

## **TISSOT: THE FIRST OFFICIAL WATCH OF RUGBY ROMANIA**

Tissot becomes official partner for the Romanian rugby federation and launches the official watch of "the oaks", the Romanian national team. Marking an historical premiere for Romania, Tissot launches a highly personalised chronograph in a limited edition of 500 pieces.

The link between TISSOT and sports has been a strong component of the Swiss brand's DNA since its beginnings. The high quality of TISSOT watches and the precision of its mechanisms confirmed the brand as official timekeeper for various sports, from skiing, ice hockey and cycling to fencing, basketball and motorsports. The strong connection to rugby dates back to 2013 and Tissot is already a world-renowned presence at many of the important competitions such as RBS 6 Nations Rugby, the event where the most iconic teams meet to dispute Europe supremacy.

The Limited Edition "Stejarii" mirrors the profile of the already successful TISSOT Chrono XL and enhances its strong personality by using the symbols linking it to The Romanian Rugby team and to Romania. On the dial at 8 hours, there is the beautiful logo of Stejarii – the oak leaf – and the three colours from the Romanian flag, discreetly represented as markers for the 5, 6 and 7 hours. The special identity is continued on the case back where the name of the special edition is engraved with the limited number of pieces – 1 of 500. The leather strap also comes in a unique combination of colours and textures – black with blue perforations and yellow stitching.

Inside the black PVD treated steel case, is a high performance quartz movement able to keep a precise tracking of time and to guarantee a flawless reliability, even in the case of intense usage. The chronograph function is the perfect support for all the sports activities and for daily comfort, a window date function has been added. The case is waterproof up to 10 atmospheres and its 45 mm diameter makes it an unmistakable Tissot style statement. On top of the extremely easy to read black dial with white markings and blue hands, there is a scratch-resistant sapphire crystal to offer optimal protection.

Tissot and Albini Prassa have chosen to support the Romanian Rugby Federation as a sign of appreciation for one of the most respectable sports entities in Romania. The Rugby Federation is the first sports federation ever established in Romania as well as the first to have won an Olympic medal for Romania. The National Team "Stejarii" has recorded an excellent track record of performances and maintains a respectable top position in the World Rugby ranking. The list of successes qualifies Romania as one of the only 12 nations to have taken part in all the World Cup editions since its establishment in 1987.

Francois Thiebaud, President of Tissot said, "We are very happy to become the official timekeeper for Rugby Romania as it perfectly embodies our commitment to sports and especially to Rugby, one of the most respectable team sports in the world. The limited edition "Stejarii" is a strong statement of two great stories coming together and also a perfect sporty watch for everyday use.

Alin Petrache, President of Romanian Rugby Federation: "I am glad to witness such an important partnership and I will be proudly wearing one of the 500 Tissot Chronographs

produced especially for our brave National Team. I am certain we are witnessing the beginning of a long term partnership”

Ion Schiau, Owner Albini Prassa: “We started our activity in Romanian in 2004 as distributor of Swiss watches and during this time have deepened our knowledge of the local market whilst building a strong image for our international horological partners. I am extremely proud of this partnership between Tissot and the Romanian Rugby Federation, it allows us to show our appreciation of a brave sports team and a community who manages to passionately represent Romania at the highest level.”