



GCTA Adult Competition Conditions of Entry - 2024

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Gold Coast Touch Association

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GCTA Senior Conditions of Entry – 2024

1 - Introduction

By participating in the competition, it is expected that all players have read and understood these documents. The GCTA Conditions of Entry document outlines the rules and regulations applicable to all Gold Coast Touch Association Senior Competitions.

All GCTA competitions will adhere to the Touch Football Australia (TFA) 8th edition playing rules. However, if there is a discrepancy between the TFA 8th edition playing rules and the GCTA General Conditions of Entry, the rules outlined in the GCTA Conditions of Entry will prevail.

Any modifications to the rules during a season will be communicated to team delegates and officials before implementation.

2 - Dates and Times

Games consist of 2 x 20-minute halves unless special circumstances required matches to be shortened. Standard matches times include 6:00, 6:50, 7:40 or 8:30pm, key seasons dates are below:

Key Date	Wednesday Night	Thursday Night
Team Nominations Close	28/01	28/01
Trial Round	31/01	01/02
Round 1	07/02	08/02
Wet Weather Week *	15/05	16/05
Semi Finals	22/05	23/05
Preliminary Finals	29/05	30/05
Grand Finals	Saturday 08/06	Saturday 08/06
Number of Rounds	14	14

* Should a Wet Week not be required, this will be a bye round.

3 - Competition Types

The following competitions will be offered by Gold Coast Touch Association.

Competition Type	Age Restriction
Wednesday Men's Premier	Born in or before 2011
Wednesday Women's Premier	
Wednesday Men's	
Wednesday Women's	
Thursday Mixed	

4 – Team Nominations and Fees

Team nominations must be submitted online Monday 29 January 2023 at 5pm. [Nominate Here](#)

Full team fees must be paid by Round 5 matches, otherwise a \$100 late fee may be applied. This penalty may include removal from competition.

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Men's + Women's Premier Division Team Fee (12 rounds + wet week + finals): \$750.00

All other Men's, Women's & Mixed Team Fee (14 rounds + wet week + finals): \$1500.00

School Student Teams: \$1400.00

** Minimum age is 12 years old – is only applicable for teams with ONLY school students registered*

GOLD COAST TOUCH ASSOCIATION BANK DETAILS

BSB: 0 6 4 - 4 4 5

ACCOUNT NUMBER: 0 0 9 0 1 1 4 1

ACCOUNT NAME:

GOLD COAST TOUCH ASSOCIATION

** Reference of team name and invoice number is essential.*



5 – Player Registration and Playing in Multiple Teams

All players must be registered via MySideline prior to Week 3 fixtures.

Teams can have an unlimited number of registered players, but only 14 players can participate in any particular game. Players taking the field without proper registration are not covered under the Touch Football Australia National Insurance Scheme and play at their own risk.

The Team Delegate is responsible for ensuring all players are registered before taking the field. Players not registered will be ineligible for finals.

Players can register and play for multiple teams playing on **different nights of competition or different competition types**. For Example, a player can register and play in a Wednesday Night Women's team and play for a Thursday Night Mixed Team.

Players are ineligible to register and play for 2 teams in the same competition type and night. E.g. Mixed Division 2 and Mixed Division 5.

Any player found playing for more than one team in the same competition will be given a two-match suspension & the team may be forfeited for the match.

6 – Uniform Requirements

All players in a team must be wearing matching playing shirt/ singlet/ jersey with a number that is clearly visible on the back. **All teams must be in matching uniforms by Round 5 of competition.**

Any teams without matching uniforms after Round 5 with no approved dispensation will have their match forfeited.

All players in a team must be wearing shorts above the knee and of sporting attire e.g. no boardshorts. Players must be wearing shorts of the same colour.

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All players must wear moulded shoes. Baseball cleats and metal screw-in studs are not permitted.

7 – Team Grading and Finals Format

All teams will play in the preseason trial round on the week of 29 January, unless specifically directly by team delegate.

The first 3 rounds of the season will be a grading period. Following the completing of this period, GCTA will review each teams results and regrade teams if required. Team regrading is to the discretion of the association.

Team delegates can express their preferred grade during team nominations, with efforts to select the appropriate division based on their team's ability and experience. GCTA reserves the right to place any team in any division.

8 – Eligibility for Finals

Players must sign-on and play at least 5 rounds for a team to be eligible for finals. Eligible games are calculated from the team sheets in the folders at the fields on competition nights.

If the team has a bye, or has been forfeited against, each player will be given an additional game to their season count provided they were registered and have participated in a match before the bye or forfeited match. A maximum of 2 byes or forfeits may be used to qualify for finals.

If a player has played more 5 or more games for the club across the course of the season, then:

- The player will be deemed eligible only for the team they played the highest number of games in.
- If the players highest number of games played is equal across multiple club teams, then they will be eligible for multiple club teams. Once a club player competes in a final's series, they are ineligible to participate in a lower-graded final series.
-

9 – Club Players

A player may participate in a minimum of 5 games for a club across various grades.

Players are permitted to play for multiple teams within their club throughout the season under the following conditions:

- Players only play in one game per night.
- Players only play in one team per division (e.g. if a club has two division 3 teams, any one player may only play for one division 3 team over the course of the competition.
- **No Premier registered player is permitted to play in a division 2 or 3 team.**
 - o An exception will be made if club does not have a division 1 side nominated, then the player may play in division 2.

** Club rules above only apply for Wednesday Night teams.*

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10 – Forfeits

Forfeiting a match is strongly discouraged as it negatively impacts the opposing team and the overall competition. Where a team has no choice but to forfeit the match, they must notify GCTA by no later than 2pm on the day of competition by either emailing competitions@goldcoasttouch.com or calling the club's contact number 0449 945 133. Teams that do not notify of a forfeit deducted one competition point and may have other penalties apply per Conditions of Entry.

11 - Competition Terminology

In the context of GCTA Conditions of Entry documents, the following definitions shall be applied:

Competition Type: This term distinguishes between various competitions, such as Men's, Junior Girls, Men's 30s, and Junior Mixed.

Age Group: This term differentiates between the various ages of players allowed to participate in a competition, including Under 8's, Under 10's, 12's, 14's.

Division: This unique term describes a specific competition on any given night and is the amalgamation of a competition type and grade (e.g., Women's A, Mixed 4).

Club: This term denotes an approved entity nominating a collective of teams playing under the same name and uniform in GCTA competitions.

Team/Club Delegate: This refers to the person responsible for each team participating in GCTA competitions. The delegate for each team is designated during the team nomination process (outlined in Section 3.1) and assumes all responsibilities outlined in the relevant individual competition's Conditions of Entry document.

12 - Age/Gender Restrictions and Requirements

It is the duty of the team or club delegate to verify that all players meet the age requirements specified in the individual competition's Conditions of Entry document before participating in the division. GCTA may request proof of age documentation, including a birth certificate, current passport, current school identification, and/or driver's license. Failure to provide such evidence may result in penalties, including forfeiture of points or disqualification from the competition at the Competitions Manager's discretion.

In line with the TFA Participation Guidelines for the Inclusion of Transgender and Gender Diverse People, individuals can participate in the competition/category that best reflects their gender identity. For any other circumstances, including transgender or non-binary participation in GCTA competitions, GCTA will adhere to the TFA Policy regarding player eligibility.

13 - Competition Points and Ladders

The competition will be assessed using a points system, where points are awarded as follows:

Win: 3 points

Bye: 2 points

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Loss: 1 point

Draw: 2 points

Loss by Forfeit (notice before 3pm): 0 points

Loss by Forfeit (no notice): -1 point

Teams experiencing a forfeit will have the match score recorded as 5-0 in favour of the non-forfeiting team, and they will receive the appropriate competition points.

14 - Finals Format

All teams play at least one finals fixture. Teams in each division after the final round game will partake in their division's final series and be split into Grade's (2A, 2B, 2C etc). Structure will be sent out in final 3 rounds of the regular season.

GCTA retains the right to alter the finals format if necessary due to field availability, wet weather, or any other constraint. Ladder positions for the finals will be determined by:

Teams with the highest number of competition points at the completion of round games

If equal – Highest differential (For and against)

If equal – Highest percentage

If equal – Winner of Round Game (If equal, highest differential and percentage will be used)

If equal – Most Tries Scored

If equal – Any other method as determined by the Competitions Coordinator

All players participating in the final's series must qualify under Finals Eligibility guidelines outlined in Section 4.3. Drop-offs will be played for any finals matches where the score is tied at full time.

15 - Modified Rules for Under 8 and 10 Divisions

All divisions in the Under 8 and 10 age groups will play with slightly modified rules:

No more than 5 players on the field at once

The game is played on half a normal field.

The Acting Half cannot run with the ball.

Defenders cannot move forward until the attacking first receiver has caught the ball from the Acting Half.

Coaches are permitted on the field for verbal assistance only (**Under 8's only**); they must not directly interfere with play.

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16 - Team Fees and Deadlines

Team deposit and full fee deadlines will be outlined in [Section 4: Team Nominations and Fees](#). Teams not paying their full fees by the specified deadline will be considered unfinancial, penalized, and eventually removed from the competition at the discretion of the Competitions Coordinator. All players in an unfinancial team will be deemed unfinancial and uninsured until all fees are settled, making them ineligible to compete in any TFA affiliated competition until all outstanding debts are cleared.

17 - Round Cancellations

GCTA may cancel a round if it deems its fields, facility, or competitions unsafe or unsuitable for play. Each competition will have a scheduled wet weather round, and GCTA may adjust competition lengths, dates, or times as deemed necessary by the Competition Coordinator.

TFA Extreme Weather Guidelines will be followed in cases of Hot Weather, Wet Weather, and Storms. In the event of cancelled rounds that cannot be replayed, GCTA is not obligated to refund any team or individual.

18 - Team Uniform and Playing Attire

Every team entering GCTA competitions must wear a uniform. No person, including opposing team captains or a referee, may waive the requirement for players to comply with player uniform regulations outlined within these regulations. Team playing shirts/singlets/jerseys must comply with the following:

- Each player must wear a uniform representative of their team.

- Playing shirts must bear an exclusive number of meeting specific criteria.

- Numbers cannot be temporarily taped, drawn on, or taped to shirts.

- Teams are not required to wear matching socks or hats but must have similar or matching coloured shorts.

Clothing regulations detailed below:

- Players must wear approved sports shoes at all times during a competition game; boots with screw-in studs are not permitted.

- Referees may refuse to allow a player to wear shoes that, in their opinion, put the safety of players at risk.

- All players must remove all jewellery before the game, including Fit Bits/elastic Wrist Bands, etc. If it cannot be removed, it must be taped.

- Fingernails must be kept short or taped.

19 - Exemptions

Dispensation for finals eligibility may be granted for a player, and the Team Delegate must submit a written application to the Competitions Coordinator for consideration.

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Dispensation may be granted for a replacement player due to injury or exceptional circumstances, and applications should include a medical certificate or a statement of declaration from the injured player.

20 - Match Ball

All games should be played with a regulation touch football match ball. Teams are responsible for providing match balls for each game, and teams may purchase match balls from the GCTA office.

Under 8, 10, and 12 age groups will play with a size 4 Junior Ball, while all other competitions will use a full-size 5 adult ball.

21 - Referees and Disciplinary Tribunals

The GCTA Referees Coordinator will allocate at least one referee to each competition game.

Participants sent off for the remainder of the game will receive an automatic 2-match suspension unless the Disciplinary Tribunal deems further action necessary.

The GCTA Disciplinary Tribunal will follow the TFA Disciplinary Regulations Manual if a hearing is deemed necessary.

22. Withdrawals, Forfeits, and Disqualifications

22.1 - Withdrawals

If a team is disqualified or withdrawn from the competition after the final draw is completed, all registration fees will be retained by GCTA. Teams withdrawing on or after the first night of competition may be liable to pay the full balance of team fees owing. If a team is withdrawn through choice or expulsion, the Competitions Coordinator may adjust the ladder to reflect a bye for other teams to avoid disadvantaging ladder points and positions.

22.2 - Late Starts, Forfeits, or Interrupted Games

A minimum of 4 players per team is required to start a game. If a team is not ready within 5 minutes after the siren signalling the start, the game will be declared a forfeit in favour of the present team.

Teams forfeiting without notice may be fined \$50, and repeated forfeits may result in removal from the competition at the discretion of GCTA.

In case of a power failure, washout, or other circumstances preventing completed games, specific guidelines apply depending on the timing and nature of the disruption.

23. Complaints and Score Disputes

23.1 - Complaints

A Team Delegate can lodge a formal complaint with the Competition Coordinator, following specific procedures and providing supporting evidence within 48 hours of the incident.

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Informal complaints or queries can be made to GCTA staff at any time.

23.2 - Score Disputes

A Team Delegate may lodge a score dispute with GCTA Competitions Staff within 24 hours of the match's completion. The game result may be upheld, varied, or declared void at GCTA's discretion.

24. General Regulations and Policies

24.1 - Team Delegates

In alignment with the GCTA Constitution, the person nominating the team will be the Team Delegate. Team Delegates must be at least eighteen (18) years old and are legally responsible for ensuring all team fees are paid. Changing the Team Delegate requires notification to the GCTA Competitions Coordinator.

24.2 - Medical and Insurance

Only registered players are covered for Player Accident Insurance under the Touch Football Australia National Insurance Scheme.

Injuries must be reported to the referee and noted on the scorecard. Injured persons must submit a Claim Form Request with Sportscover within 30 days of the injury.

Ambulance requests can be made for serious injuries. GCTA staff will assist with immobilizing the injured person and supplying ice but are not qualified medical practitioners.

For more details on the TFA National Insurance Policy, visit our website: [Insurance - Gold Coast Touch | Play With Confidence!](#)

24.3 - Team Delegate Responsibilities

It is the responsibility of the team delegate to ensure:

1. All players are eligible and registered via MySideline before they take the field.
2. All players, official and associated spectators comply with the TFA Code of Conduct.
3. Players comply with all uniform requirements.
4. Team fees are paid in full by Round 3 of competition.
5. All players are aware of the TFA 8th Edition Player Rules.
6. Players/ Parents are aware of all rules set out in the Conditions of Entry Document.

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24.4 - Working with Children Check

If the team contact, manager and/or coach does not have a child under the age of 18 involved in the sport then they need to either produce their blue card with photo identification or see us to apply for a blue card.

Teachers and police officers need to either produce a blue card exemption or see us to apply.

Under no circumstances is anyone permitted to be involved with your team as a contact, coach, or manager without the above requirements.

24.5 - Alcohol

In keeping with the law regarding our liquor license, all alcohol is to be purchased from the GCTA bar/ canteen and is required to be consumed at the clubhouse.

No other alcohol is permitted to be sold or consumed from, on or around any of our fields.

24.6 - Blood Bin

Players who are bleeding are to take no further part in a game until bleeding has stopped and all sign of blood cleaned. This also applies to blood on players' clothing.

24.7 - Insurance

Insurance Cover is provided for Non-Medicare Medical / Hospital only.

Loss of Income is not covered.

Claims are to be lodged within 30 days of the injury.

For more information and terms and conditions visit:

<http://touchfootball.com.au/insurance/>

Players are advised to report all injuries to Administration as soon as they occur.

24.8 - Substitute Boxes

All substitute players are to remain in the Sub Box area located on all fields and are not permitted to be standing directly on the sideline.

Coaches must also remain in the Sub Box area. No spectators are permitted to be in the sub box areas.

24.9 - Non-Completion of a Game

If a game is not completed by a reason other than the referee calling it off due to player behaviour e.g., storm, floodlight outage, the following will apply:

If the stoppage occurs after one half has been completed the score at that time will apply and the game will not be replayed

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If the stoppage occurs before half time the two teams may record a score (e.g., a draw) however if an agreement cannot be determined by both teams the game will be replayed at a mutually acceptable time to both teams and the Association.

24.10 - Photography & Marketing

At times throughout the competition, GCTA may take photos/videos of our members before, during or after games. These photos/videos may be uploaded to our social media pages/website for marketing purposes. If a team or individual does not want to be in any videos/photos it is your responsibility to advise via email to info@goldcoasttouch.com

24.11 - Forced Majeure

If GCTA host affiliate is unable to perform, in whole or part in any obligation under these regulations of a Force Majeure Event, GCTA is relieved of that obligation under these regulations to the extent, and the period it is unable to perform.

In addition to this, GCTA 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.

Force Majeure Event: for the purposes of these regulations a force majeure event includes but is not limited to any or all of the following:

Acts of God including flood, drought, earthquake, storm, cyclone, fire, explosion, epidemic;
or

War or Act of Terrorism; or

Riot or civil disturbances; or

Permanent injunction of any duly constituted court of competent jurisdiction; or

Any fact, circumstance, matter, or thing beyond the reasonable control of GCTA / QTF / TFA.

24.12 - Mutual Respect Policy

Referees will be instructed to enforce zero tolerance rules regarding referee abuse from players, coaching staff, and spectators.

Teams/Players are bound by the Disciplinary Regulations Manual for un-sportsman like behaviour e.g., sledging and or acting in an abusive manner towards the referee or opposing team.

Teams/players/spectators that consume or introduce alcohol at the venue outside the laws associated with liquor license requirements will be asked to leave.

THE GOLD COAST TOUCH ASSOCIATION RESERVES THE RIGHT TO AMEND ANY OF THE ABOVE CONDITIONS OF ENTRY AND TO REFUSE ANY PLAYER OR TEAM FROM PARTICIPATING IN THIS COMPETITION. PLEASE ENSURE THAT ALL PLAYERS ARE AWARE OF THESE CONDITIONS. THE MAXIMUM NUMBER OF TEAMS WITHOUT GOING TO A 5TH TIMESLOT, WHICH HAS BEEN DECIDED IS NOT AN OPTION, IS WEDNESDAY 72 TEAMS AND THURSDAY 56 TEAMS.

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THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE WILL HAVE THE DISCRETION WHICH TEAMS WILL BE ACCEPTED INTO OUR COMPETITION BASED ON PAST HISTORY.

Please contact GCTA should you need any clarification of the above conditions or should you have any further enquiries.

Yours in Touch,

Jordan Pritchett

General Manager