



2026 Conditions of Entry V1

22nd & 23rd August 2026
Greenwood Park, Townsville



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DATE	ITEM	NOTES
1 st June 2026	Team Nominations Open	All information available on Webpage
26 th June 2026	Team Nominations Close	
17 th July 2026	Online Player and Coaching Staff registrations open	
24 th July 2026	Team Nomination Fees Due	
24 th July 2026	Final Date to withdraw with no refund	
17 th August 2026	Online Player and Coaching registrations close	
17 th August 2026	Referee's over the age of 18 Blue Card and SIA Safeguarding Certificate information provided to NQ Touch as per section 4.7	
22 nd & 23 rd August 2026	NQ All Schools	

EVENT CONTACTS

ROLE	NAME	EMAIL/MOBILE
Event Lead	Sherriann Ryan	events@nqtouch.com.au
Competition Lead	Jason Conn	admin@nqtouch.com.au
Referee Director	To be Confirmed	events@nqtouch.com.au



EVENT OBJECTIVE

The objective of the NQ All Schools Touch Football Tournament is to provide a competitive, inclusive and well organised sporting event that promotes participation, skill development and sportsmanship in touch football among school aged athletes. The event aims to connect young players within NQ to the game of touch football while strengthening their engagement with local affiliates, creating opportunities and clear pathways for ongoing involvement in the sport.

Item 1 – VENUE & DATES

1.1 The venue for the 2026 NQ all Schools will be:

Greenwood Park, Kirwan, Townsville, QLD, 4815

1.2 2026 NQ All Schools will be over days:

Saturday 22nd & Sunday 23rd August 2026

Item 2 – DIVISIONS & AGE CRITERIA

2.1. The divisions offered for the 2026 NQ all Schools Championships will be:

- 13 Boys
- 13 Girls
- 13 Mixed
- 15 Boys
- 15 Girls
- 15 Mixed
- Open Boys
- Open Girls
- Open Mixed

2.2 At the close of nominations, entries for divisions in which there may be insufficient teams for a competition will be notified of the options available to those teams (e.g. combined divisions)

2.3 Birth dates for age divisions:

- a) 13s Divisions – 13 years and under (born during or after 2013)
- b) 15s Divisions – 15 years and under (born during or after 2011)
- c) Open Divisions – 18 years and under (born during or after 2008)

2.4 Players are required to register individually into teams via Mysideline with links provided by the NQ Touch football tournament Director via their School Delegate. These will be provided by **Friday 17th July 2026** and are required to be completed by **Monday 17th August 2026**. It is the responsibility of the nominating school/coach to ensure every player meets the age criteria and has registered by this time.

2.5 Proof of Age – It is the responsibility of the school to ensure all Players meet the age requirements to play in their selected age Divisions. NQ Touch may ask a school to provide proof of age for a player(s) within one or more of their nominated teams. Failure to provide such evidence may result in the team(s) disqualification from the event. Acceptable documentation includes Birth Certificate, current Passport, current School Identification and/or Driver's License.

2.6 Where a school may have extenuating circumstances in terms of the age criteria, the school must make a written application to NQ Touch by **5pm Friday 24th July 2026** to allow due consideration by the NQ Touch Tournament Committee.

Item 3 – PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

3.1 Nominating player must meet the following criteria:

- a) Players in each team must be bona fide students of the school they represent, as at the date of the tournament.
- b) Player INSURANCE – Schools are fully responsible to ensure that all players, coaches and officials are registered online via Mysideline. The TFA national Insurance Scheme covers all players and officials who have met the insurance criteria of a current TFA affiliated competition. For this tournament, the payer must be a student of the school and be a registered player listed online in their respective team.
- c) Players cannot compete in more than one (1) divisions.

	<p>d) Requests for dispensation must be within the timeframe outlined in these rules. NQ Touch reserves the right to invoke disqualification rules where a school has failed to comply.</p> <p>e) The use of un-registered/ineligible players will result in Champions points being forfeited and the team possibly being disqualified from the event.</p>
Item 4 – REFEREE’S	
4.1	<p>Schools are expected to provide a referee for each team nominated for the event.</p> <p>Schools are to have their referees register via Mysideline by 5pm Monday 17th August 2026. The link will be provided via email once team nominations are received.</p> <p>Should a school fail to provide referees for their allocated games, the following consequences will apply (in order):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Formal warning sent via text message to the number provided during team registration (should this not be the number of a teacher attending, please update this with Tournament Control prior to the commencement of the first game). This message will state the field and time referee has not attended. 2. Should a referee not attend their allocated game after the first offence, the removal of 1 competition point per school team entered per subsequent breach of not providing a referee will occur. 3. Should there be more than five (5) games where an individual school fails to meet the referee requirement, the school will be asked to explain why it should be allowed to continue in the competition
4.2	The appointed referee will need to be available to referee his/her team for the duration of the NQ All Schools; that is for, at a minimum, all the round games. The Referee Coordinator will appoint referees for the finals, and all nominated referees are required to be available.
4.3	Nominated referees MUST be accredited & capable to referee at the standard required for the division they have been nominated for by their school.
4.4	All Referees will be required to attend a Referees meeting each morning of the Championship as part of their duty. Timings will be advised by the NQ All Schools Referee Coordinator prior to the commencement of the event.
4.5	Referees who officiate for the weekend will receive lunch and snacks for each day of the tournament that they are required to referee. It is suggested that team officials determine ways to reward/thank their referees appropriately for their time and availability for the 2026 NQ All Schools.
4.6	<p>Please see below for approved Referee uniform: Official TFA (New Balance or QTF (Inferno) Pink referee uniform as shown below – NO other forms of uniform will be accepted.</p> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>Male Referees Female Referees</p> </div>
4.7	Referee provided who are over the age of 18 will be required to hold a valid Blue Card and complete the SIA Safeguarding Course. We will require this information by
Item 5 – TEAM NOMINATION & INVOICING	
5.1	Team Registration’s (Schedule B) close at 5pm Friday 26th June 2026 . After nominations are received an invoice will be raised and made payable to NQ Touch.
5.2	Invoices must be paid in full by Friday 24th July 2026 . If invoices are not paid by the due date the team will not be allocated to the draw and will not be able to compete.



5.3	Please note: There will be no refund of fees for any teams withdrawing from the competition after Friday 24th July 2026 . The 2026 entry fee is \$325 (GST inclusive) per team and the expectation is that every team supply a referee.
Item 6 – REGISTRATION (Individual Player and Coaches details)	
6.1	<p>Team Nominations will be subject to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Coaches/Team Managers must ensure all players and coaching staff are registered via Mysideline by Friday 17th August 2026. b) Where team numbers (through injury or an extenuating circumstance) fall below the minimum (required to take the field) a school may seek the approval of the tournament committee to make additions or replacements.
Item 7 – TEAM COMPOSITION	
7.1	<p>Teams must comply with the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) A maximum of 14 Players per team can register for the event with a maximum of 6 players taking the field at any one time. Should there be only one team nominated in a division, NQ Touch have the right to play this team in another division with consultation with the school. b) Schools may not have players from another school within their team without prior approval from the NQ Touch Tournament Committee.
7.2	Players must be under 19 years of age as at the 31/12/2026 and have been enrolled at the school for at least four (4) weeks prior to the carnival. Disregard for this rule will lead to the offending team being disqualified from the 2026 NQ All Schools.
7.3	Schools can source extra players from other schools if required, if that school has their full team nominated or the other school is not participating in the 2026 NQ all Schools. A School Clearance Letter must be supplied from the School the student is attending before being accepted into another school's team. Teams utilizing this rule will be eligible to participate in the final series.
7.4	Single-gender schools may combine to form a team in the Minor Mixed, Junior Mixed, Junior Mixed and Open Mixed divisions only. All players must be enrolled in their school as per clause 7.3.
7.5	Players may only be registered and play for one team. Disregard for this rule will lead to the offending team being disqualified from the Championships.
7.6	To be eligible for finals, players must play at least 50% of the round games in their division. Where a team has only three (3) round games, to be eligible for the finals series the player must have played two (2) games.
Item 8 – COMPETITION FORMAT	
8.1	<p>The competition will be based on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) A round robin format will be utilized for preliminary rounds. b) Where pools are required, crossover semi-finals will be played to determine grand finalists.
8.2	<p>Position for the Final Series will be determined as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Highest Competition Points; then, if equal b) Highest Differential ; then, if equal c) Highest Percentage ($\frac{\text{For}}{\text{Against}} \times \frac{100}{1}$); then, if equal d) Round game result; then, if drawn e) Lowest Against; then, if equal f) Highest For; then, if equal g) Drop off <p>Drawn quarter finals, semi-finals and finals will be determined by Drop-off.</p>



8.3	<p>Player Qualification for Finals:</p> <p>Players will be required to have played a minimum of 2 round games to be eligible for the final series.</p>
8.4	<p>Game Durations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) All games (INCLUDING FINALS) will be straight 25 minutes in duration with NO HALF TIME BREAK – both teams will be afforded the tap off opportunity. There will be a five (5) minute break between games. b) Teams shall not be required to reverse direction on the scoring of a Touchdown. c) Both teams shall have a change to tap off to commence the game. The team that wins the toss shall have the choice whether they tap first or second. Once the team that taps first has lost possession, the teams come back to half way to commence the tap for the second team. Play shall continue as usual from this point. d) All drawn quarter finals, semi-finals and grand finals will be decided by DROP OFF. e) The tournament timekeeper will control the start and finish time of games. A hotter will be used to signal the various start and completion times. f) Tournament control will control DROP OFF times with the referees.
Item 9 – COMPETITION POINTS	
9.1	<p>For all round games competition points will be awarded on the results obtained:</p> <p>Win = Three (3) points</p> <p>Draw = Two (2) points</p> <p>Loss = One (1) point</p> <p>Forfeit = Zero (0) points</p> <p>Please note – any team forfeiting a game without the prior permission of the Tournament Committee will be fined \$50 for each game.</p>
9.2	<p>Score Card – At the conclusion of games the referees will seek the signature of the team official (coach/manager or other designated person) to verify the game result. Results need to be confirmed prior to signing. Once a card has been signed – that result will stand.</p>
9.3	<p>Protest/Appeals – should be written and in the hands of the Administration within twenty minutes of the game in question (please note – protests regarding referee decisions will not be accepted). All protests shall be adjudicated on by the NQ Touch tournament Committee.</p>
Item 10- RULES	
10.1	<p>All games to be played under the current TFA (8th Edition) rules.</p>
10.2	<p>Interchange boxes will be used for the tournament. Substitute players must remain in their interchange area for the duration of the match.</p>
10.3	<p>During games teams may have up to 14 players in the sub box in playing attire. No other similarly attired individuals may be in the box area at any time during the game. This applies to all spectators, team supporters and personnel other than coaching and managing staff. Failure to comply will see forfeiture of that game's points.</p>
10.4	<p>All interchanges must occur at or within the team's interchange area, and only after the substituted player has crossed the boundaries and entered the interchange area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) All interchanges must be made on the one side of the field and without delay.



	<p>b) Physical contact does not have to be made between interchanging players and players leaving or entering the field of play shall not hinder or obstruct play and must enter from an onside position.</p> <p>c) An infringement will result in a penalty being awarded to the non-offending team five (7) metres infield from where the substituted players left the field or where the substituting player entered the field, whichever the greater advantage.</p> <p>d) Following the scoring of a touchdown, players may interchange at will without having to wait for the substituted player to enter the interchange area.</p> <p>e) All divisions are to comprise six (6) to a side, on the field. Mixed teams are to be played with a minimum of 1 boy and maximum of 3 boys on the field at any one time.</p>
10.5	<p>Drop Off:</p> <p>The standard TFA drop off rule will apply.</p> <p>A one minute break at the conclusion of the game will occur. This will allow referees to determine the final score and indicate to the tournament control or a tournament official that the game is drawn.</p> <p>The team that did not commence the game with possession of the ball is to take the ball to the centre of the half way to tap off. The teams will continue to play in the same direction as the game finished. Each team is to start the game with 4 players on the field, the Drop-Off will commence with a two (2) minute period of extra time. Should a Team be leading at the expiration of the two (2) minute period of extra time then that Team will be declared the Winner and Match complete.</p> <p>Should neither Team be leading at the expiration of two (2) minutes, a signal is given and the match will pause at the next Touch or Dead Ball. Each Team will then remove another player from the Field of Play. The Match will recommence immediately after the players have left the field at the same place where it paused (i.e. the Team retains Possession at the designated number of Touches, or at Change of Possession due to some Infringement or the sixth Touch) and the Match will continue until a Try is scored.</p>
Item 11 - UNIFORMS	
11.1	All playing uniforms must include numbered shirt, shorts and socks (socks must be visible) and regulation footwear (refer TFA Rules). Numbered shirts must correspond to the team registration sheet and duplicate numbers are not allowed
11.2	School playing colors are desirable but teams are permitted to wear their team/club uniform if the school uniform is unavailable
11.3	All playing uniforms must match. Any player who does not comply will not be permitted to participate in any match until he/she does comply.
11.4	Shoes with screw-in studs or cleats are not to be worn by any player. Light Leather or synthetic boots with soft moulded soles are permitted.
Item 12 - TOURNAMENT CONTROL	
12.1	Referee's will be under the control of the NQ Touch Football referee's co-ordinator. Referee's must hold a minimum TFA Affiliate referee accreditation to officiate at this tournament.
12.2	Referee's nominate by their school are required to attend for the duration of the playing time for the age divisions they have been nominated (these times may vary)
12.3	All tournament issues will be controlled by NQ touch Football or the Tournament
12.4	Judiciary/disputes committee will be appointed by the NQ touch Football Tournament Committee or appointed Tournament Co-ordinator.



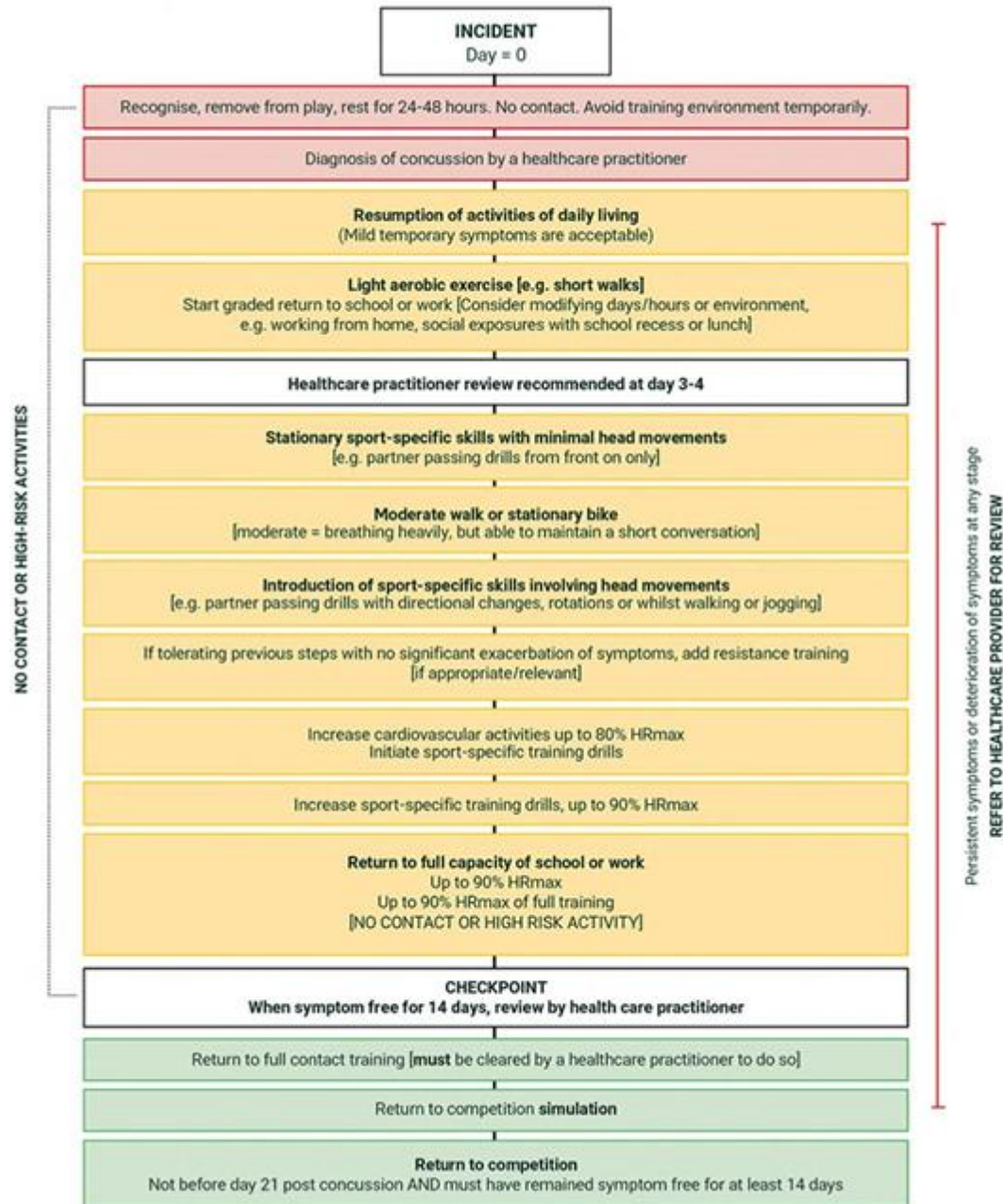
Item 13 – CHILD SAFEGUARDING	
13.1	<p>It is a compulsory requirement that any official involved in coaching, managing, supervising, transporting, or otherwise working with junior team members is eligible to work with children under the requirements of Blue Card Services. This includes holding and maintaining a valid Blue Card or Exemption Card and complying with all relevant child safety legislation and regulatory requirements at all times.</p> <p>Schools have a legal and moral duty of care to ensure the safety and wellbeing of children and young people. Volunteer compliance by schools is a lawful direction that must be met, and schools must take all reasonable steps to verify, record, and monitor the compliance of staff, contractors, and volunteers engaged in junior activities.</p> <p>Compliance is the responsibility of the school and includes ensuring that all relevant personnel:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are appropriately screened and authorised prior to commencing duties • Understand and adhere to child safeguarding policies, codes of conduct, and reporting obligations • Act in a manner that promotes a safe, inclusive, and respectful environment for all children • Immediately report any concerns, disclosures, or suspected breaches of child safety in accordance with mandatory reporting requirements <p>Failure to comply with child safeguarding requirements may result in removal from competition and/or referral to relevant authorities. Child safety and wellbeing are paramount, and zero tolerance applies to any conduct that places children at risk of harm.</p>
Item 14 – DRAW	
14.1	The FINAL DRAW will be posted on the NQ Touch Football website one week prior to the event.
14.2	NQ touch Football reserves the right to amend the draw.
14.3	Where amendments are necessary, every effort will be made to provide schools with amended draws before the event.
14.4	The final draw will be confirmed at the team manager’s meeting.
14.5	Results will be posted live throughout the day and can be accessed through the NQ Touch website.
Item 15 – CODE OF BEHAVIOUR	
15.1	It is the responsibility of each school to ensure team officials and players act in an appropriate manner and in the spirit of the game. NQ Touch Football will have the power to control behaviour at the tournament and penalise players/teams for misconduct.
15.2	NQ Touch Football has the power to impose penalties should behaviour on and off the field not be deemed appropriate. This applies to spectators and parents alike.
15.3	Players sent from the field (not a period of time) in a match shall be required to serve a two-game penalty. Note – two periods of time offences in games will constitute a two-game penalty also.
Item 16 – COACH REQUIREMENTS	
16.1	<p>When coaches position themselves at the end of the field, they must remain five (5) metres behind the end zone line. Where a fence prevents this, they must remain at the fence. COACHES cannot coach and give verbal instructions from the end zone of the field. This rule applies to all members of a team, including parents, staff, and other team members. It will be strictly enforced.</p> <p>Where there is a common end zone, coaches must not take up a position at the end of the field if there is a game in progress on the adjacent field.</p>



	Coaches are reminded they are under the control of the referees regardless of whether they are in the sub box or at the end of the field.
Item 17 - MEDICAL	
17.1	NQ Touch Football will provide qualified medical staff (St Johns and/or qualified sports trainer and/or physiotherapist) to attend to injuries sustained at the tournament. A comprehensive first aid kit and tent facilities will be available for players requiring treatment. In the event of a serious injury where an ambulance is required to transport the player, the organisation of the ambulance will be under the control of the Tournament Medical Officer.
Item 18 - BLOOD BIN	
18.1	Any player with a bleeding cut or abrasion is to leave the field immediately and have the cut or abrasion cleaned and covered. At this time, any bloodstained clothing must also be either cleaned or replaced.
18.2	If the player does not leave the field immediately, the referee will stop the game and ask the player to leave the field (normal substitution rules apply).
18.3	Once the flow of blood has been stemmed, the cut or abrasion cleaned and covered and any blood stained clothing and equipment cleaned or replaced, the player may return to the field and continue play.
18.4	If bleeding cannot be controlled and the wound securely covered, the player must not continue in the game.
Item 19 - INJURIES & INJURY TIME POLICY	
19.1	Any injuries incurred during the tournament will not be the responsibility of NQ Touch Football or its tournament committee. Players eligible to participate are required to be financial under the rules of this tournament (which includes insurance cover). The following injury time policy will apply: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the event that a player is seriously injured during a game, there is to be NO attempt to remove the injured player until it has been ascertained by a suitably qualified injury assessment person that it is appropriate to move that player. • In instances where the medical staff examines a participant and it is indicated that they should not participate for a certain amount of time, the participant will be deemed to be ineligible to do so. Therefore, if the participant does participate, the team may be disqualified. In addition, there also may be some insurance issues due to the participant being deemed as ineligible. In the event of a game being stopped due to a player being seriously injured and unable to be moved from the field of play, refer item 21 – match reschedule.
Item 20 - CONCUSSION POLICY	
20.1	TFA has released their own TFA Concussion Policy . The policy has been updated in March 2024 and will be used at NQ Touch Football events. The aim of these guidelines is to ensure that all players with a suspected concussion receive timely and appropriate advice and care to safely return to activities and sport. It will outline the process that must be followed to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognise an athlete with a suspected concussion or red flags • Manage a suspected concussion or red flags • Manage return to participate after concussion • Document/report a concussion • Communicate information effectively to the athlete regarding concussion, monitoring and return to sport process

The TFA approved Concussion in Sport Policy will now align as follows:

Figure 3: Graded return to sport framework for Touch Football



Reference: Australian Concussion Guidelines, 2024

More information on how to recognise and manage a concussion can be found on the Concussion in Sport link:

<https://concussioninsport.gov.au/>



Item 21 – WEATHER	
21.1	<p>NQ Touch Football reserves the right to organise affected games in whatever format will assist the games to occur in as equal conditions as possible.</p> <p>NQ Touch Football will use the following TFA Guidelines in the case of Electrical Storms, Wet Weather, Extreme Heat and Air Quality.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Electrical Storm and Wet Weather Guidelines • Extreme Heat Guidelines • Air Quality Guidelines
Item 22 – MATCH RESCHEDULE	
22.1	If, due to any other extraordinary circumstances, a game cannot be completed to full time the game may be rescheduled as soon as possible at a time and on a ground arranged by tournament management
22.2	If the game has commenced and the half way mark of the game has not been reached the following will apply: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The game will start from the beginning and must be completed up to the regulation full time. b) The score will commence at 0–0.
22.3	If at least the half way mark of the game has been reached and the game cannot continue, the following will apply: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The result will be the score at the point in time when the stoppage occurred. NOTE: Tournament management reserves the right to judge and adjust to suit the conditions as required.
22.4	If, due to time constraints or any other reason, a game cannot be rescheduled the following will occur: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Games that did not reach the half way mark will be abandoned and a 0–0 score will result.
Item 23 – FORFEITS	
23.1	Teams must be in attendance at their designated playing field five (5) minutes before the commencement of their match. It is the responsibility of each team captain to report to the referees two (2) minutes before the commencement of the game so that the toss of the coin can be affected without loss of time.
23.2	It is the responsibility of the referees appointed for the game to adhere to the time frames set down in this clause
23.3	If a team is not at the field at the advertised starting time of the game, the attending team can be awarded the winning of the toss. The offending team will receive a maximum of FIVE (5) minutes from the commencement of the game (hooter/whistle) to position the team on field and be ready to commence play
23.4	If the offending team is not in attendance after the FIVE (5) minutes has expired, the game will be deemed a forfeit and the non-offending team will be awarded a 5-0 win and three (3) competition points. The offending team will receive a 0-5 score, no competition points and incur a \$50 fine.
23.5	Should the non-offending team agree to participate in the match following the expiration of the FIVE (5) minute time limit the game result will stand.
23.6	The appointed representative of an offending team may be required to meet with the NQ Touch Football Tournament Committee to determine the team’s further participation.
23.7	Forfeits for any reason in the final series, negates the forfeiting team’s right to participate further in the tournament, and will again incur a \$50 fine.



Item 24 – TEAM RELAY – WILL BE HELD IF THE DRAW ALLOWS SUFFICIENT TIME	
24.1	A Relay Team will consist of four (4) school representatives. This can be made up of students or student/teacher teams.
24.2	Relay Teams in mixed divisions must comprise of two (2) female and two (2) male participants.
24.3	Participating team members must be registered and be actively playing or coaching at the Championships.
24.4	Relay race will run from try line to try line of a full-sized touch football field.
24.5	Appointed referees will officiate the races with their decision being final.
24.6	Winning Relay Teams will be crowned NQ All Schools Team Relay Champion for their division.
Item 25 – INSURANCE	
25.1	The TFA Accident Insurance Scheme covers all players, referees and officials who have met the insurance criteria. For this tournament the player must have registered via Mysideline for the team for which they are playing in. The school must have met the financial payment required to cover the players for insurance during the tournament.
Item 26 – RIGHT TO AMEND	
26.1	NQ Touch Football reserves the right to amend any of the above conditions of entry. Should there be an amendment, the nominated team contact and the school contact will be advised.
Item 27– PHOTOGRAPHY	
27.1	<p>All persons acknowledge that by participating in this event they may be photographed and/or filmed, and that these images may be used by NQ Touch for the promotion of the sport. NQ Touch will not provide images to any third party without prior approval.</p> <p>Please note that this event takes place in a public space and therefore photographs and videos may also be captured by members of the public.</p> <p>Any professional photography or filming of players must be registered with tournament management, have prior permission to film, have completed NQ Touch safeguarding training, hold a current Blue Card, and be registered on the NQ Touch Blue Card portal.</p>
Item 28– CLARIFICATION OF CONDITIONS	
28.1	Any situations requiring clarification and not covered in the above conditions will be determined by NQ Touch Football staff. They reserve the right to make all final decisions as required in the interests of the tournament and all participants.
Item 29 – FORCE MAJEURE	
29.1	<p>If NQ Touch Football is unable to perform, in whole or part any obligation under these regulations of a Force Majeure event, NQ Touch Football is relieved of that obligation under these regulations to the extent and the period it is unable to perform.</p> <p>In addition to Policies, NQ Touch Football has no obligation to refund to any individual or team any fees paid if it is unable to perform by reason of a Force Majeure event.</p> <p>Force Majeure event</p> <p>For the purpose of these regulations a force majeure event includes but is not limited to any or all of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acts of God including flood, drought, earthquake, storm, cyclone, fire, explosion, epidemic or; • War; • Terrorism; • Riot or Civil Disturbances; • Permanent injunction of any duly constituted court; • Any fact, circumstance, matter or thing beyond the reasonable control of NQ Touch Football.



ATTACHMENTS:

1: ACCEPTANCE OF CONDITIONS OF ENTRY 2026

2. SCHOOL AND REFEREE NOMINATION 2026