

RUGBYX

PRESS RELEASE



England Men's and Women's will be competing on home soil at RugbyX in late October

RugbyX and the RFU have announced the England Men's and England Women's teams as the first confirmed participating teams in RugbyX, the international Rugby Union tournament which will take place at The O2, London on 29th October 2019. RugbyX is a new, World Rugby and RFU approved format which sees international Sevens teams competing in a single-day tournament format.

RugbyX will be played under existing Rugby Union Laws in respect of foul play and breakdown penalties, but will include some law-trial adaptations in order to encourage simple and fast gameplay, including:

- 5 players per team
- Matches to last 10 minutes with no half time
- No line outs - quick throws to be taken by a substitute from the team in possession
- No conversions

Announcing the participation of the England Men's and Women's teams, Ben Ryan, Technical Director of RugbyX, said:

"RugbyX is bringing World leading international Sevens rugby teams into Europe's Number 1 Entertainment Destination - the O2 Arena - for an adapted form of the game we love. RugbyX will provide new and existing fans with an opportunity to support their national team in a brand new rugby environment.

The consistency of both the England Men's and England Women's teams at the top level of World Rugby Sevens Series in recent years - together with the vocal support of the home crowd - will make the England amongst the favourites to secure the inaugural RugbyX Men's and Women's titles on home soil".

Simon Amor, Head of England Sevens

"We were happy to play a role in the development of RugbyX, dating back to 2017 when our men's team were involved in early stage trial matches at our training base in London. We have believed in the potential of this format since then and are delighted that our Men's and Women's Sevens squads will be participating as the home teams in front of 12,000 fans at the O2."

Tom Mitchell, Captain of England Sevens Men said:

"RugbyX represents an exciting opportunity for the England's Sevens team to compete in a brand new format of rugby at the O2 in October. Having played in some of the trial matches, RugbyX is a fast, physical and skilful format of the game that will definitely be exciting to watch."

Tickets will be available for afternoon (16:00 – 18:00) & evening (20:30 – 22:30) sessions and go on sale at 09:00 on 31st May via Ticketmaster and AXS.