MEMO

Date: **Friday, June 5**
To: **Affiliate Representative Coordinators**
From: **Josh Benham – Events Manager**
Subject: **2026 Vawdon Cup – Masters Divisions**

New South Wales Touch Football (NSWTF) is pleased to advise that Masters Divisions (Men's and Women's for players born in 1986 or earlier) will be offered at the 2026 Vawdon Cup.

The Vawdon Cup continues to evolve to meet the needs of the Touch Football community and provide meaningful participation opportunities across all stages of the representative pathway. As part of ongoing competition planning and our commitment to enhancing participant experiences, NSWTF is seeking to strengthen player retention within the Senior Category and provide additional playing opportunities for Masters-aged participants.

The proposed divisions aim to provide an appropriate and competitive playing environment, while further strengthening the depth and diversity of the competition.

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST AND NOMINATION PROCESS

To ensure Affiliates have sufficient time to plan and prepare for the potential introduction of the Masters Divisions, an Expression of Interest Form will be distributed later this month. The form will seek indicative interest, providing a platform for NSWTF to assess the division's initial viability. NSWTF is committed to being transparent with interested Affiliates throughout this process and will support Affiliates to ensure a smooth and well-planned introduction of the Masters Divisions, should they proceed.

The Expression of Interest Form will also seek broader indicative team nomination numbers and gauge Affiliate interest in hosting Vawdon Cup Matchdays.

The viability of the Masters Divisions will ultimately be determined by the number of nominations received during the official Team Nominations process, which is scheduled to open in late July. In accordance with Clause 7.1.2 of the NSWTF General Conditions of Entry, *there must be at least four (4) teams to make a category in Senior Divisions.*

FACTORS CONSIDERED

In considering the introduction of the Masters Divisions, NSWTF took the following factors into account:

- **Participant Demand** – Feedback from Affiliates and participants indicates a growing appetite for Masters Divisions at Vawdon Cup.
- **Player Retention** – Provides an opportunity for experienced players to remain engaged within the representative pathway and continue their involvement in the sport.
- **Competition Growth** – Supports the ongoing development and expansion of the Vawdon Cup competition.
- **Affiliate Opportunities** – Provides Affiliates with an additional opportunity to engage members and strengthen representative programs.

CLOSING

NSWTF is excited about the opportunity to expand the Vawdon Cup competition and provide additional representative playing opportunities for our members.

Further information will be provided to Affiliates in the coming weeks.