

HNB and MasterCard Unveil Webb Ellis Trophy

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(L-R): Mahesha Amarasuriya, MasterCard Sri Lanka Director; Sandun Hapugoda, MasterCard Country Manager; Sanjay Wijemanne, Deputy General Manager – Retail and SME Banking, HNB; Hisham Ally, Deputy General Manager – Head of Islamic Banking, HNB; and Gauthami Niranjana, Head of Cards, HNB with the Webb Ellis trophy.

Leveraging its long-standing partnership with MasterCard, HNB secured an opportunity to display the coveted Webb Ellis Trophy at HNB Towers. HNB hosted students, the bank's top clientele, and the staff to view the trophy in person.

"Sri Lanka has a proud heritage and long history with rugby since 1879. The competitive sport is intricately woven into the fabric and spirit of our local sporting culture, going so far as to establish competitive encounters which draw past pupils and rugby enthusiasts globally to our island each year. Having experienced the raw enthusiasm of our rugby players over the years, we jumped at the opportunity to display the trophy at HNB Towers. Moreover, given the challenges we have faced over the past three years, we want to take every opportunity to inspire and motivate young sportspeople to celebrate the sport and its storied past," Sanjay Wijemanne, DGM – Retail and SME Banking, HNB said.

The event builds on the Bank's efforts to encourage and celebrate the Sri Lankan sports

fraternity by conducting various initiatives to empower national contenders at multiple games and tournaments.

“We are thrilled to bring the Webb Ellis Cup to Sri Lanka, and it’s a true privilege to showcase it in a country that holds rugby in such high regard. We’re especially excited to display the trophy at different locations in the country for an extended period, giving the public the opportunity to see the iconic trophy first hand,” Sandun Hapugoda, Country Manager, MasterCard, said.