



SUNWOLVES BACK IN ACTION TO FACE TOUGH TEST IN SINGAPORE

Sunwolves look to tame last year's Super Rugby Finalists - the Lions at the Singapore National Stadium



SUNWOLVES Captain's Run: Players Takuma Asahara (far left), Ryohei Yamanaka (second left), Rahboni Warren-Vosayaco (centre) and Takuya Yamasawa (right) gearing up for Saturday's game

Photo credit: Singapore Sports Hub

More photos can be downloaded here: <https://bit.ly/2Fkjdx>

Singapore, 22 March 2019 – Singapore's adopted home team HITO-Communications SUNWOLVES will return to the National Stadium tomorrow to face last year's Super Rugby finalist – the LIONS. This will be the SUNWOLVES' second and final Super Rugby home match here in Singapore in the 2019 campaign. The team will be focused on executing a well thought out game plan to rattle and beat an unwavering South African side.

The SUNWOLVES arrived in Singapore on Wednesday off the back of a closely fought contest which ended with a victory by the Queensland Reds. They are looking forward to the staunch support from their fans in Singapore to uplift their fighting spirit. The team are optimistic to depart Singapore with a win and will take hope from their last encounter with the LIONS in 2018 where the Johannesburg side snatched a last-minute 40-38 victory.

Returning Head Coach Tony Brown, who is back from national duty with Japan, shared his thoughts on the game: "We've had a good weeks preparation. Teams worked hard, players have worked hard and now it's a matter of us just going out there and playing Sunwolves rugby and trying to put the Lions under massive pressure."

The SUNWOLVES and the LIONS teams had their individual Captains Run's at the National Stadium pitch earlier today to prepare for the upcoming match, and shared their excitement in playing tomorrow's match in front of an enthusiastic crowd.

SUNWOLVES stand in Captain Dan Pryor highlighted what the fans can look forward to tomorrow, "We play pretty exciting rugby. The fans really love it, they come up to us after the game. Thing is we just lost a couple of narrow ones so you can expect the same sort of excitement in the latter stages of the game that will shut the game up properly."

The LIONS will be heading to Singapore off the back of a hard-fought win against the Melbourne Rebels with them aiming to continue their solid start to the 2019 campaign. A win in Singapore will keep the team's driving momentum on track.

"We've learnt you cant just prepare for 80 minutes, you've got to prepare for more. A few weeks ago we played the Stormers in Cape Town and we lost that game in the 84th minute and I know for tomorrow we'll go right to the end. So it'll be a ding dong battle, I hope for the rugby and the spectators that we can make it that far," shared LIONS Coach Swys de Bruin.

The rugby fun will start on the stadium's concourse tomorrow at 16:30 (between gates 9 and 12) where there will be Free Rugby Team Games, Bench Rugby and Rugby Drills for the whole family to enjoy.

Match programme booklets and SUNWOLVES headbands will be sold along Gate 9, at \$4 and \$2 respectively, and at a discounted price of \$5 if both items are purchased together.

Tickets for the 2019 Super Rugby match starts from \$10 for tertiary students, \$29 for general admission for adults and \$15 for general admission for children, and can be purchased via the Sports Hub Tix website www.sportshubtix.sg, hotline +65 3158 7888, Sports Hub Tix Box Office at Singapore Indoor Stadium, The Star Performing Arts Centre Box Office, Scott's Square Concierge Desk, and all SingPost outlets.

For more information, please visit <https://www.sportshub.com.sg/SuperRugby>.

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ABOUT SUPER RUGBY

Super Rugby is the Southern Hemisphere's pre-eminent rugby tournament, featuring 15 teams from Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, Argentina and Japan.

Since the 2018 Super Rugby season, the 18-team competition reverts to a 15-team competition, consisting of three geographical conferences – the Australian conference, the New Zealand conference and the South African conference. Gone from the competition were the Force (Australia), Kings and Cheetahs (South Africa). The Jaguares remained in the now one South African Conference while the SUNWOLVES moved from one of the African conferences to the Australian conference, with four other Australian teams.

- Australian Conference: Brumbies, Rebels, Reds, Waratahs, Sunwolves
- New Zealand Conference: Blues, Chiefs, Crusaders, Highlanders, Hurricanes
- South African Conference: Bulls, Lions, Sharks, Stormers, Jaguares

ABOUT THE HITO-COMMUNICATIONS SUNWOLVES

The HITO-Communications SUNWOLVES made their debut in the 2016 Super Rugby season and is the first Asian team in Super Rugby. Co-based in both Japan and Singapore, SUNWOLVES will be playing a total of 16 matches – eight home and eight away games. Two matches will be played at the Singapore National Stadium on 16 February 2019, Saturday, against THE SHARKS, and on 23 March 2019, against the LIONS. The SUNWOLVES scored their first win in Singapore during their June 2018 game against BULLS.

APPENDIX

[SUNWOLVES Team List](#)

[LIONS Team List](#)

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