



## Louisiana State University Rugby

A Winning Tradition since 1970...

Dear Alumni, Friends and Family of LSU Rugby,

2010 marks a monumental year for the LSU Rugby Club. Not only are we celebrating our 40<sup>th</sup> year of existence, we are also in the middle of an extensive push by USA Rugby to promote our game across the country. In the past few years, LSU Rugby has made massive strides both on and off the pitch. In addition to its second consecutive appearance in the Division 1 Round of 16, the club has won two SEC championships and two TRU championships in the past three seasons. The club's recent success goes beyond the work of our coaches and student-athletes, the dedication of our alumni, University administrators and parents has been pivotal to the program's achievements.

In honor of the past 40 years of great LSU rugby, there will be several events held in the fall for all of those involved with Tiger Rugby:

- Several alumni are organizing a trip to Aspen's Ruggernaut. The trip will take place September 15<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>. The plan is to enter both an open LSU Side and an Old-Boys side. For more information on the trip, contact Gary Giepert - [giepert@cox.net](mailto:giepert@cox.net)
- On October 2<sup>nd</sup>, LSU Rugby will be hosting a 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Alumni Tailgate on the LSU Parade Grounds for the LSU vs. Tennessee Football game. This is promised to be an excellent event to catch up with old friends as well as meet the new LSU team.
- Finally, October 9<sup>th</sup> will be an Alumni Match between the current Tigers and an All-Star team of elite LSU ruggers.

We hope to see you at these events to help celebrate 40 years of wonderful memories. As mentioned, 2010 marks a key year for the LSU Rugby Club. Our continuous effort to improve both the club's image around campus and the relationship with LSU University Recreation has paid-off in major ways. Luckily, the recent organization and accolades of our program could not have come at a better time. This past weekend the top college programs, including LSU, met in Utah to discuss the possibility of a top-tier collegiate rugby league, the goal of this competition being to promote rugby as a mainstream collegiate sport. We are pleased to announce that these discussions were a tremendous success. Starting in March 2011, LSU will be competing in USA Rugby's Division I Premier collegiate league. The competition will consist of four regions: Pacific Coast, West, South and Northeast. Although details are still being worked out, currently, we will be competing in the "south" region along with:

Arkansas State University  
Life University  
Texas A&M University

University of Notre Dame  
University of Oklahoma  
University of Tennessee

*LSU Rugby Football Club*

Those who follow collegiate rugby will notice that this is an extremely tough schedule. In order to compete with these exceptional programs we are going to need constant support from the University, Alumni and all those connected to the LSU Rugby Club. We have set major goals for ourselves this summer, none of which more important than the creation of an Alumni Association. This piece of club organization has been lacking for quite some time and we intend to establish its roots as soon as possible. It's going to take a universal effort from players of all years to support this move into mainstream collegiate athletics.

As a club, we are eager and ready to take on the challenges of this new competition. From an administrative standpoint, we are going to continue our tireless efforts to improve the program. Website updates, alumni newsletters and planned activities for families are all areas in which we will improve on in upcoming years. With your help, we can continue to move the LSU Rugby Club to a level we have all dreamed about.

**BULAWAYO!**

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