

Dubbo Touch Association Representative Player & Selection Policy

Version 5 – June 2025.

Executive Summary

This policy governs the selection of all Dubbo Touch representative and development squads and final teams. The objective is to ensure all team selections are conducted fairly, transparently, and provide equal opportunity for all eligible players to demonstrate their abilities.

This policy has been developed in alignment with the Touch Football Australia (TFA) Talent Identification and Selection Framework and the Australian Sports Commission's Inclusive Sport Framework.

General Provisions

Dubbo Touch representative trials aim to select well-balanced teams with a mix of specialist and versatile players that align with the Club's coaching philosophy and strategies.

This policy may be amended or supplemented at the discretion of the Dubbo Touch Executive and Rep Coordinator in circumstances not explicitly covered herein.

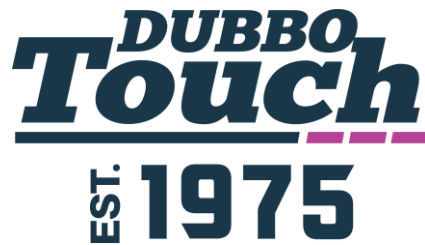
Eligibility Requirements:

- Registered, financial member of Dubbo Touch
- Participation in the minimum number of local competition games as outlined by NSW Touch Association (NSWTA) Conditions of Entry

Ineligibility Criteria:

A player will be deemed ineligible for selection if they:

- Are not a registered or financial player of Dubbo Touch Football
- Fail to meet the minimum local competition games requirements
- Are currently serving suspension from any affiliated competition*
- Fail to attend at least one representative selection trial where two trials are scheduled.



- Fail to provide a written explanation of absence from an official selection trial prior to the trial date.
- Cannot attend mandatory tournaments without submitting a formal exemption request.
- Are medically unfit without submitting medical advice
- Breach the DTA or NSWTA Codes of Conduct or this Policy

*Players serving a suspension within Dubbo Touch competitions will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.

Special Circumstances:

- **Boarding School:** Players relocating for boarding school may trial if they meet the 75% minimum training attendance requirement.
 - **Other Sports:** Players pursuing selection in other representative sports where teams have not been announced, may still trial for Dubbo Touch. If a conflict with a mandatory tournament arises, a written exemption request must be submitted.
 - **Senior and Junior Representative Selection:** Players in the 20s and Under 16s team may request an exemption from ACT Capital Cup to avoid participation in tournaments across three consecutive weekends
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Dubbo Touch Responsibilities in the Selection Process

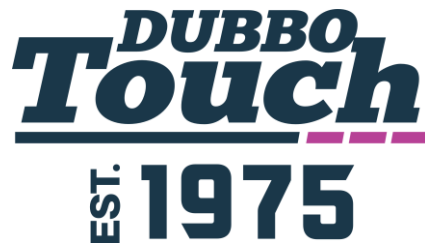
- Appoint selectors including the team's head coach
- Ensure all personnel working with children under the age of 18 years hold valid Working With Children Checks
- Assign a Rep Coordinator to manage the trial operations
- Promote trials via official platforms including website, facebook and email
- Provide opportunities for Talent ID in local competitions
- Distribute standardized evaluations sheets
- Ensure triallists and parents/guardians are briefed on the selection process

If the number of players nominating is insufficient, formal trials may not be held.

Selector Responsibilities in the Selection Process

- Deliver a pre-trial briefing outlining processes and criteria
 - Provide fair and equal assessment opportunities
 - Accept players via written exemption where selectors can verify ability
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Illness or Extenuating Circumstances



Players unable to attend trials must submit written notice to info@dubbotouch.com. Supporting documentation may be requested. Circumstances including illness, injury, bereavement, or travel disruptions will be reviewed individually.

Playing Divisions

Dubbo Touch supports teams in all junior age divisions from Under 8's to Under 18's and senior age divisions from Under 20's to over 55's.

- Teams will only be entered if they have a qualified coach and a separate team manager
 - Referee quotas must be met per Tournament conditions of entry. In general the quota is one appropriately qualified referee plus one additional referee per affiliate.
 - Development teams may be considered at discretion, for all tournaments except State Cup and Junior State Cup. Development teams will only be considered if the minimum number of players required for two teams is in attendance at trials.
 - Player must prioritise their own age division unless an exception is approved e.g. a team cannot get the commitment in their age division and the division above needs players to fulfil their roster.
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Team / Squad Selection & Ratification

As a guide selection will consider:

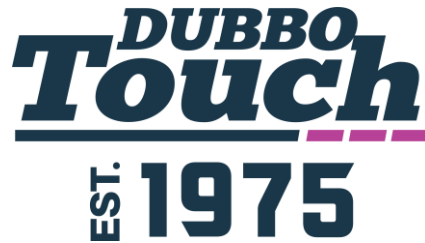
- Speed and Agility
- Ball Skills
- General and touch-specific fitness
- Game plan knowledge and adherence
- Teamwork, communication and attitude

Coaches will discuss with selectors their ideal team composition and structure (number of players in each position, rotations and desired strengths for players in different positions).

A maximum of 14 players will be selected for each team, exclusive of ranked shadows except for Under 8/10s divisions where the maximum is 12 players. Squads (up to 20 players) may be named, with final teams confirmed per tournament (pending tournament conditions of entry).

A team must have a minimum of 12 Dubbo Touch eligible players for the Under 12's and above divisions and a minimum 10 players for the Under 8/10's division whom have paid the Dubbo Touch Rep Player Levy by the due date and are available for all tournaments in order for the team to be entered.

Preference should be given to players who are available to attend all mandatory tournaments. A player who is unavailable to attend all tournaments cannot be selected



in preference of a player who is available for all tournaments unless an extenuating circumstance exists, and an approved exemption has been sort by the executive committee.

Eligible Dubbo Touch players will take priority over imported players or pool players

The final squad/team must be submitted to the Rep Coordinator following the last trial date on the appropriate form. All players selected will be subject to ratification / endorsement by the Rep Coordinator and/or Executive, and teams will be announced via email. Players selected, will be required to formally accept their position and make payment of the Rep Player Levy.

Direct communication with selector or coaches regarding selection is prohibited. All enquiries and requests for trial feedback must be made to the Rep Coordinator via email to: info@dubbotouch.com.

Contact made directly to coaches and/or selectors that is deemed to be inappropriate, will be referred directly to the executive to determine if a breach of the club's code of conduct has occurred.

Should a player withdraw from a final team at any stage during the season, the coach is to notify the Rep Coordinator within 48 hours, indicating reason given for the withdrawal and proposing a shadow or other eligible player to fill the vacant team position.

Shadow Players

Shadow players will be named in addition to the final team and should attend team training sessions.

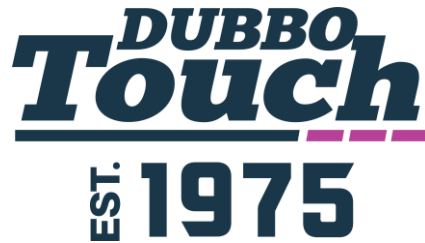
In the event of player unavailability for a tournament or a player withdrawal from a team, the coaching staff must use shadow players in the first instance, as a replacement.

Where there are no shadow players available to use, the coaching staff may add the next best player in the development team/squad or original trial list to the team.

In the event there are no players available to fulfil a relinquished position, the option will be given to shadow players from other Dubbo Touch representative team divisions (if they qualify for the division). Any subsequent players will then be sourced from the NSW Touch/ Hunter/Western Hornets player pool.

The Rep Coordinator will manager the offering of a relinquished position to a shadow player and will provide formal communication to the shadow players and team.

Player performance concerns must be raised by the coach and assessed by the Rep Coordinator and Executive. Concerns will not automatically permit coaching staff to remove a player from the team and/or replace them with a shadow (or other) player.



Training Commitments

Weekly training days will be communicated prior to the final team announcement. Additional training sessions may be added at the discretion of the team Head Coach.

Players must attend a minimum of 75% of scheduled training sessions. Failure to adhere may impact a player's position in the team, or future representative selection.

Player Pool

Dubbo Touch players may enter the player pool only if:

1. DTA does not enter a team in their division
2. They were unsuccessful in DTA selection
3. They attend DTA training (where possible)
4. They have Rep Coordinator endorsement
5. They are willing to meet financial and uniform obligations e.g. payment of club levy and tournament registration as well as purchase of uniform.

If player attempts to enter the pool or register to represent another affiliate without satisfying the above criteria and/or the Tournament Conditions of Entry, a six round suspension effective immediately from all Dubbo Touch competitions will be enforced.

Tournament Misadventure

Late withdrawal from a tournament without reasonable cause (<7 days): Forfeit of all fees paid and a 1 year rep suspension.

Missing match at a tournament without reasonable cause: \$100 fine and a 1 year rep suspension.

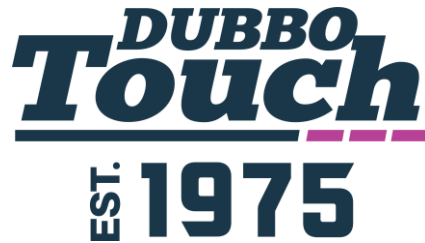
Failure to attend a tournament: Forfeit of all fees paid, \$100 fine and 2 year rep suspension.

Non-payment of fines results unfinancial status and suspension from all competitions and representative opportunities.

Appeals

The Dubbo Touch Executive and Rep Coordinator will hear all appeals.

Appeals must be based on procedural breaches only. No appeals will be heard regarding selection decisions. Appeals must be submitted in writing within 48 hours of the team/squad announcement.



Dubbo Touch will convene a hearing as soon as possible after the submission of the grounds of appeal. Dubbo Touch is not bound by rules of evidence but must observe the principles of procedural fairness.

No legal representation is permitted for the appellant in relation to the conduct of the appeal.

Misconduct

Players selected in representative squads must consistently uphold the DTA Code of Conduct during training, local competition and tournaments. Breaches may result in removal from the team or club suspension, as determined by the Executive.

Misconduct at a tournament will be dealt with by tournament officials where appropriate. Referrals to Dubbo Touch are at the coaches' and/or Rep Coordinator discretion and will be managed in accordance with the TFA Disciplinary Policy. Breaches may result in judiciary proceedings and future ineligibility.

A representative players' selection may be reviewed at any time by the Rep Coordinator and coaching staff.

Feedback/ Complaints

Respectful communication and respect to volunteer coaches and managers is required. Parents should approach coaches and/or managers at an appropriate time, not during training or a tournament game. Parents must focus discussions only on their own child.

An end of season survey will collect broader feedback. Formal complaints must be submitted in writing to the Rep Coordinator.

Fundraising & Financial Support

Team fundraising is the responsibility of each team and their manager. Team managers must provide a clearly outlined fundraising proposal to the Rep Coordinator for approval.

Financial hardship should be discussed confidentially with the Rep Coordinator. Payment plans are available and financial support opportunities are outlined in the Dubbo Touch Official Payment Guidelines and Financial Support Policy.

Related DTA documents and policies:

- DTA Code of Conduct – Players, Coaches, Referees, Spectators, Parents etc
- DTA Officials Payment Guidelines and Financial Support Policy