

2023 Atlantic Super Regional day one roundup

HENRICO COUNTY, VA – Day one of the 2023 Atlantic Super Regional (ASR) men’s and women’s club rugby playoffs concluded on Saturday at Glover Park in Glen Allen, Virginia. Twenty-two teams played twelve total semifinal matches that served as the national ‘sweet sixteen’ in six respective divisions while New York Old Blue Rugby defeated Rocky Gorge Rugby Club (MD), 25-22, in a thrilling, extra time instant classic to capture the 2023 ASR men’s Division I title.

With their victory, Old Blue secured a spot in the national ‘final four’ in the men’s D1 bracket in St. Louis, Missouri in June.

Sunday’s championship matches will determine six more 2023 Atlantic Regional champion teams. The men’s D2 and D3 champions and the women’s D1 and D2 champions will advance to the national club ‘final four’ in St. Louis.

The two-time defending national D1 champion NOVA Women’s Rugby (VA) stormed to an 88-14 victory over Providence Women’s Rugby (RI) who were D2 national champions in 2022. NOVA will meet Raleigh Venom (NC) in Sunday’s D1 final. Raleigh were 49-19 winners over Boston Women’s Rugby Club (MA) in the semifinal. Providence and Boston will meet in the Sunday consolation match.

Severn River Women’s Rugby (MD) defeated New Haven Women’s Rugby (CT), 34-5, in one of the women’s D2 semifinals in a matchup of returning ASR competitors. Severn River will meet another returning ASR team in the Phoenixville Unicorns (PA) in the D2 final. Phoenixville were impressive winners, 66-19, over Worcester Shamrocks (MA) on Saturday. New Haven and Worcester will square off in the consolation match on Sunday.

Boston Irish Wolfhounds (MA) took down the defending ASR men’s D2 champion in Buffalo Rugby Club (NY), 29-17, in the semifinal round while Philadelphia-Whitemarsh (PA) raced to a 40-26 victory over James River (VA) in the other semifinal match to set up a Sunday showdown with Boston for the D2 title. Buffalo and James River will meet in the consolation match.

The women’s D3 bracket also featured its 2022 champion falling in the semifinal round as Union County Mudturtles (NJ) earned a hard fought 45-29 victory over Rappahannock Womxn’s Rugby (VA) in the day’s opening round. South Shore Sirens (MA) were impressive winners over South Jersey Women’s Rugby (NJ) in the other semifinal match. Union County and South Shore will square off for the D3 title on Sunday while Rappahannock and South Jersey will meet in the consolation.

The men’s D3 bracket featured three new teams and one returning ASR team in Lehigh Valley Hooligans (PA). Monmouth Rugby (NJ) earned a hard fought 32-29 over Lehigh Valley in an exciting match with a number of lead changes. On the other side of the bracket, North Bay

Rugby (MD) raced to a 62-17 victory over Providence Rugby (RI). Monmouth will meet North Bay on Sunday with the D3 title on the line on Sunday while Lehigh Valley and Providence will square off in the consolation match.

In men's D4, only one semifinal match was contested as one of the four entered teams was forced to bow out before the tournament. In perhaps the most exciting finish of the day, South Buffalo Rugby (NY) earned a 25-22 victory on the final possession of the match over Happy Valley Barbarians (PA). South Buffalo will meet Burlington Rugby (VT) in the title match on Sunday.

Sunday schedule:

Championship matches will be live streamed – weather permitting

9am

South Buffalo vs. Burlington – men's D4 championship

Rappahannock vs. South Jersey – women's D3 consolation

11am

Monmouth vs. North Bay – men's D3 championship

Union County vs. South Shore – women's D3 championship

Worcester vs. New Haven – women's D2 consolation

Lehigh Valley vs. Providence – men's D3 consolation

1pm

Severn River vs. Phoenixville – women's D2 championship

Providence vs. Boston – women's D1 consolation

Buffalo vs. James River – men's D2 consolation

3pm

NOVA vs. Raleigh – women's D1 championship

Philadelphia-Whitemarsh vs. Boston Irish – men's D2 championship

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