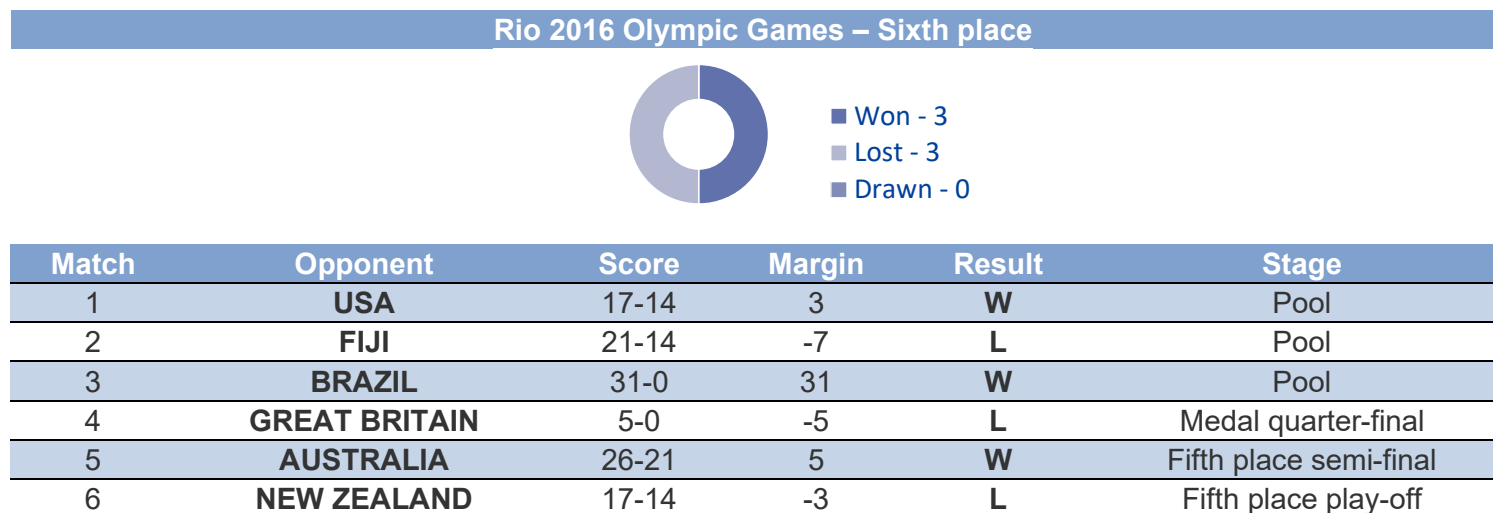


OLYMPIC GAMES TOKYO 2020: MEN'S TEAM NOTES

(As of 22 July)



- **Argentina** progressed to the medal quarter-final at Rio 2016, a match they lost in extra-time to the eventual silver medallists Great Britain.
- All three losses at Rio 2016 were by narrow margins of seven points or less, against Fiji, Great Britain and New Zealand.



- **Rugby World Cup Sevens** – Tournaments 7; Played 40, Won 26, Lost 14, Drawn 0 (65% win rate)
 - Their best finish was in 2009, when they won the silver medal following a 19-12 loss against Wales in the final.
- **World Rugby Sevens Series** – Events 179; Cup finals 13, Cup finals won 2 (56% win rate in 980 Series games)
 - Argentina have won two World Series events, both in the USA in 2004 and again in 2009.
 - Their best season was a third-place finish in the 2003-04 Series.
- **World Series record in Japan** – Events 5; Played 29, Won 11, Lost 15, Drawn 3 (38% win rate)
 - Their last international tournament in Japan was in Tokyo on the 2014-15 Series, where Argentina lost the Shield final 12-7 against Portugal.
 - They achieved their highest Series finish in Tokyo with seventh on the 2011-12 Series.
- They enter the Olympics having won just one of their last five World Series games (L4, D1).

- **Australia** ranked third in Pool B at the Rio 2016 Olympic Games, despite finishing on the same competition points as South Africa and France (7). Each side shared two wins; however, Australia's point's difference (+4) was the lowest of the three sides.
 - After defeating South Africa in the last round of pool matches (12-5), the sides met again in the medal quarter-finals. The Blitzboks proved too strong for Australia, handing them their joint-largest loss of the tournament (22-5).

Rio 2016 Olympic Games – Eighth place



Match	Opponent	Score	Margin	Result	Stage
1	FRANCE	31-14	-17	L	Pool
2	SPAIN	26-12	14	W	Pool
3	SOUTH AFRICA	12-5	7	W	Pool
4	SOUTH AFRICA	22-5	-17	L	Medal quarter-final
5	ARGENTINA	26-21	-5	L	Fifth place semi-final
6	FRANCE	12-10	-2	L	Seventh place play-off

- **Rugby World Cup Sevens** – Tournaments 7; Played 44, Won 29, Lost 13, Drawn 2 (66% win rate)
 - They have medalled in three of their seven Rugby World Cup appearances, two silver medal finishes in 1993 (Edinburgh) and 2001 (Mar del Plata), and a bronze medal in 2005 (Hong Kong).
- **Commonwealth Games** – Tournaments 5; Played 29, Won 20, Lost 9, Drawn 0 (69% win rate)
 - They have medalled in two of their five appearances at the Commonwealth Games, a silver medal at Delhi 2010 and a bronze medal at Glasgow 2014.
- **World Rugby Sevens Series** – Events 182; Cup finals 23, Cup finals won 7 (62% win rate in 1,002 Series games)
 - They have been the bridesmaid in their last three Cup finals. Their most recent loss was against New Zealand in Vancouver – the final event of the 2020 Series. The other two losses were against Fiji in 2018 (Singapore) and 2019 (London).
 - Their last event win was on home soil at the 2018 Sydney Sevens. They recorded their biggest ever win (29 points) in a Cup final (29-0) in their defeat of South Africa.

- **World Series record in Japan** – Events 6; Played 35, Won 25, Lost 10, Drawn 0 (71% win rate)
- Australia have lost all eight matches played against New Zealand in Olympic preparation tournaments. They lost all six matches in the Trans-Tasman Sevens held in Auckland in May, three of them by seven points or less. They then suffered two defeats against both Fiji and New Zealand in the Oceania Sevens in Townsville in June, their only win coming against an Oceania selection.
- They enter the Olympics with a fourth and second-place finish in their last two World Series events in Los Angeles and Vancouver.
- **Tim Walsh** was appointed head coach of the Australia women's sevens team in 2013, and qualified them for Rio 2016 and won the 2015-16 Series title. They went on to win the Olympic gold medal, defeating New Zealand 24–17 in the decider.
 - He became the interim coach of the Australia men's team in 2015 for their regional Olympic qualifier. After missing out on the inaugural women's Commonwealth Games gold medal to an extra-time try by New Zealand in April 2018, Walsh took over as men's head coach.

- **Canada** failed to qualify for the Rio 2016 Olympic Games, following a 14-12 loss against Russia in the quarter-final of the World Rugby Sevens Repechage in Monaco.
 - The side secured qualification for Tokyo 2020 by winning the 2019 RAN (Rugby Americas North) Sevens, where they defeated Jamaica 40-5 in the final.
- **Rugby World Cup Sevens** – Tournaments 7; Played 40, Won 17, Lost 23, Drawn 0 (43% win rate)
 - Had their best finish at Rugby World Cup Sevens 2001 in Mar del Plata, where they finished second in their pool ahead of France. They went on to lose the quarter-final against Fiji 21-5 to finish equal fifth.
- **Commonwealth Games** – Tournaments 6; Played 29, Won 15, Lost 13, Drawn 1 (52% win rate)
 - They have played at every Commonwealth Games since rugby sevens made its debut in Kuala Lumpur in 1998. Their best finish of fifth was achieved in Kuala Lumpur and Melbourne in 2006.
- **World Rugby Sevens Series** – Events 168; Cup finals 2, Cup finals won 1 (44% win rate in 914 Series games)
 - Their first and only World Series Cup title to date came during the 2016-17 season in Singapore, defeating USA 26-19.
- **World Series record in Japan** – Events 5; Played 27, Won 11, Lost 15, Drawn 1
 - Canada picked up fourth place in their last event in Japan in 2015, losing the Cup semi-final to England 14-5.

- **Fiji** captured Olympic gold at Rio 2016, the country's first Olympic medal of any colour. They have now won the three major honours in sevens, having also won multiple World Rugby Sevens Series titles and Rugby World Cup Sevens twice.
- Went undefeated at the Oceania Sevens, a warm-up tournament for Tokyo featuring Fiji, New Zealand, Australia and the Oceania Barbarians.

Rio 2016 Olympic Games – Gold medallist



Match	Opponent	Score	Margin	Result	Stage
1	BRAZIL	40-12	28	W	Pool
2	ARGENTINA	21-14	7	W	Pool
3	USA	24-19	5	W	Pool
4	NEW ZEALAND	12-7	5	W	Medal quarter-final
5	JAPAN	20-5	15	W	Medal semi-final
6	GREAT BRITAIN	43-7	36	W	Gold medal match

- **Rugby World Cup Sevens** – Tournaments 7; Played 45, Won 37, Lost 8, Drawn 0 (82% win rate)
 - Fiji have won Rugby World Cup Sevens on two occasions – both in Hong Kong in 1997 and 2005.
- **Commonwealth Games** – Tournaments 4; Played 24, Won 19, Lost 5, Drawn 0 (79% win rate)
 - They have medalled on all four appearances, capturing three silver medals (1998, 2002 and 2018) and a bronze (2006).
- **World Rugby Sevens Series** – Events 182; Cup finals 77, Cup finals won 42 (77% win rate in 1,041 Series games)
 - Fiji have won the World Rugby Sevens Series four times, first in 2005-06, and most recently in 2019. Fiji are one of two teams (along with New Zealand) to finish in the top four of the World Series in every season since its inception in 1999-2000.
 - Have won 12 of their past 14 Cup finals dating back to the World Rugby Sevens Series 2016-17 in Hong Kong.
- **World Series record in Japan** – Events 6; Cup finals 2, Cup finals won 2 (Played 34; Won 27, Lost 6, Drawn 1)
 - Fiji have won two of the six World Series events in Japan. In their first win, Fiji defeated New Zealand 27-22 to claim gold in the 1999-2000 Series in Tokyo. Over two decades later, Fiji went on to defeat South Africa 33-26 in 2014 and boast a 100% win-rate in Cup finals in Japan.

- **Great Britain** will be hoping to go one better after coming away with silver at Rio 2016. Four of their five wins were tightly contested, won by a margin of five points or less.
 - The silver medallists at Rio 2016 have been drawn in Pool B alongside two other top-four finishers in gold medallists Fiji and fourth-place Japan.
 - Great Britain qualified for Tokyo 2020 through the European regional qualifier competing as England, the nominated team to qualify Team GB. England defeated hosts France 31-7 in the final in Colomiers.
 - The Olympic Games are the only time that Great Britain compete as England, Scotland and Wales all compete as individual nations on the World Rugby Sevens Series, Commonwealth Games and at Rugby World Cup Sevens.

Rio 2016 Olympic Games – Silver medallists



Match	Opponent	Score	Margin	Result	Stage
1	KENYA	31-7	24	W	Pool
2	JAPAN	21-19	2	W	Pool
3	NEW ZEALAND	21-19	2	W	Pool
4	ARGENTINA	5-0	5	W	Medal quarter-final
5	SOUTH AFRICA	7-5	2	W	Medal semi-final
6	FIJI	43-7	-36	L	Gold medal match

- **Ireland** secured their spot at Tokyo 2020 by winning the World Rugby Sevens Repechage in Monaco last month.
 - They defeated France 28-19 in the Qualifier Final to claim the 12th and final men's ticket to Tokyo 2020.
 - The dynamite duo of Jordan Conroy and Terry Kennedy combined for 20 tries in Monaco, including three of the four tries scored in the winner-takes-all match against France.
 - **Rugby World Cup Sevens** – Tournaments 6; Played 39, Won 18, Lost 20, Drawn 1 (46% win rate)
 - Ireland won the bronze medal at the first Rugby World Cup Sevens in Edinburgh in 1993. They picked up a ninth-place finish at San Francisco 2018, their best finish since their bronze in the inaugural tournament.
 - **World Rugby Sevens Series** – Events 17 (41% win rate in 90 games played)
 - Ireland finished 10th in the pandemic-shortened 2020 season. The team collected 28 points over the six events with two sixth-place finishes.
 - Their best World Series finish was in 2018 in London, where – as the invitational team – they defeated the hosts England in the bronze final.
 - Ireland have impressed since after qualifying for the World Series as a core team in April 2019.
 - They scored 86 tries across the six World Series events in 2020 – ninth most overall – with 30 of those tries scored by Jordan Conroy, the overall Series' leading try-scorer.

- **Japan** finished second in their pool at Rio 2016 with noteworthy wins over New Zealand and Kenya.
 - Their impressive pool play carried over to the medal quarter-final, where they defeated France 12-7; an impressive win for Japan whose win percentage against France in the World Series is a modest 28% (Played 32; Won 9, Lost 23).
 - The team has been training since 25 June in Fuchu, Tokyo and Hokkaido in preparation for the Games.

Rio 2016 Olympic Games – Fourth place



Match	Opponent	Score	Margin	Result	Stage
1	NEW ZEALAND	14-12	2	W	Pool
2	GREAT BRITAIN	21-19	-2	L	Pool
3	KENYA	31-7	24	W	Pool
4	FRANCE	12-7	5	W	Medal quarter-final
5	FIJI	20-5	-15	L	Medal semi-final
6	SOUTH AFRICA	54-14	-40	L	Bronze medal match

- **Rugby World Cup Sevens** – Tournaments 7; Played 40, Won 16, Lost 23, Drawn 1 (40% win rate)
 - They have achieved their best finish of 13th three times – 1993 (Edinburgh), 2001 (Mar del Plata) and 2005 (Hong Kong).
- **World Rugby Sevens Series** – Events 94 (24% win rate in 467 Series games)
 - Although not a core team, Japan were invited to five of the six events on the 2020 Series. They managed just one win in 21 games – defeating Wales in Cape Town (19-15) – along with three draws and 17 losses. Japan will be a core team on the 2021 Series after winning the World Rugby Sevens Challenger Series 2020.
- **World Series record in Japan** – Events 6; Played 32, Won 10, Lost 19, Drawn 3 (31% win rate)
 - Their fifth-place finish in Tokyo on the 1999-2000 Series stands as their highest placement in a tournament.
 - They have lost their last three World Series games on home soil, with their last home win against Samoa (26-12) in 2015.

- **Kenya** secured qualification for Tokyo 2020 via the Rugby Africa Men's Sevens tournament, where they defeated Uganda 29-0 in the final.
- Kenya had one of the more challenging pools at Rio 2016, lining up against New Zealand, Great Britain and Japan.

Rio 2016 Olympic Games – 11th place



Match	Opponent	Score	Margin	Result	Stage
1	GREAT BRITAIN	31-7	-24	L	Pool
2	NEW ZEALAND	28-5	-23	L	Pool
3	JAPAN	31-7	-24	L	Pool
4	SPAIN	14-12	-2	L	Ninth place semi-final
5	BRAZIL	24-0	24	W	11th place play-off

- **Rugby World Cup Sevens** – Tournaments 5; Played 30, Won 12, Lost 18, Drawn 0 (40% win rate)
 - After failing to qualify for the first two tournaments, Edinburgh (1993) and Hong Kong (1997), Kenya have competed in all five tournaments since (2001-18).
 - They achieved their highest finish at RWC Sevens 2009 in Dubai, losing their Cup semi-final against Argentina to finish joint third.
- **World Rugby Sevens Series** – Events 152; Cup finals 5, Cup finals won 1 (42% win rate in 831 World Series games)
 - Kenya have competed in the World Series every year since its inception in 1999-2000.
 - Their highest finish is fifth, achieved in the 2012-13 season.
 - They won their first and only title in Singapore in 2017, defeating Fiji 30-7 in the Cup final.
 - They have made five Cup final appearances, with their most recent being in Hong Kong in 2018. They fell short of the gold medal in a 24-12 loss against Fiji.
- **World Series record in Japan** – Events 4; Played 21, Won 6, Lost 15, Drawn 0 (29% win rate)
 - In 2014, they made the Cup quarter-finals for the first time, but losses against Fiji and Australia would see them finish seventh.

Republic of Korea secured qualification for Tokyo 2020 by winning the 2019 Asia Rugby Olympic qualifying tournament on home soil in Incheon. They topped their pool and went on to defeat Hong Kong 12-7 in the final courtesy of a sudden-death try in extra-time.

- **Rugby World Cup Sevens** – Tournaments 4; Played 23, Won 7, Lost 14, Drawn 2 (30% win rate)
 - They successfully qualified for the first four Rugby World Cup Sevens from 1993-2005.
 - Their best finish was in 1997 in Hong Kong, where they progressed to the Cup quarter-finals. Their tournament came to an end following a 56-0 loss to eventual winners Fiji.
 - Korea have failed to qualify for the last three tournaments.
- **World Rugby Sevens Series** – Events 26 (29% win rate in 128 games played)
 - Their highest World Series finish came in Shanghai during the 2000-01 season, where they topped their pool and went on to defeat Argentina 26-7 in the Cup quarter-final. Their 40-10 loss in the Cup semi-final against South Africa placed them equal third with New Zealand.
 - In 2020, the Koreans played their first Series event since 2004, as the invitational team in Los Angeles.
- **World Series record in Japan** – Events 2; Played 11; Won 6, Lost 5, Drawn 0 (55% win rate)
 - Their last World Series event in Japan was during the 2000-01 season in Tokyo. The side progressed to the Bowl semi-final, where they lost to Argentina 17-12.
 - In their first World Series event in Japan, they met Samoa in the Bowl final; a match they narrowly lost 19-12.

- **New Zealand** stumbled out of the blocks at Rio 2016 with a shock 14-12 loss against Japan. They recovered with a 28-5 win over Kenya, but a loss against Great Britain in their final pool match would see them meet a resilient Fiji in the medal quarter-final.

Rio 2016 Olympic Games – Fifth place



Match	Opponent	Score	Margin	Result	Stage
1	JAPAN	14-12	-2	L	Pool
2	KENYA	28-5	23	W	Pool
3	GREAT BRITAIN	21-19	-2	L	Pool
4	FIJI	12-7	-5	L	Medal quarter-final
5	FRANCE	24-19	5	W	Fifth place semi-final
6	ARGENTINA	17-14	3	W	Fifth place play-off

- **Rugby World Cup Sevens** – Tournaments 7; Played 42, Won 37, Lost 5, Drawn 0 (88% win rate)
 - New Zealand's three gold medals are the most of any side in Rugby World Cup Sevens history. They have won the last two tournaments in Moscow (2013) and San Francisco (2018), along with Mar del Plata (Argentina) in 2001.
- **World Rugby Sevens Series** – Events 182; Cup finals 98, Cup finals won 61 (82% win rate in 1,051 Series games)
 - New Zealand won three of the six events in the pandemic-shortened 2020 Series in Cape Town, Hamilton and Vancouver.
 - The remaining four rounds of the 2020 Series were cancelled, which meant New Zealand were awarded the title by 11 points over second-place South Africa. They led the World Series in tries with 136.
 - They have won 13 World Series titles – the most in World Rugby Sevens Series history. They won eight of the first nine seasons from 1999-2008 but the 2020 Series crown was their first since 2013-14.
- **World Series record in Japan** – Events 6; Cup finals 3, Cup finals won 1 (81% win rate in Series games in Japan)
 - New Zealand have reached the Cup final three times in Japan, emerging victorious on one occasion. A victory over Australia saw them take gold in 2001, but losses against Canada in 2000 and France in 2013 resulted in silver.

- **South Africa** took home bronze from Rio 2016 and return to the Olympic Games as strong medal contenders.
- On entry to Japan, the team were forced into quarantine following a positive COVID test from a nearby passenger on their flight to Tokyo. They were subsequently cleared but coach Neil Powell has since tested positive and will be in isolation for the tournament with assistant coach Renfred Dazel overseeing on-field operations.

Rio 2016 Olympic Games – Bronze medallist

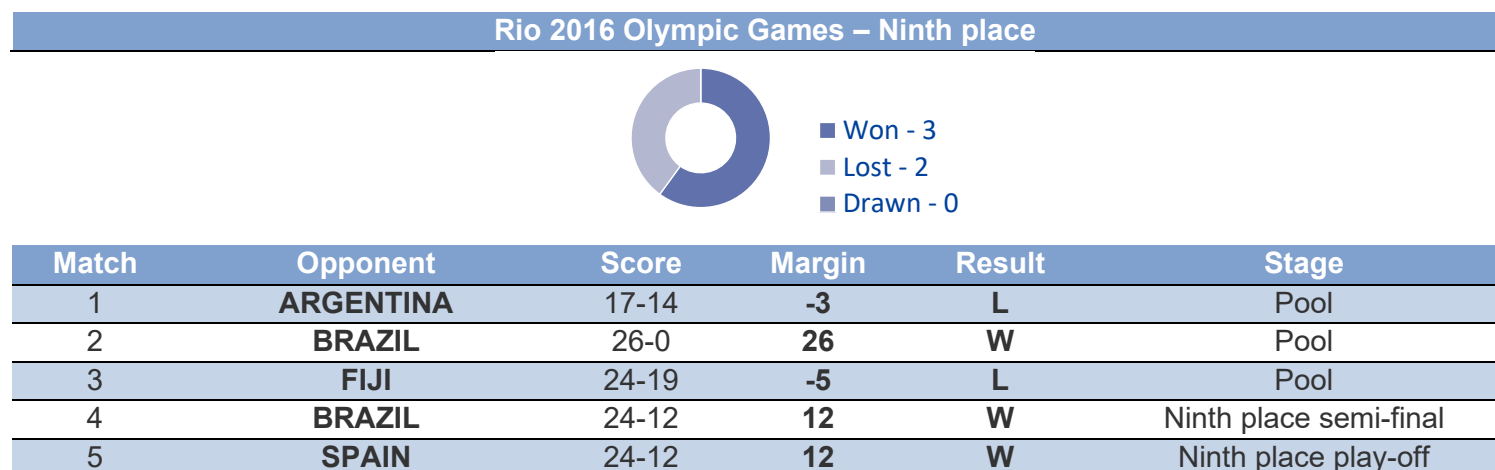


Match	Opponent	Score	Margin	Result	Stage
1	SPAIN	24-0	24	W	Pool
2	FRANCE	26-0	26	W	Pool
3	AUSTRALIA	12-5	-7	L	Pool
4	AUSTRALIA	22-5	17	W	Medal quarter-final
5	GREAT BRITAIN	7-5	-2	L	Medal semi-final
6	JAPAN	54-14	40	W	Bronze medal match

- **Rugby World Cup Sevens** – Tournaments 7; Played 39, Won 30, Lost 9, Drawn 9 (77% win rate)
 - South Africa is set to host Rugby World Cup Sevens for the first time with the tournament scheduled to take place in Cape Town from 9-11 September, 2022.
 - They have medalled at two of the seven tournaments; a second-place finish in Hong Kong in 1997 and a third-place finish in San Francisco in 2018.
- **Commonwealth Games** – Tournaments 6; Played 34, Won 26, Lost 8, Drawn 0 (77% win rate)
 - Gold medallists at Glasgow 2014, and two bronze medals at Delhi 2010 and Manchester 2002.
- **World Rugby Sevens Series** – Events 182; Cup finals 63, Cup finals won 33 (74% win rate in 1,036 games played)
 - South Africa have won the World Rugby Sevens Series on three occasions – 2008-09, 2016-17 and 2018.
 - They are one of three teams to win the World Series in consecutive seasons (alongside New Zealand and Fiji) and the most recent to accomplish this feat.

- They won two of the six events played in the COVID-affected 2020 Series, the first round in Dubai and the fifth in Las Vegas; that along with two second-place finishes saw them finish second overall.
 - The Blitzboks ran in the second-most tries (121) across the six events in the 2020 Series.
- **World Series record in Japan** – Events 6; Cup finals 3, Cup finals won 1 (69% win rate in Series games in Japan)
 - They have reached the Cup final in three of their six World Series appearances in Tokyo, defeating New Zealand in 2012-13 for their first and only title.

- **USA** have improved consistently in the five years since the last Olympic Games, reaching five consecutive Cup finals on the 2019 Series and finishing second overall.



- **Rugby World Cup Sevens** – Tournaments 7; Played 36, Won 13, Lost 23, Drawn 0 (36% win rate)
 - USA hosted the seventh and most recent edition of Rugby World Cup Sevens in 2018, earning their best finish of sixth.
- **World Rugby Sevens Series** – Events 145; Cup finals 9, Cup finals won 3 (45% win rate in 792 games played)
 - The Eagles Sevens have finished in the top seven of the last six World Rugby Sevens Series, including a runners-up finish in 2019.
 - They have won three World Series events, with their most recent win in Las Vegas in 2019.
- **World Series record in Japan** – Events 6; Played 35, Won 16, Lost 17, Drawn 2 (46% win rate)
 - Their highest finish in Japan is fifth place, which they achieved in 2013 by defeating Scotland in the Plate final.