



Name: Josh Benham
Date: July 24, 2024
To: NSWTA Affiliates
Subject: NSWTA General Conditions of Entry

The New South Wales Touch Association (NSWTA) has today released the 2024/25 General Conditions of Entry Document. We wish to advise all Affiliates and members of the important updates to the released document.

The changes made for the upcoming representative cycle have been made based on a comprehensive review conducted by the NSWTA at the conclusion of the 2023/24 representative season.

There were two elements to the review process. The first being an internal review conducted by the NSWTA. This review highlighted some revisions that the NSWTA believes are necessary for the betterment of our events.

The second element entailed the analysis of feedback received from our members over the past 12 months. Some of the common themes identified mirror elements of our internal review. As such, these changes have been made for the 2024/25 representative cycle.

An executive summary of those changes is detailed below.

P Definitions – Sport Integrity Policies (page 5)

All Sport Australia integrity policies adopted by the national body and NSWTA from time to time.

They include but are not limited to:

- [Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy](#)
- [Improper Use of Drugs and Medicine Policy](#)
- [Competition Manipulation and Sport Gambling Policy](#)
- [Anti-Doping Fundamentals](#)

Rationale

These are the updated Sport Australia policies that sports are required to adopt.



2.4.12 Officials and Referees (page 11)

Be Aware of and Abide by the **5-strike policy**.

Affiliates will be able to borrow referees from within their cluster and region. This would still require the payment to the providing Affiliate/referee that are providing for the shortfall; however, no strike would be incurred for the Affiliate acquiring the referee via this process.

Under the updated policy, Affiliates will receive one (1) strike per event rather than one (1) strike for every referee short at an event. The cycle for returning to zero strikes is to be three (3) consecutive events at full compliance. Should all 5 points be exhausted, the Affiliate will be placed under a limit on the number of teams they can enter into the next NSWTA event.

N.B. due to alterations being made to the 5-strike policy, all Affiliates will begin the 2024/25 representative season at zero (0) strikes. For further information, [click here](#).

Rationale

As per our recent advice to Affiliates dated **July 15, 2024** a comprehensive review of the referee compliance pathway was undertaken post the 2023/24 representative cycle. The document also included the rationale for the updated policy and processes. The review had input from Regional Referee Directors, Affiliate Referee Directors/Coordinators and relevant NSWTA staff.

3.1 Player Eligibility (page 12)

2024 Competitions	Previous Season	Current Season
Vawdon Cup	Season 2 2023/Season 1 2024	Season 2 2024
Country Championships	Season 2 2023	Season 1 2024
State Cup	Season 1 2024	Season 2 2024
2025 Competitions	Previous Season	Current Season
Junior State Cup	Season 2 2024	Season 1 2025
Junior Regionals	Season 2 2024	Season 1 2025



Rationale

N.B eligibility for Vawdon Cup has now extended to Season 2, 2024 to cater for the recent changes to the competition structure and commencement date. [Click here for further details.](#)

3.5.1 Coaches and Managers Eligibility (page 24)

All Premier League, Mixed Open A, U/20s and Youth League Coaches are required to undertake the Safeguarding Children and Young People in Sport Induction. This is available to coaches as an online course via [The NEST.](#)

Rationale

As part of our sports commitment to provide a child safe environment in conjunction with Touch Football Australia and Sport Australia, there is a new Sport Integrity Education framework that has been adopted.

4.1.1 Female Playing Uniforms (page 26)

Females in a Women's or Mixed team may wear a mix of tights and shorts provided they are of the same design.

Rationale

NSWTA has been monitoring research and trends in relation to inhibitors within the female sporting landscape. One inhibitor our office has identified is that female participants require uniform flexibility to feel comfortable when participating in sport. Therefore, Females in a Women's or Mixed team may wear a mix of tights and shorts provided they are of the same design. Affiliates can decide what uniform code they adopt as long as it abides by this regulation.

7.1.2 Divisions and Categories (page 29)

There must be at least five (5) teams to make a category in Opens and Youth Divisions.

There must be at least four (4) teams to make a category in Senior Divisions.



Rationale

NSWTA has taken on board feedback from Affiliates and individuals involved in the senior categories. The movement from five to four teams in the senior divisions is aimed at encouraging participation at this level while still providing a level of integrity around the status of a championship.

In closing, we encourage all Affiliate personnel to be conversant with this document, and the 2024/25 General Conditions of Entry. The NSWTA will be holding an information session over Zoom on **Wednesday, August 14**. NSWTA will use this session to discuss these key changes and address other key areas of the Conditions of Entry.

During this session, NSWTA will also provide details about our Season Launch. We are excited about the prospect of holding a Season Launch and trust this will generate excitement amongst the community about the 2024/25 representative cycle.

Further information, including a Zoom registration link will be sent to Affiliates early next week.

Regards,

Josh Benham
NSWTA Events Manager