



JUNE 29, 2025
TCO STADIUM

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ABOUT

Women's Elite Rugby (WER) is the first professional women's+15s rugby league in the United States. Founded in 2024, the league comprises six teams across the US: Bay Breakers, Boston Banshees, Chicago Tempest, Denver Onyx, New York Exiles, and TC (Twin Cities) Gemini. The inaugural season kicked off in March 2025 with a 30-game regular season culminating in championship matchup between the top two teams.

WER is redefining the perception of rugby in the US, challenging norms and ideals, and creating space for women+ to discover new role models and showcase their unique strengths.



RUGBY IS FOR EVERYONE.

THE LEGACY CONTINUES...

WER is built on the legacy of the Women's Premier League (WPL), an amateur, pay-to-play rugby league that ran from 2009-2024. The WPL laid the foundation for women's rugby in the United States, and the Legacy Cup was named to honor the WPL members and so many women's rugby trailblazers — without their dedication to the game, WER would not be here today.

THE TROPHY

The Legacy Cup trophy was designed by Amy Root, a Colorado-based landscape designer and former women's rugby player who channels her creative energy into artwork. This second edition of the Legacy Cup trophy builds on the original's unfinished rugby ball form, evolving into a more complete and tightly layered structure that reflects the growing unity and strength of the women's game. The cup is designed not just to mark a championship win, but to honor the ongoing legacy of women building, growing, and leading this game forward.

Follow Amy Root @boardandwired



2024 Legacy Cup Trophy



RECORD:
9 - 1

STARTING XV



1 Maya
Learned



2 Saher
Hamdan



3 Sheila
Decker



4 Hallie
Tafo'ou



5 Rachel
Ehrecke



6 Kapoina
Bailey



7 Tahlia
Brody



8 Rachel
Johnson (C)



9 Carly
Waters



10 McKenzie
Hawkins



11 KB
Slaughter



12 Kennedy
Feasby



13 Julie
Tordonato (VC)



14 Nana
Fa'avesi



15 Kristin
Bitter

FINISHERS

16 Gianna Solomon

19 Caroline Bullock

22 Alessandra Bender Cruz

17 Mikaela Hall

20 Amy Spafford

23 Kelsie O'Brien

18 Laura LaVigne

21 Carson Hann

STAFF

Head Coach: Sarah Chobot

Support: Link Wilfley & Jeanna Beard

Team Manager: Sara Emsley

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RECORD:
6 - 4

STARTING XV



1 Kayla
Hunkin-Clark



2 Jessie
Ruiz



3 Pooki
A'au



4 Chloe
Jex



5 Jess
Salud



6 Daisy
Titus



7 Gio
Cruz



8 Misha
Green-Yotts (C)



9 Maggie
Ribardo



10 Aly
Cunningham



21 Veronica
Blair



12 Jetta
Owens



13 Sophie
Frick



14 Scout
Cheeks



15 Tess
Feury

FINISHERS

16 Faith Morley

17 Emily Brower

18 Corina "Corn" Kaiser

19 Cari Pick

20 Justina DeBruzzi

11 Sarah "Mini" Minahan

22 Allysya "Bono" O'Neill

23 Shamira Robles

STAFF

Head Coach: Diego Maquieira

Assistant Coaches: Amber Chandu & Mads McCormick

Team Manager: Mads McCormick

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SEASON STATS

Team	Player	Apps	Tries	Conv	PK	Points
	Jetta Owens	10	4	22	2	70
	Yeja Dunn	10	12	0	0	60
	KB Slaughter	10	8	0	0	40
	McKenzie Hawkins	4	0	20	0	40
	Erica Coulibaly	4	8	0	0	40
	Rachael Harkavy	10	1	12	2	35
	Kristin Bitter	5	1	15	0	35
	Justine Perl	6	1	13	0	31
	Rachel Johnson	5	6	0	0	30
	Kristen Siano	7	4	5	0	30
	Kennedy Feasby	9	6	0	0	30
	Isla Alejandro	10	6	0	0	30
	Kapoina Bailey	7	5	0	0	25
	Eden Kilgour	4	5	0	0	25
	Veronica Blair	4	5	0	0	25
	Natayah Bauer	9	3	5	0	25
	Monique Coffey	9	5	0	0	25
	Naomi Carillo	7	5	0	0	25
	Sophie Frick	10	5	0	0	25
	Kailynn Hampton	10	5	0	0	25
	Mona Lisa Tupou	9	5	0	0	25
	Scout Cheeks	10	5	0	0	25



RUGBY 101

YOUR GUIDE TO THE BASICS OF THE GAME

1. HOW DO YOU SCORE POINTS IN RUGBY?

There are four ways to score points in rugby:

A **TRY** (5 points) is scored by grounding the ball in the opponent's in-goal area - also called the try zone.



A **CONVERSION** (2 points) is kicked after scoring a try.



Teams can also kick **PENALTIES** (3 points) for serious rule violations, or score **DROP GOALS** (3 points) by drop-kicking the ball over the crossbar during play (this method doesn't happen often, but when it does, it's very cool!)

2. WHY CAN'T PLAYERS PASS THE BALL FORWARD?

Rugby's fundamental rule is that you can only pass backward or sideways to teammates. This creates rugby's unique flowing style where teams must work together creatively to advance. When players throw the ball forward, it's an infringement that gives possession to the other team.

3. HOW LONG IS A RUGBY MATCH?

Rugby matches consist of two 40-minute halves with a 15-minute half-time break. Unlike other sports, the clock keeps running during most play, creating incredible continuous action, changes of possession, and strategic battles that evolve over the course of a match and make rugby an amazing game to watch!

4. WHAT IS A SCRUM?

A scrum is one way to restart play. Eight forwards from each team grab each other's jerseys, bind together and compete for the ball by trying to push the other team backwards. It restarts play after minor infringements (like a forward pass). The team awarded the ball (indicated by the direction the referee's arm is pointing) gets to put the ball into the scrum. The team that gets to put the ball in is trying to push hard to keep the ball, while the opposition is doing their best to push back as hard as possible to steal it the ball from them.





5. WHY ARE THEY KICKING?

Smart kicking is a key tactical weapon! Players might punt (drop and kick before the ball touches ground) for territory, kick high for their own teammates to catch it and continue to advance, or use other tactics and techniques to keep play dynamic and exciting. Good kicking can relieve pressure, create attacking opportunities, and even score points.

6. WHAT ARE THOSE JUMPING CONTESTS AT THE SIDELINE?

That's a lineout! When the ball goes into touch (out of bounds), teams line up opposite each other where the ball was marked when it left the field of play. The referee will put a flag in the air showing where the ball left the field, and then point in the direction of the team who gets to throw it back in. The team who gets possession will throw the ball straight into the space between the two lines of players (the “tunnel”). You’ll see some players lifting other players – “lifters” lift the “jumpers” into the air on both teams to try and catch the ball. And, if the team that wasn’t awarded possession is able to catch the ball from the team that threw it in, the lineout has been “stolen!”



7. WHAT HAPPENS WHEN A PENALTY IS AWARDED?

When teams commit serious infringements, the referee awards a penalty to the opposing side. This gives teams valuable options: kick for goal (3 points), kick for better territory, tap and run to continue attacking, or kick into touch for a lineout. Penalties often decide close matches, so understanding when and why they're awarded adds to your enjoyment of the game.

8. DOES RUGBY HAVE CARDS LIKE SOCCER DOES?

Yes, but they work a little differently. If a player commits a foul and the referee decides to award a yellow card, the player who committed the foul has to leave the field for 10 minutes before being allowed to return – AND, the team losing the player has to play shorthanded the whole time. If a player commits a really serious offense and the referee awards a red card, that player is sent off and cannot return to play, and the team losing the player has to play shorthanded for the rest of the match!

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