



# REPRESENTATIVE PLAYER PARENTS POLICY

Updated 2023



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# INTRODUCTION

## POLICY

The New South Wales Touch Association (NSWTA) Inc believes that sport, especially junior sport should be enjoyable and a safe place for our youth to participate in. We also have a firm view on the behaviours directed to referees, whether they be juniors or adults.

This policy aims to ensure that parents play a role in demonstrating correct behaviours and ensure that we have a safe environment of our youth and referees to participate in.

For the purpose of the policy Parent also refers to a Guardian

## PRINCIPLE

The New South Wales Touch Association (NSWTA) along with the national body, Touch Football Australia (TFA) are committed to upholding our core values and create a safe, fair and inclusive environment for everyone associated with our sport. Our commitment is to ensure that every person involved in our sport is treated with respect and dignity and protected from discrimination, harassment, and abuse.

This policy also extends to all and protocols and or procedures that the NSWTA put in

place to adhere to Public Health Orders and NSW Health recommendations.

At recent Junior events we have seen an unfortunate rise in the level of abuse, primarily by parents toward players, Officials and referees. This is seemingly a societal trend from the sport of Touch perspective, within our domain, this practice sets a poor example for our youth and needs to be arrested.



## PARENTAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

By registering your child in the sport of Touch Football at a NSWTA event OR to represent a NSWTA team or affiliate you are acknowledging that for their participation and your involvement in that participation you will always maintain respectful behaviour.

By registering your child in the sport of Touch Football at a NSWTA event OR to represent a NSWTA team or affiliate you are acknowledging that you are bound by both the TFA and NSWTA Code of Conduct, the NSWTA Disciplinary Policy and the Disciplinary Regulations.

By registering your child in the sport of Touch Football at a NSWTA event OR to represent a NSWTA team or affiliate you are acknowledging that procedures must be in place to meet the Public Health Orders and any NSW Health Recommendations and that you are bound by and will adhere to the direction of the NSWTA in the enforcement of the Protocols and procedures in place.

As such for any breaches you are liable to the penalties and sanctions available to the NSWTA via the Constitution, the NSWTA Disciplinary Policy, the Disciplinary Regulations and the provisions of this policy.

This includes but not limited to the NSWTA dealing with yourself, your child, your child's team and/or child's club by having the power to suspend, disqualify, reprimand, fine, bond, ban, deduct competition points or otherwise deal with any person involved with Touch Football (including, but not limited to, teams, clubs, players, coaches, spectators, team/club officials and association officials) in accordance with the Disciplinary Regulations, regarding any incident arising from an activity conducted by a TFA Authority. The incident may have occurred before, during or after the conduct of the activity, within the confines of the field, activity or venue or its immediate surrounds, or elsewhere if directly related to a Touch Football activity of any sort.

You are acknowledging that breaches of the code of conduct and behaviours that do not reflect the values of the NSWTA, TFA and our sport that the NSWTA may take the unfortunate step of deregistering your child.

You are acknowledging, even though a competitive representative event, the following will always apply;

- These are kids
- This is a game
- Coaches are volunteers
- Referees are Human and are to be respected at all times
- This is not the World Cup.

You acknowledge that in the instance where you as a parent/spectator have been found to have breached the code of conduct, that parent will be automatically barred from all venues of that event for the remainder of the competition. Failure to observe this action will result in the NSWTA take the unfortunate step of deregistering your child.

Both the TFA and NSWTA Member Protection policies can be found at:

[WWW.NSWTOUCH.COM.AU/ABOUTUS/POLICIES](http://WWW.NSWTOUCH.COM.AU/ABOUTUS/POLICIES)

## CODE OF CONDUCT

The Core Code Principles (To be observed in line with the Member Protection Polices)

- operate within the rules, policies, regulations, by-laws and spirit of our sport, promoting fair play over winning at any cost.
- encourage and support opportunities for people to learn appropriate behaviours and skills.
- support opportunities for participation in all aspects of Touch Football
- treat each person as an individual
- display control and courtesy to all involved with our sport.
- respect the rights and worth of every person regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.
- respect the decisions of officials, coaches and administrators in the conduct of our sport.
- wherever practical, avoid unaccompanied and unobserved one-on-one activity (when in a supervisory capacity or where a power imbalance will exist) with people under the age of 18 years.
- adopt appropriate and responsible behaviour in all interactions, including online activity.
- adopt responsible behaviour in relation to alcohol and other drugs.
- ensure your decisions and actions contribute to a harassment free environment.
- do not tolerate harmful or abusive behaviours.
- take reasonable care for his or her own health and safety and ensure that his or her acts or omissions do not adversely affect the health and safety of others.
- act in good faith in the best interests of TFA, act with integrity and objectivity, demonstrate accountability and take responsibility for your actions; do not engage in activities that may bring yourself or TFA into disrepute.
- act fairly and impartially, avoid bias, discrimination, caprice or self-interest.
- use information appropriately, ensure information gained as a volunteer, coach, official etc, is only applied to proper purposes and is kept confidential.
- comply with the Copyright Act (1968), in reference to TFA resources, materials, and works.

### Parents Code/Spectators Code

- encourage children to participate and have fun.
- provide a model of good sportsmanship for your child to copy.
- focus on the child's effort and performance rather than winning or losing.
- never ridicule or yell at a child for making a mistake or losing a competition

- respect the performances and efforts of all people.
- reject the use of violence in any form, whether it is by spectators, coaches, officials or athletes.

## GENERAL

As a parent you will be responsible for and ensure the behaviour of your child is in line with the Code of Conduct.

As a parent you will on all occasions comply with all reasonable and lawful directions of Officials and Referees. You will always demonstrate a respectful demeanour toward Referees.

As a parent any abuse or unsportsmanlike conduct and/or comments, either directly or indirectly towards a referee or official, players or opposition will not be tolerated. Further action will most likely be taken.

As a parent you are will always display exemplary behaviour both at the venue and also traveling to and from the venue.

As a parent you will observe the no alcohol rule at junior events run or sanctioned by the NSWTA.

As a parent should you or your child cause wilful damage to property, you will take responsibility for such damage and be required to make proper restitution in the repair of such property.

Further you can expect disciplinary action to ensue.



