



## NRL TOUCH FOOTBALL TASMANIA COLD CLIMATE CLASSIC

MEERCROFT PARK, DEVONPORT  
SATURDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> – SUNDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2021

### COMPETITION GUIDELINES

#### IMPORTANT DATES

3 June 2021	Team Nominations Open
1 October 2021	Team Nominations due
4 October 2021	Draft Draw Released
11 October 2021	Final Referee Nominations due
15 October 2021	Individual online registration and payment must be completed
18 October 2021	Draw Released
22 October 2021	Welcome Function
23-24 October 2021	Event

#### INTRODUCTION

Beginning in 2021 Touch Football Australia are holding a tournament at Meercroft Park in Devonport, Tasmania, called the Cold Climate Classic. This event will be held in October of each year, to coincide with a food and wine festival in the North West and North of Tasmania. The aim of the event is to have some social games of Touch Football in and around the food and wine festival, creating an experience that will bring lovers of Touch Football and fine cuisine to a part of the country with a cooler climate.

This document is to be read from the perspective of inclusive participation. If an item below can be interpreted as restricting rather than encouraging participation, TFA will interpret in favour of encouraging participation.



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## A – ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENTS

### Item 1 Tournament Venue and Dates

The venue will be:  
Meercroft Park, Devonport  
The date of competition will be 23<sup>rd</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> October

### Item 2 Team Eligibility

Any existing or casual team may register to participate in this event. Teams must have a minimum of 8 players to be viable.

### Item 3 Player Eligibility

Players in the CCC must be registered through the MySideline system to participate. Players who are marked within the system as un-financial will not be able to register. There are no other restrictions on previous participation in Touch Football.

A team found playing an unregistered player will be disqualified.

### Item 4 Divisions

Division	Age restriction
Men's Open	No Restriction
Women's Open	No Restriction
Mixed Open	No Restriction

Only male players may nominate for male divisions. Only female players may nominate for female divisions.

NOTE: Should there be insufficient teams to conduct a division, TFA may decide to include a team in an alternate, suitable division, in consultation with the teams involved.

### Item 5 Coach Eligibility

A coach and/or team delegate from each team will need to provide a copy of the completed Play by the Rules online training program. This must be handed in to tournament control prior to the commencement of the tournament.

### Item 6 Team Nomination Process

Teams must submit their Team Nomination via the online registration process by Friday 1<sup>st</sup> October 2021.

All registration is now completed at [www.touchfootball.com.au](http://www.touchfootball.com.au).

Registration link:

[https://profile.mysideline.com.au/register/compsearch/?criteria=cold%20climate%20classic&type=&activity=&gender=&age\\_min=&agemax=&comptype=&source=touch-football](https://profile.mysideline.com.au/register/compsearch/?criteria=cold%20climate%20classic&type=&activity=&gender=&age_min=&agemax=&comptype=&source=touch-football)

### Item 7 Medical Assistance

Teams are required to supply their own medical staff for the treatment of minor injuries.

TFA will provide the services of a Sports Trainer who shall be available at the fields for emergency treatment of minor injuries.

### Item 8 Referees

Referees must complete their online registration by: **5pm Friday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2021.**

Referees are required to carry a minimum Level 1 Badge accreditation and must be active referees at affiliate level.

If teams need advice or assistance in meeting this condition, please contact Tournament Control.

### Item 9 Player and Officials' Behaviour



In accordance with the Rules of the Game players and officials are reminded to demonstrate respect toward referees, opponents and tournament officials. Instances of disrespect by players or officials during a game will be dealt with as advised by the Rules of the Game. Players who continue to overtly display disrespectful or unsportsmanlike behaviour, whether playing or not, will be liable to sanction by Tournament Control. Players and officials may be referred directly to the Judiciary by Tournament Control staff at any time for unsportsmanlike conduct and be liable to suspension.

Players and officials are not to engage with referees directly following a game, other than to sign the scorecard and offer thanks. If any team has a grievance with a referee they are to wait a minimum 30 minutes following the game and submit a referee grievance to Tournament Control. If necessary, a Judiciary hearing may be convened to discuss the grievance and issue appropriate sanction and/or guidance to Tournament Control.

## Item 10 Tournament Fees

Individual fees for the tournament will be set are the following rates:

Players will be charged \$150 per person, GST inclusive. An Early Bird discount applies for players registered before Friday 18<sup>th</sup> September, who will be charged \$120 per person.

The player registration fee includes:

- Participation in the tournament
- Entry, drink and food at Welcome function on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> October
- Access to the Live site & hub on 23<sup>rd</sup> October
- Entry to the farewell event on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> October
- First option access to various offerings of Devonport Food & Wine Festival (to be advised)

## Item 11 Insurance

The TFA Accident Insurance Scheme covers all players and officials who have met the insurance criteria of a TFA affiliated competition. For this event all registered participants are covered under this scheme.

## Item 12 Late Entries

Team Nomination Forms received after the relevant closing date will only be accepted at the discretion of the Tournament Director and may incur a late payment of half the Tournament levy.

## Item 13 Refunds

No refunds will be provided to any team or participant that withdraws after the close of nominations.

A full refund will apply to teams that are not able to play due to insufficient number of teams nominating to stage a division which will be determined after the close of nominations.

## Item 14 Registration Process

It is the responsibility of each team participating to ensure all of their players and officials are registered to play.

To complete your individual registration go to [www.touchfootball.com.au](http://www.touchfootball.com.au), click the box marked “Register”, then click “Player” (or “official”) then search for Tasmania or Cold Climate Classic. Individuals select their team (or player pool) and complete the registration and payment process.

Participants must be registered by **5pm AEDT – Friday 15<sup>th</sup> October 2021**.

Pool players will be allocated to a team by TFA after individual registrations close, and team delegates will be notified asap.

## Item 15 Tents and Associated Equipment

Any teams who are arranging tents or shelters must notify [des.fogarty@touchfootball.com.au](mailto:des.fogarty@touchfootball.com.au) no later than Friday 15<sup>th</sup> October 2021 and will be given directions relating to location and times for set-up.

## Item 16 Uniforms



All playing uniforms must include:

- a numbered shirt, singlet, bodysuit or two-piece suit;
- a 1 or 2 digit number which meets the requirements of the TFA rules of the game. No temporary measures such as tape will be permitted to replace numbers;
- no three digit numbers will be permitted;
- 0 can only be used in the following numbers - 0, 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80 and 90;
- shorts or bike pants;

To assist with crowd control, team officials must also wear Affiliate or team clothing while they are involved in any game and ensure they wear enclosed footwear (i.e. if they are in the interchange area or in an alternative coaching position).

A combination of playing uniforms is not permitted within a specific team. All members of the team must wear the same style, cut and design of shirt, singlet top, shorts, bike pants, body suits and socks.

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 occurred it will result in a caution and fine as deemed appropriate by Tournament Control.

As this event is in a “Cold Climate” players are encouraged to wear warm clothing while playing if appropriate, however they must ensure playing shirt with playing numbers are clearly visible.

### ***Compression Clothing***

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. The use of longer compression apparel will require medical dispensation from TFA prior to wearing in a game.

## **B – EVENT SPECIFIC INFORMATION**

### **Item 1 Rules**

The 8<sup>th</sup> edition of the TFA Playing Rules will apply. Rules can be viewed on the TFA website.

All round games will be played for 2 x 20 minute halves, with no extra time. Semi-Finals and Finals (as required) will be played to achieve a result, with a period of drop-off as detailed in the TFA Playing Rules if regular time expires with the scores tied.

### **Item 2 Tournament Control**

TFA’s Tournament Control will be in charge of all matters relating to this tournament.

Des Fogarty will be the Tournament Director. Jeff Quick will be the assistant Tournament Director. Other staff will be provided from TFA and from the host TA as ground control staff.

TFA will determine and/or interpret matters not covered by the Conditions of Entry and TFA decisions will be final. TFA has the right to amend any tournament rule if required.

Tournament Control has several recognised processes available to support the overall management and conduct of the event. These processes may include informal and formal, and it is the discretion of Tournament Control which avenues are used to eliminate issues or caution participants.

### **Item 3 Draw Formula**

After the close of team nominations, an indicative draw will be distributed.

A pool system will be employed for this event, with the structure to be determined by Tournament Control to best suit the majority of participants. Teams will play a minimum of 4 games over the event.

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.

### **Item 4 Playing Times**



All games in the tournament and the final series will be twenty-minute halves with a half time break not exceeding five minutes.

## Item 5 Match Balls

All teams must use the official Match Ball in all games throughout the tournament. Each team shall receive a ball from TFT prior to the start of the tournament.

## Item 6 Competition Points

For all games, competition points will be awarded on the results obtained.

The following points will be awarded:

Win	=	Three (3) points
Draw	=	Two (2) points
Loss	=	One (1) point
Forfeit	=	Zero (0) points for the offending team – Three (3) points for non-offending team
Bye	=	Zero (0) points – so long as there are equal number of byes allocated within the pool

## Item 7 Forfeits

Teams must be in attendance at their playing fields five minutes before the commencement of their match or advertised time.

It is the responsibility of each captain to report to the referees two minutes before the commencement of the game or advertised time, so that the toss of the coin can be affected without loss of time.

If a team is not at the field at the appropriate time, the attending team can be awarded the winning of the toss.

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. The offending team will be penalised one touchdown after the first minute and one touchdown for every minute thereafter up to five minutes.

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 a 5 - 0 win and three competition points. The offending team will receive a score of 0 - 5 and no competition points.

The Team Delegate or their appointed representative of an offending team will be required to give reasons in writing why their team should not be excluded from participating in any further matches. Tournament Control or an appointed Judiciary will decide upon receipt of the report if the offending teams' action warranted the need to forfeit the match.

## Item 8 Determining positions for Finals

### Finals

Positions for the final series will be determined, in order, as follows:

1. Highest on table - if equal
2. Difference (for and against) - if equal
3. Touchdowns for (ie better attack) - if equal
4. Result of Round game - if draw
5. Drop off

### Differences

The difference is determined by subtracting the total of touchdowns scored 'against' from the number of touchdowns scored 'for'. The team with the best difference will obtain the higher position. For example:

Team A scores 50 for and 10 against  
Team B scores 40 for and 10 against



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.

If teams have the same 'difference' then whichever team has scored more touchdowns overall will progress.

## **Result of Rounds**

If all is equal, then the result of the preliminary game between the two shall determine the higher position.

## **Drop-off**

If the result of the round game was a draw (or even in the case of more than one game), a drop-off will occur with details to be communicated by Tournament Control, but to be completed as soon as possible after the last preliminary game has been completed.

## **Item 9 Escalation Process**

It is the intention of TFA to provide a high level event which is conducted within the framework communicated and agreed by all parties in the current Competition Guidelines and 8th Edition Playing Rules.

As an organisation we recognise that all parties wish to have the opportunity, should a situation arise, to have their position heard and/or considered. TFA will ensure this occurs at various levels however also states that the primary purpose of all in attendance is to work within the framework stipulated.

The Judiciary or appeal process if required will be chaired by a TFA Official, or their appointed delegate.

TFA reminds all parties that the following issues will not be open to appeal and/or protest and therefore formally advises all teams that they must be aware of this prior to the commencement of games:

- 25.1 The Referee is the sole judge on all match related matters inside the Perimeter for the Duration of a match, has jurisdiction over all players, coaches and officials

Any protest put to Tournament Control on the above issues will be dismissed without the right of appeal.

Tournament Control will explain the process at the time and discuss any requirements with the party lodging such documentation.

TFA does request however that any matter associated with Rule 25.1 may be brought to the attention of Tournament Control so that direct discussions can occur with the Tournament Referee Director and subsequently the referee if required. Any affiliate or team official who chooses to take this approach is required to wait until 30 minutes after the completion of the game being discussed.

Tournament Control will always endeavour to mediate disputes with parties in a way that encourages understanding of the decision-making process and encourages participation.

## **Item 10 Protests or Appeals**

Protests or appeals must be lodged in writing within 30 minutes of the conclusion of the event or game in question, to an official in the Information Area. The protest is to be lodged and signed by the Team Manager or their nominated representative.

Upon receipt of a protest or appeal, Tournament Control shall determine if a hearing is necessary. Tournament Control advises that in instances where the conditions are not clear or a matter may require specific clarification or appeal to matters of dispensation or concession then Tournament Control may make an initial ruling. If the matter is further appealed then a hearing of the TFA will result to ensure independent assessment by the party in place to review the event requirements.

Appeals founded or based on decisions of referees will not be heard by Tournament Control. An overall briefing on tournament conditions and rules will be conducted with attending referees.

The Judiciary Chair will then investigate the protest. The team delegate will be notified of the decision. Any notice to be served on any person to attend a hearing will be served on the team delegate. Any such service is deemed to be served on all parties or persons within that Entity.



## Item 11 Judiciary

Reports or citing must be lodged in writing within 30 minutes of the conclusion of the event or game under scrutiny, to an official in the Information Area.

Upon receipt of a Referees Report or Citing Report, Tournament Control shall determine if a hearing is necessary.

If a hearing is deemed to be necessary, Tournament Control will then serve notice on all parties required to attend a hearing, which will be conducted as soon as is practical.

A Judiciary Committee will be appointed by Tournament Control, which will then carry out a hearing in accordance with TFA policy.

## Item 12 Suspensions

In the event of a player being sent from the field for the remainder of the game, an automatic two match suspension will apply unless the Judiciary Committee considers other action is warranted.

Any player who is sent from the field for a period of time (Sin Bin) three times during the tournament will be required to appear before the Judiciary Committee to show cause why he/she should not be given an automatic two match suspension (or more if the Judiciary considers further action is warranted).

The suspension applies to the next two matches the team participates in the event or future events. It does not include byes, or if the player belongs to a team that forfeits in a match. Games forfeited to the suspended player's team will count.

In the event that a suspension or penalty is imposed that may affect a local or state event, there needs to be communication with the relevant state office.

## Item 13 Score Sheets

It is the responsibility of each team to allocate the appropriate person (Team Manager, Captain or Coach) to sign the score sheet at the end of each game. In signing the score sheet the nominated person on behalf of their team has acknowledged and accepted the information on the score sheet to be correct. This information includes:

- Full-time and half-time scores
- Playing Numbers
- Touchdown scorers
- Send Offs or Period of Times

If a team does not agree with the information on the score sheet, they are not to sign the score sheet and lodge a protest via the Team Delegate as indicated above.

If the score sheet has not been signed and the time has passed for a protest to be lodged, the information on the score sheet will be recorded.

If the information on the score sheet is unclear, the relevant parties may be contacted to confirm.

## Item 14 Score Disputes

If a team does not agree with the score on the score sheet, they are to lodge a protest via the Team Delegate as indicated above.

The following information is to be provided with the protest:

- Who tapped off
- The order the scoring occurred (including player numbers of both teams)
- The half-time and full-time score

The opposing team will be called to verify the score. If they do not agree, or in the event of inconclusive evidence, the score will be recorded as the score that the referees have recorded. Alternatively, video evidence can be provided, and the evidence will be used if conclusive.

## Item 15 Interchange Area Rules



The interchange areas will be positioned on both sides of the fields, as illustrated in the 8<sup>th</sup> Edition of the TFA Playing Rules.

The team winning or awarded the toss has the right to choose the interchange area on behalf of their team.

A maximum of 17 registered participants may be present on the playing surface (including interchange area and permitted coaching positions). Each participant must wear enclosed footwear.

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.

If a team believes that the opposition had more than 17 registered participants on the playing surface or unregistered participants in their interchange area they may lodge a protest. For the protest to be upheld, the opposition must agree that they broke this rule or conclusive video/photographic evidence must be provided.

If the protest is upheld, it cannot change the result of the game. However it may attract significant fines.

## Item 16 Coaching Positions

A coach may position themselves at the end of a field. If they are at the end of the field they must remain five metres behind the dead ball line. Where a fence or advertising signage prevents this they must remain behind the fence or advertising signage.

Any coaching/management staff at the end of a playing field cannot issue any verbal or physical commands directly to the team they are observing and can only communicate to the team or other coaching/management staff in the interchange area by returning to the interchange area, or by use of electronic communication equipment.

Any person found to be disregarding this tournament rule will be asked to return to the interchange area.

Coaches are reminded that they are under the jurisdiction of the referee regardless of being either in the interchange area or at the end of the field.

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.

## Item 17 Spectators

The area in between playing fields is only accessible to registered players or officials participating in the relevant time slot. There is **no spectator access** to the area unless otherwise communicated by TFA, or where seating is provided.

To assist in the control of spectators and safety of participants, team delegates are asked to help tournament officials with the policing of this request. Please inform all of your participating members to cooperate with tournament officials by remaining in the designated spectator areas.

## Item 18 Communication with Referees

During a match, only the team captain can communicate with a referee.

After the conclusion of a match, the Team Manager or Coach can approach the referees to sign the score sheet but are not to engage in 'heated' discussion.

A meeting may be established to discuss any issues arising during the game via a request through Tournament Control after a 30 minute 'cool off' period has passed.

Those permitted to attend the meeting include:

- Coach
- Designated Team Delegate
- TFT Tournament Control (or designated staff member)
- Match Referee(s)
- Referee Panel Member(s)

## Item 19 Presentations and Prize Money





Winning teams in each division will receive Winning Team Medallions which will be presented to the teams at the conclusion of all final matches.

Each division has Prize Money allocated to the teams in the following manner:

1<sup>st</sup> place: \$2500

2<sup>nd</sup> place: \$1500

3<sup>rd</sup> place: \$1000

4<sup>th</sup> place: Free entry to 2022 Cold Climate Classic

## C – POLICIES

### Item 1 TFA Policies

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

- TFA Constitution and By Laws
- 2021 TFA Cold Climate Classic Competition Guidelines
- TFA Disciplinary Regulations
- TFA Code of Conduct
- TFA Member Protection Policy
- TFA Child Protection Requirements/Tasmanian Working With Vulnerable People Regulations
- TFA Anti-Doping Policy
- TFA Responsibility Code

All of these documents are available from the TFA website.

### Item 2 Weather

TFA reserves the right to organise the affected games in whatever format which will assist the games to occur in as equal conditions as possible. TFA reminds participants that this event is being held in a colder climate than many players may be used to, and that cold/wet weather brings its own challenges to the sport.

#### *Hot Weather*

Games will not commence if the temperature exceeds 38 degrees, games will be postponed until such time that the temperature decreases.

If the temperature reaches 35 degrees, any games underway will be completed and any subsequent games will be played as 4 x 10 minute quarters with a two minute break between the first and second, and third and fourth quarters, and a five minute break at half time.

TFA will return to the regular format, guided by a drop in temperature back below 35 degrees.

#### *Wet Weather*

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

When wet weather or hot weather affects a finals series, where games need to be cancelled, the top team in each pool will be awarded joint champions.

#### *Match Reschedule*

If, due to any other 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 Control in consultation with both teams.

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



- 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:

- 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, due to time constraints or any other reason, a game cannot be rescheduled the following will occur:

- 1) Games that did not continue prior to half-time will be abandoned and a 0-0 score will result.
- 2) The result of games that did not continue after and including half-time will be the score at that point in time.

Note: Tournament Control reserves the right to judge and adjust to suit the conditions as required.

### Item 3 Concussion Policy

The TFA approved Concussion in Sport Policy is as follows:

Grade	First Concussion	Second Concussion	Third Concussion
1. Mild	May return to play if asymptomatic	Return to play in two weeks if asymptomatic at that time for one week.	Terminate season. May return to play if asymptomatic
2. Moderate	Return to play after asymptomatic for one week	Minimum of one month rest. May return to play then if asymptomatic for one week. Consider terminating season	Terminate season. May return to play next season if asymptomatic
3. Severe	Minimum of one month rest. May return if has been asymptomatic for one week	Terminate season. May return to play next season if asymptomatic	Nb. Asymptomatic is defined as having no dizziness, impaired orientation, concentration or memory during rest or exercise.

**Item 4 Blood Bin**  
Any player with a bleeding 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 will 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.

### Item 4 Glass Bottles and Alcohol

Alcohol consumption will be limited to areas covered by the license. Individuals modelling inappropriate alcohol behaviour will be asked to leave.

All participants are to refrain from bringing glass containers of any type into the venue.

### Item 5 Parking Areas and Traffic Management

TFA will communicate all traffic management information as required. Any individual parking in an incorrect location will be towed.

### Item 6 Force Majeure

- 1) 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.



2) In addition to regulation above, 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.

FORCE MAJEURE EVENT: for the purposes of these regulations a force majeure event includes but is not limited to any or all of the following:

- Acts of God including flood, drought, earthquake, storm, cyclone, fire, explosion, epidemic; or
- War; or
- Terrorism; or
- Riot or civil disturbances; or
- Permanent injunction of any duly constituted court of competent jurisdiction; or
- Any fact, circumstance, matter or thing beyond the reasonable control of TFA.