

SPRING/SUMMER, 2026

WSU Men's Rugby Alumni-Round Up

The game brought us together.

The club keeps us together.



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Learn more about one of our distinguished alumni ruggers, and get to know a current player as well.

Financial Matters

A review of club expenses, finances and our fundraising goals.

Upcoming Get Together

Join your Dogg Alums at a TC Gemini rugby match July 19th (Eagan, MN)

Spring Recap

Greetings All! The current Winona Mens club had a solid spring season. They placed 2nd at All Saints – losing a close final to St John's -- a side that had beaten them handily one year before. While the roster could use a half dozen recruits, the guys showing up have a good handle on the game; they play the game well. This year's alumni game was well attended. About 30 old boys were in attendance. Old dudes who did NOT kit-up grilled burgers and brats for 60 people.

On June 27th the boys will travel once again to Milwaukee for the Lakefront 7's tournament. Several alum will be there to cheer for (and feed) the Doggs. [The Lakefront 7s Tournament](#)

Your Alumni committee's focus in the coming months includes establishing a 501c3, ensuring the pitch is getting some attention, and recruiting a full-time coach for the club.

Spring 2026 Results

February 28th - Frozen River 10s – La Crosse, WI RESULTS: 2nd Place

March 28th - Mudfest's 7s – Platteville, WI RESULTS: Won 1 / Lost 2 (Men's sides)

April 11th - Alumni (with Rochester Rogues) RESULTS: Call it a draw

April 25th-26th - All Saint's Tournament - RESULTS: Won 3 / Lost 1 / 2nd Place

June 27th - Lakefront 7s - Milwaukee, WI RESULTS: We shall see!!!

Summer 2026 Gathering

WHAT: Women's Elite Rugby (WER) Twin Cities Gemini vs Denver Onyx

WHEN: July 19th / 5 p.m. start

WHERE: TCO Stadium / 2600 Vikings Circle, Eagan, MN

PRE-GAME: Alum are asked to meet up beforehand at Union 32 (5 min away). We expect people will arrive at 3 p.m.

COST: Tickets are \$10. Use Purchase Code **WSUALUMNI** at checkout.

PLEASE: consider bringing your spouse, significant other or kids. We'll all behave better under those constraints.

ALSO: Winona rugger Nick (London) Donnelly is in a leadership role with the Gemini.

[Purchase Link](#)

Alumni Showcase

Dan (Soup) Campbell recently joined the Alumni committee. A member of the "OG" Old Boys, Dan shares his reflections on his time with the club.



Soup was part of the debut team, playing in the earliest matches through Fall of '92. Dan resides in Florida with his wife and son, has enjoyed a successful career in business and shares his experience with the game and our club: "From the first practice, it was clear that Winona State Rugby was built on more than competition. It was about camaraderie, resilience, and a group of individuals willing to push each other both on and off the field. The team became a second family, and the bonds formed during those years have lasted well beyond graduation."

As spring of '92 approached, Soup opted for an extra semester. It was a great decision. The club won their first MN collegiate championship that fall. "Being on the field with that group, contributing to that achievement, and sharing it with teammates who had become lifelong friends is something I will always carry with me. Looking back, rugby at Winona State was not just an extracurricular activity. It was a foundational experience. It taught leadership, accountability, and the importance of committing to something bigger than yourself. Those lessons have carried forward into every chapter of my life."



Jenaro "JD" Delgado Jr

Player Spotlight

JD is the current club President and arrived as the team came through its post-COVID rebuild. His sister played for Mankato and rugby was on his radar early on. He joined the club in the fall of 2023 and expects to graduate in the spring of 2027.

JD and others have worked to restore and build out club "structure" and commit to fundraising efforts. "The thing I love about rugby is that it's not just a college thing. This club goes so much deeper than just playing for a bit and never talking again. I see our alumni come back almost every year to support us and they are always with us and making sure that we know we have so much support. I love my team and they will forever be my brothers and best friends for most of my life. These years of college are the most influential on a young man's life and it's always good to have good people with you to help mold them."

Help connect the ruggers in your orbit:

Connect a Friend: If you have some alumni buddies that you know are not presently "connected" with the club, PLEASE reach out – tell them what we're up to, and bring them into the loop. Encourage former Doggs in your orbit to connect with the club (through our website, FB page and e-mails).

Financials

The club gets a stipend each year from the school, and the boys are raising funds on their own. On the alumni side, we have about \$20,000 in our WSU Foundation account.

About 5K / year is earmarked to assist with field and coaching costs. To cover those costs, while sustaining (and growing) our account, we aspire to raise at least \$500 each month from alumni – through regular monthly contributions.

A new 501c3 plan is being put in place. Future donations will be directed there. This will allow us to better track who is contributing and recognize their gift. We want to make donations easier (Venmo and Zelle). The 501c3 model requires some paper to be pushed, and we hope to have things in place by year end.

In the meantime, please continue your contributions you may be making to the Foundation account. Every dollar helps.

There is discussion about a larger, long term goal: owning our own pitch. It beats renting forever and brings stability to everything we are doing. More on that later!

winona.edu/give

Designation: Other

Other Designation: Men's Rugby - 30158

Lastly: If you have a question, info or an idea you'd like to share with an Alumni Committee member, please reach out! We'd love to hear from you:

alumni@wsumensrugby.com