



INFORMATION PAGE

Week of November 26th, 2004

1 Canada to host Women's RWC 2006

Excellent news for NAWIRA

Rugby World Cup Ltd (RWCL) has announced that the Women's Rugby World Cup (WRWC) 2006 will take place in Edmonton, Canada.

The tournament in Canada will be the fifth Women's World Cup but the first to be held outside Europe. The previous tournaments were held in Spain, Netherlands, Scotland and Wales. The tournament's participation structure will also ensure that all continents have representation in Edmonton.

"Since the first tournament in 1991 WRWC has been the catalyst for the tremendous growth of the women's game worldwide," said RWCL Chairman, Dr Syd Millar.

"The move out of Europe is therefore another example of the growing global popularity of rugby. The IRB has made every effort to ensure that its tournaments are hosted throughout the rugby world and this announcement means that all of our major regions will have hosted an IRB tournament between 2003 and 2007."

"RWCL is also pleased to announce that for the first time the transport and accommodation costs of the participating teams will be met in full to bring it line with all our other major tournaments," added Dr Millar.

Chris Le Fevre, Chairman of the IRB Women's Committee said, "The award of this tournament to Canada recognises the solid growth of the women's game in North America and I have no doubt that it will be a memorable event for all concerned."

Women's RWC Champions

Year	Venue	Winner	Runner-Up
2002	Spain	New Zealand	England
1998	Netherlands	New Zealand	USA
1994	Scotland	England	USA
1991	Wales	USA	England

2 **Caribbean Nations Youth Development Symposium**

Held in Jamaica, 20th – 22nd November, the Symposium was, according to the participants, a great success. It was attended by Richard Adams (Cayman), Noel Adonis (Guyana), Patrick Alexander (Jamaica), Jose Bautista (Dominican Republic), Andy Blackmore (RFU), Niall Brooks (NAWIRA), Anthony Burke (Jamaica), Jason Campbell (Jamaica), Jean-Louis Charpentier-Tity (Martinique), Churine Cross-man Smith (Jamaica), Sean Henry (British Virgin Islands), Hervé Buffon (Guadeloupe), Cristina Flores (translator), Tom Jones (IRB), Ely Miles (Bahamas), Phillip Morgan (Jamaica), Richard Nolan (Jamaica), Conroy O'Mally (Jamaica), Mark Parrish (British Virgin Islands), Colin Peters (Trinidad and Tobago), Guillermo Rodriguez (Mexico), Colvis Samuels (St. Lucia), Rohan Stewart (Jamaica), Jacob Thompson (Jamaica), John Townend (Saint Vincent and the Grenadines), Wernett Wedderburn (Jamaica), Joe Whipple (Barbados), Lisa Williams (WIRU) and Andrew Wisdom (Jamaica).

First-class “best practice” presentations were received from Bahamas, Cayman, Guyana, Jamaica, Mexico, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and Trinidad and Tobago. The agenda also addressed:

- The role of NAWIRA within the IRB structure
- IRB Age Grade resources
- IRB Planning Methods

and the attendees were taken to watch delightful TAG and contact matches played between primary and high school teams, which evidenced the excellent work the Jamaica Rugby Union is doing spreading Rugby at the youth levels.

There was a productive sharing of expertise and experience, and, in a first such opportunity for inter-Union relationships building, the attendees were able, in the words of Jacob Thompson, the estimable Chairman of the JRU (and vice President of the West Indies Rugby Union), to “learn, laugh and dine with each other”. He concluded that he was “...very, very happy with the Symposium, and thanked the IRB and NAWIRA for money well spent”. Attendees returned home expressing their enthusiasm to put into place the new ideas and initiatives gathered at the Symposium.

The IRB thanks the Jamaica Rugby Union for being such excellent hosts for the event.

3 **Amendments to the Laws of the Game**

The IRB Council, at its Interim Meeting on 18th November 2004, approved the attached amendments to the Laws of the Game which take effect as of 1st January 2005 for matches played in the Northern Hemisphere and Southern Hemisphere. Your Unions received this information on the 24th.

Best wishes to all.

Tom Jones

Regional Development Manager