



## Community

IGR's biggest asset is the global community that exists thanks to our active social media networks and regular tournaments and events.

A team of Regional Representatives work to support the members in their region and nurture the relationships between clubs.

The IGR Board is made up of one member from each member club who regularly interact to discuss, debate and vote on issues most affecting the IGR community.

We provide and maintain a multi-lingual labyrinth of networks to give over 15,000 people a space to stay in touch or get to know each other between events.

## Team IGR

We are an entirely voluntary run organisation and we are grateful to have a team of over 200 volunteers working all year round to keep the magic of IGR alive.

## Contact



## IGR Members

  
Ciervos Pampas Rugby  
Huarpes Rugby Club

  
Brisbane Hustlers  
Melbourne Chargers  
Perth Rams  
Sydney Convicts

  
Brussels Straffe Ketten

  
Armada Montreal  
Ottawa Wolves  
Toronto Muddy York

  
Titanes RC Chile

  
Berkshire Unicorns  
Birmingham Bulls  
Brighton & Hove Serpents  
Bristol Bisons  
Chester Centurions  
Dunfermline Knights  
Hull Roundheads  
Kings Cross Steelers  
Leeds Hunters  
Liverpool Tritons  
Manchester Village Spartans  
Newcastle Ravens  
Northampton Outlaws  
Reading Renegades  
Sheffield Vulcans  
Typhoons RUFC  
Wessex Wyverns

  
Les Coqs Festifs Rugby Club  
Les Gaillards Paris Rugby Club  
Los Valents de Montpelhièr  
Rebelyons Rugby  
Tou'Win Rugby

  
Berlin Bruisers  
Cologne Crushers  
Munich Monks

  
Emerald Warriors  
Belfast Azlans

  
Libera Rugby Club

  
Osaka Inclusive Rugby  
Tokyo

  
Amsterdam Lowlanders

  
New Zealand Falcons

  
Lisbon Dark Horses Rugby

  
Caledonian Thebans  
Glasgow Alphas

  
Jozi Cats

  
Madrid Titanes

  
Stockholm Berserkers Rugby

  
Atlanta Bucks  
Baltimore Flamingos  
Boston Ironsides  
Charleston Blockade  
Charleston Hurricanes Womens  
Charlotte Royals  
Charm City Knights  
Chicago Dragons  
Colorado Rush  
Columbus Coyotes  
Columbus Kodiaks  
Crescent City Rougaroux  
Dallas Diablos  
Dallas Lost Souls  
Gotham Knights  
Knoxville Women's  
Los Angeles Rebellion Rugby  
Madison Minotaurs  
Milwaukee Beer Barons  
Minneapolis Mayhem  
Nashville Grizzlies  
Philadelphia Gryphons  
Phoenix Storm  
Portland Lumberjacks  
San Diego Armada  
San Francisco Fog  
Seattle Quake  
Space City Rugby  
St Louis Crusaders  
Washington Renegades  
Washington Scandals

  
Cardiff Lions  
Swansea Vikings

  
International Society of Inclusive  
Rugby Referees  
World Barbarians



# What is IGR?

IGR is International Gay Rugby – the global membership organisation for LGBT and inclusive rugby clubs. We are a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, registered in England and Wales, and have 84 member clubs in 20 rugby nations across 5 continents.

## Our mission is:

To promote equality and diversity in particular the elimination of discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation or identification and to promote good health through the playing of rugby by:

- providing opportunities for the LGBT community to compete in rugby through tolerant and accepting clubs that are primarily LGBT/LGBT-friendly
- eliminating homo and transphobia in rugby through community outreach, competitive play and tournament events
- working with rugby governing bodies to improve acceptance of LGBT athletes at all levels of the sport
- coordinating world-class rugby tournaments
- providing our members and new LGBT/inclusive clubs with development support and resources

We are recognised by World Rugby as the representative LGBT rugby organisation via a 2015 Memorandum of Understanding and are an Associate Member of the Federation of Gay Games



# What does IGR do?

## Tournaments

The majority of work undertaken by IGR is in tournament organisation. Most of this work goes unseen, but is paramount to the quality and success that marks our tournaments apart.

IGR is the governing body of three major tournaments:



**Bingham Cup** – IGR's flagship biennial global tournament that began as a memorial to 9/11 hero Mark Bingham, player for the San Francisco Fog. 74 teams competed in the most recent edition in Amsterdam and nearly 100 are expected in Ottawa, in August 2020.

**Union Cup** – the LGBT/inclusive tournament for Europe. In 2019 44 teams celebrated its 8th edition in Dublin by launching the tournament's first women's division and painting the world famous Guinness gates rainbow. Birmingham Bulls will be the next hosts in 2021.



**North American Championship** – previously two separate tournaments on the East and West Coasts, 2021 will see the first unified tournament open to the 35 IGR clubs in the USA and Canada. Charlotte Royals and Washington Scandals are competing to host the next edition.

As the governing body IGR is responsible for all rugby related matters, advising the host club on all other aspects of the event and managing the bid process for the next tournament.

## Grassroots Support

IGR provides development support and resources to both our members and new LGBT/inclusive clubs in the areas of club organisation, recruitment, retention, fundraising, event management and regional and national union relations.

We have recently begun a small grants scheme that is open to members wanting to increase participation in rugby or promote our core values and to non-members for the development of new LGBT/inclusive clubs.

IGR clubs are encouraged to continually improve their level of play and engagement with the wider rugby community through playing in their local league/matrix structures.

In the UK we run two IGR development leagues to help developing teams to get experience before joining a local league structure.

## Advocacy

IGR actively works to reduce barriers for LGBT+ people to participate in rugby and to combat homo and transphobia in the rugby and wider sporting community.

We count on a high level of support and engagement from sporting authorities at all levels and encourage our member clubs to engage with their national and local unions.

We have worked with World Rugby to revise their policy on transgender athletes, making it easier for the transgender community to play rugby.

Work is currently in progress to include elements on diversity and inclusion in World Rugby's official training for officials and coaches.

