

than in the US. But the Americans mastered the art of feeding and relaxing the body, which is very crucial," Segawa told us in a brief chat two floors below the gym where noise was somewhat bearable.

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# Kampala meet to shape future of Rugby Africa

**Event:** 17th Annual General Meeting of Rugby Africa

**Date:** Friday 27, February

**Venue:** Kampala

BY FRED MWAMBU

**KAMPALA.** Uganda's growing influence on the continental rugby stage will be under the spotlight next week as Kampala hosts the 17th Annual General Meeting of Rugby Africa.

More than 30 national unions are expected to converge in Kampala on Friday, February 27, for what is being described as one of the most consequential assemblies in the organization's history. The AGM, the highest decision-making forum of African rugby, will see delegates vote on major constitutional reforms and elect two key members to the Executive Committee.

## Governance reforms

The meeting will propose and pass amendments to Rugby Africa's constitution that will define how decisions are made, how leaders are elected and how accountability is upheld across the 40 member unions.

Rugby Africa President Herbert Mensah noted the importance of the Kampala gathering, saying governance reform is central to the sport's next phase of growth on the continent.

"We are coming to Kampala with a clear objective, to modernise our structures and strengthen

the foundations of African rugby," Mensah said, adding that, "Governance sits at the heart of everything we do, and good governance is not optional; it is essential."

"These proposed reforms are about unity, integrity, gender inclusion and independent expertise, ensuring Rugby Africa is future-focused and ready for the next phase of growth. Africa must stand eye-to-eye with the world... The future of African rugby will be shaped by us, together."

Delegates will vote on reforms

aimed at strengthening governance systems, improving gender representation in leadership and aligning the organisation's structures with modern global standards. Elections will also be held for the position of Treasurer and for a seat on the Executive Committee.

Uganda Rugby Union President Godwin Kayangwe believes the event signals the country's growing stature in the sport.

"Hosting the 17th Rugby Africa AGM in Kampala marks a pivotal milestone in Uganda's rugby jour-

ney, showcasing our nation's growing stature on the continental stage," Kayangwe said.

"This event not only unites African rugby leaders to shape the sport's future but also accelerates our domestic development by fostering investment pathways, talent nurturing and infrastructure growth."

The delegates will then climax their visit by attending the much-hyped top clash between Heathens and Black Pirates at Kyadondo on Saturday 28th.



**Bearing brunt.** Delegates from across Africa are going to make decisions that affect players like these pictured here at the launch of the 2025 Rugby Africa Cup. PHOTO/ COURTESY