

Men's & Women's Rugby **AT THE UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA**

2025-2026 End of Season Report



Supported by
**UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA
RUGBY ALUMNI
ASSOCIATION**

July 2026



The 2025–2026 Gators Rugby End of Season Report is prepared and published by the University of Florida Rugby Alumni Association (EIN 84-4482311). The Association is an independent, nonprofit alumni organization and is not an official unit of the University of Florida. This document is produced in conjunction with the Men's and Women's Rugby programs for the sole purpose of recognizing program achievements during the 2025–2026 rugby season. All information contained herein is believed to be accurate as of the date of publication.



UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA
RUGBY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

From the Director of Rugby



When I retired as Head Coach of the Men's Rugby Club after 18 years, our new Head Coach, Martin Russell, asked me to stay on as Director of Rugby to help ensure a seamless transition. As it turned out, the transition needed very little help at all.

Coach Russell brought with him a player leadership model that distributed accountability across the roster and created a culture of ownership from within. He also introduced a structural framework that has proven to be a strong fit for the talent and experience this club carries. While the Men's program did not finish the season where we had hoped, the foundation that was laid this year shows genuine promise, and I am excited about what is ahead.

The Women's program, led by Head Coach Kerri O'Malley, had a remarkable season by every measure. Their commitment, depth, and competitive drive resulted in a State Championship in 15s and a historic first-ever 2026 CRC Qualifier berth in 7s. It was a joy to watch, and there is every reason to believe they will build on it next season.

None of this is possible without the people behind the programs. To our sponsors, friends, families, and alumni who support Gator Rugby through the UFRAA, thank you. What was started this year is worth building on, and the best is still ahead.

Let's Go Gators Rugby.

Thank You to the Legend



Ken Simmons

**2007-2025 University of Florida
Men's Head Coach**

**2026 Transition to Director of
Rugby for Men & Women**

**2019 University of Florida Alumni
Rugby Hall of Fame Inductee**

**2015 Naples Hammerheads Rugby
Hall of Fame**

**2010 Fort Lauderdale Knights Rugby
Hall of Fame**

2026 Collegiate Rugby Championship National



University of Florida Men
0 Wins & 4 Losses



University of Florida Women
2 Wins & 2 Losses

Why Rugby at University of Florida

#1 University in America

UF ranked No. 1 among all public and private universities for academic rigor and workforce preparation.

A Campus Being Built for You

Over \$1 billion in new undergraduate housing is underway, adding 10,000 new beds.

World-Class Research, Real Opportunity

UF's HiPerGator is the fastest university-owned supercomputer in the U.S., opening doors in AI and innovation.

Compete at the Highest Level

Gators Rugby fields nationally competitive Men's and Women's programs with a pathway to national championships.

A Community That Invests in Its Own

UF raised over \$625 million in new gifts, showing a culture of deep institutional commitment.

More Than an Athlete A Gator

Join a brotherhood and sisterhood rooted in tradition, competing under one of college sports' iconic names.

Men's
GATORS
RUGBY



Men's Head Coach



Martin Russell

HEAD COACH

It's not easy gaining admission to the University of Florida. The academic standard is high. So it is extremely rewarding to collaborate with such bright student athletes in building our Program. Their creative thinking and innovation enable us to identify and solve our challenges, both in preparation and then to be competitive on the field of play. Whilst my role is to facilitate this process, I also continue to learn every day from the group.

In my first season as Head Coach, we introduced a player leadership model that put accountability where it belongs, with the players themselves, and we built a structure designed to grow with the talent this club attracts. Program participation enabled us to field two teams, although we often found ourselves without a 'B' fixture against other universities that did not have the participation numbers. I don't believe this is a worrying trend – just the cyclical nature of growth that Programs experience. We reached the semi-final of the Florida Collegiate Championship. Although defeated in that game, it was a performance that augurs well for the future; a performance of intense physical commitment combined with confident and consistent rugby footballing skills.

The Program foundations feel healthy and we have the growing support of our alumni that you will read more about later. We need to get our on-campus recruitment right (its extraordinary how gifted athletes with no rugby experience can start to make a material impact within one semester) and we need to double-down on instilling the rugby ethos and community in our Program. Get these things right and we will provide the most exhilarating of life experiences for our student athletes.

Let's Go Gators Rugby.

Competition

15s Season



The men's program competes in the Collegiate Rugby Association of America (CRAA) Division 1AA, with regular season play in the fall and national playoffs in the spring. As part of this structure, the University of Florida competes within the Florida Conference.



Florida Atlantic University



Florida State University



University of Central Florida



Millennial Atlantic University



University of South Florida



University of Florida

7s Season



The University of Florida men's program competes in both the Collegiate Rugby Association of America (CRAA) and the National Collegiate Rugby (NCR) organizations, with the latter providing a sevens competition format. Participation in both gives Gator Rugby the broadest opportunity to compete at the highest level nationally.

University of Florida Men's 15s



Spring 15s Results

Date	Opponent	Score	Result
24th January	FSU	14-28	L
31st January	FAU	52-7	W
7th February	USF	6-7	L
14th February	UCF	43-17	W
28th February	MAU	3-54	L
7th March	UCF	36-26	W
28th March	FSU	23-28	L
4th April	MAU (FCC Semi Final)	5-38	L

15s Summary

8

GAMES
REGULAR SEASON FIXTURES

614

CARRIES
76.8 / GAME - BALL IN HAND

590

TACKLES
73.8 / GAME - DEFENSIVE LOAD

23

TRIES
2.9 / GAME - SCORING RATE

182

TOTAL POINTS
22.8 / GAME - ALL SOURCES

Attack & Scoring

TOP 5 - PER CATEGORY

TOP TRY SCORERS

1	Matthew Boylan
2	Charlie Cole
3	Matt Galardi
4	Adam Finlay
5	+9 players tied – Forcella, Oulton, Navarro, Olivero, Mata, Martin, Horner, Soto, Brooks

TRIES

5
4
3
2
1

Ball Carry

TOP 5 - PER CATEGORY

TOP BALL CARRIERS

1	Matthew Boylan
2	Giovanni Forcella
3	Hugh McIntyre
4	Jason Martin
5	James Fischer

CARRIES

102
48
48
46
39

TOP TRY ASSISTERS

1	Samuel Berney-Treacey
2	Matthew Boylan
3	Vincent De Porrata-Doria
4	+7 players tied – McIntyre, Oulton, Navarro, Mata, Martin, Finlay, Rodriguez

ASSISTS

3
3
2
1

DOMINANT CARRY %

1	Matt Galardi
2	Matthew Boylan
3	Giovanni Forcella
4	Jason Martin
5	Charlie Cole

MIN. 30 CARRIES

36.1%
34.3%
33.3%
32.6%
25.0%

Defense & Breakdown

TOP 5 - PER CATEGORY

TOP TACKLERS

1	Peter Scioritno
2	Matthew Boylan
3	Jason Martin
4	James Fischer
5	Roman Navarro

TACKLES

45
42
40
36
34

DOMINANT TACKLE %

1	Jason Martin
2	Adam Resnick
3	Keith-Patrick Oulton
4	Matthew Boylan
5	Vincent De Porrata-Doria

MIN. 20 TACKLES

27.5%
15.8%
15.1%
12.0%
11.8%

TOP POINT SCORERS

1	Charlie Cole
2	Daniel Mata
3	Matthew Boylan
4	Matt Galardi
5	Paez-Sansonetti, Finlay

POINTS

54
28
25
15
10

TOP MINUTES PLAYED

1	Jason Martin
2	Matthew Boylan
3	Ramon Horner
4	Peter Scioritno
5	Hugh McIntyre

MINUTES

640
630
620
593
547

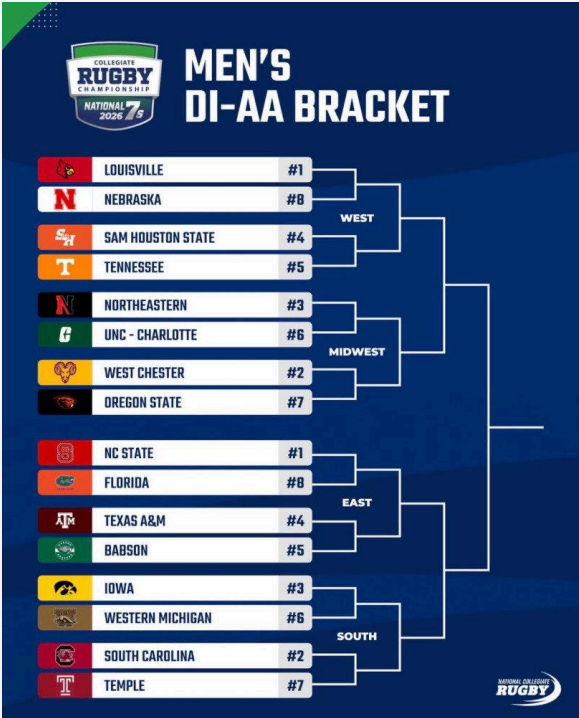
TOP POACHERS

1	Jason Martin
2	Roman Navarro
3	Vincent De Porrata-Doria
4	Matthew Boylan
5	Matt Galardi

TURNOVERS WON

13
6
6
3
2

CRC National 7s



	
0	32
	
24	38
	
12	29
	
14	28



UF RUGBY

NATIONAL 7s ROSTER

Boyd, Maryland • April 24–26


RUGBY CLUB

Roman Navarro	Matthew Boylan	Daniel Shumway
Trip Horner	Hunter McFarland	Charlie Cole
Mariano Federici	Jason Martin	Mayson Mendez
Adam Finlay	Alejandro Paez	Luke Mackenzie
Sam Berney-Treacey	Vincent 2PO	Kip Oulton
Coach Ken Simmons		



Coaching Staff



Martin Russell

HEAD COACH



Jason Buschman

ASSISTANT COACH



Ken Simmons

DIRECTOR OF RUGBY

**“ We compete to win – but our real measure of success is how our student athletes develop life skills; not just in the context of teamwork and leadership, but also the value of building relationships, problem solving under intense pressure and the importance of growing community.
- Martin Russell**

club officers



*Roman Navarro
President*



*Daniel Shumway
Vice President*



*Nick Musy
Treasurer*



*Daniel Mata
Secretary*



*Andres Soto
Merchandise Chair*



*Alberto Araya
Fundraising Officer*



*Luar Garcia
Recruiting Chair*



*Pierce Berardi
Marketing Chair*



*Matthew Boylan
Head Social Chair*



*Mayson Mendez
Social Chair*



*Andres Soto
Mentorship Chair*



*Trip Horner
Historian*

Player Awards

Matt Boylan

MVP

Pierce Berardi

MOST IMPROVED PLAYER

Jason Martin

MVP BACK

Matt Boylan

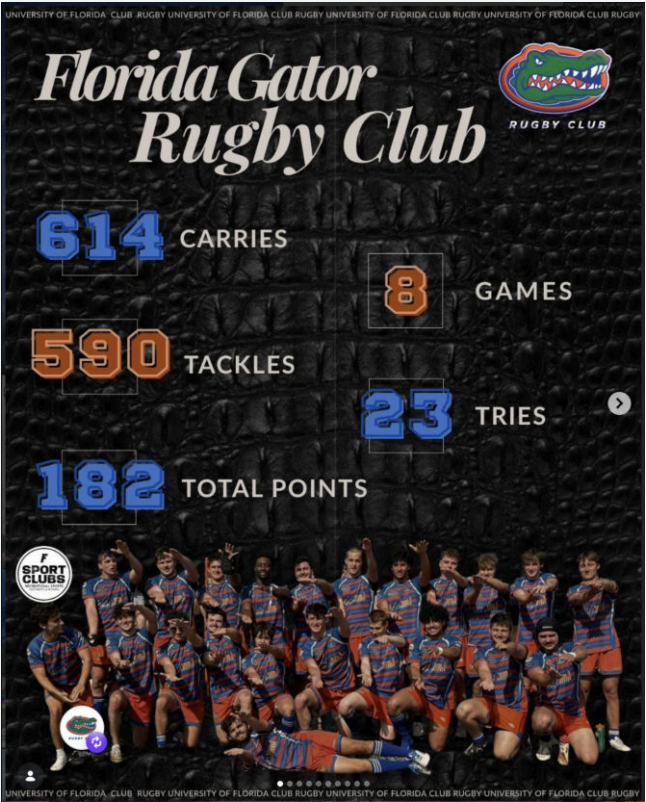
LEADERSHIP AWARD

Peter Sciortino

MVP FORWARD

charlie cole

MOST VALUABLE ROOKIE



2026 Graduating Class

Kyle Schehr

DECEMBER 2026

Trip Horner

MAY 2026

Dylan Aaron

MAY 2026

Felix Olivero

MAY 2026

Sam Davenport

MAY 2026

Martin Gentile

MAY 2026

2026 International Exchange Students

Adam Finlay

IRELAND

Sam Berney Treacey

IRELAND

Finley Walker

IRELAND

Luke Mackenzie

SCOTLAND

Vincent De Porrata-Doria

FRANCE

New Scholarship Program

Two new annual scholarships designed to help incoming student-athletes commit to Florida Gators Rugby — and to honor the alumni networks that built this club.

● TWO SCHOLARSHIPS · MEN'S PROGRAM



● OPEN · ACCEPTING APPLICANTS

MARK CARPENTER SCHOLARSHIP

Endowed by Bio '77–81 and '84–87 in honor of a Gators rugby founder.

AWARD AMOUNT

\$5,000 / \$2,500 Per Semester

ELIGIBILITY

INCOMING STUDENT

SCHOLARSHIPS / YR

ONE (1)

AVAILABLE

2027-2028 Academic Year

This Scholarship was funded by an alumni donor.



● OPEN · ACCEPTING APPLICANTS

FLORIDA RUGBY ALUMNI SCHOLARSHIP

From the alumni society marking the founding year of Florida Gators Rugby.

AWARD AMOUNT

\$5,000 / \$2,500 Per Semester

ELIGIBILITY

INCOMING STUDENT

SCHOLARSHIPS / YR

ONE (1)

AVAILABLE

2027-2028 Academic Year

This Scholarship was funded by an alumni donor.

New Scholarship Application Process

Step One: Fill out the team interest form

Step Two: Schedule meeting with Director of Rugby for application guidance

Step Three: Apply to University of Florida by Nov 15th

Step Four: Receive UF acceptance letter

Step Five: Considered for financial support from University of Florida Rugby Alumni Association

Women's
GATORS
RUGBY



Women's Head Coach



Kerri O'Malley
HEAD COACH

Coaching this group of women is a privilege. The club leadership has worked hard over the past 4 years to build a culture of hard work and accountability while creating a welcoming environment for new players. What they accomplished this season reflects everything they have worked for over the last 4 years — a State Championship in 15s and their first CRC National 7s berth. This group shows up every single day with purpose and demands the best from each other both on and off the field as teammates and friends.

One of our top priorities is to enforce skills while implementing a game plan so players know what to expect from their teammates and what is expected from them. These women show up to training ready to work and to compete, and off the field they keep the machine running through fundraisers and forward thinking communication and planning.

We know this was our first year coaching the club from fall to spring, and those changes were welcomed but we know an adjustment. We will continue to build on the club's success while fostering an atmosphere that honors the individual needs of our student athletes. To our alumni and supporters, your belief in and support this program makes a difference. Go Gators!

“ We will continue to build on the club's success while fostering an atmosphere that honors the individual needs of our student athletes.”

- Kerri O'Malley

Competition

15s Season



In the fall 15s season, we beat out every team in Florida to become the Florida Rugby Union state champs and advanced to SARC regionals in Charlotte, NC, where we played UVA and JMU. Although we did not advance, we can't wait to come back stronger next 15s season!



Lander University



University of Central Florida



Florida State University



University of Virginia



James Madison University

7s Season



In the Spring season, we were once again Florida State champs, and also beat out several other teams from the Southeast to qualify for CRC National 7s in DC. At CRC 7s, we went 2-2, becoming D1AA Shield Champions.



University of Florida Women's 15s



University of Florida Women's 15s



15s Summary

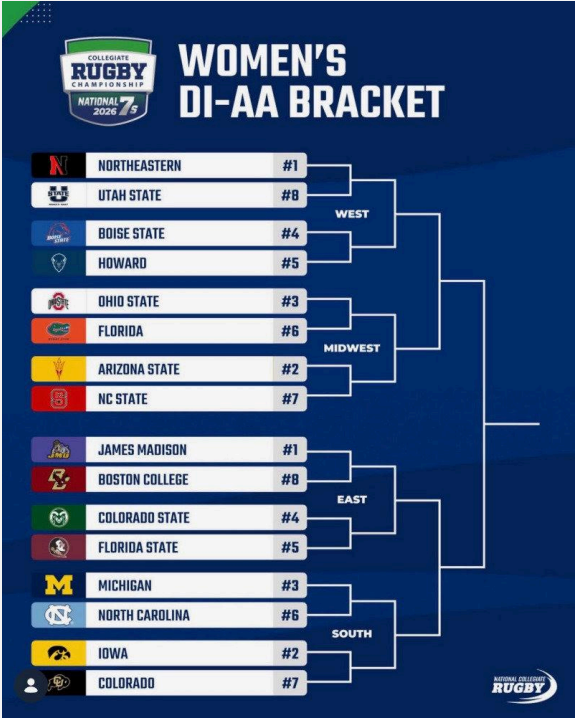
Florida Rugby Union State Champions. Gators Rugby swept through every team in Florida before advancing to SARC Regionals in Charlotte, NC, where they faced UVA and JMU. The program comes back hungrier next season.

Opponent	Score	Result
Lander	19-51	L
University of Central Florida	38-29	W
Florida State University	69-0	W

University of Florida Women's 7s



CRC National 7s



	
5	29
	
7	29
	
22	0
	
20	19



2-2 Won the Shield

Alumni Weekend Photos



7s Summary

Back-to-back Florida State Champions. Gators Rugby earned their first-ever CRC National 7s berth by winning the Love at First Ruck qualifier, going 5-0 through the Southeast field. At CRC Nationals in Washington, DC, the team went 2-2 and claimed the D1AA Shield Championship.

Love at First Ruck Qualifier

Opponent	Score	Result
CIT	46-0	W
University of Central Florida	24-15	W
Florida State University	22-12	W
Clemson	24-19	W
Florida State University	17-12	W

Coaching Staff



Kerri O'Malley

HEAD COACH



Zarko Njezic

ASSISTANT HEAD COACH



Ken Simmons

DIRECTOR OF RUGBY



Dave Meehan

GUEST COACH



Jason Buschman

GUEST COACH



Jordan Taylor

GUEST COACH

club officers



Zoe Jendrusiak
President



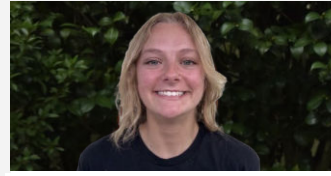
Ashleigh Guenette
Vice President



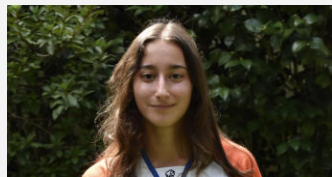
Ana Rincon
Treasurer



Angelina Nevryueva
Forwards Captain + Alumni Chair



Sommer Soderman
Backs Captain



Luciana Caraballo
Match Secretary



Penelope Alfonso
Social Media Chair



Ariella Searfoss
Co-Recruitment Chair



Helen Totten
Co-Recruitment Chair



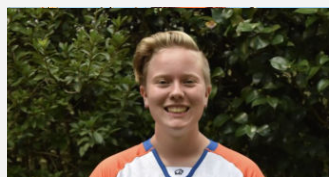
Maya Gary
Service Chair



Katelyn Zeifman
Fundraising Chair



Laura Collins
Merchandise Chair



Sophie Thompson
Social Chair

Player Recognitions



Anna Jennings

Captain



Amelia Cutshaw

Captain



Alanis Rivera

Most Valuable Forward



**Angelina
Newyueva**

Most Valuable Player



Jessica Engel

Most Valuable Back

2026 Graduating Class



Mia Comas

MAY 2026



Anna Jennings

MAY 2026



Alanis Rivera

MAY 2026



Amelia Cutshaw

MAY 2026



Sofia Izquierdo

MAY 2026



Adeline Eichler

MAY 2026



UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA RUGBY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Mission & Vision

MISSION

To build and sustain a rugby community at the University of Florida where players are developed into champions, alumni are connected across every era, and the program competes with the resources it deserves.

VISION

To be the program every Gators rugby player looks back on as the best years of their life and the one every future player can't wait to be part of.

Our Strategic Pillars

1

**One Community.
Every Era of Gator Rugby.**

GATORS RUGBY COMMUNITY

2

**Build a Financial Foundation
That Outlasts Us.**

FINANCIAL STABILITY

3

**Compete for Championships.
Build Champions.**

CLUB COMPETITION

4

**Make Gators Rugby
Impossible to Ignore.**

GATORS RUGBY BRAND

Board of Directors & Officers



Ken Simmons

Board Chair - Officer
UFRFC 1981-85
Board Class of 2028



Howard Ehrsam

Board Vice Chair - Officer
UFRFC 1989-95
Board Class of 2028



George Luttrell

Board Secretary - Officer
UFRFC 1973-74
Board Class of 2029



Dennis Frisch

Board Treasurer - Officer
UFRFC 1973-77



Noel Carpenter

UFRFC 1981-85
Board Class of 2027



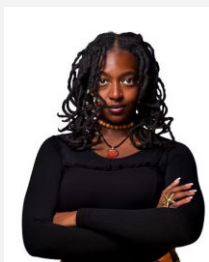
Chris Brown

UFRFC 1994-98
Board Class of 2027



Campbell Lackey

UFRFC 2019-23
Board Class of 2027



Nwanban Chiaecherem

UFRFC 2018-23
Board Class of 2028



Norm Litwick

UFRFC 1977-81
Board Class of 2029



Sue Woodbery

UFRFC 1976-80
Board Class of 2029

Become an Alumni Member



Become of a member of the University of Florida Rugby Alumni Association. Your contribution goes to providing sustainable support of the Men's and Women's Rugby Clubs at the University.

Become a Member

Membership Dues

\$100 per year

\$25 per year for recent graduates (within 3 years)



Contributors to the Florida Rugby Endowment become Members of the 1969 Society



***For Our Past,
For the Present
And For the Future.***



Join the 1969 Society



144
Lifetime Members
326 Total Contributions

Named for the year rugby was established at UF, the 1969 Society unites supporters behind the Florida Rugby Endowment, a permanent fund that generates annual income for both the men's and women's Gators Rugby programs.

The endowment distributes approximately 4% of its value each year to support Gators Rugby. The larger it grows, the greater its impact. Every gift counts, and every donor is a member of the 1969 Society.



Give once, give plenty.
Support Gators Rugby forever.



Members of the 1969 Society attending the first annual 1969 Society Reception held during Alumni Weekend in Gainesville on January 17, 2026.

Florida Rugby Endowment



The Florida Rugby Endowment exists to ensure Gators Rugby thrives for generations to come, giving student athletes the resources to compete no matter what the future holds.

For endowment questions, please contact:

Will Greaves (UFRFC 2009-12)

(813) 766 9340, igreaves4330@gmail.com

Tim McCarthy (UFRFC 1974-77, 80-81)

(407) 925 6069, tkmccarthy5@gmail.com

Ashley Smith (UFRFC 2015 & 16)

(904) 504 3586, AshleySmith11@aol.com

Current Balance	\$174,635
2026 Distribution	\$3,806
2025 Distribution	\$2,995
2024 Distribution	\$1876
2023 Distribution	\$1100



We have partnered with The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida — established in 1964 with over \$800M in assets and \$326M distributed to organizations across the region in the last 5 years.



1969 Society Member Highlight

One way to consider giving is to follow the lead of **George Luttrell**, He provides his annual contribution through is IRA Qualified Charitable Distribution.

2026 Distribution



Presentation of this year's financial support from the Florida Rugby Endowment during Alumni Weekend in Gainesville on January 17, 2026.

In 2026, University of Florida Rugby Alumni Association distributed

\$3,806

to the Men's and Women's Clubs

In January, during the Annual Alumni weekend, The 1969 Society provided the annual support to the clubs. \$1,903 provided to the Men's club and \$1,903 to the Women's club.

US Rugby Foundation Grant



The UFRAA was selected for the 2025 US Rugby Foundation x Madak Collegiate Alumni Jumpstart Grant — chosen from a competitive field of 30 applicants nationwide. Through a series of strategic sessions, UFRAA leaders developed a focused roadmap to strengthen alumni engagement and grow support for Gators Rugby. The program concluded in January 2026, delivering clear priorities that are now driving the association forward.



**James Madison
Univeristy Rugby
Alumni Association**

Men & Women Northeast



**Ohio State University
Men's Rugby Alumni
Association**

Men Midwest



**University of Florida
Rugby Alumni
Association**

Men & Women Southeast



**The Texas Rugby
Alumni Association**

Men South

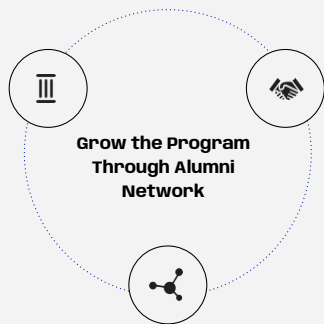


**University of Oregon
Rugby Club**

Men Northwest

UFRAA Hires Madak

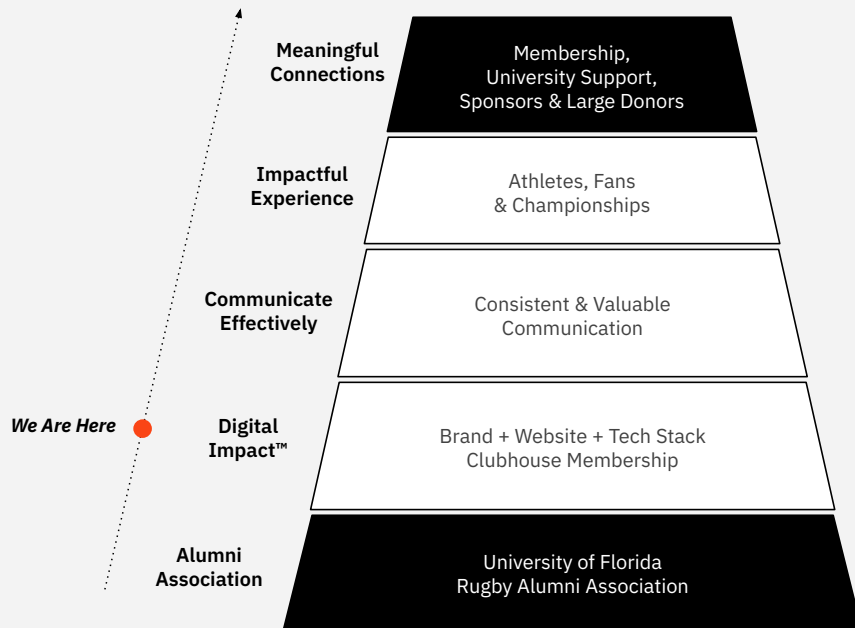
Building on the momentum of the grant, UFRAA engaged Madak for a two-year strategic initiative to advance the association's core pillars — with a one-year review to assess progress and sharpen priorities. The partnership is designed to build lasting infrastructure that positions UFRAA for long-term success.



MADAK

Madak exists to professionalize and strengthen your program's short and long term strategies to ensure long term success, competitiveness and growth.

Foundation	Engagement	Impact
✓ Board & Staff	✓ Fundraising	✓ Vision Plan
✓ Club Status	✓ Communication	✓ Endowment
✓ Alumni Database	✓ Digital Impact™	✓ Scholarships
✓ Team Performance	✓ Recruitment	✓ Mentorship
✓ Budget	✓ Annual Events	✓ Tradition



New Home for Gators Rugby

By August 2026, gatorsrugby.com launches as the unified home for everything Gators Rugby — men's, women's, and alumni. One destination. One community. Built to connect, engage, and drive the program forward.



INAUGURAL

SEPT 11-13, 2026 · UF RUGBY HAVEN - 6892 SW 96th STREET - HAMPTON, FL

WHO'S INVITED?

RECRUITS / PARENTS

ALUMNI / TEAM / BOOSTERS

FAMILY GATORS RUGBY FALL FESTIVAL



FOOTBALL SATURDAY
WATCH PARTY



FLORIDA
GATORS

VS



CAMPBELL
CAMELS

FRIDAY · SEPTEMBER 11

LAKE DAY



UF RUGBY HAVEN [6892 SW 96TH ST · HAMPTON, FL](#)

Camping

Touch Rugby

Tubing

Kayaking

Paddleboarding

Boating

Sunset Cruises

BBQ

SATURDAY · SEPTEMBER 12

GAME DAY

UF RUGBY HAVEN [6892 SW 96TH ST · HAMPTON, FL](#)

10-11 AM Rugby scrimmage

Noon Gator football tailgate

Kickoff Gators vs. Campbell

BEN HILL GRIFFIN STADIUM [THE SWAMP · GAINESVILLE, FL](#)

SUNDAY · SEPTEMBER 13

BRUNCH & TOUCH

SQUIRREL FIELD · GAINESVILLE [SUNDAY TOUCH PICKUP · NOON](#)

10 AM Send-off brunch

Noon Touch rugby pickup

With the Gainesville Hogs RFC squirrel-field regulars.

SAVE THE DATE - MORE INFORMATION COMING SOON - QUESTIONS? ASK NOEL AT 678 · 928 · 1304



UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA
RUGBY ALUMNI
ASSOCIATION

Alumni Weekend

Save the Date: January 15-17, 2027

[Learn More](#)



JANUARY 14, 2027

Thursday

UFRFC

Team Practice

JANUARY 15, 2027

Friday

AM: Golf & Pickleball

PM: Meet & Greet

JANUARY 16, 2027

Saturday

AM: UFRAA Meetings

PM: Alumni Matches
1969 Society Reception
Alumni Dinner & Program

JANUARY 17, 2027

Sunday

AM: Breakfast

GATORS RUGBY



Supported by

**UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA
RUGBY ALUMNI
ASSOCIATION**

Website

gatorsrugby.com

Email

hello@gatorsrugby.com

Instagram Men

[@ufrugby](https://www.instagram.com/ufrugby)

Instagram Women

[@uf_womens_rugby](https://www.instagram.com/uf_womens_rugby)

