



## **European Professional Club Rugby (EPCR) Joins the Olympic Capital**

**Lausanne, 8<sup>th</sup> February 2018 - On 1<sup>st</sup> July, The Olympic Capital will be expanding with European Professional Club Rugby (EPCR) relocating their headquarters to Lausanne.**

EPCR is the organiser of the European Rugby Champions Cup, the European Rugby Challenge Cup and the European Rugby Continental Shield. These competitions, featuring the top rugby clubs in Europe that have qualified from their national leagues, have seen remarkable growth in recent years. Last season's European Rugby Champions Cup and European Rugby Challenge Cup brought together more than 1,600 players from 31 countries alone. Moreover, these competitions have a truly global audience: last year they attracted more than 1.5 million spectators in stadiums and its finals were broadcast in 95 countries around the world.

Having been based in Neuchâtel since their establishment in 2014, EPCR will be moving to their new Headquarters in Lausanne's Boulevard de Grancy. Led by CEO Vincent Gaillard, their workforce of 20 people includes staff members from Argentina, France, Ireland, New Zealand, Portugal, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom.

Upon the announcement, Gaillard said: "We are proud that EPCR will join such an illustrious list of sporting organisations in Lausanne and across Canton Vaud, which is the latest step in our continued and exciting evolution. We are now looking forward to being part of a dynamic sporting community, which logistically provides us with a great base from which to create outstanding rugby experiences all over Europe."

Shortly before their official relocation date, EPCR will hold Pool Draws on 20<sup>th</sup> June for all of their 2018/19 tournaments in the Olympic Museum, alongside an inaugural press conference.

In moving to Lausanne, EPCR joins a community of 57 international sports organisations based in and around the Olympic Capital. This community includes the International Basketball Federation (FIBA), the Union of European Football Associations (UEFA), the International Volleyball Federation (FIVB) and, of course, the International Olympic Committee (IOC).

Reflecting on the news, Oscar Tosato, Municipal Councillor for Sport and Social Cohesion of the City of Lausanne, said: "We are delighted that EPCR have chosen the Olympic Capital as its headquarters, and we look forward to welcoming them into our growing international sport community. Lausanne is proud to be the home of international sport, and the arrival of the EPCR, which who are achieving great things in the world of rugby, is proof that our efforts to create an environment conducive to the development of sports organisations are effective."

Phillipe Leuba, State Councillor in charge of the Department of Economy, Innovation and Sport (DEIS) of the Canton of Vaud, added: "The international sports network of this Canton is unique in the world and is constantly growing. It is composed of sports federations, specialised commercial companies and world-class academic institutions. This growth creates more and more opportunities for collaboration. I am very confident that the EPCR will benefit and contribute greatly to this. It is a pleasure to welcome them to the Olympic Capital and we will do our utmost to support them throughout their development."

### **For more information regarding EPCR and the Olympic Capital, please contact:**

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