

Dubbo Touch Association Representative Player & Selection Policy

Version 3 - June 2022.

Related DTA documents and policies:

DTA Code of Conduct – Players, Coaches, Referees, Spectators, Parents etc

DTA Representative Credit Policy

TFA Policy

Related NSW Touch & ATA documents and policies:

NSWTA Constitution 2016

TFA Constitution 2016

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Executive Summary

The onus is on all DTA players, parents and guardians wishing to participate in representative tournaments in any capacity to ensure that they abide by the terms set out in this document.

All players must also comply with eligibility criteria & conditions of entry set by the New South Wales Touch Association to participate in a representative match or tournament.

Key Objectives

- To ensure the best possible teams are selected to represent DTA
- To provide a clear and unambiguous guide for DTA representative player selection
- To display expectations and responsibilities of representative players
- To foster player participation
- To encourage the development of DTA players through representative opportunities

Eligibility

- Players must be current financial members of Dubbo Touch Association. Players with any fees or monies outstanding will not be considered for selection.
- At the time of the selections/trials, players must have played in either the current year DTA Winter Senior Competition, be playing in the current year Junior Competition or be registered to play in the upcoming Summer Senior Competition to be eligible;
- In the situation where 2 selection trials are planned, a player must be present at a minimum of 1 selection trial.
- Where a player cannot attend a selection trial, a letter/email must be provided explaining their absence from each and every official trial and must be received by the Rep Player Coordinator before the commencement of each trial to still be considered for selection in the team.
- Where a player is aware they are unable to attend a tournament prior to selections/trials, a letter/email must be provided explaining their unavailability for the tournament and must be received by the Rep Player Coordinator before the commencement of the trials to still be considered for selection in the team. During the selection process favourable consideration will be given to players available to attend all tournaments.
- On selection of the representative teams, players will be required to make payment of the Dubbo Touch Association Rep Player Levy to accept their position in the team.

Teams/Squads

- A team must have a qualified coach and a nominated team manager who are each a different person to be eligible to be entered for any junior or senior tournament.
- Dubbo Touch must meet the referee tournament quota as determined by the New South Wales Touch Association or Hornets Touch 'condition of entry' to nominate a team in a tournament. In general the quota is one appropriately qualified referee plus one additional referee per affiliate.
- The selection panel will be appointed by the Rep Player Coordinator and will involve the team coach.
- A maximum of 14 players will be selected for each DTA team in junior and senior representative divisions, exclusive of ranked shadows except for

Under 8 and Under 10 divisions which will have a maximum of 12 players selected.

- Coaches in consultation with the Rep Player Coordinator can opt to select a squad of no more than 20 players for the junior representative season from which the team of a maximum 14 players will be selected for each tournament.
- If a team enters a tournament with less than 14 players the team will be responsible for a cost up to 14 players, as indicated in the NSW Touch conditions of entry.
- Eligible DTA players will take priority over imported players or pool players
- 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's and Under 10's division whom have paid the DTA Rep Player Levy by the due date in order for the team to be entered into a tournament.
- Replacement of players in teams must be by shadow players within the squad holding the next ranking from selections, i.e. the first player into a team once a player drops out or relinquishes his/her position in a team will be the fifteenth player and so on (shadows). This may be general ranking or ranking in particular positions
- Before a shadow player replaces a selected player, the coach must be given the option of reordering the composition of the team
- Where there is enough players for two teams in one division and a development team exists, a position relinquished in the top team should be replaced by the next best player in the development team
- The player then filling the vacant position in the development team will come from the original players trialing who were unsuccessful (shadows for development)
- In the event of no shadow list, the option will be given to shadow players from other DTA representative team divisions (if they qualify for the division). Any subsequent players will then be sourced from the NSW Touch/ Hornets player pool
- The coach of the respective division, appointed at the time, will determine team composition. In the absence of a coach, the DTA Rep Player Coordinator will determine the team composition
- The **Final team** must be submitted to the Representative Player Coordinator following the last selection/trial date on the appropriate form which is to be signed by coach and assigned selectors.
- The above process is to occur before teams officially announced via social media platforms
- Players in the squads who miss final team selection may contact the Rep Player Coordinator in writing to discuss reasons for non-selection
- Any disputes in relation to the selection process shall be overseen by the Dubbo Touch Executive

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 50's however divisions will only be offered for those which have a nominated coach and manager.
- A development team will be considered if the number of player's trialing exceeds the minimum number required for two teams at the first trial and a coach, manager and referees are available, but this decision will be left to the discretion of the Rep Player Coordinator, this applies to all tournaments except Junior State Cup and State Cup where no development teams will be permitted to attend.
- Players who wish to play representative touch are to play in their respective age group and fulfil their commitment to that age division. There may be an

exception to this if a team cannot get the commitment in their age division and the division above needs players to fulfil their roster.

Team & squad official announcement procedures

Where selections have been required posting of squads and final teams, where required, will be by the following methods:

- DTA website
- Dubbo Touch social media page

Player pool

- Players registered with DTA can only participate in a representative tournament by being selected into a DTA team or through the player pool. Players are only eligible to enter the pool if:
 1. DTA did not enter a team in the player's nominated division
 2. The player was unsuccessful at selections for their nominated division
 3. The player attends DTA representative training on a regular basis
 4. The player obtains the endorsement of the appropriate DTA Rep Player Coordinator
 5. The player has met the same financial requirements as other representative players where applicable.
- If a registered player attempts to enter the pool or register in a team from another affiliate without satisfying the above criteria, a six round suspension effective immediately from all DTA competitions will be enforced. If the player is unregistered in the current season, then the suspension is to be served in the next competition they register for. The suspended player may not compete or participate (coach, manage, administer or referee) in any capacity until the suspension term has been served in full.
- Players not adhering to suspension notices will be dealt with via the DTA judiciary process
- Players can appeal the above process, if they wish by submitting a letter/email to the DTA Rep Coordinator within 2 days of the infringement being lodged outlining their reasons for consideration by the Dubbo Touch Executive.

Uniforms

All representative players must be correctly attired in the Dubbo Touch representative uniform during representative matches. This includes wearing the Dubbo Touch shirt or singlet and shorts. Boots and socks must comply with the NSWTA / TFA rules.

The wearing of compression garments underneath the uniform is permissible if it complies with tournament entry conditions.

Players must return representative playing shirts to the team manager at the conclusion of a tournament. Unreturned uniform will result in a \$50 fine issued to the player responsible for the item(s). Non-payment of the fine will result in the player being deemed unfinancial.

Code of Conduct

Players are expected to abide by the DTA Code of Conduct and tournament conditions of entry. It is the responsibility of the player to ensure that they are familiar with these.

Absence or failure to attend training

All players/parents of players must submit an apology to the coach or team manager explaining any absence prior to the training session.

Failure to attend training sessions throughout the season without reasonable cause or apology could result in ejection from the team/squad.

Late withdrawal from tournament

Withdrawal of player within 7 days of a tournament without reasonable cause will result in forfeit of all fees paid and a 1 year suspension from all representative honours.

Missing matches at a tournament

It is understood that any nomination for player selection is an indication of commitment by that player to participate in **all matches** of a fixture or tournament. Where a player is at risk of being late or not arriving they must contact the Rep Player Coordinator and provide reasonable advice.

The penalty for a player missing a match without reasonable cause (reasonable cause being defined as accident, illness or misadventure) at a tournament is a \$100 fine and a one year suspension from all representative honours.

Failure to show at a tournament

The penalty for failure of a selected player to participate at a tournament is a forfeit of all fees paid, a \$100 fine payable to DTA and a two year suspension from all representative honours.

Misconduct

In the first instance, player, official or spectator misconduct will be dealt with by tournament officials where appropriate. Referrals to DTA are at the coaches' and/or Rep Player Coordinator discretion and will be managed in accordance with the TFA Disciplinary Policy and may result in a judiciary and suspension from representative honours.

Misdemeanors will be noted and may be factored into future selections. A representative players' selection may be reviewed at any time by the Rep Player Coordinator and coaching or selecting staff.

Appeals to the above must be lodged in writing to the Rep Player Coordinator within 2 days of notification of the infringement for consideration by the Dubbo Touch Executive. No discussions with third party representations will be entered into.

Non-payment of fines will result in player being deemed un-financial and ineligible to compete in any Dubbo Touch Association competition. The player may not compete or participate at a representative tournament or the affiliate level in any capacity until payment is made and the suspension period has been served in full.

Spectators Behaviour

Spectators are required to comply with the DTA Code of Conduct, any inappropriate behaviour will be reported and managed via the complaints and/or judiciary process in accordance with the TFA Disciplinary Policy.

Feedback/Complaints

Dubbo Touch have many quality and qualified coaches who have the player's best interest in mind. They spend a lot of time planning sessions and coordinating the best game plan that they believe is best suited to their team. Our coaches and managers are all volunteers and deserve the upmost respect from parents and players. The best time for parents to approach a coach in a respectful manner is after training is complete and during game breaks following team chats. Please do not approach a coach or manager during training sessions or games. It is NOT appropriate to approach a coach in front of your child or other players, it is also not appropriate to discuss other players apart from your own child with the coach.

Parents/guardians will also be provided an opportunity at the end of the representative touch season to provide feedback via a survey.

Any claims or requests on matters that are not in accordance with the policy or complaints must be submitted in writing to the Rep Player Coordinator. The Rep Player Coordinator will liaise with the DTA executive and a formal written reply will confirm the decision made on the matter and the decision shall be final.

Fundraising

All fund raising ventures carried out by the DTA Rep teams are the sole responsibility of the team and team manager, this includes purchasing supplies, float and the counting and use of monies. There must be clear understanding of how the fundraising will take place and who will be involved.

Financials

All DTA Rep Player Levy payments, uniforms and merchandise orders etc are to be paid to Dubbo Touch via the 'Stack Team App'.

Parents/guardians experiencing financial hardship must speak to the Rep Player Coordinator to discuss payment options.