



James Madison
University Rugby

JUNE 2026

JMU Men's Rugby

2025-2026 End Of Season Report

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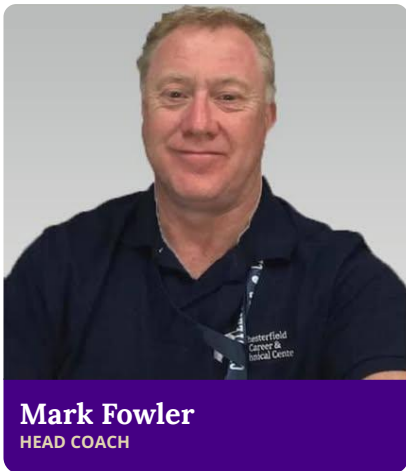


JMU Rugby
Alumni Association

In Partnership with



Message from the Head Coach



This school year of rugby was defined by resilience — watching our Freshman and Sophomore class rise to the moment and prove exactly what this program is made of.

The Fall season tested us in ways we didn't anticipate. With 37 players stepping up to represent the Varsity due to injuries and prior commitments, we saw young athletes accelerate their development and compete at a high level far earlier than expected. That kind of trial-by-fire builds character, and this group delivered. The Varsity earned their spot in the playoffs, and in a tight contest against Delaware, we were three points away from advancing — a testament to how competitive this squad became over the course of the season.

Thank you to the alumni, parents, and the wider JMU community whose continued support makes this program thrive. The 2025–2026 side leaves the shirt in a better place than they found it, and with the experience this young group has gained, we are genuinely excited for what next season holds.

Where We Focus: Fall vs. Spring Seasons



Fall Season

The Fall season is where Madison Rugby stakes its claim in the Mid-Atlantic Rugby Conference. The Dukes field A and B sides in Fifteens competition, battling MARC opponents across Virginia, Delaware, Pennsylvania, Maryland, and New Jersey — with a developmental side fielded when the roster depth is there. It's the season that sets the standard, builds the core, and determines postseason positioning.

Fifteens

A, B & Developmental Sides

Developmental side when there is enough new players



Spring Season

When the calendar turns, so does the format. The Spring season gives the Dukes two formats and two opportunities — developmental Fifteens matches to bring newer players up to speed, and A & B side Sevens competition across the East Coast circuit. For many players, spring is where development accelerates fastest. For the program, it's a chance to close the year strong and build momentum heading into the next fall.

Fifteens

Mix of A/B side

Developmental matches to get new players competition

Sevens

A & B sides

Our Competition: The Mid-Atlantic Rugby Conference MARC



Mid-Atlantic Rugby Conference

JMU competes in the Mid-Atlantic Rugby Conference (MARC), a competitive Division 1-AA South league spanning ten member schools across Virginia, Delaware, Pennsylvania, Maryland, New Jersey



James Madison University



University of Delaware



Pittsburgh State



Rutgers University



Temple University



University of Maryland



Princeton University



Rowan University



Saint Joseph's University



West Chester University



Spring Sevens Circuit

In the spring, the Dukes traveled the East Coast sevens circuit, headlined by the Collegiate Rugby Championship in Washington, D.C.

2/21 - George Mason

2/28 - UMD

3/7 - UMD (Qualifier)

3/28 - USC (Qualifier)

4/4 - MARC

4/11 - MARC

4/25 - NCR



James Madison University Men's Rugby



15s Season Highlights

5 Wins, 5 Losses for Fall Season

Earned a berth in the MARC Playoffs despite significant roster adversity throughout the season

Expanded our coaching staff, bringing in a new coach dedicated to player development and onboarding newer members of the club

Welcomed 15–20 new players in the fall, reflecting the growing reputation of JMU Rugby on campus

Finished the season with the program in a stronger position than we found it — a deeper roster, more experienced young players, and a foundation set for a strong 2026–2027 campaign

Upperclassmen on the A-side battled through injuries with character and commitment, modeling the leadership JMU Rugby is built on

15s Schedule and Results

Date	Opponent	Side	Location	Result
Aug 29	Christendom	A	Away	W 37-8
Sep 6	SVU	A	Away	L 15-62
Sep 13	Delaware	A	Home	W 44-15
Sep 20	NOVA Men's	A	Home	L 35-19
Sep 27	Virginia Tech	A	Away	L 20-5
Oct 4	West Chester	A	Away	L 61-26
Oct 11	St. Joe's	A	Away	L 10-57
Oct 18	Maryland	A	Home	W 57-34
Oct 18	Maryland	B	Home	W 34-22
Nov 8	Rocktown Rugby	B	Away	W 35-27

7s Spring Season

JMU Men's Rugby Spring 2026 Schedule

7's

2/21 – George Mason

2/28 – UMD

3/7 – UMD (Qualifier)

3/28 – USC (Qualifier)

4/4 – MARC

4/11 – MARC

4/25 – NCR



This past season presented genuine challenges for our Sevens program. Losing five seniors to graduation and three additional players to injury left us fielding a young, inexperienced roster for much of the year. Senior and captain Miles Haynes stepped up to anchor the group and lead by example throughout the campaign.

Despite the adversity, the squad competed at multiple tournaments across the season. Early on, the team showed its potential with wins over Towson and Frostburg. At the Maryland Automatic Qualifier, the Dukes were placed in a demanding group alongside national runner-up NC State, national qualifier Maryland, and Niagara — a draw that tested the team and ultimately left us finishing 10th. A similar result followed in the conference tournament, where a banged-up squad finished 10th.

After three consecutive national qualifying appearances, falling short of Nationals this year stung. But the foundation for a strong response is already in place. With just one player departing and a roster that gained invaluable experience this season, the expectation heading into next year is clear: growth, development, and a big bounce back.

The best is still ahead. Go Dukes!

Program Leadership & Coaching Staff



Dr. Mark Fowler

HEAD COACH
CLASS OF 1990

A native of Wales and JMU graduate (MS, 1990), Mark played over 100 games of Division 1 rugby in Wales before beginning a coaching career that brought him back to Harrisonburg. He served as JMU's head coach from 1988–90 and returned to the sideline in 2021. In between, he led the James River Men's Rugby Club as a player-coach (1994–99) and non-player coach (2017–21), and served as Virginia State Men's U25 Head Coach. A member of the Virginia Rugby Hall of Fame.



Ruairi Walsh

COACH

A native of Ireland, Ruairi played rugby as a versatile back — center, wing, and fullback — before joining the JMU coaching staff in 2018. His focus is skill development, and he brings the intensity of a lifelong, passionate Munster supporter to everything he does on the pitch.



Jake Seratore

COACH
CLASS OF 2013

Jake's rugby journey started in high school and ran through JMU, where he played from 2013 to 2017. After graduating, he played for the Kalamazoo Dogs and currently serves as a player-coach for Rocktown Men's Rugby in Harrisonburg. He joined JMU as an assistant coach in 2021, specializing in forward play, and also serves as the program's Men's 7s Coach.



Steven Proffitt

COACH

A native of Canada, Steven has been part of the rugby world for over three decades — starting as a player in the Ontario Rugby Union in 1989 and logging 17 years on the field. His coaching résumé spans Florida State University, two clubs he founded in Florida, and stints leading Div 2 and Div 3 programs. He guided the Tallahassee Conquistadors to the Elite 8 in 2014 and led the Orlando Griffins to their first Florida State Championship in 50 years.

2025-2026 Player Awards



Saxton Garver
MVP



Nick Beasley
CLUBMAN OF THE YEAR



Scott Rigual
CLUBMAN OF THE YEAR



JJ Tiago
ROOKIE OF THE YEAR



Class of 2026 Graduating Seniors

The JMU Men's Rugby program is incredibly proud of our 2026 graduating class.

These young men have not only excelled on the field, but have grown into outstanding individuals who embody the spirit of rugby. Through their dedication, teamwork, and resilience, they have left a lasting impact on the program.

As they embark on the next chapter of their lives, we have no doubt they will continue to make a positive difference in the world, inspired by the values they learned through rugby, having become "Hard Gentlemen."

Saxton Garver

CO-CAPTAIN

Miles Haynes

CO-CAPTAIN

Nick Beasley

PRESIDENT

Garret Ashworth

Scott Rigual

Adam Hakim

Joey Foltz

TJ Andrewlevich

Colin Dumas

Preston Francois

Ryan McManus

Thomas Fitzpatrick

Hans Von Thielen

Community Impact



This year, JMU Men's Rugby was proud to participate in the Relay For Life at James Madison University, joining the fight against cancer and honoring those who have been affected by it.

Relay For Life was a meaningful event that brought the JMU community together to celebrate survivors, remember loved ones, and raise money for cancer research and patient support — and we were honored to be a part of it.

Thank you to everyone who donated and supported our team fundraiser. Your generosity made a real difference, and we are grateful for every contribution.

Thank you for continuing to support JMU Rugby and helping us make an impact beyond the pitch.

Go Dukes!



JMU Rugby Alumni Association

In Partnership with



Overview

Connecting the JMU Rugby Community



**James Madison
University Rugby**

Mission

To unite every generation of Madison Rugby — building the association, the connections, and the resources that allow the program to grow, compete, and endure.

Who We Serve

Current players, parent, alumni from every era, and future Dukes who haven't yet found their way to the pitch

What We Do

Organize the alumni community, fund the program's capital needs, and strengthen JMU Rugby's standing on campus

Why It Matters

A great program is built on the field and off it — the alumni association is what makes the off-field work possible

Vision

The Mid-Atlantic's premier rugby program:
a destination for elite competition, lifelong brotherhood,
and alumni who never stop showing up.

Alumni

A thriving, organized association
where Old Boys stay connected
and invest in what comes next

Program

A clubhouse, funded coaching,
and university recognition that
put Madison Rugby among the
elite of collegiate rugby

Pipeline

A Mid-Atlantic destination program
— the place youth players in Virginia,
PA, and the Tri-State area are
working toward

The Next 5 Years Will Set the Stage for the Next 50 Years

Every great program is built twice: first on the field, then off it. The work we do over the next five years will pave the way for the Dukes who come after. The alumni are here. The community is here. The tradition is here. What we are building is the system that connects all of it and makes it last.

Five years. One mission. Let's go Dukes.

JMU Rugby has a history worth honoring and a future worth building. Decades of players, teammates, and memories have created a community that runs deeper than any single season — and it is time to give it the structure it has always deserved.

Strategic Pillars

Strengthen The Alumni Association

Build The Foundation
Everyone Else Stands On.

Connect Every Era of Madison Rugby

One Community.
From The First Class to the Current.

Build Financial Foundation that outlasts Us

Fund The Program
For Generations.

Elevate JMU Rugby

Raise The Program's Status
On Campus.

Make JMU Rugby the Destination

Every Pathway Leads
To Harrisonburg.

Build Champions On and Off the Field

Develop The Person,
Not Just The Player.

JMU Rugby Alumni Association Impact

\$280,000+ Invested in JMU Rugby since 2021

The JMU Rugby Alumni Association and the John Carr Memorial Rugby Fund have directed over a quarter million dollars into this program in five years — funding the field, the coaches, the scholarships, the travel, and the infrastructure that makes Madison Rugby possible.

\$150,000+

to the John Carr Field endowment

Andy Edwards' annual trip

funded every year since 2023

VEO camera

& streaming subscription

MARC dues, post-season travel,

and general club operations

Alumni Weekend events

across five years

Luis De Souza Pinto Scholarship

\$3,300 awarded annually, and growing

JMU Rugby Alumni Association Impact

Coach Andy Edwards Annual Trip from Wales

Every August, Coach Andy Edwards makes the trip from Carmarthen, Wales to bring international-caliber coaching to JMU's preseason.

Coaching Support

Alumni coaches Mark Fowler, Jake Seratore, Ruairi Walsh, and Steven Profitt give their time and expertise to develop every player on the roster.

Scholarship Impact

The Hank Mozingo Captain's Rugby Scholarship and the Luis De Souza Pinto '02 Memorial Scholarship represent alumni investing directly in the players who carry this program forward.

Annual Events

From the Annual Alumni Fall Weekend to the MOB Rally in Baltimore, alumni show up — on the pitch and in the stands — to keep the Madison Rugby community connected.

Team Travel

Alumni financial support through the John Carr Memorial Rugby Fund helps cover the travel costs that allow JMU Rugby to compete across the MARC and the East Coast sevens circuit.

VEO Livestream Equipment

Alumni-funded VEO camera equipment allows the program to film and stream matches, giving coaches a development tool and keeping alumni connected to the team wherever they are.

John Carr Field

The John Carr Memorial Rugby Fund has contributed \$150,000+ toward the John Carr Field endowment over five years — funding the permanent home where every JMU Rugby match is played.

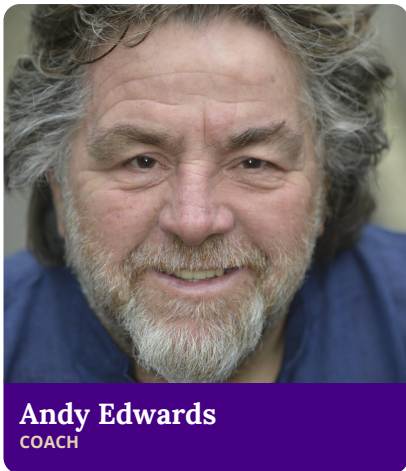
MARC Dues & Club Operations

Alumni dollars cover the cost of competing — conference dues, general club expenses, and post-season play costs that keep the program on the field and in contention.

CRM & Communications Infrastructure

The Alumni Association funds the operational backbone of the program, including the Bloomerang donor management system and strategic communications support that keep alumni connected and engaged.

Coach Andy Edwards Annual Trip from Wales



A Wales native with deep roots in the game, Coach Edwards brings decades of elite rugby experience to the JMU Men's Rugby sideline. He played at the highest levels of Welsh club rugby with Llanelli RFC and London Welsh RFC before transitioning into coaching, eventually earning his WRU Senior Level 4 coaching certification and serving as Assistant Coach for the FIRA Wales Under-19s at the 1999 World Cup. His background spans player development at every level — from grassroots festivals as a WRU Development Officer to elite competition — giving him a rare ability to meet players where they are and push them further.

Off the pitch, he is just as driven: in 2009, he organized and completed a 3,000-mile cycle across the United States in 15 days, raising over £80,000 for a children's charity. Madison Rugby is fortunate to have his expertise, his passion, and his standard of excellence on our sideline. Go Dukes!

Andy's impact on JMU Men's Rugby is hard to quantify. He brings a wealth of knowledge as a seasoned Loose Head Prop who has played and coached at the highest level, but also a genuine passion for the game and the enjoyment it brings to each player. His hunger and respect for rugby — born of 50 years as a player and coach — is infectious and adds greatly to our program's culture. Beyond on-field success, rugby teaches larger life lessons, and Andy's coaching approach and ebullient personality always reinforce that, giving the lads a positive boost during match prep, games, and camps. I am so grateful to the Alumni Association for their support and commitment in making this happen.

- Coach Dr. Mark Fowler

Become A JMU Rugby Alumni Association Member

The JMU Rugby Alumni Association is launching its first formal membership program — and the founding class sets the tone for everything that follows. Whether you're a recent grad or a decades-long Duke, there's a tier built for where you are. Every membership goes directly toward sustaining the program, funding the campaigns underway, and building the financial foundation Madison Rugby needs for the next 50 years. Go Dukes!

Young Duke

Recent Graduate within 5 years

\$25/yr or \$3/month

Annual

Monthly

Duke

Standard

\$100/yr or \$10/month

Annual

Monthly

Veteran

Mid

\$250/yr or \$25/month

Annual

Monthly

Captain

Upper

\$500/yr or \$50/month

Annual

Monthly

Legend

One-time lifetime membership

\$5,000 one-time

Become A Legend

Founders

Founders membership

\$1,000 one-time + Veteran starting in 2027

Become A Founder

A one-time **\$1,000** gift names you a Founder member of the 50-year campaign. Aimed at alumni who pledged years ago but never gave, it converts a one-time gift into an ongoing **\$250+ annual** commitment. Offered the first year only: like the season-ticket wall from a team's first year, if you are not in now, you are out. This is the launch centerpiece.

Attention Alumni - We are seeking key alumni to step up as Founders to kickstart our Membership Drive - will this be you?

Why Become a Member

The Why

Vote

A voice in electing association officers, the first time ever.

Swag

We are still working on the swag options but we know it will be unique to JMU Rugby.

Recognition

Your name on the website wall and in the reunion program.

The Target

Goal

\$40K annual operating budget from alumni.

Stakeholders not just donors

Annual dues, voting rights, and a clear use of funds turn one-off givers into recurring members.

Sustainability

A predictable base lets the club set its budget before each season.

Annual Membership

Monthly Membership

Lifetime Membership

Founder's Membership

Where and Why to Give



The John Carr Memorial Rugby Fund is the Alumni Association's primary fundraising vehicle for JMU Men's Rugby operations. Gifts to the Carr Fund give the Alumni Association full discretion to invest directly in the program — covering team travel, equipment, coaching support, sponsorships, and capital improvements. This is alumni money, controlled by alumni, deployed for the benefit of every Duke on the roster.

The Alumni Association is building something that lasts. The best way to be part of it is to become a member — your dues fuel the campaigns, scholarships, and investments that keep Madison Rugby moving forward.

Annual Membership

Monthly Membership

Lifetime Membership

Founder's Membership



Two scholarships run formally through James Madison University, allowing donors to make directed gifts that count toward JMU's institutional alumni giving records.

Hank Mozingo Captain's Rugby Scholarship

Awarded to a player who exemplifies leadership, humility, and commitment on the field.

Luis De Souza Pinto '02 Memorial Scholarship

Open to on- or off-field recipients, honoring a teammate who embodied everything Madison Rugby stands for.

Giving through JMU connects alumni to the university's broader philanthropic programs while ensuring every dollar goes directly to JMU Rugby.

2025 Alumni September Weekend



The Hank Mozingo Captain's Rugby Scholarship



HONORING A CAPTAIN The Hank Mozingo Captain's Rugby Scholarship

This season, JMU Rugby honored the memory of Henry "Hank" Carlton Mozingo, a two-time team captain ('88-'89) who passed away unexpectedly in August 2025. In his memory, the JMU Rugby community established the Hank Mozingo Captain's Rugby Scholarship, awarded annually to a player who exemplifies the humility, perseverance, and commitment to teammates that defined Hank's life on and off the pitch. The endowment launched at \$25,000, with Hank's family pledging a \$25,000 match upon reaching 50 donors — a lasting investment in JMU Rugby's future.

[Read the Article](#)



- Hank served as Team Captain in 1988 and 1989, leading JMU to two Ed Lee Cup wins and a Final Four appearance in the East Coast College Championship
- Named to the Madison Rugby All-Decade Team of the 1980s
- Scholarship endowment launched at \$25,000 with a \$25,000 family match pending 50 donors
- Hank's wife, daughter and son attended MRC Alumni Weekend in fall 2025 and addressed the team directly

2026 JMU Giving Day



JMU Giving Day was a university-wide fundraising event that gave alumni, family, and friends the opportunity to make a direct impact on the rugby program. Every gift made through the day went straight to JMU Rugby — supporting the student-athletes who show up every day because they love the game and love representing JMU.

The day delivered a landmark result for the Hank Mozingo Captain's Scholarship Endowment. 64 donors gave to JMU Rugby, surpassing the 50-donor threshold and unlocking an additional \$25,000 in matching funds from the Mozingo family. The fund now stands at \$59,713 — 60% of the way to a \$100,000 permanent endowment goal.

[Read the Article →](#)

HIGHLIGHTS

64 donors

gave to JMU Rugby
on Giving Day

\$59,713 raised

toward the \$100,000
endowment goal

50-donor threshold hit \$25,000

Mozingo match unlocked

Funds raised

are sufficient to award
a scholarship for 2026–2027

All gifts

went directly to the
JMU Rugby program

Luis De Souza Pinto '02 Memorial Scholarship



Luis De Souza Pinto '02 Memorial Scholarship

A fully endowed scholarship established by Brian T. Rainey '04, as a Donor and on behalf of the alumni members of the Mens Rugby Football Club, and the friends & family of Luis De Souza Pinto '02 who also have made philanthropic gifts to create a scholarship endowment in memory of Luis De Souza Pinto '02.

[Read the Article](#)

Raised \$25,000 in four months
- five years ahead of schedule

Scholarship benefits international
student/rugby players at JMU

Interest has come from prospective players across
Africa, Asia, Europe, and South America

"He personified the love for the game, and everything that came with playing rugby at Madison is Luis."

— Brian Rainey '04

"By setting up the memorial scholarship, rugby alumni have honored their friend in a most appropriate way."

— Ted Sudol, JMU Director of Charitable Gift Planning

Get Involved

Become a Member

The Alumni Association is launching its first formal membership program. Joining is the single most impactful thing you can do to sustain this program — your dues fuel the scholarships, events, and investments that keep Madison Rugby moving forward.

[Become A Member](#)

Volunteer

Show up for the Dukes the way they showed up for you. Alumni volunteers play an active role at matches, reunion weekend, fundraising campaigns, and more. If you have time and want to stay connected to this program, we want to hear from you.

[Contact Us](#)



JMU Rugby Alumni Association

In Partnership with



Upcoming Events

2026-2027 Ways to Get Engaged



James Madison
University Rugby

This October: JMU Men's Rugby 52nd Alumni Reunion



JMU Men's Rugby 52nd Alumni Reunion

Saturday, October 23-25, 2026

Harrisonburg, VA at Hotel Madison & Shenandoah Valley Conference Center

52 years of Madison Rugby. This fall we are heading back to Harrisonburg, and this year has a few things that make it worth circling on the calendar.

[Secure your room now.](#) We have a dedicated hotel block at the Hotel Madison, but rooms will fill up fast.

Call: 540-564-0200 **Deadline:** September 23, 2026 Ask for the JMU Men's Rugby Alumni room block.



JMU Women's Rugby 50th Anniversary

This year we are teaming up with the Women's Rugby team and alumni as they celebrate their 50th Anniversary. We will be hosting a joint celebration on Saturday, October 24th, at Pale Fire Brewing Co. Expect food, drinks, and old teammates from both programs under one roof.

MOB Rally in Baltimore



**MOB Rally in Baltimore for the
All Blacks vs. Springboks test match.**

When: Saturday, September 12

Where: Baltimore, MD - M&T Bank Stadium

What: Pre-and-post match alumni tailgates



*Note: All alumni are responsible for purchasing their own tickets to the match.
The Alumni Association will host the pre- and post-game gatherings.*

2027 MOB on Tour — Cardiff, Wales



Madison Rugby is going to Wales — and we want you with us.

JMU Rugby is planning a tour to South Wales in Spring 2027, based in the Cardiff area. Through connections with local clubs and Cardiff College, we're working to keep costs low and the experience high — potential hosted accommodations, local club matches, and a genuine rugby culture immersion. Exact dates and details are still being finalized, but if you've ever wanted to see the birthplace of rugby with your teammates, this is it. Express your interest now so we can plan around you.

Email hello@jmurugby.com to added to the list.

More Ways to Support Madison Rugby

Sponsor a Player

Cover a player's dues, kit, or travel costs for the season. A direct investment in a Duke carrying on our tradition.

Kit Sponsorship

Put your name or your company's name on the back of a Madison Rugby jersey. Opportunities available for match jerseys, training kit, and match day gear.



**James Madison
University Rugby**

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