WDR Rankings Explanation

Both Men's and *Women's World Deaf Rugby Rankings are calculated using a 'Points Exchange' system, in which sides take points off each other based on the match result. Whatever one side gains, the other loses.

At this stage, there are no current available results for Womens Deaf Rugby.

The exchanges are based on the match result, the relative strength of each team, and the margin of victory, and there is an allowance for home advantage.

Points exchanges are doubled during the World Deaf Rugby Championship Finals to recognise the unique importance of this event, but all other full international matches are treated the same, to be as fair as possible to countries across the world.

Any match that is not a full Deaf international between two member countries does not count at all.

All member countries have a rating, typically between 0 and 100.

An example of how a points exchange is calculated is shown further down this page.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q. Can you tell in advance of matches what effect results will have on the rankings?
Yes we can, and this means that those involved with matches can know what is at stake, going into the match.
For each match, there are only five possible outcomes that can affect points exchanges: either side winning by more than 15 points, either side winning by up to 15 points, or a draw.
In each case, we can advise how many rating points each side will gain or lose.(see page 3 for simplification)

Q. Does the system produce accurate and reliable rankings?
Several years' research went into developing the system by World Rugby for elite rugby internationals, and is deemed to be a good relaible system using an extensive database of international matches going back to 1871. All the weightings and values in the system were derived from detailed analysis of the results.
The system's reliability is assessed in a number of objective ways, including measuring its 'Predictive Accuracy'. If, over a period of time, the system tends to be good at predicting which side will win each match, then we can be confident that it is presenting an accurate and reliable picture of current strength, and responding appropriately to changes in form.

Q. How do you allow for home advantage?
When calculating points exchanges, the home side is treated as though they are three rating points better than their current rating. This has the effect of 'handicapping' the home side as they will tend to pick up fewer points for winning and give away more points for losing. In this way, the advantage of playing at home is cancelled out.

Q. How important is 'margin of victory' under the system?
The research suggested that match results are more important than margins of victory in producing accurate rankings. For instance, whether a side wins by 60 points or 100 points against much lower-rated opposition is not a good indicator of future performance.
However, the analysis also indicated that it is significant whether sides win relatively comfortably - with 'something to spare' - so a weighting is applied where a side wins a match by more than 15 points.

Q. Do sides earn credit for losing narrowly to higher rated opponents?
No they don't. In this system, you can't win points for losing, or lose points for winning. While it may be attractive to award points for heroic defeats, it is less appealing to deduct points from a team that has won. If the close match was an indication of a genuine shift in relative strength, this would be reflected in other results.

Q. Are all matches treated as equally important?
We have added a weighting for matches in the World Deaf Rugby Championship Finals, to recognise the unique importance and prestige of this event. All other full Deaf international matches between member unions, where players earn caps for playing for their country, currently count the same.

Q. Where do new countries start?
As from 2010, as soon as a country becomes a World Deaf Rugby Full Member Union, they are added to World Deaf Rugby World Rankings with a rating of 65pts *(this will change when more teams join)*

Q. How important are past achievements in calculating the rankings?
The system is designed to produce an accurate picture of current strength, based on results. The importance of past successes will fade and be superseded by more recent results.

Q. How does the system deal with freak results?
There is a maximum that any side's rating can move, either up or down, based on one match result, to make sure that the system does not over-react.

Q. What happens if a country does not play for a number of years?
Their rating may be deemed to be 'dormant', in which case they will be removed from current ranking lists. However, when they are active again they will pick up their rating from where they left off.

Q. What happens if countries split, or merge?
When countries merge, the new country inherits the highest rating of any of the constituent countries.
When countries split, the new countries will inherit a rating at a fixed level below the rating of the original country.

HOW WORLD RUGBY WORLD RANKINGS ARE CALCULATED

Example:

If two teams of equal rating of 80pts play each other;

Home Team   80pts
Away Tean   80pts

> **Home Win score = up to 15pts**;

0.70 Points added to the Home Team, and 0.70 Points deducted from the Away Team

therefore, the end result being;   Home Team 80.70   Away Team 79.30

> **Home Win score = 15pts or more**;

1.05 Points added to the Home Team, and 1.05 Points deducted from the Away Team

therefore, the end result being;   Home Team 81.05   Away Team 78.95

> **A Draw result;**

0.30 points reversed for both teams, Home Team deducted and Away Team added.

therefore, the end result being;   Home Team 79.70   Away Team 80.30

> **Away Win score = up to 15pts;**

1.30 points reversed for both teams, Home Team deducted and Away Team added.

therefore, the end result being;   Home Team 78.70   Away Team 81.30

> **Away Win score = 15pts or more;**

1.95 points reversed for both teams, Home Team deducted and Away Team added.

therefore, the end result being;   Home Team 78.05   Away Team 81.95

Note:
> **No Internationals played for a duration;**

In a 12 month period between 1st January to 31st December, a deduction by 0.5 ranking points is deducted off the country's ranking points.

Current Ranking, *as of 04.02.2019*

Ranking	Country	Points
1	Wales	81.80
2	England	76.55
3	Australia	70.50
4	South Africa	70.27
5	New Zealand	70.21
6	France	65.78
7	Scotland	65.77
8	Samoa	64.88
9	Argentina	62.73
10	Italy	62.69
11	Japan	60.33

Below is a useful link which enables the user to use the algorithym to ascertain the outcome of Rating Points :- World Rugby Rating Points Calculator

Rating Points Exchange Calculator

	Home	Rating	Away	Rating
1) Enter the current IRB rating of the	Eng	team here: 76.55	and the Wal	team here: 81.80
(for example...	WAL	76.92	SCO	76.36)

2) Is the match being played at a Neutral venue (where neither side has Home Advantage)? ☐

3) Is this match part of a Rugby World Cup tournament? ☐

4) Click [and Go!]

Eng (on 76.55 points) at home -vs- Wal (on 81.80 points)

Possible Outcome	Rating Point Exchange	New Eng Rating	New Wal Rating	Will Eng overtake Wal?
If Eng win by 1-15 points	1.225	77.77	80.58	No
If Eng win by more than 15	1.838	78.39	79.96	No
If result is a draw	0.225	76.77	81.58	No
If Wal win by 1-15 points	0.775	75.77	82.58	No
If Wal win by more than 15	1.163	75.39	82.96	No