
Game on for the 3rd edition of AfrAsia International 7’s Rugby Tournament in Mauritius

Rugby Union Mauritius, in collaboration with AfrAsia Bank and Vision Sport Mauritius, announced today that they will be hosting the third consecutive ‘AfrAsia International 7’s Rugby Tournament’ at Dodo Club, Curepipe on Friday 9th, Saturday 10th and Sunday 11th of October 2015.

With the vision of further developing rugby as a sports in Mauritius, this third edition is now considered as the yearly rugby passionate meet ups from across the region including South Africa, Madagascar, Reunion Island and Republic of Congo.

Rugby is also strongly embedded in the African culture and will see the major participation of 8 teams from South Africa. In addition to the previous two years, women’s full contact and Women Touch team will be participating.

RUM’s President, Mr. Kevin Venkiah comments “Nous sommes heureux et privilégiés d’accueillir les pays de la zone Océan Indien lors de cette première édition de l’AfrAsia International 7’s Rugby Tournament’. Ce tournoi est l’accomplissement de tout le travail accompli par la RUM durant ces dernières années. Le Rugby a réussi à réunir les différentes composantes de la nation Mauricienne à travers ses valeurs : respect, loyauté, exemplarité, générosité, tolérance et pluralité Nous voudrions à cette occasion remercier tous nos partenaires et particulièrement ‘AfrAsia Bank’ sans qui ce tournoi n’aurait pas eu lieu et aussi ‘Sealegs’, notre principal partenaire. Nous souhaitons à tous bonne chance pour ce tournoi.”

Emerging as an international tournament of reference in the Indian Ocean, 4 players of the South African 7s’ Teams, Blitzbokke will be the ambassadors of the tournament and attend the various matches. AfrAsia Bank, in partnership with RUM will be hosting rugby clinics the week prior to the tournament with these coaches. These clinics will be targeted towards underprivileged children in order to empower their sports skills and further confirms the Bank’s commitment to the socio-economic development of Mauritius.

“We are thrilled to be hosting this tournament for the third consecutive year as this sport continues to spread and gain value on the island. Our contribution to making Rugby a well-known and recognized sports in Mauritius does not stop with this tournament as we work closely with the RUM to provide support and personal involvement for the development and sustainability of the sports through their CSR programmes.
Rugby is synonymous of collaborative teamwork, innovative play, strategic thinking and is of a highly competitive nature, which fits perfectly within AfrAsia Bank’s philosophy. Our involvement in this sport offers our clients the opportunity of experiencing the thrill and excitement rugby matches can bring,” explains Thierry Vallet, Acting CEO and General Manager of AfrAsia Bank.

The opening ceremony will take place at Villa Caroline Hotel, Flic n Flac as from 18h00 on Thursday 8 October 2015, and the Awards Ceremony will be held at the Dodo Club on Sunday 11th October 2015 after the finals at 17h00.

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About the AfrAsia International 7’s Rugby Tournament:

The participating teams are:

- 8 Teams from South Africa (Highveld Hienas, Lowveld Leopards, Hoghveld Hawks, Western Wolves, Vikings, Rams, Rob Ferreira, SA Platteland)
- National Men’s Team of Reunion
- National Women’s Team of Reunion
- National Men’s Team of Madagascar
- National Women’s Team of Madagascar
- National Men’s Team of Mauritius
- National Women’s Team of Mauritius
- National Men’s Team of Democratic Republic of Congo
- National Women’s Team of Democratic Republic of Congo

Rugby Sevens, also known as seven-a-side of VII’s, is a variant of Rugby Union in which teams are made of seven players, instead of the usual 15. The 7’s Game consists of seven-minute halves, with a 2-minute half-time break. The International Rugby Board (IRB), the body responsible for Rugby Union worldwide, administers Rugby sevens. 7’s Rugby will be played first time at the Olympic games in 2016 in Rio, Brazil. There is already a 7’s HSBC World Series being played every year with 9 Venues and 15 National Teams. Also every 4 Years, the IRB7’s Word Cup played by 24 men's National teams and 16 women’s Nationals Teams.
About AfrAsia Bank Limited

A REGIONAL BANKING FORCE WITH GLOBAL REACH

Strategically based in Mauritius and with representation in key markets, AfrAsia Bank Limited serves the Africa-Asia trade corridor, combining its strengths and expertise in four core divisions:

- Private Banking and Wealth Management
- Corporate and Investment Banking
- Global Business
- Treasury

Since inception, the Bank has expanded through a combination of substantial organic growth and a series of strategic acquisitions, with core activities in Mauritius, South Africa, and United Kingdom.

AfrAsia Bank’s core banking and transactional capabilities are in Mauritius along with representative offices in Cape Town, Johannesburg and London, its asset management arm, AfrAsia Capital Management Limited and its investment arm, AfrAsia Corporate Finance (Pty) Ltd.

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