

# **World Rugby U20 Trophy 2024 Pool A team profiles**



**WORLD  
RUGBY**

## WORLD RUGBY U20 TROPHY 2024 TEAM PROFILES

### POOL A: JAPAN

Head coach: Naoya Okubo

Captain: Yoshiaki Taian

#### Coach notes

- Naoya Okubo guided a Japan XV team to the World Rugby Pacific Challenge 2024 title in April with wins over Manuma Samoa (48-5), Fiji Warriors (45-43) and Tonga A (65-15) in Apia, Samoa.
- The development competition featured predominantly under-23 players but Japan elected to send largely their U20 squad in preparation for the U20 Trophy campaign.
- A former Japan international, he played 29 tests for the Brave Blossoms as a second row or flanker from 1996-2004. He played at Rugby World Cup 1999 and 2003.
- He played once for Japan in Scotland, in a 100-8 loss at McDiarmid Park in Perth in November 2004.
- Okubo also played for Japan at Rugby World Cup Sevens 2001 in Argentina.

#### Form in 2024

- Japan's U20 team played under the guise of Japan XV in the World Rugby Pacific Challenge in Samoa in April, using the key development tournament as preparation for their return to the World Rugby U20 Trophy 2024.
- They beat Manuma Samoa 48-5, Fiji Warriors 45-43 and Tonga A 65-15 to claim the title.
- Kenji Sato was the top try-scorer for Japan XV in the tournament with five, one more than Yoshitaka Yazuki – who made his test debut for Japan against England on 22 June.

#### Qualification

Relegated from the World Rugby U20 Championship 2023 in South Africa

#### U20 Trophy record

Played: 7 (2010-14, 2017, 2019)

Best result: Champions – 2014, 2017, 2019

2023 ranking: Did not play (relegated from World Rugby U20 Championship 2023)

#### Final positions:

Year	Position
2010	Runners-up
2011	Runners-up
2012	Runners-up
2013	4th
2014	Champions
2017	Champions
2019	Champions

Played 28, Won 21, Drawn 1, Lost 6 – Points for 939, Points against 686, Tries for 134, Tries against 96

Previous results

Date	Stage	Team	Score	Team	Venue
18/05/2010	Pool	<b>Japan</b>	31-17	Russia	Slava Stadium, Moscow, Russia
22/05/2010	Pool	Japan	20-20	Zimbabwe	Fili Stadium, Moscow, Russia
26/05/2010	Pool	<b>Japan</b>	38-17	Canada	Slava Stadium, Moscow, Russia
30/05/2010	Final	Japan	7-36	Italy	Slava Stadium, Moscow, Russia
24/05/2011	Pool	<b>Japan</b>	37-24	Zimbabwe	Shevardeni Stadium, Tbilisi, Georgia
28/05/2011	Pool	<b>Japan</b>	30-15	Canada	Avchala Stadium, Tbilisi, Georgia
01/06/2011	Pool	<b>Japan</b>	29-14	Georgia	Avchala Stadium, Tbilisi, Georgia
05/06/2011	Final	Japan	24-31	<b>Samoa</b>	Avchala Stadium, Tbilisi, Georgia
18/06/2012	Pool	<b>Japan</b>	39-36	Zimbabwe	Murray Park Rugby Stadium, Salt Lake City, Utah, USA
22/06/2012	Pool	<b>Japan</b>	38-35	Canada	Murray Park Rugby Stadium, Salt Lake City, Utah, USA
26/06/2012	Pool	<b>Japan</b>	36-29	Georgia	Murray Park Rugby Stadium, Salt Lake City, Utah, USA
30/06/2012	Final	Japan	33-37	<b>USA</b>	Murray Park Rugby Stadium, Salt Lake City, Utah, USA
28/05/2013	Pool	<b>Japan</b>	40-20	Uruguay	Estadio Municipal Freire, Temuco, Chile
01/06/2013	Pool	Japan	15-39	<b>Canada</b>	Universidad de la Frontera, Temuco, Chile
05/06/2013	Pool	<b>Japan</b>	43-22	Tonga	Estadio Municipal Pitrufrquen, Temuco, Chile
09/06/2013	3rd place play-off	Japan	35-38	<b>Chile</b>	Estadio German Becker, Temuco, Chile
07/04/2014	Pool	Japan	28-33	<b>Uruguay</b>	Hong Kong Football Club Ground, Hong Kong SAR
11/04/2014	Pool	<b>Japan</b>	34-28	Namibia	Hong Kong Football Club Ground, Hong Kong SAR
15/04/2014	Pool	<b>Japan</b>	37-12	Canada	Hong Kong Football Club Ground, Hong Kong SAR
19/04/2014	Final	<b>Japan</b>	35-10	Tonga	Hong Kong Football Club Ground, Hong Kong SAR
29/08/2017	Pool	<b>Japan</b>	28-22	Chile	Estadio Charrúa, Montevideo, Uruguay
02/09/2017	Pool	<b>Japan</b>	50-12	Canada	Estadio Charrúa, Montevideo, Uruguay
06/09/2017	Pool	<b>Japan</b>	33-13	Namibia	Estadio Domingo Burgueño Miguel, Punta del Este, Uruguay
10/09/2017	Final	<b>Japan</b>	14-3	Portugal	Estadio Charrúa, Montevideo, Uruguay
09/07/2019	Pool	<b>Japan</b>	56-14	Brazil	Estadio Martins Pereira, São Jose dos Campos, Brazil
13/07/2019	Pool	<b>Japan</b>	46-31	Uruguay	Estadio Martins Pereira, São Jose dos Campos, Brazil
17/09/2019	Pool	<b>Japan</b>	48-34	Kenya	Estadio Martins Pereira, São Jose dos Campos, Brazil
21/07/2019	Final	<b>Japan</b>	35-34	Portugal	Estadio Martins Pereira, São Jose dos Campos, Brazil

- Japan were involved in the first draw in U20 Trophy history, 20-20 against Zimbabwe in the 2010 pool stages. There has only been one stalemate since, Canada 18-18 Uruguay in 2014.
- Japan have reached the final in six of their seven U20 Trophy appearances, losing the first three before tasting victory in 2014, 2017 and 2018.
- They require 61 points to become the fourth team to score 1,000 points in U20 Trophy history after Uruguay (1,431), Canada (1,061) and Namibia (1,011).

- Only Uruguay (184), Namibia (139) and Canada (137) have scored more tries than Japan in U20 Trophy history.

## Head-to-head records

### MD1: JAPAN v HONG KONG CHINA

This will be their first meeting in a World Rugby tournament

### MD2: JAPAN v SAMOA

Played: 3 – Samoa leads 2-1

Points for: Japan 73 / Samoa 89 (Avg. score: 24-29)

Highest score: Japan 29 (29-12 on 15 June, 2015) / Samoa 31 (31-24 on 5 June, 2011)

Biggest winning margin: Japan 17 (29-12 on 15 June, 2015) / Samoa 9 (29-20 on 9 June, 2009)

Previous results ([red = U20 Championship](#))

Date	Stage	Winner	Score	Margin	Venue
09/06/2009	Pool	Samoa	29-20	9	Prince Chichibu Memorial Stadium, Tokyo, Japan
05/06/2011	Final	Samoa	31-24	7	Avchala Stadium, Tbilisi, Georgia
15/06/2015	9th place semi-final	Japan	29-12	17	Stadio Luigi Zaffanella, Viadana, Italy

- This will be their second meeting at the World Rugby U20 Trophy, Samoa having won the 2011 final 31-24 in Georgia with a squad featuring Will Skelton and Michael Alaalatoa.
- Their other two meetings have come in the World Rugby U20 Championship.
- They last met in a World Rugby U20 tournament in June 2015 when Japan secured their only victory, 29-12 in the U20 Championship ninth place semi-final in Italy. Samoa went on to lose to Italy 20-19 and be relegated to the U20 Trophy for 2016.

### MD3: SCOTLAND v JAPAN

Played 1 – Scotland leads 1-0

Points for: Scotland 12 / Japan 7

Previous results

Date	Stage	Winner	Score	Margin	Venue
13/06/2009	Pool	Scotland	12-7	Japan	Prince Chichibu Memorial Stadium, Tokyo, Japan

- This is their first meeting since Scotland edged their Pool B encounter 12-7 at the World Rugby U20 Championship 2009 in Tokyo, Japan.

## POOL A: SCOTLAND

Head coach: Kenny Murray

Captain: Liam McConnell

### Coach notes

- Kenny Murray took up his current role with Scottish Rugby as head of player transition, including coaching the U20s, in January 2022.
- Prior to taking up the new role created by the SRU's director of performance rugby, Jim Mallinder, Murray spent nearly nine years as an assistant coach (defence) with Glasgow Warriors.
- Murray began his coaching journey as head coach of Cartha Queens Park where he won Scottish Rugby's Coach of the Year award in 2006 before moving onto Ayr RFC.
- He led Ayr to their first Premiership title and three Scottish Cup wins before joining Gregor Townsend's coaching staff at Glasgow.

### Form in 2024

- Scotland finished bottom of the U20 Men's Six Nations with five defeats from five.
- They lost to Wales 37-29, France 29-14, England 30-17, Italy 47-14 and Ireland 36-0.
- Freddie Douglas was their top try and points scorer with three and 15.
- Scotland have only won one match in the last three editions of the U20 Six Nations, against Wales in 2023.

### Qualification

Tournament hosts

### U20 Trophy record

Played: 1 (2023 after being relegated from the World Rugby U20 Championship 2019)

2023 ranking: Third

Played 4, Won 3, Drawn 0, Lost 1 – Points for 213, Points against 93, Tries for 33, Tries against 11

### Previous results

Date	Stage	Team	Score	Team	Venue
15/07/2023	Pool	<b>Scotland</b>	64-33	Zimbabwe	Nyayo National Stadium, Nairobi, Kenya
20/07/2023	Pool	<b>Scotland</b>	40-13	USA	Nyayo National Stadium, Nairobi, Kenya
25/07/2023	Pool	Scotland	26-37	<b>Uruguay</b>	Nyayo National Stadium, Nairobi, Kenya
30/07/2023	3rd place play-off	<b>Scotland</b>	83-10	Samoa	Nyayo National Stadium, Nairobi, Kenya

## Head-to-head records

### MD1: SCOTLAND v SAMOA

Played: 7 – Samoa leads 4-3

Points for: Scotland 254 / Samoa 177 (Avg. score: 36-22)

Highest score: Scotland 83 (83-10 on 30 July, 2023) / Samoa 33 (33-36 on 13 June, 2013 and 33-24 on 23 June, 2013)

Biggest winning margin: Scotland 73 (83-10 on 30 July, 2023) / Samoa 12 (29-17 on 6 June, 2008)

Previous results (red = U20 Championship)

Date	Stage	Winner	Score	Margin	Venue
06/06/2008	Pool	Samoa	29-17	12	Racecourse Ground, Wrexham, Wales
05/06/2009	Pool	Samoa	17-14	3	Prince Chichibu Memorial Stadium, Tokyo, Japan
22/06/2012	9th place play-off	Scotland	62-28	34	University of Western Cape Stadium, Cape Town, South Africa
13/06/2013	Pool	Scotland	36-33	3	Stade Pascal Laporte, Nantes
23/06/2013	9th place play-off	Samoa	33-24	9	Stade Pascal Laporte, Nantes
06/06/2014	Pool	Samoa	27-18	9	ECOLight Stadium, Pukekohe, New Zealand
30/07/2023	3rd place play-off	Scotland	83-10	73	Nyayo National Stadium, Nairobi, Kenya

- This will be their second meeting at the U20 Trophy, Scotland having won 83-10 when the sides met in the third place play-off in Kenya last year.
- Monroe Job (3), Corey Tait (2), Callum Norrie (2), Ben Afshar, Kerr Johnston, Jake Parkinson, Will Robinson, Archie Falconer and Matt Reid scored Scotland's tries.
- The encounter in Kenya was their first since Samoa ran out 27-18 winners in the World Rugby U20 Championship 2014 in New Zealand.
- Six of their seven meetings have come in the World Rugby U20 Championship.

### MD2: SCOTLAND v HONG KONG CHINA

This will be their first meeting

### MD3: SCOTLAND v JAPAN

Played 1 – Scotland leads 1-0

Points for: Scotland 12 / Japan 7

Previous results

Date	Stage	Winner	Score	Margin	Venue
13/06/2009	Pool	Scotland	12-7	Japan	Prince Chichibu Memorial Stadium, Tokyo, Japan

- This is their first meeting since Scotland edged their Pool B encounter 12-7 at the World Rugby U20 Championship 2009 in Tokyo, Japan.

## POOL A: SAMOA

Head coach: Potumoe Leavasa

Captain: Tagiilima Ripine

### Coach notes

- This will be his first U20 Trophy as head coach, having been assistant coach when Samoa finished fourth in Kenya last year.
- A former second-row, Leavasa played 17 tests for Manu Samoa between 1993 and 2002 and played at Rugby World Cup 1995 in South Africa.
- He was assistant coach for Samoa at Rugby World Cup 2015 and has worked with the Samoa A and Manuma Samoa development teams.

### Form in 2024

- Played three matches in the Oceania Rugby U20s Challenge from 27 February to 6 March in North Harbour, New Zealand, against Moana Pasifika, Tonga and Fiji.
- The Tonga match doubled as the regional qualifier for the World Rugby U20 Trophy 2024.
- Samoa lost 27-20 to the Junior Moana Pasifika team in round one, before beating Tonga 40-10 and losing to 31-17 to champions Fiji.

### Qualification

- Beat Tonga 40-10 at the Oceania Rugby U20s Challenge on 2 March to secure the region's place at the World Rugby U20 Trophy 2024.
- Harry Hanipale, Panaua Niulevaea and captain Wally Vesi were among Samoa's try-scorers.

### U20 Trophy record

Played: 4 (2011, 2016, 2018, 2023)

Best result: Champions – 2011, 2016

2023 ranking: Fourth

#### Final positions:

Year	Position
2011	Champions
2016	Champions
2018	Runners-up
2023	4th

Played 16, Won 13, Drawn 0, Lost 3 – Points for 551, Points against 427, Tries for 80, Tries against 59

#### Previous results

Date	Stage	Team	Score	Team	Venue
24/05/2011	Pool	<b>Samoa</b>	48-11	USA	Avchala Stadium, Tbilisi, Georgia
28/05/2011	Pool	<b>Samoa</b>	37-6	Uruguay	Shevardeni Stadium, Tbilisi, Georgia
01-06/2011	Pool	<b>Samoa</b>	50-14	Russia	Avchala Stadium, Tbilisi, Georgia
05/06/2011	Final	<b>Samoa</b>	31-24	Japan	Avchala Stadium, Tbilisi, Georgia
19/04/2016	Pool	<b>Samoa</b>	54-24	Zimbabwe	Harare Sports Club, Harare, Zimbabwe

23/04/2016	Pool	<b>Samoa</b>	32-8	Fiji	Harare Sports Club, Harare, Zimbabwe
27/04/2016	Pool	<b>Samoa</b>	56-22	Uruguay	Harare Sports Club, Harare, Zimbabwe
01/05/2016	Final	<b>Samoa</b>	38-32 AET	Spain	Harare Sports Club, Harare, Zimbabwe
28/08/2018	Pool	<b>Samoa</b>	41-20	Hong Kong China	Stadionul National Arcul de Triumf, Bucharest, Romania
01/09/2018	Pool	<b>Samoa</b>	31-17	Romania	Stadionul National Arcul de Triumf, Bucharest, Romania
05/09/2018	Pool	<b>Samoa</b>	41-28	Namibia	Stadionul National Arcul de Triumf, Bucharest, Romania
09/09/2018	Final	Samoa	8-58	<b>Fiji</b>	Stadionul National Arcul de Triumf, Bucharest, Romania
15/07/2023	Pool	<b>Samoa</b>	34-25	Kenya	Nyayo National Stadium, Nairobi, Kenya
20/07/2023	Pool	<b>Samoa</b>	30-27	Hong Kong China	Nyayo National Stadium, Nairobi, Kenya
25/07/2023	Pool	Samoa	10-28	<b>Spain</b>	Nyayo National Stadium, Nairobi, Kenya
30/07/2023	3rd place play-off	<b>Scotland</b>	83-10	Samoa	Nyayo National Stadium, Nairobi, Kenya

- Samoa reached the final in their first three World Rugby U20 Trophy appearances, beating Japan in 2011 and Spain, in sudden-death extra-time, in 2016 to earn promotion back to the U20 Championship the following year.
- They won their first 11 matches in the tournament before losing to Fiji in the 2018 final.
- Samoa suffered their first pool-stage defeat in the U20 Trophy in 2023, against eventual champions Spain.

## Head-to-head records

### MD1: SCOTLAND v SAMOA

Played: 7 – Samoa leads 4-3

Points for: Scotland 254 / Samoa 177 (Avg. score: 36-22)

Highest score: Scotland 83 (83-10 on 30 July, 2023) / Samoa 33 (33-36 on 13 June, 2013 and 33-24 on 23 June, 2013)

Biggest winning margin: Scotland 73 (83-10 on 30 July, 2023) / Samoa 12 (29-17 on 6 June, 2008)

Previous results (red = U20 Championship)

Date	Stage	Winner	Score	Margin	Venue
06/06/2008	Pool	<b>Samoa</b>	29-17	12	Racecourse Ground, Wrexham, Wales
05/06/2009	Pool	<b>Samoa</b>	17-14	3	Prince Chichibu Memorial Stadium, Tokyo, Japan
22/06/2012	9th place play-off	<b>Scotland</b>	62-28	34	University of Western Cape Stadium, Cape Town, South Africa
13/06/2013	Pool	<b>Scotland</b>	36-33	3	Stade Pascal Laporte, Nantes
23/06/2013	9th place play-off	<b>Samoa</b>	33-24	9	Stade Pascal Laporte, Nantes
06/06/2014	Pool	<b>Samoa</b>	27-18	9	ECOLight Stadium, Pukekohe, New Zealand



30/07/2023	3rd place play-off	<b>Scotland</b>	83-10	<b>73</b>	Nyayo National Stadium, Nairobi, Kenya
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- This will be their second meeting at the U20 Trophy, Scotland having won 83-10 when the sides met in the third place play-off in Kenya last year.
- Flanker Faaulga Tauese Tanumoa scored Samoa's only try in the 18th minute with fly-half Afa Moleli kicking the conversion and a penalty.
- The encounter in Kenya was their first since Samoa ran out 27-18 winners in the World Rugby U20 Championship 2014 in New Zealand.
- Six of their seven meetings have come in the World Rugby U20 Championship.

## MD2: JAPAN v SAMOA

Played: 3 – Samoa leads 2-1

Points for: Japan 73 / Samoa 89 (Avg. score: 24-29)

Highest score: Japan 29 (29-12 on 15 June, 2015) / Samoa 31 (31-24 on 5 June, 2011)

Biggest winning margin: Japan 17 (29-12 on 15 June, 2015) / Samoa 9 (29-20 on 9 June, 2009)

Previous results ([red = U20 Championship](#))

Date	Stage	Winner	Score	Margin	Venue
09/06/2009	Pool	<b>Samoa</b>	29-20	9	Prince Chichibu Memorial Stadium, Tokyo, Japan
05/06/2011	Final	<b>Samoa</b>	31-24	7	Avchala Stadium, Tbilisi, Georgia
15/06/2015	9th place semi-final	<b>Japan</b>	29-12	17	Stadio Luigi Zaffanella, Viadana, Italy

- This will be their second meeting at the World Rugby U20 Trophy, Samoa having won the 2011 final 31-24 in Georgia with a squad featuring Will Skelton and Michael Alaalatoa.
- Their other two meetings have come in the World Rugby U20 Championship.
- They last met in a World Rugby U20 tournament in June 2015 when Japan secured their only victory, 29-12 in the U20 Championship ninth place semi-final in Italy. Samoa went on to lose to Italy 20-19 and be relegated to the U20 Trophy for 2016.

## MD3: SAMOA v HONG KONG CHINA

Played 2 – Samoa leads 2-0

Points for: Samoa 71 / Hong Kong China 47 (Avg. score: 35-23)

Highest score: Samoa 41 (41-20 on 28 August, 2018) / Hong Kong China 27 (27-30 on 20 July, 2023)

Biggest winning margin: Samoa 21 (41-20 on 28 August, 2018)

Previous results

Date	Stage	Winner	Score	Margin	Venue
28/08/2018	Pool	<b>Samoa</b>	41-20	Hong Kong China	Stadionul National Arcul de Triumf, Bucharest, Romania
20/07/2023	Pool	<b>Samoa</b>	30-27	Hong Kong China	Nyayo National Stadium, Nairobi, Kenya

- Both sides scored four tries in last year's meeting in Kenya with Maoaluma Pasa, Christopher Afamasaga, captain John Mata Samuelu and Robert JR Robertson dotting down for Samoa.
- Afa Moleli converted two of the tries and added a penalty and drop goal in the win.

## POOL A: HONG KONG CHINA

Head coach: Joe Barker

Captain: Oliver Clarke

### Coach notes

- This is Joe Barker's first U20 Trophy as Hong Kong China head coach, having been an assistant coach to Logan Asplin for the 2023 edition in Kenya.
- Barker was also assistant coach to the Hong Kong China senior men's team for the Rugby World Cup 2023 Final Qualification Tournament in Dubai in November 2022.
- He has a background in teaching and was recently appointed Talent Development and Transition Coach at Hong Kong China Rugby.

### Qualification

- Winners of Asia Rugby U20 Championship 2023 on home soil, their eighth consecutive title.
- Hong Kong China beat Chinese Taipei 22-7 in their opening match before beating Korea 62-7 in the title decider of the triangular tournament.
- Benedict Sheldon, Dominic Hedley (2), Isaac Campbell Wu, Blake Elliot, Luke Morrow, Lucas Molyneux, Marco Conti and Luke Bannon scored Hong Kong China's tries against Korea.

### U20 Trophy record

Played: 7 (2014-19, 2023)

Best result: Sixth (2018)

2023 ranking: Eighth

#### Final positions:

Year	Position
2014	8th
2015	8th
2016	7th
2017	8th
2018	6th
2019	8th
2023	8th

Played 28, Won 2, Drawn 0, Lost 26 – Points for 493, Points against 1,240, Tries for 64, Tries against 176

#### Previous results

Date	Stage	Team	Score	Team	Venue
07/04/2014	Pool	Hong Kong China	0-37	<b>USA</b>	Hong Kong Football Club Ground, Hong Kong SAR
11/04/2014	Pool	Hong Kong China	26-39	<b>Tonga</b>	Hong Kong Football Club Ground, Hong Kong SAR
15/04/2014	Pool	Hong Kong China	8-21	<b>Georgia</b>	Hong Kong Football Club Ground, Hong Kong SAR
19/04/2014	7th place play-off	Hong Kong China	30-33	<b>Canada</b>	Hong Kong Football Club Ground, Hong Kong SAR

## World Rugby U20 Trophy 2024 Pool A team profiles

12/05/2015	Pool	Hong Kong China	16-35	<b>Tonga</b>	Estadio Universitario, Lisbon, Portugal
16/05/2015	Pool	Hong Kong China	15-24	<b>Canada</b>	Estadio Universitario, Lisbon, Portugal
20/05/2015	Pool	Hong Kong China	12-36	<b>Namibia</b>	Estadio Universitario, Lisbon, Portugal
24/05/2015	7th place play-off	Hong Kong China	21-47	<b>Portugal</b>	CAR Rugby do Jamor, Lisbon, Portugal
19/04/2016	Pool	Hong Kong China	8-44	<b>Spain</b>	Harare Sports Club, Harare, Zimbabwe
23/04/2016	Pool	Hong Kong China	12-32	<b>USA</b>	Harare Sports Club, Harare, Zimbabwe
27/04/2016	Pool	Hong Kong China	8-70	<b>Namibia</b>	Harare Sports Club, Harare, Zimbabwe
01/05/2016	7th place play-off	<b>Hong Kong China</b>	44-40	Zimbabwe	Harare Sports Club, Harare, Zimbabwe
29/08/2017	Pool	Hong Kong China	7-26	<b>Fiji</b>	Estadio Charrúa, Montevideo, Uruguay
02/09/2017	Pool	Hong Kong China	24-31	<b>Portugal</b>	Estadio Charrúa, Montevideo, Uruguay
06/09/2017	Pool	Hong Kong China	10-66	<b>Uruguay</b>	Estadio Domingo Burgueño Miguel, Punta del Este, Uruguay
10/09/2017	7th place play-off	Hong Kong China	0-38	<b>Canada</b>	Estadio Charrúa, Montevideo, Uruguay
28/08/2018	Pool	Hong Kong China	20-41	<b>Samoa</b>	Stadionul National Arcul de Triumf, Bucharest, Romania
01/09/2018	Pool	Hong Kong China	10-84	<b>Namibia</b>	Stadionul National Arcul de Triumf, Bucharest, Romania
05/09/2018	Pool	<b>Hong Kong China</b>	56-33	Romania	Stadionul National Arcul de Triumf, Bucharest, Romania
09/09/2018	5th place play-off	Hong Kong China	17-78	<b>Uruguay</b>	Stadionul National Arcul de Triumf, Bucharest, Romania
09/07/2019	Pool	Hong Kong China	27-59	<b>Portugal</b>	Estadio Martins Pereira, São Jose dos Campos, Brazil
13/07/2019	Pool	Hong Kong China	12-64	<b>Tonga</b>	Estadio Martins Pereira, São Jose dos Campos, Brazil
17/07/2019	Pool	Hong Kong China	26-78	<b>Canada</b>	Estadio Martins Pereira, São Jose dos Campos, Brazil
21/07/2019	7th place play-off	Hong Kong China	29-32	<b>Brazil</b>	Estadio Martins Pereira, São Jose dos Campos, Brazil
15/07/2023	Pool	Hong Kong China	0-53	<b>Spain</b>	Nyayo National Stadium, Nairobi, Kenya
20/07/2023	Pool	Hong Kong China	27-30	<b>Samoa</b>	Nyayo National Stadium, Nairobi, Kenya
25/07/2023	Pool	Hong Kong China	16-22	<b>Kenya</b>	Nyayo National Stadium, Nairobi, Kenya
30/07/2023	7th place play-off	Hong Kong China	22-47	<b>USA</b>	Nyayo National Stadium, Nairobi, Kenya

- Hong Kong China lost their first 11 matches in the U20 Trophy before beating hosts Zimbabwe in the seventh place play-off in 2016.
- Their only other victory came against Romania, the 2018 host nation, and was enough to see them reach the fifth place play-off for the first time.

## Head-to-head records

### MD1: JAPAN v HONG KONG CHINA

This will be their first meeting in a World Rugby tournament

### MD2: SCOTLAND v HONG KONG CHINA

This will be their first meeting

### MD3: SAMOA v HONG KONG CHINA

Played 2 – Samoa leads 2-0

Points for: Samoa 71 / Hong Kong China 47 (Avg. score: 35-23)

Highest score: Samoa 41 (41-20 on 28 August, 2018) / Hong Kong China 27 (27-30 on 20 July, 2023)

Biggest winning margin: Samoa 21 (41-20 on 28 August, 2018)

#### Previous results

Date	Stage	Winner	Score	Margin	Venue
28/08/2018	Pool	<b>Samoa</b>	41-20	Hong Kong China	Stadionul National Arcul de Triumf, Bucharest, Romania
20/07/2023	Pool	<b>Samoa</b>	30-27	Hong Kong China	Nyayo National Stadium, Nairobi, Kenya

- Both sides scored four tries in last year's meeting in Kenya with Dylan McCann, Joe Denmark, TK Yamauchi and Max Threlkeld dotting down for Hong Kong China.
- McCann converted two of the tries and added a penalty in the defeat.