



# IPSWICH TOUCH

**2024 Term 4 Junior Season**

## **Conditions of Entry (COE)**

All Ipswich Touch Association games are held at Jim Finimore Oval at One Mile (weather permitting). All teams are required to have a Team Delegate/Coach who must be accredited or complete the ASC Community Coaching "General Principles" and preferably attend a TFA Foundation Coaching Course funded by Ipswich Touch Association. This person must also have a Blue Card.

### **Season Dates**

Round 1 – 3<sup>rd</sup> October  
Round 2 – 10<sup>th</sup> October  
Round 3 – 17<sup>th</sup> October  
Round 4 – 24<sup>th</sup> October  
Round 5 – 31<sup>st</sup> October  
Round 6 – 7<sup>th</sup> November  
Round 7 – 14<sup>th</sup> November  
Round 8 – 21<sup>st</sup> November

Grand Final – 5<sup>th</sup> December

Potential Wet Weather catch up rounds – Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> November

### **Game Times**

Timeslots: 4:30pm/5:10pm/5:50pm/6:30pm/7:10pm / 7:50pm. The younger age groups will generally start at 4:30pm and then work up through the age groups. It is dependent on team nominations as to how many timeslots are used, but there is a possibility of having a 3:50pm timeslot if needed.

Games are scheduled to 17 minutes each half. There will be a 3 minute half time and 3 minutes at the end of each game. Please vacate the playing field as soon as your game has finished to allow the next game to begin on time. These timings are subject to change based on nominations.

## Season Fees

- \$50 per player – must be paid prior to FIRST game.
- If registering for the first time in a Financial year, \$52 Annual Membership Fees are due (Touch Football Australia (TFA) \$22 & Qld Touch Association (QTA) - \$30.
- Online payment only through MySideline.
- Fair Play Vouchers can be used, however they cannot cover the Annual Membership Fee. You will still be required to register via MySideline but will be given a different code for sign on. The voucher must be emailed to the association prior to taking the field. Please email [juniors@ipswichtouch.com](mailto:juniors@ipswichtouch.com) regarding codes / to provide your fair play certificate.
- Player registration will open after your team has nominated.

## Individual Players

If you are new to Ipswich Touch Association and do not have a team, please fill in the online form on the website. Whilst every effort is made to get individuals into a team, we cannot guarantee a position. The form can be found at this link: [ipswichtouch.com/junior](http://ipswichtouch.com/junior) . If a group of individuals wish to play together, it is recommended they nominate a team and then approach Ipswich Touch regarding recruiting players to fill their teams.

## Divisions

Under 8 Unisex	Born 2016, 2017, 2018
Under 10 Boys & Girls	Born 2014, 2015
Under 12 Boys & Girls	Born 2012, 2013
Under 14 Boys & Girls	Born 2010, 2011

All Under 8 & 10 teams must have a **minimum of 8** registered players. All Under 12 & 14 teams must have a **minimum of 9** registered players. If your team does not meet the minimum number requirement, an individual player may be allocated to your team or team billed for the extra players.

Throughout the season if you require a fill in player, you must notify the Junior Coordinator and they will help you source a fill in. You must use a player in a younger age group and are not allowed to use players from other teams from the same division.

## Competition Points & Scorecards

Teams will be given 3 points for a win, 2 for a draw, 1 for a loss and zero if they forfeit. Teams that win on forfeit will be given 3 points and a score of 5 touchdowns for, and zero against. Positions on ladders are determined by points, then touchdown differences, then percentages. In grades where teams may be disadvantaged by inconsistencies with respect to byes, 3 points may be awarded for each bye.

Before the game, it is the responsibility of the team delegate to ensure all players have signed the score card (younger players can just write their name). After a game, it is the responsibility of the team delegate to sign the score card as a true and accurate reflection of the result of the game. If the score card is incorrect, the team delegate does not have to sign and the situation may need to be investigated if it cannot be agreed to by the Referees and the opposing team delegate. Any score disputes must be referred to the Junior Coordinator immediately after the game, with all parties present (referee's, team delegates).

## 2. RULES OF COMPETITION & BY-LAWS



## Forfeits

Teams must be in attendance at their playing fields five minutes before the commencement of their match. Teams that cannot field a team on the scheduled, or rescheduled, date and time will be required to forfeit. Should it be necessary for a team to forfeit its scheduled fixture game, the team contact must advise the ITA office by email, by 5pm on the day before the scheduled game so that the referees and opposition may be contacted. **Teams who forfeit on their nominated match day may be deducted 3 premiership points.**

## Uniforms

Players must wear matching playing shirts with a number on the back (there can be no duplicate numbers). All Teams must be in the correct uniform by week 3 of the competition otherwise a written statement must be forwarded to the Junior Administrator. NO BIBS ARE ALLOWED IN PLACE OF SHIRTS/SINGLETS. Suitable footwear must be worn. Shoes with screw-in studs or cleats are not to be worn by any player. Light leather or synthetic shoes with soft-moulded soles are permitted, provided individual studs are no longer than 13mm in length; the measurement being taken from the sole of the boot. All players must remove all jewellery including elastic wrist bands prior to the game. Jewellery that cannot be removed must be taped. Fingernails must be kept short or must be taped.

## Injuries and Blood Bin

All injuries should be reported to the referee at the time of the injury, for noting on the back of the scorecard. An incident report should also be submitted to the Administrator no later than the next business day after the injury was sustained.

The only first aid that will be attended at the venue is immobilising and applying ice to the injury. If the injury requires further treatment either an ambulance will be called, or you must attend a medical practitioner of your choice. Our staff are at the venue as administrators and not medical staff.

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 blood-stained clothing must be either cleaned or replaced. 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).

## Wet Weather

All team delegates, who have provided accurate email addresses and mobile phone details (message via sms), are contacted after a decision to cancel games. Where possible, a decision will be made by 4pm. The Ipswich Falcons Juniors Facebook Page will also be updated. Safety of participants and preservation of ITA facilities, particularly the playing surface, will always take precedence over the competition program. If games are affected because of wet weather or other reasons, teams/clubs will be notified. If a game reaches half time and is then called off/ cancelled, the halftime score will be deemed the final score. Every effort will be made to reschedule postponed games. If time constraints prevent this, alternative fixture days, ie Sunday may be used. ITA reserves the right to adjust the fixture program as deemed appropriate. **A round may be cancelled if an alternative day cannot be found.** There will be no appeal over the rescheduling of fixture matches. In the event that finals fixtures are cancelled, the team who finished the round games at the top of the table will be awarded the premiership title.

## Photos of Playing Area

All participants are advised that photos may be taken and used by ITA for informative purposes when at the venue. It is not however, appropriate for parents / caregivers to video / photograph any player other than their own.

## Responsibilities of Team Delegate

- Nominate your team
- Ensure all players are registered prior to taking the field
- Ensure all players are familiar with the conditions of entry and the 8<sup>th</sup> edition playing rules
- Ensure all players and supporters of your team act in an appropriate manner on and off the field
- Make sure all team members are in the correct uniform by round 3 of the season
- Check the score at halftime with referee's and sign the scorecard at the completion of the game
- Report any concerns to the Junior Coordinator
- Provide a copy of your Blue Card, or if you are a teacher an exemption card, to the Junior Coordinator
- Provide a copy of your Community Coaching General Principles Certificate to the Junior Coordinator

## Referees

Referees will be allocated to games by the Referee Coordinator. Most of our referees are junior players learning to be referees so we expect respect and patience with all referees. Pink Shirt referees have been assessed to referee independently, Yellow shirt referees are being mentored. All referees are still learning and we ask you to support them in this process.

If any players 12yrs and above or parents are interested in becoming a referee, we'd love you to get involved, please contact us [juniors@ipswichtouch.com](mailto:juniors@ipswichtouch.com). We have a great mentoring program to support our referees.

## Code of Conduct

ITA requires all players, coaches, managers, referees, parents and other spectators to behave in a sportsmanlike, respectful, non-abusive and non-violent manner at all times. Team coaches, managers and captains are responsible for the behaviour of all players and spectators. ITA will not tolerate inappropriate behaviour or disrespect on or off the field at its competitions. This is in line with the Australian Sports Commission recommendations.

Referees are entitled to caution players, coaches, managers, and spectators. Referees have the authority to send abusive players / spectators from the playing field. Captains are responsible for the behaviour of their teams on the field and will be the primary communication link between teams and the referees. The captain is the only player permitted to communicate with the referee on rulings. Players shall not comment upon or question referee's decisions. Referees may require a player to be replaced temporarily, to go to the "sin bin" for a period of time, or to leave the field of play for the remainder of the game. Coaches, managers and spectators displaying inappropriate behaviour may be asked to move away from the sidelines or ends of the field. Referees at their discretion may take

action against teams for the conduct of their coaches, managers and spectators, if in the referees' judgment cited persons are displaying inappropriate behaviour. Referees are the sole judge of fact. In the event that a player is sent from the field for the remainder of the game an automatic 1 week suspension is applied.

All teams and supporters are reminded that the majority of our referees are juniors and also still learning. Therefore a zero tolerance approach will be taken with respect to abuse of our referees.

## Rules and Development

\* 8<sup>th</sup> Edition Rules - [Rules - Touch Football Australia](#)

\* Under 8 & 10 Rule Modifications:

- Teams play five a side at any one time
- Acting half cannot run with the ball, they must pass off
- Defence cannot move up until first receiver has touched the ball

\* Community Coaching General Principles - [Training for Coaches | Sport Australia](#)

## Insurance

[Touch Football Insurance Scheme | Marsh \(marshadvantage.com.au\)](#)