

THE BEST IN THE COUNTRY, BRINGING EUROPEAN HANDBALL TO OUR SCHOOLS

Move. Belong. Believe.

We bring an Olympic sport into New York City public schools and give kids a team, a place to belong, and a path that runs all the way to Team USA. 5,500 kids so far. Thousands more waiting.

A PROGRAM OF NEW YORK CITY TEAM HANDBALL CLUB · EST. 1973 · 501(C)(3)

WHY WE EXIST

The kids who most need to move are moving the least. We give them an Olympic sport, and a team.

New York City has a documented child-fitness crisis, and it is worst among the students who already carry the greatest burden: Black, Hispanic and lower-income kids, sharpest in the middle-school years.

Handball is the answer hiding in plain sight. It needs no prior experience, uses every movement fundamental, and no single player can dominate a game. We deliver it ourselves, inside the school day, with champions rather than a manual.

In more than a decade we have put the sport in front of 5,500 New York City kids. With the city's help, the next 50,000 are within reach.

1 in 5

NYC public-school kids has obesity. 1.37M students, 2011–2020.

22%

obesity in grades 6–8 by 2019–20, up 5.8% in three years.

5,500+

kids introduced to handball by our coaches, in schools and after-school programs.

11×

U.S. national champion club behind every session.



Obesity figures: Argenio et al., *PLOS ONE* 2024, NYC K–8 surveillance (doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0302099); Neshteruk et al., *BMC Public Health* 2023. Team sport and mental health: Hoffmann et al., *PLOS ONE* 2022, 11,235 children.

OUR STORY

From refugee to champion. From a club to a city.



Bini Mustafa arrived in the U.S. as a refugee from Kosovo in 1999, knowing three people. Today he is an 8× U.S. National Champion, a former Team USA athlete, and the builder of the most successful handball club in the country.

New York City Team Handball Club was founded in 1973 at the United Nations. Players from more than seventy countries have worn its jersey. For fifty-two years it has been "The World's Handball Club." Handball Rising is how we take that to the next generation.

Its board was born in Kosovo, Serbia, Poland and Senegal. All American citizens, all New Yorkers, all volunteers. Each knows what it means to arrive in this city and find a team.

52+
years in New York City

70+
countries represented

15+
Team USA players developed

7×
host of international events

> **When I joined the club I was scared. The team embraced me almost immediately. They helped me find work, showed me how to get to college. Now I've been called up to Team USA. None of it would have happened without these people.**
>
> **Togba Aboubacar** · came alone from Guinea at 16

> **This is my family. Without this club and a place to belong, I probably would have wanted to go back to Egypt. Instead it kept me grounded. I will never leave.**
>
> **Yousef Elkhouly** · from Egypt at 14 · now at NJIT, coaching the next group

> **It's hard to bring your kids from Peru to New York and raise them alone. The coaches have given Matias and Luana a place that feels like home.**
>
> **Calina Guzman** · mother of two Youth Academy players

THE PROGRAM, FOR SCHOOLS

A turnkey Olympic sport unit, inside your PE schedule.

An 11-week unit of 90-minute sessions, coached by our staff alongside your PE teacher, for real class sizes of 65–90 students. We run it in elementary, middle and high schools. You bring the gym; we bring the curriculum, the coaching and the sport.



01 **Standards, met.**
Mapped to 24 SHAPE America 2024 Grade 6–8 indicators across all four national standards, and adapted for K–5 and 9–12.

02 **It counts toward PE.**
Sessions run with, and under the supervision of, your certified PE teacher, as New York State requires for grades 7–8.

03 **Every student assessed.**
Baseline-to-final skill measures and an end-of-unit report with growth data for your school.

04 **Every coach cleared three ways.**
NYC DOE PETS cleared, SafeSport certified, background screening complete.

05 **The CASEL 5, in motion.**
Self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, relationship skills and responsible decision-making, live, every session, where your teacher can observe them.

THE CITY, $3,000–$4,000

● 1 student, 1 year, in a city-funded after-school seat

HANDBALL RISING, $3,000

●●●●●●●●●●●●●●●●●●●● 20 students, each through the full unit, at ~$150

$9
an hour with a national champion

$9
an hour of after-school, at the rate the City Council says it should cost

+60%
more active minutes per lesson with specialist coaches

100%
of the grade reached, because it happens in PE

City per-student figure: $3,000–$4,000 a year (published rates $2,800–$3,200, $4,150–$4,900 proposed, NYC Council, May 19, 2025; providers report more). $4,900 ÷ 540 h = $9.07; $150 ÷ 16.5 h = $9.09. Active minutes: Telford et al., IJBNPA 2016. A COMPASS seat is three hours a day, five days a week, free to the family: different models, and we say so.

THE PATHWAY

A ladder, not a dead end.

Every student starts at the base, in a PE class. Any student willing to work can climb: a school team, the NYC Youth Cup, our Youth Academy, the club, and for some, Team USA. Scholarships keep the door open.

STEP 1

The PE unit

260–360 students a year at every school. By week 11, most can catch, throw, dribble, move and play the game.

STEP 2

The NYC Youth Cup

20 per school represent their school. 300+ middle schoolers from 8+ schools, hosted with Lycée Français.

STEP 3

The Youth Academy

24 weeks with elite coaches. Places go to the kids who earn them, whatever their family can afford.

STEP 4

The club, and Team USA

Training alongside 11× national champions. 15+ Team USA players developed so far.



Having European handball in our PE class has been a great addition. Every student is engaged, running, moving, learning and part of a team, and we can watch and grade them as they go. These guys are pros.

Mr. Barzilay · PE Teacher

Our students count down the days to handball. The energy these coaches bring is something our schedule simply couldn't generate on its own.

Patrick Burns · Former Principal, MS 217, Queens

We've worked with NYCTH for five years and our kids love it. They always ask for it. A great team sport, and co-ed.

Kyana Simmons · Queens Community House

WHY NOW

In 2028 the Olympics come to Los Angeles. Our kids will already have years in the sport.

LA28

THE PEOPLE

World-class coaches. In your gym.

Olympic and world champions set the standard. A coach-run staff delivers it, school by school, session by session.



Staffan Olsson

2× World Champion · 4× European Champion · 3× Olympic silver



Jérôme Fernandez

2× Olympic Champion · 4× World Champion · 3× European Champion



Andrea Lekić

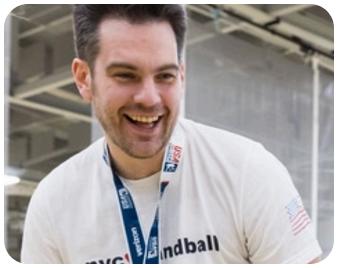
2013 IHF World Player of the Year · World Championship silver · EHFCL Champion



Bini Mustafa

Managing Director & Head Coach · 8× U.S. National Champion · former Team USA

AND THE COACHES IN THE GYM EVERY WEEK



Chris Brase

USA Team Handball board · coached the club's men and women



Birane Diouf

Head Coach, Youth Academy · IHF-certified · from Senegal



Zhana Skubenich

Former professional, Ukraine · author on coaching youth



Joel Azumah

College volleyball coach: FIT, CCNY, Brooklyn College

Every coach who enters a school is cleared three ways.

- NYC DOE PETS cleared
- SafeSport certified
- Background screening complete

BOARD

Shkumbin "Bini" Mustafa

Managing Director & Head Coach · from Kosovo

BOARD

Ivan Ignjatovic

Former Team USA goalkeeper · 8× U.S. champion · from Serbia

BOARD

Richard Kluz

Club co-founder, 1973 · retired engineer · from Poland

BOARD

Birane Diouf

Head Coach, Youth Academy · from Senegal

WHERE THIS GOES

Every year: ten schools, 3,000 kids, $350,000. By 2040: a generation.

50,000
New York City kids introduced to handball by 2040

1,000
a year competing for their school

100
who train and play overseas

1
Olympian who learned the sport in a NYC public-school gym

WHAT YOUR GIFT DOES

$150
One child, one full year
One student's share of a whole school's year: a full program divided across the 300 students it reaches. Handball is a team sport, and so is the price.

$750
One Youth Academy player, full year
24 weeks of training, jerseys and USATH membership. A scholarship for a kid whose family cannot pay it.

$3,500
One of the hundred
What one class costs. A hundred New York businesses together fund every class in ten schools, 3,000 kids, a full year.

$35,000
An entire school for a year
260–360 kids reached, two 11-week cycles, the morning group, and a squad to the Youth Cup.



100 NEW YORK BUSINESSES. 3,000 NEW YORK KIDS.

No single gift does this. Only when a hundred New York businesses rally behind it, $3,500 each, tax-deductible, can we put an Olympic sport inside the school day of 3,000 kids. Your name on our sponsor backdrop and website, and one night a year in the gym: the kids open the evening, our elite men and women play, and food and drinks are on us, for you and a guest.

SEASON ONE

$350,000 by March 31, 2027, for the 2027–28 school year: the first year we enter ten schools fully funded.

$350K

ACCOUNTABLE TO YOU, AND TO THE CITY

A registered charity, a city vendor, and a coach-run organization where 80¢ of every dollar goes to the gym.

LEGAL

New York City Team Handball Club Inc.
501(c)(3) public charity · EIN 27-0541418
NYC FMS vendor VS00085913
Member, partner or contractor of NYC DOE, DYCD, COMPASS NYC and NYC Parks.

WHERE THE MONEY GOES

Coaches, equipment, gym time, competition and the Monday morning group. No office, no full-time administrative staff. 80% of last year's spending went directly to programs.

WHAT YOU'LL HEAR FROM US

A thank-you within 48 hours. A note when the season opens. A June report with the growth data from the kids you reached. Nothing more unless you ask.

SCHOOLS AND PARTNERS WE HAVE SERVED

MS 217 · MS 358 · PS 117 · PS 82 · Queens Community House · Grand Street Settlement · New York Edge · Harlem Children's Zone · Ember Schools · Lycée Français de New York · German International School · St. Nicks Alliance and SCAN Harbor Beacon programs



Handball Rising

Move. Belong. Believe.

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