

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

July 2025



RUGBY OPS COACHES' CORNER

This squad grew as a team on and off the pitch. As we head into the off-season, the focus will be on developing our younger talent, reviewing our game systems, and building toward a 2026 comeback that reflects the full potential of this team.

"It's not just about wins on the pitch. It's about growing the game, investing in young players, and inspiring the next generation. That's a legacy I'm proud to be part of."—John Manenti, Head Coach



A MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

As the 2025 season officially comes to a close, the San Diego Legion extends its heartfelt gratitude to every person who walked with us this year—our fans, partners, players, coaches, staff, volunteers, and the greater rugby community. Your dedication, loyalty, and love for the game continue to be the foundation on which we build.

This season brought its share of challenges. After a hot 5-0 start under new Head Coach John Manenti, we finished 8-8, falling short of our playoff hopes but not our purpose. Every setback brought valuable lessons. Every win revealed our potential. And through it all, your belief in us never wavered.

“Disappointment can’t erase the pride we have in this team and the community that surrounds it. The foundation is strong, and the future is brighter than ever.”– David Haigh, CEO



A MESSAGE FROM THE OWNER

Off the pitch, the momentum is undeniable. We saw a 53% increase in ticket sales to fans who had never experienced San Diego Legion rugby before. That means more new families, new energy, and new believers in what we’re building.

“We’re building more than a team, we’re building a movement. From youth to pro, Legion is committed to growing the game the right way, and we couldn’t be prouder of the strides made this year.”– Ryan Patterson, Ownership Group



COMMUNITY COMMUNITY RECAP

We're proud to say Legion made over 340 individual player appearances in the community this season, from clinics and school visits to festivals and outreach events. Thanks to former Legion player Mikey Teo and Imagine Rugby, over 18,500 students were introduced to rugby across 37 schools, with 60 more lined up for fall.

Locally, Legion players and staff visited 15 schools, reaching over 2,000 students with rugby fundamentals, values, and inspiration. Together, we're creating pathways to play and opportunities to dream.




COMMUNITY RUGBY SUMMER CAMP

The San Diego Legion is hosting an exciting Summer Rugby Camp for boys and girls ages U8-U18! Join us for a fun-filled week of rugby skill-building, games, and mentorship led by Legion players. Whether you're new to the game or looking to sharpen your skills, this camp is a great way to learn, grow, and play alongside the pros.

 Encinitas Community Park

 July 7-11, Monday-Friday

 8:00 AM – 2:00 PM (Thursday: 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM)

 Cost: \$500/week

Spots are limited—register today and be part of the Legion rugby family this summer!

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)



COMMUNITY CALIFORNIA STATE GAMES

The Cal State Games are back, and San Diego is proud to host! Join us as young athletes from across the state compete in the Rugby Sevens tournament, showcasing skill, teamwork, and passion for the sport.

- 📍 Venue: Robb Field, Ocean Beach
- 📅 Dates: July 19, 2025
- 🕒 Times: Games run throughout the day
- 🎟️ Free for spectators – come cheer on your local teams!

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)



COMMUNITY NATIONAL CHAMPIONS

We also celebrated the rise of youth rugby across Southern California:

- 🏆 Belmont Shore Girls – Club National Champions
- 🏆 Mustangs U18 – Tier 1 Club High School National Champions
- 🏆 Raptors Boys – Tier 2 Club High School National Champions



COMMUNITY LEGION WORKS TO GROW GIRLS RUGBY

Since the beginning of the year, the San Diego Legion has made real strides toward growing opportunities for girls in rugby. From visibility and access to long-term planning, we're laying the foundation for a strong, sustainable future.

A standout moment came on May 10, when players from nearly every local club participated in U15 and U18 girls XV's exhibitions at Torero Stadium. The experience gave players a chance to learn key 15s skills while playing on a professional field — a powerful reminder of what's possible through rugby.

Meanwhile, we've been showing up — at practices, tournaments, and meetings with clubs — to support the girls' game at every level. We're backing new team formation efforts in underserved areas like East County and South Bay, and continue to build the infrastructure needed to support growth, from U8's through High School.

The Legion was proud to host the USA Women's Eagles to Torero Stadium on April 19, where hundreds of youth players and families came out to meet their rugby heroes and see themselves reflected in the highest levels of the sport

This is only the beginning — and with this kind of momentum, the future of girls' rugby in San Diego is bright and powerful.





UPCOMING EVENTS

CORONADO ANNUAL 4TH OF JULY PARADE

The San Diego Legion will be in the Coronado 4th of July Parade—come show your support! Catch us celebrating with the community all morning long.

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CALIFORNIA STATE GAMES

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WHATS NEXT? FAN SPOTLIGHT

Each month, we'll feature a diehard fan who's gone above and beyond. Want to nominate someone? Email us at info@sdlegion.com with their name, photo, and why they represent the heart of the Cohort.

This season may not have ended with a shield, but it ends with progress, passion, and purpose. We are incredibly proud of how far we've come—and even more excited about where we're going.



END OF SEASON FEEDBACK SURVEY

We are looking for fan feedback to help us plan for next season. Please fill out this form and let us know how we can better serve you, the fans!

Thank you for standing with us. Thank you for believing in us. And thank you for being part of this family.

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE](#)



END OF SEASON MERCH SALE



USE CODE "SALE" AT CHECKOUT

This is it — your moment to stock up, show out, and rep San Diego's squad in style.

From matchday classics to off-field essentials, every piece of Legion gear is 50% OFF for a limited time. Whether you've had your eye on the jersey, want to grab that hoodie, or need to upgrade your hat game — now's the time.

Just use code SALE at checkout.

Don't miss out — because once it's gone, it's gone 'til next season.

SHOP NOW



50%
OFF

