

National Youth Championships Referee Panel

Position Description | Upgrade and Development Program

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| Position Title | National Youth Championships Referee Panel |
| Reports To | NYC Appointments and Upgrade and Development Leads |
| Also Works With | Officiating Performance & Pathways Manager |
| Appointment Term | Through to 2028 Touch World Cup |
| Program | National Youth Championships |

Introduction

Touch Football Australia (TFA) is the national governing body for Touch Football in Australia. TFA provides leadership to state organisations, drives participation and high-performance outcomes, and ensures the integrity and sustainability of the sport nationally and internationally.

Referees are central to the integrity and quality of the game at every level. TFA is committed to building a world-class officiating pathway that identifies, develops, and supports referees from emerging talent through to elite international representation. The Upgrade and Development program plays a critical role in this pathway, ensuring referees are assessed, supported, and progressed with rigour and consistency across the national stage.

As part of TFA's strategic plan "The Next Play" (2026–2032), and guided by our organisational values of Unity, Inclusive, Integrity, and Excellence, this role sits within TFA's High Performance Officiating program, leading the upgrade and development of referees nationally.

Child Safe Statement

Touch Football Australia is committed to ensuring the safety and wellbeing of all Children/Young People involved in our sport. Our policies and procedures seek to address risks to child safety and to establish child safe culture and practices.

All personnel are required to hold a current Working with Children Check and consent to a National Police Check.

Our Values

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| Unity | We work together, connect communities and foster strong relationships across the sport. |
| Excellence | We pursue high performance, continuous improvement and quality in everything we do. |
| Inclusion | We champion diversity, belonging and accessibility, ensuring our sport is welcoming for all. |
| Integrity | We act with honesty, transparency and fairness, protecting the reputation and trust of our game. |

Primary Purpose of the Role

The National Youth Championships Referee Panel is responsible for supporting the assessment, coaching, upgrade, development, and appointment of referees at the National Youth Championships Event.

This role supports the Appointments and or Upgrade and Development Lead/s at the event. Appointed coaches ensure that attending referees are given clear oversight across the officiating pathway, and ensure that all referees who are engaged in the upgrade or appointments process receive high-quality coaching, assessment, and feedback.

Working closely with the Officiating Performance & Pathways Manager and other TFA HP personnel, this role fosters a culture of continuous improvement and actively promotes TFA values and culture throughout the officiating community.

Role Responsibilities

Culture and Values

- Commit to upholding TFA's values — Unity, Inclusive, Integrity, and Excellence — in all aspects of conduct and performance.
- Sustain a respectful, inclusive culture within the National Youth Championships referee contingent, ensuring alignment to the core values of TFA and the High-Performance Officiating program.
- Foster a positive team culture supported by effective and collaborative coaching.
- Demonstrate exemplary leadership and mentorship across the event.
- Act as a positive ambassador for the organisation and actively promote the sport and direction of TFA.
- Adhere to the TFA Code of Conduct, Member Protection Policy, and Anti-Doping Policy.

Event Delivery

- Assist with pre-event administration as required.
- Participate in the panel meetings during the event, contributing to coaching, assessment, upgrade and/or the appointment of referees.
- Support the application of the TFA Development and education frameworks across the officiating pathway.
- Support new evaluation processes and ensure they are effectively implemented, with continuous improvement always sought.

Leadership and Coach Development

- Create and maintain close and cooperative working relationships with all officiating performance staff and TFA HP personnel.
- Contribute to building a lasting legacy within TFA's officiating program by openly seeking to develop your coaching skillset, creating a sustainable pipeline of coaching talent that strengthens the sport at every level.

Athlete Development and Wellbeing

- Contribute to the development and progression of all referees within the event.
- Provide post-game feedback and coaching for referees.
- Exhibit an athlete-centred approach and provide regular, constructive feedback to referees following the event where appropriate.
- Compile end of tournament feedback and competition reports as required.
- Work closely with TFA Medical and Support Staff engaged by TFA to ensure optimal athlete development, performance and wellbeing.
- Ensure unsuccessful referees receive constructive feedback and clear direction, as directed by the panel leads.
- Maintain clear and open lines of communication with referees, HP staff, and medical personnel.

Key Relationships

- Reports to the NYC Appointments and Upgrade and Development Leads, working closely with the Officiating Performance & Pathways Manager
- Participates in the appointed panel and supports referees within the event.
- Works collaboratively with TFA HP personnel to deliver an excellent event experience
- Works alongside TFA Medical and Support Staff engaged by TFA to ensure athlete health, performance and wellbeing.
- Maintains professional and effective communication with all referees.

Key Selection Criteria

Essential

- Minimum Foundation Coach qualification within the TFA Sport Education Framework.
- A holistic, athlete-centred approach to coaching within the TFA High Performance program.
- Excellent communication skills with referees, coaches, and support staff.
- Demonstrated ability to mentor and develop referees within the officiating pathway.
- Positive, resilient attitude with a track record of achieving results in challenging environments.
- Commitment to professional behaviour, cultural respect, and athlete wellbeing.
- Strong organisational and time management skills with the ability to work collaboratively.
- Self-motivated and able to inspire and motivate others.
- Ability to act as an ambassador for TFA and promote the sport positively.
- Demonstrated commitment to TFA's values — Unity, Inclusive, Integrity, and Excellence — across all aspects of conduct and performance.
- Working with Children Check (or ability to obtain one) and willingness to undergo a National Police Check.

Desirable

- Previous experience within a TFA HP program or comparable elite sporting environment.
- Familiarity with TFA policy, pathways, and performance frameworks.
- Experience developing and implementing individual development plans.
- Skills in analysis, scouting, and performance review systems.
- Experience contributing to team culture, leadership development, or athlete welfare initiatives.
- Experience in referee assessment, upgrade processes, and coach education within a high-performance officiating environment.

TFA Medical & Support Staff are engaged by TFA.

Document: National Youth Championships Referee Panel | Touch Football Australia | HP Officiating Program 2026–2028