



Press release  
17 February 2016

## **Saint Devote Rugby Tournament** **Saturday 27 February 2016**

In collaboration with the Princess Charlene of Monaco Foundation, the Monegasque Rugby Federation will organise the 6<sup>th</sup> Saint Devote Tournament on Saturday 27 February 2016 at the Louis II Stadium in Monaco.

The purpose of this tournament is to highlight the values of rugby, dear to the Princess Charlene of Monaco Foundation, beyond its physical aspects. These meetings illustrate team spirit and the notions of generosity, sharing, solidarity, respect and fair play which help children to accept themselves as they are in order to better integrate into society.

In order to celebrate rugby and its different approaches, this day promises to be particularly intense.

This year, **the U12-category tournament** will bring together ten teams from nine countries: Abu Dhabi, France (Lucciana), Italy (Mirano, Pro Recco), Russia (Kaliningrad), South Africa (Cape Town), Spain (Barcelona), Switzerland (Lausanne), Tunisia (Jemmel) and Monaco.

The choice of Rugby Sevens is significant for the Monegasque Rugby Federation: this discipline concerns all national Monegasque teams and is also the sport of the future highlighted in the Principality. Next 18 and 19 June, the Louis II Stadium will host the Monaco Sevens World Olympic qualification tournament organised by the Monegasque Rugby Federation.

The **Saint Devote Challenge** (named after the Patron Saint of the Principality and Corsica) will be played by Lucciana (Corsica) and Monaco.

The **Tots Rugby**, introduction to rugby, will be destined for children aged 3 to 5.

Stefan Terblanche, former player with the Sharks and Springboks, currently Director of the South African Rugby Legends Association (SARLA) will be present during this important rugby event.

**Educational workshops and specially designed courses** will be available for disabled young people (Educational Medical Institutes), for an entertaining introduction to rugby. These children will be supervised by the U15 and U16 (Monegasque Rugby Federation members under age 16), wishing to share their passion for rugby and the ideals it conveys. Specialised institutions in Monaco (AMAPEI, Monaco Disease Power) and Menton (Les Lucioles, La Pierre & le Sable, St-Exupéry, SEGPA) will take part in these meetings.

This year, local rugby schools will vie in the **Saint Devote Sporting Course**, a timed event open to all young people, boys and girls age 11 to 15, members and non-members.

It provides an opportunity for everyone to display their aptitude in terms of speed, dexterity, coordination and specific rugby skills, while retaining the essential value: solidarity. The teams will be made up of three players (male or female) and the finals will take place during the Monaco Sevens, next 19 June in the Principality.

Furthermore, the **South Africa - Monaco Rugby Exchange** is one of the Princess Charlene of Monaco Foundation's flagship projects in its "Sport & Education" programme. During the Saint Devote Tournament, underprivileged children from South Africa will be invited to the Principality from 23 to 28 February, thanks to a partnership with SARLA. In turn, a Monegasque team will travel to South Africa during the summer of 2016.

Alongside the Rugby Tournament, young athletes from South Africa and children from the Principality will participate in school and leisure activities providing mutual enrichment through their cultural differences.

The Department of National Education, Youth and Sport wished to offer these young South Africans, invited to this competition, the best possible welcome. They will be able to meet and mix with students from international secondary school classes at Collège Charles III and Collège François d'Assise-Nicolas Barré, who prepared, a booklet on the Principality and a slideshow that will be projected on big screen for this exceptional occasion. The visitors will share South African themed lunch with Monegasque students at the Collège Charles III school cafeteria. A tour of the Monaco Aquatic Rescue Center and of Monaco's landmarks will be organised for the South African guests.

Saint Devote Tournament - Saturday 27 February 2016 - Louis II Stadium

Free admission:

9:30am	Start of the Tournament
2:30pm	Designed courses
3:00pm	Educational workshops
4:00pm	Tots Rugby
4:15pm	Finale
4:45pm	Awards ceremony

The Ankor Company supports the organisation of this tournament. The Cuomo Foundation, Sancta Devota Foundation, Stavros Niarchos Foundation, Monaco Ambassadors Club and the Société Monégasque de Transport are partners of this event.

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**South African Rugby Legends Association (SARLA)**

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