



**SPECIAL EDUCATION
CHAMPIONSHIPS**

2026

THURSDAY 6th AUGUST

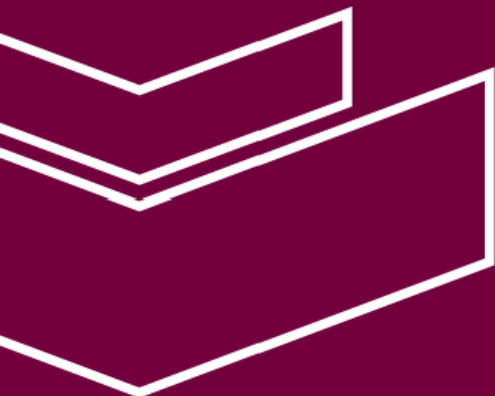
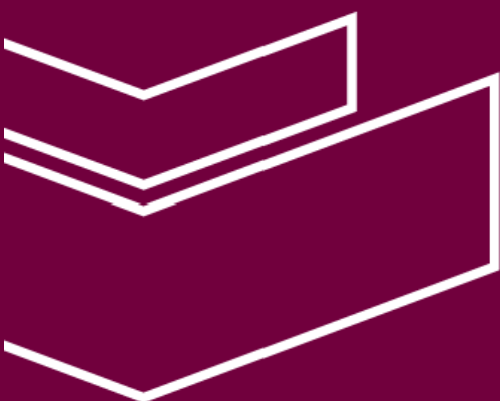


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COMPETITION INFORMATION

Event:

- Date: Thursday 6th August 2026 (Term 3, Week 4).
- Venue: Shaw Park, Wavell Heights.
- Shaw Road, Woolloowin QLD 4030.
- Time: 10:00am to 2:00pm (subject to change).

Nomination and Registrations:

- Registrations must be submitted via MySideline no later than Thursday 16th July (Term 3, Week 1).

Late Entries:

- Team Nomination forms received after the closing date (Thursday 16th July (Term 3, Week 1)) 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 at the discretion of 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 6th August 2026.
- Each player must have the 'Parental Permission Form' signed and returned to their school.
- Each player must have a diagnosed intellectual and/or physical disability.
- Each player competing must appear on the team's registration form. Modifications can be made up to half an hour before commencement of the first game, at which time all team lists will be final.
 - **Note: Players can NOT play in more than one (1) team.*

Players Per Team:

- Social and Recreational divisions will have five (5) students on the field with a minimum of two (2) and a maximum of seven (7) on the sideline for substitutions.
- 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.
 - **(Note: the Competitive Division will be playing full Touch Football Australia 8th Edition Rules: [TFA 8th Edition Rules](#)).*
- Teams will have a minimum of seven (7) and a maximum of twelve (12) players per team.

GAME

INFORMATION

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: Touch Football Australia [8th Edition Rules](#) apply.
 - Recreational: One (1) coach may be on the field to 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 can be made to the rules of play during the game, to maximise engagement for all athletes.
- All competitions are MIXED - There is no separate male/female division. The event will be run as a mixed competition. Recognising that some schools may have limited access to female participants, some teams may be comprised solely of males. Team compositions will be reviewed by the competition committee during the draw process.

Field Size:

- All field sizes are subject to change and are related to athlete mobility and number of teams participating within each division.
 - Social & Recreational: 30m width x 25m length.
 - Competitive: 50m width x 30m length.

Match Durations:

- Each match will consist of one (1) 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 three matches during the day.

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.

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.
- School supplied tents must be secured according to manufacturer’s specifications.
 - **Note: that all marquees MUST be pegged down. 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 (EG 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 individually) or tape over each nail (tape to be supplied by their school or individually).

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 August 2026.

Competitive Division 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 allotted).
- Determination of progression to finals series will be in the following order:
 - Highest points at end of round games (determining finishing position for each division).
 - For and against.
 - Percentage.
 - Result from round match.

**Note: Social & Recreational divisions do not accrue points.*

Drawn Matches:

**Note: Drop Off Policy (Competitive division ONLY):*

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 drop the number of players on the field to four (4). 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, the game will be stopped, and the teams will be reduced to three (3) players per team. The game will continue from the point of stoppage (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 with the refereeing.

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 aid officer will be on site to assist as needed.

Medication and Seizures:

- All medication for participants is the responsibility of the individual's school 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's school. It is expected that schools will use appropriate prevention measures (ice vests, shade, cold packs, limited playing time) to limit potential seizures.

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.

Insurance:

School:

- Each school is required to have their own risk assessment and variation to school routine along with any additional requirements of their individual school and participants.

Touch Football Australia:

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

PARTICIPANT BEHAVIOUR

Behaviour:

- It is the responsibility of each school manager/representative to ensure that their teams behave in accordance with the standard [TFA Codes of Conduct](#).

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

Zero Tolerance:

- No official or player, other than the team captain, is permitted to have any verbal communication with the match referee/s. Questioning or disputing referee decisions is not permitted. As volunteers, referees donate their time and must be treated with respect. Verbal or physical abuse of referees, coaches, or participants will be taken seriously by the Tournament Committee.
- Referees will be instructed to enforce zero tolerance rules regarding abuse from players, coaching staff and spectators.
 - **WARNING ONE:** The offending player/coach/spectator 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/spectator will be sent from the field of play for the remainder of the game and replaced by a team substitute. If it is 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 a forfeit win will be awarded to the 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 Tournament Committee considers further action is warranted.

COACH

INFORMATION

Coaches:

- Coaches must remain on the sideline with their substitutes, except where the level of need among participating students necessitates on-field support.
- If this is deemed necessary, they are required to have a support member/staff with the substitute players.
- RECREATIONAL & COMPETITIVE DIVISIONS - Coaches who are on the field are NOT permitted to touch the ball at any time, they can however, assist a student to catch. Coaches can NOT touch a student to physically move them on the field, only verbal cues, verbal prompts, gestures and visual supports are permitted.

Team Managers Meeting:

- A compulsory team managers meeting will be held on event day, Thursday 6th August 2026, at Shaw Park, 15 minutes before the first game.

Tournament Control:

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

Presentations:

- The presentation will take place at the completion of the final match at the playing venue.
- All grand finalists will be acknowledged, with prizes being awarded to the competitive division only.

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 required to wear the wristband provided.

**Note: the Tournament Organiser 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 Organiser:

QTF Programs & Admin Coordinator

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