



NATIONAL RUGBY CENTER

Marcoussis, France

Construction, extensions, and various renovations of the National Rugby Center

An architecture integrated into the landscape matrix and the topography of the Bellejame park

In 1999, the French Rugby Federation (FFR) decided to establish a national technical center. They chose a site of great natural richness, located in the heart of Bellejame Park, split in two by the Salmouille stream. The preservation of the park's poetic qualities was the driving concept of the development project, giving rise to a program split into built or landscaped entities. The five sports fields are located on the upper part of the site, on the grounds of the former agricultural land. The XV de France Residence is situated on the site of the former Château de la Comtesse de Bellejame in the lower part of the park. The restaurant, connected to the XV de France Residence, opens to the West, facing the preserved mirror pond. The gymnasium, embedded in the hillside, emerges like a floating lantern in the landscape. All of these elements are connected to the central axis of the site, which aligns the entrance to the National Rugby Center with the Montlhéry tower on the slope of a hill.

Design of an Ecological Built Landscape

We aimed to preserve the balance and connections between the blue framework (water elements) and the green framework (vegetation elements) throughout the project. The runoff water from the natural and landscaped spaces is collected by a system of landscaped swales. The sports fields are drained, and their water is stored in an open retention basin located in the lower part of the site. This basin serves as a stormwater basin, preventing overflow from the Salmouille stream. The collected water is then reused for irrigating the sports fields and landscaped areas. To ensure that this basin remains (...)

Client

French Rugby Federation

Program

Construction, extensions, and various refurbishments of the National Rugby Centre:

5 rugby pitches, including 1 covered pitch, a main pitch with a 2,000-seat stand, a synthetic rugby pitch, a 400m athletics track, tennis courts, a gymnasium and weight rooms, accommodation: Résidence XV de France, a flexible seminar space and dining facilities, a swimming pool and a hydrotherapy centre, a sports medical centre, cryotherapy, and the FFR administrative headquarters.

Surface

19,000 m²

15 hectares developed, including 6 hectares for sports facilities

5 hectares of green spaces, water features

Cost of Work

24,468,000 € ex-tax in 2002

40,000,000 € ex-tax from 2012 to 2020 (...)

Sports park

