

Super 15 Rugby Championship 2012

The southern hemisphere's top rugby union club tournament kicks off on February 24, with Australia's Queensland Reds out to defend the title they won last year against seven-time winners Christchurch Crusaders from New Zealand

TEAM CONFERENCES

SOUTH AFRICA



AUSTRALIA



NEW ZEALAND



James Horwill
Reds' captain



Picture: Getty Images

1 Bulls Pretoria 7th 10-0-6	1 Reds Brisbane Winner 13-0-3	1 Blues Auckland SF 10-1-5
2 Lions Johannesburg 14th 3-1-12	2 Waratahs Sydney 5th 10-0-6	2 Chiefs Hamilton 10th 6-1-9
3 Cheetahs Bloemfontein 11th 5-0-11	3 Brumbies Canberra 13th 4-1-11	3 Hurricanes Wellington 9th 5-2-9
4 Sharks Durban 6th 10-1-5	4 Rebels Melbourne 15th 3-0-13	4 Crusaders Christchurch 11-1-4
5 Stormers Cape Town SF 12-0-4	5 Western Force Perth 12th 5-2-9	5 Highlanders Dunedin 8th 8-0-8

REGULAR SEASON: February 24 – July 14

Each team plays **16 matches** – 8 home and away games within domestic conference; and 8 overseas ties, against 4 out of 5 teams in each of other two conferences

QUALIFIER 1 July 20 **QUALIFIER 2** July 21

3rd Conference Winner -
Team ranked 6 overall

Team ranked 4 overall -
Team ranked 5 overall

FINALS: July 20 – August 4

Two conference winners with highest points total progress to **semi-finals**, while third conference winner and next three highest-placed teams contest **qualifying finals**

SEMI-FINAL 1 July 27 **SEMI-FINAL 2** July 28

1st Conference Winner -
Lowest ranked qualifier

2nd Conference Winner -
Highest ranked qualifier