



2009 ARMED FORCES MEN'S RUGBY CHAMPIONSHIP

1. **COMPETITION RULES:** Current United States of America Rugby Football Union Rules (USA Rugby), as amended by the Armed Forces Sports Committee (AFSC).
2. **TOURNAMENT FORMAT:** Single round robin, followed by consolation and championship matches.
3. **DRAW:** As determined by AFSC (Game schedule in paragraph 7 is based on draw conducted at the 2008 Armed Forces Championship).
4. **SCORING:** IAW current USA Rugby Rules.
5. **DURATION OF MATCHES AND TIE-BREAKER POLICY:**
 - A. Round Robin Matches: Played in 30-minute halves with a 10 minute halftime break.
 - B. Tie Breaking procedures, in order, following Round-Robin Play: Head-to-head record of teams involved; points for and against all teams; total converted tries.
 - C. Consolation and Championship Matches: Played in 40-minute halves, with a 10 minute halftime break.
 - D. Tie-Breaker for Consolation and Championship Matches: Play two 10 minute overtime periods with a three minute interval between halves. If not decided use head-to-head competition between teams. If still tied use points for and against all teams. If no decision use converted total converted tries. Last, use a coin toss to determine winner.
 - E. Drawn Matches: Drawn matches in the Round Robin competition shall be declared a tie.
6. **GAME BALL AND EQUIPMENT:** IAW current USA Rugby Rules. Ball must adhere to current USA Rugby Rules. Ball to be used is to be publicized by the host service 60 days prior to the Armed Forces Championship. All footwear (boots), including those with alloy safety studs, must be in compliance with current USA Rugby Rules.

7. SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

Day One Teams Arrive

Day Two Team Photos
Opening Ceremony Rehearsal (Optional)
Team Practice Sessions
Organizational Meeting

Note: Team members attending the Informal Ice Breaker are required to wear their service polo shirt with slacks (color determined by Service), and appropriate foot wear. Male personnel cannot wear earrings.

Day Three 0800-0830 Opening Ceremony (Optional) – However, the National Anthem must be played prior to the opening match.
 0900 Match 1 USN vs. USAF
 1030 Match 2 USA vs. USMC
 1200 Match 3 USCG vs. USN
 1400 Match 4 USAF vs. USA
 1530 Match 5 USMC vs. USCG

Day Four Rest Day

Day Five 0900 Match 6 USMC vs. USN
 1030 Match 7 USCG vs. USAF
 1200 Match 8 USN vs. USA
 1400 Match 9 USAF vs. USMC
 1530 Match 10 USA vs. USCG

Day Six 1100 Match 11 Consolation Match
 1300 Match 12 Championship Match

Awards Ceremony - (Immediately following the final match) Service teams are required to wear like-Service issued team apparel or competitive uniforms at the awards ceremony. Individual athletes who do not comply will not receive awards or be selected to the Armed Forces team. If the Awards Ceremony is conducted in conjunction with the Informal Ice Breaker, then all Service Members must comply with Ice Breaker dress policy.

Day Seven Teams Depart

8. TEAM STANDINGS: Based on tournament win-loss record and tie-breaker procedures.

9. AWARDS:

A. Individual: Each member of the winning and runner-up teams (to include the team trainer and Team Captain) receive individual awards.

B. Team: No team trophy is presented.

C. All-Tournament: An "All-Tournament" team is selected of the best 15 best players by position of the tournament. The Host Project Officer will select and purchase a special "All Star" memento to present to each member of the "All-Tournament" team.

10. TEAM COMPOSITION - ARMED FORCES CHAMPIONSHIP:

Roster not to exceed 30 individuals

25 Players

1 Coach

1 Asst Coach

2 Certified Athletic Trainers

1 OIC-Team Manager

*Note – Only the above personnel are authorized in the designated Service bench area.

Note: If a player is ejected, that player is ineligible for the remaining matches of the championship and the overall roster is reduced by one. This player is now a non-participant, and cannot be on the sidelines, and will not be considered for the All Star Team.

11. SELECTION PROCESS - HIGHER LEVEL AND ALL-TOURNAMENT:

Selection meeting attendance is limited to the Service Representative, the head coach, assistant coach, and the OIC. Each Service will be limited to one spokesperson. The initial selection for the All-Tournament Team and the Armed Forces Team will be conducted as a paper ballot, submitted simultaneously by each Service Representative and the Chief of Officials to the host Project Officer at the beginning of the selection meeting. Submitted ballots are final. Ties will be resolved through discussion and vote. Most competent athletes, regardless of Service affiliation, will be selected. Service representatives reserve the right to not select top quality candidates based on behavior, grooming standards, or availability.

Coach Selection Policy: The Head Coach for the Armed Forces Team will be the winning Head Coach of the Armed Forces Championship. The individual will select his-her Assistant Coach from the pool of coaches that participated in the championship (subject to review by the Service Representatives at the championship). If the winning Head Coach is not available, then the second place team Head Coach will be the Head Coach of the Armed Forces team.

This individual will also select his-her Assist Coach from the pool of coaches who participated in the championship (subject to review by the Service Representatives at the Championship). If neither the winning nor second place Head Coaches are not available to advance to higher level competition, the AFSWG will vote to select a Head Coach from the remaining pool of available coaches who participated in the championship. Priority will be given to Head Coaches. If replacement coaches cannot be identified within 24 hours preceding the announcement of the team delegation, then the Armed Forces team will not advance to higher level competition.

12. FORMS AND ROSTERS: All participants at this level must sign a code of conduct letter prior to the organizational meeting.

13. ALCOHOL POLICY: There will be no alcohol consumption at the sports venue by personnel involved in the Armed Forces Sports competition, including sports staff, until all competition for the day has been completed to include the award ceremony on the final day. The venue is defined as the playing area and the assigned seating/spectator area. More restrictive installation policies in regards to alcohol will take precedence.