

## **Beachcomber World Club 10's 2018: At Gros Cailloux, the battles promise to be harsh**

The show promises to be extremely exciting for the next edition of Beachcomber World Club 10's, a prestigious international rugby tournament which will be held from June 15 to 17, 2018, at Gros Cailloux. With the two last teams recently announced to join the tournament, namely Western Force and the Kobelco Steelers, Dan Carter's new team, everything is finally set.

The draw has been made for the pool phase of the tournament this Thursday, April 12, in the premises of the Ministry of Youth and Sports, in Port Louis. The fights for qualification are already expected to be very tough.

The participating teams are divided into two groups. Group A will oppose Western Force, Cell C Sharks, Vodacom Bulls and Africa Pacific Dragons, while Group B will see the French Pyrénées, Newcastle Falcons, Kobelco Steelers and Montpellier Hérault confront each other.

The Vodacom Bulls and Western Force, two previous winners of the World Club 10's, will be the teams to beat in Group A. The competition will however remain very open, with powerful and technical teams battling for the first place.

Group B will see a beautiful derby between the only two French teams of the tournament. However, the X Factor in this group will undoubtedly come from the Kobelco Steelers, a Japanese team whose first participation in the event will draw a lot of attention, as they have recently signed one of the greatest rugby players of the planet, All Blacks' superstar Dan Carter.

Following the draw, Jon Phelps, CEO of Carinat Sports, the organizer of the event, expressed his excitement to showcase once again world class rugby in Mauritius. "I am very proud to have been able to take up this challenge for the third time on the Mauritian soil, thanks to the support of my team and our partners. In June, we will welcome world-renowned teams, and I can tell you that there is nothing more exciting than being able to watch games of this calibre live", he said.

This year's Beachcomber World Club 10's will once again place Mauritius on the international rugby sphere. The Ministry of Youth and Sports has expressed its renewed support to this tournament and hopes that it will encourage Mauritians to discover this sport.

Increasingly popular in Mauritius, rugby already gathers hundreds of enthusiasts around the local teams that are under the leadership of the Rugby Union Mauritius (RUM). The Beachcomber World Club 10's will again give the opportunity to some of the best Mauritian players to compete with the world elite, within the collective of the Africa Pacific Dragons.

François Venin, Chief Sales and Marketing officer of Beachcomber, said that the hotel group is "pleased to be a main partner of this international Rugby event since its first year in Mauritius. This partnership seemed obvious to us, as our company completely shares the values of this sport. The Beachcomber World Club 10's will be held in June, a month during which tourists' arrival has always been at its lowest. It is also an opportunity for us to reiterate the excellent 'private-public' collaboration and to ensure that this unique event carries on."

This year, Gros Cailloux has been chosen as the new tournament site because of its strategic location, making it easily accessible to spectators and to Beachcomber Resorts & Hotels clients residing on different coasts of the island. The field will be the host of temporary stands that will provide with a unique proximity to the games and the live action.

Get ready for great rugby between the 15th and 17th of June 2018!

More information on the Beachcomber World Club 10's :

<https://youtu.be/P7mQ-0Zmq0s>

<http://www.beachcomber-events.com/rugby>

<https://www.facebook.com/worldclub10s>

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About Beachcomber

Beachcomber Resorts & Hotels is the pioneer and leader of the Mauritian tourism industry. Since the creation of Park Hotel in 1952, a collection of 9 resorts have emerged over the years, including the mythical Royal Palm Beachcomber Luxury Mauritius in 1985, considered by everyone as the reference in hospitality for luxury holidays in Mauritius.

The Group recently expanded its collection, with the integration of the Beachcomber French Riviera, situated on the Côte d'Azur, in France.

The collection of 9 resorts affords a choice of accommodation options ranging from rooms and apartments to suites and villas. Each hotel is imbued with a particular history and cachet, embodying an image of discrete luxury.

*Social responsibility – Fondation Espoir Développement (FED), by Beachcomber*

Set up and financed by Beachcomber since 1999, with the participation of hotels and employees, this foundation takes care of these main projects:

- *Projet Employabilité Jeunes (PEJ)*: professional insertion of school drop-outs through a training programme and industrial attachments.
- Collaboration with NGOs, schools and associations
- Regional projects – youth mentoring: the “Amour et Espoir” NGO; IT initiation; youth monitoring via the “Duke of Edinburgh International Award” programme, participation of regional sports clubs in the organisation of the Beachcomber UTRB Trail 2015

*Social responsibility – Local Hands*

Programme launched in 2006 to support small local artisans by providing them with training and guidance as they embark upon the process of creation, production, marketing and sales.

*Sustainable development – our environmental actions – EarthCheck label*

Sustainable development and environmental protection constitute real considerations within the Group, which has set up, amongst other initiatives, practices that ensure energy savings and favour renewable energy sources. These initiatives in favour of sustainable development have been recognised and rewarded, with two of our hotels recently obtaining the EarthCheck Benchmarked Bronze accreditation for their ongoing commitment to environmentally responsible practices.