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JUNIOR TOUCH FOOTBALL COMPETITION

The Goulburn Touch Association 2022/2023 Junior Touch Football season will commence TUESDAY 18th October 2022 and conclude Tuesday 28th March 2023 (Grand Final).

TO ACCEPT YOUR TEAMS NOMINATION

The following conditions must be met or your team will not be accepted into the competition. Any money paid will be refunded at the association's earliest convenience. These conditions are:

- A minimum of 10 players (8 for Under 8 & 10) **MUST** be registered and paid by **MIDNIGHT FRIDAY 14th OCTOBER 2022**.
- Fill out the online form correctly and all compulsory fields. PLEASE NOTE that the letters TBA or any unaccepted response in a compulsory field will result in your team not being accepted into any competition.
- Teams entering the Under 14s or Under 16s **MUST** nominate a Duty Referee. Team managers should register their Duty Referee at **tinyurl.com/gtadutyrefs22**
The duty referee will be required to officiate games at the level directly below their own. i.e. U16s will referee U14s, and U14s will referee U12.
A referee's course will be available around the start of the season.
- By submitting an online team registration or an online player registration you accept these Tournament Terms and Conditions.

PLEASE NOTE: Goulburn Touch Association cannot stress enough how important it is to abide by these competition conditions and dates stated below. If your team is not organised in time, your teams' nomination will not be accepted. Please be organised, follow the below conditions or DO NOT register a team.

SEASON DETAILS

The season will be made up of 8 round games followed by a finals series*.

Summary of key dates are provided below:

Registration Opens	Monday 22nd August 2022
Team Registrations Close Teams with less than 10 (8 for U8 & U10) paid players after this date will not be put in the draw.	6pm Friday 14th October 2022
Competition Commences Round 1	TUESDAY 18th OCTOBER 2022
Finals before Christmas Holiday Break	TUESDAY 13th DECEMBER 2022
Competition Resumes	TUESDAY 31st JANUARY 2023
Finals Commence (U10s & above)*	TUESDAY 14th MARCH 2023
Grand Final & BBQ Date	TUESDAY 28th MARCH 2023

****Please note that Under 8s teams will not play Finals – their final round & presentation will be held on Tuesday 28th February 2023 ****

Entry fee into the competition is \$70 per player. (Further details below).

COMPETITIONS

The 2022/2023 Junior Touch Football season will consist of both Boys and Girls teams with a Mixed Competition for the Under 8's. **All teams will play 6-a-side.** Further details on eligibility requirements for these competitions can be found in the Terms and Conditions on the following pages.

Following is a summary of the proposed competitions.

Under 8's.

- YEAR OF BIRTH **2015 or after**
- Boys/Girls/Mixed.
- All teams will play 6-a-side.
- Played on ½ Field.
- Modified Rules & Ball

Under 10's

- YEAR OF BIRTH **2013/2014**
- Boys and Girls
- All teams will play 6-a-side.
- Played on ½ Field.
- Modified Rules & Ball

Under 12's

- YEAR OF BIRTH **2011/2012**
- Boys and Girls.
- All teams will play 6-a-side.
- Played on full Field
- Full rules and full size ball

Under 14's

- YEAR OF BIRTH **2009/2010**
- Boys and Girls.
- All teams will play 6-a-side.

Under 16's

- YEAR OF BIRTH **2007/2008**
- Boys and Girls.
- All teams will play 6-a-side.

GTA RESERVES THE RIGHT TO PLACE ANY TEAM INTO ANY COMPETITION THAT GTA DEEM FIT.

The competition draw will be available prior to the start of the competition and will detail the rounds, dates, times and teams playing. Copies of the draw will be available online. GTA **STRONGLY** suggest that you check the draw on the day you play. Please **DO NOT print the draw for the entire season**, as changes may need to be made.

ONLINE REGISTRATION

All Registrations must be via the online registration system. To enter your team and register players, please go to the Touch Football Australia website <https://profile.mysideline.com.au/register/> and follow the links on how to enter your team into a competition and how to register players into your team.

COMPETITION TERMS AND CONDITIONS

AGE & IDENTITY

Players must be able to produce proof of age and identity, if required by the association.

TEAM REGISTRATION

- Coaches/Managers/Organisers are to register their team online by filling out the online form correctly and filling in all compulsory fields. PLEASE NOTE

- that the letters TBA or any unaccepted response in these fields will result in your team not being accepted into any competition.
- To register your team into a junior competition please click on REGISTER A TEAM.

PLAYER REGISTRATION

- Players must complete the online registration to ensure eligibility to participate and for insurance purposes.
- To register players into a junior team you will need to know your team's name. Once you have the team name please click on the link [PLAYER](#) to register players.
- Unpaid players will not be able to take the field until they are registered and paid, NO EXCEPTIONS. Teams that play unregistered players will immediately lose competition points as a minimum and may face expulsion as determined by the Goulburn Touch Association Junior Committee.
- **Teams must have a minimum of 10 (8 in Under 8s) and a maximum of 14 registered and paid players by midnight Friday 8th October 2021.**
- New players MAY be accepted after round 5, but each case will be based on its merits and the Goulburn Touch Association Junior Committee will make the final decision.
- Entry fee into the competition is \$70 up to and including 18th October 2022. Any players registering after this date will pay **\$80**. This includes a \$10 late processing fee.
- **Goulburn Touch accepts the Active Kids Vouchers as payment for the 2021/2022 Season. At the end of the registration process you will have the opportunity to enter the voucher number as payment.**
- Players cannot play with more than one team in any one division. However, if a player wishes to play in a higher division as well as the division they qualify for, they may seek exemption to this rule. The player must apply to the Goulburn Touch Association Junior Committee in writing prior to the commencement of the competition. Additional fees will apply.

TEAM SHEETS / INJURED PLAYERS

- Sign-on sheets will be used to record who played for what team on the day.
- All players or the Team Manager must complete the sign-on sheet by providing the player number and signing next to the printed name.
- It is the team's responsibility (not the game referee) to ensure that the sign-on sheet is completed correctly at the start of each game.
- Injured players who are present at a game but do not play due to their injury may sign the sheet and in brackets write (injured).
- The injured players may coach or support their team. They must stand in their team's sub box or, provided that they are not in their playing uniform, stand 5 metres behind the dead ball line.
- These players fall under the control of the referee and may be sent from the playing area if they break the rules or the player's Code of Conduct.
- Failure to complete the sheet correctly may result in a breach notice being issued to your team.

PLAYING RULES

All games are played according to the [Touch Football Australia Playing Rules \(8th Edition\)](#) and the amendments stated in these terms and conditions.

Under 8's

- Acting half CANNOT run with the ball.
- Defence cannot move up until the first receiver has the ball.
- If a player drops the ball, it is counted as a touch, and play resumes with a roll ball to the team in possession, unless it is the final touch.
- Mini ball will be used.
- All teams will receive medallions.
- Finals will NOT be played in the Under 8's.
- Coaches are allowed on the field for **ALL** Under 8's. They **MUST** stand behind their own team at **ALL** times and not interfere with either the referee or opposition. They **MUST** also wear closed shoes (thongs are not allowed).

Under 10's

- Defence cannot move up until the first receiver has the ball.
- Mod ball will be used.
- Coaches are allowed on the field for **ALL** Under 10's. They **MUST** stand behind their own team at **ALL** times and not interfere with either the referee or opposition. They **MUST** also wear closed shoes (thongs are not allowed).

Coaches who interfere with play in any way will be asked to leave the field.

THE GOOD WILL RULE

- The Good Will rule will be introduced in season 2022-2023 and is designed to ensure all players enjoy playing Touch even if there are differences in ability.
- The rule states that if a team is, at any point in the match, ahead by 7 tries, that team will reduce their playing numbers by one (1).
- Should the team be ahead by 10 tries, they will reduce their playing numbers by an additional one (1) player.
- Normal substitutions will continue during the game for both teams.
- If during the game and after the dominant teams has reduced their playing numbers, the lead is 6 tries, the dominant team's playing numbers can be restored to their full starting compliment.
- This rule will not apply in Finals matches.

CODE OF CONDUCT

GTA has adopted the Touch Football Australia (TFA) Code of Ethics. It is a requirement that teams, players, officials and spectators abide by this code. This code can be found [HERE](#). Anyone may be asked to leave the Touch Fields by a Goulburn Touch Representative if they are in breach of this code. Failure to do so will result in the game being stopped or cancelled until the offending person complies.

TEAM UNIFORMS

- Team uniforms can be any colour except white. All players must wear matching shirts.
- With the exception of Under 8s, all shirts are to be numbered 1 through to 14 either on the back and/or both sleeves and clearly visible. *Taped and handwritten numbers are not acceptable.*
- Numbers must be unique (no two numbers to be the same)
- **All teams are to be correctly attired by Round 4.** Any player not in correct uniform as set out above will not be allowed to play.
- Players may not swap shirts during a game
- All players must wear socks and suitable footwear
- Shoes or boots with screw in studs are NOT acceptable. Moulded soles not more than 13mm in length are acceptable.
- For any new uniforms that are purchased for the season, GTA would like to see the GTA logo placed on the garment. For a copy of the GTA Logo please click [HERE](#).

COACHES/MANAGERS/ORGANISERS

- Coaches/Managers/Organisers, except for the Under 8's, and Under 10s, can only coach their team from the sub box. They are also permitted to stand 5 metres behind the dead ball line but may not talk to their team from this position.
- As per current NSW Legislation if you are the Coach, Manager or Organiser of a team and are not a parent or close relative of at least one of the players in the team, then you need to provide Goulburn Touch Association with your "Working with Children Check" number and date of birth prior to your team being able to play. Please refer to [Working with Children Check](#).

DUTY REFEREE REQUIREMENTS

- Each team in the Under 14's and Under 16's Competitions **MUST** nominate a duty referee for the season. They will be called upon at various times throughout the season.
- The Duty Referee should ideally hold a level 1 or higher refereeing accreditation. Courses will be run during or prior to each competition for all interested people.
- Failure to supply a duty referee will result in a loss of TWO (2) competition points, AND a player being removed from the team to complete duty the following week.
- Failure to comply with this on THREE (3) occasions could see the expulsion of the team from the competition.
- Teams who do not nominate a valid Duty Referee when registering the team will not be accepted into the competition.
- Any changes to the Duty Referee should be notified to Goulburn Touch Association ASAP.
- It is the duty referee's responsibility to sign the duty referee sheet.
- Duty referees are required to report to the Referees Room 5 minutes prior to the start of the game.
- Duty Referees are required to provide their own whistle and wear the fluoro vest provided.

REFEREES

- The Competition Administrator will appoint available referees to games. Appointments of

referees are solely at the discretion of the Competition Administrator.

- Qualified referees will be appointed games according to their qualifications and commitment.
- People wishing to become qualified referees should contact Goulburn Touch to obtain information on training courses.
- Referee payments are \$10 for Under 8's and 10's. \$15 for Under 12's, and \$20 for 14's and 16's.

BREACH NOTICES

Breach notices will be issued when teams fail to comply with the Competition Terms and Conditions and will result in:

- The team forfeiting the game in which the breach occurred, or
- The breach being referred to the GTA Committee or Junior Committee possible further action, or Multiple breaches may result in the team being removed from competition.

DEFERRED GAMES

- Any team that has 3 or more players away at a representative touch tournament, or at a training session for that tournament, is entitled to defer any games scheduled during the period of that tournament or training session. The period includes travel to and from the tournament or training session.
- Games deferred due to representative commitments must be played at a reasonable time that is convenient to the opposing team. If the teams are unable to agree on a time and date, GTA will determine when the game is to be played.
- If you wish to defer a game due to representative commitments, you must inform the Competition Administrator (**in writing**) and the opposition team no later than 2 weeks before the date of the game.
- Teams wishing to defer for other reasons, or that have failed to comply with these conditions, can only do so with agreement of their opposition. The opposing team would then have to agree on an appropriate time and date for the game to be played.
- If an agreement cannot be reached, the game will be deemed as a forfeit. It will be the responsibility of the team requesting the deferment to find a referee for that game.
- The team that requests that a game be deferred must notify the Competition Administrator in writing of the date and time on which the game is to be played within four (4) weeks of the original date, or before the final series commences if this occurs within the four weeks. If notice of the new date and time is not given within this time, GTA will either nominate a date and time (for games deferred due to representative commitments) or declare the game a forfeit (for games deferred due to other reasons).

FORFEITS

If a team forfeits 3 games during the competition, the team may be removed from the draw. This includes forfeits that result from a Breach Notice.

SEND OFF'S

- Any player sent from the field for the remainder of the game will receive an automatic two (2) match suspension in line with TFA Rule #17-3 (b), unless the Disciplinary Committee considers further action.
- Players who are *sent off for a period of time* are required to stand behind their opponent's score line until directed by the referee to return to the field of play. The player must remain in a non-participant role for that period of time or risk further penalty.

- Should a game be stopped because there are insufficient players remaining on the field after any send-off, then the result of the game will be recorded as a (5 - nil) forfeit to the non-offending team.
- Referees have control of all players and officials both on and off the field and in the area surrounding the field.
- GTA has the control of all players, officials and spectators both on and off the field and in the area surrounding the field.

JUDICIARY

- Goulburn Touch Association have adopted the New South Wales Touch Association Disciplinary Policy. The Disciplinary Policy can be found [HERE](#)
 - I. This policy is to be used by the Disciplinary Panel/Judiciary for all affiliated bodies of the NSWTA for offences assessed by the respective Chair of Disciplinary Panel/Judiciary or their nominee as being from Level 1 to Level 5 and carrying suspensions.
 - II. The aim of the policy is to aid in streamlining limiting the number of the Disciplinary Panel/Judiciary hearings that need to be heard by allowing the individual to accept the charge and penalty. If they choose to challenge the charge and elect to have the matter heard by the Disciplinary Panel/Judiciary the minimum penalty if found guilty is greater than a guilty acceptance.
- Should you be required to attend a Disciplinary Panel/Judiciary hearing, as either a player or witness, you will be advised in writing and expected to attend.
- All judiciary hearings within the GTA will take place on Thursday nights from 7:00pm.

APPEALS

Notice of the intent to appeal must be given in writing within 5 days of the relevant incident or hearing, and either:

- Emailed to: juniors@goulburntouch.com.au
- Posted to: Goulburn Touch Association INC PO Box 2037, Goulburn NSW 2650.
- Handed in to the Competition Administrator on the day of competition.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

WEBSITE, E-MAIL, NOTICEBOARD AND OTHER MEDIA

- Goulburn Touch Association utilises the [website](#), [Facebook](#) page, and [e-mail](#) as its primary source for providing information to players and teams. Please ensure that you check the website and Facebook regularly for updates.
- Regular e-mails may be sent out to the Coaches/Managers/Organisers advising of wet weather, duty requirements and other competitions updates. Please ensure the **correct e-mail address** is provided at the time of registration in order to receive these updates.
- GTA takes no responsibility in what is printed, seen or heard in the media. It is your responsibility as team representative to find out when you are scheduled to play. You can contact the Competition Administrator via phone or e-mail if you have any questions.
- Other important information and copies of the draw will also be posted on the GTA Noticeboard, which is located near the canteen and entrance to the GTA clubrooms.

WET WEATHER

- Games will only be called off when the Goulburn/Mulwaree Council or GTA regard conditions unfit for play.
- To check if games have been called off, please check the [GTA Website](#) or [Facebook](#) page. Please do not contact the Competition Administrator directly as it is difficult and costly to return calls.
- If games are cancelled due to wet weather a double header may be played the following week and changed to 20min touchdown turn around games.
- We have set aside 1 additional round for washouts to be replayed. The date of that round is Tuesday 1st March, 2022.

COMPETITION POINT SCORE

Competition Points are awarded as follows:

Win – 3 Points

Loss – 1 Point

Draw – 2 Points

Forfeit – 0 Points

Teams on equal points will be separated using the “for and against” method.

Promotion and relegation of teams between divisions (if applicable) will be at the discretion of the Competition Administrator.

FIELDS

All games will be played at Carr-Confoy Oval, Goulburn.

THE BALL

The Goulburn Touch Association will supply match balls for all games. New match balls may be purchased (approx. \$30.00 per ball) from Sportspower for training etc.

GAME TIMES

- Game times are 5:00pm, 5:40pm, 6:30pm, and 7:15pm. Please check the draw for the time your team is scheduled to play.
- In the event of GTA needing to change the time of a game(s), GTA will, where possible, provide the Team Contact with 2 weeks’ notice via e-mail.
- All games are to start upon the siren sounding regardless of the number of players present. Team must have a minimum of 4 players to start the game.
- Teams that are unable to field the minimum number of players when the siren sounds to start the game will be penalised 1 touchdown for every minute the game is delayed. If, after 5 minutes, the team is still unable to field the minimum number of players they will forfeit the game and will have a 5-0 score recorded against them.
- Under 8 and Under 10 games will consist of 2 x 15 minute halves with a 2-minute break for half time.
- **All other games consist of 2x20 min halves. There will be a 3 minute break between halves**

INJURIES

- Any injury that occurs during the game **MUST** be reported by a Coach/Manager /Organiser/ Team Member after *the game* to the GTA clubhouse to ensure that the necessary forms are completed.
- First Aid is available on game day if players require any assistance. If a player is injured during the game, please let a GTA staff member know so they can assist.
- Goulburn Touch Association reserves the right to call an ambulance if deemed required.

INSURANCE

- Players should consider having their own insurance, as the cover provided by the Touch Football Australia scheme through which Goulburn Touch Association players are insured is limited.
- Any injury that occurs during the game *must* be reported by a team member after *the game* to the GTA clubhouse to ensure that the necessary forms are completed.
- Should a player sustain an injury and wish to make a claim, they are to call SportsCover on 1300 736 390 (toll free) or 02 9689 2311. Alternatively, you can send an email to claims@sportscover.com

REPRESENTATIVE TOUCH

Goulburn Touch will once again be looking for players interested in taking their game to the next level by joining one of our representative teams in Under 10s, 12s, 14s, 16s and 18s. The trial date for the 2022 Representative Season will be **on a date to be advised. Please keep an eye on our Facebook page for more info.** More information will be distributed closer to the date. Players age division will be determined by the age they turn in **2022**.

FEEDBACK

If you wish to provide feedback or make a complaint of any nature it must be in writing. Please send it by post or email to: - The President Goulburn Touch Association PO Box 216 GOULBURN NSW 2650 or admin@goulburntouch.com.au

Your feedback/complaint will be addressed at the next available GTA Board meeting.

All members are welcome to attend board meetings. Please contact the Director of Tournaments for details of the next GTA Board Meeting if you are interested in attending.