



16. GONDER Rugby Youth Festival

On 1 and 2 May 2027, the 16th GONDER Rugby Youth Festival will take place at SC Frankfurt 1880.

Over two days, you can look forward to top-class youth rugby featuring an international line-up of players from the U8, U10, U12 and U14 age groups. We expect over 1,000 players to compete against one another in more than 200 matches, making this one of the largest youth rugby tournaments in Germany.

Timetable

Saturday, 1 May 2027

- 10.00 am: Briefing for team managers and coaches
- 11.00 am: Tournament kicks off
- 06.00 pm: End of the first day of play

Sunday, 2 May 2027

- 09.00 am: Start of matches
- 01.00 pm: Final matches
- 03.30 pm: Awards ceremony

Venue

- SC Frankfurt 1880 e.V., Feldgerichtstraße 29, 60320 Frankfurt am Main
(<https://maps.app.goo.gl/VLPUIhbQZXqWF2Zy8>)

Team sizes and age groups

- Matches will be played according to Rugby Deutschland's youth rules with the following team sizes:
 - U8: 6 players (born in 2019/2020) + 3 substitutes per match
 - U10: 8 players (born in 2017/2018) + 4 substitutes per match
 - U12: 10 players (born in 2015/2016) + 4 substitutes per match
 - U14: 13 players (born in 2013/2014) + 5 substitutes per match
- Classification into age groups follows the German system based on the calendar year. Due to differing cut-off dates in some countries, we allow international guest teams flexibility for players born between September and December of the previous year. For example, a player born in

GONDER Rugby Jugendfestival 2027

Sport-Club Frankfurt 1880 e.V., Feldgerichtstr. 29, 60320 Frankfurt am Main, Germany

2012 who turns 14 between 1 September and 31 December is eligible to play for the U14s at the Gonder Festival. For reasons of fairness, this flexibility applies, upon request, to all teams in age groups where clubs from countries with different cut-off dates are competing. However, a player may not switch between age groups during the tournament. Any queries regarding this matter must be clarified with the tournament organisers before the tournament begins.

- The number of substitutes per match is limited, but the number of players for the entire tournament is unlimited. For example, an U12 team may travel with 20 children, but may field a maximum of 14 of them in each match.

Costs and logistics

- The entry fee covers the costs of organisation and referees; meals and accommodation are not included:
 - U8 / U10: 120 EUR per Team
 - U12 / U14: 150 EUR per Team
- Meals for the teams (Saturday evening & Sunday lunchtime) can be ordered in advance. Further details will follow after registration.
- There will also be food and drinks stalls on site (BBQ, chips, cakes, fruit, etc.)
- Accommodation is not provided; each participating club is responsible for arranging this itself. We can help with recommendations for hotels and hostels if required.
- **Please note:** *On 1 May, the Eschborn-Frankfurt International Cycle Race will take place in Frankfurt. Some roads will be closed for this event, but S-Bahn and U-Bahn services will run as normal. Please bear this in mind when planning your journey. Furthermore, 1 May is a public holiday in Germany, which means supermarkets will be closed.*

Registration

Every year, we receive significantly more registrations than we can accommodate. At the same time, we aim to organise a challenging, international tournament with balanced teams. To provide all clubs with clear dates and transparency, we are introducing a multi-stage process for 2027:

- 1) **Non-binding registration:** If you are interested in taking part in the GONDER Rugby Youth Festival, please register by 31 October 2026 at <https://scf-jugendfestival.de/register>
- 2) **Confirmation:** By 15 November 2026, you will receive confirmation as to whether your teams have been allocated a place.
- 3) **Confirmed registration:** We require your confirmed registration, including payment of the entry fee, by 15 December 2026. After this deadline, any remaining places will be allocated to the next teams on the waiting list. We will inform potential teams on the waiting list after 15 December.