

DUBAI NOTES

- This will be the 10th edition of the Emirates Dubai 7s on the HSBC World Rugby Women's Series, and the first time an event has been played at the same venue in consecutive rounds.
- The Emirates Dubai 7s have historically been dominated by just two teams, Australia and New Zealand.
 - Australia are the only team competing at this event to have won a Cup final in Dubai, with four Cup titles from six finals played.
 - Australia holds the record for most tries in a single Women's Series event in Dubai, scoring 32 in 2014-15.
 - Australia and New Zealand have been the leading or joint leading try-scoring team at all nine previous Women's Sevens Series in Dubai.
- The record for most total tournament tries scored in Dubai is 198 in 2014-15.
 - There were 148 tries scored in total last weekend, at an average of 5.9 per game.
- Australia and New Zealand are the only teams in Series history to have won the first two events of a single season, with Australia going back-to-back in Dubai and São Paulo in 2015-16, and Dubai and Sydney on the 2018 Series.
 - New Zealand have also achieved this twice, winning the opening two rounds in Dubai and São Paulo in 2014-15, and Glendale and Dubai on the 2019 Series.
- Only two teams were able to overturn half-time deficits to win last weekend, with Russia defeating Fiji in the pool stages after trailing by two points at the break, and Great Britain overturning the same margin to defeat Brazil in the fifth-place play-off.
- Eight of the 10 teams competing in Dubai played at Tokyo 2020, with only Spain and Ireland absent from the recent Olympic Games.
- New Zealand's **Kayla McAlister** and **Michaela Blyde** share the Women's Series record for most tries in a single tournament in Dubai with 10 in 2013-14 and 2016-17 respectively.

Past champions in Dubai

SERIES	LOCATION	CUP WINNER	DEFEATED IN CUP FINAL
2022	Dubai	Australia	Fiji (22-7)
2020	Dubai	New Zealand	Canada (17-14)
2019	Dubai	New Zealand	Canada (26-14)
2018	Dubai	Australia	USA (34-0)
2016-17	Dubai	New Zealand	Australia (17-5)
2015-16	Dubai	Australia	Russia (31-12)
2014-15	Dubai	New Zealand	Australia (19-17)
2013-14	Dubai	Australia	New Zealand (35-27)
2012-13	Dubai	New Zealand	South Africa (41-0)

KEY TEAM STATS

- **Australia's** won their ninth Cup title, and fourth in Dubai last week. This is their most successful venue in Series history, and also the location of their Rugby World Cup Sevens 2009 title.
 - They have not won consecutive Cup titles since the 2018 Series when they lifted the trophy in Dubai and Sydney.
 - Australia were the top try-scoring team last week with 27, their most in Dubai since the 2018 Series when they finished joint-top try-scorers with 30.
 - Australia conceded just seven tries last week, the least of any team, and enjoyed the second-best tackle completion rate of 78 per cent.
 - Australia were the best team inside the opposition-22 last week, scoring in 27 of their 28 visits with a tournament-high completion rate of 96 per cent.
 - Australia were clinical with ball in hand, averaging the least turnovers per game (six), while making the most passes (39.4 per game).
 - They recorded three of the top four largest winning margins last week.
 - They require four more tries to become only the second team after New Zealand in Women's Series history score 1000.
 - Australia have held Spain scoreless in each of their past three meetings, not conceding a try against them since the pool stages in Dubai on the 2020 Series, and outscoring them 88-0 overall in this period.
 - Australia will be looking to end a four-game winless streak against Canada with a draw and three-straight losses on the 2020 Series.
 - They have not beaten Canada since the 2019 Series in Biarritz, in what is their longest stretch of matches without victory in this fixture.
 - Australia have never lost a Series match against Brazil, enjoying a run of 14-straight victories including a 38-5 win last week in the pool stages.
 - Australia are currently enjoying a 13-game Series winning streak against Russia dating back to Amsterdam in 2015. They have won all four previous meetings in Dubai by a combined score-line of 113-31.
 - Australia won their last meeting 35-7 in the fifth-place semi-final at Tokyo 2020.
- **Brazil** recorded their best result at a Series event last week, finishing sixth. They had never placed higher than eighth across their previous 30 events.
 - They scored 13 tries last week, their most in a single Series event surpassing their previous best effort of 12 tries in Dubai in 2013, Clermont-Ferrand in 2017 and Langford in 2018.

- They won two matches at a single event for the first time since Clermont-Ferrand in 2017.
- Two of their three losses last week were narrow, by five points or less.
- They made the most of their opportunities in the opposition-22, scoring 13 tries from 15 visits at a success-rate of 87 per cent. Their average success-rate on the 2020 Series was 78 per cent after Sydney.
- Brazil's only two Series victories against Russia have come across their past four meetings. They lost both matches on the 2020 Series, in Dubai and Hamilton, with their last win coming in Langford in 2018.
- Canada and Australia are two opponents in Pool A that Brazil are yet to record a Women's Series victory against.
 - They lost both games against Canada at Tokyo 2020, outscored 78-0 across their two meetings at Tokyo Stadium.
 - They were held scoreless in two of their three meetings against Canada on the 2020 Series, only crossing their try-line in Sydney.
 - The closest Brazil have come to victory against Canada was a 12-12 draw in Dubai on the 2013-14 Series.
 - Australia inflicted Brazil's heaviest defeat last weekend with a 33-point loss. Their other two losses were much narrower, by five points against France and by one point against Great Britain.
- Brazil ended a three-game losing streak against Spain last week with a 26-12 victory, their largest winning margin in the opening event of the 2020 Series.
 - They have never won consecutive Series matches against Spain, with their previous two victories coming in Dubai in 2014-15 and Sydney in 2016-17.
- **Canada** will look to bounce back from a disappointing performance at last week, finishing eighth, their lowest placing since Kitakyushu in 2018 (11th).
 - Their only victory last week came against Ireland, 21-17, despite being outscored 12-7 in the second-half.
 - They have lost their past three matches and will be looking avoid losing four-straight games for the first time in Series history.
 - Canada will look to keep possession for longer this weekend, after averaging only 27.2 passes per game last week, the second-least of any team.
 - Canada will look to improve their success-rate in the opposition-22, after converting just 11 of their 17 visits last week, the lowest percentage of any team (65).
 - They scored 11 tries last week, their fewest at a single Series event in their history and one less than their previous record of 12 in Dubai in 2013.
 - They averaged 20 tries per event on the 2020 Series.

- Canada were undefeated in all four matches against Australia on the 2020 Series with three wins and a draw.
 - However, when these two teams meet in the pool stages, Canada have won just one of their past seven matches with five losses and a draw since the beginning of 2015-16.
- Canada have won the past two, and 16 of the past 17 Series matches against Spain, with their only loss in this period coming in Glendale on the 2020 Series.
- All six of their Series matches against Russia since the start of the 2019 Series have been decided by a converted try or less.
- Canada have held Brazil scoreless in their past two, and four of their past five meetings across the Summer Olympics and 2020 Series. They have outscored them 186-10 in total in this period.
- **Fiji** won their first Women's Series medal last week, claiming silver in the Cup final.
 - They scored the third-most tries of any team with 16, their most in a single Series event since Kitakyushu on the 2019 Series.
 - They topped their pool for the first time at an event since Kitakyushu in 2018, and only the third time in Series history.
 - Fiji averaged the second-most turnovers per game with nine, and the third-most missed tackles per game with 6.2, but made the fourth-most linebreaks (3.2) and third-most offloads (5.4) per game.
 - Fiji enjoyed the third-highest success-rate in the opposition-22 last week, scoring in 88 per cent of their visits.
 - Fiji were the best team in front of goal last week, kicking 94 per cent of their conversion attempts.
 - They have played out the same score-line in each of their past two meetings against Ireland, with Fiji winning 28-12 on both occasions.
 - They are undefeated in five of their previous six meetings against Ireland in Dubai with four wins and a draw.
 - Fiji will play the Women's Eagles Sevens for the first time since 2020 in Sydney. A 19-14 victory that day ending a four-game losing streak in this fixture. They have not won consecutive games in this fixture since 2016-17.
 - All five of Fiji's Series victories against the USA have been seven points or less.
 - Fiji won their first Series meeting against Great Britain last week 28-5, in a replay of the Tokyo 2020 bronze medal match.
 - Fiji dominated the second-half outscoring Great Britain 14-0.
 - Fiji made less carries (28-16) and passes (36-20), but more visits to the opposition-22 (5-3), line-breaks (5-3) and offloads (4-3).

- **France** have won bronze in two of their past three Series events, Hamilton in 2020 and Dubai last week. This comes after earning just one medal across their first 36 tournaments, with silver in Kitakyushu in 2018.
 - They scored the second-most tries of any team with 22, the most in Dubai in their history, and four more than their 2020 Series average of 18 per event.
 - France conceded the second-fewest tries of any team last week with 11, despite averaging the fourth-most missed tackles per game with 6.2, and the third-lowest tackle completion rate with 67 per cent.
 - They were the second-best team last week at regaining possession from their restarts with 22 per cent retained.
 - They won their bronze final 40-0 against Russia, their biggest Series winning margin against any opponent in Dubai.
 - France will meet Great Britain on the Women's Series for the first time.
 - This will be a replay of the Tokyo 2020 semi-final, won 26-19 by France.
 - France have never lost a Series match against Ireland, winning all 15 previous meetings, including all three on the 2020 Series by an average margin of 25 points.
 - France have won just one of their past eight Series matches against the Women's Eagles Sevens since the start of the 2019 Series.
 - Despite outscoring USA 12-5 in the second-half last week, they could not overturn a 12-point half-time deficit and lost 24-19.
 - France are currently enjoying a six-game winning streak against Fiji across the Women's Series and Summer Olympic Games.
 - They won their last meeting 12-5 at Tokyo Stadium, in the opening match of the Games. This is their first meeting on the Women's Series since Biarritz in 2019.
- **Great Britain** were one of the best defensive teams last week, conceding the third fewest tries (12) and averaging the least missed tackles (2.4) per game, resulting in the best tackle completion rate (84 per cent) of any team.
 - They were one of two teams last week to come back from a half-time deficit to win. After trailing Brazil 7-5 at the break, they outscored them 17-14 in the second-half to win by just one point.
 - They were one of the best teams with ball in hand last week, averaging the second fewest turnovers per game (6.6).
 - They were the best teams last week at retaining possession from the kick-off, winning 25 per cent of their restarts made.
 - France are their only opposition in Pool B that Great Britain have never recorded an Olympic or Series victory against, losing their only previous meeting in the semi-finals at Tokyo 2020 (26-19).

- Great Britain suffered their heaviest defeat of 2021 last week against Fiji, with a 23-point loss their largest across Tokyo 2020, the Fast Four and Women's Series matches combined this calendar year.
- Great Britain were able to defeat Ireland last week 26-15 despite having very little time in possession. They made less passes (35-21), carries (27-16), and more tackles (14-7) than Ireland, but scored four tries from five visits to the opposition-22.
- They will play USA for the first time since the quarter-finals at Tokyo 2020, winning 21-12 courtesy of a brace of tries to Jasmine Joyce.
- **Ireland** won just one of their five matches last week, defeating Spain 31-14 in the ninth-place play-off.
 - This victory ended a 12-game losing streak in Dubai, and was their largest winning margin in any Series match since Cape Town last season.
 - They will be chasing consecutive Series victories for the first time since Sydney in 2019, with their past eight wins prior to last week recorded alternately across 43 matches played.
 - They were slow starters on day one last week, scoring 77 per cent of their total points across their first three games in the second-half.
 - All three of their half-time deficits were by nine points or more.
 - On day two, however, 31 of their 36 points scored (86 per cent) were scored in the first-half, including 26 against Spain, the most of any team in the opening seven minutes of a match last week.
 - They will be looking to improve their efficiency in the opposition-22, scoring in just 78 per cent of their visits last week, the second lowest of any team.
 - After winning all six meetings against Fiji across the 2018 and 2019 Series, Ireland have lost their past two, both by exactly 16 points.
 - Their only victory from six previous meetings in Dubai came on the 2018 Series, 20-12 in the pool stages.
 - France and Great Britain are the only two Pool B opponents Ireland have never tasted victory against in the Women's Series, losing all 15 previous games, including the past three by 20 or more points, against France and their only previous match against Great Britain 26-15 last week.
 - Ireland will be looking to end a five-game losing streak against USA dating back to Kitakyushu in 2018. Both losses on the 2020 Series were by exactly 38 points.
- **Russia** finished fourth last week, their best result in the opening event of a season since winning bronze in Dubai on the 2018 Series.
 - Russia scored 11 tries last week, the joint-second fewest of any team, but still won three of their four pool games.

- Their defence was critical to much of their success last week, averaging a tournament-high 16 tackles per game, and conceding the fourth fewest tries (14) of any team.
 - Their tackle completion was the third best of any team at 77 per cent.
 - Four of their five matches were decided by single figure margins, except for the bronze final where a 40-point loss to France was their fourth-largest in Series history.
 - Nearly half of their total tries conceded last week came in the bronze final, with France crossing six times against them.
- Russia won both matches on the 2020 Series against Brazil, with a 22-7 victory in Dubai, and 24-14 win in Hamilton.
 - They have outscored Brazil 63-7 overall in Dubai across their previous two matches at The Sevens.
- Russia ended a three-game losing streak against Canada last week with a 17-10 victory.
 - They have not won back-to-back games against Canada since winning three in a row between the 2012-13 and 2013-14 Series.
- Russia's 13-game losing run against Pool A opponents Australia is their longest active streak against any opponent at this event.
 - Only against New Zealand are they still currently enduring a longer winless run, with 17 losses and one draw dating back to Dubai in 2015.
- **Spain** were the only team last week not to record a single victory, losing all five matches by an average margin of 20 points.
 - They have lost their past six Series matches dating back to Sydney in 2020, their longest losing run in Series history.
 - They will look to improve their defence this week, after conceding a tournament-high 23 tries, averaging the most missed tackles of any team (6.6 per game), and the second-lowest tackle efficiency (66 per cent).
 - Spain will look to improve their effectiveness with ball in hand after averaging the most turnovers (11) of any team per game, while averaging the least passes (18.4).
 - Spain were the least disciplined team last week, conceding an average of 5.4 penalties per game. However they were one of six teams not to receive a yellow card.
 - Spain will look to start strongly after being scoreless in the opening half of three of their five games last week. They were only able to score first-half tries against Brazil and Ireland.

- They have been held scoreless in each of their past three matches against Australia. They have not scored a try against last week's Cup winners since the pool rounds in Dubai on the 2020 Series.
 - They have not beaten Australia since the Cup quarter-finals in Biarritz in 2019, six games ago.
- Spain won their last match against Russia 24-19 in the fifth-place semi-final in Glendale on the 2020 Series. They have not recorded consecutive victories in this fixture since 2013-14 in São Paulo and Guangzhou.
- Two of Spain's three all-time Series losses against Brazil have come in Dubai, 19-14 in 2014-15, and 26-12 last week.
- **USA** were seventh overall last week, and have now finished outside the top five at the past two Series events after an eighth-place in Sydney.
 - The last time they finished outside the top five in consecutive Women's Series events was Sydney and Kitakyushu in 2018.
 - USA received a tournament-high three yellow cards last week, but only averaged 3.4 penalties per game, the fifth-least of any team.
 - USA conceded 15 tries last week, their most in a Series event since Sydney in 2019, 10 tournaments ago.
 - USA will look to start strongly after suffering a 40-point loss to Australia in their opening game last week, their second-largest defeat in their history.
 - USA enjoyed plenty of time with ball in hand last week, averaging the third-most passes per game (33.6).
 - USA will look to improve their accuracy in front of goal, kicking just 31 per cent of their conversion attempts last week, the least of any team.
 - USA were the best team at retaining possession from the restart on the 2020 Series averaging 31 per cent. Last week, however, they manage to secure possession from just 12.5 per cent of their restarts.
 - USA and Fiji only met once on the 2020 Series, with a 19-14 loss by the Women's Eagles Sevens in Sydney. They have not suffered back-to-back defeats against Fiji since 2016-17 in Kitakyushu and Clermont-Ferrand.
 - USA are on a five-match winning streak against Ireland dating back to Kitakyushu in 2018. Both victories on the 2020 Series were by exactly 38 points, outscoring Ireland 83-7 overall.
 - USA have won the past two, and four of their five Women's Series matches against France in Dubai. Their past three meetings have been close contests, decided by a margin of five points or less.
 - This will be their first Series meeting against Great Britain. They lost their Tokyo 2020 quarter-final 21-12 earlier this year.

KEY PLAYER STATS

- **Charlotte Caslick** was named HSBC Player of the Final and DHL Impact Player last week, only the second time this award has been conferred on the same player at the same event. Stacey Fluhler is the only other player to have won both at the same Women's Series event, also in Dubai last season.
 - Caslick was one of four players tied as top try-scorer last week with five.
 - She made the most line-breaks (six), most offloads (eight), joint-most tackles (14) and second-most carries (23) of any player.
- **Sharni Williams** was the top point-scorer last week with 34, the first time she has achieved this honour at an event in her career.
 - In her 37th HSBC World Rugby Women's Sevens Series appearance, she moves to joint-fourth all-time, just one event behind the record holders Sarah Hirini, Kayla Moleschi and Bianca Farella.
 - She has never missed a Women's Series event in Dubai, the only player to have appeared at all nine previous tournaments here.
- **Jasmine Joyce** was Great Britain's leading try-scorer last week with four.
 - There are only three matches from 20 played for Great Britain this year where she has not scored, crossing for a total of 27 tries across the Summer Olympics, Fast Four and Emirates Dubai 7s combined.
 - She has scored at least one try in all five games against USA in 2021 with 13 tries in total, including a hat-trick in both Vancouver and Edmonton.
- Fiji's **Ana Maria Naimasi** requires three more tries to become only the second Fijian woman to score 50 on the Series after Asinate Savu (60).
- **S  raphine Okemba** was France's leading try-scorer last week with five.
 - She is currently enjoying a five-game try-scoring streak, and will be looking to score in six consecutive games for the first time.
- France's **Chlo   Pelle** requires one more try to become only the fourth French player to score 50 tries on the Women's Series.
- Ireland's **Amee-Leigh Murphy Crowe** was the tournament's joint-top try-scorer last week with five.
 - She has scored nine tries in her past five games against Pool B opponents Fiji, including two hat-tricks.
- **Alena Tiron** requires four more tries to become just the second Russian to score 100 on the Series after team-mate Baizat Khamidova.
- USA's **Alev Kelter** requires six more tries to become the first Women's Eagles Sevens player to score 100 on the Series.
- USA's **Ilona Maher** was their best on attack last week with a team-high 17 carries, three line-breaks, and four tries. She has only scored more than four tries in a single tournament once, crossing seven times in Glendale on the 2019 Series.