



3rd October 2012

Subject: IRB - GAC Meeting Request

To the GAC representatives,

On behalf of the International Rugby Board (IRB), applicant for the .RUGBY gTLD, we would like to formally request a meeting with the GAC at the upcoming October meetings in Toronto. As the world governing body for the sport of Rugby, the IRB believes it is the rightful steward of .RUGBY.

IRB is the global governing and law-making body that is responsible for developing the Game of Rugby across the world and formulates and controls the Laws of the Game. IRB is recognised by the Rugby community as the international federation for Rugby by its 117 Member Unions across six global regions and also internationally through our affiliation with the International Olympic Committee and its Continental Federations and the Commonwealth Games Federation.

We are also a signatory to the World Anti Doping Agency Code (WADA) and recognised by the European Parliament through active participation in the Expert Group on Good Governance and the Expert Group on Education and Training of the European Commission's Directorate-General for Education and Culture, Youth and Sport.

IRB is responsible across all levels of the Game of Rugby (including elite and grassroots, men's and women's, fifteens and sevens, senior and junior). IRB works closely in partnership with our Member Unions to deliver education & training and player welfare and anti doping programmes to aid and support players, referees and match officials, coaches and administrators in order to ensure Rugby maintains its core principle of fair play and upholds and promotes its unique values and ethos which are central to its global appeal.

We are the only applicant with a dedicated interest in the sport of Rugby and we will ensure that those with an affinity for Rugby will have ample opportunity to unite in this new domain space. IRB will provide a trusted and secure space, ensure proper usage of .RUGBY and protect industry trademarks. The consequences of allowing someone foreign to the Rugby community to oversee .RUGBY could be highly detrimental to the sport and to the global community that relies on the IRB to set and maintain the standards for Laws of the Game and promote the development of Rugby worldwide.

Meeting with the GAC would allow the IRB to demonstrate our firm commitment to protecting the best interests of the sport and the global Rugby community as well as address our significant concerns with regard to permitting someone from outside of the Rugby community to be awarded .RUGBY.

We understand that the International Basketball Federation (FIBA) through its representative Patrick Koller (copied on this email) has also requested a similar meeting with the GAC in respect of its application for .BASKETBALL. If the GAC considers it appropriate, please note we would also be open to attending jointly with FIBA a meeting with the GAC to discuss together our respective applications given IRB and FIBA share the same concerns and interests with regard to our respective sports.

Thank you for your consideration.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Robert Brophy'.

Robert Brophy
Chief Financial Officer