



**SPECIAL EDUCATION
CHAMPIONSHIPS**

2024

FRIDAY 7th JUNE

COMPETITION EXPECTATIONS

All games will be played with a focus on PARTICIPATION and SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

All coaches will be responsible for the behaviour of their athletes.

There is a zero tolerance to verbal and/ or physical behaviour on AND off the field.

If the referee force substitutes an athlete, it is the coach's responsibility to decide IF/WHEN the athlete should return.

COMPETITION

Event:

- » Date: Friday 7th June 2024
- » Venue: Redlands Touch Football, Cleveland Showgrounds
- » 158 Long St, Cleveland QLD 4163
- » Time: 10:00am to 1:00pm (subject to change).

Nomination and Registrations:

- » The completed Registration Form must be submitted to the Tournament Director no later than Friday 3rd May (Term 2, Week 3).

Late Entries:

- » Team Nomination forms received after the closing date will only be accepted at the discretion of the Tournament Committee.

Team Eligibility:

- » Teams must be Special Educational Schools within the Queensland state area.
- » Special Education Units within Mainstream Schools may apply for registration – acceptance will be upon approval by the Tournament Committee.

Player Eligibility:

- » Every player must be currently enrolled and attending a Queensland school at the time of the event.
- » Each player must be a minimum of 11 years of age and a maximum of 19 years of age on 7th June 2024.
- » Each player must have the 'Parental Permission Form' signed and returned to their school.
- » Each player must have a diagnosed intellectual or physical disability.
- » Each player competing must appear on the team's registration form. Modifications can be made up to half an hour before the commencement of the championship at which time all team lists will be final.
- » Players can NOT play in more than one (1) team.

Players Per Team:

- » For Social and Recreational divisions there will be five (5) students on the field with a minimum of two (2) and a maximum of five (5) on the sideline for substitutions.
- » Each team will have a total minimum number is seven (7) and a maximum of ten (10) players per team.
- » Competitive divisions will have six (6) players on the field, with a minimum of two (2) and a maximum of six (6) on the sideline for substitutions.

*(Please note the Competitive Division will be playing full Touch Football Australia 8th Edition Rules: [TFA 8th Edition Rules](#))

Tents:

- » A limited number of tents will be supplied. If a school wishes to bring their own tent, they are required to inform competition organisers who will provide a suitable area.
- » Please note that there are to be no pegs used on the fields due to the watering system. If additional weighting is required sandbags are permitted to be used.

Uniforms:

- » Each team must have all players in the same colour shirt, the school uniform is acceptable. The shirts are NOT required to have a number on the back.

Footwear:

- » Each student playing must have enclosed footwear while playing (E.G sport shoes). Students will NOT be permitted to take the field with thongs, sandals or bare footed.
- » Students are permitted to wear moulded, PLASTIC football cleats.
- » Students will NOT be permitted to wear screw-in or metal studded football cleats.

Jewellery and Fingernails:

- » Students are required to removal all jewellery before participating. The term jewellery extends to watches, earrings, rings, bracelets, necklaces, and any other non-essential item.
- » Students are required to have their fingernails a short length and for the nail to be rounded. If unable to cut their nails students will be permitted to wear gloves (supplied by their school or personally) or tape over each nail (tape to be supplied by their school or family).

GAME INFORMATION

Match Durations:

- » Each match will consist of one period of time which will depend on the number of teams entered into the competition.

Match Numbers:

- » Each team will participate in a minimum of four (4) matches during the day.

Field Size:

*All field sizes are subject to change and are related to athlete mobility and number of teams participating within each division.

- » Social: 10m x 15m
- » Recreational: 25m x 30m
- » Competitive: 30m x 50m

Divisions:

- » There are three (3) divisions – Competitive, Recreational and Social. Teams are encouraged to enter teams into the division that best suits their team's ability.
 - Competitive: Complete Touch Football Australia (8th Edition) rules apply
 - Recreational: One (1) coach may be on the field to VERBALLY assist athletes but may not touch the ball or the participants. Slight modifications to the rules of play.
 - Social: Teams may have as many coaches on the field as required by the participants. Coaches are permitted to touch the ball and participants as required; however, the least amount of support should be provided. Modifications made to the rules of play to allow increase engagement by all athletes.
- » All competitions are MIXED - There is no separate male/female division, the event will be run as a mixed competition. It is understood that some school find it difficult to find girls to participate so some teams may consist of only males, the competition committee will assess team combinations when creating the draw.

Footballs:

- » The football required for match play will be supplied by the on-field referee. This ball will be used for matches only. Footballs for team warm-ups will be the responsibility of each school.
- » All footballs are required to be returned to the referee at the conclusion of each match.

Competition Draw:

- » The draw for the competition explaining the match times and fields for each team will be emailed to the school representative (as supplied on the team registration form) on the Monday of the competition week – 3rd June 2024.

Competition Points:

- » The following Competition Points will be awarded for all Round Games:
 - Win = Three (3) points
 - Draw = Two (2) points
 - Loss = One (1) point
 - Forfeit = Zero (0) points for the offending team. Three (3) points for the non-offending team (5 touch downs to 0 will be the forfeit score)
- » Determination of progressions to Finals Series will be in the following order:
 - Highest points at end of round games determine finishing position in each Pool.
 - For and against.
 - Percentage.
 - Result from round match.

Drawn Matches - Drop Off Policy:

If the SEMI FINAL or GRAND FINAL ends with an even score, the “Drop-Off” begin two (2) minutes after the conclusion of the match. Teams will be required to remain on the same field and the process will be explained.

- » The match will start at halfway with a tap.
- » The team who did NOT start the game with the tap will have possession of the ball.
 - Teams will start with four (4) players on the field. The match will proceed for an additional 2 minutes. At the conclusion of the 2-minute period the team who is leading will be deemed the winner.
 - If the scores are equal after the 2-Minutes the game will be paused, and the teams will be reduced to three (3) players on the field. The game will continue as it was previous to the pause. (e.g. if the game stopped with team ‘A’ attacking on tag four (4), the match will continue from this point).
 - The first team to score will be deemed the winner.

Protests:

- » Results from matches will be determined by the on-field referee assigned to the match and their assessment of the score will be final.
- » The Championship has a focus on participation and social and this will be reflected through the referees.

MEDICAL INFORMATION

Injuries:

- » It is the responsibility of the school to supply their own medical assistance for the duration of the Tournament. A qualified First Aide officer on site to assist if possible.

Medication and Seizures:

- » All medication for participants is the responsibility of the individual schools to supply and administer.
- » In the event of a seizure the match will be stopped. If it is not in the best interest of the student to be moved the score at the time will be assigned as the final score.
- » Support for students who could potentially suffer seizures will be the responsibility of the individual school. It is expected that schools will use appropriate prevention measures (ice vests, shade, cold packs, limited playing time) to limit potential seizures.

Insurance:

School

- » Each school is required to lodge their own Risk Assessment and Variation to School Routine along with any additional requirements of their individual school.

Touch Football Australia

- » All participants in this event will be covered under 'Touch Football Australia's National Insurance Program

Blood Bin:

- » Any player who is bleeding from a cut or abrasion is to leave the field immediately and have the cut or abrasion cleaned and covered. At this time, any blood-stained clothing must also be either cleaned or replaced.
- » If the player does not leave the field immediately, the Referee may stop the game and ask the player to leave the field (normal substitution rules apply).
- » Once the flow of blood has been stemmed, the cut or abrasion cleaned and covered and any blood-stained clothing and equipment cleaned or replaced, the player may return to the field and continue play. If bleeding cannot be controlled and the wound securely covered, the player must not continue in the game.

Concussion Policy:

- » The Queensland Special Education Touch Football Championships have adopted the TFA approved Concussion in Sport Policy for this event (see www.touchfootball.com.au).

PARTICIPANT BEHAVIOUR

Behaviour:

- » It is the responsibility of each School Manager to ensure that their teams behave in accordance with standard [TFA Codes of Conduct](#).

ANY REPORTS OF A BREACH OF THIS CODE WILL BE INVESTIGATED BY THE TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR AND/OR TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE. IF PROVEN, STRONG ACTION WILL BE TAKEN BY THE COMPETITION COMMITTEE.

Zero Tolerance:

- » No official or player other than the Team Captain is permitted to have any verbal communication with the match referee or referees. Back chat or questioning the referee decisions for any reason is prohibited, these are volunteers and as such are donating their time and need to be treated with respect. Any verbal or physical abuse directed at a referee, coach or participant will be taken seriously by the Competition Committee.
- » Referees will be instructed to enforce zero tolerance rules regarding abuse from players, coaching staff, and spectators.
 - WARNING ONE: The offending player/coach/supporter will be cautioned. If a player is deemed at fault the referee will order a 'forced substitution' where the offended player will be taken from the field and replaced by a team substitute. The player who was removed will need to remain off the field until their coach determines they are able to safely reengage the game.
 - WARNING TWO: The offending player/coach/supporter will be sent from the field of play for the remainder of the game and replaced by a team substitute. If a coach or spectator, they will need to report to the Competition Committee. The player who was removed from the field can take NO part in the remainder of the match; this will include 'Drop off' situations.
 - WARNING THREE: Game will be abandoned, and forfeit win awarded to non-offending team. Forfeit conditions will then apply to offending team.

Suspensions:

- » In the event of a player being sent from the field for the remainder of the game, an automatic one (1) match suspension will apply unless the Competition Committee considers further action is warranted.

*This can be extended to multiple games dependant on the offence and is at the discretion of the event committee.

COACHES INFORMATION

Coaches:

- » Coaches are required to be on the sideline with their substitutes, unless a student requires their assistance on the field.
- » Each team must have a “coach” at all their games.
- » On the day we will have varying people available to help support in coaching (Including some All-Ability National Players)

Team Managers Meeting

- » A compulsory Team Managers/ coaches meeting will be held on Friday 7th June 2024 at the Redlands Touch Association Clubhouse, 15 minutes before the first game.

Tournament Control:

- » The Director of the Tournament in conjunction with the Competition Committee will oversee all matters relating to this event.
- » Matters not covered by the Conditions of Entry will be determined by the above Committee and/or Directors with their decisions being final.

Presentations:

- » The presentation will take place at the completion of the final match at the playing venue.

Trophies:

- » Certificate of participation will be emailed to team officials. It will be the responsibility of each team official to print the certificate and present to the athletes.
- » The winning team of each division will get Champion Shirts.

Media Release:

- » Athletes who have permission for their image to be used are NOT required to wear the wristband provided.
- » If an athlete does not have permission, they ARE to wear the wristband provided.

Please note the Tournament Director reserves the right to alter the Conditions of Entry, advanced notice will be given when possible.

For any additional information or questions please contact the Tournament Organisers:

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