



## ***Major League Rugby's Atlanta Team to Relocate***

**DALLAS (August 2, 2023)** – Major League Rugby (MLR) today announced Atlanta's Rugby ATL has been acquired and will relocate. Details of the move are being finalized, and a formal announcement and introduction of the new ownership group are expected soon.

"Major League Rugby is forever grateful to rugby fans, sports enthusiasts, and partners in Atlanta for their unwavering support of Rugby ATL over the past four seasons," said Major League Rugby CEO Nic Benson. "We are proud of the impact made by our players and grassroots progress throughout the community. Atlanta will remain a promising market for any future ownership group as the league continues to expand."

After the passing of Rugby ATL chairman and majority owner Marcus Calloway in 2021, an investment group acquired control of the franchise on an interim basis. The move provided stability and kept Rugby ATL operational until a permanent ownership group was recently identified.

"First and foremost, we want to thank our amazing and dedicated fans – we would have never made it this far without them. Their commitment and that of our partners has been nothing short of incredible." said Amanda Windsor White, Rugby ATL President. "Atlanta is a dynamic market, and its passion for sports, along with its vibrant culture with a global influence, is undeniable, and we're grateful to have called it home for the past four years."

Rugby ATL joined MLR in 2020, after the league announced its expansion status in 2018. In 2021, Rugby ATL reached the MLR Championship Final, eventually losing 31-17.

MLR is currently working with players and staff to provide the best next steps for each individual impacted by this move.

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### **About Major League Rugby:**

Major League Rugby is a professional sports league representing the highest level of rugby competition in North America. The League consists of 13 rugby teams, with the newest expansion team, the Miami Sharks, entering in 2024. Matches are televised on Fox Sports, among other national and local market platforms. Select matches are available to stream live in North America on The Rugby Network, and all matches are available on The Rugby Network for international fans. MLR prides itself in fostering intense, high-stakes competition, while bringing together a passionate community built on the values of Respect, Inclusivity, and Tradition. For more information about MLR, visit [www.MajorLeague.Rugby](http://www.MajorLeague.Rugby).

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