

# 2009 USA Rugby South All-Star Championships

## Collegiate Men and U23 Women

**November 14, 2009 (Knoxville, Tennessee)** – In a repeat of the 2008 competition, the MidSouth Union claimed the men’s collegiate championship while the North Carolina Union took home the U23 women’s title. Played in the Tennessee Rugby Park, a three field rugby facility in Knoxville, 12 teams kicked off the 2009 edition of the South championship under almost perfect weather conditions.

### Collegiate Men

The collegiate men’s competition was expanded to 8 teams in 2009 while still maintaining the traditional tiered competitive format. In 2008, of the six competing teams, 4 were in tier 1 while two competed in tier 2. Losers of the tier 1 semifinals subsequently met the tier 2 teams in promotion matches. In 2009, the top seeds were offered the opportunity to field a second team in the competition to provide a competition that is comparative to the USA Rugby Collegiate All-Star Championship. The MidSouth edged Florida and North Carolina got past Georgia to set up the Tier I final. Palmetto and the Deep South got wins in Tier 2 and advanced to the promotion match. In the Tier 2 (Bowl) final, the Palmetto Union used their considerable size and speed to upend Deep South and earn promotion to Tier 1. In the Tier 1 (Cup) final, the MidSouth fought off a very game North Carolina squad to retain the South collegiate men all-star championship.

### U23 Women

The U23 Women’s competition featured 4 teams, up one from 2008 when only 3 LAU’s fielded sides for the event. Playing the traditional semifinal / final format, the North Carolina Union outpaced the MidSouth and the Georgia Union got by Florida. Florida ran across three tries to defeat the MidSouth in the consolation match and North Carolina defeated Georgia in what was undoubtedly the most entertaining rugby match of the day. Featuring rosters full of very skilled players, North Carolina and Georgia squared off in a very evenly played match that saw North Carolina win the U23 Women’s Championship two tries to one.

<b>Men's Collegiate Cup</b>	<b>Men's Collegiate Bowl</b>	<b>Women's U23 Cup</b>
Men's Cup Semifinals MidSouth I 22 Florida 13	Men's Bowl Semifinal Palmetto 30 MidSouth II 8	Women's Cup Semifinal North Carolina 58 MidSouth 0
Men's Cup Semifinals North Carolina 14 Georgia I 11	Men's Bowl Semifinal Deep South 13 Georgia II 8	Women's Cup Semifinal Georgia 17 Florida 7
Men's Cup Consolation Florida 18 Georgia I 0	Men's Bowl Consolation Georgia II 17 MidSouth II 15	Women's Cup Consolation Florida 19 MidSouth 0
<b>Men's Cup Championship</b> MidSouth 23 North Carolina 8	<b>Men's Bowl Championship</b> Palmetto 66 Deep South 0	<b>Women's Cup Championship</b> North Carolina 12 Georgia 5