

Press Release

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AIG Japan Appoints Daisuke Ohata as Ambassador to Support the Growth and Development of Rugby in Japan

TOKYO, September 6, 2017—AIG Japan Holdings KK (AIG Japan) today announced the appointment of Daisuke Ohata as an AIG Ambassador. Ohata, a former member of the Japan Men's National Rugby Union Team and World Rugby Hall of Fame inductee, will work with AIG Japan to further promote and grow the sport of rugby in Japan.

As momentum builds in the lead up to the Rugby World Cup to be held in Japan in 2019, the choice of Ohata as an Ambassador highlights AIG's proactive approach to supporting the promotion and growth of rugby in Japan. In his ambassadorial role, Mr. Ohata will represent AIG in communicating the appeal of rugby and the importance of injury prevention.

As a grassroots partner of the Japan Rugby Football Union (JRFU), AIG Japan supports activities that include the AIG Tag Rugby Tour (held at locations across the country) and the donation of tag rugby kits to elementary schools as part of its grassroots level efforts to further the growth of rugby. As part of its ACTIVE CARE concept, AIG Japan offers these activities as a way of highlighting the importance of preparation and an injury prevention mindset, while also communicating the fun and excitement of rugby in order to increase the number of participants in the sport.

Mr. Ohata expressed enthusiasm for his new role saying, "I'm delighted to represent AIG and to be able to play a part in the growth of rugby as an ambassador. I hope to help grow the number of new rugby fans through my interactions with people across Japan."

Robert Noddin, AIG Japan's President and CEO, commenting on Mr. Ohata's appointment as ambassador said, "As a very talented player, a World Rugby Hall of Famer, and someone who is a natural ambassador for the game, Mr. Ohata will definitely draw even more people to the sport. He has been involved with the AIG Tag Rugby Tour from the start and has provided us with a number of great ideas. AIG is fully committed to contributing to the popularization and development of rugby in Japan, and our team is made even stronger by adding a widely recognized and well liked talent such as Mr. Ohata."



<Profile>



Daisuke Ohata

- Former Japan National Rugby Union Team Player
- Kobelco Steelers Ambassador
- Member, Athletes' Commission of the Tokyo Organizing Committee of the Olympic and Paralympic Games
- Rugby World Cup 2019 Ambassador

Date of Birth: 11th November 1975 Place of Birth: Osaka, Japan Education: Tokai University Gyosei Senior High School, Kyoto Sangyo University Team Affiliations: Kobe Steel, Northern Suburbs RFC (Australia), Montferrand (France), Kobelco Steelers

Daisuke Ohata started playing rugby in grade 3 of elementary school and was selected for the Japanese national high school rugby team while attending Tokai University Gyosei Senior High School. He was selected for the Japanese National Team while studying at Kyoto Sangyo University before joining Kobe Steel in 1998. He soon established himself as a prolific try scorer and Japan's top player. Ohata built up international experience by joining Australia's Northern Suburbs Rugby Football Club in 2001 and French club Montferrand in 2003.

Ohata returned to Japan for the 2003-2004 season and joined Top League team, Kobelco Steelers. He played a leading role in the Japanese National Team, including time as captain, and played in the 1999 and 2003 Rugby World Cups.

Despite rupturing his Achilles tendon twice during his rugby career, he persevered and went on to claim the world record for most tries in international rugby test matches with a record of 69 tries for Japan throughout his playing career.

Ohata retired in 2011 and is now focused on helping to further the growth of rugby in Japan. He is also working with the Japan Rugby Football Union on the upcoming 2019 Rugby World Cup through his work in the media, coaching, and speaking engagements.

Ohata was inducted into the World Rugby Hall of Fame in November 2016 for his contribution to the sport. Ohata is the 131st player and only the 2nd Asian player to achieve this honor.

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