

OSURFC ALUMNI SOCIETY

August 2010

Volume 1, Issue 4

ALUMNI CALENDER

- 8/9 BOARD MEETING
- 9/10 ALUMNI BANQUET
- 9/11 OSU VS MIAMI FOOTBALL TAILGATE
- 10/11 BOARD MEETING
- All board meetings @ Longaberger Alumni House at 7pm unless otherwise noted

OSURFC FALL SCHEDULE

- 9/7 PRACTICE STARTS
- 9/10 EVENING SCRIMMAGE
- 9/12 BEDLOFT FUNDRAISER
- 9/17 OSU STUDENT MOVE IN WEEKEND
- 9/18 VS IU 6PM
- 9/22 CLASSES START
- 9/25 @ BIG 10, ELKHART, INDIANA
- 10/2 VS MIAMI (OH) 1PM
- 10/9 VS DAVENPORT 6PM
- 10/16 VS BALL ST TBA
- 10/23 @ BOWLING GREEN
- 10/30 VS LIFE
- 11/6 @ NOTRE DAME

*STAY POSTED TO OSURUGBY.COM FOR GAME/TIME CHANGES

OSURFC ACCEPTS INVITATION TO COMPETE IN THE COLLEGE PREMIER LEAGUE

Men's rugby will have a new look next year with the debut of USA Rugby's Division I Premier competition in March 2011. Officials from USA Rugby and 20 men's college rugby programs met to discuss the framework for a new national rugby competition that will feature up to 32 college teams from around the country.

The new competition will be operated by USA Rugby under the oversight of the organization's College Department.

This top-level competition will augment the current Division I and Division II championship structure at the college level.

"There is no doubt in my mind that the new-look elite men's college competition will make a significant contribution to the development of rugby in the United States," USA Rugby CEO and President of Rugby Operations Nigel Melville said.

The teams will be split into four conferences and will begin regular season competition in March 2011. Each team will play the other members of its conference with the top two teams in each conference advancing to a three-weekend playoff tournament that will be held in May.

A promotion/relegation system will be used to provide a pathway for Division I programs to challenge for a spot in the Premier competition.

"The big positive for me is that so many people were willing to work for the good of the competition as a whole," Texas A&M head coach Craig Coates said.

"To have the opportunity to play some of the top teams in the country in league competition is what we want and I think we will wind up with something we can all be proud of."

Programs represented at the meeting were Arizona, Arkansas State, Army, BYU, Cal Poly, California, Central Washington, Colorado, Colorado State, Kutztown, LSU, Navy, Ohio State, Penn State, San Diego State, St Mary's, Texas A&M, UC Davis, UCLA and Utah.

An additional 10 programs that were unable to send representatives to the meeting also expressed interest in joining the competition. They include Air Force, Arizona State, Dartmouth, Delaware, Life, Notre Dame, Oklahoma, Rutgers, Tennessee and Wyoming. Meantime, supporting its commitment to develop college rugby, USA Rugby confirmed Wednesday the members of its College Rugby Strategic Committee who will advise and guide the work of Collegiate Director Todd Bell, whose appointment was announced in early May.

1990 FINAL 4 TEAM TO BE HONORED AT SEPTEMBER OLD BOYS BANQUET

At the annual rugby banquet this September 10, the Ohio State University Alumni Rugby Association will celebrate the twentieth anniversary of the 1990 Mid West Champions and Collegiate National Champion Final Four rugby team. This Steve Finkel coached team produced 4 collegiate all Americans and 9 Midwest collegiate All Stars. Come celebrate the accomplishments of the 1990 team and the 22 players and coaches who traveled to California for the national championship. Members of the championship team are working on a slide show for the banquet and are in the process of collecting team or individual members' photographs from games or other activities from the fall of '89 and spring of '90. Please send photographs in digital format to Dan Berner and Mike Hudak at berner1d@aol.com and mhudak@cc-efi.com. If you played in the fall of '89 and spring of '90 your attendance to this year's banquet is mandatory. Come and see old friends and remember some great rugby and even greater stories. The weekend falls on a huge OSU vs Miami (FL) football game, so book your hotel accommodations ASAP. The banquet is tentatively scheduled for The Spaghetti Warehouse on West Broad. Invitations are open to spouses, but not the feint of heart. Pricing is still being negotiated, so stay posted.

Go to OSURugby.com to update you contact information and stay connected!

Visit OhioStateAlumni.org for all Ohio State Alumni updates.

FROM THE PRESIDENT :

- Our June gathering has come and gone and it was a great success, we were able to raise over \$3,000 from the golf outing (big thanks to Russ Howland). We launched the new OSU Rugby website that weekend and while still a work in progress, it will allow for easier communication and greatly improved merchandising opportunities. It was also awesome to be able to watch the Bucks compete on the national stage while reuniting with our fellow alumni at a USA Rugby tournament.

Unfortunately we were not able to squeeze a banquet or any other gathering into the weekend but with that in mind we look ahead to our Fall Old Boys Weekend and Banquet. Based on your responses to our survey last year and since OSU will soon be moving to semesters in 2012, we have begun to put more emphasis on an annual fall event coinciding with a home football game. This year's event has been set for the weekend of the OSU vs Miami (FL) football game. Friday September 10th we will have our Old Boys banquet at 7pm at The Spaghetti Warehouse on West Broad St, and Saturday September 11th we will have an Alumni tailgate across from Tommy's Pizza on Lane Ave (campus location) prior to the football game which kicks off at 3:30PM. At this year's banquet we will the 20th anniversary of the 1990 Midwest Champion and Final 4 team. We hope to start recognizing more teams and individuals for their accomplishments with OSURFC, and this 20th anniversary will be a great kickstart to the society's future endeavors. We are finalizing other activities for the weekend, as well as the current teams plans. Please save the date.

Please email if you plan to attend so that we can start to get a head count for the banquet: OSURFCAlumni@gmail.com. You can also send any questions or suggestions to the same address. We look forward to your continued support in year two and please remember that you are always welcome at our meetings that take place at 7PM on the 2nd Monday of each month at the Longaberger Alumni House. If you have input and can't make the meeting just email me at jhenry15@woh.rr.com. I look forward to seeing you this fall!

Go Bucks,
Jason

KEEPING IT RUGBY

What was the inspiration for forming the College Premier league?

The CPL concept was established before I started at USA Rugby but idea was to provide a high-level competition for the top college rugby programs around the country and establish a national college rugby competition that would also promote the sport.

Why was OSU invited to join?

OSU is one of the top programs in the Midwest.

What are the benefits to the CPL compared to the current system?

While the current system works on a lot of levels, the CPL offers a defined competition season against top-tier competition and gives teams a chance to test themselves on a weekly basis. Playing in the spring also guarantees high-level competition in the run-up to postseason play.

What are the league's long term aspirations?

USA Rugby views the CPL as our flagship college property and we expect it to become the competition that all programs in men's college rugby aspire to compete in.

Is there a television deal or any sponsorship in place? If so will our club benefit?

Talks are on-going with sponsors and broadcasters. We expect to these talks to heat up once the entire field is finalized. USA Rugby will market this competition as top college rugby event in the country.

Will there be a clear, known difference amongst the rugby community between a CPL caliber team and Division 1 team, especially when it comes to recruiting?

As in all sports, the top-tier programs separate themselves from the rest of the field in the area of recruiting. What we hope to gain from the CPL is the recognition that college programs need to raise their level of play and administration if they aspire to compete in the Premier level.

How will USA Rugby help our club?

One of the founding principles of this competition is that all net national revenue from sponsorship and broadcasting rights will be shared equally by the competing teams. USA Rugby will promote and sell the event and the schools will reap the benefits

What would USARugby like to see from an alumni base such as our own?

It is our hope that alumni at all of our competing schools are behind this effort 100%. Alumni can help by continuing to support their own programs and by supporting the competition as a whole. There are hundreds of thousands of college rugby alumni in this country and they are a key audience that will help determine the success of this competition.

OSURFC Operating Code for University Donations: # 205414

Use this number to ensure your OSU donation is appropriated to the Clubs endowment fund.

**WHAT THE COLLEGE PREMIER LEAGUE MEANS
TO OSURFC AND IT'S ALUMNI**

Now that OSU has accepted one of the invitations to the CPL what does it mean? A number of things to the club and us alumni, but here's the gist:

- OSU will now compete in Division 1 in the fall, but will forfeit any postseason bids to a Division 1 Championship in favor of competing for a CPL Championship. The Bowling Green's of the world will continue to represent the Midwest in Division 1. The CPL has no affect on the Midwest Championship
- The Bucks now must win to stay in the CPL. The relegation system will allow top Division 1 teams to challenge bottom CPL teams.
- OSU will now have an extensive Spring travel season. Proposed schedules have them away as many as four games a spring vs conference opponents Rutgers, Penn St, Dartmouth, Army, Navy, Kutztown, and Delaware. These are long trips with 25-30 players in chartered busses and hotel rooms. Obviously they won't be inexpensive.
- The CPL, and its costs to the club, make it imperative for all of us to become responsible Alumni and pay it forward so the current club can enjoy rugby as we did! Please consider donating immediately, or coming to a board meeting to discuss fundraising.

**OSURFC HONORED BY SPORT CLUBS , DEPARTMENT
OF RECREATIONAL SPORTS**

The Men's Rugby Team nearly swept all of the awards given out at the annual Sport Club Banquet that was held on May 23, 2010 at the Fawcett Center on campus. The team won the William Wasson Excellence in Service Award for their contributions to the OSU and Columbus community. Specifically, the team has spent the year hosting blood drives across campus, helping Special Olympics, Wheelchair Rugby, and Competitive Cheer tournaments run smoothly and effectively among many other things. Additionally, Josh Barkhurst won the individual William Wasson Excellence in Service Award for his assistance in Big Brothers, Big Sisters and other various projects. These awards are named after Dr. William Wasson, the founder and first president of the National Intramural-Recreational Sports Association (NIRSA), the governing body of recreational sports across the country. The club and individuals who receives this award are community leaders just as Dr. Wasson was.

In addition to recognizing the Men's Rugby team for their contributions to the community, the team was also awarded the prestigious Sport Club of the Year Award. This award is given to the club that is not only great on the field but also off. The Men's Rugby club beat some other pretty deserving clubs, one of those being the Women's Rugby club, to win the award. Based on the club's résumé that included numerous amounts of community service, fundraising efforts, and almost 100% total compliance with the Sport Club office, the club was voted the winner by the Sport Club supervisors, graduate assistants, and professional staff.

Congratulations to the Men's Rugby Club to your awards this year – these honors were well deserved!

-OSU Men's Rugby Club Sports Supervisor Kristin Hayes

**2010-11 PAID SOCIETY MEMBERS: THANK YOU! NOT
ON THIS LIST? IT ONLY COSTS \$30/YEAR!**

Eric Adler	Ted Dehaan	Michael Horigan	Dave Millet	*Rocky Saxbe
Corey Allenbach	John Dever	Mike Hudak	Ted Nevits	Jeff Torrence
Brian Berry	Mike Dresser	Grant Hughes	Mark O'Shaughnessey	Dan Walsh
Matt Bigham	Brian Ebersole	Elliot Korsen	Carl Price	Rob Zuercher
Adam Bittner	Barry Ferguson	Ron Kyser	Tom Rankin	
Matt Brammer	Kyle Flower	Jay Lee	Matt Rings	
Dave Bruck	Joe Granzier	Jesse Little	*Tom Rooney	*Denotes Lifetime
Ben Casey	*Jason Henry	Conor Malloy	Joe Rosenbaum	Membership
*Tom Caldwell	Steve Gutkoski	Brent Mathie	*Tim Rudolf	
Jason Christiansen	*Buck Henry	Mark McCalla	Doug Saunders	
Mike Cline	Rusty Hill	Chris McClellan	Erik Schulte	

Board Members:

Officers

- o President – Jason Henry
jhenry15@woh.rr.com
- o President Elect – Lou Westinghouse
lwestinghouse@hotmail.com
- o Treasurer – Tom Rankin
tsrdds@ameritech.net
- o Secretary – Joe Granzier
jgranzier@impfa.com

Committee Chairs

- o Communications – Conor Malloy
dconormalloy@gmail.com
- o Planning & Events - Russ Howland
russhowland4@yahoo.com
- o Scholarship – Rusty Hill
hilleng@verizon.net
- o Membership – Brian Ebersole
brianebersole@msn.com
- o At-Large – Kevin Talebi
ktalebi@ctn.net
- o Coaching Rep – Tom Rooney
- o Player Rep – Andrew Exline
- o OSU Alumni Rep – Craig Little

Alumni Society Email And PayPal Account:
OSURFCAlumni@gmail.com

SOCIETY BOARD MEETING MINUTES: JULY 12, 2010

June Golf Outing & USA Sevens Recap

- Golf outing raised nearly \$3500, easily our most successful ever.
- Ticket/Tent deal could have been in a better spot with more incentive and more notice
- Overall USA Sevens was thrilled with the event, local club support and venue though Columbus is not likely to be home to the championship next year based on the support from the city, mayor and local media
- We will use this year's golf as a guide for future events

Lifetime Membership

- \$600 for a lifetime membership is reinstated
- Added incentive for all members

Website

- Database issues
- Online Store—Wes/Tom to discuss merchandise warehousing options with Kooga
- Privacy in Member's Area and a new page for alumni needed

Football Tailgate

- Set for OSU vs Miami football game 9/11
- Friday night banquet and honor 1990 Midwest Championship team

College Premier League

- Tom and Wes spelled out the details
- Travel schedule and costs examined
- The financial burden on the club will be significant, and the Alumni will be key in OSURFC's success in the new league

HELP US FOR FREE!

You can contribute immediately! We are looking for alumni updates, stories, reflections, and embellishments of past accomplishments to provide to Old Boys in our newsletters. We need similar Alumni recounts and Memorabilia to start putting together our Club's History in greater detail. Send any and all stories, writings and memorabilia to OSURFCAlumni@gmail.com.

-----DETACH AND MAIL-----

Note: Please make checks payable to The Ohio State Rugby Alumni Society and mail checks to Tom Rankin, 5515 Scioto Darby Rd., Hilliard, OH 43026 or Send to PayPal Account: OSURFCAlumni@gmail.com

_____	_____	_____	_____
First name	Middle name	Last name	Nickname

If married, spouse's first name	MI	Last name	

Home address			

City	State	Zip code	
_____	_____	_____	
(____) _____	(____) _____	_____	
Home Phone	Cell Phone	Email address	

Years played	Academic Major	Profession	

OSU Alumni Association ID #			

MEMBERSHIP OPTIONS

- 1 year membership
\$30.00
- Lifetime membership
\$600.00
- Graduating senior
membership \$0
- In addition, I would like
to contribute a tax de-
ductible donation of
\$ _____

OSURFC Operating Code for University Donations: # 205414

Use this number to ensure your OSU donation is appropriated to the Clubs endowment fund.