULLER
OFFICIAL 2	Daniël Henri KONING

PLAYERS

15	Randell Ashwin VAN DER STEEN
16	Kamil Rajandre HIRALAL
17	Wayne Eric STIENSTRA
18	Thomas Niels VISSER
19	Trojan Benjamin PINAS
20	Vladimir Raymundo SLOT
21	Shane Farish Roy AMATREDJO
2	Sandy Cynthia Shirin RAMLAL
3	Sterre Arianna LEIDER
4	Dominique Laureline VAN DER STELT
5	Tamera Anastacia VAN DER STELT
6	Shera Rochella DESAUNOIS
7	Sharona Estelle Cecilia Ismene VAN DER KOOYE
8	Iske Tianne Si Amoi VAN GINKEL

Suriname's Korfball Dream Marches On: Chasing Medals and Inspiring the Next Generation

When you watch Suriname's korfball team take the court in Chengdu, you're not just watching a team play for victory. You're watching a team play for something bigger—pride in their roots, belief in their mission, and the dream of growing the sport back home.

"Our goal is to compete for a medal," says head coach Ivan Karsters. "But more than that, we want to show Suriname—and the world—what's possible when people come together with passion and purpose."

A Team Forged by Distance, United by Culture

TeamSU is one of the most unique stories in international korfball. Many of the players were born and raised in the Netherlands, but all share deep family ties to Suriname. That bond drives them to wear the Suriname jersey with pride—one that's more than symbolic. It's emotional.

"Most of us grew up in Dutch clubs," explains team captain Randell van der Steen, "but this team gives us a chance to connect with where we come from. It's personal. Every game we play, we play for something that matters."

But creating chemistry across borders isn't easy. Players live in different cities—and even different countries—so organizing training sessions, camps, and matches requires serious commitment, and serious coordination. That's where the fun—and sometimes chaos—comes in.

"Fun. Chaotic. Passionate," laughs Randell, when asked to describe the squad in three words. "But I wouldn't change a thing."

Grinding Towards Greatness

Suriname's TWG journey began back in September with a broad squad and big dreams. The coaching staff spent months narrowing down the list, integrating new talent, and building a system that fits. Training camps were intense. Practice matches weren't just for sharpening tactics—they also raised money to help fund the team's trip to Chengdu.

"This is not a professional setup with huge budgets," Ivan points out. "But what we lack in resources, we make up for in heart."

The team is still a work in progress, especially with several new faces adjusting to the playing style. But both Ivan and Randell believe the pieces are falling into place.

"We're building strategies based on our players' strengths," says Randell. "Once we truly click, we'll be a real threat."

Players to Watch—and Stories to Remember

All eyes will be on Vladimir Slot—World Championship 2023 top scorer and a player who seems to find the korf no matter the defense. "He hasn't lost his touch since Taipei," says Randell. "He's a scoring machine."

But TeamSU is far from a one-man show. Captain Randell himself is the emotional engine of the team—full of fire, positivity, and leadership. Iske van Ginkel brings versatility and calm under pressure. And newcomer Sterre Leider may be quiet off the court, but when the whistle blows, she turns into a fierce competitor.

Then there's Dominique van der Stelt, whose journey back to the squad is nothing short of inspirational. A serious injury kept her out of the previous World Championship. Many doubted she'd return—but she did. Stronger, smarter, and ready to help Suriname chase their dreams.

There's also a unique kind of absence on the team—one that speaks to the closeness of this group. Key player Isaura Hilgen and beloved team manager Susan Bijsterbosch won't be in Chengdu. But they've got a great reason: both are expecting babies. And while the team will miss them deeply, their growing families are a celebration shared by all.

More Than a Medal

Coach Ivan puts it best: "Winning a medal would be a huge moment for us—but it's also about what comes after. It would help put korfball on the map in Suriname. It would inspire kids to pick up the sport. It would show what's possible."

This is more than just sport. It's identity. It's unity. It's proof that with belief and effort, even a small team can dream big—and dare to make it real.

Chinese Taipei

Team Squad

TEAM COACH	Fang-Yi HSIEH
TEAM MANAGER	Ting-Yin YU
OFFICIAL 1	Jui-Hsin LIANG
OFFICIAL 2	Bo-Yu SUNG
OFFICIAL 3	Wei-Chiang HUANG

PLAYERS

11	Yuan-Hao CHEN	**1**	Ya-Wen LIN
12	Chieh-Sheng CHANG	**3**	Ya-Hui CHO
13	Shao-En CHIU	**4**	Pei-Yun WU
15	Chun-Ta CHEN	**5**	Cin CHEN
17	Chen-Yu KAO	**7**	Shu-Chi CHANG
18	Tsung-Yu TSAI	**9**	Kai-Yeh LO
20	Ching-Chen HSU	**10**	Ya-Han CHAN

All Eyes on Chinese Taipei: Ready to Surprise the World

With speed, smarts, and heart—Chinese Taipei returns to The World Games aiming higher than ever.

In the world of korfball, few teams turn heads quite like Chinese Taipei. Known for their lightning-fast pace, razor-sharp reflexes, and clever tactics, this Asian powerhouse brings a unique energy to every court they step on. And for The World Games 2025 in Chengdu, they're back with one goal: to climb higher, challenge the seemingly untouchable Dutch, and maybe—just maybe—make history.

"We're one of the few teams with a real chance to challenge the Netherlands," says head coach Hsieh Fang-Yi (Bird). "And this time, our goal is to go even further."

But ambition doesn't make the path easier. Coach Hsieh is honest about the challenges. "Our biggest issue is not having a proper venue for long-term training," she says. "Some players are working full-time jobs, so scheduling consistent sessions is tough. It affects team chemistry."

Another hurdle is bridging the gap between generations. "Some of our more experienced players stick to traditional gameplay, while younger ones hesitate to speak up. That makes in-game tactical shifts harder. But we're working through it in training."

Despite their physical disadvantage against taller European squads, Chinese Taipei is doubling down on what they do best—speed, creativity, and finesse. And they're putting in the work early. Unlike previous tournaments, where training began just two or three months out, this squad started their TWG prep in February 2024. The mission? Show a sharper, more synchronized version of themselves—and bring the "Asian style" of korfball into the spotlight.

This year's lineup features some standout newcomers. Wu Pei-Yun, who stunned audiences at the U21 World Championship, brings relentless movement and deadly accuracy. Young guns Chen Yuan-Hao and Hsu Ching-Chen are also on the rise, showing impressive growth and hunger.

Then there's Tsai Tsung-Yu—the son of former national player Tsai Chih-Chang—carrying not just his family's legacy, but hopes for the team's future.

But perhaps the most inspiring story belongs to Cho Ya-Hui. She missed the last World Games due to injury and spent the years since battling through rehab and doubts. Now, she's back—stronger, wiser, and determined to leave her mark. And Hsu Ching-Chen, once a skinny middle schooler overlooked by many, has quietly transformed into one of the team's key contributors through sheer perseverance.

Chinese Taipei isn't just chasing the world—they're building their own style. "We're not here to copy Europe," Coach Hsieh says. "We want to create something original. Our own mix of agility, strategy, and flair."

And that's exactly what they'll bring to Chengdu: a team that plays fast, thinks fast, and never backs down. "We might not be the tallest or the strongest," says Hsieh, "but we have the fastest feet, the strongest will, and the fiercest spirit. That's what makes us special."

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