TTA Juniors

2024, TERM 1

TOOWOOMBA
TOUCH ASSOCIATION

GENERAL INFORMATION BOOKLET

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TOOWOOMBA WEST

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1. Welcome

Welcome to the 2024 Term 1 Toowoomba Junior Season!

This handbook is designed to provide you with useful information about the competition and the support that is available to you in your role as a club delegate.

We wish you the best of luck in this competition and hope you have an enjoyable and successful experience.

Kind regards,

Jodie May
Operations
Toowoomba Touch Association

2. Event Description

2.1 Description

The TTA is a club based junior competition run by the Toowoomba Touch Association. It is open to club teams from around the Toowoomba region. This competition provides a high level of competition between boys & girls from 6s-16s. The season runs in Term 1, from January-March.

2.2 Divisions & Dates

Junior players from 5 years through to 16s in Boys & Girls. Dates for the 2024 Junior Season are as follows;

Fridays: 6s (born 2019/2018) 7s (2017), 8s (2016), 9s (2015), 10s (2014) 12s (2013/2012)

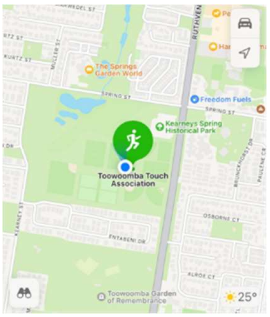
Round 1- February 2nd
Round 2 – February 9th
Round 3 – February 16th
Round 4 – February 23rd
Round 5 – March 1st
Round 6 – March 8th
Round 7 – March 15th
Grand Finas/Play Offs – March 22nd

Wednesdays: 14s (born 2011/2010) 16s (2009/2008),

Round 1- January 31st
Round 2- February 7th
Round 3 – February 14th
Round 4 – February 21st
Round 5 – February 28th
Round 6 – March 6th
Round 7 – March 13th
Grand Finas/Play Offs – March 20th

2.3 2023 Venue

Toowoomba Touch Association,
Corner Spring & Ruthven Streets,
Toowoomba



3. Tournament staff & contact

Position	***Name***	***Mobile***
Competition Coordinator	Amy Manz	0438 463 072
Referee Coordinator	Jon Dwan	0428 436 258
Association President	Chris Hillman	0414 950 522

4. Team requirements

4.1 Registration

All players must be registered online by Friday (9th February) before the end of week 2 of the competition. Players are required to register online for the event for insurance purposes. All clubs' contacts will be emailed their unique 'My Sideline' registration codes. This is vital for registration/eligibility & qualification purposes.

4.2 Uniforms

All teams must wear a numbered uniform. Note – Shoes are to be worn at all times. Shoes with screw-in tags or the type with extra high baseball cleats are not allowed. Light leather or synthetic boots with soft moulded soles are permitted.

5. Competition Information

5.1 Check in

Team/Score Cards will be used from 10s-16s (competitive divisions). All Team Delegates/Coaches are required to check off the team card from the referee at the fields. Any player not playing in a certain game should be cross off the team card for that game only. All players that are playing in the game should also have their jersey numbers added to the team card. This process is vital for qualification purposes. It is the responsibility of clubs to ensure coaches & players are aware of this check in process. More information can be found in the competition By Laws document.

5.2 Rules

The Toowoomba Touch Association Term 1 Junior Season will be played under the TFA 8th Edition rules.

Modified rules will be in place for the 6s to 9s divisions. Games will be on half fields with 5 per team on the field at any one time. Coaches will referee games & are permitted to coach on field.

The under 10s divisions will also be played on half fields with 5 players per team, however referees will officiate games. Coaches are permitted to coach on field in Division 2 for the entire season, however Division 1 is limited to coaches on field for the first two (2) rounds only. Coaches are to ensure that they do not influence the game in any way & are not to attempt to coach the referee or opposition players.

5.3 Referee Management

Referees are in control of all aspects of the game, including on field play, players in the sub box, Coaching staff and spectators. Referees have the right to stop the game and address inappropriate behaviour from anyone in the vicinity of the field at any point of the game.

5.4 Duty Referees

For every nominated team from 10s-16s, the club is responsible for providing duty referees for 50% of the total number of teams nominated. For example, if your club nominates 12 teams across the 10s-16s divisions, you are required to provide 6 duty referees each week. This will be split into timeslots – ie if you field 6 teams in a division you will be required to supply 3 referees available for that timeslot. Ie Club nominates 4 x teams in 16girls division you will be required to supply 2 referees for that timeslot. Failure to do so may incur a loss of competition points. Each club is responsible for ensuring these duty referees register to My Sideline & communicate with the TTA referee coordinator. All nominated duty referees are required to register with the referee coordinator 15 mins prior to their allocated time slot. The TTA will provide a role description for what being a Duty Referee entails.

5.5 Duty Officials

The TTA will be creating a roster system for each club that participates in our Junior Competition. This roster is for Duty Officials. It can be a parent watching on, or a club volunteer, as long as it's a responsible adult. They will be required to collect a Duty Official vest from the club house and be stationed at a pod of fields. A duty official can be present for one game & swap or commit to an entire night's session. This is up to the club to coordinate. This initiative is to improve the safe environment we want our junior players & referees to be fostered in. The TTA will provide a role description for what being a Duty Official entails.

5.6 Game duration & Time Allocations

- 6s (2019/2018) & 7s (2017) Boys & Girls - Fridays 4.30pm-5pm (14 min halves, 2min ½ time) played on 1/2 fields
- 8s (2016) & 9s (2015) Boys & Girls - Fridays 5.05pm-5.35pm (14 min halves, 2min ½ time) played on 1/2 fields
- 10s (2014) Boys & Girls - Fridays 5.40pm – 6.25pm (20 mins halves, 2 min ½ time) played on ½ fields
- 12 Girls (2013/2012) - Fridays 6.35pm-7.15pm (20 min halves, 2 min ½ time) played on full fields
- 12 Boys (2013/2012)- Fridays 7.25pm-8.05pm (20 min halves, 2 min ½ times) played on full fields
- 14 Girls (2011/2010) – Wednesdays 5.00pm– 5.45pm (20 mins halves, 2 min ½ time) played on full fields
- 14 Boys (2011/2010) – Wednesdays 5.55pm-6.40pm (20 min halves, 2 min ½ time) played on full fields
- 16 Girls & Boys – Wednesdays 6.50pm – 7.35pm (20 min halves, 2 min ½ times) played on full fields

5.7 Draw & Results

The draw, results and ladders are available on the Toowoomba Touch Facebook page or through the My Sideline link; Association: Toowoomba Touch Association - Touch Football Australia
Please note that results and ladders will only be available online for this tournament.

5.8 Tied Games

In the event of ties in round games, the result shall stand. In the FINALS SERIES, all ties shall require a *'drop off'* to be played.
Drop off rules for all finals matches: The team that takes the tap at the beginning of the game will defend first in the drop off. You play for an extra 2 minutes, with 4 players taking the field. If the score is still even after 2 minutes, you drop to 3 players and next point scorer wins.

5.9 Protests / Appeals

If a dispute arises regarding score, the score card should not be signed.
Where result disputes cannot be resolved at the field directly after the game, Coaches/ Managers may proceed to Tournament Control to lodge a Protest/ Appeal. Protests/ Appeals should be lodged within **10 minutes** of the conclusion of the game.

5.10 Scorecard

Score cards will only be used from 10s & up, 6-9s will be non-competitive divisions. Score cards are to be signed at the end of the game by the coaches/captain. Captains should check the scores with the referee at half time to avoid any potential problems at the end of the game.

5.11 Communication

Referees, team captains, Coaches and/or Team Delegates are encouraged to have respectful and ongoing communication prior/ during any game. This includes the answering of general questions only.

All general enquiries and communication should be directed to the senior Match Official of the game. If any communication between a Coach / Team Delegate / Match Official becomes aggressive and/or confrontational, communication between all parties is to cease immediately.

Note: No person is permitted to approach a Referee after the game has concluded and Score Sheet signed.

5.12 First Aid & Medical

The Toowoomba Touch Association provides an onsite FAO who is located in the Clubhouse, there is also ice available for injuries.

5.13 Medical policies

Toowoomba Touch observes the following TFA policies:

BLOOD BIN POLICY

Any Player/Match Official with a bleeding cut or abrasion is to leave the field immediately and have the cut or abrasion cleaned and covered.

Once the flow of blood has been stemmed, the cut or abrasion cleaned and covered, and all bloodstained clothing and equipment cleaned or replaced – the Player/ Match Official may return to the field of play.

Note:

- If bleeding can't be controlled, the Player/ Match Official must not continue to participate in the game.
- All bloodstained clothing and equipment must be cleaned or replaced.
- Refer to the TFA Blood Bin Policy Guidelines.

CONCUSSION POLICY

As a Match Official, if you witness a head clash or head collision with the ground, the player should be assessed by their Coaching staff. You have the right to force sub a player for assessment – game should be stopped until the replacement sub takes their place on field.

5.14 Weather

Toowoomba Touch adheres to the guidelines set out in the Touch Football Australia Extreme Weather Guidelines. Conditions and forecast will be assessed prior to the tournament, as well as during the day to ensure player safety. Toowoomba Touch will endeavour to make a suitable call on the cancellation of fixtures in a timely manner. Club contacts will be updated at 2pm on Wednesday & Fridays. Updates will also be posted on the TTA Website & Facebook page, https://www.facebook.com/ToowoombaTouchAssociation

5.15 Parking

Entry to the car park will be via Ruthven Street. Please ask players to be mindful of our neighbours when parking and driving around the complex. Council have advised that as parking has been an issue in the past, vehicles that are parked illegally around the Kearney's Spring complex may incur fines. Please note the top bay of the car park is for bus parking only. Only TTA Committee & Staff are to park within the TTA Grounds. This is a matter of safety; we kindly ask that you please communicate this to your members.

5.16 Tournament Control

Tournament Control is located in the Toowoomba Touch clubhouse, as marked on the venue map.

5.17 Canteen

Canteen is supplied by Toowoomba Touch Association.

5.18 Out of Bounds

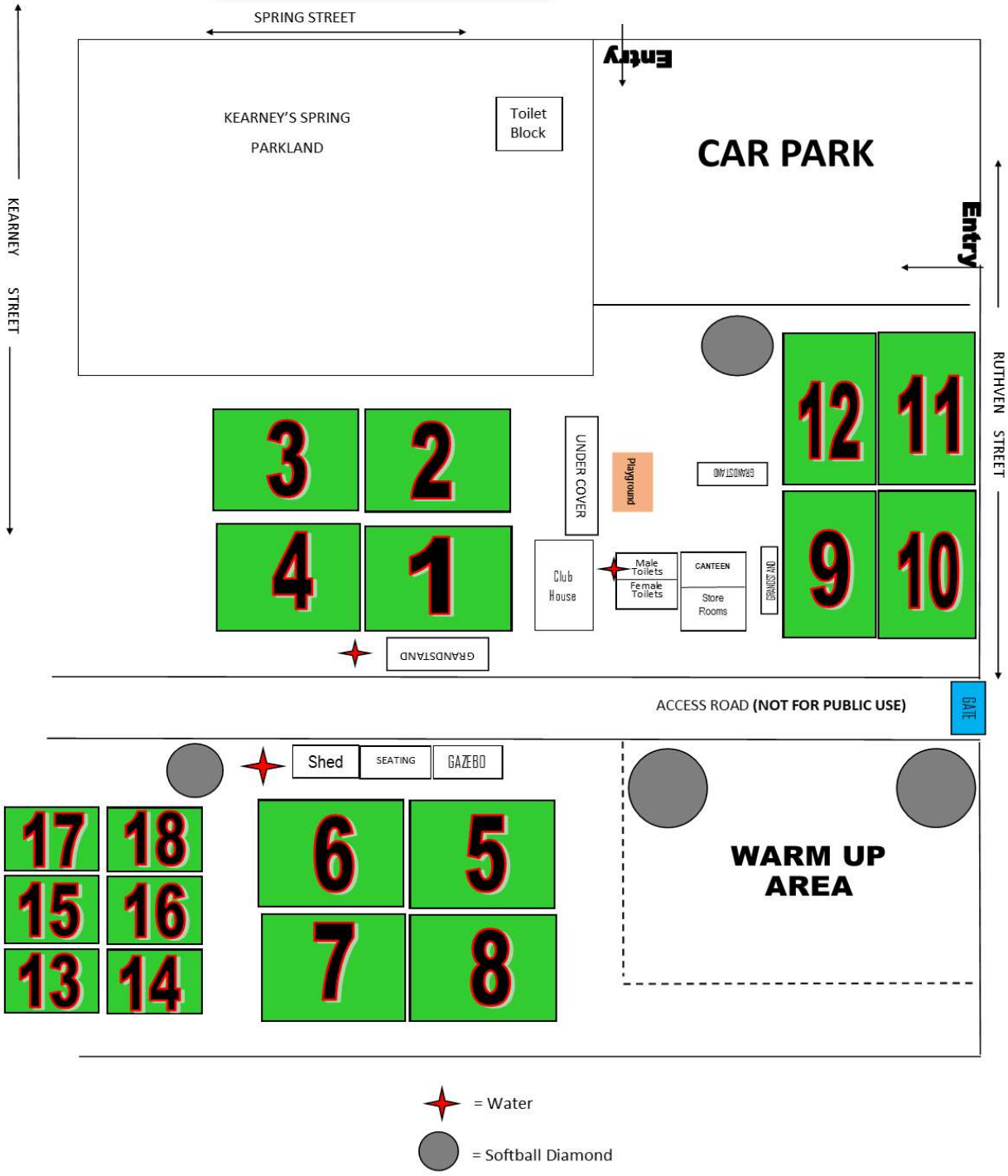
The softball diamonds are out of bounds. Please keep players and spectators off the softball playing surface at all times.

5.19 Spectators

Inappropriate behaviour toward the opposition or Referees will not be tolerated. You are expected to abide by the TFA Responsibility Code while competing at the tournament. Inappropriate player, Coach or spectator behaviour may result in loss of points or sanctions. We also remind spectators to watch games from the end of the fields – not in between. Clubs are asked to pass this information on to their supporters.

6. Field Map

Toowoomba Touch Association
Corner Ruthven & Spring Streets
Toowoomba QLD 4350



7. Behaviour

- Toowoomba Touch has zero tolerance on referee abuse.
- Spectators to watch games from the end of the fields – not in between.
- Spectators are reminded that they must observe the TFA Responsibility Code at all times.

Touch Football AUSTRALIA

Touch Football Responsibility Code

The Touch Football Responsibility Code is an educational tool of the Touch Football Australia (TFA) Code of Conduct. This Code reflects TFA's support and implementation of the sport industry principles and values outlined by the Australian Sports Commission's **The Essence of Australian Sport** – of fairness, respect, responsibility and safety.

The full code can be found in the policy section of the Touch Football Australia website www.austouch.com.au

1. Operate within the rules and spirit of our sport, promoting fair play over winning at all cost
2. Encourage and support opportunities for people to learn appropriate behaviours and skills through recognised TFA Coaching, Refereeing and Selecting courses
3. Support opportunities for participation in all aspects of Touch Football
4. Display control and courtesy to all involved with our sport
5. Respect the rights and worth of every person regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion
6. Respect the decisions of officials, coaches and administrators in the conduct of our sport
7. Wherever practical, avoid unaccompanied and unobserved one-on-one activity (when in a supervisory capacity or where a power imbalance will exist) with people under the age of 18 years
8. All interactions whether in person or through other mediums must adopt appropriate and responsible behaviour
9. Adopt responsible behaviour in relation to alcohol and other drugs
10. Ensure your decisions and actions contribute to a safe environment

As a registered member of your affiliate and Touch Football Australia, all policies apply to you.

This Responsibility Code applies to all individuals and entities affiliated with Touch Football Australia. The Code must be observed by all without exception. Failure to observe the Code may result in disciplinary action by your affiliate, as per the Touch Football Australia Disciplinary Regulations.

Know the Code! It's Your Responsibility!

Help us deliver the best possible experience for everyone. If you believe this Code is not being adhered with please direct your concerns to your local affiliate representative or administrator.

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Australian Government
Australian Sports Commission

Play by the Rules