



## PRESS RELEASE

Rome, 28th December 2020

Paolo Vaccari announces his candidacy for the Presidency of the Italian Rugby Federation for the 2021-2024 Olympic four-year period.

49-year-old rugby champion with 64 appearances for the National Team, between 1991 and 2002, multiple champion of Italy, he graduated in Architecture at the Milan Polytechnic. Over the years Paolo has built a successful professional career as Architect with a renowned architecture firm.

He has gained considerable experience within the Italian Rugby Federation where he has held leading operational roles. In particular, as head of the Facilities Commission, he contributed to the creation of several new sports centres, a role that brought him into close contact with the territory and with clubs throughout Italy.

Since 2018 he has been elected to the board of directors of the Institute for Sports Credit, a public bank that manages public investment in sport, an important experience that has put him in contact with the highest positions in the national sports world.

For several years Paolo has lived in Rome with his wife and two children.

Paolo is supported by Rugby2030, a new platform which, in the form of an “Ideas Accelerator”, has gathered important exponents of Italian rugby around it. Rugby2030 is open to the collaboration of anyone who wants to participate in a new phase of growth of Italian rugby.

The first interview to present the cornerstones of the Rugby2030’s program, in support of Paolo Vaccari's candidacy, is scheduled for January 15th 2021 on the Rugby2030’s website, Facebook page and Youtube channel.



Dear Friends of Italian Rugby,

it is with great emotion that I decided to take the field in the race for the Presidency of the Italian Rugby Federation. I believe that the time has come for a substantial change of gear and an innovative approach to Italian Rugby.

For years the Rugby System in Italy has been looking for a new Vision, capable of giving a push forward to the entire movement. We need a different approach than in the past, capable of transforming our movement.

To begin, as always in my life, I put together many friends, transversally from north to south: historical clubs of Italian rugby but also new realities born a few years ago, realities devoted to youth training, others born from the development of women's rugby, champions of today and of the past, referees, journalists, sports business professionals and high-level managers.

Once the team was created, we worked on the strengths and weaknesses of the current Italian Rugby System. Our goal was to develop a program capable of responding to everyone's needs, because, only together, we can grow.

Today, rather than commenting on the past and our weaknesses, it is necessary to gather everyone around a new vision of growth, which emphasises our strengths and is a stimulus to "Advance". A vision that goes beyond the next President of the Federation, but which is long-term, to lay the foundations for sustainable growth over the years, starting from community rugby up to the Pro level.

Rugby2030 aims to be the cornerstone of a new era of development. Setting ambitious goals must be our new mental approach, to be able to return to running together.

Obviously, pure and simple Vision is not enough, you need the right combination of professionalism, experience, knowledge, all supported by a lot, a lot of work and legitimised by an approach devoted to transparency.

Following the example of the main Unions and organisations of world rugby, but also looking at other international realities in the world of sport, the Rugby Federation and movement management systems need to be innovated. We need a more modern management capable of attracting important managers from the world of sport but not only, to redesign the Italian Rugby System.

The key points of my proposal will be: teamwork, professionalism, long-term planning.

Paolo Vaccari  
Candidate for the Presidency of the FIR