



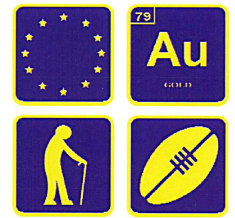
European Golden Oldies Rugby Newsletter

www.europeangoldenoldiesrugby.com

13th EGOR Festival 11th - 14th June, 2015 <http://egor2015.com>

Issue 28

The Official Bulletin of EUROPEAN GOLDEN OLDIES RUGBY



July 2013

President's Message

Greetings to all Golden Oldies across Europe...and I hope you are in Good Health, and enjoying Golden Oldies Rugby wherever you are. For those who missed it, Prague supplied a fantastic Festival, enjoyed by all, with 26 Teams from as far afield as Russia to Israel being represented, with Gibraltar being amongst Teams entering their first Festival, in a beautiful City with lovely weather.....following their recent floods. Good Beer, Wine and Company....and Rugby.....what more could you wish for ?? The Opening Party was held in the Municipal House in Prague which is the city's foremost Art Nouveau building, and one of the finest in the whole of Europe. Games were played on the Friday and Sunday....and as all Teams were in one Venue, the EGOR Executive Meeting and Team Manager's Meeting were held at the Field. The Executive Committee was elected at the General Meeting and are –

Position	Name	Home Country	Team
President	Dave McDonald	Scotland	Aberdeen Strollers
Vice President / Treasurer & Finance	Dott Sergio Caggia	Italy	I Cangrandi
Vice President / Sponsorship & Marketing	Bob Dean	Switzerland	Swiss Gnomes
Secretary & Webmaster	Matthias Schenker	Switzerland	Swiss Gnomes
Committee	Werner Czerny	Germany	Frankfurt Bembelschwenkers
	Patrick Darricarrere	France	SNUC Nantes
	Ed Freedman	Israel	Elders of Zion
	Andrej Hronec	Czech Republic	Old Boys Prague
Co – opted for 2015 Festival	Etor de Goicoechea	Spain	Bera Bera
Co – opted Referee Adviser	Ray Mellis	Scotland	The Whistlers
Co – opted / Media	Beat Schneider	Switzerland	Fossy Bears
Co – opted / FIRA Representative	Menachem ben Menachem	Israel	Elders of Zion

It was good to see so many Teams attending our Golden Oldies Festival for the first time....I hope they all had a great time and shall spread the Golden Oldies Ethos of – Fun, Friendship and Fraternity. On the Free Day, many Teams enjoyed the arranged Tours, or visited some of the many Bars and Restaurants, in the lovely City of Prague. The Final Dinner was a vibrant evening of Music and Dancing....and presentation of Awards. Each Team received a commemorative crystal Bowl and an Award went to the Oldest Player of the Festival – Michel Plana (79) of the *Cissou Boys*. A number of other ' Senior ' Players also received Medals. EGOR's prestigious Battered Relic Trophy (Read its history on our Website) was awarded to the French Team – *Les Musquets de la Leze*for their Golden Oldies Spirit.....on and off the Pitch !!

In conclusion.....well done Prague.....' Mission Possible '' Mission Accomplished ' !!!

San Sebastian to host the next EGOR Festival

The Basque City of San Sebastian, has been selected to hold the 13th edition of the most iconic Golden Oldies Rugby event in Europe, in June 2015. This Festival was created in 1992 and since then, it has become a major event for Rugby Oldies across Europe. *Bera Bera R.T.*, one of the most prominent Rugby Clubs in the Basque Country, will be the Hosts for our 2015 EGOR Festival.

Rugby, Sea & Food

With four Clubs in the top flights of the Spanish League, plus Biarritz and Bayonne next door, San Sebastian breathes Rugby. In last few years the City has hosted a number of Heineken Cup and Top 14 Matches. The Festival will be held in four pitches placed in the inner circle of San Sebastian's Racecourse. But during the four days of Festival, from June 11th to June 14th, there will be more than rugby to enjoy. The Festival will open on Thursday 11th with an informal reception in the Miramar Palace for participants and their companions, where they will be able to savour the tastes and culture of the Basque Country. This beautiful setting, with its sea views, gardens and English architecture will give you first impressions of how the European Golden Oldies Rugby Festival 2015 will be. The first match day will be on Friday 12th. The Racecourse will be provided with all amenities needed for a perfect day of Rugby. The day will end with various leisure tours and outings in the city. On Saturday, in addition to the city tours or a day of rest on the beach, the Local Organizing Committee shall offer a number of different ways to better discover the Basque Country and the nearby La Rioja vineyards. The last match day and Farewell Dinner will be on Sunday 14th with the final chance to enjoy the Village setup for the event. In the evening the Farewell Dinner will take place in a traditional Basque Fronton. Good food, good times and surprises will leave you with fond memories of San Sebastian. Register NOW !!!



For the latest Festival Information.....and to register your interest in attending the Festival –
egor2015@berabera.com <http://egor2015.com>



Website / Facebook

EGOR's newly updated Website was launched at the Prague Festival and we wish it to be full of YOUR News !! If you are planning any Event or Festival, please let us know, to enter it in our *Golden Oldies Series Page* and afterwards, please send us a short Report and some Photographs. We have added a number of Documents to assist you, if you are planning a Golden Oldies Event.....but if you have any queries, please e – mail.....info@europeangoldenoldiesrugby.com We wish Golden Oldies Rugby information, from all over Europe. I wish to Thank Matt, our EGOR Secretary and Rowan Evanstar, our Web Designer, for their work on the Website. Please look through the Website and send us your comments....and any other items you wish included.... We also have our European Golden Oldies Rugby Facebook Page – please tell your Team about it....and we hope they will **Like**and add their Golden Oldies stories and photographs.....

Admin Update

For our new Website, we are trying to get an extensive List of Golden Oldies Rugby Teams throughout Europe and to get up to date contact details about all our Member Clubs, to check our information is going to the correct person....and if not, alter our Mailing. Also, for Clubs who were not at the European Festival, or have not already paid, your Club Annual Subscription of 100 euros is now due and a Form is available online. We are all volunteers....so please reply promptly.....we hope you shall wish to support us. If you wish your Team listed on our Website.....please contact us.

World Festivals

The next World Golden Oldies Rugby Festival, now under the banner of *Vintage Sports*, shall take place in Mar del Plata, Argentina from 21st – 28th September, 2014. It is hoped that Europe shall be well represented....and a number of Spanish Teams are expected to attend. Already, around 40 Teams are registered. For further information, on the next World Festival, log on to the 20th World G O Festival Page - www.goldenoldiessports.com/world-rugby-festival-argentina-2014. If you wish to enter a Team, a few Players...or participate as an Individual, you shall always get a Game at these Festivals. Contact EGOR and find out how to enter your Team, or become involved by joining up with another Team.

Other Festivals

Even before the Trieste Festival, I had received e – mails from several Clubs, from all over Europe, wishing to Host our 13th Festival, in 2015.....and as you know, the next Festival Venue – San Sebastian – was announced in Prague. Already...we have requests from several Cities who have expressed an interest in being the Host for our 2017 Festival...!! Guidelines etc for Hosting an EGOR Festival can be found on our Website and your initial request should be submitted as soon as possible. A Closing Date for Bids shall be intimated on the Website and then a short list shall be selected and visited by Members of the EGOR Executive Committee, before a decision is made. If interested, submit your Application....NOW !! You can also hold smaller, local Festivals at your Club with just a few Teams....the number of Teams participating depend on the number of Pitches you have available. I hope that ever Country shall look at the possibility of starting their own National Golden Oldies Festivals.....they do not have to be too large...and can move around your Country's Clubs each year ! If you wish any advice, suggestions etc...drop me an e-mail. Guidelines, are also available to be Downloaded from our Website.

Scottish Festival

Following the World Golden Oldies Rugby Festival, held in Edinburgh, Scotland in 2008, the Scottish Golden Oldies Rugby Organisation was set up. Each year since, a Scottish Festival has taken place and the 5th was held in June in the Highland Capital – Inverness....with the Loch Ness Monster spectating ! 21 Clubs were represented and the Festival Ambassador was former Scottish Internationalist Ernie Michie who also played on the British Lions' Tour to South Africa in 1955. The Oldest Player was Golden Oldies stalwart – Alastair Urquhart (85) from Edinburgh. For information on Scottish Golden Oldies - www.pitchero.com/clubs/scottishgoldenoldiesrugby.....or join them on Facebook.

FIRA News

On behalf of the European Golden Oldies Rugby Organisation, I wish to extend a warm welcome to the new FIRA / AER President – Octavian Morariu (52) who was elected in Stockholm at their recent 90th General Assembly. President of the Romanian Olympic Committee and future member of the International Olympic Committee from September, he has been the FIRA / AER Vice President since 2004. Octavian takes over from Jean Claude Baque with whom I signed our Golden Oldies Agreement with FIRA / AER making us the Official European Organisation for Golden Oldies Rugby. I wish Jean Claude every Best Wish and I appreciate all the help he gave EGOR.

ERC Finals return to Cardiff

The Heineken Cup will be returning to its spiritual home Wales, when the final of the world's most competitive Club Rugby Tournament is staged in Cardiff next year..... having beaten off Bids by Scotland and England. The 2014 finals are set to go ahead in the Welsh capital with the Amlin Challenge Cup final played at the Cardiff Arms Park on Friday, 23 May 2014 and the 19th Heineken Cup showpiece event staged the following day at the Millennium Stadium. For full details - <http://www.ercrugby.com>

And Finally.....

A crazy Game took place in France in July, as *Rugby Club Toulonnais* hosted Soccer Club *Olympique Marseille* for a half Soccer / half Rugby Match, in aid of the Charity....." A smile, a hope for life ".....which helps families whose children have Cancer. Eric Cantona was on hand to referee and play, as things got a bit strange in the second half. Stade Mayol played host to this charity game with a difference, as the first half was played as Soccer, with goal posts in place, and then for the second half things switched as rugby posts were erected. The Game was in aid of a local cancer charity, and had 12, 000 fans in attendance. Marseille edged the hosts 5-4 in the first half, taking a 36-35 overall victory on a memorable day. Could your Golden Oldies try something like this, for a local Charity.....?????