



GENERAL CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

**TO BE READ IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE
RELEVANT EVENT'S CONDITIONS OF ENTRY**

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SECTION 1: DEFINITIONS	
A	Hunter Western Hornets Touch Association Tournaments
	The Hunter Western Hornets Touch Association (Hornets) conduct a number of tournaments throughout the year. Peter Wilson Memorial Championships, Hornets Championships and the Don Green Western Junior Championships form the basis of the Talent Identification selection process for Hornets representative teams at all levels. The Central Coast Junior Championships is a gala day and as such not used as a Talent Identification selection tournament.
B	Organisation
	Hornets are one of 6 regional bodies for the sport of touch in NSW and are controlled by the state body, the New South Wales Touch Association (NSWTA).
C	Affiliate
	Affiliate means a local entity that conducts and/or administers touch football or touch football competitions and is a member of the NSWTA.
D	Unaffiliated Competitions
	Means an entity that conducts and/or administers touch football or touch football competitions and is NOT a member of the NSWTA. These include, but are not limited to the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Touch Rugby Association (NTRA) • Touch Rugby League (TRL) • Other locations and organisations known as unaffiliated competitions
E	Invitational Team
	An invitational team is a team that has been invited to compete at a tournament. When competing at the tournament, an invited team is subject to all General Conditions, tournament specific Conditions of Entry, Policies and Guidelines as implemented by Hornets and the NSWTA to conduct tournaments.
F	Affiliate Co-ordinator
	The person appointed by the affiliate to act on behalf of the affiliate and responsible for liaising with Hornets in regard to the tournament they have entered. It is recognised that the affiliate co-ordinator has the delegated authority of the affiliate and can make decisions, including financial ones, without consultation.
G	Officials
	Officials are referees, coaches, assistant coaches, team managers, assistant team managers, sports trainers, physiotherapists, doctors, association administrators and any other person appointed to a position of responsibility in an affiliate or a Hornets tournament.
H	Volunteers
	Are persons, whether they be members of the association or not, who volunteer to assist with the running of a tournament. They are also recognised as officials of a tournament.

I	Doping Policy
	The Hornets Doping Policy is as adopted by the NSWTA and determined by Touch Football Australia (TFA) Board of Management. The policy relates to TFA's position on all doping practice matters. Hornets conform to this policy.
J	Member Protection Policy
	The Hornets Member Protection Policy is as determined by the NSWTA Board of Management and relates to Hornets position on all behavioural matters of participants at Hornets controlled tournaments or representative team members. Hornets also adopt the TFA Member Protection Policy which operates in conjunction with the NSWTA Member Protection Policy. For the purpose of this document 'Member Protection Policy' refers and references both policies.
K	Interstate Player
	Is a player who is regularly domiciled at a residential address outside the NSW state borders.
L	Junior Player
	A player aged 17 or younger who is still eligible to participate in a junior tournament.
M	Touch Football Australia
	Touch Football Australia is the national governing body of the sport.

1.0	Agreement to Enter Hornets Tournaments
	To abide by the Hornets General Conditions and the tournament specific Conditions of Entry for the tournament they are participating in, together with all Hornets Policies and Bi-laws.
	To meet their financial obligation to Hornets, both as an affiliate and for the tournament entered by the timelines outlined in the tournament specific Conditions of Entry.
	To complete all competitive requirements of the Hornets tournament entered, including all finals matches as outlined in the tournament specific Conditions of Entry.
	To ensure that all compliance matters required under the Hornets affiliate responsibilities have been met prior to entry.
	To comply with any requirement outlined in the General Conditions or the tournament specific Conditions of Entry documents for the provision of officials for the tournament entered.
	That an appropriate penalty determined by Hornets will be incurred for failure to comply with any of the above items.

SECTION 2: RESPONSIBILITIES	
2.1	Players Responsibilities
	To complete individual player registration and participant declaration through Hornets online player registration process.
	To play to the best of their ability at all times.
	To abide by the General Conditions and tournament specific Conditions of Entry of Hornets tournaments.
	To behave at all times in a manner that does not bring Hornets, the affiliate or the sport into disrepute as per Hornets constitution and Member Protection Policy. Failure to comply with this clause may see the player being subject to penalty.
	If required, when attending a function/media request on behalf of Hornets to wear the official uniforms supplied by their affiliate or Hornets as requested by Hornets.
	Attend all Hornets meeting/judiciary/disciplinary hearing requests as required.
	To abide by the Member Protection Policy as outlined in the General Conditions document.
	Where applicable make themselves available as a first choice for Hornets teams.
	Ensure all financial responsibilities in relation to tournament entry have been met.
2.2	Affiliate Responsibilities
	To gain entry to Hornets tournaments, affiliates will respond within the required time lines as per the tournament specific Conditions of Entry and be compliant in all required areas.
	Submit to Hornets by the closing date set down in the tournament important dates: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • List of all unfinancial and suspended players • Working With Children Checks member database • A Statutory Declaration that all players, referee's, officials and team management qualify under the General Conditions and tournament specific Conditions of Entry The closing date for these forms can be found in the tournament specific Conditions of Entry
	Ensure all referee's, coaches and officials have undertaken and achieved the minimum accreditation level requirements for the tournament they have entered for the entry to be accepted.
	Ensure that the team(s) representing the affiliate are in official uniform. Special dispensation may be sought through the Tournament Director.
	Appointment of an affiliate co-ordinator for the tournament entered. Affiliate co-ordinators responsibilities include handling all liaison between the affiliate and Hornets.

	<p>Final Team Submission Team nominations and individual player payments must be finalised on the dates advised in the tournament specific Conditions of Entry.</p>
	<p>Communication Each affiliate co-ordinator must submit their email address and mobile phone number. All correspondence during the tournament will be sent out via the nominated affiliate email address. A request for a decision or ruling is to be in writing to Hornets.</p>
	<p>To abide by the Member Protection Policy as outlined in this document. The affiliate co-ordinator is also responsible for ensuring that the affiliates players and officials have been instructed on the Member Protection Policy and are aware of their responsibilities. Failure of the affiliate to comply with this clause may see the affiliate being subject to penalty.</p>
	<p>Affiliates can use and promote their name and Hornets name in good faith to promote the sport of touch football. Any use of Hornets logo must receive written authorisation from Hornets and must utilise the Hornets style guide.</p>
	<p>To behave at all times in a manner that does not bring the sport into disrepute.</p>
	<p>Attend all Hornets meeting/judiciary/disciplinary hearing requests as required.</p>
	<p>Maintain a community engaging, domestic social touch football competition open to all participants. Regularly undertaking activities to grow the said competition.</p>
2.3	<p>Hornets Responsibilities</p>
	<p>Plan and develop the regional calendar including leading and administering each Hornets tournament.</p>
	<p>Setting the standard of grounds, field markings and facilities at which Hornets tournaments will be played.</p>
	<p>Determine the programme of matches to best showcase the sport through digital media promotion of the event.</p>
	<p>Establish the systems for determining the winners at the end of the tournament.</p>
	<p>Keep affiliates up to date with current trends and information. Formulate a process for affiliates to express their concerns and comments on any matter. A request for a decision or ruling is to be quantified in writing by Hornets to the affiliate.</p>
	<p>Establish an appropriate programme preventing the practice of stacking of teams to ensure that a steady flow of players is available for all affiliates.</p>
	<p>Hornets to supply all required pro-forma documents to affiliates.</p>
	<p>To distribute pool player lists in accordance with the tournament time-lines. Final ratification of all teams is to be made prior to commencement of the tournament and in liaison with all associate bodies.</p>
	<p>Determine the judicial procedures of Hornets tournaments.</p>

	To abide by the Member Protection Policy.
	To ensure match results are updated on the Hornets website and My Sideline app at the completion of each competition round.
2.4	Officials and Referees
	To officiate and perform to the best of their ability at all times.
	To abide by the General Conditions and tournament specific Conditions of Entry.
	To behave at all times in a manner that does not bring Hornets, the affiliate or the sport into disrepute as per Hornets constitution and Member Protection Policy. Failure to comply with this clause may see the official or referee being subject to penalty.
	To be available at all reasonable times for the media as requested by their affiliate or Hornets.
	When attending a function/media request on Hornets behalf, wear the official uniform supplied by Hornets.
	To abide by the Member Protection Policy.
	All officials must have minimum accreditation to the appointed position.
	To enforce all Conditions of Entry requirements relating to games at specific tournaments, including the Mutual Respect Policy and Procedure.
	To complete all reports within the required timeframes.
	Attend all Hornets meeting/judiciary/disciplinary hearing requests as required.

SECTION 3: REQUIREMENTS																			
3.1	<p>Player Eligibility</p> <p>The onus is on the affiliate to prove that a player is registered and participating in their competition. Upon a protest or report, an affiliate found to be using a player they cannot verify complies with this condition to the satisfaction of Hornets, is liable to have the team and/or the player disqualified from the tournament.</p> <p>** NB Eligible competition seasons for each tournament is defined by the current or previous season.</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">2019 Competitions</td> <td style="width: 25%;">Previous Season</td> <td style="width: 25%;">Current Season</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Hornets Championships</td> <td>2018 Season 2</td> <td>2019 Season 1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Don Green Western Junior Championships</td> <td>2019 Season 1</td> <td>2019 Season 2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Central Coast Junior Championships</td> <td>2019 Season 1</td> <td>2019 Season 2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2020 Competitions</td> <td>Previous Season</td> <td>Current Season</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Peter Wilson Memorial Championships</td> <td>2019 Season 2</td> <td>2020 Season 1</td> </tr> </table>	2019 Competitions	Previous Season	Current Season	Hornets Championships	2018 Season 2	2019 Season 1	Don Green Western Junior Championships	2019 Season 1	2019 Season 2	Central Coast Junior Championships	2019 Season 1	2019 Season 2	2020 Competitions	Previous Season	Current Season	Peter Wilson Memorial Championships	2019 Season 2	2020 Season 1
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	<p>Must be registered into the national database (via My Sideline/Touch Football Online) participating and a financial member within their chosen NSWTA affiliates/s and participated in a minimum of 5 domestic competition games in 1 division in the current affiliate competition or previous affiliate competition.</p> <p>Hornets will only consider a player's registration as valid from the date shown online within the affiliate competition database.</p>																		
	<p>If a player wishes to participate in a Hornets tournament and the affiliate in which they are registered has not nominated a team in the category they prefer to play in, they must make written application to Hornets to be granted permission to participate. The process for this will be via a pool system.</p>																		
	<p>Any individual being declared unfinancial or under a current suspension is ineligible to enter Hornets tournaments.</p> <p>Any affiliate conducting a competition not registered with NSWTA is not eligible to enter Hornets tournaments.</p> <p>Any coach/manager/player/official etc who participates in any touch football competition not affiliated with NSWTA or TFA (therefore being unaffiliated), will be ineligible to participate in a Hornets tournament. This does not stop them from participating at domestic competitions, simply at representative level.</p> <p>Please remind all coach/manager/player/official that all Hornets tournaments are governed by the "Unaffiliated Rule", which reads: "IF A PLAYER, REFEREE, OFFICIAL, ETC PARTICIPATES IN AN UNAFFILIATED COMPETITION, REGARDLESS OF WHETHER THEY ALSO PLAY IN AN AFFILIATED COMPETITION, THEY WILL BE INELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE IN A HORNETS, NSWTA OR TFA TOURNAMENT FOR A PERIOD OF 12 MONTHS".</p>																		
	<p>Any affiliate wishing to access the player pool can only access a maximum of 3 players per affiliate.</p>																		

	Under this system, the onus is on the affiliate to verify player/s meet all the requirements as well as notifying Hornets of any player/s under suspension or are unfinancial. Affiliates for their own protection should contact the player/s previous affiliate to ensure the player/s is eligible.
	For the purpose of determining where the seasons commence and conclude, season 1 is deemed to commence on January 1 and conclude on June 30 of each year and season 2 is deemed to commence on July 1 and conclude on December 31 each year.
	<p>Player Age Exemptions There are to be no special consideration requests made for players under/over the age required for the division they are wishing to participate in.</p> <p>Eligible ages for all divisions within each tournament will be outlined in each tournaments specific Conditions of Entry.</p>
3.2	Proof of Age
	<p>Team managers of all age categories must have readily available proof of age for all players in their team. The following will only be accepted as proof of age:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Birth certificate • NSW driver licence • Passport • Proof of age card <p>Teams using players without the required proof of age are liable to be disqualified if a protest is lodged and the player concerned cannot verify their age. Any player who cannot provide this identification will be disqualified from further competition.</p>
3.3	Coaches/Managers Eligibility
	<p>All coaches and managers must be a current member and be registered with the NSWTA affiliate they represent, in the current competition or previous competition. The coach must be at the accreditation as set out in the specific tournament Conditions of Entry.</p> <p>In extenuating circumstances the coach or manager may seek dispensation by placing their request in writing to Hornets prior to the tournament and by the closing date set down in the tournament specific Conditions of Entry.</p>
3.4	Referees Eligibility
	<p>Affiliates are required to nominate referees as per the tournament specific Conditions of Entry. Minimum age for a referee at a senior tournament is 16. Minimum age for a junior tournament is 14.</p> <p>Any request for dispensation outside this clause needs to be in writing and endorsed by the Regional Director of Referees prior to consideration by Hornets.</p>
	<i>PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES WILL NOMINATIONS BE ACCEPTED WHICH DO NOT INCLUDE THE CORRECT QUOTA OF REFEREE NOMINATIONS.</i>
	Nominated referees are to be accredited and up to the standard that is required to referee games at a Hornets tournament.
	Nominated referees must be registered and participating with your affiliate for eligibility and insurance purposes and must be regularly officiating at your affiliate in the current competition or previous competition.

	<p>In extenuating circumstances Hornets may accept nominations from affiliates not utilising their own referees. This will only be considered in line with the threshold level of referees required for the tournament and under the following guidelines:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If an affiliate cannot fulfil their obligations, as a minimum 75% of their quota must be from their affiliate
	Players and team management are unable to qualify as referees under this clause.
	<p>Any affiliate nominating a referee who withdraws and is not replaced, will incur a fee of <i>\$300.00 per referee / per day.</i></p> <p>Any affiliate unable to meet their threshold level will incur a fee of <i>\$300.00 per referee / per day.</i></p>
	<p>Any affiliate who wishes to obtain information about referee courses is to contact Hornets Regional Director of Referees. Check www.hornetstouch.com.au for the latest dates and venues for technical courses.</p>
	<p>Affiliates may on occasion loan a referee to another affiliate to enable a quota to be met. In this instance, the referees loaned CANNOT be recalled. Please ensure your referees are locked in before loaning out any spare referees.</p>

	SECTION 4: UNIFORMS
4.1	Quality
	<p>All affiliate playing uniforms are to be correctly numbered, be of the same design and must be correctly worn for all games of the tournament. Approved touch football shoes must be worn in accordance with the rule 3.2 of the TFA rulebook.</p> <p>Please note that predominately white shirts are NOT allowed (to avoid confusion with the referees).</p>

	SECTION 5: WORKING WITH CHILDREN
5.1	Working With Children Check (WWCC)
	<p>The Working With Children Check (WWCC) is a legal requirement that applies to persons who work or volunteer with children (U18). It checks the background of persons who work or volunteer with children in sport clubs, schools, child care centres, community groups, churches and other organisations.</p>
	<p>Once you verify a WWCC you must keep appropriate records that proves your members are cleared to work with children. You must also provide this record to Hornets.</p> <p>Each affiliate must register as an employee, have all coach/manager/officials undergo the prescribed check and verify all and report to Hornets prior to a Hornets tournament.</p> <p>Please refer to the Working With Children Check documentation to understand the process required.</p>
5.2	Guardianship
	<p>In some instances persons under the age of 18 will be in attendance at Hornets tournaments. In understanding our expectations around your role and responsibilities we provide affiliates some additional information related to legal guardianship. This communication contains general advice only and does not take into account individual objectives, circumstances and/or legal view. Individual research and advice should be sought for your personal circumstance.</p> <p>Guardians: A guardianship is a legal right given to a person to be responsible for the food, health care, housing and other necessities of a person deemed fully or partially incapable of providing these necessities for him or herself.</p> <p>What are guardians duties? The guardian makes decisions about how the person lives, including their residence, health care, food and social activity. The guardian is intended to monitor the person to make sure that the person lives in the most appropriate, least restrictive environment possible, with appropriate food, clothing, social opportunities and medical care.</p> <p>Communication with the parents: Ensure you are informed of any medical concerns, including food allergens. In addition, you'll need to agree on things like sleeping arrangements, the administration of over-the-counter medications and procedures for contacting the parents in an emergency.</p>

	Information provided and acknowledged from the following websites: http://www.expertlaw.com/library/estate_planning/guardianship.html http://singleparents.about.com/od/legalissues/ht/teporary_guard.html
5.3	Supervision of Under Age Participants
	Affiliates are responsible for the direct supervision of any player or official who is under the age of 18 years (minor). All steps should be undertaken by an affiliate to protect minors from all forms of harassment. This includes, but is not limited to ensuring that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each minor and their legal guardian is provided with a copy of the Member Protection Policy • All officials comply with all applicate Child Protection laws; and • When travelling to/from and during the tournament, all care is taken to supervise minors.

	SECTION 6: IMAGES
6.1	All persons accept that by participating in this event, they may be photographed/filmed and that these images may be used by Hornets for promotion of the sport. Hornets will not pass any image/s onto a third party unless prior approval is sought. If you do not wish Hornets to be able to use your image/s or be filmed, you must notify Hornets in writing.

SECTION 7: DIVISIONS AND CATEGORIES	
7.1	Information on divisions and age requirements for each event can be found in the tournament specific Conditions of Entry.
	There must be at least 4 teams to make a category. NB Any variance on this will be at the discretion of Hornets and only in extenuating circumstances.
	If there are less than 4 teams nominated, then those teams will join with the next closest category as determined by Hornets.
	An affiliate may normally only enter 1 team in a category. Additional teams will be accepted at the convenience of the competition. If additional teams are accepted, conformation will only be given after closing date. If 2 teams from the same affiliate are entered, the stronger of the teams will be known as team A and the other will be known as team B. This will be determined by Hornets. Any affiliate that has 2 teams in a division will need to ensure that the additional team wear a different uniform when playing against their primary team. It is the responsibility of the affiliate to ensure a different playing strip is available and worn. Only 1 team will be eligible to earn points in the Club Championship points. This will be whichever of the 2 entries finishes higher.

SECTION 8: LATE ENTRY AND REFUNDS	
8.1	Team nominations received after the relevant closing date will only be accepted at the convenience of the tournament (IE to replace a bye or another team withdrawal).
	Team and player withdrawals made after the Refund Request closing date will not be offered a refund. This date will be outlined in the relevant tournament specific Conditions of Entry.
	Individuals entering after player registrations have closed, will be required to pay a late registration fee. This additional fee will be outlined in the relevant tournament specific Conditions of Entry.

SECTION 9: PLAYER REGISTRATION	
9.1	<p>Hornets use the online individual player registration process for all their tournaments.</p> <p>This online registration process is provided through My Sideline and accessible up until the registration closing date. After this time no further registrations will be taken.</p>
	Once an affiliate has entered a Hornets tournament, the nominate affiliate co-ordinator will be provided with information to assist all individuals with the online process.
	A player sign on form will be emailed to the affiliate co-ordinator prior to the tournament. It is the responsibility of the affiliate co-ordinator to distribute the player sign on form to their teams.
	<p>Player sign on forms are to be signed by all team members and turned to Hornets as outlined in correspondence sent to affiliate co-ordinators.</p> <p>No player is to take the field until they have signed the player sign on form. Teams found breaching this condition of entry will automatically forfeit all games until this process is completed.</p>

SECTION 10: AFFILIATE ENQUIRIES	
10.1	Upon the acceptance of their team/s entry, all enquiries are to be made by the affiliate co-ordinator. All correspondence from Hornets will be sent to the affiliate co-ordinator.

SECTION 11: EVENT OPERATIONS	
11.1	Teams
	For a NSWTA affiliate to be eligible to enter teams in a Hornets tournament, they must be financial and compliant with NSWTA and register all competitions they conduct.
	The teams must represent an affiliate within a NSWTA region.
	Teams may register the number of players as indicated in the tournament specific Conditions of Entry.
11.2	Team Manager Meeting
	If deemed necessary, a team managers meeting will be held prior to the commencement of the tournament.
	No responsibility will be taken for any actions undertaken by team management who do not attend the team managers meeting or familiarise themselves with the instructions provided in the social media release.

11.3	Insurance
	For players to be covered by the TFA insurance scheme, they must be registered in a financial affiliate within their current competition.
11.4	Control of the Event
	The Tournament Director will be in charge of all matters relating to the tournament. Any matters not covered in the General Conditions or tournament specific Conditions of Entry will be determined by the above official and their decision will be final.
11.5	Match Balls
	All teams must use an official match ball in all games throughout the tournament. Each team is responsible for providing their own match ball.
11.6	Competition Points
	Will be determined for each tournament and covered in the tournament specific Conditions of Entry.
11.7	Club Championship Points
	Will be determined for each tournament and covered in the tournament specific Conditions of Entry. Any team participating from outside the Hornets region will be ineligible for Club Championship points.
11.8	Duration of Games
	Will be determined for each tournament and covered in the tournament specific Conditions of Entry.
11.9	Field Layout
	The field layout will be finalised prior to each tournament. A field layout map will be available from www.hornetstouch.com.au
11.10	Trophies
	Will be determined for each tournament and covered in the tournament specific Conditions of Entry.
11.11	Presentation
	Presentations will take place at an appointed time after the completion of finals games.

11.12	Tents
	<p>An affiliate who wishes to erect a tent at the fields must request this in writing to the Tournament Director seeking approval. Correspondence must identify the size and structure of the tent.</p> <p>Affiliates MUST ensure all tents and/or shade structures are erected in the locations as detailed in the field layout map available from www.hornetstouch.com.au</p> <p>Gas and naked flame (hot coals) barbeques for affiliates and spectators are not permitted at any venue where Hornets conduct tournaments.</p> <p>Tents and shade structures are to be kept in a tidy manner during the event and affiliates are to ensure all rubbish has been placed in rubbish receptacles provided, prior to departing the venue.</p>
11.13	Player Numbers
	Player numbers must be worn by all players and be in accordance with the TFA 8 th Edition Rule Book, rule 3.
11.14	Draw Formula
	If the pool system is used, the pools will be determined by placing position of the team's previous year's tournament (where possible). The final format will not be decided until all team nominations are received.
11.15	Delay of Match and Forfeits
	Teams must be in attendance at their playing fields 5 minutes before the commencement of their match.
	It is the responsibility of each captain to report to the referee so the toss of the coin can be affected without loss of time. If a team is not at the field at the advertised starting time of the game, the attending team can be awarded the winning of the toss.
	One of the referees team will be positioned on the field for the 5 minutes. Where practicable one other member of the referees team will contact Tournament Control and advise them of the situation. One of the referees team will nominate a person to keep time.
	The offending team will receive a maximum of 5 minutes from the commencement of the game (siren/whistle) to position the team on the field and be ready to commence play.
	<p>If the offending team is not in attendance after the 5 minutes has expired, the game will be deemed a forfeit and the non-offending team will be awarded a 5-0 win and competition points to the value of a win. The offending team will receive a score of 0-5 and no competition points.</p> <p>The offending team will be penalised 1 try after the first minute and 1 try every minute thereafter up to 5 minutes.</p> <p>The time will be judged from the commencement of the game (siren/whistle) to the time when the 2 teams are ready to commence play.</p>
	The affiliate co-ordinator of the offending team will be required to give reasons in writing why their team should not be excluded from participating in any further matches. The Hornets Tournament Director will decide upon receipt of the report if the offending teams action warranted the need to forfeit the match. This written report must be submitted to the Tournament Director before the completion of the forfeited match.

11.16	Non Notified Forfeits
	When affiliates/teams do not notify the Tournament Director of their pending forfeit prior to the scheduled match, a fine of \$300.00 may apply.
11.17	Forfeit Affected Positions
	<p>If 2 or more teams finish level on competition points and any of those teams were involved in a forfeited match in the round games, the forfeit may cause some obvious problems.</p> <p>When a non-offending team has been involved in a forfeit, the 'for and against' from that forfeit will not count in final calculations. Similarly for the other teams that finish on equal points, they will have the 'for and against' from the forfeited team deducted from their total For teams involved in competing against teams on 2 occasions during the tournament, the calculations for the benefit of this rule will be corresponding game in each round.</p> <p>EXAMPLE: Team C – forfeits to Team A in game 3 (first round) Team A – wins 5-0 on forfeit Team B – defeats Team C 5-1 in game 4 (second round)</p> <p>If after the round games the 'for and against' is Team A – 50 for and 10 against (+40) Team B – 60 for and 20 against (+40)</p> <p>The above results would be recalculated with the result being Team A – 45 for and 10 against (+35) Team B – 55 for and 19 against (+36)</p> <p>Therefore, Team B would gain the higher position. For the purpose of keeping record, if a forfeit occurs, the non-offending team will be rewarded with the 5-0 win and 3 competition points. The offending team will receive no competition points and a score of 0-5 against their record.</p>
	This section only deals with forfeited affected positions for non-offending teams.
	<p>The team causing the forfeit will have their calculations treated as normal. They have been penalised by receiving no competition points for the match they forfeited.</p> <p>NB: Forfeits for any reason in the final series will negate the forfeiting teams right to participate further in the tournament.</p>
11.18	Determining Positions for Finals Series
	The team finishing higher on the ladder will determine positions for the final series. If teams are equal on points at the completion of the rounds the following measures will be used to decide the higher team.
	<p>1st DIFFERENCES The difference is determined by subtracting the total of tries scored 'against' from the amount of tries scored 'for'. The team with the higher difference will obtain the higher position.</p> <p>EXAMPLE: Team A scores 50 for and 10 against Team B scores 40 for and 10 against</p> <p>By subtracting the 'against' from the 'for', Team A would be '+40', whilst Team B would be '+30'. Team A would therefore obtain the higher position.</p>

	<p>If teams have the same 'difference' the percentage system would then apply.</p>
	<p>2nd PERCENTAGES If this system is used, it is easily explained that if the difference is in the 'plus' situation, the team with the least amount of tries scored against them would obtain the higher position.</p> <p>However, if the 'difference' is in the 'minus' situation, the team who has scored the most tries (for) would obtain the higher position.</p> <p>The percentage system is calculated by placed tries 'for' over tries 'against' and multiplying by 100 over 1.</p> <p>EXAMPLE: Team A = $\frac{50}{10} \times \frac{100}{1} = 500\%$ Team B = $\frac{60}{20} \times \frac{100}{1} = 300\%$</p> <p>Team A would obtain the higher position.</p> <p>If the above systems are unable to decide the outcome, the ROUND game result will be used.</p>
	<p>3rd ROUND GAME The team winning the round game would obtain the higher position. If the teams had a draw in the round then ladder adjustments would be required.</p>
	<p>4th LADDER ADJUSTMENTS The ladder will be adjusted in the following manner:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Results removed against the team in the last position, then if the ladder is still equal 2. Results removed against the team in second last position, then if the ladder is still equal 3. Results removed against each opposition within the ladder from lowest to highest position until a point of separation
	<p>5th DROP OFF If all of the above systems are unable to decide the outcome, the DROP OFF will be used.</p>
	<p>Cross Pool Determination For some events, teams may be split into uneven pools (IE pool A has 7 teams, pool B has 6 teams and pool C has 6 teams).</p> <p>The Points Per Average system may be used to determine which team(s) will be progressing to and within the Finals Series of the relevant tournament.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Points Per Average (Points Per Average is determined by the total competition points accrued divided by amount of games played); then 2. Differences and Percentages; then 3. Ladder Adjustments; then 4. Drop Off
11.19	<p>Finals Series</p> <p>Will be determined by the final number of accepted team nominations. The format for the final series will not be posted until such time as the draw has been finalised.</p> <p>Teams from within the NSW country regions, IE Southern Suns and Northern Eagles will be eligible for the final series.</p> <p>Teams from within the NSW Sydney regions, IE Rebels, Mets and Scorpions are ineligible for the final series. For these teams, the tournament will conclude after the last round game. Round of 16 games (if played) are considered part of the finals series.</p>

11.20	Medical
	Hornets will ensure medical coverage at all tournaments through our medical team. Location of the medical team will be identified on the field layout map.
	It is recommended affiliates provide adequate medical coverage for their participants.
11.21	Blood Bin
	Any player with a bleeding cut or abrasions is to leave the field immediately and have the cut or abrasion cleaned and covered. At this time, any blood stained clothing must also be either cleaned or replaced. If the player does not leave the field immediately, the referee will stop the game and ask the player to leave the field (normal substitution rules apply). Once the flow of blood has been stemmed, the cut or abrasion cleaned and covered and any blood stained clothing and equipment cleaned or replaced, the player may return to the field and continue play. If bleeding cannot be controlled and the wound securely covered, the player must not continue in the game.
11.22	Concussion
	MILD <u>First Concussion</u> – may return to play if asymptomatic. <u>Second Concussion</u> – return to play in 2 weeks. If asymptomatic at that time for 1 week. <u>Third Concussion</u> – terminate season. May return to play next season if asymptomatic.
	MODERATE <u>First Concussion</u> – may return to play if asymptomatic for 1 week. <u>Second Concussion</u> minimum of 1 month rest. May return to play if it has been asymptomatic for 1 week; consider terminating season. <u>Third Concussion</u> – terminate season. May return to play next season if asymptomatic.
	SEVERE <u>First Concussion</u> – minimum of 1 month rest. May return to play if it has been asymptomatic for 1 week <u>Second Concussion</u> – terminate season. May return to play next season if asymptomatic. NB Asymptomatic is defined as having no headaches, dizziness, impaired orientation, concentration of memory during rest of exercise.
11.23	Force Majeure
	If Hornets is unable to perform, in whole or part in any obligation under these regulations of a Force Majeure event, Hornets is relieved of that obligation under these regulations to the extent and the period it is unable to perform. In addition to Hornets has no obligation to refund to any individual or team any fees paid if it is unable to perform by reason of a Force Majeure Event. FORCE MAJEURE EVENT For the purposes of these regulations a force majeure event includes but is not limited to any or all of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acts of God including flood, drought, earthquake, storm, cyclone, fire, explosion, epidemic; or • War or Act of Terrorism; or • Riot or civil disturbances; or • Permanent injunction of any duly constituted court of competent jurisdiction; or

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any fact, circumstance, matter or thing beyond the reasonable control of Hornets
11.24	<p>Weather</p> <p>Weather Affected Matches Rescheduling of rounds affected by weather will be moved to the next available timeslots, fields or rounds (where practical). Hornets reserves the right to organise the affected games in whatever format will assist the games to occur in as equal conditions as possible.</p> <p>Rescheduling of Matches If due to any other extraordinary circumstances that a game cannot be completed to full time, the game may be rescheduled as soon as possible at a time and on a ground arranged by the Tournament Director in consultation with both teams.</p> <p>If the game has commenced, and cannot continue to 50% completion, the following will apply:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The game will start from the beginning and must be completed up to the regulation full time. 2. The score will commence at 0-0. <p>Any game that has 50% or more time completed, will be considered complete with the score at that time deemed to be the final result of the game. If due to time constraints or any other reason a game cannot be rescheduled, games that did not continue to 50% completion will be abandoned and a 0-0 score will result.</p> <p>When any type of weather affects a finals series, where games need to be cancelled, the top team in each pool will be awarded joint champions.</p> <p>NB Hornets reserves the right to judge and adjust to suit the conditions as required. For events that play in a non-break try turnaround format, half time will be deemed as 50% of the time left in the match.</p> <p>HOT WEATHER</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 36 degrees + Play/competition will be postponed or cancelled. 2. 31 – 35 degrees Play/competition will be interrupted at 10 minute intervals for a minimum period of 2-5 minutes during which time rest, drinks/cooling techniques and facilities should be used by all officials and players involved. 3. 30 degrees Communication of heat stress management strategies/warnings of possible risk. <p>HEAVY RAIN Play/competition will be suspended until hazard clears. If it continues to rain heavily during that time, play/competition may be suspended until further notice.</p> <p>LIGHTNING/THUNDERSTORMS When lightning is considered to be a possible or actual threat, the following procedures will be applied:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Observe the approaching storm clouds, the first flash of lightning or clap of thunder, no matter how far away will heighten lightning awareness. 2. Method of determining the distance to the storm cell will be to measure time elapsed from when lightning flash is observed and when the associated thunder is heard. The

	<p>distance will be determined by using the following rule: distance (Km) = time from observing flash to hearing thunder (in 3 seconds)</p> <p>The Hornets Tournament Director reserves the right to organise the affected games in whatever format will assist the games to occur in as equal conditions as possible.</p>
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	<h2>SECTION 12: RULES</h2>
12.1	<p>Hornets conduct events under the rules and conditions of the Touch Football Australia 8th Edition Rule Book, the General Conditions of Entry as well as the tournament specific Conditions of Entry.</p> <p>Hornets may also have variations of these rules which are outlined in this section or in the Event specific CoE.</p>
12.2	<p>Drop Off Procedure</p> <p>Hornets will utilise the following drop off procedure in line with TFA 8th Edition Rules, at all Hornets tournaments. It should be noted the drop off procedure is only used in final series games where a definitive outcome is necessary:</p> <p>The Drop Off Procedure</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. When the match is drawn at the expiration of full time, the referee will wait until the ball is dead, halt play and then signal to tournament control that the match is drawn. Each Team will reduce their on-field Team to four (4) players and within 60 seconds take up a position to restart play from the Halfway Line, defending the same end of the field as at the End of Play. The Drop-Off commences with a Tap from the centre of the Halfway Line by the Team that did not commence the match with Possession. 2. Recommencement will be signalled by tournament control. 3. The Drop-Off will commence with a two (2) minute period of extra time. 4. Should a Team be leading at the expiration of the two (2) minute period of extra time then that Team will be declared the Winner and Match complete. Should neither Team be leading at the expiration of two (2) minutes, a signal is given, and the match will pause at the next Touch or Dead Ball. Each Team will then remove another player from the Field of Play. 5. The Match will recommence immediately after the players have left the field at the same place where it paused (i.e. the Team retains Possession at the designated number of Touches, or at Change of Possession due to some Infringement or the sixth Touch) and the Match will continue until a Try is scored. 6. There is no time off during the Drop-Off and the clock does not stop at the two (2) minute interval. Substitution during the Drop-Off is permitted in accordance with normal Interchange Rules. <p>NB The drop off procedure will not be used in under 8s and 10s games. Winners for these games will be determined by awarding 3 points for the first try scored and 2 points for every try scored thereafter. If the result is 0-0, the team finishing higher on the ladder will be awarded the premiership.</p> <p>The only change to the procedure will be in the Mixed Divisions.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Teams may have no more than (2) males on the field during the Drop-Off. 2. In the case of a male player serving time in the Sin Bin at the commencement of the Drop-Off the offending Team will start with no more than one (1) male on the field. Where a male player has been dismissed for the remainder of the match, the offending

	<p>Team will be permitted to have no more than one (1) male on the field for the duration of the Drop-Off.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. At the commencement of the Drop-Off, if there is a player serving time in the Sin Bin and is yet to complete the required time, their Team commences the Drop-Off with one (1) less player on the field than their opposition and continues to play with one (1) player less until the Sin Bin period has been completed. At the commencement of the Drop-Off, if a Team has had a player dismissed for the remainder of the match that Team continues to play with one (1) player less than the opposition Team for the duration of the Drop-Off. 4. For the avoidance of doubt for clause 3, the non-offending Team will retain a numerical advantage on the Field of Play during the Drop-Off.
	All other rules to the drop off remain unchanged.
12.3	Substitution and Sub Box
	<p>All interchanges must occur at or within the teams interchange area and only after the substituted player has crossed the boundaries and entered the Interchange area. All interchanges must be made on one side of the field and without delay.</p> <p>Physical contact is not necessary between interchanging players. Players leaving or entering the field shall not hinder or obstruct play and must enter from an onside position. Following the scoring of a touchdown whilst the play is dead, players may interchange at will without having to wait for the substituted player to enter the interchange area.</p> <p>RULING - A penalty awarded to the non-offending team 5 metres infield from where the substituted players left the field or where the substituting player entered the field whichever is the greater advantage.</p>
	<p>NB Any player found to have left the sub box to become involved in a melee, brawl or fight may be dealt with in the following way.</p> <p>If in the referees view a player/s or official/s leaving the sub box engages in activities that would not under normal circumstance of general game play warrant being sent off, they should:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Record the number of the player(s) leaving the sub box to become involved in a melee or brawl or fight, 2. Advise the captain that they will report those players to Hornets Tournament Director 3. File a report at the end of the game noting those players for the Hornets Tournament Director to action <p>The practice of leaving the sub box to become involved in a melee, brawl or fight will be an automatic 4 match suspension.</p>
12.4	Coach and Referee Communication – Mutual Respect Policy
	All members be they referees, coaches, players, office-bearers and/or spectators have an obligation to be conversant with this protocol and both the Hornets, NSWTA and TFA Member Protection Policy.
	Referees are instructed to no longer engage with the player, coach, manager or official and will walk away from any possible confrontation reporting the same to Hornets Tournament Director.
	The signing of scorecard will only take place by the managers of the teams. In the absence of managers for open/senior teams, the captains will be responsible for this. Should either try to engage the referees in discussion about the game or decisions in the game, the referees will

	immediately stop those discussions and direct the manager to Tournament Control. Any dispute of the score must be raised in writing at Tournament Control.
	All need to be advised that while <i>Rule 18 Player note A</i> will remain in force, referees have been instructed not to tolerate abusive behaviour from the substitution box during the game and deal with it appropriately should it take place, by removing a player from the field.
	<p>A player, coach, manager or official may not agree with the way a referee officiates a game, nor may he/she agree with decisions made, however there are proper procedures and avenues to handle such matters. Approaching referees after the game is not the measure we allow. We do however welcome feedback, reports or consultation under the proper guidelines.</p> <p>Should you have an issue with a performance of a referee you may:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Consult, in a calm manner, with a State Referee Panel member. 2. If necessary they will orchestrate a meeting with the referee, coach and panel member. 3. Disputes or feedback are to be placed in writing and forwarded to the Tournament Manager at tournament control.
	Breaches of the Mutual Respect Policy can incur a suspension and will be imposed under the control of the event. It may also lead to possible fines for both the individual and affiliate . Further to this they may find themselves before a judiciary whereby the penalties may be imposed. 12.4.7
	<p>The Board under the auspices of the Technical Director and Referees Director have a clear view to have coaches, players and referees all working in the same direction, however incidents of abuse and confrontational behaviour that may escalate cannot be allowed to continue. Hence the Mutual Respect Policy has now been engaged and put in place.</p> <p>The onus is on the Affiliate Coordinator and the Affiliate to ensure all personnel are aware of this policy. Ignorance of the same will not be accepted as a defence.</p>
	<p>Coaching Positions</p> <p>The only people that are allowed behind the score line are the coach or assistant coach or Manager. A Coach may position themselves at the end of a field. If they are at the end of the field they must remain at least 5 metres behind the dead ball line. Where a fence or spectator line or advertising signage prevents this, they must remain behind the fence or advertising signage.</p> <p>Any coach/manager positioned at the end of a playing field cannot issue any verbal or physical commands directly to the team they are observing and can only communicate to the team or other coaching/management staff in the interchange area by returning to the interchange area or by use of electronic communication equipment. Any person found to be disregarding this tournament rule will be asked to return to the interchange area. Coaches are reminded that they are under the jurisdiction of the tournament conditions, Hornets officials and the referees regardless of whether in the interchange area or at the end of the field.</p> <p>Failure to comply with this will result in individuals being asked to leave the venue for the duration of the game and may result in further action.</p>
12.5	Send Offs
	Any player sent from the field for the remainder of the game will receive an automatic 2 match suspension unless the Judiciary or Disciplinary Committee considers further action.
12.6	Period of Time

	Any player who receives 2 “periods of time” throughout the tournament (not in the same game), will receive an automatic 1 match suspension. Every subsequent period of time will receive an automatic 1 match suspension.
	A player who is dismissed for 2 “periods of time” in the 1 game will be dealt with in the following manner: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Should the referee deem that both “periods of time” are not of a nature to warrant further suspension, the player, on the second offence will be sent to the end of the field for the remainder of the game. NO FURTHER action will take place. 2. Should the referee deem the combined incidents serious enough, the player on the second offence will be sent from the field of play. In this instance the player will receive an automatic 1 match suspension.
	A suspension of 1 or 2 match is to be served on the following 1 or 2 games in which the team actually plays. Byes do not count as a game played. A team that wins by a forfeit will count, however a team losing by forfeit, will not.
	A period of time applied to a player for a team offence will not be registered against an individual.
	In relation to players not moving forward off the line, the referee will warn the team to move forward. If they do not, the referee will penalise the offending team. If they again do not move forward, the referee will remove a player from the field to the junction of the sideline and the five-metre line. The player will be able to return to the field of play once his/her team has possession. All participants need to recognize that this is not a “period of time” and will not be recorded on the referee’s card.
	Any player sent for a period of time, will remain at the end of the field for 2 completed sets of possession by both teams prior to being allowed to re-enter the field of play. Coaches and Managers need to be aware that this is the period a player will be off the field; the referee will still determine the length of the time depending on the severity of the offence. Any infringement that will cause the touch count to restart, will simply be a continuation of that set. EG If a defender knocks the ball down or gives away a penalty on the third touch this does not constitute that this set has been completed, but rather is extended. Conversely, if an attacking player causes the infringement so that a turnover takes place on the 3rd touch this will constitute a completed set.
12.7	Intercept Rule
	On the change of position via an intercept, the first touch will be “ZERO touch”.

SECTION 13: PROTEST, DISPUTES and DISCIPLINE	
	<p>Protest and Dispute matters will be heard and determined by the Hornets judiciary panel.</p> <p>The judiciary panel will be chaired by the appointed delegate and include at least 2 further members.</p> <p>All judiciary matters will be handled via the Hornets Disciplinary Policy. Any hearings will be heard in accordance with the TFA Disciplinary Regulations.</p>
	<p>Protests and Disputes must be lodged in writing within 30 minutes of the conclusion of the event/game in question to the Tournament Director. At this time the protest and dispute will be assessed. If warranted it will progress to either the Judiciary Panel.</p>
	<p>The protest is to be lodged and signed by the Affiliate Coordinator.</p>
	<p>The protest will then be investigated by the Judiciary Panel and their decision will be returned to the Affiliate Co-ordinator.</p> <p>Any notice to be served on any person to attend a hearing must be served on the Affiliate Co-ordinator and any such service is deemed to be served on all parties or persons under the control of the Affiliate Co-ordinator.</p>
	<p>Hornets remind all parties that the following issues will not be open to appeal and/or protest and therefore formally advise all teams that they must be aware of this prior to the commencement of games:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rule 18.2 – The Referee – The referee is the sole judge on matters of fact and is required to adjudicate on the rules of the game during play. The referee may impose any sanction necessary to control the match and in particular; award penalties for infringements against the rules. • Rule 18.3 – Authority of the Referee – Players, coaches and officials of both teams are under the control of the officiating referee. • A team found playing an unregistered player will be disqualified.
	<p>If a team does not agree with the score on the score sheet, they are to lodge a protest. The following information is to be provided with the protest:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Who tapped off 2. The order the scoring occurred (including player numbers of both teams) 3. The half time and full time score 4. The Hornets issued score sheet. <p>The opposing team will be called to verify the score. If they do not agree or in the event of inconclusive evidence, the score will be recorded as the score that the referees have recorded.</p> <p>Alternatively, video evidence can be provided and the evidence will be used if conclusive.</p>
	<p>All players sent from the field for the remainder of the game will be dealt with via the Hornets Disciplinary Policy and may be required to appear before a Hornets judiciary or disciplinary Hearing. The Hornets Disciplinary Policy and Procedure allows for the individual to take an early acceptance rather than appearing before a judiciary hearing.</p>
	<p>Any player, official or other member of an affiliate who is the subject of a complaint or report may be dealt with via the Hornets Disciplinary Policy and may be required to appear before a Hornets judiciary or disciplinary hearing.</p>

	In the case of a player being dismissed from the field of play for the remainder of the game the team manager is required to report to the Tournament Director no later than 30 minutes after the game from which the player was dismissed where they may be issued with a Notice of Hearing outlining details of the disciplinary hearing and a copy of the written complaint or report.
	Disciplinary Hearings will be conducted at the earliest possible convenience after provision of the report is handed to the team manager who will be responsible for passing the paperwork onto the player concerned. In the case of a complaint or report being submitted on a player, official or other member, the Tournament Director will contact the affiliate co-ordinator who will be issued with a Notice of Hearing outlining details of the disciplinary hearing and a copy of the written complaint or report.
	It is the responsibility of each affiliate co-ordinator to ensure that all their players, officials and teams behave themselves during the competition. The Member Protection Policy is inclusive in all participant registration and is available from www.hornetstouch.com.au .
	On any written complaint that is made to the Tournament Director of conduct which is prejudicial to the interests or welfare of the association, its administration, the game of touch or on the part of any member of the association, the Board shall have the power to deal with such complaint and in the exercise of the power hereby conferred may disqualify, suspend, fine or otherwise deal with any person or body they find to have been guilty of such conduct. This power also extends to an official of Hornets citing an incident of conduct prejudicial to the sport of touch.

SECTION 14: TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS

Travel is to be arranged by the affiliate and their members.

SECTION 15: DOPING POLICY

Hornets will enforce the TFA Doping Policy at their tournaments. The Australian Sports Anti-Doping Authority (ASADA) could (in accordance with their policy) random test any participant. Any indiscretions found will incur the penalties as prescribed in the TFA Doping Policy. This information can be obtained from the TFA website.

SECTION 16: BREACHES OF RESPONSIBILITY

In the event that a participant or Affiliate breaches any responsibility as set down in the General Conditions or tournament specific Conditions of Entry documents, that participant or affiliate will be required to explain the breach to a duly convened meeting of the Board.

In accordance with the Hornets Constitution, the penalty that may be applied through the power hereby conferred may disqualify, suspend, fine or otherwise deal with any person or body they find to have been guilty of such breach.

Any rule breach not mentioned in this document will be subject to a fine as determined by the Board. Any appeal against the determinations of the Board is to be lodged with the appeal fee of \$200. Such appeal fee will be refundable upon the appeal being upheld.