



NRL Touch Football ACT

Selection Policy

ACT Raiders Squads

2026



Introduction.

This policy outlines the guidelines that will be in place for the selection of ACT Raiders Touch Squads and Teams. This policy should be used as the starting point for selection of all representative teams as it will ensure the selection process is consistent and transparent at all levels and is not compromised in any way.

The aim of this policy is to ensure that selections are independent, fair, and transparent whilst ensuring all aspiring athletes are given a reasonable opportunity to demonstrate their skills and abilities.

Noting that this ACT Raiders Selection Policy is a working document, Touch Football ACT may amend or change any part of these guidelines without notice where deemed necessary.





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<p>Item 1 – Selection Process</p>	
	<p>The trials and final selection process shall be completed on a date determined by Touch Football ACT.</p> <p>Touch Football ACT will appoint a Selection Panel which will be led by the ACT State Manager in the capacity of Selection Chair who will be responsible for the coordination, communication, and arrangements for the process in appointing those members of the selection panel.</p> <p>Any disputes in relation to the selection process or decisions of the selectors shall be overseen by Touch Football ACT.</p>
<p>Item 2 – Selection Panel Appointment</p>	
	<p>The Selection Panel will consist of a minimum of two independent selectors, excluding the Chair and the appointed coach.</p> <p>The appointed Selection Panel will select the team based on the criteria below.</p>
<p>Item 3 – Coaches and Management Staff Appointments.</p>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Head Coaches, Assistants and Managers wishing to be considered must apply for the appropriate role through the Expression of Interest process. b) Coaches and management appointments will be considered by the selection panel. c) All coaching and management staff must hold qualifications as deemed sufficient by Touch Football Australia in line with competition Conditions of Entry. d) All coaching and management staff must hold a Working with Vulnerable People (WWVP) or Working with Children Check (WWCC) where minors are members of squad environments.





	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> e) Where coaches are selected as Player/Coaches, the appointment of a non-playing assistant coach must be made at a minimum. f) Coaches will view, conduct and participate in the athlete selection process in all fairness and without prejudice. g) Where the coach is a parent of a child/ren involved in the selection process, they must remove themselves from all discussions surrounding their children. h) Where item 3g is initiated the selection panel will have final say on athlete selections on the suitability of individuals for selection. i) Coaches must relay all training preferences to Touch Football ACT promptly after squads are selected to ensure field bookings are completed.
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Item 4 – Eligibility Criteria

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Athletes must be a registered participant of Touch Football ACT. b) Athletes must be a registered and active participant of a Touch Football ACT competition prior to event participation. c) Athletes must be and remain current financial members of Touch Football ACT and TFA. d) Athletes must submit an Athlete Trial EOI through the relevant channel as required by Touch Football ACT. e) Junior and Youth athletes are encouraged in the first instance to trial for their current age division but may trial in multiple divisions where eligible and state their preference to TFACT prior to trials commencing. f) U18s teams in both Boys and Girls divisions will take selection preference, having squads selected from those athletes deemed to be of suitable ability in appropriate age brackets. g) Athletes must attend relevant trials or have been issued with an exemption from the panel Chair prior to the trial dates. Injured athletes must produce a medical certificate. h) At all times follow Touch Football ACT and/or Touch Football Australia (TFA) Code of Conduct. <p>Home Grown status.</p> <p>Where allowable by TFA, a player is permitted to participate with their home-grown entity, ACT Raiders.</p>
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	<p>They are required to meet all other eligibility requirements but can do so at any affiliate outside their home-grown entities’ boundaries.</p> <p>Where there is a dispute between entities over an athlete’s status, TFA will determine the players’ status whose decision will be final.</p>
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Item 5 – Dispensation for Injury and/or Illness during selection.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) If athletes are unable to attend trials, they must submit a dispensation request in writing to the Panel Chair prior to the trial, outlining the cause for non-attendance and previous Touch experience including references from past coaches. b) For medical dispensation, a medical certificate should be provided, stating the nature and extent of the injury/illness, along with the expected recovery time. c) It is the responsibility of the athlete to request dispensation prior to the trial and cannot be accepted post trials. d) Acceptance of dispensation does not equate to automatic selection. e) Touch Football ACT will give consideration based on the information provided and reserves the right to refuse or accept the dispensation request.
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Item 6 – Athlete Assessment.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The athlete assessment is to be undertaken by Touch Football ACT nominated selectors. b) The Selection Panel will identify suitable athletes as appropriate to the required level of targeted competition and development within the ACT Raiders Touch program. c) Further analysis will also be conducted with respect to the Coach’s specific team requirements, which will be provided to the Selection Panel prior to commencement of the selection trial/event. d) All athletes must adhere to the TFA Code of Conduct. Conduct, including from previous events, will be taken into consideration during the selection process. e) Athletes should be selected in the position and in a division or age group that best suits the needs of the ACT Raiders Touch.
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> f) It must be understood that athletes are making themselves available for ACT Raiders Touch selection however must initially trial for squad selection within their relevant age or division category. g) Athletes identified as suitable for participation in an alternative division or age group, in consultation with the selection panel, may be invited to consider an alternative division or age group to their actual age group or nominated division. h) Squads/Teams are to be chosen by consensus, not by voting. If the Selection Panel cannot come to a decision on a particular player(s) the Selection Chair will have the final decision-making authority. i) If an athlete is provided dispensation during the selection period, that player will not be denied selection consideration. If members of the Selection Panel and/or Coaching Panel can attest to the player’s ability, in comparison to others at the event, then that player is to be added to the squad for further assessment. j) The selected athletes for the team/squad will be notified via email in the first instance before teams are released on TFACT website and social media channels. k) Confidentiality of all selected players must be adhered to by all Selection Panel members, Coaches and Touch Football ACT members involved in the process.
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Item 7 – Final Team Selection.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Final team selection will be determined by the Selection Panel and only involve the players in the squads. b) Team composition will be determined by the coach’s criteria. c) Any athlete selected into the ACT Raiders Touch squads can be considered as a replacement/shadow option, unless removed from the squads for a particular reason, including unsuitability. d) Replacement players should not be numbered or ranked but should be assessed at the time a replacement is required in accordance with the coach’s requirements. e) A minimum of 14 athletes shall be selected wherever possible from those trialling and preference given to local athletes in any instance before commencing a player loan request. f) Athletes should be selected in the position and in a division or age group that best suits the needs of the ACT Raiders and/or Touch Football ACT. g) It must be understood that athletes have made themselves available for ACT Raiders Touch selection.
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	<p>h) Athletes identified as suitable for participation in an alternative division or age group, in consultation with the selection panel, may be invited to consider an alternative division or age group to their actual age group or nominated division or initial squad of selection.</p> <p>i) The unsuccessful athletes for the team will be notified via email, phone or direct in-person contact, prior to communication to the selected athletes.</p> <p>j) The selected athletes for the team will be notified via email, phone or direct in-person website, social media channels and/or email.</p> <p>k) Confidentiality of all selected players must be adhered to by all Selection Panel members Coaches, and Touch Football ACT members involved in the process.</p> <p>l) Where a selected player wishes to transfer to an alternate team within the ACT Raiders and is eligible to do so, that individual must apply in writing with clearly stated reasoning for the transfer.</p> <p>m) Approval of a player transfer between ACT Raiders Teams is at the sole discretion of Touch Football ACT.</p> <p>n) If suitable replacement players from a squad have been exhausted, Coaches with the assistance of the selection panel may call for further EOI's to source players from TFACT domestic competitions prior to initiating a player loan.</p> <p>Player Loan System – NTL and NYC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All player loans, where needed, must first be discussed, and approved in full by Touch Football ACT in line with all TFA guidelines. - Touch Football ACT may at any time deny a player loan request where it deems reasonable.
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Item 8 – Registration Process.

	<p>a) All registrations of those athletes who have accepted their Letter of Selection will be done online through the ACT Raiders Club on My Sideline.</p> <p>b) Players will be supplied with the appropriate link guiding them to register to the appropriate team along with a budget letter itemizing the components of the Player Levy set by TFACT and Alliance States Tour Agreement.</p> <p>c) The player levy as set by TFACT administration will be payable through My Sideline and is compulsory payment for all athletes.</p> <p>d) Where applicable extra costs such as and not limited to State Affiliation Fees and National One Fee membership may be applied.</p>
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	<p>e) All athletes are required to read, sign, and return the Alliance States Tour Agreement within the timeframe as set by TFACT.</p>
<p>Item 9 – Withdrawal.</p>	
	<p>a) A player or coach may withdraw from any position held within the ACT Raiders if they wish to do so. b) Withdrawal is to be done in writing to Touch Football ACT, stating reasoning for withdrawal. c) Where player levy and or uniform has been paid by the withdrawn, refund may be approved and processed by Touch Football ACT for all or part of the monies paid.</p>
<p>Item 10 – Uniform.</p>	
	<p>a) All athletes and Tour Staff are to wear the ACT Raiders Team Uniform as approved by Touch Football ACT. b) Uniforms will conform to all TFA national regulations in their entirety. c) No uniform item will be permitted to be worn at any time that falls outside the national regulations or approval of TFACT. d) Any athlete or staff member found to be in direct contravention of items 8a, 8b, or 8c may face disciplinary action as deemed suitable by TFACT. e) All uniform purchases are to be made by athletes and tour staff online during the order window set by Belgravia Apparel (New Balance).</p>
<p>Item 11 – Playing Number Allocation.</p>	
	<p>a) Returning representative athletes may if allowable use their current playing singlet or top. b) Where two numbers clash in any squad, a decision is to be made by athletes to purchase a new playing top. c) Where new playing tops are purchased, TFACT reserves the right to issue new playing numbers as it sees fit to suit appropriate team composition.</p>





	<p>d) Players who are purchasing new tops will NOT be asked for any preferred number in line with item 9c.</p> <p>e) Where consented to by TFACT Mens and Womens Open squads may be excluded from items 9c and 9d.</p>
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Item 12 – Dispute Resolution and Appeal.

	<p>a) Participants with grievances about the conduct of the selection process or seeking appeals on their non-selection must submit in writing through to the ACT State Manager within seven days of receiving notification of the selection outcome, along with any supporting evidence or information to support the grievance.</p> <p>b) All grievances and appeals will be considered by Touch Football ACT and noting the need for exclusion should there be any conflict of interest by any member. Touch Football ACT will then decide on the matter in accordance with TFA</p> <p>c) policies, in particular the Member Protection Policy. Touch Football ACT will inform the participant of the process used to consider the grievance or appeal and the outcome of the deliberations within 30 days of receiving the grievance or appeal decision.</p> <p>d) Further grievances and appeals will be referred to Touch Football Australia for consideration and in this instance, complaints must be lodged in writing and must include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Complainant participant’s name and telephone number - Details of their complaint - Steps taken with Touch Football ACT to have their complaint addressed, and any supporting documents and evidence of information.
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Appendix 1 – Definitions.	
NTL	National Touch League
NYC	National Youth Championships
TFA	Touch Football Australia
TFACT	Touch Football ACT
Touch	The sport of Touch Football under the rules as determined by Touch Football Australia.
8 th Edition Rules	The rules of Touch Football as determined by Touch Football Australia and current at time of publication

