

TOUCH FOOTBALL AUSTRALIA

Australian Emus Mixed Open Assistant Coach

Position Description | High Performance Program

Position Title	Australian Emus Mixed Open Assistant Coach
Reports To	Operationally reports to the Australian Emus Mixed Open Head Coach and is accountable to the HP & Pathways Manager for program requirements and compliance.
Also Works With	GM Growth & Innovation
Appointment Term	Through to 2028 Touch World Cup
Program	Australian Emus Mixed Open High Performance Program

Introduction

Touch Football Australia (TFA) is the national governing body for Touch Football in Australia. TFA has a strategic alliance with the National Rugby League (NRL) and operates in alignment with the Australian Sports Commission (ASC), working collaboratively with State and Territory partners to deliver the sport from grassroots to elite.

As part of TFA's strategic plan "The Next Play" (2026–2032), TFA is committed to inspiring excellence through a world-leading elite system under the "Represent Touch" strategic pillar. Guided by our organisational values of United, Inclusive, Integrity, and Excellence, this role sits within the most senior tier of TFA's High Performance coaching structure, unified by the Emus values of Endure, Mateship, Uphold and Serve.

TFA manages elite programs and teams across a range of international events, including Opens, Youth, and Seniors/Masters Test Series, as well as World Cups, where Australia is recognised as a leading nation in the sport.

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 TFA Values

United	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 Australian Emus Mixed Open Assistant Coach is a high performance coaching position within TFA's High Performance Program, responsible for supporting the planning, preparation and coaching of the Mixed Open national squad and team to achieve elite performance outcomes at international competitions.

Working under the direction of the Australian Emus Mixed Open Head Coach and in collaboration with TFA High Performance personnel, Independent Selectors, Medical and Support Staff, the Assistant Coach contributes to a positive high performance environment, supports athlete development and wellbeing, and helps deliver high-quality coaching and performance outcomes.

The role actively champions and demonstrates the values of TFA and the Australian Emus program, leading by example through behaviours that reflect **Endure, Mateship, Uphold and Serve**, and contributing to a culture of excellence, accountability, continuous improvement and connection and service across the team environment.

Program Oversight

The table below outlines the full scope of this role across the High Performance program. Each stream operates with both a squad, the broader athlete pool identified within the program, and a team, being the final competition-selected group. All selection panels operate in collaboration with Independent Selectors and TFA HP personnel engaged by TFA. Refer to Appendix A for a visual representation of the full program structure.

Program / Stream	Squad → Team	Coach Role
Mixed Opens	Mixed squad → Mixed Open Team	Assistant Coach
Mixed Youth	Mixed Youth Squads → Mixed 18s & 20s Teams	Support and collaboration as required
Other HP Programs	As required	Contribute to camps, activities and talent identification opportunities

Role Responsibilities

Culture and Values

- Uphold TFA values of United, Inclusive, Integrity and Excellence and the Emus values of Endure, Mateship, Uphold and Serve.
- Demonstrate a team-first approach, contributing positively to coaching discussions while supporting collective decisions and agreed program outcomes.
- Contribute to a respectful, inclusive and high-performance team environment.
- Foster positive relationships with athletes, coaches and support staff.
- Act as a positive ambassador for TFA and the sport of Touch Football.
- Adhere to the TFA Code of Conduct and all integrity policies.

Team Performance and Selection

- Support talent identification activities and provide observations on emerging athletes to assist future squad planning and program sustainability
- Assist the Head Coach in preparing the Mixed Open squad and team for international competition.
- Contribute observations and recommendations during athlete selection discussions.
- Assist with player evaluation and talent identification activities.
- Attend designated events in accordance with the National Selection Policy.
- Provide objective and evidence-based feedback regarding athlete performance.

- Support match-day team preparation and management.

Coaching and Performance Delivery

- Assist in planning and delivering training sessions, camps and tours.
- Support the implementation of technical and tactical game plans.
- Provide individual and unit coaching to athletes.
- Monitor athlete performance and provide regular feedback.
- Contribute to player reviews during and following campaigns.
- Attend all designated training camps, tours and international events.
- Assist with match-day preparation, delivery and review.
- Implement game-day warm-up, recovery and performance activities as directed by the Head Coach.
- Contribute to performance analysis and opposition review processes.

Leadership and Coach Development

- Work collaboratively with the Head Coach, coaching staff and support staff.
- Build productive relationships with TFA Medical and Support Staff.
- Support the delivery of development opportunities for athletes within the national pathway.
- Contribute to leadership discussions, knowledge sharing and continuous improvement initiatives across the Australian Emus High Performance coaching network.
- Actively support the development of athletes and coaches across the Australian Emus pathway, including engagement with Youth, State, Territory and Affiliate programs, to strengthen long-term performance outcomes for the sport.

Athlete Development and Wellbeing

- Support the identification, development and progression of athletes within the Australian Emus pathway.
- Contribute to athlete transition and succession planning in collaboration with coaches across Youth, Opens and Senior programs.
- Adopt an athlete-centred approach to coaching and decision-making.
- Provide regular constructive feedback to athletes.
- Support athlete wellbeing and performance outcomes.
- Work collaboratively with medical and support personnel to support athlete readiness.
- Maintain open and professional communication with athletes, coaches and support staff.
- Assist in preparing end-of-campaign reports and reviews.

Key Relationships

- Reports operationally to the Australian Emus Mixed Open Head Coach and works closely with the HP & Pathways Manager
- Collaborates with coaching staff across the Australian Emus program.
- Works alongside Independent Selectors during identification and selection activities.
- Collaborates with TFA Medical and Support Staff.
- Supports athletes within the Mixed Open program.

Key Selection Criteria

Essential

- Minimum Talent Coach qualification within the TFA Sport Education Framework.
- Demonstrated high-performance coaching experience.
- Athlete-centred coaching philosophy.
- Ability to deliver technical and tactical coaching within an elite environment.
- Strong communication and interpersonal skills.
- Demonstrated ability to work effectively within a multidisciplinary high-performance environment, collaborating with coaches, athletes and support staff while providing constructive professional input and aligning to agreed program outcomes.
- Strong understanding of athlete development and performance.
- Commitment to athlete wellbeing and positive team culture.
- Strong organisational and time management skills.
- Working with Children Check (or ability to obtain).
- Willingness to undergo a National Police Check.
- Demonstrated commitment to TFA and Emus values.

Desirable

- Previous experience within the TFA High Performance program.
- Experience coaching at national or international level.
- Experience in performance analysis and opposition scouting.
- Experience in delivering high-performance camps and tours.
- Experience supporting athlete wellbeing initiatives.
- Experience mentoring emerging coaches.

Appendix A — HP Program Structure

The diagram below illustrates the full coaching structure of the TFA High Performance program, showing reporting lines, peer relationships, squad and team layers, and selection panel participation across all three streams.

