



International Military Sports Council

French Delegation to CISM



INVITATION FILE

3rd RUGBY SEVENS MILITARY CHALLENGE



Agen, France

27th May – 1st June 2026

CISM

“Friendship through Sport”



CISM



MINISTÈRE
DES ARMÉES
ET DES ANCIENS
COMBATTANTS

Liberté
Égalité
Fraternité

International Military Sports Council
3rd Rugby Sevens Military Challenge – 27/05-01/06 2026, Agen



Centre national des sports de la Défense
École interarmées des sports
Direction technique des sports militaires

Fontainebleau, le vendredi 9 janvier 2026
N° 2025-511572/ARM/DRHAT/CNSD/EIS/DTSM/DPPS/NP

INVITATION FILE

SUBJECT : 3rd Rugby 7 Military Challenge - 27th May to 1st June 2026.
ANNEXES : Seven.

The French Delegation to the International Military Sports Council (CISM), the National Defence Sports Centre (CNSD) and the French Rugby Federation are honoured to invite you to participate to the 3rd Rugby Sevens Military Challenge taking place between the 27th May and 1st June 2026 in Agen, Lot-et-Garonne.

This location is well-known for its French Rugby history. Philippe Sella, famous former rugby player will be the Vice-President of the Local Organising Committee.

This Military Challenge is organised and supported by the 48th Signals Regiment.

Practical details are specified in the following annexes. Requests for Information including but not limited to participation and technical details are to be directed to Warrant Officer (OR-9) Elisio Dartoen, Project Lead.

Friendship through Sport !

General Cyrille Becker
Commissioner for Military Sport,
Chief of the French Delegation to CISM,



Appended:

- Annex I Distribution List
- Annex II General Information
- Annex III 1. Preliminary Agreement
- Annex IV 2a. Final Agreement – Mission Composition
- Annex V 2b. Final Agreement – Chief of Mission commitment
- Annex VI Regulations
- Annex VII 3. Final Agreement – Travel Data

DISTRIBUTION LIST

All CISM Member Nations are warmly invited and strongly encouraged to participate in this World Championship.

1. PRESIDENT OF CISM
2. OFFICIAL CISM REPRESENTATIVE
3. CISM CONTINENTAL VICE PRESIDENTS
4. CISM SECRETARY GENERAL
5. CHIEFS OF THE CONTINENTAL LIAISON OFFICES
6. PRESIDENT AND MEMBERS OF THE CISM SPORT COMMITTEE
7. REPRESENTATIVES OF CISM PARTNERS AND SPONSORS
8. CHIEFS OF DELEGATION OF THE CISM MEMBER NATIONS

GENERAL INFORMATION

1. MISSION COMPOSITION

According to CISM Regulations (Article 7.23/A) only military personnel on active duty in possession of valid military identification may participate in the competition. An inactive nation, intending to take part in the event must pay its annual fee immediately after the deadline of the Preliminary Agreement of the World Military Championship before sending the Final Agreement. If this is not done, the delegation will not be able to take part in the event.

The below table provides mission composition in case of participation with Men's, Women's or both teams. In the case of participation with only a Men's or Women's Team, the Team Captain is considered as the Coach as well.

Function	Participation		
	Mission Men AND Women	Mission Men's Team ONLY	Mission Women's Team ONLY
Chief of Mission	1	1	1
Team Captain	2	1	1
Coach	2	1	1
Physio	2	1	1
Athletes	24	12	12
TOTAL	31	16	16

A maximum of eight (8) Men's and eight (8) Women's Teams will participate.

2. SCHEDULE

The consolidated schedule will be given after the final agreements.

DATE	ACTIVITY
Wednesday 27th May	27/05/2026 Delegations Arrival; Welcome at Toulouse Blagnac Airport; Technical Meeting.
Thursday 28th May	28/05/2026 Chief of Mission - VIP DAY : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Military Ceremony at Quartier Toussaint; ○ Reception at the Town Hall and at the Hotel du Département; ○ Cultural and Gastronomic visits; ○ Gift Exchange Ceremony; Free Training (slots per countries will be planned).
Friday 29th May	29/05/2026 Cultural activities for the teams; Free training (slots per countries will be planned); Opening Ceremony in Class A Uniform.
Saturday 30th May	30/05/2026 Qualifying match.
Sunday 31st May	31/05/2026 Finals; Awards Ceremony; Closing Ceremony and Closing Banquet.
Monday 1st June	01/06/2026 Delegations Departure.

International Military Sports Council
3rd Rugby Sevens Military Challenge – 27/05-01/06 2026, Agen

3. RULES AND REGULATIONS

The current CISM Regulations, Edition December 2025 and the most recent version of World Rugby Regulations and their devolved application by the French Rugby Federation (FFR) will be enacted.

4. LOGISTICS

Participating Delegations are the guests of the French Armed Forces during their stay and from the moment of their arrival on French National Territory between the 27th May and 1st June 2026.

The Host Nation provides Accommodation and Feeding. Additional expenses (data, telephone, laundry, additional feeding etc...) are at the expense of the participant.

Unplanned Arrivals or Departures outside of the designated days as well as additional personnel will be at the participant's expense.

Additional participants will not be accepted without a written authorisation from the Local Organizing Committee.

4.1. Transport

Travel expenses to and from French National Territory are at the expense of the participating delegation. The Host Nation will provide transport to and from the Point of Entry onto French National Territory.

4.1.1 Air

Toulouse-Blagnac Airport (IATA/TLS, OACI/LFBO).

4.1.2 Road

Stade Armandie

19 rue Pierre de Coubertin, 47000 Agen

4.1.3 Rail

Agen Railway Station

4.2. Conditions of Stay

Throughout their stay from 27th May and 1st June 2026, participants are guests of the French Armed Forces, which provide accommodation, food and transport related to the event.

Participants requesting additional services not covered by the organizers will have to bear the additional costs.

4.2.1 Accommodation

Participating delegations will be accommodated at *l'Ecole Nationale de l'Administration Pénitentiaire* in Agen.

CISM recommendations will apply:

Individual rooms at a nearby hotel for Chiefs of Mission;

Shared rooms (2 by room) at *l'Ecole Nationale de l'Administration Pénitentiaire* for all other delegation members.

In compliance with a recent decision by the CISM Board of Directors, delegations may select accommodation outside of the planned accommodation by the Local Organising Committee (LOC) for their mission. Any delegation choosing to exercise this option will be subject to the approval of the LOC and entirely responsible for the logistics of their participation and the incurred costs. In addition the LOC cannot guarantee the security of the mission in question.

In compliance with CISM Regulations Article 7.23, an administrative fine of 10,000.00 € will be imposed on any country that failed to participate or cancelled late after submission of the Final Agreement. This sum is indexed on the cost of Real Life Support per complete delegation over the duration of the Event.

4.2.2 Equipment

4.2.2.1 Chief of Mission

Class A Uniform according to national military regulations is mandatory for the Opening and Closing Ceremonies as well as the Gift Exchange.

Class B Uniform according to national military regulations is mandatory for the Technical Meeting. Civilian Personnel of the Armed Forces are expected to wear a suit.

National Military Tracksuit can be worn at other times.

The Chief of Mission is expected to bring their National Flag. The Chief of Delegation must verify that their national anthem available on the CISM Extranet (<http://members.milsport.one/official-documents/protocol-events-guidelines>), is up to date and can be used CISM Events.

4.2.2.2 Staff

Class A Uniform according to national military regulations is mandatory for the Opening and Closing Ceremonies.

Class B Uniform according to national military regulations is mandatory for the Technical Meeting. Civilian Personnel of the Armed Forces are expected to wear a suit.

National Military Tracksuit can be worn at other times.

4.2.2.3 Athletes

Class A Uniform according to national military regulations is mandatory for the Opening and Closing Ceremonies. Battle Dress is tolerated for Opening and Closing Ceremonies.

National Military Tracksuit can be worn at other times.

4.3. Medical

The Organising Committee will only provide Emergency Care to participants.

Any additional Medical care is the sole responsibility of the delegations and their Defence / Military Attaché in their Embassy in France or covering France.

Delegations are requested to have insurance covering Medical repatriation for all participants.

5. VISAS AND CUSTOMS

For information pertaining to entrance onto French National Territory, please contact the French Embassy in your country or the respective embassy serving your country no later than 20 working days prior to the intended date of entry.

Entry by military or civilian members of Foreign Armed Forces onto French National Territory and their transit throughout is subject to approval. The Military or Defence Attaché must submit requests for permission no later than 20 working days prior to the intended date of entry.

Once member nations have confirmed their participation, the Organising Committee will inform the Defence Attaché in post at the participating country to, if required, facilitate visa proceedings.

6. DEADLINES

6.1. Preliminary Agreement

Preliminary agreement must be returned no later than 1st February 2026.

6.2. Final Agreement

Final agreement must be returned no later than 1st April 2026.

6.3. Travel Data

Travel data must be returned no later than 1st May 2026.

7. POINT OF CONTACT

Head of Local Organizing Committee (LOC) - Warrant Officer (OR-9) Elisio Dartoen:

elisio.dartoen@intradef.gouv.fr / mcr7.agen26@gmail.com

INT +33 06 03 21 42 02 / 05 53 48 96 47

Requests for Information including but not limited to participation and technical details are to be directed to Major (OF-3) Erwan Lebrun, Technical Director of Military Sport and CISM Delegate:

- fra.cnsd.ri@gmail.com / fra@milsport.one
- 00 33 1 79 91 62 23
- French Delegation to CISM – Centre national des sports de la Défense
- 30, Rue des Archives, 77300 Fontainebleau, France

8. ANTIDOPING

Anti-Doping tests will be conducted during the event in accordance with the rules of the French Government, CISM Regulations – Chapter IX, CISM Anti-Doping Rules and the World Anti-Doping Code according to international Standards for Testing.

Participants must be able to present an official identity document in physical or electronic form.

The volume and type of testing as well as the athletes selected for testing will be determined by the CISM Anti-Doping Commission. These procedures will follow the concerned CISM Test Distribution Plan (TDP).

In case an athlete has a Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE), the Chief of Delegation should send this TUE to the CISM General Secretariat no later than 30 days before the Opening Ceremony. This TUE will be submitted to the TUE Commission to analysis and further approval.

8.1. Sample Collection Authority

Agence Française de Lutte contre le Dopage

8 rue Aubert, 75009 Paris

(<https://www.wada-ama.org/en/code-signatories>)

8.2. Accredited Laboratory

Agence Française de Lutte contre le Dopage – Département des analyses

143 avenue Roger Salengro, 92290 Châtenay-Malabry

(<https://www.wada-ama.org/en/what-we-do/science-medical/laboratories/accredited-laboratories>)

9. WEATHER CONDITIONS

Highest daily temperature: 30° C.

Lowest daily temperature: 13° C.

International Military Sports Council
3rd Rugby Sevens Military Challenge – 27/05-01/06 2026, Agen
ANNEX III

PRELIMINARY AGREEMENT

1. PRELIMINARY AGREEMENT

DEADLINE : 1st February 2026

Head of Local Organising Committee (LOC) - Warrant Officer (OR-9) Elisio Dartoen Mobile: +33 06 03 21 42 02 / 05 53 48 96 47 E-mail: elisio.dartoen@intradef.gouv.fr mcr7.agen26@gmail.com	CISM HQ LCL Nicolas Ferré CISM Sports Director Mobile: +33 6 48 05 31 21 E-mail: cismsportsdepartment@milsport.one
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NATION :

PARTICIPANTS	Staff	Players	Total
Men			
Women			
Total			

MEANS OF TRANSPORT :

AIR	
RAIL	
ROAD	

SIGNATURE CHIEF OF DELEGATION

DATE :

RANK / SURNAME / NAME :

YOUR CONTACT	RANK / SURNAME / NAME :	
	PHONE :	
	MAIL :	

FINAL AGREEMENT

2a. FINAL AGREEMENT – Mission Composition

DEADLINE : 1st April 2026

Head of Local Organising Committee (LOC) - Warrant Officer (OR-9) Elisio Dartoen Mobile: +33 06 03 21 42 02 / 05 53 48 96 47 E-mail: elisio.dartoen@intradef.gouv.fr mcr7.agen26@gmail.com E-mail: fra.cnsd.ri@gmail.com / fra@milsport.one	CISM HQ LCL Nicolas Ferré CISM Sports Director Mobile: +33 6 48 05 31 21 E-mail: cismsportsdepartment@milsport.one
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NATION :

	Rank	Surname	First Name	Date of Birth DD/MM/YYYY
Chief of Mission				
Team Captain 1				
Coach 1				
Physio 1				
Player 1				
Player 2				
Player 3				
Player 4				
Player 5				
Player 6				
Player 7				
Player 8				
Player 9				
Player 10				
Player 11				
Player 12				
Team Captain 2				
Coach 2				
Physio 2				
Player 13				
Player 14				
Player 15				
Player 16				
Player 17				
Player 18				

International Military Sports Council
3rd Rugby Sevens Military Challenge – 27/05-01/06 2026, Agen

Player 19				
Player 20				
Player 21				
Player 22				
Player 23				
Player 24				

In strict compliance with applicable **CISM Regulations – Chapter VII, Art.7.23**, I, the undersigned Chief of Delegation, hereby officially confirm that all athletes representing my nation in the CISM event are on active duty within the Armed Forces of my nation. I understand that sanctions may be imposed against my nation, my mission, my team, individual athletes or myself for violation of this provision (**CISM Regulations Chapter I, Art.1.12**).

Does your Mission require a visa to travel ?	YES	NO	
If YES, continue the process you have initiated alongside the Preliminary Agreement.			
Do your players require a TUE ?	YES	NO	
If YES, start the process immediately as per Annex II – 8 Anti-Doping			
SIGNATURE CHIEF OF DELEGATION			
DATE :			
RANK / SURNAME / NAME :			

International Military Sports Council
3rd Rugby Sevens Military Challenge – 27/05-01/06 2026, Agen
ANNEX V

FINAL AGREEMENT

2b. FINAL AGREEMENT – Chief of Mission commitment

NATION :

The undersigned, Chief of Mission, declares to have read and accepted the CISM Regulations and moreover understood the following prescriptions.

1. RIGHTS OF MEMBER NATIONS – ARTICLE 1.10

Active member nations have the right to be invited to be invited to all CISM Events.

Inactive Member Nations have the same rights as active Member Nations except that they do not participate in any CISM event until they have met their financial obligations.

An inactive nation, intending to take part in the event must pay its annual fee before the deadline established by the Local Organising Committee of the event for the submission of the Final Agreement. If this is not done, then the delegation will not be able to send a mission to participate in the said event.

2. PARTICIPATION – MILITARY STATUS – ARTICLE 7.22

Only military personnel on Active Duty in the Armed Forces for the purpose of participating in a CISM Event. In the case of intermittent military service, the athletes recalled may not take part in CISM competitions, under any circumstances, if more than 18 months have elapsed between this recall and the end of their last call to arms except for Para-Sport.

Veteran soldiers who have left the Armed Forces, wounded or injured whilst on active duty may be included as part of a Mission and participate in a CISM event with a Para-Sport component;

Exceptions to the above may be authorised by the General Assembly upon recommendation by the Board of Directors;

All military participants must be in possession of appropriate documentation that justifies their position in service of the Armed Forces of the nation they represent. This may take the form of, but not limited to:

- A valid military identity card for those athletes who are authorised to present their military identity cards abroad ;
- A form of verification (in English and/or in French) attesting to their military status accompanied by a passport;
- A written attestation certifying that the Veteran was wounded or injured on active duty signed by the Chief of Delegation.

In signing the Final Agreement the Chief of Mission confirms the military status of participating personnel. In the case of a last minute change, a verification file may be signed by the Chief of Mission pending a letter of confirmation by the Chief of Delegation. Should these documents prove to be unavailable, participation will be refused.

An athlete who has represented one country in a CISM Event, the Olympic Games or any competition at World, Continental or Regional level recognised by the relevant International Federation and who has changed their nationality or acquired a new one may participate in CISM Events representing their new nation provided that at least two (2) years have passed since they represented their former country.

3. CHIEF OF MISSION – ARTICLE 7.32

The Chief of Mission must be familiar with CISM Regulations.

Missions must not only participate or be present at the sporting events, they are also required to participate in commemorative and cultural events organised by the Local Organising Committee.

The Chief of Mission is responsible for the conduct of his team in sport and general discipline. They must ensure that the members of their mission respect the rules and guidelines issued by the organisers of the championship. Compliance with schedules is particularly important because they form the basis for the smooth running of competitions and ceremonies.

The Chief of Mission must also ensure that the rules concerning behaviour and dress during ceremonies are respected. They play an important role in promoting the spirit of military sport among their mission, a spirit represented by a friendly attitude towards other missions, courtesy towards the organisers and fair play in competition.

4. ABSENCE OF A MISSION WITHOUT NOTIFICATION – ARTICLE 8.6

Should a Mission who has submitted a Preliminary and/ or Final Agreement be absent without notifying the Host Nation in time, a sanction may be imposed as per CISM Regulations Art.1.12).

5. RULES OF STAY – ARTICLE 8.17

5.1. General Framework

The Chiefs of Mission are responsible for the discipline of their mission. Missions fall under the jurisdiction of the organising nation. During the events, all athletes present are equal before the jury, the referees and towards themselves. No one may use their rank to impose their views on sporting matters. The civilian members of the missions must comply with discipline accepted by all other participants.

Participants will be equipped with their national military tracksuit throughout their stay and in particular during the awards ceremonies. The display of the national flag on the podium by the recipient (athlete, staff or team) during a medal ceremony is prohibited. Persons who do not respect these requirements will not receive their medal(s) during the official ceremonies.

5.2. Prohibited actions

Any political or religious propaganda during the event, including the distribution of documents, photos, brochures, magazines, etc. is strictly prohibited. Any violation may result in the exclusion of the mission from the entire competition (CISM Regulations Art.1.12).

5.3. Accommodation – Article 8.19

Accommodations for missions will be the best available, depending on possibilities at the disposal of organisers and based on categories of guests with reference to CISM Regulations Art.8.19.C. All Chiefs of Mission are considered as officers and shall be treated as such with equal courtesy, regardless of rank. In case a Host Nation allows alternative accommodation, this must be mentioned in the Invitation File, Missions that choose to stay in hotels at their own expense must inform the Local Organising Committee (LOC) in advance in the Preliminary Agreement and Final Agreement. The LOC will have no obligation to provide extra logistical, financial, or transportation support for these missions and the missions still have to fulfil all their mandatory tasks.

All missions, including those of the Host Nation, shall be accommodated under the same conditions. However, the Host Nation can provide the possibility to choose another accommodation at own expenses. When this possibility is mentioned in the Invitation File, Missions can choose not to accept the accommodations provided by the LOC and opt for alternative accommodation. They must inform the LOC via Preliminary Agreement and Final Agreement.



International Military Sports Council
3rd Rugby Sevens Military Challenge – 27/05-01/06 2026, Agen



5.4. Medical Expenses

Medical, hospitalisation and repatriation expenses are the responsibility of the delegations in connection with their National Military Representation. Delegations are strongly advised to have repatriation insurance for all participants.

SIGNATURE CHIEF OF MISSION

DATE :

RANK / SURNAME / NAME :

YOUR CONTACT	RANK / SURNAME / NAME :	
	PHONE :	
	MAIL :	

REGULATIONS

1. GENERAL RULES

A maximum of 7 players per team on the field of play at any time;
Rugby 7evens regulations allow five substitutes;
Up to five players may be substituted for tactical reasons during a match;
World Rugby regulations regarding injury replacements apply;
Matches consist of two halves of seven minutes each;
Teams are given a two-minute halftime break according to Rugby 7 regulations;
“Sudden Death” extra time is used if the match ends in a draw at full time of a Rugby 7 match. Normally, “Sudden Death” consists of two five-minute periods, with the game ending when the first points are scored;
All conversion attempts must be taken as Drop-Goal;
Conversions must be taken within 40 seconds of a try being scored, according to Rugby 7evens regulations;
Penalty kicks must be taken within 30 seconds;
After points are scored, the scoring team restarts play with a kick-off (instead of the conceding team);
A yellow card results in a two-minute temporary expulsion, during which the player must go to the sin-bin.

1.1. SCORING IN RUGBY SEVENS

Two points for a Conversion;
Three points for Penalties and Drop-Goals;
Five points for a Try.

1.2. FOULS IN RUGBY SEVENS

Penalty offences are the same as in Rugby Union.
However, in Rugby 7evens, most penalties are taken quickly as tap kicks rather than lineouts or scrums.
Fouls include any action the referee considers “contrary to the spirit of the game,” such as slowing down play or preventing a quick restart.

1.3. WINNING A RUGBY 7 MATCH

Winning conditions are identical to those of Rugby Union and Rugby 7evens: the team with the most points at full time wins.

1.4. TOURNAMENT POOL FORMAT

There are two groups, each consisting of four teams;
Points allocation: 3 points for a win, 2 points for a draw, 1 point for a loss;
A team receives 0 point if it does not appear;
The top two teams from each group qualify for the semi-finals for positions 1–4 (CUP).
The other two teams qualify for the semi-finals for positions 5–8 (PLATE).
In the event of a tie on points, head-to-head results are considered first, followed by points difference.

TRAVEL DATA

TRAVEL DATA

DEADLINE : 1st May 2026

Head of Local Organizing Committee (LOC) - Warrant Officer (OR-9) Elisio Dartoen Mobile: +33 06 03 21 42 02 / 05 53 48 96 47 E-mail: elisio.dartoen@intradef.gouv.fr mcr7.agen26@gmail.com E-mail: fra.cnsd.ri@gmail.com / fra@milsport.one	CISM HQ LCL Nicolas Ferré CISM Sports Director Mobile: +33 6 48 05 31 21 E-mail: cismsportsdepartment@milsport.one
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NATION :

MEANS OF TRANSPORT :

	LOCATION	DATE	Flight / N° Train	TIME
ARRIVAL				
DEPARTURE				

SIGNATURE CHIEF OF MISSION

DATE :

RANK / SURNAME / NAME :

YOUR CONTACT	RANK / SURNAME / NAME :	
	PHONE :	
	MAIL :	