



THE FOUNDATIONS

RUGBYVAULT 7S

RugbyVault Sevens: Unearthing Talent and Inspiring the Next Generation

Since 2017, RugbyVault has continued to make a lasting impact on the women's rugby landscape, creating meaningful opportunities for athletes to showcase their talent and thrive within a dedicated sevens pathway.

Founded by former professional sevens coach David Mays, and supported by Head Selector Richard "Digger" Wilson, RugbyVault was built on a simple but powerful idea: that when young athletes are given the right environment, the right support, and the freedom to express themselves, extraordinary things can happen.

At its heart, RugbyVault is about opportunity. It is about creating a space where female athletes can play with a no fear attitude, where they can enjoy the game, smile while competing, and grow into the best version of themselves – both on and off the field. That commitment to simplicity, enjoyment, and athlete expression has remained the foundation of the program since day one.

What began as a vision has now become one of New Zealand's most influential talent identification and development platforms in the sevens game. Over the years, RugbyVault has helped uncover and nurture world-class athletes, identifying more than 30 Black Ferns and over 100 provincial and Super Rugby players, firmly establishing itself as a hub for rugby excellence.

The RugbyVault pathway has been a stepping stone for many of the country's top performers. Athletes who have progressed through RugbyVault include New Zealand Sevens stars such as Stacey Waaka, Michaela Blyde, Katelyn Vahaakolo, Alexis Tapsell, and many more who now represent their country on the world stage. The program has also supported players who have gone on to wear the Black Ferns jersey in XVs, as well as international representatives from Samoa and Canada.

The numbers provide a glimpse into the scale of RugbyVault's impact. To date, the program has contributed to the development of 25 New Zealand Sevens representatives, 8 Black Ferns XV players, 15 Super Rugby athletes, and more than 80 provincial players, reflecting the strength of the pathway and the depth of talent it continues to uncover.

RugbyVault remains committed to inspiring the next generation – continuing to identify future stars, support athlete growth, and provide a platform where young women can chase their dreams through sevens rugby.

For more information on RugbyVault programs, upcoming events, or opportunities to get involved, please contact:

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