



HORNETS CHAMPIONSHIPS CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

**TO BE READ IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE HUNTER
WESTERN HORNETS TOUCH ASSOCIATION GENERAL
CONDITIONS OF ENTRY**

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SECTION 1: IMPORTANT DATES

Monday 21 September 2026

- Online team nominations open (to be completed by affiliate co-ordinators)
- Referee registrations open (to be completed by individual referees)

Monday 12 October 2026

- Online team nominations due
- Referee registrations due

Monday 19 October 2026

- Player registrations open (fines for team withdrawals from this date on)
- Competition structures and divisions released
- Team management registrations open
- Player Pool Registrations Open

Monday 26 October 2026

- Player registrations and payments due
- Team management registrations due
- Player pool registrations close
- Team rosters due
- Suspended/unfinancial players list due
- Working With Children Checks due
- Statutory Declaration forms due

Friday 30 October 2026

- Draft Draw Released

Friday 6 November 2026

- Late registrations close (fines may apply, as per CoE)

Saturday 7 November 2026

- Day 1 of tournament

Sunday 8 November 2026

- Day 2 of tournament – final series

Sunday 15 November 2026

- Refund requests close (not approved after this date)

	SECTION 2: ENTRY INFORMATION
2.1	Nomination Closing Date
	Affiliate Team and Referee Nominations will be available via the 2026 Hornets Championships Webpage and are due by Monday 12 October 2026. Late nominations will only be taken at the convenience of the tournament. All successfully nominated affiliates will be required to provide their Team Rosters, Statutory Declaration, list of unfinancial/suspended players and Working With Children Checks by Monday 26 October 2026. Please send via email to admin@hornetstouch.com.au.
2.2	Registrations and Entry Fees
	Affiliate players, referees and team management registrations will be available through the following link http://www.hornetstouch.com.au. Players and team management registrations are to be finalised by Monday 26 October 2026. Any players seeking to enter the player pool, must send an email to admin@hornetstouch.com.au The individual player registration fee for the 2026 Hornets Championships will be \$90.00 due by Monday 26 October 2026. All registrations post the closing date of Monday 26th October will be charged at \$110.00 incl. GST per player NB. As both NSWTOUCH and TFA have moved to an individual fee model from July 1, 2025, all participants will have to pay their state and national membership fees when they register into their first competition for the coming financial year. If that competition were Hornets Championships, the national online registration system, My Sideline, would require payment before allowing the registration into our competition to proceed. However, once paid, the participant would not have to pay this fee again, regardless of how many competitions or divisions they participated in during the next financial year.
2.3	Date of Tournament
	Hornets Championships will be held Saturday 7th of November and Sunday 8th of November, 2026.

2.4	Divisional Categories
	Mixed, Womens and Mens Opens (Born 2011 or before) Mixed, Womens and Mens 20s (Born between 2006 - 2012) Boys and Girls Youth League (Born 2009 – 2013) Mixed, Womens and Mens 30s/Seniors (Born 1996 or before) Mixed, Womens and Mens 40s/Masters (Born 1986 or before) Womens 45's (Born 1981 or before) Mens 50's (Born 1976 or before) Mens 55's (Born 1971 or before) Mens 60's (Born 1966 or before) There must be at least four (4) teams to make a division. If there are less than four (4) teams nominated, then those teams will join with the next closest category. For example: Men's Senior - Men's Open / Men's Seniors - Masters. All Open category players MUST be born in 2011 or earlier to be participating (minimum age means can be 14 turning 15 in 2026). Under 20's players MUST be born between 2006 and 2012 to be participating (minimum age means can be 13 turning 14 in 2026). Youth players MUST be born between 2009 and 2013 to be participating (minimum age means can be 12 turning 13 in 2026). There will be no special consideration requests accepted for players under the minimum age required for the division(s) they wish to participate in.
2.5	Venue
	Hornets Championships will be played at Maitland Park, Maitland.

2.6	Coaching Requirements
	Coaches must register into the team they will be coaching at the event via the mysideline registration process: Hornets Championships Webpage and must be members and registered with the affiliate they represent in the current or previous competition. Minimum accreditation required is as follows: Head coaches – TFA Coaching Talent (Level 2) Accreditation and Play by the Rules. Assistant coaches – TFA Coaching Foundation (Level 1) Accreditation and Play by the Rules. Manager – Play by the Rules It is a requirement that each affiliate keep adequate records of team management accreditations including: • Coaching accreditation • Play by the Rules Certification (http://www.playbytherules.net.au/) • Working With Children Check

2.7	Referee Nomination
	The referee nomination must be completed as part of the team nomination process. Referees will register their details using the online registration process and complete by Monday 12 October 2026. Hornets Championships Webpage Affiliate responsibilities of referees nomination: • Affiliates are required to nominate as a minimum 1 referee per team nominated PLUS 1 additional referee. • Nominated referees must be officiating at the affiliate they wish to represent. • Nominated referees must be of the standard of the Hornets Championships tournament. Referee responsibilities of nomination: • Must be 16 years or older • Must have a minimum of Representative Referee accreditation Hornets are enforcing the referee qualification but if an affiliate cannot fulfill this then as a minimum, 75% of the quota must be from their affiliate. Affiliates not supplying a full quota of referees may be fined \$400 <i>per absent referee per day</i>. A full audit of appointed referees will take place at the conclusion of the tournament by the Regional Director of Referees and tournament crew to determine the full quota has been met. The decision to impose fines is at the discretion of the Regional Director of Referees and the Technical Director. <i>Referees withdrawing from the tournament must be replaced. Failure to replace may result in the nominated team being withdrawn and ineligibility for the final series.</i>
2.8	Individual online Registration
	The individual player registration will be via the link on the Hornets website at http://www.hornetstouch.com.au. A late fee of \$20 per player may be charged for registrations made after 5:00pm Friday 6 November 2026.
2.9	Team Numbers
	A maximum of 14 players may participate in any match in Youth, 20s, Opens and 30s divisions. A maximum of 16 players may participate in any match in divisions aged 40 years and over. However, teams may register more players than the maximum permitted to participate in any single match. Upon protest, any team found to have used more than the applicable maximum number of players, or to have used an unregistered player, may be disqualified. Minimum player registrations per team will be decided at the discretion of the Tournament Director, on a case by case basis. NB: A player may only register in 1 team. Additions can only be made up until the late registration closing date of 5:00pm Friday 6 November 2026.

2.10	Communication
	Enquiries for all teams must be made by the affiliate co-ordinator. Each affiliate must appoint an affiliate co-ordinator. All correspondence and dealings with Hornets must be made through the affiliate co-ordinator. All communication to affiliates and teams will be done via the email address provided by the affiliate co-ordinator. <i>It is the responsibility of the affiliate co-ordinator to ensure coaches and managers are informed of any changes when notified by Hornets and that they are conversant with the tournament specific Conditions of Entry, in conjunction with the General Conditions of Entry.</i>
2.11	Team Composition
	Team eligibility for all opens and 20s divisions is as per NSWTOUCH player points system, all teams in these divisions must abide by the current player points system in place for NSWTOUCH events.

	SECTION 3: TOURNAMENT OPERATIONS
3.1	Control of the Tournament
	The Tournament Director will oversee all matters relating to the tournament. Any matters not covered in the General Conditions of Entry or tournament specific Conditions of Entry will be determined by the above official and their decision will be final.
3.2	Weather Conditions
	Where we have inclement weather, field inspections will be carried out at 6:30am for both Saturday & Sunday. Information will also be placed on the Hornets Touch Football Facebook and Instagram pages. The Hornets committee reserves the right to organise the affected games in whatever format will assist the games to occur in as equal conditions as possible.
3.3	Match Results
	Match results will be updated on the MySideline website at the completion of each round.

3.4	Competition Points
	Win - 3 points Draw - 2 points Loss - 1 point Forfeit - 0 points Bye* - 3 points (no for and against) <i>* Bye points are pending divisional structure. This will be advised in the Draft Draw Summary booklet.</i>

3.5	Club Championship Points
	The following will be used to determine the Club Championship. Team finishing 1st in division (Winners) 20pts Team finishing 2nd in division (Runners up) 15pts Teams eliminated in semi finals 10pts
3.6	Game Duration
	All games in the tournament and final series will be 30 MINUTES with a turnaround of ends after each touchdown.
3.7	Trophies
	Awards will be presented to: Winning Teams Runners Up Player of the divisional final Referees of the final Club Champions
3.8	Presentation
	Presentation format will be advised.
3.9	Draw Format
	The draw format will be decided when all team nominations have been received.
3.10	Medical
	Hornets Touch Association will provide assistance for minor first aid.
3.11	Rules
	Hornets conduct events under the auspices of the Touch Football Australia 8 th Edition Rule Book.
3.12	Send Offs
	Any player sent from the field for the remainder of the game will receive an automatic two (2) match suspension unless the Disciplinary Committee considers further action. Any participant who receives two “periods of time” throughout the tournament (not in the same game), will also receive an Automatic one (1) match suspension. Every subsequent period of time will receive an automatic one (1) match suspension

	SUMMARY NOTE
	This is only a summary of the tournament conditions. All coaches and managers should be fully conversant with the General Conditions for all Hornets Events and the Hornets Champs Conditions of Entry. Please inform your coaches of their requirements for the Hornets Champs. We remind all Affiliates and Affiliate Coordinators that it is the responsibility of each Affiliate to ensure that all their players, officials, teams and spectators abide by all policies, by-laws and codes of conduct governing the sport for the duration of the event. This information can be found at: www.hornetstouch.com.au/policies