

## PRESS RELEASE



### **OAKWOOD BANGKOK INTERNATIONAL RUGBY TENS 2012 KICKS OFF IN FEBRUARY**

*40 local and international teams to compete in the annual social rugby tournament*

BANGKOK (January 2012) – The Oakwood Bangkok International Rugby Tens 2012 will kick off on February 18 at the Patana International School Sports Complex in Bangna, Bangkok featuring 32 teams in the Men's open competition and an additional eight in the Veterans competition. Participating overseas teams will come from Australia, Japan, India, New Zealand, Malaysia, Indonesia, the Philippines, South Africa, Singapore, Sri Lanka and United Arab Emirates, while Thailand will be represented by several teams including host club, The Old Bangkok Bangers.

Former All Black player Caleb Ralph from Rugby World Cup champion New Zealand has confirmed attendance, adding to the excitement for the event which started its run in Bangkok in 2006. Since then, the tournament has grown continuously through the support of the corporate community and the increasing popularity of the sport locally.

Oakwood Asia Pacific is co-presenting the event this year with all of its four serviced apartment properties in Bangkok -- Oakwood Residence Garden Towers Bangna, Oakwood Residence Sukhumvit 24, Oakwood Apartments Trilliant Sukhumvit 18 and Oakwood Residence Sukhumvit Thonglor -- as official accommodation providers.

Oakwood Asia Pacific's Vice President, Operations Peter Lucas says, "We are thrilled to begin 2012 by playing a major role in the Bangkok International Rugby Tens. Rugby is an excellent platform to promote self-confidence, fellowship and community spirit and more than this, the Bangkok International Rugby Tens will benefit the Nak Suu Tigers Rugby Academy (Bangkok) which runs a training program for underprivileged youth. The academy relies on the corporate and private sectors for support and we are happy to provide assistance to help them achieve their objectives of positively impacting the children's lives and encouraging them to be productive members of society."

The Nak Suu Tigers Rugby Academy is a joint venture between Ark International and X-treme Sports owned by Eddie Evans, member of the organizing committee of the Bangkok International Rugby Tens, together with Michael Laloli, Andrew McDowell and Robert Merrigan.

Evans says, "Our mission is to see children empowered with hope so that they can make positive changes in their lives and in their surrounding communities. Rugby instills strong values and life skills. Through quality coaching and support, we hope to lead them towards the right direction and give them a better future."

The tournament activities begin on February 17 with a Welcome Reception beginning 7 pm at Tenderloins on Sukhumvit Soi 33 for all participants. The teams are divided into the Youth event, Gentlemen's and the popular Veterans age group.

With qualifying rounds on February 18 (Saturday), the finals on February 19 (Sunday) will have competitions following the Cup, Plate, Bowl and Shield formats. The games will be kicked off by the Junior event on both days at 8 am. The Men's open competition and Veterans' commence at 12 noon through to 6 pm, concluded by the awarding ceremonies on the same day, February 19.

The event is open to the public for free. For more details, visit the website <http://www.bangkokrugby10s.net>.

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### Images



*l-r: Sopo Fakaua (representative, Nak Suu Tigers Rugby Academy charity beneficiary), Andrew McDowell (Chairman for Old Bangkok Bangers), Bangkok Tens organizing committee member Eddie Evans, Oakwood Asia Pacific's Vice President, Operations Peter Lucas and General Managers of Oakwood properties in Bangkok Rayner Simon, Trevor MacDonald and Bjorn Richardson.*



*Rugby Tournament Referees 2010*

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**For more information or images, please contact:**

Genny Puno  
*Manager, Marketing Communications*

**Oakwood Asia Pacific Ltd.  
A Division of Oakwood Worldwide**

200 Newton Road  
#04-01 Newton 200  
Singapore 307983

T (65) 6336 6900  
D (65) 6885 1045  
F (65) 6336 8300

[genny.puno@oakwoodasia.com](mailto:genny.puno@oakwoodasia.com)  
[www.oakwood.com](http://www.oakwood.com)

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Oakwood Asia Pacific manages some of Asia's finest serviced apartments for business and leisure travelers in China, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Philippines and Thailand. Additional properties are scheduled to open every year in strategic locations across Asia Pacific. Oakwood Asia Pacific operates Oakwood Premier, Oakwood Residence, Oakwood Apartments with Oakwood Premier Resorts and Oakwood Resorts coming soon.

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