



MANLY WARRINGAH TOUCH ASSOCIATION

Registration Pack 2024 Autumn Competition



MANLY WARRINGAH TOUCH ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

ABN 70 891 496 556

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Welcome to the 2024 Autumn Competition

Overview - 2024 Autumn Competition

Competition Starts

Mens, Womens & Mixed: Monday 8th April 2024

Divisions, Game Times, Rounds

Mens: A, B, C

Womens: A, B

Mixed: A, B

Game times will be evenly spread between 6:30pm and 7:30pm. If you must have a specific time, please email our Operations Manager at admin@manlytouch.com with your team name and desired times. We will try our best to accommodate this but it cannot be guaranteed.

There will be nine (9) scheduled rounds, plus two (2) finals rounds.

Location

Nolan Reserve, North Manly

Key Dates to Remember

Senior Competitions

Monday Comp Starts (All Divisions)	– Monday 8th April 2024
Last Round Game (All Divisions)	– Monday 3rd June, 2024
King's Birthday Public Holiday (No Games)	– Monday 10th June, 2024
Semi Finals (All Divisions)	– Monday 17th June, 2024
Grand Finals (All Divisions)	– Monday 24th June, 2024

Registration and Payment Details

Team Registration Process

- All registrations are to be completed online via the MySideline link available on our website
- Team registrations for our junior competition will open 2.00pm on the following dates:
 - All divisions: 12/02/2024
- Team registrations for our senior competition will close Monday 18th March 2024.
- FULL payment must be received by these dates.

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Team Payment Details

- All team payments are processed online via MySideline.
- No part or individual payments can be made or will be accepted.

Individual Player Payment Details

- All player payment/registrations are processed online via MySideline after their team has been registered.
- All players MUST be registered into their team directly after their team has been registered.
- Touch Football Australia now charges an annual membership fee of \$22, payable at the time of individual registration into the team.

Registering into the Correct Grade

- The 'Team Registration Form' will ask you to select the division your team will be entered in.
- **Please choose carefully as we will NOT be able to change or re-grade teams once the season commences**
- Senior Competitions:
 - o A Grade teams should be comprised of Manly Touch rep players from our Opens A or Premier League, Division 1, 18s, 20s and 30s teams and other players with previous representative touch football experience.
 - o B Grade teams should be comprised of players with previous rugby league, rugby union experience or have played other representative sports such as netball, soccer, AFL, etc and players from our 40s and over senior representative teams. This competition is very competitive.
 - o If you are a new team to our competition, have never played before, are playing just for FUN and don't care if you win or lose, it is suggested you nominate for C Grade (younger age teams) or D Grade (older over 35 years of age).

Player Registration Details

- Once your team has been registered, your team contact or manager will provide you with the web link for individual player registrations/payments.
- ALL players must be registered into their team by Round 1 for insurance purposes and have paid the Touch Football Australia player levy of \$22 .
- Unregistered players will be unable to take the field.
- If you register after the maximum number of teams is reached in your age group and division, you will be redirected to a Waitlist form. After the team entry closing dates we will review the numbers and ascertain if we are in a position to allow more teams to enter.

Team Fees & Uniforms for 2024/25

Seniors

All Teams	\$1,100
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All team fees include GST.

Playing Singlets/Shirts:

Team fees do not include playing singlets/shirts for the competition.

Senior teams can either source their shirts privately or contact admin@manlytouch.com and provide unisex sizing for 12 shirts to be ordered by Manly Touch. The cost for a set of 12 shirts for our senior competition is \$200.

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Player Fees for 2024

TFA have changed the model for affiliation fees and as such, from 1st July 2023 they are charging a new \$22 individual annual membership fee that will be required for the first touch football competition a player registers into each year from 1st July to 30th June. More information from TFA can be found [here](#).

When players are registering into a team they will be required to pay the \$22 TFA membership fee to complete the player registration process. If a player is registering into more than one team in the same competition, then they only pay the annual membership fee once.

Un-Financial Teams/Players

If any team fails to pay their team or player registration fees, players in that team will be deemed un-financial with Manly Touch (and therefore with NSWTA and Touch Football Australia).

Any games played by a team/player deemed to be un-financial will not count towards the games required to play in the finals series or games required as part of the eligibility criteria to play representative touch football for Manly Touch or higher representative honours.

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Summary of By-Laws and Competition Rules

Rules of Play, Teams and Officials

- Manly Warringah Touch Association will conduct our competitions under the new [Touch Football Australia \(TFA\) Rules, 8th Edition](#).
- All Senior games are 2 x 20 minute halves
- All U7 to U13 junior games are 2 x 15 minute halves, U15 and U17 junior games are 2 x 17 minute halves.
- Please refer to the [Manly Warringah Touch Association By-Laws - Junior and Senior Competition Rules](#) and the [Mwta Local Competition By-Laws - U7s & U9s Modified Rules](#) which specify supplementary competition rules and procedures utilised by MWTA in all our local competitions. It's important to note that players are deemed to be representative players if they were selected in the most recent Manly Touch JSC or Development team.
- U7s and U9s are played on a half size touch football field.
- U7s, U9s and U11s use a Junior size touch football. All other age groups and opens use the Senior size ball.
- The main modifications to the U7s game is there is no keeping score in U7s; the first receiver should touch the ball before defence moves up, unless the dummy half runs themselves; and players will be afforded a full set of six touches whilst they learn the game. A drop ball, forward pass, over the mark, etc. is counted as a touch.
- The main modifications to the U9s game is the first receiver should touch the ball before defence moves up, unless the dummy half runs themselves.
- All players, coaches, managers, officials, etc. participating in MWTA competitions agree to be bound by our MWTA By-Laws, rules and procedures and any other NSW Touch Association (NSWTA) and Touch Football Australia (TFA) requirements. One of our most important by-laws is zero tolerance for people who abuse referees.
- MWTA Executive Committee has appointed an Administration Manager to administer our local competitions and a Ground Manager to run the actual game day operations and to ensure all local competitions are conducted in adherence to MWTA's By-Laws.

Registrations

- Teams are required to register via the MWTA online registration system using the link available on our website prior to the deadline date.
- A team's registration will not be accepted unless each team is accompanied with the name of at least one point of contact. The team officials will be the primary contact for each team. All communications from MWTA for the competition will be via these contacts.
- Teams will be required to pay their team's registration fee, as set by the MWTA Executive Committee, as part of the registration process, prior to the start of competition. Un-financial teams will not be entered into the draw or will be removed from fixtures until outstanding amounts are paid. No part or individual payments can be made.
- All players must be registered by the first game of the competition for insurance purposes and to satisfy TFA requirements. Unregistered players will be unable to take the field. Participants are not covered by the TFA National Insurance Scheme until they are registered online.
- As of 1st July 2023, all players will be required to pay the TFA annual membership fee of \$22 for the first touch football competition a player registers into each year. If a player participates in more than one team in the Junior summer competition they will only be required to pay this fee once.
- Manly Touch will provide team contacts with a list of registered players in their team prior to the commencement of the first game. The onus is on the Team Manager to notify any unregistered player in their team to register otherwise they risk not being allowed to play when the competition commences. This requirement is to ensure all players are covered for insurance purposes.

Insurance

- All registered players and officials are covered by Marsh Insurance through our affiliation with NSW Touch Association and TFA. Please refer to the MWTA website for details regarding insurance coverage or via this [link](#).
- PLEASE NOTE only players that have registered ONLINE are covered.
- All players in our Senior competitions will be marked off on the game registration sheet by the match referee prior to the commencement of their game for insurance purposes.
- We do know of players that have been injured playing touch footy and have then tried to make an insurance claim but have had this rejected due to not being registered online and/or signing on prior to their game.

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Draw, Results and Ladders

- The draw is available on our website www.manlytouch.com under Fixtures & Results.

Uniforms

- MWTA follows the Touch Football Australia 8th Edition rules regarding uniform requirements.
- All players must wear their own matching team shirts on the exterior of all clothing and an identifying number on the rear of the team shirt.
- No two players in the same team may wear the same number.
- Players are also not permitted to swap shirts in the sub box.
- Reversible singlets were provided to all teams in our 2022 Junior summer competition and those singlets can be used again in 2023. If you have retained your singlet you do not need to purchase a new singlet for this year's competition. If you are a new player or require a new singlet, these can be purchased for \$27.50 each, when completing the player registration process.
- Senior teams can either source their shirts privately or may choose the option on the Senior Team Registration Form to purchase a set of 14 team shirts for \$200.

Player Eligibility

- All players must be registered via our online system.
- The match referee will also mark off each players attendance on the game registration sheet prior to the commencement of their game.
- Players can only register and play in one (1) team per division.
- However, players can play in more than one (1) division.
- A player must have played a minimum of five (5) matches for a team in that particular division, grade and pool to qualify to play in that team for the finals series.

Minimum age for the Senior Competition

- There are By-Laws regarding the minimum ages allowed to play in our senior competitions. Please refer to the [MWTA By-Laws](#) for more information.
- The general minimum age for participation in the Senior competitions is fourteen (14) years and players must turn fourteen (14) on or before the 31st December in the year of the competition.
- The only exception to this rule is for junior players who turn 13 this year and were selected to represent MWTA in our U14s teams for the most recent Junior State Cup.

Players Per Team

- Senior teams can register a maximum of 14 players per team
- Junior teams can register a maximum of 10 players per team for U7s and U9s and a maximum of 12 players per team for U11 – U17s Junior teams.
- MWTA recommends that junior teams do not have any more than 10 players to ensure everyone spends a fair amount of time on the field. This is a social competition and there is no need to have 14 players like representative sides. It is about having fun, enjoying the game as much as possible whilst still competing. Kids cannot enjoy the game of touch footy if they only play 1/3 of the game.

Number of players on the field

- Senior Competitions - Six (6) players take the field in all Monday and Thursday night competitions and seven (7) players in the Sunday Morning competition. Please refer to the [MWTA By-Laws](#).
- Junior Competition - Six (6) players take the field in all Junior competitions except for the U7 and U9 junior competition which is Five (5) players per side. Please refer to the [MWTA By-Laws](#)
- There must always be a minimum of three female players on the field at any time in Mixed games.
- A minimum of 4 players must take the field in order for the game to commence and to avoid a forfeit.

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Junior Representative Players

There are By-Laws regarding the number of representative players allowed to play per junior team.

Please refer to the [Manly Warringah Touch Association By-Laws - Junior and Senior Competition Rules](#) for more information.

MWTA uses a points system to ensure we do not have teams consisting entirely of representative players.

The aim is to make for a fairer competition across all grades, promote healthy A grade competitions in each age group, but still taking into account kids want to play with their mates as this is a social competition after all..

What is the definition of a representative player for our junior competition?

- 'A side' representative players are those players who were selected to represent MWTA at the most recent Junior State Cup
- 'Development side' representative players are those players that were selected into our most recent MWTA 'Development' sides

Please note even if the Junior State Cup is cancelled or our development teams are unable to participate at Junior State Cup, the players selected in those teams will still be considered to be representative players. This definition also applies to players who have represented other affiliates.

How many points does a representative player incur in our junior competition?

- 3 points – 'A side' player remaining in their correct age group [eg a 14A playing U13s again]
- 2 points – 'Development' player remaining in their correct age group [eg a 14 Dev playing U13s again]
- 2 points – 'A side' player moving up to their correct higher age group [eg a 12A playing U13s]
- 1 point – 'Development' player moving up to their correct higher age group [eg a 12 Dev playing U13s]

How many representative players are allowed in each team?

- A Grade – Total of 10 representative player points
- B Grade – Total of 3 representative player points
- C Grade – Total of 0 representative player points - Therefore NO 'A' or 'Development' players in C grade.

However there are to be no more than 5 representative players playing in their correct age division in our A Grade competitions

This restriction is in place to prevent a whole team, for example, ten 1 point players (i.e. a team total of 10 points) competing in the one team. This would basically be our whole Development side in that age group. We want to share our representative players across a number of sides.

Can representative players play up an age group?

All current representative players playing up in a higher age group are worth 0 points.

For example, if you qualify to play U13s this year, but choose to play U15s then you do not incur any points.

However any younger rep teams playing up an age group and with more than 5 rep players (and whilst not incurring points) are encouraged to play A Grade.

Penalties

If a team breaches the representative player points allowance they run the risk of forfeiting games, competition points or even expulsion from the competition for repeat offences.

Please let us know if you believe a team is not following the rules and the MWTA Executive Committee will investigate.

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Referees Payments

- Junior Competition - NEW! Referee payments are in team registration fees and no further payments are required.
- Senior Competition – Referee payments are part of the team registration fees and no further payments are required. Each team will need to supply a duty referee for a minimal number of rounds each season.

Important Referee Information

- MWTA has a duty referee system for our Senior Monday night competitions. Each team will be asked to supply one referee approximately 3 times a season. Each time a team is rostered on to supply a duty referee, they must supply one referee that will need to report to the competition desk at least 10 minutes prior to the start of their allocated duty time slot.
- Penalties for not providing someone for your team's referee duty will be as follows:
 - The team who does not supply a duty referee must supply a duty referee the following week or they will lose 3 competition points
 - This weekly penalty will continue until the team provides a duty referee
- MWTA understands that everyone does not feel comfortable refereeing a game of touch football, especially our new teams. MWTA will never force a duty ref to referee a game on their own if they do not feel comfortable to do so. MWTA will instead place you with a qualified referee and you can run a side-line.
- Duty referees are not paid; however, our qualified referees are paid by MWTA.
- If you want to make extra money, refereeing games of touch football is a great way to do it and maintain your fitness at the same time. MWTA run training referee training courses. Any questions about becoming a referee, please contact Brandon Sanderson, MWTA Referee Director via refereedirector@manlytouch.com.

Zero Tolerance

- MWTA supports a zero tolerance policy to abuse of referees, club officials and players. Such behaviour can lead to players being cited / suspended and/or teams losing competition points and in the case of more serious incidents removal from the competition. Spectators and coaches can also be banned from attending MWTA competitions.

Duty of Care

- Games will not proceed in the case of heavy rain, hail, lightning, thunderstorms or extreme heat. Manly Touch has adopted TFA's Extreme Weather Guidelines. Please refer to the [MWTA By-Laws](#) for more information.
- Manly Touch uses the TFA approved Concussion in Sport Policy. These Return to Sport Protocols should be adhered to if a player suffers any form of concussion during a MWTA competition game regardless of the mildness or severity of the incident.
- Any player with a bleeding cut or abrasion 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.
- An 'AED Defibrillator' is located at the Ground Manager's Desk during all local competition games
- All persons accept that, by participating in our competitions, they may be photographed/filmed and that these images may be used by the MWTA for promotion of our club and sport. If this would cause a welfare problem for you or your child(ren) please contact our Admin Manager at admin@manlytouch.com immediately.
- Manly Touch exercises as much care as possible but note that there is a voluntary assumption of risk by players when playing community sport.

Protests

- Protests and disputes including breaches of by-laws must be lodged with the MWTA Ground Manager immediately after the conclusion of the game in question and followed up in writing addressed to the MWTA Executive Committee within 24 hours.

The MWTA Executive Committee reserves the right to alter any local competition rules it deems fit.

If you would like more information on our 'By-Laws and Local Junior and Senior Competition Rules' contact our Admin Manager at admin@manlytouch.com

Thank you for taking part in our local competition.

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Frequently Asked Questions

Do you accept individual player registrations?

Unfortunately, we are unable to accept individual player registrations, as the system does not have the ability to place players in teams or register individuals.

If you cannot form your own team with friends, you may create an account at our [online forum](#) and create a post that states you are looking for a team.

Our team needs extra players, can you help?

Unfortunately, we are unable to place individuals into teams.

If you cannot form your own team with friends or need extra players, you may create an account at our [online forum](#) and create a post that states you are looking for more players.

How do I register as a player?

Players can register into their team once their team has registered. Please click on this [link](#) to search for your team, or use the link the team manager has given.

I'm a Team Manager, how do I view my players?

Please follow this [link](#) to be taken to the manager log in. Click the menu and click on 'my players.'

How do I find out if the games are cancelled due to wet weather?

Please check our website www.manlytouch.com and [Manly Touch Facebook](#) page after 3pm on the day of the competition, as we do not find out from Northern Beaches Council whether the fields are open until this time.

What should I do if my team needs to forfeit?

If your team needs to forfeit your game, please contact our Admin Manager, via admin@manlytouch.com by 3pm on game day (preferably as soon as you know) so that we have enough time to inform the other team.

Please include your team, your division (as there are many teams with the same name), the time you are scheduled to play, and the opposition, if possible.

In the case of a forfeit the offending team does not receive any points on the competition table.

The non-offending team will be counted as a team on a bye and any rules associated with a bye team will apply.

However, they receive 3 competition points and the game is scored as a five (5) – zero (0) victory for juniors and a nine (9) - nil (0) victory for seniors.

Who do I contact regarding registrations, general enquiries, injuries etc.?

Please contact our Operations Manager during business hours, via admin@manlytouch.com.

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Manly Touch would like to thank our current partners for their generous support.



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