MEMO

To: All NSWTF Affiliates
From: Daniel Rushworth – Chief Executive Officer
Date: 20 October 2026
Subject: 2027 Junior State Cup – Conditions of Entry, Key Dates and Affiliate Requirements

As we continue preparations for the 2027 NSW Touch Football Junior State Cup, I am pleased to provide the Conditions of Entry for both the Southern and Northern Conferences.

The Junior State Cup remains one of the most significant events on our calendar, bringing together thousands of young players, coaches, referees, volunteers and families from across NSW.

With the 2027 events approaching, it is important that all Affiliates familiarise themselves with the Conditions of Entry and, in particular, the key dates and requirements associated with team nominations, referee allocations, player registrations and team management.

To assist with your planning, we have outlined the important information below.

1. 2027 Junior State Cup – Event Dates and Venues

Event	Dates	Venue
Southern Conference	12–14 February 2027	Jubilee Park & Conolly Park Precinct, Wagga Wagga
Northern Conference	26–28 February 2027	Lady Cutler Oval, Dubbo
State Final	Sunday, 7 March 2027	Waterworth Park, Tempe

The State Final will see the respective Conference winners compete in a **best-of-three series** to determine the 2027 Junior State Cup State Champions.

2. Key Nomination and Registration Dates

While a number of deadlines are consistent across both Conferences, some dates differ. Affiliates should ensure they are working to the correct timeline.

Requirement	Southern Conference	Northern Conference
Referee nominations and pool applications open	14 December 2026	14 December 2026
Referee nominations close	11 January 2027	11 January 2027
Team and team management nominations open	12 January	12 January
Referee registrations open	12 January	12 January
Player Pool nominations open	12 January	12 January
Team and team management nominations close	19 January	19 January
Player rosters and required documentation due	22 January	26 January
Player and team management registrations open	26 January	29 January
Player Pool nominations close	26 January	29 January
Draw and field map released	29 January	4 February
Referee and Player Pools completed	29 January	4 February
Online registrations close	2 February	9 February

Importantly, referee nominations must be submitted and verified before team nominations can be confirmed.

Affiliates are encouraged to begin their planning well ahead of the nomination periods, particularly given the relatively short timeframe between the opening and closing of team nominations.

3. Referee Requirements

The provision of appropriately qualified referees remains a key requirement for Affiliate participation.

For the 2027 Junior State Cup:

- Affiliates must nominate **one referee per team entered, plus one additional referee**. For example, an Affiliate entering six teams must nominate seven referees.
- Referees must be at least 14 years of age and have a minimum of 12 months of practical refereeing experience.
- Referees must hold a minimum Representative Referee accreditation or have NSWTF approval to undertake the relevant assessment at the event.
- Referees must be available for all three days of their respective Conference.
- Referees cannot undertake other roles, including playing, coaching or team management, during the event.
- Nominated referees must meet the eligibility requirements associated with their nominated Affiliate.

NSWTF will continue to utilise the Referee Pool arrangements to assist Affiliates in addressing referee shortfalls.

Affiliates may also access referees from within their Cluster or Region under the arrangements outlined in the Conditions of Entry.

We encourage all Affiliates to engage with their referees early and ensure that nominations are accurate, confirmed and submitted by **Monday, 11 January 2027**.

4. Player Registration Fees

The following player registration fees apply for the 2027 Junior State Cup:

Registration Category	Fee (incl. GST)
Individual Player Registration	$133.00
Invitational Affiliate Player Registration	$155.00
Late Player Registration (subject to NSWTF approval)	$145.00

As outlined in the Conditions of Entry, participants who have not already paid their annual National and State membership fees for the 2026/27 financial year will be required to do so when registering through MySideline.

These membership fees are payable once per financial year and are separate from the Junior State Cup event registration fee.

5. Team Numbers and Divisions

The 2027 Junior State Cup will feature Boys and Girls divisions across Under 10, Under 12, Under 14, Under 16 and Under 18 age groups.

The minimum registered team numbers are:

- **Under 10:** 12 registered players, with matches played five-a-side.
- **Under 12 to Under 18:** 14 registered players, with matches played six-a-side.

Affiliates will be invoiced for any shortfall against these required team numbers.

Affiliates should also carefully review the applicable dates of birth and player eligibility requirements before finalising team selections and rosters.

6. Team Management and Child Safety Requirements

All coaches, assistant coaches and team managers must meet the accreditation and education requirements outlined in the Conditions of Entry.

In particular:

- Head Coaches of Under 10, Under 12 and Under 14 teams require TFA Community (Foundation/Level 1) accreditation.
- Head Coaches of Under 16 and Under 18 teams require TFA Talent (Level 2) accreditation.
- Assistant Coaches require TFA Community (Foundation/Level 1) accreditation.
- Team management personnel must complete the applicable Play by the Rules and Sport Integrity Australia safeguarding education requirements.
- Affiliates must ensure Working with Children Check requirements are satisfied, including the appropriate verification and recordkeeping.

These are important responsibilities for every Affiliate, and we ask that all relevant checks and qualifications are confirmed before nominations are submitted.

7. Affiliate Coordinators and Communication

Each Affiliate is required to appoint an Affiliate Coordinator who will act as the primary contact with NSWTF throughout the nomination process and the events.

All official communication, including enquiries regarding team registrations, documentation, eligibility and event operations, must be coordinated through the nominated Affiliate Coordinator.

This approach is particularly important during the period leading into the events, when timely and consistent communication assists both Affiliates and NSWTF in managing the competition effectively.

8. Conditions of Entry and Affiliate Responsibilities

The **2027 Junior State Cup Conditions of Entry** should be read in conjunction with the **2026/27 NSWTF General Conditions of Entry**.

Beyond the administrative deadlines, the documents outline important requirements relating to player eligibility, referee compliance, team management, child safety, competition operations and conduct.

We ask that Affiliate leadership teams take the time to review these documents and distribute the relevant information to their coaches, managers, referees and participants.

- **Link:** NSWTF Junior State Cup Webpage
- **Link:** 2027 Junior State Cup Conditions of Entry
- **Link:** 2026/27 NSWTF General Conditions of Entry

Moving Forward

The Junior State Cup is a significant undertaking for our Affiliates and NSWTF, and we recognise the considerable work that goes into preparing teams and supporting participation at these events.

By providing clarity on the requirements and timelines now, our aim is to assist Affiliates in their planning and ensure a smooth nomination and registration process leading into February.

We are looking forward to returning to Wagga Wagga and Dubbo in 2027, before bringing our Conference champions together at Tempe for the State Final.

We look forward to working with you to deliver another successful Junior State Cup.