

More than a Game: Building Community Through Rugby

Who We Are

The Calgary Canadian Irish Athletic Club (CCIAC), founded in 1971 in Calgary's northeast (<u>located here</u>), is more than just a rugby club. We field competitive teams for youth (U5 to U18), women, and men, and serve as a vibrant social hub for our members. At our core, we foster a deep sense of connection, community, and belonging.

Our vision is to bring together Calgary's diverse communities through the power of rugby. We believe in fostering passion, inclusion, and excellence—on and off the field. We're committed to creating a supportive and dynamic environment that encourages participation, builds confidence, and empowers individuals to make a lasting impact.

Why Are We Doing This?

Rugby truly is a sport for everyone. It welcomes all shapes, sizes, and skill levels, offering multiple formats, e.g., 15-a-side, 7-a-side, flag rugby, so that everyone can find their fit—and have fun doing it.

As one of the fastest-growing sports in the world—especially in the women's game—rugby is gaining momentum, and so is Canada. With the 2025 Women's Rugby World Cup on the horizon and Canada's national team currently ranked 2nd in the world, there's never been a better time to get more Calgarians into the game and onto the field.

Where We Offer Programs

We offer programs to any community who are within a 20-minutes' drive of:

- Genesis Centre
- Village Square Leisure Centre
- Bob Bahan Aquatic Centre

All CCIAC Community Programs Are FREE

To sign up for a CCIAC program click here
To learn more about CCIAC programs click here



What We Offer

Program	Description	Format	Best For
Community Rugby Series	A multi-week rugby program with fun, skills-based sessions and mini-games. Equipment and coaches provided.	6–10 weeks 1 session/week (Mon/Wed/Fri, afternoons or evenings)	Community groups seeking structured, low-barrier programming close to home
Summer Rugby Camp	High-energy week of rugby activities during the summer. Great for newcomers or returning players.	5 consecutive days (Mon–Fri), 1 session/day in July or August	Youth programs, day camps, or summer recreation offerings
Pop-Up Rugby Days	One-off events offering a taste of rugby through game-based stations and inclusive play. Equipment and coaches included.	Single-day event (flexible timing)	Festivals, block parties, or special event programming
Girls in Rugby: Empowerment Through Sport	A rugby program designed specifically for girls, blending play, skill-building, and leadership development in a supportive environment.	4–8 weeks	Girls in Rugby: Empowerment Through Sport
Rugby + Culture Celebration Days	Combine sport and cultural exchange with rugby games, food, music, and storytelling from participants' backgrounds. It can include parent/community involvement.	Single-day event	Rugby + Culture Celebration Days
Intro to Coaching & Leadership	A workshop introducing youth and adults to basic coaching, refereeing, and leadership roles in sport.	1–2 sessions Custom scheduling	Youth leaders, volunteers, or staff looking to build confidence and capacity
Custom Community Collaboration	Don't see what you need? Let's co-design a program that fits your space, schedule, and community goals.	Fully customizable	Any organization looking for flexible, high-impact programming



Position	Roles and Responsibilities	Time Commitment
CCIAC Rugby Development Officer	 Design and implement rugby programs Recruit and train coaches and volunteers Build community partnerships Assess program effectiveness Organize events 	10-15 hours/week for duration of the program, plus the planning stage
CCIAC Community Coach	 Plan and deliver training sessions Support participants Ensure participant safety Provide feedback Engage with the community 	5-10 hours/week for duration of program
City of Calgary Neighbourhood Partnership Coordinator	 Support governance practices (if CA has policy procedures tied to programming) Assist with financial planning (if there is any CA budget expenses) Support co-creation of programs with community residents (if available) Promote leadership/volunteer opportunities to community residents Facilitate community connections 	Up to 20 hours total time commitment per program
City of Calgary Social Worker	 Connect community residents with CCIAC program Support co-creation of programs with community residents (if available) Promote leadership/volunteer opportunities to community residents Provide support services Foster community building 	Up to 20 hours total time commitment per program
Community Association / Cultural or Resident Group	 Identify local interest and coordinate registration Promote programs within the community Provide program space (if available) or help to secure one Support volunteers or participant leadership Offer cultural/contextual input to shape delivery 	Up to 20 hours total time commitment per program