

## Pink offers to pay Norway's handball bikini fine

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Photo - <https://ec.europa.eu>

Singer-songwriter Pink has got involved in a sexism row in the sport of beach handball. She has come to the aid of the Norwegian women's team after they were fined for not wearing bikini bottoms during the 2021 European Beach

Handball Championships. The singer has offered to pay the fines handed out to Norway's competitors for wearing "improper clothing". Male competitors were allowed to wear shorts, but the women were required to wear bikinis. The European Handball Federation (EHF) fined the team \$1,765 for not complying with the regulations. Pink took to Twitter and offered to pay the fine. She added that the EHF should be fined "for sexism".

The Norwegian Handball Federation president said the bikinis were "not appropriate clothing for the activity when the women are playing in the sand". The team's request to wear shorts during the championships was turned down. Male players were allowed to play in sports shirts and shorts no longer than 10cm above the knee; while women were expected to wear midriff-baring tops and bikini bottoms "with a close fit and cut on an upward angle toward the top of the leg". Norway's Minister of Culture called the discriminatory dress rule "antiquated" and "completely ridiculous". It questioned: "How many attitude changes are needed in the old-fashioned international patriarchy of sports?"

Sources: [cnn.com](http://cnn.com) / [msn.com](http://msn.com) / [theguardian.com](http://theguardian.com)

## Writing

Female handball players should not have to wear bikini bottoms. Discuss.

## Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

sexism / sport / beach / handball / bikini / fine / clothing / competitors / team / president / appropriate / sand / championships / knee / angle / ridiculous / attitude

## True / False

- 1) The singer Pink is in trouble after she wore a bikini in a handball game. T / F
- 2) Norwegian beach handball players were fined at the Tokyo Olympics. T / F
- 3) The European Handball Federation fined the Norwegian team. T / F
- 4) Pink said the European Handball Federation should be fined for sexism. T / F
- 5) Norway's handball federation said bikinis were appropriate clothing. T / F
- 6) Male handball players can wear shorts 10cm below the knee. T / F
- 7) Female handball players are expected to expose their stomachs. T / F
- 8) Norway's Ministry of Culture suggested sport is too male dominated. T / F

## Synonym Match

(The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- |                          |                 |
|--------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. <b>row</b>            | a. suitable     |
| 2. <b>aid</b>            | b. permitted    |
| 3. <b>fined</b>          | c. absurd       |
| 4. <b>allowed</b>        | d. assistance   |
| 5. <b>complying with</b> | e. call         |
| 6. <b>appropriate</b>    | f. outdated     |
| 7. <b>request</b>        | g. argument     |
| 8. <b>discriminatory</b> | h. observing    |
| 9. <b>antiquated</b>     | i. chauvinistic |
| 10. <b>ridiculous</b>    | j. penalised    |

## Discussion – Student A

- a) What do you know about the singer Pink?
- b) What do you think about beach handball?
- c) What are the best things to wear when playing beach handball?
- d) How sexist is it to for female athletes to have to wear bikinis?
- e) What do you think of Pink for offering to pay the fines?
- f) What do you think of the handball players for disregarding the rules?
- g) How much fun do you think beach handball is?
- h) What advice do you have for the handball players?

## Phrase Match

1. Singer-songwriter Pink has got involved
  2. She has come to the aid of the
  3. improper
  4. fined the team \$1,765 for not complying
  5. She added that the EHF should be
  6. not appropriate clothing
  7. The team's request
  8. women were expected to wear midriff-
  9. the discriminatory dress
  10. the old-fashioned international patriarchy
- a. clothing
  - b. rule
  - c. fined for sexism
  - d. of sports
  - e. baring tops
  - f. in a sexism row
  - g. for the activity
  - h. to wear shorts
  - i. with the regulations
  - j. Norwegian women's team

## Discussion – Student B

- a) What do you think about what you read?
- b) What do you know about beach handball?
- c) Should the handball players have been fined?
- d) Why are there different rules for what men and women can wear?
- e) Which is more fun, beach handball or regular handball?
- f) What is your favourite beach activity?
- g) Why do you think Pink intervened in this situation?
- h) What questions would you like to ask Pink?

## Spelling

1. ovilnevd in a sexism row
2. handball aphnioscihmps
3. wearing morppier clothing
4. male pcietmtoors
5. women were ugrieerd to wear bikinis
6. not omlciypng with the regulations
7. the bikinis were not pprapiroate clothing
8. xeetcped to wear midriff-baring tops
9. rdiiistcanomry dress rule
10. tiuqaanetd
11. completely diucrluios
12. international traiprahcy of sports

### Answers – Synonym Match

1. g	2. d	3. j	4. b	5. h
6. a	7. e	8. i	9. f	10. c

## Role Play

### Role A – Handball

You think handball is the best beach activity. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't as enjoyable. Also, tell the others which is the least fun of these (and why): sunbathing, building sandcastles or jogging.

### Role B – Sunbathing

You think sunbathing is the best beach activity. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't as enjoyable. Also, tell the others which is the least fun of these (and why): handball, building sandcastles or jogging.

### Role C – Building Sandcastles

You think building sandcastles is the best beach activity. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't as enjoyable. Also, tell the others which is the least fun of these (and why): sunbathing, handball or jogging.

### Role D – Jogging

You think jogging is the best beach activity. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't as enjoyable. Also, tell the others which is the least fun of these (and why): sunbathing, building sandcastles or handball.

## Speaking – Beach Activities

Rank these with your partner. Put the best beach activities at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Handball
- Volleyball
- Sunbathing
- Barbecue
- Building sandcastles
- Beachcombing
- Jogging
- Collecting shells

### Answers – True False

1 F	2 F	3 T	4 T	5 F	6 F	7 T	8 T
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.