

2026 RUGBY SEVENS WORLD UNIVERSITY CHAMPIONSHIP
Stellenbosch, South Africa from 4-6 September 2026

TEAM OFFICIALS' EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

UniSport Australia (UniSport) is now seeking expressions of interest suitably qualified and experienced team officials for the 2026 FISU World University Championship Rugby Sevens being held in Stellenbosch, South Africa from 4-6 September 2026. Participation in the World University Championship Rugby Sevens is self-funded. The participation fee including participation fees, technical fees, accreditation, accommodation and meals, ground transport, dress uniforms and will be approximately approx. **\$3000** (*this does not include flights to South Africa*).

1. Entry

- a) The Rugby Sevens tournaments shall be played under the Laws and Regulations of the Game on the World Rugby website (www.world.rugby)
- b) The competitions shall last three days and include one men's tournament and one women's tournament
- c) For both men's and women's tournaments, a maximum of 16 teams and a minimum of 8 teams from at least 4 different countries and 2 different continents per tournament are required.
- d) Each team selected is authorised to enter a maximum of 16 persons: up to 12 competitors and up to 4 officials per team

2. Competition format

The FISU World University Championship Rugby Sevens is a full ranking event (teams will compete for every position in the final standing). Teams will be placed into pools based on their final seedings and in accordance with the FISU regulations. Teams will play each other in each pool on a round robin basis. At the conclusion of the pool phase, the teams will be ranked one through four based on their cumulative match points and the top two teams will progress to knock out finals.

The Organising Committee may change the format, terminate or eliminate any round when conditions do not permit the completion of the intended format.

3. Country Selection

UniSport Australia as the national university sports federation and member of FISU has the authority to enter a maximum of one men's team and one women's team. UniSport will work with Rugby Australia to finalise the selection and nomination of teams. UniSport reserves the right to determine if and how many teams will be selected.

Please note, FISU shall determine the teams who will take part in the event, in consideration of past results and ranking at FISU Rugby Sevens Championships and World Rugby ranking. Continental distribution shall also be taken into account.



4. Team Officials Roles and Requirements

ASSISTANT COACH / TEAM MANAGER

This role combines on-field coaching support with off-field team management responsibilities.

Essential criteria:

- Demonstrated experience coaching rugby (preferably Rugby Sevens) at a representative, university, club or high-performance level
- Level 2 World Rugby Coaching Qualifications (desirable); minimum requirement - Smart Rugby Coaching Qualification
- Strong understanding of World Rugby Laws and Rugby Sevens competition demands
- Experience in athlete management, logistics and team operations
- Strong organisational, communication and leadership skills

Key responsibilities include (but are not limited to):

- Supporting the Head Coach in training delivery, match preparation and tactical planning
- Assisting with athlete welfare, performance preparation and feedback
- Managing team logistics including schedules, meetings, travel movements and accreditation
- Liaising with UniSport staff, event organisers and team support personnel
- Ensuring compliance with competition regulations and UniSport policies
- Providing a safe, respectful and professional environment for all team members

PHYSIOTHERAPIST

UniSport Australia is seeking 1–2 qualified physiotherapists (preference for one female practitioner to support the women's team).

Essential criteria:

- Tertiary qualifications in physiotherapy and registered with AHPRA
- Member of the Australian Physiotherapy Association
- Experience working with rugby players or high-performance team sport athletes
- Demonstrated competency in injury prevention, assessment, management and rehabilitation
- Experience working in tournament or multi-day competition environments

Key responsibilities include (but are not limited to):

- Delivery of daily injury prevention and recovery protocols
- Acute injury management during training and competition
- Match-day strapping and treatment
- Liaison with coaches regarding player availability and load management
- Accurate injury reporting and documentation
- Supporting athlete wellbeing throughout the tour

The Assistant Coach / Team Manager and Physiotherapist roles will work closely with the reappointed Head Coaches to support team preparation, performance delivery and athlete wellbeing throughout the WUC.

NOMINATION PROCESS

When submitting an EOI, applicants will be required to provide:

- Relevant qualifications and accreditation details
- Summary of coaching, team management or medical experience (as applicable)

- Current role and affiliated organisation
- Previous representative or touring experience (if applicable)
- Availability for the full event period
- Confirmation of eligibility requirements

Following the close of EOIs, applications will be reviewed by UniSport and Rugby Australia. Selection will be based on:

- Relevance and depth of experience for the appointed role
- Capacity to contribute to on-field performance and athlete wellbeing
- Demonstrated ability to operate in a team-based, representative environment
- Balance and overall composition of the official team group

Submission of an EOI does not guarantee selection. The above information must be read in conjunction with the [Selection of High Performance Teams Guideline - UniRoos](#)

To express interest in selection, please complete the [Team Official EOI form](#) by **Friday 15 May 2026**.

