

**Stuart Ayres** Minister for Jobs, Investment, Tourism and Western Sydney

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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## WESTERN SYDNEY: THE NEW HOME OF SYDNEY 7s

The HSBC Sydney 7s is headed west with the new state-of-the-art Bankwest Stadium set to host the 2020 tournament from 1-2 February.

Following three successful years at Allianz Stadium and a fourth at Spotless Stadium at Sydney Olympic Park, players and fans from right across the globe will descend on the heart of Western Sydney at Parramatta to celebrate the tournament next year.

Minister for Jobs, Investment, Tourism and Western Sydney Stuart Ayres said Bankwest Stadium will be the perfect fit for the HSBC Sydney 7s tournament.

"The Sydney 7s is an exciting event in our State's calendar - it's as much about the enthusiastic fans in the stands as it is about the players on the field," Mr Ayres said.

"About half of Sydney's population lives in Western Sydney and it's among the fastest growing regions in NSW, so it makes perfect sense to hold this fantastic multicultural sporting event at the new state-of-the-art Bankwest Stadium, where there isn't a bad seat in the house!

"Not only will it help grow the game of rugby union, but it will also encourage more people to spend a weekend in Western Sydney and make the most of what this beautiful region has to offer."

Supported by the NSW Government's tourism and major events agency Destination NSW, the HSBC Sydney 7s combines world-class rugby with a festival atmosphere, featuring live bands, rides and interactive entertainment.

Rugby Australia Chief Executive, Raelene Castle said: "We are looking forward to taking the HSBC Sydney 7s to Bankwest Stadium, continuing our drive to showcase the event in Sydney's west.

"The fan experience at Bankwest Stadium is nothing short of world class and it will lift the event to another level in 2020.

"It is a massive year for Rugby Sevens next year with the Tokyo Olympic Games and those who come along to Bankwest Stadium in February will find out just why it is one of the fastest growing sports on the planet."

Fans are encouraged to register at <u>sydney7s.com.au</u> to take advantage of early-bird prices.