



WORLD SPORTS FORUM

7th September – 20th October 2007 Village Rugbycolor – Porte de Paris – Saint-Denis

Friday 7th September – 4.00 p.m. 1st Forum

The globalisation of rugby: an opportunity or a threat?

For a long time the preserve of a select few countries, rugby is now gaining ground across all continents. In France, the south-west no longer has a monopoly on the game, and from being confined to rural areas the sport is beginning now to spread into the suburbs. Even on such a small scale, this opening up of rugby to new cultures is not always regarded in a positive light. The increasing pressure of economic issues is leading to fears that the game is becoming standardised. To such an extent that what ought to be viewed as an opportunity is instead considered a threat.

Welcome address by:

Didier Paillard, mayor of Saint-Denis

Hervé Bramy, president of Seine-Saint-Denis local council

Patrick Braouezec, president of Plaine Commune

With attendance expected from:

Marcel Martin, president of Biarritz Olympique, president of the Professional Rugby Clubs Syndicate and Rugby World Cup director (1987 – 2001)

Archie Ferguson (Scotland), Scottish Rugby Union and Celtic Rugby Board

Rodolfo O'Reilly (Argentina), lawyer, ex-Minister for Sports for Argentina, former selector for the Argentinian rugby squad

Miguel Angel Estrella (Argentina), Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Argentina to UNESCO

Claude Cabanes, journalist

Benoît Pensivy, journalist, editor in chief of Rugby Hebdo

Laurence Fischer, world and European karate champion

Debate chaired by:

Maïtena Biraben, journalist and Rugby Hebdo columnist.

Friday 14th September – 4.00 p.m. 2nd Forum

Get racism out of stadiums!

In Spain, one of the biggest football stars in *La Liga*, from Cameroon, came into conflict with his club when he dared to speak out against racism and discrimination. In Italy, it is common in certain stadiums for some spectators to greet black players with monkey noises. In France, an international player was forced to leave his club because he couldn't tolerate the insults any more. And what about the tension that can be felt in the stadiums during amateur competitions? How can sport combat racism and help build multicultural societies?

Welcome address by:

Fabienne Soulas, 1st deputy to the mayor de Saint-Denis

With attendance expected from:

Abdelatif Benazzi, former international rugby player

Pascal Boniface, director of the Institute for International and Strategic Relations (IRIS)

Donny Jurgens (South Africa), militant anti-apartheid campaigner, academic, Sports Science Institute, formerly head of the NGO SCORE (Sport Coaches Outreach)

Patrick Mignon, researcher in social sciences for sport (National Institute for Sport and Physical Education - INSEP)

M. Roland Bernecker, General Secretary of the German national commission for UNESCO

Pap N'Diaye (Senegal), academic, historian, member of CAPDIV

Patrick Bouchet, academic, sports science

Jean-Pierre Rosenczveig, president of Bobigny juvenile court

Bally Bagayoko, deputy mayor of Saint-Denis local council

Gilles Garnier, vice-president of Seine-Saint-Denis local council

Debate chaired by:

Jacques Cortie, editor-in-chief of Des Filles en Ovalie magazine

Friday 21st September, 4.00 p.m. 3rd Forum

Women invent a new sport

They were more or less forbidden from practising any sports in the early 20th century but will represent almost 50% of those taking part in the Beijing Olympic Games. The right of women to compete in sporting events may no longer be disputed, but winning the recognition that they are equals at every level remains a battle today. Most importantly women are now demanding the right to a female sport that is not reduced to a mere imitation of the male version of the game. Because it has often been women who have changed sports, modified strategies and established a new relationship with sport.

With attendance expected from:

Estelle Sartini, captain of the French national women's rugby squad

Isabelle Severino, gymnast, European champion

Florence Masnada, former world ski champion and Olympic medallist, business consultant and trainer

Nicole Abar, former French international football squad, coach, founder of the "Liberté aux Joueuses" association

Nathalie Amiel, former player with the French national rugby squad, rugby coach

Alain Jardel, former coach to the French national women's basketball squad, national coach with the French Basketball Federation

Yolande Biké (Gabon), Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Gabon to UNESCO

Catherine Louveau, sociologist, researcher, lecturer at Paris XI university

Thierry Pérez, president of Montpellier's women's rugby club

Serge Reitchess, Saint-Denis Union Sport women's rugby team coach

Christine Bigaran, international women's rugby referee, men's rugby union referee

Fabienne Soulas, deputy mayor of Saint-Denis responsible for women's rights

Debate chaired by:

Jacques Cortie, editor-in-chief of Des Filles en Ovalie magazine

Friday 28th September – 6.00 p.m. 4th Forum

What if sport were to go green?

Those in favour of eco-friendly sports have for a long time been dismissed as illusionists, so inconceivable was the idea that playing football or rugby could harm the planet. But the epic proportions of major international sports fixtures and the environmental impact of even the smallest competitions is forcing us to rethink. The first Eco-Games have demonstrated a radically new approach to sport. From water consumption to the manufacturing of T-shirts, and from timing methods to the types of boot worn, almost everything should be reviewed...

Welcome address by:

Maud Lelièvre, deputy mayor of Saint-Denis responsible for the environment and sustainable development

With attendance expected from:

Stéphane Passeron, high level cross-country skier, coach with the French team for the disabled, organiser of "Gap capitale nature"

Emmanuel Gravaud, journalist, editor-in-chief of La Lettre de l'Aventure et des sports nature Catherine Poletti, organiser of the Ultra Trail of Mont-Blanc

Charles Auffray, CNRS Research Director, UNESCO expert, participated in the Universal Declaration on the Human Genome and Human Rights

Damien Lebas, Head of the sports management research panel within ESSEC business school's sports marketing faculty

Pierre Galo, Head of the ADEME (Environnement and Energy Control Agency) Rugby World Cup project

Olivier Turkel, General delegate of Sports Sans Frontières

Debate chaired by:

Didier Lehénaff, president of *Un sport vert pour ma planète bleue (SV Planète)*, designer of the Eco-Games, ex-president of the European Triathlon Union

Sunday 7th October – 4.00 p.m. 5th Forum

No to doping, no to excessive competition, no to physical one-upmanship: yes to risk-free sport

Ever since the Festina affair in 1998 exposed widespread drug-taking amongst professional cyclists, each new day seems to herald a fresh bout of confessions and revelations in a sport that is rife with cheating as well as posing enormous risks to athletes' health. However, cycling seems increasingly to be a magnifying glass revealing practices that are becoming widespread across the whole of the sports industry. Today, combined efforts on the part of governments and the sports industry are putting in place more stringent controls without really tackling the root causes of this epidemic: excessive competition and physical one-upmanship. Isn't it time we reset the clocks?

Welcome address by:

Ronan Kerrest, vice-president of Seine-Saint-Denis local council

With attendance expected from:

David Millar (Scotland), professional cyclist, champion of Great-Britain in 2007

Michael Glenn Conjungo, athlete (discus thrower), champion of Africa, several times participator at Olympic Games and world championnships, sports educator

Isabelle Queval, former France tennis player, writer and philosopher

Alain Garnier, doctor with the World Anti-Doping Agency

Paul Marriott-Lloyd (New-Zealand), Programme Specialist Anti-Doping and Youth, Sport and Physical Education Section, Division of Social Sciences, Research and Policy, UNESCO Social and Human Sciences sector.

Christian Bagate, president of the French Rugby Federation medical commission

Jean-Paul Richalet, professor of medicine, Paris 13 University

Jean-Pierre Fouillot, anti-doping medical unit, Ile-de-France

Dorian Martinez, sports psychologist, coordinator of freephone helpline *Ecoute dopage*, president of the "Vivre Sport" association

Jérémy Jean-Louis, director of WALL (World Antidoping Life Label), certifying body, specialising in food supplements

Michel Bourgain, vice-president of Plaine Commune

Debate chaired by:

Maïtena Biraben, journalist and Rugby Hebdo columnist.

Saturday 13th October – 4.00 p.m. 6th Forum Are athletes role models?

Sport is generally seen as positive, as a source of humanist values and an aid to developing good moral conduct. It follows that high-ranking athletes are set up as the ideal on which children and young people should model themselves to become perfect citizens. But at times the system seizes up, and a famous header in a world cup final rocks the system to its foundations. How far is it safe to go in propagating this image of our sports idols as exemplary beings? Are we not placing too heavy a burden on sports stars by substituting them for all other providers of guidance and morals? Should we not instead focus more on sport as an integral part of the education system?

Welcome address by:

Pascal Beaudet, mayor of Aubervilliers, vice-president of Plaine Commune

With attendance expected from:

Frankie Fredericks (Namibia), ex-athlete, Olympic medallist, member of the IOC Athletes' Commission

Jackson Richardson, former world handball champion

Béatrice Hess, several times Paralympic swimming champion

Mayar Monshipour, boxing world champion

Jed Rowlands (New-Zealand), selector for the Black Ferns, New-Zealand's women's rugby squad

Paôline Ekambi-Kingue, former basketball international player, communication consultant

Jean-François Nys, Researcher at the Economy and Sport Law Center

Annick Davisse, physical education inspector, book writer on physical education

Makis Chamalidis (Greece), Psychologist, consultant to UNESCO Youth Section

Debate chaired by:

Maïtena Biraben, journalist and Rugby Hebdo columnist.

Sunday 14th October – 4.00 p.m. 7th Forum

Media, sponsors, IOC, states and federations – who controls sport?

The need for rugby to develop into a more unrestrained and spectacular game is now established as an inevitable transition to suit TV producers. In tennis, the tie break was introduced to shorten match times and facilitate the selling of tournament image rights. In the sports that receive most media coverage, professional leagues are becoming organisers of entertainment businesses, reaping in enormous wealth, while amateur teams are suffering from an increasing lack of funding, volunteers and qualified trainers. This is the way the world of sport is heading – we no longer know who is in control and to what end.

Welcome address by:

Pierre Quay-Thevenon, deputy mayor for sport of Saint-Denis

With attendance expected from:

Luc Dayan, former president of Nantes Football Club

Pierre Albaladejo, president of the national committee of ethics at the French Rugby Federation

Emmanuel Constant, vice-president of Seine Saint-Denis local council

Wataru Iwamoto (Japan), Director of the Division of Social Sciences, Research and Policy, UNESCO Social and Human Sciences Sector

Michel Bonfils, adviser to the president of France's National Olympic Committee

Edwige Avice, president of CNAPS (National Council for physical ans sport activities)

Andrzej Rogulski, national expert by the sport unit of the European commission

Peter Kirkpatrick (USA), head of the international department within Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond

He Nong (China), journalist with Quotidien de la Clarté

Debate chaired by:

Dominique Rousset, journalist.

Saturday 20th October – 4.00 p.m. 8th Forum

Managing sport globalisation across the North-South divide

As is the case with the Rugby World Cup, major international sports competitions continue to showcase developed nations, very often with the help of athletes from countries in the South, who are recruited on much more attractive financial terms. The liberal globalisation of sport causes a great deal of collateral damage, leaving the sports industries of entire continents in a state of under-development. Is it possible to imagine a new approach to how sport is organised worldwide that could promote development? How can we enable talented individuals to shine in their own country? The notion of another kind of sport in another world ends this forum on a hopeful note.

With attendance expected from:

Pierre Villepreux, former international rugby player, head of the International Rugby Board

Jalil Narjissi, captain of the Moroccan Rugby squad, trained at Saint-Denis

Tim Lane (Australia), former coach to the Australian rugby squad

Arthémon Hatungimana, world vice-champion in the 800 metres for Burundi

Robert Antonin, Romania's team manager and director of the Romanian Rugby Academy, ex National Technical Director of the French Rugby Federation in charge of European development

Abdelaziz Bougja (Morocco), president of the African Rugby Confederation

Pierre Sané, Assistant-Director General for Social Sciences and Human Sciences at UNESCO

Yves Gazzo, head of the European Union's representation in Paris

Christophe Vindis, documentary producer (sport and rugby)

Pierre Quay-Thevenon deputy mayor for sport of Saint-Denis

Pascal Cherki, deputy mayor for sport of Paris

In presence of:

Zola Skweyiya (Afrique du Sud), Ministre du développement social d'Afrique du Sud

Debate chaired by: Maïtena Biraben, journalist and Rugby Hebdo columnist.

Closing of the forum by Didier Paillard, mayor of Saint-Denis