



PRESENTED BY



MAJOR LEAGUE
RUGBY™

2025

**US RUGBY HALL OF FAME
INDUCTION CEREMONY**

JULY 18, 2025

**THE MAYFLOWER HOTEL
WASHINGTON, D.C.**



**US RUGBY
FOUNDATION**



MAJOR LEAGUE RUGBY PROUDLY HONORS THE 2025 HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES.



ORDER OF CEREMONY

Introduction – Jon Hinkin, President and CEO, US Rugby Foundation

Welcome – Anne Barry, Chair, US Rugby Foundation

Youth Rugby Initiative – Bill Fraumann, US Rugby Foundation Board Member

Craig Sweeney Award Recipient:

Ray Lehner

Prusmack Award Recipient:

Aly Cunningham

Manulua “Manu” Taula

Lifetime Achievement Award Recipient:

Ken Daly

Dr. Bob Davis

In Memoriam

US Rugby Hall of Fame Inductees:

Barb Fugate

Bill Leversee

Danita Knox

Jillion Potter

Jone Naqica

Kort Schubert

Tony Ridnell

Closing Comments – Jon Hinkin, President and CEO, US Rugby Foundation

Fellow Fans of U.S. Rugby:

The United States Rugby Foundation welcomes you to our 2025 Hall of Fame Dinner and Induction Ceremony.

Congratulations to the US Rugby Hall of Fame's newest inductees: Barb Fugate, Bill Leversee, Danita Knox, Jillion Potter, Jone Naqica, Kort Schubert, and Tony Ridnell. We will honor each of you tonight along with our Lifetime Achievement Award recipients, Ken Daly, Bob Davis, the winner of the Prusmack Award, Aly Cunningham, Manulua "Manu" Taula, and this year's Craig Sweeney Award recipient, Ray Lehner.

Since we established the Hall of Fame in 2011, we have honored over 100 players, teams, coaches, administrators, and media personalities as inductees and award winners. Their images and stories are displayed on the pages of the U.S. Rugby Hall of Fame website www.usrugbyfoundation.org/hof.

We are pleased to welcome all of you who will be on stage tonight, as well as your families, friends, former teammates, Hall of Famers, U.S. Eagles, and other rugby enthusiasts who are with us tonight to celebrate this occasion. This Hall of Fame event honors those who have made an extraordinary contribution to the game of rugby in the United States and recognizes and supports those who will make a future contribution to our game.

The US Rugby Foundation is an independent grant making foundation dedicated to the development and growth of the great sport of rugby throughout the United States. Thank you for coming, and we appreciate your support. We depend on the support of people who love and live rugby to be able to accomplish all that we do. To make a contribution to the Youth Rugby Initiative, our showcase program this year, please click on the QR Code next to this letter.

We congratulate this year's honorees!

With you,



Anne M. Barry, Chair
US Rugby Foundation



Rugby Friends and Hall of Fame Inductees,

What an extraordinary milestone we share this evening. As USA Rugby celebrates its 50th Anniversary, we gather to honor not only the past five decades of progress but also twelve remarkable individuals whose dedication has shaped the very fabric of our sport.

The Hall of Fame Class of 2025 spans athletes, coaches, and lifelong stewards of the game. From Rugby World Cups and Olympic campaigns to grassroots initiatives and community outreach, each honoree has advanced rugby's reach and enriched its spirit. Their leadership off the pitch—mentoring young players, championing inclusivity, and building lasting pathways—stands alongside their on field achievements, leaving an enduring legacy for future generations.

USA Rugby takes immense pride in celebrating these trailblazers tonight. Their stories remind us why our game endures: teamwork, resilience, and an unwavering commitment to something larger than ourselves.

We are equally grateful to the United States Rugby Foundation for its tireless work in preserving our history and propelling the next wave of rugby leaders. The Foundation's expansive network continues to unite communities, cultivate opportunity, and amplify the voice of American rugby. Your partnership is invaluable.

To this year's inductees: your accomplishments illuminate the path ahead. Thank you for the inspiration you provide and for the decades of service—and passion—that brought us to this golden anniversary.

Congratulations, and enjoy an unforgettable evening of celebration.

Sincerely,



Bill Goren
Chief Executive Officer, USA Rugby



CRAIG SWEENEY AWARD

Craig Sweeney played in the first four test matches for the United States in the modern era, captaining the team in the third and fourth tests. Unfortunately, not too many months after returning from England where he earned his fourth cap, Craig was training on the track at Santa Monica and suffered a fatal heart attack.

The late Keith Seaber, who was the Chairman of the National Selectors at the time, remembered Sweeney fondly. "While extremely talented, Craig was also modest and revered by his teammates. He was a great captain and a wonderful ambassador for the game, U.S. Rugby and the United States of America. After the initial shock, we, the Union, decided to have an award in his memory. The National Selectors were given the responsibility of selecting an individual who had played for the Eagles, who was respected by his peers and the rugby community, has made significant contributions back to the game following his playing career, and be a person of exemplary character."



PAST SWEENEY AWARD WINNERS

Johnny Everett (2024)
Brian Hightower (2023)
Tim O'Brien (2022)
Ed Burlingham (2021)
Dan Lyle (2020)
Tom Billups (2018)
Neal Brendel (2017)

Steve Gray (2016)
Rick Bailey (2015)
Brian Vizard (2014)
Fred Khasigian (2009)
John Jelaco (2007)
Mike Purcell (2004)
Jack Clark (2001)

Brad Andrews (1985)
Jeff Lombard (1984)
Clarence Culpepper (1982)
Tom Selfridge (1980)
Mickey Ording (1979)

CRAIG SWEENEY AWARD RECIPIENT

RAY LEHNER



Ray Lehner's rugby journey began at Jesuit High School (Sacramento) and flourished at the University of California, Berkeley, where he led Cal to three national championships (1991–1993), earned All-American honors, and served as team captain. His international career spanned 37 caps for the USA Eagles from 1995–2000, including the 1999 Rugby World Cup.

Following his undergraduate studies, Lehner earned four Oxford Blues while completing his MSt at Oxford University. As a coach, he has impacted all levels of American rugby—serving in roles from Assistant Coach at Cal to Head Coach of Olympic Club, USA U20s, West Coast Falcons, Lamorinda Rugby, and Bishop O'Dowd High School, where he founded the rugby program and teaches Civics and Economics.

Lehner exemplifies rugby's core values of discipline, teamwork, and perseverance. His lasting legacy as a player, coach, and educator continues to shape American rugby and inspire future generations.

PRUSMACK AWARD

ALY CUNNINGHAM



Aly Cunningham's rugby journey began at age five, quickly emerging as a standout athlete. At Catholic Memorial High School (WI), she led her team to State, Midwest, and National Championship success while also winning back-to-back Wisconsin High School Ski Race titles. She was named CMH's 2021 Athlete of the Year.

At Sacred Heart University, Aly captained the Pioneers to top national finishes, including 5th place at CRAA 7s Nationals (2024) and 3rd (2025). She earned All-NIRA First Team honors three times and received SHU's 2024-25 Athletic Director's Award. A double major in business management and business analytics, Aly graduated in May 2025.

Internationally, Aly has trained with USA Rugby's age-grade programs since 16 and will represent the USA Falcons in Brazil this summer. She competes for the New York Exiles in Women's Elite Rugby and will pursue her MSc at the University of Edinburgh this fall. Aly also gives back by coaching youth rugby.



PRUSMACK AWARD MANULUA “MANU” TAULA

Born in New Zealand, Manulua “Manu” Taula moved to the United States in 2019 at age 15 to live with his uncle and aunt. Though the transition brought challenges and sacrifices, Manu has embraced the opportunity with gratitude, drawing strength from the constant support of his family in New Zealand and the U.S.

Now a standout player at St. Bonaventure University, Manu has overcome academic and personal adversity to emerge as a leader both on and off the field. After a challenging sophomore year, he refocused on his academic and athletic goals, returning to form by his junior season.

Looking ahead, Manu aspires to continue his rugby career in Europe, while remaining grounded in faith, humility, and gratitude. His journey reflects resilience, growth, and an enduring love for the game. As he says: “The marathon continues.”



LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

KEN DALY



Ken Daly's remarkable rugby journey began in Dublin, Ireland, in 1943. After emigrating to Canada and later to Boston, Daly became a pioneer in American collegiate rugby. In 1968, he founded the Boston College Rugby Football Club (BCRFC), coaching both men's and women's teams for 47 years while building one of the most successful programs in the country.

Under Daly's leadership, BCRFC amassed over 900 matches, multiple championships, and produced numerous All-Americans and Eagles. His coaching philosophy, grounded in the Jesuit principle of "Men and Women for Others," emphasized character, perseverance, and service.

Beyond coaching, Daly helped build the administrative foundation of rugby in the U.S. as a founding member and longtime leader of the New England Rugby Football Union (NERFU). His contributions have shaped generations of players, coaches, and administrators. Daly's legacy continues to inspire, making him one of the most influential figures in American collegiate rugby history. This will be the 5th Hall of Fame to recognize Ken.



LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

DR. BOB DAVIS

Dr. Bob Davis began his rugby journey in 1974 at the University of Maryland Medical School, playing for 40 years before retiring at age 65. While his club playing career included Chesapeake and UNC, it was his coaching that left a lasting legacy. Beginning in 1983, Davis transformed Salisbury University's rugby program into a national powerhouse, guiding them to four Division II Collegiate National Championships and 15 Final Four appearances over 22 years.

Beyond coaching, Davis secured facilities, funding, and university support for Salisbury Rugby while also contributing as a certified referee and providing critical on-field medical care throughout his tenure. His leadership helped produce numerous All-Americans and future MLR players.

Dr. Davis's impact was recognized with induction into the Salisbury Rugby Hall of Fame and the naming of the Salisbury University Intramural Athletic Complex in his honor. His legacy remains one of mentorship, excellence, and dedication to developing both outstanding athletes and men of character.



2025 US RUGBY HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE

BARB FUGATE



Barbara "Barb" Fugate's 40-year rugby career helped shape women's rugby in America. She began playing in 1985 with Belmont Shore, later competing for San Diego and the Minneapolis Valkyries, reaching three straight Women's Club National Finals (2003–2005). Her representative career included the Southern California Griffins, Pacific Coast Grizzlies, and Midwest Select Side, where she captained from 1995–1996.

In 1989, Fugate organized the first women's territorial tour to New Zealand, laying groundwork for U.S. women's international competition. She earned 4 caps with the USA Eagles starting in 1990 and was part of the historic 1991 Women's World Cup Championship Team.

Off the field, Fugate served on the USA Rugby Board (1996–2004), chaired strategic planning, coached the USA U23 Women (2000–2008), and continues to develop players as Rugby Development Officer for Metropolis RFC. Her many honors include multiple Hall of Fame inductions and the inaugural Kathy Flores Lifetime Achievement Award.

2025 US RUGBY HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE

BILL “CHIEF” LEVERSEE



Bill “Chief” Leversee began playing rugby at 18 as a freshman at UC Santa Barbara, quickly becoming a standout All-American and Pacific Coast Grizzlies selection. His international career with the USA Eagles began in 1988, earning 15 caps through 1996. Leversee represented the USA on multiple international tours and played in the 1991 Rugby World Cup, starting against Italy.

At 6’4” and 235 pounds, Leversee was one of the youngest locks of his era to earn a cap at 24, competing with the world’s best he used his great athleticism against bigger opponents. His club career included 10 years with OMBAC, contributing to five national championships, and professional stints in Italy, South Africa, and New Zealand.

After retiring, Leversee became a cornerstone of youth rugby development in San Diego, coaching several teams to Southern California championships and mentoring hundreds of young players. Today, he remains an influential leader in American rugby, embodying the sport’s core values both on and off the field.

2025 US RUGBY HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE

DANITA KNOX



Danita Knox's 40-year rugby journey began at Clemson University in 1985. As a player, she helped build the Atlanta Harlequins into a national powerhouse, leading them to multiple top-four finishes between 1995 and 2005. While her playing career was impressive, Knox's greatest impact has come through her leadership and advocacy for women's rugby.

In 2005, Knox founded the US Women's Rugby Foundation (USWRF), which has grown into the leading advocate for girls' and women's rugby in the U.S., where she continues to serve as President. She also served on the USA Rugby Board (2004–2013), led the formation of Geographic Unions, and created numerous player development programs. In 2017, she helped establish the Women's Rugby Coaches and Referees Association (WRCRA), the premier professional development platform for women in U.S. rugby.

Knox continues to drive youth rugby development through Atlanta Youth Rugby while maintaining a successful career with Hitachi Energy.

2025 US RUGBY HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE

JILLION POTTER



Jillion Potter's extraordinary rugby career began at the University of New Mexico in 2005. Rapidly rising through the ranks, she earned spots on the USA U19, U23, and Women's National Teams within two years. As a Number 8, Potter earned 21 caps for the USA Eagles 15s (2007–2014), including the 2014 Women's Rugby World Cup.

In 2012, Potter transitioned to sevens, earning approximately 60 caps and captaining the USA Women's Sevens at the 2016 Rio Olympics, where rugby returned to the Olympic stage. Her career is defined by remarkable resilience, overcoming a broken neck in 2010 and Stage III cancer in 2014 to return to international play.

Beyond playing, Potter has contributed as a coach, referee, and founder of the RAN Leadership Development Scholarship, advancing women's leadership in rugby globally. Her journey remains an inspiring testament to rugby's values of perseverance, leadership, and service to the game.

2025 US RUGBY HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE

JONE NAQICA



Jone Naqica's rugby career spanned nearly 30 years, beginning at age 5 and culminating in 2014. He earned 8 caps with the USA Eagles 15s (2001–2010), scoring two tries in his debut against England. But Naqica's lasting legacy came in sevens, where he represented the USA from 2001–2010, earning 23 caps and 97 appearances while captaining the side from 2006–2010. Upon retirement, he was USA's all-time leading scorer in sevens with 411 points.

At the club level, Naqica starred for the Denver Barbarians (2001–2006) and San Francisco Golden Gate (2007–2014), winning multiple national titles. He also represented the Pacific Coast Grizzlies and West Mustangs, captaining both sides.

Renowned for his skill, humility, and leadership, Naqica seamlessly transitioned into coaching, helping develop future American players through Eagle Impact Rugby Academy. His playmaking vision, leadership, and record-setting performances continue to influence American rugby today.

2025 US RUGBY HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE KORT SCHUBERT



Kort Schubert stands among the most accomplished players in American rugby history. Born in 1979, his rise began at Jesuit High School in Sacramento before earning selection to the USA U-19 National Team in 1998. At just 20 years old, Schubert made his senior debut for the USA Eagles in 2000, launching a remarkable eight-year international career that included 49 caps, 17 consecutive tests as captain, and 42 straight international appearances—a record for USA Rugby.

Schubert starred at the 2003 Rugby World Cup in Australia, scoring tries against Fiji, Japan, and France to lead the USA in tournament scoring. A true pioneer, he became one of the first Americans to play professionally in Europe with Northampton Saints and Cardiff Blues, helping open pathways for future U.S. players abroad.

Domestically, Schubert played for Olympic Club and later dedicated himself to coaching at UC Berkeley and Danville Oaks. Inducted into the California Athletics Hall of Fame in 2021, Schubert's legacy continues to elevate American rugby.

2025 US RUGBY HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE

TONY “TR” RIDNELL



Tony “TR” Ridnell’s rugby career spans over five decades, beginning in Australia before continuing in the U.S. at West Point, where he earned honors as Most Valuable Forward in 1982. After graduating, Ridnell balanced military service with rugby, playing for Oklahoma University RFC, Hawaii Harlequins, and the US Combined Services team.

From 1985–1993, Ridnell earned 14 caps for the USA Eagles 15s, competing in both the 1987 and 1991 Rugby World Cups. In sevens, he earned 16 caps from 1989–1993, competing in the Hong Kong Sevens, 1993 Rugby World Cup Sevens, and captaining the USA Cougars.

At the club level, Ridnell helped Old Puget Sound Beach RFC win four National 7s Championships. Off the field, he founded TR International and continues to serve rugby through leadership roles with USA Rugby, the Eagles XVs Club, and as the “Voice of the Seawolves.” His lifelong service embodies rugby’s core values of leadership, dedication, and advocacy.

2024 INDUCTEES



Nancy Fitz



Victoria Folayan



Larry Gelwix



Jami Jordan



Alec Parker



Denis Shanagher



Lou Stanfi II



Mike Tolkin

PAST INDUCTEES



1920 U.S. Men's Olympic Team
Inducted 2011



1924 U.S. Men's Olympic Team
Inducted 2011



1991 USA Women's Team
Inducted 2017



Brad Andrews
Inducted 2016



**Vaea Naufahu
Anitoni**
Inducted 2019



Rick Bailey
Inducted 2020



Anne Barry
Inducted 2014



Jay Berwanger
Inducted 2016



George Betzler
Inducted 2016



Tom Billups
Inducted 2015



Rob Bordley
Inducted 2012



**Tam
Breckenridge**
Inducted 2020



Jamie Burke
Inducted 2020



Ed Burlingham
Inducted 2015



**William V
Campbell**
Inducted 2020

PAST INDUCTEES



Bob Causey
Inducted 2019



Dr. John Chase
Inducted 2018



Jack Clark
Inducted 2014



Todd Clever
Inducted 2021



Steve Cohen
Inducted 2023



Ray Cornbill
Inducted 2013



Jen Crawford
Inducted 2019



Reldon "Bing"
Dawson
Inducted 2018



John Decker
Inducted 2019



Dick Donelli
Inducted 2014



Phillip Eloff
Inducted 2023



Steve Finkel
Inducted 2017



Mike Flanagan
Inducted 2024



Terry Fleener
Inducted 2014



Kathy Flores
Inducted 2016



Bill Fraumann
Inducted 2015



Steve Gray
Inducted 2016



Luke Gross
Inducted 2019



Ed Hagerty
Inducted 2013



Don Haider
Inducted 2018



Jay Hanson
Inducted 2014

PAST INDUCTEES



Gary Hein
Inducted 2023



Roy Helu
Inducted 2024



Kevin Higgins
Inducted 2012



Vic Hilarov
Inducted 2013



Dave Hodges
Inducted 2017



Miles "Doc"
Hudson
Inducted 2011



Patty Jervey
Inducted 2015



Phaidra Knight
Inducted 2021



Gary Lambert
Inducted 2018



Harry
Langenberg
Inducted 2012



Bob Latham
Inducted 2024



Ed Lee
Inducted 2012



Tristan Lewis
Inducted 2021



Shawn Lipman
Inducted 2019



Chris Lippert
Inducted 2020



Jeff Lombard
Inducted 2015



Dan Lyle
Inducted 2016



Mike
MacDonald
Inducted 2021



Ron Mayes
Inducted 2014



Dr. Julia McCoy
Inducted 2024



Dr. Lyle Micheli
Inducted 2017

PAST INDUCTEES



Don Morrison
Inducted 2015



Ian Nixon
Inducted 2013



J. "Tyke"
Nollman
Inducted 2019



Chris O'Brien
Inducted 2024



Kevin O'Brien
Inducted 2021



Tim O'Brien
Inducted 2017



Mickey Ording
Inducted 2015



Candi Orsini
Inducted 2017



Mike Petri
Inducted 2024



Dick Poulson
Inducted 2015



A. Jon
Prusmack
Inducted 2013



Mike Purcell
Inducted 2015



Don Reordan
Inducted 2019



Jim Russell
Inducted 2017



Alatini Saulala
Inducted 2021



Mike Saunders
Inducted 2018



Rudy Scholz
Inducted 2015



Ed Schram, Sr.
Inducted 2017



Keith Seaber
Inducted 2011



Tom Selfridge
Inducted 2014



Gerard BA
Seymour
Inducted 2020

PAST INDUCTEES



Denis
Shanagher, Sr.
Inducted 2018



Emil Signes
Inducted 2015



Dave Sitton
Inducted 2016



Colby "Babe"
Slater
Inducted 2012



Dick Smith
Inducted 2013



Tommy Smith
Inducted 2017



Maryanne
Sorensen
Inducted 2023



Dennis Storer
Inducted 2011



Craig Sweeney
Inducted 2012



Kevin Swords
Inducted 2014



Zack Test
Inducted 2023



Salty
Thompson
Inducted 2021



Mose Timoteo
Inducted 2023



Ed Todd
Inducted 2021



Pat Vincent
Inducted 2011



Brian Vizard
Inducted 2016



Jay Waldron
Inducted 2017



Blane Warhurst
Inducted 2022



Bob Watkins
Inducted 2015



Peter Watson
Inducted 2024

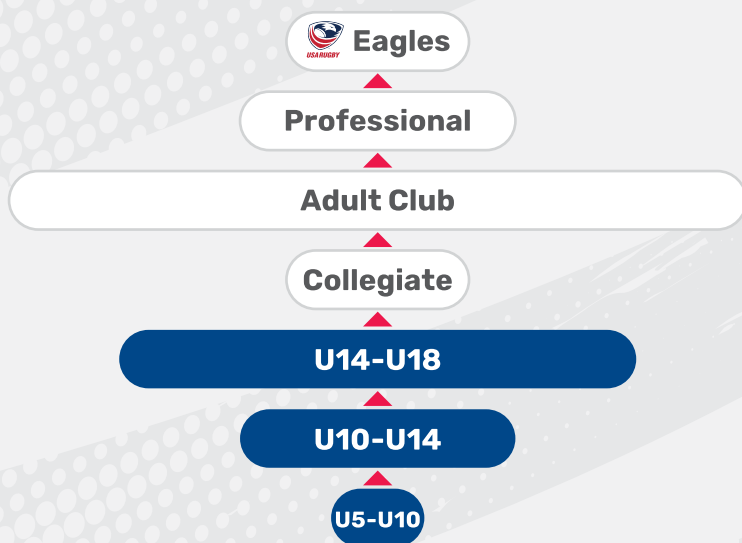


Alexandra
"Alex" Williams
Inducted 2018



Inspiring a Rugby Revolution

Current Player Base



Ideal Player Base



27%

**5-10
Years Old
Registration
Increase**

23%

**8-14
Years Old
Registration
Increase**

38

**Number of
Registrations
Increased in
38 SYROS**

53K

**2024/25
Season Total
Registration
as of Mid-March**

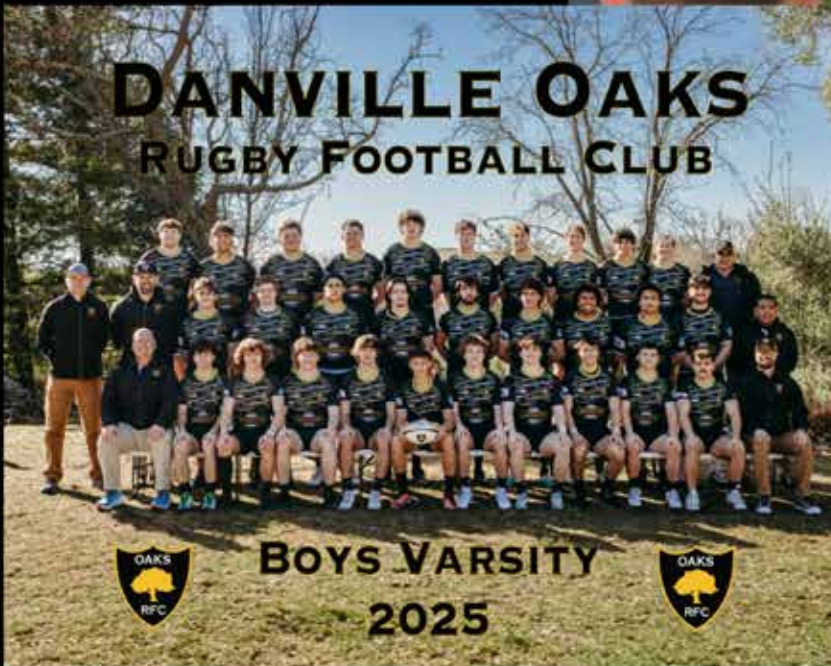
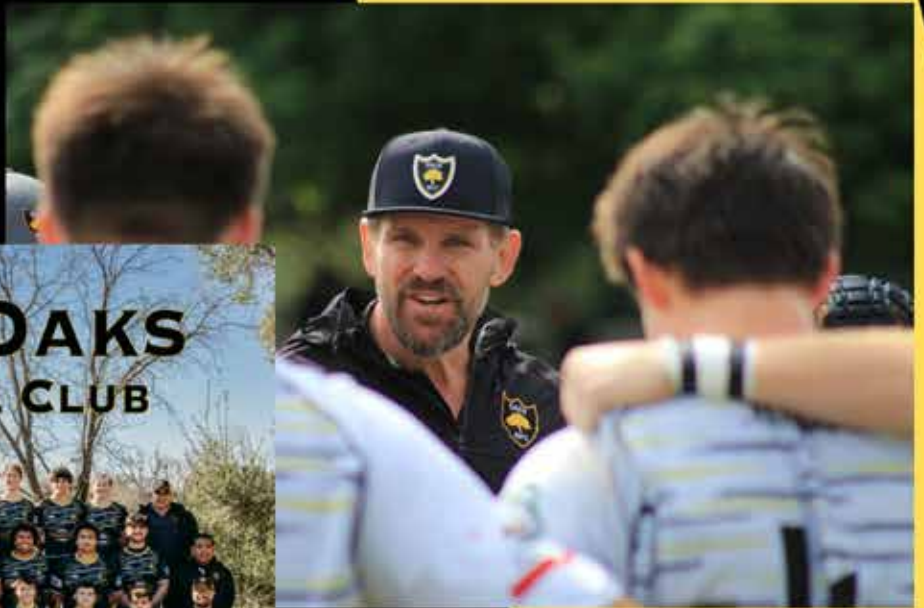
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**Help Us Grow
Grassroots Rugby**

Official Sanctioned Partner of **USA RUGBY**





***CONGRATULATIONS TO DANVILLE
OAKS RUGBY HEAD COACH,
KORT SCHUBERT, ON YOUR
INDUCTION TODAY.***

***WE ARE SO FORTUNATE TO HAVE
YOU WITH OUR CLUB AND LOOK
FORWARD TO MANY MORE
SUCCESSFUL SEASONS OF
YOUTH RUGBY.***

WWW.DANVILLERUGBY.COM

**The St Bonaventure
Rugby program would
like to congratulate
Manulua Taula
on receiving this
prestigious award.**

This is a testament to his dedication in the sport he loves and the sacrifices he's made to get here. Rugby has been a great motivator in Manulua's life earning him great opportunities, on and off the pitch, to make lifelong friends encapsulated in a sacred brotherhood.

We are grateful that rugby brought Manulua to St Bonaventure, he's a fantastic asset to the team and continues to prove what he's truly capable of, on the pitch and in the classroom.

We have no doubt that he's still not reached his peak, and we are so excited to continue to watch him blossom as a player and as a man.





2024 Year in Review

This past year has been an extraordinary time for the US Rugby Foundation as we've continued our mission to grow rugby across America.

Awarded Grants



USA Rugby Boys U18 Junior National Team
\$15,000 to support the U18 Boy's 7s Tour to New Zealand



Eagle Impact Rugby Academy
\$1,000 to Chuck Gehl for player development



2024 Boys HS & Club National Championships
\$4,000 to support referees at the National Championships



USA Youth & High School Rugby
\$30,000 and partnered to operate a national program



2024 Girls HS & Club National Championships
\$3,000 to support referees at the National Championships



USA Rugby U20 Men's Training Camp
\$5,000 for U20 Men's training camp in Washington



USA Youth & High School Rugby
\$10,000 for marketing and website updates



USA Rugby Men's U20s Junior World Trophy
\$5,000 to team to prepare for 8-team Junior World Trophy



USA Youth & High School Rugby
\$18,000 to develop a Virtual Skills Platform



Ellensburg Youth Rugby - 2024 Update
Continues to thrive as the largest rugby program in WA.



Urban Rugby America
\$25,000 for the Urban Rugby Championship.

Recent Achievements



Youth Rugby Initiative

As a grant making organization, the USRF will provide free rugby balls, flags, and field markers to elementary and middle schools throughout the country as well as free instruction on how to play flag rugby.

In Partnership With



Medical Bag Grants

The Medical Bag Grant program is designed to enhance safety in youth and high school rugby across the United States. This initiative provides fully-equipped field-side first aid kits to eligible programs, supporting our commitment to player health and safety. The comprehensive medical bags contain essential supplies for immediate, on-field care, including bandages, gauze, cold packs, and more.



Giving Tuesday 2024

Thank you for fueling the future of Rugby in America! On behalf of the Board, Governors, Ambassadors, and the entire rugby community, we want to express our heartfelt gratitude for your generous support.

**Together we exceeded
our goal of \$50,000**

Our Impact

Since 1963, the US Rugby Foundation has raised millions of dollars and awarded thousands of grants to support the growth of grassroots rugby.

\$210,000

2024 Total
Grant Funding Provided

Over \$3 Million

Lifetime Total
Grant Funding Provided

A Ball 4 All Rugby Balls

IN 2024

800

All Time

19,100

Match Day Tents

1

41

College Scholarships

23

201

Pathways of Excellence Grants

3

25

Coaching

1

351

Referee

2

17

Health & Safety

8

11

Additional Awarded Grants

11

84

Get Involved

No matter how old you are, where you live, or whether or not you can give, you can help grow grassroots rugby - and you can start right now.



Make A Donation

There are a number of ways in which you can support the US Rugby Foundation. Starting with a donation, of any amount, is the easiest way to get involved.

With You!
FOREVER

Create A Lasting Legacy

With your investment in the future of rugby you can make a profound and lasting impact on the US rugby community.

THE CLUBHOUSE

Join The Clubhouse

Becoming a member by making an annual donation, of any amount, is the most effective thing you can do to support rugby in the United States.

Get Involved Today!



SCAN ME

Contact Us

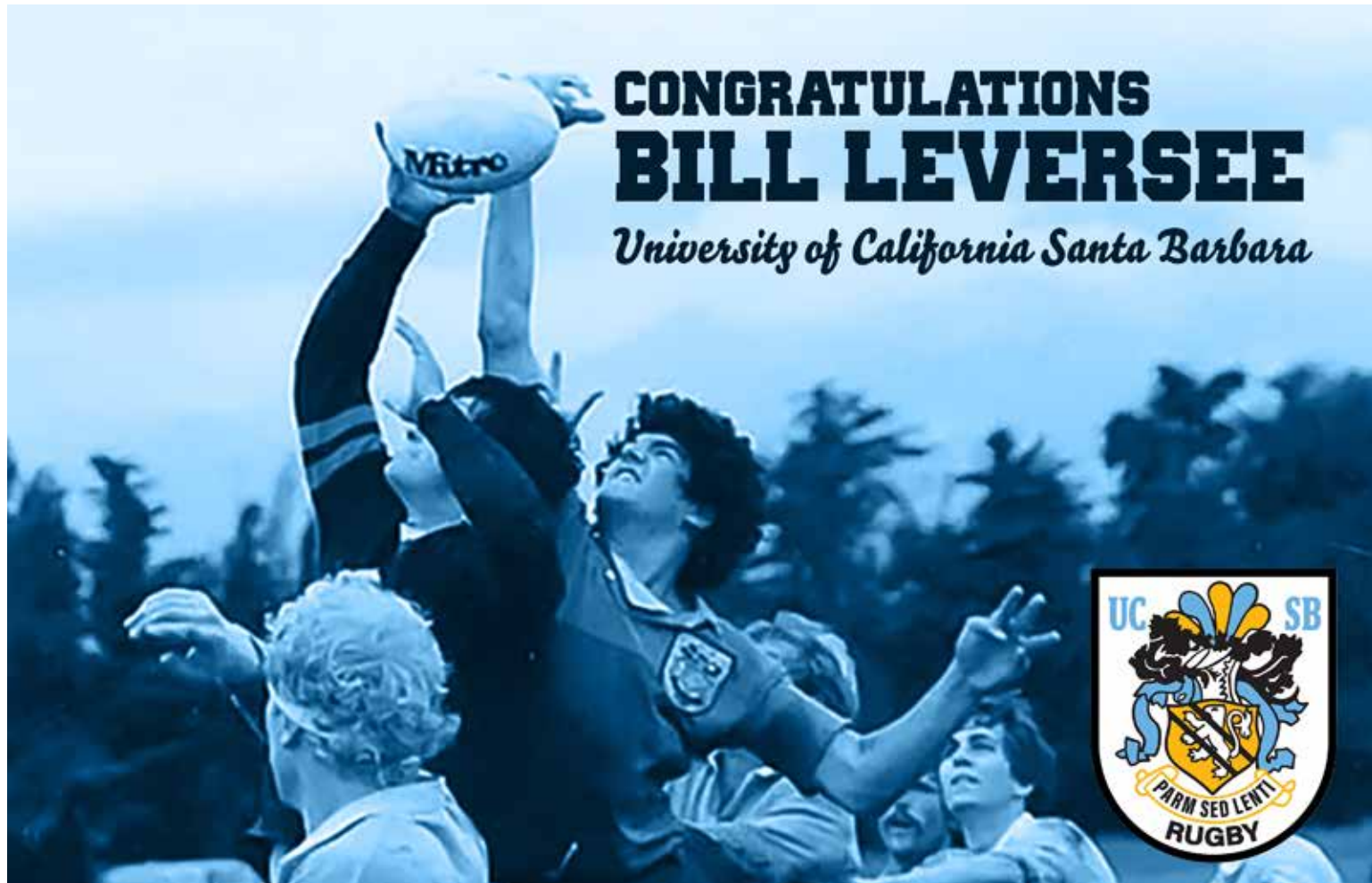
www.usrugbyfoundation.org | hello@usrugbyfoundation.com

Follow Us



Celebrating over six decades of lasting change

The US Rugby Foundation is an independent, non-profit organization, which has for six decades supported the growth and development of youth rugby in the United States. The Foundation accomplishes this by funding and promoting grassroots programs, college scholarships, coach & referee development, and health & safety.



CONGRATULATIONS **BILL LEVERSEE**

University of California Santa Barbara



US RUGBY FOUNDATION ANNUAL GIVING DAY: JULY 15, 2025



It's not too late, **Join The Clubhouse**

Your support is crucial for cultivating the best 7s and 15s talent for generations to come, but joining The Clubhouse means more than just donating – it's about a deeper connection to the game.



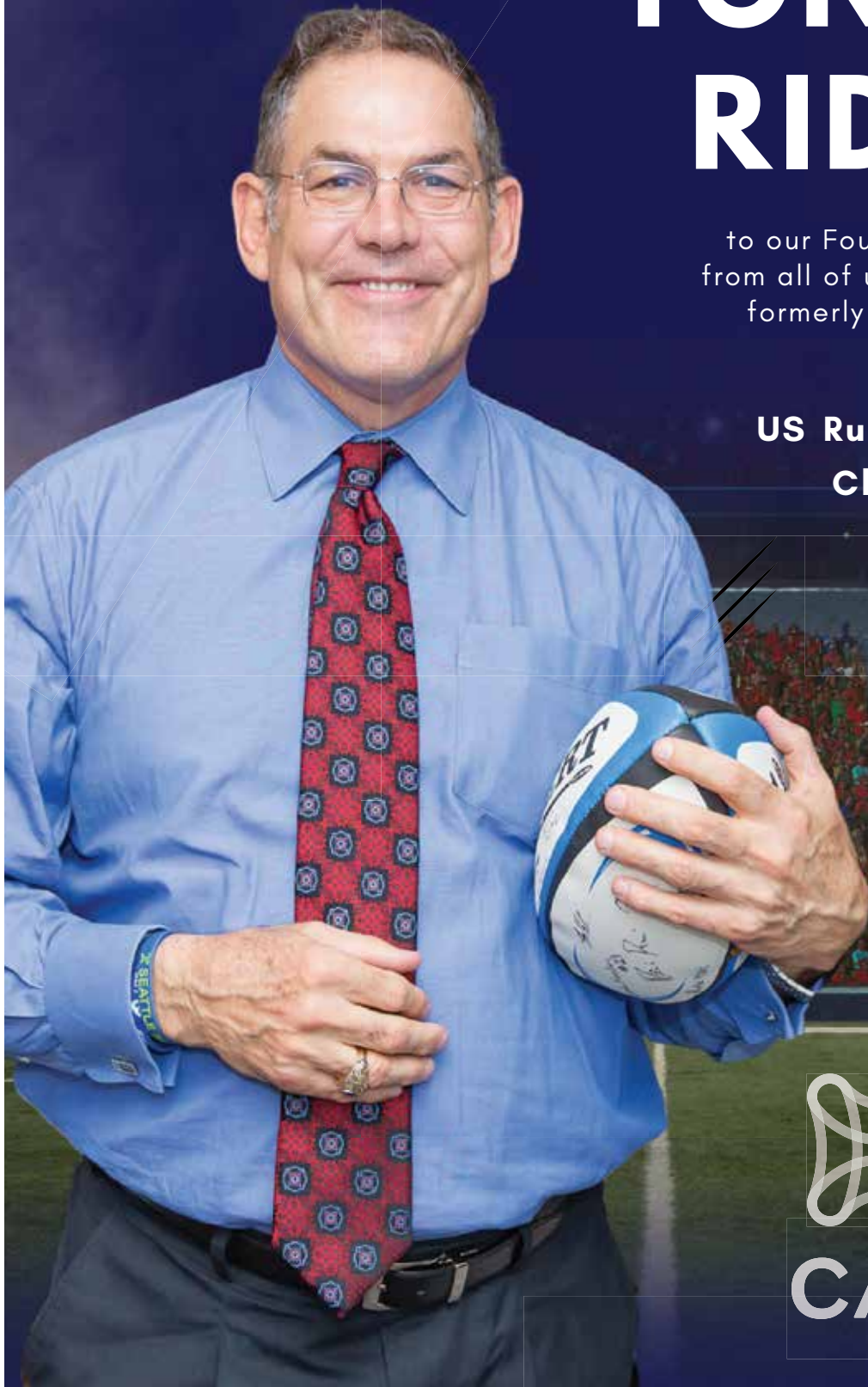
Become Part of the Team: Join the Clubhouse.

Congrats!

TONY “TR” RIDNELL

to our Founder, congratulations
from all of us at Catalynt Solutions,
formerly TRInternational, Inc.
est. 1994

**US Rugby Hall of Fame
Class of 2025**



CONGRATULATIONS

TO THOSE SELECTED FOR INDUCTION INTO THE US RUGBY HALL OF FAME CLASS OF 2025, ESPECIALLY BILL “CHIEF” LEVERSEE AND TONY “TR” RIDNELL.

Our Higgins family has continuing great pride in “Higgy” being inducted into the Hall of Fame with the Class of 2012.

We would also like to thank the many supporters of the United States Rugby Foundation’s Kevin Higgins Scholarship Fund that has awarded 161 college scholarships to future outstanding collegiate rugby student-athletes.

A special congratulations to the Class of 2024-25 Kevin Higgins Scholarship recipients:

- Charlie Green, University of Colorado
- Dante Rivera, California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo
- Emerson Callegari, Life University
- Eric Ishekwene, The Ohio State University
- Harvey Goodwin, University of Kentucky
- James Rose, Life University
- Rocco Pool, Saint Mary’s College
- Mia Blocher, University of Notre Dame
- Renee Blazer, Bowling Green State University
- Lucas Miners, University of Arkansas

We all feel blessed to be a part of this great rugby community.

The Higgins Family



Congratulations

Jone Naqica

And the Hall of Fame Class of 2025

From Your
SFGG Family



**CONGRATULATIONS FROM
YOUR SHU PIONEERS RUGBY FAMILY!**



ALYSSA CUNNINGHAM

2025 PRUSMACK AWARD

CONGRATULATIONS, KEN DALY

2025 Lifetime Achievement Award Honoree
Boston College Rugby Legend



From establishing the Boston College Rugby Football Club in 1968 to shaping over four decades of players and coaches, your influence extends far beyond the game. Your leadership, mentorship, and service have created a legacy that exemplifies what it means to be **Men and Women for Others**.

The Boston College Campus Recreation community is proud to honor your extraordinary contributions to rugby, to Boston College, and to generations of student-athletes.

With gratitude and pride,



BOSTON COLLEGE
CAMPUS RECREATION

For Boston

TONY “TR” RIDNELL

CONGRATULATIONS

FROM THE SEATTLE SEAWOLVES

Tony “TR” Ridnell’s contributions to rugby span generations—on the pitch, in the booth, and throughout the Pacific Northwest. As a founding voice of the Seattle Seawolves and a lifelong ambassador of the sport, TR’s legacy is one of passion, purpose, and excellence.

From all of us in the Seawolves family: thank you, TR. We’re honored to celebrate this well-deserved moment in the U.S. Rugby Hall of Fame.

#TogetherWeHunt



CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THE 2025 HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES FROM THE YOUTH RUGBY INITIATIVE

Youth Rugby



Initiative

A LETTER FROM TOM PIRELLI, HALL OF FAME CLASS OF 2024

We are working to **create future generations of US Rugby Hall of Famers** and would like your help. Our simple strategy is to reach out to Physical Education teachers in elementary and middle schools around the country to see if they would be interested in a **flag rugby program as part of their PE curriculum.**

PE teachers have **responded enthusiastically.** Working in partnership with the MLR, **we have implemented coed flag rugby in 800+ schools, involving 250,000+ kids.** We currently have a backlog of 400 schools wanting to start the program.



The **Youth Rugby Initiative (YRI)** is headed by the **Executive Director, Mike Te'o.** Mike is a veteran of Belmont Shore, the Eagle 7s, Eagle 15s and the San Diego Legion. Mike has worked with hundreds of Physical Education teachers to introduce Flag Rugby to elementary and middle school students.

If you have a son, daughter, grandson or granddaughter in elementary or middle school, a donation of just \$300 would enable YRI to introduce flag rugby to their school's physical education teachers.

In return for your donation, we will put **your designated school on our priority implementation list.** If you live close to your grandkid's school and would like a good excuse to interact with your grandkid, **you are welcome to assist our YRI coaches on implementation day.** You would then spend a day working with the PE teachers and kids to introduce the basics.

All the details on how to make this happen are on our website:

<https://youthrugbyinitiative.org/purchase-kit/>



SCAN ME

Use the QR code link so you can inform us of the school's name and city, state. We will do the rest. If the head of the school's physical education department agrees, we will set an implementation date and let you know when that will happen.

Thank you for your support.

YOUTHRUGBYINITIATIVE.ORG

CONGRATULATIONS HALL OF FAME 2025 INDUCTEES

**whose contributions shaped
the future of our game.**

Aly Cunningham
Bob Daly
Ken Daly
Barb Fugate

Danita Knox
Ray Lehner
Bill Leversee
Jone Naqica

Jillion Potter
Tony Ridnell
Kort Schubert
Manulua Taula

Proud supporters of rugby's past, present, and future.



THESPORTSQUARTER
ELITE SPORTING PACKAGES AND TRAVEL EXPERIENCES

www.thesportsquarter.com

CHIEF,

CONGRATS FROM YOUR MUSTANGS FAMILY.

You've impacted so many as our; Coach, Friend,
Mentor, Coaching Director, Emcee, and Story Teller ...

With you,

Mustangs Rugby Club

Established 2004 - Values: Gratitude, Presence, Caring



CONGRATS CLASS OF 2025

PASS IT ON!

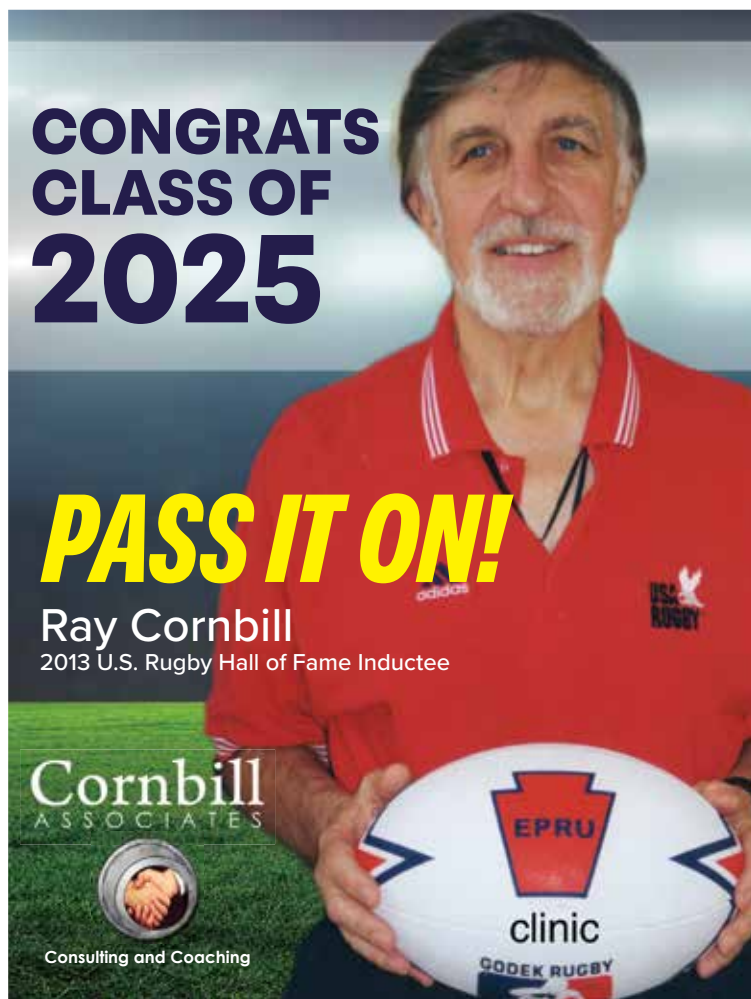
Ray Cornbill

2013 U.S. Rugby Hall of Fame Inductee

Cornbill
ASSOCIATES



Consulting and Coaching

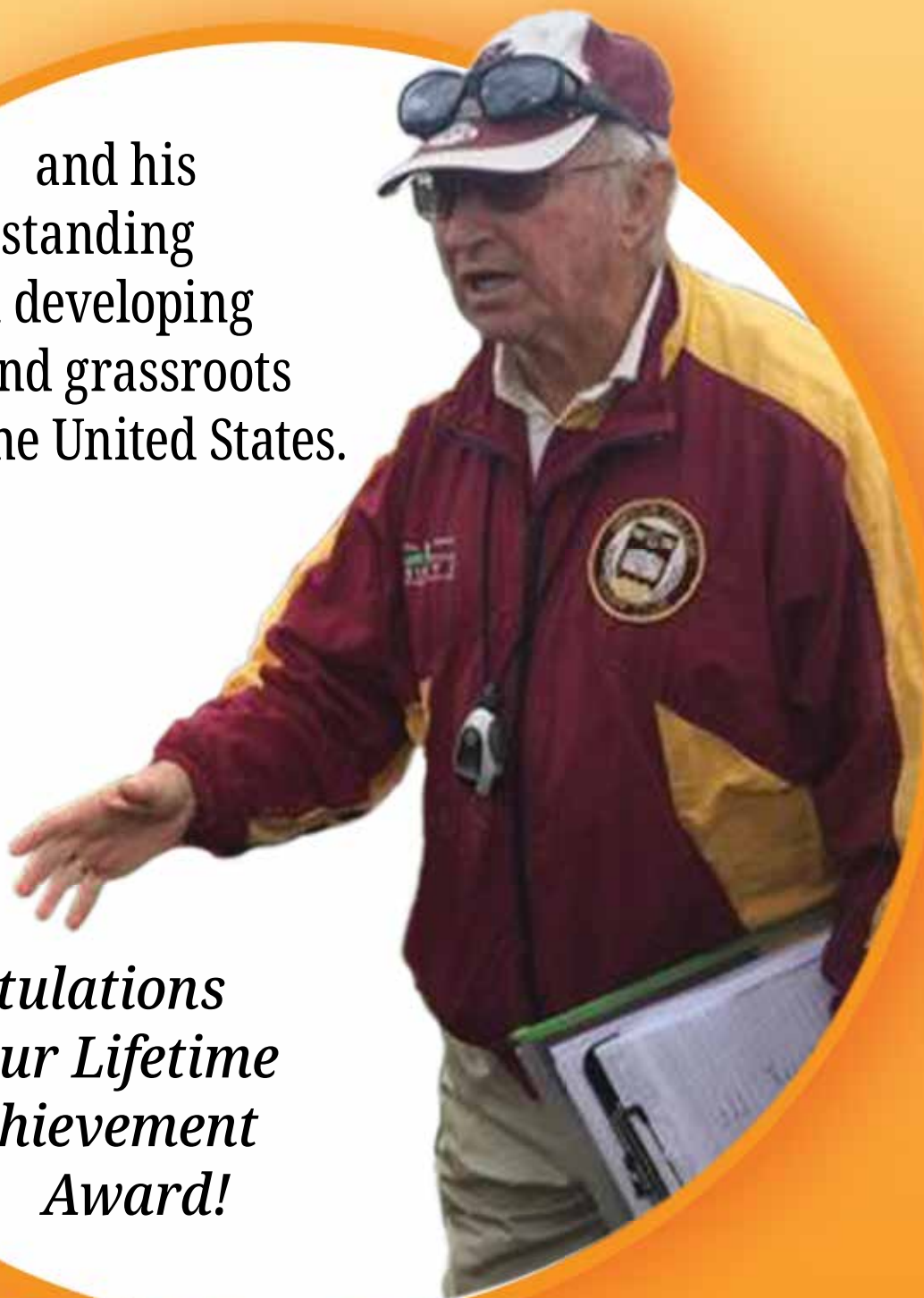


We salute our great friend and remarkable coach

KEN DALY

and his
outstanding
role in developing
college and grassroots
rugby in the United States.

*Congratulations
on your Lifetime
Achievement
Award!*



From your friends Denis O'Brien and Rich Downey

CONGRATULATIONS RAY LEHNER

2025 CRAIG SWEENEY AWARD



Your legacy stretches from Cal to Oxford to the USA Eagles—and for the last 23 years, O'Dowd has been lucky to call you ours. Thank you for building a program rooted in character, commitment, and joy. Your leadership continues to shape lives on and off the pitch.

With pride and gratitude,
Your O'Dowd Family



BISHOP O'DOWD HIGH SCHOOL

FALCON WEST INSURANCE BROKERS



CONGRATULATING
BILL “CHIEF” LEVERSEE
ON HIS INDUCTION INTO THE
2025 US RUGBY HALL OF FAME



Recognizing the deep connection between success in sport and success in life, Bill applied the same principles of **discipline** and **perseverance** to his second career. Over the past 12 years at Falcon West Insurance Brokers, he has become a **standout insurance broker**, proving that the rugby ethos translates seamlessly into the professional world.

His influence at Falcon West has gone further. Inspired by Bill's journey, the company now actively hires former rugby players and has launched a unique internship program — **the Rugby Academy** — aimed at **supporting athletes transitioning into business careers**. The program is currently training its second cohort and preparing to welcome its third group this fall. Other Eagles currently working alongside Bill at Falcon West include 2017 U.S. Rugby Hall of Fame inductee Dave Hodges and 2020 Olympian Maceo Brown.

Bill Leverage is *more* than a former international — he is a mentor, leader, and a living example of how **sport can shape a life of purpose**. He continues to inspire everyone around him with the same values that made him a legend on the pitch.

We are proud to call him our teammate! - Your friends at Falcon West
Congratulate Bill and see more of his story at falconwest.com/chief



CONGRATULATIONS KEN DALY

Our Boston College RFC coach
on your receipt of the US Rugby Hall of Fame
LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD
Through rugby, you changed our lives!



GO EAGLES!!

Ed Barnes '80
Jerry Coyne '80
John McCrudden '80
Bob Petit '80
Tom Russo '80
Peter Tuohy '80
George Barrett '81
John Malloy '81
Tom Rose '81
Jim Herschlein '82
Joe Kropf '82

Rich Lindquist '82
Peter Lipsky '82
Gary McDonough '82
Bill Rasmussen '82
Jon Rather '82
John Wade '82
Bob Coyne '83
Kurt Fellingner '83
Steve Punzak '83
Bruce Wheeler '83
Larry Wein '84



Congratulations!



BARB FUGATE

SCRUMHALF • COACH • BOARD PRESIDENT • HALL OF FAME

Celebrating you in all you do! You are an inspiration both on and off the field. We, your family, love you and are very proud of you!



Congratulations **COACH RAY LEHNER**



On receiving the 2025 Craig Sweeney Award! This recognition is truly well-earned. Ray, your unwavering dedication to Lamorinda RFC and the countless hours you invest in our club don't go unnoticed.

Your willingness to share your knowledge and mentor others elevates everyone around you — from individual players to fellow coaches to our entire organization.

Lamorinda RFC is fortunate to have you, and we're deeply grateful for your continued commitment to our success.



MADAK

Collegiate Alumni Jumpstart Grant Program

A National Commitment to Collegiate Rugby Growth

You've built something special.

Now it's time to unlock its full potential. If you lead a collegiate rugby program and dream of long term success, stronger alumni connections, better funding, and a legacy that lasts – this grant was designed for you.

- ✓ Multiple hours of strategic conversations and ideas
- ✓ Custom Strategic Roadmap with a plan for your program
- ✓ A new perspective and approach to engage your alumni



Let's Build Your Legacy Together

Learn More & Apply Today!

THE OLYMPIC CLUB



**THE OLYMPIC CLUB WOULD LIKE TO CONGRATULATE
KORT SCHUBERT & RAY LEHNER ON THEIR
SELECTION TO THE US RUGBY HALL OF FAME.**



BOSTON COLLEGE RUGBY CLUB



CONGRATULATIONS TO KEN DALY

FOR HIS HOF LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD
FROM THE US RUGBY FOUNDATION
ON JULY 18, 2025

Thank you from all the players you coached!

*"His ability to push athletes to their best level of self
through his selflessness has changed generations of
people through rugby."*

—Former player and first female
NFL coach Jen Welter



Salisbury University proudly celebrates the induction of

Dr. Robert “Doc” Davis

into the US Rugby Hall of Fame — an honor befitting
a dedicated coach, mentor and ambassador of the game.

For over three decades, Davis shaped SU’s Salisbury Sharks Club Rugby Team into a powerhouse built on grit and sportsmanship. He inspired players to become champions of character. As head coach from 1993-2017, he led the Sharks to 4 National Collegiate Rugby Division II national championships and 15 Final Four appearances, leaving a lasting mark on U.S. Rugby and generations of student-athletes. In 2024, SU dedicated the Doc Davis Intramural Complex in his honor.

At SU, excellence is tradition — celebrated across our top-tier academics and championship varsity and club athletics. Congratulations, Coach – you embody this tradition.

Make Tomorrow Yours



Go to salisbury.edu/visit

Salisbury
UNIVERSITY

Salisbury University is an equal educational and employment opportunity institution.



Congratulations

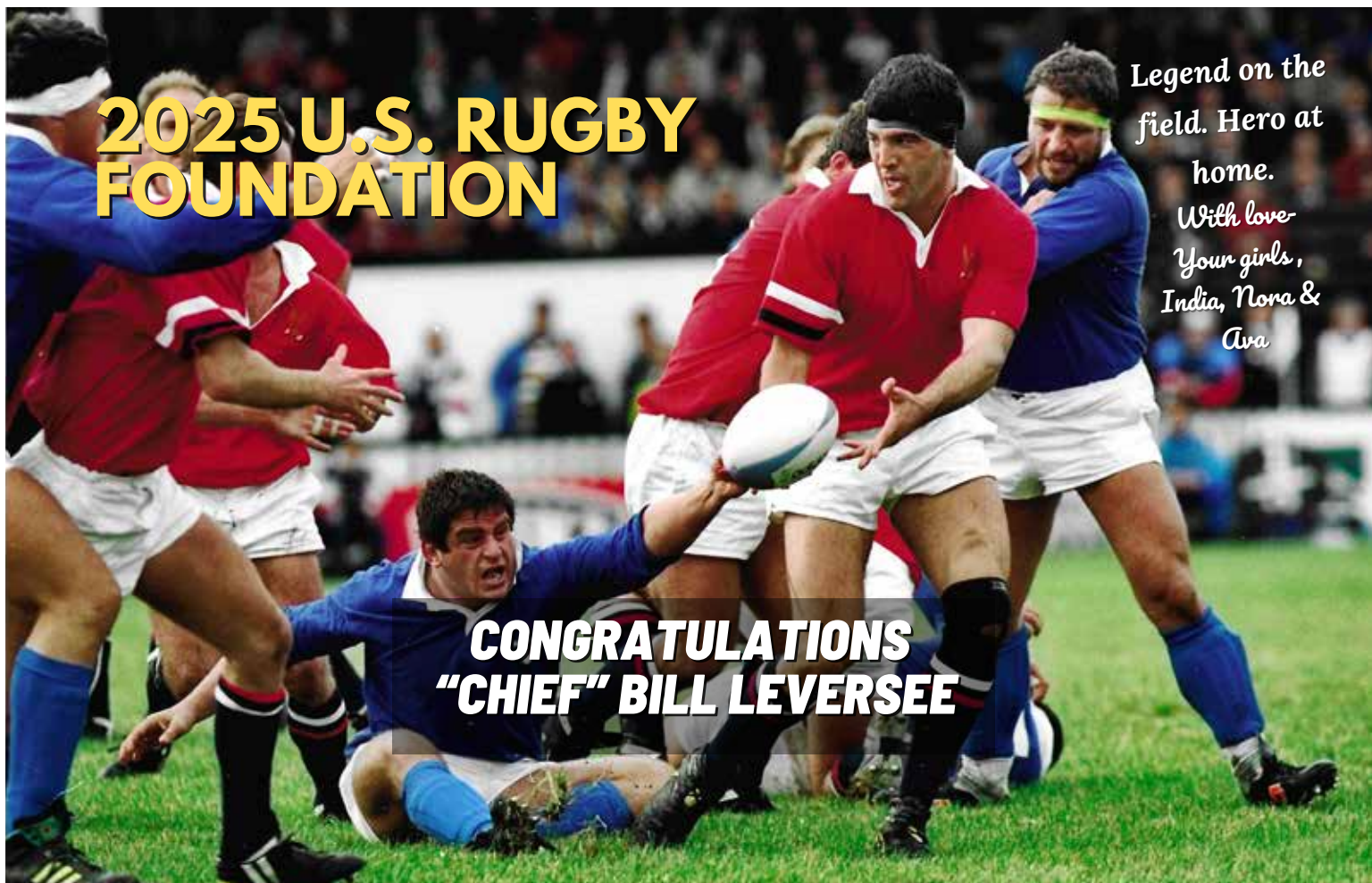
**to everyone in the
Class of 2025**

RHINORUGBY.COM

**2025 U.S. RUGBY
FOUNDATION**

*Legend on the
field. Hero at
home.
With love-
Your girls,
India, Nora &
Ava*

**CONGRATULATIONS
"CHIEF" BILL LEVERSEE**



Congratulations. Barb Fugate!

Your Metropolis Rugby Club family could not be prouder to celebrate you as you are inducted into the US Rugby Foundation Hall of Fame.

As a standout player and coach for the Metropolis Valkyries, you set the standard for excellence and passion both on and off the field. From wearing the Eagles jersey and winning the inaugural Women's World Cup to shaping the game as a coach, leader, and advocate, you have left an indelible mark on rugby in Minnesota and across the nation.

Your dedication to guiding young athletes, championing development through MARF, and paving the way for future generations, continues to inspire us all. Thank you for everything you have given to our sport and our community.

We are honored to call you one of our own.





CONGRATULATIONS TONY "TR" RIDNELL

Seattle Rugby Club Alumni
wish to congratulate Tony
Ridnell on his induction into
the US Rugby Hall of Fame!

Thank you, Tony, for your
unwavering dedication
and support of rugby!



WER



WOMEN'S ELITE RUGBY

womenseliterugby.us

Congratulations to the 2025 U.S. Rugby Hall of Fame inductees and
award winners!



BIG CONGRATULATIONS TO CURRENT INDUCTEES AND ALL HALL OF FAMERS

BEST OF THE BEST
PROVEN!

THANK YOU
US RUGBY FOUNDATION
FOR YOUR TIRELESS DEDICATION
YOUR RUGBY COMMUNITY



Congratulations...

Danita Knox on your Hall of Fame Induction
for the US Rugby Foundation, class of 2025.



Join us in elevating girls' and women's rugby!

Your donation will empower the coaches, referees, and administrators who are driving the future of this sport.

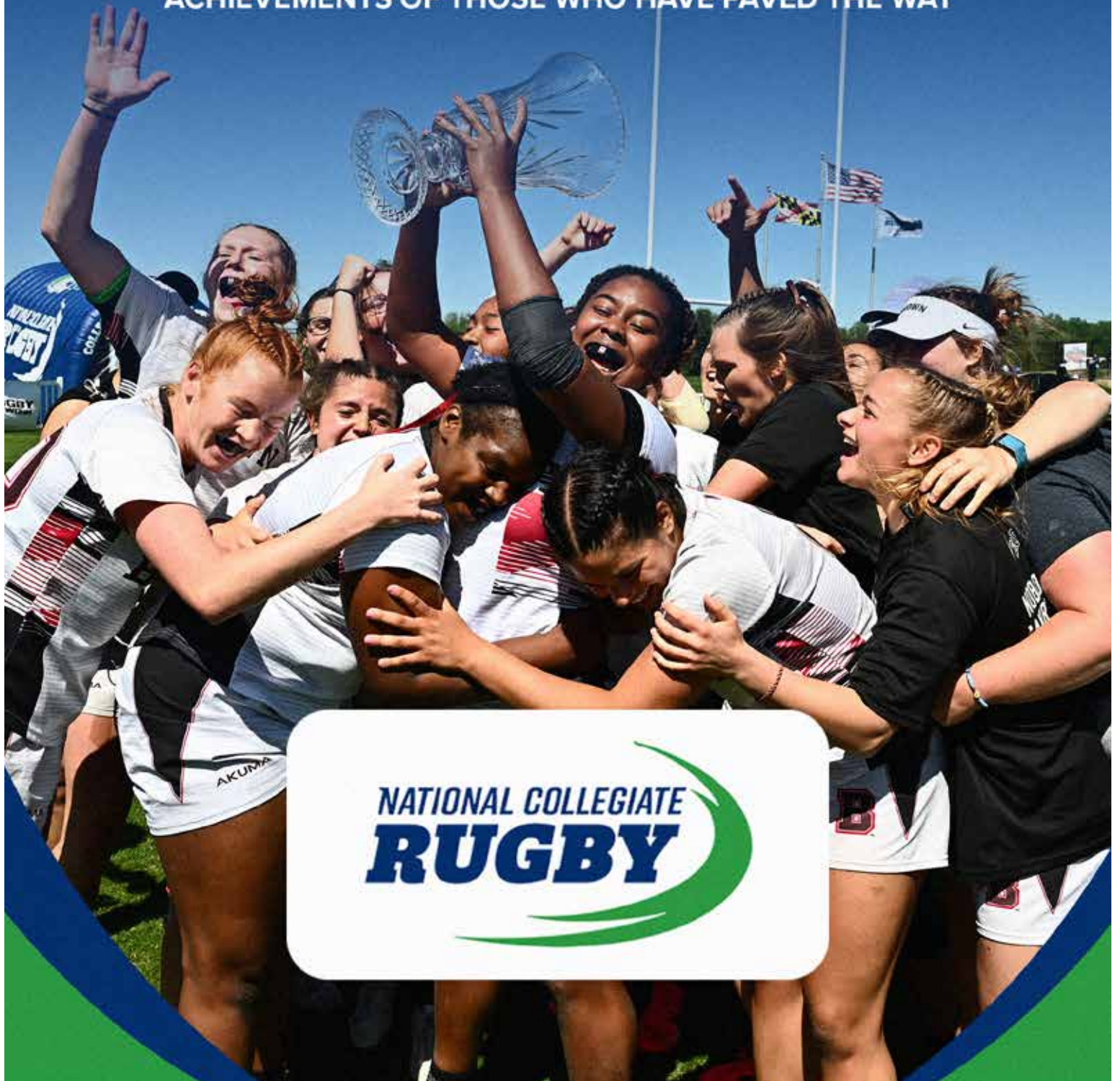
*Founding Member & Board Chair of the
US Women's Rugby Foundation.*

www.USWRF.org



HONORING THE LEGACY, INSPIRING THE FUTURE

NATIONAL COLLEGIATE RUGBY IS PROUD TO CELEBRATE THE
ACHIEVEMENTS OF THOSE WHO HAVE PAVED THE WAY



NATIONAL COLLEGIATE
RUGBY

