

Great Britain Tag Rugby 2024

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Core Management Personnel:

- Programme Director - Will Shepherd (willshepherd@trytagrugby.com)
- Women's Open Staff
 - Head Coach - Hannah Wilson | Assistant Coach - Riley Lombardo
 - Team Manager - Kaitlin Youens-Brown
- Mixed Open Staff
 - Head Coach - Mark Roughsedge | Assistant Coach - Caz Henzell
 - Team Manager - Ben Smith
- Men's Open Staff
 - Head Coach - James Baron | Assistant Coach - TBC
 - Team Manager - Mandy Morris
- Women's 30s Staff
 - Head Coach - Ant Merrett | Assistant Coach - Sam Bedford
 - Team Manager - TBC
- Mixed Seniors Staff
 - Head Coach - Kim Parkinson | Assistant Coach - Cat Lindsay
 - Team Manager - Mark Pett-Ridge
- Men's 30s Staff
 - Head Coach - Tony Musgrave | Assistant Coach - David Dunk
 - Team Manager - TBC
- Women's 37s Staff
 - Head Coach - Tracey Smith | Assistant Coach - Emma Becker
 - Team Manager - Helen Freeman
- Men's 40s Staff
 - Head Coach - Matt Picknett | Assistant Coach - Andrew Davis
 - Team Manager - TBC
- Women's U23s Staff
 - Head Coach - David Shipley | Assistant Coach - Phoebe Robins
 - Team Manager - Amanda Stockley
- Men's U23s Staff
 - Head Coach - James Baron | Assistant Coach - TBC
 - Team Manager - Mandy Morris

Great Britain Tag Rugby 2024 Timeline

Date	Event
Tuesday 19th December 2023	2024 Great Britain Coaching Team Announced
Tuesday 13th February 2024	Registration opens for all 2024 Great Britain trials
Saturday 24th February	Northern & Scottish GB Trials - Heaton Moor RUFC
Saturday 2nd March	Southern & Midland GB Trials - Oxford RFC
Saturday 9th March	London GB Trials - King's House Sports Ground
Thursday 14th March	2024 Great Britain Training Squads announced
Sunday 24th March	Training commences
Sunday 31st March	No training due to Easter Weekend
Saturday 11th May	UK Tag Nationals 2024
Sunday 12th May	GB teams training in Coventry following UK Tag Nationals
Sunday 9th June	No training following TagFest London
Saturday 6th & Sunday 7th July	July Internationals - Brighton RFC
Sunday 7th July	No training following International matches
Saturday 24th & Sunday 25th August	British & Irish Cup 2024 - University College Dublin, Ireland
Saturday 14th September	Great Britain Tag Rugby End of Season Awards Social

Great Britain Categories

In 2024 Great Britain Tag Rugby will increase from eight to ten categories with the addition of Women's and Men's Under 23s:

- Women's Open (all TTR registered female players eligible)
- Mixed Open (all TTR registered Try Tag Rugby players eligible)
- Men's Open (all TTR registered male Try Tag Rugby players eligible)
- Women's 30s (all TTR registered female players **born on or before 31.12.96**)
- Mixed Seniors (all TTR registered female players **born on or before 31.12.96** and all TTR registered male players **born on or before 31.12.93** eligible)
- Men's 30s (all TTR registered male players **born on or before 31.12.96** eligible)
- Women's 37s (all TTR registered female players **born on or before 31.12.89** eligible)
- Men's 40s (all TTR registered male players **born on or before 31.12.86** eligible)
- Women's U23s (all GBTR registered female players **born on or after 01.01.01** eligible)
- Men's U23s (all GBTR registered male players **born on or after 01.01.01** eligible)

All *overs* age categories (30s, 37s, 40s) indicate the age the player must turn by the end of 2026 in order to be eligible for that category at the anticipated 2026 Tag World Cup.

The *unders* age categories (23s) indicate the maximum age that the player can turn this year. The U23s will be lowered to U22s in 2025 and then to U21s in 2026 to be eligible for the respective category at the anticipated 2026 Tag World Cup.

Eligibility

- Eligibility rules for Great Britain Tag Rugby are determined by the International Tag Federation.
- Players must be registered tag players with a full ITF national body e.g. registered with Try Tag Rugby to play in a domestic competition.
- Players must be registered and playing in a domestic competition for more than seven weeks in the calendar year of selection
 - This rule shall be waived for the U23s in 2024 while the opportunities for players of the qualifying age to play in leagues are limited
- Players are eligible to play for Great Britain Tag Rugby if:
 - They were born in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland;
 - Either of their parents or any of their grandparents were born in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland;
 - The United Kingdom has been their principal place of residence for a period of three years up to the date of their selection;
 - A player will not be treated as having their principal place of residence in the UK if they have not been present in the country for nine months in any period of twelve months during the three years up to the date of their selection
 - They hold a valid British passport;
 - They have previously, and most recently, represented Great Britain in accordance with the above rules;
- Players who are eligible for other countries are entitled to select the country they wish to represent. When a player plays an international match for that country they are deemed to have elected to play for that country. Once the selection is made the player may not play representative tag for any other country until the end of the next World Cup tournament.
- Players may be required to provide proof of their eligibility to Great Britain Tag Rugby or the International Tag Federation at any time.

Regional Tournaments & Great Britain Trials

- All UK Tag Nationals regions will take part in a Regional Tournament in 2024. There will be three separate tournaments:
 - The **Northern & Scottish** tournament will consist of Edinburgh, Manchester, Sheffield, Wigan and Yorkshire and will take place at **Heaton Moor RUFC** on **Saturday 24th February 2024**
 - The **Southern & Midland** tournament will consist of Brighton & Hove, Bristol, Coventry & Warwickshire and Thames Valley and will take place at **Oxford RFC** on **Saturday 2nd March 2024**
 - The **London** tournament will consist of East, North, South and West London and will take place at **King's House Sports Ground** on **Saturday 9th March 2024**
- The tournaments will be utilised as Great Britain trials with GB coaches in attendance. Players will be contacted prior to their tournament with instructions on registering themselves for consideration in the trials.
- Each tournament will include a skills and drills section during which no tournament matches will be made. Players aiming for selection for GB should ensure they are available for this section so that coaches can see them in scenarios that isolate certain skills and abilities.
- The London Regional Tournament will also include an additional trial that is open to any player interested in trialling for Great Britain who isn't playing in the three Regional Tournaments either due to unavailability or because they aren't involved with a UK Tag Nationals team in 2024. This trial will include a skills and drills section followed by single and mixed gender matches.



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Team Selection

- Following an extensive review of the selection model evolutions that were used in the last World Cup cycle a new model will be used for 2024.
- The variations of the model used in the previous cycle were designed to give all Great Britain teams equal access to the best possible teams. With so many Great Britain teams competing for the same players this ultimately led to situations where multiple teams had a good claim to select the same player who often hadn't expressed a deciding preference in either direction.
- It obviously isn't a positive experience for coaches or players for two or more teams to compete for the same player as this can cause conflict, confusion and dissatisfaction for all parties.
- In an effort to avoid such issues from arising the new model establishes a set order that the teams will select in and makes it compulsory for players to indicate which teams they are happy to be selected by and which they do not wish to play for.
- The order of precedence amongst teams that will be observed during selection in 2024 is as follows:
 - Selecting first: Women's Open and Men's Open
 - Selecting second: Mixed Open
 - Selecting third: Women's 30s and Men's 30s
 - Selecting fourth: Mixed Seniors
 - Selecting fifth: Women's 37s and Men's 40s
- Each team will select their entire training squad of 28 players in this order.
- This precedence shall only be enforced during selection and **shall not be replicated** in teams' access to training, competition, promotion, sponsorship or any other element of the programme.
- GBTR is aware that players in the seniors squads may be concerned that the selection order will have a negative impact on their teams that will see them lose players. Two steps are being taken to prevent this happening:
 - Firstly the creation of the U23 sides will ensure that GBTR is actively recruiting and training full squads of players younger than the average age that GBTR players currently begin playing the sport. The aim here is to ensure that there is an improvement pathway of talent into the GB Open sides.
 - Secondly a quota will be enforced on the core eight GBTR teams that will require them to pick a minimum of six players in their squad of 28 who don't yet qualify for the age category above theirs. The aim of this quota is to ensure that there are spaces in every team for younger players to progress into while simultaneously ensuring that senior teams have the opportunity to select from as wide a pool of eligible players as possible. The quota isn't higher than this as GBTR does not wish to have a quota being the main determining factor in the overall makeup of a team's selections.
- Due to the differing timeline for, and required approach to, the U23 squads in their inaugural year they will be selected later than the core eight eight teams in 2024.

- Players will be able to be selected in the training squads for both an Opens and Unders side if the coaches think it would be beneficial to both the player and the team.

Player Preference

- Player preference will play an enhanced role in the new selection model as players will be required to definitely rule themselves in or out of selection for particular teams.
- Players will not however be able to communicate a hierarchy of preference between teams due to the order in which the teams will select their squads.
- Players indicating they are happy to be selected for multiple teams thereby accept that they will be taken by the first team in the order of precedence who chooses to select them.
- Example 1: A female player over the age of 37 expresses that they are happy to be selected for Mixed Open, Women's 30s and Mixed Seniors but not Women's Open or Women's 37s. The following process may then take place:
 - Women's Open select their team first and cannot pick this player
 - Mixed Open select their team second and can select this player but choose not to
 - Women's 30s select their team third, can select this player and choose to do so
 - Mixed Seniors select their team fourth and cannot select this player as they have already been selected by Women's 30s
 - Women's 37s select their team fifth and could not have selected this player as they had ruled themselves out of selection for this team
- Example 2: A female player over the age of 37 expresses that they only wish to be selected by Women's 37s. The following process may then take place:
 - Women's Open select their team first, Mixed Open second, Women's 30s third, Mixed Seniors fourth but none of these teams can select this player as the player had ruled themselves out of selection for these teams
 - Women's 37s select their team fifth, can select the player and choose to do so
- Example 3: A male player over the age of 30 but under the age of 40 expresses that they only wish to be selected by Opens teams. The following process may take place:
 - Men's Open select first and choose not to select this player
 - Mixed Open select second and choose not to select this player
 - Men's 30s, Mixed Seniors are unable to select the player as they have ruled themselves out of selection for any team other than Opens
 - Men's 40s were unable to select the player regardless due to the player's age

Tournament Selection

- For tournaments, teams will select squads of 20.
- Players not selected in the tournament side for the team they have been training with, will be available for selection by other teams in the programme for which they are eligible. In this event players will be contacted before the announcement to check they are happy to play for the new team selecting them.
- Should this happen for the first of two or more tournaments in the year, a discussion will take place between the player and the coaches of their training side and their tournament side about where they are best placed for the remainder of the year and subsequent tournaments.



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Player Fees

There are a number of costs associated with taking part in the Great Britain Programme. The main central costs are detailed below:

- Great Britain Membership Fee
 - £50 for London Players
 - £10 for Regional Players
- July Internationals Tournament Registration Fee
 - £45 for all players
- British & Irish Cup Registration Fee
 - TBC depending on ITRA event budget
- The Membership Fee is a revamped cost for 2024 that covers costs for training pitch hire and the provision of balls, tags, cones, ice packs and first aid kits throughout the season. The increased cost compared to 2023 is due to the 40% subsidisation of training costs by TTR in a World Cup year not being sustainable year on year.
- Players will have the choice to pay their central costs in a single lump sum upfront or to pay them in monthly instalments as per the 2023 payment model.

Kit

- The majority of the Great Britain training, off-field and tournament range will undergo a redesign in 2024 with the feedback from the 2023 survey taken into account with this redesign.
- The training and off-field range will be maintained throughout the coming World Cup cycle (2024-2026) as will the British & Irish Cup kit.
- While GBTR would like as many players as possible to have training and off-field kit this will still remain a matter of player choice and will not be compulsory.
- Additional items may be added to the training and off-field range where demand exists and as affordable, sustainable items become available.
- GBTR remains committed to working with TTR to provide women's cut items in the tournament, training and off-field range and hopes to have an announcement in this regard very soon.
- Tournament kits will be reused through the coming World Cup cycle with the next World Cup kit continuing to be a standalone design to mark the importance of the tournament.

Kit Prices

- Training and Off-Field
 - Training jerseys will be available at the usual retail price of **£33.95**
 - Training singlets will be available at the usual retail price of **£30.95**



- Men's cut training shorts will be available at the usual retail price of **£23.95**
 - Short length training tights will be available at the usual retail price of **£29.95**
 - Mid length training tights will be available at the usual retail price of **£31.95**
 - New Gripworx training/competition socks will be available for **£14.95**
 - Off-Field polos will be available for **£30.95**
 - Training/off-field mid-layers will be available for **£42.50**
 - New training/off-field showerproof jackets will be available for **£52.95**
 - Off-Field jackets will be available for **£49.95**
 - Off-Field gilets will be available for **£42.95**
 - Off-Field trackies will be available for **£32.95**
 - New off-field shorts will be available for **£28.95**
 - New training/off-field caps will be available for **£15.95**
 - New training/off-field bucket hats will be available for **£16.95**
- **Tournament Kit**
 - In 2024 Great Britain Tag Rugby and Try Tag Rugby will continue to subsidise the cost of tournament kit, albeit at a lower rate than in 2023 as TTR needs to cover the costs of production being passed onto them. This discount includes providing a greater subsidy on tights and jerseys so that no player pays more than any other as a result of their kit requirements.
 - Jerseys and singlets will both be subsidised from £32.95 and £29.95 respectively to be priced at **£27.50**
 - Men's shorts will be subsidised from £23.95 respectively to be priced at **£22.50**
 - Tights will be subsidised from £29.95 respectively to be priced at **£22.50**
 - Players may order more than one top and more than one pair of shorts/tights per tournament if they wish.

Team Sponsorship

- As with 2022 and 2023 a sponsorship brochure will be produced to help players, coaches, managers and supporters to seek sponsorship for the Great Britain Programme.
- In response to feedback the sponsorship model will be updated this year. Instead of sponsorship packages only being available for the entire programme, sponsorship packages will also be made available for sections of the programme:
 - Women's Open and Women's U23s
 - Women's 30s and Women's 37s
 - Mixed Open and Mixed Seniors
 - Men's Open and Men's U23s
 - Men's 30s and Men's 40s
- For each section of the programme, two tiers will be offered:
 - Gold Tier - £5000 plus VAT sponsorship with front of shirt and back of shorts logo placement and primary social media and streaming presence
 - Silver Tier - £2500 plus VAT sponsorship with back of shirt logo placement and secondary social media and streaming presence
- Should a section of the programme be successful in attracting sponsorship, they will keep 57.1% of the total to use directly toward player costs within their team. 28.6% of the sponsorship will be distributed between the remaining teams to use toward player costs. The final 14.3% will be retained centrally in the GB budget to cover processing and administration costs relating to the sponsor.
- Teams successful in gaining a sponsor will be free to decide what they wish to allocate their proportion of the sponsorship funds toward.

Training

- Central training will again predominantly take place at Regent's Park in London on Sunday afternoons for the core eight teams.
- Teams are scheduled to train every other weekend from the end of March up to the British & Irish Cup at the end of August.
- Training will not take place on Easter weekend due to the likelihood of people being away, nor on the Sunday following TagFest London due to the likely number of people that will have played the previous day.
- Following selections in March, each of the core teams will poll their players on their availability for training through the season and where they will be travelling to training from.
- All eight teams will be required to run at least one weekend camp outside London through the training season. The start of season poll will be used to determine the best date and location for this weekend camp. Some teams may wish to run their camps concurrently with one or more other GB teams or to reach out to UK Tag Nationals regions to invite them to train with them for part of the camp.
- Each team will determine their own minimum attendance policy for training based on what works best for their team and the travel commitment required from their players.
- Teams are welcome to add additional sessions beyond the central training booked for teams at Regent's Park but must provide players with at least two weeks' notice of any additions or changes to the current training schedule.
- Due to changes in pitch availability at Regent's Park the final training schedule for 2024 is not yet able to be released. It will be shared in this document as soon as possible.



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2024 International Fixtures

Tournament: July Internationals

Opposition: South Africa & France (TBC)

Date: Saturday 6th and Sunday 7th July

Venue: Brighton RFC

Format: TBC depending on final team entries from South Africa and France. All Great Britain teams will play an equal number of matches however.

Travel & Accommodation: Players will be free to sort their own travel and accommodation. We would encourage players to stay in Brighton if possible or potentially to arrange to stay with London based teammates and travel to the venue and back on the London to Brighton train over the weekend.

Tournament: British & Irish Cup 2024

Opposition: Ireland

Date: Saturday 24th & Sunday 25th August

Venue: University College Dublin

Format: Each of the eight core categories will play five tests against their equivalent Irish side with two tests per team played on Saturday and three on Sunday. The nation winning the greatest number of categories, or games if drawn on categories, will win the British & Irish Cup.

In their inaugural year the U23 teams will play two single gender and one mixed gender game on the Saturday only. Results from these matches will not count toward the overall awarding of the British & Irish Cup.

Travel & Accommodation: Accommodation is available at University College Dublin. There is however no requirement for teams to stay onsite for this tournament so teams are welcome to sort their own accommodation that best fits their requirements and finances. Players are expected to stay with their team for logistical ease.

ITRA recommended hotels include Talbot Hotel, Stillorgan; Maldron Hotel, Merrion Road; Clayton Hotel, Burlington Road; Clayton Hotel, Leopardstown.

Players are free to sort their own flights or other transport to Dublin but are expected to join up with their team on Friday evening and are encouraged to stay for the tournament after party on the Sunday night.

Code of Conduct

Training

- Participate for your own enjoyment and benefit. Make every effort to develop your own abilities and support your teammates' development.
- Recognise that your coaches and managers are volunteers who give up their time to provide their services. Treat them with the utmost respect. Remember, without them you do not have a game
- Turn-up to training and matches on time, with a positive attitude, and help out with setting up and packing down.
- Care for and respect the facilities and equipment made available to you during training.
- Listen to feedback provided by your coaches and commit to achieving the targets they set you.

International and Domestic Competition (Including Try Tag Rugby leagues and tournaments)

- Remember you are representing Great Britain Tag Rugby everytime you wear the national kit. Keep in mind that people will see you as a GB representative even when you are not playing internationally and your actions in domestic leagues will reflect back onto the Great Britain programme.
- You do not own the Great Britain kit, you are a custodian of it. Leave it in a better place than when you first put it on.
- Be sporting at all times. Respect all players and all good play whether from your team or the opposition. Thank the opposition and officials at the end of every match, regardless of the result.
- Always respect the match official's decision.
- Honour both the spirit and letter of the competition rules and live up to the highest standards of ethics and sportsmanship; avoiding gamesmanship.
- Actively discourage all instances of foul play, dangerous play, acts of violence and/or unsporting behaviour by players.
- Prepare fully for matches, both physically and mentally.
- Conduct yourself both on and off the field with the utmost integrity.

Off-Field

- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every player, coach, manager and official regardless of age, disability, gender identity, marital status, pregnancy; race or ethnicity; religious or political beliefs; sex; or sexual orientation.
- Never engage in discriminatory or unacceptable conduct of any sort including swearing, obscene gestures, offensive remarks, taunting or other actions that are demeaning or disrespectful to other players, officials or supporters. Treat others as you would like to be treated.



- Be a good role model. Set a positive example by the way you dress, speak and act towards players, coaches, managers, officials and spectators.
- Never engage in public criticism of officials or opponents.
- Do not use performance enhancing drugs or doping techniques.

All Great Britain Tag Rugby players, coaches, managers, staff and representatives are bound by this Code of Conduct by their engagement with the programme. They agree to abide by the Code of Conduct at any and all times that they may be considered to be representing Great Britain Tag Rugby and shall strive to represent the Programme to the best of their abilities.

All Great Britain Tag Rugby players, coaches, managers, staff and representatives understand that Great Britain Tag Rugby is part of Try Tag Rugby and is affiliated to the International Tag Federation. As such, all Great Britain representatives are additionally bound by Try Tag Rugby rules and regulations for domestic competition and will be held accountable in accordance with these.

All Great Britain Tag Rugby players, coaches, managers, staff and representatives understand that any failure to comply with this Code of Conduct or Try Tag Rugby regulations shall be met with a disciplinary investigation, the outcome of which may include my immediate and permanent suspension from the Great Britain Tag Rugby Programme.



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Maternity and Paternity Policy

- Great Britain Tag Rugby acknowledges that our players' international careers may be interrupted by maternity or paternity.
- It is important to GBTR that players who need to take time off for maternity or paternity are able to do so without it having a negative impact on their international aspirations and as a result we have created a policy to that end.
- Should a player have to withdraw from the programme during the year due to pregnancy; maternity leave; paternity leave; fertility treatment; or compassionate or bereavement leave related to pregnancy then they will automatically be provided with a training squad place in the next year that they are available to train.
- This spot will either be with the team they were previously in or with the next squad above it in age category if they would prefer that following their time out.
- That squad can either select one player fewer to maintain a training squad size of 28 or they can instead carry an extra player.
- The returning player's automatic place is only in the training squad; selection for tournament teams will continue to be performance based.
- The returning player must have medical sign-off that they are fit to return to training if their absence was following pregnancy.



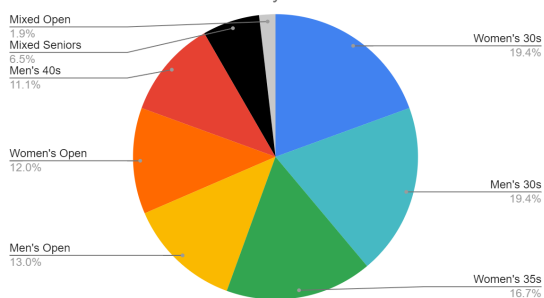
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2023 Feedback

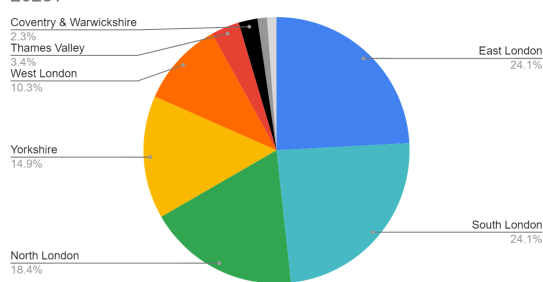
- Great Britain Tag Rugby conducted its most extensive feedback process to date following the conclusion of the 2023 season and most recent World Cup cycle.
- Thank you to the record number of players who contributed to the survey, the results were informative, encouraging and valuable and the key findings are summarised over the next few pages.

Survey Respondents

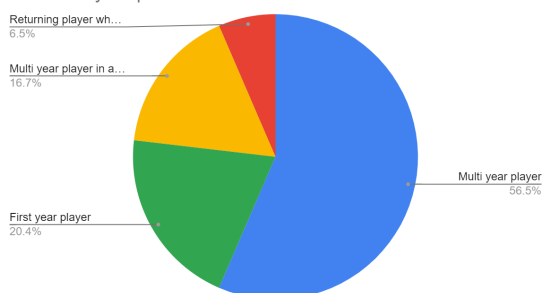
Which Great Britain team were you involved with in 2023?



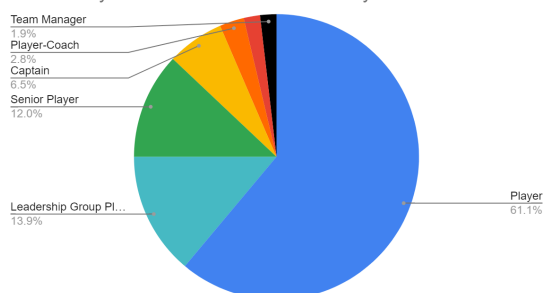
Which UK Tag Nationals Region were you affiliated with in 2023?



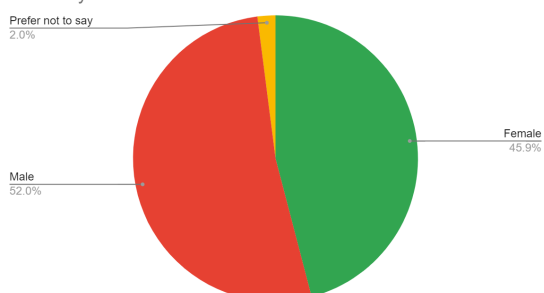
What has your previous involvement with GB been?



What was your role with Great Britain this year?



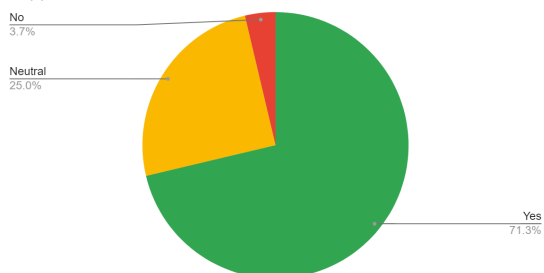
What is your sex?



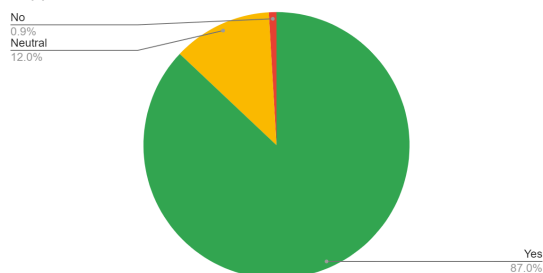
- Respondents came from all eight Great Britain teams as well as from nine of the 11 UK Tag Nationals regions that had GB representatives in 2023 (Bristol and Wigan are the unlabelled sections of the chart)
- In the chart titled *What has your involvement been with GB before*, the incomplete labels are *Multi year player in a different team to last year* and *Returning player who has been out of the setup for a year or more*
- Responses came from across the spectrum of GB playing experience as well as roles within teams

Experience of being a part of Great Britain Tag Rugby

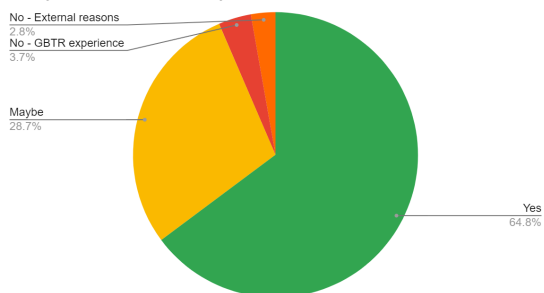
Would you consider GBTR to be a safe, welcoming and supportive environment?



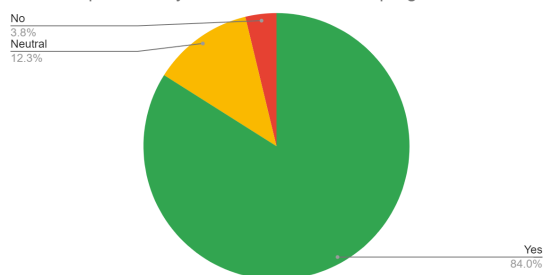
Would you consider your GB team to be a safe, welcoming and supportive environment?



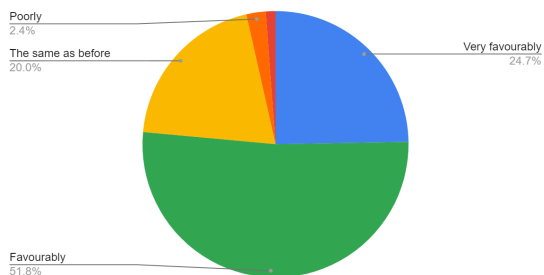
Will you look to continue your involvement with GBTR in 2024



Would you encourage someone to get involved in GBTR based on the experiences you have had within the programme?



If you have been involved with GBTR before, how would you say the 2023 season compared with previous experiences?



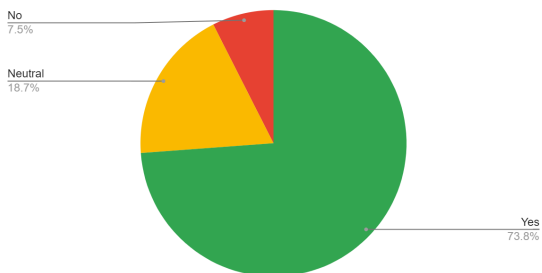
- It's encouraging to see the percentage of respondents who felt safe, welcome and supported within GBTR, however we are committed to reaching a point where no-one feels they have to respond "no" to these questions
- Understandably the bond that respondents find on pitch with their team is greater than with the overall GB programme but we will aim to create more opportunities for players to bond with those from other teams to feel as welcome and supported across the programme
- We are delighted that such a high percentage of 2023 players would encourage others to get involved in the programme

Themes

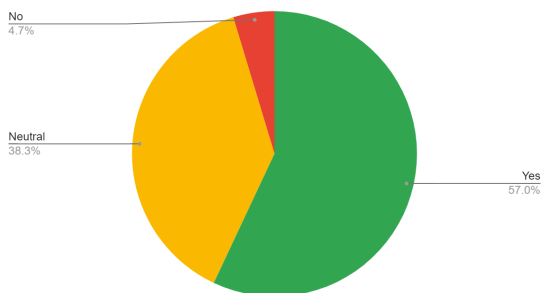
- Positive: Inclusive culture within own team; friendliness; approachability; good vibes; work from coaches and Programme Director; working together to achieve success
- Negative: Lack of cohesion between teams; cliques; non-London players feeling like outsiders; London players not appreciating the sacrifices made by non-London players

Fees and Payment

Do you think the 2023 payment model was a good way of managing fees?



Would you like the 2023 payment model to continue for 2024



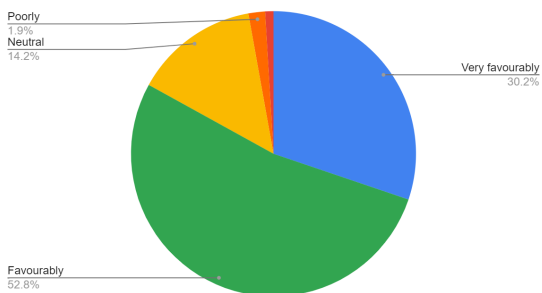
- As a result of the feedback the option of paying fees in monthly instalments will again be offered in 2024 but players will also be able to pay central costs upfront if preferred

Themes

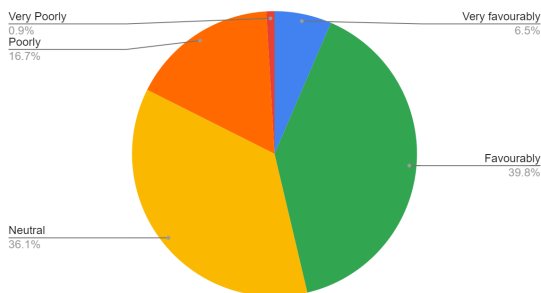
- Positive: Helped to have the costs broken into instalments
- Negative: Communication from some Managers not as clear as others; transparency on costs; teams that played fewer than the agreed 24 at the B&I

Training

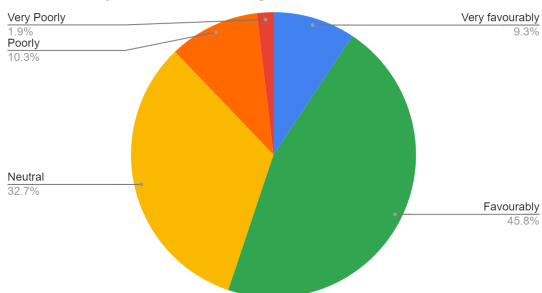
How would you review the Regent's Park Hybrid Pitches?



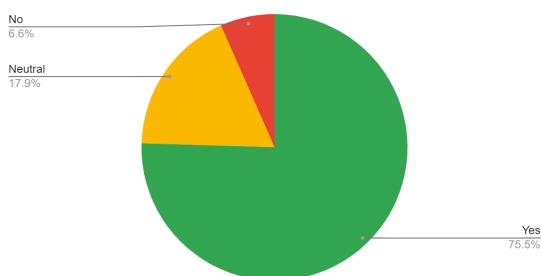
How would you review the Regent's Park Grass Pitches?



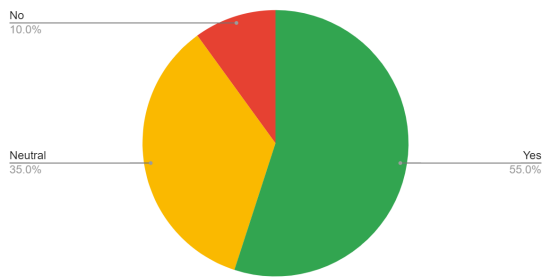
How would you review the Regent's Park Off-Pitch Facilities?



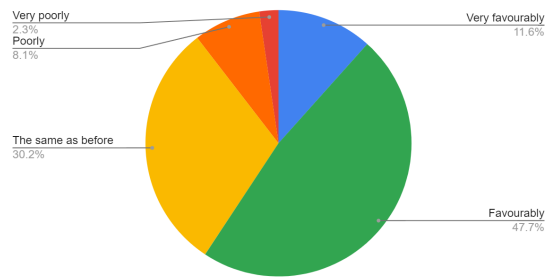
Do you think that Regent's Park is well situated as a training venue?



Do you think that Regent's Park is well situated as a training venue? (Non-London players only)



If you have been involved with GBTR before, how would you say training in 2023 compared with previous experiences?



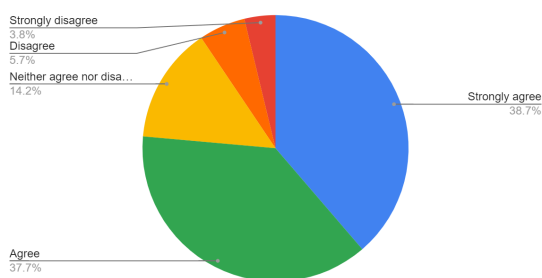
- In general Regent's Park was well reviewed as a training venue, albeit with the hybrid pitches understandably preferred to the grass ones
- A significant majority of respondents feel that Regent's Park is well located for training, with that feeling replicated less strongly for regional players
- Four of the five options presented to players around training frequency attracted between 17% and 25% of preferences indicating that what suits one player doesn't necessarily suit the next and compromises will always have to be found and be accepted. With no option getting more than 25% of the preference, wholesale changes to the training setup will not be enforced for 2024

Themes

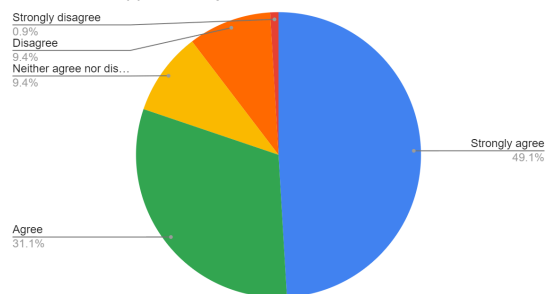
- Positive having a single consistent venue; more sessions needed outside London; London players open to rotating around London venues; some players not aware of where the toilets were located at Regent's Park; W35s to be included with the other teams

Coaching

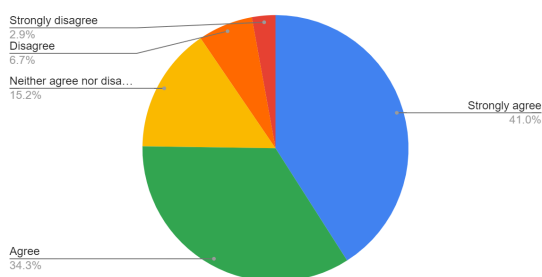
I am satisfied with the quality of coaching from my Head Coach in 2023



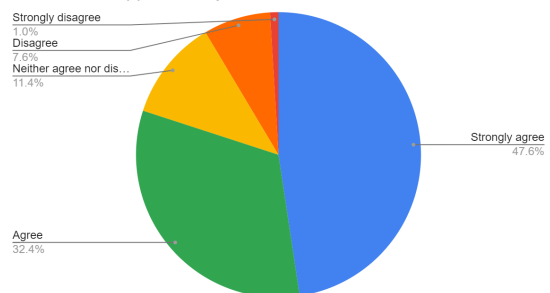
I felt able to approach my Head Coach for feedback



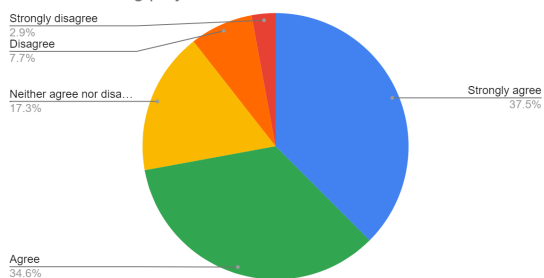
I am satisfied with the quality of coaching from my Assistant Coach in 2023



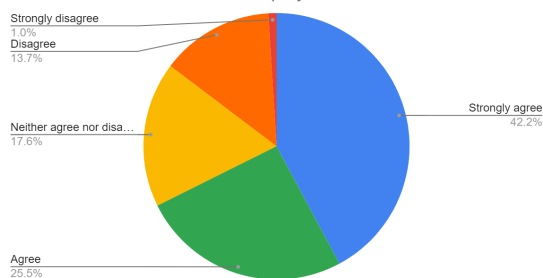
I felt able to approach my Assistant Coach for feedback



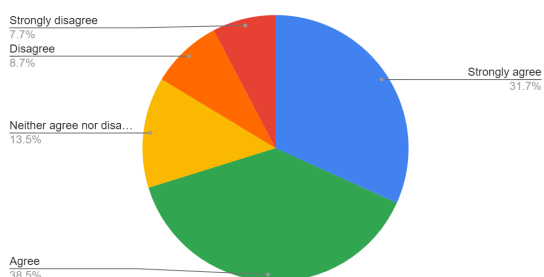
The coaching I received this year developed me as an international tag player



The coaching I received this year adequately prepared me for the international tournaments I played



Selection decisions were clearly communicated to me and felt fair and reasoned



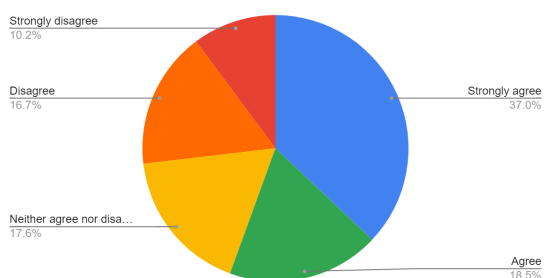
- The survey indicates that our volunteer coaches continue to be one of the strongest assets that the GB programme has
- All of the questions asked about coaches received between 67.7% and 80.2% rate of *Strongly agree* and *Agree* responses
- It is clear that one area where improvement still needs to be made is in the communication and explanation of selection decisions

Themes

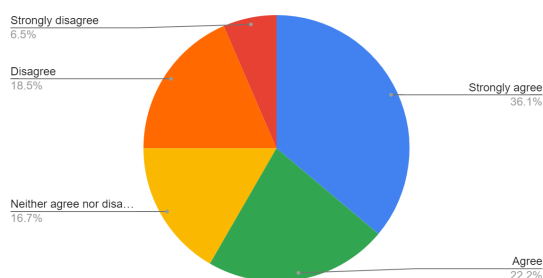
- Positive: Approachability; dedication; knowledge; experience; leadership groups valued and well utilised; good relationships with players
- Negative: Feedback could be lacking in detail when requested; some teams found feedback hard to get; some players unsure who their Assistant Coaches were
- Feelings around player-coaches varied greatly depending on the team and the player-coach in question

Team Management

I am satisfied with the quality of work of my Team Manager in 2023



I felt my Team Manager clearly and helpfully communicated the information I needed to know



- The reviews of Team Managers improved from 2022 to 2023 but the survey indicates

that there is still progress to be made in this area

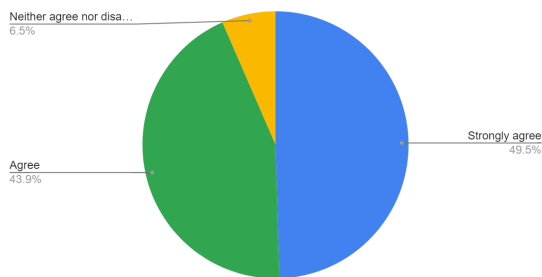
- For 2024 Team Managers will work with one team only to make their workload more manageable and so their team benefits more significantly from the voluntary work
- The role of Team Manager remains one of the more challenging to fill at GBTR and it is important for players to remember that it is a voluntary role that Team Managers are doing alongside their work and personal commitments

Themes

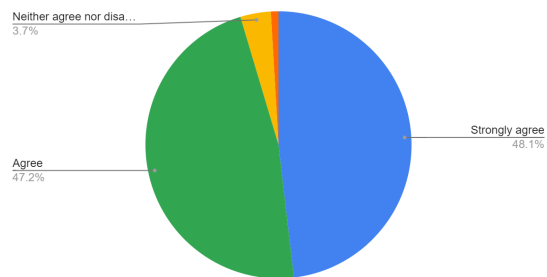
- Positive: Attendance; organisation; ability to get the answers to questions
- Negative: Players in some teams had to take on some of the Manager’s responsibilities; some players didn’t know who their Manager was

Programme Director

I am satisfied with the quality of work of the Programme Director in 2023



I felt the Programme Director clearly and helpfully communicated the information I needed to know

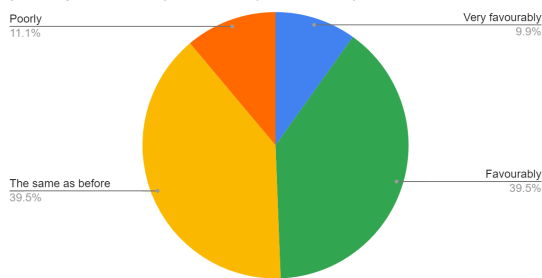


Themes

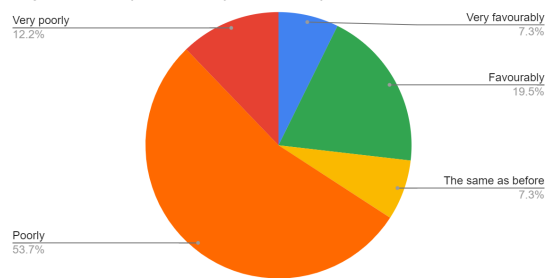
- Approachable; committed; supportive; visibility; care for growing the sport

Tournament Experiences

If you have played in a British & Irish Cup before, how would you say 2023 compared with previous experiences?



If you have played in a Tag World Cup before, how would you say 2023 compared with previous experiences?



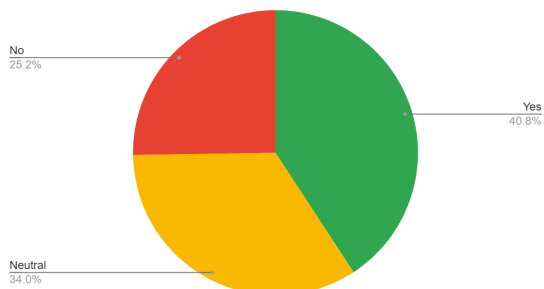
- Feedback was quite split about whether a one or two day British & Irish Cup was better as was the feedback about running the International Cup alongside it
- Positive World Cup feedback included everyone staying together onsite, the facilities at UL, the quality of the pitches, having a team marquee and the opening ceremony
- Negative World Cup feedback included a lack of travelling teams, insufficient toilets and food and drinks stalls at the pitches, the after party and the late notice that the marquee cost wasn’t included in the tournament entry fee

Themes

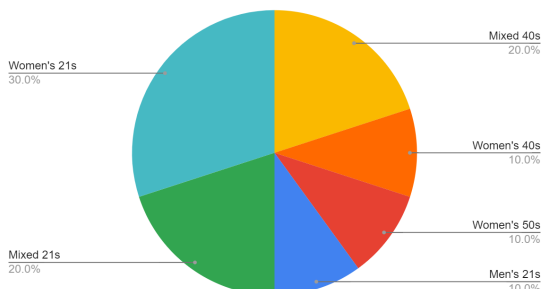
- Preference for 2025 World Cup; desire to play France and South Africa

Addition of Categories to GBTR

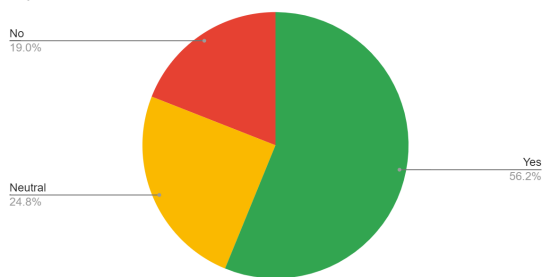
Do you think further categories should be added to GBTR?



Which categories would you most like to see added to GBTR?



Is it important to you that Great Britain Tag Rugby maintains an equal number of women's teams to men's teams?



- Respondents were fairly mixed on the question of whether further categories should be added to the GB programme with written responses tending to agree that they should directly contribute to sustaining long-term success for GB and that they shouldn't be added for the sake of it
- The most popular teams to be added were Women's and Mixed 21s with Women's teams being more popular than their male equivalent despite marginally more men responding to the survey than women. Other categories provided as options to respondents that received less than 1% of preferences included Mixed 50s and Men's 50s
- With the survey indicating that players agree that it is important to them for GB to have an equal number of women's teams to men's teams, GBTR is committed to maintaining that balance going forward

Themes

- Categories should not be added for the sake of it as it risks diluting the talent pool; younger categories are more valuable than older ones to ensure the future of the sport/programme; more teams makes it harder to get sponsorship;

Kit

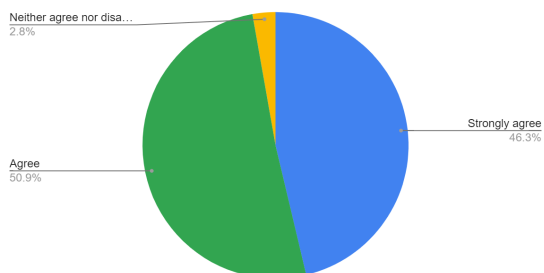
- Responses to the kit questions were qualitative rather than quantitative so are not able to be usefully in a graph format. The key themes are summarised below.
- Tournament kit themes: requests for mid length tights; positive response to TWC kit

design; concerns around TWC kit launch; tights ripping and sometimes see-through; continue reusing kit through World Cup cycles

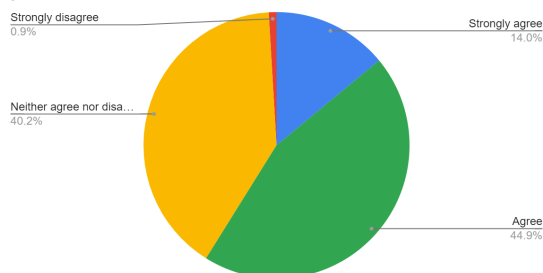
- Training and off-field kit themes: Women's cuts needed; confusion around blue and black; continue with a low amount of kit being compulsory; new items generally positive; requests for bucket hats and Gripworx socks

Communication and Media

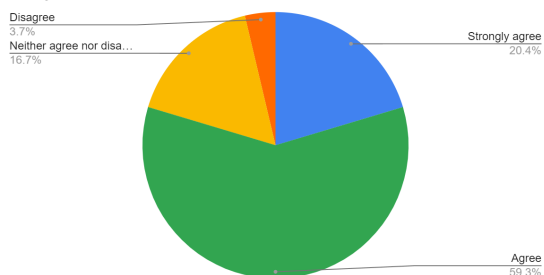
I felt the emails from the Programme Director appropriately communicated the information I needed to know



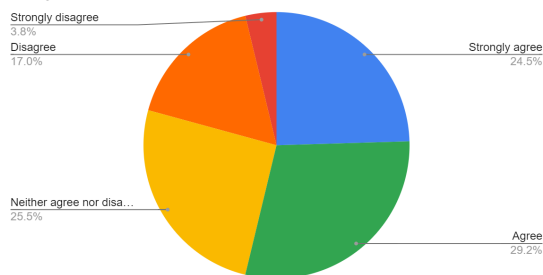
I think the GBTR website articles were of a good standard this year



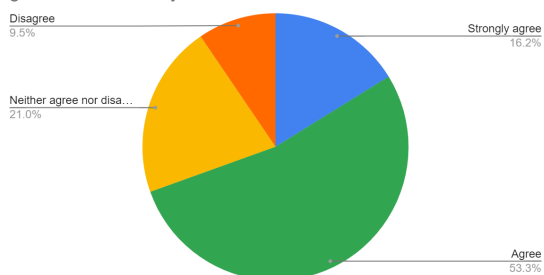
I think the main GBTR social media was of a good standard this year



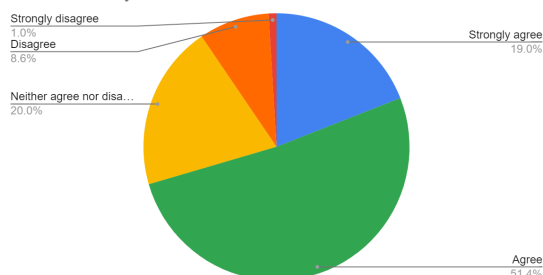
I think my own GB team's social media was of a good standard this year



I think GBTR's coverage of the British & Irish Cup was of a good standard this year



I think GBTR's coverage of the Tag World Cup was of a good standard this year



Themes

- It would have been good if more TWC games were streamed; GBTR coverage on the ground at the TWC was positively received; more footage wanted from all tournaments and from training; social media could be more interactive

Responses to the question "If you were able to make one positive change to Great Britain Tag Rugby what would it be?"

- Summarised below are some of the example responses from the main themes that

emerged from this question

- Desire to see younger age grade teams created: “Focus on youth pathways into the game.”; “Invest in youth.”; “Younger / development teams.”; “Establish a 21s pathway.”; “More inclusive for younger players.”
- Desire to see teams within the GBTR programme work and socialise together more regularly: “Collaboration between coaches / teams could be improved.”; “More structured socialising between teams.”; “Get all the different teams together rather than always separate.”; “More integration between teams.”
- Desire for sponsorship to help with costs: “More sponsorship.”; “Get sponsors.”; “Teams should be able to seek out sponsorship for their specific team.”; “Sponsorship to help out players.”
- Desire to see more support for regional players and pathways: “I think there is still some London centric bias around player selection, training and tournament locations.”; “Enable the programme to be more inclusive to regions outside of London.”



TTR
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