

# WORLD DEAF RUGBY SEVENS CHAMPIONSHIP

*Cordoba, Argentina 5 – 9 April 2023*

In April 2023, the *World Deaf Rugby Sevens Championship* initially scheduled for 2021 but delayed due to *Covid-19*, finally took place in Cordoba, Argentina exactly five years after the successful Sevens event held in Sydney, Australia in April 2018.

That these Championships were able to go ahead notwithstanding *Covid-19* and major last-minute funding challenges, is testimony to the tenacity, dedication and hard work of the event hosts, ***Union Rugby Sordos Argentina*** – in particular, the *URSA President, Mariano Matut* and the *URSA Secretary, Agustin Reggiardo*. And their last-minute efforts to find and arrange replacement free Team accommodation when the promised hotel room funding fell through, well and truly saved the day!

World Deaf Rugby recognises, acknowledges, congratulates and owes a huge vote of thanks to URSA for achieving what only one other country has been able to do in the last twenty (20) years – stage a successful, well-attended *WDR 7s Championship*.

Whilst the tournament attracted a record number of participants (*8 Men's Teams & 4 Women's Teams*), the number of competitors would have been even greater had the *Kenya Men's & Women's Teams* and the *Ghana Men's team* been able to obtain Visas.

The three-day Men's & Women's competition featured *Group* and *Rankings* matches on Days 1 & 2, with the final playoffs and formal trophy/medal presentations occurring on Day 3. *Wales Deaf Rugby Union* were the final victors of both the Men's and the Women's competitions triumphing over Australia and England respectively, retaining the Men's Gold Trophy they had won in 2018 and also taking out the Women's Gold Trophy. Final rankings are as follows:

## **MEN'S SEVENS RANKINGS 2023**

**Wales**  
**Australia**  
**England**  
**South Africa**  
**Fiji**  
**Argentina**  
**Japan**  
**Barbarians**

## **WOMEN'S SEVENS RANKINGS 2023**

**Wales**  
**England**  
**Australia**  
**Barbarians**