



Evans Head Touch Football Association

Juniors 2025/26

Welcome to Evans Head's return to junior touch football. The 2025/26 season will be the essential key to developing our junior players, coaches and referees to continue the growth of touch football in our community. Evans Head Pirates are committed to thriving into the future representative pathways and participation in both junior and senior NSW touch competitions.

This document has been developed by the Evans Head Touch Football Association committee and junior subcommittee to make it enjoyable for participants and stakeholders, please read this document and keep this for contact and competition information.

JUNIOR SUB-COMMITTEE

JUNIOR DIRECTOR

Trent Morgan
eh.junior.pirates@gmail.com

COMPETITIONS ADMIN

Jenny Morgan
eh.competitions.pirates@gmail.com

JUNIOR REFEREE LEAD

Kevin McDonald
eh.referees.pirates@gmail.com

UNIFORM CONTACT

Trent Morgan
eh.junior.pirates@gmail.com

PRESIDENT

Mark Williams
evansheadtouchfootball@gmail.com





COMPETITION DATES & FORMAT

Our competition will commence at the beginning of Term 4 in the school year. Round 1 will be Tuesday 14th October 2025.

Team registration will open 4 September 2025 and close on 02 October 2025.

Registration of teams into the competition after 02 October will be at the committee's discretion e.g. to remove a bye from a competition.

Players must register into their teams and pay their fees individually at the time of registration. See further information outlined below under Player Registration and Fees. Competition commences:

Round 1: Tuesday 14th October

Round 9: Tuesday 9th Dec 2025

Break - Christmas

Round 10: Tuesday 27th Jan 2026

Last round game: Tuesday 10th March 2026

Finals Series: U8, U10, 12, 14, opens (16/18) (top 4)

Semi-Finals: Tuesday 17th Mar 2026-

1 v 4, and 2 v 3.

Winners progress to GF, losers are eliminated.

Grand Finals: Tuesday 24th Mar 2026

Wet Weather spare: Tuesday 31st March 2026

In the event of washed-out rounds, Evans Head Touch reserves the right to play catch up rounds on Sunday afternoon and if needed, alter the finals series format to suit available competition dates.

Draw: The weekly draw will be published on the Evans Head Touch website and Facebook.



TEAM DELEGATE DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Nominate Team via WEBSITE or Facebook page link
- Send Link to players to register online
- Provide WWCC Card details to eh.competitions.pirates@gmail.com

MINIMUM NUMBER OF PLAYERS

- U8 and U10 Teams must have a minimum of 7 players per team
- U12, U14, U16/18 to have a minimum of 8 players per team
- Teams below this number are removed from the draw before R2

ONLY ALLOW REGISTERED PLAYERS TO PLAY

- Ensure no team members take the field that are not on the team sheet
- **Teams that play unregistered players may forfeit competition points**

HAVE ALL PLAYERS IN THE SAME UNIFORM

- All players must be in team uniform by Round 2 (singlet/shirt)
- You can use club uniform or your own if they are numbered & the same.
- **A loss of 1 try per player for incorrect uniform**

BE RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR TEAM

- All players abide by competition, state and national policies
- Players have mutual respect and behaviour in appropriate manner

ASSIST THE CLUB

- If you need to forfeit, notify the club before midday of competition
- Report and facility concern to the Competition Coordinator

GAME NIGHT

- Keep in contact with your team (competition updates, times etc)
- Bring a game ball to the field
- Be responsible for your spectators (respect the referees and the game)



TEAM REGISTRATIONS AND PLAYER PAYMENT

To register a team into the competition, visit the Evans Head's Touch Website and follow the links/instructions to complete registration on-line. The team delegate is then the point of contact for the remainder of the season.

PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT YOU USE THE CORRECT LINK

TO THE JUNIOR COMPETITION AND NOT THE SENIOR COMPETITION. Team registration can only be completed through this on-line process.

For assistance email eh.competitions.pirates@gmail.com

Teams can register from 29th August — 29th September 2025.

For teams to participate in the competition, team registration must be completed by Friday 29th September 2025.

After registering your team, individual players must register into the team and pay their registration fee.

A link to the individual registration code/link will be provided by committee to the team delegate after the team has been nominated and accepted into the competition.

The individual registration fee can only be paid via a Visa or Mastercard Credit or Debit Card, or you can use your NSW Govt. Active Kids Voucher. This process is built into our online registration.

A player can only complete their registration by paying the registration fee. The individual registration fee for 2025-26 is \$48 per player.

NOTE: An additional (post 01/09/25) \$30 fee is nationally recognised and covers you in every TFA affiliate and \$30 NSWTA affiliate, this is paid every financial year and will be included in your first registration.



A minimum of eight (8) players for the U12,14,16/18 divisions and seven (7) players for U8,10 divisions, are required to register into a team.

Teams that have registered into the competition but not had the minimum number of players registered into their team will not be permitted to play in the competition until they have the minimum number of players i.e., they will forfeit their games until the minimum number of players have registered.

Teams that do not have the minimum number of players registered by Tuesday 7th October 2025 the committee holds the right to withdraw the side from the competition.

Any team that does not meet this deadline, may be replaced in the competition by another team if teams have been wait listed to be accepted into the competition.

Players must be registered and fully paid prior to the night of their first game, whether that is Round 1 of the competition or the first round in which they play for players not registered in time for round 1. Individual players can register into a team up until round 9 (Christmas break). To be eligible to play in a match on any given Thursday night in the competition, other than for Round 1 in which case they must be registered one week in advance as outlined above.

This will ensure their name appears on the team sign-on sheet. It is not acceptable to register and pay, for example, on the day a player intends to play their first match. This creates administrative problems for our volunteers who are running the competition.

MATCH BALLS

When registration is completed successfully (8/10s x 8 registered, 12,14,16/18 x10 registered) each team will receive a match ball to be used for all team matches for the season. The ball can be collected from the tournament control area. Teams are expected to bring their match ball each week as the club does not supply balls for matches. Team Contacts are requested to sanitise/sterilise their match ball before bringing it to the grounds each week. Additional balls can be purchased from the junior tournament control, beside the canteen area.



WORKING WITH CHILDREN

A 'Working with children' check must be completed by the adult team delegate for each team and submitted to Administration — eh.competitions.pirates@gmail.com

The check must be completed online via the website - please use the following link:

[New Application - NSW Working with Children Check](#)

Note that the process may take 3 - 4 weeks to finalise after completing the application. Team contacts should commence the process ASAP to ensure completion of the check prior to commencement of the competition. Once completed, the check is valid for other volunteer activities you undertake in NSW that may require a working with children check.

Each team delegate will be the primary contact through the season, under extreme circumstances, the only way this can be transferred to another adult is that a WWCC is submitted to the club for verification.

AGE DIVISIONS

U8s (Turning 6 or 7 in 2025) This competition may be played combined with 10s competition and dependant on numbers

U10s (Turning 8 or 9 in 2025)

U12s (Turning 10 or 11 in 2025)

U14s (Turning 12 or 13 in 2025)

Opens will be offered for U16/18s (turning 14,15,16 or 17 in 2025)

NOTE on regrading: Teams may be re-graded at any time during the competition at the discretion of the committee, but no later than round 10 of the competition. This is to ensure all teams enjoy an evenly matched competition. Prior competition points are carried with the team. In the event of combining age divisions based on nomination numbers, the committee will advise the team contacts. Teams can be boys, girls and



mixed and will be based on nomination numbers of how they are played.
Final series can also be dependant grading of teams.

COMPETITION FORMAT

Games are played under the TFA Touch Rules edition 8, except in the case of the specified modifications for the U8 and U10 age divisions. In these divisions, games are played on a half field, with a smaller ball. Each team has 5 players only on the field (must have 3 players to prevent a forfeit) and a coach is allowed on the field in U8. Referees, Coaches and Officials are to ensure that ALL players in these age groups have an enjoyable game.

Note: The attacking team is to be given reasonable opportunity to use the ball with defenders not moving up until the acting half has passed the ball. Multiple passing is encouraged.

Points Score

In the U8 - OPENS, points will be awarded as follows:

Win - 3 points

Draw - 2 points

Loss - 1 point

Bye - 3 points

Forfeits: Teams that give 24 or more hours' notice will be awarded one competition point (as a loss), for that round. No prior notice of a forfeit will result in no competition points for the forfeiting team and a warning, with any subsequent lack of notice for a forfeit potentially resulting in a two-match suspension. The result for any match this is forfeited will be recorded as a 5-0 score line in favour of the non-forfeiting team.



PLAYER UNIFORMS

All players in a team must wear the same-coloured playing top - shirt or singlet.

Predominantly white uniforms will not be accepted as they clash with the referees.

All players must have an approved visible number on their shirt. No tape or drawn numbers will be allowed. Numbers must be not less than 16cm in height on the back, or not less than 8cm in height on BOTH sleeves. From Round 3, each player out of uniform will result in a 'bonus touchdown' awarded to the opposition (by the competition administrator), which in turn may affect competition points for that game.



We encourage all teams to order their uniforms from our official apparel partner Struddys!

Struddys are a local company and offer a great service to our sport and community

Contact Luke at luke.m@struddys.com.au

Evans Head Touch has reversible singlets available for purchase in the tournament control area \$45 per singlet, as a way our continued commitment to making this process easier for all to enjoy you can also trade up to a bigger size after your child grows out of it, if they are in condition acceptable by club committee.

Below is an example of which colour to wear each week.

What side do I wear??

Left side of the draw = GREEN

Right side of the draw = BLUE

FRIDAY 26TH MARCH
Round 7 - Draw - Pool Blue
5:25pm

Match start times are displayed using your current local time zone.



FINALS SERIES

The U8 and above age groups will play a finals series where the top four teams in the division will qualify. Trophies/prizes will be awarded to the grand final winners and runners up. The format of the final's series may be altered if wet weather disrupts the scheduling of matches.

The finals series for 2025-26 will be a two-week knock-out series. In week 1, Team 1 on the ladder will play Team 4 and Team 2 will play Team 3.

The respective winners will progress to the grand final with the losers eliminated. If wet weather causes washouts, the finals format may be changed to accommodate available dates before the end of the season.

PLAYER SIGN ON

Each week, a team sign on sheet will be produced and taken to the ground by the referee.

The team sheet will list all players registered into the team and eligible to play.

The nominated team delegate is required to assist the referee to mark off the names of all players participating on that night.

The team delegate will also be required to sign and confirm that the opposition team players have all been checked off and are all in correct uniform. The sign on sheet will then be used by the referees to record the scores in the match and the referee will return the sheet to the clubhouse at the end of the match.

Players must sign on before taking the field of play to be covered by insurance. In the 10s and older age groups, players must have signed on and participated in a minimum of 5 games throughout the season to be eligible to play in the final's series. Failing to sign-on may result in a loss of competition points. Further penalties will apply for repeat offenders.

If a player's name does not appear on the sign-on sheet, this is likely to be because they did not register into the team before the weekly deadline (as outlined earlier in this document).



Please assist us in this vital process as it is there to ensure players are insured and the competition maintains its integrity with players being registered.

NOTE: NO fill-in players are allowed. Only players registered in the team can play for that team.

PENALTY for using players who are not registered in your team is loss of competition points.

Injuries:

All injuries must be notified immediately to the referees for noting on the game card.

Footwear must be always worn while playing - touch or grass shoes are strongly recommended. Players found with spikes, screw in studs, or slip on shoes will not be permitted to play and asked to leave the field.

GAME TIMES

Allocated time will be 40 minutes, consisting of 2 x 17-minute halves with a 2-minute half time break.

There will be a 4-minute break between matches.

Preliminary timeslots are as follows and are subject to change depending on final team nominations.

Junior Timeslots will be 4:30, 5:10, 5:50 and 6:30. This is subject to change at the discretion of the junior committee.

NOTE: anyone that 12+years qualifies to also play in the senior competition on Thursday nights, only club junior fee \$48 to be paid.

Times may vary as needed due to weather, team nominations.

Any specific requests regarding game times may be given via email to admin@evansheadtouch.com.au The club will endeavour to accommodate all requests but cannot guarantee they can be met.

WET WEATHER POLICY

Games will not be played if the grounds/conditions are deemed too wet or dangerous.

Every effort will be made to have games go ahead. If in doubt, go to our website or



Facebook page from approx. 2pm on Tuesdays where cancellations due to wet weather will be published.

Cancellations will result in the washout round continuing as normal with re-scheduling possible with notice on Sunday afternoons. For the purposes of the competition ladder (U8 -opens), all matches in a washout round will be marked as a washout and not recorded if games are cancelled halfway through a division.

EXTREME WEATHER GUIDELINES

Games may be cancelled or postponed if extreme weather is experienced or forecast.

Extreme weather includes extreme heat, cold, wind, lightning and storms. Evans Head Touch utilises the NSW Touch Extreme Weather Policy which can be found on the NSW Touch website.

In the event of extreme weather causing the cancellation of games during a round, results from any completed games from that round will stand and any uncompleted games will count as a draw.

Zero-Tolerance Policy:

The club does not tolerate any abuse by players, parents, spectators, referees or officials towards any other user group mentioned, and any breaches will be dealt with by the Committee. Please look for a committee member around the grounds to report anything or alternatively this can be done through the tournament control area.

A written warning system will be utilised with suspensions applying to individuals AND teams for misbehaviour deemed not in the best interests of the game.

Evans Head Touch advises all parents, carers, spectators, coaches and other supporters of all teams that you are equally covered by the code of conduct for Evans Head Touch.

In the event of any person associated with a particular team being found to have breached the code of conduct, penalties will be applied to the team you are associated with. This can include loss of competition points, suspension from the competition for a period for individuals and/or entire teams and expulsion from the competition for individuals and/or entire teams. No refunds will be given.



Your assistance in reporting any incidents is greatly appreciated. Please refer to the relevant

Codes of Conduct on the NSW Touch website and on page 7. Evans Head Touch advises that suspended players are notified to NSW Touch and adjoining affiliates and are unable to participate in any affiliated Touch Football competition whilst suspended.

Any person that wishes to raise issues about the conduct of another player, coach, parent spectator or supporter is advised to contact either the Director Junior Touch, or the Competition Manager.

Bikes, Skateboards & Scooters:

The riding or leaving of push bikes, E bikes, skateboards or scooters near playing fields and crowded areas IS NOT PERMITTED for safety reasons.

SOCIAL MEDIA

With the rise in the use of social media, Evans Head Touch has adopted the NSW Touch Policy on the use of social media by participants in our competition. All participants in our competition, including players, parents and coaches are bound by the code as a condition of entry to the competition. A copy of the code can be found on the NSW Touch website.

<https://touchfootball.com.au/policies/social-media-community-code/>

Get paid to referee! REFEREE

A Level 1 Referees Course will be held at the committee's discretion depending on availability. **Booked for Sunday 28th September at Stan Payne Oval Clubhouse.** Please email eh.referees.pirates@gmail.com for more information

There will be a cost to participate in the course, and this will be advised once details are confirmed.

The club will subsidise the cost of a referee's shirt for each person that completes the course successfully.

There is an on-line component of the course that must be completed prior to attending the course. Intending participants must bring to the face-to-face course the certificate confirming their completion of this component. Without it, you will



not be able to complete the face-to-face course. It can be completed in your own time, and it is recommended that intending participants make a start ASAP.

Go to the following link and follow the instructions: <https://learning.ausport.gov.au>

Players, coaches, parents, spectators and supporters are reminded that most of our referees are juniors, and many will be refereeing for the first time this season. They will be learning as the season progresses.

The only person that is to approach a referee whilst matches are in progress is the team captain. Team coaches or the captain may also politely ask a question at half time of a match.

Asking questions of the referee is not an opportunity for a debate, or to dispute decisions. It is an opportunity to seek clarification on a particular matter.

At all times anyone approaching a referee is to abide by the code of conduct.

The committee will deal harshly with anyone found to have breached the code of conduct in their behaviour towards referees. Penalties will also apply to the team that the person is associated with.

Remember, this competition is about participation, fun and exercise.

The players are kids, the referees are kids, our competition is run by volunteers - set a good example.

Returning referees are asked to advise the club of their availability to referee during the upcoming season.

AMENDMENTS TO CONDITIONS

Evans Head Touch reserves the right to amend or alter these conditions as circumstances dictate from time to time to address issues as they arise, clarify an existing condition or add new conditions if deemed necessary.

All decisions of Evans Head Touch will be final in this regard.

WE HOPE YOU ENJOY THE UPCOMING SEASON!



PLAYERS CODE OF CONDUCT

- Abide by the NSW Touch Code of Conduct.
- Play by the rules
- Never argue with an official. If you would like a point clarified ask your captain or coach to approach the referee at half time or after the game in an appropriate manner.
- Control your temper. Verbal abuse of officials or other players, deliberately sledging, distracting or provoking an opponent is not acceptable in any sport.
- Work equally hard for yourself and your team. Your team's participation will benefit, so will you.
- Be a good sport. Acknowledge all good plays, whether they are made by your team or the opposition.
- Treat all players as you would like to be treated. Do not interfere with, bully or take unfair advantage of another player.
- Cooperate with your coach, team-mates and opponents. Without them there would be no competition.
- Avoid the use of derogatory language, particularly language based on gender, race or impairment.
- Be prepared to lose sometimes. Everyone wins and losses at some time. Be a gracious winner or loser.
- Participate for your own enjoyment and benefit, not just to please your parents and coach.
- Respect the rights, dignity of all participants regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.



PARENTS CODE OF CONDUCT

- Abide by the NSW Touch Code of Conduct.
- Encourage your child to learn and develop skills through full participation in playing and practice. Let the coach know as soon as possible if your child will not be able to attend a playing session.
- Encourage your child to always play by the rules.
- Do not criticise children in front of others, but reserve constructive feedback for more private moments.
- Remember children are involved in sport for their enjoyment, not yours.
- Remember children learn best by example. Applaud good play by all teams.
- Accept decisions of all referees as being called to the best of their ability. Do not raise issues of disagreement publicly and always remember that it is up to the team coach or captain to politely raise issues of disagreement with the referee in an appropriate manner at an appropriate time - not you.
- Do not criticise opposing team members or supporters by word or gesture.
- Set a good example by your own conduct, behaviour and appearance.
- Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse. Avoid the use of foul language, particularly based on gender, race or impairment. Do not smoke or drink alcohol as a spectator on the sidelines.



RULES & DEVELOPMENT

MEMBER PROTECTION POLICY - [click here](#)

DISCIPLINARY REGULATIONS - [click here](#)

SOCIAL MEDIA - [click here](#)

EXTREME WEATHER POLICY - [click here](#)

MEMBER PARTICIPATION DECLARATION - [click here](#)

CODE OF CONDUCT - [click here](#)

CONCUSSION POLICY - [click here](#)

PRIVACY POLICY - [click here](#)

EXTREME HEAT - [click here](#)

ELECTRICAL STORM - [click here](#)

VIDEO LINKS TO RULES - [click here](#)

8th EDITION RULES – [click here](#)



THE NEST

LEARNING & MANAGEMENT STSEM

<https://touchfootball.etrainu.com/>

ENROL

Coaching Courses/Referee Courses/Online Training



NSW TOUCH UNDER 8 & UNDER 10 RULES

- Teams play five (5) a side at any one time
- Field Size is 50m x 35m
- Acting Half cannot run with the ball, they must pass off
- Defence cannot move up until half passes the ball