

UniSport Australia Guideline

Touch Football

Men, Women and Mixed

UniSport touch football competitions are conducted in accordance with the rules of the [Touch Football Australia](#) (TFA) except where these differ from UniSport competition guidelines; in which case the latter shall take precedence. Reference should be made to the UniSport *Breach of Competition Requirements* guideline and the penalties related to breaches.

1. Team/squad size

- Minimum registered players – 10
- Maximum registered players – 14
- Maximum cross registrations – 3
- Minimum number of players that can take the field without incurring a forfeit – 4
- In mixed gender competitions, the maximum number of males allowed on the field of play is three (3), the minimum male requirement is one (1) and the minimum female requirement is one (1).

1.1. Players who register in a mixed team are ineligible to cross-register in either the men's or women's competition and vice versa.

2. Competition rules

2.1. Substitutions

Teams may make unlimited substitutions during each match in accordance with the [TFA](#) interchange procedure.

2.2. Game duration

- a) All games will be 2 x 20 minutes in duration with 5 minutes for half time.
- b) There will be no time out for injury unless the safety of the player is at risk. The referee in consultation with the competition manager will determine the extra time to be played in this situation.

2.3. Pool points scoring

Points for each match shall be awarded as follows:

- a) Winning team: 3 points
- b) Drawn match: 2 points per team
- c) Losing team: 1 point
- d) Forfeited team: 0 points

2.4. Pool tiebreakers

- a) Point difference (for and against)
- b) Percentage (tries scored divided by tries conceded x100)
- c) Head to head result(s) between the teams concerned
- d) Drop off (if the head to head result(s) between the teams concerned are even, a drop-off will occur with details to be communicated by the competition manager)

2.5. Drawn matches

- a) If preliminary matches are drawn at full time, both teams will be awarded two points as per section 2.3.
- b) If progression or medal matches are drawn at the end of normal time, the [TFA drop off procedure](#) will be applied.

3. Misconduct

All misconduct by players or team staff that occurs during the normal proceedings of a game will be actioned as according to the [Touch Football Australia Disciplinary Regulations Manual](#).

4. Forfeits, delays and abandonments

- 4.1. A forfeit will be declared five (5) minutes after the scheduled start of play where either team is unable to commence play.
- 4.2. The forfeit score is five tries (5) to nil (0).
- 4.3. Should the commencement of a game be delayed due to no fault of either team (as determined by the competition management or UniSport), the game shall be played in its full duration if possible. If full game duration is not possible, the recommended revised game duration will need to be agreed upon by both teams. If resolution between the teams is not possible then the competition manager (or their delegate) will make the final decision regarding match format, which will not be subject to appeal.
- 4.4. In the event of a game being abandoned due to no fault of either team, the UniSport *Abandonment of Sporting Competitions* guideline will be implemented.

5. Uniform requirements

- 5.1. In addition to the requirements as outlined in the [Touch Football Australia Playing Rules 8th Edition](#) (Rule 4), the following shall also be required:
 - Numbers are compulsory on the back of shirt (minimum of 16cm high), and optional on both sleeves (minimum of 8cm high).

6. Team duties

- 6.1. Team duty requirements for touch football are:
 - Teams may be required during the pool games to assist with scoring or other sideline duties.

Previous amendments

August 2001 | August 2003 | July 2004 | July 2005 | August 2005 | March 2010 | April 2011 | May 2012 | May 2014 | February 2015 | April 2017 | May 2018 | March 2019 | February 2020 | January 2021 | June 2022 | July 2023

*All competitions will be held in accordance with the UniSport competition guidelines.