



## 2017 ARMED FORCES MEN'S RUGBY CHAMPIONSHIP

1. COMPETITION RULES: Current International Rugby Board (IRB) law book for seven-a-side play as amended by the Armed Forces Sports Committee (AFSC).
2. GAME BALL: Ball must adhere to current USA Rugby Rules. Ball to be used is to be publicized by the host service 60 days prior to the Armed Forces Championship.
3. TOURNAMENT FORMAT: Single round robin, followed by consolation and championship matches.
4. DRAW: As determined by previous year's Armed Forces Championship standings.
5. FINAL TEAM STANDINGS: Based on results of championship and consolation matches.
6. DURATION OF MATCHES AND TIE-BREAKER POLICY:
  - a. Round Robin Matches: Played in two, 7-minute halves with a two minute halftime break.
  - b. Tie Breaking procedures, in order, following Round-Robin Play: Head-to-head record of teams involved; margin of points for and against all teams; margin of converted tries; total points; total tries; coin toss.
  - c. Consolation and Championship Matches: Played in 10-minute halves, with a 2-minute halftime break.
  - d. Tie-Breaker for Consolation and Championship Matches: After a 1-minute interval, play 5-minute overtime periods with teams changing ends after each overtime period, without an interval until first score determines winner.
  - e. Drawn Matches: Drawn matches in the Round Robin competition shall be declared a tie.
7. FACILITY, EQUIPMENT AND PERSONNEL: IAW current USA Rugby Rules. All footwear (boots), including those with alloy safety studs, must be in compliance with current USA Rugby Rules.
8. SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:
  - a. Day One      Teams Arrive  
                    Team Practice Sessions (if teams are available)
  - b. Days Two     Team Practice Sessions  
                    Organizational Meeting  
                    Opening Ceremony Walk-Through (one rep from each team)  
                    Team Check-In

## 2017 ARMED FORCES MEN'S RUGBY CHAMPIONSHIP

Note: Authorized team members must attend Organizational Meeting and Team Check-In in their Service polo shirt, coordinated slacks, and appropriate footwear.

- c. Day Three      Games Begin  
1200    Opening Ceremony  
1220    Team Photos  
1245    Match 1  
1325    Match 2  
1420    Match 3  
1500    Match 4  
1555    Match 5  
1635    Match 6  
1730    Match 7  
1810    Match 8  
1905    Match 9  
1945    Match 10
- d. Day Four      1030    Consolation Game  
1130    Championship Game  
1225    Team Awards Ceremony

All-Tournament Team selection meeting

Awards Ceremony/Closing Banquet - Authorized team members must attend the event in their Service polo or logo shirt, coordinated slacks, and appropriate footwear (exceptions may be made dependent on host site letter of instruction).

- e. Day Five    Teams Depart

### 8. AWARDS:

a. Individual: Each member of the winning and runner-up teams (to include the coaches, team trainer and OIC-Team Manager) receive individual awards.

b. Team: No team trophy is presented.

c. All-Tournament: An "All-Tournament" team is selected of the best three (3) forwards and four (4) backs of the tournament. The Host Project Officer will select and purchase a special "All Star" memento to present to each member of the "All-Tournament" team.

### 9. TEAM COMPOSITION - ARMED FORCES CHAMPIONSHIP AND HIGHER LEVEL:

Roster not to exceed 16 individuals\*

12 Players

1 Coach

1 Asst Coach

1 Certified Athletic Trainer/Physician\*

1 OIC/Team Manager

TOTAL: 16

## 2017 ARMED FORCES MEN'S RUGBY CHAMPIONSHIP

\* Medical personnel listed on roster must be trained medical providers and properly certified/licensed. Teams are not authorized to substitute this position with an additional coach or statistician. Personnel failing to provide appropriate credentials (if challenged) shall be deemed unauthorized and removed from the bench.

Note: Rosters must be submitted NLT four days prior to championship report date. Only the above personnel are authorized in the designated Service bench area.

If a player is ejected, that player is ineligible for the remaining matches of the championship and the overall roster is reduced by one. This player is now a non-participant, and cannot be on the sidelines, and will not be considered for the All-Tournament Team.

### 10. SELECTION PROCESS - HIGHER LEVEL AND ALL-TOURNAMENT:

#### a. Athlete Selection Process.

(1) The AFSWG members, or designated representatives, at the site of the Armed Forces Championship are responsible for the selection of the All-Tournament Team and the U.S. Armed Forces Team for higher-level competition.

(2) Selection meeting attendance is limited to the Service Representative, and the Head and Assistant Coaches, and OIC's. Each Service is limited to one spokesperson. The host Service Representative shall chair the selection meeting.

(3) The initial selection for the All-Tournament Team and the Armed Forces Team shall be conducted as a paper ballot (appendix D), both submitted simultaneously by each Service Representative to the selection meeting chair at the beginning of the selection meeting. Submitted ballots are final. Ties shall be resolved through discussion and vote.

(4) Participants selected to the All-Tournament Team shall automatically be selected to the Armed Forces Team unless unavailable. The most competent athletes, regardless of Service affiliation, shall be selected to complete the final Armed Forces Team roster.

(5) When higher-level competition does not immediately follow the Armed Forces championship, based on non-availability, Services may elect to send up to three (3) additional athletes to the Armed Forces training camp.

b. Coach Selection Policy (if higher level competition is scheduled): The Head Coach for the Armed Forces Team shall be the winning Head Coach of the Armed Forces Championship (subject to review by the Service Representatives at the Championship). This coach shall select his/her Assistant Coach from the pool of coaches that participated in the championship (subject to review by the Service Representatives at the championship). If the winning Head Coach is not available, then the second place team Head Coach shall be the Head Coach of the Armed Forces team. This individual shall also select his-her Assistant Coach from the pool of coaches who participated in their respective Armed Forces Championship (subject to review by the Service Representatives at the Championship). If neither the winning nor second place Head Coaches are available to advance to higher level competition, the AFSWG shall vote to select a Head Coach from the remaining pool of available coaches who participated in the championship. Priority shall be given to Head Coaches. If replacement coaches cannot be

## 2017 ARMED FORCES MEN'S RUGBY CHAMPIONSHIP

identified within 24 hours preceding the announcement of the team delegation, then the Armed Forces team shall not advance to higher level competition.

c. During the Athlete Selection Process, Service representatives shall reserve the right to not select top quality candidates based on behavior, grooming standards, or availability. The host Service will not make any additions or deletions to the selected Armed Forces Team without coordinating with the Working Group Member of the other three Services.

### 11. FORMS AND ROSTERS:

a. All final rosters must be turned in to the Host Project Officer at the Organizational Meeting. Rosters for the Armed Forces Championship will be finalized at this time. Teams are not authorized to compete at the Armed Forces Championship until the final roster is submitted.

b. All athletes and coaches shall complete and sign the Armed Forces Sports Higher Advancement Form (appendix B) for consideration of selection to the Armed Forces Team. All Higher Advancement Forms must be submitted by the Officer in Charge of the respective Service at or before the organizational meeting at the Armed Forces Championship. Failure to do so shall disqualify athletes from advancing to higher level competition.

c. All athletes, coaches and staff from each Service must sign the Armed Forces Sports Participant Code of Conduct (appendix C) in order to participate at the Armed Forces Championship. The Code of Conduct shall be submitted at the Organizational Meeting. If a training camp to higher level competition is conducted without the conduct of an Armed Forces Championship, then Team Captains shall have all participants sign the Code of Conduct immediately upon arrival and prior to any official activity. If an Armed Forces Championship or training camp is not conducted prior to , the Team Captain shall collect the Code of Conduct forms electronically prior to the delegation's departure to higher level competition. Failure to do so shall disqualify athletes from competing at the Armed Forces Championship and advancing to higher level competition.

d. Team Captains, Coaches and Chiefs of Mission shall sign their respective LOI (appendix F/H).

e. Athletes advancing to higher level competition must sign the anti-doping declaration form (appendix K).

12. ALCOHOL POLICY: There will be no alcohol consumption at the sports venue by personnel involved in the Armed Forces Sports competition, including sports staff, until all competition for the day has been completed to include the award ceremony on the final day if the awards banquet immediately follows the event. The venue is defined as the playing area, venue parking lot, and the assigned eating/spectator area. This policy will not apply if the awards banquet or ceremony is conducted as a separate event at a later time. However, more restrictive installation policies in regards to alcohol will take precedence. Violation of this policy shall result in immediate suspension from the remaining championship/event, disqualification from higher-level competition and selection to the All-Tournament Team, and shall be subject to further disciplinary actions by the AFSWG.

## 2017 ARMED FORCES MEN'S RUGBY CHAMPIONSHIP

13. ICE-BREAKER SOCIAL. Authorized team members must attend the event in their Service polo or logo shirt, coordinated slacks, and appropriate footwear (exceptions may be made dependent on host site letter of instruction). Guests may attend with pre-coordination with the host site and Service representative. Final decision will be based on availability. Guests will assume costs associated with attending the ice breaker

**a. The Ice-Breaker Social is an official function and shall be conducted in accordance with local base policies and all participants are expected to conduct themselves in the highest professional manner. Informal activities such as skits, hazing and other activities that include offensive language/behavior are not authorized.**

14. HANDLING OF RULE VIOLATIONS: If there is a violation of the SOP or specific sport rule, the AFS Representative or in their absence, the project officer, will address the respective Service Representative to resolve the issue. Service Representative will resolve the violation before the Service competes in the next game. All code of conduct violations shall be handled according to the Armed Forces SOP (Paragraph 8.b.(4)(e).

15. SAFETY REQUIREMENTS: Service Branches are encouraged to bring their own medical personnel with them to the competition.