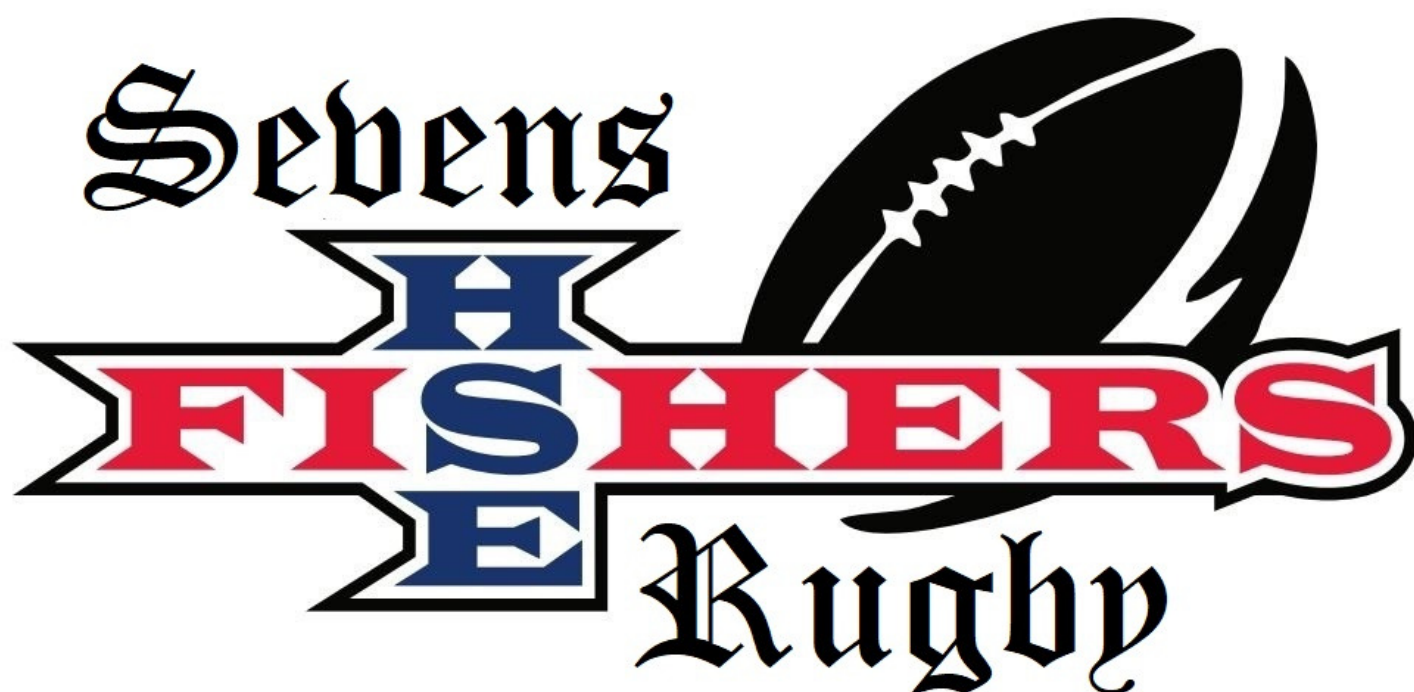


**2019 FISHERS-HSE RUGBY SEVENS
PARENT INFORMATION PACKET**



2019 FISHERS-HSE FALL SEVENS RUGBY

AN AFFILIATE TEAM OF THE SOUTHEASTERN YOUTH RUGBY CLUB

Welcome Rugby Parents!

We are very excited to welcome you to the Fishers-HSE Rugby family. Your child has shown an interest in joining a team coached by the finest coaches in Indiana. The Fishers-HSE Rugby Sevens teams traces its roots to the HSE Royal Rugby Club started in 2003 under the umbrella of S.P.O.R.T.S. Our club has many special traditions that your child will learn quickly.

Rugby is a very unique sport because it allows PLAYERS to make real-time life decisions. The game of rugby includes preparation, training and coaching but the non-stop action puts the strategy and game into the player's hands. No other sport is like rugby – it combines football, soccer, basketball, and wrestling all into one!

Every player is required to register and pay associates fees with Rugby Indiana and the Southeastern Youth Rugby Club. Our schedule consists of some travel, team supplies, and socials which are paid by dues. Parents will only pay dues one time through S.P.O.R.T.S. but will need to register each child on the Rugby Indiana website at www.rugbyindiana.com.

Our home pitch (field) for practices will be at Brooks School Park from August to mid-October at the corner of 116th and Brooks School Road. Fishers will be the host for the entire Fall Sevens series. Regular season games will be contested Sundays at Brooks School Park (Sept 22, Sept 29, Oct 6) with the state championship to be held on October 13 at Cyntheanne Park. Beginning August 6, practices will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays with the occasional Wednesday.

We have many corporate sponsor opportunities available. Southeastern Youth Rugby (“HSE Rugby, Inc.”) is a 501c3 tax exempt organization and would greatly appreciate your support. We have included sponsor forms and information in this packet.

Please review the 2019 Schedule and the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) to learn more about our club and the sport of rugby.

Thank you again for joining us AND WELCOME TO THE FAMILY!

John Harley – Fishers-HSE Sevens Head Coach

Brian Sweany – Flag Head Coach

Justin Biehl – 5/6 Head Coach

Brett Hansen – 7/8 Boys Head Coach

Kara Fick – 7/8 Girls Head Coach

Frequently Asked Questions

What is Rugby?

Rugby is the fastest growing youth sport in the United States. Many people are familiar with rugby as a fringe sport, but you may be surprised to learn that it is actually the second most popular sport in the world behind soccer. In fact, in Europe, Australia and South Africa, the teams and players are elevated to a star status that exceeds that of NFL players in the United States! Many teams fill 80,000 seat stadiums for international match play.

The allure of rugby is easy to understand yet hard to explain. All players play both defense and offense at any given time during a game. Rugby sevens in particular has experienced a surge in popularity lately, with its debut as an Olympic sport in 2016 and Team USA's international success in 2019. Above all, rugby is a social sport that praises competition but demands good sportsmanship.

Scoring: There are four ways to score points in a rugby game.

- Try – When the ball is grounded over an opponent's try line (goal line) in their try zone (end zone), it is worth 5 points. The try counts as a score only if the ball is literally touched down with control in the try zone, which is where American football gets the word "touchdown."
- Conversion – After scoring a try, the scoring team gets an attempt to kick the ball over the crossbar and through the posts of the rugby uprights. A conversion is worth 2 points. Again, like American football, a score and a conversion are a combined seven points.
- Penalty – If the opposition commits a penalty, a team can choose to kick at the goal. Combining the penalty shot of soccer and the field goal of American football, a penalty kick is worth 3 points.
- Drop Goal – During play, a team may drop the ball on the ground and kick it over the goal. This is called a drop goal and is worth 3 points.

Who is on the Southeastern Youth Rugby board?

Role	Name	Email
President	Brian Sweany	bsweany@comcast.net
Vice President	Heather Harley	Heatherharley18@yahoo.com
Treasurer	Brett Hansen	bretthansen.cdt@gmail.com
Secretary	Laura Seidensticker	laurahunterseidensticker@gmail.com
At-Large Member	Carmen Green	zamariascastle@gmail.com
At-Large Member	Justin Biehl	mvprealty@icloud.com
At-Large Member	Courtney Lawhead	courtlawhead@comcast.net
At-Large Member	Kara Fick	segirlsyouthrugby@gmail.com
At-Large Member	Neil Reeves	rugby5683@att.net

How do I learn more about Rugby?

Go to www.rugbyindiana.com and click on the tab “What Is Rugby?” You can watch videos and download a great document tool called “Beginners Guide to Rugby”.

What are Rugby Socials?

As part of the rugby tradition, the home team hosts the visiting team with a meal, which is filled only with good cheer and camaraderie. This is a great way to meet other parents, ask questions, and make new friends.

What does my child need to play?

Rugby socks, rugby shorts, boots (cleats) mouth guard, **desire and effort!** (Soccer cleats can double as rugby cleats; however, metal cleats (baseball) and cleats with a cleat on the end of the toe (football) are strictly prohibited.

What are the Fall Sevens Rugby Club Fees?

The registration fee is \$170. When you include the cost of equipment and travel, rugby is one of the cheapest sports in Fishers, however we do annually pay sanctioning and administration fees to both Rugby Indiana and S.P.O.R.T.S.

Register online or call the S.P.O.R.T.S. office at 317-845-5582 to receive a multiplayer discount for families with three or more players in the same league.

Parents/Guardians will need to register on Rugby Indiana before the first practice. The cost of your Ruby Indiana registration is built-in to your fees, which go toward underwriting USA Rugby CIPP fees, supplemental accident health policy, Rugby Administration Staff, Referee Society, grants for low income players, and traveling costs for All Star/Select teams. The fees also cover S.P.O.R.T.S. registration and bookkeeping, as well as general field maintenance by the city of Fishers.

Every single administrator and coach in Southeastern Youth Rugby and Fishers-HSE Fall Sevens is a volunteer. We ask that parents and players show the respect and patience that their commitment demands.

How do I register?

A physical copy of the registration form can be accessed and printed out from the S.P.O.R.T.S. website at <https://www.hsesports.org/Default.aspx?tabid=1209612>.

Looking to save a tree? Fast and easy online registration is available through Blue Sombrero at <https://leagues.bluesombrero.com/Default.aspx?tabid=1154046&isLogin=True>.

For new families, please create your account and add your participants through the S.P.O.R.T.S. portal. Please note that if you have a Blue Sombrero account through a different organization, your login will not work to register through S.P.O.R.T.S.

For returning families, please DO NOT create a second account as your child's information will not follow. If you have forgotten your password, please click the "Forgot Password" link on the login page below the green "Create Account" button. Please feel free to contact S.P.O.R.T.S. if you have any questions at 317-845-5582.

How will I know if practice/game is cancelled due to weather?

The coaches/manager/team mom will email, tweet, or call parents if there is a last minute weather related cancellation. Parents can also check the Town of Fishers Parks Department for closure of Brooks School Park or Cyntheanne Park.

What are my responsibilities as a parent?

You are VERY important! If you are new to rugby – please ask questions.

There are many ways to volunteer for the club. If you are not able to volunteer, please consider making a cash donation or buying lots of Southeastern Youth Rugby Spirit Wear, Car Decals, and Garage Signs to show your support!

What is the concussion protocol?

The governing body of youth sports in Fishers, the Southeastern Program of Recreational Team Sports (S.P.O.R.T.S.), recommends baseline ImPACT testing. There is a special deal through IU Health for \$5.00. Southeastern Youth adheres to the same protocol as other youth leagues, and a player will not be cleared to play until he's medically evaluated and cleared by a doctor.

For more information, go to the (S.P.O.R.T.S.) website at <http://www.hsesports.org/page/show/1157644-baseline-impact-testing>.

How many Fall Sevens rugby teams are in Indiana?

In the 2018 inaugural season of Fall Sevens, 11 boys teams and seven girls teams competed for the state championship.

What is our club history?

The HSE Rugby Club was formed in 2003. In 2004 and 2008, HSE Rugby won the Division II State Finals. The HSE-Fishers (Havoc) Girls High School Rugby Club was formed in 2006. The Rugby Club added a Junior High (7th/8th grade) level team in 2007 and a Middle School (5th/6th grade) team in 2011. In 2014, a non-contact Flag team (2nd, 3rd, 4th grade) was added to the Club. In 2014, the Boys High School Junior Varsity Team won the Division I State Championship and the Runner Up was Fishers High School. Also in 2014, Fishers and HSE created a Rugby Mudsock Game that raised over \$5,000 for Riley Children's Hospital. In 2015, HSE defeated Fishers in the Division I state final. The following year, Fishers swept the Division state titles at both the JV and varsity levels.

On May 30, 2016, the Southeastern Youth Rugby 7/8 team secured its first-ever state championship, defeating Penn 66-5 in the state final after defeating archrival Broad Ripple Park 38-22 in the semi-final on May 28. The team finished with a perfect 12-0 record, which was also a first. With Fishers High School securing both the Junior Varsity and Varsity state championships, it was only the second time in the history of USA Rugby that one

city could claim "The Rugby Triple Crown": reigning state rugby champions at the junior high, JV, and varsity levels.

2018 was a banner year for rugby in Fishers, Indiana. The Fishers High School Girls Rugby team was formed, and a combined Fishers-HSE Sevens Rugby Club won the inaugural Rugby Indiana Falls 7s state championship. In 2019, the Fishers Girls team made it all the way to the state final in only their second year of competition.

What is the difference between rugby sevens and other forms of rugby?

Rugby sevens (commonly abbreviated as simply “sevens” or “7s”) is a variant of rugby union in which teams are made up of seven players playing seven minute halves, instead of the usual 15 players playing 40 minute halves. At the 2016 Summer Games in Rio, Rugby Sevens debuted as an officially sanctioned Olympic sport.

The wide-open, higher scoring style of play in sevens has been instantly popular with the American spectator. The 2019 Penn Mutual Collegiate Rugby Championships were nationally televised on ESPN, and the U.S. national rugby sevens team was in first place in international competition for most of the 2019 season before being barely edged out by Fiji.

What happens after the season? Are there opportunities to play in All-Stars or travels to other states?

Yes! During the spring semi-state and state tournaments, staff and coaches from the Rugby Indiana organization will provide try-out and other important information. Players and coaches from Southeastern Youth Rugby, Fishers High School Rugby Club, and HSE Royals Rugby have played/coached in the tournaments in Elkhart, Indiana and various all-star tournaments in Pittsburgh, Chicago, and Denver.

Are there colleges that offer club rugby in Indiana?

Yes! Sixteen colleges and universities in the state of Indiana offer club programs:

- Anderson University
- Ball State University
- Bethel College
- DePauw University
- Grace College
- Indiana State University
- Indiana University
- Indiana University-Purdue University, Fort Wayne
- Indiana Wesleyan University
- Purdue University
- Saint Joseph's University
- St. Mary's College
- University of Indianapolis
- University of Notre Dame
- University of Southern Indiana
- Wabash College

There is also a D1A Rugby Union for certain colleges and universities based on higher ability and skill. Division IA is an elite collegiate rugby competition sanctioned and administered by USA rugby. The

conference-based league features 37 elite men's college rugby teams competing in six conferences: Allied Rugby, Big Ten, California, East, Mid-South, West, and one independent team. The regular season sees all teams in the conference play one another, with the two top seeds qualifying for the playoffs. Playoffs are single elimination and the two unbeaten teams advance to the Division IA finals.

Are there rugby scholarships available to my player?

Yes! Notre Dame is the most famous university in Indiana that offers full ride scholarships for rugby. There are twenty-seven (27) colleges and universities in the United States that offer rugby scholarships. A complete list can be found here: <http://usarugby.org/scholarships>. There are over 400 state colleges and universities that do not offer specific rugby scholarship, however, the rugby program will help find financial support in other ways to incentive players to play rugby. In recent years, there have been several rugby players from Fishers, Indiana and Central Indiana who have been awarded over \$300,000 in college scholarships. Some of these High School players have represented the USA in international rugby matches at no cost to the players and their families.

Is there a men's or women's level rugby club that my child and I could go watch games?

Yes! Two men's clubs, the Indianapolis Impalas Rugby Club and the Carmel-based White River Rugby Club, compete locally. The Indianapolis Hoydens is the women's premier club. Several members of our coaching staff have played for both the Impalas and White River. There is also a ton of rugby you can watch from the comfort of your couch! FloRUGBY is a dedicated channel that plays domestic and international rugby matches. You can also tune into ESPN and NBC for rugby matches.

Major League Rugby is the North American professional rugby league. It's only in its second season and rapidly expanding, but at present the closest team to Fishers is in Toronto, Canada. For more information on televised games, go to <https://www.usmlr.com>.

Who are the Southeastern Youth Rugby Coaches?

John Harley - Head Coach Fishers-HSE Fall Sevens

Hometown: Fishers

Profession: Graphic Design

Playing Experience: 12+ years with the Impalas.

Coaching Experience: 10 years, coaching at all levels from youth through high school; 2016 Rugby Indiana state champion coach; EIRA All-Star coach; USA Rugby Level 300 certified coach.

Goals for the Season: Having some fun while still doing the work. We'll continue to build on last season and work to defend the fall championship

Brian Sweany - Head Coach 2-4 Grade Co-Ed Flag

Hometown: Born on the Southside of Indianapolis, raised in Columbus, Indiana.

Profession: Publisher and author

Playing Experience:

Coaching Experience: Two years as an assistant and head coach for Southeastern Youth Rugby; USA Rugby Level 100 coach. Six-year member of the Southeastern Youth Rugby board, currently serving second term as President.

Goals for the Season: Double the roster from 2019. Every player gets a score. Everyone has fun and do their best. The kids learn the fundamentals of rugby; specifically, passing and spacing.

Justin Biehl, Head Coach 5/6 Grade

Bio pending

Brett Hansen, Head Coach 7/8 Grade

Hometown: Army Brat...Lived in Indiana since 1987 so I am a Hoosier.

Profession: Dental Technician at Hunter Dental Laboratory

Playing Experience: 1989-1992 Lawrence Central HS. Won the first two rugby state championships in Indiana

Coaching Experience: This will be my seventh year coaching youth rugby after three years as the Flag head coach and three years as the 5/6 head coach. USA Rugby Level 200 coaching certification.

Goals for the Season: Focus on rugby core principals, with an emphasis on safety during contact. Tackling & field awareness. The importance of teamwork and respect on and off the pitch. Instilling my passion for the sport into every player!

Christian Lawhead, Associate Head Coach 7/8 Grade

Hometown: Indianapolis, Indiana

Profession: Sales Manager for Medical/Surgical Sales

Playing Experience: High school rugby, Indiana University Rugby Mudsharks, Professional rugby in Castlebar, Ireland.

Coaching Experience: I have coached many sports such as soccer, football, basketball, wrestling and rugby. My wife, Courtney, is the former President of HSE Royals Rugby Club and an At-Large board member of Southeastern Youth Rugby. USA Rugby Level 200 coach.

Goals for the Season: 1) Fun and Fundamentals 2) Compete for 7/8 State Championship Title

Kara Fick, Head Coach 7/8 Girls

Hometown: Elkhart, Indiana

Profession: Senior Engagement Partner, Finish Line

Playing Experience: 2006-2007 Penn High School

Coaching Experience: Second year coaching Southeastern 7/8 Girls team. USA Rugby Level 200 coach and Level 1 referee.

Goals for the Season: We want to win and have a fantastic time!

Neil Reeves, Assistant Coach 7/8 girls

Hometown: Carmel, Indiana

Profession: Firefighter/Paramedic w/Carmel Fire Department

Playing Experience: 1995-1997 Carmel High School, 1999-2000 Hawaii RFC, 2001-2003 Ft. Hood TX RFC

Coaching Experience: 2nd year Assistant coach for Girls 7/8 team, USA Rugby Level 100 coach.

Goals for the season: Keep the sport of rugby (girls) growing and helping the girls learn as much about the sport of rugby.

CORPORATE SPONSORSHIP

The Southeastern Youth Rugby Club is pleased to report that the future of rugby in southeastern Hamilton County is bright. *Very bright.*

Rugby is a unique sport because it allows players to make real-time decisions. The game of rugby includes preparation, training and coaching, but the non-stop action puts the strategy and game into the player's hands. No other sport is like rugby – it combines football, soccer, basketball, and wrestling all into one!

We are very excited that the city of Fishers is represented by not one, but two state-ranked high school rugby clubs, the Fishers Tigers and the Hamilton Southeastern Royals. The Southeastern Youth Rugby Club is the only youth team in the country that feeds two high schools. We are very proud that our youth and high school teams have competed consistently at the State Championship level over the past few years. With Hamilton Southeastern High School winning the Division 1 state title in 2015 and Fishers High School winning the Division 1 title the following year. In fact, not only did Fishers High School secure both the Junior Varsity and Varsity state championships in 2016, the Youth 7/8 program also brought home a state championship. It was only the second time in the history of USA Rugby that one city could claim reigning state rugby champions at the junior high, JV, and varsity levels. The Youth Rugby Triple Crown!

According to a December 2014 Bloomberg News Report, rugby experienced the biggest five-year gains of *any* sport in America—an increase of 81% in participation! Youth rugby participation grew 30.5% from 2008 to 2013—the biggest growth rate among team sports for players ages 6-12. With a TV viewership of **4.2 billion**, the 2015 Rugby World Cup trailed only the Soccer World Cup as the largest sporting event in the world. By comparison, the 2015 Super Bowl was the most watched in NFL history...with an average Nielsen viewership of 114.4 million.

The Southeastern Youth Rugby Club has experienced growth in both the number of participants in the league and in the quality of our facilities. ***We are the fourth-largest rugby youth league in America*** and host games and tournaments at Cyntheanne Park, one of the most beautiful and largest rugby pitches (five fields) in the Midwest. In Fall 2019, Brooks School Park (two fields) began hosting sevens matches. Thanks to the efforts of the Fishers Parks Department, the quality of our fields is second to none.

The Club is excited to present the opportunities for corporate sponsorship for the upcoming 2017 rugby season. The dollars raised through sponsorship help fund not only our teams with equipment and uniforms, but also provide scholarships for those in need of financial assistance, making sure that everyone has the opportunity to share the enjoyment of playing the game.

Note that Southeastern Youth Rugby is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt non-profit. If you're looking to donate, and/or your employer offers corporate matching, make sure to take advantage before the tax year ends!

Our sponsorship program provides different levels of contribution opportunities, allowing each corporate partner to choose the level that works best for them. With home and away games against the likes of Carmel, Noblesville, Zionsville, Brownsburg and Broad Ripple, your company's brand will be exposed to an affluent cross-section of central Indiana parents.

We are pleased to announce that the sponsorship levels are improved this year and include the following:

PLATINUM LEVEL – \$2,500.00

- SPONSORSHIP OF TWO (2) TEAMS
- LOGO OR NAME ON JERSEYS
- AUTOGRAPHED RUGBY BALL FROM ALL PLAYERS & COACHES
- SPONSOR RECOGNITION PLAQUE AT THE END OF THE SEASON
- PROMINENT & LARGE LISTING ON OUR WEBSITE, E-MAIL DISTRIBUTION BANNERS, PLAYER T-SHIRTS, AND TEAM BANNERS.



GOLD LEVEL – \$1,300.00

- SPONSORSHIP OF ONE (1) TEAM
- LOGO OR NAME ON JERSEYS
- AUTOGRAPHED RUGBY BALL FROM ALL PLAYERS & COACHES
- SPONSOR RECOGNITION PLAQUE AT THE END OF THE SEASON
- MEDIUM SIZE LISTING ON OUR WEBSITE, E-MAIL DISTRIBUTION BANNERS, PLAYER T-SHIRTS, AND TEAM BANNERS.

SILVER LEVEL – \$500.00

- AUTOGRAPHED RUGBY BALL FROM ALL PLAYERS & COACHES
- SPONSOR RECOGNITION PLAQUE AT THE END OF THE SEASON
- MEDIUM SIZE LISTING ON OUR WEBSITE, E-MAIL DISTRIBUTION BANNERS, PLAYER T-SHIRTS, AND TEAM BANNERS.
- ***ON AN ANNUAL FIRST-COME, FIRST-SERVED BASIS, ONE SILVER-LEVEL SPONSOR WILL HAVE THE OPTION TO BE THE FLAG TEAM'S JERSEY SPONSOR.***
- ***ANY PARENT WHO BRINGS IN A BRONZE LEVEL SPONSOR WILL HAVE HIS OR HER CHILD'S REGISTRATION FEE WAIVED!***

BRONZE LEVEL – \$250.00

- AUTOGRAPHED RUGBY BALL FROM ALL PLAYERS & COACHES
- SMALL SIZE LISTING ON OUR WEBSITE, E-MAIL DISTRIBUTION BANNERS, PLAYER T-SHIRTS, AND TEAM BANNERS.



There is also a “max corporate option” for an additional donation above and beyond one of the standard sponsorship levels, in which all jerseys, literature and team names would be re-branded under the title sponsor’s name. It is our hope that each corporation or small business can find a sponsorship level for which they are comfortable. We ask that you take the time and effort to fill out the registration form that follows and mail with a check to the address in the center area of the form. Your consideration in our sponsorship program is greatly appreciated, not only by this board, but also by the youth of our community. Feel free to contact me with any questions.

Thank you for your support!

**BRIAN SWEANY, PRESIDENT
SOUTHEASTERN YOUTH RUGBY**
SEYouthRugby@gmail.com

**PLEASE SUBMIT ONLY THE FORM ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE
WITH YOUR SPONSORSHIP PAYMENT**

**SOUTHEASTERN YOUTH RUGBY
2019 TEAM CORPORATE SPONSORSHIP
REGISTRATION FORM**

SELECT SPONSORSHIP LEVEL:

_____	\$2,500	PLATINUM
_____	\$1,300	GOLD
_____	\$500	SILVER
_____	\$250	BRONZE

_____	SPONSOR TOTAL
_____	ADDITIONAL DONATION
_____	TOTAL ENCLOSED

**PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO “HSE RUGBY, INC.” AND MAIL
WITH THIS FORM TO: BRIAN SWEANY, SOUTHEASTERN YOUTH
RUGBY, C/O S.P.O.R.T.S., 12690 PROMISE ROAD, FISHERS, IN 46038**

COMPANY NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____
CITY: _____ STATE: ____ ZIP: ____
PHONE: _____ ALT. PHONE: _____
CONTACT NAME: _____
EMAIL ADDRESS: _____
WEBSITE: _____

IS THERE A PARTICULAR PLAYER YOU WISH TO SPONSOR?

YES NO

IF YES, PLAYER'S NAME: _____