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WELCOME

Welcome to the 2017/2018 Devonport touch footy season!

This document has all you need to know to enter a team into the upcoming rosters. If you still have questions about any aspects of the season please e-mail us at contact@dta.asn.au.

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ROSTER OUTLINE

The 16 round men's and women's rosters will commence on Wednesday, October 4 with games initially played at 5.50 PM and 6.50 PM. The last roster match prior to Christmas will be Wednesday, December 13. The roster recommences on Wednesday, January 17. The Grand Finals will be held on Friday, March 2, followed by the annual dinner.

The 15 round mixed roster commences Thursday, October 5. The games will initially be played at 6.05 PM and 6.55 PM. Last rostered match prior to Christmas will be Thursday, December 14 with the roster recommencing on Thursday, January 11. Grand Finals will be held on Thursday, March 1.

No mixed games will be played on Thursday, October 26 due to the Masters Games.

Game times will shift slightly later on both nights several weeks into the season, as the days lengthen.

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TEAM REGISTRATION

Team nominations must be submitted online. The online nomination process is available on our website now. To nominate a team, follow the "online registration" link at the top right of our [website](#) or go to the form directly [through this link](#). **Online team nominations need to be completed by Monday, September 25.** Once you have nominated a team you will be issued a team code which your players can use to register to the team.

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COMPETITIONS AND GRADING

Teams can be nominated in the following competitions: Men's A, Men's B, Women's, Mixed 1, Mixed 2 & Mixed 3. The committee reserves the right to split or combine competitions, and possibly regrade teams, to ensure the viability and balance of competitions.

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INDIVIDUAL REGISTRATION

Individual player registration will be conducted online. To register, follow the "online registration" link at the top right of our [website](#) or go to the form directly [through this link](#) (or [this link](#) when registering in a second competition). You will require a "team code" to register, contact your team delegate or [us](#) to obtain it. **Players must be registered and financial before playing any games.** Please note that when registering you will be required to indicate that you have read this document.

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FEES

This season the following fees will apply:

- 1 \$120.00 per senior player. (Men's, Women's and Mixed)
- 2 \$75.00 per student (with student ID)
- 3 \$115 per student who plays in both Men's/Women's **and** Mixed
- 4 \$185.00 per senior player who plays in both Men's/Women's **and** Mixed
- 5 \$11 per game casual fee (an option available after round 4, and when a team has 8 or more fully paid players)

We require payment at the time of online registration, either by credit card or (new for this season) by bank account with POLi Payments. This will greatly cut down admin time chasing un-financial players. Only financial player's names will be pre-printed on score sheets. Penalties will apply for teams that field un-financial players.

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PLAYING UNIFORMS

All competing teams must have Touch Football Australia regulation playing tops by Wednesday, November 2 (November 3 for Mixed). This means that players' numbers must be clearly visible to Referees. Masking tape or numbers drawn by marking pens will not be acceptable. **Failure to comply will result in one try given to the opposing team per player out of uniform.** This will continue until uniform is complete. Iron on numbers can be purchased at the clubrooms. Change of colours for existing teams or new teams must have clearance from the DTA committee before proceeding. White will not be accepted under any circumstances. All players are required to wear shoes while playing and jewellery should be removed or taped. Long fingernails are also to be trimmed or taped.

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REFEREES

Having enough referees is of critical importance to the running of competitions. As such we will be conducting a referee's course early in the season to give an opportunity for people to get involved.

Refereeing will be supervised and penalties will apply for failing to turn up without appropriate notice. Referees will be paid upon the full completion of team sheets, including allocation of best and fairest votes, which are to be returned to the canteen after each game. Payment will be at the same rate as last season. Failure to referee without reasonable notice will result in the suspension of a player in the next rostered game and resulting in their team only allowed to field five players instead of six. It is essential that all players check the website or clubroom board to see if they are required to referee.

Referee fee: teams not already providing any referees must do so by the end of October or pay a \$100 fee. If the fee is not paid within 4 weeks, then teams will only be awarded a maximum of 1 ladder point per game until payment is made.

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JUNIOR COMPETITION

Once again the DTA will be conducting a high school and primary school roster each week. Games will be on a Thursday afternoon prior to the Senior Mixed Roster in Term 4.

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PLAYING BALLS

These will be supplied upon full payment of 8 registered players per team.

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COMPETITION DRAWS

Competition draws are available for viewing on the noticeboard in the clubrooms (plus the next week's draw) and on our website www.dta.asn.au.

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NOTICES

Important information about the competitions and upcoming events will be posted on the noticeboard in the clubrooms. **Players are expected to check the board regularly.**

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WEBSITE

Rosters, results, ladders and news will be posted to our website (www.dta.asn.au). We also have a Facebook page located at <http://www.facebook.com/DevonportTouch>.

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COMMITTEE AND VOLUNTEERING

We have a dedicated team of volunteers who put in a lot of time and effort trying to make each competition a success; however we are always looking for new people to get involved. Regardless of if you play or just come down to watch your family or friends, if you are interested in helping out and having a say in the running of the Association, please speak to one of our committee members, or e-mail us.

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PLAYING RULES

The Devonport Touch Association conducts its games as per the Touch Football Australia – 7th Edition rule book, and adopts their policies and procedures.

The rules are available for viewing on the TFA website [here](#). You can also e-mail us contact@dta.asn.au to request a PDF copy.

A basic rundown of the rules for people new to the game is on YouTube [here](#).

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GROUNDS

Games are played at Meercroft Park, Devonport on Wednesday and Thursday nights. Grounds are numbered as per the below picture:



GAME STARTING TIMES

Games start exactly at the advertised time, please ensure your team is ready to play before the siren sounds.

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GAME DURATION

Games consist of 2 x 20 minute halves, with a 5 minute half-time break. The siren sounds in the following sequence: **1:** 1 minute warning, **2:** start 1st half, **3:** end 1st half, **4:** 1 minute warning, **5:** start 2nd half, **6:** end of game.

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CLUBS

Where there are 2 teams from the same club, players from a lower division may play in a higher division up to 6 times, but will not be eligible to play in the higher division finals. A higher division player may play in a lower division if the team is short of players, up to 6 games, but only one player per game. They will not be eligible to play in the lower division finals.

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TEAM SHEETS

Registered and financial players names and numbers will be printed on team sheets prior to the start of the game. When names are pre-printed, present players are to have a tick placed next to them and absent players should be crossed out with a line. If an unregistered or unfinancial player is found to have played with a team, the team will forfeit 3 ladder points. The sheets have places to record who scored touchdowns, and a running tally will be kept of leading touchdown scorers in the men's, women's and mixed competitions.

Referees must ensure that the team sheet is completed prior to starting the game. Team captains and referees sign the sheet at the completion of the game to verify the score.

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FORFEITS

If a team is unable to have the minimum requirement of 4 players on the field after 5 minutes from the start of the game, a forfeit will be declared. **Forfeit fee: teams must notify the DTA by at least 12 PM on game day if they will be a forfeit.**

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MIXED COMPETITION

In mixed competitions the maximum number of males allowed on the field at any time is 3, and the minimum is 1.

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WET WEATHER

Games will be cancelled if there is excessive smoke, torrential rain or thunderstorms. Decisions on cancelling games will be made on the day by 5 PM. A notice will be posted on the website, and e-mailed and SMS'ed to team contacts.

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COMPETITION POINTS

During competition rounds the following point system will be in place:

Win	3 points
Draw	2 points
Loss	1 point
Forfeit	0 points (3 points to opposing team and a 5-0 score recorded)

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SEND OFFS

A 2 week suspension will be imposed if a player is sent off:

- more than once in any game, or for the remainder of a game
- 3 times during the season

A 2 week suspension is to be served on the following 2 weeks in all competitions in which the suspended players' team actually plays. Byes do not count as games played and neither will games that are lost by forfeit. However games won on a forfeit will count.

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FINALS QUALIFICATION

Players will be required to play a minimum of four games with each team they are registered with to be eligible to play in finals.

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FINALS DROP OFFS

In the event of a draw at full-time in finals games, the drop off system will be used. The extra time will commence with 1 less player on the field. After both teams have had possession of the ball, the first team to score a touchdown is declared the winner of the game. If there has been no touchdowns after 2 minutes the siren will sound and 1 player from each side must leave the field. This will happen every 2 minutes until there are only 3 players from each side left on the field. The game will continue until a touchdown has been scored. Players may substitute during the extra time as normal.

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INSURANCE

All registered players are insured through the Touch Football Australia's Sportscover Insurance scheme. To see what insurance does and does not cover, visit TFA's website and look in the insurance section under "membership".

SPORTSCOVER CLAIMS PROCEDURE

1. Report injury to a committee member immediately
2. Complete an Injury Report Form (available at canteen)
3. Contact Sportscover within 30 days of incident via: TFA website www.austouch.com.au OR Sportscover website www.sportscover.com OR email claims@sportscover.com OR Phone Sportscover on 1300 134 956
4. When treatment is complete please forward all Accounts to Sportscover, and also keep copies for yourself.

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CODE OF CONDUCT

Below is the DTA's Code of Conduct. All players are expected to abide by it while representing our Association through roster games, refereeing, school competition, DTA functions and State and National representation. Failure to follow the Code of Conduct may result in suspension.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this code is to outline the type of behaviour which is encouraged by the Devonport Touch Association Inc. (DTA) and that which is considered unbecoming when representing the association as a player, referee, official or volunteer.

KEY PRINCIPLES

- Encourage honest and open competition
- Respect the individual differences of people within the DTA
- Support innovation and creativity
- Share failures and celebrate success
- Share the responsibility and workloads of the DTA
- Participate as members of a team to achieve the Associations goals and objectives

KEY ELEMENTS

All persons who are bound by this code shall:

- Play / Officiate by the rules at all times
- Exhibit exemplary sportsmanship at all times
- Co-operate with your coach, manager, team mates and officials
- Not engage in any verbal or physical confrontation before, during or after a match/event with any referee, coach, selector, player, official, organiser or spectator
- Not use crude or abusive language or engage in any conduct that would be deemed as detrimental to the image of the sport of Touch
- Act, dress and behave in a manner befitting the expectations of the DTA
- Respect the property of the DTA and mutual associations
- Not play, referee or officiate under the influence of alcohol or drugs, act in a way that becomes a public nuisance or creates a public nuisance

PROCESS FOR DEALING WITH A BREACH

Any breaches of the Code of Conduct and other unacceptable conduct shall be dealt with under the [Touch Football Australia Disciplinary Regulations](#). These Disciplinary Regulations are the foundation for managing unacceptable behaviour within our sport.

The Disciplinary Regulations emphasise the significance of our dedicated staff and volunteers, helps to deal with unacceptable behaviours and provides guidance for the assessment of, and processes for dealing with, offences committed by participants, officials and spectators.

The Touch Football Australia Disciplinary Regulations are available for viewing on our website and are located under the Documents tab.

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