

GOLDEN OLDIES RUGBY IN EUROPE – E. G. O. R. SERIES 2010

IX INTERNATIONAL VETERANS TOURNAMENT „Citta´di Rovigo“

Traditional and the biggest Italian GOR event gathered this year at “Mario Bataglini” Stadium in Rovigo 24 teams from all over the country. Tournament organisers Angelo Visentin, Fabrizio Frezzato, Matteo Pavanello with impressive number of club members as helpers, offered each team three games at three different grass pitches. Before the opening game Old Rugby Rovigo v. Old Rugby Torino all teams paid the tribute with a minute of silence to Brescia Old Rugby player Ettore Zucca who died on the field during the Tournament several years ago.

Games themselves had been played in “semi competitive manner”, but without registering any points. Standard of refereeing was excellent and the fairness of all teams made referees “job” even lighter. The third halftime with live music and entertainment, moderated by “profi” Saverio Giroto, plenty of food and drinks, lasted until late in the night . . .

The “quests of the evening” were the players of Rovigo First XV tha had qualified that Saturday for the semifinal of Italian Championships.

Caccagni Francesco (1931) and Zaglio Enrico (1931), both from Old Rugby Brescia, were the two oldest players of the Tournament.



CYPRUS VETS ON THE WAY TO EUROPE . . .

Although Rugby has been played by British Army and UN units teams since 1950's the Cyprus Rugby Federation was founded just several years ago joining FIRA/AER. Six non civilian teams played in an exclusive local league up until 2003.

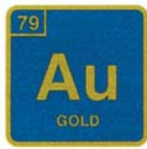
Paphos Tigers RFC was the first civilian team to join this league in 2005.

Parallel some kind of social-golden oldies rugby has been played in three clubs – Cyprus Old Goats, Limasol Crusaders and Paphos Tigers.

Duncan Kirby (Nicosia) became Cyprus EGOR Representative in 2004 and in the past six years Cyprus veterans took part not only at the tournaments in Greece and Israel, but played “at home” versus touring teams (mostly European).

A couple a years of the engagement on youth-competitive rugby level “forced” him to look for the “EGOR successor”, who was found in the person of Barrie Hattam, the President of Paphos Tigers RFC.

Barrie said: “We have a considerable interest in vets rugby but no single club in Cyprus has sufficient 35+ players to form a side. The Paphos Tigers RFC invite the vets to play and we bring players from other eight clubs, so one can say this is Cyprus GOR selection. Our aim is to be more involved in European events in the future and to take part for the first time ever at EGOR Festival in 2012 in Italy.”



EDITORS WORD

IBERIAN CLASSICS



It was a sunny April day in Elche (Spain), the Town of Sports, when „Veteranos ELCHE“ opened their 3rd ELX – Patrimoni de la Humanitat (UNESCO Mankind Heritage) Golden Oldies Festival.

Among the teams there were also **IBERIAN CLASSICS**, veteran team of former Spanish and Portuguese internationals from the early 90's of the last century.

Led by legendary captian and No.8 **Albert Malo i Navio** in their first ever appearance in EGOR Series events, the “Classics” had shown 100% of the golden oldies rugby spirit.

Still very skilful with their fair play and with GOR commitment they had deserved special attention on and off the field.

Since several years they are regularly invited and play at Bermuda Classics Tournament. The opportunity to meet them in Elche used EGOR Secretary to attract to take part at 11th European Golden Oldies Rugby Festival in 2012 in Trieste (Italy), as well as to consider to visit some of EGOR Series events in 2011.

The Team Manager **Inigo Manso** (the Full-back) living and working in Madrid promised “to spread the whisper” about EGOR within the veterans of the Spanish capital. 2011 may be the year of more presence on the European Golden Oldies Rugby scene, apart from already active EGOR members from Barcelona, Elche, La Coruna – Ferrol, El Puerto de Santa Maria, Sitges and Taldea.

Marko Protega



10th EUROPEAN GOLDEN OLDIES RUGBY FESTIVAL

31 European teams and one “guest team” from South America are participating EGOR Festival in Caernarfon.

More than 1.000 participants from 16 nations will be welcomed in this small picturesque and historic town in North Wales by the representatives of Welsh Assembly Government, Gwynedd Council, Caernarfon Town Council, Welsh Rugby Union, as well as by the YGOGS organisers and the European Golden Oldies Rugby Committee.

Apart from the games on Friday and Sunday, this long weekend from June 10th to 13th will be rich in various other activities, not only for the participating teams . . .

	Croeso	
	Welcome	
	Bienvenu	
	Fáilte	
	Fàilte	
	Grúezi	
	Shalom	
	Bienvenida	
	приветствовать	
	Willkommen	
	Bem Vindo	
	Benvenuti	
	Pasveikinti	
	Bun Venit	

by the courtesy of Festival organisers

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VINTAGE CASCAIS RUGBY 2010

Cascais Rugby Vets „appeared“for the first time at one European Festival in 2004 in Benidorm. Since then they are actively participating in European events with the final aim to candidate for the European Festival in 2014. Last year they have decided to join EGOR Series with “Vintage Cascais Rugby Festival 2010”. Goncalo Faria de Vasconcellos and his Team hosted in April CRU Juromenha Oldies, Amsterdam Academicals, Lisboa Team of “very fit and skilful” Portuguese lawyers and the traditional veteran team Porto Old Greens . . .

No classification what so ever as a good GOR rule was not “an obstacle” for all teams to perform reasonable good in spite of the age.

A very good synthetic pitch, magnificent premises, excellent medical assistance, plenty of good and cheap food along the whole day contributed to a day to remember.

The third halftime held in Hotel Palacio near by the Casino Estorial has been the cherry on the top of the cake – outstanding dinner and entertainment in a magnificent location just confirmed Cascais abilities to organize veteran rugby event(s) on a high level.



EUROPEAN GOLDEN OLDIES RUGBY



1st BUCHAREST VETS FESTIVAL

Bucharest (Romania), September 11 - 12th

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GOLDEN OLDIES RUGBY IN EUROPE – E. G. O. R. SERIES 2010



3rd GOLDEN OLDIE FESTIVAL ELX PATRIMONI DE LA HUMANITAT, Elche

Elche, the third largest city in the Autonomous Region of Valencia, is famous for its important foot wear industry, for the palm groves, unique in Europe, and for being the successor of the ancient city of Ilici, where in the ruins the Iberian bust known as the Lady of Elche was found. Since 2001 Elche (The Festa) is included by UNESCO on the list of Masterpieces of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity.

Elche, known also as the Town of Sports (joined EGOR Series in 2008) with its Rugby Club intend also to candidate for European Festival in 2014.

The third edition of their Golden Oldies Festival at Campo de Rugby “J.A. Moros Palao”, the part of the Municipal Sports Centre, attracted this time one special team – Iberian Classics, selection of former internationals from Spain and Portugal. Tomas Espinosa – Lidon, the “hearth of Elche C.R.U.”, supported by Juan Morales, the owner of sports wear manufacture VIATOR – main Festival sponsor, and Stuart Powell with his team mates succeeded to organize very pleasant and enjoyable event in the real tradition of golden oldies rugby.



Elche Veteranos



Iberian Classics



Inigo (left) and Albert (middle) from the „Classics“

MOLDOVA – NEW MEMBER OF EUROPEAN RUGBY VETERANS FAMILY

With great efforts of EGOR Romanian Representative Ioan Gheorghiescu (Bucharest) European Golden Oldies Rugby got a new member – **Moldova**, represented by Gherman Anatolie Petru, the President of RC “Mosi Vigurosi” in Chisinau.

Supported by Rugby Federation Moldavian rugby veterans are preparing themselves for the “home events in 2011” as well as for the participation at European Festival 2012 in Trieste (Italy).

Also **Switzerland** has new EGOR Country Representative – Matthias Schenker, Secretary of Grasshopper Rugby Club (Zurich), as the successor of Markus Koch from the same club, who represented his country for several years.

EUROPEAN GOLDEN OLDIES RUGBY



XII MEMORIAL ANDREA TEGHINI, TORNEO RUGBY OLD
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