

NTL Major Event Partners



# TOUCH FOOTBALL AUSTRALIA 2021 NATIONAL TOUCH LEAGUE (NTL)

## CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

C.ex COFFS INTERNATIONAL STADIUM,  
COFFS HARBOUR

10 – 13 MARCH 2021 (WEDNESDAY–SATURDAY)

### Objective of the Event

The National Touch League (NTL) is the premier TFA event held in March on annual basis. The aim of the tournament is to celebrate the 'best against the best'; Australia's representative Touch Football showcase and best players competing at the elite level, striving for the prestigious national titles and Australian Squad selection/honours.

The NTL event has proven to be a highlight on the Touch Football calendar. Every year the event embodies continuous development of our sport with improved procedures, production and delivery befitting Touch Football's showpiece event. All participants who attend the event are offered the challenge of improvement in their chosen field – as a referee, player, participant or volunteer alike. These improvements and ideas are taken back to all parts of Australia. All participants, wherever they come from and for whatever purpose, play a crucial role to spread the message from the elite tournaments, promote best practice and grow and develop the sport of Touch Football in Australia.



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## Important Dates to Remember

Date	Item	Potential Sanction
Wednesday, 16 December 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Uniform Compliance Test – send all current playing uniform designs to TFA so we can ensure that no obvious clashes will occur (we encourage teams to do this prior to final ordering).</li> <li>Please note the NRL Touch Football logo is compulsory on all uniforms (see pages 16 – 18 of this document for instructions).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Uniform penalties may apply.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Indicative Team Nomination Forms due.</li> </ul>	
Sunday, 10 January 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Referee Expressions of Interest due.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>May miss out on selection process to attend the event.</li> </ul>
Wednesday, 27 January 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Online Team Nominations final due date.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$100 late payment fee may apply.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tent Usage Form due.</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Player Pool opens.</li> </ul>	
Wednesday, 3 February 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Referees informed of selection into event and online registration link open.</li> </ul>	
Wednesday, 10 February 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Player Clearance Forms due for transferring players.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Player not Eligible to compete at NTL.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Financial status of all Affiliates, players, officials and Entities due to TFA.</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Teams or participants to be notified by TFA if ineligible due to financial status during the ensuing weeks leading up to the event.</li> </ul>	
Wednesday, 17 February 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Final Team list due.</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Player and Officials online registration link open.</li> </ul>	
Tuesday, 23 February 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Final date for nominations and applications for Player Pool Meeting.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>May be unable to secure players from the Player Pool.</li> </ul>
Wednesday, 24 February 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Player Pool Meeting.</li> </ul>	
Wednesday, 3 March 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Final day for Players and officials to register online.</li> <li>Player shirt numbers due</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>May not be able to compete at NTL.</li> </ul>
Tuesday, 9 March 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tour Leaders Meeting.</li> </ul>	
Wednesday – Saturday, 10 – 13 March 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Touch Football Australia 2021 National Touch League.</li> </ul>	





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## A – ADMINISTRATION REQUIREMENTS

### Item 1 – Tournament Venue and Dates

The 2021 National Touch League (NTL) will be held on:

**10–13 March 2021 (Wednesday–Saturday)**

C.ex Coffs International Stadium  
Stadium Drive  
Coffs Harbour NSW 2450

### Item 2 – Team Eligibility

Teams eligible to participate in the 2021 NTL Open and Senior divisions are:

- those representing TFA approved Entities:
  - Australian Capital Territory Raiders (ACT)
  - Australian Defence Touch Association (ADTA)
  - Northern Territory Devils (NT)
  - South Australia Heat (SA)
  - Tasmania Thunder (TAS)
  - Victoria Storm (VIC)
  - Western Tigers (WA)
- those representing NSWTA approved Entities:
  - Hunter Western Hornets
  - Northern Eagles
  - Southern Suns
  - Sydney Mets
  - Sydney Rebels
  - Sydney Scorpions
- those representing QTA approved Entities:
  - Brisbane City Cobras
  - Central Queensland Bulls
  - North Queensland Tropical Cyclones
  - South Queensland Sharks
  - South West Queensland Swans





	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Sunshine Coast Pineapples</li> <li>● those representing associations from other nations, by TFA invitation only, which are affiliated to the Federation of International Touch (FIT); and</li> <li>● any other team as approved by TFA.</li> </ul> <p>Teams that are composite in nature approved to compete will be unable to accrue points or contest finals. This excludes teams who have accepted players from the player pool.</p> <p>International teams must be endorsed by their respective national body and are not permitted to accrue points or contest finals in any division unless determined otherwise by TFA.</p>
<p>Item 3 – Player Eligibility</p>	
	<p>All participants and teams competing at the NTL must be full financial members of TFA and their respective State body or in the case of international teams, full financial members of their national body by <b>5:00pm AEDT – Wednesday, 10 February 2021</b>.</p> <p>All players must have played in a minimum of five (5) games in any season of the previous calendar year to the NTL:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● in the one team;</li> <li>● in the one division;</li> <li>● in the one competition;</li> <li>● in the same season (Season 1 or 2, 2020); and</li> <li>● with an Affiliate within the boundaries of the Entity the player wishes to play for.</li> </ul> <p>Participation in knockouts, tournaments or events held over a one day or a weekend does not qualify the player to meet the five (5) game criteria set out above.</p> <p>It is the responsibility of each Entity to ensure that all players and officials are affiliated and financial members of its Entity, and/or meet the pool player requirements as determined by TFA.</p> <p>Participants who are not financial will be deemed ineligible. If the team plays with an ineligible member, TFA has the right to deduct all competition points or part thereof.</p> <p>Entities must ensure that all Affiliates within its locality from which players are representing are also financial with TFA to ensure insurance for the individual is valid.</p> <p>Any participant allowed to take part in the event and subsequently requested to be un-financial will be the sole responsibility of the entity which signed off on participation. All participating players are deemed financial and eligible for next level selection.</p>





	<p>If a participant is subject to any unresolved financial disputes that has been documented in writing by either the state, Entity or Affiliate via formal notification to TFA, an appeal or any other judicial matters with an affiliate, then that participant is deemed ineligible to participate in the event, unless otherwise approved by TFA.</p> <p><b>Proof of identity documentation including birth certificate, current passport or current driver's license</b> may be required to prove eligibility.</p> <p>Female players can only be nominated for female and mixed divisions and male players can only be nominated for male and mixed divisions.</p> <p><b>Player Acceptance within an Entity</b></p> <p>Players eligible for multiple entities have the right to determine what entity they wish to represent. Both entity and player shall be required to comply with the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A player who makes themselves available and is subsequently selected into a team has 30 days or until 10 February 2021, whichever is the sooner, to decline their position in that team. A decline of position must be provided in writing to an appropriate person within the Entity.</li> <li>• A player who fails to decline their position within 30 days or prior to 10 February 2021, whichever is sooner, will be considered to have accepted that position.</li> <li>• The entity shall advise each player of their selection in a team through adequate, direct written communication to the player. Direct communication sent via suitable electronic means such as email shall be deemed acceptable, however posting teams to websites without other advice shall not be deemed appropriate.</li> <li>• A player who has accepted a position and subsequently wishes to withdraw to play for another Entity must apply for and be granted a clearance from the original Entity. The original Entity may approve or deny a clearance in its sole discretion.</li> </ul> <p><b>ADTA Teams</b></p> <p>Full serving members of the Australian Defence Force (ADF) that are current members of the ADTA through participation in on-base competitions must also meet the eligibility requirements for participation in NTL.</p> <p>The ADTA committee may be required to provide the same evidence as any other participating Entity that the member wishing to participate is eligible.</p> <p><b>Home Grown</b></p>
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	<p>A player's home-grown status is achieved once a player represents an Entity at an NTL. Once activated that status becomes the player's permanent home-grown Entity.</p> <p>A player is permitted to participate with his/her home-grown Entity and shall be required to still meet the eligibility requirements noted above, however can do so at any affiliate outside of their home-grown Entity's boundaries.</p> <p>Where there is a dispute between Entities over a player's home-grown status, TFA will determine the player's status whose decision shall be final.</p>
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#### Item 4 – Coach Eligibility

	<p>All head coaches must have a minimum Talent coach accreditation.</p> <p>All assistant coaches must have a minimum Foundation coach accreditation.</p>
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#### Item 5 – Divisions

	Division	Age Restriction
	Men's Open (MO) (Mark Boland Shield)	Born in or before 2005
	Women's Open (WO) (Angela Barr Shield)	Born in or before 2005
	Mixed Open (XO) (Tony Eltakchi Shield)	Born in or before 2005
	Men's 30s (M30) (Senior Division)	Born in or before 1991
	Women's 30s (W30) (Senior Division)	Born in or before 1991
	Senior Mixed (SX) (Senior Division)	Born in or before 1991
	Men's 40s (M40) (Senior Division)	Born in or before 1981
	Women's 40s (W40) (Senior Division)	Born in or before 1981
	Masters Mixed (MX) (Senior Division)	Born in or before 1981
	Men's 45s (M45) (Senior Division)	Born in or before 1976
	Women's 45s (W45) (Senior Division)	Born in or before 1976
	Men's 50s (M50) (Senior Division)	Born in or before 1971
	Men's 55s (M55) (Senior Division)	Born in or before 1966
	Men's 60s (M60) (Senior Division)	Born in or before 1961
	Indomie Noodles All Abilities (Touch Football Specialised)	Born in or before 2005

Players can only participate in one division.

A division must have a minimum of four (4) teams to be deemed viable. If sufficient numbers nominate for the division but teams withdraw following the close of nominations leaving less than four (4) teams scheduled to participate, TFA may modify or combine the division with another to allow its continuation.







Item 6 – Team Nomination Process	
	<p>The acceptance of team nominations will be subject to the Entity referee quota being met and at the discretion of TFA.</p> <p>Entity Tour Leaders are required to submit their confirmed Team Nominations online through the following link by <b>5:00pm AEDT – Wednesday, 27 January 2021</b>.</p> <p><b><u><a href="#">NTL TEAM NOMINATION LINK</a></u></b></p> <p>The online information must contain the details of each Teams contact including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contact Name</li> <li>• Contact Mobile Number</li> <li>• Contact Email Address</li> </ul> <p>Tour Leaders have the implied delegated authority of their representing Entity.</p> <p>If any of the above-mentioned documentation, registration or nomination deadlines are not met, or payment is not received by the due dates, teams may only be accepted to enter the tournament at the discretion of TFA and a late nomination/payment fee will be incurred.</p>
Item 7 – Tournament Fees	
	<p>TFA is moving to an individual player fee.</p> <p>The tournament levy for TFA affiliated players will be:          Opens and Senior divisions = \$110 (GST inclusive) per player.          Indomie Noodles All Abilities division = \$88 (GST inclusive) per player.</p> <p>Fees are payable at the time of individual online registrations and must be completed no later than <b>Wednesday, 3 March 2020</b>.</p> <p>International teams will also be required to pay a team entry fee of \$500 (GST Inclusive) per team.</p>
Item 8 – Late Entries	
	<p>Team Nominations received after the closing date may be accepted at the discretion of Touch Football Australia and will incur a late payment of \$100 (GST exclusive).</p>





Item 9 – Individual Refunds

Refunds will be at the sole discretion of TFA for any players registered to a team that withdraws after the close of nominations on **Wednesday, 27 January 2021**.

A full refund will apply to players who have completed the MySideline registration into teams that are not able to play due to insufficient number of teams nominating to hold a division and are not merged with another division. This will be determined two weeks after the close of nominations on **Wednesday, 10 February 2021**.

Players who have completed the MySideline registration and then withdraw due to injury prior to **Monday, 8 March 2021** will be given a refund, minus any transaction fees, however, will need to provide a doctor's certificate to [zoe@touchfootball.com.au](mailto:zoe@touchfootball.com.au) for this to be approved. The refund will be completed post the 2021 event.

If the event needs to be postponed all individual player fees paid will be held by TFA and moved to the new event date. If a player can no longer attend due to the new event dates, a full refund will apply to those players.

Cancellation of the event is the last option TFA will look to use. If the event needs to be cancelled TFA will need to determine if a refund can be issued pending the timing of cancellation.

Item 10 – Referee Nomination Process

Referee Expressions of Interest (EOI) must be submitted by **5:00pm AEDT – Wednesday, 13 January 2021**.

TFA invites EOI from Level 4, 5 and 6 accredited referees to meet the minimum number of referees required by an Entity. This meets the required standard for participation in a national event and should be the benchmark for such selection.

All Referees expressing interest for the event are required to have completed their RPL-RCC process in The Nest prior to completing their EOI to Referee at the event. Referees who have not completed this, risk being ineligible to participate at the event.

Nominated referees must be active and registered with an affiliated competition.

Each Entity must supply the equivalent of 1.5 suitably qualified referees per team (as indicated below) for the duration of the event.

Teams	Number of Referees required
1	1
2	3





	3	4
	4	6
	5	7
	6	9
	7	10
	8	12
	9	13
	10	15
	11	16
	12	18
	13	19
	14	21
	15	22
	16	24

TFA will release referee EOI information to all Entities, previous referees of the event and post the information on the TFA website and social media channels.

Referees are encouraged to seek endorsement from their State Referee Director and/or State office and/or regional offices, prior to completing the EOI process.

On closure of the EOI, TFA will provide State Directors and Offices with their referee EOI from respective States/Entities (NSWTA for NSWTA Entities and QTF for QTF Entities), for final endorsement based off their relevant eligibility criteria.

If an Entity does not have a suitable number of Level 4, 5 and 6 accredited referees, entities will be required to work with relevant state referee directors to solve the shortfall of referees.

All parties are encouraged to work collaboratively to ensure entity requirements associated with the referee quota are met for the relevant jurisdiction i.e. NSW for NSW teams, QLD for QLD teams and Alliance State for Alliance teams.

**If an Entity's team nomination is accepted despite their referee quota not being met**, Entities need to engage referees to meet their required quota. In addition, the loss of 1 Golden Boot point per referee shortfall may occur if the quota is not met.

If a referee is selected, then withdraws, they will be required to be replaced by the Entity.

Item 11 – Insurance

The TFA National Insurance Scheme covers all players and officials who have met the insurance criteria of a current TFA affiliated competition. For this tournament, the player must be a registered player in an Affiliate, or an accepted Pool Player who meets the criteria as set out in these conditions.





	International teams must provide evidence of their own insurance coverage as TFA cannot provide coverage.
Item 12 – Medical Assistance	
	<p>Entities are required to supply their own medical staff. It is <b>the Entity's responsibility to ensure that</b> adequate medical staff possessing appropriate qualifications and insurances are appointed to support their teams. Please refer to TFA Sports Science and Sports Medicine Framework to guide you through the process.</p> <p>Additionally, TFA will ensure suitably trained medical staff are available to assist with all serious injuries.</p> <p>Contact details of the nominated Medical Delegate are to be lodged on the Officials Team Sheet and Tournament Management will contact this individual during the event for medical issues involving the respective Entity.</p>
Item 13 – Registration Process	
	<p>Entities we be required to submit final team lists 21 days prior to the event commencing.</p> <p>Players and officials are required to register online via MySideline. TFA will provide a step by step guide on how to register as a player and as team officials.</p> <p>The online registration process will be open from <b>Wednesday, 17 February 2021</b>. TFA encourages entities to provide the registration details to players and officials to complete the online process as early as possible.</p> <p>Registrations must be completed by individual players (or their guardian) and officials and must be done prior to <b>5:00pm AEDT – Wednesday, 3 March 2021</b>.</p> <p>Teams may register a maximum of sixteen (16) players.</p> <p>Tour Leaders will be given access to their Entity within the NTL MySideline data base. This will allow Tour Leaders to monitor the progress of player and official registrations for all teams nominated to ensure it occurs prior to the deadline.</p> <p><b>Final Team Lists</b></p> <p>Final team lists are to be submitted in writing by <b>5:00pm AEDT – Wednesday, 17 February 2021</b>. This allows players who have not made a team to enter the player pool.</p> <p>Teams with less than 10 players registered at this time may be withdrawn from the tournament.</p>





	<p>Failure to submit team details by the due date may result in a team being withdrawn.</p> <p><b>Tour Leader Meeting</b></p> <p>Due to COVID-19, TFA will be implementing individual Tour Leader Meetings. Tour leaders will be required to book a 30 to 60-minute appointment, pending the number of teams nominated, between 12:00pm and 4:00pm on Tuesday, 9 March 2021 and attend to confirm all information and documents relative to their Entities teams are correct and collect their <b>team's balls</b>.</p> <p>The final report on the registered players of each team and registered officials will be provided at the Tour Leaders Meeting and will contain details of participants online as at <b>5:00pm AEDT – Wednesday, 3 March 2021</b>.</p> <p>The Tour Leader Meeting will be the final opportunity to make changes. The final Team Sheets and final Officials Sheet will be provided at this meeting. These documents are to be checked to ensure correct details have been provided including registered player names and playing shirt numbers. The playing shirt numbers, if not already entered online or if changes are required are to be legibly hand-written on the final Team Sheet. The Tour Leader must sign-off to confirm that all information and documents are correct.</p> <p>No deletions, additions or replacements to the Team Sheets or Officials Sheets will be permitted after <b>6:00pm AEDT – Tuesday, 9 March 2021</b>.</p> <p>Failure to submit team details by <b>6:00pm AEDT – Tuesday, 9 March 2021</b> may result in penalty including removal from the tournament, a financial penalty and or the loss of Golden Boot points.</p> <p><b>Player Shirt Number Changes</b></p> <p>TFA understands that there are occasions where player shirt changes may need to be made throughout the tournament.</p> <p>Team Officials must make TFA aware of player shirt number changes by completing the relevant form at the Tournament Information Area.</p> <p>Any excessive changes to player shirt numbers after <b>6:00pm AEDT – Tuesday, 9 March 2021</b> may result in a \$20 (GST exclusive) fine per offence capped at a maximum of \$100 per team.</p> <p><b>Required/Additional Paperwork</b></p> <p>It is the responsibility of the respective Entity that all their participants have submitted all relevant documentation before taking part in the tournament in any capacity.</p> <p>All Entities competing must supply an Entity Declaration endorsed by their governing body (NSWTA/QTF/TFA/ADF) stating that all of their players and officials qualify for the division they have</p>
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	<p>nominated for and that all relevant policies and conditions have been provided to them. This is to be provided to TFA at the Tour Leaders Meeting.</p>
<p>Item 14 – The Player Pool</p>	
	<p>A Player Pool will be available for all divisions. The Player Pool will be administered by TFA and will <u>open</u> on <b>Wednesday, 27 January 2021</b> and <u>closes</u> at <b>5:00pm AEDT – Tuesday, 23 February 2021</b>.</p> <p>A team must have at least ten (10) players before being permitted access to the Player Pool. The Entity must submit the team and names of any players not selected before they will be granted approval to enter the Player Pool.</p> <p>The maximum number of players a team can acquire from the Player Pool is four (4) unless extenuating circumstances exist and TFA permits at its sole discretion an increased allocation.</p> <p>Before accessing the Player Pool, teams should be aware that applying for players from the Player Pool is no guarantee that they will pick up the number of players or the individual player/s that they have requested.</p> <p>Prior to applying to enter the Player Pool, players must make themselves available to their Entity for the teams that they are eligible for. Players cannot enter the Player Pool without the endorsement of their current Entity.</p> <p>Players will be required to pay a Player Pool nomination fee of \$55.00 GST inclusive before being entered the Player Pool.</p> <p>Players should also be aware that nominating for the Player Pool is no guarantee that they will be picked up by a team, the team that they requested or with other individuals they requested. Players may only play for the team they have been allocated to from the Player Pool.</p> <p><b>Process</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Entities must submit an online Player Pool Application prior to <b>COB 5:00pm AEDT Tuesday, 23 February 2021</b>.</li> <li>• Teams will be ranked in order, <b>in accordance with the finishing order of the previous year’s NTL</b> and will be outlined in the Player Pool Selection Order.</li> <li>• Players can continue to enter the player pool at any point until the pool closes at <b>5:00pm AEDT on Tuesday, 23 February 2021</b>.</li> <li>• An updated list of Player Pool Nominees will be made available to Entities prior to the Player Pool Meeting should one be required.</li> </ul>





	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Any Entity that attends the National Player Pool meeting and has not submitted an application will only be allocated players should there be any remaining after the pool has been completed.</li> <li><b>Requests for specific Teams or Players will not be considered prior to the National Player Pool Meeting.</b></li> </ul> <p>Player Pool Applications have moved to an online process for 2021. The link to the application form will be made available from the NTL website. Applications must be submitted prior to <b>5:00pm AEDT – Tuesday, 23 February</b>.</p> <p>Player Pool Nominations have moved to an online process for 2021. The link to the nomination form will be made available from the NTL website. Nominations must be submitted prior to <b>5:00pm AEDT – Tuesday, 23 February</b>.</p> <p>A Player Pool Meeting may occur (via teleconference) if required; TFA will provide relevant Entities of the required information prior to the meeting.</p> <p>Further instructions on the Player Pool will be available from the NTL website.</p> <p>In extenuating circumstances, Players and Teams may be added to the Player Pool or allocated at times outside the indicated timeframes.</p>
Item 15 – Tents and Associated Equipment	
	<p>Due to COVID-19, Entity tents and equipment will be restricted and ice baths will not be permitted at the venue.</p> <p>Tent sizes will be restricted to <u>one</u> tent per Entity with the maximum size of the tent to be no bigger than a 12m x 9m tent to be used for the following purposes only:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Base for entity medical team for player treatment pre and post game</li> <li>Entity tour leader base</li> <li>May be used for teams to store bags during games however, players will need their mobile phone on them to QR check in and out of zones.</li> </ol> <p>In addition to this the following needs to be adhered to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Entities will need to submit an Entity Tent COVID-Safe Plan</li> <li>All food preparation is to be done off-site and managed externally or purchased onsite at the various council approved food vendor. Sharing of any food including fruit or sweets in communal containers is not recommended</li> <li>Entities will be required to provide their own hand sanitizer and will need to ensure all teams <b>comply with TFA's hygiene protocols for game participation</b></li> <li>Follow the Get In, Play and Get Out approach.</li> </ol> <p>It is the responsibility of the Entity to book their tent and other equipment.</p>





	<p>Any temporary structures erected at the venue must meet relevant Australian Standards and be engineer certified. Copies of this documentation is to be supplied prior to install so details can be verified.</p> <p>These items can be hired through one of the following companies:</p> <p><b>All-Ways Party Hire</b>          Phone: (02) 6652 3933          Email: <a href="mailto:allwayspartyhire@bigpond.com">allwayspartyhire@bigpond.com</a>          Website: <a href="http://www.allwayspartyhire.com.au">www.allwayspartyhire.com.au</a></p> <p><b>C2C Event Hire</b>          Phone: (02) 6655 6924          Email: <a href="mailto:info@c2ceventhire.com.au">info@c2ceventhire.com.au</a>          Web: <a href="http://www.c2ceventhire.com.au">www.c2ceventhire.com.au</a></p> <p>The event and tournament needs will take priority with the allocation of infrastructure.</p> <p>Entities are to advise TFA by <b>5:00pm AEDST – Wednesday, 27 January 2021</b> if they intend to use a tent or not and of their tent size.</p> <p>TFA will allocate the position of tents. While preferences will be considered, it is not guaranteed.</p> <p>All associated equipment is the sole responsibility of the Entity hiring the equipment. Entities will be responsible for ensuring the safety and protection of all equipment they bring into the venue. Cool rooms and ice trailers will not be given permission to be on site in 2021. Any other large infrastructure being brought into the venue needs prior permission from TFA.</p> <p>TFA cannot guarantee that water or power to the Entity tent area. Entities are encouraged to sort out any arrangements such as water or power access by <b>4:00pm AEDST – Tuesday, 9 March 2021</b>.</p> <p>Access to the stadium for Entities to set up their tents will be from <b>12:00pm AEDST – Tuesday, 9 March 2021</b>.</p>
<p>Item 16 – Uniforms</p>	
	<p>All playing uniforms must display the NRL Touch Football Logo on the right-hand breast of all playing tops and the front right-hand side of the playing short leg.</p> <p>Entity logos must be placed on the left-hand breast of all playing shirts and front left leg of playing shorts as per the TFA Uniform Guidelines</p>







The use of Touch Football Australia's Intellectual Property (IP) including the NRL Touch Football Logo is restricted under license agreement. Entities must display TFA IP on uniforms and must use a TFA licensed apparel supplier listed below.

Inferno	ISC Teamwear
Steeden	Tribal Sport
Sinalli	Struddys
S-Trend	Emu Sportswear
Paladin Sports	Phyre Apparel

All uniform designs are to be forwarded to TFA, [zoe@touchfootball.com.au](mailto:zoe@touchfootball.com.au) by **5:00pm AEDT – Wednesday, 16 December 2020** to ensure compliance and the approved scheme for each Entity and that all uniform details are lodged on record.

All playing uniforms must include:

- a securely fixed numbered shirt, singlet, bodysuit or two-piece suit (no temporary measures such as tape will be permitted to replace numbers);
- a 1 or 2, digit number which meets the requirements of the TFA rules of the game;
- no three-digit numbers will be permitted;
- 0 can only be used in the following number sequence – 0 (not '01', '02' etc), 10, 20, 30, 40 and 50. The only playing numbers permissible are between 0 and 50. No numbers outside that range will be permitted;
- shorts or tights;
- socks (that are visible) and are consistent for the whole team;
- footwear which meets the requirements of the TFA rules of the game; and
- **Entity Hat (as 'correct uniform')**.

Only approved playing uniforms will be permissible for players to wear while they are involved in any game. Team officials must also wear Entity issued clothing while they are involved in any game and ensure they wear enclosed footwear.

There are to be no changes to the playing uniform unless the Entity has previously submitted an exemption request for a player to TFA and that request has been granted.

A combination of playing uniforms is not permitted within a specific team. All members of the team must wear the same style, colour, cut and design of shirt, singlet top, shorts, tights, socks and hats. In Mixed Divisions, all male players must wear the same style while females must wear the same style albeit it can be a different style than the male uniform. Dispensation maybe applied for at the sole discretion of TFA.





	<p>Any player who is not playing in the official uniform will not be allowed to take the field of play until correctly attired. Referees will endeavour to enforce this rule. However, if a breach is proven to have <b>occurred it will result in a caution and/or fine as deemed appropriate by TFA's Tournament Management.</b></p> <p>Uniform designs similar in design and colour to the referee uniform will not be approved.</p> <p>Colours are to be under the direct control of TFA. Colours currently allocated are as per the details listed below:</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Australian Capital Territory</td> <td>Lime Green, Royal Blue and Yellow</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Brisbane City Cobras</td> <td>Navy Blue and Red</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Central Queensland Bulls</td> <td>Maroon and Yellow</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Defence Warriors</td> <td>Navy Blue and Light Blue</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Hunter Western Hornets</td> <td>Purple and Jade Green</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Northern Eagles</td> <td>Purple and Yellow</td> </tr> <tr> <td>North Queensland Tropical Cyclones</td> <td>Black and Red</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Northern Territory</td> <td>Orange and Black</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Referees</td> <td>Pink and Black</td> </tr> <tr> <td>South Australia</td> <td>Red and Navy Blue</td> </tr> <tr> <td>South West Queensland Swans</td> <td>Yellow and Blue</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Southern Suns</td> <td>Green and Gold</td> </tr> <tr> <td>South Queensland Sharks</td> <td>Maroon and Blue</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sunshine Coast Pineapples</td> <td>Green and Yellow</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sydney Mets</td> <td>Silver and Navy Blue</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sydney Rebels</td> <td>Red and Blue</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sydney Scorpions</td> <td>Emerald and White</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tasmania</td> <td>Green and Black</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Victoria</td> <td>Navy, White and Purple</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Western Australia</td> <td>Yellow and Black</td> </tr> </table> <p>All colour changes to uniforms being considered by Entities are to be submitted to TFA for consideration no later than 30 November in the year prior to the tournament.</p> <p><b>Compression Clothing</b></p> <p>The use of short length compression apparel such as short thigh length or calf length items of clothing will be permissible to be worn by a player (underneath their official uniform) and must be barely visible and with no prominent logo(s). The use of longer compression apparel will require specific dispensation from TFA's Tournament Management prior to wearing in a game.</p> <p><b>Merchandising</b></p> <p>The Merchandising of the NTL will be the responsibility of TFA and its suppliers. All rights relating to sale and production of merchandise for the event will remain the property of TFA.</p>	Australian Capital Territory	Lime Green, Royal Blue and Yellow	Brisbane City Cobras	Navy Blue and Red	Central Queensland Bulls	Maroon and Yellow	Defence Warriors	Navy Blue and Light Blue	Hunter Western Hornets	Purple and Jade Green	Northern Eagles	Purple and Yellow	North Queensland Tropical Cyclones	Black and Red	Northern Territory	Orange and Black	Referees	Pink and Black	South Australia	Red and Navy Blue	South West Queensland Swans	Yellow and Blue	Southern Suns	Green and Gold	South Queensland Sharks	Maroon and Blue	Sunshine Coast Pineapples	Green and Yellow	Sydney Mets	Silver and Navy Blue	Sydney Rebels	Red and Blue	Sydney Scorpions	Emerald and White	Tasmania	Green and Black	Victoria	Navy, White and Purple	Western Australia	Yellow and Black
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	<p>The selling of merchandise or other products by Entities or other parties at the event without TFA consent will not be tolerated and is a commercial breach.</p> <p>A penalty of up to \$5,000 (GST exclusive) per offence will be applied to any Entity or organisation <b>breaching TFA's rights.</b></p>				
<p>Item 17 – Online Tournament Briefing and Tour Leaders Meeting</p>					
	<p>TFA will release an online tournament briefing which all Tour Leaders, team managers and coaches must watch before <b>4:00pm AEDT – Tuesday, 9 March 2021.</b></p> <p>It will still be compulsory for the Tour Leader from each Entity to attend the Tour Leaders Meeting which will be held on <b>Tuesday, 9 March 2021.</b> The time and venue will be advised closer to the event.</p> <p>Any changes to the online tournament briefing or other important information will be distributed at this time.</p> <p>The following documentation is required to be lodged at the Tour Leaders Meeting:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="421 1160 1347 1413"> <tr> <td>• Entity Declaration for the Entity</td> </tr> <tr> <td>• Final Team Lists for each team (collected at Tour Leader meeting)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>• Final Officials List (collected at Tour Leader meeting)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>• Play by the Rules certification for each registered official (TFA encourages its completion to educate and meet recommended Risk Management Guidelines but will not exclude an official from participation if they fail to complete it. TFA takes no responsibility if Entities choose not to comply.)</td> </tr> </table> <p>A reminder that players and officials who have not completed the online registration process will not show on the Final Team List and for them to participate in the tournament they must attend the Tour Leaders Meeting to complete the online registration process.</p>	• Entity Declaration for the Entity	• Final Team Lists for each team (collected at Tour Leader meeting)	• Final Officials List (collected at Tour Leader meeting)	• Play by the Rules certification for each registered official (TFA encourages its completion to educate and meet recommended Risk Management Guidelines but will not exclude an official from participation if they fail to complete it. TFA takes no responsibility if Entities choose not to comply.)
• Entity Declaration for the Entity					
• Final Team Lists for each team (collected at Tour Leader meeting)					
• Final Officials List (collected at Tour Leader meeting)					
• Play by the Rules certification for each registered official (TFA encourages its completion to educate and meet recommended Risk Management Guidelines but will not exclude an official from participation if they fail to complete it. TFA takes no responsibility if Entities choose not to comply.)					
<p>Item 18 – Photography</p>					
	<p>TFA are pleased to advise that NRL Films and Photos are once again the official photographers of the 2021 National Touch League.</p> <p>NRL Films and Photos will be taking action shots at the event, which will be available for purchase from Touch Football's Photoshelter, the online photo shop.</p> <p>The link for Photoshelter will be distributed prior to the event.</p>				





	<p>Please note: Team photos will not be offered by NRL Films and Photos at the 2021 Inferno NTL.</p> <p>NRL Photos have exclusive access to the inner field and boundaries to all fields, along with external media and/or hosting councils. Therefore, no other Entity photographer can access this area. Any party found to be publishing imagery of a commercial nature will be subject to action by TFA.</p>
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B – EVENT SPECIFIC INFORMATION	
Item 1 – Rule Variations	
	<p>The 8th edition of the TFA Playing Rules will apply. Rules can be viewed from the TFA website here: <a href="#"><u>8<sup>th</sup> Edition of the TFA Playing Rules</u></a></p>
Item 2 – Tournament Management	
	<p>TFA’s Tournament Management will determine, and will rely on policy where they exist, to interpret matters not covered or specified by the conditions of entry.</p> <p>Tournament Management has the right to amend any tournament rule if required.</p>
Item 3 – Draw Formula	
	<p>The draws are dynamic and subject to change for a variety of reasons.</p> <p>After the close of nominations, an indicative draw structure will be distributed.</p> <p>The draft draw will only be distributed after team lists have been submitted and all nomination fees have been paid.</p> <p>An updated draw will be distributed to Entities with any additional draw changes advised as soon as possible.</p> <p>The final draw will be confirmed at the Tour Leader Meeting.</p>
Item 4 – Playing Times	
	<p>Tournament Management reserves the right to alter duration of games in the best interests of completing the event.</p> <p>All finals games must result in an outright winner. In the event of a drawn match at the end of full-time, a drop-off will determine the match winner.</p> <p>In instances where there are stand-alone Open Division Grand Finals, match referees may allow ‘time off’ for serious injury.</p>





Item 5 – Match Balls	
	All teams must use the official Steeden Match Ball in all games throughout the tournament. Each team will receive a match ball from TFA at the Tour Leaders Meeting. Extra balls can be purchased from the Tournament Information Area at the event.
Item 6 – Competition Points	
	<p>For all round robin games, competition points will be awarded on the results obtained. The following points will be awarded:</p> <p>Win = Four (4) points                  Draw = Two (2) points                  Loss = Zero (0) point                  Forfeit = Minus one (-1) points for the offending team                  Bye = Zero (0) points – if there are an equal number of byes allocated within the pool                  Bye = Four (4) points – if there are an unequal number of byes allocated within the pool.</p>
Item 7 – International Teams	
	International teams are unable to accrue points however, teams must defeat them in order to earn maximum points and/or points for a draw (as per above). For example, if an international team wins, neither team will receive any points for that particular game.
Item 8 – Forfeits	
	<p>Teams must be in attendance at their playing fields at least five minutes before the commencement of their match.</p> <p>It is the responsibility of each captain to report to the referees two minutes before the commencement of the game so that the toss of the coin can be affected without loss of time.</p> <p>If a team is not at the field at the time of the toss, the attending team will be awarded the winning of the toss.</p> <p>The offending team will receive a maximum of five minutes from the commencement of the game (siren/whistle) to position the team on the field and be ready to commence play.</p> <p>If the offending team is not in attendance after the five minutes has expired, the game will be deemed a forfeit and the non-offending team will be awarded the win with a 5–0 score. The offending team</p>





	<p>will receive a 0–5 score and receive negative points as indicated above. The offending team will be penalised one touchdown after the first minute and one touchdown for every minute thereafter up to five minutes (e.g. three minutes late equals 0–3 score).</p> <p>Upon conceding a forfeit, the Tour Leader or their appointed representative of an offending team will be required to show cause to Tournament Management by the end of the match in question why their team should not be excluded from participating in any further matches. Tournament Management or <b>an appointed Disciplinary Tribunal will decide upon receipt of the report if the offending teams' action warranted the need to forfeit the match and may incur a monetary fine of up to \$1,500 (GST exclusive).</b> This written report must be submitted to Tournament Management one hour prior to the team next scheduled game.</p> <p><b>Forfeits in the Final Series</b></p> <p>If a team is forced to forfeit in the final series, the team's Tour Leader must submit in writing the reasons for their forfeiture, as per the above process. It must be then approved by Tournament Management, or a monetary fine of \$1,500 (GST exclusive) will be imposed upon the forfeiting team, which will be invoiced to the relevant Entity, who is subsequently responsible to pay.</p> <p>NOTE: Forfeits for any reason in the final series negates the forfeiting team's rights to participate further in the final series.</p>
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Item 9 – Determining Positions for Finals/Other

	<p><b>Finals/Other</b></p> <p>Positions for the Final Series/Other will be determined as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Highest on table – if equal;</li> <li>2. Differential (for and against) – if equal;</li> <li>3. Percentages – if equal;</li> <li>4. Result of preliminary game (count back) – if drawn;</li> <li>5. Least tries scored against;</li> <li>6. Most tries scored – if equal;</li> <li>7. Drop off; and</li> <li>8. Any other method as determined by TFA.</li> </ol> <p><b>Forfeit Affected Positions</b></p>
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	<p>If two or more teams finish level on competition points and any of those teams were involved in a forfeited match in the preliminary rounds, the forfeit may cause some obvious problems. When a non-offending team has been involved in a forfeit, the 'for and against' from that forfeit will not count in final calculations. Similarly, for the other teams that finish on equal points, they will have the 'for and against' from that forfeited team deducted from their total. For teams involved in competing against teams on two occasions during the tournament, the calculations for the benefit of this rule will be the corresponding game in each round. For example:</p> <p>Team C forfeits to Team A in game three (first round).</p> <p>Team A wins 5 – 0 on forfeit. Team B defeats Team C, 5 – 3 in game four (first round).</p> <p><b>If after the preliminary rounds, the 'for and against' is:</b></p> <p>Team A – 50 for and 10 against (plus 40) Team B – 60 for and 20 against (plus 40)</p> <p>The above results would be deducted first, and the result is:</p> <p>Team A –           45 for and 10 against (plus 35) Team B –           55 for and 17 against (plus 38)</p> <p>Therefore, Team B would gain the higher position.</p> <p><b>Differential</b></p> <p>The differential is determined by subtracting the total of touchdowns scored 'against' from the number of touchdowns scored 'for'. The team with the best differential will obtain the higher position. For example:</p> <p>Team A scores 50 for and 10 against Team B scores 40 for and 10 against</p> <p>By subtracting the 'against' from the 'for', Team A would be 'plus 40', whilst Team B would be 'plus 30'. Team A would therefore obtain the higher position.</p> <p>If teams have the same 'difference' the percentage system would then apply.</p> <p><b>Percentages</b></p>
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	<p>If this system is used, it is easily explained that if the 'difference' is in the 'plus' situation (see above), the team with the least number of touchdowns scored against them, would obtain the higher position. However, if the 'difference' is in the 'minus' situation, the team that has scored the most touchdowns would obtain the higher position.</p> <p>The percentage system is calculated by placing touchdowns 'for' over touchdowns 'against' and multiplying by 100 over 1.</p> <p>Using the above example:</p> $\text{Team A} = \frac{50}{10} \times \frac{100}{1} = 500\% \qquad \text{Team B} = \frac{60}{20} \times \frac{100}{1} = 300\%$ <p>Team A would obtain the higher position.</p> <p><b>Result of Preliminary Game (Count Back)</b></p> <p>If all is equal than the result of the preliminary game between the two shall determine the higher position.</p> <p><b>Least tries scored against</b></p> <p>If the result of the preliminary game was a draw, the team that has had the least number of tries scored against the will be used to determine the higher position.</p> <p><b>Most Tries Scored</b></p> <p>If the result of the preliminary game was a draw and the teams have an equal number of tries scored against them, the team that has scored the most tries will be used to determine the higher position.</p> <p><b>Drop-Off</b></p> <p>If the result of the preliminary game was a draw, and the tries scored against and tries scored for are equal then a drop-off will occur with details to be communicated by Tournament Management.</p> <p><b>Any Other Method</b></p>
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	In extenuating circumstances TFA may be required to adopt an alternative method to determine finals series placings and may do so its sole discretion.
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Item 10 – Complaints and Protests

	<p>TFA recognise that all parties wish to have the opportunity, should a situation arise, to have their position heard and/or considered.</p> <p><b>A 'complaint' may be dealt with informally or formally in accordance with TFA's Member Protection Policy and these tournament conditions, following the lodgement of an Official Protest.</b></p> <p>Tournament Management aims to provide a simple dispute resolution process for complaints based on the principles of procedural fairness. Any person (a complainant) may report a complaint in accordance with TFA Member Protection Policy. All complaints relating to the tournament requires endorsement and submission by the entity.</p> <p>Management will not consider complaints on decisions of a referee made during the course of the game.</p> <p>All other complaints will be dealt with promptly, seriously, sensitively and confidentially, as per the outline above.</p> <p>TFA reserves the right to adjust time frames quoted in the Member Protection Policy and Disciplinary Regulations to ensure it handles complaints in a time frame befitting tournament conditions.</p>
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Item 11 – Disciplinary Regulations

	<p><b>Touch Football Australia is the 'TFA Authority' and when using the Disciplinary Regulations commences at the Disciplinary Tribunal level and allows for a first level appeal to occur in an event environment. This is therefore the final level of an appeal that will be used within the event environment.</b></p> <p>A second level appeal process is available, however cannot be implemented inside an event environment. Second level appeals will be undertaken separately to an event under normal Disciplinary Regulations timelines and processes (see Points 7-18 below).</p> <p>In all cases the Disciplinary Regulations apply to this event, with amendments to the timelines (annotated in Bold) to ensure the urgency in dealing with situations that arise in an event context as outlined below:</p> <p><b>7. CONVENING DISCIPLINARY TRIBUNAL HEARINGS</b></p>
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	<p>(b) Notification of persons charged under these Disciplinary Regulations must include details of the day, time and place of the Disciplinary Tribunal hearing at which the charge will be heard in accordance with these Disciplinary Regulations and must be provided at least <b>one hour's</b> notice to such hearing.</p> <p><b>8. REPORTS BY OFFICIALS</b></p> <p>8.2 Two match suspension under TFA Playing Rules</p> <p>(a) Where a player has been dismissed for the remainder of the match by a referee under rule 23 of the 8<sup>th</sup> Edition TFA Playing Rules and Referee Signals (Playing Rules) (as amended from time to time), the referee must report the dismissal to the relevant TFA Authority. Under the Playing Rules a player dismissed for the remainder of the match will receive an automatic two match suspension from all matches conducted by any affiliated Touch Association. Any such automatic two match suspensions must be reported verbally by the referee or competition organiser within <b>30 minutes, with two hours allowed to provide the written report.</b></p> <p><b>11. DUTIES OF TFA AUTHORITY UPON RECEIVING A REPORT</b></p> <p>(b)(x) Provide the charged person, team or club with a copy of the Incident Report form. In carrying out this function the Hearings Officer shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(A) provide a copy of the Incident Report form to the charged person (or a representative of a charged team or club) a minimum of <b>one hour's</b> notice prior to the hearing; or</li> <li>(B) if the TFA Authority does not have contact details for the charged person, team or club, make a copy of the Incident Report form available for collection by the charged person, team or club and notify the team manager of the requirement to collect the form;</li> </ul> <p><b>18. NOTICE OF APPEAL</b></p> <p>(a) The Appellant must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) lodge a notice stating full details of charges and results thereof and stating in full the grounds of appeal with the Appeals Officer within <b>30 minutes</b> of the notification of a determination of a Disciplinary Tribunal hearing using the Notice of Appeal form at Appendix D or other form issued by the TFA Authority ('Notice of Appeal'); and</li> <li>(ii) pay the appeal fee to the Appeals Officer when lodging the Notice of Appeal, which shall be:           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(A) \$200 for an Appeal Tribunal conducted by a TFA Authority (first level of appeal); and</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
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	<p>(B) \$400 for a TFA Appeal Tribunal conducted by Touch Football Australia (second level of appeal).</p> <p>The appeal fees do not apply in the case of appeals by minors and may be waived (in any other case) in the discretion of the Appeals Officer.</p> <p>(b) An Appellant shall be notified by the Appeals Officer within 12 hours of receipt of the first level Notice of Appeal as to whether an appeal hearing is to be granted (under regulation 17) and the time, date and place of the appeal hearing, in the event that it is granted.</p>
<p>Item 12 – Suspensions</p>	
	<p>As stated above, in the event of a player being dismissed for the remainder of the game, an automatic two match suspension will apply unless the Disciplinary Tribunal considers further action is warranted.</p> <p>Any player who receives three separate sin bins over the tournament will be given an automatic two match suspension.</p> <p>The suspension applies to the next two matches the team participates in the event. It does not include byes, or if the player belongs to a team that forfeits in a match. Games forfeited against the <b>suspended player's team will count.</b></p> <p>All automatic two match suspensions will apply and cease at this event and will not carry over into future events.</p> <p>In the event that a suspension or penalty is imposed by a Disciplinary Panel that may affect a local or state event, there needs to be official communication with the relevant state office.</p>
<p>Item 13 – Eligibility Issues</p>	
	<p>In the event of a valid protest being lodged <b>regarding a player's eligibility</b>, (should TFA feel the protest has foundation), the Entity will be required to provide proof of eligibility.</p> <p>Documentation of an individual required to prove eligibility would include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Statutory Declaration that they have meet eligibility criteria</li> <li>• Copy of individual(s) registration form</li> <li>• Copy of sign-on sheets or any other data to substantiate that the individual is eligible.</li> </ul> <p>Should an Entity be unable to prove eligibility of a player, the player will be unable to participate in the tournament.</p> <p>A team found playing an unregistered or ineligible player may be disqualified.</p>





	All eligibility protests must be lodged prior to the final timeslot on the second day of the tournament.
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Item 14 – Score Cards

	<p>It is the responsibility of each team to allocate an official score person for each game. Both scorers are required to score the game from the allocated scoring area which will be allocated next to one of the interchange areas. The official score card will be recorded at that location.</p> <p>The official score persons are to sign the score card at the end of each game. In signing the score card, the nominated person on behalf of their team has acknowledged and accepted the information on the score sheet to be true and correct. This information includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Full time and half-time scores</li> <li>• Sin Bins or Dismissal sanctions.</li> </ul> <p>Each team is required to complete a Team and Score Sheet for every game they participate in. The information that is required is player numbers and try scorers for both teams. This information needs to match up with the official scorecard (i.e. number of try scorers' matches the final score).</p> <p>TFA encourages all referees and the official score persons to communicate throughout the game to make sure that the score sheet is correct.</p> <p>If you do not agree with the information on the score card, do not sign the score card and lodge a protest via the Tour Leader as indicated above. Protests will be reviewed by Tournament Management.</p> <p>If the score card has not been signed and the time has passed for a protest to be lodged, the information on the score card will be recorded. In the specific instances of a score dispute, the time to lodge a protest is 60 minutes, as this is an appropriate amount of time for video review to occur prior to progressing with a formal process if required.</p> <p>If the information on the score card is unclear, the relevant parties may be contacted to confirm.</p>
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Item 15 – Score Disputes

	<p>Teams who do not provide an official score person negate their right to dispute the score.</p> <p>If a team does not agree with the score on the score sheet it should be noted on the official score sheet and a protest lodged via the Tour Leader as indicated above.</p> <p>The following information is to be provided with the protest:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The team that tapped off first and direction of play.</li> </ul>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The order the scoring occurred (including player numbers of both teams).</li> <li>• The half time and full-time scores.</li> </ul> <p>The opposing team will be called to verify the score. In the event of inconclusive evidence, the score will be recorded as the score that the referees have recorded.</p> <p>Alternatively, video evidence or equivalent can be provided (if available) and the evidence will be used only if conclusive.</p>
<p>Item 16 – Additional Players</p>	
	<p>A team may only play a maximum of 14 players per match. If a team, registers more than 14 players for the tournament then the official scorer for the team must cross off the player names on the score sheet who will not be playing.</p> <p>If a team believes that the opposition plays an unregistered player or plays more than 14 players, they are able to lodge a protest. Conclusive evidence must be provided to substantiate the claims.</p>
<p>Item 17 – Interchange Area Rules</p>	
	<p>The interchange areas (20m x 5m) will be positioned at halfway on both sides of the field. All interchanges must occur within the interchange area.</p> <p>The team winning or awarded the toss has the right to choose the interchange area on behalf of their team.</p> <p>A maximum of 20 registered participants may be present on the playing surface (including interchange area and permitted coaching positions). Each individual must wear closed footwear.</p> <p>Failure to comply with this will result in individuals being asked to leave the field perimeter for the duration of the game and may result in further action including fine and or suspension.</p>
<p>Item 18 – Coaching Positions</p>	
	<p>A coach may position themselves at the end of a field. If they are at the end of the field they must remain at least five metres behind the dead ball line. Where a fence, spectator line or advertising signage prevents this they must remain behind the fence or advertising signage.</p> <p>Failure to comply with this will result in individuals being asked to leave the venue for the duration of the game and may result in further action.</p>





Item 19 – Spectators	
	<p>The main C.ex Coffs International Stadium arena is only accessible to registered players or officials competing in the relevant time slot. There is no spectator access to the area.</p> <p>For the safety of participants and to maximise the spectator experience all spectators must be behind the designated spectator line.</p>
Item 20 – Tour Leader Guidelines	
	<p>All Tour Leaders meetings must be attended by the registered Tour Leader, or their nominated replacement, who must be a registered official with the Entity.</p> <p>The Tour Leader is not to enter the field of play before, during or after a match except in case of an emergency.</p> <p>The Tour Leader is responsible for submitting all reports, number changes or protests on behalf of their Entity.</p>
Item 21 – Communication with Referees	
	<p>During a match, only the team captain, can communicate with a referee.</p> <p>After the conclusion of a match, the team manager or coach can approach the referees to seek clarification on a decision or a particular part of the match but must do so in a controlled or civil manner.</p> <p>For further clarification, a meeting may be requested through Tournament Management.</p> <p>Those permitted to attend the meeting include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coach</li> <li>• Tour Leader</li> <li>• TFA Tournament Management (or designated staff member)</li> <li>• Match referee(s)</li> <li>• Relevant Referee Coach(s).</li> </ul>





## Item 22 – Presentations

All trophies and medallions will be presented to the teams and individuals at the conclusion of their respective final matches, or as soon as practical. TFA is committed to adequately recognising all finalists and therefore will look to adopt measures that reflect this where time permits.

Players of the Final will be awarded in all divisions. Male and female awards will be presented in all Mixed divisions.

A comprehensive presentation format will be circulated at the Tour Leader Meeting and available from the NTL website.

### **Men's and Women's Opens Awards**

The winning team of the Men's Open division will receive the Mark Boland Shield. The winning team of the Women's Open division will receive the Angela Barr Shield.

Players of the Final will be awarded in both divisions.

Players of the Series will be awarded in both divisions and will be named after the first two players inducted into the TFA Hall of Fame – Terry Jacks Medal (Men's Open) and Karen Smith Medal (Women's Open).

Coaches medallions will also be awarded in both divisions to the coach whose team wins the Grand Finals. The awards will be named after the first two coaches inducted into the TFA Hall of Fame – Peter McNeven Medal (Men's Open) and Peter Bell Medal (Women's Open). For teams with more than one coach, only one coach will be awarded.

There will also be a referee medallion to the best referee of the tournament as chosen by the Referee's Panel. The award will be named after the first referee inducted into the TFA Hall of Fame – Rick Borg Medal.

## Item 23 – National Team Talent Identification

The event will be used for the continuous talent identification process for the selection of national squads. It is important for the purposes of selection; any number changes or uniform issues are communicated with Tournament Management.

It is not necessary for players to nominate for this process. However, all players will be assessed unless they inform TFA that they are not available for selection. Therefore, individuals from TFA affiliated Entities that are not eligible to participate for Australia but are eligible for other countries are required to communicate this with Tournament Management.







	Any dual eligible participant must inform TFA of their intent on who they wish to represent.
Item 24 – Champion Entity	
	<p>The results of each division for each Entity will be accumulated and the Entity with the most points will be declared the Champion Entity.</p> <p><b>The point's method is outlined on the NTL website</b> – the Entity with the most points will be declared the winner.</p> <p>If a count back is needed the count back will be determined in the following manner:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Entities with the most championships</li> <li>• If equal the Entity with the most second places etc.</li> <li>• If still equal, joint Champion Entities will be awarded.</li> </ul> <p>Entities must compete in at least one division to be eligible to win. International teams are ineligible.</p>





## C – POLICIES

### Item 1 – TFA Policies

It is the responsibility of each Entities to ensure that their respective touring parties behave in the manner as detailed in the:

- TFA Constitution
- TFA 2021 NTL Conditions of Entry
- TFA Disciplinary Regulations
- TFA Code of Conduct
- TFA Member Protection Policy
- TFA Anti-Doping Policy
- TFA Responsibility Code

All of this documentation is available from the TFA website – [www.touchfootball.com.au](http://www.touchfootball.com.au)

In addition to the Membership and Participant Declaration which is accepted by all players and officials when completing the online registration process, the following rules of conduct must be followed:

Players/Officials will at all times comply with the reasonable directions, requests and instructions of TFA Staff, Tour Leaders and Team Management.

Players/Officials will exhibit exemplary conduct at all times including whilst travelling to and from the tournament.

TFA will coordinate the investigation of any reports of a breach of these codes in accordance with the relevant TFA policy.

### Item 2 – Child Protection

In some instances, persons under the age of 18 will be in attendance at the event. In understanding our expectations around your role and responsibilities we provide Entities some additional information related to legal guardianship.

This communication contains general advice only and does not take into account individual objectives, circumstances and or a legal view. The information contained in this communication is only to offer some additional information on this particular area and individual research and advice should be sort for your personal circumstances.





	<p>Ensure you are informed of any medical concerns, including food allergies of any child under the age of 18 years in your care at the event. In addition, you'll need to agree on things like sleeping arrangements, the administration of over-the-counter medications, and procedures for contacting the parents in an emergency. Information provided and acknowledged from the following websites:</p> <p><a href="http://www.expertlaw.com/library/estate_planning/guardianship.html">http://www.expertlaw.com/library/estate_planning/guardianship.html</a></p> <p><a href="http://singleparents.about.com/od/legalissues/ht/temporary_guard.htm">http://singleparents.about.com/od/legalissues/ht/temporary_guard.htm</a></p> <p>Entities are to be reminded that they are responsible for the direct supervision of any player or official who is under the age of 18 years. All steps should be under taken by an Entity to protect these persons from all forms of harassment. This includes ensuring that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All officials comply with the relevant child protection laws.</li> <li>• That when travelling to, during and from the tournament all care is taken to supervise minors.</li> </ul> <p>All Tour Leaders will be responsible for making sure all touring staff and volunteers involved with under 18's are compliant with the Working with Children Checks laws in their relevant State.</p> <p>It is the responsibility of the Entity to collect this information from staff or volunteers, keep on record and check that the card is valid, before they enter New South Wales.</p>
<p>Item 3 – Food Handling</p>	
	<p>It is important to note that handling food for groups can be a major risk factor with food poisoning or spoiling. TFA reminds Entities that they need to have processes and policy around the individuals that are responsible for these aspects. Please visit <a href="http://www.foodstandards.gov.au">www.foodstandards.gov.au</a> for more information.</p>
<p>Item 4 – Images and Video Footage</p>	
	<p>All persons accept that, by participating in this event, they may be photographed/filmed and that these images may be used by TFA for promotion of the sport. TFA will not pass any image(s) onto a third party without prior written approval with the exception of Major Event partners (Destination NSW and Coffs Harbour City Council) who may take and use photos/ videos at their discretion. If you do not wish for your image(s) to be used, you must notify TFA in writing to <a href="mailto:zoe@touchfootball.com.au">zoe@touchfootball.com.au</a>.</p> <p>With the use of social media, it is now important TFA has regulations around the filming of players and games at events. To protect the privacy and images anyone filming games or players will be required to be registered with Tournament Management and have permission to film. In allowing filming they must comply with relevant permissions on the use of the footage. These will be provided on the registration sheet.</p>





### Item 5 – Anti-Doping Education Plan

The 2021 World Anti-Doping Code which underpins the 2021 Australian Anti-Doping Policy has an increased focus on anti-doping education standards. One of Sport Integrity Australia's (SIA) key goals is for an athlete's first experience with anti-doping to be through Education, and not through Testing. Further information on the 2021 Australian Anti-Doping Policy can be found on the Sport Integrity Australia website or in the attached fact sheet Annexure A.

In accordance with our approved SIA Integrity Education Plan, all coaches, athletes and support personnel of teams in Open level divisions at the 2021 National Touch League are required to complete the Level 1 Anti-Doping Online course. The course can be accessed via [The Nest](#) and a copy of your certificate must be stored in the system, for any questions or concerns please email [james.sharp@touchfootball.com.au](mailto:james.sharp@touchfootball.com.au).

### Item 6 – Weather

TFA reserves the right to organise affected games in whatever format which will assist the games to occur in as equal conditions as possible.

TFA will use the [Extreme Weather Guidelines](#) in the case of Hot Weather, Wet Weather and Storms.

#### ***Match Reschedule***

If, due to any extraordinary circumstances, a game cannot be completed to full time the game may be rescheduled as soon as possible at a time and on a ground arranged by Tournament Management.

If the game has commenced, and cannot continue prior to half time the following will apply to rescheduled matches:

- 1) The game will start from the beginning and must be completed up to the regulation full time.
- 2) The score will commence at 0-0.

If half time has occurred and the game cannot continue, the following will apply to rescheduled matches:

- 1) The game will start from the beginning of the second half and must be completed up to the regulation full time.
- 2) The score will commence at the score that was recorded at half time.

If a team refuses to complete the game when it has been resumed, that team shall forfeit the game.

If the second half has started and the game cannot continue, the following will apply to rescheduled matches:

- 1) The game will recommence with the team that had possession of the ball, from the place on field and at the touch count at the point in time the match was abandoned.
- 2) The score will commence at the score that was recorded at the time the game was abandoned at.





	<p>If a team refuses to complete the game when it has been resumed, that team shall forfeit the game.</p> <p>If, due to time constraints or any other reason, a game that cannot be rescheduled the following will occur:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Games that did not continue prior to half-time will be abandoned and a 0-0 score will result.</li> <li>2) The result of games that did not continue after and including half time, will be the score recorded at half time.</li> <li>3) Games that were abandoned during the second half, the score recorded at the time of abandonment will be the final result.</li> </ol> <p>NOTE: Tournament Management reserves the right to judge and adjust to suit the conditions as required.</p>
<p>Item 7 – Blood Bin</p>	
	<p>Any player with a bleeding cut or abrasion is to leave the field immediately and have the cut or abrasion cleaned and covered. Any blood stained clothing must also be either cleaned or replaced. If the player does not leave the field immediately, the referee will stop the game and ask the player to leave the field (normal substitution rules apply).</p> <p>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.</p>
<p>Item 8 – Concussion Policy</p>	
	<p>TFA <a href="#">Sport Science and Sports Medicine Framework 2017</a> contains TFA concussion policy which aligns with the Australian Institute of Sport (AIS) and Australian Medical Association (AMA) joint Position Statement on Concussion in Sport.</p> <p>AIS and AMA have launched <a href="https://concussioninsport.gov.au">concussioninsport.gov.au</a> – an Australian-Government funded website providing simple but specific advisory tools for athletes, parents, teachers, coaches and medical practitioners.</p> <p>How to recognise concussion and what are the symptoms / signs of concussion and further information can be found here <a href="https://concussioninsport.gov.au/">https://concussioninsport.gov.au/</a></p> <p>The TFA approved Return to Sport Policy will now align as per the attached table <b>Annexure B</b>.</p>





Item 9 – Injury Clearances	
	In instances where a participant is examined by TFA Medical and has been advised that they should not participate for a certain amount of time will be deemed to be ineligible to do so. If the participant does participate, the team will be disciplined in accordance with any other ineligibility breach.
Item 10 – Glass Bottles and Alcohol	
	All participants are to refrain from bringing glass containers of any type into the venue.  The venue is a licensed area and it is illegal under liquor licensing laws for any person to bring alcohol into the venue, or to consume alcohol other than that purchased from the venue bar.
Item 11 – Parking Areas and Traffic Management	
	TFA will communicate all traffic management information in the online Tournament Briefing. Any individual parking in an incorrect spot will be towed.
Item 12 – Force Majeure	
	<p>A) If TFA is unable to perform, in whole or part in any obligation under these regulations of a Force Majeure Event, TFA is relieved of that obligation under these regulations to the extent, and the period it is unable to perform.</p> <p>B) In addition to C. Policies - Item 12 - A) TFA has no obligation to refund to any individual or team any fees paid if it is unable to perform by reason of a Force Majeure Event.</p> <p>a) <b>FORCE MAJEURE EVENT:</b> for the purposes of these regulations a force majeure event includes but is not limited to any or all of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Acts of God including flood, drought, earthquake, storm, cyclone, fire, explosion, epidemic; or</li> <li>• War; or</li> <li>• Terrorism; or</li> <li>• Riot or civil disturbances; or</li> <li>• Permanent injunction of any duly constituted court of competent jurisdiction; or</li> <li>• Any fact, circumstance, matter or thing beyond the reasonable control of TFA.</li> </ul>





Item 13 – Social Media

The social media hashtag for all channels over the 2021 event will be **#NTL2021** and you can follow us at the following TFA channels: and Destination NSW channels further below:

TFA SOCIAL MEDIA CHANNELS	
	TFA/NTL Event Website: <a href="http://www.touchfootball.com.au">www.touchfootball.com.au</a> <a href="https://touchfootball.com.au/national-touch-league-ntl/">https://touchfootball.com.au/national-touch-league-ntl/</a>
	<a href="http://www.facebook.com/TFA">www.facebook.com/TFA</a> @touchfootbballaustralia
	<a href="http://www.instagram.com/touchfootbballaustralia">www.instagram.com/touchfootbballaustralia</a> @touchfootbballaustralia
	<a href="http://www.youtube.com/touchfootbballaus">www.youtube.com/touchfootbballaus</a>
	<a href="https://twitter.com/touchfootyaus">https://twitter.com/touchfootyaus</a> @touchfootyaus
	tfaofficial

Destination New South Wales social media accounts are:

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/visitsnw>

Twitter: @NewSouthWales

Instagram: @visitsnw

**All Channels #NewSouthWales**

Item 14 – COVID-19

A reminder to all participant that the event will run in accordance with the NSW Public Health Order, the event COVID Safe Plans and the TFA return to play Guidelines attached table **Annexure C**.

Anyone attending the event including players, team coaching and management staff, event and medical staff and spectators are asked to **DO NOT ATTENT THE EVENT IF:**

- In the last 14 days you have travelled from overseas or to a to COVID-19 hotspot with the advice to self-isolate.
- You have been in close contact with a person who is positive for COVID-19.





	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- You are an active COVID-19 case, OR</li><li>- You are currently, or have recently experienced cough, fever, sore throat, fatigue or shortness of breath (COVID symptoms).</li></ul> <p>You will be required to check in and out to the event for contact tracing purposes via the event QR code at the Entry and Exit Gates.</p>
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ANNEXURE A: 2021 Anti-Doping Fact Sheet



**SPORT INTEGRITY AUSTRALIA**

**2021**

**AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL ANTI-DOPING POLICY**

**WHAT IS THE AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL ANTI-DOPING POLICY?**

The Australian National Anti-Doping Policy reflects the 2021 World Anti-Doping Code and amendments to Australian anti-doping legislation. The purpose of the Australian National Anti-Doping Policy is to have a single and consistent set of anti-doping rules across all sports in Australia.

This policy and the changes mentioned here come into effect on 1 January 2021.

**WHAT'S NEW?** 

**11th Anti-Doping Rule Violation – Discourage or Retaliate**  
 Individuals can violate this new rule if they discourage or retaliate against a person from reporting doping activity to authorities. This provides protection to those who report doping information. This violation can carry a lifetime sanction from sport.

**Non-Participants**  
 Anti-Doping rules now apply to more than just athletes and support personnel. They can also apply to a category called 'Non-Participants' including board members, directors, officers, specified employees of the sport and any member or affiliate organisation. Non-Participants can be subject to the violations of: Tampering, Trafficking, Administration, Complicity, Prohibited Association and Retaliation.

**Flexibility in sanctioning**  
 Athletes classed as Lower-Level and/or Protected Persons are afforded greater flexibility in the sanctioning process.

**Substances of Abuse**  
 Athletes who test positive to Cocaine, Cannabis, MDMA or Heroin may have their sanction reduced if they can prove the substance was used out-of-competition and not related to sporting performance.

**In-Competition period**  
 The In-Competition period now starts at 11:59 pm the night before an athlete competes and ends after the competition. This may change depending on the International Federation rules. Athletes should be aware of substances which are prohibited In-Competition and Out-of-Competition.

**National Testing Pool**  
 There are 3 testing pools:

REGISTERED TESTING POOL

NATIONAL TESTING POOL

DOMESTIC TESTING POOL

Athletes in the new National Testing Pool will need to provide minimal whereabouts information into ADAMS. Failure to comply with obligations under the new National Testing Pool will not result in a violation. Athletes in the National Testing Pool will have the same Retirement and Reinstatement conditions as Registered Testing Pool athletes.

**Education**  
 Sports are required to have an Education Pool of Athletes and Support Persons that are required to complete anti-doping education. At a minimum, this must include any athlete subject to testing.

**Other changes**  
 The sanction length for **Complicity and Attempted Complicity** may vary from 2 years to a lifetime sanction.

The violation of **Tampering** will be expanded to include the Results Management of a violation. This will be a separate offence and any sanction will be applied to the initial offence.

There are new rules to allow for cases to be resolved more quickly such entering into agreements (**Case Resolution Agreement** and **Early admission and acceptance**) where the sanction can be reduced if the individual admits and agrees to the consequences.

**FIND OUT MORE?** 

VISIT THE SPORT INTEGRITY AUSTRALIA WEBSITE  
[www.sportintegrity.gov.au](http://www.sportintegrity.gov.au)  
 Search for '2021 Code'

GOT A QUESTION?  
 EMAIL THE SPORTS ENGAGEMENT TEAM  
[engagement@sportintegrity.gov.au](mailto:engagement@sportintegrity.gov.au)

 [www.facebook.com/SportIntegrityAus/](https://www.facebook.com/SportIntegrityAus/)

 [twitter.com/ProtectingSport](https://twitter.com/ProtectingSport)

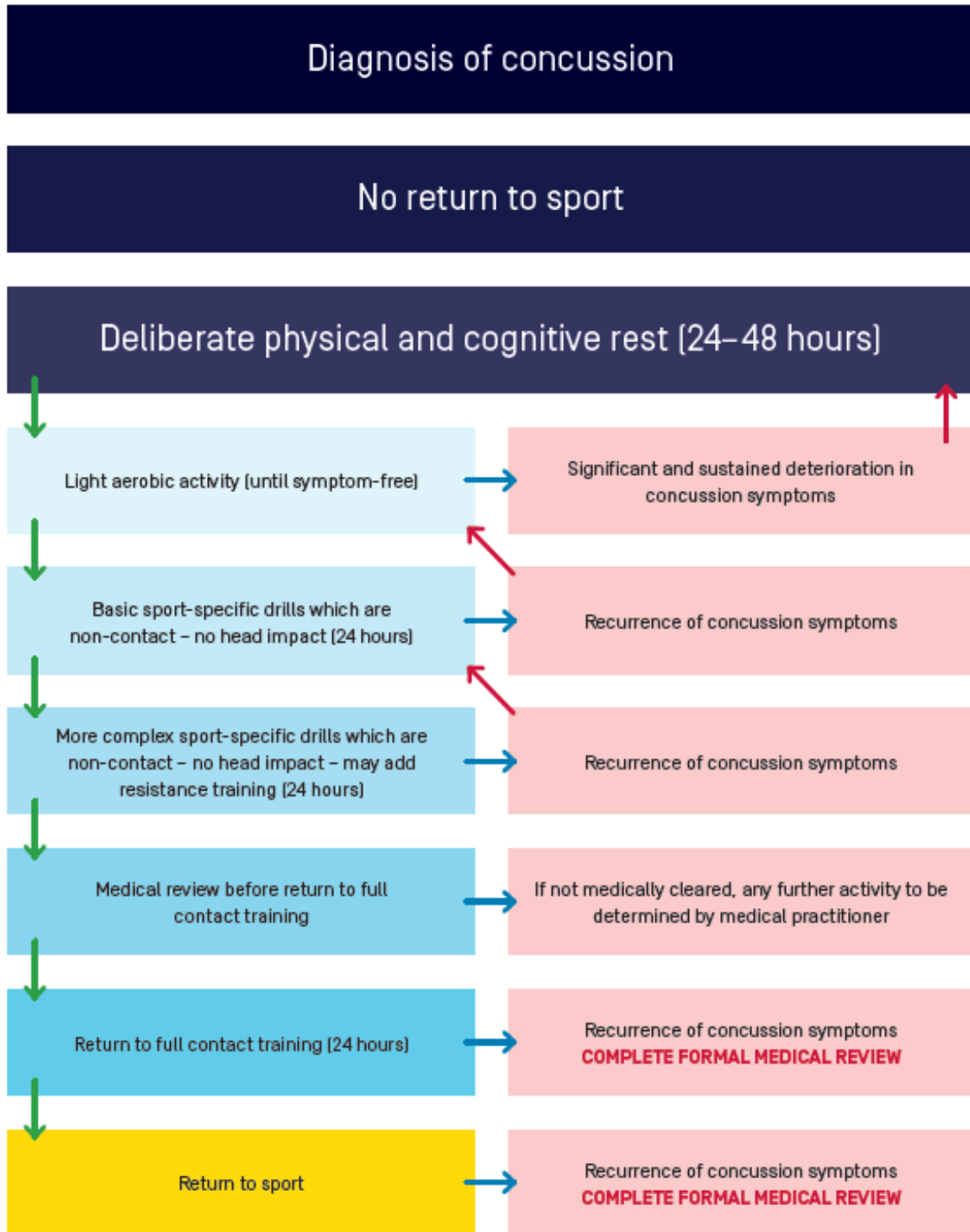
 [www.instagram.com/sportintegrityaus/](https://www.instagram.com/sportintegrityaus/)

This document is not exhaustive and should be used as a guide only.





ANNEXURE B: Concussion Policy





ANNEXURE C: COVID-19 Return to Play Guidelines

# PROTECT AGAINST COVID-19 AT TOUCH FOOTBALL

If you are in a high-risk category or feel unwell, do not turn up.

- 

Fever Cough Shortness of breath Sore throat
- 

Download the COVIDSafe app and have it on
- 

Reduce time at the venue. **Get In. Play and Get Out.**
- 

Thoroughly wash or sanitise hands
- 

Sanitise equipment like footballs before & after matches
- 

Do not share items, incl. drink bottles or bibs
- 

Practice social distancing (no hugging, high-fives, etc)
- 

Don't congregate (no sub-boxes or time in clubhouses)
- 

Spectators are discouraged

If you are tested for COVID-19, immediately notify your Competition Administrators and email [coronavirus@touchfootball.com.au](mailto:coronavirus@touchfootball.com.au) to inform TFA

 Developed by TFA in conjunction with Dr Paul Griffin, Director of Infectious Diseases at Mater.

ISSUED: JUNE 2021

Read Touch Football's detailed safe return-to-play protocols at [www.touchfootball.com.au/coronavirus-return-to-play](http://www.touchfootball.com.au/coronavirus-return-to-play)

