

For The Next Generation
SANIX



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20th Anniversary



SANIX

WORLD RUGBY YOUTH TOURNAMENT

Commemorative Book



SANIX WORLD RUGBY YOUTH TOURNAMENT was inaugurated in 2000, and this year, thanks to your support, it celebrated its 20th anniversary. We sincerely hope it will continue to nurture the dreams of the next generation youngsters, and promote international understanding between its participants. This book has been published to showcase our passion and devotion toward this event. Enjoy it as you look back over the history of the tournament, and think ahead of its future.



20th Anniversary SANIX WORLD RUGBY YOUTH TOURNAMENT Commemorative Book

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Look Back over the 20 years of SANIX WORLD RUGBY YOUTH TOURNAMENT



Cumulative Total of Participants: Approximately **13,000**

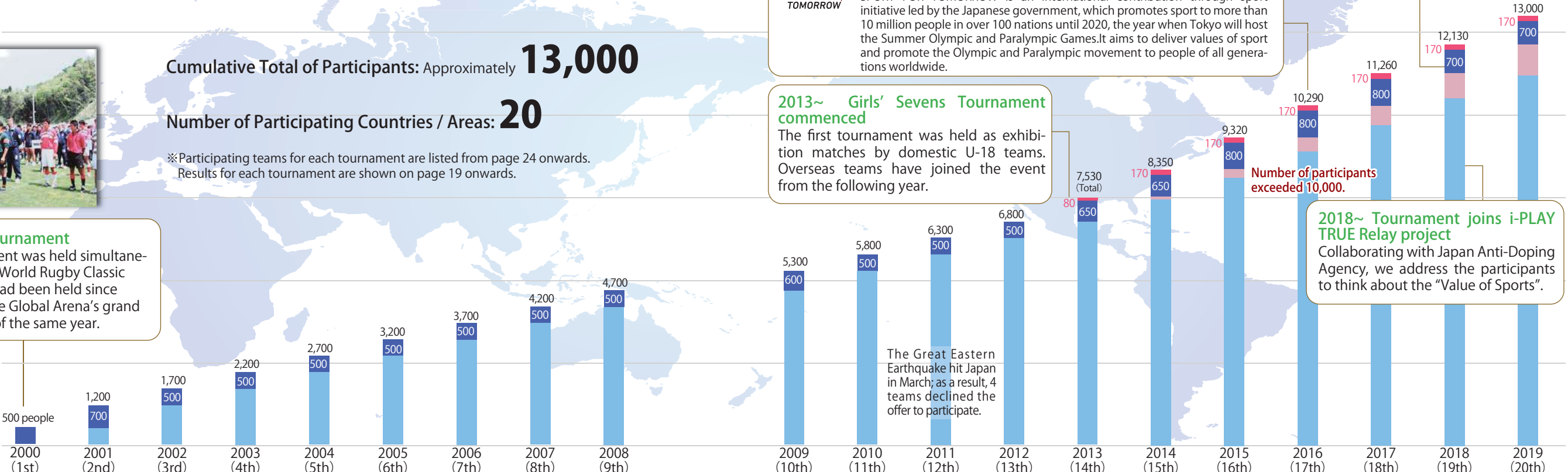
Number of Participating Countries / Areas: **20**

※Participating teams for each tournament are listed from page 24 onwards.
Results for each tournament are shown on page 19 onwards.

2000 The 1st Tournament

The first tournament was held simultaneously with SANIX World Rugby Classic Fukuoka (which had been held since 1997), to celebrate Global Arena's grand opening in April of the same year.

※Global Arena
A large scale sports and culture complex made by the late Shinichi Munemasa, the founder of SANIX Inc. The construction fee was paid from the founder's profit which had occurred at the time of SANIX's IPO. It provides various services to various groups, from hosting international sporting events to arranging orientations for schools and other organizations. It is also a popular landmark among the locals.



2016~ Tournament approved as an SFT Activity

On June 24, 2015, SANIX Inc. became a consortium member of SFT (Sport for Tomorrow), and the tournament was approved as an SFI activity.



What is SPORT FOR TOMORROW (SFT)?
SPORT FOR TOMORROW is an international contribution through sport initiative led by the Japanese government, which promotes sport to more than 10 million people in over 100 nations until 2020, the year when Tokyo will host the Summer Olympic and Paralympic Games. It aims to deliver values of sport and promote the Olympic and Paralympic movement to people of all generations worldwide.

2013~ Girls' Sevens Tournament commenced

The first tournament was held as exhibition matches by domestic U-18 teams. Overseas teams have joined the event from the following year.

2018~ Exhibition match by mixed teams

Players from various teams, who had less chance of competing in the main tournament, joined together for an exhibition match.

2018~ Tournament joins i-PLAY TRUE Relay project

Collaborating with Japan Anti-Doping Agency, we address the participants to think about the "Value of Sports".

Participating areas and countries for each tournament

Australia																				
Canada																				
China																				
England																				
Fiji																				
France																				
Hong Kong																				
Ireland																				
Italy																				
Japan																				
Korea																				
New Zealand																				
Russia																				
Samoa																				
Scotland																				
South Africa																				
Taiwan																				
Tonga																				
Uruguay																				
Wales																				

※Scottish flag with a "B" indicates the participation of a bag pipe band.



President
SANIX INCORPORATED

Representative Director
SANIX SPORTS FOUNDATION

Hiroshi Munemasa

In commemoration of the 20th anniversary of SANIX WORLD RUGBY YOUTH TOURNAMENT, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to everyone concerned, including all those who have been visiting us to enjoy the event.

20 years ago, Shinichi Munemasa, the former president of SANIX Inc., established Global Arena to “create a gathering place for children across the globe, where they can interact through sports and culture”. The very first tournament was held to honor the grand opening of the facility. Since then, 13,000 people have participated in this event. Players from past tournaments are actively taking part in various top leagues around the world. This is the legacy of our tournament, in which I take much pride.

One of the domestic teams in the main tournament is selected through a preliminary round. This is played by teams who could not participate in the All Japan HS Championships held at Hanazono Rugby Stadium, a mecca for high school players. As I watch the winning team rejoice at gaining a chance to play in SANIX WORLD RUGBY YOUTH TOURNAMENT, I am moved by the fact that the event has become a dream-come-true stage for young rugby players.

During the tournament, players spend their time together at Global Arena. As much as they have the chance to experience world class rugby, they have the opportunity to communicate with one another off the field, to get to know and understand different cultures. I have come across scenes where overseas players, having been inspired by their Japanese counterparts’ politeness, started adopting the Japanese style of lining up, saying greetings and bowing. On another occasion, I witnessed a huge chorus of “We are the World” as numerous teams joined in to sing it together. These touching episodes convince me that this tournament is an event which would lead to world peace.

Here is a meeting place for international people who have mutual respect for one another.

At the time of the first tournament, not many could have imagined this, but I believe this is what Shinichi Munemasa had really hoped for.

I am more than glad if this tournament is of any assistance in providing young players with dreams and hopes for the future, as well as chances to view the wide world. I would like more people to interact through rugby, and to come to the tournament to watch exciting matches. My staff and I shall make every effort in continuing this event for many years to come. We humbly ask all those concerned to support us, as you have done in previous years.



Former Managing Director
SANIX SPORTS FOUNDATION

Tokio Inoue

It all started in 1997, when “SANIX World Rugby Classic Fukuoka” was held for the first time in Fukuoka city, inviting former national representative players from around the globe.

At the time, a plan to build the athletic complex “Global Arena” was under way, and the late Shinichi Munemasa, the former President of SANIX Inc., was thinking of establishing an event which would celebrate its grand opening. He was also determined to set up an international tournament for high school rugby players which would lead to the development of rugby scene worldwide.

So it was decided that in 2000, with the completion of Global Arena, both the Classic Tournament and SANIX WORLD RUGBY YOUTH TOURNAMENT would be convened. The Classic Tournament ended its history that year, following its second meeting in 1998.

Establishing our rugby tournament was a challenge; we were complete beginners in the field, and were short of time for a good plan. We also had disagreement with the local rugby union on how to manage the event. As a result, the first tournament was like a set of friendly matches between international teams. In nominating domestic teams, we had the support of Mr. Tanizaki, the then head coach of Higashi Fukuoka HS Rugby Club, while for overseas teams, we were helped by the international players of SANIX rugby team, as well as those that we had contact with during the Classic Tournaments.

There were only few tournament officials, and as for medical support, we could only invite Dr. Shinbara, a councilor for SANIX Sports Foundation. From the second tournament onward, we were able to develop a deeper communication with both the regional and national rugby unions. Also, with the proposal from Dr. Shinbara, doctors involved in rugby came to support the event. Today, Japan Rugby Football Union is one of the tournament organizers, and the event is backed by numerous doctors and medical staff, allowing each game to be supervised by one “match doctor”.

The first few tournaments were truly “invitational”; the participating teams did not have to pay their travel or accommodation fees. Now the teams are willing to pay their travel expenses to play in the tournament. We have also started inviting officials from international rugby unions, whom we thoroughly rely on when selecting overseas teams. In the domestic scene, the then chairman of Kyushu RFU, Mr. Hanada, was generous enough to talk to Mr. Maeda, the then chief of the rugby division in All Japan High School Athletic Federation. This meeting led to the tournament being officially supported by the federation.

The Youth Tournament was gradually recognized by the rugby community worldwide. In 2006, SANIX Sports Foundation received a plate of gratitude from the JRFU. Also, in 2013, the Union presented its Distinguished Service Award to the late Mr. Munemasa. Furthermore, the tournament was one of the final nominees for the 2017 Rhino Grass Roots Rugby Award.

As I look back over the 20 years, I recall how hard it was to start this tournament. At its establishment, we aimed at improving the level of rugby and to further develop the rugby football society. We were also committed to nurture youths with sound bodies and minds. These ideas became widely known among the participants, and I believe this yearly event is now a stunning, once-in-a-lifetime experience for the players, spectators and for everyone involved.

I sincerely hope SANIX WORLD RUGBY YOUTH TOURNAMENT will continue to prosper in the years to come.

Opening Ceremony

Photo/MasafumiONO (Except those with *)



Shigetaka Mori
then Vice-President
Japan Rugby Football Union

Hiroshi Munemasa
President
SANIX INCORPORATED

Hiroshi Ogawa
Governor
Fukuoka Prefecture

"There are only few tournaments which run opening ceremonies. It makes us feel very much motivated."
(Manager, Japanese girls' team)

Opening Game



National anthems of the two teams were played before the opening match.
Exeter College (England) v. Osaka Toin High School

Welcome Party



As one team was singing "We are the World", players from other countries joined the chorus. The hall was filled with laughter and harmony. Yes, we ARE the world!

"The welcome party was the highlight of the trip. There seemed to be a really fun vibe that resonated throughout all the teams. It was a highlight for me because it really amplified the large scale of the teams. It was really fun getting involved, and our performance is something I (and I'm sure the boys also) will never forget." (Captain, Overseas boys' team)



"We didn't need words; we became friends through music and performance."
(Captain, Japanese boys' team)

An event officially approved as a SPORT FOR TOMORROW activity



In 2019, the tournament joined the "i-PLAY TRUE Relay" project organized by Japan Anti-Doping Agency. As a legacy project for the Tokyo 2020 Games, it aims for the athletes to embrace the values of sports, and to widen their views which would lead to their ways of thinking and living.



What have you learned from playing rugby? Athletes consider the meaning of sports and write their TRUTH messages.



Each athlete gives a big smile and a "filter pose", symbolizing the truth within oneself.



※For more information on SPORT FOR TOMORROW, refer to page 5.

Boys Tournament

Photo/MasafumiONO (Except those with *)



"Very good level. It was a pleasure to play against such teams. We've got great experience."
(Captain, Overseas boys' team)

"The most impressive thing about playing against overseas teams was the size of the players. It's not what we can experience with the domestic players, so it was a good experience for us."
(Captain, Japanese boys' team)



The New Zealand team performed Haka after the prize-awarding ceremony.

Exhibition Match

Players with less chance of competing in the main tournament get together to form two mixed teams. These teams play against each other in the exhibition match. It is a valuable game which can only be experienced here. The exhibition match has been established to allow as many players as possible to get involved in this international event.

"There was a real buzz in our team whilst the exhibition game was being played. It was really cool to watch "one of our own" participate in an international mixed game."
(Captain, Overseas boys' team)



Girls Sevens Tournament



"By playing against overseas teams, I realized that half-hearted and weak tackles won't work for foreign athletes. They have such strong physiques."
(Captain, Japanese girls' team)

"The overseas players came to say 'Hello' to us before the opening ceremony. They were so nice. We enjoyed hanging out together and became good friends."
(Captain, Japanese girls' team)



Communication and interaction off the pitch

Both the tournament venue and the accommodation facilities are located in Global Arena. The players spend time together on and off the pitch, and get to understand each other's culture through communication. This is the fascinating feature of the tournament.

"There were numerous occasions that led to us socializing with the other countries. For instance, in the evenings where we would all congregate in the main reception and café lounge. This was not only a socializing setting, but a kit swapping event too which was really cool."
(Captain, Overseas boys' team)



On rest days, overseas teams visit places of cultural interest or meet with local students for intercultural activities.

Kokura Castle



Experiencing Japanese Tea Ceremony

Meetup with students from Munakata city, Fukuoka



Coach Exchange Meeting

We ask the multinational coaches to interact with each other. We share information and learn together.



In commemoration of the 20th anniversary of SANIX WORLD RUGBY YOUTH TOURNAMENT



Former Honorary President
Japan Rugby Football Union

Yoshiro Mori

For the past 20 years, the people at SANIX Inc., as well as many others involved in this outstanding tournament, have invited high school rugby players from all over the world to Global Arena; a unique facility created by the late former president of SANIX Inc., Mr. Shinichi Munemasa. They have been working selflessly to organize the event from its very beginning. I would like to express my deepest gratitude to these people for their amazing contributions.

As the president of JRFU from 2006 to 2015, I had the privilege of visiting Global Arena to watch exciting matches. For many Japanese players, this tournament is the very first opportunity to face opponents at an international level. It is a chance for them to

compete against their overseas counterparts, to get to know their power and skills. Other than attending the games, I was given occasion to become acquainted with guests from around the world. It is not an overstatement to say that this tournament is a Japanese epicenter in promoting the globalization of rugby.

More than 20 years ago, the founder of this tournament, the late Mr. Munemasa, told me of his noble passion to “design a place where youths from across the globe can interact with each other, regardless of their languages and nationalities”. His words truly struck my heart; it was a vision to further enhance the global advancement of rugby, to make the sport widespread in both domestic and international fields. In 2013, as the president of JRFU, I was very much honored to present him in person the Distinguished Service Award, in recognition of his achievements.

I am very grateful that Shinichi’s successor, Mr. Hiroshi Munemasa, as the president of SANIX Inc., is honoring his father’s will to continue the tournament. This year, our country is welcoming Rugby World Cup 2019, and is to host many visitors from across the globe. I sincerely hope this once-in-a-lifetime event will be a milestone in fostering international youth exchange and understanding through the game of rugby.

Scenes from previous tournaments



2008 (7th tournament)



2014 (13th tournament)



2015 (14th tournament)

In commemoration of the 20th anniversary of SANIX WORLD RUGBY YOUTH TOURNAMENT



Honorary President
Japan Rugby Football Union

Tadashi Okamura

SANIX WORLD RUGBY YOUTH TOURNAMENT celebrated its 20th anniversary this year. This success would not have been achieved without the understandings and efforts of everyone involved in this wonderful event, especially of the people at SANIX Inc., SANIX Sports Foundation and Global Arena Ltd. I would like to express my deepest gratitude to each and every one of them.

Each year, young rugby players from across the globe gather together at Global Arena to compete in this tournament. It is a truly valuable experience for the participants, and is a world class event of an exceptionally high quality, which the Japanese rugby society is very much proud of.

The tournament aims to spread the game of rugby within Japan, and raise the levels of players and teams in the domestic field. Moreover, it seeks to develop international exchange and understanding between its members. The tournament honors the core values of rugby; integrity, passion, solidarity, discipline and respect. Based on these principles, it provides all players, coaches and staff a valuable opportunity to meet their counterparts from different cultures, and to nurture life-long memories and friendships.

I sincerely hope that players involved in this tournament will make their way to become representatives of their countries, to play vigorously in international competitions. Furthermore, I pray this tournament will always be a flourishing environment for young Japanese players, who will one day evolve into world class athletes, to lead our future rugby society.



President
Japan Rugby Football Union

Shigetaka Mori

On behalf of Japan Rugby Football Union, I would like to extend my heartfelt congratulations on the 20th anniversary of SANIX WORLD RUGBY YOUTH TOURNAMENT. As the saying goes, persistence has paid off, and the tournament has flourished over the last 20 years. I am deeply thankful to the staff at SANIX who have been continuously providing behind-the-scenes support to run the event. Their motivation must surely derive from the selfless devotion of late Mr. Shinichi Munemasa, the founder of SANIX Inc., who more than two decades ago, came up with the wonderful idea of establishing a rugby tournament for youths around the globe. His passion has been passed on to his successor, Mr. Hiroshi Munemasa, as well as to all those who have contributed to the tournament, and I would like to express my sincere gratitude for their commitment.

This year, the whole of Japan is excited to host the Rugby World Cup, to be held for the first time in an Asian country. In recent years, Japanese players who had participated in SANIX WORLD RUGBY YOUTH TOURNAMENT are meeting their overseas counterparts once again in major sporting events, such as the World Cup and the Olympic Games. It is true this is the result of the improvement in the level of rugby and its surrounding environment within the domestic field. However, I also think that our players have become more acquainted with international settings, thanks to this tournament. The fact that they once played on the same field with so many world-class international athletes, and spent time together at Global Arena, makes them strong and secure in any environment. The purpose of this tournament is “to realize a global high school sporting event where participants interact with one another and cultivate friendship through the game of rugby”. From these words, I cannot help but recognize how much this event has contributed to the rugby scene in Japan.

One of the best features of rugby is the “bond between team mates”. It is a bond that aims for the same goal, which helps a player overcome difficulties that cannot be tackled on one’s own. It assists a player in climbing over any tough or high walls. As the players overcome the hardships together, they develop confidence, leading them to become strong individuals. As they step into the wide world, these players are sure to be relied upon by the society.

Also, rugby, as well as any other sports, is something to enjoy. Having fun should not be the sole purpose of playing the game; nevertheless, I believe there must be a sense of joy at the bottom of each player’s heart when standing on the pitch.

The importance of the bond and the enjoyment of playing rugby are the two main themes which SANIX WORLD RUGBY YOUTH TOURNAMENT has been promoting globally, especially towards the young generation, through its 20 years’ history. As I think about this, I realize the value of this event, of its beginning and of each step that it has made.

I would like to conclude by wishing for the continued success of the tournament, that it be convened continually for the young players of the future.



Intercultural Experiences to be treasured for Lifetime

President
New Zealand Schools Rugby Union **Jim Lonergan**

Firstly my thanks for an outstanding week and a half in Japan. It was truly an amazing experience. Thank you both for your outstanding hospitality, at the venue and at the various dinners and functions you organised for all of us. It is something I will never forget.

While I had heard many great stories about the SANIX WORLD RUGBY YOUTH TOURNAMENT, the stories could not do justice to what is an experience of a life time.

The Global Arena complex is an amazing complex; excellent facilities, stadium, fields, gymnasium, bathhouse and accommodation, which are all first class. The village atmosphere with the shops and the green add to the many other excellent features.

The organisation was also outstanding, from being met at the airport on arrival I always felt someone was there to answer any questions and provide assistance for anything I required.

The games were of an excellent standard with great performances by both the Japanese and the International sides. The tournament gave all teams an opportunity of playing against a variety of different countries of varying ability. In the second half of the tournament teams played against teams of similar strength.

The initial welcoming function was a great way of meeting the officials and management from the other countries and experiencing the outstanding hospitality from the SANIX staff which continued until we left.

The opening ceremony was better than any other Youth Sports Opening ceremony across the globe. Having the George Watson's College Pipe Band perform added to the excellent pageantry. The welcome party saw a wonderful mix of different performances, highlighted by the hundreds of players spontaneously coming together to sing we are the world.

New Zealand Schools' Rugby Union see the SANIX WORLD RUGBY YOUTH TOURNAMENT as the only true international schools rugby tournament. It is the only international tournament that it will endorse. NZ Schools' Rugby Union always send our previous year's national champions to this event. To represent NZ at SANIX is the prize for winning our National Schools 1st XV competition for our boy's team and is also the prize for the girl's team that wins our National Girls 7's competition.

Both Howick College Girls Sevens team and St Peters Boys 1st XV gave their all on the field and thoroughly enjoyed the games. However it is the friends they made and the different cultures they shared and experienced that will remain with them for their lifetime. Through this wonderful SANIX WORLD RUGBY YOUTH TOURNAMENT it has been truly proven, rugby does make better people.



Aspirational Goal for School Rugby Teams in New Zealand

Chairman
New Zealand Schools Rugby Union **Garry Chronican**

Congratulations to the SANIX Sports Foundation on the 20th anniversary of the SANIX WORLD RUGBY YOUTH TOURNAMENT. This tournament has become a key fixture in our rugby calendar. We have always deeply appreciated the invitations for boys 1st XVs and girls 7s team to attend. It has become an aspirational goal for our teams to win the respective national New Zealand championships in order that we select them as the team to represent New Zealand at your wonderful tournament.

The standard of competition at the Global Arena is excellent year after year. However, it is the cultural experience in Japan that teams most enjoy and embrace. Year after year teams continue to be humbled by the generosity of Japanese people. It is an added bonus that teams from so many overseas countries attend, each bringing a willingness to share their culture. New Zealand Schools Rugby has the highest regard for your tournament and look forward to the next 20 years of success.

We had a NZ Schools Board meeting where we talked about the meaning and influence of your tournament in our country. Here are some responses.

- The SANIX Tournament has become an aspirational goal for both boys and girls teams in NZ.
- Teams want to win our national championships because they want to attend the SANIX Tournament.
- The SANIX Tournament has become a key fixture in our NZ Schools Rugby calendar.
- Teams that attend your tournament feel like they are representing New Zealand.
- Players and coaches deeply appreciate learning about and experiencing the Japanese culture.
- All players and coaches deeply respect Japanese culture and generosity.
- All players and coaches enjoy meeting people from many cultures around the world.
- All players and coaches are humbled by the generosity of Japanese people.

We will continue to support the Sanix Tournament in every way possible.

Thank you again.



Rugby Connects the World

Competitions and Tours Specialist
South Africa Rugby Football Union Yusuf Jackson

The SANIX WORLD RUGBY YOUTH TOURNAMENT is definitely in my opinion one of the most eagerly anticipated rugby tournaments on the world stage annually. The organizers of this wonderful tournament has created a great platform and opportunity where the some of the world's top/ best U18 teams competes against each other during an event which offers so much more than the rugby.

From a rugby playing perspective, our South African representative school that participated in matches against a New Zealand, Australian, England, Russian and two Japanese schools. No-where in the word currently is there a tournament where a school could receive and gain such wonderful international exposure. Our team has the opportunity to test their skill and game plans during six unique and different matches. That resulted in our school's coaching team being stimulated and further developed, but also the players having the chance of playing against different players in six matches.

From a tournament perspective, the SANIX WORLD RUGBY YOUTH TOURNAMENT is wonderful for me, as it is in my opinion an event where the rugby world comes together. It is wonderful and beautiful to see the unity between the different international representatives. I had numerous discussions with various representatives from the other countries as well as Japanese stakeholders about how we could further enhance the state of rugby in our own countries but also further enhance the levels of rugby at the tournament.

The media interest from local Japanese media who interviewed me during the tournament this year also suggests that Japan media and followers loves learning and hearing about the way South Africans do rugby. It was a pleasure to share this information with Japanese media and I hope the Japanese readers enjoyed what I had to say about the linkages between South African and Japan Rugby. I will most certainly again share how we do rugby in South African with the Japanese stakeholders during future deliberations. I have also had meetings with representatives from the local area who want our visiting schools teams to visit their regions in the future. This we will definitely explore.

The Japanese culture is a wonderful culture, and I thoroughly enjoy every bit of it! I would love more people to experience it and therefore in South Africa, I constantly promote the SANIX WORLD RUGBY YOUTH TOURNAMENT. I am managed with the assistance of our structures to nominate and select our best team in South African to participate in this prestigious tournament and the result of this I believe was wonderful for everyone to witness great rugby. I will continue to promote this tournament and will again strongly advocate that our strongest South African team attends next year's tournament.

It is a wonderful tournament, and I look forward, to once again be involved and be invited to attend the SANIX WORLD RUGBY YOUTH TOURNAMENT2020 in Japan.



In Honor of its 20 years Anniversary

Former National Player of South Africa Divan Serfontein

Again thank you for having us at the SANIX WORLD RUGBY YOUTH TOURNAMENT 2019. As always it was run professionally and enjoyed by all.

Far be it for me to criticize anything, but being part of this Tournament for 20 years, I have seen and experienced a few things, which I have also discussed with the late Mr. Shinichi Munemasa. First of all I believe that the future of rugby is displayed prominently by the enthusiasm, friendship and camaraderie seen and heard by all at the welcoming dinner where all the participants joined and sang on stage in the Gymnasium.

It is fantastic! Organising such a huge event must be daunting, but yet again everything ran like clockwork. Well done!

I believe this Tournament is the elite schools rugby tournament and therefore only the top teams from invited countries should participate – not only to raise and keep the standard of rugby high, but also to raise Japanese school rugby, which is very good at present. We always try to bring 1 of our top 5 teams to participate, because one needs to respect the invitation and history of this Tournament.

Hopefully we can manage to get the top Japanese school team to come to South Africa. People would love to see them play. The Paul Roos coach told me they learned a lot from the Japanese teams. I also discussed this with Yusuf and he says SARU can assist.

Thank you for another fantastic event enjoyed by all.



At the 2015 tournament

Interview videos of participating players/ coaches Part1

Munakata SANIX Blues team members interviewed players and coaches at the 20th tournament. They talked about their impressions of the tournament, their interactions with players from other parts of the world, and of their passion for rugby. Watch the videos and experience the event!

<https://sanix.jp/company/wry20.php>



Ryutsu Keizai University Kashiwa High School (Chiba, Japan)



Osaka Toin High School (Osaka, Japan)



Kyoto Seisho High School (Kyoto, Japan)

Part 2 is shown on page 20. Both Part 1 and 2 can be viewed from the following site: <https://sanix.jp/company/wry20.php>



Commitment to Wider Promote the Event

Honorary Secretary & Treasurer
The England Rugby Football Schools Union **Mark Lowe**

Thank you for the very generous hospitality provided to myself at this year's SANIX WORLD RUGBY YOUTH TOURNAMENT.

I was again impressed with the skill levels demonstrated by the home teams, I think that Exeter College suffered from such a large defeat and struggled to regain their confidence in the second half of the tournament. The team from Paul Roos Gymnasium looked good from the start and were worthy winners.

I will continue to do all that I can to promote the SANIX WORLD RUGBY YOUTH TOURNAMENT not only here in England, but in the larger arena.



Once-in-a-lifetime Occasions, On and Off the Field

Former-administrator
Australian Rugby Football Schools Union **Bernard Carberry**

I have taken Australian Schools teams to the UK, Ireland and France as well as New Zealand. The SANIX WORLD RUGBY YOUTH TOURNAMENT is an extraordinary experience. It is a wonderful cultural and sporting experience for everyone who has attended.

I have been privileged to attend as an official for seventeen of these tournaments. I have made many friends in Japan and I consider Global Arena as my "second home".

All our players who have been to SANIX during Golden Week for this world acclaimed tournament have gone as representatives of their country as well as their school. That is how they are treated when attending. They have had the opportunity to mix with many players from many countries both on and off the field.

It is an experience that they never forget. In particular the dignity of the Japanese players is a never forgotten experience by our Australian players.

The late Mr. Shinichi Munemasa has made a monumental contribution to the development of the game when through his inspiration he started this tournament in 2000.

It will continue for many more years. There have been amazing innovations each year to make it better each year.



Life-fulfilling Experiences for All Our Lads

Exeter College (England)
Coaching Staff

I wished to write on behalf of Exeter College and the England Schools and Colleges RFU organisations to say a huge thank you all of those who organised once again an absolutely fantastic tournament.

The entire playing squad and staff from Exeter College thoroughly enjoyed the wonderful hospitality throughout the tournament and undoubtedly all of our lads have returned enriched by the unbelievable experiences they had throughout this tournament.

They feel privileged to have visited Nagasaki and taken part in the Hakata Dontaku festival parade in Fukuoka. These experiences enabled the boys to really look at the cultural elements of Japan during their visit while challenging themselves against the top U18 teams from Japan and around the world.

Since returning the parents have been contacting us expressing their gratitude and sharing with us how much their son's enjoyed every minute of the tour and how much they have taken on board from the many experiences offered to them.

We hope that Japan thoroughly enjoy the World Cup and we have no doubt it is going to be a huge success.

On behalf of us all, thank you and we very much look forward to having a further opportunity in the future to join you at the Global Arena.

Interview videos of participating players/ coaches Part2

Part 1 is shown on page 17. Both Part 1 and 2 can be viewed from the following site:

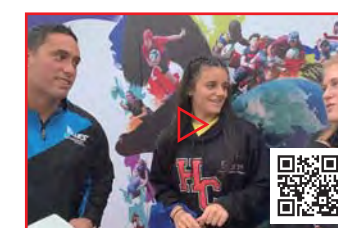
<https://sanix.jp/company/wry20.php>



Hartputy College (England) Coaches



Exeter College (England)



Hartputy College (England)



Waverley College (Australia)



World-class Extravaganza for High School Rugby Players

High Performance Manager
Rugby Union of Russia

Dmitry Afinogenov

On behalf of Russian rugby Teams which have participated in fantastic event of SANIX WORLD RUGBY YOUTH TOURNAMENT for the last 6 years I would like to commend SANIX SPORTS FOUNDATION for the top level preparation and organization of this competition which is getting better and better every year.

Attitude to your tournament is very positive, we consider that it is one of the most challenging international tournaments among juniors in the world. You can say with confidence that your tournament bears similarities with the Champions League. Very strong teams take part in it. Teams participants are highly skilled, which gives any participant a considerable experience and the opportunity to test their strength with powerful opponents.

The tournament has an outstanding organization, it is remarkable to see the tremulous attention of organizers and assistants to the problems of the teams during the tournament, the presence of high-ranking officials and representatives of rugby federations that gives a special status and colouring to this tournament.

We wish to address our special words of gratitude to the late Mr. Shinichi Munemasa who decided to organize these tournaments over 20 years ago. Such a formidable undertaking allows young rugby players from all over the world to meet Japanese peers not only in the playing field but also in real life conditions, which provides participants with an opportunity to learn more about culture of foreign countries and continents.

Every year our boys and girls look forward to the invitation for the tournament to gain life and athletic experience at Global Arena.

Four rugby players who participated in the tournament are already became part of the Russian National Rugby Team. Two of them are getting ready to participate in Rugby World Cup 2019.

We wish further prosperity and success to the tournament.



Amazing Event to meet Global Rugby, Global Friends

Panasonic Wild Knights
National Player of Japan

Shunsuke Nunomaki

As a high school student, this tournament was an event that I was truly looking forward to. The matches were of high level, and I remember feeling very excited as I competed against overseas teams for the first time in my life. I also loved the vibe of the event created by all participants. We slept together, ate together, spent time together, twenty-four seven. We talked about each other as we lay on the lawn, took lots of photos and made numerous friends from in and out of the country. And, there was the performance competition! Or was it called Welcome Party? I loved it! I had so much fun. We all became good friends after the party, regardless of our nationalities.

My team was the runner-up in 2009, but at that time, I strongly believed that we would never lose against any team. We were always aware of becoming the world's number one.

Yet, in the final, France came from behind to beat us. I was so devastated. The 2009 tournament made me realize the effectiveness of different playing styles. What I learned then has been supporting me in the rugby career that followed. Without the defeat of 2009, I would not have gone abroad as a student to experience international rugby; in fact, I would not have become the player that I am now. This tournament is just amazing; no exaggeration. I wish I could take part in it again.

As a national and Top League player, I have experienced various training camps where we all struggle together all day to endure the hardship. This tournament is different; once off the field, we can spend time as we do at home. We can look back over the matches with our opposing teams and learn from these talks. These interactions created a real sense of camaraderie among us. In recent international matches, I have met players who had previously taken part in SANIX tournament. "Hey, it's you again!" We talk as if we are high school boys.

The list of previous participants include so many well-known names. Great players like Timothy Lafa-ele, Jack Nowell, Colin Slade, Tim Bateman, JP Pietersen, Owen Franks and Matt Todd have all taken part in the event. How many All Blacks? Isn't this amazing? I feel so honored to have played in the same tournament as these extraordinary players; it will always be my pride.

I sincerely hope this event will continue for many years to come. It would be nice if our kids' generation will get the chance to play in the tournament. For some families, this event can be an occasion where both father/ mother and son/ daughter have participated. It should be fun to meet the overseas players once again, this time as parents.

The exhibition match, which started last year, is a wonderful project. Players selected from both the international and domestic teams are put into two groups to compete against each other. It's like a competition by selected youth players from around the world. This is something which cannot be achieved anywhere else. Through this match, coaches from different teams can exchange opinions and interact with one another. I believe this is very important. Also, it is a rare opportunity for high school rugby players to receive advice from various perspectives. I'm sure new star players will emerge from these exhibition matches. SANIX WORLD RUGBY YOUTH TOURNAMENT is an essential event for all rugby players. Isn't it great that my home town hosts this outstanding event?



The above photo shows Shunsuke Nunomaki playing for Higashi Fukuoka High School. He participated in the tournament three years in a row, from 2008 to 2010.