

# News Release

March 15, 2019

Dear all,

Coca-Cola (Japan), Co., Ltd.  
Coca-Cola Bottlers Japan Inc.

## **Let's support the national rugby team!** **"National Rugby Team Support Vending Machine"** was placed in Higashiosaka City, Osaka, for the first time in western Japan.

As an official sponsor of Japan's national rugby team, Coca-Cola (Japan) Co., Ltd. (headquarters in Shibuya Ward, Tokyo, Representative Director and President Jorge Garduno) has been providing support for both men and women national fifteens and sevens rugby teams since 2016 to enhance and further develop Japan's rugby. As part of this effort, Coca-Cola Bottlers Japan Inc. (headquarter in Minato Ward, Tokyo, Representative Director and President Tamio Yoshimatsu) placed a "National Rugby Team Support Vending Machine" in Higashiosaka City, Osaka for the first time in the western Japan. Coca-Cola (Japan) supports "Coca-Cola Red Sparks" (Top Challenge League), a rugby team that is owned by a member of the Coca-Cola System, Coca-Cola Bottlers Japan Inc., and has national team players. 2019 is an important year in which Japan's national rugby team challenges the world, and Coca-Cola (Japan) promotes the placement of the National Rugby Team Support Vending Machines in support of the national team to further strengthen the momentum. This is the first placement of this vending machine by Coca-Cola Bottlers Japan Inc. in the western Japan (Osaka).

Please look forward to our future supportive activities for the national rugby team.

### ■ Placement date and location of "National Rugby Team Support Vending Machine"

- Date: March 14, 2019 (Thu)
- Location : 1-3-7-101 Aramotokita, Higashiosaka City, Osaka



### **[Coca-Cola Red Sparks Overview]**

As a rugby club of Nichibei Coca-Cola Bottling Co., Ltd. (currently Coca-Cola Bottlers Japan Inc.), Coca-Cola Red Sparks started its activity in 1966 in the Fukuoka Company Rugby League B. In 1970, the team was promoted to the League A and started to play as the company's official rugby team. After a turning point in 1994 when it underwent more focused training as a company sport, the team won the second place in the West Japan Company League B in the 3<sup>rd</sup> year and the first place in the 5<sup>th</sup> year, which helped the team to advance to the League A. In 2000, the team won the 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the said league and further advanced to its long-desired national championship. After enhancement programs for further success, the team advanced to the Top League in 2005 and grew to play in Japan's national championship. Many national players are playing or have played for the team.

For more details, visit Coca-Cola Red Sparks Official Website <https://club.ccbji.co.jp/ja/rugby/>

